Expressions and Aggregates in BIBFRAME

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BIBFRAME Workshop in Europe 2024

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Linked Library Data Project in the National Library of Finland

- Preparing the adoption of linked data for bibliographic cataloguing for the National Library and in part for the whole Finnish library sector
  - BIBFRAME data model
  - Deep integration with RDA
- 2022-2024
- Main outputs
  - Bibliographic data model
    - Including conversions to and from
  - Agent data model
  - Additions to our Metadata Thesaurus

Adapting BIBFRAME

- Adapting BIBFRAME to our data and cataloguing conventions
  - Adopting official RDA in 2025
  - Extensive use of aggregates
    - Especially with music
  - Extensive use of our Finnish Metadata Thesaurus
  - Some miscellaneous additions
    - E.g. age restrictions
- Latest version of the BFFI data model can be found here
  - https://schema.finto.fi/bffi/

Metadata Thesaurus (aka Metadata Registry)

- A controlled vocabulary of values for use in cataloguing
  - Includes many of the RDA value vocabularies (including some national additions)
- Published in the Finto Thesaurus and Ontology Service
  - https://finto.fi/mts/en/
  - In Finnish and Swedish, partly in English
- URIs as opposed to strings
- Will be developed further to help with BIBFRAME-based cataloguing

Metatietosanasto

Content language English Search

A-Z Hierarchy Groups New

- **Corporate body**
- **Expression**
  - **Awards**
  - **Colour content**
  - **Content type**
    - cartographic dataset
    - cartographic image
    - cartographic moving image
    - cartographic tactile image
    - cartographic tactile three-dimensional form
    - cartographic three-dimensional form
    - computer dataset
    - computer program
    - notated movement
    - nuottikirjoitus
    - **performed movement**
    - performed music
    - sounds
    - spoken word
    - still image
    - tactile image
    - tactile notated movement
    - tactile notated music
    - tactile text

PREFERRED TERM **performed movement**

BELONGS TO GROUP Content type
Expression
RDA-käsitteet (fi)

IN OTHER LANGUAGES esitetty liike Finnish

URI http://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi:au:mts:m5102

DOWNLOAD THIS CONCEPT: RDF/XML TURTLE JSON-LD

Created 3/14/24, last modified 3/14/24

EXACTLY MATCHING CONCEPTS RDA Vocabularies rdaregistry.info

What do we do when BIBFRAME and RDA differ?

- We mostly adhere to RDA
  - Going with WEMI
  - Splitting some BIBFRAME properties in accordance with RDA
    - e.g. BIBFRAME issuance to ”mode of issuance” and ”extension plan”
  - Adding some new properties
    - e.g. variant access point
    - Also using existing additions from BFLC
- Some exceptions
  - No nomens
  - Use of AdminMetadata

BIBFRAME and RDA

- Arguably the biggest differences
  - Works and expressions instead of just works
  - Aggregates

From Work to Work and Expression

- BIBFRAME works are essentially expressions
- To add in RDA works we just isolate some of the bf:Work properties and subclasses for bffi:Work and leave some for the bffi:Expression

bf:Work -> bffi:Work and bffi:Expression

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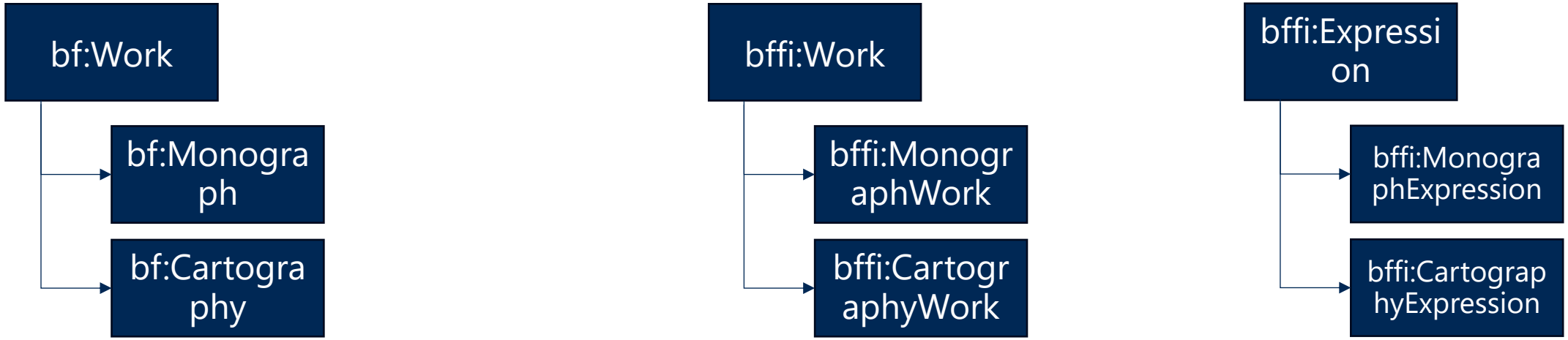
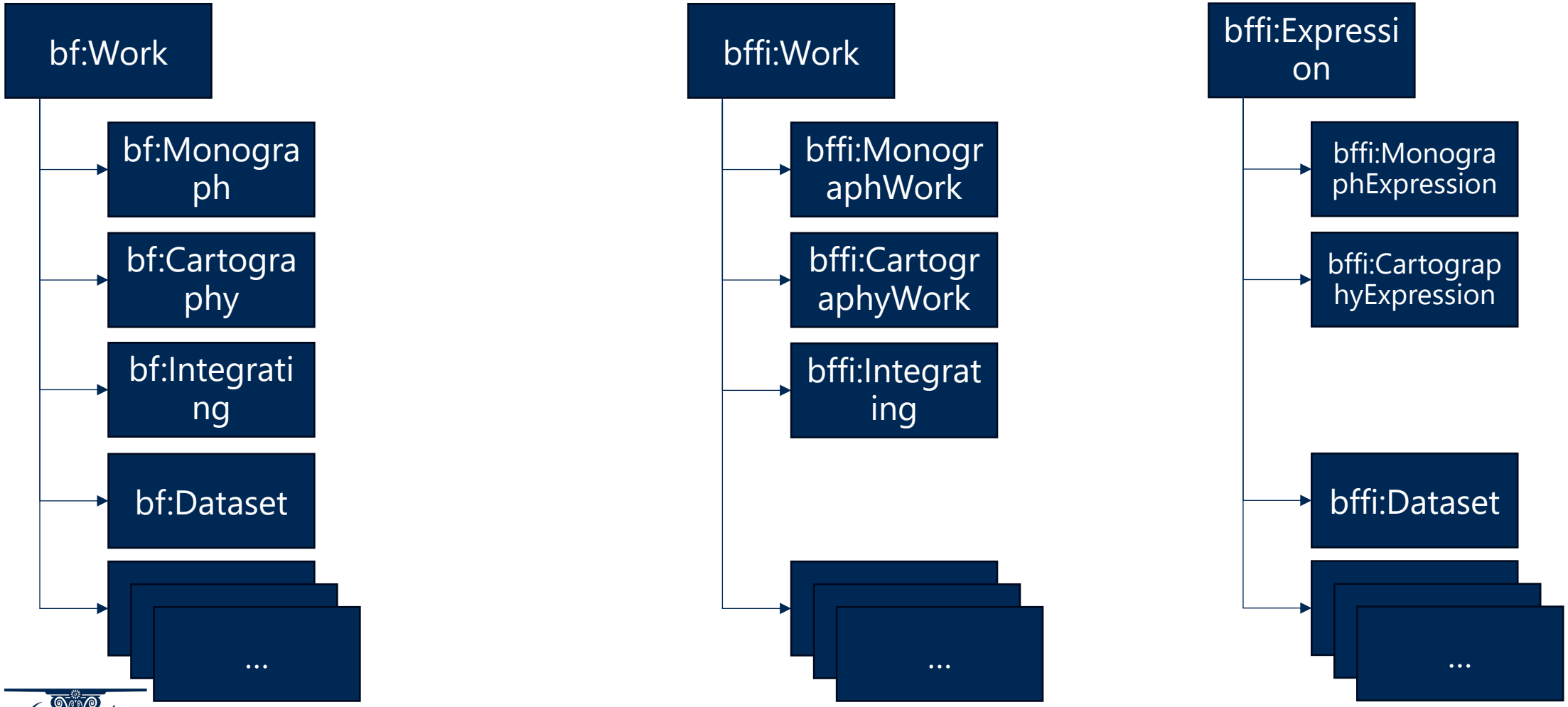
bf:Work -> bffi:Work and bffi:Expression



bf:Work -> bffi:Work and bffi:Expression



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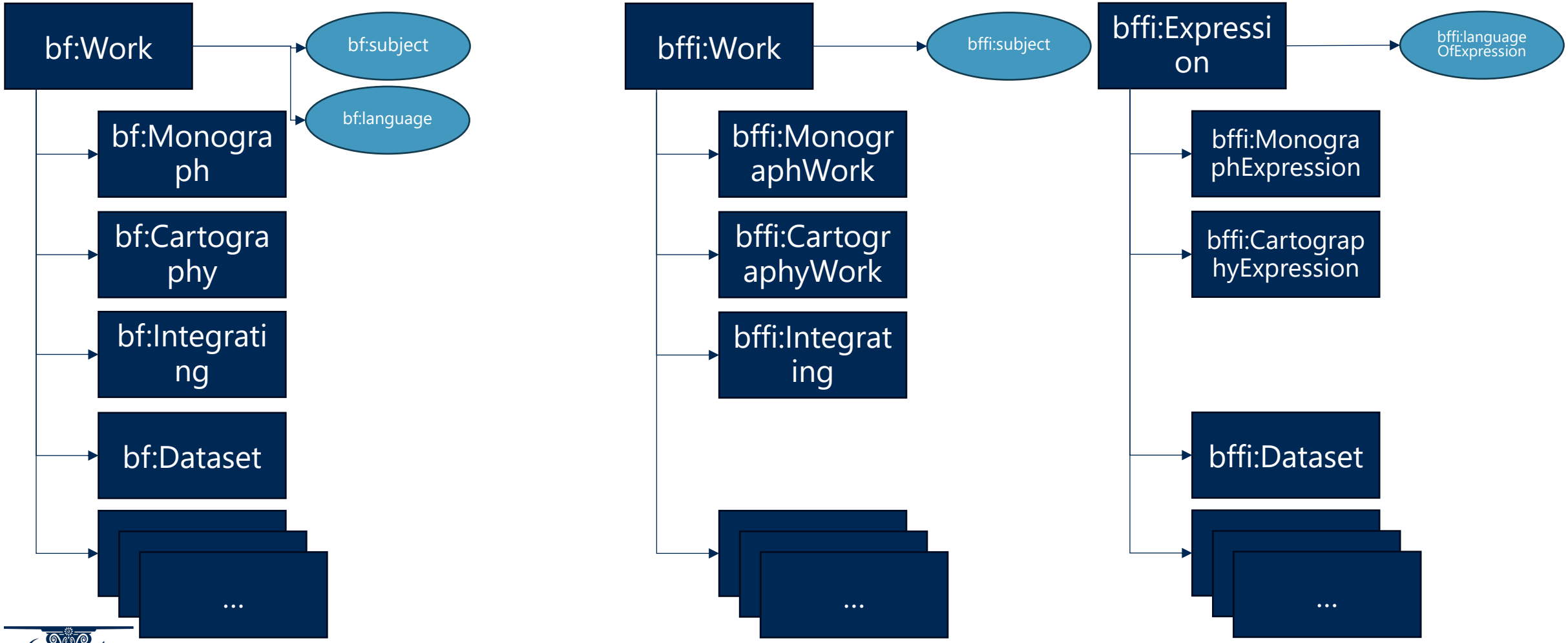

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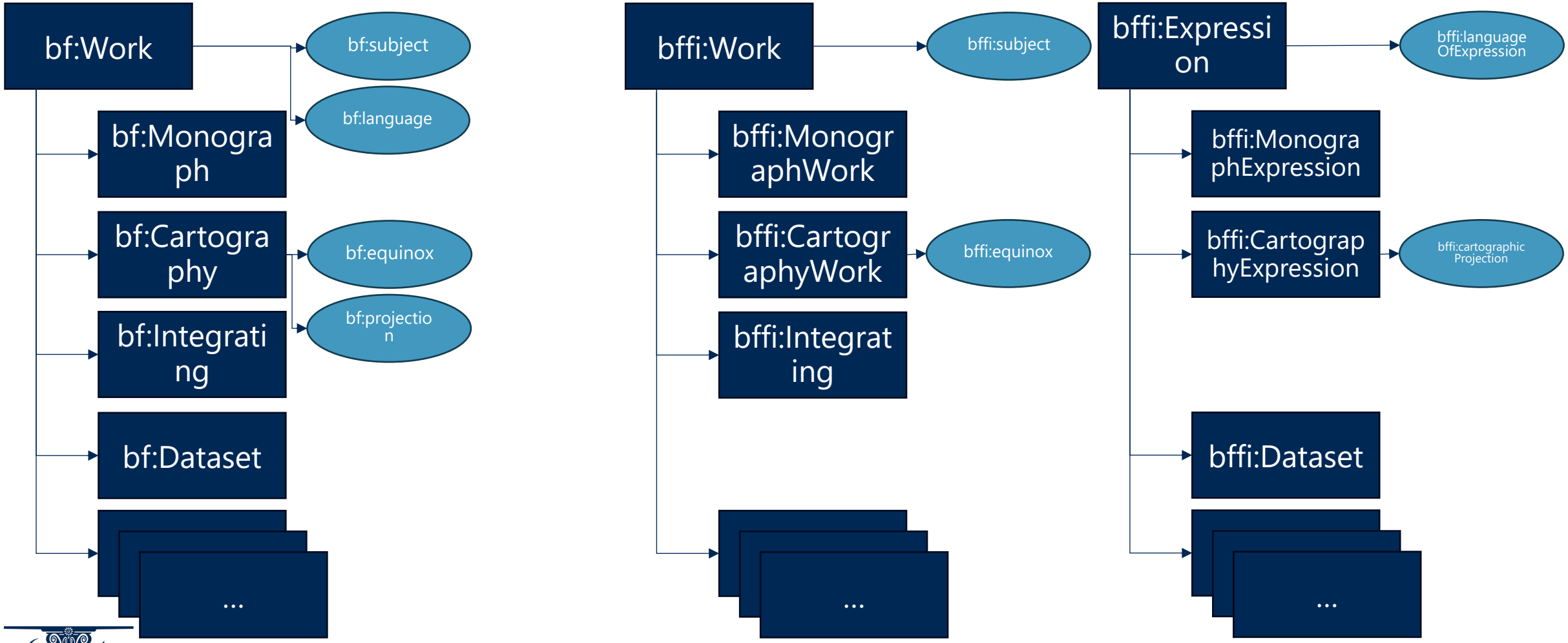

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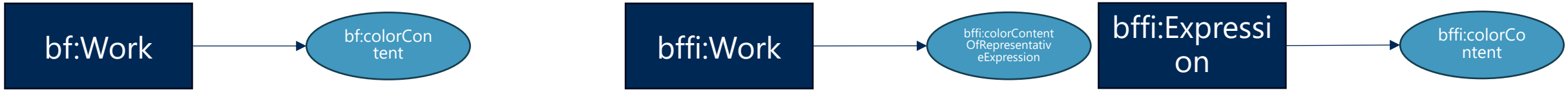

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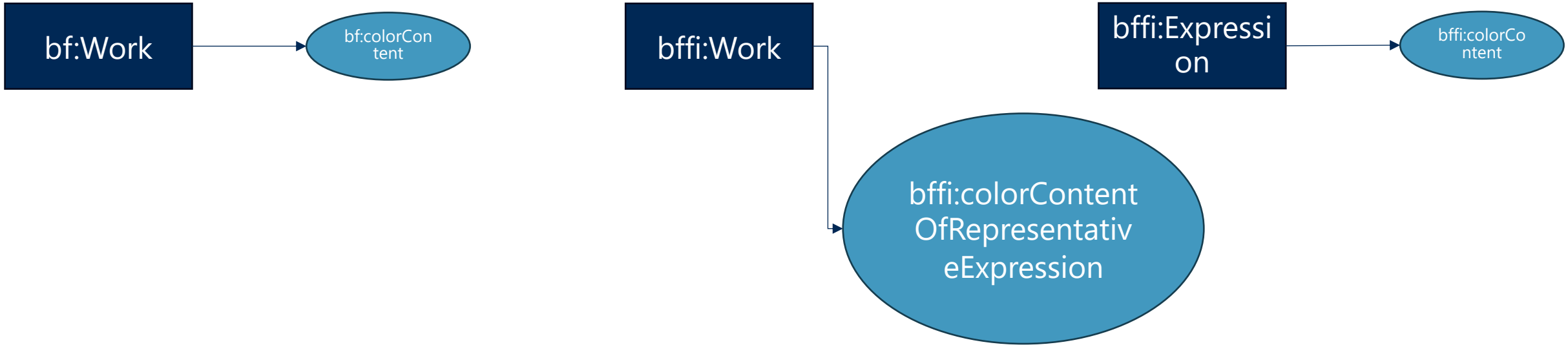

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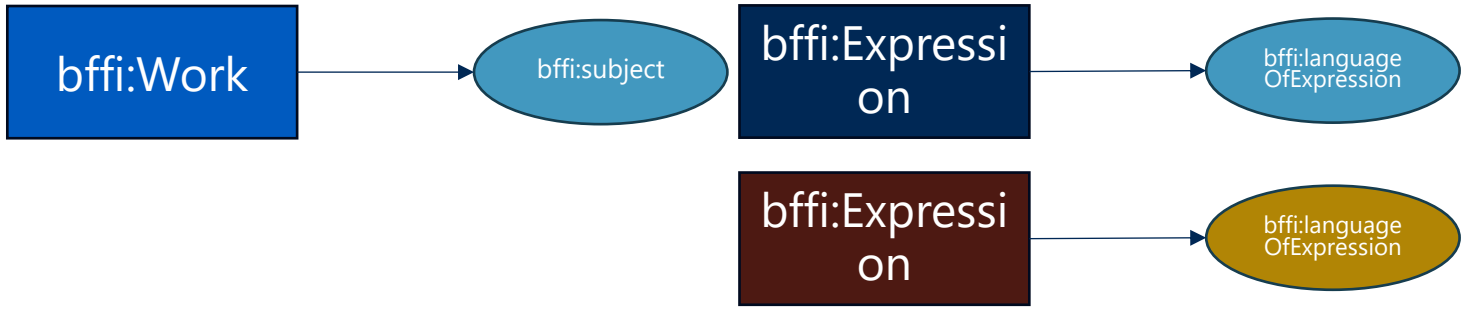
Do we break interoperability?



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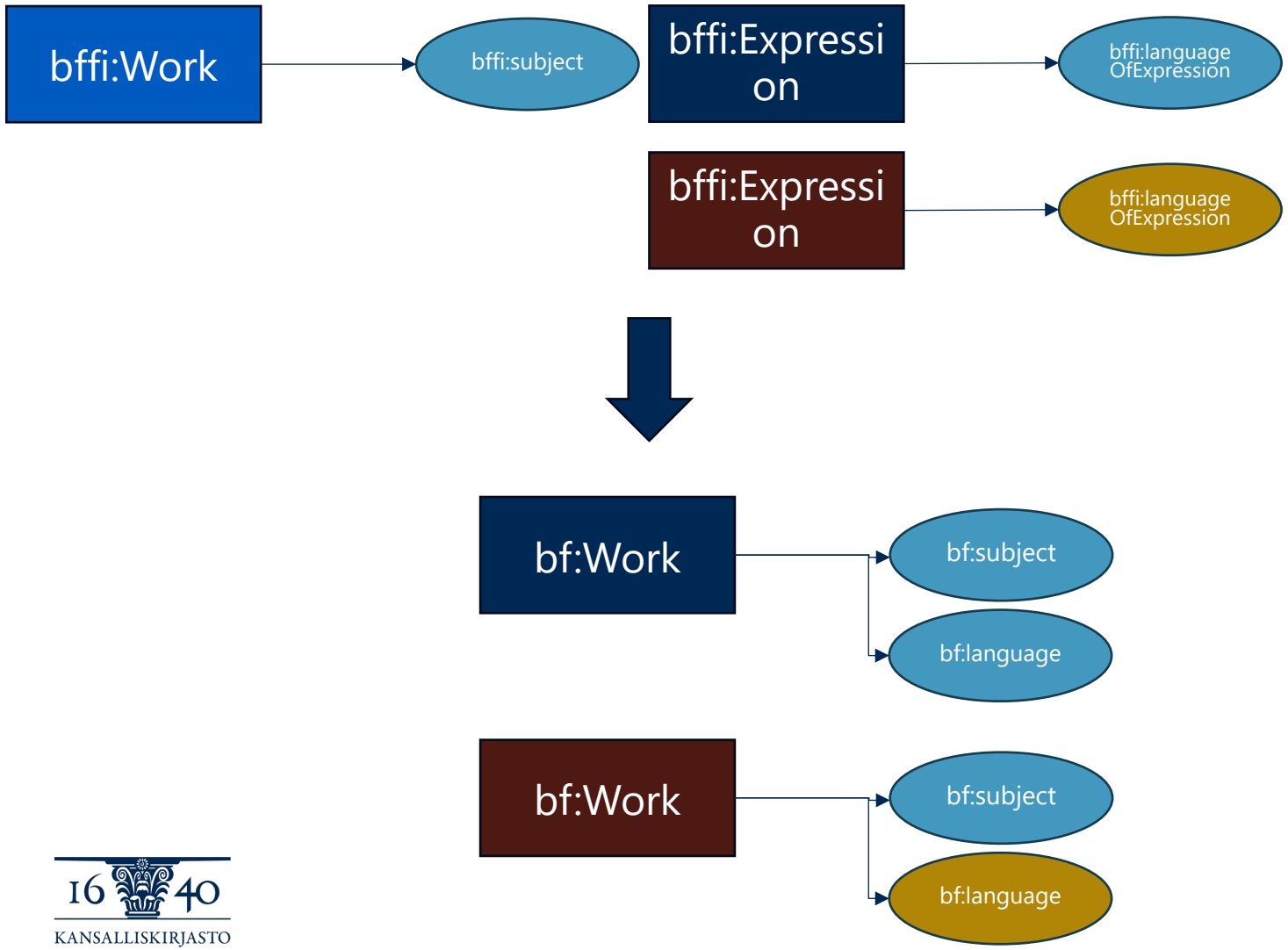

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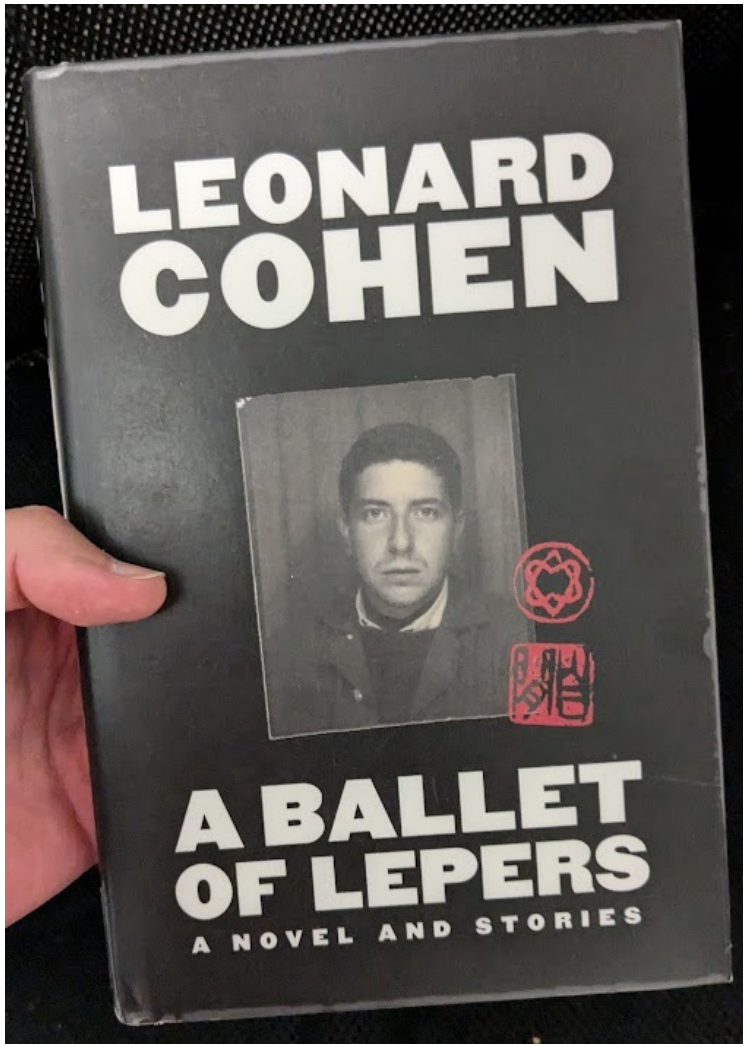
Aggregates

- An aggregate in RDA is a manifestation that embodies multiple expressions, for example
  - A monograph with supporting content such as illustrations or an index
  - A monograph with multiple short stories by different authors
  - A series of publications
- Aggregating work is the plan to arrange several expressions of one or more works and embody them in a single manifestation
- Aggregating expression is the realization of the aggregating work
- Finally, you also have the individual works and expressions that are aggregated

Aggregates in BIBFRAME

- Quite a straightforward implementation!
  - Two new classes required for the aggregating work and aggregating expression
  - New aggregating relations between the aggregating expression and the individual expressions
  - A new role for a contributor (aggregator agent)



"A Ballet of Lepers, a novel and stories"
bffi:Manifestation

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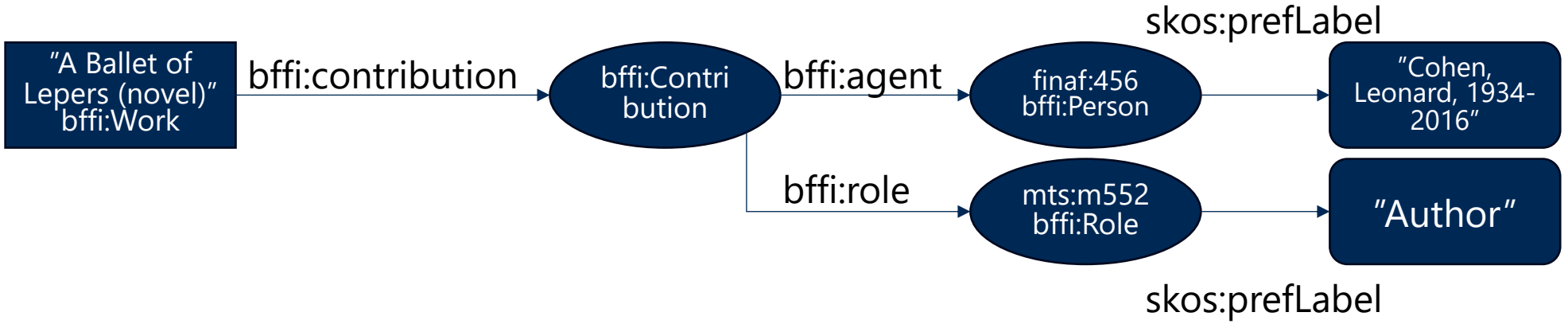
skos:prefLabel
"A Ballet of Lepers (novel)" bffi:Work
bffi:contribution
bffi:Contribution
bffi:agent
finaf:456 bffi:Person
"Cohen, Leonard, 1934-2016"
bffi:role
mts:m552 bffi:Role
"Author"
skos:prefLabel

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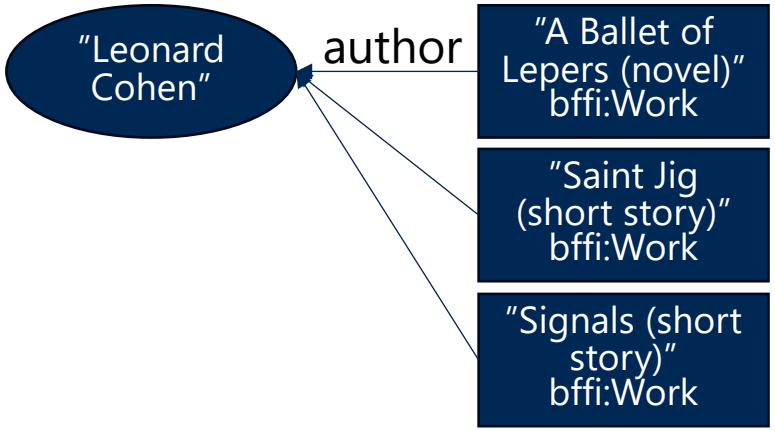

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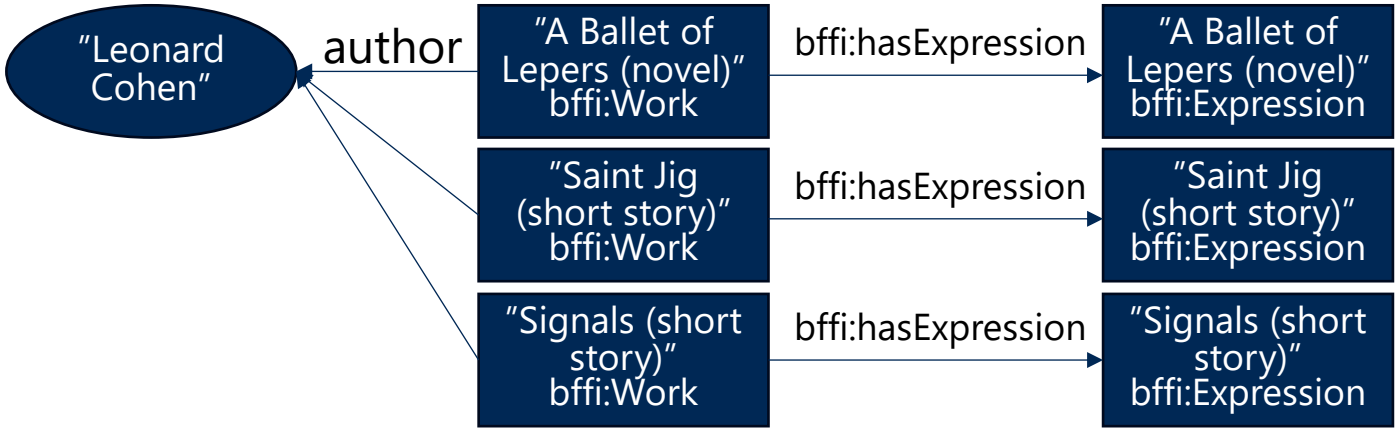

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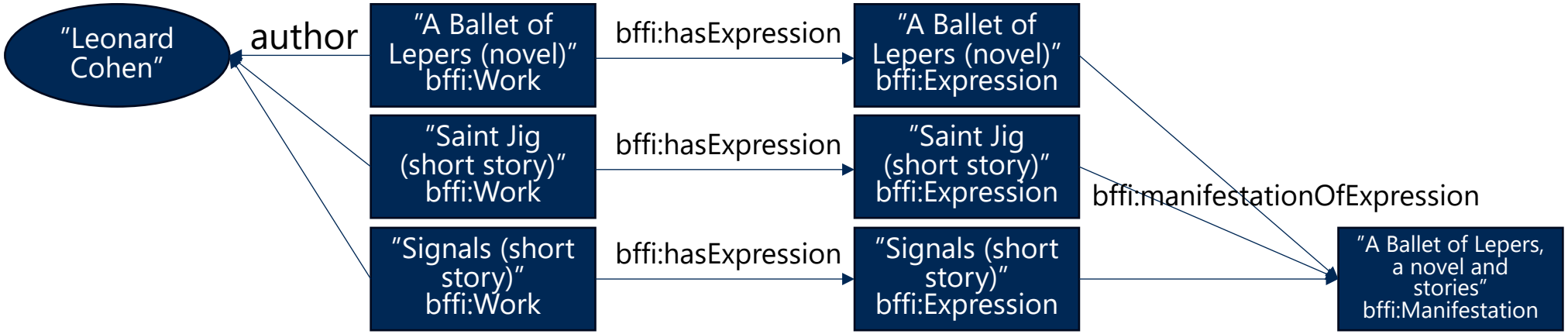

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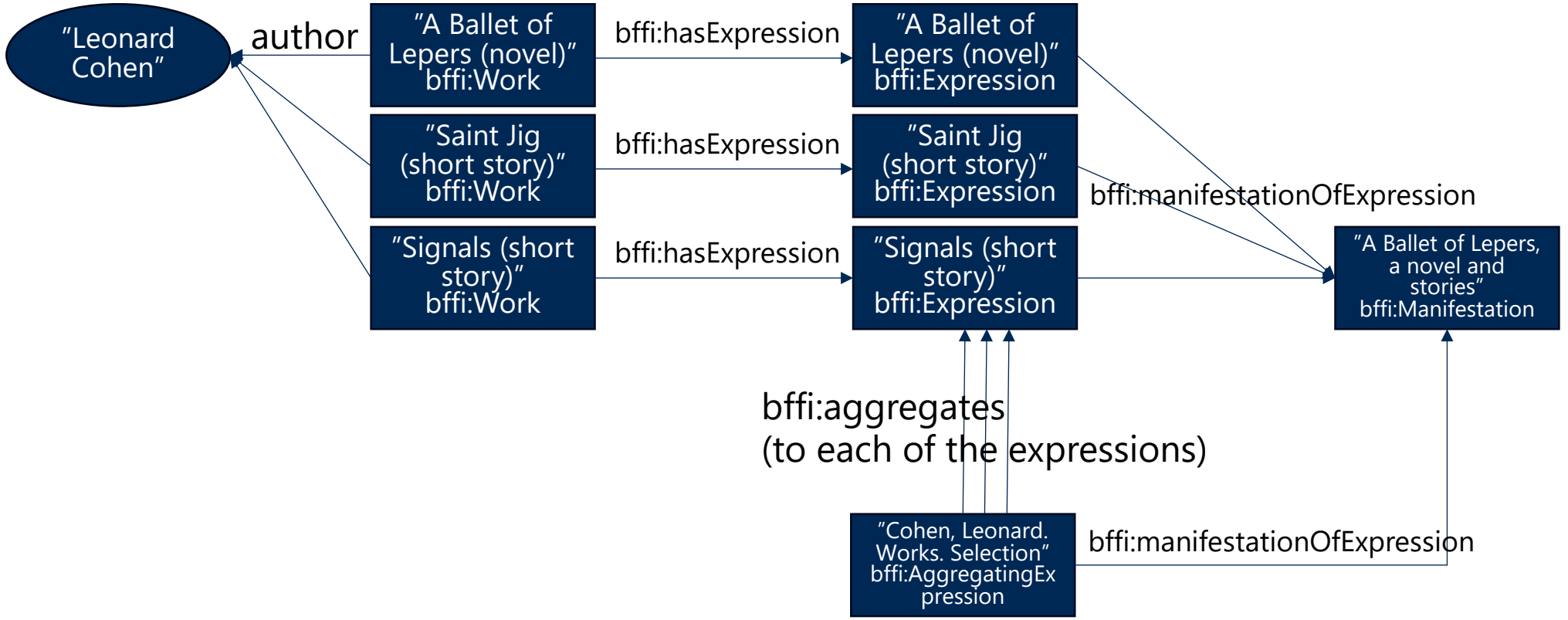

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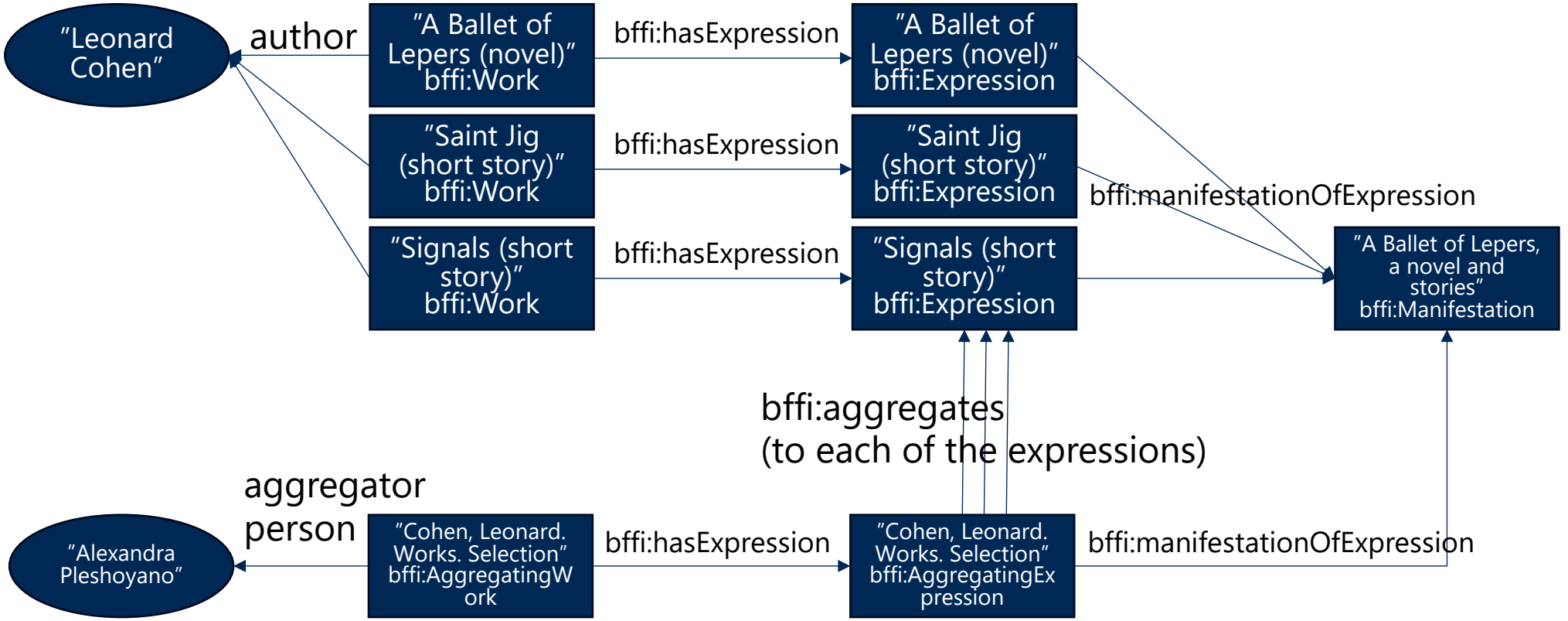

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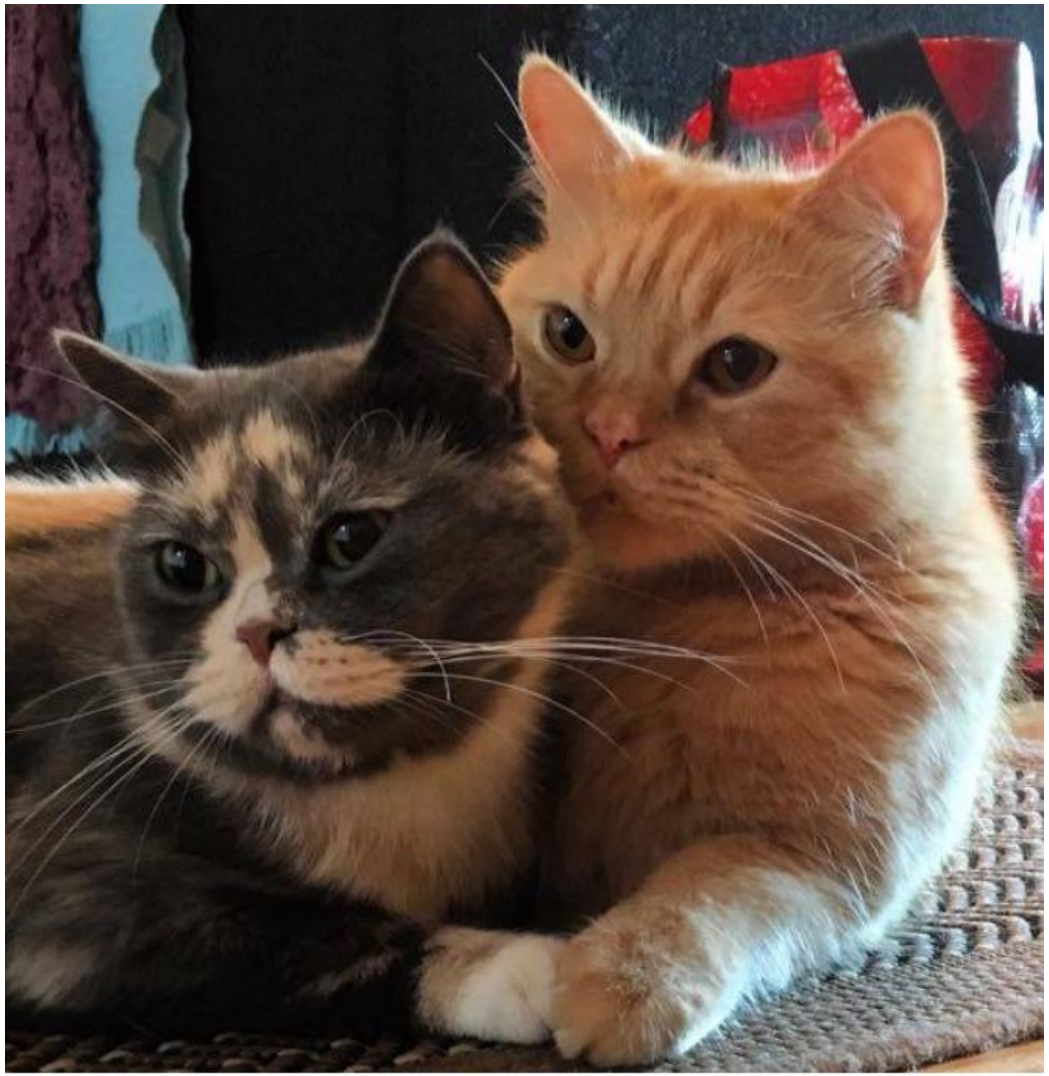
Could this be done without the separation of works and expressions?

- Yes.

To summarize

- Implementing RDA structures need not be too complex in BIBFRAME
- Compatibility back to ”regular” BIBFRAME is easy to do
- Conversions from ”regular” BIBFRAME to a more fine-grained one are more demanding



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