Digital Transformations Event: Well Sorted Materials

8/9/2014 – 9/9/2014

Dear participant,

Thank you for submitting answer to the following question:

"What are the research priorities within the Digital Transformations space over the next 3-5 years, that the AHRC could contribute to through the Theme?"

This document contains your answers, grouped by the average of your online sorts.

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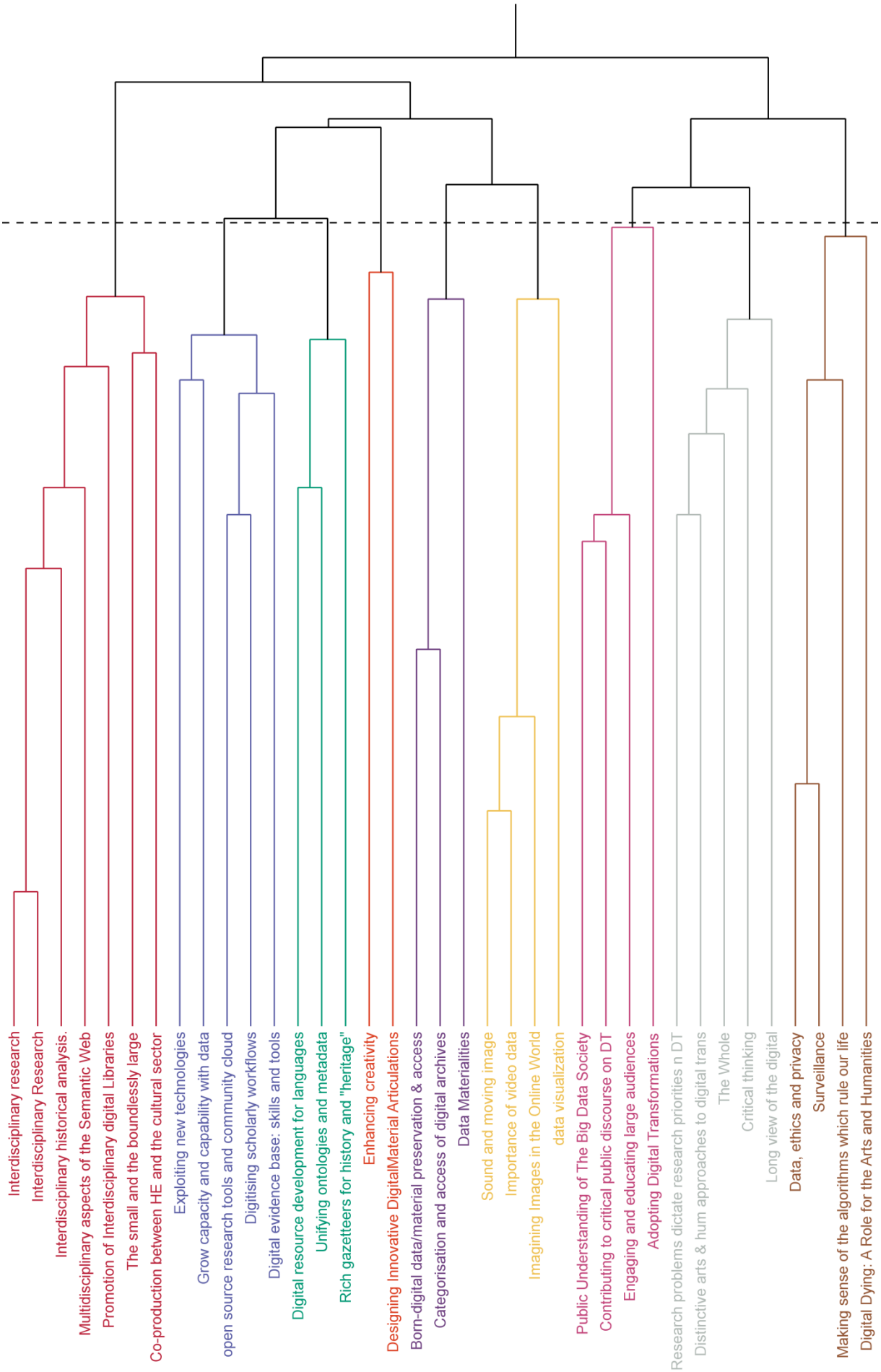
For an interactive, online version of the Tree Map and a PDF version of this document, go here:

http://www.well-sorted.org/explore/DigitalTransformations2014/

Tree Map - titles of all 37 answers grouped by 'averaging' all participants' groupings

Dendrogram - showing similarity between answers



Answer titles and descriptions ordered by group

	Group Members	Description
Red	Interdisciplinary research	Focusing on interdisciplinary methodologies to further research, both in the humanities and in the sciences. Providing computational tools to help humanities, and adapting methods from humanities for sciences to critically consider cultural changes.
	Interdisciplinary Research	Digital Transformations can reunite subject areas that have long been separated. Bringing together interdisciplinary research groups around DT will ensure that methodological innovations and new approaches gain traction across the disciplines.
	Interdisciplinary historical analysis.	Many different aspects of the past (primary sources and analysis of them) are now available in different kinds of digital format - how can we bring them into dialogue with one another and create digital outputs that communicate their interrelationships?
	Multidisciplinary aspects of the Semantic Web	The Semantic Web offers great possibilities for Humanities research, but this is complicated by the wide variety of disciplines which might contribute. What can be done to help navigate the maze of data and find common concepts across them? Can AHRC help?
	Promotion of Interdisciplinary digital Libraries	Use extant Digital tools and infrastructures to promote collaborations of researchers in the Humanities with librarians, archivists, cataloguers and computer scientists, and to develop tools and procedure allowing to visualize data and metadata
	The small and the boundlessly large	Digital research results (products) must be useful to all potential constituencies of user. Cross-disciplinary and cross-sector awareness alone allows us to meet our local objectives while contributing to the ultimate project of the Infinite Archive.
	Co-production between HE and the cultural sector	One of the biggest challenges has been fostering genuine understanding and co-production between HE and the cultural sector: there is tension between formal and informal models of KE and the time it takes to lay groundwork for genuine co-production.
Blue	Exploiting new technologies	Exploiting data created by new technologies. Finding ways to exploit, transform, collate, preserve data produced by new technologies.
	Grow capacity and capability with data	Taking eg of law, the potential, appetite and impact of data driven research is vast. What's needed is growth in capacity (infrastructure of data+tools+methods) hand in hand with development of capability (help non-techie researchers switch to new world)
	open source research tools and community cloud	I would like to see two things: 1.The development of shared digital research tools and community assets . 2. The development of an AHRC/Community 'cloud'. This would save resources, ensure longevity and safeguard assets and enable research to be on-going
	Digitising scholarly workflows	In order to create systems that really benefit scholarship it's necessary to understand scholarly research procedures and build digital components that integrate easily and effectively with those procedures.
	Digital evidence base: skills and tools	Developing capacity in digital tools and technologies to create, facilitate access to, and interrogate the nature of, the digital evidence base; plus the skills and capability to use that evidence base to create knowledge,reach and impact.

Green	Digital resource development for languages	Annotation schemes for corpora (especially pragmatic annotation), collaborative activity with industry and 'end-users' to better understand their language needs and underpin the development of digital resources, interactive visualisation of corpus data.
	Unifying ontologies and metadata	Huge numbers of data resources - both "Big Data" and more modest - have metadata and data ontologies attached, which when connected vastly increase the possibilities of humanities data. We need to work on unifying and linking these.
	Rich gazetteers for history and "heritage"	Building "rich gazetteers"/"deep maps"/geosemantic frameworks for linking and accessing historical and cultural content, so organising local knowledges for both academic analysis and popular perusal at national and global scales.
Orange	Enhancing creativity	The theme can contribute to providing new understandings of the creative potential of digital spaces and innovative and creative methods for their capture and interpretation
	Designing Innovative DigitalMaterial Articulations	How do we design experiences, tools, objects and environments that combine digital traits such as complexity, connectivity and mutability with the material properties inherent in physical artifacts, and develop new typologies that augment cultural content
Purple	Born-digital data/material preservation & access	Archival research increasingly involves the need to access and analyse digital materials that have no physical referent. Research is still at a nascent stage and needs to be sustained throughout and beyond this transformative period.
	Categorisation and access of digital archives	I believe that the main issue that we are facing now with the digitalisation of cultural artefacts is to find new engaging ways and parameters through which they can be categorised and (consequently) accessed.
	Data Materialities	exploring the links between digital data, its production, circulation and environmental conditions
Yellow	Sound and moving image	A great deal of work in the digital humanities is focused around text, and much less attention has been paid to sound and moving image. How can we mine/manipulate/analyse such non-textual material effectively, particularly at scale?
	Importance of video data	Much of digital data tends to focus on text, which is easy to manipulate and store. Video data is also important to consider in many fields, and is becoming more so. (This was much more eloquent the first time I composed it a few weeks ago!)
	Imagining Images in the Online World	The Internet is becoming increasingly visual and images and videos used on social media sites increase click-throughs and retweets, but what is the meaning of the images posted by individuals, companies or industry sectors?
	data visualization	Research is required to investigate how the digital assets can be best visualised and explored. Many of these datasets are temporal, multi-variate, disparate; each providing challenges for research for the AHRC.

Pink	Public Understanding of The Big Data Society	what do people know about the circulation of data, on social media platforms and beyond? how do they feel about it? what strategies can be deployed to enhance such understandings?
	Contributing to critical public discourse on DT	How can A&H contribute to critical exploration of and engagement with DT including emerging cultures of data production and re-use; how to historicise DT; intersections with different forms of power and agency; creating innovative ways to engage public
	Engaging and educating large audiences	Using digital technologies to allow members of the public to engage with, question, and contribute to studies that 'academics' are conducting. Ideally, this should enrich the intellectual life of the audience and enhance the quality of the studies.
	Adopting Digital Transformations	Adopting digital transformations beyond prototypes and pilot activities in research organisations and cultural institutions. Development of research that focuses on change management, leadership and innovation within organisational contexts.
Silver	Research problems dictate research priorities n DT	Digital technologies offer great flexibility and power for research in the Arts & Humanities, however, it is probably best to focus on what are the questions we want to answer and what are the blocks to finding the answers: Target these blocks with DT.
	Distinctive arts & hum approaches to digital trans	To identify distinctive arts & humanities approaches to digital transformations: rather than applying computer-science methods to trad arts & hums areas, we need to identify meaningful arts & humanities approaches & tools to properly address digital trans
	The Whole	Develop thinking around what 'Digital Transformations' means for the AHRC such that reference to 'Digital transformations' becomes instantly recognisable
	Critical thinking	Moving away from techno-romanticism to develop critical thinking about digital media - its effects, politics, economics, ecologies.
	Long view of the digital	By using the word "digital" we often mean contemporary technology such as silicone computers, databases, and the Internet. However, digital technology may refer to any use of discrete mathematics. This raises social and philosophical research questions.
Brown	Data, ethics and privacy	With increased attention around 'big data' and dubious corporate research practices, what role can different public institutions & academic disciplines play in debates around ethics and privacy of data. Issues around anonymity, consent, public/private.
	Surveillance	What are the implications for society as the increase in surveillance technologies increases in our daily lives? How might these technologies be hacked and resisted?
	Making sense of the algorithms which rule our life	We all use a wide range of technologies (Google, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) track us and collect our data, but more than that, they process our data in many different ways, to feed us new information. How can we better understand these algorithms?
	Digital Dying: A Role for the Arts and Humanities	As human beings increasingly choose to 'live after death' online, how do we capture artistic expressions of such choices? What support networks should develop over the next 10-20 years to capture the beauty of digital death and its implications?

Well Sorted

The materials in this document were generated using Well Sorted (www.well-sorted.org), an online Card Sorting tool which is free to use for academia.

Notes