

Preserving Bibliographic Relationships in Mappings from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0

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Abstract. In the environment of the World Wide Web large volumes of library data have been published following different conceptual models. The navigation through these volumes and the data interlinking require the development of mappings between the conceptual models. Library conceptual models provide constructs for the representation of bibliographic families and the relationships between Works. A key requirement for successful mappings between different conceptual models is to preserve such content relationships. This paper studies a set of cases (Work with single Expression, Work with multiple Expressions, translation, adaptation) to examine if and how bibliographic content relationships and families could be preserved in mappings from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0. Even though, relationships between Works of the same bibliographic family may be preserved, the progenitor Work is not always represented in BIBFRAME after mappings.

Keywords: BIBFRAME · Bibliographic families · Content relationships · FRBR · Interoperability · Linked data · Representation patterns

1 Introduction

Linked data technologies enable the integration of bibliographic data into the web and allow the web users to navigate through the bibliographic universe. Library linked data initiatives have already been launched in various countries all over the world. Each initiative was developed within the framework of different projects aiming to address different needs. Therefore, entities of the bibliographic universe are perceived, defined and described in different manners. Definitions of these entities may be found either in bibliographic conceptual models (e.g. FRBR, BIBFRAME, etc.) or in the local schemata used by the projects (e.g. Linked Open BNB/British Library, data.deichman.no/Oslo Public Library).

Navigating through the bibliographic universe is often an intricate process due to the relationships, explicitly or implicitly defined, that interlink bibliographic entities. Content relationships may explicitly or implicitly exist between bibliographic entities generating *bibliographic families*. The term *bibliographic family* has been coined by Professor Smiraglia to describe ‘a set of related bibliographic works that are somehow derived from a common progenitor’ [1]. *Works* or *Expressions* within the same

bibliographic family may share the same intellectual content and be related to the progenitor through different types of relationships. The identification of *bibliographic families* and the clustering of all related entities are extremely important and one of the main functions that library catalogs need to deliver [2–4].

Library data conceptual models include constructs that enable the description of such content relationships. A key requirement for successful mappings between different conceptual models is to preserve content relationships and hence to approach the model’s compatibility degree to the *bibliographic families*, after the mapping and the data transformation [5–8]. Preservation of *bibliographic families*, based on the Smiraglia definition [1, 4], means the preservation of information that two or more *Works* originate from a common progenitor. This study investigates whether and how content relationships could be preserved when transforming data from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0 (hereafter referred as BIBFRAME), as well as their *bibliographic families*. We focus on these two data models because FRBR is a major milestone in the evolution of bibliographic data conceptualization; BIBFRAME is being developed by the Library of Congress and is expected to supersede the MARC21 standard.

Due to the models’ different conceptualizations, mappings should be refined by revealing content relationships and *bibliographic families*. A content relationship and a *bibliographic family* within the semantics of a library data conceptual model are instantiated following *representation patterns*. Therefore, in order to evaluate whether content relationships and *bibliographic families* are preserved after their transformation from a source to a target model, their *representation patterns* in the source and the target models have to be defined. Then, the target *representation pattern* should be compared with the *representation pattern* resulted from the transformation mappings. *Representation patterns* have been studied by other scholars in terms of identifying good practices for the representation of specific bibliographic cases using a model’s semantics [9, 10]. It should be clarified that a *representation pattern* does not express uniquely a bibliographic description case, because there exist alternatives of expressing the same semantics using the terms of a model.

In the next section some definitions are given and the background of our research. In Sect. 3, mappings for selected content relationships and *bibliographic families* using their *representation patterns* are presented. Conversions from FRBR to BIBFRAME are studied following the proposed methodology. Key findings are presented in the discussion and conclusions section. It must be noted that for clarity reasons the names of models’ classes/entities and properties are written in the text in italics.

2 Background

In the environment of the different conceptual models for the library data and the volumes of data that have been published to the World Wide Web, the development of automated mechanisms for their transformations and interlinking requires the development of mappings between the conceptual models. Mappings is one way of tackling interoperability problems and enable either the transformation of instances of a source model to instances of a target model or the integration of data that are expressed by the terms of different models.

Successful mappings preserve the semantics of the source model into the target model. Bibliographic relationships are important for navigation in the bibliographic universe and both FRBR and BIBFRAME models include constructs to describe bibliographic entities and the relationships between them. Bibliographic relationships between works have been studied by Tillett in [11]. Tillett created a taxonomy of bibliographic relationships and identified seven types of them: equivalent, derivative, descriptive, whole-part, accompanying, sequential and shared characteristic ones [11]. The equivalent, derivative and descriptive relationships have been characterized by Tillett [12] as “close content relationships that can be viewed as a continuum starting from an original work”. The derivative bibliographic relationship is “broad ranging” [13]. Therefore, Smiraglia [14] focused on derivation and identified eight types of derivative bibliographic relationships. He also coined the term *bibliographic family* to express *Works* that somehow derive from a common original *Work*, also known as the *progenitor*. Smiraglia also found that older and/or popular *Works* tend to have large and complex families [1, 14]. Such families formulate information networks consisting of nodes, which are instances of bibliographic entities, and arcs, that interconnect the instances and denote their relationships. Therefore, Smiraglia has extended the concept of *bibliographic families* using the new term *instantiation network* [7].

The preservation of content relationships and *bibliographic families* in the mapping and data transformation process between two library data conceptual models is not a straightforward issue due to semantic and structural heterogeneities between the models [15]. Therefore, *representation patterns* for both FRBR and BIBFRAME need to be identified so as the semantics of the content relationships and *bibliographic families* in the terms of each conceptual model is described. We use the term *representation pattern* for the representation of each relationship/*bibliographic family* in each conceptual model. We define the concept of *representation pattern* for a *bibliographic family* F a graph $G_{fm}(C_{fm}, P_{fm})$, where C_{fm} is a subset of the set C of the classes of a conceptual model M and P_{fm} a subset of the set P of the properties of a conceptual model M , such that for every triple $(C_{fmb}, P_{fmi}, C_{fmr})$ in G_{fm} , C_{fmb} is the domain class and C_{fmr} is the range class of the property P_{fmi} .

The methodology followed in this paper for developing mappings between library data conceptual models is presented below:

1. Description of the bibliographic relationships and *family* (e.g. translation)
2. Definition of their *representation pattern(s)* in each model.
3. Mapping between Source *representation pattern* and Target *representation pattern*.

Due to the semantic and structural heterogeneities of FRBR and BIBFRAME, it is important in particular cases to define the conditions that enable proper mapping, e.g. the existence of a specific attribute of a class or a specific value to an attribute.

The mappings are tested using a real example, the Homer’s ‘Odyssey’ *bibliographic family* and some of its members, for the cases where FRBR is the source model and BIBFRAME is the target model.

3 Mapping Content Relationships and *Bibliographic Families*

The paper gradually leads the examination process from simple to more complex *bibliographic families*. The cases studied are *Works* with a single *Expression*, *Works* with multiple *Expressions*, and derivations, namely translations and adaptations. When *representation patterns* are depicted, the nodes symbolize the corresponding classes, while the edges illustrate the properties between the classes of each model. Each node is divided in two smaller boxes: the upper one denotes the class, while the lower one provides its instance. For readability reasons the lower box denoting a class' instance includes a small description and neither the instance's full title and/or related details, nor its complete URI.

3.1 Work with a Single Expression

The simplest and the most frequent bibliographic case [16] is a *Work* with a single *Expression* and a single *Manifestation*, e.g. a monograph (book) in a language. In FRBR the *Work* entity is an abstract entity that delimits a distinct intellectual creation, as initially intended by its author(s). The *Work is realised through an Expression*, a realization of the *Work* in a specific form and set of signs. It must be noted that due to the abstract nature of the *Work* entity, a *Work* is mainly recognized through its various *Expressions*. These *Expressions* are embodied in *Manifestation* entity instances. An exemplar of all identical copies exemplifying a *Manifestation*, is represented by the *Item* entity. The *representation pattern* of this bibliographic description case in the terms of the FRBR model is presented in Fig. 1.

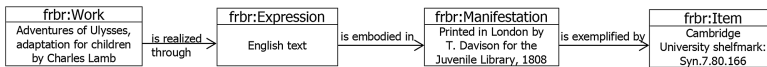


Fig. 1. Representation pattern for a *Work* with a single *Expression* in FRBR.

BIBFRAME defines different conceptualizations. A *Creative Work* instance represents both the idea of an intellectual creation and its form of realization. The material embodiment of the *Creative Work* (*bf:Work*) is expressed with the *bf:Instance* class. A copy of the *bf:Instance* held at a library is represented by a *bf:Item* class instance. BIBFRAME does not define different classes for differentiating between the abstract idea of an intellectual creation and therefore *Creative Work* ‘seems to be semantically closer to the (union of the) FRBR *Work* and *Expression* entities’ [17, 18]. This difference in conceptualizing basic bibliographic entities is likely to prove crucial to prospective transformations of bibliographic data between the two models. The *representation pattern* of this bibliographic description case in terms of BIBFRAME is presented in Fig. 2.

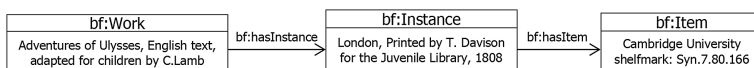


Fig. 2. Representation pattern for a *Work* with a single *Expression* in BIBFRAME.

Mapping FRBR entities to BIBFRAME shall ensure preservation of semantics. FRBR uses two entities, namely *Work* and *Expression*, to represent intellectual creation and the signs used for its realization, while BIBFRAME uses only one class, *Creative Work*. Physical embodiment is represented in both models in the same way. FRBR represents embodiments with the *Manifestation* entity and *Manifestation* exemplars with the *Item* entity. Likewise, BIBFRAME defines the *bf:Instance* class for embodiments and *bf:Item* class for *bf:Instance* exemplifications. This mapping is depicted in Fig. 3, which is actually a generalization of the mapping for the *Work* with a single *Expression* example presented in Figs. 1 and 2. The instances of two FRBR classes, namely the *Work* and *Expression* instances, are semantically subsumed by instances of the class *bf:Work* in BIBFRAME. The *Manifestation* entity is mapped to the *bf:Instance* class and the *Item* entity to the *bf:Item* class. Moreover, in Fig. 3 the mapping rules between the core classes of FRBR and BIBFRAME are presented. These rules also refer to the “inherent relationships” [19] among FRBR Group 1 entities.

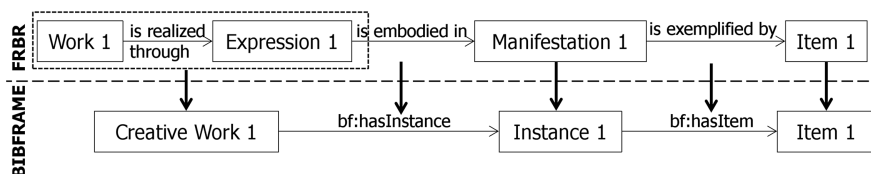


Fig. 3. Mapping from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0 representation pattern for a *Work* with a single *Expression*.

Specialization by attributes. While BIBFRAME uses the *Creative Work* class to represent both the intellectual content and its realization, it specializes its semantics by a set of 10 subclasses. Accordingly, the *bf:Instance* class has 5 subclasses. The mapping of the representation patterns presented in Fig. 3 is generic and involves the high-level classes of the target model. Hence, in order to achieve closest similarity between the source and the target classes and properties, more detailed representation patterns regarding the FRBR triple *Work - is realized through - Expression* and the *Manifestation* entity should be generated. Such patterns are generated by exploiting information lying in the attributes of the FRBR *Expression* and *Manifestation* entities. Moreover, controlled vocabularies from the Library of Congress Linked Data Service (<http://id.loc.gov/>) should be used for the values of the attributes so as the mapping rules to be precisely expressed.

Regarding the mapping of the FRBR triple *Work - is realized through - Expression* to the *bf:Work* class and subclasses, we have identified the *form of expression* attribute. This attribute of the *Expression* entity describes the way a *Work* has been realized, e.g. text, still image, notated music, etc. The LC Content Types Scheme (<http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/contentTypes>) may be used for the values of the attribute *form of expression*. Depending on these values, the FRBR triple *Work - is realized through - Expression* shall be mapped to a different *bf:Work* subclass. The attribute *form of expression*, along with the values of the LC Content Types Scheme, enables more precise mappings for all *bf:Work* subclasses. In some cases these values may even

Table 1. The values of the FRBR attribute *form of expression* trigger the mapping of the FRBR ‘*Work – is realized through – Expression*’ triple to different *bf:Work* subclasses.

If	then map (<i>Work – is realized through – Expression</i>) to <i>bf:Work</i> subclass	and <i>Manifestation</i> to <i>bf:Instance</i> subclass
(<i>Expression</i> - form of expression - contentTypes:cartographic image)	<i>bf:Cartography</i>	
(<i>Expression</i> - form of expression - contentTypes:computer dataset)	<i>bf:Dataset</i>	<i>bf:Electronic</i>
(<i>Expression</i> - form of expression - contentTypes:text)	<i>bf:Text</i>	
(<i>Expression</i> - form of expression - contentTypes:tactile text)	<i>bf:Text</i>	<i>bf:Tactile</i>

determine the mapping to a *bf:Instance* subclass. As an example, some mapping rules triggered by this attribute’s values are exhibited in Table 1.

Concerning the mapping of the FRBR *Manifestation* entity to the *bf:Instance* class and subclasses, the attribute *form of carrier* has been identified. This attribute of the *Manifestation* class describes the physical carrier in which an *Expression* of a *Work* is embodied. The Carriers Scheme (<http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/carriers>), already used in RDA cataloging, may be also used as the vocabulary for the values of the *form of carrier* attribute. These values adjust the mapping of a *Manifestation* instance to a *bf:Instance* subclass. Some examples of mapping rules that are triggered by the *form of carrier* attribute values are presented in Table 2. It must be noted though that the *form of carrier*, along with the values of the Carriers Scheme, enables some mappings but not for all *bf:Instance* subclasses, such as the *bf:Manuscript* subclass.

Table 2. The values of the FRBR attributes *form of carrier* trigger mapping of the FRBR *Manifestation* to different *bf:Instance* subclasses.

If	map <i>Manifestation</i> to <i>bf:Instance</i> subclass
(<i>Manifestation</i> - form of carrier - (carriers:computer tape reel OR carriers:online resource OR carriers:computer disc))	<i>bf:Electronic</i>
(<i>Manifestation</i> - form of carrier - carriers:volume)	<i>bf:Print</i>

3.2 Work with Multiple Expressions

The mapping rules of the previous section preserve information when transforming ‘*Work with single Expression*’ data from FRBR to BIBFRAME. In FRBR the classes *Work* and *Expression* are correlated by the relationship *is realized through*, having an *one to many* cardinality, meaning that for a *Work* several *Expressions* might exist. Indeed, classical works tend to have great bibliographic families. For instance, there are different editions of Homer’s ‘*Odyssey*’ and many translations in a variety of

languages. In Fig. 4 two *Expressions* of *The Essential Homer* by Stanley Lombardo are represented: the English text and the audio narration of the text (sound recording).

Using the rules in Fig. 3, each one of the two triples *Work-is realized through-Expression* depicted in the upper side of Fig. 4 will be mapped to an instance of a *bf:Work* class in BIBFRAME. It is worth noting that the same instance of the *FRBR Work* entity ‘Odyssey’ participates in two different mappings. However, following the aforementioned rules to transform the *FRBR representation pattern* for the *Work with multiple Expressions* to BIBFRAME, the semantics of the origination of the two instances of the *bf:Work* class from the same *Work* (intellectual idea) are lost. BIBFRAME provides the property *bf:hasExpression* to correlate the two *Expressions*, as depicted in the BIBFRAME side of Fig. 4 for the two ‘The Essential Homer’ editions. In this case, in order to indicate in the target representation that the *bf:Work* class originated from the same intellectual idea the rules must be extended and connect all pairs between these two *bf:Work* instances with an instance of the *bf:hasExpression* property. The additional semantics incorporated by the *bf:hasExpression* property in the target pattern, preserve the content relationship. Yet, the information that the *bf:Work* instances have the same progenitor (*Work*) is not preserved.

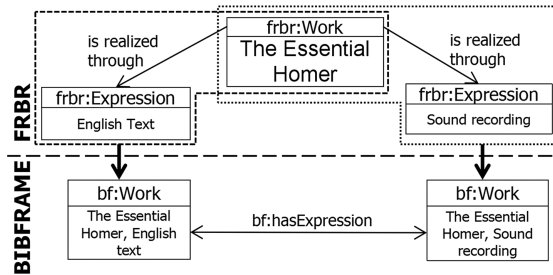


Fig. 4. Mapping from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0 *representation pattern* for a *Work* with more than one *Expressions*.

3.3 Derivation Patterns: Translation and Adaptation

The *bibliographic family* of ‘Odyssey’ has become really great due to derivatives; there are many translations, as well as adaptations, dramatizations, imitations, etc. There are many types of derivation, as described in [15]. In this paper, the case of literal translation is studied. In Fig. 5 an example for the literal translation case is represented using the well-known translation of ‘Odyssey’ by Alexander Pope. Literal translation is represented at the *Expression* level in FRBR (Fig. 5). Two *Expression* instances of the same *Work* are related to each other with the *has translation* property, where one instance of the *Expression* entity (ancient text edited by D.Chalcocondylis) *has a translation* in another language represented by an instance of a second *Expression* entity (English translation by A.Pope). In BIBFRAME, translation is represented as a relationship between two *Creative Work* instances, as depicted in the BIBFRAME side of Fig. 5.

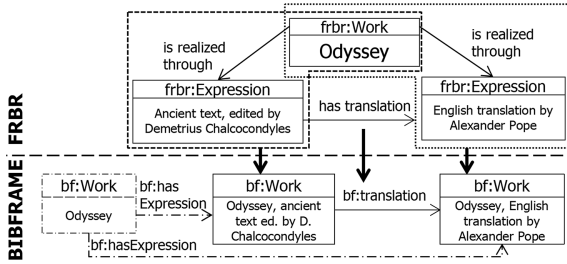


Fig. 5. Mapping from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0 *representation pattern* for the translation case. The *bf:Work* with the long dash-dot outline has been added in the mapping to preserve the progenitor *bf:Work* of the *Odyssey bibliographic family*.

As in the case of the *Work with multiple Expressions*, the same FRBR *Work* entity instance of ‘Odyssey’ participates in two mappings (Fig. 5). Moreover, to transform the FRBR translation *representation pattern* to BIBFRAME, the FRBR *has translation* property has to be utilized in order to correlate the two different *Expressions*. Then, the property will be mapped to the *bf:translation* property. Thus, in the derivation-translation case information regarding the content relationship between the two *Expressions* is preserved in the two *bf:Works*. However, following this mapping the information that the *bf:Work* instances have the same progenitor (*Work*) is not preserved. In order to preserve information about the common progenitor, mappings should be changed. More specifically, an additional *bf:Work* instance will be created (*bf:Work* with the long dash-dot outline in Fig. 5). Then this additional *bf:Work* instance will be linked with the others *bf:Work* instances using the *bf:hasExpression* property (also depicted with a long dash-dot line).

In case the *Expression* of derivation is not known, there will be *Expressions* in different languages of a *Work*. These *Expressions* will not be related with a *has translation* property, but the translation could be implied due to the different values between the *language of expression* attributes of each *Expression* instance. Since there is no explicit representation of the translation relationship, mapping of this representation would be similar to Fig. 4. Ideally, the mapping would be similar to the adaptation case depicted in Fig. 7 where the representation is made with an *Expression-agnostic Creative Work* instance related to another *bf:Work* instance through a *bf:-translation* property. In order to achieve such mapping, new rules must be implemented taking into account the existence of differing values for *language of expression* attributes. Differences between the entity *Person/Family/Corporate Body* that created the *Work* instance and the *Person/Family/Corporate Body* that realized an *Expression* of the same *Work* instance must also be considered.

A derivation that results in a new *Work* is represented in FRBR at the *Work* level with various properties, namely *has adaptation*, *has a transformation*, *has an imitation*, *has a paraphrase*, *has a dramatization*. By contrast, BIBFRAME utilizes only the *bf:hasDerivative* property at the *bf:Work* level. Hence, all these FRBR properties are mapped to a single property in BIBFRAME.

In FRBR adaptation may be represented by the *has adaptation* property at either the *Work* or *Expression* level. When information regarding which *Expression* has been used for creating an adaptation is not known, then the representation of adaptation is preserved at the *Work* level and hence it is *Expression*-agnostic. The *has adaptation* property is used at the *Expression* level, when there is information about the particular *Expression* used to create both the *Work* and the *Expression* of the new adaptation.

In Fig. 6 an adaptation of ‘Odyssey’ for children is represented. Charles Lamb used the English translation of George Chapman and then “turned... [Odyssey] into prose, simplified the order of the narrative, abbreviated or combined episodes, and deleted descriptions and whole books in order to ... eliminate anything inappropriate for young readers” [20]. As depicted in Fig. 6, the progenitor *Work* ‘Odyssey’ along with one of its *Expression* instances (English translation by G.Chapman) is mapped to one *bf:Work* instance, while its derivative *Work* ‘Adventures of Ulysses’ with its *Expression* instance is mapped to a second *bf:Work* instance. The *has adaptation* relationship at the *Expression* level is mapped to the *bf:hasDerivative* property instance that relates the two *bf:Work* instances. In this case both content relationships and the bibliographic family are preserved.

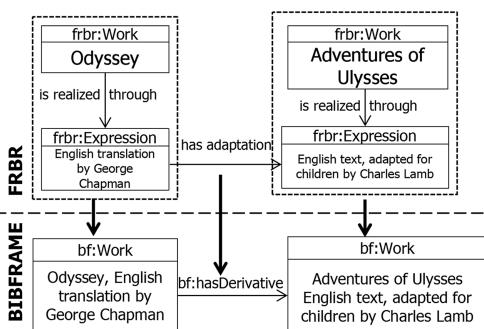


Fig. 6. Mapping from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0 representation pattern for the adaptation case.

In Fig. 7 an *Expression*-agnostic adaptation at the *Work* level is depicted. The exact *Expression* of ‘Odyssey’ used by Anne Terry White to create her adaptation for children is not known. Therefore, the progenitor *Work* ‘Odyssey’ is mapped to a *bf:Work* instance that lacks *Expression*-related information (e.g. language), while the derivative *Work* “Odysseus comes home from the sea” along with its *Expression* is mapped to a second *bf:Work* instance. The *bf:Work* on the left side of the *bf:hasDerivative* property may serve as an abstract *bf:Work* and it cannot have any *bf:Instances* because its *Expression*-related information is not known. In this case both content relationships and the bibliographic family are preserved.

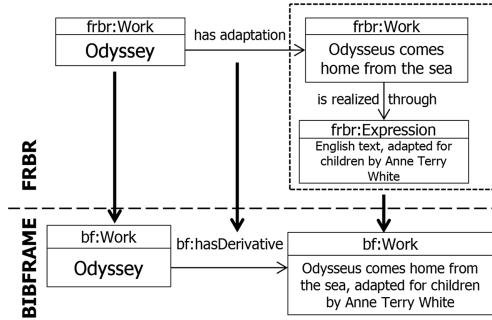


Fig. 7. Mapping from FRBR to BIBFRAME 2.0 *representation pattern* for the derivation-adaptation case. The exact Expression used to produce the adaptation Expression is not known.

4 Discussion and Conclusions

The navigation in an ever-changing overloaded bibliographic universe that preserves the contextual semantics of the bibliographic descriptions largely depends on the control of content relationships and *bibliographic families*. Library conceptual models include constructs to describe and control *bibliographic families*. This paper examines if and how information about content relationships and *bibliographic families* may be preserved under mappings. It focuses on FRBR and BIBFRAME models, and on mappings where FRBR is the source model and BIBFRAME is the target one. The cases of a *Work* with a single *Expression*, as well as *bibliographic family* cases (e.g. *Work* with multiple *Expressions*, *Works* with derivative relationships) are studied and some interesting findings were derived.

The generic mapping of the simplest case of a *Work* with a single *Expression* may be considered straightforward (Fig. 3). Additionally, more precise mapping rules may be applied combining FRBR attributes and values from controlled vocabularies (Tables 1 and 2). The utilization of controlled vocabularies for mapping purposes and automated exchange of library data demands a shift in working culture and an adoption of new cataloging rules and policies. From now on librarians shall perform cataloging having in mind collaboration and reuse of data, not just indexing their library’s collection for local purposes. This may affect cataloging systems, as well as workflows.

An interesting finding of this study is that the relationships between members of a *bibliographic family* may be preserved in BIBFRAME only when FRBR *Expressions* are related by a particular property (*has translation*, *has adaptation*, etc.). In the case of mapping an FRBR *Work* with multiple *Expressions* to BIBFRAME there is no relationship between the FRBR *Expression* instances. Therefore, the information regarding the common progenitor is lost in BIBFRAME. The mapping has been extended with the insertion of two *bf:hasExpression* property instances (Fig. 4), to preserve the content relationship. Still the common progenitor is not explicitly represented. Information about the progenitor *Work* may be preserved in BIBFRAME following the practice shown in Figs. 5 and 7, where a new *bf:Work* is generated to hold the

information of the *Work* entity as progenitor. In both cases an *Expression*-agnostic *bf:Work* instance has been used as the progenitor. Then, this progenitor *bf:Work* is related to the other members of the family with *bf:hasExpression* property instances (Fig. 5) or with another property (*bf:hasDerivative* in Fig. 7), if such exists based on the mappings.

This *Expression*-agnostic *bf:Work* is similar to the *superwork* expressed by Svenonius in [21] and may be used to group all *bf:Works* that are somehow derived by it. *Expression*-agnostic *bf:Works* are not expected to have any *bf:Instances*. At this point, it must be noted that BIBFRAME does not impose cardinalities regarding the triple *bf:Work-bf:hasInstance-bf:Instance*. This may provide flexibility in some implementations of BIBFRAME, but at the same time may cause ambiguity. Totally different mapping rules can be defined when different cardinality constraints exist, if for example a *bf:Work* must or may have one or more *bf:Instances*.

This study uses a limited set of cases and data. More bibliographic relationships need to be studied and findings shall be checked using larger and more complicated datasets. The mappings produced in this study need to be converted through a mapping language in conversion rules. A follow-up study shall compare the transformation based on these rules in contrast to the MARCXML to BIBFRAME Transformation software [22]. Moreover, existing software tools should be selected and adapted to evaluate the degree of preservation of bibliographic relationships after mappings. Interesting findings are also anticipated for testing the opposite mappings, where BIBFRAME is the source model and FRBR is the target one. Updates of the two models are likely to cause changes in mappings. The consolidated FRBR-LRM is expected to be announced in 2017. BIBFRAME model is regularly updated and its second version has already included FRBR conceptualizations to enable mappings, e.g. the *bf:Item* class. There is the possibility that prospective BIBFRAME versions shall include more changes for interoperability reasons.

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