

250 AUTHORIZED ACCESS POINT – TOPICAL SUBJECT

Field Definition and Scope

Preferred form of a topical subject access point.

Field also contains the preferred form of a category formulated in accordance with the provisions of the system of subject categories used. It may contain the category in textual form, coded form, or both forms.

It is formulated in accordance with the cataloguing rules or subject system in use by the agency which created it.

Field is repeatable for alternative script forms.

Subfields & Occurrence

Field/Subfield	Field/Subfield Name	Repeatability	Occurrence
250	AUTHORIZED ACCESS POINT – TOPICAL SUBJECT	R	O
a	Topical Subject or Subject Category	NR	MA
n	Subject Category Code	R	O
m	Subject Category Subdivision Code	R	O
j	Form Subdivision	R	O
x	Topical Subdivision or Subject Category Subdivision Text	R	O
y	Geographical Subdivision	R	O
z	Chronological Subdivision	R	O
7	Script of Cataloguing and Script of the Base Access Point	NR	O
8	Language of Cataloguing and Language of the Base Access Point	NR	O

Indicators

Indicator	Value	Description
1	#	blank (not defined)
2	#	blank (not defined)

Subfields Description

\$a Topical Subject or Subject Category

Term in the form prescribed by the system of subject access points or subject categories used.

Not repeatable.

\$n Subject Category Code

Coded representation of a subject category (EX [7](#)).

Repeatable.

\$m Subject Category Subdivision Code

Coded representation of a subject category subdivision (EX [8](#)).

Repeatable.

\$j Form Subdivision

Term added to a subject access point to further specify the kind(s) or genre(s) or material (EX 4). Agencies not using this subdivision should use \$x instead (EX 5). Repeatable.

\$x Topical Subdivision or Subject Category Subdivision Text

Term added to a subject access point to further specify the topic the subject access point represents. (EX 2) or a term added to the subject category to specify a particular aspect of the subject category in the \$a subfield.

Repeatable.

\$y Geographical Subdivision

Term added to a subject access point to specify a place in relation to a topic that the subject access point represents (EX 1).

Repeatable.

\$z Chronological Subdivision

Term added to a subject access point to specify the period in time in relation to a topic that the subject access point represents (EX 3).

Repeatable.

\$7 Script of Cataloguing and Script of the Base Access Point

See specification of [Control Subfield 7](#). Not repeatable.

\$8 Language of Cataloguing and Language of the Base Access Point

See specification of [Control Subfield 8](#). Not repeatable.

Related Fields

450 VARIANT ACCESS POINT – TOPICAL SUBJECT
550 RELATED ACCESS POINT – TOPICAL SUBJECT
750 AUTHORIZED ACCESS POINT IN OTHER LANGUAGE AND/OR SCRIPT – TOPICAL SUBJECT

Examples

EX 1
250 ##\$aEducation\$yItaly
EX 2
250 ##\$aConstruction industry\$xLaw and legislation
EX 3
250 ##\$aArchitecture, Modern\$z19th century
EX 4
##\$aBiology\$jPeriodicals
EX 5
250 ##\$aBiology\$xPeriodicals

Examples 4 and 5 illustrate alternative approaches to coding form; either explicitly using subfield \$j or as a topical subdivision, using subfield \$x.
EX 6
250 ##\$aBiology\$xPeriodicals\$xBibliography\$jUnion lists
EX 7
250 ##\$nK800
Subject category code recorded according to the AGRIS Thesaurus identified in 152 Rules subfield \$bagris.
EX 8
250 ##\$nZ1\$m.542.248.797\$2mesh
The MeSH notational equivalent of the subject access point for Slovakia.
EX 9
250 ##\$aМорская пехота\$xИстория\$yСоединенные Штаты Америки\$z1941 – 1945
EX 10
250 ##\$aТабасаранский язык
EX 11
250 ##\$aТаможенный контроль\$yРоссийская Федерация
EX 12
250 ##\$aПолитические партии\$xПрограммы\$yРоссийская Федерация

History

1994	Text errata.
2009	Updated definition/scope.
2009	New paragraphs: Notes on Field Contents, Subfields forming the base access point.
2009	New indicators and subfields/values: \$m Subject category subdivision code.
2009	New indicators and subfields/values: \$n Subject category code.
2009	Changes in name and function: \$x Topical subdivision or subject category subdivision text.
2009	Changes in name and function: \$a Topical subject or subject category.
2019	Text errata.