Digital Modelling
(modelling the digital edition)

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What are we talking about?

What is a Scholarly Digital Edition?

1. What is a Scholarly Edition?
2. What is a Scholarly Digital Edition?
3. SDE vs. DSE?
What is a Scholarly Edition?

Definition?

- goal: cover all kinds of editions
- result: “a scholarly edition is the critical representation of historical documents”
- … four argument places left open …
What is a Scholarly Digital Edition?

- a scholarly digital edition follows a digital paradigm
- test: can it be printed without a major loss of content or functionality?
- slogan: a digitized edition is not a digital edition!
Aspects of a Scholarly Digital Edition

- goals
- contents
- hypertextuality, linkage, boundaries
- product vs process
- content vs media
Contents of an edition?

- setting boundaries:
  - define the subject of the edition
  - text vs context

- blurring boundaries:
  - linkage & integration
  - edition vs. archive
a catalog of

Digital Scholarly Editions

v 3.0, snapshot 2008ff
compiled by Patrick Sahle, last change 2014/04/30

by title
complete list a-z (332)

by general subject area
literature (146), history (164), philosophy (20), music (5)

by material
single works (96), collected works (54), collections of texts (20), single manuscripts (64), letters (46), diaries (15), charters (12), papers (35), archival holdings (9)

by language of material
latin (64), english (145), french (24), german (65), italian (13), other (28)

by epoch
antiquity (10), early (20) / high (30) / late (57) middle ages, early modern (60), modern (158)

recommended
some particularly interesting editions/projects (32)
“What is text? I am not so naïve as to imagine that question could ever be finally settled. Asking such a question is like asking ‘How long is the coast of England?’.” (J. McGann)

“Text is what you look at. And how you look at it.” (P. Sahle)
Modelling the text

- text (in the edition) as representation of documents / texts
- two kinds of people
  - platonic notion
  - materialistic notion
- looking into two directions
  - backward: document analysis, document model
  - forward: forms of presentation
Text (as representation of text) as spectrum

documents

facsimile
detailed transcription

diplomatic text

normalised text

corrected text

edited text

modernised text

translated text

text as information
a pluralistic notion of text

text as idea, intention, meaning, semantics, sense, content

text as a visual object, as a complex sign

text as document: physical, material, individual

text as a version of ..., as a set of graphs, graphemes, glyphs, characters, etc. (... having modes ...)

text as a work, as rhetoric structure

text as linguistic code, as series of words, as speech
What is it good for?
Locating Technologies

SIG Ontologies
SIG Text & Graphics
SIG Manuscripts
TEI
SIG Linguists

TEXT_v
TEXT_w
TEXT_d
TEXT_l
TEXT_g
What is it good for?
Understanding transcription
What is it good for?
Describing editions

SAIN'T PATRICK'S CONFESSION
Read what St Patrick actually wrote in his own words

'My name is Patrick...
I am a sinner, a simple country person, and the least of all believers. I am looked down upon by many.

My father was Calpornius. He was a deacon; his father was Politus, a priest, who lived at Bannavem Taburniae.

His home was near there, and that is where I was taken prisoner.
I was about sixteen at the time.

Continue reading the words of St Patrick...

See St Patrick's Confessio in the 'Book of Armagh' or in one of eight medieval manuscripts that have survived.

See the earliest prints of St Patrick's Confessio or an important twentieth century edition.

Introductory Video
Booklet and eBook

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http://www.confessio.ie/#
### Medieval & Modern Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age

#### What is it good for? Describing editions

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- **Dublin**, Book of Armagh, TCD 52 (‘D’, 9th cent.)
- **Paris**, BnF lat. 17626 (‘P’, 10th cent.)
- **London**, BL Cotton Nero E.1 (‘C’, 10th/11th cent.)
- **Rouen**, BM 1391 (‘R’, 11th cent.)
- **Salisbury**, Cathedral Library 221 (‘G’, 11th/12th cent.)
- **Salisbury**, Cathedral Library 223 (‘F’, 12th cent.)
- **Arras**, BM 450 (‘V’, 12th cent.)
- **Oxford**, Bodleian Rawlinson B 480 (‘O’, 17th cent.)

**Print editions**

- J. Ware (1656)
- D. Papebroch (v, 1668)
- N.J. White (1905)
- J. Gwynn [transcript] (1913)
- E. Gwynn [facsimile] (1937)
- L. Bieler (1950/1966)

**Special Features**

- On St Patrick’s writings (article)
- Bibliography
- Dictionary entries
- Muirchú’s text (Latin)
- Muirchú’s text (English)
- Tírechán’s text (Latin)
- Tírechán’s text (English)
- Pillars of Conversion (article)
- On Tírechán (article)
- On St Patrick in Art (article)
- Seeking Patrick (novel & audio book)
- Confessio dialogue (audio feature)
- Key to Symbols & Abbreviations
- Downloads
What is it good for?
Describing editions

- Book of Armagh
- Facsimiles
- Manuscript descriptions
- Diplomatic transcription (Book of Armagh)
- Bieler’s annotated Copy of White’s edition
- Critical text
- editio princeps etc.

Commentary
Articles
External references
Translations
White edition (work structure)

Franz Fischer: All texts are equal, but... Textual Plurality and the Critical Text in Digital Scholarly Editions. Variants 10 (2012) – The Journal of the European Society for Textual Scholarship, 77-92. online: http://kups.ub.uni-koeln.de/5056/
modelling a text

metadata on the digital representation

facsimile

writing zones

layout

page / column / line breaks

material features

bibliographic description

commentary

pre-interpretation for analysis

named entities

work structure

genre specific structure

textual criticism

basic characters

editorial punctuation

corrections

abbreviations/expansions

special glyphs

original punctuation
From representation to presentation

- technique: single source principle
- theory: transmedialization
- politics: digital, print, hybrid
- practice: conceptualization, structure, design of publication
Modelling presentation

- display(s) of text
- internal & external linkage
- registers and indices
- browsing & navigation structures
- search interface and tools
- visual metaphors
- general layout
- addressability
- documentation
Modelling project and workflow

- team, collaboration and roles
- data modelling
- where do the basic data come from?
- transcription, encoding, annotation rights!
- backend and server infrastructure
- transformation and processing
- creation of frontend
- long term perspective
further readings


• Sahle, P.: What is a Scholarly Digital Edition (SDE)? [forthcoming; preprint available upon request]