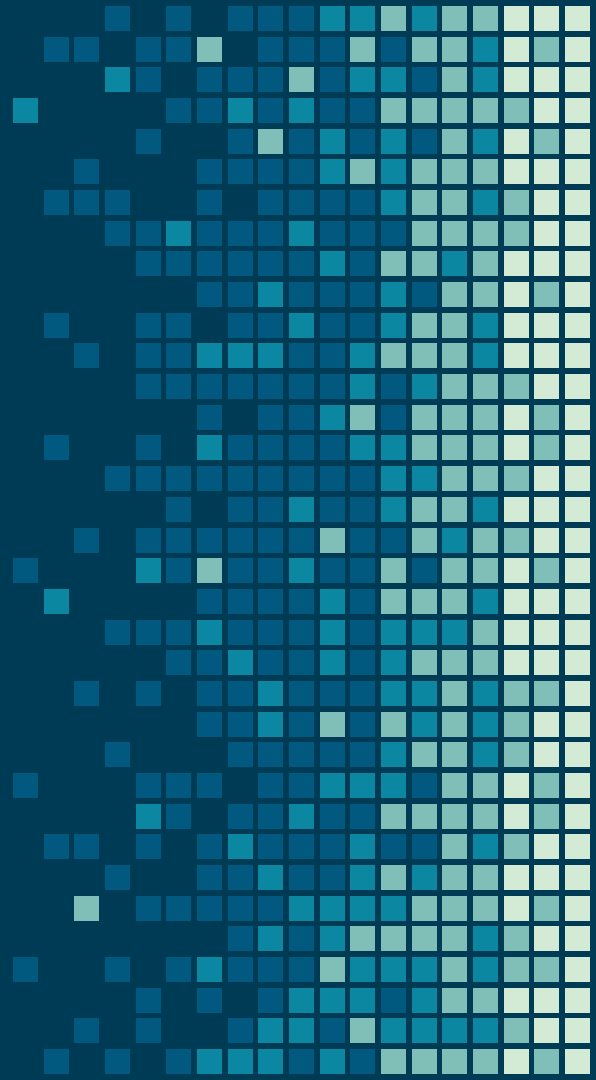


COLLABORATION AS SERVICE

Humanities Librarians, Technologists, and
Researchers

--

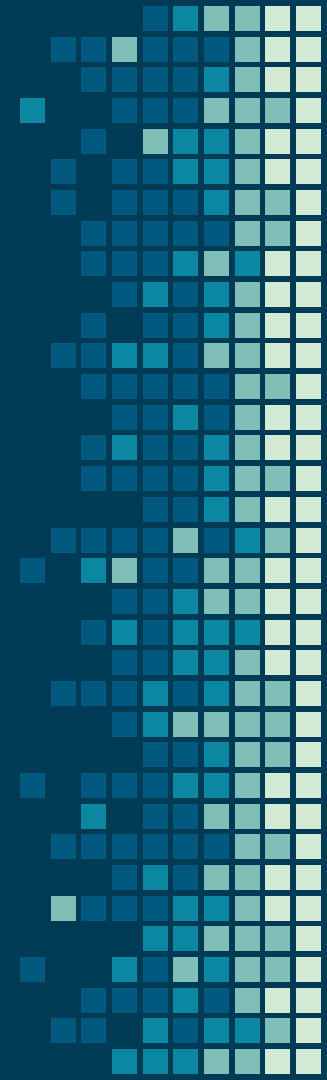
*Kate Dohe, Digital Programs & Initiatives
Manager, UMD Libraries*





A CONFESSION

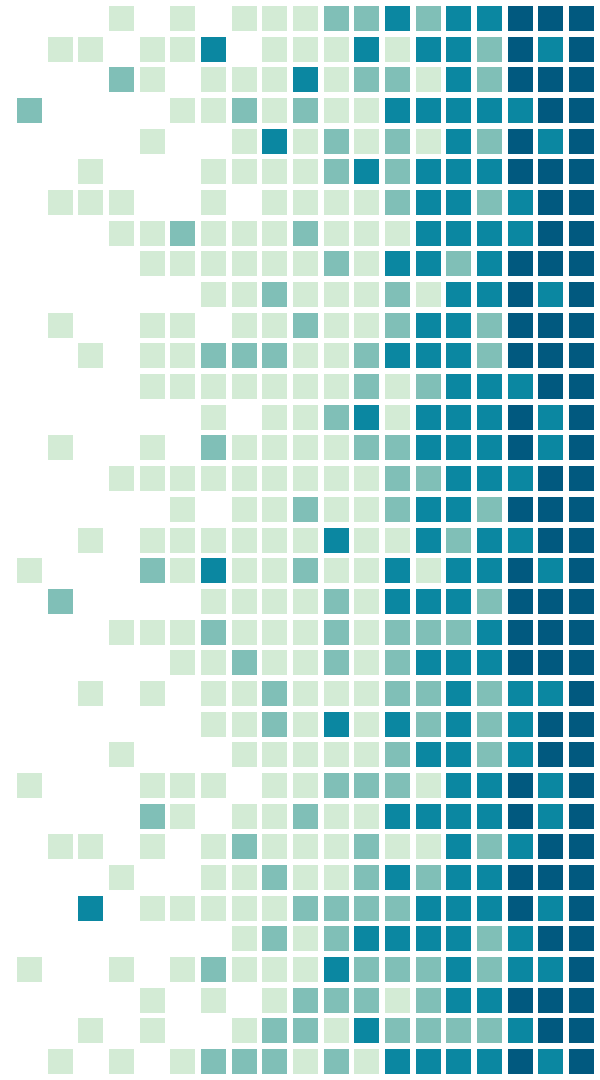
I am not a humanities librarian.



1.

Defining Ground

Scoping Value, Projects, and Labor



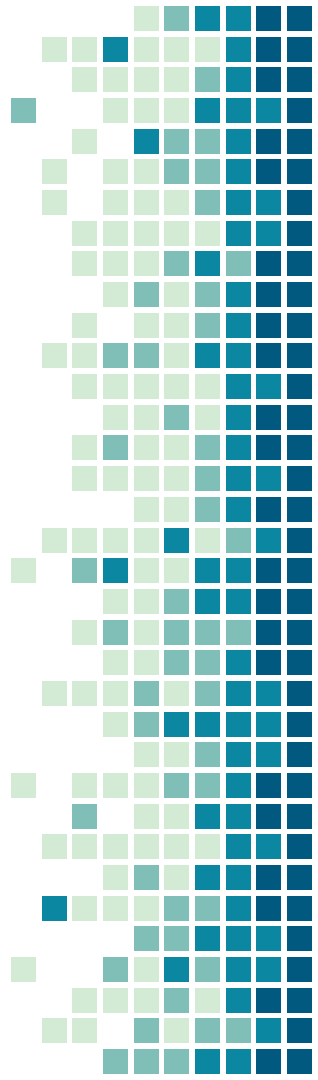
SERVICES / PROJECTS

SERVICES

Ongoing activities and programs in support of the research and instructional mission of the institution.

PROJECTS

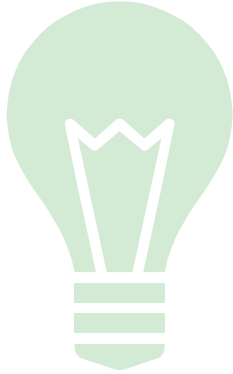
Discrete initiatives with measurable milestones and (theoretically) clearly articulated objectives.



THE RISE OF THE BOUTIQUE

Highly individualized, labor-intensive projects and services require a significant investment of attention and energy by liaison librarians.





How do we know our work and skills are valued? Who values our labor, and to what extent does that value impact our capacity?



INDICATORS OF VALUE

Economic

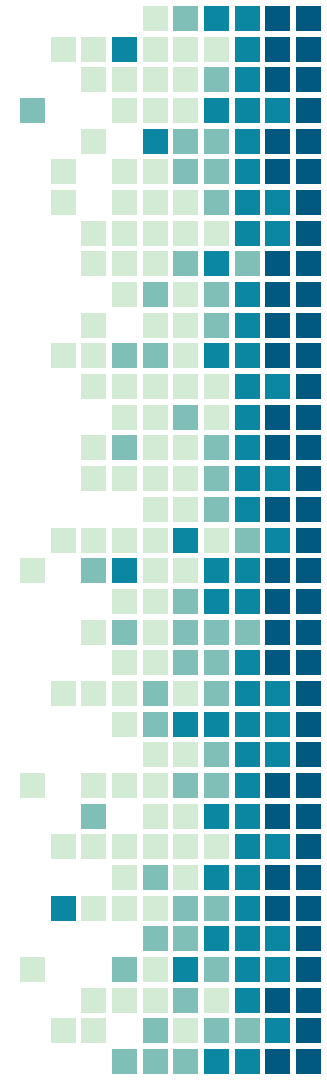
Value is demonstrated through financial support, either directly or indirectly.

Intellectual

Value is manifested through credit and documentation of contributions.

Emotional

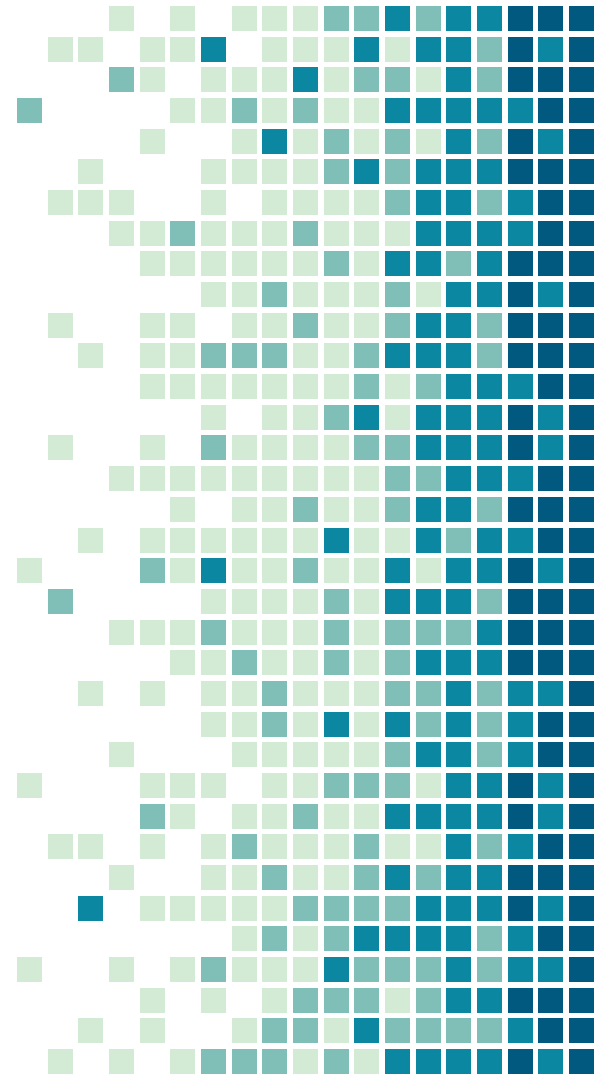
Value is expressed with goodwill, enthusiasm, and "surprise and delight."



2.

INIQUITIES OF VALUE

Collaboration in the Technocracy





COLLABORATION

A skill, a mandate, and a framework

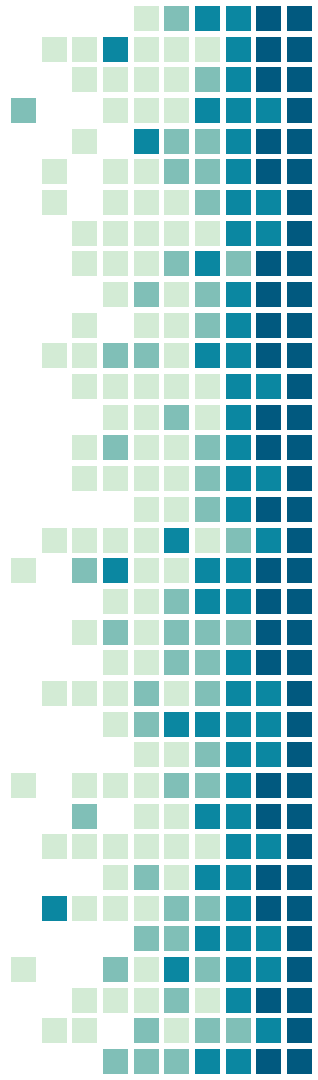
THE COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

- Faculty
- Students
- Functional Specialists
- Developers & Systems
- Institutional Partners



EXPRESSIONS OF VALUE

How is collaboration valued within the context of humanities librarianship, and how does that differ from the value of “functional expertise”?





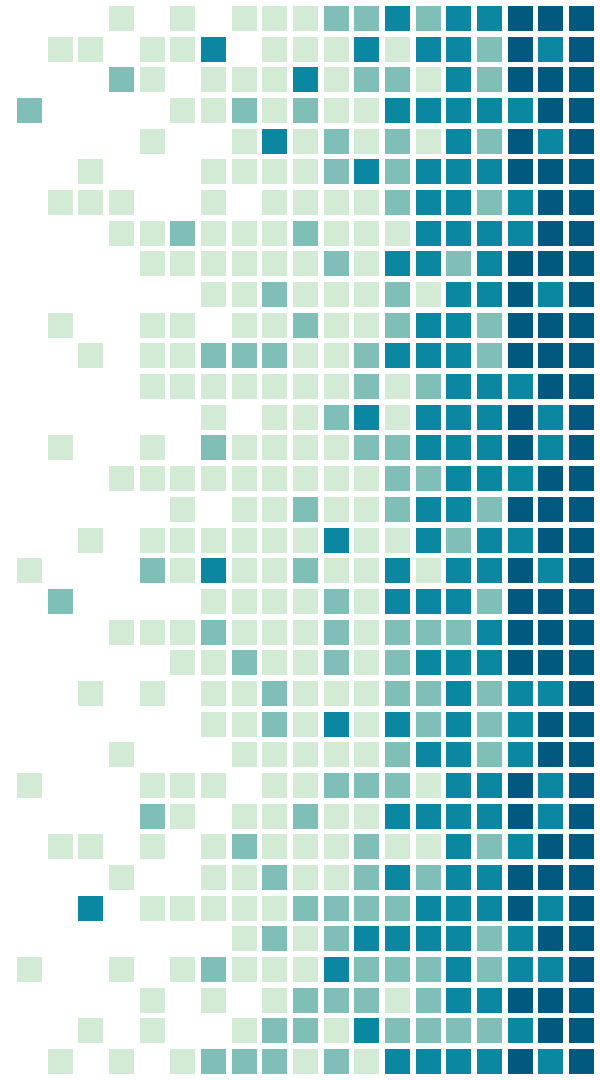
By ignoring librarians and library workers in favor of technology, the Trend Library valorizes the work of library administration and information technology, areas dominated by white men, while devaluing the service, care, maintenance, and manual labor that is at the core of libraries' everyday functioning but is dominated by lower-earning white women and people of color.

- Mirza & Seale 2017

3.

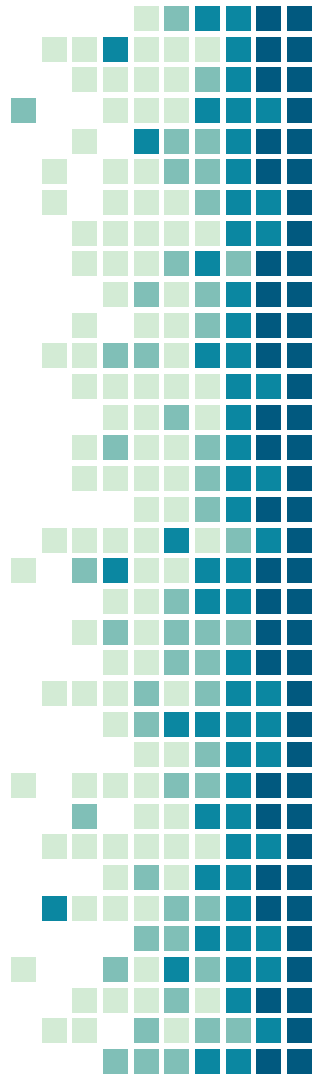
COLLABORATION-AS-SERVICE

Re-positioning expertise

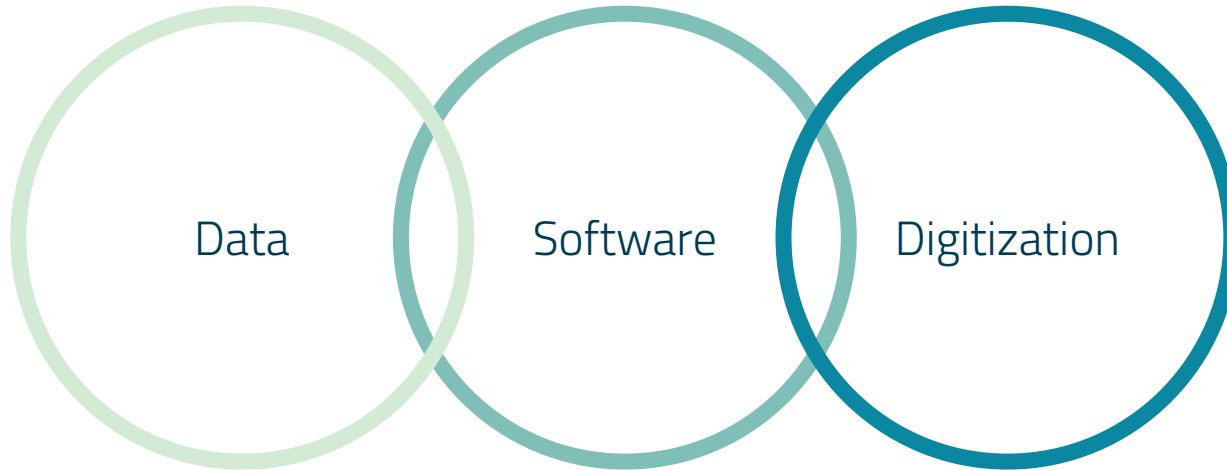


DIGITAL DATA SERVICES AT UMD

We share our unique technological expertise to generate funding that can be reinvested in our libraries.



DIGITAL DATA SERVICES AT UMD



Greater Capacity

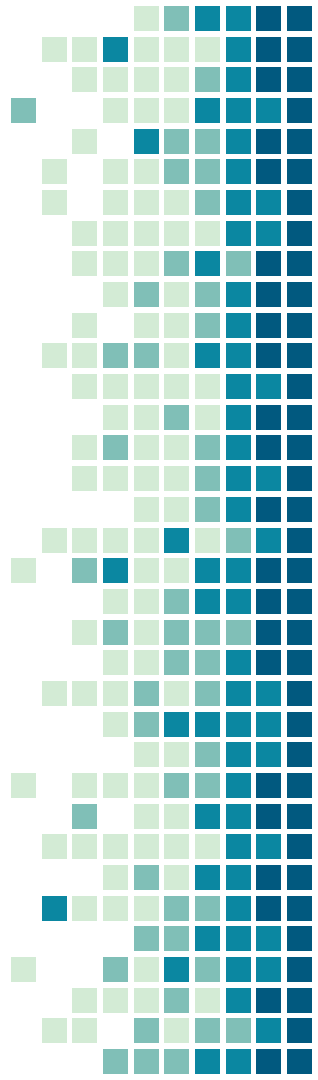
Steady revenue helps us hire more staff

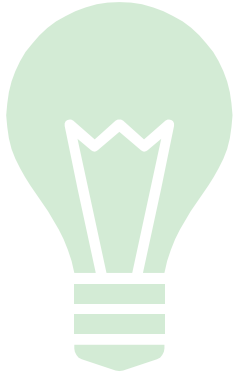
New Expertise

New staff and projects help us learn

More Projects

Library services and internal projects gain support



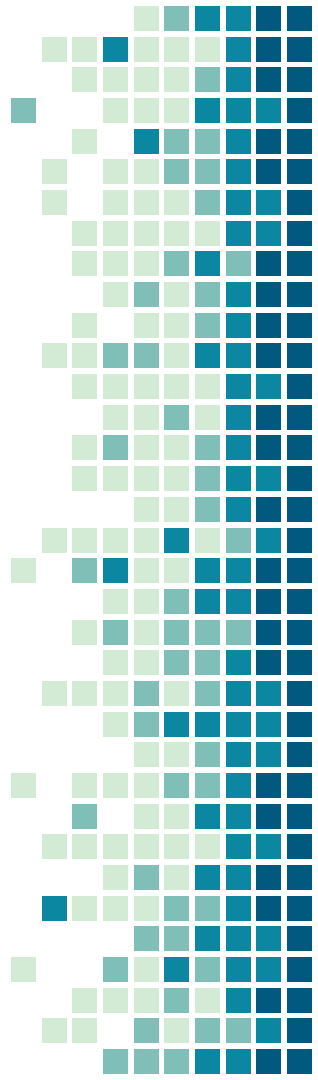


Could the same approach apply
to humanities librarians
engaged in boutique project
support?

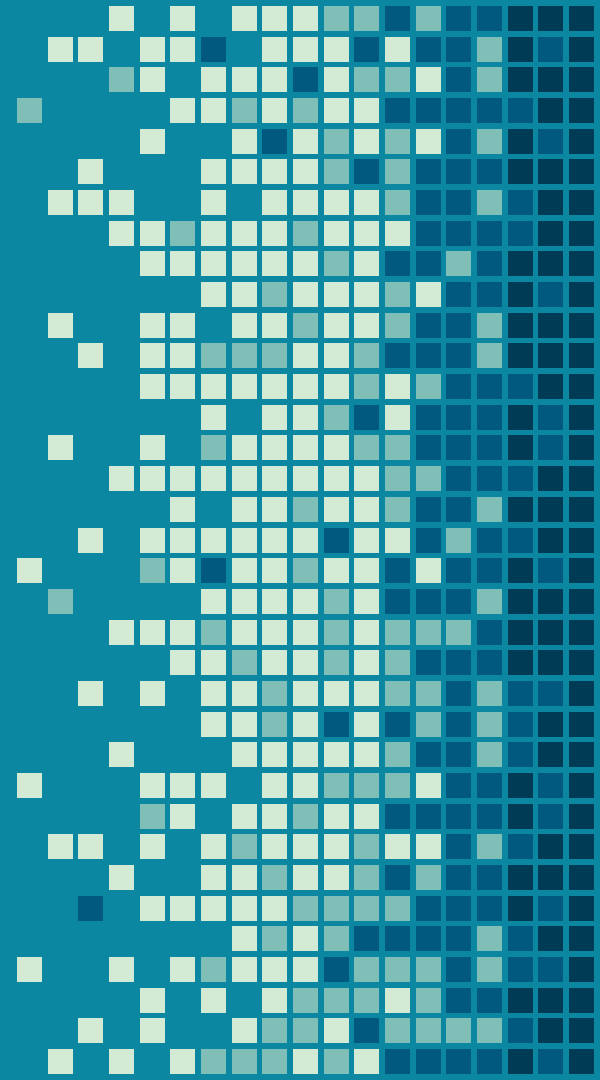


TRANSLATED SKILLS

Many of the unique abilities of humanities librarians--collaboration, communication, research, negotiation, empathy, user analysis--translate to product management work.



“ *The emotional and intellectual labor of librarianship comes with significant costs that can be articulated and measured.* ”



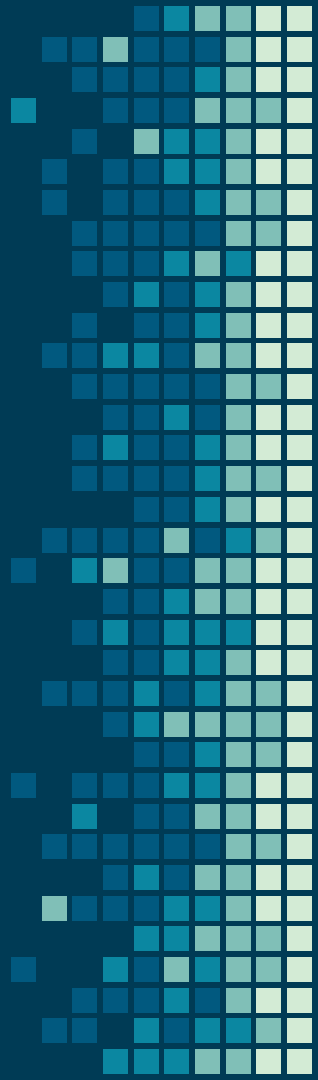
THANKS!

Discussion?

You can find me at:

@katedohe

katedohe@umd.edu



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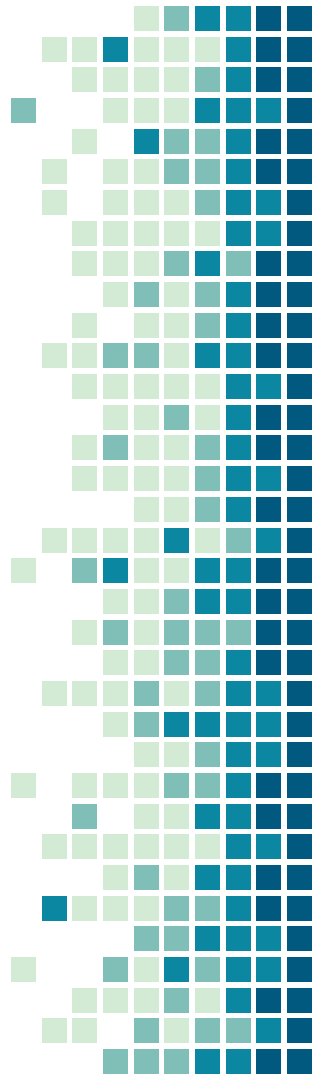
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