

1. Are any of you using MARCedit?
2. What kinds of things do you typically use it for?
3. Do you alter the default operation in any way to accommodate your local practice?
4. In deciding whether to use MARCedit or to alter records manually, do you have a threshold number of records that need altering?
5. Are you satisfied with the results when you use MARCedit? Does it do what you need it to do?
6. Are there any snags or shortcomings? aspects you wish worked better?
7. Have you ever used the RDA Helper function? How did it go? Do you like it?
8. Has any of you used MARCedit to do things like globally change name or subject headings to their currently authorized forms? Any problems with that? /OR/ Why would you NOT use MARCedit to do that?
9. What are the most common maintenance issues in your library's catalog that MARCedit could help you with? [ie. vendor record loads, URL updates, authority flips, local notes and field additions]
10. Who is your library handles catalog maintenance projects? Catalogers? Tech Services Head? Systems Staff?
11. How do catalog maintenance issues get reported in your library? Is there a formal reporting process ie. form? Can anyone report, including your users?

Those in the audience told us that they used MarcEdit for: editing ebook vendor records, specific uses mentioned include adding 856 subfields appropriate to a specific library, adding “eb” at the end of call numbers for ebooks, adding a restriction note (MARC 506 field), adding a 773 field with vendor name (such as SpringerLink) + discipline to support retrieval of ebooks by discipline, and to remove non-OCLC 035 fields. When you are looking to add specific information to every record in a group of records, there is no faster way than MarcEdit. When you have records rejected from bulk record loads, open them in MarcEdit as an easy way to discover errors. Harvest your own institution’s institutional repository (BePress) or other metadata (CONTENTdm) and see how it converts to MARC 21. Use MarcEdit as an OAI harvesting tool for records from OCLC’s digital gateway. Do global updates on an OCLC Connexion local file. Manage record merges, and compare files.

Questions about MarcEdit follow; some were answered but other ways to lower barriers to learning MarcEdit mentioned in the breakout session included -- seek out one of the many, many MarcEdit YouTube videos on specific tasks; query the MARCEDIT-L or its archive; post MarcEdit questions to the CARLI Techserv-ig, share MarcEdit workflows you have developed and their uses to the CARLI website similar to the way we currently provide shared SQL for Voyager Reports; create a CARLI-specific FAQ for MarcEdit. Note that Terry remains open to others developing new plug-ins, and invites anyone to extend the software in any way they would like, so anything created among the CARLI libraries would be of interest to the broader MarcEdit community.

What is a regular expression?

Ted described this as fancy pattern matching, or going beyond the use of wild cards like ‘*’. Information about matching using regular expressions can be found in any UNIX book, and it is particularly useful in the PERL scripting language. Basically, you may specify ranges of characters to match in specific positions of a string. Some characters are assigned special uses, such as ‘^’ means the start of a string, and ‘\$’ means end of a string. Microsoft Access offers limited support for regular expressions, so some people may have experienced these in that context.

Would MarcEdit be a good tool to use for converting AACR2 headings to RDA preferred access points, such as the O.T. and N.T. headings?

Although this could be done, the recommendation was that the Strawn Correction review & Correction receiver programs would be a better choice.

Generally, there was a great deal of interest in discovering what kinds of uses would be most appropriate for MarcEdit, how I-Share libraries are developing workflows to accomplish those tasks, and finding ways to share/re-use workflows developed by others.