A Treatment of Series in BIBFRAME
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Using requirements for series given in an earlier post on the BIBFRAME list, we present a way to handle series that employs LC’s recent Title Proposal.

A resource may have more than one series statement, which creates a need to keep related series information together. For example, it should be clear whether a statement of responsibility or numbering applies to one series or another.

This document provides two options: the first one solves this problem by using the usual device of blank nodes, while the second option does not. The latter is included as an illustration; while it is more parsimonious, it fails to solve this crucial problem. For each option in the document, class and property definitions are presented first, and then examples, which are given both in ISBD punctuation and in the proposed treatment in BIBFRAME.

Option A: Definition of Classes and Properties

bf:Series
Class for series information
Label: Series Entity
Subclass Of: bf:Resource
(Comment: a new class to type blank nodes. The existing class bf:Serial is a subclass of bf:Instance and does not serve for this purpose)

bf:SeriesTitle
Class for series title information
Label: Series title
Subclass Of: bf:Title
(Comment: a new class for series titles)
bf:series
Work in which a part has been issued
Label: Has series
Type: rdf:Property
SubProperty Of: bf:partOf
Range: bf:Work
(Comment: redefinition of an existing property: the domain is changed)

bf:subseries – removed from the model because it is not needed: at the level of relationships between resources, every series is an independent relationship

bf:issn
International Standard Serial Number identifier
Label: ISSN
Type: rdf:Property
SubProperty Of: bf:identifier
Range: bf:Identifier
(Comment: redefinition of an existing property: the domain is changed)

bf:responsibilityStatement
Statement relating to the identification and/or function of any persons, families, or corporate bodies responsible for the creation of, or contributing to the content of a resource
Label: Series responsibility
Type: rdf:Property
Range: rdfs:Literal
(Comment: redefinition of an existing property: the domain is changed)
bf:seriesStatement

Statement relating to a series or subseries and its responsibility, ISSN, numbering, etc.

Label: Series statement
Type: rdf:Property
Range: bf:Series

(Comment: a new property to gather together related series properties)

bf:seriesNumbering

Numerical or chronological label of a series issue

Label: Series numbering
Type: rdf:Property
Domain: bf:Series
Range: rdfs:Literal

(Comment: a new property)

bf:seriesNote

Information regarding a series needed to place it in the proper context

Label: Series note
Type: rdf:Property
Domain: bf:Series
Range: rdfs:Literal

(Comment: a new property)
Option A: Examples of Series

Example A.1: Single series

The Oxford Shakespeare

<Instance1> bf:seriesStatement [ a bf:Series ;
  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:mainTitle “The Oxford Shakespeare” ] ] ;
bf:series <relatedwork1> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;

Example A.2: Two series

International archives of photogrammetry and remote sensing, 0256-1840 ; v. 30, pt. 3 = Internationales Archiv der Photogrammetrie und Fernerkundung ; Bd. 30, Teil 3

SPIE proceedings series, 0277-786X ; v. 2357

<Instance2> bf:seriesStatement [ a bf:Series ;
  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:mainTitle “International archives of photogrammetry and remote sensing” ] ;
bf:title <varianttitle1> ;
bf:issn [ a bf:Identifier ;
  bf:identifierScheme “issn” ;
  bf:identifierValue “0256-1840” ] ;
bf:seriesNumbering “v. 30, pt. 3” ,
  [ a bf:Series ;
  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:mainTitle “SPIE proceedings series” ] ;
bf:issn [ a bf:Identifier ;
  bf:identifierScheme “issn” ;
Example A.3: Series and subseries

Publication / Field Museum of Natural History ; 239-240. Zoological series ; v. 16

< Instance3> bf:seriesStatement [ a bf:Series ;

  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:mainTitle “Publication” ] ;
  bf:responsibilityStatement “Field Museum of Natural History” ;
  bf:seriesNumbering “239-240” ] ,
[ a bf:Series ;
  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:mainTitle “Zoological series” ] ;
  bf:seriesNumbering “v. 16” ] ;
  bf:series <relatedwork1> ;
  bf:series <relatedwork2> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;
  bf: authorizedAccessPoint “Publication (Field Museum of Natural History : 1909)” .

<relatedwork2> a bf:Work ;
Example A.4: Series with part number and name
American university studies. Series IX, History; v. 50

Example A.5: Personal series
Polnoe sobranie sochinenii s prilozheniiami : v odinnadtsati tomakh / Boris Pasternak; t. 7 [diacritics intentionally omitted]

Example A.6: Multipart item with volumes in different series
Bd. 5-6: Annales Universitatis Saraviensis. Serie Philosophie. Beiheft
Bd. 7-8: Annales Universitatis Saraviensis. Reihe: Philosophische Fakultät
Bd. 9: Veröffentlichungen des Instituts für Landeskunde des Saarlandes

< Instance6> bf:seriesStatement [ a bf:Series ;
  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:seriesNote “Bd. 5-6” ] ,
  [ a bf:Series ;
  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:mainTitle “Annales Universitatis Saraviensis. Reihe: Philosophische Fakultät” ] ;
  bf:seriesNote “Bd. 7-8” ] ,
  [ a bf:Series ;
  bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
  bf:mainTitle “Veröffentlichungen des Instituts für Landeskunde des Saarlandes” ] ;
  bf:seriesNote “Bd. 9” ] ;
  bf:series <relatedwork1> ;
  bf:series <relatedwork2> ;
  bf:series <relatedwork3> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;
<relatedwork2> a bf:Work ;
<relatedwork3> a bf:Work ;
Problems with Option A

When multiple series are present, you cannot reliably get from a related work back to the corresponding series numbering in the instance because the work title and transcribed title may not be the same (e.g. the SPIE series in example A.2). Use cases include searching for a given number in a series, and displaying a list of titles in a series, sorted by the series numbering.

Numbering associated with parallel titles is not accounted for. RDA 2.12.9.5 does not require recording it.

Option B: Definition of Classes and Properties

bf:SeriesTitle
Class for series title information
Label: Series title
Subclass Of: bf:Title
(Comment: a new class for series titles)

bf:series
Work in which a part has been issued
Label: Has series
Type: rdf:Property
SubProperty Of: bf:partOf
Range: bf:Work
(Comment: redefinition of an existing property: the domain is changed)

bf:subseries – removed from the model because it is not needed: at the level of relationships between resources, every series is an independent relationship
bf:issn

International Standard Serial Number identifier

Label: ISSN

Type: rdf:Property

SubProperty Of: bf:identifier

Range: bf:Identifier

(Comment: redefinition of an existing property: the domain is changed)

bf:seriesResponsibilityStatement

Statement relating to the identification and/or function of any persons, families, or corporate bodies responsible for the creation of, or contributing to the content of a series

Label: Series responsibility

Type: rdf:Property

Range: rdfs:Literal

(Comment: a new property)

bf:seriesNumbering

Numerical or chronological label of a series issue

Label: Series numbering

Type: rdf:Property

Range: rdfs:Literal

(Comment: a new property)

bf:seriesNote

Information regarding a series needed to place it in the proper context

Label: Series note

Type: rdf:Property

Range: rdfs:Literal

(Comment: a new property)
**Option B: Examples of Series**

*Example B.1: Single series*

The Oxford Shakespeare

```
<Instance1> bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “The Oxford Shakespeare” ] ;
    bf:series <relatedwork1> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;
```

*Example B.2: Two series*

International archives of photogrammetry and remote sensing, 0256-1840 ; v. 30, pt. 3 = Internationales Archiv der Photogrammetrie und Fernerkundung ; Bd. 30, Teil 3

SPIE proceedings series, 0277-786X ; v. 2357

```
< Instance2> bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “International archives of photogrammetry and remote sensing” ] ;
    bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “SPIE proceedings series” ] ;
    bf:title <varianttitle1> ;
    bf:issn [ a bf:Identifier ;
    bf:identifierScheme “issn” ;
    bf:identifierValue “0256-1840” ] ;
    bf:issn [ a bf:Identifier ;
    bf:identifierScheme “issn” ;
    bf:identifierValue “0277-786X” ] ;
    bf:seriesNumbering “v. 30, pt. 3” ;
    bf:seriesNumbering “v. 2357” ;
    bf:series <relatedwork1> ;
```
Example B.3: Series and subseries

Publication / Field Museum of Natural History ; 239-240. Zoological series ; v. 16

< Instance3> bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “Publication” ] ;
< Instance3> bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “Zoological series” ] ;
< Instance3> bf:seriesResponsibilityStatement “Field Museum of Natural History” ;
< Instance3> bf:seriesNumbering “239-240” ;
< Instance3> bf:seriesNumbering “v. 16” ;
< Instance3> bf:series <relatedwork1> ;
< Instance3> bf:series <relatedwork2> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;
    bf: authorizedAccessPoint “Publication (Field Museum of Natural History : 1909)” .
<relatedwork2> a bf:Work ;
Example B.4: Series with part number and name
American university studies. Series IX, History ; v. 50

<Instance4> bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “American university studies” ;
    bf:partNumber “Series IX”;
    bf:partName “History” ] ;
    bf:seriesNumbering “v. 50” ;
    bf:series <relatedwork1> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;

Example B.5: Personal series
Polnoe sobranie sochinenii s prilozheniiami : v odinnadtsati tomakh / Boris Pasternak ; t. 7 [diacritics intentionally omitted]

< Instance5> bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “Polnoe sobranie sochinenii s prilozheniiami”;
    bf:subTitle “v odinnadtsati tomakh” ] ;
    bf:seriesResponsibilityStatement “Boris Pasternak”;
    bf:seriesNumbering “t. 7” ;
    bf:series <relatedwork1> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;

Example B.6: Multipart item with volumes in different series
Bd. 5-6: Annales Universitatis Saraviensis. Serie Philosophie. Beiheft
Bd. 7-8: Annales Universitatis Saraviensis. Reihe: Philosophische Fakultät
Bd. 9: Veröffentlichungen des Instituts für Landeskunde des Saarlandes
<Instance6> bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “Annales Universitatis Saraviensis. Reihe: Philosophische Fakultät” ] ;
    bf:title [ a bf:SeriesTitle ;
    bf:mainTitle “Veröffentlichungen des Instituts für Landeskunde des Saarlandes” ] ;
    bf:seriesNote “Bd. 5-6” ;
    bf:seriesNote “Bd. 7-8” ;
    bf:seriesNote “Bd. 9” ;
    bf:series <relatedwork1> ;
    bf:series <relatedwork2> ;
    bf:series <relatedwork3> .
<relatedwork1> a bf:Work ;
<relatedwork2> a bf:Work ;
<relatedwork3> a bf:Work ;

Problems with Option B

When two series, or a series and a subseries, are present, information such as numbering, responsibility, ISSN, etc. cannot be associated with the corresponding series.

ISSN is not explicitly an identifier of a series.

Numbering associated with parallel titles is not accounted for. RDA 2.12.9.5 does not require recording it.