

Computational Access: A beginner's guide for digital preservation practitioners

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Digital**Preservation**Coalition

#DPC_comp_access 6th July 2022

Why did we start working on this?

- DPC Members had expressed an interest in this topic at our unconference in June 2021:
 - Confusion about what it entails
 - No clear sense of where (and how) to start
- Leontien contacted us in October 2021 wanting to chat about her ideas for building capacity (and confidence) across the digital preservation community around this topic

Initial goals

- We had an initial meeting with Leontien in November 2021 and established some goals:
 - To increase awareness of computational methods in archives
 - To agree some definitions for computational access and related terms
 - To bring together helpful resources for those who want to find out more
 - To reduce the barriers to engagement with this topic, providing guidance on where/how to start and examples of good practice

...but we couldn't do it alone

Zoom Meeting



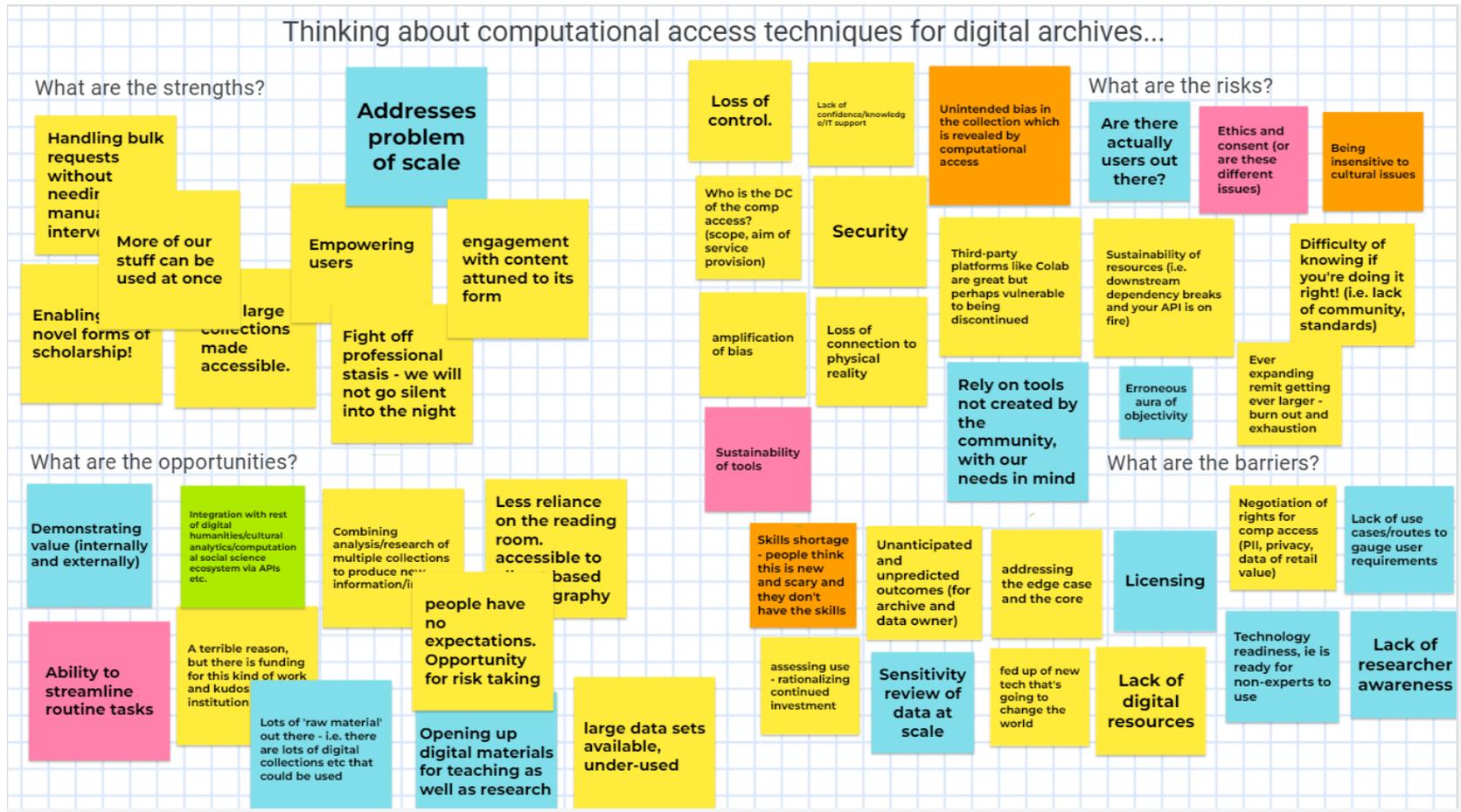
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...we also
couldn't do it
without cookies!

Collaborative workshop

Thinking about computational access techniques for digital archives...



The guide - scope

- The guide is aimed at **digital preservation practitioners** – not at researchers or users of the digital collections
 - ...but obviously we need to have users and use cases very much in mind when establishing these access methodologies
- The guide does not tell you everything you need to know, but does provide a helpful introduction and lots of signposts to further information and case studies

The guide



Introduction

This section defines the scope and purpose of the guide.



Definitions

This section provides clear definitions of key terms and the relationships between them.



Approaches to computational access

This section looks at the pros and cons of the different approaches and provides real-life examples of how they are being applied by different organizations.



Ethics of computational access

This section provides a summary of the key ethical considerations and signposts further sources of information.



Benefits and drawbacks

This section summarizes key benefits and articulates the problems and pitfalls to be aware of when considering using these methods.



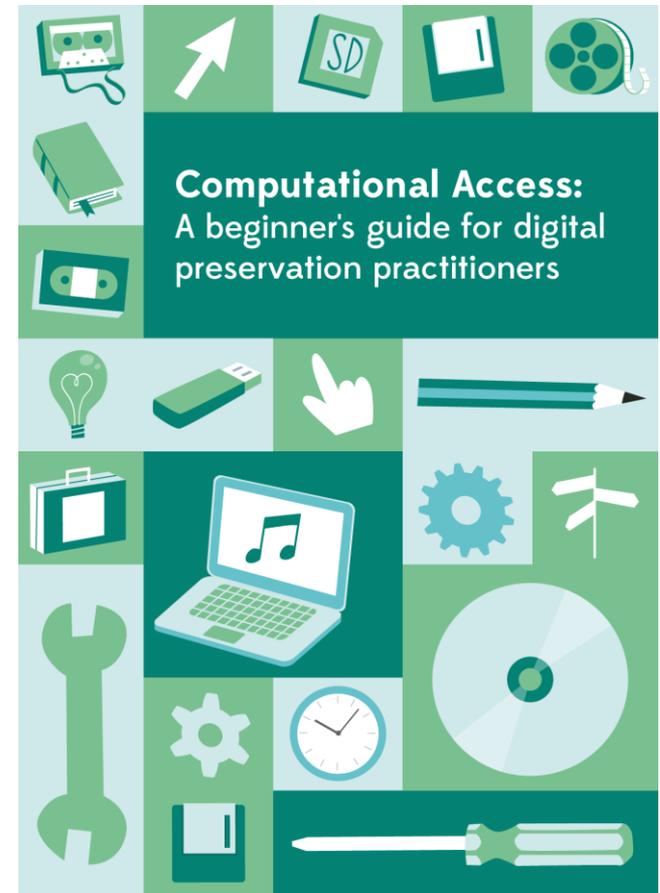
Practical steps to get started

This section offers practical tips to help digital preservation practitioners move forward as well as case studies demonstrating how others have tackled the challenge.



Further resources and case studies

This section highlights a number of useful resources and case studies that can be explored to find out more about this topic.



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Thank you!

