Hebraic Authorities: A Historical-Theoretical Perspective

Bella Hass Weinberg

St. John's University, New York, NY, prof_wberg@yahoo.com

Follow this and additional works at: http://ajlpublishing.org/jl

Part of the Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education Commons, Cataloging and Metadata Commons, Information Literacy Commons, Jewish Studies Commons, and the Reading and Language Commons

Recommended Citation

Hebraic Authorities: A Historical-Theoretical Perspective*

Bella Hass Weinberg
St. John's University and YIVO
New York City

Abstract: The standardization of Hebrew names in cataloging and bibliography has its roots in the Anglo-American tradition of Romanized author main entry. Cross-references from Hebrew names to their Roman equivalents are found in some British Hebraica catalogs published in the 19th century. In the Hebrew bibliographic tradition, in contrast, title main entry predominated and, given the nondistinctiveness of Jewish names, author access was rarely provided. Israeli librarians adopted the Western tradition of author main entry while retaining their commitment to original-alphabet cataloging; their Hebraic authority work consisted primarily of standardization of Hebrew orthography.

The Hebraic capability of the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN) made American Judaica librarians aware of the advantages of Hebrew name access; they had formerly been accustomed to Hebrew title access only. Many libraries are inputting parallel Hebrew access points to RLIN, with varying degrees of authority control.

The USMARC Format for Authority Data has been revised to allow for parallel non-Roman data; fields defined for non-Roman data have not been implemented, however, because the Library of Congress cannot handle non-Roman scripts in its processing system. Hebraic authority control is therefore done locally, in manual mode or with database management software.

The Yiddish Authority File of the YIVO Library follows the Canadian model of separate but linked authority records for each language and script in which a heading is established. This structure is felt to be preferable to the complex USMARC format for a single authority record for a heading in multiple scripts, in which non-Roman headings have subordinate rather than equivalent status to Roman headings.

Historical Perspective

The subject of Hebraic authorities has figured previously at Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) conventions, and in publications of Judaica librarians. It is worth noting the prior contexts to place the topic in historical perspective.

One aspect of this topic is the authorized form of Romanized name headings for Hebraic authors. The effect of the publication of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (AACR1, 1967) on such headings was discussed at one of AJL's earliest conventions, and the effect of the second edition was discussed at a program on "AACR2 and Judaica Cataloging," held at the AJL Convention in Cincinnati in 1979, with summaries published in the AJL Proceedings (Weinberg, 1981). The title proper of this session, "Shtaynberg or Steinberg," relates to this aspect. Barry Wolfish's (1983) article on Hebraic authorities essentially dealt with preferred name headings according to AACR2.

A second aspect of this topic is authoritative sources for Hebraic name headings, that is, the reference works or databases that are to be consulted in establishing such headings. The AJL R&S (Research and Special Libraries Division) Cataloging Committee succeeded in effecting a change in the AACR2 rule that differentiated between Israeli and Diaspora authors in terms of the acceptability of the Romanized form in the work. When the Library of Congress Rule Interpretation (LCRI) appeared in Cataloging Service Bulletin, however, there was a strange pecking order of authorities: (1) general encyclopedias, (2) the form in the work, (3) Encyclopaedia Judaica. It was not clear why the two types of encyclopedias were not juxtaposed. This led to discussion at an AJL Cataloging Workshop in the mid-1980s, and the response from LC was published in Judaica Librarianship (Berger & Wachs, 1985).

These are two interrelated aspects of authority work: searching authoritative reference works in order to establish name headings in accordance with AACR2 and Library of Congress Rule Interpretations. It is important to keep in mind that the options that LC selects from AACR2 are more important than the official preference of the code. AACR2's basic rule for non-Roman personal name headings for modern authors, which is carried over to AACR2R (1988), is that such names are all to be Romanized systematically. Consultation of reference works is an option that LC has selected, and the specific reference works are recorded in the LCRI.

The third aspect of Hebraic authorities, and the one which is the focus of this paper, is the structure of authority records for non-Roman headings.

Gail Persky's paper on the planned non-Roman capabilities of the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN), given at the 1982 AJL Convention, presented a vision of a vernacular database and linked non-Roman authority records. That vision has not quite come to pass. We have a Hebraic script capability in RLIN, but its use is optional; Romanization is required, however. RLIN, like OCLC (Online Computer Library Center), has mounted the Library of Congress Name Authority File. (Some RLIN and OCLC users contribute to the file.) That
file contains no non-Roman characters, and it is not linked to the bibliographic records in either utility. In the cataloging network environment, we have a central machine-readable authority file, but no authority control. A change to a name authority record does not automatically generate a change in the bibliographic database. WLN (Washington Library Network; later Western Library Network) is an exception to this (Culp, 1982) as is the Canadian network Utlas, but these are not used by major Judaica libraries.

In 1986, AJL convened in Montreal. Asked to suggest a theme for the cataloging session, I proposed “Bilingual and Multi-script Cataloging and Authority Control” because I was aware of Canadian activity in related areas. The session included speakers from the National Library of Canada and respondents from the Research Libraries Group.

In June 1989, a year and a half after RLIN’s Hebraic capability became operational, the AJL Convention in Washington featured a session on online Hebraica cataloging, chaired by Lucia Rather, then Director for Cataloging at the Library of Congress. Mrs. Rather raised important points about non-Roman authority control, to which I allude below. An open forum on an LC Discussion Paper regarding the format for non-Roman authorities was chaired by Paul Maher of LC at that conference.

At the First International Conference of Judaica Librarians, held in June 1990, Elhanan Adler and I reviewed the Hebraic and Anglo-American traditions of Judaica cataloging, respectively. Name headings and authority control figured prominently in these papers, which were published in Judaica Librarianship (Adler, 1992; Weinberg, 1992a).

In the Fall of 1990, an AJL Cataloging Workshop was held at YIVO to celebrate the publication of its Yiddish Catalog and Authority File by G.K. Hall (YIVO, 1990). I spoke on “Hebraic Authorities: Manual and Online.”

The subject of this session is thus not a new one to AJL, but there have been significant developments in the past few years. In this paper I distill points made at prior presentations, by myself and others, regarding the structure of Hebraic authority records; lead up to the current state of the art; and conclude with suggestions for revision of the USMARC format for non-Roman authorities.

Theoretical Basis

Underlying authority work is the notion of uniform heading: for an author whose works are published under various forms of his/her name, a single heading should be established. The principle of uniform heading is evident in all the major European catalogs of Hebraica that have Romanized name as main entry, although the form of the heading for a given author differs widely among the various catalogs.

Authority work implies not only uniform name headings, but also the creation of references from the variants, which may include names written in non-Roman script. In most Hebraica catalogs with Romanized main entry, the title index in Hebrew characters serves as an indirect reference to the author heading in Latin characters. It is not evident from the published Hebraica catalogs themselves whether their compilers maintained authority records, although a few include cross-references from variants of a Roman heading.

One published Hebraica catalog includes cross-references from Hebrew names to their Roman equivalents; that is the Catalogue of the Hebrew Books in the Library of the British Museum, dated 1867. (An excerpt is reproduced in Weinberg, 1992a, Figure 3.) Hebraic authority control may therefore be considered about 125 years old. The direct link from a Hebrew name to its Latin equivalent is far superior to the indirect method of Hebrew title-to-Roman heading, because without such links, an author of multiple Hebrew works may have several Roman headings established. This has in fact occurred in LC authority work, as the direct Hebrew-to-Roman reference was lacking as a control device.

Several major Judaica libraries in the U.S. have employed direct Hebrew-to-Roman cross-references, either in a separate file or interfiled with their Hebraic title catalogs. Figure 1 shows such a reference from the Yiddish title component of the Dictionary Catalog of the Jewish Collection of the New York Public Library (1960). Starting with a Yiddish corporate name, presumably found in a work, the reader or cataloger is led directly to the French-language authorized heading, obviating the need to formulate a systematic Romanization or to guess at the translation of the corporate name. This structure is discussed again below in the context of the format of machine-readable non-Roman authority records.

Continuing with the card catalog, we travel to Israel and find the adoption of the Western principle of author main entry but rejection of the validity of Romanized headings for works in non-Roman scripts—in other words, rejection of the notion of the integrated catalog. This is evident in Hannah Oppenheimer’s (1974) textbook of cataloging, issued by the library school of the Hebrew University; the text is based on Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (AACR1, 1967), but features numerous authority cards with Hebrew headings. The Jewish National...
and University Library (JNUL) in Jerusalem, before automating its catalog operation, maintained separate card-form authority files for headings in its Roman, Hebrew, Yiddish, Arabic, and Cyrillic catalogs. In visiting the Hebraica catalog department at the JNUL during the 1970s, I learned that these authority files were not linked, that is, headings in Hebrew and Roman characters for a single author were not connected.

Such linkage is, however, evident in a publication of the Israeli Centre for Public Libraries (Wellisch, 1966, p. 28), which shows a see also reference from the heading for Bialik in Hebrew characters to the corresponding Roman heading (Figure 2). This is equivalent to the Canadian system, which has separate, but linked, French and English name authority files (Burns, 1982). It is also the method employed at YIVO, where the philosophy has been neither to Yiddishize the Hebrew catalog or Hebraize the Yiddish catalog. This is in contrast to the JNUL practice of converting all Yiddish headings to Hebrew spelling in the automated environment.

YIVO's Hebrew authority record for Ber Borochov (Figure 3) has xx or see also from tracings for the established Yiddish, Cyrillic, and Roman headings. A reference card developed for YIVO's public catalogs (Figure 4) provides corresponding links with narrative explanation. To address the concern for integrated access, it has been the experience of YIVO's reference librarians that few users are interested in all of the works of an author in all languages and scripts. Most are seeking a specific work in one language or all the works of an author in a single language; the separation of catalogs by script simplifies such searches.

Computerized Hebrew Authority Control

A note field for "Characters in nonroman alphabets" (Figure 5) was present in the first edition of Authorities: A MARC Format (Library of Congress, 1981). The annotation for this field indicates that it was designed to be repeatable, perhaps in recognition of the fact that multiple Hebrew variants of a name may map to a single Roman heading, but more likely, to accommodate different scripts.

Figure 2. See also reference from a Hebrew heading to the corresponding Roman heading in a public catalog.

Figure 3. Hebrew authority record with xx (see also from) tracings for the established Yiddish, Cyrillic, and Roman headings for the same author. Source: Hebrew Authority File, YIVO Library.

Figure 4. Reference card for YIVO's public catalog, indicating equivalent headings in various languages and scripts.
Source: Roman Alphabet Catalog, YIVO Library.
This field may emanate from the past practice of LC Hebraica catalogers to note the form in the work on typesetting card-form authority records, although direct Hebrew-to-Roman references were never generated at LC. The characters in non-Roman alphabets presumably served as a check on the systematic Romanization. Since LC did not have a non-Roman capability in its local processing system at the time this format was developed (and the Library does not have this capability at present), the field has never been used.

Working with RLINE's non-Roman script capabilities made catalogers aware of the advantages of name access points in the original alphabet, and they began to input non-Roman script headings in bibliographic records. There were few guidelines for these; those issued by LC for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean specified that a Roman heading had to be a systematic Romanization of the non-Roman one in order for the latter to be coded as parallel (cited in Aliprand, 1993, p. 9). In Figure 8 of Aliprand's (1990) article, "Hebrew on RLINE: An Update," the Hebrew heading for Ben-Menahem is coded as parallel to the main entry, which is a systematic Romanization. The added entry for Mosheh ben Maimon in Hebrew characters cannot be paired with the Roman heading Maimonides, Moses, however.

Catalogers using RLINE became aware of the need to establish uniform headings in non-Roman scripts, in other words, of the need for non-Roman authorities. Two discussion papers were prepared by the Library of Congress for MARBI, the Committee on Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information, which has representatives from several divisions of the American Library Association.

The first discussion paper, distributed prior to the 1989 AJL Convention, essentially viewed all non-Roman headings as cross-references to the official Romanized form. The second, distributed in 1990, had two options. The first was "Roman and Non-Roman Data in One Authority Record," with the Hebrew data tagged 880, "alternate graphic representation," in a proposed format for a machine-readable authority record. Source: Discussion Paper No. 41 (MARBI): Options for Non-Roman Data in Authority Records. April 13, 1990.

Details of the format are examined below, but at this point I would like to make an observation similar to the one I made at the Harvard Conference on Judaica librarianship in 1988. Then I noted that with regard to "the Romanization issue, Judaica librarians have won the battle and lost the war. We have a Hebraic capability in a major bibliographic utility, but are now required to do more Romanization than ever before" (Weinberg, 1989, p. 3). In the same way, the validity of non-Roman access points and of including non-Roman characters in authority records has been granted by the Library of Congress, but since its local system does not have non-Roman capability, all machine-readable authority records in the bibliographic utilities contain Roman characters only.

Recognizing that this is a theoretical exercise only, let us now examine the structure of the USMARC authority record with alternate graphic representation.

The first example (Figure 8) underscores the principle that paired headings can exist only for systematically Romanized headings and corresponding vernacular
Catalogers using RLIN became aware of the need to establish uniform headings in non-Roman scripts, in other words, of the need for non-Roman authorities.

Grinhof, Yehoshua is the systematic Romanization of the Yiddish name; the alternate graphic representation is coded as parallel to the cross-reference—the 400 field—not to the authorized heading, which is presumably the form in the work. I expect this principle of parallelism to be discarded soon, as in bibliographic records, catalogers-including those at LC-are already coding corresponding Hebrew and Roman headings as pairs, whether or not the relationship between them is one of systematic Romanization. Joan Aliprand (1993) has provided a theoretical analysis of the issue, arguing for linkage based on "semantic equivalence."

Most interesting in the excerpt from the new format for authority data is the direct reference from the Hebraic form to the Roman form, which brings us full circle to the index to the British Museum's Hebraica catalog of 1867. Of course, in the environment of the printed book, cross-references implied a two-step look-up. Inputting a Hebrew name in an online search should retrieve records directly.

The second example containing Hebrew data in the 1991 update to the USMARC Format for Authority Data is a

**Cross reference display example:** גרבנשאך, יר✈שת

search under: Greenhauff, Charles

**Figure 7. Proposed structure for separate Roman and non-Roman authority records.**

multilingual and multiscript record for Moses (Biblical leader). (We might consider assigning this heading as an added entry to Bible. O.T. Pentateuch, but are more likely to use it in subject analysis!)

Examining the record, we first find cross-references in systematic Romanization from the Arabic, Hebrew, and Russian forms of Moses. Then we have alternate graphic representations in Hebrew and Cyrillic coded as headings, although the English heading is not a systematic Romanization of the Hebrew one. (Had the format been issued more recently, the record might have included a heading in Arabic script, which is now available on RLIN.)

The Romanized references in the authority record are not juxtaposed with their corresponding vernacular forms. This brings me to a critique of the basic structure of the USMARC Format for Authority Data.

Walt Crawford's (1984, p. 86) outline of the format makes it clear that headings in the 100 fields are followed by tracings for Romanized references in the [USMARC] authority record are not juxtaposed with their corresponding vernacular forms.

Figure 9. Multilingual and multiscript authority record, containing headings and cross-references in non-Roman scripts.

see and see also references in the 400 and 500 fields, respectively (Figure 10). The sources in the 600 fields are widely separated from the headings and variants.

This point may be illustrated through the LC authority record for Sholem Aleichem (Figure 11). The record was printed out from OCLC, but a virtually identical one is on RLIN, since both utilities derive their authority data from LC.

The first two-thirds of the record provide a lengthy list of references from variant names—real names, alternate spellings,

... it is not current LC practice to record the Roman spelling of an author’s name on the verso of a Hebraic title page [in bibliographic records].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME/SUBJECT</th>
<th>ESTABLISHED HEADING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LC</td>
<td>1 010 n 79011119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 040 DLC #c DLC #d DLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 053 PJ5129.R2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 100 00 Sholem Aleichem, ¶d 1859-1916 [AACR2] ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 400 00 Sholem Aleichem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 400 10 Rabinovit&quot;c, &quot;S-al-on, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 400 10 Rabinovitch, Sholem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 400 10 Rabinowitz, Shalom, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9 400 10 Rabinowitch, Solomon, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 400 00 Sholem Aleichem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 400 00 Sholem Aleijem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 400 00 Sholem-Aleijem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13 400 00 Shalom Alekhem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14 400 00 Sholem-Alekhem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 400 00 Shalom Aleiche, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16 400 00 Shalom-Aleikhem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17 400 00 Szolom Alejchem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18 400 10 Rabinowitization, Shalom, ¶d 1859-1916 [OLD CATALOG HEADING] ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19 400 10 Aleichem, Sholem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 400 00 Shalom Alekhem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21 400 10 Rabinowitz, Sholem Yakov, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22 400 00 Shalom Aleichem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23 400 00 Shalom Aleikhem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24 400 00 Shalom-&quot;Alekhem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25 400 10 &quot;Alekhem, Shalom-, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26 400 00 Sholem Aleikhem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27 400 10 Rabinovitz, Shalom, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28 400 00 Sholom Aleijem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29 400 10 Rabinowitch, Solomon, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 400 10 Rabinowitz, Solomon, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31 400 00 Sholom Aleijem, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32 400 00 Shalom Alevech, ¶d 1859-1916 ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33 670 Encycl. Brit., 15th ed. ¶b (Sholem (Sholom or Sholom) Aleichem, pseud. of Sholem Yakov Rabinowitz, b. 2/18/1859, d. 5/13/16) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>34 670 Encycl. Judaica, 1971 ¶b (Shalom Aleichem, pseud. of Shalom Rabinowitz, 1859-1916) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35 670 Shmeruk, C. Sholom-&quot;Alekhem, madrikh le-.haya.v .veli-yetsirato, 1980; ¶b t.p. (Sholom-&quot;Alekhem) verso t.p. (Sholem Aleikhem [in rom.]) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>36 670 His Shir ha-shirim, 1982; ¶b t.p. (Shalom &quot;Alekhem) facing t.p. (Shalom Rabinovits, 1859-1916) verso t.p. (Sholom Aleichem [in rom.]) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>37 670 Labkovski, D. Shalom-&quot;Alekhem .ve-gibora.v, 1959; ¶b added t.p. (Shalom-Alechhem [in rom.]) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>38 670 His L'histoire de T'evi' e, 1925; ¶b t.p. (Sholem Alei'hem) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>39 670 Encyc. Americana, 1975 ¶b (Aleichem, Sholom; 1859-1916; b. Solomon Rabinovitch) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40 670 Collier's encyc., 1973 ¶b (Shalom Aleicham; 1859-1916; pseud. of Solomon Rabinowit) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41 670 100 yor di brokhe Sholem Alevkhem, 1986; ¶b t.p. (Sholem Alevkhem; Sholem Aleijem [in rom.]) ¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>42 670 His .Toviyah ha-.holev, 1988; ¶b t.p. (Shalom &quot;Alekhem) t.p. verso (Sholom Alevkhem [in rom.]) ¶</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 11. Library of Congress authority record for Sholem Aleichem.  
Source: Library of Congress Name Authority File (OCLC) Record No. 245194. The equivalent RLIN record is NAFL7911119.
systematic Romanizations, etc. The nature of these variants is not identified; they are thrown into an unordered list.

The repeatable 670 source field also has an unordered list. Since the basis for establishment of the Roman heading is the fact that the name is found in the Britannica, Collier’s, and Americana encyclopædias, it would have been logical to juxtapose those source notes. The forms recorded next to the sources are unstructured in that surnames are not inverted; they are also redundant to a large extent with the variants in the 400 reference fields. The source for many references is not given, however; thus, if an error were suspected in a variant, one would have to search through hundreds of bibliographic records to verify the reference. It is not even clear that a search in a bibliographic file would yield the variant, because it is not current LC practice to record the Roman spelling of an author’s name on the verso of a Hebraic title page, although such forms are surely the source of many of the variants. Similar points were made in a review (Weinberg, 1979, p. 37) of one of the first published manuals of authority work (Baeker and Senghas, 1978).

In the YIVO Authority File, the practice is to record the source immediately below the heading or variant derived from it, thus obviating rekeying and facilitating verification. Figure 12 shows the first of several authority cards for Kopf Dua, an author with 15 pseudonyms identified by Zachary Baker. The name was found in a work translated by Dua; the Leksikon fun der Nayer Yidisher Literatur (Biographical Dictionary of Modern Yiddish Literature) had a fuller form, which is traced as a see reference. For each of Dua’s pseudonyms, the work in which the cataloger found it is indicated.

The record for Sholem Aleichem in YIVO’s Authority File (Figure 13) serves to illustrate another point: the one-to-many relationship of Roman-to-Hebraic headings and vice versa. The standard Yiddish spelling, of Hebrew origin, and the Soviet Yiddish spelling both map to the systematic Romanization. Thus the concept of "paired" headings and references is fundamentally incorrect.

At the 1989 AJL Convention, Lucia Rather made two important points about non-Roman headings: that they have to be uniform and unique. Hebraica catalogers have recognized the principle of uniform heading for non-Roman access points. For example, the Brandeis record published in Jutaica Librarianship with Rosa-

Figure 12. First card of a Yiddish authority record for Kopf Dua, an author with 15 pseudonyms. The source of each variant is given after the name.

Figure 13. Yiddish authority record for Sholem Aleichem. The standard Yiddish and Soviet Yiddish spellings would both map to the systematic Romanization, Sholem Aleykhem.
lie Katchen's paper presented at the 1989 convention features an added entry for Josef Vainshtain in an orthography that differs from that of the title page, apparently kethiv haser (Katchen, 1990, p. 24). In her paper which follows, Ms. Katchen describes how Hebraic authority records are maintained at Brandeis. The Jewish Division of the New York Public Library has used Paradox database management software with Hebrew capability for its authority file.

Libraries that have the ALEPH library management system, such as the Jewish Theological Seminary, can employ its bialphabetic authority control capabilities (Levi, 1984, Figure 6). In ALEPH, there is management system, such as the Jewish Theological Seminary, can employ its bialphabetic authority control capabilities (Levi, 1984, Figure 6). In ALEPH, there is

Figure 14. Yiddish authority record for Yankev Rabinovitch. Dates have been added to the heading because there are other authors with the same name.

The concept of the Hebrew heading as an alternate graphic representation is flawed .... A Hebrew heading for a Hebrew work is in fact the primary graphic representation and should be considered parallel to the Roman heading.

linked authority control: a change in a heading can automatically be applied to bibliographic records (Levi, 1984, p. 60). Although the ALEPH system was proposed for a Judaica cataloging network in the U.S., this proposal was not adopted, primarily for economic reasons. Cooperative Hebraic authority work is therefore not being done on the ALEPH system, only local authority work.

This brings us to Lucia Rather's second point: the need for unique headings in non-Roman scripts, in keeping with the principle of "no conflict" in AACR2. One can only determine whether a given Hebraic heading is unique by placing it in an alphabetic array of other headings and references. Figure 14, a YIVO authority record for Yankev Rabinovitch, features dates in the heading because there are other Yiddish authors with the same name. In other words, headings are established relative to a given file, not in isolation (Weinberg, 1992b, p. 8).

The goal of unique headings in non-Roman scripts is achieved by separate authority files. Alternatively, it might be achieved by indexing and sorting the non-Roman data in USMARC authority records to yield a similar arrangement. Since the non-Roman enhancement to the USMARC format for authority data has not been implemented, however, we cannot know how and whether this will work.

Joan Aliprand, the Systems Analyst of the Research Libraries Group who was responsible for developing RLIN's Hebrew as well as other non-Roman capabilities, has published a theoretical paper entitled "Linking of Alternate Graphic Representation in USMARC Authority Records." In the paper, Aliprand [1994] advocates separate authority records for headings in different languages and scripts, since they have different sources of authority. This essentially supports the Canadian, Israel, and YIVO models. It remains to be seen whether her proposal will bring about a change in the USMARC Format for Authority Data, which is at present an empty shell for non-Roman data.

Summary and Conclusions

To summarize the state of the art of Hebraic authority control in the U.S., we have achieved acceptance of the validity of Hebrew name access, not only through cross references, but also via uniform headings. The concept of the Hebrew heading as an alternate graphic representation is flawed, however. A Hebrew heading for a Hebrew work is in fact the primary graphic representation and should be considered parallel to the Roman heading. Non-Roman authority control is still practiced on the national level in Romanization only, but a variety of manual and automated techniques exist for controlling Hebrew headings locally.
Postscript

Subsequent to the presentation of this paper, cooperative approaches to the building of a machine-readable Hebraic authority file were discussed at several meetings held in conjunction with the 1993 AJL Convention. The feasibility of mounting such a file on RLIN is being investigated.

Acknowledgments

In addition to the valuable suggestions of the referees, the author acknowledges a careful review of the manuscript by Joan Aliprand of the Research Libraries Group.

References

Superscripts at the end of some references refer to corresponding Hebrew bibliographic data.


YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. The Yiddish Catalog and Authority File of the YIVO Library, edited by Zachary M. Baker and Bella Hass Weinberg. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1990. 5 vols. (The Yiddish Authority File of the YIVO Library is in vol. 5.)

Hebrew Bibliographic Data

1. אפרת עם, דר הזריעה מקובלת. מודרנית
   יונתן ויד ierr המ משהו jal עם
   היישור, תיב פרפר עם, בוט הטרופ
   consenting, פרפר.

2. יונתן, תיב כדי סדרת האלבה
   יונתן ינו
   יונתן, תיב פרפר עם, בוט הטרופ
   consenting, פרפר.

3. יונתן, תיב ידעתי הקסמיםiano
   איסוריסוס-קמוסקטוס דר מידע יות
   יונתן, תיב פרפר עם, בוט הטרופ
   consenting, פרפר.

4. יונתן, תיב ידעתי הקסמיםiano
   איסוריסוס-קמוסקטוס דר מידע יות
   יונתן, תיב פרפר עם, בוט הטרופ
   consenting, פרפר.

Dr. Bella Hass Weinberg is a Professor in the Division of Library and Information Science at St. John’s University and Consulting Librarian of YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in New York City. She also designed the multiscipitous Yiddish authority file of the YIVO Library under a grant for Yiddish book cataloging from the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1974.