

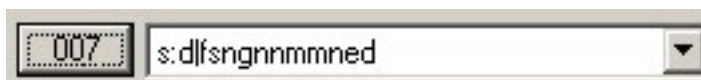
Physical description codes for musical sound recordings (007)

[Music Cataloging at Yale](#) [1] ? [MARC tagging](#) [2]

Voyager (007)

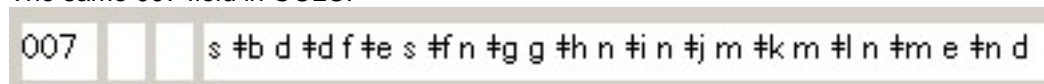
See also [Fixed field codes for sound recordings \(008\)](#) [3]

Multiple 007 fields are appropriate whenever more than one code would apply to the recording in any of the various subfields. Stereo/mono (SND) and capture/storage (C/ST) would be the most frequent candidates.



The 007 fixed field in Voyager:

The same 007 field in OCLC:



Voyager and OCLC	Definition	Maps to RDA ¹	Codes for 78s	Codes for LPs	Codes for CDs	Codes for cassettes
Specific material designation (007/01, OCLC #b)	type of disc	3.3.1.3 (Carrier type)	d = sound disc	d = sound disc	d = sound disc	s = sou
Speed (007/03, OCLC #d)	speed	3.16.4.3 (Playing speed)	d = 78 rpm	b = 33 1/3 rpm	f = 1.4 m. per sec	l = 1 15
Playback channel (007/04, OCLC #e)	kind of sound	3.16.8.3 (Configuration of playback channels)	m = mono	m = mono q = quad, etc. ² s = stereo ³ u = unknown	m = mono q = quad, etc. ² s = stereo ³ u = unknown	m = mono q = quad, etc. ² s = stereo ³ u = unk
Groove width (007/05, OCLC #f)	groove width	3.16.5.3 (Groove characteristics)	s = coarse/standard	m = microgroove	n = not applicable	n = not
Dimensions (007/06, OCLC #g)	dimensions	3.5 (Dimensions)	d = 10 in. e = 12 in.	e = 12 in.	g = 4 3/4 in.	i = 3 5/
Tape width (007/07, OCLC #h)	tape width	3.5	n = not applicable	n = not applicable	n = not applicable	l = 1/8
Tape configuration (007/08, OCLC #i)	tape configuration	3.16.7.3 (Tape configuration)	n = not applicable	n = not applicable	n = not applicable	c = qua
Kind of disc, tape, etc. (007/09, OCLC #j)	kind of disc	3.10.2.3 (Generation of audio recordings)	m = mass produced	m = mass produced	m = mass produced	m = ma
Kind of material (007/10, OCLC #k)	kind of material	3.6 (Base material) 3.7 (Applied Material)	a = lacquered s = shellac	p = plastic	m = metal and plastic	n = not
Kind of cutting (007/11, OCLC #l)	kind of cutting	3.16.5.4 (Details of groove characteristic)	l = lateral	l = lateral	n = not applicable	n = not
Playback characteristics (007/12, OCLC #m)	playback characteristics	3.16.9.3 (Special playback characteristics)	u = unknown	u = unknown	e = digital ⁵	c = Dol
Capture & storage	capture	3.16.2.4 (Details of	a = acoustical capture, e = electric storage	e = electric storage	e = electric storage	e = ele

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techniques (007/13, OCLC ‡n)	type of recording)	analog direct storage b = electrical capture, analog direct storage d = electrical capture, digital storage e = electrical capture, analog electrical storage u = unknown capture and storage	⁶ d = digital
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Update: You may begin using code "q" for recordings with more than two playback channels as per changes regarding sound recordings: 007/04

Configuration of Playback Channels code "q" definition. In order to allow for a direct equivalent coding for surround sound, code "q" was redefined to allow for playback configuration for recordings with more than two playback channels. Previous to this change, code "q" was restricted to quadrasonic recordings (four playback channels), a limitation that resulted in the use of code "z" for non-quadrasonic recordings with more than two playback channels. In order to align with equivalent definitions of code "q" in Motion Pictures and Videorecordings (007/08 - Configuration of playback channels), the definition of code "q" in Sound Recordings 007/04 was revised to read:

Configured to be played back on more than two channels. Use this code for Dolby surround sound tracks and other multichannel techniques.

The definition has already been revised in the MARC Documentation (www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bd007s.html [4]); however, the renaming of the data element to Quadrasonic, multichannel, or surround has been delayed because it needs to be documented in the Content Designator History section. The change will be made official and documented in the next MARC Update.

note 1: From Kathy Glennan, 8/5/15, MOUG-L

note 2: Quadrasonic, multichannel, or surround: The sound recording is configured to be played back on more than two channels. Use this code for Dolby surround sound tracks and other multichannel techniques. (See [Technical Bulletin 264](#) [5] (Formerly, Quadrasonic).)

note 3: LC practice is to "assume a CD is stereo unless there is a clear indication (wording on container, printed insert, or the disc itself) that the recording in hand intended to be mono." (MLA-L correspondence on 3/11/2005 from Joe Bartl, Music & Sound Recording Team 1, Special Materials Cataloging Division, Library of Congress)

note 4: Enter the code in subfield ‡f, even if the information does not appear on the item.
source: [OCLC website](#) [6]

note 5: The third letter "D" (for "digital") in the three-letter [SPARS](#) [7] code *usually* corresponds to code "e" in Playback characteristics (OCLC ‡m)
When a recording does not clearly indicate playback configuration, users may either use code u in subfield ‡e or infer a configuration from the recording itself.

note 6: The first letter "A" (for "analog") in the three-letter [SPARS](#) [7] code *usually* corresponds to code "e" in Capture & storage techniques (OCLC ‡n)

SPARS codes appeared on compact discs through the mid 1990s to indicate the type of equipment used to produce the disc. Its emphasis only on tape recorder as equipment is one reason it was discontinued. However, when the code appears on a compact disc, it can be useful to determine Playback characteristics and Capture & storage techniques.

- 1st letter = type of audio equipment (usually a tape recorder) used during initial recording (analog or digital)
- 2nd letter = type of audio equipment used during mixing/editing (analog or digital)
- 3rd letter = type of mastering used (digital only)

AAD = analog equipment for initial recording; analog equipment for mixing/editing; digital equipment for mastering

ADD = analog equipment for initial recording; digital equipment for mixing/editing; digital equipment for

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mastering

DDD = **d**igital equipment for initial recording; **d**igital equipment for mixing/editing; **d**igital equipment for mastering

DAD = **d**igital equipment for initial recording; **a**nalog equipment for mixing/editing; **d**igital equipment for mastering

sources: [OCLC website](#) [8] and Sound Recordings Cataloging Workshop (Jay Weitz) at the 1996 OLAC conference

Source URL: <https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/srphys>

Links

[1] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music> [2] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/marc-tagging> [3] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/srfixfd> [4] <http://www.loc.gov/marc/bibliographic/bd007s.html> [5] <http://www.oclc.org/support/services/worldcat/documentation/tb/264.en.html> [6] <http://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/0xx/007sound.shtm> [7] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SPARS_Code [8] <http://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/0xx/007sound.html>