

The increase in 758 fields you are noticing is the result of a project by OCLC. We announced it on OCLC-CAT on January 25, 2024 with the subject line “Next phase: OCLC WorldCat Entities linked data URIs for Works will be added to WorldCat MARC records.” We added an example to the [758 page](#) of BFAS which shows the use of the label “has work” from our WorldCat ontology in subfield \$i and also has a \$4 with a URI for that label.

As the January 25, 2024 email said, “Enriching WorldCat MARC bibliographic records with WorldCat Entities URIs establishes a bridge between MARC data and linked data, providing a starting point for connecting data across local systems and workflows and for using linked data functionality in local discovery systems.” The URIs provided in some 1XX, 6XX, and 7XX fields (including 758) with OCLC’s December and January updates to WorldCat MARC records are how we build that bridge.

OCLC’s strategy with entity data is to provide common points of reference for libraries no matter whether they intend to remain MARC-first for as long as possible or seek to move to BIBFRAME or other RDF-based formats. By referring to these publicly available resources by their URIs, libraries will ease migration to linked data solutions and will also improve interoperability with other library metadata.

The very short answer to your question about the difference between the 758 field and the 776 field is that the 758 field provides much more flexibility in which relationships can be recorded, allows different classes of entities (e.g., work, expression, or manifestation) to be referenced, and allows subfield \$1 (URI for a Real World Object), which will be helpful in transitioning from MARC to linked data.

Field 758 was added to the MARC 21 Bibliographic Format in 2017. Like many other MARC fields, it does not map neatly to RDA. Also like many other MARC fields, it has overlap with other fields, including (as you noted) the linking entry fields (760-787). While you can record a relationship to a reproduction in either a 776 field or a 758 field, you cannot use a 776 field to record a relationship to a work entity because 776 is called “additional physical form.” The 758 field example you mentioned provides a relationship to an RDA work entity. So, the follow-up question might be: “What’s the difference between providing a 758 field and a 700 name/title field for the work “Bored of the Rings””? Because field 700 has subfields \$i and \$1, these say the same thing in a bibliographic record:

758 ## \$i Has work manifested: \$a Bored of the Rings
\$1 <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q1613936> \$4 <http://rdaregistry.info/Elements/m/P30135>

700 1# \$i Has work manifested: \$a Beard, Henry. \$t Bored of the rings.
\$1 <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q1613936> \$4 <http://rdaregistry.info/Elements/m/P30135>

However, this example should not be used to generalize decisions about using field 758 vs. 700-730. The entity referenced in the 700 and 758 fields above happens to be an RDA work entity. The 700 field contains a string that could be an authorized access point for a work in the LC NAF (although there is no authority record for it). The WorldCat entity work is not the same as the RDA work, which is why we used field 758 with the term “has work” from our ontology.

Here is another set of examples showing the same entity in a 700 and a 758:

700 1# \$i Has expression manifested: \$a Bubl , Michael. \$t Haven't met you yet. \$h Notated music
\$1 <http://viaf.org/viaf/174489465> \$4 <http://rdaregistry.info/Elements/m/P30139>

758 ## \$i has work: \$a Haven't met you yet (NotatedMusic)
\$1 <https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/entity/E39PCGYXgbRQVcW6KX8dmHKtyq> \$4 <https://id.oclc.org/worldcat/ontology/hasWork>

In RDA, the element “content type” identifies an expression, so the authorized access point used in field 700 is an RDA expression entity. However, the WorldCat entity work has the subclass “NotatedMusic,” so it is appropriate for us to use the relationship “has work” in field 758 for this WorldCat entity work. (A subclass is a more specific type of entity like person is a subclass of agent in RDA.)

More information about WorldCat Entities and the ontology is available at: https://help.oclc.org/Metadata_Services/095WorldCat_Entities.

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