

RDA Vocabulary Encoding Schemes

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Vocabulary Encoding Scheme (VES)

“A named structured list of representations of controlled values for elements.

A vocabulary encoding scheme includes an RDA list of terms or their corresponding value vocabularies in the RDA Registry, an ISO code list, a standard terminology, an authority control system, etc. Simple keyword indexes are excluded.”

—RDA Definition

RDA VES Examples

- Bibliographic Format
- Content Type
- Extension Plan
- Media Type

Other VES Examples

- Library of Congress Subject Headings
- Getty Art & Architecture Thesaurus
- LC/NACO Name Authority File
- Geographic Names Information System

RDA VES Characteristics

- Except for RDA Terms,* they are intended to use for the value of an RDA element
- Limited to RDA elements for resource entities (Work, Expression, Manifestation, and Item)
- can be recorded as structured description, identifier, or IRI

**RDA Terms contains Glossary terms that are not entities, elements, or part of any other VES, e.g., carrier*

Vocabularies in the Toolkit

- Usually available in 3 places:
 - Element Page
 - Glossary
 - VES page
- Term label(s) and definition are the same in all 3 places
- Additional information on VES page

Term on Element Page

- preferred label

audio disc

- definition

A carrier type that consists of a disc on which sound waves, recorded as modulations, pulses, etc., are incised or indented in a continuous spiral groove.

- alternate label

Use for: sound disc

audio disc

- notation and IRI not available on page

R | D | A

Resource Description & Access

Term in Glossary

- preferred label
- definition
- alternate label
- notation and IRI not available in Glossary

audio disc

A carrier type that consists of a disc on which sound waves, recorded as modulations, pulses, etc., are incised or indented in a continuous spiral groove.

Use for: sound disc

Term on VES Page

audio disc preferred label

<http://rdaregistry.info/termList/RDACCarrierType/1004> IRI

(Notation 1004) notation

definition

A carrier type that consists of a disc on which sound waves, recorded as modulations, pulses, etc., are incised or indented in a continuous spiral groove.

Synonyms

alternate label

sound disc

almost one-stop shopping!

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

Term on RDA Registry Page

#	CURIE ▲	Label	Definition
#	rdact:1004	"audio disc" @en	"A carrier type consisting of a disc on which in a continuous spiral groove." @en
	@id:	http://rdaregistry.info/termList/RDACarrierType/1004	IRI
	definition	ToolkitDefinition:	"A carrier type consisting of a disc on which sound waves, recorded as modulat @en
	ToolkitLabel:	"audio disc" @en	preferred label
	altLabel:	"sound disc" @en	alternate label
	api:	http://api.metadataregistry.org/concepts/536	
	status:	"Published"	

almost one-stop shopping!

Audio Disc in RDF/XML (partial)

```
<skos:Concept
rdf:about="http://rdaregistry.info/termList/RDACarrierType/1004" xml:lang="en">
  <skos:inScheme
rdf:resource="http://rdaregistry.info/termList/RDACarrierType"/>
  <skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">audio disc</skos:prefLabel>
  <skos:definition xml:lang="en">A carrier type that consists of a
disc on which sound waves, recorded as modulations, pulses,
etc., are incised or indented in a continuous spiral
groove.</skos:definition>
  <skos:altLabel xml:lang="en">sound disc</skos:altLabel>
  <skos:notation xml:lang="en">1004</skos:notation>
```

Translating Back into Cataloger

```
<skos:Concept  
rdf:about="http://rdaregistry.info/termList/RDACa  
rrierType/1004" xml:lang="en">  
<skos:inScheme  
rdf:resource="http://rdaregistry.info/termList  
/RDACarrierType"/>  
<skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">audio  
disc</skos:prefLabel>  
  
<skos:altLabel xml:lang="en">sound  
disc</skos:altLabel>
```

Translating Back into Cataloger

This is the data for the concept “audio disc”

```
<skos:inScheme
rdf:resource="http://rdaregistry.info/termList
/RDACarrierType"/>
<skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">audio
disc</skos:prefLabel>

<skos:altLabel xml:lang="en">sound
disc</skos:altLabel>
```

Translating Back into Cataloger

This is the data for the concept “audio disc”

This concept is in the VES RDA Carrier Type

```
<skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">audio  
disc</skos:prefLabel>
```

```
<skos:altLabel xml:lang="en">sound  
disc</skos:altLabel>
```

Translating Back into Cataloger

This is the data for the concept “audio disc”

This concept is in the VES RDA Carrier Type

preferred label: audio disc

```
<skos:altLabel xml:lang="en">sound  
disc</skos:altLabel>
```

Translating Back into Cataloger

This is the data for the concept “audio disc”

This concept is in the VES RDA Carrier Type

preferred label: audio disc

alternate label: sound disc

Elements with RDA VESs

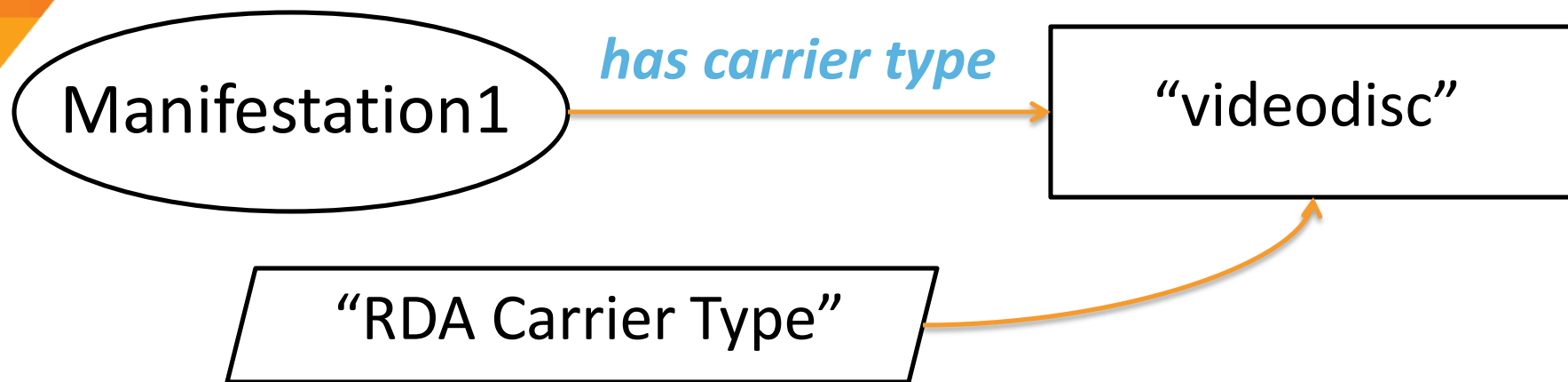
- All recording methods available
- Can use multiple recording methods
- Can use RDA VES for that element and/or another suitable VES
- Can use term, notation, and/or IRI from RDA VES or another suitable VES
- Specify the source of the VES term or notation

Recording Carrier Type



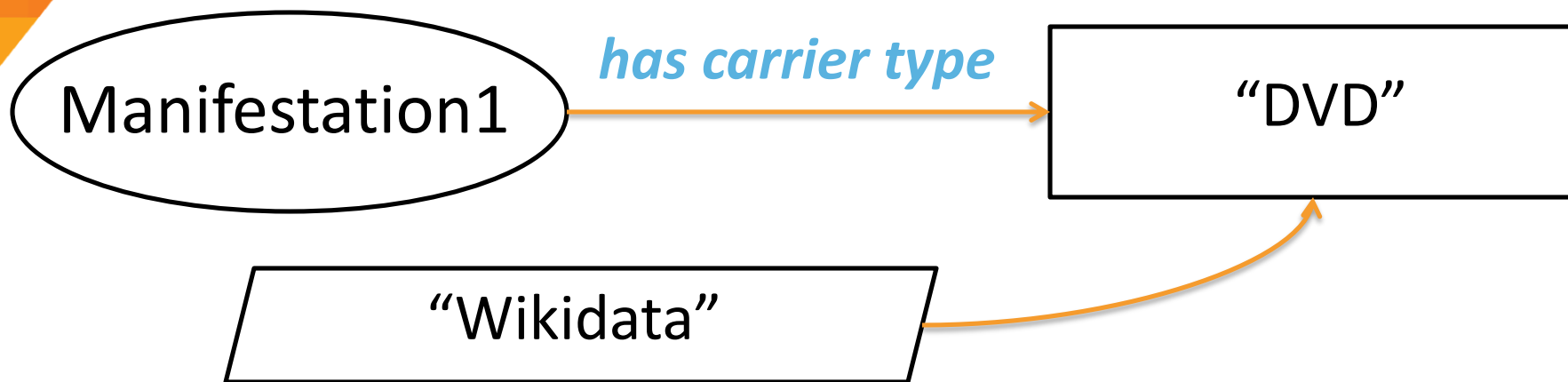
“Record an uncontrolled term or a term that is transcribed from a source of information.”

Recording Carrier Type



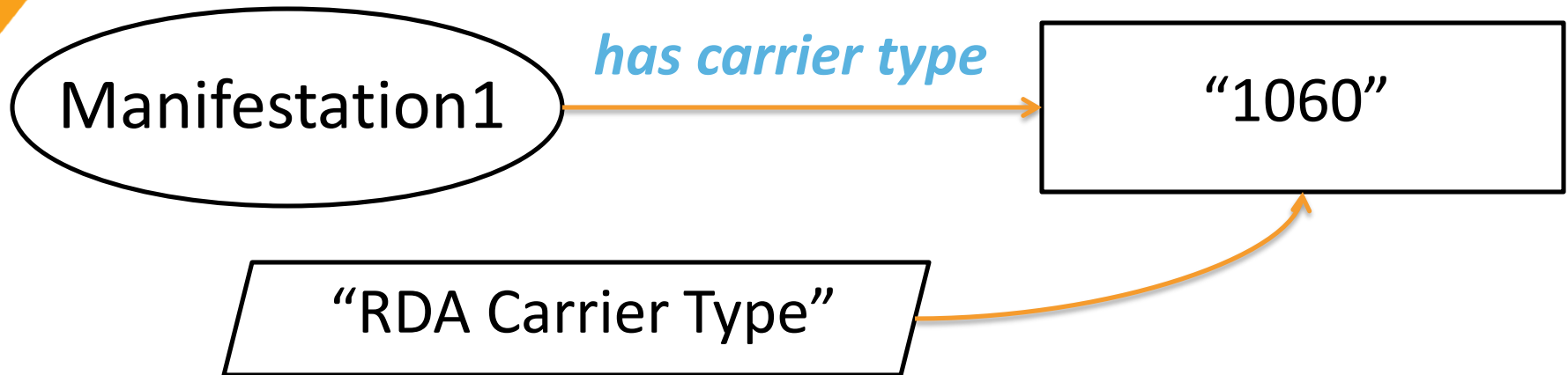
“Record a term from the following RDA vocabulary encoding scheme.”

Recording Carrier Type

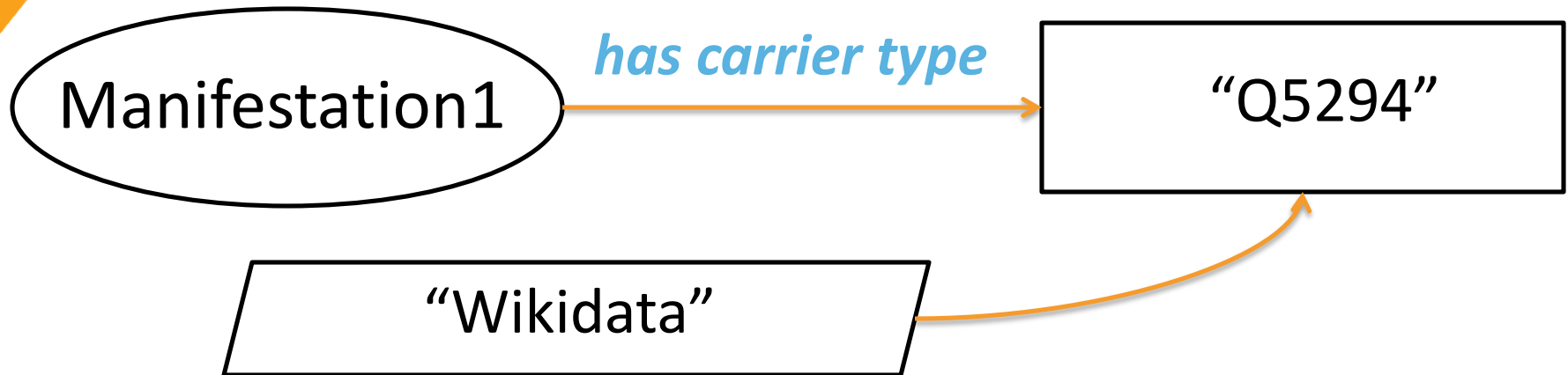


“Record a term from another suitable vocabulary encoding scheme.”

Recording Carrier Type



“Record a notation for a term from the RDA vocabulary encoding scheme.”



“Record an identifier or notation for a term from another suitable vocabulary encoding scheme.”

Recording Carrier Type

Manifestation1

has carrier type

<http://rdaregistry.info/termList/RDACarrierType/1060>

“Record an IRI for a term or concept as a *real-world object* selected from the RDA vocabulary encoding scheme.”

Recording Carrier Type

Manifestation1

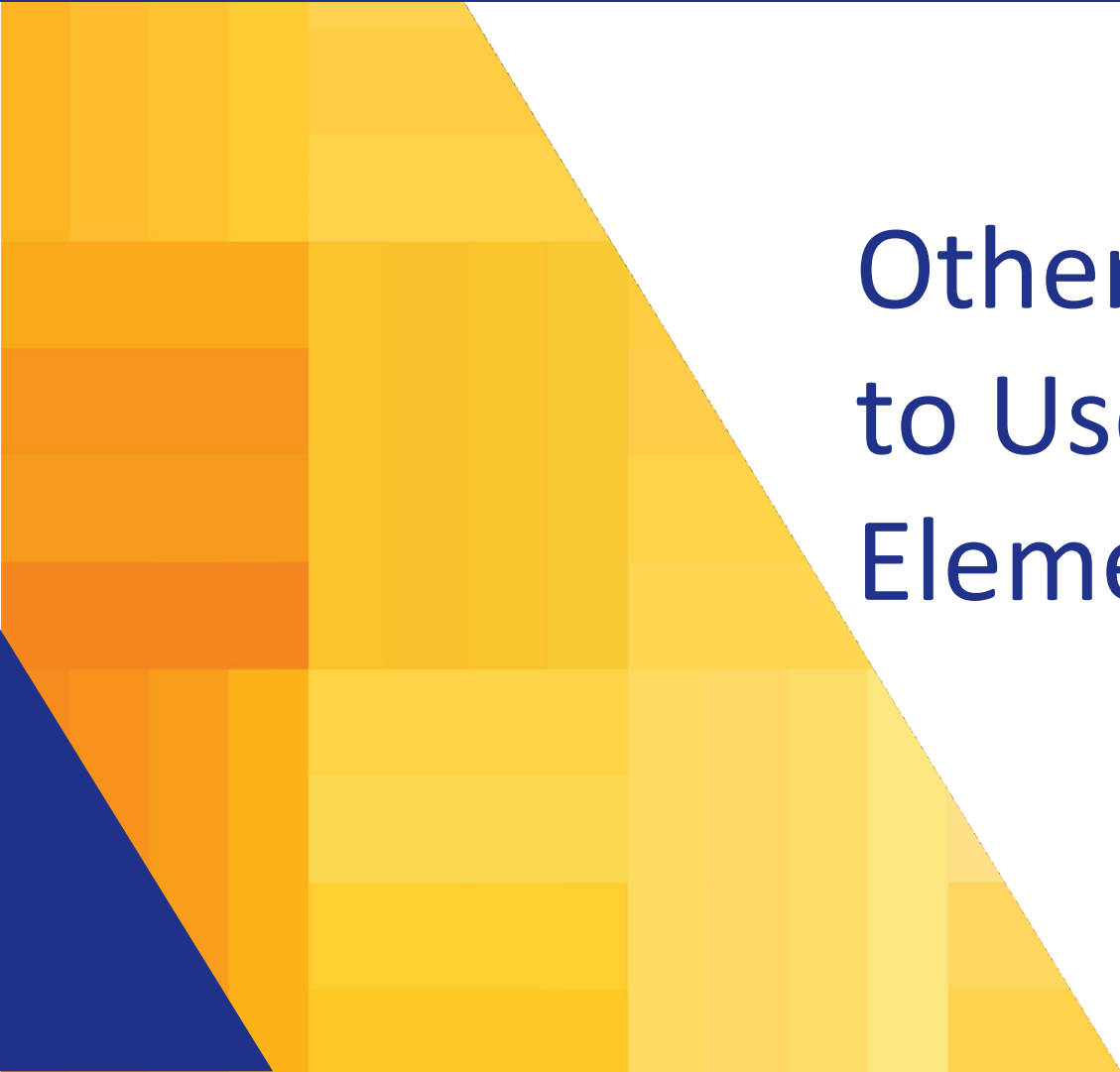
has carrier type

<https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q5294>

“Record an IRI for a term or concept as a *real-world object* selected from another suitable vocabulary encoding scheme.”

Linked Data Implications

- Unstructured description is not suitable for conversion to linked data
- Structured description and identifier can be converted if
 - the VES source is recorded
 - the term or notation also has an IRI equivalent and it is a one-to-one relationship
- IRI is the best if you can do it



Other Vocabularies to Use for RDA VES Elements

Considerations for a Non-RDA VES

- Does it have a term, notation, and IRI available for the concept?
- Is it consistent with the scope of the RDA element for which you wish to use it?
- Is it sufficiently granular to describe your resources?
- Will it be around in 10 years?

Getty AAT

- **Example:** texts (documents)
- *structured description:* texts (documents)
- *identifier:* 300263751
- *IRI:*
<http://vocab.getty.edu/page/aat/300263751>
- consistent with scope of RDA element
- Getty AAT works well with RDA!

Wikidata

- **Example:** D-VHS
- *structured description:* D-VHS
- *identifier:* Q960192
- *IRI:*

<https://www.wikidata.org/wiki/Q960192>

- consistent with scope of RDA element
- Wikidata works well with RDA!

For More Information...

- <http://www.rdaregistry.info/>
- [RDA Linked Data Vocabularies Data Management and Use Workflow](#)
- [6JSC/CILIP Rep/1](#) Machine-actionability and interoperability of RDA value vocabularies: a discussion paper
- [Library Linked Data Incubator Group: Datasets, Value Vocabularies, and Metadata Element Sets](#)