

# Practices and Open Problems of Library Collection Digitization

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Tsinghua Univ. Library  
Oct. 2007



## Facts of Organization

- In 1999, THUL began the digitization testing
- In 2001, First DL project was funded by Univ. which was named “Tsinghua Architecture Digital Library”. Consequently several DL projects were planned.
- In 2003, Digital library Research Group was established to plan projects and strengthen research on theories and technologies.
- March of 2003, Xianzhi Resource Digitization Center was established. 3T data was produced till now.

## Digital Library Research Group

### Main Task

- Organizing, coordinating and constructing digital initiatives planned in library
- Planning, Coordinating, Organizing digital library projects collaborated with other partners
- Collection retrodigitization and reformatting
- Research on resource organization and management
- Research on intellectual property
- Research on web presentation and infrastructure standards.

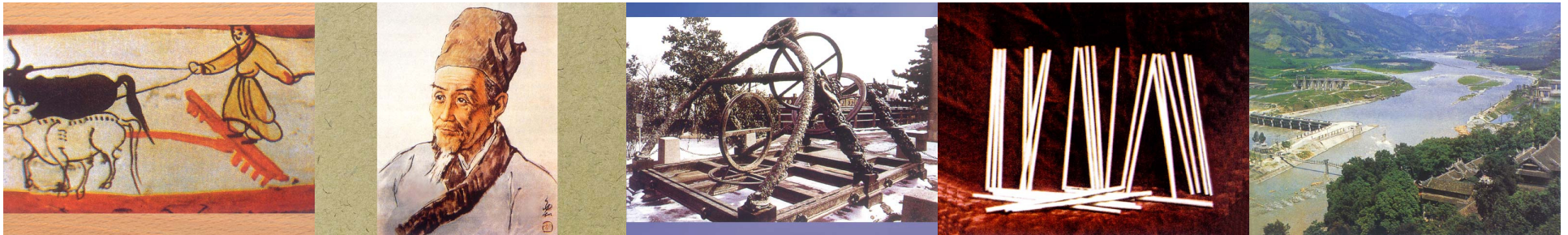
## Digital Library projects planned in Lib

**The Digital Library of Chinese Science & Technology History** { **Architecture**  
**mathematics**  
**Machine and mechanics**

**Teaching resources DL** { **THU Dissertation Databases**  
**course information and reference**  
**textbook**

**THU special resources DL**

# The Digital Library of Chinese Science & Technology History



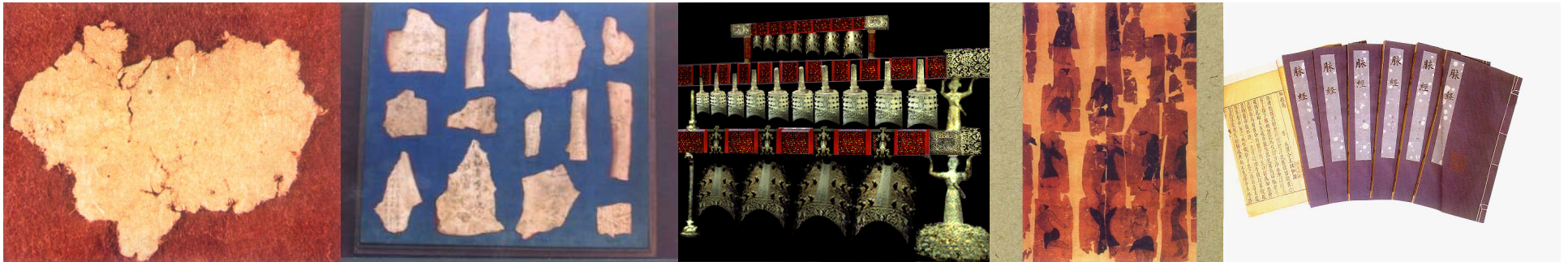
**Main subjects on history of Chinese sci. and tech.**

**Agriculture, Medicine, Astronomy, Mathematics, Biology,  
Geology, Physics, Chemistry, Architecture, Hydraulics,  
Fabric, Machine and Mechanism, Metallurgy,  
Printing, Weapon,...**





# Origin of the Project



## Main types of the contents:

Culture relics, Oracle, Bamboo books, Ancient printing books, manuscripts, cards, pictures, drawings, etc.

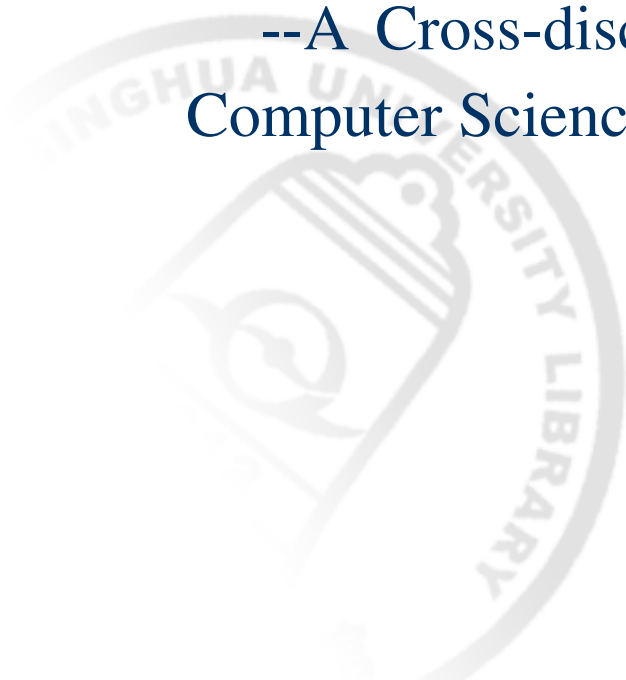




# Tsinghua Architecture DL

Tsinghua Architecture Digital Library (THADL) was funded by Tsinghua Research foundation in Nov. 2000, and finished in Oct. 2002.

--A Cross-disciplines project collaborated by Library, Computer Science dept. and Architecture Dept.



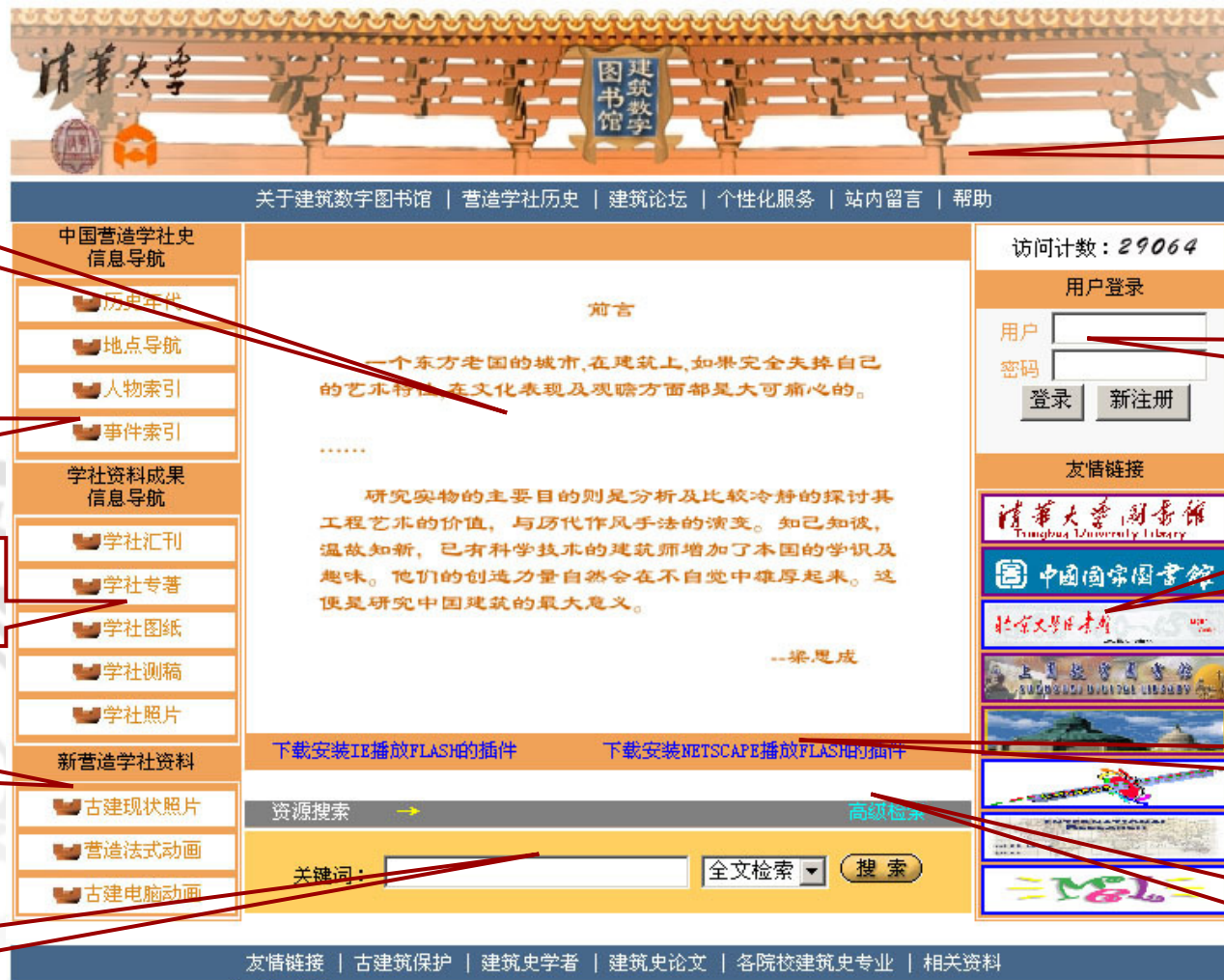


# Tsinghua Architecture DL

## Achievements:

- About 20000 pieces was digitized.
- DC based metadata schemas were drafted for several types such as monograph, paper, photo, drawing and animation.
- Prototype system was built which includes the content creation and indexing, information organization, search and retrieval, web publishing and rights management functions.
- Learning environment was provided for Architecture History courses.
- THADL website:  
<http://dbgroup.cs.tsinghua.edu.cn/digital/>

# Homepage of THL Architecture DL



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清华大学建筑数字图书馆项目组

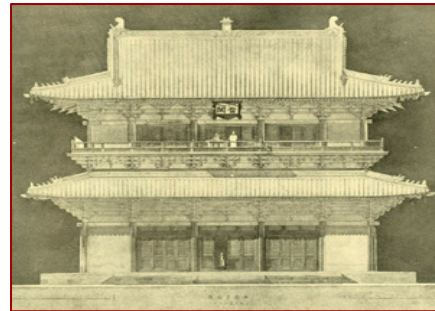
## Guanyin pavilion built in the year of 984



Photo in 1931



Photo in 2000



Drawing in 1931



Video and Audio

## Dou gong



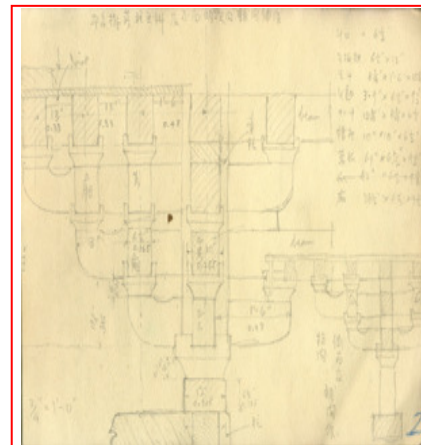
Photo in 1931



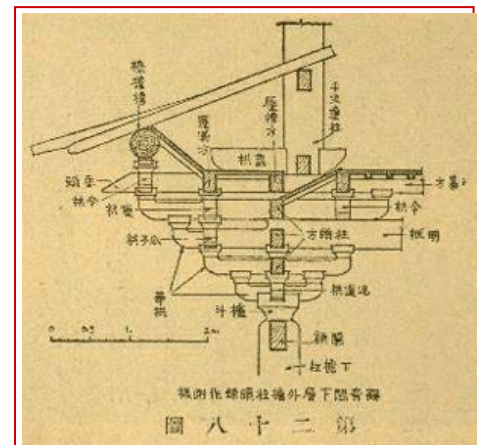
Photo in 2000



Photo in 2000



Sketch in 1931



Drawing in 1931



# Tsinghua Architecture DL



**Building Process of  
Architecture Component**

初祖庵補間鋪作  
五鋪單抄下昂

**Building Process of a part  
of Architecture**



**3D Animation Effect of  
whole Building**



**Presentation of  
Video and Audio**



# Digital Library of Chinese Math. History

EMANI

## Electronic Mathematics Archiving Network Initiative

Main Goals:

To retrodigitise printed publications in mathematics.

To care about the long-term preservation of this content in readable form.

To improve the usability of the retrodigitised publications by introducing advanced linking and searching facilities.

Partners:

The content provider Springer-Verlag and EMIS proposed the project.

Members:

Cornell Univ., USA	Goettingen State Univ., Germany
Orsay Library, France	Tsinghua Univ., China

In Nov. 2001, Tsinghua Univ. Library as invited partner involved in:

- Digitization of the Chinese Math material.
- To participate in establishing technical standard and specification.
- As a mirror site to store the digital content in mathematics from partners.
- Provide convenient and affordable access to the stored content for mathematicians and professionals using mathematics world-wide.

# Digital Library of Chinese Math. History

Main Achievements:

## □ Investigation of the materials:

*Existing Ancient Chinese Mathematical works is about 1910*

—Statistics from “Series of the history of mathematics in china App. Vol. 2”

Han-Tang Math	Song-Yuan Math	Ming Math	Qing Math
(B.C.206--907A.D.)	(960—1368)	(1368--1644)	(1644—1911)
12 books	20 books	50 books	1800+ books
4000 pages	15,000 pages	18,000 pages	140,000 pages

## ☐ Digitization progress

- ☐ Finished 150 E-books, 70000 pages digitized.
- ☐ Finished 3 indexing databases: Union Catalog on Ancient math., Research paper index on Chinese Math History. Tsinghua Catalog on Ancient Math.。
- ☐ Designed 20 animations on ancient calculation processing, such as Pythagoras' theorem, Sphere's computing method, Cube's arithmetic Multiplication.

**CMDL Website:**

<http://166.111.205.16:8081/mathdl/default.htm>



## ☐ Interoperability

☐ METS based encoding cataloging toolkit was published.

☐ 52 Chinese Math Journals were localized and published together with other EMANI partners on website

[www.emani.org](http://www.emani.org)



# Homepage of DLCMH

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## Digital Library of Chinese Machine and Mechanisms History

In 2003, the project DLMMH got fund from the library academic committee.

- Famous scholar Prof.Liu Xianzhou's study on Chinese machines and mechanisms history provide a navigator on the collection organization.
- In 2004, Investigation of the collection was started, Metadata schema was drafted.



## Contents in the project:

-- 40 related monographs ;

Such as *Pictures of Plowing and Weaving* (Rare book, 2 vol. 46 pictures, 1662-1722)

-- 12554 Index Cards collected by the library in 50'-60's

-- Prof. Liu Xianzhou's monographs, papers, Manuscripts, pictures, book index, etc.

-- Animations and pictures on reconstructive models of ancient machines and mechanisms.

**DLMMH Website is:**

<http://elib.lib.tsinghua.edu.cn/techlibrary/htm/index.htm>

## Homepage of Chinese Machine and Mechanisms History DL



<http://elib.lib.tsinghua.edu.cn/techlibrary/htm/index.htm>

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- 古代发明争鸣
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检 索

最后更新：2004年3月18日

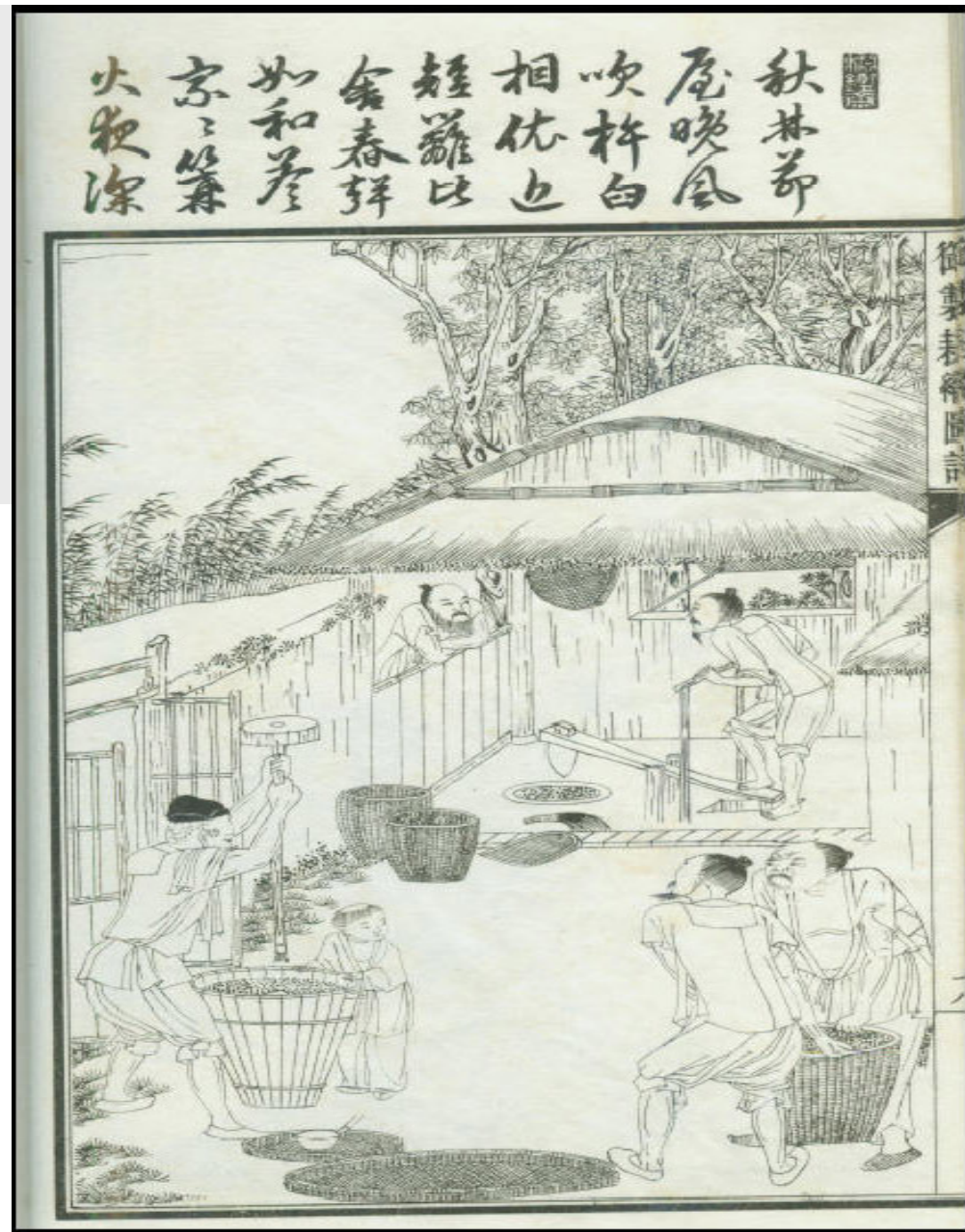
## 机械史图像库

农业机械	纺织机械	车辆	船舶	军事机械	天文仪器	其他机械
 江东犁	 纺车	 独轮车			 水运仪象台	 被中香炉
		 铜车马				 风箱
						
		 陶牛车				



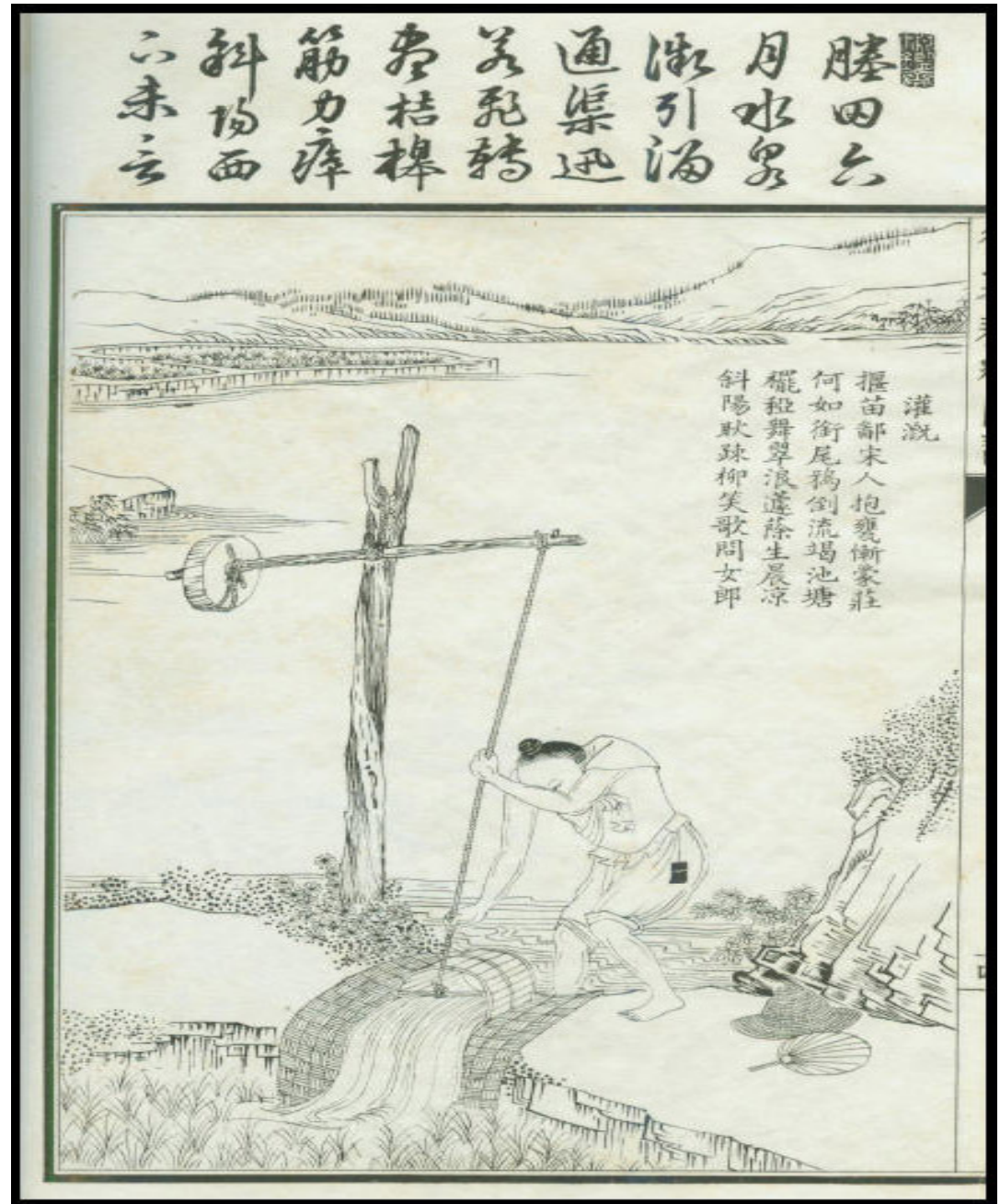
A kind of agricultural instrument: pestle and mortar

*Pictures and Poems for Plowing and Plaiting*, published in 1827

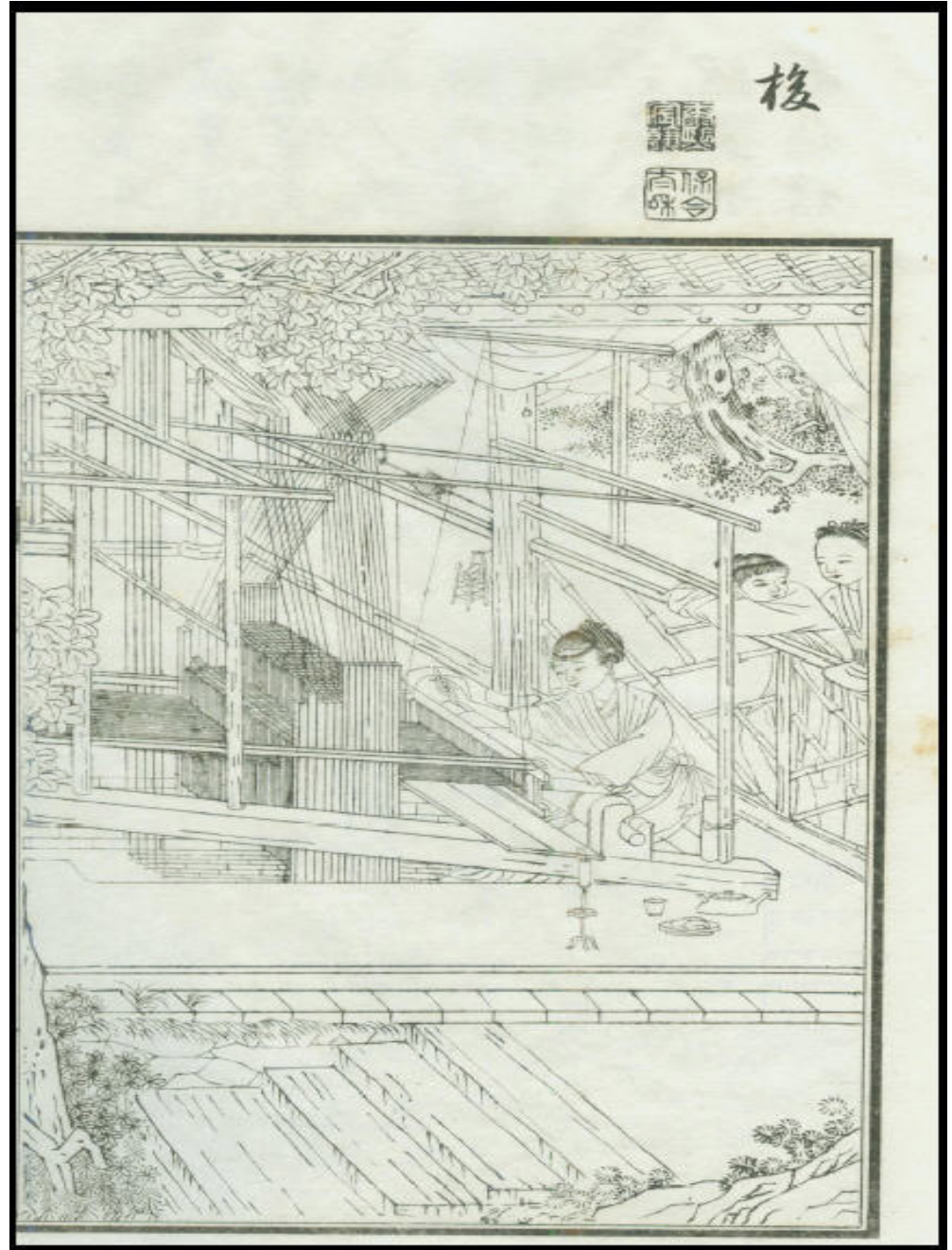




An irrigating  
instrument



# A weave machine





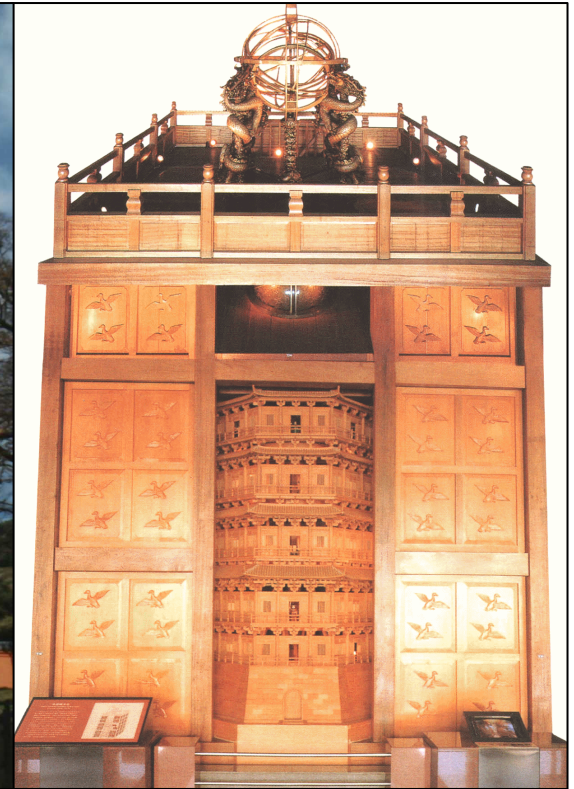
## Reconstructive Models of the Astronomical Clock Tower



The earliest model in  
the National Museum  
of China, 1958

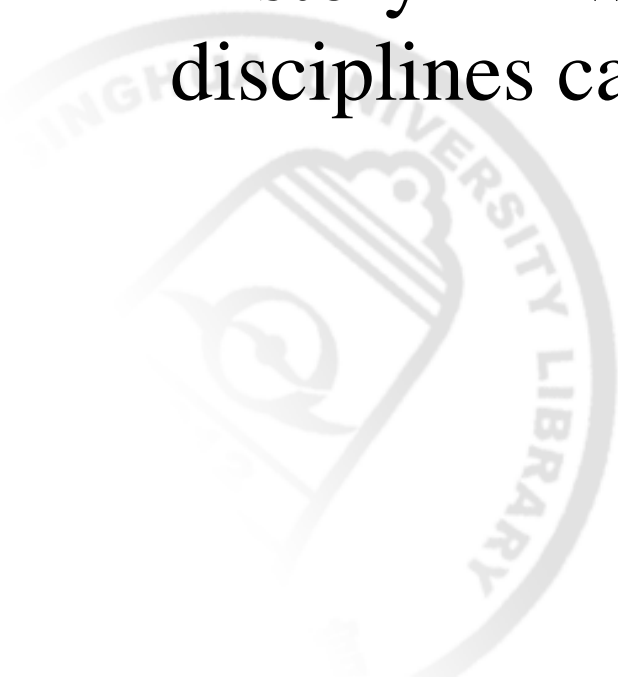


Model in Japan



Model in Taiwan

**Objective in near future:** to build a “Digital Library of Chinese Science & Technology History” in which more and more academic disciplines can be gradually involved.



## Tsinghua University Teaching Resource DL

2,000 courses information of China and other country universities.

10,000 E-reference books

<http://www.lib.tsinghua.edu.cn/textbook/index.html>

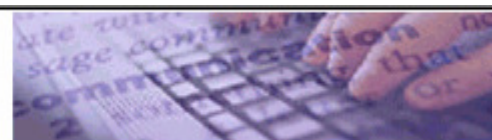


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## Tsinghua Special Resources DL

Contents in the project:

-- Tsinghua Memory

Campus Culture, Class events, Organization Origin etc.

-- Tsinghua famous professors

Manuscripts, Photos, Monograph, Letters etc.

-- Tsinghua Alumni directory

--Tsinghua published journals

-- Tsinghua oral history

.....

The Project is under construction. (celebration of 100 anniversary)

## China-US Million Book Digital Library Project

- Leader: Zhe Jiang University
- Participate members: 16 Academic Libraries including Tsinghua
- Chinese Government invests 70,000,000 RMB (2003-2005) , US NSF offers the equipments and software valued around 3000,000\$
- Achievements: (Up to Mar. 2007)
  - No. of Digitized books: 1,225,654
  - No. of web published book: 861,591
  - Data storage space: 50 TB
  - 16 digitization centers established

## China-US Million Book Digital Library Project

### Access Policy:

- Around 140,000 Ancient e-books (published before 1911) accessed worldwide
- Around 180,000 Ming Guo e-books (published between 1911-1949) accessed among “211” Universities
- Modern Books and Dissertation will be opened among participating members after getting property permission.

Average per day hits: 150,000,

Average per day downloads: 120 GB, (Equal with 4000 e-books)

Tsinghua provides 50,000 Ebooks and Dissertation for CADAL





## 高等学校中英文图书数字化国际合作计划

CHINA-US MILLION BOOK DIGITAL LIBRARY PROJECT

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# Resource Digitization Center

## Facility:

Three flatbed AVA3 AVISION scanners

Three FB6000E AVISION flatbed scanner

Minolta PS 7000

High speed AVISION AV3800

## Staff:

1 manager, 1 technical supervisor, 10 temp. staff

Current Capacity: 3,000,000 page/year

Budget: One million RMB







# Digitization Process

- Preparation (Selection, Identifier assignment)
- Scanning
- Image processing
- Metadata creation and packaging
- Quality control
- Data storage and backup



## Related Software

Scanning: QuickScan...

Image processing: Bookshop, ACDSee, XnView, UltraEdit, Scanfix, DjVuerPro,...

Cataloging and Packaging: CADAL Cataloging Tool, OEBCatalog, CMDL Cataloging Toolkit,...

Data transferring: DResManages

## Practice Experience

### 1. We walked three steps in these years:

Step 1: Simple digitization and web presentation

“Journal of Tsinghua Weekly”

Step 2: Research on some key theories, technologies and cooperative model

“Tsinghua Architecture Digital Library”

Step 3: Pay more attention to interoperability, preservation and National and International cooperation

“EMANI ”

“ Millionbook Project”

## Practice Experience

### 2. Emphasis on the resource collecting and organizing

The coverage of subject oriented collection is limited and need to completed cooperated with other potential partners

### 3. Create a test bed for pursuing research areas, such as platform, storage formats, image processing and organization.

### 4. Open the service interface to google scholar

### 5. Infrastructure like DOI system and metadata knowledge base need to be prepared for future extensibility.

### 6. Easy batch output with OAI and METS encoded format

## Problems

1. Digital format duplicates
2. Government funding or company support
3. Collecting mechanism need to be study (enlarge scale)
4. Possibility to cooperate with database provider (sustainability)
5. Technical problem such as Ancient character OCR and other organization and service technology.
6. Copyright issues. (Fair use area)
7. Integration of different projects in different platforms.



Thank you for your attention!

Other collaborative efforts are  
expected!

## International cooperation

- **Subscription Collaboration:** Cooperated with scientific database providers for organizing subscription consortia and setting up mirror sites
- **Academic exchange:** First China Digital Library international Conference held in Tsinghua cooperated with Dr. C.C. Chen (USA)
- **Project cooperation:** EMANI project with partners from Germany, USA, France
- **Other collaborative Efforts are expected**