

Digital tools to read an Homeric manuscript

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In the *Phaedrus*, Plato is one of the first thinkers to problematize writing and written books as having only texts with fixed answers, expressing ideas that can't be questioned. The book speaks but does not hear questions one could ask. How much can digital editions supply this default and add to written texts a dialectical dimension? We do not mean here questions and answers prepared in advance but the adjunction of an intelligent dialog with the text. To approach and illustrate such an ambitious project, we will here discuss the example of a Byzantine manuscript, the *Genavensis graecus 44*.

The *Genavensis gr. 44* (13th century) represents a real "research environment": it contains the whole text of the *Iliad* (*text*), accompanied, in the twelve first books, by a paraphrase inserted between each verse that reformulates them (*intertext*). For each page, the margins are filled with notes (*scholia*) (*paratext*). To these three levels of layout, other forms of insertion must be added (*inter-intertext*, *infratextual notes*, *drawings*). This multitextual dimension of texts echoing each other on the same page could appear as a dialog with the text. It constitutes a very precious document illustrating the way Byzantine scholars studied and understood the *Iliad*.

After its restoration and digitization in 2013, the manuscript, accessible on the website "*e-codices*", is now the object of a FNS research project that focalizes on the first five books. The purpose is to create a website that allows a dialectical relation with both the Homeric poem and the manuscript along with its layout and technique. How much do new technologies allow us to interact with the work of the copyist? In this presentation, we will concentrate our attention on the paraphrase and discuss tools created to measure and enlighten its relation to the Homeric poem.