FRBR; or, How I learned to stop worrying and love the model

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Agenda

- Introduction to FRBR
- ALCTS preconference summary
- Current FRBR-ish activities
- So how is this going to affect me?
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What is FRBR?

- Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records
- Either F-R-B-R or “Ferber”
- A report in 7 languages (soon to add simplified and traditional Chinese)
- A “conceptual model”
  - entities
  - attributes
  - relationships
Contents of FRBR Report

- Introduction
- Objectives, Scope, and Methodology
- Entities
- Attributes
- Relationships
- User Tasks
- Basic Requirements for National Bibliographic Records
User Tasks

- **FRBR**
  - Find
  - Identify
  - Select
  - Obtain

- **Cutter**
  - To enable a person to find a book of which either
    - the author
    - the title
    - the subject
    ...is known
  - To show what the library has
    - by a given author
    - on a given subject
    - in a given kind of literature
  - To assist in the choice of a book
    - as to its edition (bibliographically)
    - as to its character (literary or topical)
Group 1 Entities

WORK

is realized through

EXPRESSION

is embodied in

MANIFESTATION

is exemplified by

ITEM

"the intellectual or artistic realization of a work"
"the physical embodiment of an expression of a work"
"a single exemplar of a manifestation"

w1 Franz Schubert's Trout quintet
  e1 the composer's score
  e2 a performance by the Amadeus Quartet and Hephzibah Menuhin on piano

m1 the book published in 1973 by Davis-Poynter
  i1 copy autographed by the author

w1 Ronald Hayman's Playback
  e1 the author's text edited for publication
  m1 the book published in 1974 by Van Nostrand

w1 Harry Lindgren's Geometric dissections
  e1 original text entitled Geometric dissections
    m1 the book published in 1964 by Van Nostrand
  e2 revised text entitled Recreational problems in geometric dissections
    m1 the book published in 1972 by Dover
Borders between entities can be unclear

- New preface
- New illustrations
- Braille
- Screenplay
- Work<->Work relationships
  - Serials?
  - Does everything represent a “work”?
Expression entity problems

- FRBR report, p. 19: “Strictly speaking, any change in intellectual or artistic content constitutes a change in expression. Thus, if a text is revised or modified, the resulting expression is considered to be a new expression, no matter how minor the modification may be.”

- Some call for merging/removal of expression entity, but MUCH resistance from FRBR folk
Group 2 Entities

- Person
- Corporate body
Group 3 Entities

- Groups 1 & 2 entities
- Concept
- Object
- Event
- Place
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ALCTS FRBR preconference agenda

- Overview of FRBR
- Reasons behind FRBR
- Practical considerations
- Example applications
Some highlights (1)

- Allyson Carlyle (U. Washington): reservations about the expression entity from experience teaching library school students

- Glenn Patton (OCLC): Why FRBR?
  - Clearer understanding of why we do what we do
  - Better collocation and navigation
  - Clearer, more useful relationships
  - More controlled, authoritative information for productivity
Some highlights (2)

- Tom Delsey (independent consultant): areas revisited
  - Record type
  - Material type
  - Objectives of the catalog
  - Syndetic structure
  - Core record

- Sally McCallum (LC): FRBR & MARC
  - LC-commissioned MARC mapping suggested extensions to FRBR to accommodate all MARC21 elements
  - FRBRizer performed poorly for music

- Jennifer Bowen (Rochester): “Is FRBR really coming? It’s already here!”
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Implementations & related projects

- OCLC FictionFinder
- RLG RedLightGreen
- AustLit Gateway

- VTLS Virtua ILS system
- III Millennium 2005 ILS system

- IU Variations2
“Official” adoption

- Functional Analysis of the MARC 21 Bibliographic and Holdings Formats
  - Performed by Tom Delsey (AACR3 editor)
  - Commissioned by LC
- Joint Steering Committee for Revision of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules
  - Incorporating FRBR terminology and concepts
    - Work OK
    - Expression, Manifestation new
    - Item definition changed
    - “Catalog” or “collocate” expressions
    - Differences in opinion between domains
- CC:DA Task Force on FRBR Terminology
  - ALA group reviewing and responding to JSC work
Flurry of Activity

- October 2004 issue of *LRTS* will contain papers based on ALCTS preconference presentations
- *C&CQ* Vol 39, No. 3-4, 2004 will be a topical issue on FRBR
- Lots of other presentations and papers
- Work on FRBR for authorities: FRANAR
Current FRBR Working Groups

- Expression entity
- Continuing resources
- Teaching and training
- Subject relationships
- FRBR/CRM dialogue
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How many records are affected?

- 78% of works have a single manifestation
- 99% of all works in WorldCat have seven manifestations or less
- 30,000, or <1% have more than 20 manifestations

R. Bennett et. al. (2003) "The concept of a work in WorldCat: an application of FRBR"
Library Collections Acquisitions & Technical Services 27, 45-59.

So why do we need FRBR?
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<td>HAMLET A NOVEL</td>
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<td>HAMLET A SCENE-BY-SCENE ANALYSIS WITH CRITICAL COMMENTARY</td>
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End-users

- ILL
- Holds
- Allow better distinction between content and carrier
- FRBR-ized catalog vs. disambiguation process
“FRBR-ized” OPAC Displays

Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616. **Hamlet.** [Text]
Translation. French. 1770.

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Slides with purple backgrounds are from Barbara Tillett’s presentation at the preconference.
Collocation by Works

- Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.
  - All’s well that ends well
  - As you like it
  - Hamlet
  - Macbeth
  - Midsummer night’s dream
Collocation by Family of Works and Expressions

- Texts
- Motion Pictures
- Sound Recordings
Collocation by Expressions

  - Texts – Danish
  - Texts – Dutch
  - Texts – English
  - Texts – French
  - Texts – Spanish
  - Motion Pictures – English
  - Sound Recordings - English
Collocation of Manifestations

  - Motion pictures – English
    - 1964 Director, Bill Collogan
    - 1990 Director, Kevin Kline, Kirk Browning
    - 1990 Director, Franco Zeffirelli
    - 1992 Director, Maria Muat
    - 1996 Director, Kenneth Branagh
    - 2000 Director, Campbell Scott, Eric Simonson
Cataloging

- Non-MARC environments
  - Many already doing FRBR-like things
  - Tend to have lots of programming support

- MARC environments
  - Need more innovation from ILS vendors
  - Catalogers used to looking at 1 record (maybe 2) showing *everything*
  - Need to provide complex relationships when necessary, hide when not
  - Legacy records
So what do I do now?

Learn more!
Some presentations at ALCTS preconference

- **FRBR: Coming Soon to YOUR Library?**  
  Jennifer Bowen, University of Rochester

- **FRBR and the Bibliographic Universe, or, How to Read FRBR as a Model**  
  Allyson Carlyle, Information School, University of Washington

- **Differentiating Libraries through Enriched User Searching; FRBR as the next dimension in meaningful Information Retrieval**  
  Vinod Chachra, Chairman & CEO, VTLS Inc. and John Espley, Director of Design, VTLS Inc.

- **Stepping Back Looking Forward: FRBR and the Evolution of the Catalogue**  
  Thomas J. Delsey, Consultant

- **RedLightGreen - FRBR between a Rock and a Hard Place**  
  Merrilee Proffitt, Program Officer, RLG

- **What is FRBR? (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records)**  
  Dr. Barbara B. Tillett, Library of Congress

- **FictionFinder: a FRBR works-based prototype**  
  Diane Vizine-Goetz, OCLC Research

from <http://www.ala.org/ala/alcts/alctsconted/presentations/presentations.htm>
For further information

- FRBR report
- Readings on handout & previous slide
- FRBR listserv

- jenlrile@indiana.edu
- These presentation materials