LRM in the RDA Toolkit: an Overview

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Entities
New RDA Toolkit

• First implementation of IFLA LRM
  ▪ With refinements
    o Permitted by LRM if these remain compatible with the model
  ▪ For example
    o *Res* is not in RDA; instead, *RDA entity* was created as the supertype for all other entities
      • *Res* is too broad: “Any entity in the universe of discourse.”
      • *RDA entity* is more focused:
        “An abstract class of key conceptual objects in the universe of human discourse that are a focus of interest to users of RDA metadata in a system for resource discovery. An RDA entity includes an agent, collective agent, corporate body, expression, family, item, manifestation, nomen, person, place, timespan, and work.”
Retained Existing Entities

- With minor adjustments...
  - Work
  - Expression
  - Manifestation
  - Item
New Entities Added

**Agent**
- In LRM, identified as a “superclass” of *person* and *collective agent*
- In RDA, known as an “entity supertype”

**Collective agent**
- RDA retained the existing entity subtypes of *Corporate body* and *Family* as an expansion of LRM
  - Instructions about *Collective agent* are sparse in the new Toolkit
    - Opportunity for future development
New Entities Added

• **Nomen**
  - Associates an RDA entity, excluding Nomen itself, with an appellation of that entity
  - Named through the attribute *Nomen string*
  - Includes name, title, access point, and identifier

• **Place**
  - Not the same as “place” in the original RDA Toolkit (Chapter 16)
    - Because “place” in FRBR is not the same as “place” in LRM

• **Timespan**
  - As in LRM, the information can be precise or general
    - 2020-11-12 T16:03:32
    - 17th century
    - Bronze Age
LRM and RDA Entities

Res (LRM) has entity supertype RDA Entity

Work is created by RDA Entity

Expression

Manifestation

Item is modified by Agent

Agent is entity subtype of Collective Agent

Collective Agent is entity subtype of

Person

Family

Corporate Body

RDA Entity has appellation Nomen

Place

Timespan is associated with
“Real” vs. “Fictional”

• Modified the *Person* entity
  ▪ Unlike in the original Toolkit, it no longer includes fictitious and legendary persons, or real non-human entities
  ▪ Fictional “authors” are treated as pseudonyms
    o Newt Scamander, a fictional character from the world of Harry Potter, did not really write *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*
    o A real human being was the actual author: J.K. Rowling
  ▪ How this is managed in cataloging files is up to communities
    o LRM and RDA do not require abandonment of the LC/NACO practice of creating authority records for personas, spirits, etc.
      • Instead, these are nomens for non-fictitious agents
      • They can be transcribed in the statement of responsibility in bibliographic records
Other fictional information

• To be recorded as a *Place*, the location needs to reflect the physical world (including extra-terrestrial places)
  ▪ Tolkien’s Middle Earth is a valid concept, but not a LRM or RDA Place
  ▪ For a false or fictitious *place of publication*, RDA offers options to:
    o Transcribe the information found in the manifestation
    o Record the real value if known

• To be recorded as a *Timespan*, the information needs to be real
  ▪ For example, “stardate” is a fictional system of time measurement developed for the television and film series *Star Trek*
    o It is *not* a LRM or RDA *Timespan*
Attributes & Relationships
Attributes & Relationships

• More emphasis on relationships in LRM
  ▪ Also true for RDA
  ▪ Many original Toolkit attributes have become relationships
    ○ Place of publication
      Relates a Manifestation to a Place
    ○ Date of establishment
      Relates a Corporate body to a Timespan
    ○ Variant name of person
      Relates a Person to a Nomen
  ▪ LRM Res attributes added to all RDA entities
    ○ Category of ... [e.g., Category of work]
    ○ Note on ... [e.g., Note on manifestation]
Representative Expressions

• A representative expression provides the values of specific elements used to identify a work and to distinguish it from other works
  ▪ Attributes that are considered to best represent the intention of the creator(s)
    o Do not have to come from the same expression
  ▪ These attributes start as expression elements
    o Include in the description of the work as appropriate, as work elements
  ▪ RDA currently has 17 of these, including
    o *Duration of representative expression*
    o *Language of representative expression*

• Not required; not always applicable
Representative Expressions

• Example:

> *Como agua para chocolat*

- Work
  - Language of r.e. = Spanish
  - Date of r.e. = 1989

- Expression
  - Language = Spanish
  - Date = 1989

• Main utility
  - Construction of access points
  - Distinguishing similar works
Element Changes

• Three elements moved from *Work* to *Expression*
  - *Key*
  - *Medium of performance*
  - *Intended audience*

• Values for these elements can now be associated with the work by using representative expression attributes
  - *Key of representative expression*
  - *Medium of performance of representative expression*
  - *Intended audience of representative expression*
Manifestation Statements
Manifestation Statements

• A statement appearing in the *Manifestation* that describes the manifestation itself
  ▪ Recorded if considered important to users
  ▪ Supports the user tasks “identify” and “find”

• Not required

• Normally transcribed from a source in the *Manifestation*
  ▪ Text or spoken word content
  ▪ Three transcription choices in RDA
    o Basic: take what you see, or machine capture
    o Normalized: make adjustments for capitalization, punctuation, diacritical marks, etc.
    o Other transcription rules (of an agency’s choice)
Manifestation Statements

• Broad level of granularity
  ▪ Manifestation statement – any kind of statement, in whole or in part
  ▪ Thirteen subtypes
    o More specific, including
      • Manifestation title and responsibility statement
      • Manifestation edition statement
      • Manifestation publication statement
      • Manifestation series statement
      • Etc.
Aggregates
Aggregates

• A manifestation that embodies two or more expressions
  ▪ Those expressions may realize one or more works
  ▪ The manifestation may be issued in one or more units

• Three types
  ▪ Collections of expressions - more than one distinct work/expression
    o Usually similar in type and/or genre; none considered subordinate
  ▪ Augmentations - One main work/expression, with supplemental work(s)/expression(s)
    o Supplemental work(s)/expression(s) may or may not be significant enough to warrant distinct bibliographic identification
  ▪ Parallel expressions
    o More than one distinct expression of the same work
Aggregates

• The essence of an aggregating work is a *plan* for how the aggregate is to be assembled
  ▪ Editorial decisions about theme, style, organization, etc.
  ▪ *Not* the contents
  ▪ Creator = the agent(s) who developed the plan

• *NOT* a whole-part relationship
  ▪ The relationship between the individual expressions is not an inherent feature of the works they realize

• *Work-Expression* (WE) lock
  ▪ An aggregating expression realizes one and only one aggregating work
  ▪ Reissued with content change?
    ○ New work
Description Choices

• Model is complex, but based on cataloging agency policies...
  ▪ Entity descriptions are not required for all of the expressions or works that are embodied by an aggregate
    o The preface of a book is a separate work, but it does not have to be described as such
  ▪ If the aggregating expression or work is described, it is not necessary to describe any of the expressions or works that are aggregated
    o E.g., a poetry collection by a single author
  ▪ It is not necessary to record the aggregating expression or work if at least one of the expressions or works that are aggregated is recorded
    o A book with a preface, illustrations, and index can simply be described as the textual work, with notes about the supplementary content
LRM Model for Aggregates

The dotted lines represent shortcut relationships:

- Aggregating Expression [has] *manifestation of expression* Aggregate Manifestation
- Aggregate Manifestation [has] *expression manifested* Expression 1
- Aggregate Manifestation [has] *expression manifested* Expression 2
Specific Aggregate Elements

• Include the following (and their inverses)
  ▪ **Aggregates**
    o An expression that is chosen as part of the plan of an aggregating expression
  ▪ **Collective title**
  ▪ **Contributor agent to aggregate**
    o An agent who creates an expression of a work that is embodied by an aggregate
  ▪ **Contributor agent of music**
  ▪ **Contributor agent of still image**
  ▪ **Contributor agent of text**
Diachronic Works
Works that Change over Time

• Any resource planned to be issued over time
  ▪ Serials
  ▪ Multipart monographs that are not complete when first published
  ▪ Integrating resources

• Term is new in RDA, but is inspired by LRM
  ▪ See LRM 5.8, Modelling of Serials
    ▪ Individual issues published over time
    ▪ Editorial concepts can evolve over time without the serial work losing its identity
Extension Plan

• A categorization reflecting an intention to extend the content of a work
  ▪ Through revision or replacement
    or
  ▪ Through additions or accumulations

• Ending date may be known (or expected)
  ▪ E.g., a projected final date for publishing the complete works of an author

• Ending date may be unknown
  ▪ No expectation to cease publishing the title (e.g., a newspaper)
Impact on the WEMI Model

• For a diachronic work, each *Manifestation* is a distinct instance of a *Work* entity
  – The diachronic plan uniquely links the *Work-Expression-Manifestation*
    – Also known as the “WEM lock”
  – A change in one or more of the following may indicate the creation of a new diachronic work:
    – Scope or editorial policy
    – Genre or literary form
    – Target audience
    – Style
  – Cataloging agencies may make their own determinations about what changes constitute a new work
Specific Diachronic Elements

• Include the following (and their inverses)
  ▪ **Editorial director agent**
    o An agent who has legal or intellectual responsibility, but not creative responsibility, for the editorial policy and content of a diachronic work
  ▪ **Founder agent of work**
    o An agent who is responsible for initiating a diachronic work
  ▪ **Integrating work**
    o A diachronic work that is planned to be realized in a single expression
  ▪ **Successive work**
    o A diachronic work that is planned to be realized in multiple distinct expressions
For More Information

• RSC website: [http://rda-rsc.org/](http://rda-rsc.org/)
  ▪ News and announcements: [http://rda-rsc.org/news](http://rda-rsc.org/news)
  ▪ Documents released, by year: [http://rda-rsc.org/documents](http://rda-rsc.org/documents)
    ○ Minutes: [http://rda-rsc.org/RSCminutes](http://rda-rsc.org/RSCminutes)
  ▪ RSC presentations, by year: [http://www.rda-rsc.org/rscpresentations](http://www.rda-rsc.org/rscpresentations)

• RDA Toolkit site: [https://www.rdataoolkit.org/](https://www.rdataoolkit.org/)
  ▪ Toolkit news: [https://www.rdataoolkit.org/news](https://www.rdataoolkit.org/news)

• RDA Toolkit YouTube channel
  ▪ [https://www.youtube.com/c/RDAToolkitVideo](https://www.youtube.com/c/RDAToolkitVideo)
    (contains instructional videos on how to use the RDA Toolkit and recordings of RDA-related presentations; most content in English)
Questions?

Ask now, or email me later at:
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