What shall we do about digits?

Data has a big future
What should we do?
What have we learned (at the DPC)?
What’s the problem?
A single practical proposal
An invitation and welcome
Data has a big future
Data as the new oil: Big Data, Big Science Too?

*Needs refining and enhancing ... but*

Frictionless
Abundant
Ubiquitous
Inexhaustible
...Digital Preservation Claxon...
Digital preservation makes bleak reading

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What’s the problem?

- Media failure
- Media obsolescence
- Software failure
- Software obsolescence
- Inaccessible file format
- Format migration errors
- Loss of media
- Disaster
- Broken dependency
- Failure of systems integration
- Data Theft

- Virus or malware
- Poor documentation
- Poor rights management
- Lost encryption key
- Poor version control
- Inadvertent deletion
- Malicious deletion
- Poor file-naming
- Corruption
- Link rot

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CORPORATE ABANDONMENT IS AS BIG A THREAT TO THE DIGITAL ESTATE AS OBsolescence

People with something to hide are as big a threat to the digital estate as obsolescence.
What shall we do about it?
How hard can it be?

Submit

Archive

Disseminate

Lavoie 2015

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This is what success will look like:
Simple; invisible; intensely clever; user-focussed

I’ve not seen one of them since 1997. What should I do now?

Virtualize  Migrate  Emulate

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What we have learned at the DPC Real Problems: Real Actions
1. Time is money: timing is everything
2. What is data? What is processes?
How much does a repository cost
Here’s two I prepared earlier ...

Setup:
Tens of thousands?

Setup:
Tens of millions?
Digital preservation expensive ..?

No: it’s an unfunded mandate

Do we know the

- value of data?
- costs of data?
- costs of inaction?
money turns out to be the major problem facing the future of our digital heritage. (Rosenthal 2012)

Data creation:
Approx 60% per annum

Storage capacities:
Approx 40% per annum

IT Budgets:
Approx 2% per annum
2. What is Data?

Towards a universal declaration of interdependence.
What is the problem?
Cloud computing is the delivery of computing as a service rather than a product.
What’s the problem?
What’s the problem?
• Digital data (images, documents etc) have value
• They create opportunities
...but...
• Access depends on software hardware and people
• Technology and people change
...therefore...
• Constantly emerging barriers to reuse
• So, constantly emerging barriers to opportunities

My point: data loss is not the problem ...
Why Digital Preservation?

Safer  Smarter
Healthier  Wealthier
Greener  Fairer

MORE TRANSPARENT
More creative
Digital preservation not just about technology: not just about ‘data’: not just about ‘permanent access’: it’s about people and opportunity.
One single proposal:

NB: the problem is hard but fixable
So .... stop everything else you are doing.

Let’s work together on this

or the promise of big data is at risk

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An invitation and welcome
The Digital Preservation Coalition

...a secure digital legacy...
We do 6 things ...

- Advocacy
- Community engagement
- Workforce development
- Capacity Building
- Good Practice and Standards
- Management and governance
Advocacy ...

- BitList
- Digital Preservation Awards
- Advocacy Tools
- Advocacy Support

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Community Engagement...

- Networking
- Webinars
- Blog
- Unconference
- Email List
- World Digital Preservation Day
  (29th November 2018)

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Workforce Development ...

- DP Handbook
- Getting Started and Making Progress
- Leadership Programme Grants
- Labour Market Intelligence
- Curriculum Development
Capacity Building ...

- Technology Watch Reports
- Briefing Days
- Digital Preservation Anonymous
- Research Projects
Good Practice and Standards

• OAIS Review
• Understanding member needs
• Talking to vendors
• Certification and accreditation
Good Governance...

- Member owned and member led
- Transparent
- Accountable
- Responsive
DPC as a partner and friend!

Join us: [http://www.dpconline.org/join-us](http://www.dpconline.org/join-us)

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