

Music Research Data Management

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Learning About Music Research Data Management Through Writing: Lessons from a Book Project

MLA Annual Conference 2019
St. Louis, MO

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Outline

1. Background on our book project
2. Learning about music RDM
3. Our RDM philosophy

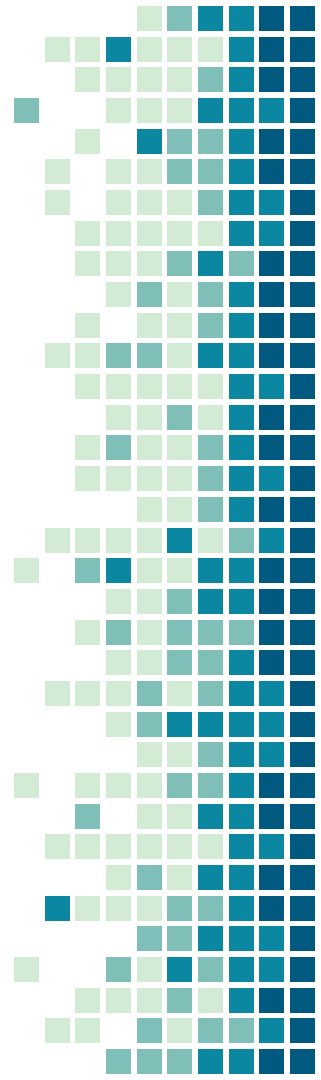


“ Different disciplines vary widely in their research funding, technical infrastructures, collaboration networks, source materials, subject populations, methodologies, ethical considerations and types of research outputs. Therefore, to be most effective, data curation requires **discipline-specific approaches**

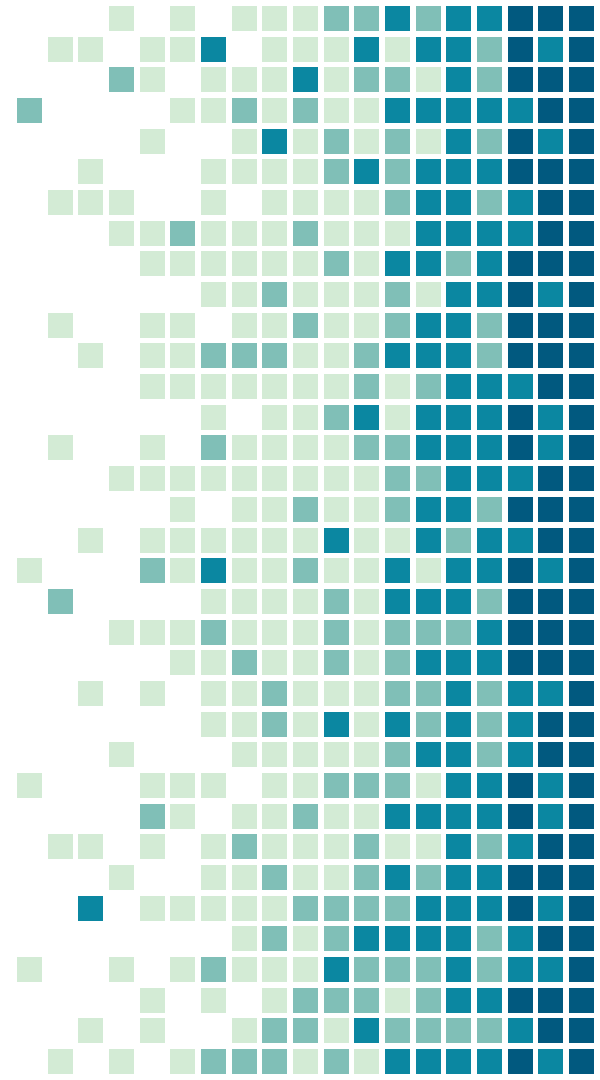
–Katherine G. Akers and Jennifer Doty, “Disciplinary Differences in Faculty Research Data Management Practices and Perspectives,” *International Journal of Digital Curation* 8, no. 2 (2013): 14, <http://ateson.net/w/49962/index.php/ijdc/article/view/8.2.5>.

Music Research Data Management: A Guide for Librarians, Researchers, and Musicians

- A-R Editions/MLA Technical Reports Series (forthcoming!)
- Currently addressing editorial feedback
- A long (but rewarding) journey!



Learning about music RDM



Music RDM Resources

- Music-specific resources few and far between
- Limited research that explores data practices of music researchers and performers
- Underlying issue with vocabulary, and understanding of RDM in music community

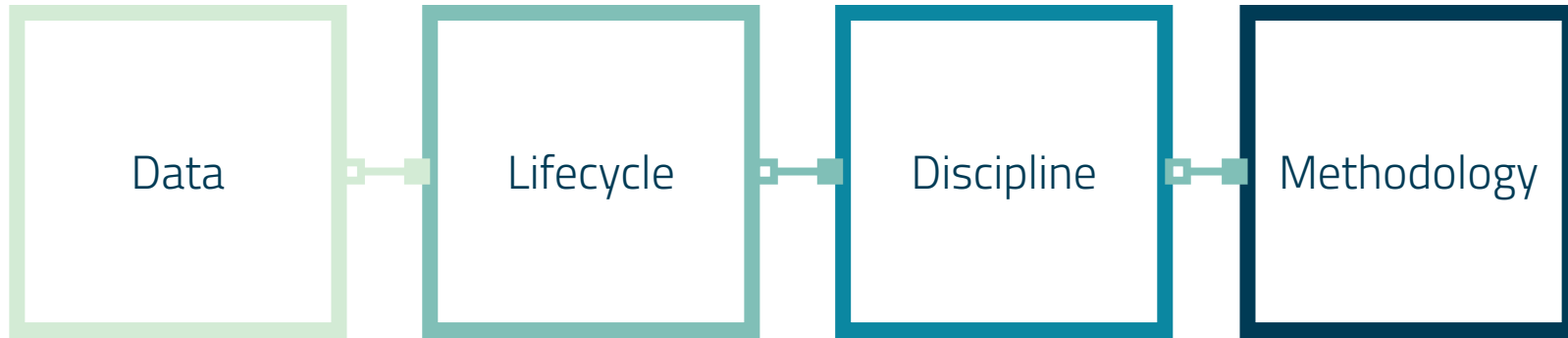


“

*A significant amount of digital research data is being created by UAL's (University of the Arts London) researchers, yet they often **fail to see it as data per se***

– Marieke Guy, Martin Donnelly, and Laura Molloy, “Pinning It Down: Towards a Practical Definition of ‘Research Data’ for Creative Arts Institutions,” *International Journal of Digital Curation* 8, no. 2 (November 19, 2013): 99–110, <https://doi.org/10.2218/ijdc.v8i2.275>.

Ways of thinking about RDM...



Music RDM – Data Focus

- Focus on the “stuff”
- What role does the stuff play in music research/performance?
- Build on best practices regarding file formats, storage, preservation, etc.
- Draw on parallels with analog world and archives



Music RDM – Lifecycle Focus

- Data curation approach, where data is considered within a lifecycle, e.g.:

Lifecycle Stage	Activities
Plan	Describe the data and how the data will be managed and made accessible
Collect	Observations (analog or born digital) are placed into digital form
Assure	Inspect the quality of the data
Describe	Using the appropriate metadata standards, thoroughly describe the data
Preserve	Submit the data to an archive
Discover	Locate and obtain data and accompanying metadata
Integrate	Combine disparate data to form one homogeneous set of data for analyzation
Analyze	Analyze the data



Music RDM – Disciplinary Focus

- Each sub-discipline has a different relationship with data
- What role has data played in the development of the discipline?
- What are some emerging trends with regard to data use?
- What are some sub-discipline specific issues?



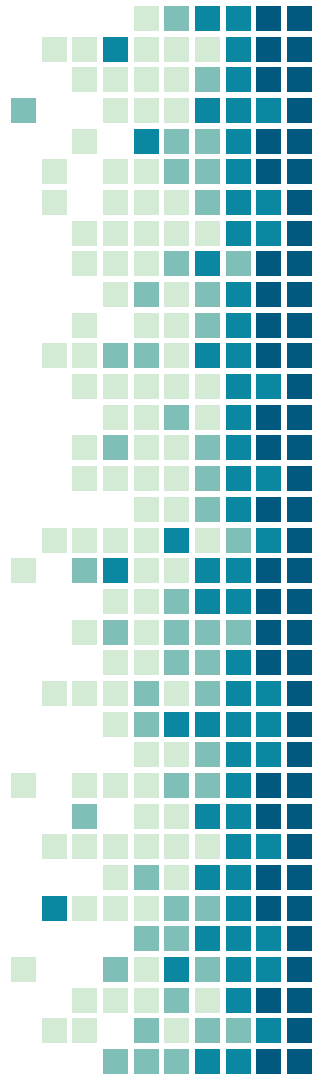
Music RDM – Methodology Focus

- What guidance does the specific methodology provide regarding RDM?
- Quantitative, qualitative, arts-based approaches:
 - What counts as data?
- What are some issues inherent to a particular methodology?



RDM Philosophy

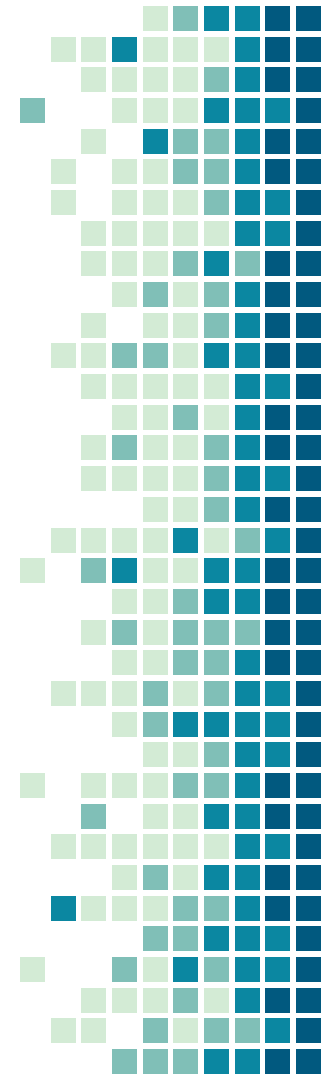
- Scholar/practitioner perspective



RDM Philosophy

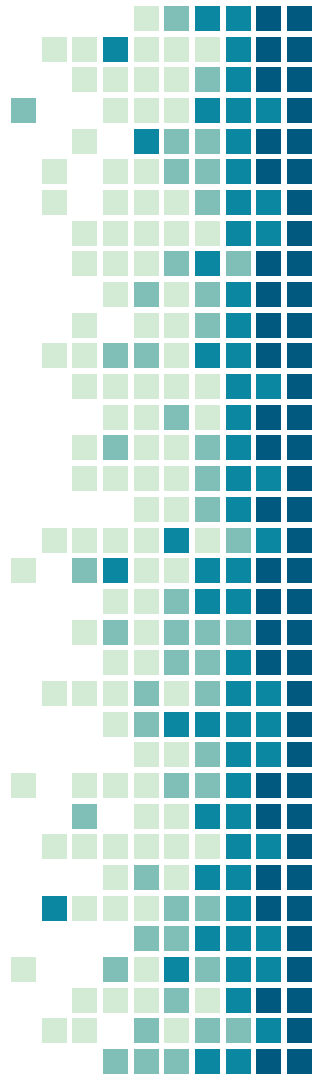
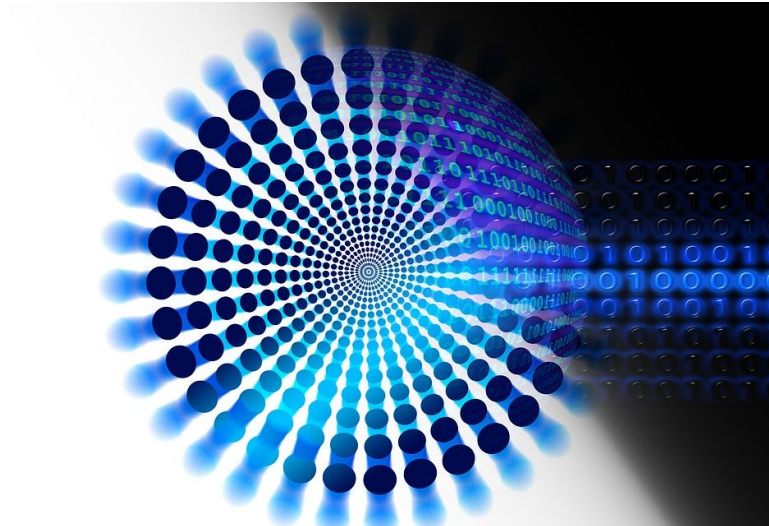


Image from "Arts based research" by Lisa Hammershaimb and Lynne Rabak,
<https://www.slideshare.net/lisahammershaimb/abr-slides-final-35481872>



RDM Philosophy

- What counts as data?



THANKS!

Any questions?

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