

# Research on Suzhou-Hangzhou Paradigm in Tang Poetry from the Perspective of Literary Cartography

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**Abstract**—Bai Juyi's poems in Suzhou and Hangzhou represented the turn of Bai Juyi's poetry creation from the outside to the inside. He expressed his daily life deeply in these poems. The research on Bai Juyi's poems and essays in Suzhou and Hangzhou has the following values. The research explored the historical origin and cultural deposits behind every poem of Bai Juyi in Suzhou and Hangzhou. From the perspective of time, the changes of ancient and modern poems reflected the historical changes. From the spatial dimension, the poem map reflected the distribution of relics. The research revealed the connotation and significance of various types of Bai Juyi's poems in Suzhou and Hangzhou. The research also revealed Bai Juyi's interactive writing style, regional connection and historical shuttle. Last but not least, we should sum up the paradigm of Suzhou and Hangzhou in Tang poetry.

**Index Terms**—Bai Juyi, literary cartography, Suzhou-Hangzhou paradigm, tang poetry

## I. INTRODUCTION

Literary cartography is based on artificial intelligence. Maps of poets' movements in Tang and Song Dynasties and movements of Du Fu's poems had earned great popularity around the world in recent years. The group selected the names of places and historic sites in Bai Juyi's poems in Suzhou and Hangzhou, and made a detailed analysis of them. We supplemented ancient maps, modern maps, modern real maps, local landscape maps. The maps contained historical origin, cultural background, geographical location, religious color and other related information. The group circled the location one by one on the maps of Tang Changqing Baioli and modern Suzhou and Hangzhou. In addition, the group conjugated pictures into poem traces and added into the text. The participants are skillful in field investigation method.

The field investigation method reflected the preservation of the sites with videos and images of each poem. Overall, the results presented in two dimensions of time and space including the ancient appearance and modern appearance of poetry site. Eventually, the research formed a poem map combining text and geography.

The perspective of Literary Cartography is not only helpful in our research, but also plays a vital role in teaching Tang Poetry. The innovative teaching methods relies on digital technology. In contrast, traditional literature research methods only focus on text reading and analysis. The students will study the Tang poetry when they see the huge historical change of poetry sites from various pictures, including the past and the present. The teachers and the students can stand

near the historical sites by VR technology based on artificial intelligence. The poets created their masterpieces in the historical poetry sites in the virtual space. At the beginning of our teaching, the poets will appear in the virtual space. They create their masterpieces in the sight of students. The background of the virtual space will switch to the pictures matched with the poem. The ancient local Chronicles will appear on the screen in order to show the information of the previous location. In addition, modern appearance of poetry site also appear on the screen in order to take a brief look at the present situation. The students not only study the Tang poetry by the static text, but also travel in the previous and present space. Literary Cartography nest various previous and present pictures or videos together. The innovative teaching methods help students make a deep understanding of the poems. The innovative teaching methods also make the class more interactive and livelier. It will avoid the disadvantages of boring and planarization in traditional teaching methods. The class will be the students-oriented, not the teachers-oriented. The innovative teaching methods by VR will encourage students' interest in Tang poetry. The innovative teaching methods perfectly match with the idea of the flipped classroom. As the Chinese Curriculum Standards for Ordinary Senior High Schools (2017 Edition revised in 2020) highlight the significance of improving students' thinking, 'The important stage of Chinese core literacy is thinking development and improvement'[1].

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Bai Juyi and his popular poetry style are the transition of the poetry history of the middle Tang Dynasty. His Suzhou and Hangzhou poems are typical of this popular poetry style. Bai Juyi's poems and essays in Suzhou and Hangzhou have no depression and helplessness. They contained almost all scenic spots and historic sites in Suzhou and Hangzhou. Many beautiful landscapes made readers read poems as if they were visiting Suzhou and Hangzhou. On the one hand, the poet expressed his love for landscape. On the other hand, his heart is the realistic expression of ideal life. Suzhou and Hangzhou are the centre of the interactive creation.

It also included Hangzhou, Yuezhou, Suzhou, Huzhou and Yangzhou. The participants are Yuan-zhen, Bai Juyi, Cui Xuanliang, Jiasu, Yin Yaofan, Zhou Yuanfan. The activities are huge and unprecedented in scale. It deepened the integration of Suzhou and Hangzhou. Poets of almost all dynasties chose the Suzhou-Hangzhou paradigm in their Landscape poetry. It reflected far-reaching influence. There are many unique poetry types in Su and Hang's creation. It is a mirror to Bai Juyi's daily life. Some poems even depicted his own portraits and gestures in life. The various types of

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poetry made everyday life more elaborate.

The previous research on Bai Juyi's poetry was confined to the regional culture of Suzhou and Hangzhou without summing up the paradigm of Suzhou and Hangzhou. The previous research only focused on the interpretation of text, not the landscape of the sites. Leisurely poetry cannot cover the various meaning of the Suzhou-Hangzhou paradigm. Leisurely poetry is not the significance and the value of the creation. Most of the present research has separated poetry from prose. We should pay more attention to the relationship between them. Owing to the sharing poems and repeated chanting, Suzhou-Hangzhou paradigm in Tang poetry gradually became a sort of canonization.

The disadvantages of previous traditional teaching methods research are boring and planarization. The students have no interest in studying Tang poetry.

At the forefront of literature research, a number of digital achievements has emerged in poetry geography that show the relationship between literature and geography more directly in recent years. These typical technologies are based on artificial intelligence. Fig. 1 shows 'Chronological maps of Tang and Song literature' [2]. Fig. 2 shows 'Maps of the silk road poetry' [3]. Fig. 3 shows 'Geographical distribution of poets in the past dynasties' [4]. Fig. 4 shows 'Regional distribution of Tang and Song poets' [5].

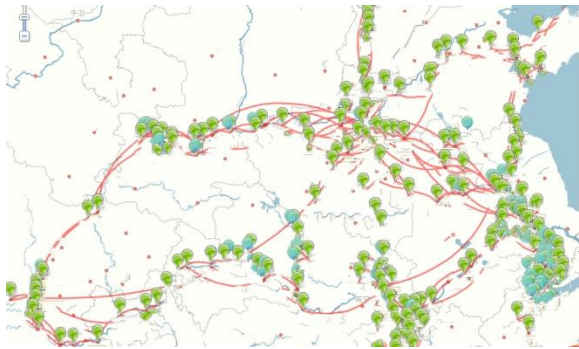


Fig. 1. Electronic map of Su Shi's movements. (Chronological maps of Tang and Song literature[2])

At the forefront of educational research, 'Future Classroom' introduces artificial intelligence, VR technology, flipped classroom, classroom teaching, AI assistant, intelligent desk and other advanced technologies. The innovation technology made the original whiteboard projector classroom transform into a 'intelligent classroom'. Teachers and students interact with the poets by digital technologies.

In 'Future Classroom', Users can use virtual reality and artificial intelligence teaching assistants to change the future teaching equipment and classroom organization form. They use items such as Siri, Cortana, Alexa to find resources. They also collaborative learning with computer support by smart screens and smart desks [6].

There is a common problem in the current textbooks about Suzhou-Hangzhou poems. For example, a book named 'Jiangnan Poetry Style' separates these works into poems, lyrics and songs [7]. At first glance, it seems to have no legacy. However, it is easy to omit the regional cultural features of Suzhou and Hangzhou.

Although artificial intelligence research has reached fruitful achievements, it is a pity that few scholars combine

literature with cartography.

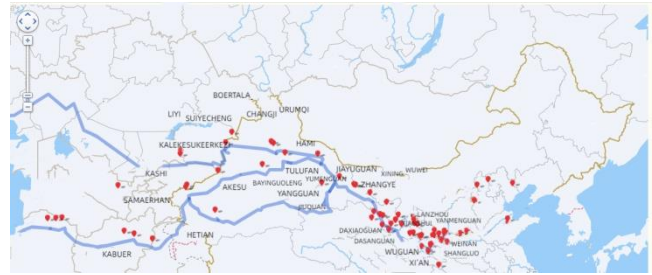


Fig. 2. Maps of the silk road poetry [3].



Fig. 3. Geographical distribution of poets in the past dynasties [4].

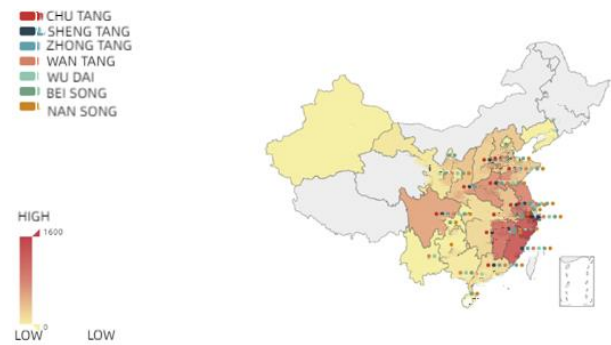


Fig. 4. Regional distribution of tang and song poets [5].

### III. METHODOLOGY

The innovation of this paper lies in the combination of text and text, interspersed video and intelligent interaction. The research changed the tradition of emphasizing only text interpretation in general literary studies. The research made a comparison between Suzhou and Hangzhou by multimedia, such as PowerPoint, carries images and videos.

The readers can take a close look at the historical location combined with the poems. They will participant in activities of communication with the poets.

### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Landscape poetry has reached a new height in the period of Bai Juyi since Wei, Jin, Southern and Northern dynasties. The previous research on Bai Juyi's poetry was confined to the regional culture of Suzhou and Hangzhou without summing up the paradigm of Suzhou and Hangzhou.

A poem is a paradigm of enacted intentionality [8]. Suzhou-Hangzhou Paradigm includes exquisite description of daily life, creation of classic cultural narrative space and strong sense of regional poetry interaction. All components of the paradigm were clearly demonstrated when the authors enjoyed the beautiful scenery and rich property. In addition,

the author would like to transferring the perspective from the outer world to the inner emotions in Suzhou-*Hangzhou Paradigm*.

#### *A. Characteristics of the Suzhou-*Hangzhou Paradigm**

The Suzhou-*Hangzhou paradigm* deeply described the authors' daily life. In addition to the essential feature, the paradigm also has four other characteristics.

The exquisite performance of daily life comes first. The description of daily life went deep into details. We should pay more attention to the narrative way of living notes. Bai

Juyi emphasized the significance of subtle things in his daily life, such as one leaf or one stone. Besides, Bai Juyi also enjoyed sharing love and warm family life with readers. He often played hide-and-seek with his daughters and told interesting stories to them in the yard. Last but not least. Bai Juyi created the narrative mode of chanting while walking. The special narrative mode covered the whole track of Bai Juyi. We can easily follow him while taking a look of the beautiful scenery nearby.

Suzhou and *Hangzhou* were rich in property. Bai Juyi and the previous poets attached importance to describe the typical property, such as Taihu stone and Suzhou willow. The beauty of Suzhou and *Hangzhou* was presented to readers while the authors showed their passion for describing the typical property. Bai Juyi made his effort to creating a classic cultural narrative space, such as West Lake, BaiDam in *Hangzhou*, Huqiu Mountain, Shantang Street in Suzhou. These classic cultural narrative space gave rise to the generation of poets for thousands of years chanting. As geographical coordinates, the classic cultural space had also triggered a strong sense of historical shuttle. A space-time intertwined narrative picture of Suzhou and *Hangzhou* were created due to these special narrative space.

Bai Juyi and his best friend Yuan Zhen's chanting made strong sense of regional interaction. Yuan Zhen and BaiJuyi's interaction in *Hangzhou* and *Yuezhou* was much larger than the scale of *Tongzhou* and *Jiangzhou*. Why did such unprecedented large-scale interaction in the history of Chinese literature occur in Suzhou and *Hangzhou* instead of any other places? This is a question worth exploring. From my point of view, reasons should be divided into two parts. One reason is the attraction of scenery. Bai Juyi was willing to dedicate so many poems to Suzhou and *Hangzhou*. He wrote 362 poems in nearly three years. They accounted for about 1/10 of the total number of his poems. Another reason is the demand for communication and interaction between Bai Juyi and his friends. The static art had made great progress in the period of Bai Juyi. Therefore, every poet spared his effort to make a breakthrough in dynamic art. Readers could transcend the limit of their own eyes and achieve the purpose of viewing all the scenery in Suzhou and *Hangzhou* through dynamic communication.

#### *B. Value of Suzhou-*Hangzhou Paradigm**

Suzhou-*Hangzhou paradigm* brought a great value in the history of Chinese literature.

Bai Juyi summarized the experience of landscape poetry in the past dynasties and promoted the art to reach a new height. A large number of people had their own opinions in Shan Shui poems, and the skilled ones emerge endlessly, especially Wang Wei and Meng Haoran. It was not easy to surpass the

predecessors. Despite these difficulties, Bai Juyi still succeeded in establishing his own style by writing classic works such as 'Spring Walk around Qiantang Lake', 'Spring view in *Hangzhou*' and 'the Gate of the Chang'. We should attribute the success to his refinement and promotion of the landscape poetry art before. In addition, Bai Juyi also made his achievement in the combination of landscape poetry and narrative space. The narrative space became classic due to the concentrated expression of landscape poetry.

Bai Juyi transferred the perspective from the outer world to the inner emotions. Through poems, the poets have tried to juxtapose the outer world with the deepest inner emotions[9] Suzhou-*Hangzhou paradigm* focused more on the writers' inward world. Poets paid more and more attention to themselves and even took their bodies as the object of description. A large number of poets decided to follow this internal point of view in the next several dynasties, which caused a profound impact. Poetry is a Symphony for the Soul. The poems are genuine works of creativity and the poets have written each poem deep from their hearts, making it a certainty that these poems will strike various chords in the heart of you, the Reader [9]. The regional interaction also triggered imitation. Wei Yingwu and Fang Furu created the Poetry-wine Paradigm, but it was only limited to a few people. Therefore, the paradigm had not earned its popularity around the country. Bai Juyi combined wine with music and dance, which caused permanent entertainments among the guests.

The classic narrative space overlapped the famous poets. Su Shi and other famous poets also left a large number of classical poems in the same narrative space created by Bai Juyi. Su Dam and BaiDam embraced each other. Bai Juyi and his followers pushed the classical paradigm finally finalized and matured.

Last but not least, we must emphasize the spread of Suzhou-*Hangzhou* impression and the establishment of Suzhou-*Hangzhou* classic status. Suzhou and *Hangzhou* had never gained so much popularity before Bai Juyi. Yuan Zhen and Bai Juyi are the leader of the poetry circle in Changqing and Baioli. Their poems were popular around the whole country. Many people copied the poems and even caused false transmission. Almost every literati would like to take Yuan Zhen and Bai Juyi's recommendation for pride. Yuan Zhen and Bai Juyi were excellent in self-promoting. They often edited books to collect their poems. Yuan Zhen and Bai Juyi achieved rapid transmission of Suzhou and *Hangzhou* around the country in Changqing and Baioli owing to these promotion. Moreover, Suzhou and *Hangzhou* are permanently peaceful and comfortable place instead of other places suffered with endless war. The 'Suzhou-*Hangzhou* Impression' set up a classic status through the circulation of poetry until now.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

The Suzhou-*Hangzhou paradigm* deeply described the authors' daily life.

In addition to the essential feature, the paradigm also has four other characteristics. The exquisite performance of daily life comes first. Second, Suzhou and *Hangzhou* were rich in property. Bai Juyi and the previous poets attached importance to describe the typical property. Third, Bai Juyi made his

effort to creating a classic cultural narrative space. Fourth, the Suzhou-Hangzhou paradigm represents a strong sense of regional interaction while chanting.

Suzhou-Hangzhou paradigm brought a great value in the history of Chinese literature. First, Bai Juyi summarized the experience of landscape poetry in the past dynasties and promoted the art to reach a new height. Second, Bai Juyi transferred the perspective from the outer world to the inner emotions. Through poems, the poets have tried to juxtapose the outer world with the deepest inner emotions. Suzhou-Hangzhou paradigm focused more on the writers' inward world. Third, Bai Juyi combined wine with music and dance, which caused permanent entertainments among the guests. Fourth, the classic narrative space overlapped the famous poets. Last but not least, we must emphasize the spread of Suzhou-Hangzhou impression and the establishment of Suzhou-Hangzhou classic status.

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#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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