

When Digital Archives Encounter Digital Natives: The Knowledge Issue

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The Stories of Archives

- A bit of myself
- Spatial definition of archives
- The practices of archives
- Two approaches
 - Producer-centered digital archives
 - User-centered digital archives



Producer-centered Digital Archives

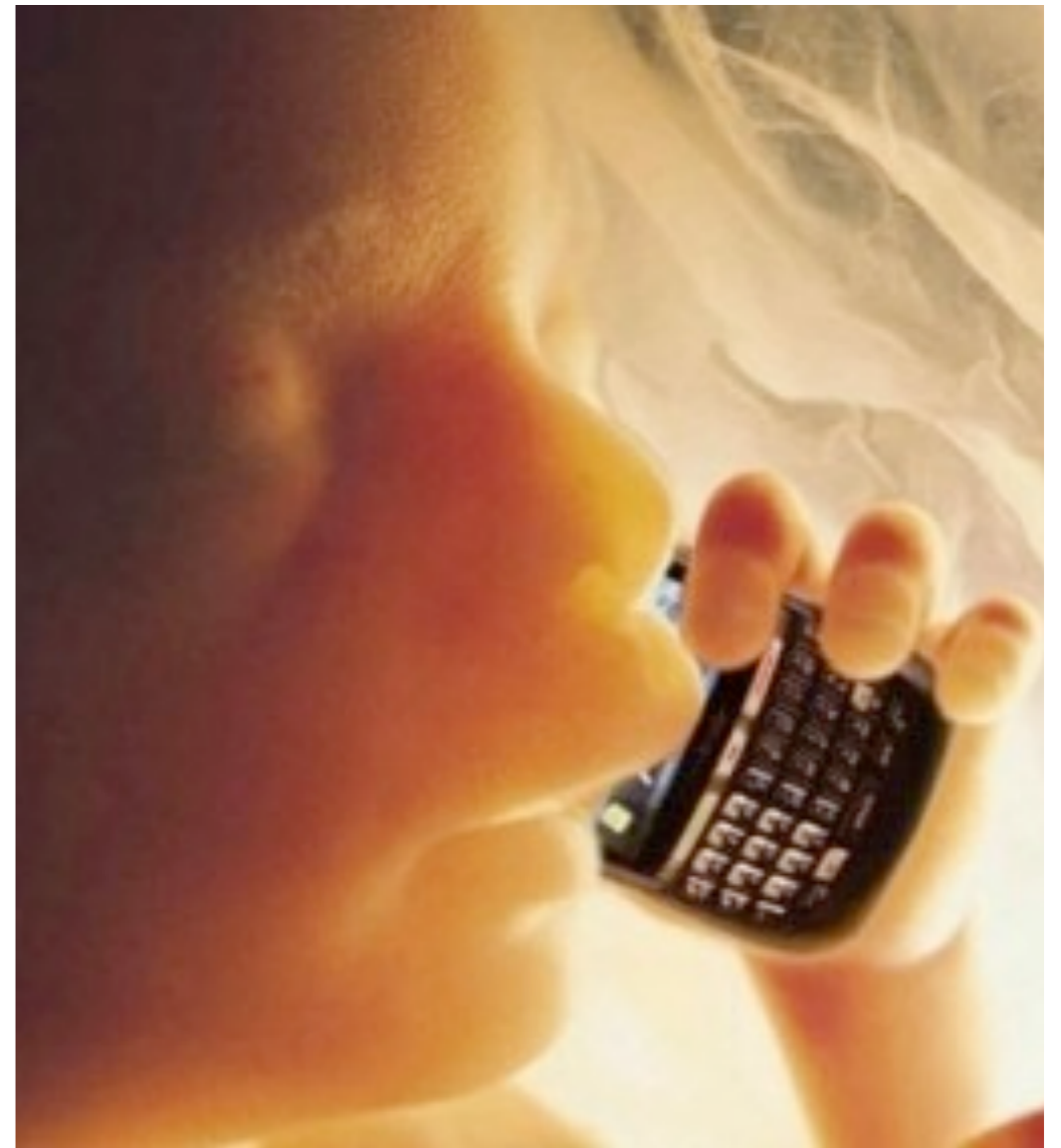
- Examination criteria
 - Policy-level pre-assumption
 - Content analysis: metadata & requirement
 - Project execution framework
- Duck test (inductive reasoning):
“If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck.”

User-centered Digital Archives

- Avoid the contradictories
 - We want a “producer-centered” digital archives, but we also want “hits”
 - Producers could want & contribute more
NYTimes Nov. 16, 2010: Digital Keys for Unlocking the Humanities’ Riches
- User-centered is a neutral method to leverage participants’ productivity
- Professors vs. *digital natives*

Digital Natives

- “Digital natives are younger children and youth who have embraced digital technologies and tools as central to their everyday lives and *sense of the self* – who used (and abused) these technologised spaces in unpredictable and creative ways beyond, and often against, the authority of the State” (Shah; 2007).



Closer Look at Digital Natives

- Digital natives beyond “the state”
 - Co-evolving with “technologised spaces”
 - Against or innovate?
- What are the “technologised spaces”?
 - Image-based communication (incl. video)
 - Search & other features
 - Portable & social media / services
 - e.g. what is the hashtag of our conf/panel?

Contradictory Mindsets

- Different mentalities
 - open vs. closure
 - Inside vs. outside
 - Internal vs. external
- Struggles of user behaviors: encountering

Redefining Archives

- “Movage” (Long Now Foundation)
- Representation of archives (SL)
- Moving images archives & archivists
- Social media as archives / SM’s archives
 - Library of congress aiming at preserving tweets from twitter

Case Studies

Archives-Services turn into new

- UltraFilter (Mingli Yuan / WPIC, 2010)
 - zh.wikipedia.org initiative
 - provide more means engaging users
- Paper.li (SmallRivers, 2010)
 - Twitter app of social relation bot
 - Form as a new paper daily service
 - On the boundary of SPAM

The Knowledge Issue

- How could our archives (collectively, maybe) provide us new knowledge we need?
 - Collaborative knowledge
 - Relational knowledge (dbpedia & link data)
 - Migrational / fluid / dynamic knowledge
 - Real-time knowledge
 - Action-oriented knowledge

Conclusion

- A long way to go & moving toward:
- Practical “Cloud Culture” (by Charles Leadbeater)
More culture heritage stored in digital form + More accessible to more people + People better equipped with more tools to add creativity to the collection = Exponential growth in mass culture expression
- Social technologies and social design for digital archives

Thanks for UR Attention!