Virtual AskQC Office Hours

411 on FAST:
The what, why, and how of Faceted Application of Subject Terminology

OCLC Metadata Quality
October 2022
Housekeeping

This session is being recorded
Housekeeping

This session is being recorded

All session recordings, slides, and notes are available at oc.lc/askqc
Housekeeping

This session is being recorded
All session recordings, slides, and notes are available at oc.lc/askqc
Enter questions in chat to “Everyone” at any time during the presentation
Housekeeping

This session is being recorded
All session recordings, slides, and notes are available at oc.lc/askqc
Enter questions in chat to “Everyone” at any time during the presentation.

After the session, you will be directed to a brief, optional survey
On the call today

Charlene Morrison  
Data Analyst

Shanna Griffith  
Data Analyst

Cynthia Whitacre  
Senior Metadata Operations Manager

Bryan Baldus  
Senior Data Analyst

Kerre Kammerer  
Lead Software Engineer

Virtual AskQC Office Hours: 411 on FAST
411 on FAST:
The what, why, and how of Faceted Application of Subject Terminology

Cynthia Whitacre
Senior Metadata Operations Manager

Shanna Griffith
Data Analyst
Important Links

FAST Overview page: https://www.oclc.org/en/fast.html

FAST Quick Start Guide:

This guide is an 18-page document on which we've based this presentation. Kerre Kammerer was one of the authors of this guide.
What is FAST?

Faceted Application of Subject Terminology

Derived from Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH)

Designed to meet the need for a general-use subject terminology scheme.

Photo by Robin Pierre on Unsplash
Why use FAST?

- Simple to learn and apply
  - Efficient, intuitive
- Faceted-navigation-friendly
  - Keyword searching
  - Filtering by faceted value

Photo by Robert Penaloza on Unsplash
Why use FAST?

• Modern in its design
  • Linked Data
• Maintains upward compatibility with LCSH
  • Predictable, consistent
• FAST is free
How to Identify a FAST heading in MARC

• 6XX field, second indicator 7, subfield $2 fast

• Examples:
  • 650 7 Social stratification. $2 fast $0 (OCoLC)fst01123370
  • 651 7 United States. $2 fast $0 (OCoLC)fst01204155
  • 655 7 Motets. $2 fast $0 (OCoLC)fst01726673
  • 647 7 Northern War $d (1700-1721) $2 fast $0 (OCoLC)fst01039241
  • 648 7 2000-2099 $2 fast
FAST usage outside MARC

• FAST is used in indexing and abstracting systems
• FAST can be used in BIBFRAME
• FAST can be used in Dublin Core
• FAST can be used in MODS

Photo by Joel Holland on Unsplash
Retain or Delete FAST from MARC copy?

DELETE in local copy:
• Perception that FAST is redundant to LCSH
• Perception that FAST clutters the display

RETAIN in local copy:
• If you don't wish to display FAST in your public catalog, configure your system to suppress public display.
• That allows for future use of FAST in your system down the road
• FAST is compatible with LCSH and co-exists well in catalogs that use both
FAST heading sources

Derived from four sources:

• Established headings contained in the Library of Congress Subject Heading (LCSH) authority file

• Name headings established in Library of Congress/NACO Authority File (LCNAF) and used as subject headings in WorldCat

• Subject headings created based on LCSH rules and used in WorldCat

• Genre/form headings based on Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT)
## Key differences: FAST versus LCSH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAST</th>
<th>LCSH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 facets</td>
<td>6 categories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One facet per heading</td>
<td>Allows multiple categories within a single heading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidation of duplicate subject headings by facet within the bibliographic record</td>
<td>Repetition of subject headings from one category, when combined with a different category, may occur within a bibliographic record</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 650 7 Dogs ǂ2 fast  
651 7 Canada ǂ2 fast  
651 7 United States ǂ2 fast | 650 0 Dogs ǂz Canada  
650 0 Dogs ǂz United States |
| FAST is a fully enumerated scheme, with a cross reference structure, where all concepts are explicitly established, and each concept has its own URI | Subset of permitted headings is found in LCSH, which has its own cross reference structure. Complex rules for constructing headings not found in LCSH. |
Structure of FAST headings

Consists of nine distinct facets (categories):
- Personal Names (field 600)
- Corporate Names (field 610)
- Meetings (field 611)
- Uniform Titles (field 630)
- Named Events (field 647)
- Chronological (field 648)
- Topical (field 650)
- Geographic (field 651)
- Form/Genre (field 655)
Faceting LCSH into FAST

LCSH heading
651 0 United States ‡x History ‡y Revolution, 1775-1783 ‡x Participation, French.

FAST headings
651 7 United States ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01204155
650 7 Military participation ‡x French. ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01353722
647 7 American Revolution ‡c (United States : ‡d 1775-1783). ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01351668
648 7 1775-1783. ‡2 fast
655 7 History. ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01411628
Personal Names (field 600)

- Constructed from the same descriptive subfields as personal name headings in LCSH (ǂa, ǂq, ǂb, ǂc, and ǂd)
- LCSH personal name headings combined with terms from other facets are found in their corresponding FAST facet

FAST headings
600 17 King, Martin Luther, ǂc Jr., ǂd 1929-1968 ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst00040023
650 7 Assassination. ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst00818962
655 7 Fiction. ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst01423787

LCSH heading
600 10 King, Martin Luther, ǂc Jr., ǂd 1929-1968 ǂx Assassination ǂv Fiction.
Corporate Names (field 610)

• Constructed from the same descriptive subfields as corporate name headings in LCSH (ǂa and ǂb)
• LCSH corporate name headings combined with terms from other facets are found in their corresponding FAST facet

FAST headings
610 27 Ohio State Buckeyes (Football team) ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst00573616
655 7 Sources. ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst01423900

LCSH heading
610 20 Ohio State Buckeyes (Football team) ǂv Sources.
Meeting (field 611)

• Derived from headings established as meeting names in the LCNAF and used as a subject in WorldCat

FAST headings

611 27 World Conference on Women. ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01408640

611 27 Asia-Europe Meeting. ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01408985

655 7 Pictorial works. ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01423874

LCSH headings

611 20 World Conference on Women ‡n (4th : ‡d 1995 : ‡c Beijing, China)

611 20 Asia-Europe Meeting ‡n (11th : ‡d 2016 : ‡c Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia) ‡v Pictorial works.
Uniform Titles (field 630)

• Constructed either from uniform title headings in the LCNAF or from the title subdivision in personal name or corporate name headings and qualified by the author

FAST headings
630 07 Meet the press (Radio program) ♦2 fast ♦0 (OCoLC)fst01372990

630 07 Shining (King, Stephen) ♦2 fast ♦0 (OCoLC)fst01375530

LCSH headings
630 00 Meet the press (Radio program)

600 10 King, Stephen, ♦d 1947- ♦t Shining.
Named Events (field 647)

• Derived from LCSH topical headings, chronological subheadings, and geographic headings
• Typically include military events, natural disasters, and other notable events

**FAST headings**

- 647 7 Tokyo Trial ǂc (Tokyo, Japan : ǂd 1946-1948) ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst01709967
- 647 7 Peloponnesian War ǂc (Greece : ǂd 431-404 B.C.) ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst01353967
- 647 7 George W. Bush’s Shoe Incident ǂc (Iraq : ǂd 1968) ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst01907306

**LCSH headings**

- 650 0 Tokyo Trial, Tokyo, Japan, 1946-1948
- 651 0 Greece ǂx History ǂy Peloponnesian War, 431-404 B.C.
- 600 10 Bush, George W. ǂq (George Walker), ǂd 1946- ǂx Shoe Incident, 2008.
Chronological (field 648)

• Represent the actual time period covered by the resource being described

FAST headings

647 7 World War ǂd (1939-1945) ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst01180924
648 7 1939-1945 ǂ2 fast

650 7 American literature ǂ2 fast ǂ0 (OCoLC)fst00807113
648 7 1900-1999 ǂ2 fast

LCSH headings

650 0 World War, 1939-1945

650 0 American literature ǂy 20th century
Topical (field 650)

- Derived from LCSH topical terms (650 $a) and general subdivisions ($x)

**FAST headings**

- 650 7 Beagle (Dog breed) $x Breeding. $2 fast $0 (OCoLC)fst01766903
- 651 7 United States. $2 fast $0 (OCoLC)fst01204155
- 650 7 Armed Forces $x Bands. $2 fast $0 (OCoLC)fst01982063

**LCSH headings**

- 650 0 Beagle (Dog breed) $x Breeding.
- 651 0 United States $x Armed Forces $x Bands.
Geographic (field 651)

• Follow a hierarchical structure based on the MARC Code List for Geographic Areas (GACs)
• Headings contain from 1 to 3 levels, with the first level being the largest geographic designation identified in the GAC list

GAC [f-sa] = South Africa
1st level = South Africa
2nd level = South Africa ÷z Johannesburg
3rd level = South Africa ÷z Johannesburg ÷z Alexandra
### Other differences: FAST vs. LCSH geographic headings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAST</th>
<th>LCSH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geographic names are in natural order</td>
<td>Geographic names are sometimes inverted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>650 7 Japan ǂz Mount Fuji</td>
<td>651 0 Fuji, Mount (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic names are not abbreviated</td>
<td>Rules are established for when to abbreviate and which abbreviations are used. The same geographic location might be abbreviated when used as a main entry, but the subdivision form is not abbreviated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>651 7 California ǂz Burbank (Los Angeles County)</td>
<td>651 0 Burbank (Los Angeles County, Calif.) or ǂz California ǂz Burbank (Los Angeles County)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic names are always in indirect order</td>
<td>Geographic names may be in direct order or indirect order, depending on their location in the heading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>651 7 England ǂz River Tyne</td>
<td>651 0 Tyne, River (England) or ǂz England ǂz Tyne, River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic qualifiers are retained in the established heading</td>
<td>Geographic qualifiers are dropped from the main entry form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>651 7 Korea (South) ǂz Taegu</td>
<td>651 0 Taegu (Korea)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Form/Genre (field 655)

- Derived from the LCGFT and from form subdivisions in LCSH

**FAST headings**

655 7 Historical fiction. ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01726640

655 7 Fiction. ‡2 fast ‡0 (OCoLC)fst01423787

**LCSH headings**

655 7 Historical fiction. ‡2 lcgft

650 0 Dogs ‡v Fiction.
Equivalent LCGFT and LCSH concepts

• FAST favors the LCGFT version of the heading

**FAST headings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>155</th>
<th>Apologetic writings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>455</td>
<td>Apologetic works $w$ nne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>155</th>
<th>Biographies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>455</td>
<td>Biography $w$ nne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LCGFT headings/LCSH subdivisions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>155</th>
<th>Apologetic writings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>185</td>
<td>$\ddagger v$ Apologetic works</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>155</th>
<th>Biographies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>185</td>
<td>$\ddagger v$ Biography</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Important Links

FAST Overview page: https://www.oclc.org/en/fast.html

FAST Quick Start Guide:

This guide is an 18-page document on which we've based this presentation. Kerre Kammerer was one of the authors of this guide.
On the call today

Charlene Morrison
Data Analyst

Shanna Griffith
Data Analyst

Cynthia Whitacre
Senior Metadata Operations Manager

Bryan Baldus
Senior Data Analyst

Kerre Kammerer
Lead Software Engineer
Thank you!

**November Virtual AskQC Office Hours**
Data and algorithms and bibs, oh my!

---

**Tuesday, 8 Nov. at 9:00 AM Eastern**
**Thursday, 17 Nov. at 4:00 PM Eastern**

---

**Registration and session links available at** [oc.lc/askqc](http://oc.lc/askqc)

---

Send cataloging policy questions at any time to [askqc@oclc.org](mailto:askqc@oclc.org)

---

Photo by [Eric Rothermel](https://unsplash.com/@ericrothermel) on Unsplash