



Brandeis
UNIVERSITY

DEVELOPMENTS IN AUTHORITY CONTROL:

Bridging the Gap Between Customers and ExLibris
With the Alma Authority Focus Group

ELUNA ANNUAL MEETING
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
MAY 16, 2024



Agenda

- Introductions
- Previous developments
- Priorities
- Development
- Collaboration
- Challenges
- Future requests and timeframe
- Questions

Introductions

Liz Bodian, Metadata Systems Librarian,
Brandeis University, Chair of AAFG

Lili Daie, Manager, Product Management

The Alma Authority Focus Group

Ahava Cohen – National Library of Israel

Chingmy Lam – University of Sydney (Australia)

Deborah Tomaras – Marist College (New York)

Ebe Kartus - National Library of New Zealand

Gail Beadnell – Oxford University (England)

Galen Jones – The Open University (England)

Heather Pretty – Memorial University (Newfoundland, Canada)



Jennifer Browning – Carleton University (Ottawa, Canada)

John Hostage – Harvard University (Massachusetts)



Leigh Billings – University of Michigan

Margaret Corby – Kansas State University



Michaël Hertig – Bibliothèque Cantonale et Universitaire
Lausanne (Switzerland)

Nathalie Schulz – Oxford University (England)

Nina Goldie – James Cook University (Australia)

Pete Wilson – Vanderbilt University (Tennessee)

Rebecca Uhl – Arizona State University

Ruth Schroeder – Oxford University (England)

Sharon Shapira – University of Haifa (Israel)

Skalk van der Merwe - Victoria University of Wellington (New
Zealand)

Stephanie Morton – State Library of Queensland (Australia)

Suzie Geermans – State Library of Victoria (Australia)

Previous developments

Authority control rules

Link BIB Headings Rules List Cancel Save

Link BIB Headings Rule Editor

Name *

Description

Created By Ex Libris Created On 12/02/2018

Updated By Ex Libris Updated On 12/02/2018

Workflow Setup

Link

Do not link

Tag as Add Tag

Partial linking for subject headings

Half-binocular icon

300		\$\$a 259 pages \$\$b frontispiece, plates, portraits \$\$c
336		\$\$a text \$\$b txt \$\$2 rdacontent
337		\$\$a unmediated \$\$b e \$\$2 rdamedia
338		\$\$a volu
610	1	\$\$a test
	0	\$\$a Art.
	0	\$\$a Artists.
	0	\$\$a Artists. \$\$2 France
	7	\$\$a Art. \$\$2 fast \$\$0 (OCOL)

Partial linking (points to row 610)

Full linking (points to row 650 with 7)

Previous developments

Browse authority headings

Browse Authority Headings ×

Heading Type	<input type="text" value="Subjects"/>	Search Value	<input type="text"/>
Source Code	<input type="text" value="Topical Term"/>		
Vocabulary	<input type="text" value="Library of Congress Subject Headings"/>		<input type="button" value="Browse"/>



Developing priorities

In 2021, the AAFG presented 3 top enhancement requests to ExLibris:

1. Respect MARC subfield coding when linking bib headings
2. Allow partial linking of name/title headings
3. Allow for more partial linking and flipping of subdivided LCSH headings

Starting in 2022, the group began meeting monthly and discussed the priority of these requests. We eventually decided that this order was, in fact, the desired one for enhancements



Respect MARC subfield coding when linking bib headings

- The top 3 priorities of the AAFG need a linking mechanism that can:
 - Narrow linking – by excluding some headings from the matching process
 - Broaden linking – by supporting more partial linking options
- Our team worked on this infrastructure During 2023
- The first story is ready, and in the process of early testing by the AAFG.

Respect MARC subfield coding when linking bib headings

Should this bib heading:

600 1 0 \$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616 \$\$x Tragedies

Match this authority record?

LDR	05471cz##a2201045n##4500
001	98166173370000041
005	20191129194349.0
008	791123n #azannaabn##### a#aaa#####
010	\$\$a n 79136407
035	\$\$a (OCoLC)oca00367743
035	\$\$a (DLC)n 79136407
040	\$\$a DLC \$\$b eng \$\$e rda \$\$c DLC \$\$d DLC \$\$d OrU \$\$d DLC \$\$d CoU \$\$d TxCM \$\$d DLC
100 1	\$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616. \$\$t Plays. \$\$k Selections
400 1	\$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616. \$\$t Hollywood immortals perform Shakespeare
400 1	\$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616. \$\$t Seven comedies
400 1	\$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616. \$\$t Four comedies
400 1	\$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616. \$\$t Pericles, Prince of Tyre ; Cymbeline ; The two noble kinsmen
400 1	\$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616. \$\$t History plays
400 1	\$\$a Shakespeare, William, \$\$d 1564-1616. \$\$t Tragedies

Respect MARC subfield coding when linking bib headings

Link BIB Headings Rule Editor

Name * **Do not link mismatching subfields**

Description

Created By **Staff, Ex Libris** Created On **28/02/2024**

Updated By **Staff, Ex Libris** Updated On **28/02/2024**

Input Parameters

Name	Operator	Value
1 Subfield Codes	=	not identical

Workflow Setup

Link
 Do not link

+ Add Parameter ▾

✕

Name

Subfield Codes ▾

Operator

= ▾

Value

not identical ▾

Clear Add Parameter



Collaborating on future developments

Understanding the requirements – seeing the requests brought up some questions:

1. For name/titles authorities – is the title always in subfield t?
2. What about special cataloging, e.g. music?
3. Which subfields can be safely removed while maintaining accurate matching?
4. Is this different for different types of bib headings (e.g. 700 vs. 711)?
5. Is this different for different MARC fields (e.g. 100 vs. 700)?

AAFG to the rescue!

Table to define subfields to ignore in validation

First draft:

A	B	C	D	E	F
TAG	Heading Tyoe	1st sequence (core information)	2nd sequence (corporate/conference and addenda)	3rd sequence (title)	4th sequence (addenda to title)
700	Person	abcdgiqu		t	flkmnoprs
110	Corporate body	abg	cdn	t	flkpls
710	Corporate body	abg	cdn	t	flkmnoprs
111	Conference	agq	cdneq	t	flkpls
711	Conference	agq	cdne	t	flkpls
130/730	Title	ag			dfklmnoprst
800	Series entered under name	abcdgiqu		tnp	flkmors
830	Series	adfgklmorsnpt			
810	Series entered under corporate body	abg	cdn	tnp	flkmors
811	Series entered under conference name	aegq	cdn	tnp	flks

Note: We have deliberately excluded the 100, which never needs to use partial linking logic



Meeting the requirements - challenges

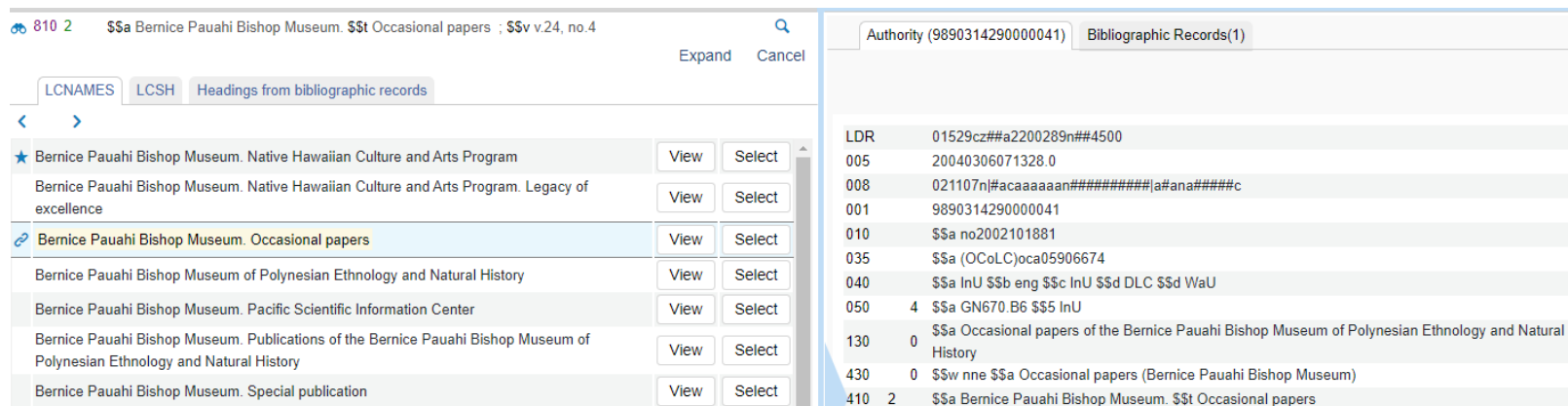
A lot more partial matches in the system mean:

- Many more bib headings to check for better matches each time the linking job runs
- Many more iterations to check for each bib heading - longer matching processes per heading
- How can we accommodate while keeping the linking job manageable?

Additional requests

Option for heading match with different diacritics

Flip heading if tag in authority record doesn't match bib record



The screenshot shows a library catalog interface. On the left, there is a list of headings under the heading 'Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum. Occasional papers'. The selected heading is 'Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum. Occasional papers'. On the right, there is a detailed authority record for the selected heading, showing various tags and values.

Authority (989031429000041)	Bibliographic Records(1)
LDR	01529cz##a2200289n##4500
005	20040306071328.0
008	021107n#facaaaaan##### a#ana####c
001	989031429000041
010	\$\$a no2002101881
035	\$\$a (OCoLC)oca05906674
040	\$\$a InU \$\$b eng \$\$c InU \$\$d DLC \$\$d WaU
050	4 \$\$a GN670.B6 \$\$5 InU
130	0 \$\$a Occasional papers of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum of Polynesian Ethnology and Natural History
430	0 \$\$w nne \$\$a Occasional papers (Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum)
410	2 \$\$a Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum. \$\$t Occasional papers

Punctuation table updates

Additional requests

Punctuation table updates

Implemented Punctuation Rules for Updated Bibliographic Records

The following punctuation rules are implemented when bibliographic records are updated from the authority database:

Punctuation Rules

(1) Tag & Indicators	(2) Subfield to Which Punctuation Is Added	(3) Subfield Following the Subfield in Column (2)	(4) Punctuation to Be Added	(5) If Punctuation Exists/Does Not Exist Condition
1####	a		.	.
1####	d		.	.
100##	a	4	.	
100##	a	d	,	,
100##	a	e	,	,
100##	c	e	,	,
100##	q	e	,	,
100##	d	4	.	
100##	d	e	,	.



Timeframe

1. Respect MARC subfield coding when linking bib headings
2024 H1: Early testing by AAFG
2024 H2: General availability
2. Allow partial linking of name/title headings
2024 H2: Early testing
2025 H1: General availability
3. Allow for more partial linking and flipping of subdivided LCSH headings
2025 H2: Early testing

Questions? Comments?

Please feel free to ask questions after the session, too!

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If you want to learn more about or join AAFG, contact Liz

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