

011 ISSN

Field Definition and Scope

This field contains the ISSN (International Standard Serial Numbers) as assigned by an ISSN International Centre, any ISSN which has been assigned and cancelled, details of terms of availability and/or price. It corresponds to the ISBD Resource Identifier and Terms of Availability Area, although the Key Title is entered in field 530.

It may also include Cluster ISSNs, which are assigned centrally by the ISSN International Centre to identify specific groups of ISSNs, such as different media editions of a continuing resource or serials related through preceding and succeeding title relationships.

Repeatable. If the resource has been assigned an ISSN and one or more cluster ISSN.

Subfields & Occurrence

Field/Subfield	Field/Subfield Name	Repeatability	Occurrence
011	ISSN	R	O
a	Number (ISSN)	NR	O
b	Qualification	NR	O
d	Terms of Availability and/or Price	R	O
f	Cluster ISSN Identifier	NR	O
g	Cancelled Cluster ISSN	R	O
y	Cancelled ISSN	R	O
z	Erroneous ISSN or Cluster ISSN	R	O
2	Source	NR	MA
3	Authority Record Identifier or Standard Number	NR	O
R	Real World Object URI	R	O

Indicators

Indicator	Value	Description
1		Level of Interest Indicator
	#	Not specified / Not applicable
	0	Continuing resource of international or national interest
	1	Continuing resource of local interest
2		Cluster Identifier Indicator
	#	Not specified / Not applicable
	0	ISSN-L
	1	ISSN-H

Subfields Description

\$a Number (ISSN)

A correctly applied ISSN including the hyphen between the fourth and fifth digits. Not repeatable.

\$b Qualification

Used to distinguish between ISSN if a record contains more than one.

Not used by the ISSN International Centre. Not repeatable.

\$d Terms of Availability and/or Price

The price of the resource and any comment on its availability ([EX 3, 6](#)). Repeatable.

\$f Cluster ISSN Identifier

An ISSN designated by the ISSN network to link together resources with specific relationships to each other such as medium versions (ISSN-L), and earlier and later titles (ISSN-H). ([EX 10](#), [11a](#), [11b](#)).

The appropriate prefix for the ISSN type denoted by the second indicator value may be generated for display, for value 0 “ISSN-L”; for value 1 “ISSN-H”.

Not repeatable.

\$g Cancelled Cluster ISSN

A Cluster ISSN that has been associated with the resource but subsequently cancelled, often because a duplicate Cluster ISSN was assigned. Each cancelled Cluster ISSN is contained in a separate \$g ([EX 12b](#)). Repeatable.

\$y Cancelled ISSN

This includes any ISSN that was formerly valid, but which has been cancelled by an ISSN centre ([EX 2](#)). Repeatable.

\$z Erroneous ISSN or Cluster ISSN

This includes any incorrect ISSN or Cluster ISSN other than those recorded in \$g or \$y. Most often this will be the result of a printing error. Repeatable ([EX 5](#)).

\$2 Source

An identification in coded form for the system from which the identifier is derived.

ISSN Centre responsible for assigning and maintaining ISSN and/or Cluster ISSNs. Not repeatable.

\$3 Authority Record Identifier or Standard Number

The identifier or standard number for the related authority record or classification record, or standard identifier.

The identifier may be in the form of text or a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI). If the identifier is text, the control number or identifier is preceded by the appropriate organization code from the International Standard Identifier for Libraries and Related Organizations (ISIL) or the MARC Code List for Organizations. No preceding parenthetical is used when the identifier is given as Web retrieval protocol, e.g., HTTP URI.

Subfield may contain a URI that identifies a name or label for an entity. When dereferenced, the URI points to information describing that name. A URI that directly identifies the entity itself is contained in \$R.

A URI for the ISSN or Cluster ISSN in subfield \$a or \$f. Not repeatable.

\$R Real World Object URI

An URI that identifies an entity, is sometimes referred to as a Thing, a Real World Object or RWO, whether actual or conceptual.

A URI that identifies a name or label for an entity is contained in \$3. Repeatable.

Notes on Field Contents

The ISSN is a unique and unambiguous identification number for continuing resources assigned in accordance with ISO 3297. The system for allocating ISSN is controlled by the ISSN International Centre, i.e. the Registration Authority, based in Paris. National Centres, i.e. the Registration Agencies, allocate ISSN to new continuing resources from a batch of identifiers allocated to them by the ISSN International Centre, and share metadata with the ISSN International Centre.

Data format: An ISSN and Cluster ISSN consists of eight digits. These are the Arabic numerals 0 to 9, except in the case of the last or check digit where a roman numeral X (capital X) can occur. Since ISSN are likely to be used in the same context as codes designed for other purposes, such as the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) or control numbers, a distinction must be preserved in the form of

presentation when printed or displayed. An ISSN is, therefore, preceded by the letters “ISSN” and a space, and appears as two groups of four digits separated by a hyphen, for example: ISSN 1234-5679. An ISSN-L and an ISSN-H are Cluster ISSN identifier preceded by these letters and a space, and appears as two groups of four digits separated by a hyphen, for example: ISSN-L 1234-5679. The check digit is always located in the extreme right position, and is calculated on a modulus 11 basis using weights 8 to 2. The letters ISSN are not included in field 011 in the UNIMARC record, though the hyphen is. Detailed specifications for the ISSN and calculation of its check digit are found in ISO 3297.

Punctuation: A hyphen should separate the fourth and fifth digits of a valid or cancelled ISSN or Cluster ISSN. No other punctuation should be present. Punctuation for the \$b, \$f, \$g and \$d subfields is entered in these subfields according to the practices of the agency preparing the record.

Cluster ISSN: These linking ISSNs are defined in the ISO 3297 to provide a mechanism for grouping, or collocating the various medium versions of a resource, for instance, the print and online versions of a journal, through the ISSN-L, and subsequently extended in 2020 to other potential groups of continuing resources that are relevant to the community, such as a group that includes all preceding and succeeding titles of a continuing resource over time (ISSN-H). The standard specifies that future Cluster ISSNs will consist of their own unique 8-character ISSN, distinguished by a prefix that identifies the type of cluster, e.g. “ISSN-H”. Unlike ISSN-L, other Cluster ISSNs do not repeat the ISSN of one of the members of the cluster to avoid confusion.

Multiple ISSN: Any ISSN or Cluster ISSN that is wrongly assigned and then cancelled or wrongly printed is entered in subfield \$g, \$y or \$z respectively. Such ISSN should be entered in the same field as the correctly assigned ISSN.

Those agencies following ISSN International Centre practices for making records of continuing resources will always have only one valid ISSN in field 011 of their records. Those agencies with different practices for making records of continuing resources may have records which contain more than one valid ISSN in repeated 011 fields.

Some agencies use the ISSN as a record identifier and enter it in field 001. In these cases, the ISSN should also be entered in field 011.

Related Fields

010 INTERNATIONAL STANDARD BOOK NUMBER (ISBN)	International identifier for books.
013 INTERNATIONAL STANDARD MUSIC NUMBER (ISMN)	International identifier for printed music.
040 CODEN	An additional identification system for continuing resources.
225 SERIES	An ISSN for a series to which the resource being catalogued belongs may be entered in subfield 225 \$x.
530 KEY TITLE	The Key title part of the ISBD Resource Identifier and Terms of Availability Area is entered in field 530.
4-- LINKING ENTRY BLOCK	An ISSN that is assigned to a higher level bibliographic resource (series) or a lower level bibliographic resource (sub-series) that is related to the continuing resource being catalogued, may be entered in an 011 field embedded in the appropriate linking entry field (4--) or in a \$x if the embedded field technique is not used.

Examples

EX 1
011 ##\$a0003-9756
011 #0\$f0003-9756\$Rhttps://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN-L/0003-9756\$2_2

The first field contains ISSN for *Archives européennes de sociologie*, the repeated field also ISSN-L, its URI for ISSN-L and code of registration agency, that is for the ISSN National Centre for the UK.

EX 2

011 ##\$a0105-0064\$y0036-5646

011 #0\$f0105-0664\$R[https://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN-L/0105-0664\\$2_h](https://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN-L/0105-0664$2_h)

Scandinavian Times and *Scandinavian Times Magazine* were allocated the same ISSN, 0036-5645. This number is cancelled and a new number allocated to each. The example gives the contents of the ISSN field in the record of the *Scandinavian Times*. Second field 011 contains the Cluster ISSN, with a URI provided and code of registration agency, that is for the ISSN National Centre for Denmark.

EX 3

011 ##\$a0260-7743\$dFree to members of the federation only

The Newsletter of the London Federation of Museums and Art Galleries has the ISSN 0260-7743. Details of terms of availability are included in the record.

EX 4

011 ##\$a0009-3947\$d£1.00\$d£13.25 yearly

Both a single issue price and a subscription rate are given on the resource.

EX 5

011 ##\$a0263-3264\$z0226-7223\$z0068-2691

Two different ISSN are given in the *Yearbook of European Law*, 1984 edition. Both are wrong. The correct and the two incorrect ISSN are listed in the field.

EX 6

011 ##\$d£2.95

The *Moomins annual* has a price; but no ISSN has been assigned.

EX 7

011 0#\$a0011-1643

ISSN of the continuing resource *Croatica chemica acta*, which is of international interest.

EX 8

011 1#\$a1144-9853

ISSN of the continuing resource *Bulletin – Académie musicologique du Forez*, which is of local interest.

EX 9

011 1#\$a0884-402X

ISSN of the continuing resource *The racing report*, which is of local interest.

EX 10

011 0#\$a1819-1371

011 00\$f1819-1371

ISSN and ISSN-L of the continuing resource *Construction law international*, which is published in printed form, with no other medium form.

EX 11a

011 0#\$a1818-5894

011 00\$f1818-5894

Record for printed version.

EX 11b

011 0#\$a1818-5940

011 00\$f1818-5894
Record for online version. ISSNs and ISSN-L of the continuing resource <i>Social policy highlight</i> , which is published in printed and online forms
EX 12a
Fictitious example
011 0#\$a1234-1231
011 00\$f1234-1231
Record for printed version.
EX 12b
Fictitious example
011 ##\$a1560-1560
011 #0\$f1234-1231\$g1560-1560
Record for online version. The medium versions of the resource were identified separately and not immediately linked together, by mistake.
EX 13
011 0#\$a2524-2741\$R http://issn.org/resource/ISSN/2524-2741#ISSN
011 00\$f0065-4019
In the \$R is the ISSN URI of the resource. It follows the \$a to which it applies.
EX 14
011 0#\$a095-8355\$R http://issn.org/resource/ISSN/1095-8355\$z1065-6995
011 00\$f1065-6995
Subfield \$R provides the URI of the record at the ISSN Portal. It follows the subfield to which it applies (\$a).

History

2005	Field issued/re-issued with corrections/additions.
2008	Change of name and subfields added to reflect new ISSN standard.
2012	Corrections.
2024	Adapted for Cluster ISSN.