Some Current Ventures Going on in the World of Digital Textbooks
(only a smattering)

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Major textbooks publishers -- lots of new and experimental relationships forming, sometimes with individual educators who might be hired for their expertise weight that can be thrown into purchasable eTextbooks; sometimes with universities... the lines are blurring, as Jeffrey Young commented last month in 2013, and the disruption that digital information has caused in the education world has not settled into a predictable "new" yet.

Korea DT Project -- basically Korea's government sponsored a big leap and implemented a digital textbook project from 2007-2011. They tracked it with meticulous intentionality and they continue to use its data to retool their country's education system for digital learning.

Device development -- many learning companies continue to design and upgrade delivery devices for content, as we've seen in eReaders and tablets... Three big companies bear watching, said Reynolds less than two years ago: **Apple**, for its device innovation; **Amazon**, for its targeting of the digital textbook market; and **Google**, for its cloud-based services.

Anticipated Vectors in the Digital Textbook Realm

Standardizations -- this needs to happen in both the creation of content, and in the building of platforms for delivering that content. Almost every researcher out there believes that some legitimate order will eventually evolve out of the disruptive chaos that textbooks have landed in.

Wide acceptance -- while some people wonder why it hasn't happened sooner, and others claim it couldn't have because there are so many stages left to grow through, the whole scene seems to be unquestionably vectoring towards wide-spread acceptance in education.

Adjusted pedagogy for educators -- Reading skills are considered a core in education. But as Felvegi and Matthew caution in their research, and Korean teachers affirm through experience, the skills it takes to read print are not exactly the same skills needed to successfully navigate and learn from digital text! We need to retool the students by also retooling the educators who help them use the textbooks.

Role changes -- Schools become leaders not being dragged along by the changes, but rather setting the tone. Kevin Ruth, in his 2013 article on *Texts the Change Schools*, projects this will happen by independent schools & teachers becoming the lead explorers... testing how to integrate things that work for learning.

Navigation improvements -- particularly in the *Open Educational Resources* arena, an over abundance of accessible content could be well-served by smoother filtering tools