Rebirth of the Daozang Jiyao – The never-ending Process of Creating a Digital Edition

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Three phases in the life of a digital text

- ► creation / birth
- ▶ enhancement / education
- ► sharing / work

Nothing 'new' here

- ▶ Digital texts are nothing "given"
- our imagination and vision brings them into existence
- ▶ they form according to our wishes

The Daozang ...

- The most important Daoist textual collection is the Daozang (DZ)
- ► The DZ has a complex and long history, starting from compilations in ca 400 AD
- ► The oldest completely preserved edition was printed in 1445 (during the Zhengtong period, thus Zhentong Daozang)
- The DZ was compiled on imperial orders under the leadership of Daoist clerics
- ▶ it contains about 1500 texts with more ca. 5300 scrolls (26 Mio characters)

... and the Daozang jiyao

- ► A digest was created in the Qing period, initiated probably by Peng Dingqiu (1645-1719), but mainly compiled by Jiang Yupu (1755-1819)
- The DZJY was compiled by a group of lay people interested in Daoism
- A revised reprint was prepared in Sichuan in the early 20th century
- About 60% of the material is from DZ, 40% have been added newly
- ► The differences between the DZ and DZJY, the newly added material and the two main strata of surviving editions require careful study
- ► A project was conceived to support this study, genereously supported by CCK and JSPS



Aims of the DZJY project

- Establish and publish a new critical edition of the DZJY
 - including a digital one in many forms
- Compile a critical, comparative catalog of the DZJY
- Publish a Companion to the Daozang jiyao similar to the 3 Vols. Historical Companion to the Daozang by Schipper/Verellen
- ► The following will discuss the progress and methodology of the digital DZJY

Transcription and facsimile

| | | | | | 巛生姓 **介过 乔生陽道生天生五行生星斗生金玉生龍馬生日月生男女** 天嬉而人更近於天地也他則尅爲凶 **乔甡一道甡剋乔者言地可以勝天而** 射丸水 **产粒 乔甡雖分爲二而生養萬物培植二氣則 牲生陰道生地生山川生草木生金玉生飛禽生雲霧生走駅 介甡雖分爲二而生養萬物培植二氣則** 天這而人更近於天地也他則起爲凶 生陽道生天生五行生星斗生金玉生龍馬生日月生男女 輪範屬先天之學 一道姓起介者言地可以勝天而人更可勝地益地近而 **輪範屬先天之學** 图杜鵬 困剋薦 姓生 翼 **盛**起介 曲兒介 器対性 疑対鋋 體过性 英过延 焱过器 第生片 川生草木生金玉生飛禽生雲霧生走獸 鋋过班 姓尅奚 器粒微 **产生器** 性克翼 鋋尅班 器対壓 **芦生器** 人更可勝地葢地近而 一也 班拉茅 殿並然 此相헢也 班尅菜 **殿**过米 此相生也 此相尅也 此相生也 然尅片 **季尅** ※ 対対

Figure: Transcription and facsimile of a page in the DZJY

Yupu and Chongkan edition face to face

具須得與中物不用鉛不用汞還丹須向鑪中種玄中之玄號 **被我捉來騎一翥上朝歸碧落碧落廣闊無東西無曉無夜** 日早總看畢不覺自醉如恍惚恍惚之中見有物狀如日輪 ·直待虎嘯折賴举驪龍奪得玄珠弄龍吞玄寶忽昇飛飛龍粒名干般一中有一為丹母火莫然水莫凍修之煉之須珍 **谿及至用鉛還不用或名龍或名虎或號嬰兒並姹女丹砂** 直待虎嘯折巓拏驪龍奪得玄珠弄龍吞玄寶忽昇飛飛龍 粒名千般一中有一爲丹母火莫然水莫凍修之鍊之須珍 鉛及至用鉛還不用或名龍或名虎或號嬰兒並蛇女丹砂 須得真中物不用鉛不用汞還丹須向爐中種玄中之玄號 **奶自言便是丹砂精宜向鼎中烹凡實凡質本来不化真化** 早總看畢不覺自醉如恍惚恍惚之中見有物状如日輪明 月無寒無暑無四時自從修到無爲地始覺奇之又怪之 言許肯更無難數為奇怪文人 **煮上朝歸碧落碧落廣闊無東西無晓無夜** 四時自從修到無為地始覺奇之又怪之

Digitizing of Chinese text

- ► Modern character encodings for Chinese are developed with the modern understanding of characters
- ► This makes it very difficult to use for premodern text
- ► It is thus next to impossible to study changes in orthography and character usage in digital text
- A new model for digitizing Chinese text is needed

Establish a new model for digital Chinese text

- ► Facsimile or Transcription -> Facsimile and Transcription
- Not character codes, but position of the characters in the text as primary reference
- ▶ Multiple representations can then be related positional

Conceptual view of the model

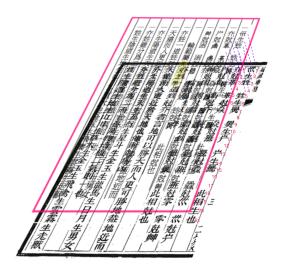


Figure: Layers of text stacked upon each other

Establishing a workflow

- input according to the Chongkan edition
- scan of page images, image preparation
- upload into the editing environment
- proofreading and annotating
- workbench for analysis, annotation and translation

The editing environment



Figure: A page from the DZJY Chongkan edition in the editing environment

.. in action



Requirements for a scholarly digital edition

- establishing of a reliable text
- ▶ all major witnesses available as facsimile
- user has full control over the text
- annotation, commentary, translation
 - private, shared or public
 - the user retains control over his work
- Distributed version control systems to the rescue?

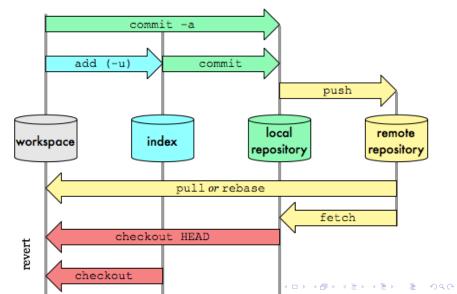
Distributed version control systems (DVCS)

- ▶ DVCS evolved out of traditional (centralized) version control systems
- ▶ DVCS do not require a central server or central control
- users can freely create their own branches, but retain the connection to the master repository
- Quick and wide adaption in the open source community
- seems ideal suited for the research community
 - but there might be barriers to the entry

Example of a DVCS based workflow

Git Data Transport Commands

http://osteele.com



Example(1): Zutang ji (Record of the Hall of Patriarchs)

<pb:ZTJ K45n1503 1-101>¶ 祖堂集卷第三¶ 牛頭和尚,嗣四祖。師諱法融,潤州延陵人也,姓¶ 文。四祖在雙峰山,告眾曰: 「吾未至此山時,於武¶ 德七年秋,於廬山頂上東北而望,見此蘄州雙¶ 峰山頂上有紫雲如蓋,下有白氣,橫分六道。|四¶ 祖問五祖曰:「汝識此瑞不? | 五祖曰:「莫是師腳下¶ 横出一枝佛法不? | 四祖曰: 「汝會我意,汝善住矣,¶ 吾過江東。| 便去。至牛頭山幽棲寺見數百僧並¶ 無道氣,乃顧問僧曰:「寺中有多少住持?其中有道¶ 人不? | 僧曰: 「禪和大相輕, 夫出家者, 阿那个不¶ 是道人? │四祖曰: 「何者是道人?」僧無對,乃云: 「山上有嬾¶ 融,身著一布裘,見僧不解合掌,此是異人也,¶ 禪師 自往看。| 四祖乃往庵前過來過去,謂曰: 「善¶ 男子! 莫入甚深三昧。」融乃開眼。四祖曰: 「汝學為¶ -U:---zti.org 11% (1594,0) Git:master

Example(2) ZTJ text with translation

```
<pb:ZTJ K45n1503 1-101>¶
祖堂集卷第三¶ Zǔtáng jí Fascicle Three
牛頭和尚,
              Preceptor Niútóu
嗣四祖。
              succeeded to the Fourth Patriarch;
              his canonical name as master was Făróng;
師諱法融,
              he was a man from Yánlíng in Rùn province
潤州延陵人也,
              and his family name was Wén.
姓¶文。
                     The Fourth Patriarch addressed the
四祖在雙峰山,告眾曰:
U:---zti.o
                  11% (1591.0) Git:translation
```

Figure: ZTJ text, reformatted and with translation (by C. Anderl)

Conclusions

- A new way of handling for digital Chinese texts has been proposed
- Some changes to the way text is established
- ► A different model for publications of a text
- ► Empower the readers to share as much (or as little) of the traces of their reading with as many (or as few) others
- Work in progress, update to follow