

The Catalogue of Digital Editions

A web application to browse, curate and analyse digital editions

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Since 2012 the *Catalogue of Digital Editions* has been cataloguing digital editions in an effort to survey and identify best practice in the field of digital scholarly editing.¹ Initially published online as a comma separated value (.csv) file, in July 2016 the *Catalogue* was transformed into a web application to allow users to download, browse, search and filter the data around their research interests.² Users are also encouraged to contribute new projects and to curate existing data to help the *Catalogue* grow in a participatory fashion.

The goal of the *Catalogue of Digital Editions* is to shape a usable and useful platform to showcase community research as structured data, which can be reused and integrated into other initiatives (e.g. library catalogues or research projects).

Among the many developments of the past year, notable are the addition of a news and Twitter feed to communicate updates; the inclusion of Piwik tracking³ to study project outreach; the provision of two options (GitHub and a Google Form) to help users contribute data and report issues; a bulk-download option to facilitate reuse; outlinks to reviews of digital editions published in the RIDE Journal⁴; and a map to visualise the geographical distribution of the data.

At present, the project team is completing an analysis of the results of a survey entitled 'Expectations of Digital (Textual) Editions'⁵, circulated between March and April 2017 to collect information from the community about the needs of those who use digital editions. The survey logged 218 complete responses, and the results will be made available via the *Catalogue of Digital Editions* website to help creators of digital editions shape future projects. Looking ahead, the project seeks to catalogue more digital editions, especially from those parts of the world it currently underrepresents; to better link the data to the Linked Open Data cloud (i.e. mapping the data to an RDF Schema and to other widely used vocabularies, including Dublin Core); to further improve the functionality and the interface of the web application; and to conduct a survey to find out how the *Catalogue* is being used and what can be done to address user needs.

¹ See: <https://dig-ed-cat.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/> For an early description of the *Catalogue*, see: Franzini, G., Mahony, S., and Terras, M. (2016), 'A Catalogue of Digital Editions', In: Pierazzo, E. and Driscoll, M. J. (eds) Digital Scholarly Editing: Theories and Practices. Open Book Publishers, pp. 161-182. At: <http://www.openbookpublishers.com/product/483/digital-scholarly-editing--theories-and-practices>

² As of August 2017, the project contains 254 digital editions.

³ For more information about Piwik, see: <https://piwik.org>

⁴ See: <http://ride.i-d-e.de>

⁵ See: <https://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=48797>

The *Catalogue of Digital Editions* has received international attention: it was second runner-up in the *Best DH Data Visualization Category* of the *DH Awards 2016*⁶, and it is syndicated in the German Datenbank-Infosystem (DBIS) for use in 317 libraries⁷.

The DH Austria 2017 Conference would be a fitting opportunity to share the progress made in the past year, to gather feedback from conference participants, to increase the visibility of the project, to encourage the submission of more data, as well as meet with relevant stakeholders (specifically, librarians and archivists) to discuss a research strategy that accounts for the widest possible user-base while adhering to international cataloguing standards.

[All URLs in this abstract were valid as of 14 August 2017].

⁶ See: <http://dhawards.org/dhawards2016/results/>

⁷ See: http://rzblx10.uni-regensburg.de/dbinfo/detail.php?bib_id=allefreien&colors=&ocolors=&lett=k&tid=0&tel_id=102043