

Localizing Chinese Digital Humanities within the Globalized Community 全球化社区中中国数字人文的在地化研究



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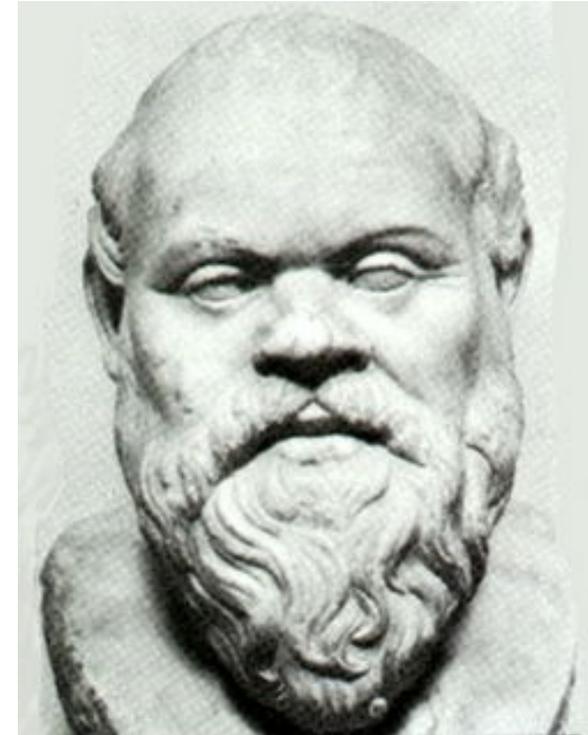


Outline

- Globalized society
- Global Digital Humanities
- Centralized or regional organization
- Mainland China
- Localization
- Positionality statement:
our paper reflects our academic training and experience of working in UK and Chinese contexts, and our reflection on this position

Questions rather than answers 提问而非回答

- Dialogue and dialectic method
- What are our assumptions?
- Similarities and differences?
- Global community?
- How do we situate mainland China?
- What is the unique 'flavour' of DH in mainland China?



Global
connectivity?
全球连通性



Source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Applications-internet.svg>

Global and Globalized Society

- Blurred boundaries between work and home
- Private and public spheres overlap
- Constantly connected via smart phone
- Illusion of connectivity 互联互通的幻象
- Focus on the technology not the communication 关注技术而非交流



- Genuine global connections? 全球真的互联吗?
- Separated 分离:
 - Culturally 文化上
 - Linguistically 语言上
 - Regionally 地区上
 - By time zone 时区上

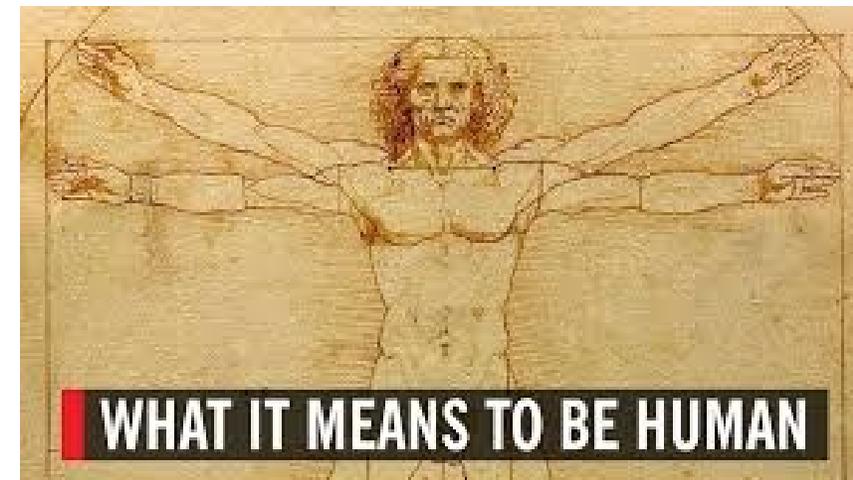


Digital Humanities context?

- Humanities?
- Study of the human condition
- What it is to be human 之所以为人
- Object of study: the entire human record, from prehistory to the present.
研究对象：从史前到今天的所有人类记录

- Necessarily varied: culture, language, location
对象必然是多种多样的：文化、语言、地点

- Digital Humanities?
- Computational work in the humanities
人文领域的计算性工作
- Partnership between humanities and technology
人文与科技之间的合作关系
- Thinking with and against the machine
思考与机器之间合作与对抗的关系



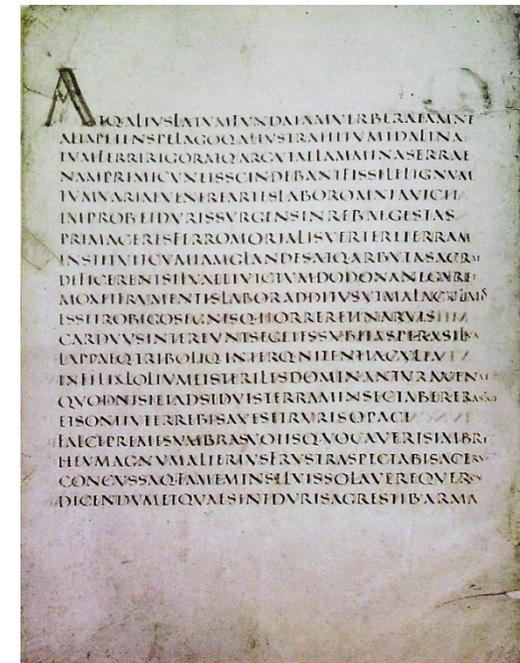
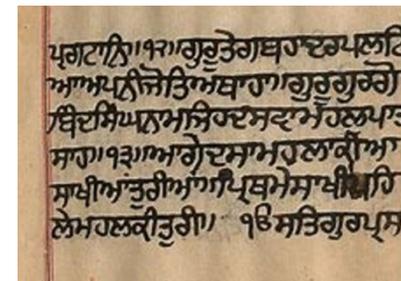
DH development in China and West

- Differences in Humanities data 人文数据的不同
- Differences in approach 方法的不同



- Technological challenges of Sinitic language 汉语言的技术挑战
- OCR: Optical Character Recognition 光学字符识别
- Word segmentation 分词
- These difficulties not unique to East Asia

- *Scriptio continua / capitalis quadrata* 古希腊及古拉丁的连续脚本
- Indian sub-continent (Hindi/Punjabi)



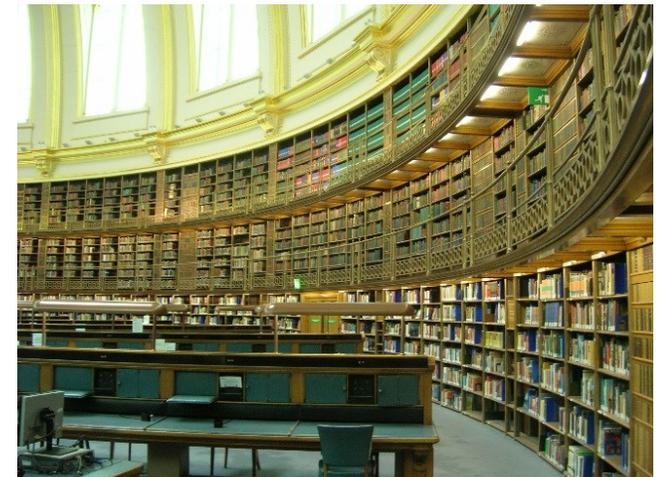
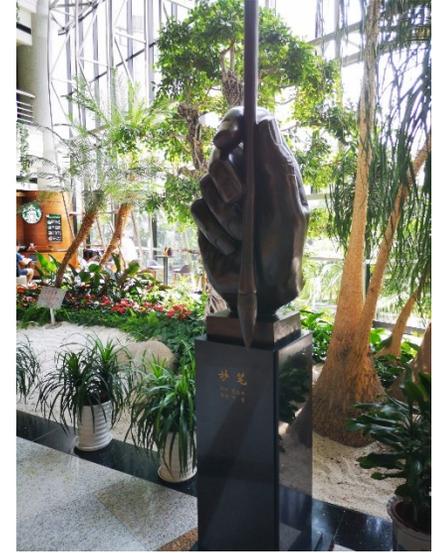
DH Knowledge Production China and West

- Areas of study/research
 - Moving away from text-based studies
 - Where text is source data, working in different ways
 - Visualizing / modelling data 数据可视化/模型化
 - Linked and Open Data - 'Smart Data' 关联开放数据- “智慧数据”
- Both use mixed methods
 - Quantitative and qualitative
- Linguistic
 - Preponderance (hegemony) of English language 英语的主导地位
 - Pressure to publish in English – also true in East Asia 英语出版的压力
 - Distorts metrics 扭曲的指标



Trace development

- Projects
- Events
- Both China and the West





China Biographical Database Project (CBDB)

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Welcome

Introduction

The China Biographical Database is a freely accessible relational database with biographical information about approximately **491,000 individuals as of May 2021**, primarily from the 7th through 19th centuries. With both online and offline versions, the data is meant to be useful for statistical, social network, and spatial analysis as well as serving as a kind of biographical reference. The image below shows the **spatial distribution** of a cross dynastic subset of 190,000 people in CBDB by basic affiliations (籍貫).

HOW TO CITE CBDB
[Harvard University, Academia Sinica, and Peking University, China Biographical Database \(August 2021\), https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/cbdb.](https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/cbdb)

A QUICK OVERVIEW OF CBDB
<https://handbook.pubpub.org/pub/case-cbdb>

WHO IS USING CBDB? HOW TO USE CBDB?
[CBDB Presentations and Papers](#)

[Accessing CBDB online](#)

UPDATES
(November 2021) CBDB China



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CORPUS THOMISTICUM
INDEX THOMISTICUS
 by Roberto Busa SJ and associates
 web edition by Eduardo Bernot and Enrique Alarcón
 English version

Search:

- concordances
- terms
- works
- options
- new search

Instructions:

You may type in any number of terms. By default, it is assumed that you want to search for all of the given terms within each of the textual units contained in the whole Index Thomisticus database, and that the given terms may appear in any order whatsoever with the only restriction that they be contiguous. However, you may override these settings by pressing the **options** button and modifying the defaults, or by using the advanced expression syntax given below. Having typed in the desired terms or expression, you can always press any of the following buttons:

- concordances** To read occurrences of the given terms (or expression) in their respective context.
- terms** To refine word selection for each given term by checking or unchecking individual forms, and to examine statistical information regarding their occurrence in the works that are selected.
- works** To examine statistical information concerning the occurrences of the given terms or expression in all listed works.
 Notice: You can press this button at any time to select which works (individually or by category) will be included in the search.

Terms:

Search terms may be expressed in three different manners: by supplying the desired word form, by supplying a lemma entry code (preceded by the # symbol) in order to select all of its forms, or by supplying a word form (preceded by the = symbol) that will serve as a sample for the selection of all of the forms belonging to the same lemma entry.

For example:

- aegritudo** Will search only for the word form *aegritudo*.
- #02657** Will search for any of the word forms contained under the lemma whose entry code is **02657**, including *aegritudo*, *egritudo*, *aegritudinis*, *aegritudini*, *aegritudinem*, *aegritudine*, *egritudinibus*. You can find out a lemma's entry code by typing a word form that belongs to the desired lemma and pressing the **terms** button: The lemma entry will appear along with the word form.
- =aegritudo** Will search for any of the word forms contained under the lemma that includes the word form *aegritudo*. Again, this would result in searching for any of the following words belonging to the lemma: *aegritudinis*, *aegritudini*, *aegritudinem*, *aegritudine*, *aegritudines*, *egritudines*, *aegritudinum*, *aegritudinibus* and *egritudinibus*.

Wildcards:

You may also use the ? and * symbols as wildcards anywhere inside a word (except at its beginning) to substitute for arbitrary letters: The ? symbol stands for exactly one arbitrary letter, while the * symbol stands for an arbitrary number of arbitrary letters.

For example:

- aegritudin?** Will select the words *aegritudini* and *aegritudine*.
- aegritudin*** Will select the words *aegritudinis*, *aegritudini*, *aegritudinem*, *aegritudine*, *aegritudines*, *egritudines*, *aegritudinum*, *aegritudinibus* and *egritudinibus*.





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Welcome to the Transcription Desk

The Transcription Desk is the heart of a major online initiative to transcribe the manuscripts of the English philosopher Jeremy Bentham. It is managed by the [Bentham Project](#) at University College London.

You are invited to assist us by using the Transcription Desk to type up the text of Bentham's manuscripts.

These transcripts will make it easier for anyone to access and read Bentham's papers and will be used by scholars at the Bentham Project in the production of the edition of [The Collected Works of Jeremy Bentham](#).

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Conference

The ADHO organizes and sponsors an annual conference under the leadership of the [Conference Coordinating Committee](#). The first joint conference was held in 1989 at the [University of Toronto](#). That event was the 16th annual meeting of ALLC and the ninth annual meeting of the ACH-sponsored International Conference on Computers and the Humanities (ICCH). Since then, the joint conference has grown to include additional organizations, and it has been held in cities around the world:

Upcoming Conferences

- [George Mason University](#), Washington, DC, USA (2024)
- [University of Graz](#), Graz, Austria (10-14 July 2023)

Past Conferences

- [University of Tokyo](#), Tokyo, Japan (25-29 July 2022)
- [2021 Regional Conferences](#)
- [Carleton University and the University of Ottawa](#), Ottawa, Canada (22-24 July 2020)
 - [Virtual Conference Website](#)
- [Universiteit Utrecht](#), Utrecht, Netherlands (9-12 July 2019)
- [El Colegio de México](#), the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), and Red de Humanidades Digitales (RedHD), Mexico City, Mexico (24-30 June 2018)
- [McGill University](#) and l'Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada (8-11 August 2017)



Events Calendar

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« All Events

This event has passed.

DARIAH Annual Event 2022

May 31, 2022 - June 3, 2022



The **DARIAH Annual Event 2022** is organised as a hybrid meeting, planned to take place on May 31st to June 3rd in Athens, Greece. After two years of online DARIAH events, we are looking forward to organise this event as a hybrid conference, if the pandemic situation allows it.

RECENT POSTS

-  Helsinki Digital Humanities Hackathon #DHH22
16 November, 2022
-  A New Director for DARIAH: General Assembly Appoints Agiatis Benardou
15 November, 2022
-  Who's behind the SSH Open Marketplace? A sneak preview of the new members in the SSH Open Marketplace Editorial Board!
14 November, 2022
-  CLS INFRA Project: Third Call for TNA Fellowships
10 November, 2022
-  DARIAH launches two new videos about DARIAH-Campus
7 November, 2022

TWITTER UPDATES

Digital Humanities Forum PKU 2016



PKU Forum 2019



PKU Forum 2018



First China National Digital Humanities Conference



敦煌 (DH2019) 文化遗产数字化国际研讨会 暨中国社科情报学会数字人文专委会学术年会

Dunhuang (DH2019) International Symposium on the Digitalization of Cultural Heritage &
the Annual Conference of Specialized Committee for Digital Humanities
of Chinese information society of social sciences

2019年7月5日

CDH 2020: Establishment Ceremony of Digital Humanistic Institutions Alliance



Group Photo of the Founding Ceremony of Digital Humanities Special Committee (Organization Alliance) of China Index Organization



Experts Debate

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Different models for DH activities?

- Different institutions / different models
不同机构/不同模式
- No one size fits all.
并无标准答案



Some variant western models

- UK DH centres

- As departments: Dept of DH at King's College London
作为院系运行：伦敦国王学院数字人文学院
- DH network spanning several department: University of Glasgow
跨多个院系运行：格拉斯哥大学
- Virtual DH centre that cross departments and faculties: UCLDH
跨多学院及学部运行：伦敦大学学院数字人文中心
- Grown and developed from the library but with organisation status of a department: DHI at Sheffield
由图书馆建立及发展而来，但由学院组织：谢菲尔德大学DHI



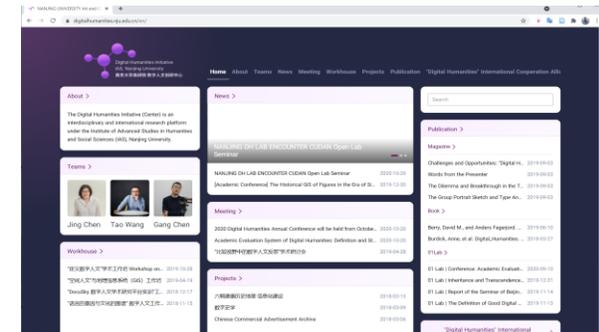
- USA DH centres

- Nebraska-Lincoln: a joint initiative of Libraries and Arts and Sciences
Nebraska-Lincoln: 图书馆、艺术与科学学部的联合倡议
- The Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH) is jointly supported by the College of Arts and Humanities and the Libraries
MITH是由人文艺术学院与图书馆共同支持的
- The Scholars Lab, at the University of Virginia: UVA Library's community lab

Digital Humanities Centres in China

中国大陆的数字人文中心

- Wuhan 2011 武汉大学
 - Nanjing 2017 南京大学
 - Peking University 2019
 - Shanghai Normal 2020
-
- Research centres 各类研究中心
 - Shanghai Library 上海图书馆
 - Peking University 北京大学
 - Many others 以及其他许多中心
 - Research groups in many universities
 - Renmin University
 - Shanghai University
 - Zhejiang University



Centralized organization?

- ADHO: Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations
 - Global Outlook::Digital Humanities (GO::DH)
 - Multi-Lingualism and Multi-Culturalism committee
- Regional: characteristics, ('flavour') of the region
 - RedDH, EADH, UK-Ireland
- Linguistic: relating to language
 - *Humanistica, Digital Humanities im deutschsprachigen raum*
- A combination of these to capture the varieties?
- What would be best in mainland China?

Language

- Preponderance of English language 英语的主导地位
- Pressure to publish in English 英语出版的压力
- SSCI / CSI / A&HCI – Web of Science Clarivate analytics
WoS 科学网 Clarivate 分析
- Reinforces a western perspective 强调西方视角
- The medium we work and correspond in also has language bias
我们工作和通信的媒介同样有语言偏见
- Insufficiency of software for supporting non-English languages
非英语软件的缺乏
- Tools and computer systems are dominated by US-English
工具与计算机系统由美式英语控制
 - ASCII, HTML, XML, UNICODE, QWERTY keyboard
 - ICANN, W3C



Bias in the machine

- Generic DH methods 数字人文通用方法
- Data models 数据模型
- Data sets 数据集
- Tools 工具
- Cultural and socio-economic environments
文化及社会经济环境
- Dependence on standardized commercial platforms
依赖于标准化商业平台
- Lack of software to support non-English languages
- Underrepresentation of ethnic minorities
少数群体代表人数不足



Bias in the language of publication

学术出版物上的语言偏见

'the over-representation of US and UK Humanities titles [as counted in major indices such as Scopus and Web of Science] will always support arguments in favor of using English as the lingua franca, and the misrepresentation of knowledge production and geopolitical imbalance will continue to thrive.' (Fiormonte (2015) *Towards monoculture (digital) humanities?*)

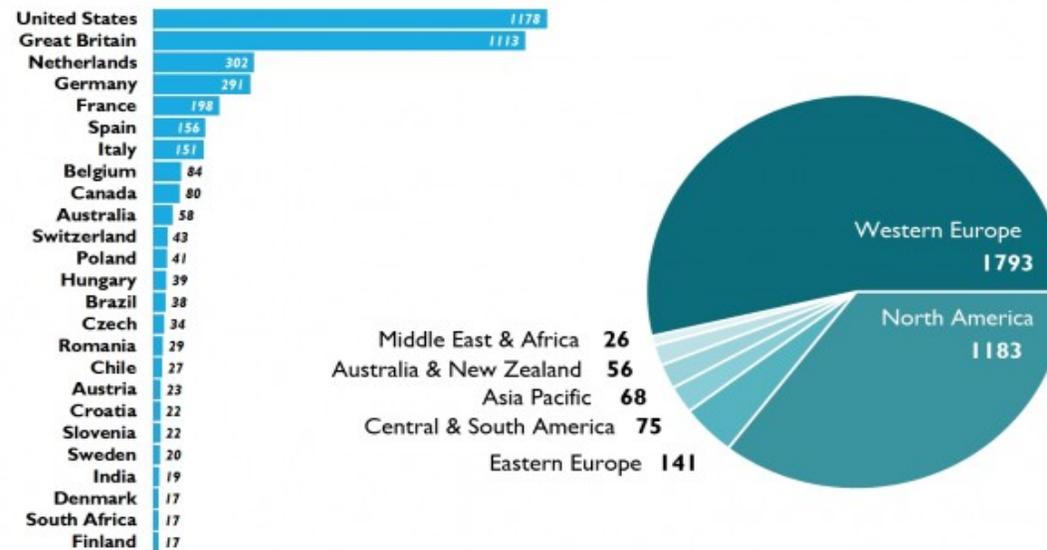


Figure 2a (left): The number of Humanities titles covered in Scopus for the top 25 countries with most Humanities titles covered (November 2012). Figure 2b (right): Regional distribution of the number of Humanities titles covered in Scopus per region (November 2012). Source: Scopus

Bias in the language of publication

学术出版物上的语言偏见

“美国和英国的英文出版物标题（如Scopus和Web of Science等主要指数）的过度使用将持续鼓励使用英语作为学术通用语，并且继续助长知识生产和地缘政治失衡的现象。”

(Fiormonte (2015) *Towards monoculture (digital) humanities?*)

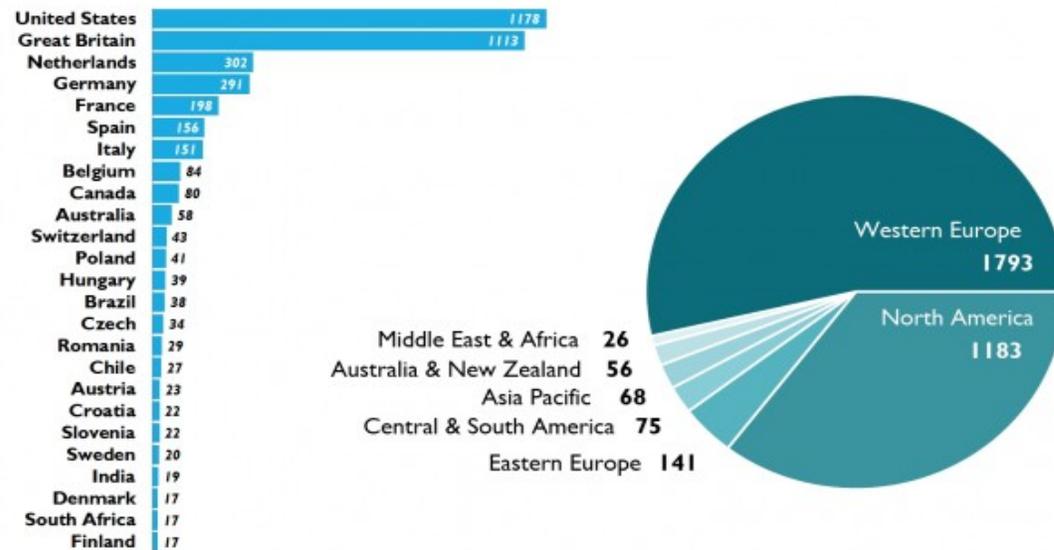


Figure 2a (left): The number of Humanities titles covered in Scopus for the top 25 countries with most Humanities titles covered (November 2012). Figure 2b (right): Regional distribution of the number of Humanities titles covered in Scopus per region (November 2012). Source: Scopus

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我们在寻找中国及其他东亚国家的合作伙伴，尤其希望可以扩展出版语言的多样性。

Localization

- Multilingual DH? 多语种数字人文
- More than just language 不仅仅是语言
- Software and tools 软件和工具
- Cultural diversity 文化多样性
- Variations and expectation 变化和希望
- Need for diverse epistemological system to support and enhance discourse
需要多样化的认识论体系来支持和促进对话
- Need for global infrastructure for DH scholarly practice
需要支持数字人文学术实践的全球基础设施
- Regional hubs with local expressions of scholarship?
建立具有本地学术表达方式的区域hubs?

Mainland China

- What is the voice of DH in mainland China?
- What is unique to DH here?
- How might that be used?
- Collect together the diversity of cultural heritage objects scattered globally
收集那些分布在全球的多样的文化遗产
- Central focal point for Sinology & Sinitic databases
汉学和汉学数据库的中心焦点
- Build understanding of Chinese cultural context in Sinitic research
在汉化研究中建立对中国文化背景的理解
- Digital Sinology 数字汉学
- What is the story China can relate? 中国叙事?

Conclusion

- What is the story that China can relate?
- What is exceptional and specific to mainland China?
- Create a unique position within the global DH community
- How might we describe the 'flavour' of DH here in the mainland?
- What is the distinctive 'flavour' of DH research in mainland China?

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