

Zhongguo lidai dianji zongmu

The ***Zhongguo lidai dianji zongmu*** (*Historical Book Catalogue of China*) is a knowledge database of over 2 million Chinese classical works which permits analytical and statistical research. It was developed by the National Library of China and Peking University. For library holdings as such it may be better to use the [*Zhongguo guji shumu ziliaoku*](#) at Taipei; Princeton's holdings e.g. are available in the latter, not in this database. The database uses traditional characters.

Browsing categories (導航)

There are six ways of browsing: by the traditional *siku* 四庫 classification scheme (經, 史, 子, 集, 叢), by the **sources of information** (historical catalogs such as the various *Yiwenzhi*, library catalogs such as the *Zhongguo guji shanben shumu*, the yet-to-be compiled *Guji zhengli mulu*, and the current *Zhengui guji minglu* catalogs), by **period of original composition** (by sub-dynastic periods often down to reign periods), by **publication category** (such as manuscript, copy or printed, and subcategories such as private or official), by **period of publication** (down to reign periods), and by **holding institution** (country and institutional category). At every spot the user sees the included subcategories (which may be 0), and the number of entries.

Searching

There is a simple search box available on the home page, as well as a button bringing up advanced searching. The latter enables searching by title, catalog, and many of the categories already mentioned in "browsing categories". This database can have for each title many "responsible" people (責任者), a concept larger than (and in this database replacing) that of "author". You can specify particular functions in the "responsibility category" (責任方式). The category "publication level" refers to single publications, *congshu* and the like. You can order the result lists in various ways, among which by title or region. Search results can be saved by clicking on the "save" button, and searches can be redone by choosing "search history".

Analysis

This database is unique in being able to perform various kinds of analysis on the data, including ***analyzing the relationship between two figures of responsibility***: were person A and B ever involved in the same project, worked on the same title, etc.? To perform such an analysis, you type the name of a person or institution, and give a number of minimum relationships (default is 0). The result is one pie diagram for the people related to the entered person, and one pie diagram for the institutions, plus the same results in table format; *the number denotes the number of kinds of relationships, not the total number of books resulting in that number*. Putting the cursor over a name in the pie diagram gives percentages. Clicking in the pie area of one of the resulting names will give the book titles resulting in that relationship, including the kind of relation: one can find for which books of person A did B write a preface, printed them, edited them or noted them down in their catalog.

Chronological statistical analysis can be performed as well, by choosing one's categories under the "chronological statistics" and filling in one's search term; e.g. Du Fu in "person of responsibility." The result is a bar chart showing the number of books relating to Du Fu by period. Again, clicking on a bar in the resulting chart lists the titles of the works being counted.

A third type of analysis lists results of a search for a title, catalog, category, publication level, publication type, publication period, person of responsibility or keyword into results **accumulated by a certain criterion**: kind, publication type, number of reprints, and place of collections. Multiple conditions can be combined by Boolean searches. E.g., one can search for all copies of the *Shiji* in the Ming period, listed by editions (and seeing that the most common one is a Chongzhen edition having 26 entries in the database.)

Results

Any individual result can be displayed in two ways: as a card, and as a table. Either version gives many hyperlinks for further research.

"My library"

The system has some functions to leave book reviews, put books on a shelf etc. However, these are either not working, or for Princeton's subscription as a whole; therefore it is best not to use these functions.