

Hydra in a Box

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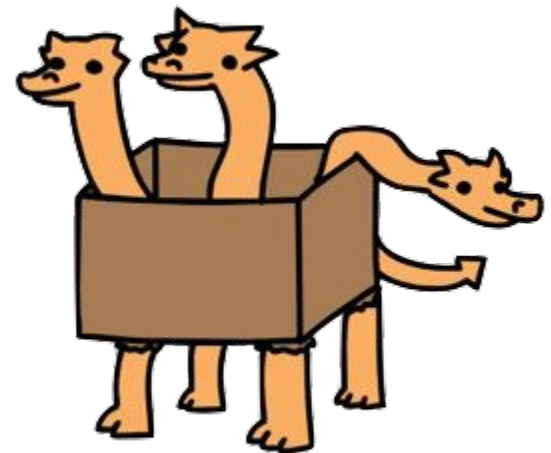
September 22, 2015

Hydra Connect 2015, Minneapolis, MN

<http://bit.ly/hydrainabox-hc2015>

Outline

- Background on the project and grant
- Project goals and partner strengths
- What it is and what it isn't
- Project phases and timeline
- Community engagement



How did this get started?

- Early conversations between Stanford University, DPLA, and DuraSpace
- Recognition that Hydra community and its components had both strong foundations and areas for growth
- Established need for service providers within the Hydra community

Hydra in a Box: The Grant

- Project partners: DPLA, Stanford University, DuraSpace
- 30 month National Leadership Grant from IMLS – largest IMLS grant thus far
- Focuses on fostering a [national digital platform](#) through community-based repository infrastructure
- Leverages and contributes to Hydra, both in code and community

Project Goals

- Development of turnkey, Hydra-based application that leverages and improves on core components.
- Development/integration of metadata aggregation & enrichment tools
- Connect components with DPLA hubs, current Hydra partners, and prospective Hydra adopters
- Work toward a hosted service

Partner Strengths

- **Stanford University**
 - Demonstrated technical & community leadership for Hydra and Fedora; organizational commitment to innovation
- **DuraSpace**
 - Trusted non-profit; demonstrated expertise with Fedora, hosted services, & larger ecosystem
- **DPLA**
 - Experience with metadata aggregation; network of hubs & partners; commitment to open access;

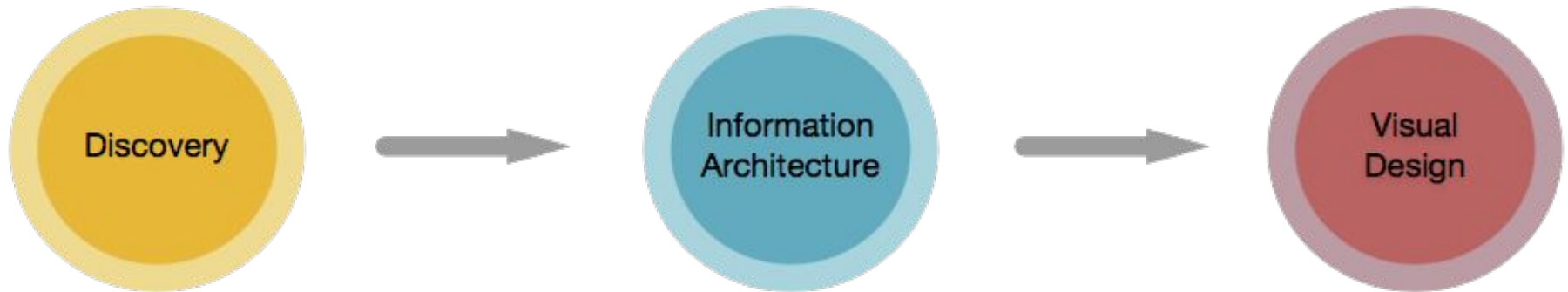
Shared Objectives

- Reduce friction within the repository and DPLA communities
- Develop a best-of-breed, extensible platform with flexible deployment, shared components
- Improve sustainability
- Establish best practices at the network level across implementers and users
- Demonstrate leadership and promote related initiatives and communities

What Hydra in a Box Isn't

- A siloed project, isolated from the rest of the community
- A fork of core components
- All things to all potential adopters
... at least in this phase
- A substitute for programmatic digital stewardship

Design Process



Design Process

- Discovery Phase (Summer - Fall 2015)
 - Literature Review
 - Survey
 - Product and Service Analysis
 - Community Outreach

Literature Review

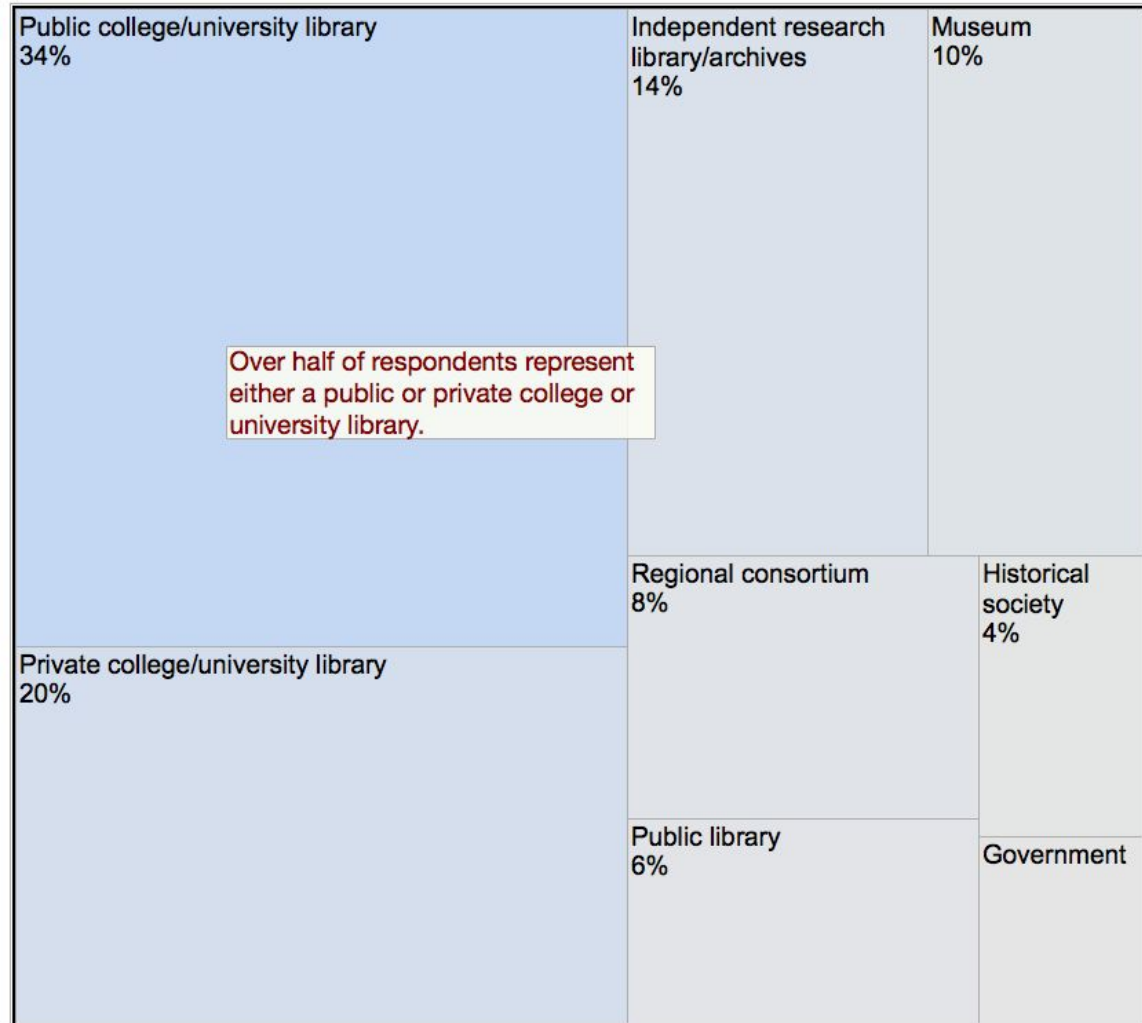
- **Articles, surveys, reports focused on:**
 - Repository comparisons
 - Migration experiences
- **Trending toward open source adoption**
- **Underscores need for a broad-based, singular, sustainable solution**

Survey

256 complete responses

311 repositories

Mostly small,
US academic
libraries



Expectations

- Low-barrier entry to Fedora
- Metadata: easy in, easy out
- Support for multiple content types
- Reduce need for managing multiple repositories
- Easier installation and customization than existing options
- Modular but integrated
- Scalability and migration paths

Survey Insights

- **Satisfaction levels**
 - Users of hosted services tend to be more satisfied than users of local deployments
- **Strengths and weaknesses of existing repository options**
- **System migration**
 - 53% plan to migrate
 - Most to a Fedora-based solution
 - Rest are “not sure” what’s next

Quotes

"We are excited... We rolled our own Fedora/Solr based digital collections platform a couple years ago, and we've been quite happy with it. But quite **precisely because things have been going well**, and we started getting more uptake on it..., we saw the writing on the wall and realized [our] small team... would not be able to maintain a system - at the level of quality we'd like - by coding everything from scratch everytime..."

Interviews & Focus Groups

- Aiming for broad coverage
- Leveraging conferences
 - Hydra Connect :)
 - Minnesota Digital Library
 - Digital Library Forum
 - Mid-Atlantic Fedora Users Group Meeting
 - Code4Lib

Design Process

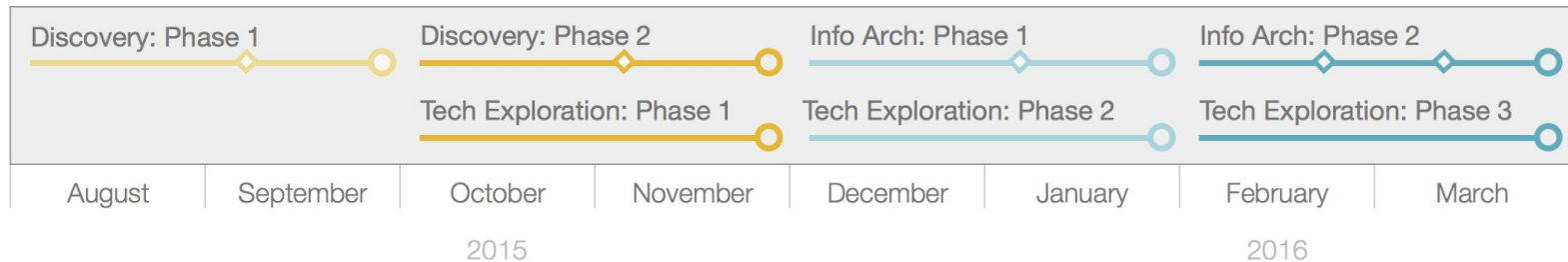
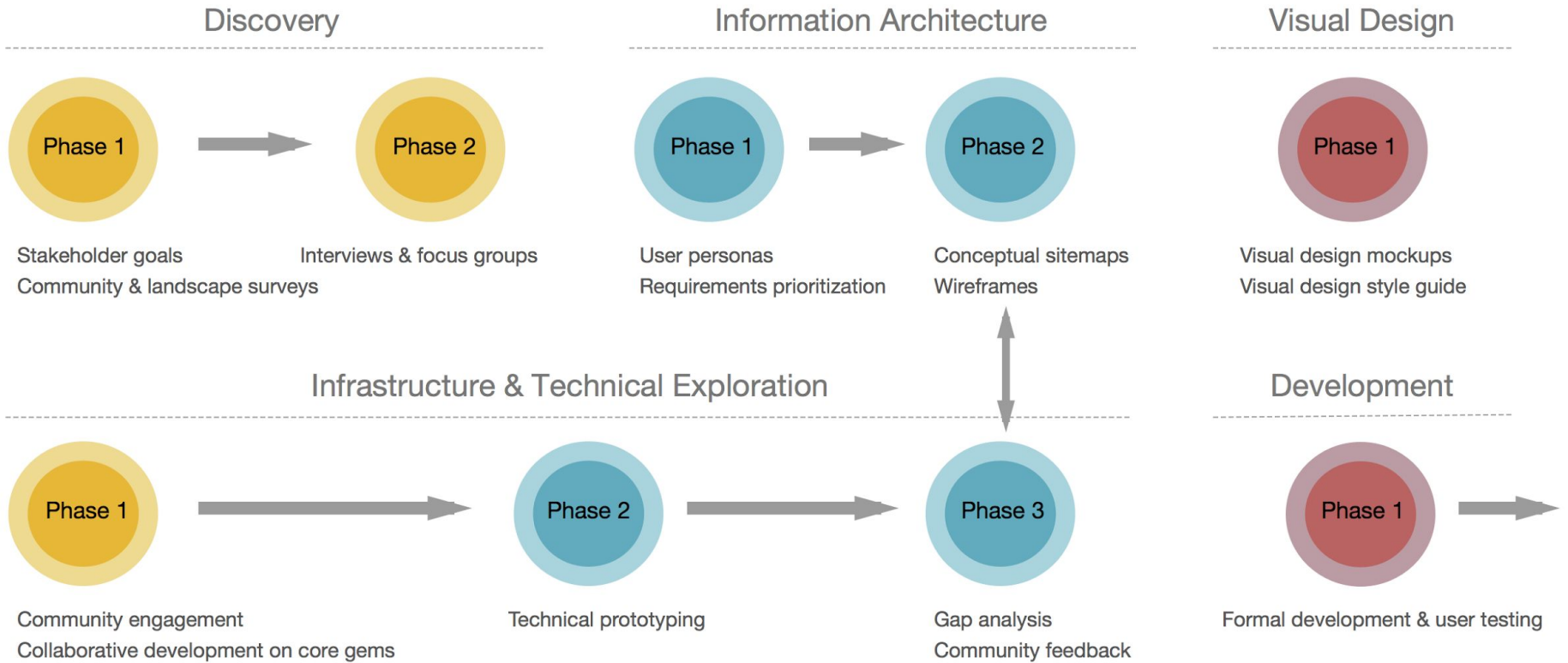
- **Information Architecture (Winter)**
 - User requirements and personas
 - Requirements - functional & technical
 - Models
 - Wireframes
- **Visual Design (Early spring)**

Technical Exploration

- Starting technical work in parallel with user-centered design process
- Working toward a prototype based on existing gems, Fedora 4 and PCDM
- Will run a gap analysis against user requirements

Hydra-in-a-Box Design Process: Tasks & Timeline

Updated 2015-09-18



Community Engagement



Submit your ideas on GitHub

projecthydra-labs / [hybox-ideas](#)

Watch 42

★ Star 4

README.md

Hydra in a Box Ideas

This repository is being used to gather community input for the [Hydra in a Box](#), a partnership between the Digital Public Library of America, Stanford University, and DuraSpace. Issues that are added to this repository are intended to give the project team feedback on potential requirements for the project, and are subject to prioritization along other sources of requirements.

We are working on providing options for contributions that come from individuals without GitHub accounts as well.

For more information on the Hydra in a Box project, please join our [Google Group](#).

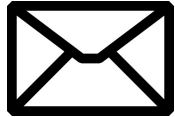
Community Engagement



Visit our website and blog

to be launched in early October

Community Engagement



Public info

hybox-info@googlegroups.com

News and announcements

hydra-community@googlegroups.com

Technical discussions

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Thank you!

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