

Documentation for the Laozi Parallel Corpus

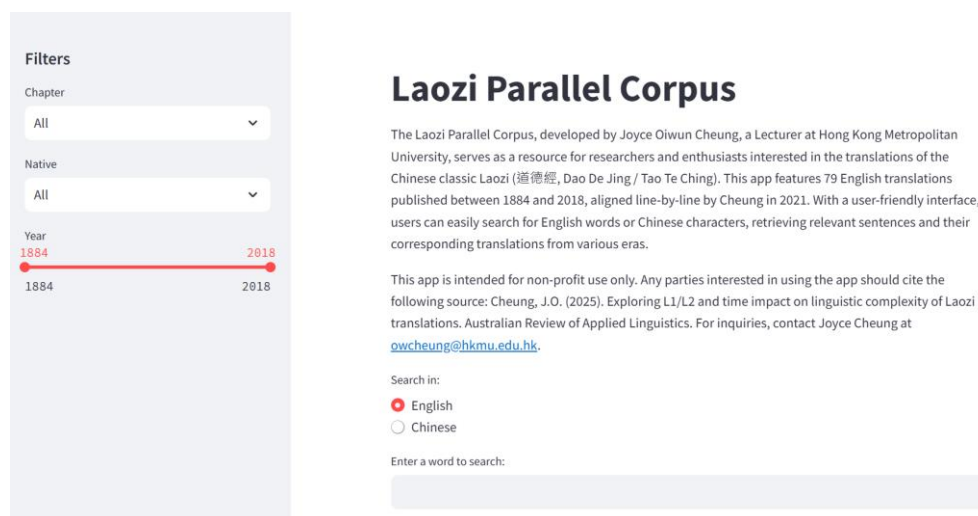
Overview

This application allows users to search for English words and Chinese characters in the Laozi Parallel Corpus. The app provides a user-friendly interface and a range of features to help users find and analyze translations effectively.

Searching English Words in the Laozi Parallel Corpus

1. User Interface

- The app features an intuitive interface that allows users to easily search for any English words within the English subcorpus.



2. Search Results

- Upon entering a search term, the app will return a list of sentences that contain the specified term.

Filters

Chapter
All

Native
All

Year
1884 2018

Laozi Parallel Corpus

The Laozi Parallel Corpus, developed by Joyce Oiwan Cheung, a Lecturer at Hong Kong Metropolitan University, serves as a resource for researchers and enthusiasts interested in the translations of the Chinese classic Laozi (道德經, Dao De Jing / Tao Te Ching). This app features 79 English translations published between 1884 and 2018, aligned line-by-line by Cheung in 2021. With a user-friendly interface, users can easily search for English words or Chinese characters, retrieving relevant sentences and their corresponding translations from various eras.

This app is intended for non-profit use only. Any parties interested in using the app should cite the following source: Cheung, J.O. (2025). Exploring L1/L2 and time impact on linguistic complexity of Laozi translations. Australian Review of Applied Linguistics. For inquiries, contact Joyce Cheung at owcheung@hkmu.edu.hk.

Search in:

- ☒ English
☐ Chinese

Enter a word to search:

sustain

Filters

Chapter
All

Native
All

Year
1884 2018

Enter a word to search:

sustain

Sort by

None

☒ Ascending Order

Found 67 sentences containing 'sustain':

Download Search Results

Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

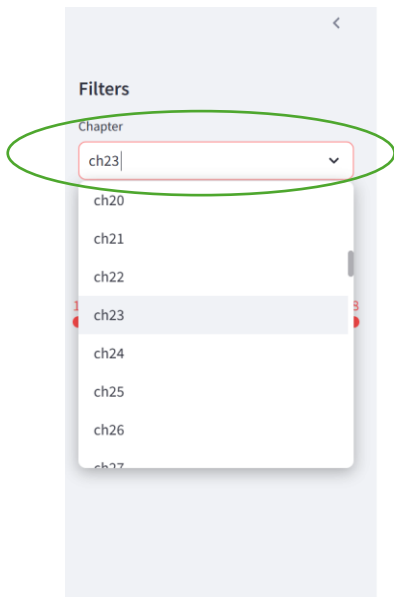
Know the white, sustain the black, become the pattern of the world, and te will not falter. Return to the uncarved block.

Know honour, sustain disgrace, become the valley of the world, and te will prevail. Return to simplicity.

Nature cannot sustain them. Just so for men.

3. Filtering Results

- Users can filter the search results based on:
 - Chapters:** Narrow down sentences by specific chapters.
 - Translator:** Filter by whether the translation was produced by a native or non-native English speaker.
 - Years:** Sort by publication year.



Enter a word to search:

sustain

Sort by

None

☒ Ascending Order

Found 7 sentences containing 'sustain':

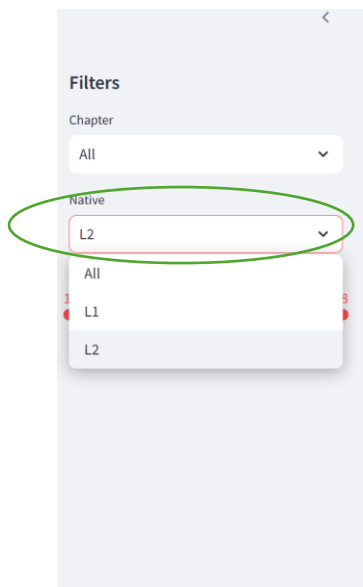
Download Search Results

Nature cannot sustain them. Just so for men.

And if the heavens and the earth cannot sustain things for long, how much less the human being.

The loss sustained by those who are identified with the loss of both is also rejoiced in by those who are already in the same case.

But these are exaggerated, forced effects, and that is why they cannot be sustained. If heaven and earth cannot sustain a forced action, how much less is man able to do?



Enter a word to search:

sustain

Sort by

None

☒ Ascending Order

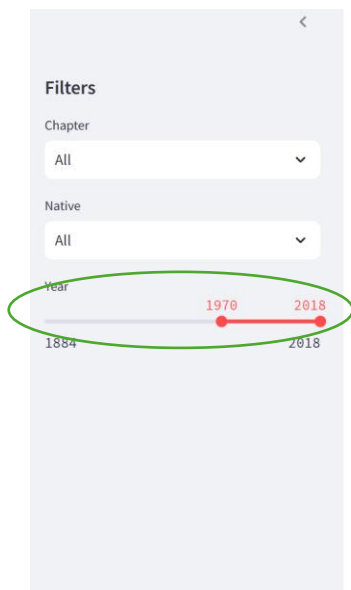
Found 18 sentences containing 'sustain':

Download Search Results

Heaven, without that which renders it clear, might crack. Earth, without that which renders it peaceful, might explode. Spirits, without that which makes them efficacious, might cease. Valleys, without that which replenishes them, might become empty. Ten thousand beings, without that which sustains them in existence, might become extinct. Barons and kings, without that which exalts them to high positions, might be toppled.

I alone differ from others, but do value being sustained by the mother.

the treasure of the good man, the sustainer of the bad man.



Enter a word to search:

sustain

Sort by

None

☒ Ascending Order

Found 53 sentences containing 'sustain':

Download Search Results

Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

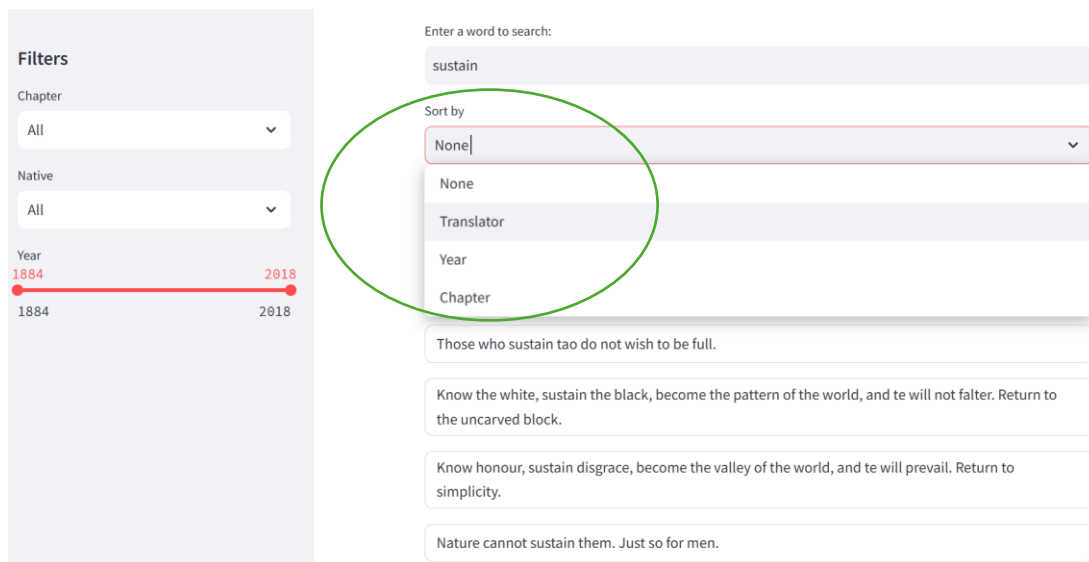
Know the white, sustain the black, become the pattern of the world, and te will not falter. Return to the uncarved block.

Know honour, sustain disgrace, become the valley of the world, and te will prevail. Return to simplicity.

Nature cannot sustain them. Just so for men.

4. Sorting Results

- Results can be sorted in ascending or descending order by:
 - Translator surname**
 - Year**
 - Chapter**



The screenshot shows a search interface with a left sidebar and a main content area. The sidebar contains filters for Chapter, Native, and Year. The main content area has a search bar with the word 'sustain', a 'Sort by' dropdown menu, and a list of search results. The 'Sort by' dropdown menu is open, showing options: None, Translator, Year, and Chapter. The 'None' option is selected and highlighted with a green circle.

Filters

Chapter: All

Native: All

Year: 1884 to 2018

Enter a word to search: sustain

Sort by: None

Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

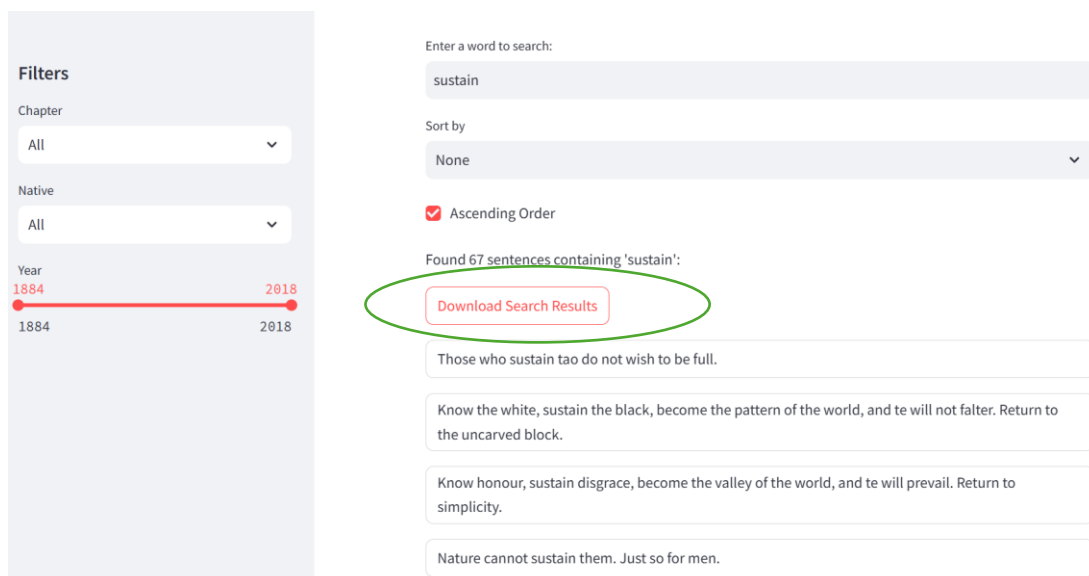
Know the white, sustain the black, become the pattern of the world, and te will not falter. Return to the uncarved block.

Know honour, sustain disgrace, become the valley of the world, and te will prevail. Return to simplicity.

Nature cannot sustain them. Just so for men.

5. Downloading Sentences

- Users have the option to download a CSV file containing all sentences that include the search term. The CSV file can be opened with Notepad or imported into Excel.



The screenshot shows the same search interface as before, but with the 'Ascending Order' checkbox checked and the 'Download Search Results' button highlighted with a green circle. The search results are the same as in the previous screenshot.

Filters

Chapter: All

Native: All

Year: 1884 to 2018

Enter a word to search: sustain

Sort by: None

☒ Ascending Order

Found 67 sentences containing 'sustain':

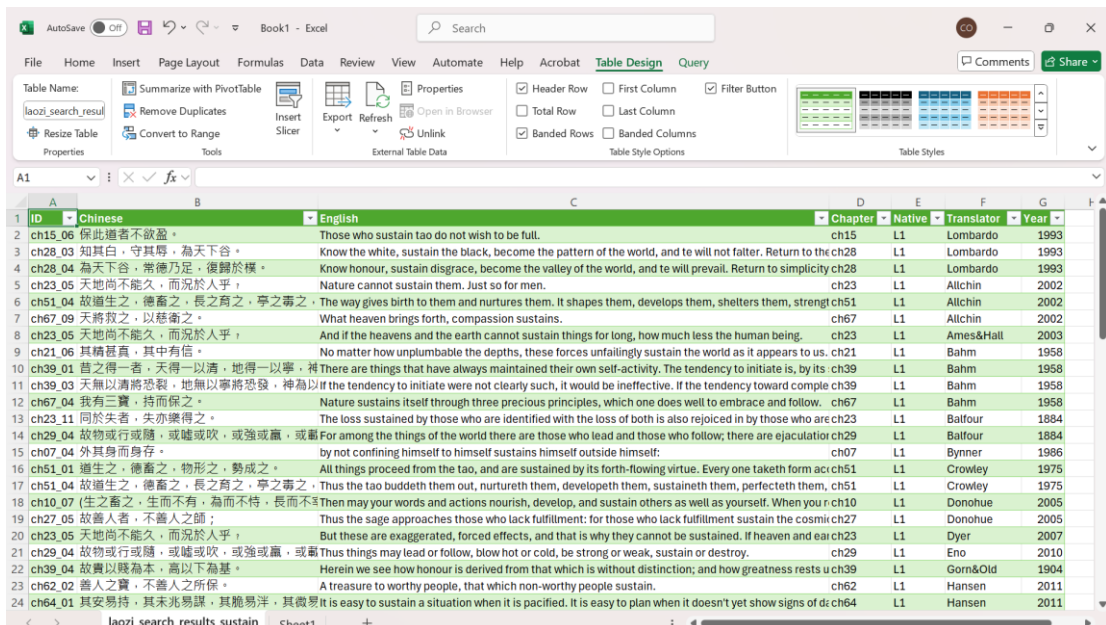
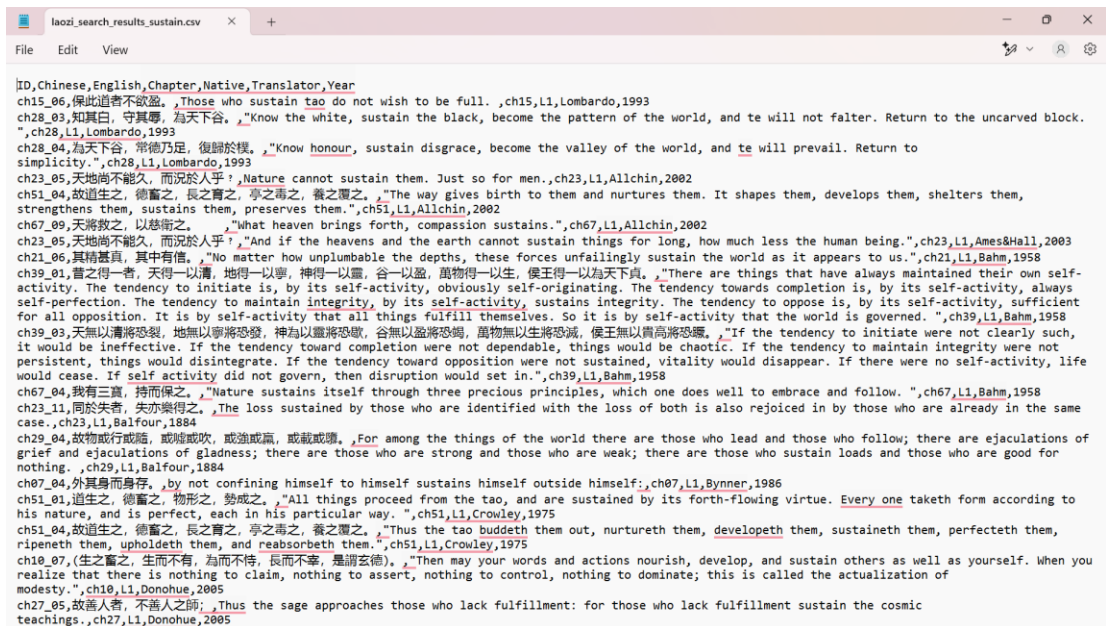
Download Search Results

Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

Know the white, sustain the black, become the pattern of the world, and te will not falter. Return to the uncarved block.

Know honour, sustain disgrace, become the valley of the world, and te will prevail. Return to simplicity.

Nature cannot sustain them. Just so for men.



6. Viewing Source Sentences

- By clicking on any sentence, users can view the corresponding source sentence and see how it has been translated by different translators.

Filters

Chapter
All

Native
All

Year
1884 2018
1884 2018

Sort by
None

☒ Ascending Order

Found 67 sentences containing 'sustain':

Download Search Results

Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

Chinese: 保此道者不欲盈 *

Other English Translations for the same Chinese sentence (ID: ch15_06):

Download ID Results

English: Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

Translator: Lombardo

Year: 1993

Chapter: ch15

7. Batch Downloading

- Users can download selected sentences as a batch in a CSV file format. The CSV file can be opened with Notepad or imported into Excel.

Filters

Chapter
All

Native
All

Year
1884 2018
1884 2018

Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

Chinese: 保此道者不欲盈 *

Other English Translations for the same Chinese sentence (ID: ch15_06):

Download ID Results

English: Those who sustain tao do not wish to be full.

Translator: Lombardo

Year: 1993

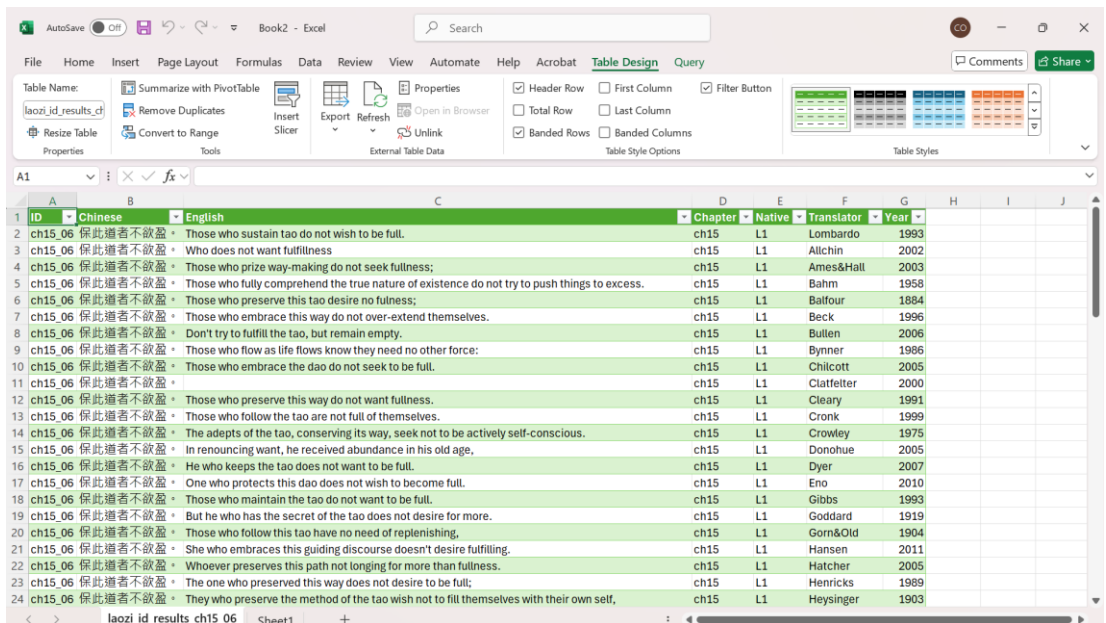
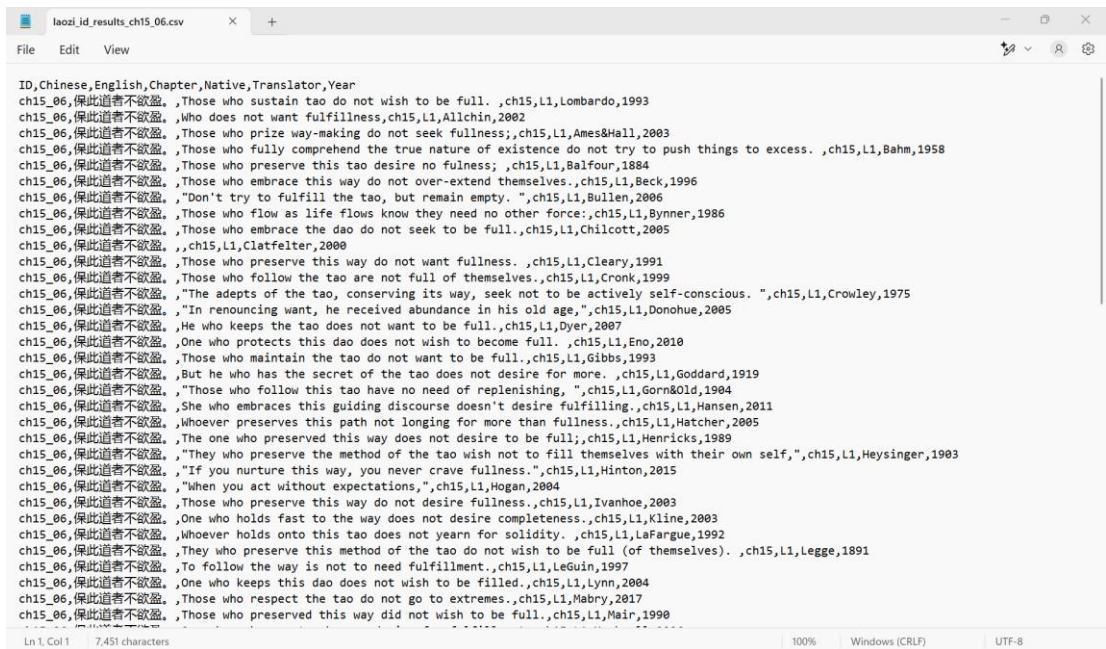
Chapter: ch15

English: Who does not want fulfillment

Translator: Allchin

Year: 2002

Chapter: ch15



Searching Chinese Characters in the Laozi Parallel Corpus

1. User Interface

- The app allows users to search for any Chinese characters, accepting both Traditional and Simplified Chinese.

Filters

Chapter

All

Native

All

Year

1884

2018

1884

2018

Laozi Parallel Corpus

The Laozi Parallel Corpus, developed by Joyce Oiwan Cheung, a Lecturer at Hong Kong Metropolitan University, serves as a resource for researchers and enthusiasts interested in the translations of the Chinese classic Laozi (道德經, Dao De Jing / Tao Te Ching). This app features 79 English translations published between 1884 and 2018, aligned line-by-line by Cheung in 2021. With a user-friendly interface, users can easily search for English words or Chinese characters, retrieving relevant sentences and their corresponding translations from various eras.

This app is intended for non-profit use only. Any parties interested in using the app should cite the following source: Cheung, J.O. (2025). Exploring L1/L2 and time impact on linguistic complexity of Laozi translations. Australian Review of Applied Linguistics. For inquiries, contact Joyce Cheung at owcheung@hkmu.edu.hk.

Search in:

- ☐ English
- ☒ Chinese

Enter Chinese characters to search:

2. Search Results

- Similar to the English search, users will receive a list of sentences containing the specified Chinese characters.

Filters

Chapter

All

Native

All

Year

1884

2018

1884

2018

Laozi Parallel Corpus

The Laozi Parallel Corpus, developed by Joyce Oiwan Cheung, a Lecturer at Hong Kong Metropolitan University, serves as a resource for researchers and enthusiasts interested in the translations of the Chinese classic Laozi (道德經, Dao De Jing / Tao Te Ching). This app features 79 English translations published between 1884 and 2018, aligned line-by-line by Cheung in 2021. With a user-friendly interface, users can easily search for English words or Chinese characters, retrieving relevant sentences and their corresponding translations from various eras.

This app is intended for non-profit use only. Any parties interested in using the app should cite the following source: Cheung, J.O. (2025). Exploring L1/L2 and time impact on linguistic complexity of Laozi translations. Australian Review of Applied Linguistics. For inquiries, contact Joyce Cheung at owcheung@hkmu.edu.hk.

Search in:

- ☐ English
- ☒ Chinese

Enter Chinese characters to search:

善

Press Enter to apply

The screenshot shows a search interface with a 'Filters' sidebar on the left and a main search area on the right. The 'Filters' sidebar includes a 'Chapter' dropdown set to 'All', a 'Native' dropdown set to 'All', and a 'Year' range from 1884 to 2018. The main search area has a search bar containing the character '善', a 'Sort by' dropdown set to 'None', and a checked 'Ascending Order' option. Below these, it states 'Found 26 sentences containing '善':'. A green oval highlights the search results, which include a 'Download Search Results' button and several sentences in Chinese, such as '皆知善之為善，斯不善已。' and '上善若水。'.

3. Filtering Results

- Users can filter the results by chapters, allowing them to focus on specific sections of the corpus.

This screenshot shows the same search interface as the previous one, but with the 'Chapter' filter in the sidebar set to 'ch08'. The search bar still contains '善', and the 'Sort by' dropdown is still 'None'. The 'Ascending Order' option is checked. The search results now show 'Found 3 sentences containing '善':'. A green oval highlights the 'Chapter' dropdown menu in the filters, which lists chapters from 'ch03' to 'ch09', with 'ch08' selected. The search results include a 'Download Search Results' button and three sentences in Chinese, such as '上善若水。' and '水善利萬物而不爭，處眾人之所惡，故幾於道。'.

4. Sorting Results

- Results can be sorted in ascending or descending order by:
 - **Chapter**

Filters

Chapter

All

Native

All

Year

1884 2018

1884 2018

Enter Chinese characters to search:

善

Sort by

None

None

Chapter

Found 26 sentences containing '善':

Download Search Results

皆知善之為善，斯不善已。

上善若水。

水善利萬物而不爭，處眾人之所惡，故幾於道。

居善地，心善淵，與善仁，言善信，政善治，事善能，動善時。

古之善為道者，微妙玄通，深不可識。

5. Downloading Sentences

- A CSV file containing all sentences with the search term is available for download. The CSV file can be opened with Notepad or imported into Excel.

Filters

Chapter

All

Native

All

Year

1884 2018

1884 2018

Enter Chinese characters to search:

善

Sort by

None

☒ Ascending Order

Found 26 sentences containing '善':

Download Search Results

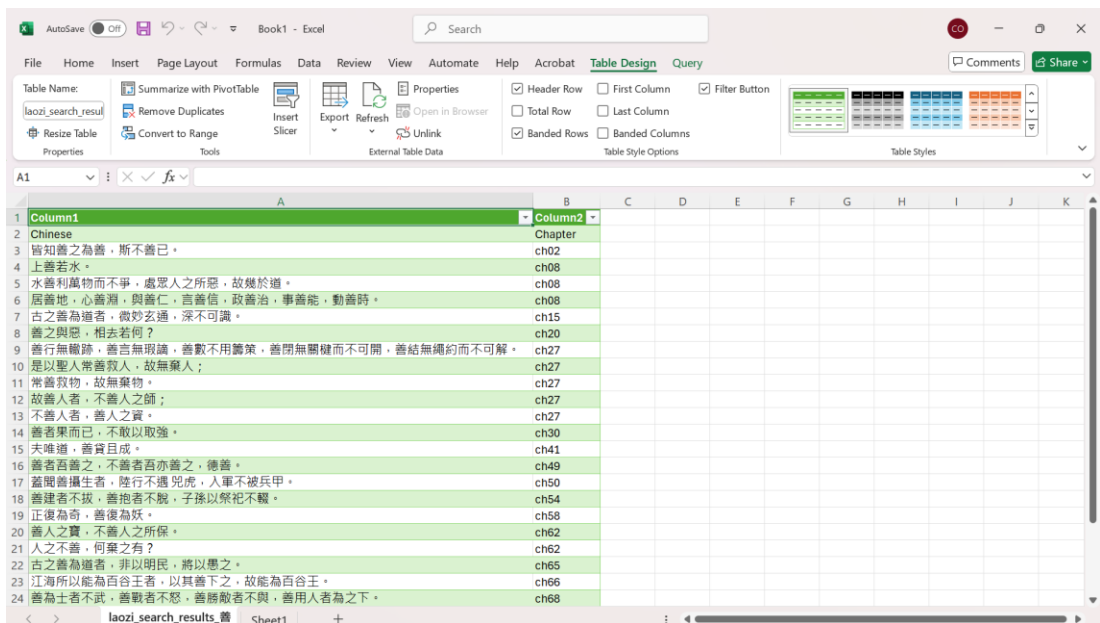
皆知善之為善，斯不善已。

上善若水。

水善利萬物而不爭，處眾人之所惡，故幾於道。

居善地，心善淵，與善仁，言善信，政善治，事善能，動善時。

古之善為道者，微妙玄通，深不可識。



6. Viewing English Translations

- Users can click on any sentence to view its corresponding English translations provided by different translators.

Filters

Chapter
All

Native
All

Year
1884 2018
1884 2018

皆知善之為善，斯不善已。

上善若水。

English Translations:

Download ID Results

English: Best to be like water,
Translator: Lombardo
Year: 1993
Chapter: ch08

English: Utmost virtue, how like water.
Translator: Allchin
Year: 2002

7. Batch Downloading

- Like the English feature, sentences can be downloaded as a batch in a CSV file format. The CSV file can be opened with Notepad or imported into Excel.

Filters

Chapter
All

Native
All

Year
1884 2018
1884 2018

皆知善之為善，斯不善已。

上善若水。

English Translations:

Download ID Results

English: Best to be like water,
Translator: Lombardo
Year: 1993
Chapter: ch08

English: Utmost virtue, how like water.
Translator: Allchin
Year: 2002

```
laozi_id_results_上善若水.csv

ID,Chinese,English,Chapter,Native,Translator,Year
ch08_01,上善若水, "Best to be like water, ",ch08,L1,Lombardo,1993
ch08_01,上善若水, "Utmost virtue, how like water.",ch08,L1,Allchin,2002
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest efficacy is like water.",ch08,L1,Ames&Hall,2003
ch08_01,上善若水, "The best way to conduct oneself may be observed in the behaviour of water. ",ch08,L1,Bahm,1958
ch08_01,上善若水, "The goodness of the ruler resembles water [in pliancy, adaptability, and fertilising power]. ",ch08,L1,Balfour,1884
ch08_01,上善若水, "The best are like water.",ch08,L1,Beck,1996
ch08_01,上善若水, "To be truly good, be like water ",ch08,L1,Bullen,2006
ch08_01,上善若水, "Man at his best, like water.",ch08,L1,Bynner,1986
ch08_01,上善若水, "The greatest good is like water.",ch08,L1,Chilcott,2005
ch08_01,上善若水, "The seer flows like water.",ch08,L1,Clatfelter,2000
ch08_01,上善若水, "Higher good is like water: ",ch08,L1,Cleary,1991
ch08_01,上善若水, "It is good to be like water.",ch08,L1,Cronk,1999
ch08_01,上善若水, "Admire thou the high way of water! ",ch08,L1,Crowley,1975
ch08_01,上善若水, "Like water is the cosmic consciousness:",ch08,L1,Donohue,2005
ch08_01,上善若水, "The supreme good is like water.",ch08,L1,Dyer,2007
ch08_01,上善若水, "Highest good is like water: ",ch08,L1,Eno,2010
ch08_01,上善若水, "The greatest attitude is like water;",ch08,L1,Gibbs,1993
ch08_01,上善若水, "True goodness is like water, ",ch08,L1,Goddard,1919
ch08_01,上善若水, "The greatest virtue is like water; ",ch08,L1,Gorn&Old,1904
ch08_01,上善若水, "Higher worth is like water.",ch08,L1,Hansen,2011
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest good is like water.",ch08,L1,Hatcher,2005
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest good is like water;",ch08,L1,Henricks,1989
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest goodness that we know has water for its type.",ch08,L1,Heysinger,1903
ch08_01,上善若水, "Lofty nobility is like water.",ch08,L1,Hinton,2015
ch08_01,上善若水, "Doing the right thing is like water;",ch08,L1,Hogan,2004
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest good is like water.",ch08,L1,Ivanhoe,2003
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest virtue is like water.",ch08,L1,Kline,2003
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest excellence is like water. ",ch08,L1,LaFargue,1992
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest excellence is like (that of) water. ",ch08,L1,Legge,1891
ch08_01,上善若水, "True goodness is like water.",ch08,L1,LeGuin,1997
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest good is like water.",ch08,L1,Lynn,2004
ch08_01,上善若水, "The sagely person is like water.",ch08,L1,Mabry,2017
ch08_01,上善若水, "The highest good is like water;",ch08,L1,Mair,1990
```

Excel interface showing the data table:

| ID | Chinese | English | Chapter | Native | Translator | Year |
|---------|---------|--|---------|--------|------------|------|
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Best to be like water, | ch08 | L1 | Lombardo | 1993 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Utmost virtue, how like water. | ch08 | L1 | Allchin | 2002 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The highest efficacy is like water. | ch08 | L1 | Ames&Hall | 2003 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The best way to conduct oneself may be observed in the behaviour of water. | ch08 | L1 | Bahm | 1958 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The goodness of the ruler resembles water [in pliancy, adaptability, and fertilising power]. | ch08 | L1 | Balfour | 1884 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The best are like water. | ch08 | L1 | Beck | 1996 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | To be truly good, be like water | ch08 | L1 | Bullen | 2006 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Man at his best, like water, | ch08 | L1 | Bynner | 1986 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The greatest good is like water. | ch08 | L1 | Chilcott | 2005 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The seer flows like water. | ch08 | L1 | Clatfelter | 2000 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Higher good is like water: | ch08 | L1 | Cleary | 1991 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | It is good to be like water. | ch08 | L1 | Cronk | 1999 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Admire thou the high way of water! | ch08 | L1 | Crowley | 1975 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Like water is the cosmic consciousness: | ch08 | L1 | Donohue | 2005 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The supreme good is like water, | ch08 | L1 | Dyer | 2007 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Highest good is like water: | ch08 | L1 | Eno | 2010 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The greatest attitude is like water; | ch08 | L1 | Gibbs | 1993 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | True goodness is like water, | ch08 | L1 | Goddard | 1919 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The greatest virtue is like water; | ch08 | L1 | Gorn&Old | 1904 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | Higher worth is like water. | ch08 | L1 | Hansen | 2011 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The highest good is like water. | ch08 | L1 | Hatcher | 2005 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The highest good is like water; | ch08 | L1 | Henricks | 1989 |
| ch08_01 | 上善若水 | The highest goodness that we know has water for its type, | ch08 | L1 | Heysinger | 1903 |

This app is designed to facilitate in-depth exploration of the Laozi Parallel Corpus, providing users with robust tools for searching, filtering, sorting, and downloading data. Copyright belongs to Joyce Oiwan Cheung, and the app can only be used for not-for-profit purposes. Any parties interested in using the app should cite this source:

Cheung, J.O. (2025). Exploring L1/L2 and time impact on linguistic complexity of Laozi translations. *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics*.

For enquiries, please contact Joyce Cheung via email: owcheung@hkmu.edu.hk.

Appendix: Translator list

| Abbreviations | Translators | Publication year |
|---------------|---|------------------|
| Allchin | Douglas Allchin | 2002 |
| Ames&Hall | Roger T. Ames & David L. Hall | 2003 |
| Bahm | Archie J. Bahm | 1958 |
| Balfour | Frederic Henry Balfour | 1884 |
| Beck | Sanderson Beck | 1996 |
| Bullen | David Bullen | 2006 |
| Bynner | Witter Bynner | 1986 |
| Chan_WT | CHAN Wing-Tsit | 1963 |
| Chang_CY | CHANG Chung-yuan | 1975 |
| Chen_CH | CHEN Chao-Hsiu | 2018 |
| Chen_EM | CHEN Ellen Marie | 1989 |
| Cheng_DH | CHENG David Hong | 2000 |
| Chilcott | Tim Chilcott | 2005 |
| Chohan_CW | CHOHAN Chou-Wing | 2002 |
| Chu_TK | CHU Ta-Kao | 1904 |
| Cleary | Thomas Cleary | 1991 |
| Cronk | George Cronk | 1999 |
| Crowley | Aleister Crowley | 1975 |
| Donohue | Brian Donohue | 2005 |
| Dyer | Wayne W. Dyer | 2007 |
| Eno | Robert Eno | 2010 |
| Feng&English | FENG Gia-fu & ENGLISH Jane | 1989 |
| Gibbs | Tam Gibbs | 1993 |
| Goddard | Dwight Goddard | 1919 |
| Gong_T | GONG Tienzen (Jeh-Tween) | 2011 |
| Gorn&Old | Walter Gorn-Old | 1904 |
| Gu_Z | GU Zhengkun | 1995 |
| Hansen | Chad Hansen | 2011 |
| Hatcher | Bradford Hatcher | 2005 |
| He_G | HE Guanghu, GAO Shining, SONG Lidao and XU Junyao | 1993 |
| Henricks | Robert G. Henricks | 1989 |
| Heysinger | I. W. Heysinger | 1903 |
| Hinton | David Hinton | 2015 |
| Ho_LS | HO Lok Sang | 2002 |
| Hogan | Ron Hogan | 2004 |
| Huang_C | HUANG Chichung | 2003 |
| Huang_SF | HWANG Shi Fu | 1991 |
| Huang_T | HUANG Tao | 2005 |
| Ivanhoe | Philip J. Ivanhoe | 2003 |
| Kline | A. S. Kline | 2003 |
| Kwok_MH | KWOK Man-Ho, PALMER Martin, RAMSAY Jay | 1993 |

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|------|
| LaFargue | Michael LaFargue | 1992 |
| Lau_DC | LAU D. C. | 1963 |
| Legge | James Legge | 1891 |
| LeGuin | Ursula K. Le Guin | 1997 |
| Li_DH | LI David H. | 2001 |
| Lin_C | LIN Cheng | 1949 |
| Lin_D | LIN Derek | 1994 |
| Lin_PJ | LIN Paul J. | 1977 |
| Lin_Y | LIN Yutang | 1948 |
| Liu_Q | LIU Qixuan | 2002 |
| Lombardo | Stephen Addiss & Stanley Lombardo | 1993 |
| Lynn | Richard John Lynn | 2004 |
| Mabry | John Mabry | 2017 |
| Mair | Victor H. Mair | 1990 |
| Marhsall | Bart Marshall | 2006 |
| Marshall | Bart Marshall | 2000 |
| Medhurst | C. Spurgeon Medhurst | 1905 |
| Merel | Peter Merel | 1995 |
| Mitchell | Stephen Mitchell | 1991 |
| Moran | Patrick E. Moran | 2010 |
| Muller | Charles Muller | 1991 |
| Ni_HC | NI Hua-Ching | 1979 |
| Pine | Red Pine (Bill Porter) | 1996 |
| Roberts | Moss Roberts | 2001 |
| Rosenthal | Stan Rosenthal | 1984 |
| Seddon | Keith H. Seddon | 2006 |
| Sheets&Tovey | Alan Sheets & Barbara Tovey | 2002 |
| Sorrell | Roderic & Amy M. Sorrell | 2003 |
| Star | Jonathan Star | 2001 |
| Tan_HH | TAN Han Hiong | 2003 |
| Tang_ZC | TANG Zi-chang | 1969 |
| Waley | Arthur Waley | 1934 |
| Wei_H | WEI Henry | 1982 |
| Wu_CQ | WU Charles Q. | 2013 |
| Wu_JCH | WU John C. H. | 1961 |
| Wu_Y | WU Yi | 1989 |
| Yang_X | YANG Xiaolin | 2002 |
| Zhang_TZ | ZHANG Thomas Z. | 2004 |