

Towards the online edition

Data formats, technologies and open issues
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What?

- ❖ Computers need a way to store music notation
- ❖ Notation is both structural and graphical
- ❖ Notation use is both visual and analytical
- ❖ Many different methods, with many different strengths and weaknesses
 - ❖ NIFF, kern+humdrum, MuseData, DARMS, ABC, MIDI, Lilypond...

The online edition

- ❖ Original Sources: Page/shelf space is not an issue; editorial transparency
- ❖ Versions & Variants: Show editorial progression and thought
- ❖ Search & Analysis: Computer software for navigating & analyzing sources

Supporting

- ❖ Content management systems
- ❖ Search/browse systems
- ❖ Presentation techniques
 - ❖ Editing notation online
 - ❖ Managing multiple versions

Issues

- ❖ MusicXML is supported by Finale, Sibelius; designed for interchange
- ❖ MEI supports in-depth critical and editorial markup
- ❖ PDF & SVG are purely graphical, with no “musical” structure—just shapes

Issues

- ❖ Format transformations: Significant information loss
- ❖ Managing multiple files: Keeping everything up-to-date
- ❖ Workflows & editorial consistency: Multiple users using different software
- ❖ Search/analysis: What is a musical query?

Issues

- ❖ Multiple notation systems
 - ❖ CWN? Mensural? Chant? Lute Tab? etc...
- ❖ “Crowdsourcing:” People tagging specific sections, annotating figures
- ❖ Editorial control: Authority, editing privilege