More books are [not always] better: Managing the complex ebook purchase model landscape at a small university

> Melissa Belvadi Rosie Le Faive University of Prince Edward Island

> > Ontario Library Association SuperConference 2019



#### Context

- Quick questions about the audience
- Institutional context UPEI
- Library context size, budget, ILS



## UPEI Ebook involvement

- Firm order many platforms mostly thru Gobi 1U,3U,NLL/Concurrent/UU
- Subscriptions EBSCO, Proquest, desLibris
- Collection Purchases ACUP/Ebound, Duke
- DDA EBSCO, Proquest (Gobi)
- EBA / EBS / UBCM



#### EBAs

### EBA model:

- basic concept
- why (publisher, library)



### **EBA - Big Issues**

- Concerns about EBA as a model
- Sustainable / Cost-effective? (Library)
- Long term impact on book market/small/non-profit publishers?



#### **UPEI EBA experience**

Vendor	Titles	Used 1+	Used 10+ (BR2)	Other access	Spend count	Spend Iowest use	Decision	
JSTOR	35,000	166	35	83	52	1	renewed same terms	
year 2	40,000	702	39					
Project Muse	12,000	178	13	47	25	3	renewed same terms	
year 2	12,400	58	8					
PM- Only 3 titles used in both years								



#### **UPEI EBA experience**

Vendor	Titles	Used 1+	Used 10+	Other access	Spend count	Spend lowest use	Decision	
Sage	4,800	168	17	0	40	4	Renewed same terms	
year 2	5,100	228	29					
Just 12 of spendout used in 2018								
Wiley	261	136	29	0	61	turna ways	renewed same cost, expansion to all collections	

year 2	21,600	188	107 (BR1)		

CALES'S



#### **UPEI EBA experience**

Vendor	Titles	Used 1+	Used 10+	Decision	
Elsevier	403	9	3	rolled over, total coll avail	
year 2	29,400	331	34	usage is 2-year	
	-				
Cambridge	120	3	1	rolled over, expanded list	
year 2	2,700	37	8	usage just 2018	



# Cataloguing's task: Load the records

- **ILS**: Evergreen 3.0.3 (Open Source, yay!)
- ERM: None
- Acquisitions module: Nope (our choice)
- **Discovery Layer**: EBSCO EDS, populated weekly from Evergreen
- Cataloguing Librarian: 0.2
- Cataloguing Technician: 1.0



# Challenges specific to our ILS (?)

Vandelay import/export (batch load):

- tends to fail if batches are larger than 500 records.
- is really slow at matching (>3 hours to process 500, no progress bar).
- can't do conditional logic  $\rightarrow$  matches must be processed individually.
- can match efficiently if incoming record contains existing bib id

XML directly into database: terrifying, time consuming

Deleted records stay in the catalogue.

Why bother matching?



# Why bother 1: Accidental DDA Triggers

We can't "afford" to firm-order books so we don't want to accidentally let DDAs get purchased if we have the resource in a different ("better") license.



### Why Bother 2: Minimizing duplicate records





Publisher: New York : Columbia University Press, [2013]



## Step 2: Design some logic?

MARC Record Load Matrix: Assumes new record is different platform from old one

	DDA	EBA	Subscription	Purchased
DDA	prefer plan X	discard DDA	discard DDA	discard DDA
EBA		keep both*	keep both*	keep both*
Subscription			keep both	keep both
Purchased				keep both

\* Have to watch for these during spendout



#### Step 1: Document the Collections





# Surprise challenge: MARC record delivery

- Platforms usually distribute MARC independently (only 4 use OCLC)
- Identifiers (020, 035) are consistently inconsistent
- Constant updates, additions, deletions (for DDA, EBA, Subscription)
- Can't assume the platform took care of removing purchases / other entitlements
- Entitlements frequently range in size from 1000 200,000



#### Marc-a-roni

Python 3 + pymarc + isbnlib

Command Line interface, still in proof of concept (come play?)

https://github.com/mutronic/marcaroni



Marcaroni Workflow



Making Pasta by Andrea Parrish - Geyer CC-by-nd 2.0 https://www.flickr.com/photos/tinytall/6867506889



### What it does

- User provides it with a .mrc file and "bib source" (code denoting a collection/platform)
- Marcaroni evaluates "matches" in the catalogue using 020 and 035 tags
- Marcaroni splits the records in the input file into (up to) five separate files:
  - New records to add
  - Records to upgrade (matched same platform, lesser license)
  - Records to ignore (matched same platform, better license)
  - Records to optionally update (we already have this record, same license)
  - Ambiguous records (multiple matches, probably need to fix)



### Step 3: Create some rules

- If the new record is DDA and we have it any other way,
  - 1. "Ignore" this record (don't load)
  - 2. Tell the vendor to disable DDA on the title
  - 3. Fret about potential loss (if it drops out of the other subscription/eba)
- If it's DDA, there's only one match, and it's on the same platform/license:
  - Then mark it as an "exact match"
- If the new record is DDA and all other matches are also DDA:
  - Then mark it as "**ambiguous**" determine preference manually.
- If there aren't any matches on the same platform:
  - Then "add" it.
- If there are multiple matches on this same platform:
  - Mark this record as ambiguous the other records need to be sorted
- If there is only one match on this platform:
  - If it's the same license, mark as "exact match"
  - If the existing record has a "better" license, mark it as "ignore"
  - If the existing record has a "worse" license, "update" the existing record.
- Also, if the new record isn't DDA but some matches are:
  - Remove the DDA record, tell the vendor, and fret
- If none of the above apply, mark as "ambiguous"



```
Starting Marcaroni: 2018-10-10 10:44:08.081339
Bibsource: DesLibris-subscription
Record count: 748
Number of records to add: 142
Number of records to update: 0
Number of exact matches: 565
Number of records to ignore: 4
Number of records to figure out: 37
DDAs that need to be deleted: 1
```

Matches per Bibsource:

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sour	ce name count(records)	
53	DesLibris-subscription: 628	
11	<pre>Proquest: All Purchases [Purchased]:</pre>	611
68	EBSCOhost: NA Acad [Subscription]:	139
1	oclc: 80	
71	Proquest: Academic [Subscription]:	55
75	ScholarsPortal: ACUP CRKN [Purchased]:	40
44	desLibris: PurchasedCRKN: 20	
22	OpenAccess/Free: 7	
86	ProjectMuse: EBA [EBA]: 7	
54	EBSCOhost: DDA from Gobi [DDA]: 1	
51	EBSCOhost: All purchased [Purchased]:	1
7	GOVDOC: 1	
2	System Local: 1	



### Results of doing things this way

Pros	Cons
<ul> <li>No accidental DDA triggers</li> <li>No duplicate records on same platform</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Potential DDA lost opportunities</li> <li>Many duplicate records across platforms</li> </ul>



## Results of doing things this way

Pros	Cons
<ul> <li>No accidental DDA triggers</li> <li>No duplicate records on same platform</li> <li>Cataloguer can keep up with demand</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Potential DDA lost opportunities</li> <li>Many duplicate records across platforms</li> <li>Deep understanding of context required</li> <li>Increased work &amp; busy work for cataloguing technician</li> <li>Troubleshooting required (ambiguity?)</li> <li>Potential for false positive matches</li> <li>Technical Debt</li> </ul>



## Thanks for the help

- Alex Carmel-Veilleux
  - Object-oriented programming, clean code, help with unit tests
- Equinox Library Services (esilibrary.com)
  - Clarifying Evergreen's strange behaviours
  - Tips on programmatically overlaying/ingesting records from XML
- stolenpencil on Spoonflower
  - Pasta fabric design





Melissa Belvadi mbelvadi@upei.ca

Rosie Le Faive rlefaive@upei.ca

