A study of phonological issues in the text variants of *Xiaochu* and *Dachu* hexagrams, *Zhouyi*

This paper discusses some phonological issues with the Xiaochu (小畜) and Dachu (大畜) hexagrams by using text variants from three versions of the unearthed Zhouyi (周易). We point out that the reading of the character 輻 fu 'spoke', which rhymes with 目 mu 'eye' in the current version of Xiaochu, is the result of phonetic assimilation. We also propose that the phonetic $\mathcal{Z} zhu$ 'pursue' be assigned to the *-uk group instead of *-uk in the Baxter-Sagart (2014) system.

Keywords: Old Chinese language; Zhouyi hexagrams; Chinese rhymes; phonological reconstruction.

The third line statement (爻辭) of the current version of the Xiaochu hexagram in Zhouyi (周易·小畜) has the following passage: "九三, 輿說輻, 夫妻反目"¹. Commentators from Han to Wei periods proposed diverse interpretations for the word 輻 fu: both Wang Bi's Zhouyi zhu (王弼, 周易注) and Yu Fan's Zhouyi zhu (虞翻, 周易注) noted that 輻fu represents the wheel spoke of a chariot, while Ma Rong (馬融) and Zheng Xuan (鄭玄) had another version which used the character 輹 fu instead. According to Ma and Zheng, 輹 fu is a component of the chariot which connects the axle with the compartment (車伏兔)². The textual variation between 輻 fu and 輹 fu also triggers certain phonological issues which will be discussed in this paper.

During the Song and Ming dynasties, philologists usually followed Wang Bi's version. For instance, in his *Zhouyi benyi* (周易本義) , Zhu Xi (朱熹) explained "輿說輻" as "spokes detach from the wheel" 3 . During the Qing dynasty, however, while using Old Chinese rhyming analysis, scholars became suspicious about the character 輻 fi in Wang Bi's version. In Yi Yin, Yinxue Wushu (音學五書·易音), Gu Yanwu (顧炎武) examined all of the rhyming passages in the Zhouyi and pointed out that 輻 fi does not rhyme regularly in the Xiaochu (小畜) line statements. He noted:

The character 輻 rhymes with 側, 直, 億, 特, 食 in Fa tan, Shi Jing (詩 • 伐檀, 112.2A), with 載 and 意 in Zhengyue (正月, 192.10A), with 塞 and 息 from quotations of lost Shi (逸詩) in Yunzi (荀子); whereas 目 mù rhymes with 腹 and 復 in The second year of duke Xuan, Zuozhuan (左傳 • 宣二年), with 蹴 in The sixteenth year of duke Cheng (成公十六年). One cannot force 輻 to rhyme with 目, hence 輹 should be the correct version in the Xiaochu hexagram (The first volume of Yi Yin, Yinxue Shishu)⁴.

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¹ "The third NINE, undivided, suggests the idea of a carriage, the strap beneath which has been removed, or of a husband and wife looking on each other with averted eyes."

² This paper deals only with phonological issues; we will address the controversial statements in the commentaries elsewhere.

³有輿說輻之象。

^{4 &}quot;輻"字《詩•伐檀》與"側""直""億""特""食"韻,《正月》與"載""意"韻,《荀子》引逸《詩》與"塞""息"韻; "目"字 《左•宣二年》 與"腹""復"韻,《成十六年》 與"躆"韻。 不可強合也, 作"輹"為是(顧炎武《音學十書‧易音‧卷一》)。

Gu believed that 目 $m\dot{u}$ in the Xiaochu line statement originally rhymed with 輹 $f\dot{u}$, and that the character 輻 $f\dot{u}$ in the current version was due to text corruption. Gu's opinion was later adopted by many other scholars, such as Duan Yucai (段玉裁), Jiang Yougao (江有誥), Wang Niansun (王念孫), etc. Their detailed rhyming analyses are as follows 5 :

Table 1. Rhyming patterns of Xiaochu

| Xiaochu(小畜) line statements | | | | | |
|---|----|------|-------|------|--|
| | Gu | Duan | Jiang | Wang | |
| 初九:復自 <u>道</u> A,何其 <u>咎</u> A,吉。 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 九二:牽 <u>復</u> B,吉。 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 九三:輿說輻[<u>輹</u>]B,夫妻反 <u>目</u> B。 | 0 | | 0 | | |
| 六四:有孚,血去惕出,无咎。 | | | | | |
| 九五:有孚攣如,富以其鄰。 | | | | | |
| 上九:既 <u>兩</u> C既 <u>處</u> C,尚德載,婦貞厲。月幾望,君子征凶。 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |

Duan, Jiang and Wang agree with Gu Yanwu that 輻 $f \hat{u}$ in the current version should be revised to 輹 $f \hat{u}$. Jiang Yougao's analysis coincides with Gu in linking the rhyming words 輹 $f \hat{u}$ and 目 $m \hat{u}$. Apart from that, Duan Yucai and Wang Niansun recognize 復 $f \hat{u}$ 'return' in the second line as a rhyme word along with 輹 $f \hat{u}$ 'wedge' and 目 $m \hat{u}$. We follow Duan and Wang's opinion.

Qing scholars sometimes quoted commentaries from Ma Rong and Zheng Xuan, in which an alternate text variant 輿說輹 from Xiaochu was preserved. Shuowen also features the same quotation 輿脫輹, but it is hard to determine whether it is from Xiaochu (小畜) or Dachu (大畜). The rhyming contexts in the Dachu hexagram are as follows:

Table 2. Rhyming patterns of Dachu

| Dachu (大畜) line statements | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|------|-------|------|--|
| | Gu | Duan | Jiang | Wang | |
| 初九:有厲,利己。 | | | | | |
| 九二:輿說 <u>輹</u> A。 | | | | | |
| 九三:良馬 <u>逐</u> A,利艱貞。曰閒輿衛,利有攸往。 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 六四:童牛之 <u>牿</u> B,元吉。 | | | | | |
| 六五:豶豕之 <u>牙</u> B,吉。 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 上九:何天之 <u>衢</u> B,亨。 | | | | | |

Neither Gu Yanwu nor Jiang Yougao had identified the rhyming pattern in the second and third line statements. Both Duan Yucai and Wang Niansun pointed out that 輹 fu 'wedge' rhymes with 逐 zhu 'pursue', and that 特 gu 'livestock' rhymes with 牙 yu 'tooth' and 衢 qu 'broad street'. Here we follow Duan and Wang's analyses.

The phrase 輿說輻 can further be compared to the *Dazhuang* (大壯) hexagram. The rhyming situations are as follows:

 $^{^{\}scriptscriptstyle 5}$ Rhyme words are marked with underlining; A, B, C represent different rhyme groups.

Table 3. Rhyming patterns of Dazhuang.

| Dazhuang (大壯) line statements | | | | | |
|--|----|------|-------|------|--|
| | Gu | Duan | Jiang | Wang | |
| 初九:壯于趾,征凶,有孚。 | | | | | |
| 九二:貞吉。 | | | | | |
| 九三:小人用 <u>壯</u> A,君子用 <u>罔</u> A,貞厲。羝羊觸藩,羸其角。 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |
| 九四:貞吉悔亡,藩決不羸,壯于大輿之輹。 | | | | | |
| 六五:喪羊于易,无悔。 | | | | | |
| 上六:羝羊觸藩,不能 <u>退</u> B,不能 <u>遂</u> B,无攸 <u>利</u> B,艱則吉。 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | |

There are now several unearthed pieces of evidence supporting the revision of 輹 fu. Three versions of unearthed Zhouyi are available to us: 1) Shangbo version (上博本), which is written on bamboo strips, dated to the late Warring States period (312–221 BC); 2) Fuyang version (阜陽本), also written on bamboo strips, dated to the late Western Han period (206 BC – 9 AD); 3) Boshu version (帛書本), which is written on silk, also dated to the late Western Han. Their preservation situation varies greatly: Boshu version contains all sixty-four hexagrams, including the hexagram's name (卦名), the hexagram statement (彖辭), and six line statements (爻辭), as well as parts of "Ten Wings" (十翼), such as Xici (繫辭) and even texts that were lost in history, including Er san zi (二三子), Yi zhi yi (易之义), Yao (要), Miuhe (缪和), Zhaoli (昭力); Shangbo version contains about half of the sixty-four hexagrams with no Ten Wings attached; Fuyang version is severely damaged, with hexagram fragments found only occasionally.

Boshu Xiaochu (少(小)執(畜), upper line 84):

(1) 九二:堅(牽)復,吉。

九三:車說緮,夫妻反目。

'The second NINE, undivided, shows its subject, by the attraction (of the former line), returning (to the proper course). There will be good fortune.⁸

The third NINE, undivided, suggests the idea of a carriage, the <strap> (wedge) beneath which has been removed, or of a husband and wife looking on each other with averted eyes.'

⁶ For details, see Han Ziqiang (韓自強) 2004, Ma Chengyuan (馬承源) 2003, and Qiu Xigui (裘錫圭) 2014.

⁷ For now, we only deal with text variants which are associated with rhyming activities.

⁸ This paper uses James Legge (2013)'s English translation of *Zhouyi*, with several modifications.

bi tong bu" (同聲必同部), since 輹 fù and 緮 fù share the same phonetic they must have had an identical or close pronunciation in the Old Chinese period.

Shangbo Dachu (上博本大均(畜), third volume, strip 20) has:

(2) 九二: 車(敓)說复。

九晶(三):良馬由(逐),利堇(艱)貞。曰班車衛,利有攸往。

"The second NINE, undivided, shows a carriage with the strap under it removed. The third NINE, undivided, shows its subject urging his way with good horses."

Whereas the Boshu version of *Dachu* (泰 (大) 蓄 (畜), line 11) has:

(3) 九二: 車說緮。

九三:良馬逐,利根(艱)貞。曰闌(閑)車衛,利有攸往。

(refer to the previous translation)

Boshu Dazhuang (泰 (大) 壯, line 33) has:

(4) 九四:貞吉悔亡,藩(藩)块不羸,壯于大車之緮。

"The fourth NINE, undivided, shows (a case in which) firm correctness leads to good fortune, and occasion for repentance disappears. (We see) the fence opened without the horns being entangled. The strength is like that in the wheel-spokes of a large wagon."

Connecting the rhyming words above, we have the following table:

| | Rhyme group | OC | MC | Notes |
|---------|-------------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 復 fù | 覺 | *m-puk | bjuwk | |
| ∏ mù | 覺 | *C.muk | mjuwk | |
| 輹 fù | 覺 | *m-puk | bjuwk | |
| 緮 fù | 覺 | | | Boshu Xiaochu and Dachu |
| 复 fù | 覺 | *m-puk | bjuwk | Shangbo <i>Dachu</i> |
| 輻 fú | 職 | *pək | pjuwk | The current version of Xiaochu |
| 逐 zhú | 覺 | *lriwk | drjuwk | The current version and Boshu Dachu |
| <u></u> | 图图 | *lu | уиш | Shangbo <i>Dachu</i> |

Table 4. Rhyming behaviors of 輹 fù in various versions of Zhouyi.

There are two irregular rhyming behaviors in the table above, all of which are related to the Middle Chinese rhyme *-juwk* (屋韻三等). According to the reconstruction of Baxter, Sagart (2014) as well as other "six vowel" systems, *-juwk* has several Old Chinese origins, and they merged mainly under the influence of initial consonants (see below).

The first issue is that 輻 fu (*pək) in the current version of Xiaochu (小畜) should not rhyme with characters from group *-uk (覺部) or group *-u (幽部).

緮 f u rhymes with $\exists m u$ in the Boshu version, and they have the same final in both Old Chinese and Middle Chinese. This situation is parallel with Dachu (大畜) in Shangbo and the current version (see table 4). Whereas 輻 f u and $\exists m u$ in the current version do rhyme together in Middle Chinese but have different main vowels in Old Chinese, which indicates that *- ∂u had already assimilated into -juwk at the end of the Western Han period. The *- ∂u (之) group and the *- ∂u 0 (蒸) group have a paralleled development under the same condition, for instance:

(5) 有*[G]^wə? > hjuwX > yǒu 'have, exist' 弓 *k^wəŋ > kjuwng > gōng 'bow'

Such assimilation could be blocked by pharyngealization or medial *-r-, for instance:

(6) 怪 *k^{wî}rə-s > *kweajH* > *guài* 'strange' 洧 *[g]^wrə? > *hwijX* > *wěi* 'name of a river'

The rhyming behavior of 輻 $f\acute{u}$ in the current version of Xiaochu (小畜) can be explained by the above phonological development. Namely, *-ək was assimilated into -juwk under the influence of a non-pharyngealized labial initial. After this happened, 輻 $f\acute{u}$ (MC pjuwk) and $\exists m\grave{u}$ (MC mjuwk) could still rhyme together, since they have the same Middle Chinese final, which led to the change of rhyme word from 輹 $f\grave{u}$ to 輻 $f\acute{u}$ at that time. It may be therefore concluded that the rhyme word 輻 $f\acute{u}$ in the current version of Zhouyi reflects a phonological phenomenon of Early Middle Chinese. In the rhyming passage of Minming, Jiutan by Liu Xiang (劉向, 九嘆·愍命) "卻騏驥以轉運兮,騰驢贏以馳逐;蔡女黜而出帷兮,戎婦入而綵繡服",逐 $zh\acute{u}$ rhymes with Ri0, which also reflects assimilation *-ək > -juwk in late Western Han times:

(7) 逐 *lriwk > drjuwk > zhú 'pursue' 服 *[b]ək > bjuwk > fú 'cloth'

The second issue is the assignment of *-juwk* (屋韻三等) characters after splitting up the traditional Jué (覺) group. This rhyme group includes Middle Chinese *-owk* (divison-II), *-aewk* (divison-III), *-juwk* (divison-III) and *-ek* (divison-IV). According to the "front-vowel hypothesis" (Baxter 1992), two different main vowels must be reconstructed with front and non-front contrasts, namely, *-iwk and *-uk. Middle Chinese words in the *-juwk* rhyme group should be assigned to *-iwk or *-uk according to their rhyming or *xiesheng* behaviors. For instance:

- (8) *C(r)uk > *Cjuwk* 畜 *q^huk > *xjuwk* > *xù* 'nourish'; it rhymes with *-uk category words in Ode 188.2A, 202.4A; 蓄 *xù*, 稸 *xù*, and 慉 *xù*, which share the same phonetic 畜 *xù* all belong to the *-uk category.
- (9) *C(r)iwk > *Cjuwk* 穆 *mriwk > *mjuwk* > *mù* 'harmonious'; it rhymes with *-iwk category words in Ode 282.1B.

In table 4, according to Baxter (1992) and Baxter-Sagart (2014), 輹 fu, ៦ fu, fu,

(10)初九:悔亡,喪馬勿<u>逐</u>,自<u>復</u>。見惡人无咎。(The current version of *Kuí* (睽) hexagram) "The first NINE, undivided, shows that (to its subject) occasion for repentance will disappear. He has lost his horses, but let him not seek for them — they will return of themselves. Should he meet with bad men, he will not err (in communicating with them)."

It is well agreed among Qing scholars that 逐 $zh\acute{u}$ rhymes with 復 $f\grave{u}$. However, 逐 $zh\acute{u}$ is replaced by \pm and 遂 <逐> respectively in Shangbo and Boshu version, which is similar to the above situation in Dachu (大畜):

- (11) 初九: 思(悔)亡=(亡,亡)馬,勿由(逐),自<mark>遂</mark>(復)。見亞(惡)人无咎。 (Shangbo *Kuí* (楑(睽), strip 32, refer to the previous translation).
- (12)初九:芯(悔)亡=(亡。亡)馬勿遂<逐>,自復。見亞(惡)人,无咎。(Boshu *Guaī* 乖(睽), upper line 75, refer to the previous translation.)

The character 逐 *zhú* does not appear in the *Shijing*. However, there does exist a rhyme word 蓫 *zhú* with ອ *zhú* as phonetic:

(13)我行其野,言采其蓫。

昏姻之故,言就爾宿。

爾不我畜,言歸思復。(小雅·我行其野 二章, 188.2A)

"I travelled through the open country, luxuriant are the Rumex; with a view to (our) marriage, I went and lodged with you; but you did not cherish me, I go back and return (home)." 9

| | Traditional group | OC | MC |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|--------|
| 蓫 zhú 10 | Jué (覺) | *hlrjiwk (*lriwk) | drjuwk |
| 宿 sù | Jué (覺) | *s[u]k | sjuwk |
| 畜 xù | Iué (譽) | *ahuk-s | xiuwX |

Jué (覺)

Table 5. Rhyming situation of 蓫 in the Shijing (188.2A).

復fù

According to their reconstruction, 蓫 zhú is abnormal in the above table, parallel with the situation with 逐 zhú in Table 4, where *-uk and *-iwk categories were also mixed up. It is thus clear that both 逐 zhú and 蓫 zhú are rhyming with *-uk words in the Shijing and Zhouyi. Hence, we propose that the phonetic 逐 zhú should be assigned to the *-uk group in the Baxter-Sagart (2014) system:

*m-puk

bjuwk

However, there is a case where $\boxtimes zh\acute{u}$ in the current version of *Zhouyi* became entangled with the *-iwk category:

(15)六四:顛頤,吉,虎視眈眈,其欲逐逐,无咎。(The current version of *Yi* (頤) hexagram) "The fourth SIX, divided, shows one looking downwards for (the power to) nourish. There will be good fortune. Looking with a tiger's downward unwavering glare, and with his desire that impels him to spring after spring, he will fall into no error."

⁹ This paper uses Karlgren (1974)'s English translation of *Shijing*.

We adopt the conclusion of Qing scholars' analyses that the Yi (頤) hexagram does not rhyme, apart from its first line statement¹¹. The character 逐 $zh\acute{u}$ is replaced by 攸 $y\bar{o}u$ and 笛 $d\acute{u}$ in Shangbo and Boshu versions respectively:

- (16)六四:顛頤,吉。虎見(視)驥=(眈眈),其猶(欲)攸=(逐逐),亡(无)咎。(Shangbo Yi (頤), strip 25, refer to the previous translation.)
- (17)六四:顛頤,吉。虎視□【=】(□【□】—耽【耽】),其容(欲)笛=(笛笛— 逐逐),无咎。(Boshu Yí (頤), upper line 19, refer to the previous translation.)

We can conveniently join all the text variants of \mathcal{E} zhú in the following table:

| | Traditional group | Old Chinese | Middle Chinese |
|-------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| 逐 zhú | Jué (覺) | *lriwk | drjuwk |
| 攸 yōu | Yōu (幽) | *liw | уиш |
| 笛 dí | Jué (覺) | *liwk ¹² | dek |

Table 6. Text variants of 逐 zhú in the Yí (頤) hexagram.

It seems that the phonological status of the three versions of the Yi (頤) hexagram is somewhat identical: all the variants have a front vowel *-i. Note that this passage does not intend to rhyme, which might lower the standards for correspondences. Moreover, the characters in question actually form binomes, such as 逐逐, 攸攸 and 笛笛, which do not always faithfully reflect the phonological phenomena 13. For instance, in the received version of Laozi (also called Wangbi version (王弼本老子), we have 繩繩不可名; however, 繩繩 is replaced by the loan binome 蠅蠅 in the Xiang'er version (想爾注本), by 台微台微 in the Hanjian version (漢簡本) and by 尋尋 in the Boshu version (帛書本). Although all these binomes have similar syllabic structures as well as initials and main vowels, they do have quite different onsets or final consonants:

(18)繩繩 *Cə.ləŋ Cə.ləŋ ~ *mə.ləŋ mə.ləŋ > shéngshéng "abundant" 蠅蠅 *m.rəŋ m.rəŋ > yíngyíng "abundant" 台微台微 *ləməj ləməj → *ləm ləm > yíwēi yíwēi "abundant" 尋尋 *sə-ləm sə-ləm > xúnxún "abundant"

There are nine characters in the *xiesheng* series of 逐 *zhú*. According to the *Guangyun shengxi* (廣韻聲系), they could be divided into four groups: 1) *drjuwk* (直六切): 逐鱁鱁蓫隧篴; 2) *trhjuwk* (丑六切): 蓫; 3) *xjuwk* (許竹切): 蓫; 4) *dek* (徒歷切): 邃. In *Grammata Serica*, Karlgren

 $^{^{11}}$ "初九:舍爾靈龜,觀我朵頤。""The first NINE, undivided, (seems to be thus addressed), 'You leave your efficacious tortoise, and look at me till your lower jaw hangs down.' There will be evil." Gu Yanwu (顧炎武), Duan Yucai (段玉裁) and Wang Niansun propose that 龜 $gu\bar{\iota}$ rhymes with 頤 yi, while Jiang Yougao (江有誥) believes there is no rhyming. Here we follow Gu, Duan and Wang's analyses.

 $^{^{12}}$ Baxter and Sagart (2014) have not reconstructed the item 笛 di; however, the character 迪 di with the same Middle Chinese reading as笛di is reconstructed as *liwk in Baxter (1992). We provisionally assume that 笛di and 迪 di had the same pronunciation in Old Chinese.

 $^{^{13}}$ 迪 di rhymes with 復 *m-puk > fu, 毒 *m-[d] $^{\text{fu}}$ k > du in 257.11A (大雅·桑柔); 迪 di, 復 fu and 毒 du are assigned to the traditional Jué (覺) group. However, after the split of Jué (覺) by Baxter and Sagart (2014), 迪 di is assumed to have had a different main vowel from 復 fu and 毒 du. A probable explanation is that 迪 di might come from a late version of the Shijing.

recorded three characters (GSR 1022): 逐 $drjuwk > zh\acute{u}$, 邃 $dek > zh\acute{u}$, and 蓫 $trhjuwk > zh\acute{u}$. However, according to the Guangyun (廣韻), 邃 $zh\acute{u}$ is equivalent to 笛 $d\acute{u}$ 'Chinese flute', which was invented in the middle of the Western Han period (around 157–87 BC)¹⁴. Hence, the pronunciation of division-IV word 邃 $dek > zh\acute{u}$ might be of late origin and should not be used as evidence to reconstruct Old Chinese front vowel *i.

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 $\it Ma~Kyhb$. Исследование фонологических проблем в вариантах текста гексаграмм $\it csouy$ и $\it davy$ («Книга Перемен»)

В статье обсуждаются вопросы фонологической реконструкции ряда древнекитайских слов, встречающихся в гексаграммах Сяочу (小畜) и Дачу (大畜) «Книги перемен» с привлечением новых данных, полученных по трем альтернативным версиям памятника, найденным в результате археологических раскопок. Обосновывается гипотеза, что необычная рифмовка между знаками 輻 f u 'колесничная спица' и 目 m u 'глаз', наблюдаемая в канонической версии Сяочу, вызвана фонетической ассимиляцией. Также высказано предположение, что фонетик \mathfrak{F} zhu 'преследовать' необходимо отнести к группе рифм *-uk вместо *-iwk, как это предложено в системе Бэкстера и Сагара (2014).

Ключевые слова: древнекитайский язык; гексаграммы Ицзина; китайская система рифм; фонологическая реконструкция.

^{14《}廣韻·錫韻》:"笛,樂器。《風俗通》云武帝時丘仲所作也。晉協律中郎列和善吹笛也。出《周禮》。"