

Developing digital critical editions: two reflections on media change in the humanities

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[Initial slide] The scholarly editing of Latin and Greek texts is undergoing intense change before our eyes. Alongside the traditional form of publication, the paper-based critical edition, a few pioneering digital critical editions have been developed so far, and we will probably see their numbers increase. Will they ever be the dominant form of publication? The new medium offers obvious advantages in ease of access, presentation and storage. It also poses a number of challenges, some of them inherent in digital technology, while many others connected with the difficulties of managing medium change. In my paper I will reflect on all these challenges and possibilities from a double perspective: as the creator of one early digital critical edition, and as someone who has studied another instance of media change in the transmission of classical literature.