

# Sound Directions

Digital Preservation and Access  
for Global Audio Heritage

Indiana University  
Harvard University

# Archives of Traditional Music Indiana University

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- Established 1948 (or 1954?)
- 110,000 recordings
- 1890s to present
- ~~Field~~ 30%
- World music traditions
- Endangered/extinct world languages

# Sound Directions

## Digital Preservation and Access for Global Audio Heritage

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- Collaboration between Harvard University and Indiana University
- Phase 1 an R&D project funded by NEH
- Focus on preservation

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## Digital Preservation and Access for Global Audio Heritage

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### Project Partners

- Archives of Traditional Music, Indiana University
- Archive of World Music, Harvard University
- Harvard College Library Audio Preservation Services
- Digital Library Program, Indiana University
- Office for Information Systems, Harvard University

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## Digital Preservation and Access for Global Audio Heritage

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### Objectives

- Research best practices in areas without standards or best practices
- Develop best practices to meet existing and emerging standards
- Test existing and emerging standards/best practices with a real world project

# Sound Directions Advisory Board

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Peter Alyea

Digital Conversion Specialist, MBRS, Library of Congress

Adrian Cosentini

Audio/Preservation Manager, New York Philharmonic

Carl Fleischhauer

Project Coordinator, Office of Strategic Initiatives, Library of Congress

Chris Lacinak

President, AudioVisual Preservation Solutions

Clifford Lynch

Executive Director, Coalition for Networked Information

George Massenburg

President, GML, LLC

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## Digital Preservation and Access for Global Audio Heritage

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### Results

- Publication—

*Sound Directions: Best Practices for Audio Preservation*

- Software tools
- Development of audio preservation systems
- Preservation of field collections

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## Best Practices for Audio Preservation

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### Standards and Best Practices

- Ensure Quality
- Provide Philosophical/Ethical Foundation
- Encourage Sustainability
- Foster Interoperability
- Provide a Migration Path

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## Best Practices for Audio Preservation

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### Standards and Best Practices

- IASA-TC 03 and TC 04
- Broadcast Wave Format
- AES31-3
- AES-X98-B and C
- METS

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## Best Practices for Audio Preservation

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### Selected Topics

- Digital File Types/Uses for Preservation
- Personnel for Preservation Transfer Work
- Signal Chain/Equipment for Preservation Studios
- Quality Control and Quality Assurance
- Technical and Structural Metadata

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## Best Practices for Audio Preservation

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### Selected Topics

- Selection for Preservation
- Construction/Interchange of Preservation Packages
- Local, Interim Storage
- File Data Integrity
- Local FileNames
- Audio Preservation System Components/Functions

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## Best Practices for Audio Preservation

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### Format

- Preservation Overview section
- Recommended Technical Practices section
- Best Practices
- Rationale
- Background
- Implementation at Harvard and Indiana
- Appendices

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## Best Practices for Audio Preservation

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### Format

- Downloadable PDF
- Sound Directions website

[www.dlib.indiana.edu/projects/sounddirections/](http://www.dlib.indiana.edu/projects/sounddirections/)

# Digital File Types and Uses

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## Best Practice Documents

### Preservation (Archival) Master Files:

- Unmodified
- No subjective alterations or improvements
- Preserve history, not re-write it
- As true to the original source as possible

# Digital File Types and Uses

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## Preservation (Archival) Master Files at the ATM:

- Complete, unaltered stream from playback machine
- Carrier of raw material from transfer
- No editing, signal processing, data reduction, gain manipulation, announcements (slates)

# Digital File Types and Uses

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## Best Practices

- Define purpose of every digital file
- Written guidelines on characteristics of files
- Written guidelines on “technical” and content edits
- Maintain common reference timeline

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## Software Tools—Indiana

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### Field Audio Collection Evaluation Tool (FACET)

- Point-based, collection level
- Analyzes data on condition of field formats
- Returns a risk assessment score
- Formats document
- Procedures document
- Appendices

# FACET

**SEARCH CURRENT RECORDS**

**CREATE NEW RECORD**


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## Software Tools—Indiana

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### Audio Technical Metadata Collector (ATMC)

- Enter/edit technical and structural metadata
- Audio object and process history metadata
- Enter/edit audio object evaluations
- Parse files to collect metadata
- Generate MD5
- Relationships diagrams
- AES-compliant XML export
- Java Swing application

 Edit Audio Object: atm\_67032\_ot1132\_010101\_preservation\_20070409.wav

File name: atm\_67032\_ot1132\_010101\_preservation\_20070409.wav

Status:

Format: Digital file

File Type: WAVE

Audio Encoding: PCM audio in integer format

Bit Depth: 24

Block Align: 3

Sample Rate: 96000.0

Word Size: 3

Byte Order: LITTLE\_ENDIAN

Checksum (MD5): 26191B74742D79C3EEFD25615EB644B0

Checksum creation date: 2007-04-09

Data length: 279380052

Duration (Hours): 0

Duration (Minutes): 16

Duration (Seconds): 10

Duration (Frames): 2

Duration (Samples): 283

Origination Date:

**Edit Audio Object: OT 11119** [min] [max] [close]

Shelf Number: OT 11119

Status:

IUCAT | General | Format | Structure | Evaluation | Old Access Data

Audio Object

- Face 1 (Track 1)
  - Region 1 (1.875 ips)
    - Stream 1 (Stream 1)
  - Region 2 (3.75 ips)
    - Stream 1 (Stream 1)
- Face 2 (Track 2)
  - Region 1 (Region 1)
    - Stream 1 (Stream 1)

Label:

ID:

Notes:  (1 exist)

Duration (h:mm:ss):

Playback Speed:

Speed Adjust:

Brand:

Product Number:

Base Material:

Sound Field:

Equalization:

Noise Reduction:

Track Config:

	IN: Phono 1 left (KAB Preamp)	IN: Phono 1 right (KAB Preamp)	RETURN: Phono 1 left return (KAB Preamp)	RETURN: Phono 1 right return (KAB Preamp)	IN: Left In (Mytek Stereo 96 ADC 051)	IN: Right In (Mytek Stereo 96 ADC 051)	IN: Word Clock In (Mytek Stereo 96 ADC 051)	IN: Input 1 and 2 (Lynx Soundcard)	IN: Input 3 and 4 (Lynx Soundcard)	IN: Input 5 and 6 (Lynx Soundcard)	IN: Input 7 and 8 (Lynx Soundcard)	IN: Word clock In (Lynx Soundcard)	IN: Input (Host Computer)
OUT: Channel 1 Out (SP15 Turntable)	X												
OUT: Channel 2 Out (SP15 Turntable)		X											
SEND: Phono 1 left send (KAB Preamp)													
SEND: Phono 1 right send (KAB Preamp)													
OUT: TRS out left (KAB Preamp)					X								
OUT: TRS out right (KAB Preamp)						X							
OUT: RCA out left (KAB Preamp)													
OUT: RCA out right (KAB Preamp)													
OUT: Digital Out (Mytek Stereo 96 ADC 051)								X					
OUT: Word Clock Out (Mytek Stereo 96 ADC 051)												X	
OUT: Output 1 and 2 (Lynx Soundcard)													
OUT: Output 3 and 4 (Lynx Soundcard)													
OUT: Output 5 and 6 (Lynx Soundcard)													
OUT: Output 7 and 8 (Lynx Soundcard)													
OUT: Word clock Out (Lynx Soundcard)													
OUT: PCI slot output (Lynx Soundcard)													X

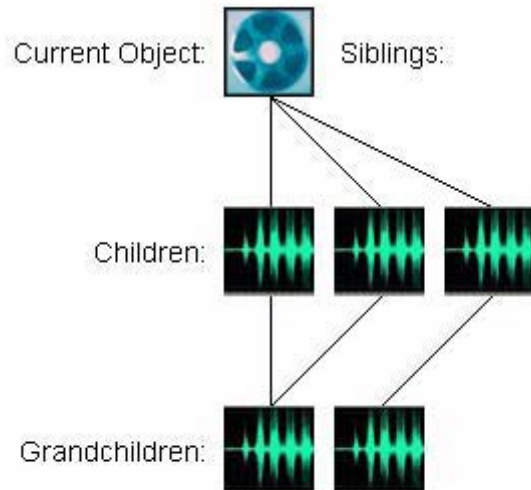
Cancel

OK

## Relationship Graph For OT 11119

Grandparents:

Parents:



Item ID#: OT 11119  
Format: Open reel tape  
Parent of: atm\_99003\_ot11119\_010101\_preservation\_20060515.wav  
Parent of: atm\_99003\_ot11119\_010201\_preservation\_20060515.wav  
Parent of: atm\_99003\_ot11119\_020101\_preservation\_20060515.wav

Show graph for selected

Edit selected

Close

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## Software Tools—Harvard

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### Audio Object Manager and APXE

- Enter/edit technical and structural metadata
- Audio object and process history metadata
- Parse files to collect metadata
- Generate MD5
- AES-compliant XML export
- Java-based applications

Document Tree

- Luciano Berio, October 20, 1993
  - C\_33513\_1\_side\_1
    - Region 1
      - Stream 0
      - Stream 1
  - C\_33513\_1\_side\_2
    - Region 1
      - Stream 0
      - Stream 1

Root Properties

Title: Luciano Berio, October 20, 1993

Item is: ANALOG

Format: audio cassette

Format Version:

Use Type: ORIGINAL\_MASTER

Other Use:

Disposition: Returned to Loeb Music Library

Primary Identifier: C\_33513\_1

Primary Identifier Type: SHELF\_NUMBER

Other ID Type:

Physical Properties

Base Material: Polyester

Stock Brand: Maxell

Object Dimensions

Thickness: 10.0

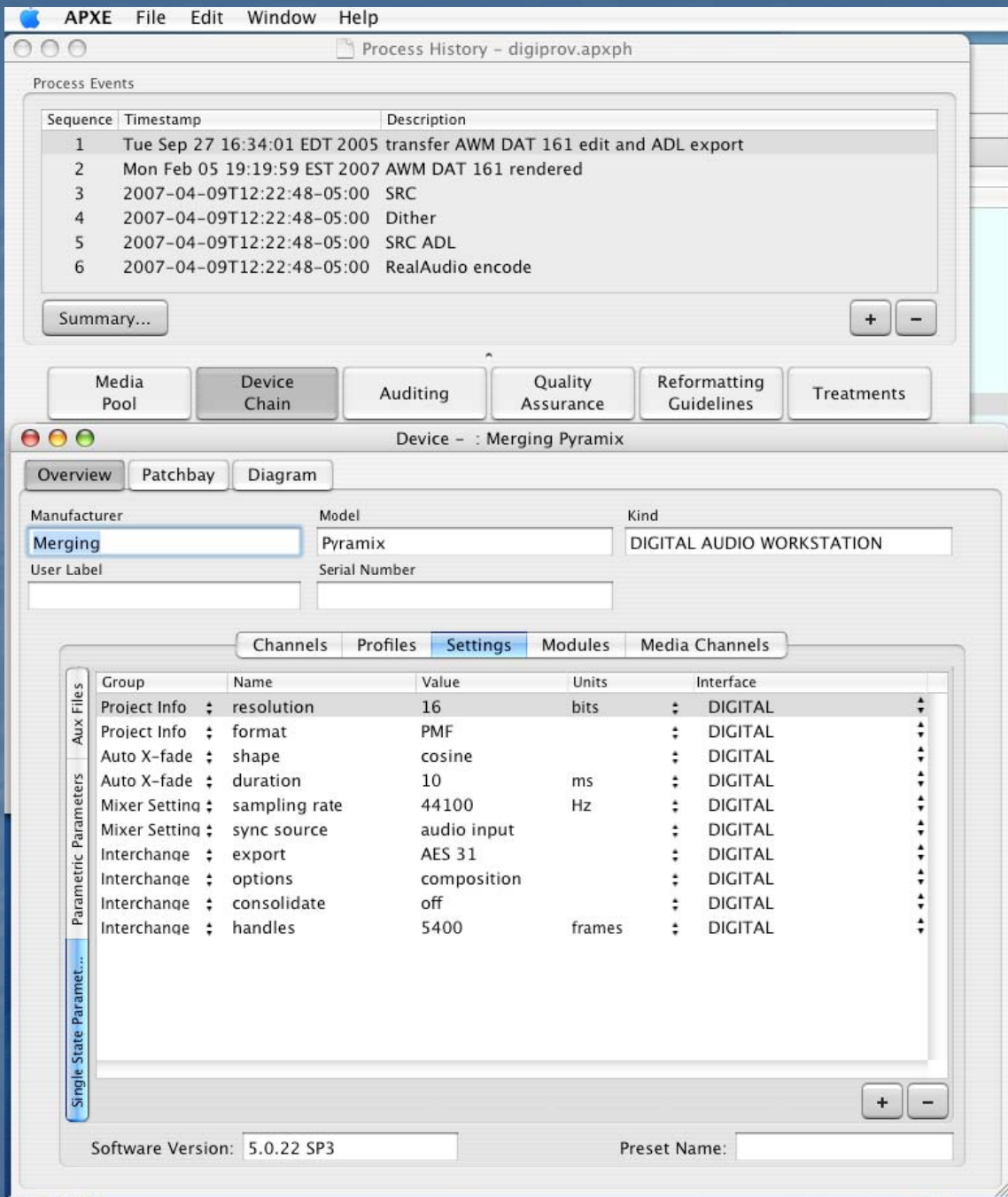
Thickness Unit: microns

Gauge: 0.125

Gauge Unit: inches

Length: 5304.4

Length Unit: inches



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## Software Tools—Harvard

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### Harvard Sound Directions Toolkit

- 40+ open source tools
- Scriptable
- Command line

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## Digital Preservation and Access for Global Audio Heritage

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### Project Future

- “Preservation” Phase funded by NEH
- Increase throughput
- Simultaneous transfer
- Indiana automation
- Release ATMC, Audio Object Manager, APXE
- Develop access system for field collections

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## Digital Preservation and Access for Global Audio Heritage

Indiana University  
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[www.dlib.indiana.edu/projects/sounddirections](http://www.dlib.indiana.edu/projects/sounddirections)