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A Study of Female Images in Qing Dynasty Tanci Novels under the Influence of Social Change

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Abstract

It is of practical significance to study the image of women in Qing dynasty ballad novels under the influence of social change. This paper analyzes the overall architecture of ALBERT model and SABL model respectively, and proposes a text sentiment analysis model based on ALBERT-SABL, which uses ALBERT layer to initialize text data and uses hybrid Self-attention mechanism to train the understanding of the meaning of utterances. Then, the model was used to analyze the original novels and related literary criticism works to explore the changes in the image of women in Qing dynasty ballad novels with the deepening degree of social change. In terms of the image of women's participation in politics, the image of women who portrayed fierce resistance and pretended to be men to participate in politics increased by 7% in the late Qing Dynasty compared with the early period. In terms of the image of women fighting for economic rights, the mid-Qing period is 8.44% higher than the early period, while the late period is 26.22% higher than the mid period. In terms of the image of women fighting for women's rights, for the three types of women portrayed who demanded to be free from the dependency of their brothers, fathers, and husbands, the late period was -20.22%, -7.09%, and +27.31%, respectively, compared to the early period. This study is able to glimpse the course of social change in the Qing dynasty from the changes of female images in ballad novels, reflecting to some extent the awakening process of female consciousness in the Qing dynasty.

Keywords: ALBERT model, SABL model, Qing dynasty ballad novel, female image, text sentiment analysis

Introduction

It is generally believed that the play lyrics originated from the Tang Dynasty Variations or the Song Dynasty Tao Zhen. In the Ming and Qing dynasties, the art form of play-word was developed from the Variety or Tao Zhen. The development of bouncing words after their appearance showed a trend of differentiation, forming two types of bouncing words, mainly sung and performed, and bouncing novels, mainly used for desk reading (Luo Y, 2018) (L, 2017). This is only a general division, and a small number of works are in both forms, marking both the format of rap and the arrangement of their contents for reading in the boudoir. During the Ming and Qing dynasties, the playful novel developed into a universally popular literary genre and flourished for a while

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(WANG-Kun, 2015) (Luo Y, 2017). To this day, the influence of this genre continues.

Feudal society ran to the middle and late Ming Dynasty, when the sprout of capitalism began to appear and the citizen class emerged, which led to the ideological desire to break through the heavy fetters of feudalism. At the same time, the feudal rulers strengthened the clamping down on the people's ideas in order to save the situation. In this general environment, women were influenced by the new trend of thought and showed the awakening of the subject's self-consciousness on the one hand, while the mental and physical levels of their confinement and persecution became more severe on the other (Yan Jun, 2021) (Chunyang, 2016). The brutal oppression led to fierce resistance, and progressive ideas prompted further reflection, as women writers of play-word novels pinned their feelings about social change on the thought of changing their own lives. Under the influence of such thinking, women writers of fiction novels downplayed the social prejudice of male superiority over women by praising women's talents and merits, affirmed women's value, and hoped to gain women's independence and dignity through participation in social activities and work (M, 2007) (Yu S, 2015) (Duo-Jiao X U, 2018). Never before in the history of Chinese feudal society has another literary genre been so prolonged in its depiction of the awakening of women's consciousness.

Since the budding of capitalism, the image of women in novels has undergone drastic changes. Literature (Luo S R, 2019) argues that the unique novel of the late Qing Dynasty, *The Yellow Embroidered Ball*, realistically and vividly depicts the portrayal of an illiterate woman of the old era who becomes a woman of the new era with a clear feminist consciousness through emancipated thinking in the context of saving the country and seeking survival. Literature studied the portrayal of women in classical Chinese novels of the Qing Dynasty and pointed out that in Qing Dynasty novels, there were not many female stories with tragic endings, female warriors in novels were not always winners, and the depiction of female heroes gradually returned to the traditional male narrative paradigm. Literature (Wang Y, 2019) studied the portrayal of women in Akutagawa Ryunosuke's *Christianity in Nanking* and concluded that the author's description of the novel's heroine relied mostly on speculation and that the depiction of Nanking was full of arbitrariness.

The literature (Fan X, 2015) studied the strong side of Chinese women with the example of female characters in Mo Yan's novels and concluded that Mo Yan is particularly partial to portraying the tough lifestyle and vitality of women and his novels reflect the strong character of women back home. Literature (Chaudary, 2013) explores and analyzes the struggle and resistance of female characters against patriarchal structures in the works of Pakistani women writers, exposing with the help of female characters in the selected works how women's spirit and body are defined, controlled and exploited by men in the guise of socio-culture and socio-culture and socio-culture. The literature (Kachhap & Aravind, 2017) examines the female characters in the novel *Island of a Thousand Mirrors*, exploring the lives and development of socially dislocated female characters under specific conditions.

This paper first investigates the BERT model for analyzing contextually relevant semantic information, whereby the ALBERT model is extended and the parameter requirements of these two models are compared. Meanwhile, the general framework and hierarchy of the SABL model are analyzed. Next, the pre-training model ALBERT is added to the SABL model, and the collected text data are transferred to the pre-training layer based on ALBERT with a simple cleaning operation, and a hybrid Self-attention mechanism combined with a bi-directional positive and negative matrix is used to understand the meaning of utterances. Then, the collision of literary ideas under the social change of Qing Dynasty is studied, and the evolution of the creative subjects of women's novels is discussed. Finally, based on the ALBERT-SABL text sentiment analysis model, the changes of female images in early, middle and late Qing dynasty bouncing novels under the influence of social change are investigated.

ALBERT-SABL based sentiment analysis

To address the problem that the Bi-LSTM model links contextual contexts, which leads to long training time and does not consider word sentiment weight assignment, this paper proposes a sentiment analysis method that introduces a SABL model with a hybrid self-attentive mechanism on top of the Bi-LSTM model. In order to solve the problem of multiple meanings of a word, a vectorized representation of the text using a lightweight ALBERT pre-training model on top of the SABL model is proposed to construct an ALBERT-SABL sentiment analysis model.

Pre-training model

BERT model

ELMo is a model for analyzing contextually relevant semantic information, and the model can be built and trained based on data features in the text. The body of ELMo is a two-layer Bi-LSTM language model, as shown in Figure 1.

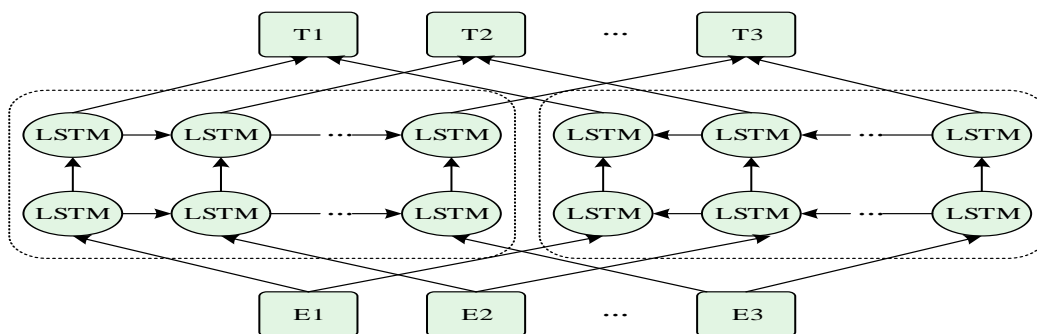


Figure 1: ELMo language model diagram

The ELMo model uses a two-layer long and short-term memory network linguistic structure in order to obtain a better representation of word vectors and to characterize the input text data more

accurately. Its core is a Bi-LSTM combining forward and backward transfer, from which the obtained bidirectional word vectors are computed cumulatively to obtain the most similar results.

Suppose a text S consists of N words, i.e. $S = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$.

The forward-passing language model predicts the probability $P(e_k)$ by the first $k-1$ words with the formula:

$$p(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) = \prod_{k=1}^n p(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{k-1}) \quad (1)$$

The backward language model is calculated according to the following equation:

$$p(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) = \prod_{k=1}^n p(e_k | e_{k+1}, e_{k+2}, \dots, e_n) \quad (2)$$

The sum of the forward-backward LSTM model is shown in the following equation:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \left(\log p(e_k | e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{k-1}; \bar{\theta}^{\text{f}}) + \log p(e_k | e_{k+1}, e_{k+2}, \dots, e_n; \bar{\theta}^{\text{s}}) \right) \quad (3)$$

where $\bar{\theta}^{\text{f}}$ is the parameter of the forward model and $\bar{\theta}^{\text{s}}$ is the parameter of the backward model.

After completing the pre-training, ELMo will perform the summation operation for each intermediate layer in the two-way long and short-term memory network model and output to the downstream task to obtain the new assigned weights, as shown in the following equation:

$$R_k = \left\{ e_k^{\text{f}}, h_{k,j}^{\text{f}}, h_{k,j}^{\text{s}} \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, n \right\} \quad (4)$$

$$ELMo_k = E(R_k; \Theta) = \sum_{j=0}^L s_j h_{k,j} \quad (5)$$

BERT combines two tasks, MLM and NSP, to pre-train Transformer's coding layer. Randomly masking 15% of the words. Assuming that the number of masked words in a training data is 2, a total of 3 losses are included. The first loss is the classification task loss $Loss_1$, and the second and third losses are the task losses $Loss_2$ and $Loss_3$ for predicting the blocked words. The objective function is the sum of all losses. Finally, gradient descent is used to adjust the parameters of the model to achieve the best performance.

A very large dataset is used to train BERT, which makes BERT applicable to several tasks in the

NLP domain. A little more conveniently, the pre-trained BERT model can be called directly to process the input text data. The BERT model can also be fine-tuned for different tasks to achieve the best training results.

The execution process of BERT model can be understood as partitioning the text data into a training data set, in which two sentences are randomly selected for splicing process, and then dividing the training set into two parts according to the ratio of 1:1 for sequentially adjacent and sequentially disjoint sentences in the utterance. The labels of two adjacent sentences are denoted by 1, and the labels of non-adjacent sentences are denoted by 0. The training data is processed by the word embedding layer and then transmitted to the encoding layer of Transformer to generate an output sequence of exactly the same length as the input sentence sequence. The output sequence contains the information of all the elements of the input sequence, which can clearly represent the relationship between two input sentences, so that the output elements can be used to determine whether the two input sentences have an adjacent relationship. Finally, the output elements are put into a binary classifier, which outputs a prediction value between 0 and 1.

ALBERT model

The number of parameters of the BERT model is very large, and a large-scale dataset is used in training, which makes training the model costly in terms of time and high cost. The parameter comparison of the two models is shown in Table 1. The ALBERT model can better improve the problem of the efficiency of the original model operation, and its presence makes the model reduce the training time of the model and improve the training effect while significantly reducing the parameter size.

Table 1: BERT and ALBERT model parameter comparison table

Model		Number of layers	Hide layers	Input layer	Parameter
BERT	base	12	768	768	108 M
	Large	24	1024	1024	334 M
	xlarge	24	2048	2048	1270 M
ALBERT	base	12	768	128	12 M
	Large	24	1024	128	18 M
	xlarge	24	2048	128	59 M
	xxlarge	12	4096	128	233 M

The ALBERT model is derived from the lightweight BERT model, and its basic structure is similar to that of the BERT model, and the main problems faced by the pre-trained model are solved by reducing the model parameters. The main improvements are as follows:

(1) Decomposition of word embedding parameters. the ALBERT model decomposes the input One-hot vector into two low-dimensional matrices instead of passing it directly through the hidden layer, so that the input word vector is mapped to two low-dimensional word vector matrices and

then passed to the hidden layer. This way of factorization enables a significant reduction in the size of the parameters used in the data transformation of the input text information.

(2) Inter-sentence coherence loss (SOP) is used instead of next statement prediction loss (NSP) used by BERT. The positive samples are selected in the same way as BERT, but the negative samples are selected by swapping two sequential consecutive segments of the order, focusing only on the semantic fluency between sentences.

(3) Realize parameter sharing. The number of parameters is greatly reduced by sharing parameters between layers. The structure of ALBERT model and BERT-large model is similar, but the difference in parameter size is very large, the number of parameters in ALBERT is only 12 M, while the number of parameters in BERT-large model is much larger.

SABL model

In response to the Bi-LSTM model linking contextual contexts leads to long training time and does not consider lexical sentiment weight assignment. Therefore, this chapter proposes the SABL model, which is based on the Bi-LSTM model and incorporates the first improved hybrid self-attentiveness to focus on the semantically salient words in the utterance as a way to enhance the model. the overall architecture of the SABL model is shown in Figure 2.

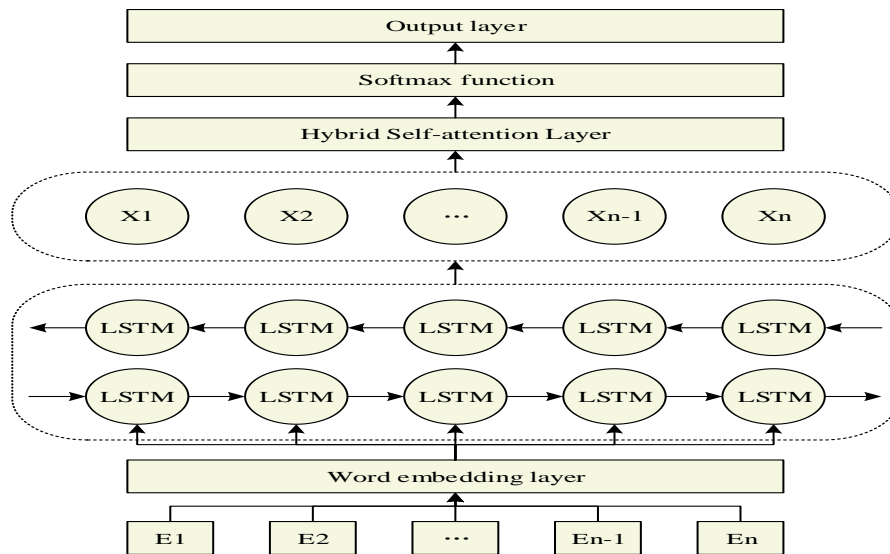


Figure 2: SABL sentiment analysis model

Two-way LSTM layer

The Bi-LSTM layer is mainly used to compute hidden representations of input word vectors by capturing long-term interactions between fused input values. The BLSTM model contains two long and short-term memory networks, an LSTM that obtains forward information through forward

transfer and an LSTM that makes the final word vector also have reverse transfer of information from previous word vectors. It is able to simultaneously model past and future information. It is able to model both past and future information, compute the information in the current moment, and obtain feature representations in the linked context.

The Bi-LSTM layer contains 128 neuron units, and 128 hidden neurons output feature vectors of the same size for downstream tasks. After BiLSTM layer compilation can make the word vector learn the connection between contextual semantics sufficiently, which is calculated as shown in the following equation:

$$Z_t = [LSTM(); LSTM()] \quad (6)$$

Z_t represents the state representation of the hidden unit in the LSTM at moment t , $\overline{LSTM}()$ represents the neural network with forward transmission, and $\overleftarrow{LSTM}()$ represents the neural network with reverse transmission, and finally the nodes of the two moments are integrated to calculate the information of the current moment t and extract the contextual features in the sequence data for output.

Hybrid Self-Attention Mechanism Layer

Attention mechanism can focus on the important information in the text, therefore, in order to better extract the data features of the text in the sentiment analysis task, the attention weight in different words is obtained by using Attention mechanism to emphasize its importance and make the best training effect.

The hybrid self-attention mechanism layer uses a soft attention mechanism combined with a hard attention mechanism to introduce a sparse matrix on top of the original one to enhance the weight of important information and alleviate the problem of too much information of trivial weights generated during the calculation of the softmax function. And the matrices of information enhancement and information reduction are constructed and then normalized to represent to obtain the hybrid self-attentive matrix with two-way information enhancement.

The information enhancement matrix equation is:

$$A^+ = \frac{\exp(A^+)}{\sum_{q=0}^n \exp(A^+)} \quad (7)$$

The information reduction matrix equation is:

$$A^- = \frac{\exp(A^-)}{\sum_{q=0}^n \exp(A^-)} \quad (8)$$

Finally, the information enhancement matrix and the information reduction matrix are fused to form the final hybrid attention matrix as shown in the following equation:

$$A = Add\left(Sub\left(A_L, A^- \right), A^+ \right) \tag{9}$$

Output layer

The role of the output layer is to mix the word vector obtained from the attention mechanism layer using the activation function for the corresponding calculation, and finally use the classifier for sentiment classification, so as to output the text sentiment polarity, the formula is:

$$y = \text{soft max} (x_i) = \frac{\exp(x_i)}{\sum_i \exp(x_j)} \tag{10}$$

Based on ALBERT-SABL model

The ALBERT model is derived from BERT, which makes the model algorithm more streamlined and overcomes the problem of difficulty in extending the model due to the reduced number of parameters. Based on this, this paper introduces the ALBERT model to propose a pre-trained SABL sentiment analysis model based on it. The pre-training model ALBERT is added to the SABL model to obtain a better word vector representation in the data pre-processing stage. The general architecture of the model is shown in Figure 3.

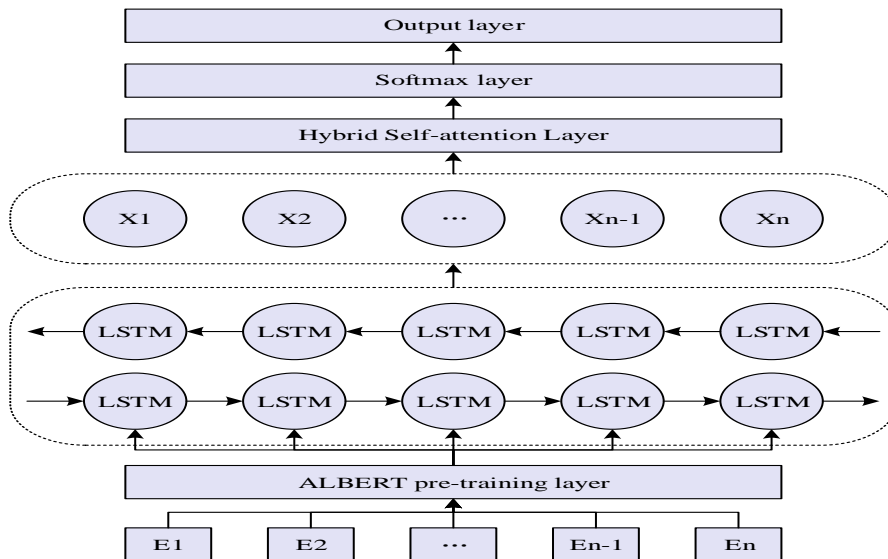


Figure 3: ALBERT-SABL sentiment analysis model

The pre-training based SABL model consists of the following main components.

(1) Input layer

The collected text data is simply cleaned and then transmitted to the pre-training layer.

(2) ALBERT layer

The pre-training model enables initialization of text data and effectively avoids data overfitting to obtain a more general language representation.

(3) Bidirectional long- and short-term memory layer

The pre-trained processed word vectors are fed into the long and short-term memory network layer.

(4) Hybrid Self-attention layer

The hybrid Self-attention mechanism is combined with bidirectional positive and negative matrices to better understand the meaning of utterances, while also taking into account the effect of distance on the training effect.

(5) Output layer

The word vectors generated by each layer of the structure are integrated and the word vectors from the last layer of the neural network are computed to produce the final result indicating the emotional attitude of the user.

ALBERT layer

The main function of the word embedding layer is to serialize the input text information and transform the words in the text data into word vectors. The training of ALBERT model depends on a large amount of data and powerful computing power, so this paper applies the pre-trained ALBERT model provided by Google and fine-tunes it on the given model. Since the size of the dataset is not very large, the ALBERT base model with a small number of parameters is used in this paper.

SABL layer

An already constructed SABL model is used. The Bi-LSTM, a bi-directional long and short-term memory network, is used as the main model architecture to capture the long-term interactions between fused input values to compute the hidden representation of the input word vector. A hybrid self-attentive mechanism model is used at the next level to focus on the focal information, and the sparsity of the attention matrix is constructed using the distance information between words and the weight information of attention. And the performance of the model is optimized by combining the relatively stable environment provided by the soft attention mechanism, which helps the model to extract the bi-directional information of the sentences.

The structure of the Bi-LSTM layer contains 128 neuron units, and 128 hidden neurons output

feature vectors of the same size for downstream tasks. After compiling the Bi-LSTM layer can make the word vectors fully learn the connection between contextual semantics, which is calculated as shown in the following equation:

$$h_i = [LSTM(), LSTM()] \tag{11}$$

The hybrid self-attention mechanism layer constructs the matrices of information enhancement and information reduction, and then performs the normalized representation to obtain the bi-directional information-enhanced hybrid self-attention matrix.

Fully connected layer

Here the softmax activation function is used for classification, and the formula is:

$$f(x_i) = \frac{\exp(x_i)}{\sum_j \exp(x_j)} \tag{12}$$

Also use the binary cross first as the loss function to train the model in this paper, the larger the difference between the predicted probability and the actual result, the higher the value of the loss function, the specific formula is:

$$loss = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i [\log(p(x_i)) + (1-x_i) \log(1-p(x_i))] \tag{13}$$

Parameter setting

In this paper, the specific parameters of the model are selected, the word vector dimension is 768, the Bi-LSTM hidden layer nodes are set to 128, the initial learning rate is set to 0.001, the number of iterations is set to 30, and the Batchsize value is 32. Adam is used as the optimizer.

In addition, the model will be fine-tuned during the experiment to make it perform better in the SA task. The specific parameters of the model are set as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Model parameter table

Parameter name	Parameter settings
Word vector dimension	768
Hide layers	128
Learning rate	0.001
iterate	30
Batchsize	32
Optimizer	Adam

Social Change and the Qing Dynasty Ballad Novel

Changes in literary thought under social change

The Qing Dynasty was the eve of the transition from a traditional agricultural society to an industrial society, with the further development of social productivity and changes in production relations. The sprout of capitalism began to appear, the citizen class emerged, and people's thoughts began to break through the heavy fetters of feudalism. Politically, the opposition to feudal dictatorship began to rise. For example, Gu Xiancheng, Gu Yuncheng, Gao Panlong, Zuo Guangdou, Zhao Nanxing, etc. mostly held the view that the emperor should take the world as a public tool instead of a private one. Most of the female writers of the play were from southern families of officials and red squires, and they had the opportunity to come into contact with officials or literati. The author of "Heavenly Rain Flowers" always commented on things from the standpoint of the Donglin Party; the author of "Regeneration", Chen Duan-sheng, once "served her father in eunuchs"; the author of "Reclaiming Heaven", Hou Zhi, had a father who served as a magistrate and governor; and the author of "The Legend of Jingzhong", Zhou Yingfang, had a father and husband who were both officials. The personal experiences of these authors show that women writers had the opportunity to be influenced by these emerging social trends.

Analysis of the creation of playful novels

From the late Ming Dynasty to the Shengqing Dynasty, the main body of women's literature changed significantly, with talented women shifting from the famous prostitute tradition to the boudoir tradition. According to the bibliography of Hu Shiyong's "The Bibliography of the Bullet Scroll", there are more than 400 titles of bullet works, and as many as 50 or 60 kinds of bullet works as long novels in rhyming style, and among these 50 or 60 kinds, most of them come from female writers, such as "Dream in the Mirror", "Nine Pillow Fox", "Heavenly Rain Flower", "Regenerative Edge", "Flower in the Pen", "Zixuji", "Feng Shuangfei", "Durian Flower Dream", "Dream Shadow Edge", etc. The last names of female writers are Tao. The surnames of female writers are Tao Zhenhui, Liang Dejian, Chen Duangsheng, Hou Zhi, Qiu Xinru, Zheng Tanruo, Li Guiyu, Sun Deying, Zhou Yingfang, Cheng Huiying, Qiu Jin, Jiang Yingqing, etc. Most of them are women from the boudoir of Jiangnan. The descriptions of scenery with female characteristics indicate that the works are written by the hands of boudoir girls.

AIBERT-SABL based female image study

Based on the AIBERT-SABL model, this paper presents an emotional analysis of Qing dynasty ballad novels and related literary criticism texts, studying the image of women in ballad novels under the influence of social change in three aspects: democratic ideology, commodity economy, and female consciousness, respectively.

Analysis of Democratic Thought and the Image of Women's Political Participation

The spread of democratic ideas in the Qing dynasty prompted the emergence of a large number of

literary images of women participating in politics in bullet novels. The textual analysis based on the AIBERT-SABL model briefly summarizes these images into two categories: political participation in the guise of men and direct political participation in the capacity of women, among which political participation in the guise of men can be divided into two kinds of resistance to the end and partial compromise, while direct political participation in the capacity of women can be divided into two kinds of behind-the-scenes political participation and military power. The development of the above-mentioned different images of women's participation in politics is shown in Figure 4. In the early Qing dynasty, 29.51% of the women in the fictional play pretending to be men in politics and being exposed chose to resist to the end and 32.81% chose to partially compromise. Meanwhile, 37.68% of the novels portrayed women who directly participated in politics as women. By the late Qing dynasty, the image of women who pretended to be men to participate in politics was 7 percentage points higher compared to the early Qing dynasty. It can be seen that, on the whole, the image of women's political participation in Qing dynasty bombshell novels has been stereotyped since the early period, and the image of women's political participation is still dependent on men due to the limitations of the time.

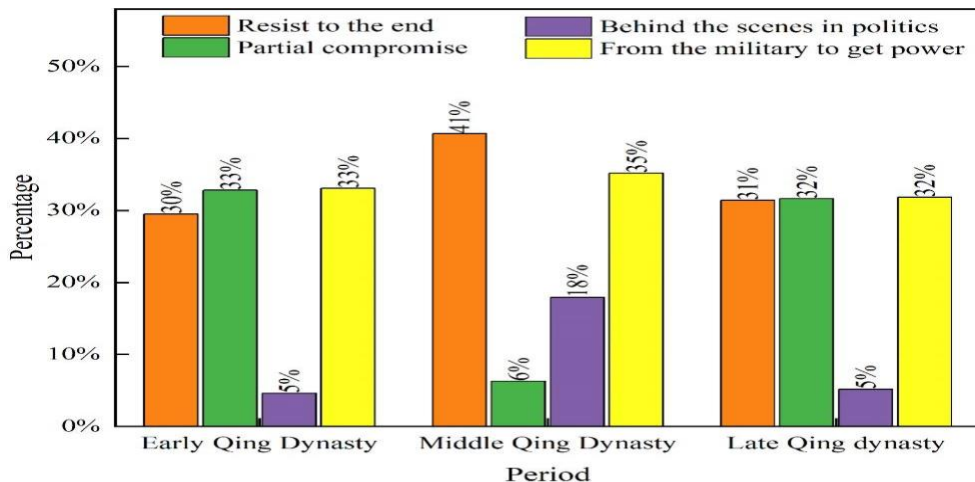


Figure 4: The development and change of different images of women in politics

Analysis of the commodity economy and the image of women's economic independence

With the further development of the commodity economy and the further liberation of productivity in the Qing Dynasty, more and more women began to seek protection of their economic rights and interests, which also influenced the image of women in ballad novels. The text analysis based on the AIBERT-SABL model divides the images of women seeking economic rights and interests in the play-word novels into protecting their dowry, disguised inheritance rights and interests, and full economic independence. The changing images of women seeking economic rights and interests are shown in Figure 5. In the early Qing dynasty, the image of women seeking economic rights and interests in bullet novels, 32.91% depicted women who tried to protect their

dowry, 39.86% m depicted women who inherited their father's economic rights and interests in disguise through various means, and 27.24% depicted women who were fully economically independent through labor to obtain income. With the development of society, more and more images of women pursuing full economic independence emerged, with 8.44% higher in the mid-Qing Dynasty than in the early period, and 26.22% higher in the late period than in the mid period. This also reflects the expectations of women in real society for emancipation of productive forces and economic independence and autonomy.

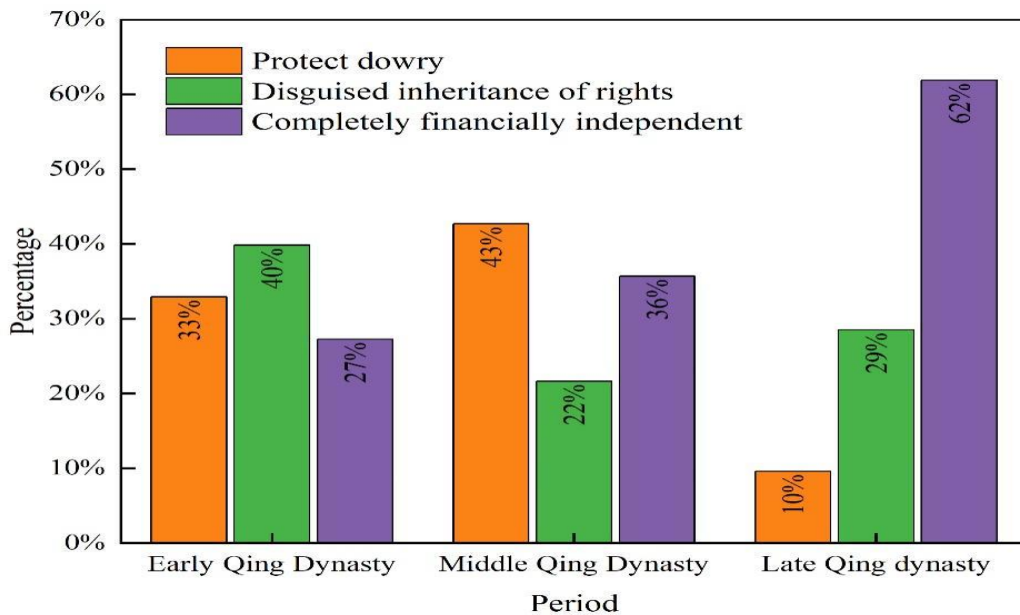


Figure 5: Changes in the image of women fighting for economic rights

Analysis of Affirmative Thought and Women's Struggle for Feminist Image

In feudal society, women had no independent personality and their status was far inferior to that of men. With the introduction of the idea of egalitarianism, bullet novels also began to portray women who fought for women's rights. The textual analysis based on the AIBERT-SABL model divides these images into three main categories, which demand equal treatment for the relationship with brothers. For the relationship with the father, the demand is to break away from total dependence. For the relationship with the husband, there is a demand for a peaceful relationship between husband and wife. The changing image of women fighting for women's rights is shown in Figure 6. In the early Qing Dynasty, 32.18% of the portrayals of women fighting for equal status in bullet novels focused on the portrayal of women demanding equal treatment with their brothers, 53.78% on the portrayal of women demanding freedom from personal dependence in their families of origin, and 14.04% on the portrayal of women demanding equal power between husband and wife. By the late Qing Dynasty, the first category of images declined by 20.22%, the second category

by 7.09%, and the third category by 27.31%.

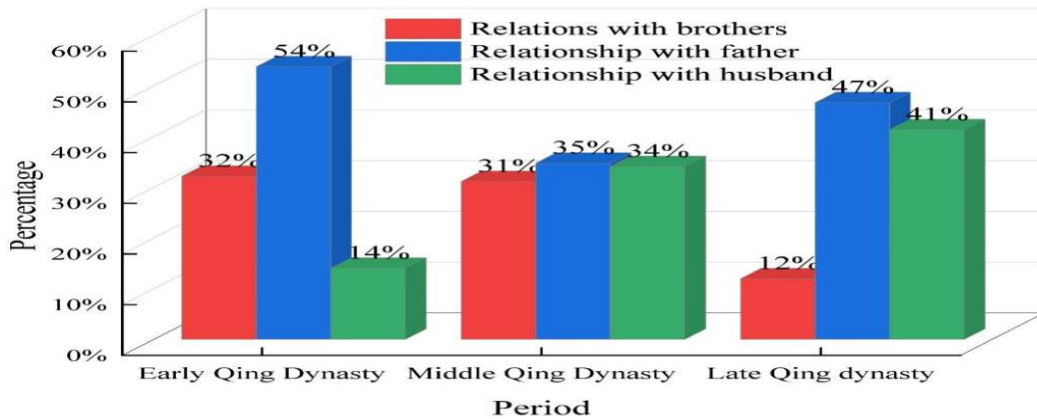


Figure 6: Changes in the image of women fighting for women's rights

Conclusion

Based on the AIBERT-SABL model, this paper analyzes the emotional analysis of the original text and literary criticism texts of Qing dynasty bullet novels, and analyzes the changes in the image of women in bullet novels under the influence of social change in three aspects: women's participation in politics, women's fight for economic rights and women's fight for women's rights. From the early to the middle and then to the late Qing dynasty, the image of women pursuing full economic independence increased by 8.44% and 26.22%, respectively. This study draws the following conclusions:

- (1) These female figures highlight the potential power of women. Whether they gained the opportunity to appear on stage by disguising themselves as men or were forced by current events to take the stage in women's clothing, their wonderful performances have left a deep impression on readers for centuries. All of these reflect the writers' desire for equal status and equal rights for men and women. Although it is impossible to realize in a male-dominated society, the fact that the ballad opens the eyes of women is ultimately a great pleasure, and it also increases the confidence and courage of women of the present and future generations to compete with men on the same stage and compete with each other.
- (2) These female images enrich the characters in literary works. In traditional literary works, women are all gentle women, who look like sinking fish and falling geese, close the moon and blush the flowers, and are proficient in music, chess, calligraphy and painting. These all-embracing clay beauties lack a sense of dexterity and are very boring. Likewise, if the works are conquering the sands and the heroic character of the women, it is felt that there is more exuberance but not enough substance, more roughness but not enough delicacy. The women of the play find a better balance between these two opposing personalities.

(3) These female figures serve as an inspiration to men. In a positive sense, their existence is a sign of the country's unrestrained talent, while in a negative sense, it shows the embarrassing situation of male weakness and the decline of national power. The deeds of the female figures will serve as an incentive for them to encourage the men to catch up and regain the weakness.



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