

AUTOMATION OF EAST ASIAN CATALOGUE RECORDS IN AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIES

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1. Brief introduction to East Asian collections in Australian Libraries

The collecting of East Asian language materials in Australian libraries started in the 1950's. When Maurice Tauber reported on his survey of Australian libraries in 1961, only three libraries: the National Library of Australia, the Australian National University Library and the University of Sydney Library held East Asian language materials, totalling 103,800 volumes. According to a survey conducted in December 1984 by the author, the number of libraries holding East Asian language materials had increased to 32. The total holdings of their collections were as follows:

The National Library of Australia and the Australian National University Library have 203,503 volumes of monographs and 8,836 titles of serials and 177,900 volumes of monographs and 3,997 titles of serials respectively. The rest of the material was held in other university libraries, college libraries, state and other research libraries.

2. Available Automation Systems and the Problems of Adopting Them

In the past few years, dramatic progress in automation of East Asian cataloguing has been made. The first Japanese MARC

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	<u>Monographs</u>				<u>Serial Titles*</u>			
	<u>Titles</u>	<u>Volumes</u>	<u>Microfilm</u> <u>(reels)</u>	<u>Microfiche</u> <u>(sheets)</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Ceased</u>	<u>Microfilm</u> <u>(reels)</u>	<u>Microfiche</u> <u>(sheets)</u>
Chinese	246,902	399,606	7,370	2,101	4,205	4,029	6,757	1,200
Japanese	94,662	171,351	3,207	300	4,912	1,505	5,887	3,322
Korean	8,807	13,902	—	—	676	787	444	—
Manchu	150	730	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mongolian	127	324	—	—	5	—	—	—
Tibetan	771	1,889	50	2,226	4	—	—	—
Total	351,419	587,802	10,627	4,627	9,802	6,321	13,088	4,522

*Including newspapers.

on tape was made available by the National Diet Library in Tokyo in April 1981. The first Chinese MARC tape produced in Taiwan was distributed by the National Central Library in Taipei in December 1982. Both the Central National Library in Seoul and the National Library of China in Beijing reported that they had tested their MARC systems. In The United States the Library of Congress announced that their first machine readable record to contain East Asian script was created on 12 September 1983. This was entered in the database of the U.S. Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN) using the CJK system devised by the Research Libraries Group (RLG). The Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) also disclosed last year that it and Asiagraphics of Mt. Sinai, New York had entered into negotiation leading toward the development of a Chinese/Japanese/Korean (CJK) library support package.

In Australia, so far no East Asian script record has been input into any online database. Because Australian libraries tend to collect in more than one East Asian language, and wish to cooperate in a common database, they need a system that can handle all three of the East Asian scripts. Systems developed in Japan, Taiwan, Korea and China use different Chinese character sets and apply only to their respective languages. No one system in these countries is designed to cover all three East Asian languages. This makes it impossible for libraries in Western countries to adopt them.

The OCLC system has not been fully developed yet and the suitability of it to us is also uncertain.

The RLG system combines the features of Japanese, Chinese (Taiwan) and Korean systems and follows closely L.C. MARC. It seems to Australian libraries that the RLG system is the best system so far designed for the East Asian libraries in Western countries. Unfortunately RLG/CJK is at present restricted to its members. It is also incompatible with OCLC and WLN (Washington Library Network) on which the National Library of Australia's Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN) is based. The National

Library finds it difficult to acquire the RLG/CJK system in its present form. A recent report said that the RLG/CJK system was no longer under development.

In view of the above mentioned situation, Australian libraries realized that in the next few years there would be no suitable system available and thought that they should computerize their East Asian catalogue records now rather than wait for further development of the automation of Chinese, Japanese and Korean scripts. In recent years, East Asian language records in romanized form have been input into several computer based systems in Australia, notably the CAVAL (Co-operative Action by Victorian Academic Libraries) system and the ABN system.

3. The CAVAL System

The CAVAL system was developed in 1978 by academic libraries in the state of Victoria in Australia in order to enable greater sharing of library resources. Catalogues were produced in microfiche form which displayed in three separate sequences: author, title and subject. They were updated with monthly supplements and cumulated quarterly.

The cataloguing of East Asian language materials in this system is mainly done in the University of Melbourne Library which became a member of CAVAL in 1980. Materials catalogued are coded in AUSMARC 3 format, following AACR 2 and LCSH. The Wade-Giles system of romanization is adopted for Chinese materials and modified Hepburn for Japanese. About 5,000 romanized MARC records have been so far created. Three printed cards for each title of East Asian language materials are produced by the computer. The main entry is filed under title in the member library's existing card catalogues with title and author typed in vernacular script on the card. The other two cards are sent to the *Union Catalogue of East Asian Monographs* (UCEAM), in the National Library of Australia.

In January 1983, CAVAL joined the ABN system and changed its batch system to online cataloguing. However, CAVAL continues to operate as a regional database. It undertakes development of regional union catalogues and regional inter-library lending facilities. It also produces the monthly CEILS, which lists expensive items ordered by member libraries to facilitate co-operative acquisition.

4. The ABN System

The ABN system is an Australian national online bibliographic system based on co-operative participation. It has participants in every state and territory and provides services to libraries of all types.

The primary function of ABN is shared cataloguing: to eliminate the duplication of original cataloguing. ABN also provides inquiry, bibliographic verification and library location services. ABN became an operational system within the National Library of Australia on 31 March 1980.

Users pay for services according to a charging schedule which is subject to annual review. Charges for leased communication lines and training are equalized across the Network.

The software was developed in the United States by Boeing Computer Services for WLN and was purchased by the National Library of Australia in 1979. The WLN software has been modified and enhanced to suit the Australian environment.

The ABN database includes participants' original cataloguing in the WLN database as it stood in January 1980 and national agency records from the Library of Congress, U.S. Government Printing Office, British National Bibliography (BNB), Canadiana, Australian National Bibliography (ANB), and New Zealand National Bibliography (NZNB). In addition to bibliographic files, the database also contains authority information, including verified AACR 2 and LCSH and cross-references added by partici-

pants, and verified LCSH and cross-references added by the ABN office from current LCSH weekly updates.

Present Network standards require use of AACR 2 for descriptive cataloguing and allow the use of subject headings based on LCSH and other thesauri.

The ABN system produces MARC records on magnetic tape, microfiche catalogues, catalogue cards, book labels, new title lists and printed bibliographies.

The National Library of Australia decided last December to commence adding romanized entries for both monographs and serials in East Asian languages onto ABN. Member libraries of the ABN system holding such materials have also started inputting their holdings into the ABN database.

5. Measures Taken by the National Library and Other East Asian Collections

The Library of Congress has made available wholly romanized records on MARC for Chinese, Japanese and Korean monographs since September 1983 and wholly romanized records for Chinese, Japanese and Korean serials have also been available on MARC through the CONSER database since the late 1970s. These records and the CAVAL records are now in ABN. In addition, there are also the fully romanized records from WLN already on the database.

Since early this year, all cataloguing for East Asian language materials in the National Library of Australia has been done on ABN in fully romanized form. At present, these records on ABN are chiefly Japanese books on Australia, Oceania, and Papua New Guinea, consisting of some 400 works published in Japan in the late 19th century to the present, including personal accounts, travel guides, socio-economic studies, and aboriginal studies. More recently, the whole current cataloguing output in Japanese and Chinese has been input. In most cases, this means conversion

of L.C. cataloguing data to totally romanized machine-readable form from pre-1983 L.C. printed cards as still only a small proportion of CJK records are found on the database.

However, the National Library of Australia continues to use L.C. printed catalogue cards and to maintain the following card catalogues: Title catalogue, shelflist, Union Catalogue of East Asian Monographs (UCEAM) and the Union List of East Asian Serials (ULEAS). The reason for retaining them is that the vernacular script in the L.C. card is essential for retrieving East Asian materials. Without the script, it is difficult to reconvert a romanized title back to the exact vernacular script.

When books are catalogued using L.C. cards which bear the designations "MARC: indicating the presence of a romanized record in the ABN database, the Library's call number and location symbol are added to the card. And, of course, relevant name authority cards are made. Original cataloguing, at present, is limited to Australiana and important reference works.

For serials, the situation is slightly different in so far as the loss of characters does not impair comprehension as much as with monographs. Wholly romanized serial records have been acceptable for some time as witness the CONSER database. The National Library of Australia has added the call number and holdings to those titles on the database already held by the Library.

The current intake of East Asian monographs in the National Library of Australia has been input in interim form. For current serials interim records are being created in the database, at present, for older but important titles, especially in the science and technology fields.

6. Future Development

As mentioned in the beginning of this paper, there are 32 libraries in Australia holding East Asian materials. Of these 13 libraries that are not members of ABN, the Australian National

University is working on its own system, the University of Queensland has adopted an inhouse system, and the University of Tasmania has adopted the URICA system.

Because of the ABN Services, it is expected that romanized records for East Asian language materials will be used in the 19 member libraries of ABN. However, this is only the first step of our plan. Our ultimate goal is that every record for East Asian material should include vernacular script. We are hoping that in the next few years a suitable system will be available for our purposes.

Appendix

List of Australian Libraries with East Asian Language materials.

List of Australian Libraries with East Asian Language Materials

Australian National University Library.
Art Gallery of New South Wales.
Canberra College of Advanced Education Library.
Capricornia Institute of Advanced Education Library.
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization:
Central Library.
Darwin Institute of Technology Library.
Griffith University Library.
LaTrobe University Library.
Library Board of Western Australia.
Macquarie University Library.
Monash University Library.
Murdoch University Library.
National Library of Australia.

Patent Office Library.

Penrith City Library.

State Library of New South Wales

General Library

Mitchell Library.

State Library of South Australia.

State Library of Tasmania.

State Library of Victoria.

Swinburne Institute of Technology Library.

Sydney Japanese School.

University of Adelaide Library.

University of Melbourne Library.

University of New South Wales Library.

University of Newcastle Library.

University of Queensland Library.

University of Sydney Library.

University of Tasmania Library.

University of Western Australia Library.

Victoria College Library.

Western Australia Institute of Technology Library.