

9 October 2024

To: Renate Behrens, Chair, RDA Steering Committee
CC: Anne Welsh, RSC Secretary
From: Damian Iseminger, RSC Technical Team Liaison Officer
Subject: Formal response to RSC/ExtentWG/2024/rev2, Discussion Paper on the Development of Extent Elements in RDA

Introduction

The Technical Working Group thanks the Extent Working Group for their discussion paper concerning the development of the extent elements in RDA.

In general, the Technical Working Group is in agreement with the overall structure proposed by the Extent Working Group: quantified aspects of the extent of a manifestation and of the content embodied in a manifestation may be recorded as values of specific elements, which then may be combined into an aggregated statement, using string encoding schemes to determine placement and punctuation.

The Technical Working Group believes that this framework represents the best path forward with regards to supporting the objectives and principles of RDA. The framework ensures that earlier practices for recording extent may be maintained while also allowing institutions to record extent information in ways unshackled by the past.

Recommendations and Discussion

1.1. RECOMMENDATION. Convert Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#) to a superelement. Many current instructions will become string encoding schemes in Community Resources and other instructions will be moved to new subelements of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve, along with the suggested new definition for Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

2.1. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **extent of unitary structure** as a subelement of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve.

2.2. RECOMMENDATION. Create a new **RDA Extent of Unitary** value vocabulary structure which includes appropriate terms moved from [RDA Carrier Extent Unit](#).

Approve and also approve of the additional terms from [RDA Carrier Extent Unit](#).

3.1. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **extent of unit** as a subelement of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve.

3.2. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **numbering of recording tracks** as an element subtype of Manifestation: **extent of unit**. Move the instructions for Manifestation: [tape configuration](#) to this element.

Approve, but clarification requested. The discussion states that the element Manifestation: [tape configuration](#) will be renamed, with changes to the definition and scope, but the recommendation implies deprecation of Manifestation: [tape configuration](#), and adding Manifestation: **numbering of recording tracks** as a new element. Does the ExtentWG have a preference?

3.3. RECOMMENDATION. Move Manifestation: [bibliographic format](#) to become an element subtype of Manifestation: **extent of unit**.

Approve.

3.4. RECOMMENDATION. Move Manifestation: [dimensions](#) to become an element subtype of Manifestation: **extent of unit**. Update the instructions to reflect the focus on structured descriptions for two to three dimensions.

Approve, but clarification requested. While in theory it makes sense to have a measurement that is for 1 axis be covered under Manifestation: **extent of unit** and measurements in the x and y or x, y, and z axes covered by Manifestation: [dimensions](#), is there a compelling reason why Manifestation: [dimensions](#) could not cover all 3 cases?

4.1. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **extent of embodied content** as a subelement of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve.

4.2. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **dimensions of embodied content** as a subtype of Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**.

Approve.

4.3. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **designation of sound channels** as a subtype of Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**. This partly replaces Manifestation: [configuration of playback channels](#).

Approve.

4.4. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **number of sound channels** as a subtype of Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**. This partly replaces Manifestation: [configuration of playback channels](#).

Approve.

4.5. RECOMMENDATION. Replace Manifestation: [configuration of playback channels](#) with Manifestation: **designation of sound channels** and Manifestation: **number of sound channels**.

Approve. Manifestation: [details of configuration of playback channels](#) should also be a candidate for deprecation.

4.6. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **reduction ratio** as a subtype of Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**.

Approve, in part. The Technical Working Group agrees that the concept as presented in the discussion paper should be considered an element subtype of Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**. However, an element for Manifestation: [reduction ratio](#) already exists in RDA, defined as “a numerical ratio of the size of a micro-image in relation to the original from which it was produced.” Is the ExtentWG wishing to change this existing element, or to deprecate it in favor of this new element?

4.7. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **image resolution** as a subtype of Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**.

Approve, in part. As was the case in Recommendation 4.6, the element Manifestation: [resolution](#) already exists, but as an element subtype of Manifestation: [digital file characteristic](#). How does the existing element relate to the proposed element?

4.8. RECOMMENDATION WITH OPTIONS. Create an **RDA Layout of Embodied Content** value vocabulary. Alternatively, expand the [RDA Layout](#) value vocabulary to include terms that could be used in Manifestation: extent of embodied content.

Approve, with the recommendation to create a new VES.

4.9. RECOMMENDATION. Add the terms *column*, *frame*, and *page* to a value vocabulary for layout of embodied content.

Approve.

Technical Working Group response to the discussion of duration within the section 4 recommendations:

The Technical Working Group agrees with the ExtentWG that the current elements Expression: [duration](#) and Work: [duration of representative expression](#) require further examination in the context of the proposed element Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**.

Expression: [duration](#) requires revisions due to the nature of aggregating expressions. Aggregating expressions are plans and therefore do not have a relationship to content. Because of this, the instructions at Condition: [An aggregating expression is being described](#) are inappropriate. If information concerning the duration of each aggregated expression or the total duration of the aggregated expressions are desired to be recorded as values of the aggregating expression, the only appropriate element is Expression: [note on expression](#). For a total duration, that information may also be recorded as Work: [duration of representative expression](#).

The Technical Working Group believes that RDA would benefit from a new element similar to the ISBDM element "playing time" that would be strictly limited to total playing time for carriers that embody certain kinds of content.

5.1. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **extent of aggregated content** as a subelement of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve the need for this element, but the Technical Working Group has some questions about uncounted content.

The Technical Working Group has some mild concerns about uncounted kinds of content only able to be recorded as a value of Expression: [content type](#) or as a Manifestation: [note on manifestation](#). From a technical point of view, because uncounted content has no quantification,

a value without a quantification would be ill-formed. That being said, could a statement such as "multiple maps" be an acceptable value, as multiple implies there are more than 1 of this content?

5.2. RECOMMENDATION WITH OPTIONS. Create a value vocabulary for **RDA Extent of Aggregated Content**, which will include applicable terms moved from [RDA Carrier Extent Unit](#) and [RDA Format of Notated Music](#). Alternatively, expand the [RDA Content Type](#) value vocabulary to include terms that could be used in Manifestation: **extent of embodied content**.

Approve the recommendation to create a new VES. For the alternative, the Technical Working Group wishes to know if extent of embodied content” should read “extent of aggregated content”?

Concerning the discussion about Manifestation: [illustrative content](#), if this element were to be soft-deprecated, the existing terms in [RDA Illustrative Content](#) could be incorporated into the proposed **RDA Extent of Aggregated Content**.

6.1. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **number of containers** as a subelement of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve.

6.2. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **dimensions of containers** as a subelement of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve.

6.3. RECOMMENDATION. Add Manifestation: **extent of storage space** as a subelement of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#). This element will only be used for collection manifestations.

Approve.

6.4. RECOMMENDATION. Create an **RDA Container Type** value vocabulary for *case*, *portfolio*, and other terms commonly used for containers.

Approve.

7.1. RECOMMENDATION. Add a new manifestation statement element: Manifestation: **manifestation extent statement**.

Approve.

7.2. RECOMMENDATION. Add a new manifestation statement element: Manifestation: **manifestation numbering of extent statement**.

Approve.

7.3. RECOMMENDATION: Add a new set of RDA transcription guidelines “Guidelines on transcription of numbering of extent.” The guidelines will be derived from the current instructions in Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#) related to transcribing the numbering of sequences of pages, leaves, etc.

Approve.

8.1. RECOMMENDATION. Review instructions and examples that may need to be added to Manifestation: [note on manifestation](#) after reworking the other extent of manifestation elements.

Approve.

9.1. RECOMMENDATION. Update the definition of Expression: [extent of expression](#) to parallel the definition of Manifestation: [extent of manifestation](#).

Approve.

10.1. RECOMMENDATION. Update the definition of Work: [extent of representative expression](#).

Approve.

11.1. RECOMMENDATION. No change to Expression: [duration](#) is recommended.

Disagree. See the discussion above in the recommendations for section 4 concerning duration.

12.1. RECOMMENDATION. No change to Work: [duration of representative expression](#) is recommended.

Approve.

13.1. RECOMMENDATION. Remove *atlas* from the value vocabularies for extent in RDA.

Approve.

13.2.1. RECOMMENDATION. No change to the definition of *sheet* is recommended.

Approve.

13.2.2. RECOMMENDATION. Update the definition of *folded sheet* and move the term to the new **RDA Extent of Unitary Structure** value vocabulary.

Approve.

13.2.3. RECOMMENDATION. No change to the definition of *gathering* is recommended.

Approve.

13.2.4. RECOMMENDATION. Update the definition of *leaf* and remove the term from value vocabularies in RDA for carrier extent units. The term *leaf* will remain as a glossary term and used as a value for Manifestation: **extent of unit**.

Approve.

13.2.5. RECOMMENDATION. No change to the definition of *double leaf* is recommended.

Approve.

13.2.6 RECOMMENDATION. Add *folded leaf* to the glossary, treating the term like a *folded sheet*, but bound in a volume.

Approve.

13.2.7. RECOMMENDATION. Update the definition of *updating loose-leaf*.

Approve.

13.2.8. RECOMMENDATION. Add *panel* to the glossary, treating the term similar to *leaf* as a unit of extent derived from a sheet that has been folded.

Approve.

13.2.9. RECOMMENDATION. No change to the definition of *plate* is recommended.

Approve.

13.2.10. RECOMMENDATION. Move the term *page* to a value vocabulary for layout of embodied content and update the definition.

Approve.

13.2.11. RECOMMENDATION. Move the term *column* to a value vocabulary for layout of embodied content and update the definition.

Approve.

13.3. RECOMMENDATION. Add the new term *photographic print* to the **Extent of Unitary Structure** value vocabulary and add the term *photograph* to the **Extent of Aggregated Content** value vocabulary. The use of the term *photograph* in [Illustrative Content](#) will require a future decision for that value vocabulary for the kinds of expressions embodied in augmentation aggregates.

Approve.

14.1. RECOMMENDATION. Remove [RDA Carrier Extent Unit](#) value vocabulary from the Toolkit after decisions are made for each current term.

Approve.

14.2. RECOMMENDATION. Review [RDA Format of Notated Music](#) value vocabulary from the Toolkit after decisions are made for each existing term. Terms linked to other extent vocabularies will include a scope note for manifestations embodying notated music.

Approve.