

Episode Ordering

xEco: April 25, 2018

Problem Statement

2

- Episodes are grouped and ordered differently in different territories and purchase options
 - Rebroadcasts can have episodes reordered, added and/or missing
 - Episodes can be sold as partial seasons (volumes), with episode numbering being volume-relative
 - e.g., Episodes 1-26, Volume 1 (episodes 1-13), Volume 2 (episodes 14-26, number volume 2, episodes 1-13).
 - Episodes can be sold individually or in collections (e.g., Christmas episodes)
- Need to delivery episodes once, but map them properly within each territory and offer
- Generally, this applies only to episodes, but could apply to any sequenced content (series, movie series, etc.)

Identification vs. Purchase vs. Library

3

- Identification – Unambiguous identification for episodes
 - Each episode should have an abstraction EIDR ID and one or more edit EIDR IDs
 - Alternatively, AltIDs can be used (for now)
- Episodes can be
 - Prior to airing (season pass) – episodes might be unknown
 - As episodes, seasons or volumes (can be paid or free/teaser)
 - In bundles (e.g., Christmas Specials)
 - As bonus

Library View vs. Purchase View

4

- Library page generally shows a series or seasons that can be opened to seasons or episodes respectively
 - Bonus can be tied to series, season or episodes
- Should all these look the same?
 - Episodes acquired...
 - One at a time
 - In season pass
 - As an entire season
 - As volumes
- Is there still a view with how it's purchased?

Episode identification

5

- There are multiple ways to identify an episode
 - Content of episode (EIDR, either abstraction or edit)
 - Production Number
 - Airing sequence in territory
 - Note that EIDR uses the original airing sequence
 - Distribution number
 - e.g., 1, 2, 2a, 3, 4
- Excel Avails provides
 - Distribution Number
 - Episode Number (non-specific)
- XML (Avails, Manifest, Metadata)
 - Number – sequence
 - Distribution Number
 - Production Number
 - addition sequence values (user-defined)

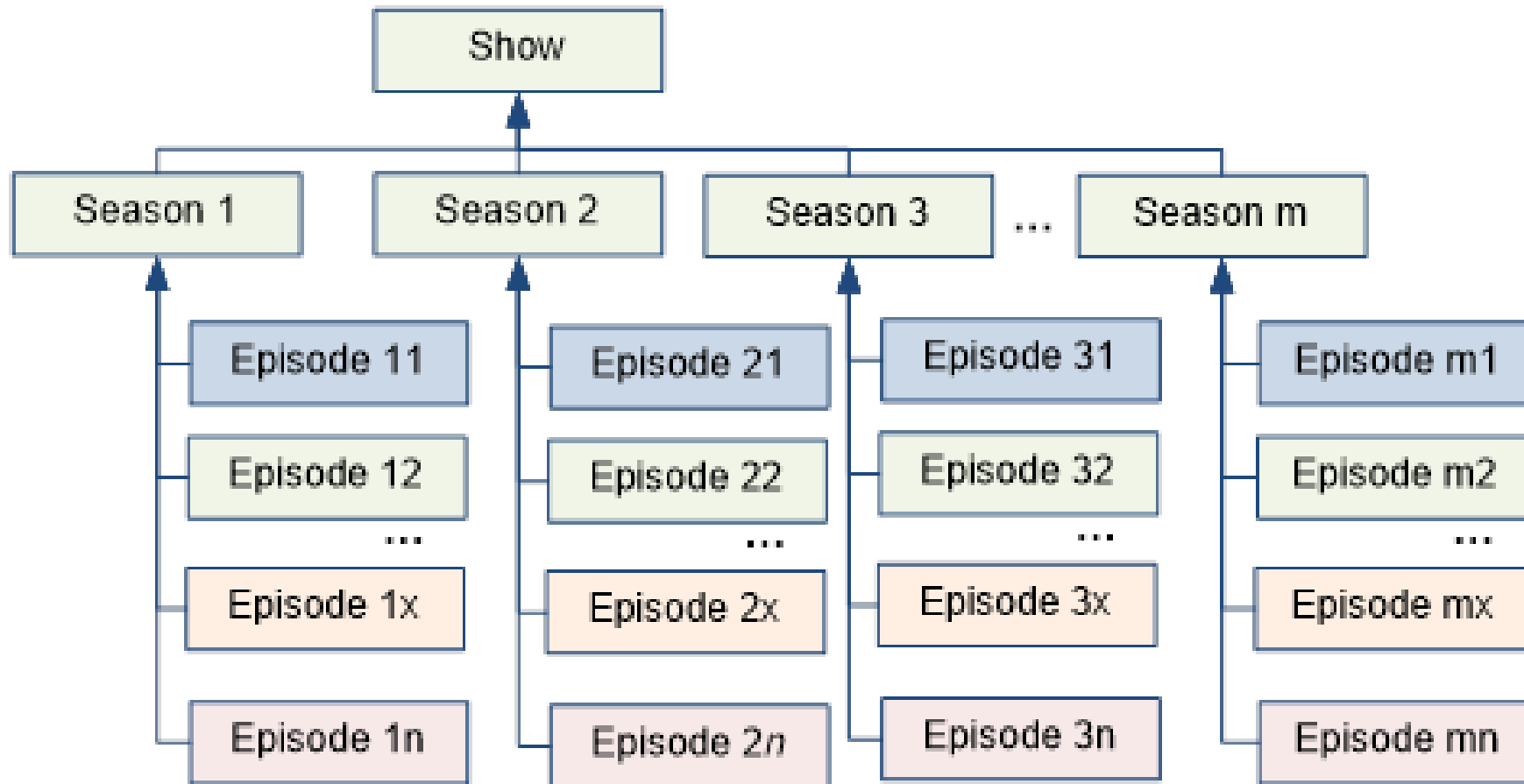
Basic Model

6

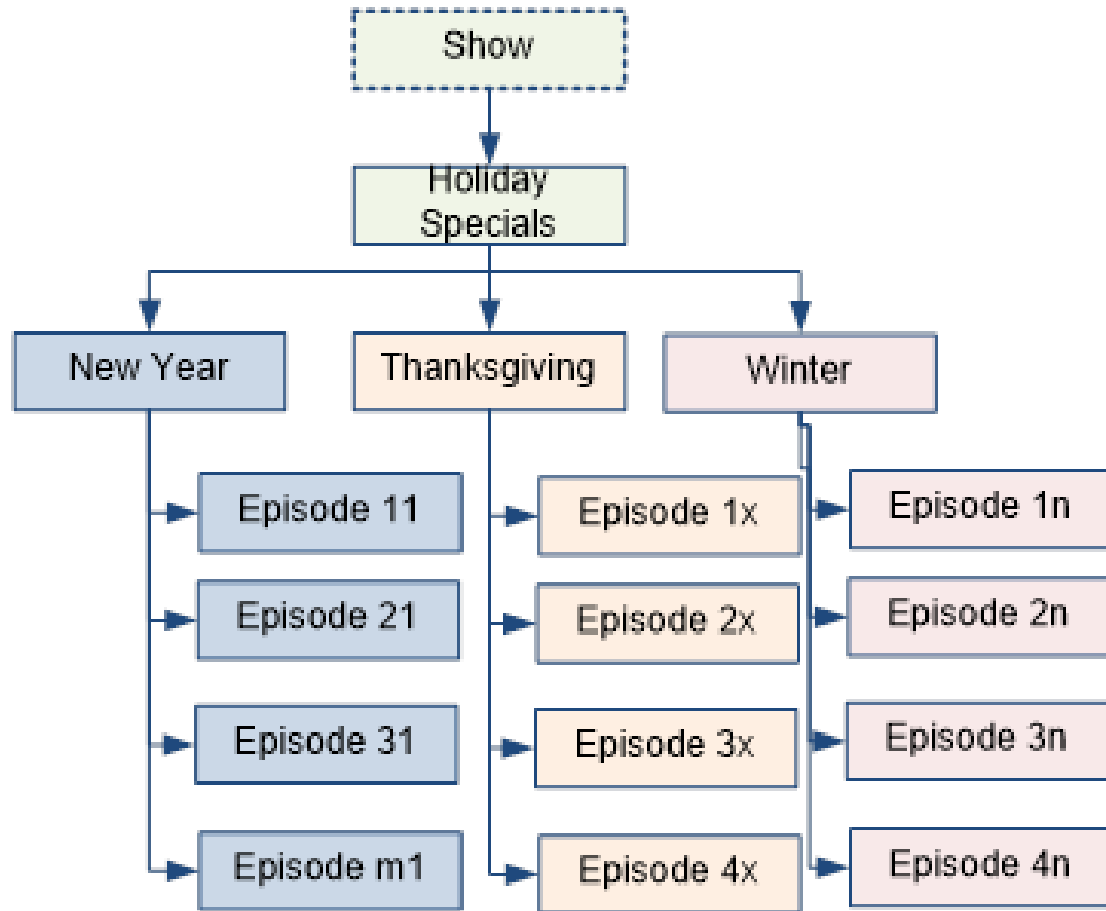
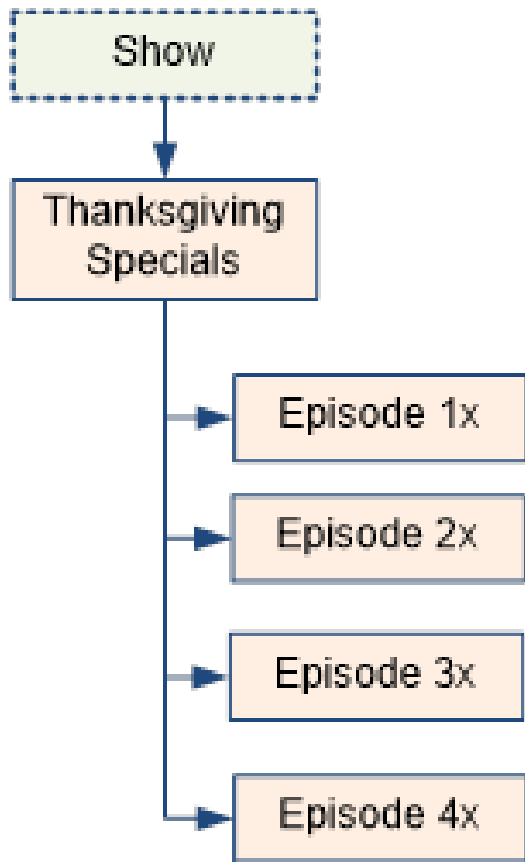


Full Series

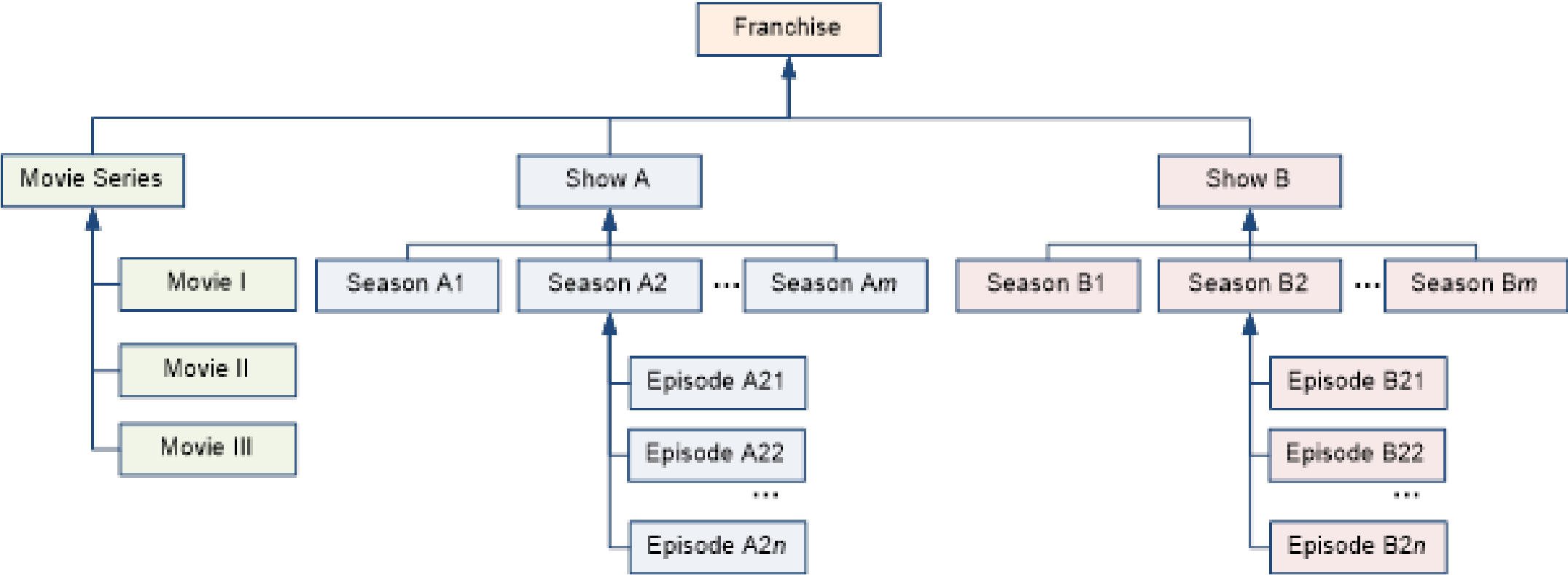
7



Selected episodes



Franchise



Number in Excel Avails

10

- What we have to work with: SeasonNumber, DistributionNumber, EpisodeNumber

Scenario	SeasonNumber	DistributionNumber	EpisodeNumber
Regular season	Season number in territory	N/A	Airing sequence in territory
Reordered season	Same	Same	Same
Volume (Season)	Same	Volume number (1a, 1b)	N/A
Volume (Episode)	Same	Volume number	Episode with volume

- Mapping to actual episodes is tricky since we're not tracking original episode numbers in the Avail
 - Episode still identified with EIDR and/or AltID
 - Could add original episode to spreadsheet?

Common Metadata (MEC) vs. Manifest (MMC, CPE)

11

- Both have the same relationships, but Metadata points 'up' and Manifest points down

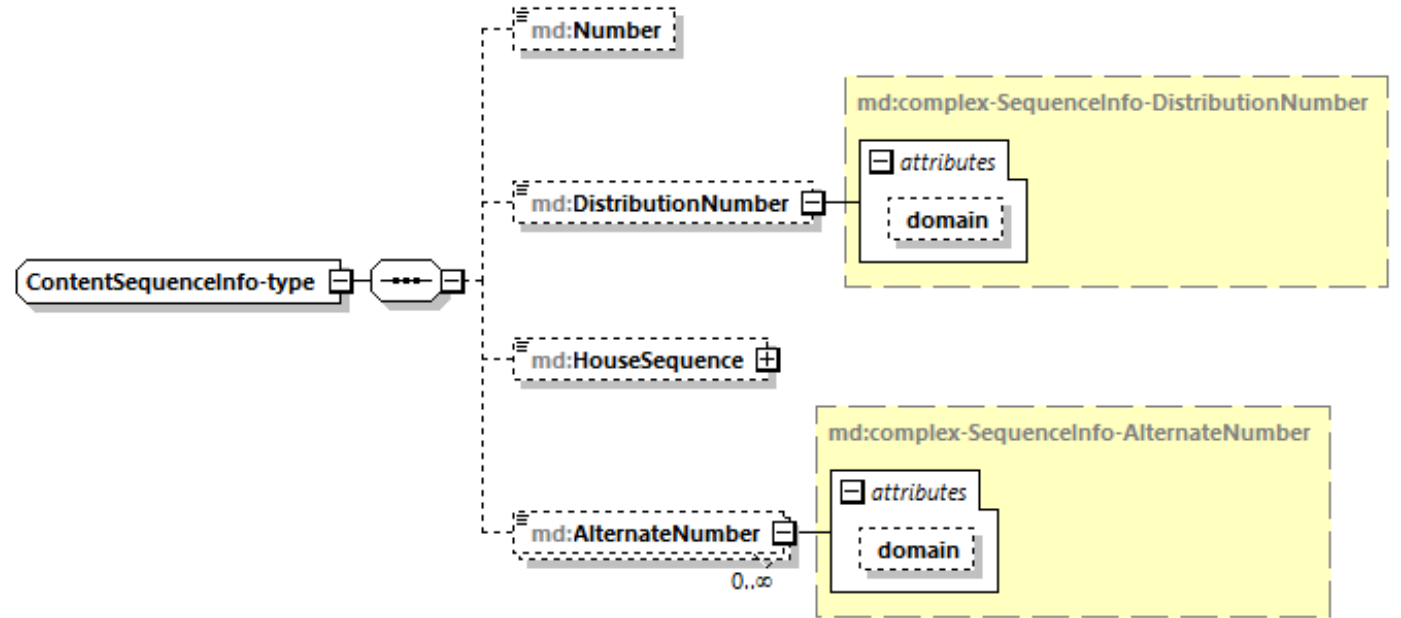


- Both structures are extremely general and flexible, but used for different purposes
 - Metadata is designed to be static
 - Manifest is designed to be specific to context
- Note that EIDR uses the 'up' model and relationships

Common Metadata (MEC)

12

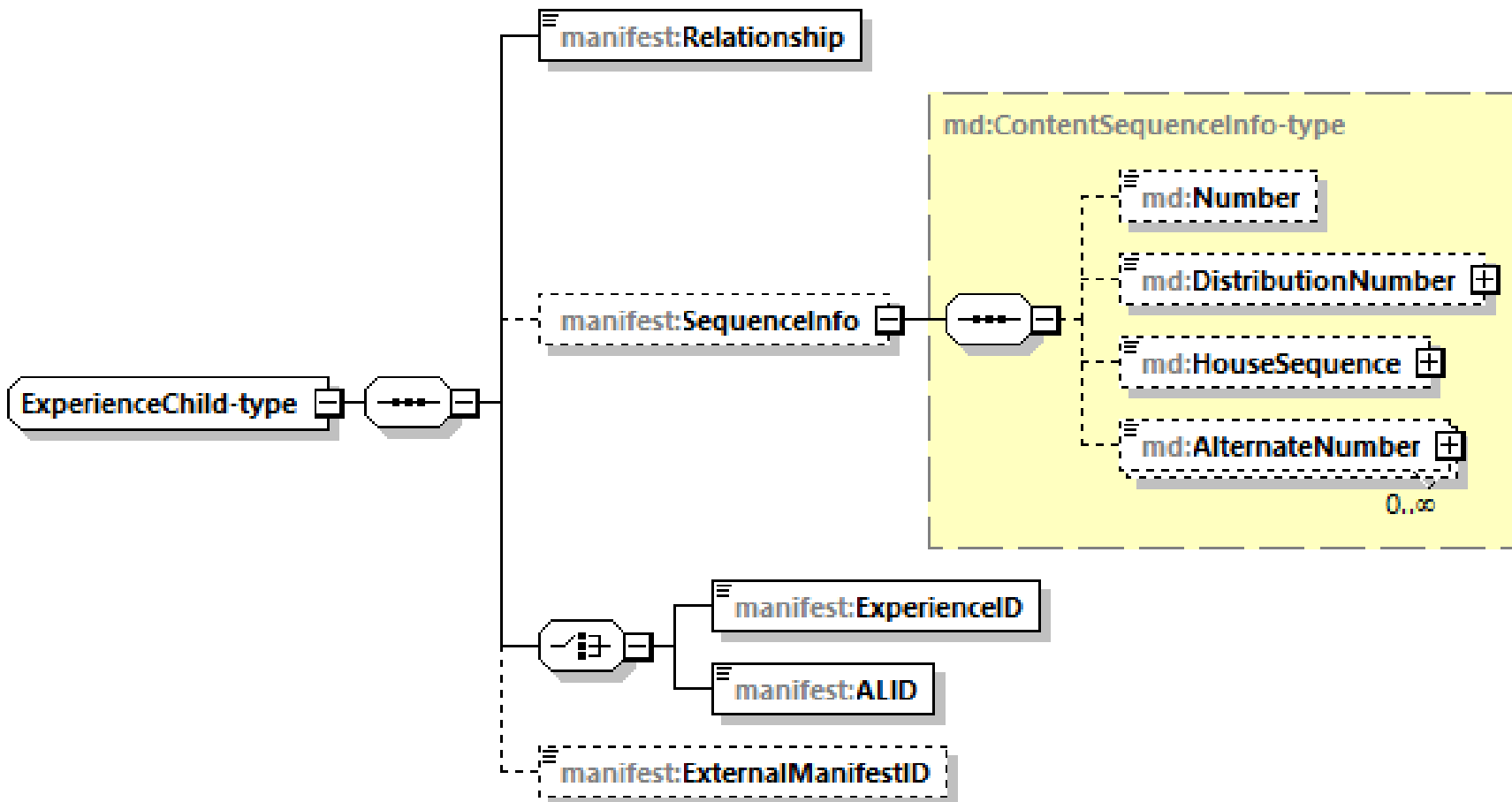
- Each object in Common Metadata can have Parent
 - Episodes have seasons as parents with 'isepiosdeof'
 - Season have series as parents with 'isseasonof'
- And, Sequence



Manifest (MMC, CPE)

13

- Manifest uses ExperienceChild to create tree, including the same relationship (e.g., 'isepisodeof')



Add to Common Metadata?

14

- Issues
 - Parent and Sequence are distinct—need to be paired
 - No localization in Parent or SequenceInfo
- Possible approaches
 - Modify Parent and SequenceInfo
 - Pair them (this parent with this sequence, that parent with that sequence)
 - Add localization
 - Add Parent+Sequence information to LocalizedInfo
 - Less desirable because LocalizedInfo is generally language-specific, not region-specific

Issues to discuss

15

- Manifest provides fully regionalized experiences, but MEC does not
- Excel Avails episode mapping works, but mixes metadata with Avails causing future problems
- We don't distinguish between 'sales' view and library view
 - What are the most effective presentations to consumers

Discussion?



Thank You!

References

18

- www.movielabs.com/md/md
- www.movielabs.com/md/manifest
- www.movielabs.com/md/practices
- www.eidr.org

Backup