



APRIL 2-5, 2017



Digging into Resource Sharing:
Leveraging the Transaction File

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Introductions

- Debbi Schaubman
- MCLS (MeLCat)
- 416 member libraries
 - Multi-type
- Theda Schwing
- OhioLINK (Central Catalog)
- 121 member libraries
 - Academic

Importing the Data to Spreadsheets

- The data structure makes this straightforward
 - Each line in a new transaction
 - Each transaction line has the same elements (some will be blank)
 - Pipe (|) delimiter is used between fields
- Spreadsheet tools make it easier to automate the processing
 - Excel's lookup tools, using multiple worksheets
 - OpenRefine's saved JSON steps, filtering



Data Cleanup

- Date Format Changes
 - Changing the date format from yymmddhhmmss to something more useable
- Column Changes
 - Re-naming your columns of data will save your sanity when trying to remember what data is in which column
 - Reordering the columns can also be helpful
- Spot Checking
 - Make sure that all the lines split into the number of columns that you were expecting



Automate Where Possible

Extract Operation History

Extract and save parts of your operation history as JSON that you can apply to this or other projects in the future

- Split column Column 1 by separator
- Rename column Column 1 to Train_Type
- Rename column Column 2 to Train_Num
- Rename column Column 3 to Rail_Lib
- Rename column Column 4 to Onr_Lib
- Rename column Column 5 to Pub
- Rename column Column 6 to PTYPE
- Rename column Column 7 to ITYPE
- Rename column Column 8 to Author
- Rename column Column 9 to Title
- Rename column Column 10 to Cat_Num
- Rename column Column 11 to Item_Ref_Num
- Rename column Column 12 to Date
- Rename column Column 13 to Pub_Key
- Remove column Column 14
- Reorder columns
- Reorder columns

Select All Unselect All

```

[{"operation": "Split column", "column": 1, "separator": " "}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 1, "new_name": "Train_Type"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 2, "new_name": "Train_Num"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 3, "new_name": "Rail_Lib"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 4, "new_name": "Onr_Lib"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 5, "new_name": "Pub"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 6, "new_name": "PTYPE"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 7, "new_name": "ITYPE"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 8, "new_name": "Author"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 9, "new_name": "Title"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 10, "new_name": "Cat_Num"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 11, "new_name": "Item_Ref_Num"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 12, "new_name": "Date"}, {"operation": "Rename column", "column": 13, "new_name": "Pub_Key"}, {"operation": "Remove column", "column": 14}, {"operation": "Reorder columns", "order": 1}, {"operation": "Reorder columns", "order": 2}
                
```



INN-Reach Mad Libs

- [Transaction Type] / [Event] x [Date]
 - How many re-requests happen by month?
 - Which was used more last year, PickupAnywhere or Visiting Patron?
- [Time between Transaction Types] x [Date]
 - How long is it typically between when a patron places a request and then cancels that request?



That's INN-Reach – What about Local Files?



```

**** DCB MAIN MENU ****

I > INN-Reach functions
M > MANAGEMENT INFORMATION about the system
A > ADDITIONAL system functions
X > DISCONNECT
Choose one (I,M,A,X)

DCB Server: 1 QMEL013

```



Getting and Keeping the Files

- The transaction files are on the INN-Reach server and accessible through the text-based system
- Determining the following could take some time:
 - Who can access the files on the server?
 - Will the files be pulled on a regular basis?
 - Where will the files be stored?



(Very) Large Files

- Multiple transactions are recorded for each request

Year	Number of Transactions (OhioLINK)
2000	1,163,385
2005	1,595,536
2010	2,659,690

- Annual data quickly becomes problematic
 - Too many lines (Excel), or
 - Too big to process (OpenRefine)



Granularity

- INN-Reach sites all have different central codes (and you can only work with what you have)

Type Code	Meaning
200	Book
201	Sound Recording
202	Video Recording
203	Audio-Visual (not otherwise specified)
204	Library for the Blind materials
205	Kit
206	Map
207	Microfilm
208	Periodical
209	Realia
210	Software
211	Assistive Device
212	Video Recording (Short Loan)
213	Audio-Visual (not otherwise specified; Short Loan)
214	Sound Recording (Short Loan)
215	No Otherwise Specified

OhioLINK Book	200
OhioLINK Curriculum Center	201
OhioLINK Periodicals	202
OhioLINK Sound Recording	203
OhioLINK Computer Software	204
OhioLINK Audio-visual	205
OhioLINK Microform	206
OhioLINK Non-circ	207
OhioLINK Circulating Media	208
OhioLINK Circulating Microform	209
OhioLINK Circulating Periodical	212



Changes in Data Over Time

- Though all the data is from a single INN-Reach system, there are still inconsistencies introduced over time:
 - Differences between older and current data
 - Differences in record information as the record owner changes
 - Introduction of new:
 - ITYPEs and PTYPEs
 - Participating libraries
 - Loan rules
 - Local policy



Accepting the Acceptable

- There will always be some cases where analysis is more difficult than others:
 - Transactions that are split across timeframes
 - Transactions that followed an unusual pattern
 - Comparison of data across long time spans
- It's important to set a realistic error tolerance based on how much time is available for analysis



Questions?



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