I Learned All That I Know About Digital Preservation From Trading Concert Recordings

Mark Phillips
UNT Libraries
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When I started college I got heavily involved in trading live concert recordings
Concert taping is widely popular within the "jam band" genre of music
This is a community online that shares legally recorded live performances of bands and musical artists
Where from show to show the performances can vary considerably.
Grateful Dead
Phish
Government Mule
MOE
Dave Matthews Band
And more...
Dave Matthews Band
Happened to be my jam...
band...
I've long since gotten out of the community but when I think back on it, it laid the foundation for most of the things that I know about digital preservation today.
I started off by trading burned CDRs with the community online.
You would identify a recording you wanted.
Figured out if the person offering the recording wanted anything from you, and traded.
At first these were all audio CDs
To play in your CD player...
But there were issues.
People burned a CD the “wrong way”
Software often inserted two second gaps between tracks
Re-burning a burned CD introduced the chance of artifacts in the recording.
Then I learned about trading of the files directly
Instead of the audio CDR
we traded the data files themselves
Often via FTP
You would download a show
Verify that it was complete
And then locally burn a cd
Or just save the data
I'm a huge completist for lists... so during my Jr. and Sr. year of college... I downloaded shows...
All day and all night
I was responsible for half of the bandwidth utilization of all resident student housing at my university.
Go me.
Anyway, here are some of the things that I learned.
Quality Counts
Many would strive to collect a particular microphone type, connected to a specific preamp, taped by a specific taper.
FOB: schoeps mk4 ORTF>kc5>cmc6>v2>ad2k+>vxpocket>c1vn (24/48)
Provenance
We wanted to know who taped, transferred, tracked, and packaged the show
Recording by Matt DeNardo <matt_denardo@yahoo.com>

Source: DPA 4022s (ORTF) > Hosa XLR splitter* > Metric Halo Mobile I/O ULN-2 > Firewire > Powerbook G3 400 Pismo running OS 9.2.2 > MOTU Digital Performer 3.02 (24/96)

Location: FOB, DFC, stand at about 10 feet

Conversion: Transfer from Mac > PC using ULN-2 S/PDIF output and Sek'ed Prodigy Plus S/PDIF input into Steinberg WaveLab 4.0g, tracks split in CD Wave 1.9b, compressed with FLAC frontend level 8

DO NOT PERFORM BIT-DEPTH CONVERSION OR RESAMPLE!
Metadata, Metadata, Metadata
March 11, 2015
Digital Preservation 101

Dave Matthews Band
7-15-2003
Ford Center
Oklahoma City, OK

Taper: Mark Phillips / Matt Casey

Source: Oktava MC012's (Hypers) > MP-2 > Sony TCD-D8

Location: Sec 1, Row H, seats 7&8

Conversion: Tascam DA-302 > Frontier Design Group Wavecenter/PCI > Cdwav > Soundforge 5.0 (normalizing) > Cdwav (Tracking) > MKW (SHN)

Disc 1:
01 Intro 00:53
02 Don't Drink the Water 11:12
03 Satellite 06:06
04 Don't Burn The Pig 07:72
05 One Sweet World Intro 03:11
06 One Sweet World 06:24
07 If I Had It All 05:14
08 I Did It 04:09
09 Crash 06:43
10 Say Goodbye 08:07
11 Warehouse 09:17
12 Grace Is Gone 09:37

Disc 2:
01 When The World Ends 05:26
02 Grey Street 05:34
03 Minarets > 07:22
04 Typical Situation 13:11
05 Watchtower 11:33
06 Encore Break 08:31
07 Cry Freedom 06:42
08 What You Are 08:18
Collection Development Criteria
We knew exactly what we collected, what we didn't collect, and mocked and belittled collectors of things we didn't like...
I was introduced to concepts like
Information Packages
There really was a “right way” to package a recording
Good
Bad
moby2002-07-15+
  01-18.SHN
  02-extreme ways.shn
  03-G0.SHN
  04-signs of love.shn
  05-wonderbread.shn
  06-james bond theme.shn
  07-one of these mornings.shn
  08-find my baby.shn
  09-in my heart.shn
  10-MOVE.SHN
  11-bring back my happiness.shn
  12-natural blues.shn
  13-sleep alone.shn
  14-dr pavlov and his dogs.shn
  15-southside.shn
  16-we are all made of stars.shn
  17-why does my heart feel so bad.shn
  18-jam for the ladies.shn
  19-bodyrock.shn
  20-HONEY.SHN
  21-machete.shn
  22-porcelain.shn
  23-band intro.shn
  24-feeling so real.shn
  moby_2002-07-15_aiwa.md5
  moby_2002-07-15_aiwa.txt
and Ugly
jorma2002-07-12.shnf
  ├── artist - Track 01.shn
  │    └── artist - Track 02.shn
  │         ├── artist - Track 03.shn
  │         │    ├── artist - Track 04.shn
  │         │         ├── artist - Track 05.shn
  │         │         │    ├── artist - Track 06.shn
  │         │         │         ├── artist - Track 07.shn
  │         │         │         │    ├── artist - Track 08.shn
  │         │         │         │         ├── artist - Track 09.shn
  │         │         │         │         │    ├── artist - Track 10.shn
  │         │         │         │         │         ├── artist - Track 11.shn
  │         │         │         │         │         │    ├── artist - Track 12.shn
  │         │         │         │         │         │         ├── artist - Track 13.shn
  │         │         │         │         │         │         │    └── jk2002-07-12.md5
  │         │         │         │         │         │         │         ├── jk2002-07-12.txt
Fixity
If a recording didn't have fixity information it was worthless, how would you verify that the item was complete?
Open File Formats
Open-Source
SHN, FLAC, APE
Open Access
Everyone hated hoarders who wouldn't trade or share
Multiple copies were a good thing.
Or said another way
Lots of copies keeps stuff safe.
Community around a common set of interests
Welcome to etree.org

This site contains information about etree.org but much of it is outdated. Please visit the etree wiki for the latest information.

Check out the new etree.org discussion forums, where you can get help, trade a show, or just mouth off. Plus its got avatars!

The EtreeWiki is a set of web pages that everyone can update. It is chock full of helpful information, and is probably the best place to read up on the way things work. A lot of the pages here have been re-written and improved over there.

The Trader's Database, db.etree.org, is the definitive resource of source information for concerts in circulation and organizing your collection.


Welcome to etree.org, the award-winning leader in lossless digital audio distribution on the Internet! We are a community committed to providing the highest quality live concerts in a lossless, downloadable format.


To be a part of the etree.org community, you'll need a high-speed Internet connection (cable modem, xDSL, T1, or Ethernet), an FTP client to download the files and a CD-R writer. All necessary software is available for free at the GreenSite. Etree.org uses the Shorten (.shn) audio.
Please Help!

From time to time, all the seeders will jump off a torrent leaving a few folks stuck with a partially downloaded show. Click here to see if you can help someone out. If you have already completed one of the shows please open your window back up until they have completed.

Please keep your BitTorrent download windows open as long as possible! This will speed up the downloads of others and help them finish their downloads faster.

Search: ___________________________ in (all bands) [Search]

Filters:  Hide *RESEEDS*  |  Hide Grateful Dead  |  Hide Phish  |  Hide Grateful Dead and Phish  |  Hide None
**Artist**: Govt Mule

**Show**: Govt Mule w/ John Scofield @ The Sherman Theater, Stroudsburg, PA 3/7/15 (Rode NT3’s- Balcony Source)

**Report this as non-Trade-Friendly**: Email us

**Torrent**: scomule2015-03-07.rode.nt3s.flac16.torrent (click to download)

**Downloads as**: scomule2015-03-07.rode.nt3s.flac16

**Info hash**: 78fb41734f3f427eaf116f866ca7def5a1e3d6fd6f

**Description**: Govt Mule w/ John Scofield
The Sherman Theater
Stroudsburg, PA
March 7, 2015

Source:
Rode NT-3s front row balcony DFC 6 feet up > Edirol R09HR @24/48 > SDHC > Audacity 1.3, EQD, tracks split and dithered/re-sampled to 16/44.1, converted to flac level 8>
Taped by absnj

First Set
101-Soulshine
102-Banks of the Deep End
103-Stoop So Low
104-Outro
105-Whiter Shade of Pale
106-Fallen Down
107-The Other One Jam *
108-Doing It To Death *
109-Jeep on 35 *
110-Kind of Bird *

Second Set
201-Blind Man in the Dark
202-Trouble Coming Every Day *
203-Hottentot *
204-Thorazine Shuffle
205-Encore Call
206-Afro Blue *+

* w/ John Scofield, Guitar
This was yet another sold out Sco-Mule show

Sorry the file numbering is by set, not disc. To burn to CD, please burn d1t01 to d1t09 ti CD 1, d1t10 to d2t04 to CD 2 and d2t05 to d2t06 to CD 3.

| Checksheets | scomule2015-03-07.d1t01.flac:877658c14c2a358340f318e4ee6f703f<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t02.flac:433d913465797a9c76f42518a39de1a<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t03.flac:5df3091b41b7f372dd6d4d75eb283660<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t04.flac:4202ab97711d77df504a90a1428216<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t05.flac:6f9676b7f485a0d7ada25fabe8c9f086c<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t06.flac:25ad3944e618b021286237839d44a5<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t07.flac:0e4c6b2e81a4277ee4d26f7738d456c1<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t08.flac:065160165c50d72ca5175b735061b26d<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t09.flac:047774b8608a7cc9ad1506343a3fc1e4<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d1t10.flac:dbd6793c8f2d263f6c1ec24e7a24d6<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d2t01.flac:865f138c5d45ca3e44d909def63750a<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d2t02.flac:a08f1c01e0f3af27f41e4edbc2af3e897<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d2t03.flac:eae65fe8099dcdb0c91a1b67f971548a<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d2t04.flac:8c900ee6d59c38801825b13f18b0093<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d2t05.flac:a598727312c1fcd1931f3c0f7cb040225<br /> | scomule2015-03-07.d2t06.flac:88357afbc0ed472e8ee9cc2f661960fc<br /> |
| Type | Govt Mule |
| Last seeder | Last activity 12:22 ago |
| Size | 1.021 GB (1095776432 Bytes) |
| Added | 2015-03-09 21:59:59 |
| Views | 0 |
| Hits | 323 |
| Snatched | 217 times |
| Upped by | absnj |
| Num files | 19 files |
| Peers | 86 seeders, 5 leechers = 91 peers total |
We are a social network of like-minded music collectors. Find here recordings ranging from Walt Whitman by Thomas Edison to the concert you attended last week by a dedicated hobbyist or professional. Although no music is downloadable you may find connoisseurs of your favorite artists from around the world in your home town or across the oceans.

Collect
- list management
- add performance
- want list
- attendance

Browse
- collections
- artists
- sources
- venues
- reviews
- b & p offers
- forums

Search
- artists & dates
- sources
- setlists

Find / Trade
- recommendations
- match maker
- tribe
- family

Add to etree
- artist
- torrent
- source
- performance
- offer a b & p

Data Integrity
- merge artists
- correct setlists
- merge shows

Settings
- account
- additions
- fields
- lists
- colors
- import
- export

Et cetera
- rules
- about
- news
- stats
- data
- bugs
- privacy/legal
- contact us

More etree
- search.etreedb.org
- wiki.etree.org
- bt.etree.org
- www.etree.org
- www.archive.org
  hosted at · ibiblio
Welcome to Internet Archive's Live Music library. etree.org is a community committed to providing the highest quality live concerts in a lossless, downloadable format. The Internet Archive has teamed up with etree.org to provide access to these concerts.

**Collections**

- **Grateful Dead**: 10,007 items
- **Phil Lesh and Friends**: 1,915 items
- **Disco Biscuits**: 1,345 items
- **String Cheese Incident**: 1,467 items

**Yearly Statistics**

- **2019**: 1 item
- **2015**: 1,245 items
- **2014**: 9,737 items
- **2013**: 10,706 items
- **2012**: 11,194 items
- **2011**: 11,270 items
- **2010**: 10,496 items
- **2009**: 9,888 items
- **2008**: 9,343 items
- **2007**: 8,729 items
- **2006**: 8,645 items

**Total Items**: 145,006 items

**Total Concerts**: 138,522 concerts

**Total Audio**: 39 audio files
Tape trading gave me an introduction to many of the primary concepts that are important to us interested in digital preservation.
Concepts like:
Information Packages
Fixity Checking, Verification, Moving around content
Concepts of Community, Collection Building
Open Source, Open Standards, Open Access
A desire to create and collect as a way of helping and engaging with others.
These are concepts that many of us in digital preservation work with all the time.
Questions?

Mark Phillips
mark.phillips@unt.edu