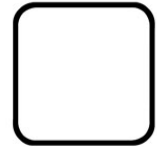University of Cologne
Cologne Center for eHumanities (CCeH)

Institute for Documentology and Scholarly Editing (IDE)

Evaluating Digital Scholarly Editions

Patrick Sahle

Abstract: "Digital Scholarly Editing is one of the core fields in Digital Humanities. It clearly connects one of the most venerable practices and methods of the humanities with the fundamentally different approach of digital scholarship. From the point of view of theory or perhaps even epistemology, we can consider Digital Editing a perfect test case to probe the assumption that there is a "fundamental change" in approach between traditional and digital scholarship. From the point of view of method, we are witnessing the further development and transformation of a method that has been developed over centuries. From the point of view of practice we have yet to identify and then perhaps grant canonical status to current best practices in the creation of scholarly editions. ...

… All three perspectives demand a reliable empirical "fundament" which can be obtained by the criticism, comparison, and careful evaluation of current digital editions. In order to facilitate this, a list of assessment criteria has been created which serves as a basis for extensive reviews published in a dedicated online journal. By discussing the various items on the criteria list, we can observe whether with traditional versus digital editing we are talking about two completely different things or whether the core challenges in editing have to a large extent remained the same."

I.   Scholarly Digital Editions?

II. Editorial Science?

III. Best Practice

    1. Empiricism
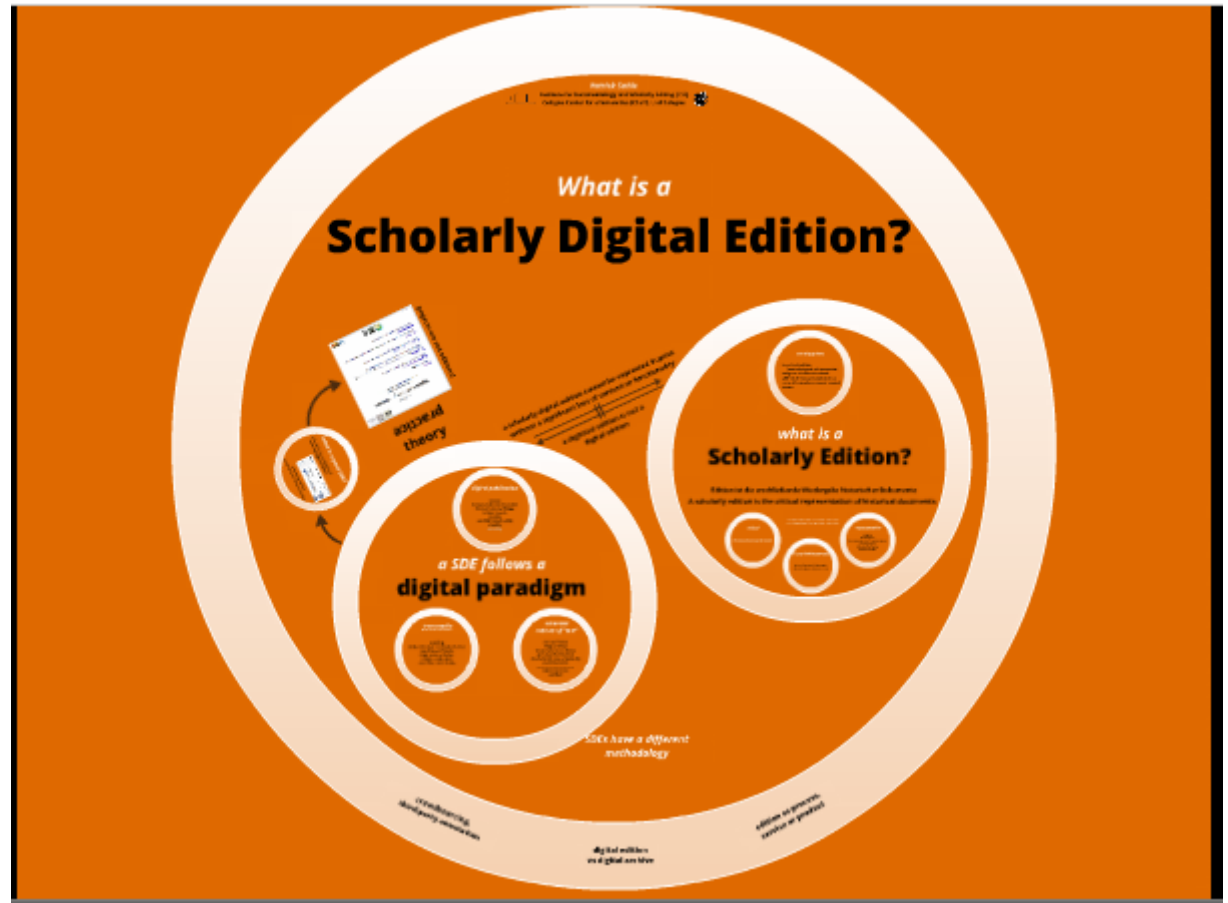
    2. Evaluation Criteria

    3. RIDE

IV. Conclusion

What is a Scholarly Digital Edition?

Everything already said?

Patrick Sahle, Den Haag, 2012, http://prezi.com/mdt8efbe3o3a/

Print forthcoming: Digital Scholarly Editing. Theory, Practice and Future Perspectives. Ed. by Matthew Driscoll and Elena Pierazzo. Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2016

What is a Scholarly Edition?

Edition ist die erschließende Wiedergabe historischer Dokumente

A Scholarly Edition is the critical representation of historical documents.

L'édition scientifique consiste en la représentation critique des documents historiques

What is a Scholarly Edition?

A Scholarly Edition is the critical representation of historical documents

- representation?

- critical?

- documents?

- historical?

What is a Scholarly *Digital* Edition?

A Scholarly Digital Edition is a scholarly edition that is guided by a digital paradigm

- old goals!
    - ground work for further research
    - critically produce the best text possible
    - stabilization, canonization, referencability
- new goals?
    - changing theoretical assumptions
    - new expectations towards editions
    - further usage scenarios

What is a Scholarly *Digital* Edition?

A Scholarly Digital Edition is a scholarly edition that is guided by a digital paradigm

- is published with digital media
- cannot be printed without a essential loss of content or functionality
  → a digitized edition is not a digital edition

What is a Scholarly *Digital* Edition?

A Scholarly Digital Edition is a scholarly edition that is guided by a digital paradigm
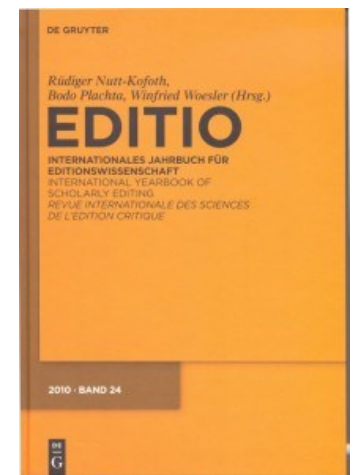
- multimedia

- network

- process over product

- actors and roles

- complexity

- boundlessness?

What is a Scholarly *Digital* Edition?

A Scholarly Digital Edition is a scholarly edition that is guided by a digital paradigm

1. at the heart of the matter?
2. easy: single source principle
3. consequence: transmedialization thesis

Zwischen Mediengebundenheit und Transmedialisierung.
Anmerkungen zum Verhältnis von Edition und Medien.
In: editio 24 (2010), S. 23-36.

What is a Scholarly *Digital* Edition?

A Scholarly Digital Edition is a scholarly edition that is guided by a digital paradigm

„the essence of the current media change is not a transition from analog to digital media but a shift from thinking in media to thinking in models and data"

Editorial Science?

1. a long tradition
2. various approaches and schools
3. electronic and digital editions
4. practice and theory

Digital Scholarly Editing

Theories, Models and Methods

By **Elena Pierazzo**

search for all books by Elena Pierazzo

© 2015 – Routledge

252 pages

Google Preview

HAL
archives-ouvertes.fr

Digital Scholarly Editing: Theories, Models and Methods

Elena Pierazzo

▶ To cite this version:

Call for Papers: Convention 3, 5-7 October '16

organized in association with the European Society for Textual Scholarship (ESTS)
Digital Scholarly Editing: Theory, Practice, Methods • Antwerp, 5-7 October 2016 • Call
for papers • Deadline: 20 March 2016 •

Missed an event? We provide presentation slides and more!

Course materials

Digital Scholarly Editions Initial Training Network

DiXiT is an international network of high-profile institutions from the public and the private sector that are actively involved in the creation and publication of digital scholarly editions.

...rs a coordinated training and research programme for early stage researchers and experienced researchers in the multi-

How to develop digital scholarship?

- theory and practice
- visibility
- discourse & evaluation
- acknowledgement
- credibility, crediting

gfranzini / **digEds_cat**

⊙ Watch 4   ★ Star 8   ⑂ Fork 4

<> Code   ⊙ Issues 123   ⑂ Pull requests 1   📖 Wiki   ∿ Pulse   ⬚ Graphs

Home

Greta Franzini edited this page on 16 Sep 2015 · 22 revisions

What is the *Catalogue of Digital Editions*?

This wiki showcases the research data collection work I did as part of my PhD studies at the UCL Centre for Digital Humanities under the supervision of Prof. Melissa Terras and Simon Mahony. This research seeks to examine best practice in the field of digital editions by collating relevant evidence in a detailed catalogue of extant electronic text projects. The editions included in the Catalogue come from numerous sources and their selection follows basic criteria: the electronic texts can be ongoing or complete projects, born-digital editions or electronic reproductions of print volumes.

Lists of digital editions already exist and have been around for many years:

- Associazione per l'Informatica Umanistica e la Cultura Digitale Wiki
- Digital Classicist
- Dr. Aurélien Berra
- Dr. Paolo Monella (section 2.2)
- Dr. Cinzia Pusceddu
- Dr. Patrick Sahle's Catalog of Digital Scholarly Editions
- Hunter College
- Monastic Manuscript Project
- Projects using the TEI
- UCLA's Catalogue of Digitized Medieval Manuscripts

▼ Pages 5

Home

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Clone this wiki locally

https://github.com/gfranz

⊞ Clone in Desktop
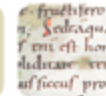
a catalog of

Digital Scholarly Editions

v 3.0, snapshot 2008ff

compiled by Patrick Sahle, last change 2016/02/21

by title
complete list a-z (386)

by general subject area
literature (164), history (158), science history (22), law history (4), art history (10), philosophy (25), music (8)

by material
single works (109), collected works (57), collections of texts (25), single manuscripts (74), letters (58), diaries (17), charters (14), inscriptions (6), papers (38), archival holdings (10)

by language of material
latin (78), english (159), french (31), german (77), italian (14), other (35)

by epoch
antiquity (17), early (25) / high (37) / late (64) middle ages, early modern (69), modern (178)

recommended
some particularly interesting editions/projects (34)

about

W3C XHTML 1.0

digitale-edition.de

web.archive.org/web/20090901104836/http://www.gallimard.fr/multimedia/html/Gide.ht

INTERNET ARCHIVE
WayBackMachine
27 captures
4 Aug 02 - 17 Dec 11

http://www.gallimard.fr/multimedia/html/Gide.html   Go

MAR **SEP** MAY
◀ **1** ▶
2008 **2009** 2011

multimédia Gallimard

Édition génétique des Caves du Vatican d'André Gide

Littérature
Tout public

Un événement majeur de l'édition scientifique de textes littéraires.
Un CD-Rom conçu, élaboré et présenté par Alain Goulet.
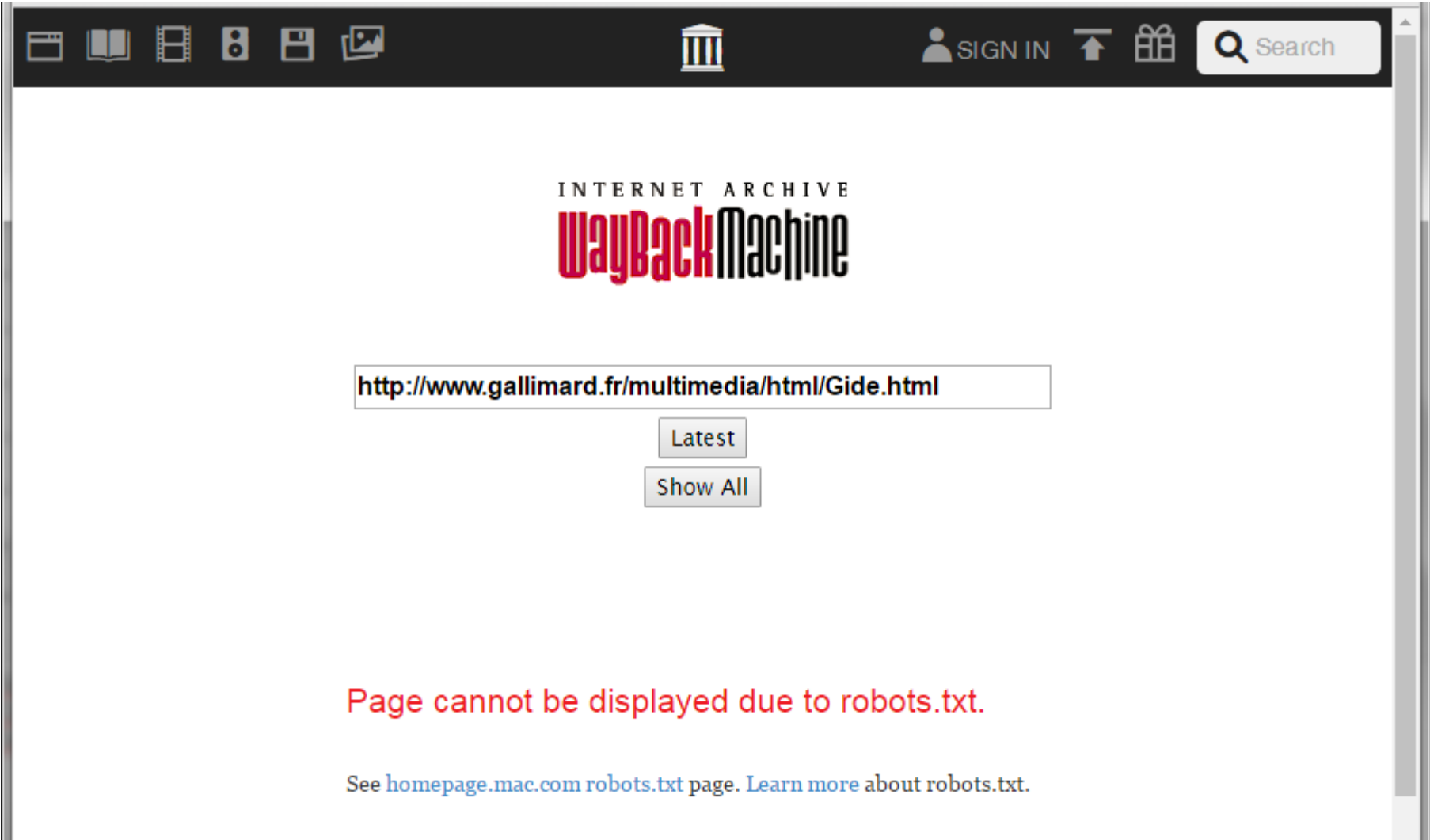Réalisation éditoriale : Pascal Mercier

Ce CD-Rom rassemble l'ensemble du dossier génétique de l'œuvre : documents préparatoires, notes, plans, brouillons, manuscrits… sous la forme d'images des documents originaux et de textes manuscrits. Il met en regard tous ces documents avec le texte de référence des *Caves*, et propose ainsi de suivre la préhistoire de l'œuvre mot à mot, ligne à ligne. Autour de ces textes sont proposés de nombreux dossiers documentaires, historico-critiques, bibliographiques… Cette édition génétique ouvre à de nouvelles interprétations et à de nouvelles lectures des *Caves du Vatican*.

- Plus de 650 brouillons en fac-similé
- De nombreux outils de recherche
- Des dossiers documentaires
- Un document inédit : un scénario de film

Pour faciliter la commande de ce CD-Rom auprès de votre libraire, veuillez lui indiquer le code suivant : A 79716 (SODIS).

« DigiLivres » : LANCELOT (Chrétien de Troyes: Le Chevalier de la Charette)

"Edition intégrale et synoptique des 8 Mss connus". Guy Jacquesson [Guy de Pernon], o.O., 2002. In einer Buchsimulation können immer jeweils beliebige zwei der acht Fassungen auf gegenüberliegenden Seiten dargestellt werden. Die Edition ist als ausführbares Programm aus dem Netz herunter zu laden. Für alle Windows-Nutzer: Der Trick liegt in der Pfeil-Rechts-Taste. Das Projekt ist unter der ursprünglichen Adresse (http://homepage.mac.com/guyjacqu/lancelot.html) im Jahr 2012 nicht mehr erreichbar. Die Wayback-Machine hat für die Startseite einen Stand von 2008 gespeichert.
In gleicher technischer Weise sind auch **andere Werke** verfügbar:

INTERNET ARCHIVE
WayBackMachine

http://www.gallimard.fr/multimedia/html/Gide.html

Latest

Show All

Page cannot be displayed due to robots.txt.

See homepage.mac.com robots.txt page. Learn more about robots.txt.

1820   1830   1840   1850   1860   1870   1880   o. J.

AES B0006 | CH-BAR#J1.67#1000/1363#124*

Rudolf Bollier an Alfred Escher, s.l., s.d.

Edierter Text   **Diplomatischer Text und Bild**   Bild und diplomatischer Text   Digitalisat

Mein Lieber

Herr W. ist damit einverstanden, daß man
zu einer Besprechung also noch eintrette
— sobald Deine Gesundheit es erlaubt —
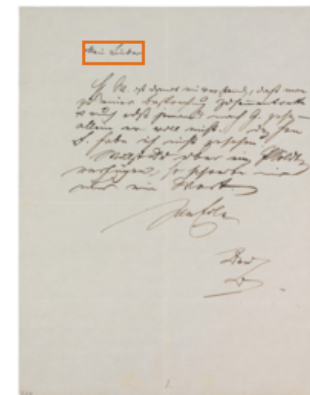allein er will nicht. Den Herrn

F. habe ich nicht gesehen.

Willst Du über einen PSoldten
verfügen, so schreibe mir
nur ein Wort.

In Eile

Dein

B

Why evaluate?

- contribute to the discussion on theory and practice
- secure good practice
- consolidate methodology
- improve usability through convergence
- foster acknowledgment and crediting

Evaluation guidelines?

- Fotis Jannidis: Bewertungskriterien für elektronische Editionen, 1999
- MLA/CSE
  - Guidelines for Editors of Scholarly Editions, 2011
  - Considering the scholarly edition in the digital age: a white paper …, 2015
- DFG: funding criteria for scholarly editions in literary studies, 2015

Weitere Schriften

Kriterien für die Besprechung digitaler Editionen

Digitale wissenschaftliche Editionen werden sich nur durchsetzen, wenn sie im akademischen Diskursraum explizit verhandelt werden. Besprechungen und Rezensionen können dazu beitragen, Editionen in diesem Diskurs zu verorten, eine best practice zu etablieren und die Methodendiskussion voranzutreiben. Das IDE hat einen Kriterienkatalog als Richtlinie zur Besprechung und Evaluation digitaler Editionen erarbeitet.

- Version 1.1.: deutsch | english | italiano
- Version 1.0.: deutsch

Publikationen

RIDE

Schriftenreihe

Bd. 1: Bernhard Assmann, Patrick Sahle: Digital ist besser

Bd. 2: Kodikologie und Paläographie im digitalen Zeitalter / Codicology and Palaeography in the Digital Age
  ↳ Call for Papers: Kodikologie und Paläographie im digitalen Zeitalter
  ↳ Call for Papers: Codicology and Palaeography in the Digital Age

Bd. 3: Kodikologie und Paläographie im Digitalen Zeitalter 2 / Codicology and Palaeography in the Digital Age 2
  ↳ Kodikologie und Paläographie im Digitalen

Criteria for Reviewing Scholarly Digital Editions, version 1.1

Patrick Sahle; in collaboration with Georg Vogeler and the members of the IDE; Version 1.1, June 2014 (Version 1.0, September 2012 – January 2014; German version 1.1: http://www.i-d-e.de/reviews/kriterien-version-1-1

Major contributions to this English version by: Misha Broughton, James Cummings, Franz Fischer, Philipp Steinkrüger, Walter Scholger.

Preliminary remarks

Scope

Definitions. This paper provides a framework for the description and evaluation of scholarly digital editions (SDE).[1] A scholarly edition is an information resource which offers a critical representation of (normally) historical documents or texts. Scholarly digital editions are not merely publications in digital form; rather, they are information systems which follow a methodology determined by a digital paradigm, just as traditional print

Criteria for Evaluation

0. frame of application
1. preliminaries
2. subject and content
3. aims and methods
4. publication
5. conclusion

Criteria for Evaluation

frame of application

- definition of SDE: see above
- what's in – what's out?
  - in: wide range of material, approaches, schools
  - out: digital libraries / archives, corpora, retrospectively digitized editions
- "scholarly"
  - critical stance; academic quality
  - make your approach explicit; state your rules and act accordingly

Criteria for Evaluation

application of criteria

- general criteria & special criteria
- consider the background / conditions
  - material, transmission
  - theory and method
  - goals and aims
  - resources (time & money)
- mature publication vs. suggestions for improvement
- problem of double qualification

Criteria for Evaluation

preliminaries / opening the review

- profile of the reviewer (bias, competences)
- bibliographic description
- general introduction:
  what is the edition about?
- general framework of the edition:
  participants, roles, resources

Criteria for Evaluation

subject and content

- what does the edition contain?
  - primary material
  - edited material
  - critical material
  - additional material
- how does the edition relate to research?

Criteria for Evaluation

aims and methods

- theory approach? editorial school
- representation of documents and texts
- critical input: textual criticism, indexing, commentary
- data models

Criteria for Evaluation

publication I

- technical infrastructure

- interface and usability
  (text presentation, browse, search, indices, special features)

- metadata and interlinkage

- documentation

Criteria for Evaluation

publication II

- identification & citation
- licenses and rights
- spin-off, export formats, re-use, technical interfaces
- future outlook and sustainability
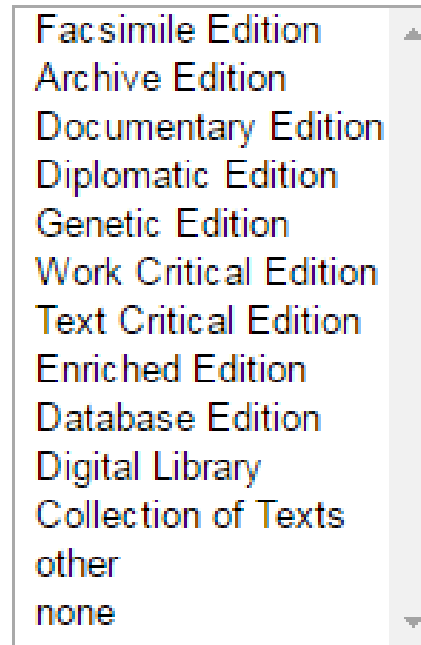
Criteria for Evaluation

conclusion

- terminology discussion: labeling and classification

Typology   cf. Catalogue 3.3 and 5.1 ℹ️

Which type fits best for the reviewed project?

```
Facsimile Edition
Archive Edition
Documentary Edition
Diplomatic Edition
Genetic Edition
Work Critical Edition
Text Critical Edition
Enriched Edition
Database Edition
Digital Library
Collection of Texts
other
none
```

other: [choose 'other' above]

Criteria for Evaluation

conclusion

- terminology discussion: labeling and classification
- realization of self set aims
- general requirements / state of the art
- specific contribution / particularities
- usability, usefulness, quality
- suggestions for improvement

Melville's Marginalia Online, by Elli Bleeker

Hovering over the word cloud will pause rotation. To read a review, click on a word cloud or go to the table of contents.

News

It has been an eventful summer for the RIDE team and hence we could not complete the issue until now, but here it is: **Issue 3 is** out!

Call for Reviews

Would you like to contribute a review to RIDE? You can either suggest to review a project of your own choosing or look up our list of projects that need reviewing.

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Help us spread the word and share!

Access the Reviews

You can browse the issues chronologically, use the tag map or the search engine on the top of this page.

Review Data

RIDE gathers data about reviewed projects in order to facilitate research about the state of digital projects. Have a look at our charts or download our data

Follow us

Follow us on Twitter or subscribe to the newsletter to receive information about new reviews.

There are also feeds: RSS, PDF and

ride – a review journal for digital editions and resources

- three issues, fourth in preparation
- goal: biannual publication
- five articles per issue
- blind peer review process
- fact sheets & tags
- managing editor, additional editors, guest editors, review-reviewers

empirical data?

ride – a review journal for digital editions and resources

- crediting and acknowledgment?
real research articles in an international peer reviewed journal!
- published online (ISSN, DOIs forthcoming); PDF in institutional repository (?), printed volumes (?)
- open for reviews!
  - suggested editions vs. free choice
  - language policy
- special issues are possible

Conclusion

- large body of more or less experimental digital editions
- large body of theory reflection
- increasing convergence in theory, methods and practice
- digital editions not as an exception but the rule
- towards a stabilized best practice? Towards standard solutions?