Making Your Library's Accessible Resources More Discoverable

David Norris & Violet Fox
March 23, 2022
GLA Carterette Series Webinar

What we'll discuss today

- Introductions
- Why this work is important
- The state of accessibility information in MARC records
- MARC fields introduced in 2018
- Who's using these fields
- How these fields display in catalogs
- What can you do to help
- Discussion & questions

Introductions

Violet Fox

@violetbfox

David Norris

@nightcataloger

Why is this work important?

- 3.5% of people in the U.S. are blind or visually disabled

- 4.5% of U.S. population is deaf or hard of hearing; 15% of adults have some amount of hearing loss

- 5-10% of people have learning disabilities such as dyslexia

Other important aspects of accessibility

- physical spaces for patrons

- your website

- the website of your ebook/streaming video platforms

- technologies like screen readers or special software

- staff training

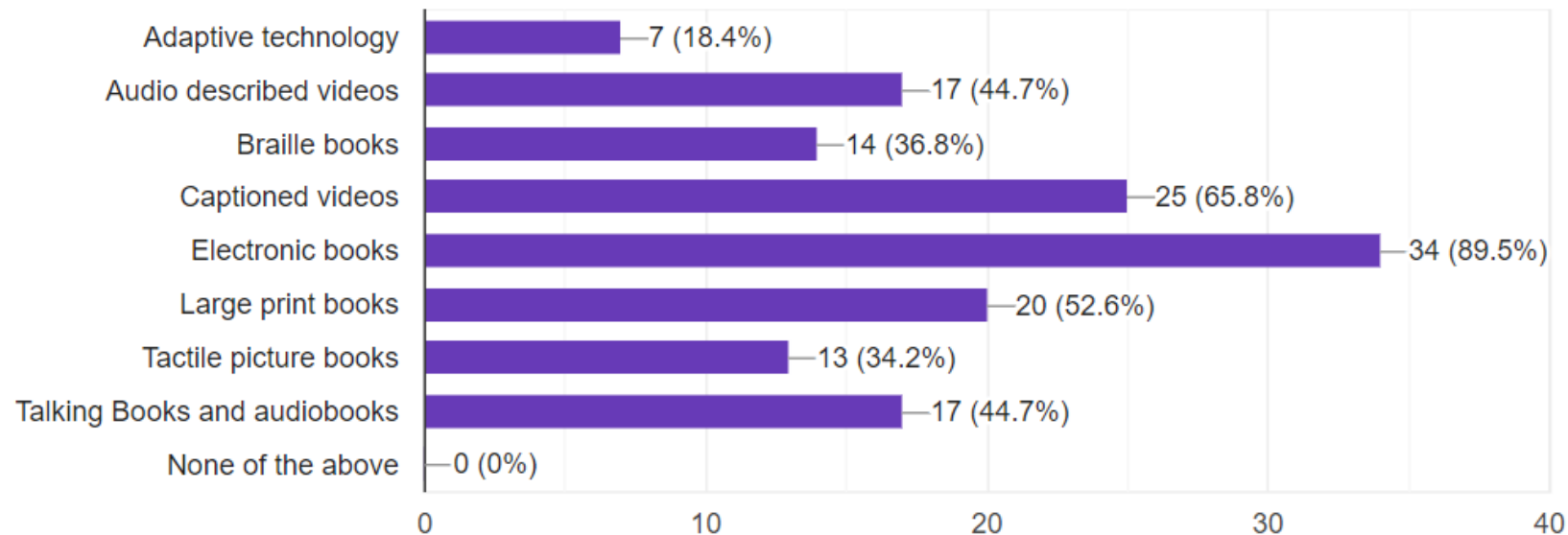What kind of accessible formats are in your institutions' collections?

"When you do well, it spreads out; it is for the whole of humanity."

-    Desmond Tutu

What types of accessible materials are in your collection?

38 responses

Category	Count (Percentage)
Adaptive technology	7 (18.4%)
Audio described videos	17 (44.7%)
Braille books	14 (36.8%)
Captioned videos	25 (65.8%)
Electronic books	34 (89.5%)
Large print books	20 (52.6%)
Tactile picture books	13 (34.2%)
Talking Books and audiobooks	17 (44.7%)
None of the above	0 (0%)

The state of accessibility information in MARC records

- Who do we think of as being "disabled"?

- Who we consider in the context of our cataloging may have implications for what information we include

- How can we rethink how we catalog to make resources as accessible as we can?

Principles of Universal Design

Principle 1: Equitable Use
"The design is useful and marketable to people with diverse abilities."

Principle 2: Flexibility in Use
"The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities."

Principle 3: Simple and Intuitive Use
"Use of the design is easy to understand, regardless of the user's experience, knowledge, language skills, or current concentration level."

Principle 4: Perceptible Information
"The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user, regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities."

Principle 5: Tolerance for Error
"The design minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions."

Principle 6: Low Physical Effort
"The design can be used efficiently and comfortably and with a minimum of fatigue."

Principle 7: Size and Space for Approach and Use
"Appropriate size and space is provided for approach, reach, manipulation, and use regardless of user's body size, posture, or mobility."

MARC fields introduced in 2018

- 341 Accessibility Content

- 532 Accessibility Note

- 041 Language Code

341 Accessibility Content

This field uses controlled vocabularies to convey information about textual, visual, auditory, and/or tactile modes of access to the primary and/or secondary contents of a resource.

1st Indicator

0   Adaptive features to access primary content

1   Adaptive features to access secondary content

Subfields

$a   Content access mode

$b   Textual assistive features

$c   Visual assistive features

$d   Auditory assistive features

$e   Tactile assistive features

https://www.w3.org/2021/a11y-discov-vocab/latest/

The MARC *Accessibility Content Source Code* **sapdv** stands for: Schema.org Accessibility Properties for Discoverability Vocabulary

532 Accessibility Note

Textual information describing the accessibility features, hazards, and deficiencies of a resource, including technical details relating to accessibility features.

1st Indicator

0   Accessibility technical det

1   Accessibility features

2   Accessibility deficiencies

Subfields

$a   Summary of accessibility

			Sound Track, 1969.
546			English or French language soundtrack (5.1 surround) with optional subtitles in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese; closed-captioned in English for the hearing impaired.
532	1		Closed captioning in English

Language Note	English or French language soundtrack (5.1 surround) with optional subtitles in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese; closed-captioned in English for the hearing impaired.
Accessibility Notes	Closed captioning in English
Uniform title	2001, a space odyssey (Motion picture)

041 Language Code

Language code is exactly what it sounds like... the language of the resource!

Four new subfields added in 2018:

$p   Language code of captions

$q   Language code of accessible audio

$r   Language code of accessible visual language (non-textual)

$t   Language code of accompanying transcripts for audiovisual materials

028	4	2	65539 ‡b Warner Home Video
041	1		eng ‡a fre ‡j eng ‡j fre ‡j por ‡j spa ‡h eng ‡p eng ‡p fre
046			‡k 1968
050		4	PN1997 ‡b .T96 2001

Other MARC fields to consider

506   Restrictions on Access Note

516   Type of Computer File or Data
Note

521   Target Audience Note

538   System Details Note

Kazmierczak, Anita. "Designed for Accessibility: MARC Records for the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled." Presented at the Core Metadata Interest Group: Core IG Week 2022, March 8, 2022.

Who is using these fields?

How do these fields show up in catalog displays?

- Your Mileage May Vary depending on your ILS

- Not all fields display in OPAC - including WorldCat

WorldCat:

OCLC Number:	47101348
Language Note:	English or French language soundtrack (5.1 surround) with optional subtitles in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese; closed-captioned in English for the hearing impaired.
Notes:	Originally produced as a motion picture in 1968

OCLC Connexion Client:

546			English or French language soundtrack (5.1 surround) with optional subtitles in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese; closed-captioned in English for the hearing impaired.
532	1		Closed captioning in English
600	1	0	Clarke, Arthur C. ‡q (Arthur Charles), ‡d 1917-2008 ‡v Film adaptations.

How do these fields show up in catalog displays?

From the St. Catherine University Primo display:

Language	English
	French
Series	Stanley Kubrick collection ›
Summary/Audience	**Audience note**: MPAA rating: G.
	Summary: A science fiction film which moves from the pre-historic birth of intelligence toward the emergence of man as pure thought somewhere in the future.
Language Note	English or French language soundtrack (5.1 surround) with optional subtitles in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese; closed-captioned in English for the hearing impaired.
Accessibility Notes	Closed captioning in English
Uniform title	2001, a space odyssey (Motion picture)

028	4	2	65539 ‡b Warner Home Video
041	1		eng ‡a fre ‡j eng ‡j fre ‡j por ‡j spa ‡h eng ‡p eng ‡p fre
046			‡k 1968
050		4	PN1997 ‡b .T96 2001
050		4	PN1997 ‡b .T86 2001

How do these fields show up in catalog displays?

- 341 and 532 fields are not indexed

- Accessibility subfields in 041 are not mapped for advanced search (in Alma)

- We can't associate that metadata with other information, such as a title search
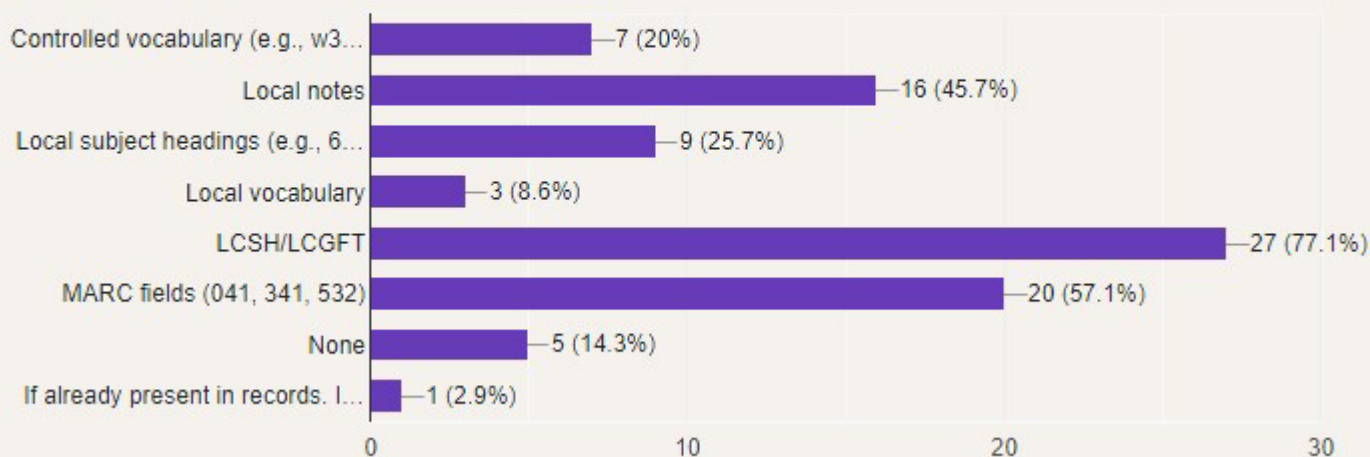
What can you do to make accessible resources more findable?

- start using these fields

- talk to your vendors

More Survey Results!

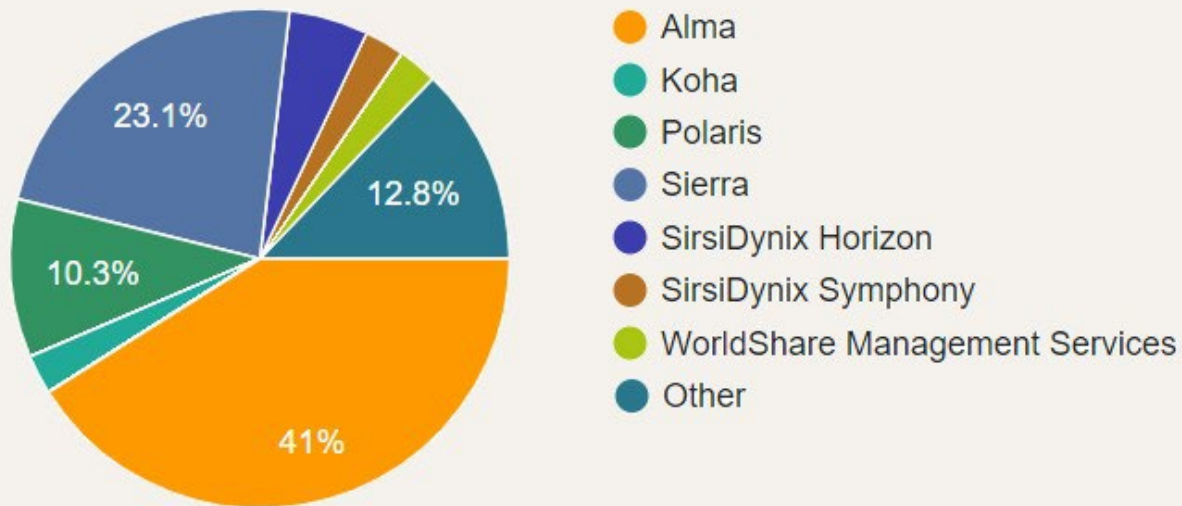What types of accessibility metadata (if any) are utilized in your catalog?

35 responses

|	
Controlled vocabulary (e.g., w3...	7 (20%)
Local notes	16 (45.7%)
Local subject headings (e.g., 6...	9 (25.7%)
Local vocabulary	3 (8.6%)
LCSH/LCGFT	27 (77.1%)
MARC fields (041, 341, 532)	20 (57.1%)
None	5 (14.3%)
If already present in records. I...	1 (2.9%)

More Survey Results!

Institutional ILS

39 responses

Pie chart legend:
- Alma
- Koha
- Polaris
- Sierra
- SirsiDynix Horizon
- SirsiDynix Symphony
- WorldShare Management Services
- Other

Pie chart values: 41%, 23.1%, 12.8%, 10.3%

More Survey Results!

Does your ILS vendor support MARC accessibility fields?

39 responses

- ● Yes
- ● No
- ● Not sure

61.5%

12.8%

25.6%
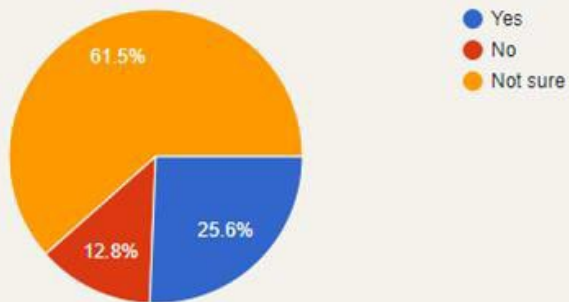
If no, have you reached out to the vendor to advocate for developing that support?

17 responses

- ● Yes
- ● No
- ● Our institution is so small that we A) significantly downsized our collection and B) do not plan to add materials to our collection

94.1%
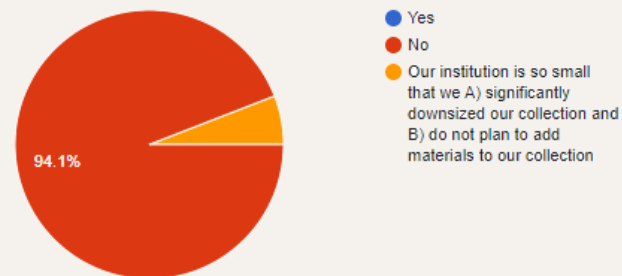
More Survey Results!

With which standards, if any, is your ILS compliant?

- ADA (for libraries in the U.S.) — 5 (12.8%)
- Section 508 (for libraries in the… — 4 (10.3%)
- WCAG 2.0 — 2 (5.1%)
- WCAG 2.1 — 5 (12.8%)
- None of the above — 1 (2.6%)
- Unsure — 31 (79.5%)
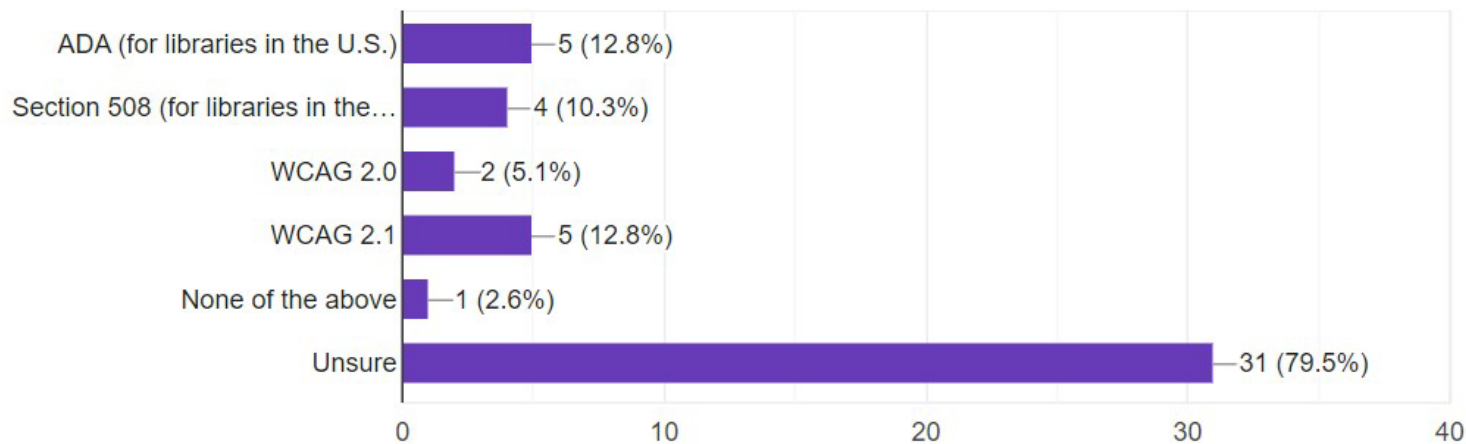
More Survey Results!

Does your library or institution have an accessibility policy?

- 🔵 Yes
- 🔴 No
- 🟠 Revising/Developing one
- 🟢 I think so, but am not totally sure.
- 🟣 unsure
- 🔵 Unsure
- 🌸 I do not know what is an accessibility policy.
- 🟢 Not sure.
- 🔴 Innovative provided one on request

38.5%

41%
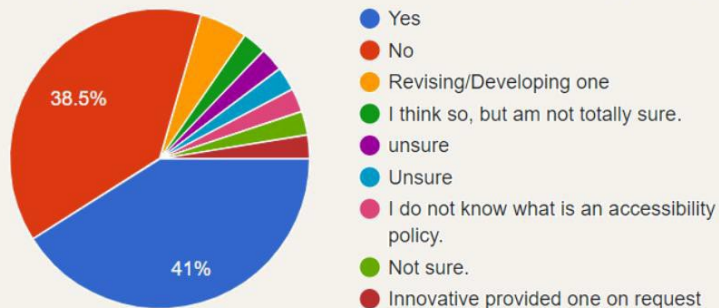
Does your cataloging or technical services department have accessibility metadata policies or guidelines?

- 🔵 Yes
- 🔴 No
- 🟠 Formal policy in development
- 🟢 I do not know what is an accessibility policy.

84.6%

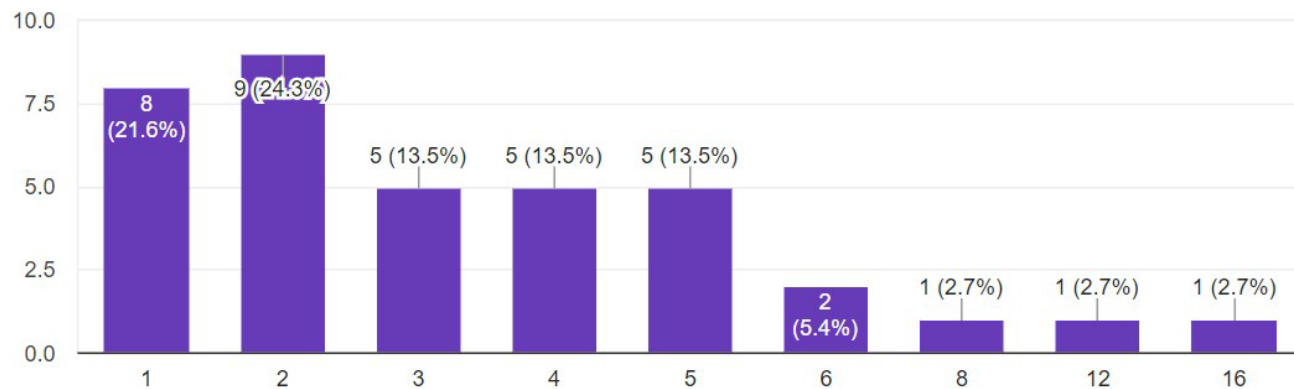10.3%
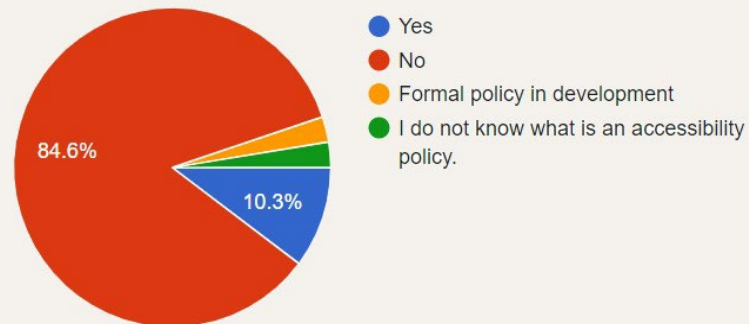
More Survey Results!

How would you rate your familiarity with the MARC accessibility fields?
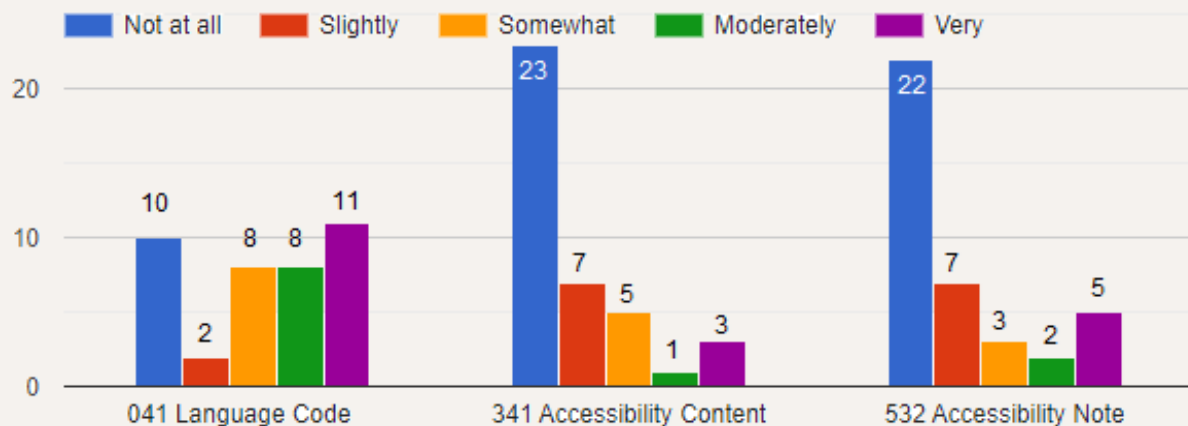
More Survey Results!

How many catalogers are at your institution (including paraprofessionals and copy catalogers)?

37 responses

Discussion!

- How is this information displayed in your catalog or discovery layer?
- How can we get vendors to see importance?
- What other blockers are in the way of doing this work?

Resources

"Disability Language Style Guide." NCDJ. National Center on Disability and Journalism, September 8, 2012. https://ncdj.org/style-guide/ *(Spanish and Romanian language versions available)*

LaPierre, Charles, Madeleine Rothberg, and Matt Garrish, eds. "Schema.org Accessibility Properties for Discoverability Vocabulary." W3C, November 5, 2021. https://www.w3.org/2021/a11y-discov-vocab/latest/

Pun, Karwai. "Dos and Don'ts on Designing for Accessibility." Accessibility in government. GOV.uk, September 2, 2016. https://accessibility.blog.gov.uk/2016/09/02/dos-and-donts-on-designing-for-accessibility/

Zheng, Ruby. "Learn to Create Accessible Websites with the Principles of Universal Design." The Interaction Design Foundation, August 27, 2018. https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/article/learn-to-create-accessible-websites-with-the-principles-of-universal-design

Get in touch!

violetfox@gmail.com
@violetbfox

dpnorris@stkate.edu
@nightcataloger