Analogue and Digital Preservation in Difficult Times

Reto Kromer • AV Preservation by reto.ch

Open-Source Tools and Resources for Audio-Visual Archives

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Climate Emergency

- embrace low-technology...
 - ... and low-energy solutions
- use less resources...
 - ... and recycle whenever possible

Global Emergencies

- climate emergency
- war
- sanitation emergency
 - → slow down

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War, fire, natural disasters etc.

- protect yourself
- protect others
- protect your collections

Sanitation Emergency

- hand hygiene
- physical distancing
- surgical masks to protect others (or FFP2 masks to protect yourself)
- stay home when feeling ill
- vaccination

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Preparation

Workflow

- prepare the source elements
- digitise the source elements
- digitally restore the files
- conserve the source elements
- conserve the archive files
- generate derivate files

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Digitisation

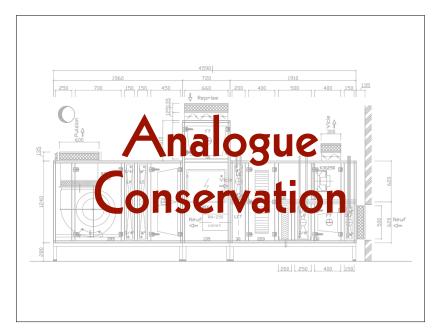
Restoration

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Live in the real world!

There is only one efficient way:

- keep the analogue source elements as long as possible
- more prevention:
 - → better insulation
 - → more efficient air conditioning
- less handling of the source elements
- make digital masters and access copies



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Conservation

- de-restoration
- cleaning
- preparation

Working Place

- manual rewinder
- ventilation
- illumination

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Infrastructure

• proper vaults with climate control

Consumables

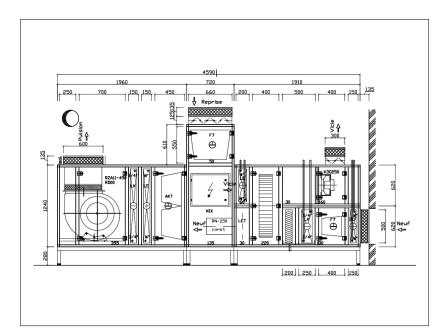
- protection masks
- nitrile (and cotton) gloves
- tissues
- solvents
- film cement

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Active measures

Air conditioning system:

- refrigerate
- dehumidify
- filter



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Outgassed acid

- CH₃COOH < 1 ppm
- HNO₃ < 1 ppm

Air pollutant

- $SO_2 < 1 \mu g/m^3$
- $NO_x < 5 \mu g/m^3$
- $O_3 < 25 \mu g/m^3$

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Air flow

Outgassed acetic acid or nitric acid are heavy gases:

- air supply at the ceiling of one wall
- air exhaust at the bottom of the opposite wall
- air supply and air exhaust on the full length of the opposite longer walls

Passive measures

- location
- orientation
- exterior paint colour
- shadow
- insulation
- humidity barrier
- apertures

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Equipment

- servers
- network
- storage
- ventilation (cooling)







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Plan the Next Migration

- file naming
- barcodes
- checksums
- write the full index onto the cartridge
- technical metadata
- code to retrieve the files

Working Place

- software
- computer with at least one good monitor
- storage
- illumination
- chair

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File Naming (Example)

- title_codec.container
- title_codec_container_algorithm.txt
- film_H264.mp4
- film_H264_mp4_md5.txt

Checksums

cryptographic

non-cryptographic

MD5

• CRC-32

• SHA-1

- xxHash 32
- SHA-256
- xxHash 64
- SHA-512
- xxHash 128

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Equipment

- LTO desk or library
- software
- network

Longterm

- storage of the cartridges
- three copies...
 - ... in geographically distant locations
- data integrity check
- data migration
- availability of LTO desks

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Working Place

- small computer
- software

Consumables

LTO cartridges

Access

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