# On E-books for Chinese Studies 

Xiaohe Ma<br>Librarian for Chinese Collection, Harvard-Yenching Library 2023/3/15


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- Library of Congress Chinese Rare Book Digital Collection 美國國會圖書管中文善本數字文獻 OPEN ACCESS
- National Palace Museum 國立故宮博物院圖書文獻數位典藏資料庫（善本古籍）OPEN ACCESS
- Premodern Chinese Books in Japan 全國漢籍データベース（日本所藏中文古籍數據庫）OPEN ACCESS
- Union Catalog of Chinese Ancient Books 學苑汲古 高校古文嗝資源庫
- 東京大學東洋文化研究所藏漢籍善本全文影像資料庫 OPEN ACCESS
- 東方學圖書館－京都大學漢籍古籍全文圖像資料庫 OPEN ACCESS


## E－Books

- Airiti iRead eBook 華藝中文電子書
- Apabi China Digital Library 中华數字书苑
- CADAL 中国高校数字化图书馆
- Chinamaxx Digital Libraries 超星中文集献
- Chinese Big Set Table of Contents 中国大套图书目录库
- Chinese Social Science Library（CSSL）中国社会科学文库
- CNKI－eBooks（Intl）CNKI 电子图书库
- CNPeReading 易䦎通中文电子书平台
- Dacheng Republican period books 大成民国图书全文数据库
- Early Twentieth Century Books in China，1911－1949 中國歷史文䃒熜庫．民國圖書數譃庫
- Huamulan Digital Library 花木蘭數位資料庫
- HyRead e－Books 凌惘電子書
- Shanghai Library Books of Modern China（1840－1949）上海圖書管中国近代图书全文数据库


Erudition 爱如生 is a big collection of ancient books in electronic．


个人中心

| （1）事目检索 ○ 高级检索 ○ 全文检索 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 任意词 V |  | Q 检索 |
|  |  |  |

分类汶览

| A 马克思主义，列宁主义，毛泽东思想．－ | B 哲学，宗教 | c 社会科学总论 | D 政治，法律 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| E 军事 | F 经济 | G 文化，科学，教育，体育 | н 语言，文字 |
| 1 文学 | J 艺术 | к 历史，地理 | \％自然科学总论 |
| 0 数理科学和化学 | P 天文学，地球科学 | Q 生物科学 | R 医药，卫生 |
| $s$ 农业科学 | T 工业技术 | U 交通运埨 | v 航空，航天 |
| x 环境科学，安全科学 | z 综合性图书 | JP 日文图书 |  |



Early Twentieth Century Books in China，1911－1949．

$\leftarrow \rightarrow$ C摟素：○全部予段 ○书名 ○作者 ○主题词 $O$ 以书名 ○目次


## Duxiu 读秀 has many 包库 as contemporary books in electronic．




## INDISPENSABLE MATERIALS FOR REFERENCE \＆

## IN－DEPTH RESEARCH CONSULTATIONS

＂I am finishing a book on Cao Zhi＇s poetry，and one of the poems I was just working on is 鰕鮊篇．In 曹集銓評 one of the lines of this poem is 锥高念皇家．But based on the Song dynasty edition of Cao＇s works，趙幼文 says it should be 高念翼皇家．．．I＇m not sure whether there is another Song edition I have not seen that has the


## Acknowledgments

Readers of this volume will be able to tell from the Introduction and notes throughout the book how great a debt I owe to many distin－ guished scholars past and present．Without them，this work would have been impossible．Here I want to express my gratitude to a number of people who have influenced this project more directly．The book is dedicated to David R．Knechtges，whose kindness and inspirational mentorship changed everything．He is the founder of this repast．Long ago，the late C．H．Wang was one of the first to suggest that I study Cao Zhi．He will be greatly missed by all who knew him as mentor and friend．I have also benefitted from the work and cordiality of Xu Gongchi of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences，who was for twen－ ty years the editor of Literary Heritage．Dr．Liu Qian of Arizona State University＇s Hayden Library aided me on a question involving editions and provided references．Colleagues and students alike can attest to Liu Qian＇s expertise and generosity．To Paul W．Kroll，editor of this volume， any expression of thanks will be inadequate，so I can only trust that Paul knows how much I appreciate his work．Xiaofei Tian has been extraordinarily kind－and patient－during the time this book was being born．We overlap in various areas，and I have profited a great deal from her research．To the many graduate students at the University of Wisconsin－Madison and Arizona State University with whom I have had the pleasure of reading and discussing Jian＇an literature over the years，I am incredibly grateful．Finally，to Carolyn Marie Warner for her love and support，my fondest thanks．She proves that social scien－ tists and humanists can communicate．
（ Open Access．© 2021 Robert Joe Cutter，published by De Gruyter．（e）ExNC－wo This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution－NonCommercial－NoDerivatives 4.0 License． https：／／doi．org／10．1515／9781501507038－203


- EXAMPLE II:
"I'm working on an article, and that was one of the comments for revision. I'm attaching my most recent draft and copying and pasting the (peer review) comments below...I was wondering if I could ask for your help again with access to wenshi ziliao regarding the Jiangxi period (19331934), especially children's experiences."


## ESSENTIAL TOOLS FOR TEACHING

## > EXAMPLE I:

## CHI500: RESEARCH METHODS AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

A seminar introducing the intellectual foundations
of Sinology and the practice of research in Chinese studies.


Chinese History
A New Manual, Enlarged Sixth Edition
(Fiftieth Anniversary Edition)
By Endymion Wilkinson

## SUGGESTIONS \& RECOMMENDATIONS

## CONTENT

aMULTIDISCIPLINARY AND INTERDISCIPLINARY COVERAGES
-HIGHLY-DEMANDED AND FREQUENTLYREQUESTED BOOKS
T- RRARE EDITIONS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
$\leftrightarrow \pi$ INFORMATION IS CURRENT AND RESOURCES AR


## > TECHNICAL ASPECTS

םUSABILITY FEATURES
-MORE SEARCHABLE AND FILTERABLE FOR TEXTS, IMAGES, AND DATA MINING PROJECTS םKEEP THE INTEGRITY OF THE ORIGINAL WORKS aHIGHER RESOLUTION AND ZOOM LEVELS

> TECHNICAL ASPECTS<br>-MORE COMPATIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE<br>aMORE USER-FRIENDLY FOR DOWNLOADING AND PRINTING<br>-AVOID UNCLEAR, MISSING, CORRUPTED CHARACTERS AND INCREASE ACCURACY

$>$ COST
aMORE AFFORDABLE PURCHASE PRICES AND MAINTENANCE FEES
aMORE FLEXIBLE PURCHASE PLANS

Hind

# eBooks for Chinese Studies Types, Use and Issues 

## SUSAN XUE (SXUE@BERKELEY.EDU)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
FORUM OF LIBRARIANS AND VENDORS ON E-BOOKS FOR CHINESE STUDIES
BOSTON, MARCH 15, 2023

## Chinese eBooks－UC／Berkeley

eBook Database／Platform－Contemporary and Modern

- Chinamaxx Digital Library of e－Books 中文电子书集献
- China Economy，Public Policy，and Security Database 皮书数据库
- Chinese New Local Gazetteers 中国新方志库
- Chinese Literary \＆Historical Materials 文史资料
- China Statistical Yearbooks Database 中国经济社会发展统计数据库
- Shanghai Library－Books of Modern China 中国近代图书库
- CADAL 大学数字图书馆国际合作计划


## Chinese eBooks－UC／Berkeley

## eBook Database／Platform－Classics

- Chinese Classic Ancient Books 中国基本古籍库
- Chinese Local Gazetteers 中国旧方志库
- Scripta Sinica 漢籍電子文獻資料庫
- Diaolong Full Text Database of Chinese and Japanese Ancient Books 雕龙－中日古籍全文检索数据库
- Zhonghua Ancient Books Database 中華經典古籍庫
- Si ku quan shu 四库全书
- Zhonghua Zai Zao Shan Ben Shu Ju Ku 中華再造善本數據庫
- Complete Classics Collection of Ancient China 古今图书集成
- Encyclopedia of Taiwan and Encyclopedia of Taiwan Continuation 台湾文献丛刊


## Chinese eBooks－UC／Berkeley

## DDA／Librarian Selections

- Apabi 电子书，joint purchase（2006－present，15，312 titles purchased）
- Airiti eBooks－DDA，joint project 华艺电子书（2013－present，1，500 titles purchased）
- CNPIEC eReading eBooks－DDA，joint project 中图公司电子书（2017－2020， 989 titles purchased，agreement to be renewed）


## Local Discovery

- Collection level records in library online catalogs for eBook database/platform
- Library A-Z database lists and LibGuides
- Catalog DDA titles and make them available in library online catalogs. As of the end of February:
- Airiti: 8756 title ( 9299 vols), including purchased: 1289 titles ( 1443 vols)
- Apabi: reference: 1027 vols, yearbook: 286, eBooks, 8730
- CNPIEC: 5852 titles ( 5965 vols), including purchased: 784 titles ( 836 vols)


## Advantages of Chinese eBooks

- Full-text or keywords search large collections to support research
- Availability of rare/difficult to locate books
- Convenience and accessibility
- Portability


## Considerations for acquiring ebooks

－Fill the gaps in collections（classics，Minguo publications，archival packages）
－Supplement to print collections（新方志，皮书）
－Collections／eBooks titles that support graduate and up level study／research
－Faculty／students requests
－DDA to supplement librarians＇selections

## UCB - 2020 Survey of New Students

## When you think about Library e-books how important are the following?

|  | Not that important | Somewhat important | Important | Very important | Not applicable |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Having a robust collection of e-books | 51 | 144 | 401 | 569 | 45 |
|  | 4\% | 12\% | 34\% | 49\% | - |
| Downloading an entire book | 28 | 114 | 434 | 593 | 40 |
|  | 2\% | 10\% | 37\% | 51\% | - |
| Downloading selected chapters | 39 | 118 | 439 | 570 | 42 |
|  | 3\% | 10\% | 38\% | 49\% | - |
| Reading on my phone or tablet | 54 | 134 | 423 | 559 | 39 |
|  | 5\% | 12\% | 36\% | 48\% | - |
| Highlighting and/or annotating text | 51 | 125 | 396 | 599 | 38 |
|  | 4\% | 11\% | 34\% | 51\% | - |
| Printing | 77 | 134 | 377 | 578 | 38 |
|  | 7\% | 12\% | 32\% | 50\% | - |

## Issues with Chinese eBooks

- Download limits, some copy/paste only, some can only print page by page
- Fewer new publications, eBooks are late than their print counterparts or are not available
- Variety of formats which affect accessibility and discovery (EPUB, PDF, HTML. Apabi CEB, Superstar PDG). Some needs special reader to read and download
- Overlap between databases or platforms, libraries need to deal with duplications from multiple vendors
- Withdrawal of eBooks without notification
- Pricing too high by some vendors
- Metadata are not standardized which affect local cataloging and discovery
- Suggestion: Content providers need to provide at least KBART (Knowledge Bases and Related Tools) level metadata to knowledge base provider, such as ProQuest, OCLC to enable immediate access and discovery through library catalog


## Questions to Consider for the Future

- Shall we continue with acquiring Chinese eBooks? - Yes
- Shall we consider e-Preferred practice for Chinese eBooks? - No at this point
- DDA or aggregated database? - Depending on content and needs
- Communication with content providers about metadata standards? - Continued efforts needed
- Balance between print and eBooks? - Big question but no clear answer


## Thanks!!

