

How to dri

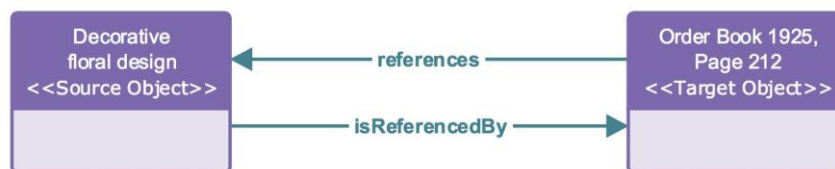
How to DRI: Linking Digital Objects using MODS

Appropriate collection organisation and complete, rich metadata records for collections and digital objects are key for searching, browsing and discovering datasets. Additionally, the ability to link digital objects to one another can enhance data visualisation and also provide the end user with richer contextual information and enhanced navigation through collections. This is particularly important when exploring a large number of digital collections.

This type of “linking” information can be captured in the metadata records, and as the DRI’s supported metadata standards include different mechanisms to incorporate such information, a crosswalk from each of these into “DRI relationship terms” has been implemented so as to allow for uniform, generic visualisation through the Repository’s user interface.

Specifying linking information in MODS Metadata

Information about relationships, for linking digital objects to one another can be specified in the MODS metadata records via the `<mods:relatedItem>` term. This is a metadata term that relates a “source” digital object to a “target” digital object within a digital collection. For example, a digital object describing an online publication can “reference” a digital object describing a stained glass window design, where the first object is considered the “source” digital object, and the second the “target” object of the relationship. Such information will be displayed in the Repository’s user interface under “Related Materials” in a digital object’s record (see this [digital object](#)¹ in DRI for an example). The diagram below shows an example of a relationship between two digital objects (source and target, which are designated as such arbitrarily), along with the MODS metadata snippets, encoded in XML, that are required to describe the relationship.



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<mods:mods xmlns:mods="http://www.loc.gov/mods/v3">
  <mods:identifier type="local">0114720</mods:identifier>
  <mods:titleInfo>
    <mods:title>Decorative floral design</mods:title>
  </mods:titleInfo>
  <mods:relatedItem type="isReferencedBy">
    <mods:identifier type="local">0114718</mods:identifier>
    <mods:titleInfo type="uniform">
      <mods:title>Order Book 1925, Page 212</mods:title>
    </mods:titleInfo>
  </mods:relatedItem>
</mods:mods>
```

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    </mods:titleInfo>
  </mods:relatedItem>
</mods:mods>
```

¹ <http://dx.doi.org/10.7486/DRI.95944x283>

Metadata Terms of Source and Target Objects


- Both source and target objects have a local identifier, that uniquely identifies a record, so other digital objects can link to it. This identifier is specified in the `<mods:identifier>` term, and includes the attribute `“type”` with the value `“local”`.
- The source object has a `<mods:relatedItem>` term with the attribute `“type”` specifying the type of relationship (in MODS this value is coming from a controlled list), and including a `<mods:identifier>` term with the unique, local identifier of the target, related digital object.

Note: The local, unique identifiers mentioned here should not be confused with PIDs (persistent identifiers) for digital objects in DRI, which are automatically assigned when adding objects to the Repository.

MODS Types of Relationships

The following table summarises all the different types of relationships that can be described in the MODS metadata, through the use of the `<mods:relatedItem>` term.

DRI Relationship	MODS <code><relatedItem></code>	Description
Is Review Of	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“reviewOf” /></code>	Information concerning a resource reviewed in the content of the resource.
Is Referenced By	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“isReferencedBy” /></code>	Citations or references to published bibliographic descriptions, reviews, abstracts, or indexes of the content of the resource.
References	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“references” /></code>	Information concerning a resource cited or referred to in the resource.
Is Part Of	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“host” /></code>	Information concerning a host or parent resource for the resource described; this may be a parent collection.
Has Parts	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“constituent” /></code>	Information concerning a constituent unit of the resource.
Is Version Of / Has Version	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“otherVersion” /></code>	Information concerning another version (i.e. change in intellectual content) of the resource.
Is Format Of / Has Format	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“otherFormat” /></code>	Information concerning another format (i.e. change in physical format) of the resource.
Preceding	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“preceding” /></code>	Information concerning a predecessor to the resource.
Succeeding	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“succeeding” /></code>	Information concerning a successor to the resource.
Has Original	<code><mods:relatedItem type=“original” /></code>	Information concerning an original form of the resource.



This document is part of DRI's operational documentation, as such it may change from time to time as features develop. The most recent version will always be published on our repository website and these documents should be consulted in conjunction with our operational documentation as necessary.

Visit dri.ie/ for more information about the DRI project and our repository.

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