

Title

Introducing Traherne: an open source software tool for digital visual collation

Speakers

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Abstract

This presentation will introduce Traherne, an open source tool with the potential to revolutionise the collation of early modern texts by allowing more detailed and efficient collation than was previously possible. This software brings ease of use and flexibility for collators who have often had to endure health hazards caused by tedious and time-consuming mechanical and optical methods of collation. Traherne was initially developed for the Oxford Traherne project but is now being used by a variety of prestigious scholarly editing projects across the world.

The presentation will begin with a history of collation, from Charlton Hinman's pioneering work on Shakespeare's folio Works, to the Shakespeare Quartos project, which encountered obstacles to the digital compositing of images that Traherne has now effectively solved. Dr. Abhishek Dutta, the developer and maintainer of Traherne, will outline how the tool was developed in response to the needs of scholarly editors and demonstrate some of its features. Dr. Giles Bergel will describe how several dramatic and other textual editing projects are using Traherne, and additionally it will show how it can also assist in the comparison of images.

Since Traherne is open source software, users have the freedom to use it for any purpose and share it with colleagues without paying any fees. This presentation will conclude with a description of the open source community built around this software and provide details about how users can acquire it for installation in their own personal computers.