INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO
15836-2

2015-04-28

Information and documentation — The Dublin Core metadata element set — Part 2: DCMI Properties and classes

Information et documentation — L'ensemble des éléments de métadonnées Dublin Core

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some sections of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 15836-2 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 46, *Information and documentation*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Technical interoperability*.

A Category A liaison relationship was established between Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) and ISO/TC46 SC 4 in 2012, enabling closer cooperation between DCMI and SC 4 in the development of DCMI-based ISO standards. The SC 4 plenary of May 2012 resolved to investigate with DCMI how the ISO palette of Dublin Core-based standards might be strengthened. The conclusion of discussion between DCMI and SC 4 resulted in a resolution to standardize a larger set of DCMI metadata terms as Part 2 of ISO 15836.

ISO 15836 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information and documentation — The Dublin Core metadata element set*:

— *Part 1: Core elements*

— *Part 2: DCMI Properties and Classes*

Introduction

The fifteen-element "Dublin Core" described in ISO 15836-1 forms the basis of this International Standard, which contains properties in the /terms/ namespace as specified in *DCMI Metadata Terms* [DCMI-TERMS] document, maintained by the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative. The contents of this standard are outlined in chapter 1 below.

The terms in DCMI vocabularies are intended to be used in combination with terms from other, compatible vocabularies in the context of application profiles and on the bases of the *DCMI Abstract Model* [DCAM].

This set of properties and classes is expressed as RDF vocabulary and may be used in Linked Data. Each property and class has a name (URI). For the sake of brevity, this standard uses CURIEs as abbreviations of URIs. Mapping of CURIEs to URIs is described in a non-normative annex.

DCMI Metadata Terms are governed by the DCMI Usage Board (DCMI UB), which evaluates the proposals for new DCMI terms and application profiles. In 2006, the board undertook an editorial review of terms in the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set (DCMES) in order to clarify intended semantics and bring the wording of their definitions and usage comments into line with the language of the *DCMI Abstract Model* [DCAM]. A revised DCMES version published in December 2006 is the basis of this standard. Extensions and clarifications to DCMES will be incorporated to the future versions of this standard.

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Information and documentation — The Dublin Core metadata element set

1   Scope

This International Standard establishes a standard for cross-domain resource description, known as the Dublin Core Metadata Terms. It includes all properties in the /terms/ namespace and classes published as DCMI recommendation in 2012 [DCMI-TERMS]. The following properties from the aforementioned document are excluded:

1. core properties published in Part 1 of this standard,
2. vocabulary encoding schemes,
3. syntax encoding schemes,
4. DCMI Type vocabulary
5. Terms related to the DCMI Abstract Model

This International Standard does not limit what might be a resource.

This International Standard does not provide implementation guidelines. However, the core elements, properties and classes are typically used in the context of an application profile which constrains or specifies their use in accordance with local or community-based requirements and policies.

2   Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

The Dublin Core Metadata Terms. Available at http://dublincore.org/documents/dcmi-terms/

RDF Schema. Version 1.1. W3C Recommendation 25 February 2014. Available at http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-schema/

3   Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in DCAM and the following apply.

3.1.1
class
Resources may be divided into groups called classes. The members of a class are known as *instances* of the class. Classes are themselves resources. They are often identified by URIs and may be described using RDF properties. The `rdf:type` property may be used to state that a resource is an instance of a class.

[RDF Schema 1.1]

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3.1.2
lifecycle of a resource
sequence of events that mark the development and use of a resource

EXAMPLES   Conception of an invention, creation of a draft, revision of an article, publication of a book, acquisition by a library, transcription to magnetic disk, migration to optical storage, translation into English, and derivation of a new work (e.g. a movie).

3.1.3
property
relation between subject resources and object resources

[RDF Schema 1.1]

3.1.4
resource
anything that might be identified

[DCMI Abstract Model]

3.1.5
sub-property
an instance of property that is used to state that all resources related by one property are also related by another.

[RDF Schema 1.1]

3.2 Naming elements

In the definitions for elements, the following conventions have been used and are explained in notes:

3.2.1
name
A token appended to the URI of a DCMI namespace to create the URI of the term. For instance, "title" or "creator".

3.2.2
label
descriptive name given an element for human recognition. For instance, "Title" or "Creator".

3.2.3
URI
The Uniform Resource Identifier used to identify a term.

3.2.4
range
a class of which a value described by the term is an instance.

In accordance with the *DCMI Namespace Policy* [DCMI-NAMESPACE] specified in ANSI/NISO Z39.85:2012, the "name" of an element is appended to a DCMI namespace URI to construct a Uniform Resource Identifier as a globally unique identifier for that element. The use of element names and URIs in the context of different implementation technologies is explained in *DCMI Encoding Guidelines* [DCMI-ENCODINGS].

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3.3 DCMI Properties

3.3.1
abstract
a summary of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Abstract
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/abstract
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/description

3.3.2
accessRights
information about who can access the resource or an indication of its security status

Note to entry:

Label   Access Rights
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/accessRights
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/rights
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/RightsStatement
Comment Access Rights may include information regarding access or restrictions based on privacy, security, or other policies.

3.3.3
accrualMethod
the method by which items are added to a collection

Note to entry:

Label   Accrual Method
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/accrualMethod
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MethodOfAccrual

3.3.4
accrualPeriodicity
the frequency with which items are added to a collection

Note to entry:

Label   Accrual Periodicity
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/accrualPeriodicity
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Frequency

3.3.5
accrualPolicy
the policy governing the addition of items to a collection

Note to entry:

Label   Accrual Policy
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/accrualPolicy
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Policy

3.3.6
alternative
an alternative name for the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Alternative Title

URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/alternative
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/title
Comment The distinction between titles and alternative titles is application-specific.

3.3.7
audience
a class of entity for whom the resource is intended or useful

Note to entry:

Label   Audience
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/audience
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/AgentClass

3.3.8
available
date (often a range) that the resource became or will become available

Note to entry:

Label   Date Available
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/available
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date

3.3.9
bibliographicCitation
a bibliographic reference for the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Bibliographic Citation
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/bibliographicCitation
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/identifier
Comment   Recommended practice is to include sufficient bibliographic detail to identify the resource as unambiguously as possible.

3.3.10
conformsTo
an established standard to which the described resource conforms

Note to entry:

Label   Bibliographic Citation
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/conformsTo
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Standard

3.3.11
contributor
an entity responsible for making contributions to the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Contributor
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/contributor
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Agent

3.3.12
coverage
the spatial or temporal topic of the resource, the spatial applicability of the resource, or the jurisdiction under which the resource is relevant

Note to entry:

Label   Coverage
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/coverage
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LocationPeriodOrJurisdiction
Comment Spatial topic and spatial applicability may be a named place or a location specified by its geographic coordinates. Temporal topic may be a named period, date, or date range. A jurisdiction may be a named administrative entity or a geographic place to which the resource applies. Recommended best practice is to use a controlled vocabulary such as the Thesaurus of Geographic Names [TGN]. Where appropriate, named places or time periods can be used in preference to numeric identifiers such as sets of coordinates or date ranges.

3.3.13
created
date of creation of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Date Created
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/created
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date

3.3.14
creator
an entity primarily responsible for making the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Creator
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/creator
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/contributor
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Agent
Comment Examples of a Creator include a person, an organization, or a service.

3.3.15
date
a point or period of time associated with an event in the lifecycle of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Date
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date
Comment Date may be used to express temporal information at any level of granularity. Recommended best practice is to express the date, time or period according to the ISO 8601:2004 standard.

3.3.16
dateAccepted
date of acceptance of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Date Accepted
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/dateAccepted
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date

3.3.17
dateCopyrighted
date of copyright

Note to entry:

Label   Date Copyrighted

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URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/dateCopyrighted
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date

3.3.18
dateSubmitted
date of submission of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Date Submitted
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/dateSubmitted
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date
Comment Examples of resources to which a Date Submitted may be relevant are a thesis (submitted to a university department) or an article (submitted to a journal).

3.3.19
description
an account of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Description
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/description
Comment Description may include but is not limited to: an abstract, a table of contents, a graphical representation, or a free-text account of the resource.

3.3.20
educationLevel
a class of entity, defined in terms of progression through an educational or training context, for which the described resource is intended

Note to entry:

Label   Audience Education Level
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/educationLevel
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/audience
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/AgentClass

3.3.21
extent
the size or duration of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Extent
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/extent
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/format
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/SizeOrDuration

3.3.22
format
the file format, physical medium, or dimensions of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Format
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/format
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaTypeOrExtent
Comment Examples of dimensions include size and duration. Recommended best practice is to use a controlled vocabulary such as the list of Internet Media Types [MIME].

3.3.23
hasFormat
a related resource that is substantially the same as the pre-existing described resource, but in another format

Note to entry:

Label   Has Format
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/hasFormat
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.24
hasPart
a related resource that is included either physically or logically in the described resource

Note to entry:

Label   Has Part
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/hasPart
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.25
hasVersion
a related resource that is a version, edition, or adaptation of the described resource

Note to entry:

Label   Has Version
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/hasVersion
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.26
identifier
an unambiguous reference to the resource within a given context

Note to entry:

Label   Identifier
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/identifier
Comment   Recommended best practice is to identify the resource by means of a string conforming to a formal identification system.

3.3.27
instructionalMethod
a process, used to engender knowledge, attitudes and skills, that the described resource is designed to support

Note to entry:

Label   Instructional Method
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/instructionalMethod
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MethodOfInstruction
Comment   Instructional Method will typically include ways of presenting instructional materials or conducting instructional activities, patterns of learner-to-learner and learner-to-instructor interactions, and mechanisms by which group and individual levels of learning are measured. Instructional methods include all aspects of the instruction and learning processes from planning and implementation through evaluation and feedback.

3.3.28
isFormatOf
a related resource that is substantially the same as the described resource, but in another format

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URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/isFormatOf
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.29
isPartOf
a related resource in which the described resource is physically or logically included

Note to entry:

Label   Is Part Of
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/isPartOf
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.30
isReferencedBy
a related resource that references, cites, or otherwise points to the described resource

Note to entry:

Label   Is Referenced By
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/isReferencedBy
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.31
isReplacedBy
a related resource that supplants, displaces, or supersedes the described resource

Note to entry:

Label   Is Replaced By
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/isReplacedBy
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.32
isRequiredBy
a related resource that requires the described resource to support its function, delivery, or coherence

Note to entry:

Label   Is Required By
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/isRequiredBy
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.33
issue
date of formal issuance (e.g., publication) of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Date Issued
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/issued
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date

3.3.34
isVersionOf
a related resource of which the described resource is a version, edition, or adaptation

Note to entry:

Label   Is Version Of
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/isVersionOf

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Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation
Comment   Changes in version imply substantive changes in content rather than differences in format.

3.3.35
language
a language of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Language
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/language
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LinguisticSystem
Comment   Recommended best practice is to use a controlled vocabulary such as RFC 4646 [RFC4646].

3.3.36
license
a legal document giving official permission to do something with the resource

Note to entry:

Label   License
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/license
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/rights
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LicenseDocument

3.3.37
mediator
an entity that mediates access to the resource and for whom the resource is intended or useful

Note to entry:

Label   Mediator
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/mediator
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/audience
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/AgentClass
Comment In an educational context, a mediator might be a parent, teacher, teaching assistant, or care-giver.

3.3.38
medium
the material or physical carrier of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Medium
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/medium
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/format
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/PhysicalMedium

3.3.39
modified
date on which the resource was changed

Note to entry:

Label   Date Modified
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/modified
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date

3.3.40
provenance
a statement of any changes in ownership and custody of the resource since its creation that are significant for its authenticity, integrity, and interpretation

Note to entry:

Label   Provenance
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/provenance
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/ProvenanceStatement
Comment The statement may include a description of any changes successive custodians made to the resource.

3.3.41
publisher
an entity responsible for making the resource available

Note to entry:

Label   Publisher
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/publisher
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Agent
Comment Examples of a Publisher include a person, an organization, or a service.

3.3.42
references
a related resource that is referenced, cited, or otherwise pointed to by the described resource

Note to entry:

Label   References
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/references
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.43
relation
a related resource

Note to entry:

Label   Relation
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation
Comment Recommended best practice is to identify the related resource by means of a string conforming to a formal identification system.

3.3.44
replaces
a related resource that is supplanted, displaced, or superseded by the described resource

Note to entry:

Label   Replaces
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/replaces
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.45
requires
a related resource that is required by the described resource to support its function, delivery, or coherence

Note to entry:

Label   Requires
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/requires

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Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.46
rights
information about rights held in and over the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Rights
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/rights
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/RightsStatement
Comment Typically, rights information includes a statement about various property rights associated with the resource, including intellectual property rights.

3.3.47
rightsHolder
a person or organization owning or managing rights over the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Rights Holder
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/rightsHolder
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Agent

3.3.48
source
a related resource from which the described resource is derived

Note to entry:

Label   Source
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/source
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation

3.3.49
spatial
spatial characteristics of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Spatial Coverage
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/spatial
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/coverage
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Location

3.3.50
subject
typically, the subject will be represented using keywords, key phrases, or classification codes. Recommended best practice is to use a controlled vocabulary

Note to entry:

Label   Subject
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/subject
Comment Typically, the subject will be represented using keywords, key phrases, or classification codes. Recommended best practice is to use a controlled vocabulary.

3.3.51
tableOfContents
a list of subunits of the resource

Note to entry:

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Label   Table Of Contents
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/tableOfContents
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/description

3.3.52
temporal
temporal characteristics of the resource

Note to entry

Label   Temporal Coverage
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/temporal
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/coverage
Range   http://purl.org/dc/terms/PeriodOfTime

3.3.53
title
a name given to the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Title
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/title

3.3.54
type
the nature or genre of the resource

Note to entry:

Label   Type
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/type
Comment Recommended best practice is to use a controlled vocabulary such as the DCMI Type Vocabulary [DCMITYPE].
To describe the file format, physical medium, or dimensions of the resource, use the Format element.

3.3.55
valid
date (often a range) of validity of a resource

Note to entry:

Label   Date Valid
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/valid
Refines   http://purl.org/dc/terms/date

3.4   DCMI Classes

3.4.1
agent
a resource that acts or has the power to act

Note to entry:

Label   Agent
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Agent

3.4.2
agentClass
a group of agents

Note to entry:

Label   Agent Class
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/AgentClass
Comment Examples of Agent Class include groups seen as classes, such as students, women, charities, lecturers.

3.4.3
bibliographicResource
a book, article, or other documentary resource

Note to entry:

Label   Bibliographic Resource
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/BibliographicResource

3.4.4
fileFormat
a digital resource format

Note to entry:

Label   File Format
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/FileFormat
Comment Examples include the formats defined by the list of Internet Media Types.
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaType

3.4.5
frequency
a rate at which something recurs

Note to entry:

Label   Frequency
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Frequency

3.4.6
jurisdiction
the extent or range of judicial, law enforcement, or other authority

Note to entry:

Label   Jurisdiction
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Jurisdiction
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LocationPeriodOrJurisdiction

3.4.7
licenseDocument
a legal document giving official permission to do something with a Resource

Note to entry:

Label   License Document
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LicenseDocument
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/RightsStatement

3.4.8
linguisticSystem
a system of signs, symbols, sounds, gestures, or rules used in communication

Note to entry:

Label   Linguistic System

URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LinguisticSystem
Comment Examples include written, spoken, sign, and computer languages.

**3.4.9
location**
a spatial region or named place

Note to entry:

Label   Location
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Location
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LocationPeriodOrJurisdiction

**3.4.10
locationPeriodOrJurisdiction**
a location, period of time, or jurisdiction

Note to entry:

Label   Location, Period, or Jurisdiction
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LocationPeriodOrJurisdiction

**3.4.11
mediaType**
a file format or physical medium

Note to entry:

Label   Media Type
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaType
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaTypeOrExtent

**3.4.12
mediaTypeOrExtent**
a media type or extent

Note to entry:

Label   Media Type or Extent
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaTypeOrExtent

**3.4.13
methodOfAccrual**
a method by which resources are added to a collection

Note to entry:

Label   Method of Accrual
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MethodOfAccrual

**3.4.14
methodOfInstruction**
a process that is used to engender knowledge, attitudes, and skills

Note to entry:

Label   Method of Instruction
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MethodOfInstruction

**3.4.15
periodOfTime**
an interval of time that is named or defined by its start and end dates

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Note to entry:

Label   Period of Time
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/PeriodOfTime
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/LocationPeriodOrJurisdiction

3.4.16
physicalMedium
a physical material or carrier

Note to entry:

Label   Physical Medium
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/PhysicalMedium
Comment Examples include paper, canvas, or DVD.
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaType

3.4.17
physicalResource
a material thing

Note to entry:

Label   Physical Resource
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/PhysicalResource

3.4.18
policy
a plan or course of action by an authority, intended to influence and determine decisions, actions, and other matters

Note to entry:

Label   Policy
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Policy

3.4.19
provenanceStatement
a statement of any changes in ownership and custody of a resource since its creation that are significant for its authenticity, integrity, and interpretation

Note to entry:

Label   Provenance Statement
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/ProvenanceStatement

3.4.20
rightsStatement
a statement about the intellectual property rights (IPR) held in or over a Resource, a legal document giving official permission to do something with a resource, or a statement about access rights

Note to entry:

Label   Rights Statement
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/RightsStatement

3.4.21
sizeOrDuration
a dimension or extent, or a time taken to play or execute

Note to entry:

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Label   Size or Duration
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/SizeOrDuration
CommentExamples include a number of pages, a specification of length, width, and breadth, or a period in hours, minutes, and seconds.
Narrower Than   http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaTypeOrExtent

3.4.22
standard
a basis for comparison; a reference point against which other things can be evaluated

Note to entry:

Label   Standard
URI   http://purl.org/dc/terms/Standard

3.5 Abbreviations

DCMI   Dublin Core Metadata Initiative

RDF   Resource Description Framework

4   Description of metadata terms

In the descriptions of the properties and classes in chapters 3.3 and 3.4, each element has a descriptive label ("label") for human recognition and a unique token ("name") for use in machine processing.

In accordance with the *DCMI Namespace Policy* [DCMI-NAMESPACE] specified in ANSI/NISO Z39.85:2012, the "name" of an element is appended to a DCMI namespace URI to construct a Uniform Resource Identifier as a globally unique identifier for that element. The use of element names and URIs in the context of different implementation technologies is explained in *DCMI Encoding Guidelines* [DCMI-ENCODINGS].

This standard covers the 40 properties of the /terms/ namespace and 22 classes from the Classes namespace. These properties have been described in the same way as the core elements in Part 1.

Annex A
(informative)

Further information

Further information about the Dublin Core Metadata Terms is available at the URL http://dublincore.org/. This website contains information about workshops, reports, working group papers, projects, and new developments concerning the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI).

Annex B
(informative)

Dublin Core metadata as linked data

Generally, linked Dublin Core metadata may contain three kinds of links:

1. URIs of the described resources themselves (such as works and their manifestations)

2. URIs of the schema elements

3. URIs of the values (such as names, subject headings)

Resource URIs may be based on standard identifiers such as ISBN for books or ISTC for textual works. They can be used for providing persistent links to the resources or metadata about them. Identifiers are also an efficient means for linking for instance work and manifestation metadata records of the same resource, or for linking interrelated works or manifestations.

Schema element URIs may be used to link the data element (term) into its description, in order to foster machine (and human) readability of the metadata.

Value URIs may be used for creating links from element values (such as Albert Einstein as an author) to relevant Internet resources. These URIs may be either URLs (to e.g. Wikipedia entry about Einstein) or persistent identifiers such as URNs. Persistent identifiers can be linked to 1-n Web resources via a resolution process.

Dublin Core standard specifies only the links of the 2nd type. Linking to either resources themselves or term values is beyond the scope of this standard.

When schema elements are expressed as linked data, it is important to decide which identifiers and identifier namespaces are used. The default namespace is based on PURLs (Persistent URLs:

@prefix dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/>.

It is possible to use a persistent identifier –based namespace like

@prefix dctermsfi: <http://urn.fi/urn:nbn:fi:dcterms:>.

and resolve the URNs from this namespace to respective PURLs from the default namespace. Just providing 1:1 mapping would not bring any immediate added value, but since a single URN can be resolved to multiple URLs, the latter namespace could accommodate also (for instance) Finnish descriptions of the terms. If for some reason the proprietary PURL system were not supported in the future, the URN-based namespace could be kept functional via resolving the URNs to the URLs of Dublin Core term descriptions.

The community may investigate also other means with which to support linking to term descriptions in multiple languages.

Table B.1 – Core element URLs

Core element name	Identifier	PURL
contributor	dcterms:contributor	http://purl.org/dc/terms/contributor
coverage	dcterms:coverage	http://purl.org/dc/terms/coverage
creator	dcterms:creator	http://purl.org/dc/terms/creator

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date	dcterms:date	http://purl.org/dc/terms/date
description	dcterms:description	http://purl.org/dc/terms/description
format	dcterms:format	http://purl.org/dc/terms/format
identifier	dcterms:identifier	http://purl.org/dc/terms/identifier
language	dcterms:language	http://purl.org/dc/terms/language
publisher	dcterms:publisher	http://purl.org/dc/terms/publisher
relation	dcterms:relation	http://purl.org/dc/terms/relation
rights	dcterms:rights	http://purl.org/dc/terms/rights
source	dcterms:source	http://purl.org/dc/terms/source
subject	dcterms:subject	http://purl.org/dc/terms/subject
title	dcterms:title	http://purl.org/dc/terms/title
type	dcterms:type	http://purl.org/dc/terms/type

Table B.2 – Property URLs

Property name	Identifier	PURL
abstract	dcterms:abstract	http://purl.org/dc/terms/abstract
accessRights	dcterms:accessRights	http://purl.org/dc/terms/accessRights
accrualMethod	dcterms:accrualMethod	http://purl.org/dc/terms/accrualMethod
accrualPeriodicity	dcterms:accrualPeriodicity	http://purl.org/dc/terms/accrualPeriodicity
accrualPolicy	dcterms: accrualPolicy	http://purl.org/dc/terms/accrualPolicy
alternative	dcterms: alternative	http://purl.org/dc/terms/alternative
audience	dcterms: audience	http://purl.org/dc/terms/audience
available	dcterms: available	http://purl.org/dc/terms/available
bibliographicCitation	dcterms: bibliographicCitation	http://purl.org/dc/terms/bibliographicCitation
conformsTo	dcterms: conformsTo	http://purl.org/dc/terms/conformsTo
created	dcterms: created	http://purl.org/dc/terms/created
dateAccepted	dcterms: dateAccepted	http://purl.org/dc/terms/dateAccepted
dateCopyrighted	dcterms: dateCopyrighted	http://purl.org/dc/terms/dateCopyrighted
dateSubmitted	dcterms: dateSubmitted	http://purl.org/dc/terms/dateSubmitted
educationLevel	dcterms: educationLevel	http://purl.org/dc/terms/educationLevel
extent	dcterms: extent	http://purl.org/dc/terms/extent
hasFormat	dcterms: hasFormat	http://purl.org/dc/terms/hasFormat
hasPart	dcterms: hasPart	http://purl.org/dc/terms/hasPart
hasVersion	dcterms: hasVersion	http://purl.org/dc/terms/hasVersion
instructionalMethod	dcterms: instructionalMethod	http://purl.org/dc/terms/instructionalMethod
isFormatOf	dcterms: isFormatOf	http://purl.org/dc/terms/isFormatOf
isPartOf	dcterms: isPartOf	http://purl.org/dc/terms/isPartOf
isReferencedBy	dcterms: isReferencedBy	http://purl.org/dc/terms/isReferencedBy
isReplacedBy	dcterms: isReplacedBy	http://purl.org/dc/terms/isReplacedBy

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isRequiredBy	dcterms: isRequiredBy	http://purl.org/dc/terms/isRequiredBy
issued	dcterms: issued	http://purl.org/dc/terms/issued
isVersionOf	dcterms: isVersionOf	http://purl.org/dc/terms/isVersionOf
license	dcterms: license	http://purl.org/dc/terms/license
mediator	dcterms: mediator	http://purl.org/dc/terms/mediator
medium	dcterms: medium	http://purl.org/dc/terms/medium
modified	dcterms: modified	http://purl.org/dc/terms/modified
provenance	dcterms: provenance	http://purl.org/dc/terms/provenance
references	dcterms: references	http://purl.org/dc/terms/references
replaces	dcterms: replaces	http://purl.org/dc/terms/replaces
requires	dcterms: requires	http://purl.org/dc/terms/requires
rightsHolder	dcterms: rightsHolder	http://purl.org/dc/terms/rightsHolder
spatial	dcterms: spatial	http://purl.org/dc/terms/spatial
tableOfContents	dcterms:tableOfContents	http://purl.org/dc/terms/tableOfContents
temporal	dcterms: temporal	http://purl.org/dc/terms/temporal
valid	dcterms: valid	http://purl.org/dc/terms/valid

Table B.3 - Class URLs

Class name	Identifier	PURL
agent	dcterms:Agent	http://purl.org/dc/terms/Agent
agentClass	dcterms:AgentClass	http://purl.org/dc/terms/AgentClass
bibliographicResource	dcterms:BibliographicResource	http://purl.org/dc/terms/BibliographicResource
fileFormat	dcterms:FileFormat	http://purl.org/dc/terms/FileFormat
frequency	dcterms:Frequency	http://purl.org/dc/terms/Frequency
jurisdiction	dcterms:Jurisdiction	http://purl.org/dc/terms/Jurisdiction
licenseDocument	dcterms:LicenseDocument	http://purl.org/dc/terms/LicenseDocument
linguisticSystem	dcterms:LinguisticSystem	http://purl.org/dc/terms/LinguisticSystem
location	dcterms:Location	http://purl.org/dc/terms/Location
locationPeriodOrJurisdiction	dcterms:LocationPeriodOrJurisdiction	http://purl.org/dc/terms/LocationPeriodOrJurisdiction
mediaType	dcterms:MediaType	http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaType
mediaTypeOrExtent	dcterms:MediaTypeOrExtent	http://purl.org/dc/terms/MediaTypeOrExtent
methodOfAccrual	dcterms:MethodOfAccrual	http://purl.org/dc/terms/MethodOfAccrual
methodOfInstruction	dcterms:MethodOfInstruction	http://purl.org/dc/terms/MethodOfInstruction
periodOfTime	dcterms:PeriodOfTime	http://purl.org/dc/terms/PeriodOfTime
physicalMedium	dcterms:PhysicalMedium	http://purl.org/dc/terms/PhysicalMedium
physicalResource	dcterms:PhysicalResource	http://purl.org/dc/terms/PhysicalResource
policy	dcterms:Policy	http://purl.org/dc/terms/Policy
provenanceStatement	dcterms:ProvenanceStatement	http://purl.org/dc/terms/ProvenanceStatement
rightsStatement	dcterms:RightsStatement	http://purl.org/dc/terms/RightsStatement
sizeOrDuration	dcterms:SizeOrDuration	http://purl.org/dc/terms/SizeOrDuration
standard	dcterms:Standard	http://purl.org/dc/terms/Standard

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