



University of  
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# RDA and interoperability in library catalogues: DC and MARC

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Presented at the DCMI Libraries Community meeting, DC-2008, 23 Sep 2008, Berlin



# RDA

- ✧ Resource Description and Access
  - ✧ Content standard for bibliographic metadata
  - ✧ Successor to Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR)
    - ✧ 150 years of development
  - ✧ Publication as an online product in June 2009
- ✧ Closely aligned with Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR)
  - ✧ Metadata model developed by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

# RDA utility

- ✧ Independent of metadata format
  - ✧ Can be used for DC and MARC formats
    - ✧ and many others
- ✧ RDA attributes mapped to DC-Lib and MARC21
  - ✧ Mappings published as part of RDA product
- ✧ RDA attributes declared in RDFS
  - ✧ DCMI RDA Task Group – work-in-progress
    - ✧ DC Application Profile(s) being developed
    - ✧ More at Workshop 6 tomorrow

# Attribute content

- ✧ RDA provides rules for creating content of metadata attributes
- ✧ Two main methods
  - ✧ Transcription from item/manifestation being described
    - ✧ “As is”
      - ✧ AACR abbreviations, Latinisms, etc. excluded from RDA
    - ✧ E.g. what and where is the title of this website, CD-ROM, book?
  - ✧ Use of controlled vocabulary values
    - ✧ Values being declared in SKOS by DCMI RDA TG

# Content/Carrier Clarification

- ✧ AACR and other content guidelines confuse/  
conflate information carrier (FRBR item/  
manifestation) with information content  
(FRBR expression/work)
  - ✧ Web “document” can carry spoken word
  - ✧ Spoken word can be carried on CD, DVD,  
magnetic wire/tape, film, etc.
- ✧ RDA uses controlled terms for content and  
carrier types
  - ✧ Based on underlying ontology of the RDA/ONIX  
framework

# RDA/ONIX framework example

- ✧ RDA content type “spoken word”
  - ✧ High-level label for a framework *base content category*
- ✧ Category attributes
  - ✧ Character: Language
  - ✧ SensoryMode: Hearing
  - ✧ ImageDimensionality: not applicable
  - ✧ ImageMovement: not applicable
- ✧ User: what resources have content I can listen to?
  - ✧ = OPAC: what content types have SensoryMode: Hearing?
    - ✧ (“Spoken word”; “Performed music”; etc.)
  - ✧ then OPAC: list bib records with these content types!

# Improving interoperability (1)

## ✧ Semantic Web

- ✧ RDA attributes and values in RDFS and SKOS
  - ✧ MARC21 currently looking at similar approach

## ✧ Controlled terms cover all content and carrier types

- ✧ Terms available to DC and MARC formats
- ✧ Ontology compatible with publisher metadata

## ✧ Initiatives to apply FRBR model to MARC21 and DC catalogues

- ✧ OCLC WorldCat is a hybrid
- ✧ DC Scholarly Works AP is based on FRBR

## Improving interoperability (2)

- ✧ RDA attribute mappings to DC-Lib and MARC21
  - ✧ Application to OPAC and union catalogue indexes
- ✧ RDA is ready for Functional Requirements for Authority Data (FRAD)
  - ✧ IFLA initiative, real-soon-now
    - ✧ May also be declared in RDFS (as well as FRBR)
- ✧ RDA designed for international use
  - ✧ E.g. German translation planned



# Thank you

- ✧ [g.dunsire@strath.ac.uk](mailto:g.dunsire@strath.ac.uk)
- ✧ More information/presentations on RDA website
  - ✧ <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/jsc/rda.html>
- ✧ And UK constituency committee website
  - ✧ <http://www.slainte.org.uk/aacr/news.htm>
- ✧ And DCMI RDA Task Group wiki
  - ✧ <http://dublincore.org/dcmirdataskgroup/>
- ✧ WorldCat (DC/MARC21 hybrid union catalogue)
  - ✧ <http://www.worldcat.org/>