Online editions as multi-dimensional knowledge spaces

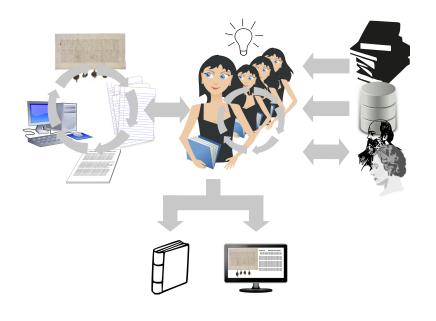
Gunter Vasold

Center for Information Modelling in the Humanities Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz

Digital Diplomatics 2011

Progressive editions

Editorial work



Usage of editions

Growing knowledge about contexts (historical context, physical context, ...)

Reviews

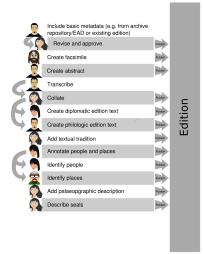
Enrichments Additional representation forms

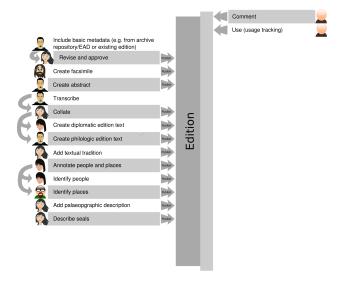


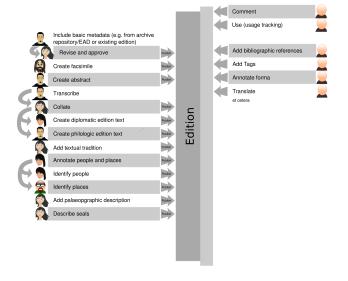
of edition increases knowledge about source

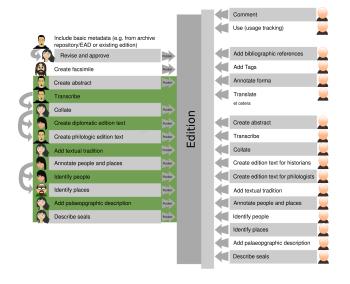
"Common" use

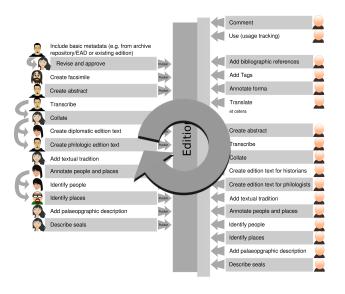
Corrections New findings

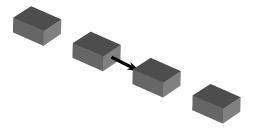


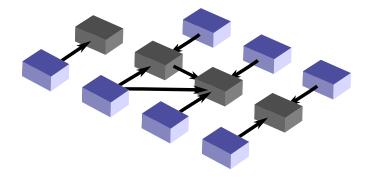


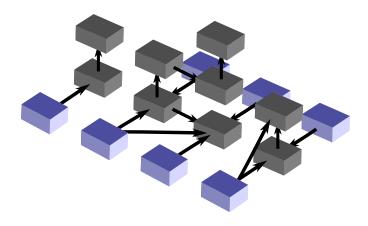


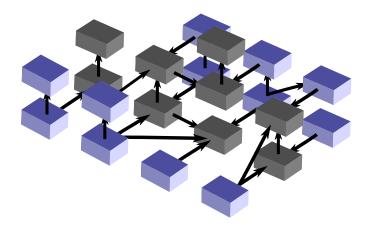












Questions

Is this complexity necessary?

Yes. Otherwise it will not work. In most cases the information space will be simpler — but it might become complex and we should be prepared.

Can the complexity be mastered?

Yes, under minimum two conditions:

- Processes must get particular attention
 - Who has done what from which starting point and with what result?
 - If an edition becomes dynamic, processes become important
 - Keep track of genesis
- We need a sophisticated technical infrastructure
 - Support for process oriented approach
 - Keep things apart: production component, repository component, annotation component, user frontend (publication)
 - Keep things modular and flexible: replaceable components, clear interfaces, service based architecture
 - Hide complexity from editors and users
 - Centralized or distributed? Centralized and distributed!

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Conclusion

Progressive editions

- The editing process is continued after publication: it grows and improves
- Changes are reflected within the edition
 - Versioning is relevant
 - Processes documentation becomes part of the edition

A progressive edition is a central point of knowledge accumulation about the source

- Communication about the source can happen in the context of the edition
- Work of non-editors can be included or at least made known

A progressive edition requires a non-trivial technical infrastructure

- Process-oriented
- Support for complex objects
- Modular and loosely coupled
- Based on standards

Thanks for your attention!

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