

**Explanatory Notes** on the dataset titled  
**“A History from Below: Translators in the Publicational Network of Four Magazines of China Book Company, 1913-1923”**

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Dr. Michelle Jia Ye

Department of Translation, CUHK

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Basic information

- This dataset is a direct output of the project titled "Mapping the Translators' Network of the Shanghai Publisher Chung-hua Library (1912-1920s)", funded by the Faculty of Arts, Chinese University of Hong Kong under Direct Grant for Research 2016-17.
- The dataset is cited in the author's paper titled “A History from Below: Translators in the Publicational Network of Four Magazines of China Book Company, 1913-1923”, completed in December 2018.
- The dataset is based on the following reproductions of four early twentieth-century Chinese magazines:
  1. Wang Dungen 王鈍根 ed. 1913-1915. *Youxi zazhi* 遊戲雜誌 (The Pastime). 19 issues. Shanghai: Zhonghua tushuguan. Microform, Shanghai: Shanghai Library, 2017.
  2. Wang Dungen 王鈍根, Sun Jiong 孫炯, Chen Diexian 陳蝶仙, Zhou Shoujuan 周瘦鵑, eds. 1914-1916; 1921-1923. *Libai Liu* 禮拜六 (The Saturday). 200 issues. Shanghai: Zhonghua tushuguan. Bounded reprint, Yang Zhou: Jiangsu guangling guji keyin she, 1987.
  3. Wang Junqing 王均卿 ed. 1914-1915. *Xiangyan zazhi* 香艷雜誌 (Fragrance). 12 issues. Shanghai: Zhonghua tushuguan. Bounded reprint, Beijing: Xianzhuang shuju, 2007.
  4. Chen Diexian 陳蝶仙 ed. 1914-1915. *Nüzi shijie* 女子世界 (Ladies' World). 6 issues. Shanghai: Zhonghua tushuguan. Microform. Shanghai: Shanghai Library, 2017.
- Chinese titles and proper names are untranslated at this stage.

- The dataset consists of eight items:

**Item A contributed items.xlsx**, a full catalogue of the contributed items in the magazines, with translations marked;

**Item B dataspreadsheet.xlsx**, a structured record of the bibliographical information of the contributors and their social connections as seen in the publications, with translators marked;

**Item C records of translators.xlsx**, which contains the information extracted from (A) and (B) about the translators, the titles of their translated works, and each translator's translation:publication ratio,

**Item D China Book graph.gephi**, the editable and searchable graph of the publicational network in this study on the platform Gephi

**Item E China Book graph.pdf** and **Item F China Book graph in grey.pdf**, the visual outputs of item D cited in the last section of the aforementioned paper.

**Item G issue dates. docx**, the list of the publication date/year of each magazine issue; and finally

**Item H translators with affiliations.docx**, a list of publication records of the translators with disclosed affiliations.

### Explanations

The explanations are written in simple present tense to indicate that the following is both descriptive and instructional.

#### **Item A contributed items.xlsx**

Each sheet in the file records the contributed items and their bibliographical details in one magazine. The titles are arranged in the chronological order of publication and according to the sequence of appearance in each issue of the magazine. The details are arranged under eight headers (see table below).

| Excel Column | Header       | Content and Rationale  |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| A            | 日期<br>(Date) | This category records the date of publication of each title. The date is taken from the date of publication of the issue, which was normally printed on the back page. The dates of no.2-19 of <i>Fragrance</i> are not found in the original publication, thus uncertain. In these cases, only the year of publication is recorded. It is worth noting that Ma Qinqin (2013) attempted to reconstruct the timeline of <i>Fragrance</i> publications based on its advertisements in other magazines of China Book Company and in the newspaper <i>Shenbao</i> . The paper is short and largely speculative, thus the findings are not adopted in this datasheet. |

|   |                      |   |
|---|----------------------|---|
| B | 期號<br>(Issue Number) | This category records the number of issue in which a title was published. The number of issue is normally printed on the front cover.   |
| C | 欄目<br>(Column)       | <p>This category records the periodical column in which a title was published. There is no consistent or systematic departmentalization in the four magazines. Columns are generally medium- (e.g. pictorial and verbal content), genre- (e.g. novels, short stories, poetry, essays, translation) and theme-based (e.g. romance, humor, family, hygiene, health, “boudoir” [guixiu 閨秀] literature). Some column titles are clearly indicative of their translational nature, or the assumed gender of the contributors. Such information is recorded under headers “translator” (Column H) and “female” (Column I).</p> <p>Names of column is recorded exactly as seen in the original publication. Where a title is not assigned to any column, the box is left as 【無】 (nil).</p>   |
| D | 屬性<br>(Nature)       | The category records whether an item is a verbal or visual text.  |
| E | 篇名<br>(Title)        | This category records the titles of the contributed items. In a case where a title in the table of contents differs from on the title page of publication, the latter is adopted. Where there was no title, the first sentence of a published item is recorded.   |
| F | 投稿人<br>(Contributor) | <p>This category records the names of contributors as seen in the magazines. In a case where the name as seen in the table of contents differs from the name on the title page, the latter is adopted.</p> <p>The contributor of an item in photographic/pictorial columns is put down as “the editors” [kanfang 刊方] if there is no indication that the item is a voluntary submission of the owner/author of this item. For example, in <i>The Saturday</i>, the reprinted portrait of Charles Dickens (1812-1870) in no.1 (June 6, 1914) and that of Wu Peifu 吳佩孚 (1874-1939) in no. 138 (December 3, 1921) are unlikely to have been sent in by the novelist and the warlord themselves, but more likely to be the curations of the editors.</p> <p>On the other hand, in <i>Ladies’ World</i>, the contributor of the portrait “Wen Qianhua, the poetess” [nü shiren Wen Qianhua 女詩人溫倩華] in no.1 (December 10, 1914) is recorded as Wen Qianhua. The photo is placed in the photographic column titled “Pictures: six portraits of our lady contributors” [Tuhua: tougao nüshi xiaoying liu zhen 圖畫: 投稿女士小影六幀]. This column is the result of the call for submission that grants higher priority to female contributors who send in works together with their photos. Since Wen’s poems are published in this issue, it is highly likely that the portrait is her own submission.</p> |

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| G | 實名<br>(Real Name) | <p>The category presents the results of name disambiguation. Authors published under various names in early Republican Chinese periodicals. Some are known to researchers on this period. For example, 陳栩, 陳栩園, 天虛我生 and 太常仙蝶 point us to the same personality 陳蝶仙. Less known names are disambiguated as much as our sources allow. One approach is to consult the indices and biographies of writers of the Mandarin Ducks and Butterflies School [<i>yuanyang hudie pai</i> 鴛鴦蝴蝶派], a loosely defined literary community which the magazines were historically associated with.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>The other approach involves a combined “vertical” and “horizontal” reading (Judge 2015, 39-48) of the four magazines. It is based on the assumption that the names used by a contributor can be mutually verified by his/her multiple appearances in the magazines.</p> <p>As for the editors and key male authors, their full names are usually found in the lists of contributors on the back page, in the editorial statements with individual signatures, and in photographic sections in the front matters, where they share their portraits with the readers. Women authors in <i>Pastime</i>, <i>Fragrance</i> and <i>Ladies' World</i> generally follow the similar pattern “home county + surname + given name+ style name” in the signatures on their submissions. The most prolific, identifiable figures include 徐畹蘭 (清溪徐畹蘭曼仙), 劉古香 (東海劉古香清韻), 吳絳珠 (歙縣吳絳珠蕊先), 劉鑑 (長沙劉鑑惠叔), 吳茵 (吳縣吳茵縵珮) and 溫倩華 (錫山溫倩華佩萼). Disambiguated names are presented in the format of “surname + given name”.</p> <p>A bit more verification was needed when women authors do not sign in this format. For example, in no.4 of <i>Ladies' World</i> (April 10, 1915), the portrait of the lady Wu Chanqing 吳懺情女士 and the poems of 吳門吳鈞才懺情 point us to the same person, considering the magazine's poetry-plus-portrait bundle publication policy for women contributors. Wu's portraits are featured later again in no. 9 of <i>Pastime</i> (1915) and no. 8 of <i>Fragrance</i> (July 1, 1915), followed by her lyrical poems in no. 11 <i>Fragrance</i> (January 1, 1916). Photos compared, it is certain that these materials are sent in by the same woman. Thus, while the excel column “Contributor” records her various names exactly as they appear, this column records one uniform name “吳鈞才”, and noted her gender in the category “female”.</p> <p>In the cases where I suspect typographical errors, as in 杜滋園 and 杜滋國, or the inconsistent use of Chinese character variants, as in 歙縣吳蕊先絳珠 and 歙縣吳蕊先絳珠, 錢唐汪詠霞 and 錢塘汪詠霞, 香山李綺仙 and 香山李綺璽, I opt for the most frequently seen versions in the magazines and in historical resources.</p> |
|---|-------------------|---|

<sup>1</sup> Among all, Wei Shaochang (1962) and Rui Heshi et al (1984) were my key references. Also consulted were Zhou Shoujuan (1958) and Bao Tianxiao (1971), the memoirs of two important authors of the time.

|   |                     |   |
|---|---------------------|---|
| H | 譯作<br>(Translation) | <p>The category records a contribution as either translation (“T”) or non-translation (“N”). By “translation”, I mean “assumed translations” (Toury 1995:32). It means that the titles presented or regarded as translations in their immediate context (i.e. the magazines) are categorized as translations, regardless of whether their sources are identifiable. A title is marked as a translation when -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The bibliographical information on the title page contains verbal phrases that explicitly indicate the translational nature of an item, such as “to translate” [yì], or that implicitly imply that the item is derivative of a prior, foreign source, usually with the mention of “the original” [yuanzhu], “overseas” [haiwai], “foreign countries” [waiguo] and abbreviated transliterations of country names;</li> <li>2. The item appears in a translation column;</li> <li>3. The item is presented in a bilingual format.</li> </ol>  |
| I | 女性<br>(Female)      | <p>The category records a contributor as either female (“F”) or non-female (“N”). “Female” contributors are those presented or labeled as women in the magazine. “Non-female” means the gender of a contributor is not specified; it does not necessarily mean the contributor is male. A contributor is marked as female in three instances:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The contributor publishes or appears in photography section under a name that contained gendered titles, such as “Miss” [nǚshì 女士 or 女史] and <i>furen</i> 夫人;</li> <li>2. The contributor publishes in columns which were exclusively for women’s literary genres, such as “Boudoir elegance” [guiya 閨雅] in <i>Fragrance</i>, “Collection of scattered flowers” [sanhua ji 散花集] and “Poetry of notable ladies” [mingyuan ji 名媛集] in <i>Ladies’ World</i>.</li> </ol> <p>It is worth noting that authors, as in anytime anywhere, may go under gender disguise. One that carries a feminine name or title may not be a biological female. Likewise, a piece of work by a real female personality may be ghost-written by a male author of her acquaintance. This category does not represent indisputable historical accuracy, but records the presented gender of each contributor. Despite occasional uncertainty, the gender of most of the multiply published female contributors can be verified by their portraits as shown in the photographic sections in the magazines.</p> |

#### Item B. dataspreadsheets.xlsx

The file contains three worksheets prepared in a format recognizable by *Gephi*: “node”, “interaction” and “edge”.

**B.1 Worksheet “node”** is a list of the constituents (i.e. nodes) to be put on the network graph. Each node was attached with essential information mostly adapted from *contributed items.xlsx* (see table below).

| Excel Column | Header | Content and Rationale  |
|--------------|--------|--|
| A            | id     | An id is a serial number assigned to each node in the network. |

|   |                            |  |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| B | label                      | A label is the name of a node.   |
| C | type                       | <p>Nodes are categorized into eight types, according to their nature:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>magazine</b> – the four magazines of China Book Company in this study.</li> <li>2. <b>person</b> – contributors of the four magazines. The list is adapted from <i>contributed items.xlsx</i> (Item A). The label of a person node is taken from the column “Real Name”.</li> <li>3. <b>business</b>: commercial enterprises which the magazines and/or contributors are associated with.</li> <li>4. <b>press</b>: publishing houses which the magazines and/or contributors are associated with.</li> <li>5. <b>school</b>: educational institutions which the magazines and/or contributors are associated with.</li> <li>6. <b>government</b>: governmental bodies which the magazines and/or contributors are associated with.</li> <li>7. <b>association</b>: other affiliations of the magazines and/or contributors with no distinct orientation as seen in the magazines.</li> <li>8. <b>area</b>: nodes named after type 3-7 for filtering and clustering nodes.</li> </ol> |
| D | connections to magazines   | The number shows how many connections a node has to the four magazines. Where it is not applicable, the number is 0.   |
| E | frequency                  | The number shows how many items a contributor publishes in the four magazines. Where it is not applicable, the number is 0.  |
| F | level                      | The number range shows the level of frequency. Where it is not applicable, the number is 0.  |
| G | translator                 | The column is adapted from “Translation” in <i>contributed items.xlsx</i> . If a node represents a person who publishes translation(s) in the magazines, it is marked as “T” in the column. If the person has never publishes translations, the node is marked “N”.  |
| H | female                     | The column is adapted from “Female” in <i>contributed items.xlsx</i> . If a node represents a person who is identified as a female, it is marked as “F”, otherwise “N”.  |
| I | 1 <sup>st</sup> appearance | Each cell records the magazine through which a node makes its first appearance in the network. For a person node, it means the first publication. For an institution node, it means the first time being advertised or mentioned as an affiliation to a person node. Where it is not applicable, the box is marked “n/a”.  |
| J | issue                      | Each cell records the issue number of the magazine of a node’s first appearance.   |
| K | date                       | Each cell records the date/year of the magazine issue of a node’s first appearance.  |
| L | title                      | Each cell records the published title of a node’s first appearance.  |
| M | contributor                | Each cell records the name of the contributor as seen in the first published title of a node.  |

**B.2 Worksheet “interaction”** records the connections (“edges”) between nodes. Every row records one connection (see table below).

| Excel Column | Header | Content   |
|--------------|--------|---|
| A            | from   | Each cell contains the node which an edge departs from.   |
| B            | to     | Each cell contains the node which an edge directs to.   |
| C            | nature | <p>Each cell marks the nature of a connection. There are 13 types of edges:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. publication – the edge means that a magazine publishes the work(s) of a person. The data is adapted from <i>contributed items.xlsx</i>.</li> <li>2. advertisement – the edge means that a magazine advertises an institution/person. The data is extracted from the advertisement pages in the magazines. Advertisements of China Book Company are not included, because the connections of the publisher to the magazines need no further statistical evidence and would potentially complicate the final mapping.</li> <li>3. affiliation – the edge means that a person is affiliated with an institution/publication. The professional/social/education affiliation of a person is normally revealed in the paratextual elements surrounding his/her published title. The data is adapted from <i>contributed items.xlsx</i>.</li> <li>4. area – the edge connects an institution to one of five areas (see “Type” in worksheet “node”).</li> <li>5. co-author – the edge connects a pair of co-authors.</li> <li>6. co-translator – the edge connects a pair of co-translators.</li> <li>7. drama – each denotes a connection between two people who are seen in a drama performance and whose personal ties are uncertain. This is a unique type of connections found in the photography sections in <i>Pastime</i>. The images contain primarily stage photos and a list of the names of the actors, from which it is impossible to tell whether they are connected in other ways off-scene.</li> </ol> <p>Other types of edges concern private, interpersonal connections. The labels are self-explanatory:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. couple</li> <li>9. parent-child</li> <li>10. in-law nephew</li> <li>11. in-law parent-child</li> <li>12. friend</li> <li>13. sibling</li> </ol> |
| D            | where  | Each cell records the magazine in which an edge was observed.   |
| E            | source | The columns record the numeral ids in worksheet “node” to which the labels in Column A and B correspond to. The matching was done using VLOOKUP.  |
| F            | target |   |

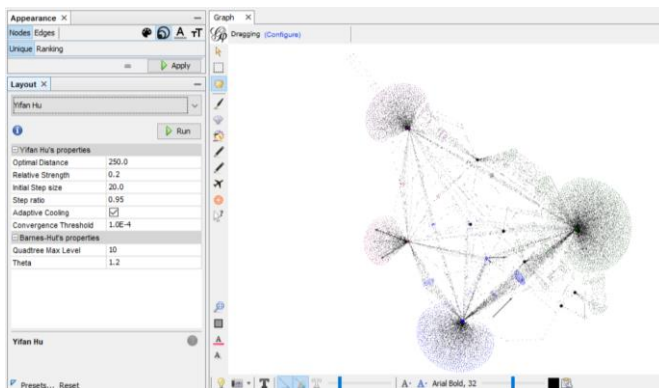
**B.3 Worksheet “edge”** is adapted from Column C, D, E, F in worksheet “interaction” and prepared in a ready format for processing in *Gephi*. The column “type” is added to render the network into a directed graph for analysis.

#### Item C. Records of translators.xlsx

There are two worksheets in the file. Worksheet “all translators” presents an index of all the identified translators, in which one could find all the translated titles of a translator and the bibliographical details thereof, the number of his/her publications in the magazines, and the number of translations. Worksheet “ratio” is a summary of each translator’s translation : publication ratio.

**Item D. China Book graph.gephi** – the network graph in Gephi with import of the worksheets “node” and “edge”. Manipulative steps were as follows:

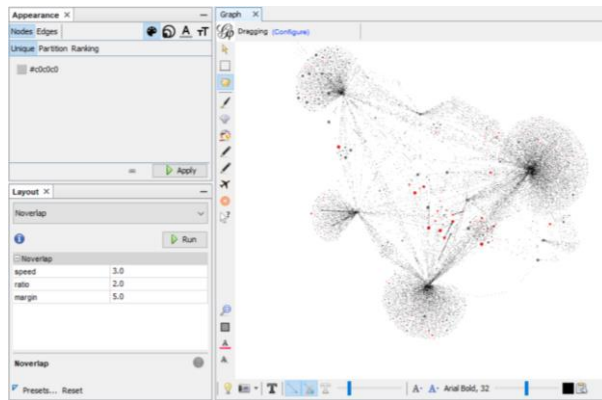
1. Color nodes by “1<sup>st</sup> appearance”.  
Saturday: dark green (0,80,0) Pastime: blue (0,0,255)  
Fragrance: Purple (100,0,100) Ladies’ World (190,30,120)  
n/a: black (255,255,255)
2. Resize nodes by “Degree” (Min size: 10; Max size: 60. Spline template 1), then filter and adjust size of nodes of magazines, the publisher and areas to 50.
3. Apply Yifan Hu algorithm to generate the network graph (see original mapping below).



The visual output after Step 1-3 is **Item E China Book graph.pdf**.

4. Adjust node colors by “type” to highlight translators in the network  
“translator”: red (255,0,0)  
“business” “school” “government” “association” “magazine” “press” “area”: black (255,255,255)  
“person”: grey (192,192,192)
5. Resize nodes by “level”  
Level 100+: 60; Level 50-99:50; Level 20-49:40; Level 10-19:30; Level 2-9:20 Level 1:10

6. Apply Noverlap to adjust visibility of translator nodes



The visual output after Step 1-6 is [Item F China Book graph in grey.pdf](#)

**Item G issue dates.docx** – the document lists the publication date/year of each magazine issue.

**Item H translators with affiliations.docx** – the document is a publication records of the translators with disclosed affiliations in the magazine. The data is retrieved from edges with the label “affiliation” in the column “nature” in the worksheet “interaction” in Item B, and then from the translators’ records in Item C.

References:

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