A MARC is a **M**Achine **R**eadable **C**ataloguing.

It means that a computer can read and interpret the data of a cataloguing record.

It is a standard used for the exchange of bibliographic information among computerized library systems.
The purpose of MARC is to provide a standard format for the global exchange of bibliographic information available in machine readable format in the libraries worldwide.
HISTORY OF MARC

- MARC has a standing of around 40 years.
- Library of Congress, Washington, DC was the first to produce MARC records in October 1966.
- The British Library, UK in 1969 started with the UKMARC.
- Similar initiatives were taken up by the national Libraries of France, Germany, Canada and Australia and they devised separate MARC formats. According to a survey report conducted by IFLA in 1990, there were 60 countries worldwide using bibliographic formats based on MARC e.g. CANMARC (Canada), AUSMARC(Australia), UKMARC(Great Britain), INTERMARC(France), etc.
MARC 21

- MARC 21 is the new name of the harmonized CANMARC and USMARC formats.
- The National Library of Canada and Library of Congress worked together to formulate a common harmonized format and reconcile the format differences.
STANDARDS USED FOR CREATING MARC RECORD

- Cataloguing Code - AACR-II
- Subject Heading - LCSH, MESH, INSPEC, any standard thesaurus
- Classification Scheme - DDC
1. Fields
2. Subfields
3. Indicators
4. Content Designators
The bibliographic data of a catalogued item has been divided logically into fields.

We have a field for an author, a field for the title, a field for the publication, etc.

- These fields are further subdivided into subfields which contain the related piece of data of the field.

There is a need to use the mnemonics for a particular field, since the textual names of the fields are too long to be reproduced in the MARC Record.

These respective fields are represented by a 3 digit code called “tags” which are unique. No two fields can have the same tag code.

- A tag is always a 3 digit code, e.g. tag 100 represents a personal name main entry and tag 020 represents ISBN field.
A Field is subdivided into subfields.

- Each type of data within the field is called a subfield and each subfield is preceded by a subfield code.

- The subfield code is essential as it allows the better identification and not arrangement.

- The order of the subfield is specified by content standards, e.g., cataloguing rules.

- The subfield codes are one lower-case letter preceded by a delimiter and defined independently of each field. The delimiter as the name indicates, “delimits” one data element from another. The different subfield delimiters that are being used are: @, #, $ etc. for example the field 300 in the MARC format includes $a for the extent, $b for other physical details and $c for dimension. Here a, b, c are the subfield codes and $ is the delimiter which is being used.
INDICATORS

- The indicators are the two spaces which is a number from 0 to 9.

- There are only two indicators in a field and not all the field have indicators.

CONTENT DESIGNATORS

A content designators is a collective term used refer to the tags, subfields codes and indicators
FIELD STRUCTURE

- Fixed Fields
- Variable Fields
**FIXED FIELDS**

- The Fixed Fields, the length of the fields are restricted
  - It is 40 characters contains important information
  - The Purpose of the fixed fields is to provide some basic information and codes about the bibliographic description, e.g.
    - Date, Country of Publication, illustrations, nature of contents, government publication, Conference publication, etc
• 00-05 Date entered on file (YYMMDD)

• 06 Type of date /publication status

  • b = no dates given ; B.C date involved
  • e = detailed date
  • s = single known date/probable date
  • m = multiple dates
  • r = reprint/reissue date (Date 1) and original date (Date20)
  • n = dates unknown
  • q = questionable date
  • t = publication date and copyright date
  • \| = no attempt to code
07-10 Date 1/beginning date of publication.
11-14 Date 2/ending date of publication.

15-17 Place of Publication, production, or execution for example:
\[\begin{align*}
\text{ii} & = \text{India} \\
\text{cau} & = \text{California (US)}
\end{align*}\]
VA\textsc{RIOUS} \textsc{FIXED} \textsc{FIELDS} ....

18-21 Illustration (up to $ codes ) : 

# = no publication

\begin{itemize}
  \item a = illustrations
  \item b = maps
  \item c = portraits
  \item d = charts
  \item e = plans
  \item f = plates
  \item g = music
  \item h = facsimiles
  \item i = coats of arms
  \item j = genealogical tables
  \item k = forms
  \item l = samples
  \item m = phonodisc, phonowire, etc
  \item o = photographs
  \item p = illuminations
  \item | = No attempt to code
\end{itemize}
Target audience:

# = unknown or not specified
a = preschool
b = primary
c = elementary and junior high
d = secondary ( senior high )
e = adult
f = specialized
g = general
j = juvenile
| = No attempt to code
23 Form of item:
   # = none of the following
   a = microfilm
   b = microfiche
   c = microopaque
   d = large print
   f = braille
   r = regular print reproduction
   s = electronic
   | = No attempt to code
24-27 Nature of contents (up to 4):

# = no specified nature of contents
a = abstracts/summaries
b = bibliographies (is one of contains one)
c = catalogs
d = dictionaries
e = encyclopedias
f = handbooks
g = legal articles
l = indexes
j = patent document
k = discographies
l = legislation
m = theses
n = surveys of literature
o = reviews
p = programmed texts
q = filmographies
r = directories
s = statistics
t = technical reports
v = legal cases and notes
w = law reports and digests
z = treaties
| = No attempt to code
28 Government publication:
# = not a government publication
i = international intergovernmental
f = federal/national
a = autonomous or semi-autonomous component
s = state, provincial, territorial, dependent, etc
m = multistate
c = multilocal
l = local
z = other type of governmental publication
o = governmental publication -- level undertermined
u = unknown if item is government publication
| = No attempt to code
VARIOUS FIXED FIELDS ....

29 Conference publication
   0 = not a conference publication
   l = conference publication
   | = No attempt to code

30 Festschrift
   0 = not a Festschrift
   l = Festschrift
   | = No attempt to code

31 Index
   0 = no index
   l = index present
   | = No attempt to code

32 Undefined (since 1990) (Earlier records may contain the values 0 or l)
   # = Undefined
   | = No attempt to code
VARIOUS FIXED FIELDS ....

33  Literary form
0  =  not fiction (not further specified)
1  =  fiction (not further specified)
c  =  comic strips
d  =  drammas
e  =  novels
h  =  humor, satires, etc.
i  =  letters
j  =  short stories
m  =  mixed forms
p  =  poetry
s  =  speeches
u  =  unknown
|   =  No attempt
VARIOUS FIXED FIELDS ....

34 Biography
# = no biographical material
a = autobiography
b = individual biography
c = collective biography
d = contains biographical information

35-37 Language:
A three-letter code for example: eng, fre, spa, rus, ita
38 Modified record:
#  = not modified
x  = missing characters (because of character unavailable in MARC character set)
s  = shortened
d  = “dashed-on” information omitted
r  = completely romanized/printed cards in scripts
o  = completely romanized/printed cards romanized
   |  = No attempt to code

39 Cataloging source:
#  = National Bibliographic Agency
c  = Cooperative cataloging Program
d  = other sources
u  = unknown
   |  = No attempt
As the name suggests, the fields belonging to the variable fields can be of variable field length.
The variable fields can be broadly divided into the following categories: i.e.

0xx - Control information number codes
1xx - Main Entry
2xx - Titles, Editions, Imprint
3xx - Physical Description
4xx - Series statement
5xx - Notes
6xx - Subject Added Entry
7xx - Added entries
8xx - Series Added Entry
9xx - Locally defined Fields
0xx

010  -  LC Control Number
   $a  Library of Congress Control Number

020  -  International Standard Book No
   $a  International Standard Book Number
   $c  Terms of availability (often a Price)
   $z  Cancelled/ invalid ISBN (R)

040  -  Cataloging source
   $a  Original cataloging agency
   $c  Transcribing agency
   $d  Modifying agency
1xx

100 Main entry- Personal name

indicator-: First: 0 - forename, 1 surname,

3- family name

Second: Undefined

$ a  Personal name
$b  Numeration
$c  Titles and other words
$q  Fuller form of name
$d  Dates associated with a name

Example: 100 10 $a Churchill, Winston, $c Sir,

$d 1874-1965.
2xx

240  Uniform title

indicator 1: Uniform title printed or displayed
0 - not printed or displayed
1 - Printed or displayed

indicator 2: Non-filing characters
0-9  Number of nonfiling character present

$a  Uniform title
$d  Date of Treaty Signing
$l  Language of a work
$f  Date of a work

Example: 240 14 $a The Pickwick Papers. $l French
245 Title Statement
indicator 1 : Title added entry
0 - No title added entry
1 - Title added entry
indicator 2 : Non-filing characters
0-9 Number of non-filing characters present, including space
$a The Title proper
$b Remainder of title
$c Reminder of title page
transcription/statement of responsibility

Example: 245 10 $a How to play chess /
$c Kevin Wicker ; with a foreword by David Pritchard
Variable Fields ....

246 Varying from of Title (R)
   $a Title
   $b Subtitle
   $f Volume/issue numbers/ date of work
   $n Number of part / section of a work (R)
   $p Name of Part / section of a work (R)

250 Edition Statement
   250 $a Edition Statement
   $b Reminder of edition Statement

Example: 250 $a 4th ed. / $b revised by J G Le Mesurier
Variable Fields ....

260 Imprint
   $a Place of Publication ( R )
   $b Name of Publisher ( R )
   $c Date of Publication ( R )


300 Physical Description (R)
   $a Pagination ( R ) $b Illustration, etc $c Dimensions
   $e Accompanying material

Example: $a 11 v. : $b ill.; $c 24 cm.
Variable Fields ....

440  Series Statement / Added Entry Title ( R )
   $a  Title of series

   $n  Number of part / section of work ( R )

   $p  Name of Part / section of a work ( R )

   $v  Volume number / sequential designation

   $x  ISSN

Example : Okonomische Studien ; $v no. 22

500  General Note ( R )
   $a  General note

Example : Imprint stamped on verso of t.p.
Variable Fields ....

504  Bibliography, etc  note ( R )
  $a Bibliography note
  
  Example : Bibliography : p. 238-239.
  Includes bibliographical references.

505  Formatted contents note ( R )
  $a Formatted contents note
  

546  Language note ( R )
  $a Language note
Variable Fields 

600  Subject Added Entry- Personal Name ( R )

- $a$ Personal name
- $b$ Numeration
- $c$ Title and other words associated with a name ( R )
- $d$ Dates associated with a name
- $n$ Number of part / Section of a work ( R )
- $p$ Name of part / Section of a work ( R )
- $t$ Title of Work
- $q$ Fuller Form of name
- $x$ General Subdivision ( R )
- $y$ Chronological subdivision ( R )
- $z$ Geographical subdivision ( R )

Example: 10 $a$ Nixon, Richard M. $q$ (Richard Milhouse), $d$ 1913- $x$ Personality
Variable Fields ...

610 Corporate name or jurisdiction name (R)

$\text{a} \quad \text{Corporate name of jurisdiction name}

$\text{b} \quad \text{Subordinate unit (R)}

$\text{c} \quad \text{Location of meeting}

$\text{d} \quad \text{Date of meeting or treaty signing (R)}

$\text{n} \quad \text{Number of part /section /meeting (R)}

$\text{p} \quad \text{Name of part /section of work (R)}

$\text{t} \quad \text{Title of work}

$\text{x} \quad \text{General subdivision (R)}

$\text{y} \quad \text{Chronological subdivision (R)}

$\text{z} \quad \text{Geographical subdivision (R)}

\text{Example: } 610 \ 20 \ \$\text{a} \ \text{United Nations} \ \$\text{z} \ \text{Africa.}
Variable Fields ....

611 Subject Added Entry-Meeting Name (R)

- $a$ Meeting name as entry element
- $c$ Location of the meeting
- $d$ Date of meeting (R)
- $e$ Subordinate unit (R)
- $n$ Number of part / section / meeting (R)
- $p$ Name of part / section of a work (R)
- $t$ Title of a work
- $x$ General Subdivision (R)
- $Y$ Chronological Subdivision (R)
- $z$ Geographical Subdivision (R)

Example: 20 $a$ Olympic Games $n$(23rd : $d$ 1984 : $c$ Los Angeles, California)
Variable Fields ….

630 Subject Added Entry-Uniform Title (R)

$a Uniform Title
$f Date of a work
$k Form subheading
$l Language of work
$x General Subdivision
$y Chronological Subdivision
$z Geographical Subdivision

Example: $a Dead Sea scrolls.
Variable Fields ....

650 Subject Added Entry-Topical Heading (R)

$a  Topical Term
$x  General Subdivision (R)
$y  Chronological Subdivision (R)
$z  Geographical Subdivision (R)

Example: #0 $a Architecture, Modern $y 19th Century.

651 Subject Added Entry-Geographic Name (R)

$a  Geographical Name
$x  General Subdivision (R)
$y  Chronological Subdivision (R)
$z  Geographical Subdivision (R)

Example: $a United States $x Boundaries $z Canada
Variable Fields ....

653  Uncontrolled Indexed Terms ( R )
   $a  Uncontrolled term

700  Added Entry-Personal Name ( R )
   $a  Personal Name
   $b  Title and other words associated with a name ( R )
   $c  Dates associated with a name
   $n  Number of part / section of a work ( R )
   $p  Name of Part / section of work ( R )
   $q  Fuller form of name
   $t  Title of a work

Example: 10 $a Verez Peraza, Elena, $d 1919-
Variable Fields ....

710 Added Entry - Corporate Name ( R )

$a Corporate name or jurisdiction name

$b Subordinate unit ( R )

$c Location of meeting

$d Date of meeting of treaty signing ( R )

$n Number of part /section /meeting ( R )

$p Name of part / section of work ( R )

$t Title of a work
Variable Fields ....

711 Added Entry-Meeting name (R)

\- $a$ Meeting name or jurisdiction name
\- $b$ Location of the Meeting
\- $d$ Date of meeting
\- $e$ Subordinate unit (R)
\- $n$ Number of part/section/meeting (R)
\- $p$ Name of part/section of work (R)
\- $t$ Title of a work
Variable Fields ....

730 Added Entry-Uniform Title (R)

$a Uniform Title
$f Date of work
$k Form subheading (R)
$l Language of a work
$n Number of part /section /meeting (R)
$p Name of part /section of work (R)
Variable Fields 

740 Added Entry-variant Title (R)
   $a$ Uncontrolled related / analytical title
   $n$ Number of part / section / meeting (R)
   $p$ Name of part / section of work (R)

850 Holding Library (R)
   $a$ Library Code
   $b$ Volumes held
   $n$ Local Call Number
   $p$ Local Accession Number
Variable Fields ....

856 Electronic Location and Access ( R )

Indicators:

1. Access Method

# No information provided
0 Email
1 FTP
2 Remote Login ( Telnet )
3 Dial-up
4 HTTP
7 Method specified in subfield $20
# No information provided

0 Resource

1 Version of resource

2 Related resource

8 No display constant generated
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subfield</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$a</td>
<td>Host name</td>
<td>(R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$b</td>
<td>Access number</td>
<td>(R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$c</td>
<td>Compression information</td>
<td>(R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$d</td>
<td>Path</td>
<td>(R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f</td>
<td>Electronic name</td>
<td>(R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$h</td>
<td>Processor of request</td>
<td>(NR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$i</td>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>(R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$j</td>
<td>Bits per second</td>
<td>(NR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$k</td>
<td>Password</td>
<td>(NR)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subfields Codes ....

$l  Logon  ( NR )
$m  Contact  for access assistance  ( R )
$n  Name of location of host  ( NR )
$o  Port  ( NR )
$p  Portion of the address that identifies the process or service in the host
$q  Electronic format type  ( NR )
$r  Settings  ( NR )
$s  File size  ( R )
$t  Terminal emulation  ( R )
$u  Uniform resource identifier  ( R )
$v  Hours access method available  ( R )
$w  Record control number  ( R )
$x  Nonpublic note  ( R )
Subfields Codes ....

$y$ Link text ( R )

$z$ Public note ( R )

$2$ Access method ( NR )

$3$ Materials Specified ( NR )

$6$ Linkage ( NR )

$8$ Field link and sequence number ( R )
Subfields Codes ....

Examples:

856 0# $u mailto: sangs@delnet.ren,.nic.in  $i eajp subscription

856 1# $u ftp://path.net/pub/urn2urc.ps

856 2# $u telnet://pucc.princeton.edu

$n Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

856 4# $a http://loc.gov/catalog/search..htm
Thanks