RDA linked data and the new RDA Toolkit

Gordon Dunsire, Chair, RSC Presented at RDA Linked Data Forum June 25, 2018, New Orleans, USA



3R Project

RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign Project

New responsive design and structure Impact of the IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM)

RDA strategy for international, cultural heritage, and linked data communities



Beta Toolkit

Beta version of the new RDA Toolkit released June 13, 2018

Transformation of guidance and instructions is ongoing; expected completion December 2018

Development of entities, elements, and terminologies almost complete



LRM entities

New entities for Agent, Collective Agent, Nomen, Place, Timespan

- Many attributes become relationships Example: date of birth [of Person]
 - > Related timespan of person

More inverse relationships

Date of birth of [related person of timespan]



The numbers

13 entities

1700+ elements

Work	388	Agent	175
Expression	291	Person	85
Manifestation	282	Collective Agent	34
Item	70	Corporate Body	84
Place	45	Family	46
Timespan	54	Nomen	169
RDA Entity	27		



RDA Vocabularies

RDF representations of entities (classes), elements (properties), and terms (concepts)

Includes translations (12+ languages)

Published via GitHub and RDA Registry



RDA recording methods

RDA provides instructions for four methods of recording data values:

Unstructured description Transcription; free-form notes;

uncontrolled human-readable appellation

(name, title)

Structured description Multiple values with string encoding

scheme; value with syntax encoding

scheme; controlled human-readable

appellation (access point)

Identifier Machine-readable appellation (local)

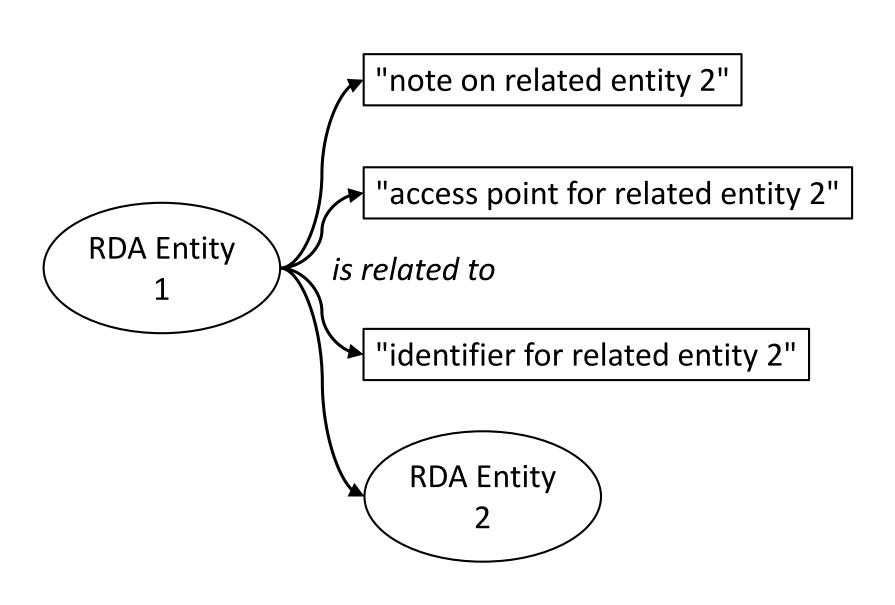
IRI Machine-readable "appellation" (global)

An appellation references an instance of an entity





Recording methods for related data



Keyword index

Authority file

Standard identifier system

Semantic Web



Semantic recording

Unstructured data recorded in canonical properties

No range specified (string)

Structured data recorded in datatype properties

Range specified (literal + encoding scheme)



Semantic recording

Identifier data recorded in datatype properties
Range specified (literal)

IRI data recorded in object properties Specified range (thing)

Non-LRM data recorded in unconstrained properties

No domain, no range



RDA Releases

Semantic versioning
Break.Bend.Minor (n.n.n)

GitHub pre-releases used to test production infrastructure for new Toolkit

Warning: unstable!



RDA Releases

2.7.3: Original Toolkit (April 2017)

Pre-releases: 3.0.1 – 3.0.6

3 !!!: Breaks semantics of 2.7.3 Re-definition of Person entity (LRM)

3.1.0: real soon now (July 2018?)



Thank you!

Questions? Discussion ...

