

# altmetrics and Archives

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In this  
presentation

What are **altmetrics**?

How do they **work**?

How can **archives** use them?

**Research**

More **info**



**altmetrics**

is the creation and study  
of new metrics based on  
the Social Web for  
analyzing, and informing  
scholarship

-altmetrics.org

Special Communication | July 11, 2016

## United States Health Care Reform

### Progress to Date and Next Steps FREE ONLINE FIRST

Barack Obama, JD<sup>1</sup>

[+] Author Affiliations

JAMA. Published online July 11, 2016. doi:10.1001/jama.2016.9797

Text Size: **A** A A

Article Figures References



ScienceMatters @SciMts · 7h

This is what happens when @POTUS publishes a paper.

0 views 0 citations but tons of @altmetric points. Awesome reach



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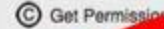
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# How do altmetrics work?

## ○ Systems

- Altmetric, PlumX, ImpactStory
- ResearchGate, PLOS, ScraperWiki, Figshare, Mendeley, Crossref Event Data (beta), CiteULike

## ○ Ad hoc

- Social Media platform-specific mentions, reposts, etc.
- Google Alerts
- Altmetric free tools



# Altmetrics in GLAM

**Assessing  
Institutional  
Repositories**

**Promoting  
altmetrics to  
researchers**

**Tracking  
the impact  
of other  
resources**

**Assessing  
digitized  
special  
collections**



# Research question

Could **altmetrics**  
feasibly be used by, and  
beneficial for, archives?



What  
could we  
be  
tracking?

Mentions of repositories and collections in **social media**

Website, digital collections, finding aid saves in **citation managers**

Reuse of archival and digital library items in **online exhibits**

**and more!**





# Potential Benefits

Tracking **use**

Showing **impact/influence**

Finding unknown and underrepresented  
**audiences**

**Improving** services

Culture of **assessment**

**HOW?**

 **Direct links**

**Repository names**

**Collection names**

**Repository social media**

**Catalog/Discovery tools**

# Challenges

Lack of standards

Dark web

Gaming

 URLs

Multiple versions

Ethics

Context

ToS

Time



If altmetrics are valuable  
to archives, create  
ethical, scalable  
recommendations for  
archives to transparently  
use altmetrics

**Ultimate  
Goal**

# Multiphase study

Phase 1:

look at availability of finding aids  
online



# Methodology

**ArchiveGrid**

**Online  
Finding  
Aids**

**Data  
collect-  
ion**



# Results

## Availability

- 76 repositories had FAs online

## Location

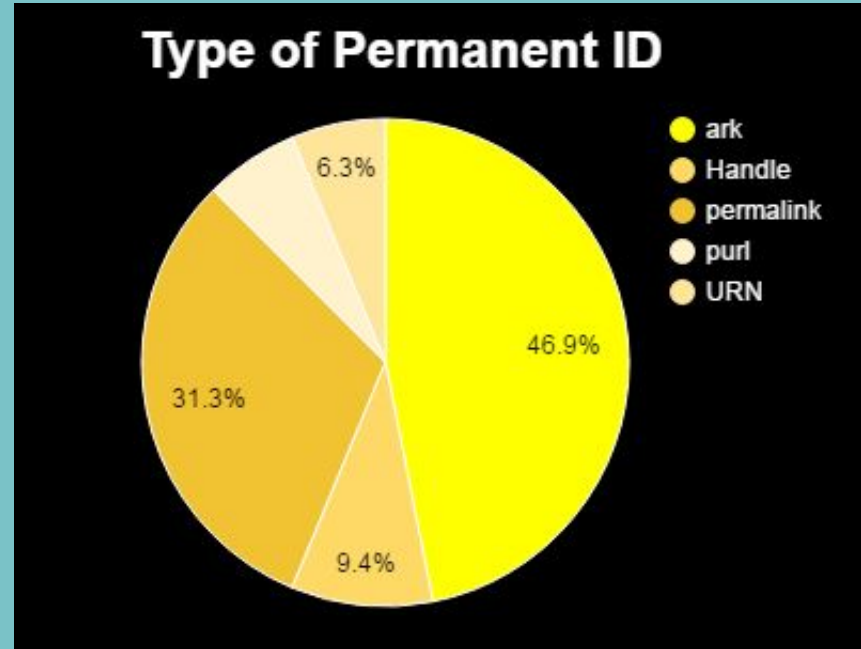
- 76% hosted FAs on their repository website
- 20% hosted in consortial repositories
- 4% on external websites
- 4% had FAs in multiple locations

## Consistency

- 99% had all FAs in the same format(s)
- 58% had FAs in additional formats

# Permanent ID

- 42% used some kind of permanent URI
- 71% of FAs with PIDs were in a consortia repository
- Public libraries were the most likely to have PIDs (57%) followed by museums (47%), historical societies (40%) and university repositories (39%)



*Pie chart of types of Permanent IDs used for online finding aids*





# Conclusions

Since more than half have multiple formats available for their FAs, **base URIs** rather than full URIs are recommended for tracking

Most repositories can set up tracking of their FAs using only **1 base URI**

**Users' abilities** to accurately bookmark or save FAs **may be affected** by lack of PIDs

# Multiphase study

Phase 1:

look at availability of finding aids online

Phase 2:

Look for evidence of finding aid “saves” (Mendeley, CiteULike, Delicious, Slideshare, GitHub, etc)

Phase 3: ?



## More info

- ⦿ [altmetrics.org](http://altmetrics.org)
- ⦿ NISO Alternative Assessment Metrics (Altmetrics) Initiative ([http://www.niso.org/topics/tl/altmetrics\\_initiative](http://www.niso.org/topics/tl/altmetrics_initiative))
- ⦿ Konkiel, Stacy; Dalmau, Michelle; Scherer, David (2015): Altmetrics and analytics for digital special collections and institutional repositories. (<https://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1392140.v1>)
- ⦿ Full bibliography at <https://goo.gl/LaqSXW>
- ⦿ Presentation template by SlidesCarnival

# Thanks!

**Any questions or suggestions?**

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