INFORMATIONAL MODEL OF AUDIOVISUAL ARTIFACTS AND PRESERVATION PROBLEMS

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Why should A/V archivists be interested in informational modelling?

"Art is the lie that helps us see the truth"
the same can be said for modelling
1. Terms “preservation” “information”

2. Informational models of artifacts (only two 😊)

3. Conclusions
PRESERVATION

- inseparable component of any information transmission process
- informational activity
- information.artefact
PRESERVATION

• retain informational integrity and availability

• informational integrity consists of those features of artefact that distinguish it as a whole and singular object
INFORMATION

- PROCESS
- KNOWLEDGE
- ARTEFACT

Michael Buckland
PROCESS
KNOWLEDGE

E=mc²
ARTEFACT

“anything which exhibits any physical attributes that can be assumed to be the results of human activity”
ARTEFACTS

Artefacts

Communicative artefacts
“The objects have inscribed in themselves the genetic code of either nature, or of civilization and culture. Every object is like the contains the character of whole.”

*Tomislav Sola*
MODELS OF ARTEFACTS

1. Dichotomous model
2. Three-dimensional model
DICHOTOMOUS MODEL

Artefact

content

carrier
Three level model

Artefact

- structural
- functional
- context
STRUCTURAL INFORMATION

- Material
- Construction
- Form
- Design
- Deterioration
- Indirect or non-intentional information
MATERIALS

- plastics
- metals
- pigments
- ...

Structural information
way in which the object has been made and the parts of which it consists.

- materials
- technologies
- user requirements
- commercial situation
DVD constructions

- **DVD-9** single sided, double layer, 8.5 Gb
- **DVD-10**, double sided, single layer on both sides, 9.4 Gb
- **DVD-18**, double sided, double layer on both sides, 17.1 Gb
Structural information

different ways information is presented and structured.
Structural information

**FORM**

- configuration
- articulation
- additions, changes
CONTENT ARTICULATION
example - sound

CD- pits
http://www.optics.rochester.edu/workgroups/cml/opt307/spr05/chris/mCD_1.jpg

shellak disc, 78
http://www.videointerchange.com/images/78Grooves.jpg

Vinyl, mono
http://www.micrographia.com/projec/projapps/viny/viny0100/vinylr00.jpg

Vinyl, stereo
http://www.micrographia.com/projec/projapps/viny/viny0100/vinylr02.jpg
ADDITIONS, CHANGES

- Films may be shortened or altered
- Films may be altered or lengthened (directors cut)
- Films may be re-released in a different manifestation (coloured version)
DESIGN

characteristics of the external appearance of the record, such as format, colors, decorations etc
FUNCTIONAL INFORMATION

- Communicative
  - entertainment
  - education
  - documentary
  - commemorative (home movies)
  - research
- Esthetical
- Value
relations between the object and its environment

- material
- conceptual
MATERIAL CONTEXT

Playback machinery
- 78s
- 45s
- LPs
- reel tape
- cassettes
- CD
- downloadable music files
- MPG
CONCEPTUAL CONTEXT

cultural and social environment to which the object is related.
Associated materials
CONCLUSIONS

- informational structure of artifacts are complicated
- preservation influence the informational structure
- models are frameworks for describing, analyzing and studying artefacts
- quantifying the informational content
Thank you for your attention and happy modelling!