



Apr 24, 2020

Digital model of spatio-temporal narratives of Chinese classical narrative literature

PLOS One

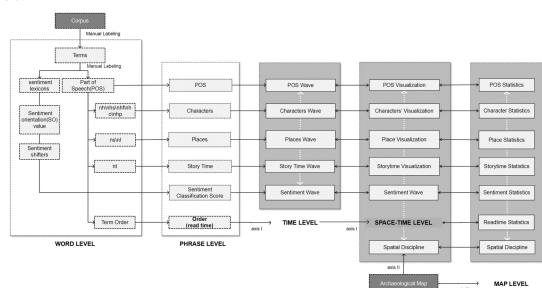
Zhaoyi Ma¹, Jie He¹, Shuai Shuai Liu¹¹School of Architecture, Tianjin University

1 Works for me dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdyni7ve

Zhaoyi Ma

ABSTRACT

In order to reconstruct the relationship between text and space in the tradition of Chinese classical narrative literature, a Time-Space-time-Space framework of digital models is posited, integrating spatial narrative theories and methods from literary cartography, computational narratology and geo-narrative. This Time-Space-time-Space framework enables varied structured semantics (including the spatio-temporal information) derived from the novel's text and its necessary historic context semi-manually, as the lack of mature natural language processing tools for ancient Chinese. These value-added structured semantics are then extracted and fused to map the instantaneous spatial pattern perceived by readers in the flow of reading time through data visualization, computational social science and spatial analysis. The organized spatio-temporal representations of narrative literature can help re-understand the narrative and the place. The Time-Space-time-Space framework embeds linearity, experience and significance of the narrative in an open and dialogic field.



Flows (black arrows) of variables and comparisons (white arrows) among variables in the logical loop of time-space-time-space.

EXTERNAL LINK

<https://github.com/aayi/The-Tale-of-Li-Wa>

THIS PROTOCOL ACCOMPANIES THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATION

Ma Z, He J, Liu S (2020) Representation of the spatio-temporal narrative of *The Tale of Li Wa*. PLoS ONE 15(4): e0231529. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0231529](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0231529)

MATERIALS TEXT

1. Electronically scanned version [S1 File.pdf](#) of *The Tale of Li Wa in Complete Library in Four Sections*.

2. Raster map of Tang Chang'an with location information. [S2 File.zip](#)

It can be added in Arcmap/Qgis. It is an archaeological map in from Remote Sensing Analysis of Historical Landscape and GIS Laboratory, Northwest Institute of Historical Environment and Socio-Economic Development, Shaanxi Normal University GIS.

3. A chronicle of Bai Xingjian [31_0000_000.pdf](#)

BEFORE STARTING

This model only considers the narrative happening within a single city (each place can be mapped) although it may be applicable to other types of spatial narrative.

Digitalization

- 1.1 Text version from [CText](#)
- 1.2 [Proofreading Text Edition](#) [liwazhuang.txt](#) based on the version from *Complete Library in Four Sections*.

Structuring

2 Structuring of Narrative

2.1 Text database on word level

[S1 Table.xlsx](#) (sheet1_name: term, sheet2_name: POS, sheet3_name: so, sheet4_name: sentiment classification score)

we manually create this database including terms (unigram), parts of speech (POS), sentiment orientations (SO) value, and sentiment shifters by Excel.

1) Term

2) *Part of Speech*

Tag	n	nt	nd	nl	nh	nhf	nhs	ns	nn	ni	no	nhh	v	vd	vl	vu	a	f	m	q	d	r	p	c	u	e	o
pos	Noun- genera- l	Noun- time	Noun- directi- on	Noun- locatio- n	Noun- human	noun- last name	noun- first name	Noun- space	Noun- nation	Noun- institut- ion	Noun- official	noun- human 's pronou- n	Verb	Verb- directi- on	Verb- linking	Verb- auxiliar y	adjecti- ve	differe- nce	numer- al	quantit- y	adverb	pronou- n	prepos- ition	conjun- ction	auxiliar y	exclam- ation	or at ia

POS

3) *Sentiment orientation(so)*

The assignment of the SO value is as follows: each positive sentiment expression in the novel such as laugh (笑) (v.) and magnificent (盛) (a.) is given an SO value of +1 (172 in total), and each negative sentiment expression such as whimper (哭) (v.) and poor (穷) (a.) is assigned a SO value of -1 (177 in total).

We do two rounds of sentiment orientations (SO) value assignment (*LIU_SO value* and *MA_SO value*).

The percentage of consent of two rounds of SO value assignment is 81.5%.

Test about the hypothesis that the sentiment words have context-dependent orientations:

word2vec_python_code&raw_data [word2vec_python_code.zip](#)

sentiment_network_Gephi.zip [sentiment_network.zip](#)

result_weighted_outdegree_distribution.xlsx [result_weighted outdegree distribution.xlsx](#)

We assumed that the sentiment words in ancient Chinese follow the same logic in today's sentiment analysis-- sentiment words have context-dependent orientations, i.e., the total distance among words with the same orientation sentiment expression is closer than that among different.

Based on the unigrams removing stop words, we complete the training of its [word2vec](#) model with [gensim](#) package, and get the correlation(cosine_similarity, -0.4 ~ 1) between each two words.

This correlation between word A (Source) and word B (Target) multiplied by the SO value of word B is taking as the weight of the edge, to set up a words' sentiment network in [Gephi](#).

Source	Target	Weight
WordA	WordB	cosine_similarity*WordB_sentiment

#tips for create *edge to gephi.csv*

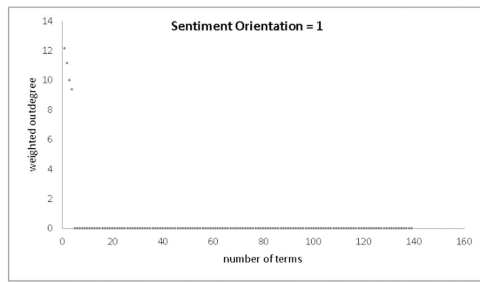
#tips for operation step in [Gephi](#):

File → Import spreadsheet → *edge to gephi.csv* → charset: GB2312 → Graph Type: directed

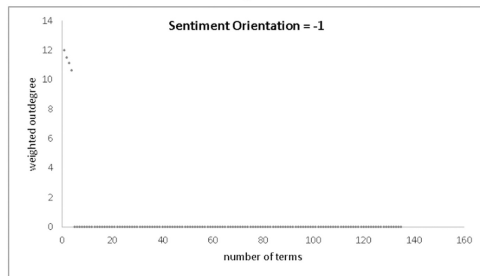
run all analysis of "Avg. Weighted Degree" on the right manue

Data Laboratory → Nodes → Export Table#

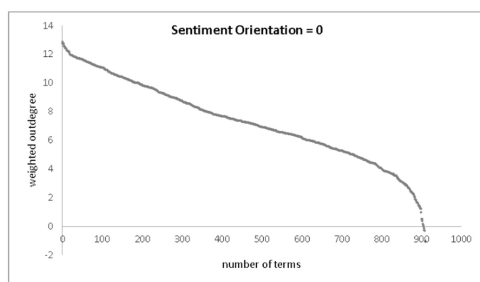
The weighted output distribution calculated by gephi is divided into three different types of manually collected sentient words (1, -1, 0), which are made into scatter diagram by Excel.



a



b



c

Weighted outdegree distribution of words' sentiment network (a. $SO=1$, b. $SO=-1$, c. $SO=0$)


4) Sentiment classification score

```
SO_value_effective = IF(sentiment_shifter_1=-1,SO value * sentiment_shifter_1,SO value)
for_phrase_sentiment_classification_score = IF(POS<"w",SO_value_effective,"")

for_phrase_sentiment_classification_score = SUM(for_phrase_sentiment_classification_score) #tips for operation step: Ctrl+G-
-> "Null(k)"-> Σ (which means Automatic summation) #

for_phrase_sentiment_classification_score = SUM(for_phrase_sentiment_classification_score)
```

2.2 Text database on phrase level

 **S2 Table.xlsx** (sheet1_name: *phrase*, sheet2_name: *time*, sheet3_name: *character*, sheet4_name: *character & SO*, sheet5_name: *place*, sheet6_name: *place & SO*)

The phrase-level framework assigns the recalculated value of POS and SO value to a relevant phrase by Excel. These values can be applied to the next time level because the sequence number of phrases is defined as read-time. Specific data mining approaches for the following parameters, i.e. places, story-time, and sentiment classification scores are valuable.

1) Phrase

sentiment_classification_score(SCS) inherits the value of *phrase_sentiment_classification_score* in [S1 Table.xlsx](#).

2) Time

storytime_day

Noun-time (nt.) such as the Tianbao period (天寶), 10 years later (十年後), more than a month later (逾月), and another day (又一日), which is 2.7% of the total texts, are used to simulate the whole story-time in an interval of every single day. The entire story timeline we constructed from the texts started from when Student Zheng entered Chang'an in 747A.D. and ended around the happy ending of the novel, that is, the year Zheng is appointed to become an officer is 754 A.D., and Li Wa is conferred the title Lady Qian'guo (千國夫人) in 775 A.D. The story-time is defined by the exact time record of the story that occurred during the period of 742 to 746 A.D. (天寶五載), Bai Xingjian wrote the tale in August of 795 A.D. (貞元五年) and the nt. phrases.

readtime_phrase

the sequence number of phrases is defined as read-time

3) Character

character1, *character2*, *character3*, and *character4* contain one character in each phrase (since one phrase contains at most 4 characters).

4) Character & SO

SO_value_Integral_function(so_IF) = SUM(*sentiment_classification_score(SCS)*) #tips for operation step:

E15=SUM(D\$2:D15), E18=SUM(D\$2:D18), E50=SUM(D\$2:D50)...

#

ZHENG_SCS = IF(character1="[]" or character2="[]" or character3="[]" or character4="[]"
[], sentiment_classification_score(SCS), "")

ZHENG_so_IF = SUM(ZHENG_SCS) #tips for operation step:

K15=SUM(J\$15:J15), K18=SUM(J\$15:J18), K50=SUM(J\$15:J50)...

#

5) Place

A noun-space (ns.) such as Chang'an City, and specific place names inside the city such as the Buzheng Ward (布政司) and Xingyuan Garden (興元園) (located in Tongshan Ward (通善坊)), account for 1.1% of the total texts tagged as the level of residential wards and streets directly mentioned (e.g., Buzheng Ward) or most likely to be located (e.g., Tongshan Ward). These uniformly fine-grained places are applied to cover the corresponding story phrases of which plot takes place in these places.

6) Place & SO


Any1_SCS = IF(ward_in_chang'an="[]", sentiment_classification_score(SCS), "")

Any1_so_IF = SUM(Any1_SCS) #tips for operation step:

I526=SUM(H\$526:H526), I535=SUM(H\$526:H535), I606=SUM(H\$526:H606)

#

2.3 Chronicle of Bai Xingjian

 **S3 Table.xlsx** (sheet1_name: *circumstance*, sheet2_name: *poems*) is based on [A chronicle of Bai Xingjian](#) collated by 白行簡

Detail contains Bai's specific experience every year

circumstance_orientation_value is assigned manually based on the good/bad of *Detail*. Such as "曾祖考(Grandmother died)" is assigned a value of -1, "曾祖考(Grandmother died)" is assigned a value of +2.

Circumstances_of_Bai = SUM(*circumstance_orientation_value*) #tips for operation step:

E2=SUM(\$D\$2:D2), E10=SUM(\$D\$2:D10), E52=SUM(\$D\$2:D52)...

#

circumstance_orientation_value_chang'an = IF(Place="[]", circumstance_orientation_value, "")

2.4 Spatial syntax of Chang'an

 **S4 File.graph**

Vector file of street of chang'an is created by [Autocad](#) and then imported into *Depthmap* (a technology used to analyze the spatial layouts, and human activity patterns in urban areas)

#tips for operation step of Integration analysis of the road network of Chang'an city by Depthmap:

Using Autocad to depict the main road axis map of Chang'an map (Vector file of street of chang'an) → Save as *dxfile* → Open the depthmap software and create a new workspace → Map-import-Choosing Chang'an Road Axis Chart → ap-convert drawing map → tools-axial/convex/pesh-run graph analysis-Radius/list of radii - input n,2,3,5,7-choose include choice:betweenness/local measures/RA,RAA and total depth/weighted measures-length#

The degree of integration (a space syntax parameter) reflects the ease of access to streets, that is, it may determine which street is more likely to attract Zheng, as an explorer of Chang'an.

2.5 Spatially embedded semantic data

[S3 File.zip](#) (path.xlsx, place.xlsx, shikong-vt.shp, link_between_places.shp) combines **Text database** with spatial data by [Arcmap](#).

1) path.xlsx

create **path.xlsx** semi-manually by Excel based on **Text database on phrase level**

Each time when *ward_in_chang'an* in sheet "place & SO" changes, an *ID* is added in **path.xlsx** with *Origin to Destination sentiment score between places*: value difference of *sum_sentiment_effective_classification_score* between *Origin* and *Destination*
stratum classification: The classification of social *stratum* of the *character*. The classification of social stratum in the story from untouchable to nobles is as follows: (1) beggar, servant, and sex worker; (2) businessman, civilian, madam; (3) ward head (县令), candidate student, successful candidate, county judicial official (县令); and (4) Chang'an officials (县令) and officials from other places.

2) place.xlsx

create **place.xlsx** (sheet1_name: *stratum_statistics*, sheet2_name: *place_statistics*) by Excel based on **Text database on phrase level**

stratum_statistics inherits the value in **path.xlsx**

place	sum_sentiment_effective_classification_score	phrase_count	average_sentiment_classification_score	effective_sentiment_classification_score	effective_phrase_count	average_sentiment_effective_classification_score	average_stratum	STDEV_stratum	COUNT_stratum
ward	SUM(place_SCS) in sheet "place & SO"	COUNT(place_SCS) in sheet "place & SO"	AVERAGE(place_SCS) in sheet "place & SO"	IF place_SCS <>0, SUM(place_SCS), "" in sheet "place & SO"	IF place_SCS <>0, COUNT(place_SCS), "" in sheet "place & SO"	AVERAGE(place_SCS) in sheet "place & SO"	AVERAGE(place_stratum) in sheet "stratum_statistics"	STDEV(place_stratum) in sheet "stratum_statistics"	COUNT(place_stratum) in sheet "stratum_statistics"

tips for operation step in *place_statistics*

3) Polygon

#tips for operation step:

create shapefile of **Polygon** (Ward & Palace) based on **Raster map of Tang Chang'an with location information**
This shapefile is not uploaded to github due to copyright issues

4) Point

shikong-vt.shp (in [S3 File.zip](#))

#tips for operation step:

·create **Point** (centroid of **Polygon**)→ add field *ward_in_chang'an* and fill in
·**Text database on phrase level** is joined with **Point** by field *ward_in_chang'an*

LIWA_data.shp ([S6 File.zip](#))

#tips for operation step:

·create **Point** (centroid of **Polygon**)→ add field *ward_in_chang'an* and fill in
place.xlsx is joined with **Point** by field *NAME*

5) Polyline

temporal simulation path in space.shp ([S5 File.zip](#))

#tips for operation step:

Arcmap→ Toolbox→ XY to Line→ import **shikong-vt.shp**

link_between_places.shp (in [S3 File.zip](#))

·create **polyline** The rules of the simulation are from the characteristics of the streets: first, prefer the shortest path, and second, prefer the street sections with the highest degree of spatial syntax [integration](#).

path.xlsx is joined with **polyline** by field *ID*

Representation

3 Spatio-temporal Representations of Narrative

3.1 Time

#tips for operation step of **Trajectory of the integral function of SO value by sigmaplot**:
create graph-> simple straight line-> data format-> XY Pair-> select data
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *SO_value_Integral_function(so_IF)*#

#tips for operation step of **Trajectory of the integral function of SO value and characters' appearance by sigmaplot**:
create graph-> multiple straight line-> data format-> XY Pair-> select data
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *SO_value_Integral_function(so_IF)*
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *ZHENG_so_IF*
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *LL_Wa_so_IF*
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *LL_Wa's_mother_so_IF*
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *ZHENG's_father_so_IF*#

#tips for operation step of **Trajectory of the integral function of SO value and places' appearance by sigmaplot**:
create graph-> simple straight line-> data format-> XY Pair-> select data
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *SO_value_Integral_function(so_IF)*

add new plot-> graph types-> vertical bar chart-> graph styles-> grouped bars-> data formats-> many Y
data for Y: *Anyi_so_IF*
data for Y: *Buzheng_so_IF*
data for Y: *Chongren_so_IF*
data for Y: *EastMarket_IF*
data for Y: *Pingkang_IF*
data for Y: *DepartmentOfStateAffairs_IF*
data for Y: *TianmenStreet_so_IF*
data for Y: *Tongshan_so_IF*
data for Y: *Tongyi_so_IF*
data for Y: *WestMarket_so_IF*
data for Y: *XingqingPalace_IF*
data for Y: *Xuanyang_so_IF*

graph page-> add axis-> Y#

#tips for operation step of **Trajectory of the integral function of SO value versus the story-time's appearance by sigmaplot**:
create graph-> multiple straight line-> data format-> XY Pair-> select data
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *SO_value_Integral_function(so_IF)*
data for X: *storytime_day* data for Y: *readtime_phrase*
graph page-> add axis-> Y#

#tips for operation step of **Bai Xingjian's up and down by sigmaplot**:
create graph-> vertical bar chart-> graph styles-> grouped bar-> data format-> many Y
data for X: *Age* data for Y: *Circumstances_of_Bai* data for X: *Age* data for Y: *Circumstances_of_BaLChang'an*#

3.2 Space-time

import **shikong-vt.shp**, **temporal simulation path in sapce.shp** and **link_between_places.shp** into [Arcscene](#)

#tips for operation step of **Visualization of the integral function of SO value versus places' appearance by Arcscene**:
"shikong-vt.shp"-> properties-> Element-> Single symbol "temporal simulation path in sapce.shp"-> properties-> Symbolic System-> Graded colour-> value-> *sheet1_em(SO_value_Integral_function(so_IF))*#

#tips for operation step of **Visualization of path trajectory based on spatial discipline: characters' appearance versus places' appearance by Arcscene**:
"shikong-vt.shp"-> properties-> Element-> Single symbol
"link_between_places.shp"-> properties-> Symbolic Systems-> category-> Unique value-> value-> *character*#

#tips for operation step of **Visualization of path trajectory based on spatial discipline: characters' appearance and the integral function of SO value versus places' appearance by Arcscene**:
"shikong-vt.shp"-> properties-> Element-> Single symbol "link_between_places.shp"-> properties-> Symbolic Systems-> Graded colour-> value-> *sentiment score between places*#

#tips for operation step of **Visualization of path trajectory based on spatial discipline: characters' appearance of different stratum versus places' appearance and the integral function of SO value by Arcscene**:
"shikong-vt.shp"-> properties-> Symbolic System-> Graded colour-> value-> *sheet1_em(SO_value_Integral_function(so_IF))*
"link_between_places.shp"-> properties-> Symbolic Systems-> category-> Unique value-> value-> *stratum*#

3.3 Space

POS map

#tips for operation step of **Statistics of different POS and places by Photoshop**:
create the wordcloud image of POS of each place by [wordart](#) -> imported in [Photoshop](#) -> move to relevant place -> export into png#

Sentiment map

#tips for operation step of **Inverse distance weighted (IDW) interpolation by ArcGIS of the sentiment classification score and places by Arcmap**:
Toolbox -> geostatistical analyst- interpolation analysis - *IDW*-> input layer "*LIWA_data.shp*" -> Environment-range-"*10*"#

Social network

 **S7 File.zip** (edge.csv, node.csv)

if two *character* co-occur within two adjacent phrases, one edge will be added between them.

#tips for operation step of **Statistics of characters in co-occurrence network, modularity class, betweenness centrality, and Girvan-Newman clustering** in [Gephi](#):

File → Import spreadsheet → *edge.csv* → charset: GB2312 → Graph Type: undirected

Tools → plugins → Available Plugins → Install

run all analysis of "Statistics" on the right pane

appearance → nodes → color → Partition → Modularity class → run

appearance → nodes → color → Partition → Cluster-ID → run

appearance → nodes → size → Ranking → Betweenness centrality → run#

Network parameters:

nodes: 26

edges: 38

Average Degree: 1.462

Average Weighted Degree: 4.731

Diameter: 5

Radius: 1

Average Path length: 2.265625

Density: 0.095

Randomize: On (Modularity)

Use edge weights: Off (Modularity)

Resolution: 0.8 (Modularity)

Modularity: 0.351 (Modularity)

Modularity with resolution: 0.218 (Modularity)

Number of Communities: 6 (Modularity)

Number of communities: 4 (*Girvan-Newman* Clustering)

Maximum found modularity: 0.39129266 (*Girvan-Newman* Clustering)

Network Interpretation: undirectedAverage

Clustering Coefficient: 0.506

Total triangles: 6

Spatially embedded network

 **S8 File.zip** (direct-node.csv, edge.csv, indirect-node.csv) is based on **path.xlsx**

#tips for operation step of **Network analysis of characters and places in Girvan-Newman clustering analysis, modularity class analysis (use edge weights: On) and weighted degree centrality based on a full-text, spatially embedded, undirected network of characters** in [Gephi](#):

File → Import spreadsheet → *edge.csv* → charset: GB2312 → Graph Type: undirected

Tools → plugins → Available Plugins → Install

run all analysis of "Statistics" on the right pane

appearance → nodes → color → Partition → Cluster-ID → run

appearance → nodes → color → Partition → Modularity class → run

appearance → nodes → size → Ranking → Weighted Degree → run#

#tips for operation step of **Network analysis of characters and places in closeness centrality and betweenness centrality based on a full-text spatially embedded undirected network of characters** in [Gephi](#):

File → Import spreadsheet → *edge.csv* → charset: GB2312 → Graph Type: undirected

run all analysis of "Statistics" on the right pane

appearance → nodes → color → Ranking → Closeness centrality → run

appearance → nodes → size → Ranking → Betweenness centrality → run#

#tips for operation step of **Network analysis of characters and places in authority and hub analysis based on a full-text spatially embedded directed network of characters** in [Gephi](#):

File → Import spreadsheet → *edge.csv* → charset: GB2312 → Graph Type: directed

run all analysis of "Statistics" on the right pane

appearance → nodes → color → Ranking → Authority → run

appearance → nodes → size → Ranking → Hub → run#

Network parameters:

nodes: 16

edges: 24

Average Degree: 3.000

Average Weighted Degree: 7.750

Diameter: 6

Radius: 3

Average Path length: 2.265625

Density: 0.200

Randomize: On (Modularity)

Use edge weights: On (Modularity)

Resolution: 0.8 (Modularity)

Modularity: 0.326 (Modularity)

Modularity with resolution: 0.194 (Modularity)


Number of Communities: 4 (Modularity) Number of communities: 4 (*Girvan-Newman* Clustering)

Maximum found modularity: 0.3949653 (*Girvan-Newman* Clustering)

Network Interpretation: undirectedAverage

Clustering Coefficient: 0.474

Total triangles: 9

 This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited