



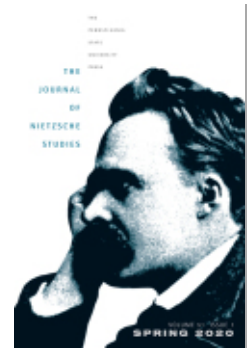
PROJECT MUSE®

The German Online Editions of Nietzsche's Works: A
User's Perspective

Marc Colsen

The Journal of Nietzsche Studies, Volume 51, Issue 1, Spring 2020, pp. 98-119
(Article)

Published by Penn State University Press



➔ For additional information about this article

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/751025>

The German Online Editions of Nietzsche's Works: A User's Perspective

MARC COLSEN | RADBOUD UNIVERSITY

Abstract: This article considers the two most important German online editions of Nietzsche's works, *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online*, from a user's perspective. After a description of the print editions on which they are based (*KGW* and *KGB*), an assessment is made of their completeness, their textual reliability, the usefulness of their navigation menus and the usefulness of their search functions. The article finds that there are noteworthy differences in completeness and reliability, that the accessibility of the posthumous notes could be improved in both cases, and that *Nietzsche Source* has a better search function than *Nietzsche Online*. The ideal online edition would be an augmented mixture of both editions.

Keywords: online, digital, electronic, *Nietzsche Source*, *Nietzsche Online*, *KGW*, *KGB*

Suppose you are a student or an aspiring scholar taking your first steps into the labyrinthine world of Nietzsche text editions. You have been told two things. First, when reading, quoting, or referring to a Nietzsche text, use the most reliable text version available. There is a long history of textual forgeries and inaccuracies, so your choice of text version matters. Second, when interpreting (aspects of) Nietzsche's work, avoid one-sidedness or cherry-picking. If you encounter tensions or contradictions, don't try to smooth them over. Instead, represent them as fairly and completely as you can.

What kind of text edition would enable you to meet these demands? It would be a text edition that (1) offers all of Nietzsche's texts;¹ (2) offers them in the most reliable version available; (3) enables you to find any given text; and (4) enables you to find all occurrences of key words within the entire corpus.

When taken together, the *Kritische Gesamtausgabe der Werke* (KGW)² and the *Kritische Gesamtausgabe der Briefe* (KGB)³ go a long way in fulfilling these criteria. They are certainly the most complete and reliable text editions to date. Upon closer inspection, however, several problems become apparent. Publication of the KGW is ongoing. Its slow and painstaking effort to correct itself often makes it difficult to find the most reliable version of a text. In addition, the KGW is only partially covered by indexes, which, moreover, contain only names. This makes it practically impossible to find all occurrences of words that are not names.

These problems may be eased by using electronic text editions. Electronic texts can be adjusted to the latest philological findings at any time. Their interfaces can be equipped with navigation menus that enable you to quickly find any given text, and with search functions that enable you to quickly find all occurrences of not only preselected index words, but any given word or phrase.

Several electronic text editions are available through the Internet, the most important ones at *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online*.⁴ This article gives an overview of their advantages and disadvantages from a user's perspective.⁵ To what extent do they fulfill the criteria listed above? What could be improved? After a description of the print editions on which they are based, an assessment is made of their completeness, their textual reliability, the usefulness of their navigation menus, and the usefulness of their search functions.

Print Editions

The electronic text editions at *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* are based on the KGW and KGB. These print editions have superseded earlier ones, which had been shaped by editorial practices that are now considered inadequate. Some of these practices even amounted to forgery, most notoriously in the case of *Der Wille zur Macht*, the purported magnum opus that Nietzsche never realized as such.⁶

KGW and KSA

The KGW is the biggest collection of Nietzsche's writings to date. It contains philosophical works, philological works, poetry, autobiographical texts, and

the collection of posthumously published notes known as the *Nachlass*. It also contains separate volumes with so-called *Nachberichte*: supplementary materials such as biographical sketches, textual variants, cross-references, clarifying comments, additional Nietzsche texts and text fragments (*Nachträge* or *Ergänzungen*), and textual corrections (*Berichtigungen*). So far, forty-six KGW volumes have been published, including seven *Nachbericht* volumes. They are grouped into nine sections (*Abteilungen*) and thereby presented in a broadly, but not strictly, chronological order. Section I contains texts (and drawings) from early 1852 to the autumn of 1869, the period in which Nietzsche developed from a schoolboy to a student to a professor of classical philology. The texts include school assignments, poems, autobiographical texts, and early philological and philosophical attempts, none of which were published or meant to be published by Nietzsche himself. Some of the lecture notes (*Kollegnachschriften*) that Nietzsche took as a student in Bonn and Leipzig remain to be published, as do the *Nachbericht* volumes pertaining to section I.⁷ Section II contains the bulk of Nietzsche's philological works, dating from 1867 to 1879. They include articles and book reviews that he published in magazines, but also extensive notes for the lecture courses he delivered at Basel's university and preparatory school. A collection of philological notes remains to be published, as do the *Nachbericht* volumes pertaining to section II.⁸ Each of the sections III to V contains philosophical works, most of which were published by Nietzsche himself, accompanied by the *Nachlass* notes from the respective periods. All corresponding *Nachbericht* volumes have appeared, except the one pertaining to KGW V:2. Section VI contains all works that Nietzsche published or prepared for publication from 1883 to 1889. Only one *Nachbericht* volume has appeared, pertaining to Z. The notes from this period have been published as sections VII (July 1882 to autumn 1885) and VIII (autumn 1885 to January 1889). Section VII has been completed with two *Nachbericht* volumes. The *Nachberichte* to section VIII, however, will never appear. The notes in this section (as most of those in KGW VII:3) are in the process of being republished in section IX.⁹ These are the notes from which *Der Wille zur Macht* was forged by Peter Gast and Elisabeth Förster-Nietzsche. Section IX presents the notebooks from which they were drawn in their entirety, thereby avoiding any editorial decision as to what is philosophically relevant. Moreover, each page is presented topologically, meaning that each word is printed in the place and size in which it appears on the notebook page, including words that Nietzsche crossed

out later. So far, eleven out of thirteen projected volumes have appeared. Volumes 12 and 13 will include the remaining notebooks and folders and the *Nachberichte* to section IX. With each new volume, a CD-ROM is published that contains an updated preliminary version of the *Nachberichte*. The most recently published CD-ROM thus contains (and expands on) all previous *Nachbericht* material. The *Nachberichte* include long lists of new textual corrections. Most of these are not very important, but some are striking. In one note, for example, Nietzsche was believed to have written “Juden-Zudringlichkeit” (Jewish obtrusiveness). *KGW* IX now shows that he actually wrote “Hunde-Zudringlichkeit” (doglike obtrusiveness).¹⁰ The CD-ROMs also contain facsimiles of the notebooks, enabling the reader to check the editors’ interpretation of the handwriting.

There is a widely used pocket edition based on the *KGW*, called *KSA*.¹¹ This edition contains only Nietzsche’s texts from *KGW* sections III to VIII, an introduction, a concise commentary, and a name index. It should be noted that some of the *KGW* *Nachbericht* volumes listing textual errors were published only after the *KSA*. In addition, the *KSA* doesn’t correct all errors listed in previously published *Nachberichte*.¹² As a result, the *KSA* doesn’t always offer the most up-to-date text version. It is also worth noting that the *KGW* and the *KSA* do not and will not contain the following elements:

- early notes (up to 1864) of a primarily receptive nature that show little or no active textual composition¹³
- philological lecture notes (*Kollegnachschriften*) from the years at Bonn and Leipzig¹⁴
- the 176-page index to the philological journal *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie* (in collaboration with Elisabeth Nietzsche)¹⁵
- notes of an accidental nature, such as calculations, prices, travel plans, etc. (except in *KGW* section IX)¹⁶
- musical compositions¹⁷
- letters

KGB and KSB

The *KGB* contains all of Nietzsche’s letters and draft letters that have been handed down, all letters addressed to Nietzsche that have been handed down, and some of the letters between Nietzsche’s relatives, friends, and

colleagues that may be deemed relevant for Nietzsche studies. The *KGB* also contains separate volumes with *Nachberichte*, which include manuscript descriptions, publication histories, clarifying comments, additional Nietzsche letters, and textual corrections. The *KGB*, whose publication was completed in 2004, consists of twenty-five volumes, including nine *Nachbericht* volumes.

There is a pocket edition based on the *KGB*, called *KSB*.¹⁸ This edition contains only Nietzsche's letters and an index of names. It should be noted that not all errors listed in the *Nachbericht* volumes have been corrected.¹⁹ As a result, the *KSB* doesn't always offer the most up-to-date text version.

Online Editions

For anyone used to working with the print editions, online editions can be a significant step forward. There are six online editions of the original German texts, of which *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* are the most important.²⁰

At first glance, *Nietzsche Source* seems to have some advantages over *Nietzsche Online*. It is an open-access database, whereas *Nietzsche Online* is surrounded by a considerable paywall. The texts and print documents at *Nietzsche Source* have an attractive layout and format. The format at *Nietzsche Online* (small sans-serif font, narrow columns, no justification), by contrast, doesn't necessarily encourage reading.²¹

Nietzsche Online, on the other hand, seems to have advantages over *Nietzsche Source*, too. Integrated into its texts are hyperlinks to comments from the *KGW Nachbericht* volumes, to articles from the *Nietzsche-Wörterbuch*, and to commentary works such as the *Historischer und kritischer Kommentar zu Friedrich Nietzsches Werken*. Its database contains a wide range of secondary literature, such as *Nietzsche-Studien*, *Monographien und Texte zur Nietzsche-Forschung*, and other De Gruyter editions.

To what extent do these online editions fulfill the criteria listed in the introduction? Both claim to offer a complete and up-to-date version of the *KGW* and the *KGB*. Can these claims be justified?

To answer this question at least partially, I have compared the online editions with the contents of the *KGW* and the *KGB*. I have consulted every part of the *KGW* and *KGB* that contains supplements or lists of corrections to previously published volumes.²² Of every list, I have checked the first and last

item to see if *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* have incorporated them. If not, I have looked at the list more closely. Some peculiarities emerged:

- *KGW* volumes III:5.1, V:3, and VII:4.2 contain some supplements and corrections under the headings *Nachträge* and *Ergänzungen* that seem to have gone unnoticed by the online editors.
- To some of the earliest *KGW* volumes, supplementary sheets were added.²³ Not all corrections listed on these sheets have been incorporated into the online editions.
- Some *Nachlass* notes corrected in *KGW* VII:4.2 or on a supplementary sheet were corrected again by *KGW* section IX.²⁴ These last corrections were not always incorporated into the online editions.

In the following sections, I present these and other findings as clearly as possible, without, of course, claiming to be exhaustive. The items listed are of rather unequal importance. An added comma or a deleted hyphen won't change the course of Nietzsche research, but there are more noteworthy items, too.

Completeness

The following texts (or text renderings) can be found at *Nietzsche Online*, but not at *Nietzsche Source*:

- Nietzsche's texts from *KGW* sections I and II (as far as published)²⁵
- the topological renderings of Nietzsche's notebooks contained in *KGW* section IX, volumes 1–11, including words that Nietzsche later crossed out and were therefore excluded from the *KGW*, but that made their way into earlier text editions and from there into secondary literature²⁶
- the letters addressed to Nietzsche and those about Nietzsche, contained in the *KGB*
- "Ursprung und Ziel der Tragödie. Eine aesthetische Abhandlung" (except the first part, that equals *DW*), *KGW* III:5.1, pp. 142–203
- *Nachlass* 1883, 17[56a] to 17[56d], *KGW* VII:4.2, p. 69²⁷

The following text renderings can be found at *Nietzsche Source* but not at *Nietzsche Online*:

- the *Digitale Faksimile-Gesamtausgabe (DFGA)*.²⁸ This edition contains facsimiles of (1) many of the manuscripts that formed the basis of the *KGW*; (2) the *Kollegnachschriften*; and (3) some of the musical compositions.²⁹ There are facsimiles at *Nietzsche Online* too, but only of those manuscripts that form the basis of *KGW* section IX.

Finally, the following texts can be found neither at *Nietzsche Online* nor at *Nietzsche Source*:

- 85 unnumbered notes in *KGW* III:5.1, pp. 111–39, 141, and 203
- 8 unnumbered notes in *KGW* V:3, pp. 23–25
- *Nachlass* 1882, 1[112], *KGW* VII:4.2, p. 67
- *Nachlass* 1882, 3[5] and 3[6], *KGW* VII:4.2, p. 67
- *Nachlass* 1882–83, 4[243a], *KGW* VII:4.2, p. 67
- *Nachlass* 1883, 17[12a] and [12b], *KGW* VII:4.2, p. 68
- *Nachlass* 1885, 34[260] to [272], *KGW* VII:4.2, pp. 70–73³⁰

Reliability

The following texts are rendered correctly at *Nietzsche Online* but incorrectly at *Nietzsche Source*:

- *Nachlass* notes corrected by *KGW* IX, volumes 7–11 (see Appendix B); this is the most important difference in reliability between both editions
- *Nachlass* 1884, 28[66], *KGW* III:5.1, pp. 140–41
- *Nachlass* 1887, 10[199], *KGW* VIII:2, p. 241, line 3: “hätten” should be “hätte”³¹

The following texts are rendered correctly at *Nietzsche Source*, but incorrectly at *Nietzsche Online*:

- “Über die Zukunft unserer Bildungsanstalten” Vorrede, *KGW* III:2, p. 142, line 13: “hin-” should be “hin”

- “Über die Zukunft unserer Bildungsanstalten” 1, *KGW* III:2, p. 145, line 31: “Produktion” should be “Produktion,”
- “Über die Zukunft unserer Bildungsanstalten” 1, *KGW* III:2, p. 151, line 20: “Gefahr” should be “Gefahr,”
- *Menschliches, Allzumenschliches* I 23, *KGW* IV:2, p. 40, line 11: “an seinen Ort” should be “an einen Ort”
- *Götzen-Dämmerung Irrthümer* 3, *KGW* VI:3, p. 84, line 17: “Tathsachen” should be “Thatsachen”
- *Götzen-Dämmerung Irrthümer* 3, *KGW* VI:3, p. 85, line 20: “auch” should be “aus”
- *A* 45, *KGW* VI:3, p. 220, line 33: “das” should be “dass”
- *EH* “Klug” 10, *KGW* VI:3, p. 293, line 24–25: “– Man” should be “An dieser Stelle thut eine grosse Besinnung Noth. Man”
- *EH* “Bücher:Z” 3, *KGW* VI:3, p. 338, line 6: “mehr; was” should be “mehr, was”
- *DD* *Ruhm und Ewigkeit* 1, *KGW* VI:3, p. 401, line 2: “mich” should be “mit”
- *Nachlass* 1885, 35[47], *KGW* VII:3, p. 255, line 18: “unserer eignen inneren” should be “unserer inneren” (*KGW* IX)
- *Nachlass* 1885, 41[4], *KGW* VII:3, p. 412, line 27: “Freilich. Man” should be “Freilich: Man” (*KGW* IX)
- *Nachlass* 1887–88, 11[277], *KGW* VIII:2, p. 347, line 20: “avent” should be “aient”
- *Nachlass* 1888, 25[15], *KGW* VIII:3, p. 459, line 23: “Vkol” should be “Volk”
- *Nachlass* 1888, 25[15], *KGW* VIII:3, p. 459, line 25: “solchen” should be “solche”
- *Nachlass* 1888, 25[18], *KGW* VIII:3, p. 460, line 18: “nochmehr” should be “noch mehr”

The following texts are rendered incorrectly at both *Nietzsche Online* and *Nietzsche Source*:

- *Nachlass* 1884, 25[518]; at *Nietzsche Online*, note 1161 refers to the corrected text in *KGW* VII:4.2, p. 69 without displaying the text itself
- *Nachlass* 1884, 28[48] and 28[49]; at *Nietzsche Online*, notes 184 and 193 refer to the corrected texts in *KGW* VII:4.2, p. 70 without displaying the texts themselves

- *Nachlass* 1885, 40[60], *KGW* VII:3, p. 393, line 17: “tief, wie er es thut.” should be “tief” (*KGW* IX);
- *Nachlass* 1888, 15[70], *KGW* VIII:3, p. 246, line 1: “mißtrauen allen” or “mißtrauen etwas allen” should be “mißtrauen etwa allen” (*KGW* IX).

The Usefulness of the Navigation Menus

Do the navigation menus at *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* enable you to find any given text they have to offer?

Nietzsche Source has named its top-level menu items after the five types of text distinguished by *KGW* editor Mazzino Montinari: published works, private publications, authorized manuscripts, posthumous writings, and posthumous fragments (i.e., notes). To these, a sixth type has been added: letters. After clicking any of these items, a drop-down submenu appears that lists the relevant works chronologically. As a result, most texts and their constituent parts can be found easily.

There are two caveats to this. First, it would be convenient if *Nietzsche Source*, like *Nietzsche Online*, would add the *KGW* or *KSA* page numbers, so that passages within longer texts (e.g., *Nachlass* 1875 9[1], *KSA* 8.131–81, the “Dürring-Exzerpt”) could also be found easily. Second, finding a posthumous note may be complicated for those who are not used to working with the print editions. The notes are grouped (and these groups are listed) according to the years and group numbers assigned by the *KGW* editors. As in the *KGW*, each note is indicated by its group number plus its individual number between square brackets; for example, 1[1] means group 1, note 1. When assigning the group numbers, the *KGW* editors for some reason decided to restart the count five times. As a result, there are six different groups named “group 1” and six different notes named “1[1].” This means that, when you try to refer to any of these notes, mentioning “1[1]” is not enough. To distinguish the note from its namesakes, at least one, and preferably both, of the following details must also be mentioned: the year of its composition and the *KSA/KGW* volume in which it can be found. Unfortunately, references in secondary literature quite often mention only one of these details. Suppose, for example, that you are reading an article that mentions note 3[14], to be found in *KSA* volume 12. When you search for its text on *Nietzsche Source*, you find more than one note called 3[14]. How can you be certain that the last candidate, from 1886, is the one you are looking for, without resorting to the printed *KSA* volume? Appendix A is a tool that helps you find the relevant

year *and* the corresponding *KSA/KGW* volume when only one of these is mentioned. In our example, we know that the note we are looking for can be found in *KSA* volume 12, so the relevant timeframe must be autumn 1885 to autumn 1887. This leaves only one candidate on *Nietzsche Source*.

At *Nietzsche Online*, Nietzsche's texts are presented under the headings "Philologica," "Philosophica," and "Briefe," each divided into subcategories. Some critical remarks can be made. First, the contents of *KGW* section I are listed under "Philosophica," which is somewhat unfortunate since this section also includes philological notes, autobiographical texts, poems, and plays. Second, the reviews that Nietzsche wrote between 1868 and 1870 can be found under the heading "Rezensionen," a category that primarily contains reviews written by others. Nietzsche's reviews would be better placed under the heading "Philologica."

As for the posthumous notes, *Nietzsche Online* offers three ways of accessing them: (1) by clicking on the relevant year (and after that the relevant group number); (2) by clicking on the relevant *KGW/KSA* volume (and after that the relevant group number); (3) by clicking on the relevant manuscript number (and after that the relevant group number). The problem described above, of finding the year *and* the *KGW/KSA* volume when only one of these is mentioned, doesn't arise here. Both details are mentioned, but to see them, one or two extra clicks are needed. It would be easier to find the notes if the relevant year, group number, and *KGW/KSA* volume were clear at a single glance, so you wouldn't have to go back and forth.

For those trying to locate any particular posthumous note in *KGW* section IX, *Nietzsche Online* offers a document called "Concordance of Posthumous Fragments." Unfortunately, this concordance is incomplete in two ways. First, its second column (concerning *KGW* IX) has only been updated up to volume 5. Second, the relevant page numbers are mentioned only for those notes contained in volumes 1, 2 (partially), and 4 (partially). It would be helpful if another concordance were made available at *Nietzsche Online*: the "Konkordanz der 'Fragmente' und 'Briefentwürfe.'" This concordance is up to date, but can be found only on the CD-ROM belonging to the most recent printed *KGW* IX volume.

The Usefulness of the Search Functions

Do the search functions at *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* enable you to find all occurrences of any given word or phrase within the collection of texts they have to offer?

As for *Nietzsche Source*, the answer is yes. It features a concise user guide (click “Advanced Search,” then “Search Possibilities”) that makes the search function easy to understand. After entering a search word, the results are there immediately, arranged in a clear, chronological way. Each result consists of the search word highlighted within its immediate context. By clicking on the result heading, the wider context can be read in a separate tab. The only difficulty seems to be the processing of Greek fonts; sometimes this works, sometimes it doesn’t.

The search function at *Nietzsche Online*, however, is beset with difficulties:

- (a) For guidance, the user has to resort to multiple documents: (1) the PDF document “Search Help” or “Suchhinweise”; (2) the (concurring) PDF documents “User Guide German” and “User Guide English,” which turn out to be advertising brochures rather than user guides; (3) the well-hidden De Gruyter Online help page (click “Service Center” at the bottom of the page, then “De Gruyter Online Help,” then “Search help”).
- (b) The search function often works extremely slowly.
- (c) When you enter a word into the search box, the list of results automatically includes writings (or parts thereof) from secondary literature, which may be one of the reasons why the search function works so slowly. If you want to limit the results to those written by Nietzsche himself, his name must be entered into an extra search box (“Add Row”) and the corresponding box of search criteria must be changed to “Author.” It would be more convenient if this limitation to Nietzsche’s writings were the default setting.
- (d) When you add an extra search box to limit the results to Nietzsche’s writings, the list of results does not include Nietzsche’s letters. Suppose, for example, that you want to know what Nietzsche has to say about Dostoevsky. When you enter “dosto*” (using a wildcard because the name has many different spellings) into the first search box, you will get 418 results,³² including results from secondary literature and letters written by Nietzsche. When you add an extra search box to exclude the results from secondary literature, only 20 results remain, but Nietzsche’s letters have also disappeared.

Consequently, some of Nietzsche's most interesting remarks on Dostoevsky go unnoticed.

- (e) The list of search results consists not of specific paragraphs, aphorisms, or notes (as in the case of *Nietzsche Source*), but of entire chapters, notebooks, or writings. When you enter “dosto*,” for example, one of the results is an entire notebook (“Arbeitsheft W II 1”), consisting of 190 notes, only one of which (*Nachlass* 1887, 9[126], KSA 12.409–10) contains the search word. *Nietzsche Source*, by contrast, displays this specific note immediately. When you click on the notebook (or any other result on *Nietzsche Online*), finding occurrences of the search word is normally made easier by the fact that only those paragraphs, aphorisms, or notes that contain the search word are expanded. In addition, the search word is highlighted in gray. However, if the search word contains one or more wildcards (question marks or asterisks), in order to also find morphological variants and compounds, these variants and compounds are not presented in the same way: the textual parts that contain them are not expanded and the search words themselves are not highlighted. This means that you have to continue to search for them “manually,” by making use of the search function of the web browser (not to be confused with *Nietzsche Online*'s search function). This search is made more difficult by points f, g, h, and i.
- (f) The search function of the web browser can find only words that are actually on the web page currently being displayed. It cannot find words that are contained within collapsed (i.e., not expanded) paragraphs, aphorisms, and notes. Unfortunately, it is not possible to expand all of them at once (there may be hundreds of them), so they need to be expanded manually.
- (g) Expanding the textual parts (paragraphs, aphorisms, or notes) manually is made more difficult by the fact that the structure of Nietzsche's texts is not always rendered adequately. Sometimes, a textual part is erroneously being rendered as subordinate to the previous textual part. For example, paragraphs 24, 25, and 26 of the *Vorlesungen über lateinische*

- Grammatik* (1869–70) are hidden behind (unnumbered) textual parts that are themselves hidden behind paragraph 23.
- (h) Some textual parts have been copied from the *KGW* print edition and are being rendered as images. Words contained within an image cannot be found by the search function of the web browser, for example *Nachlass* 1867, 54[1], copied from *KGW* I:4, pp. 283–339.
 - (i) When you enter a search word in the search function of the web browser, its results do not include hyphenated words.
 - (j) Not all search results (of *Nietzsche Online*'s search function) turn out to actually include the search word (or one of its variants or compounds), even when points f, g, h, and i are taken into account. A possible explanation for this may be that the search word is contained within one or more of the editorial notes surrounding Nietzsche's text. Finding the relevant note(s) can be difficult when there are many, since they are not automatically expanded.

Conclusion

To what extent do *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* fulfill the criteria for the kind of text edition described in the introduction? Neither of them offers all of Nietzsche's texts, but *Nietzsche Online* offers the vast majority of them, and *Nietzsche Source* certainly offers the best-known and most important ones (and manuscript facsimiles of many of the less important ones). Both editions are textually reliable to a large degree, with *Nietzsche Online* being more up to date on the corrections resulting from *KGW* section IX. The navigation menus at *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* are different, the one at *Nietzsche Source* being more user-friendly. The accessibility of the posthumous notes, however, could be improved in both cases, especially for users who are unfamiliar with the print editions. As for the usefulness of the search functions, *Nietzsche Source* has a clear advantage over *Nietzsche Online*.

The ideal online edition, if there were such a thing, would be an augmented mixture of both editions. It would contain all texts and text renderings included (and to be included) in the *KGW* and *KGB*, all other *Kollegnachschriften*, and facsimiles of all existing manuscripts. It would correct all mistakes. It would make all posthumous notes (including the

ones in *KGW* section I) easily accessible. It would have *Nietzsche Online's* degree of interconnectedness with *Nachbericht* comments and secondary literature. It would have *Nietzsche Source's* layout, format, and search function. And it would be free of charge.

Appendix A. Posthumously Published Notes: Concordance
of Periods, Group Series, and *KSA/KGW* Volumes

Period	Group series	KSA volume	KGW section(s) and volume(s)
Beginning 1852–autumn 1869	1–77	n/a	I:1–5
Autumn 1869–end 1874	1–38	7	III:3–4
Winter 1875– November 1879	1–47	8	IV:1–3
Beginning 1880– summer 1882	1–21	9	V:1–2
July 1882–winter 1883/84	1–24	10	VII:1
Spring 1884–winter 1884/85	25–33	11	VII:2, VII:3 (pp. 3–140)
April 1885–autumn 1885	34–45	11	VII:3 (pp. 141–452), IX (see Appendix B)
Autumn 1885– autumn 1887	1–10	12	VIII:1, VIII:2 (pp. 1–248), IX (see Appendix B)
November 1887– January 1889	11–25	13	VIII:2 (pp. 249–455), VIII:3, IX (see Appendix B)

Appendix B. Where to Find the Most Reliable Text Version of Nietzsche's Late Notes

As of November 2019, eleven out of thirteen projected *KGW IX* volumes have been published. The text edition at *Nietzsche Online* has incorporated all textual corrections (*Berichtigungen*) listed in volumes 1–11. The text edition at *Nietzsche Source* has incorporated the corrections listed in volumes 1–6. Because it is not always possible or convenient to consult the *KGW IX* print volumes or *Nietzsche Online*, the tables below show in which cases this is not necessary.

Legend

Notes and manuscript signatures listed below as:	Most reliable text version currently available in/at:
Normal text (= not yet covered by <i>KGW IX</i>)	<i>KGW VII/VIII, Nietzsche Source and Nietzsche Online</i>
<u>Underlined text</u>	<i>KGW IX, vols. 1–6, Nietzsche Source and Nietzsche Online</i>
Bold text	<i>KGW IX, vols. 7–11 and Nietzsche Online</i>

KSA 11 / *KGW VII*:3 (groups 25–33 not included in *KGW IX*)

Group	Notes	Manuscript signatures (Mette)	<i>KGW IX</i> volume	Period
34	[1–256] excl: [257–72]	<u>N VII 1</u>	1	April–June 1885
35	[1–84]	<u>W I 3 a</u>	4	May–July 1885
36	[2–60] excl: [1]	<u>W I 4</u>	4	June–July 1885
37	[1–18]	<u>W I 6 a</u>	4	June–July 1885

(Continued)

(Continued)

Group	Notes	Manuscript signatures (Mette)	KGW IX volume	Period
38	[1-14] [15-19] [20-22]	Mp XVI 1 a Mp XVI 2 a Mp XV 2 b	n/a n/a n/a	June-July 1885
39	[1-21] [22]	<u>N VII 2 a</u> Z I 2 b	2 11	August- September 1885
40	[1-70]	<u>W I 7 a</u>	4	August- September 1885
41	[1-16]	<u>W I 5</u>	4	August- September 1885
42	[1-8]	Mp XVII 2 a	n/a	August- September 1885
43	[1-3]	Z I 2 c	11	Autumn 1885
44	[1-9]	Mp XVII 2 b	n/a	Autumn 1885
45	[1-7]	<u>W I 6 b</u>	4	Autumn 1885

KSA 12 / KGW VIII:1-2

Group	Notes	Manuscript signatures (Mette)	KGW IX volume	Period
1	[1-247]	<u>N VII 2 b</u>	2	Autumn 1885- spring 1886
2	[1-210]	<u>W I 8</u>	5	Autumn 1885- autumn 1886
3	[1-2] [3-5] [6-15] [16-19]	<u>W I 7 b</u> <u>W I 3 b</u> Mp XVI 2 b, Mp XVI 1 b <u>W I 7 b</u>	4 4 n/a 4	Beginning 1886-spring 1886

(Continued)

(Continued)

Group	Notes	Manuscript signatures (Mette)	KGW IX volume	Period
4	[1-9]	D 18, Mp XV 2 c, Mp XVII 3a, Mp XVI 1 b	n/a	Beginning 1886–spring 1886
5	[1-110]	<u>N VII 3</u>	3	Summer 1886– autumn 1887
6	[1-25] [26]	Mp XIV 1 (pp. 416–20), Mp XVII 3 a, Mp XV 2 d P II 12 b (p. 37)	n/a 11	Summer 1886– spring 1887
7	[1-70]	Mp XVII 3 b	n/a	End 1886– spring 1887
8	[1-8]	Mp XVII 3 c	n/a	Summer 1887
9	[1-190]	<u>W II 1</u>	6	Autumn 1887
10	[1-206]	<u>W II 2</u>	6	Autumn 1887

KSA 13 / KGW VIII:2-3

Group	Notes	Manuscript signatures (Mette)	KGW IX volume	Period
11	[1-417]	W II 3	7	November 1887–March 1888
12	[1-2]	W II 4	7	Beginning 1888
13	[1-5]	Z II 3 b	11	Beginning 1888–spring 1888
14	[1-227]	W II 5	8	Beginning 1888
15	[1-120]	W II 6 a	9	Spring 1888

(Continued)

(Continued)

Group	Notes	Manuscript signatures (Mette)	KGW IX volume	Period
16	[1-89]	W II 7 a	9	Spring– summer 1888
17	[1-3] [4] [5] [6-9]	Mp XVII 4, Mp XVI 4 a W II 8 a W II 9 a Mp XVII 4, Mp XVI 4 a	n/a 10 10 n/a	May–June 1888
18	[1-17]	Mp XVII 5, Mp XVI 4 b	n/a	July–August 1888
19	[1-4] [5] [6-9] [10-11]	Mp XVII 6, Mp XVI 4 c W II 9 b Mp XVII 6, Mp XVI 4 c W II 6 b	n/a 10 n/a 9	September 1888
20	[1-168]	W II 10 a	11	Summer 1888
21	[1-8]	<u>N VII 4</u>	3	Autumn 1888
22	[1-29]	W II 8 b	10	September– October 1888
23	[1-2] [3] [4-9] [10] [11-12] [13-14]	Mp XVI 4 d, Mp XVII 7 W II 8 Z II 1 b Mp XVI 4 d or Mp XVII 7 W II 7 b W II 6 c	n/a 10 11 n/a 9 9	October 1888
24	[1-9] [10]	W II 9 c D 21	10 n/a	October– November 1888

(Continued)

(Continued)

Group	Notes	Manuscript signatures (Mette)	KGW IX volume	Period
25	[1]	W II 10 b	11	December 1888– beginning January 1889
	[2–3]	Mp XVI 5, Mp XVII 8, D 25	n/a	
	[4]	Z II 1	11	
	[5]	W II 9 d	10	
	[6–20]	Mp XVI 5, Mp XVII 8, D 25	n/a	
[21]	W II 8 c	10		

NOTES

I would like to thank all participants of the Nietzsche Seminar held at Radboud University in Nijmegen, the Netherlands, on November 23, 2018, for their helpful comments on a draft of this article.

1. For the sake of argument, I am assuming that all Nietzsche research requires you to consider his work in its entirety. While this assumption may be false, it has the benefit of bringing out an aspect of the existing text editions that may be of interest to Nietzsche readers in general.

2. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Werke: Kritische Gesamtausgabe*, Begründet von Giorgio Colli, Mazzino Montinari, Weitergeführt von Volker Gerhardt, Norbert Miller, Wolfgang Müller-Lauter, and Karl Pestalozzi (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1967–).

3. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Nietzsche Briefwechsel: Kritische Gesamtausgabe*, Begründet von Giorgio Colli, Mazzino Montinari, Weitergeführt von Norbert Miller, and Annemarie Pieper (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1975–2004).

4. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Digital Critical Edition of the Complete Works and Letters*, ed. Paolo D'Iorio based on the critical text by G. Colli and M. Montinari (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1967–), www.nietzschesource.org/#eKGWB; *Nietzsche Online* (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2011–), www.degruyter.com/view/db/nietzsche.

5. The question to what extent *Nietzsche Source* and *Nietzsche Online* make use of the possibilities of a digital environment will not be addressed here. Philipp Steinkrüger praises *Nietzsche Source* for its textual reliability, its facsimiles, and the fact that it is freely available. He finds it regrettable, however, that it doesn't make full use of the possibilities of a digital environment, some of which had been realized in a previous project called HyperNietzsche. See Steinkrüger, "Review of 'Nietzschesource,'" *RIDE* 1 (2014), <https://ride.i-d-e.de/issues/issue-1/nietzschesource/>. Riccardo Pozzo praises *Nietzsche Online* for its textual reliability,

its vast array of secondary literature, and the interconnectedness of its contents. See Pozzo, "Nietzsche Online: A Critical Appraisal," *Lexicon Philosophicum* 2 (2014): 337–41, <http://lexicon.cnr.it/index.php/LP/article/view/410>.

6. For a concise history of the print editions, see Katrin Meyer, "Geschichte der Nietzsche-Editionen," in *Nietzsche-Handbuch: Leben–Werk–Wirkung*, ed. Henning Ottmann (Stuttgart: J.B. Metzler Verlag, 2000), 437–40, and references therein. For an account of the textual falsifications prompted by Nietzsche's sister, see Christian Niemeyer, "Die Schwester! Schwester! 's klingt so fürchterlich!" Elisabeth Förster-Nietzsche als Verfälscherin der Briefe und Werke ihres Bruders—eine offenbar notwendige Rückerinnerung," *Nietzscheforschung* 16 (2009): 335–55.

7. The editors argue that only those lecture notes need to be published that were important for Nietzsche's "Bildungsgang" (education and formation) and, surprisingly, that this cannot be said unequivocally of the philological notes. For this reason, only the nonphilological notes will be published. This argument is hardly convincing. Nietzsche was a philologist up to 1879. Moreover, his philological and philosophical writings cannot be neatly separated. See *KGW* I:4, p. IX.

8. The notes that remain to be published are those concerning the subjects that Nietzsche treated in his magazine articles collected in *KGW* II:1. See *KGW* I:4, pp. V–VII. Possibly, these notes will include texts that can now be found only in the *Frühe Schriften* (*BAW*), such as "Simonidis lamentatio Danaae emandata a Friderico Nietzsche" (*BAW* 3, pp. 104–13), "Der Sängerkrieg auf Euboea. Vortrag von Friedrich Nietzsche" (*BAW* 3, pp. 230–44), and "De Laertii Diogenis fontibus. Deutsche Fassung" (*BAW* 4, pp. 217–68). See Friedrich Nietzsche, *Frühe Schriften* (Munich: Beck, 1994). Fotomechanischer Nachdruck der Ausgabe: Friedrich Nietzsche, *Werke und Briefe: Historisch-kritische Gesamtausgabe. Werke* (Munich: Beck, 1933–40).

9. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Werke: Kritische Gesamtausgabe*, Neunte Abteilung: Der handschriftliche Nachlaß ab Frühjahr 1885 in differenzierter Transkription nach Marie-Luise Haase und Michael Kohlenbach (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2001–).

10. *Nachlass* 1887, 10[20], *KSA* 12, p. 465–66. See Marie-Luise Haase, "Exkursion in das Reich der Tinten-Fische und Feder-Füchse. Ein Werkstattbericht zur Edition von *KGW* IX," *Nietzsche-Studien* 36 (2007): 44–45.

11. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Sämtliche Werke: Kritische Studienausgabe in 15 Bänden*, Herausgegeben von Giorgio Colli and Mazzino Montinari (Munich: Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag and Berlin: de Gruyter, 1988).

12. See Paolo D'Iorio, "The Digital Critical Edition of the Works and Letters of Nietzsche," *Journal of Nietzsche Studies* 40 (2010): 70–80, 72.

13. *KGW* I:1, pp. VII–XI, *KGW* I:2, pp. V–VI, VIII, and *KGW* I:3, pp. V–VI. Many exceptions have been made; the editors have labeled these by adding an "A" to their group numbers, e.g., group 1A, note [1], etc.

14. *KGW* I:4, p. IX. These are included in the *Digitale Faksimile-Gesamtausgabe* (*DFGA*); see below.

15. F. G. Welcker, F. Ritschl, and A. Klette, eds., *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie. Registerheft zu Band I–XXIV der neuen Folge* (1842–1869) (Frankfurt am

Main: Johann David Sauerländer, 1871). See Thomas Brobjer, “Nietzsche’s Forgotten Book: The Index to the *Rheinisches Museum für Philologie*,” *New Nietzsche Studies* 4.1–2 (2000): 157–61.

16. There are also notes that the editors call *Vorstufen*, i.e., early drafts of subsequent final texts. Those *Vorstufen* that the editors consider to be only formally different from final texts are excluded from the text volumes (except in *KGW* section IX), but included in the *Nachberichte*. See “Grundsätze der Edition,” *KGW* IV:4, p. 4 and “Editorische Grundsätze der Kritischen Studienausgabe,” *KSA* 14, pp. 18–19.

17. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Der musikalische Nachlass*, Herausgegeben im Auftrag der Schweizerischen Musikforschenden Gesellschaft von Curt Paul Janz (Basel: Bärenreiter, 1976).

18. Friedrich Nietzsche, *Sämtliche Briefe: Kritische Studienausgabe in 8 Bänden*, Herausgegeben von Giorgio Colli and Mazzino Montinari (Munich: Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag and Berlin: de Gruyter, 2003).

19. See D’Iorio, “Digital Critical Edition,” 71–72.

20. The other online editions can be found at *The Nietzsche Channel*, www.thenietzschechannel.com/ (no editorial justification), *Nietzsche Spuren*, www.friedrichnietzsche.de/ (no editorial justification), *Projekt Gutenberg*, <http://gutenberg.spiegel.de/autor/friedrich-wilhelm-nietzsche-443> (based on the superseded Grossoktav edition), and *Zeno.org*, www.zeno.org/Philosophie/M/Nietzsche,+Friedrich (based on the superseded Schlechta edition).

21. When you copy-paste passages from either *Nietzsche Source* or *Nietzsche Online*, features that are characteristic of many Nietzsche texts, such as underlining, bold, and letter spacing, unfortunately get lost.

22. In the *KGW*, these are *KGW* III:5.1, pp. 109–203; *KGW* III:5.2, pp. 1613–48; *KGW* IV:4, pp. VII–VIII; *KGW* V:3, pp. 21–25, 869–95; *KGW* VI:4, pp. 979–84; *KGW* VII:4.2, pp. 65–73, 645–70; CD-ROM belonging to *KGW* IX:10, pp. 244–46, 266–89; and CD-ROM belonging to *KGW* IX:11, pp. 293–387. In the *KGB*, these are *KGB* I:4, pp. 1–6; *KGB* II:7.1, pp. 671–74; *KGB* II:7.2, pp. 829–35; *KGB* II:7.3.2, pp. 1165–76; *KGB* III:7.1, pp. 1019–31; *KGB* III:7.2, pp. 553–72; and *KGB* III:7.3.2, pp. 1115–26. Note that the order of publication doesn’t necessarily concur with the serial numbering. *KGW* VI:4, for example, was published later than, and contains corrections to, *KGW* VII:1.

23. *KGW* III:2, *KGW* IV:4, *KGW* V:1, *KGW* VI:3, *KGW* VII:2, *KGW* VIII:1, and *KGW* VIII:3. The sheets show considerable overlap: to find all unique corrections, only the sheets belonging to *KGW* V:1 and *KGW* VIII:1 need to be consulted.

24. Initially corrected in *KGW* VII:4.2: *Nachlass* 1885, 35[47], *Nachlass* 1885, 40[60], and *Nachlass* 1885, 41[4]. They are listed in the *Nachbericht* on the CD-ROM belonging to *KGW* IX volume 10 (pp. 266–89; these notes on p. 289). Oddly, this list was omitted from the subsequent CD-ROM, belonging to *KGW* IX volume 11.

25. These texts may be included at *Nietzsche Source* when their copyright expires. See D’Iorio, “Digital Critical Edition,” 77.

26. For example, numbers 65, 256, 295, 305, 357, 358, 431, 469, 534, 542, 705, 770, 846, 855, 963, and 1061 in Friedrich Nietzsche, *Der Wille zur Macht. Versuch einer Umwertung aller Werte*, ausgewählt und geordnet von Peter Gast unter Mitwirkung von Elisabeth Förster-Nietzsche (Stuttgart: Alfred Kröner Verlag, 1996).

27. *Nietzsche Online*, 17 = N VI 6, n. 305.

28. DFGA, nach den Originalmanuskripten und Originaldrucken der Bestände der Klassik Stiftung Weimar. Herausgegeben von Paolo D'Iorio (Paris: Nietzsche Source, 2009–), www.nietzschesource.org/DFGA/.

29. New facsimiles are added regularly, so listing them here would hardly be useful.

30. *Nachlass* 34[264] includes the famous line “Das Kriterium der Wahrheit liegt in der Steigerung des Machtgefühls.”

31. Here, an earlier correction listed on a supplementary sheet to *KGW VIII:1* seems to have been overlooked by *Nietzsche Online*, but the result accidentally concurs with the topological text rendering in *KGW* section IX.

32. Initially, a message appears that says, “You are looking at 1 – x of 625 entries.” Upon closer inspection, however, the number of results turns out to be 418 instead of 625. This inaccuracy is not an exception.