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Modernization Process and Sino-French Civilizational Changes from a Digital Humanities Perspective: Marking the 60th Anniversary of Sino-French Diplomatic Relations

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Abstract

This paper aims to explore the civilizational changes and interactive relationships between China and France during the modernization process from the perspective of digital humanities, particularly focusing on the significant historical milestone of the 60th anniversary of Sino-French diplomatic relations. By systematically reviewing key events, cultural characteristics, and mutual influences in the modernization journeys of China and France, this study reveals the critical role that digital technology has played in this process. The findings indicate that digital humanities not only provide new research methods and tools for understanding the civilizational changes of both countries but also foster cross-cultural dialogue and understanding, thereby enhancing and reshaping cultural identity. The paper also anticipates the potential of digital humanities in promoting Sino-French cultural exchange and cooperation, offering specific recommendations such as enhancing digital resource sharing, promoting interdisciplinary research, and driving the integration and development of cultural industries. Overall, this study not only enriches the theoretical discussions on civilizational changes in the context of modernization but also provides new insights into Sino-French cultural exchange and cooperation in the era of globalization.

Keywords: Digital humanities, modernization process, Sino-French civilizational changes, cross-cultural exchange, cultural identity reshaping, digital technology, 60th anniversary of Sino-French diplomatic relations, globalization context

Introduction

Since the 16th century, human society has undergone a profound transformation, evolving from an agricultural society to an industrial society, and subsequently to an information society. This transformation has not only significantly enhanced productivity but also deeply altered social structures, political systems, and cultural values. The vast Eurasian continent is the cradle of human civilization, with China and Europe positioned at opposite ends. Both are major forces driving multipolarity, key markets supporting globalization, and advocates of cultural diversity. How China and Europe interact and act directly impacts the prosperity of the Eurasian continent and influences the global landscape.[1]During this process, China and France, as significant representatives of Eastern and Western civilizations, have each followed unique yet intertwined paths of modernization, engaging in extensive exchanges and cooperation under the broad context of globalization.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and France. This is not only a significant milestone in the history of bilateral relations but also an important opportunity to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. "History is the best teacher. The world today is fraught with challenges and risks. China is willing to work with France to carry forward the spirit of establishing diplomatic ties and to continuously advance the comprehensive strategic partnership between China and France, contributing to enhanced global cooperation." [2]

By adopting a digital humanities perspective, this paper aims to explore in depth the civilizational changes and mutual influences between China and France during the modernization process. Digital humanities, as an emerging interdisciplinary research field, utilizes digital technologies and methods to address questions in the humanities and social sciences, providing new perspectives for understanding history and society.

With the rapid development of digital technology, it has not only become a key force driving the modernization process but also provided new platforms and means for exchanges and cooperation between different civilizations. For example, digital archives have preserved and widely disseminated precious historical documents; online education platforms have facilitated the cross-border sharing of knowledge; and social media has deepened people's understanding and appreciation of different cultures.

This paper will focus on the following aspects:

- *Historical Background and Paths to Modernization:* Analyzing how China and France have each achieved modernization through different approaches since 1500, and exploring the key events and turning points in this process.

- *Application of Digital Humanities:* Introducing the specific applications of digital humanities in studying the modernization processes of China and France, including how technologies such as data visualization and text analysis help us better understand historical changes.
- *Cultural Exchange and Cooperation:* Exploring how digital technologies promote cultural exchange and cooperation between China and France under the globalization context, particularly in the fields of education, art, and cultural heritage preservation.
- *Future Prospects:* Based on current trends and developments, predicting the potential role and impact of digital humanities in future Sino-French cultural exchanges.

Through such discussions, this paper hopes to provide new perspectives on understanding civilizational changes in the modernization process and offer valuable suggestions and forward-thinking insights for future cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and France.

1. The Concept of Modernization and Its Historical Background

1.1 Definition and Characteristics of Modernization

Modernization is a multidimensional process of social change that involves transformations in economic, political, social, cultural, and technological aspects. This concept originated in 18th-century Europe, particularly in Western European countries like Britain and France, where the rise of industrialization and Enlightenment thought marked the beginning of modern society. The core characteristics of modernization include:

- *Industrialization:* The transition from handicraft production to large-scale mechanized production, which increased productivity and living standards.
- *Urbanization:* Along with industrialization, large populations migrated from rural areas to cities, promoting urban expansion and development.
- *Political Democratization:* Political systems gradually shifted from autocracy to democracy, with citizens' rights being safeguarded.
- *Social Welfare:* The establishment and improvement of social security systems aimed at reducing poverty and social inequality.
- *Application of Information Technology:* The development of information technology accelerated the flow of information and promoted the process of globalization.

1.2 Historical Background of Modernization in China and France

1.2.1 The Modernization Process in China

China's path to modernization has been a challenging journey. During the late Qing Dynasty, in response to the pressure from Western powers, China initiated the Self-Strengthening Movement,

aiming to enhance national power by learning Western technology and military strategies. However, this effort failed to prevent subsequent internal and external crises. The Xinhai Revolution overthrew the Qing Dynasty, ending over two thousand years of feudal rule, but China still faced fragmentation under warlord rule. The New Democratic Revolution further advanced social change, and after the founding of the People's Republic of China, the country entered a new stage of socialist construction. The implementation of the reform and opening-up policy ushered in an era of rapid economic growth, making China the world's second-largest economy.

Modernization is an inevitable trend in the forward progress of human history. The path of Chinese-style modernization was forged through profound social transformations in China, forming a discourse system with Chinese characteristics in the process of Chinese-style modernization. It has created a vision of harmony between humanity and nature and comprehensive social development, laying a solid foundation for achieving common prosperity, promoting the coordinated development of material and spiritual civilization, accelerating the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and opening a new realm of human civilization progress.[3]

1.2.2 The Modernization Process in France

In contrast, France's modernization process has been more continuous and stable. The French Revolution at the end of the 18th century not only overthrew the old regime but also laid the foundation for the republican system, establishing the principles of human rights and the rule of law. The subsequent Napoleonic era further consolidated the centralized administrative system and promoted the Napoleonic Code, which had a profound influence on many countries. The industrial revolution that began in the mid-19th century significantly advanced France's economic development and social progress. After World War II, France experienced a period of rapid economic growth known as the "Glorious Thirty," during which it established a comprehensive welfare state system and achieved remarkable success in culture, education, and other fields.

1.3 Commonalities and Differences in the Modernization of China and France

Despite the differences in the paths of modernization in China and France, both countries have undergone significant transformations from traditional to modern societies. The commonalities include:

- *Political System Transformation:* Both countries experienced a shift from monarchy to republicanism.
- *Economic Structural Change:* Industrialization and urbanization became important forces driving social progress.
- *Cultural Ideological Renewal:* Enlightenment thought and socialist ideas manifested in both China and France, promoting ideological liberation and social progress.

The differences are reflected in:

- ***Starting Time:*** France's modernization process began earlier, while China's modernization was initiated under external pressure.
- ***Development Speed:*** France's modernization was relatively gradual, whereas China's modernization saw explosive growth after the reform and opening-up period.
- ***Social Structure:*** France's social structure remained more stable during modernization, while China's social structure underwent more dramatic changes.

China and France have each displayed unique characteristics and paths in their modernization processes, continuously exploring development models suited to their national contexts. In today's increasingly globalized world, exchanges and cooperation between the two countries have become increasingly important, especially in the field of digital humanities, as it not only deepens mutual understanding but also helps to promote civilizational exchanges and mutual learning on a global scale.

2. Digital Humanities and the Modernization Process

2.1 Definition and Development of Digital Humanities

Digital humanities is an emerging interdisciplinary research field that focuses on using digital technologies, methods, and tools to address questions in the humanities. It integrates knowledge from computer science, information technology, and the humanities, providing unprecedented perspectives and methodologies for humanities research. With the rapid development of technologies such as big data, cloud computing, and artificial intelligence, digital humanities not only play a significant role in academic research but also demonstrate immense potential in cultural heritage preservation and policy-making.

The development of digital humanities can be traced back to the "Computational Humanities" of the 1950s, which primarily involved statistical analysis of large textual datasets using computer assistance. As technology advanced, digital humanities expanded into broader areas such as digital library construction, cultural heritage digitization, and virtual reality reconstructions. In recent years, with the rise of mobile internet, social media, and the application of artificial intelligence, the scope of digital humanities research has further expanded, encompassing fields such as cross-cultural comparative studies, sentiment analysis, and cyberculture research.

2.2 Application of Digital Humanities in the Modernization Process

2.2.1 Understanding Historical Changes

The application of digital humanities in the modernization process helps us better understand the transitions in history, culture, and society. By digitizing historical documents, archives, images,

and other materials, researchers can use techniques such as data visualization and text mining to reveal patterns and trends hidden within historical records. For example, in studying the historical context of Sino-French diplomatic relations, digitalized diplomatic documents and news reports can be analyzed to trace the evolution of bilateral relations and explore the impact of key events.

2.2.2 Cultural Heritage Preservation and Innovation

Digital humanities also promote the preservation and innovation of cultural heritage. Through technologies like digital preservation, virtual reality (VR), and augmented reality (AR), cultural heritage can be presented to the public in more vivid and intuitive ways. For instance, VR technology can be used to reconstruct iconic historical and cultural sites in China and France, such as the Forbidden City in China and the Palace of Versailles in France, allowing people to experience the unique charm of these cultural heritages in a virtual environment. Moreover, digital humanities can assist in preserving and revitalizing intangible cultural heritage, such as traditional music, dance, and oral literature, through audio and video recordings that ensure their transmission to future generations.

2.2.3 Education and Public Engagement

Digital humanities have widespread applications in the field of education, particularly by offering rich resources and interactive learning environments through online courses and virtual laboratories. For example, China and France can jointly develop online courses to explore similar challenges and solutions faced during their modernization processes, enhancing mutual understanding and respect among students from both countries. Additionally, through social media and open data platforms, the public can participate in cultural heritage preservation, becoming an integral part of cultural transmission.

Clearly, digital humanities not only provide powerful tools for academic research but also open new avenues for cultural preservation and innovation. As technology continues to advance, digital humanities will play an increasingly important role in promoting Sino-French cultural exchange and cooperation, contributing to cultural diversity and sustainable development globally.

3. Civilizational Changes and Interactions in the Modernization Process of China and France

3.1 Civilizational Changes in China's Modernization Process

China's modernization process is a complex and lengthy journey, accompanied by profound social changes and civilizational transformations. Since 1500, China has undergone a shift from a

feudal society to a modern society, a process marked by both the continuity of tradition and the absorption and integration of foreign cultures. The Chinese path to modernization is deeply rooted in the soil of Chinese traditional culture. Chinese-style modernization is not a result of external ideologies or foreign cultures; it is based on China's unique national conditions and reflects the unity of universality and particularity in modernization. It represents the practical and specific manifestation of socialist modernization in China. A certain level of civilization is the product of cultural development reaching a specific historical stage and is a significant marker of a modernized nation. The rich traditional Chinese culture, which has penetrated the marrow of the Chinese nation, has developed an independent, stable, and comprehensive ideological system over 5,000 years. This cultural heritage subtly influences the choices made by the Chinese people in the path of modernization. The excellent traditional Chinese culture is a valuable historical and cultural legacy left by our ancestors, which we must strive to protect as the "root and soul" of Chinese-style modernization.[4]

3.1.1 Inheritance and Innovation of Traditional Culture

China's deep cultural heritage has provided a solid foundation for its modernization process. During the transition from traditional culture to modern culture, China has preserved its valuable traditional cultural heritage while also absorbing advanced foreign cultural elements, such as calligraphy, painting, poetry, and traditional festivals. Since the reform and opening-up, China's economy has grown rapidly, society has undergone profound changes, and the cultural field has shown a trend towards diversification. The application of digital technology has presented new opportunities and challenges for the preservation and innovation of Chinese culture. For example, the application of digitization technology has enabled the preservation and widespread dissemination of many precious historical documents and artworks, thereby enhancing national cultural confidence.

3.1.2 Cultural Diversification After the Reform and Opening-Up

Since the reform and opening-up, China has undergone tremendous changes in its economy and society, which have been accompanied by a trend towards cultural diversification. The introduction of Western culture and ideas, along with exchanges and interactions with global cultures, has made Chinese society more open and inclusive. At the same time, with the widespread use of the internet, digital media has become an important vehicle for cultural dissemination, accelerating the flow of information and promoting cultural innovation and diversified development.

3.1.3 The Role of Digital Technology in Cultural Preservation and Innovation

Digital technology plays a crucial role in the preservation and innovation of Chinese culture. For

example, digital museum projects allow historical artifacts and artworks to be displayed online, making them accessible to a wider audience. Additionally, through methods of digital humanities such as text analysis and data visualization, researchers can gain a deeper understanding of the essence of traditional culture and integrate it with modern life, creating new works that align with contemporary aesthetics.

3.2 Civilizational Changes in France's Modernization Process

France's modernization process has also been accompanied by civilizational changes. From the Enlightenment to the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and contemporary society, France has consistently pursued liberty, equality, and fraternity, remaining at the forefront of intellectual liberation and cultural innovation, exerting a profound influence on the world. During this process, French culture has continuously absorbed the essence of foreign cultures while also spreading its values and cultural achievements to the world. The application of digital technology has injected new vitality into the preservation and innovation of French culture, making France shine even more brightly on the global cultural stage.

3.2.1 The Influence of the Enlightenment and the French Revolution

The rationalism and humanism of the Enlightenment brought about profound intellectual transformations in France. Thinkers of this era advocated for the principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity, which later became the core values of the French Revolution. The revolution not only transformed France's political and social structure but also had lasting global impacts.

3.2.2 The Industrial Revolution and the Formation of Modern Society

The advent of the Industrial Revolution marked France's transition from an agricultural society to an industrial society. The industrialization process during this period greatly increased productivity and promoted urbanization, forming the basic framework of modern society. During this process, French culture also underwent profound transformations, with emerging art forms and the application of new technologies enriching the cultural landscape.

3.2.3 Application of Digital Technology in Cultural Preservation and Innovation

The application of digital technology offers new possibilities for the preservation and innovation of French culture. For example, through digital archives and online databases, people can easily access France's rich cultural heritage, including historical documents, artworks, and scientific works. Moreover, research methods in digital humanities are widely applied in the preservation and study of cultural heritage, where data analysis and visualization techniques enable researchers to uncover new trends in cultural development.

3.3 Interaction Between Chinese and French Civilizations in the Modernization Process

The interaction between China and France during their respective modernization processes has a long history, especially in the cultural realm. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and France in 1964, exchanges and cooperation between the two countries in political, economic, and cultural spheres have become increasingly close.

3.3.1 Cultural Exchange and Cooperation

The cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and France have not only facilitated mutual understanding of each other's cultures but also promoted cultural innovation. For instance, joint exhibitions, cultural festivals, and other events organized by the two countries have not only showcased their unique cultural heritages but also fostered artistic exchanges and integration. The application of digital technology has further strengthened these exchanges, making it easier for people from both nations to access each other's culture.

3.3.2 The Role of Digital Technology in Cultural Exchange

Digital technology has provided new platforms and channels for Sino-French cultural exchanges. Through digital means, the two countries can share cultural resources more efficiently, such as online exhibitions and virtual museums, enabling cultural heritage to transcend geographical boundaries and reach a wider audience. Furthermore, social media and online forums have become important venues for people from both countries to exchange ideas and share experiences, deepening mutual understanding and friendship.

China and France have each undergone profound civilizational changes during their modernization processes and have strengthened cultural exchanges and cooperation through various means. Digital humanities not only offer new tools and methods for the preservation and innovation of culture in both countries but also open up infinite possibilities for deepening Sino-French cultural exchanges and cooperation. In the future, with the continuous development of digital technology, the interaction between China and France in the cultural field will become even closer, contributing to the advancement of human civilization as a whole.

4. Sino-French Civilizational Exchange from the Perspective of Digital Humanities

4.1 Application of Digital Technology in Cultural Exchange

The core of digital humanities research lies in digitizing research objects to support, safeguard, and innovate the content, methods, and models of humanities research. These research objects

include various computable basic data objects such as free text, formatted data, images, sounds, etc. The computations performed on these data include text analysis and retrieval, map visualization, audio and video retrieval, among others.[5]The application of digital technology in cultural exchange has significantly broadened the boundaries of cultural exchange, freeing it from the limitations of physical space and time. In the context of Sino-French cultural exchange, the application of digital technology is reflected in several areas:

4.1.1 Digital Archives and Online Exhibitions

The establishment of digital archives has enabled the preservation and widespread dissemination of a vast number of historical documents, artworks, and cultural heritage items. For example, through high-resolution scanning technology, the historical documents and artworks of both China and France can be accurately digitized and displayed online, allowing more people to access and appreciate these valuable cultural assets. Online exhibitions, utilizing virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies, offer an immersive viewing experience, enabling audiences to feel the charm of the exhibits even from thousands of miles away.

4.1.2 Online Education and Distance Learning

The development of online education platforms has provided new avenues for cultural exchange between China and France. Through online courses and distance learning programs, students and scholars can learn each other's languages, cultures, and histories without being limited by geographical location. For instance, universities in China and France can jointly develop online courses to explore the commonalities and differences in their modernization processes, thereby enhancing mutual understanding.

4.1.3 Social Media and Online Communities

Social media platforms provide convenient channels for exchanges between the people of China and France. Through social networks such as Weibo, WeChat, and Facebook, individuals can share their cultural experiences and exchange ideas and perspectives. These platforms not only facilitate the rapid dissemination of cultural information but also deepen mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

4.2 Digital Dissemination of Literary Works and Cultural Products

In the era of big data, digital humanities assist literary research in navigating between texts and contexts with extensive, multi-layered, multi-source, and multi-form information support, achieving high-quality research data and statistical analysis results, thereby realizing the pursuit of "expansiveness and precision" in literary studies.[6]Literary works and cultural products are important carriers of cultural exchange, and the application of digital technology has greatly facilitated their dissemination.

4.2.1 Digital Publishing of Literary Works

Digital publishing allows literary works to be widely disseminated in the form of e-books. Whether it is Chinese classical literature or modern French novels, they can be easily accessed through e-book platforms. Additionally, the development of translation software has enabled more readers to access works that were previously difficult to reach due to language barriers, thereby promoting the cross-cultural dissemination of literary works.

4.2.2 Online Sales and Promotion of Cultural Products

E-commerce platforms provide new sales channels for cultural products from China and France. Through these platforms, handicrafts, artworks, and other creative products can be sold worldwide. For example, Chinese ceramics and French hand-painted porcelain can be purchased and collected by consumers around the world through e-commerce platforms. This form of exchange not only promotes cultural dissemination but also creates income sources for artists and craftsmen.

4.3 Cross-Cultural Dialogue and Understanding

Cross-cultural dialogue and understanding are core elements in promoting cultural exchange. The application of digital technology plays a crucial role in this aspect.

4.3.1 Virtual Conferences and Seminars

Virtual conferences and online seminars break down geographical barriers, allowing researchers, scholars, and cultural workers from China and France to communicate more frequently. These activities not only facilitate the sharing of knowledge but also enhance mutual understanding and respect among participants.

4.3.2 Multilingual Translation Tools

The development of multilingual translation tools has made communication between different languages smoother. Whether it is online chatting, social media exchanges, or academic paper translations, automatic translation tools greatly reduce language barriers, promoting communication between people from different cultural backgrounds.

4.3.3 Live Streaming of Cultural Festivals

The live streaming of cultural festivals offers an opportunity for audiences who cannot attend in person to enjoy the events. Whether it is the Chinese Spring Festival Gala or the French National Day Parade, live streaming platforms allow viewers to enjoy these cultural feasts from their homes, experiencing the unique charm of the cultures of both countries.

In summary, digital technology plays an indispensable role in Sino-French cultural exchange. It not only enriches the forms and content of cultural exchange but also enhances its efficiency and effectiveness. Through digital means, China and France can more conveniently showcase their cultural achievements, spread their cultural values, and deepen mutual understanding and friendship. As technology continues to

advance, digital humanities will continue to provide new opportunities and support for Sino-French cultural exchange and cooperation.

5. The Reshaping and Inheritance of Cultural Identity

5.1 Reshaping of Cultural Identity

The modernization process has had a profound impact on cultural identity. In the context of globalization, the intermingling and mutual influence of different cultures have made the reshaping of cultural identity a significant issue. Both China and France face the challenge of reshaping their cultural identities in their modernization processes. Through digital means, we can gain a clearer understanding of our cultural roots and characteristics, enhancing cultural confidence and identity. At the same time, we can also enrich our cultural content and modes of expression by absorbing the essence of foreign cultures through cross-cultural dialogue and understanding.

5.1.1 Reshaping Cultural Identity from a Digital Humanities Perspective

The application of digital humanities technology provides new avenues for the reshaping of cultural identity. For example, through methods such as text analysis and data visualization, researchers can gain deeper insights into the cultural connotations in historical documents, literary works, and artistic creations, thereby revealing the evolution of cultural identity. Additionally, digital means can help people better understand their cultural roots and characteristics, strengthening cultural confidence.

5.1.2 Cross-Cultural Dialogue and Understanding

Cross-cultural dialogue and understanding are essential components of cultural identity reshaping. The application of digital technology provides new platforms for cross-cultural dialogue. Social media, online forums, and virtual meetings enable people from different cultural backgrounds to exchange ideas and experiences more conveniently. Such exchanges not only deepen mutual understanding and respect but also contribute to the enrichment and development of cultural identity.

5.1.3 Identity Recognition in Cultural Exchange

In the context of globalization, identity recognition in cultural exchange becomes particularly crucial. The application of digital technology not only promotes the dissemination of culture but also strengthens the sense of cultural identity. For example, through online exhibitions and virtual museums, people can engage directly with the cultural heritage of other countries. This interaction helps to enhance cultural recognition and pride.

5.2 Protection and Inheritance of Cultural Heritage

Cultural heritage is the treasure of national culture and the memory of history. In the modernization process, the protection and inheritance of cultural heritage are of paramount importance. Digital technology provides new solutions for the protection and inheritance of cultural heritage. Through digital means, we can carry out high-precision scanning, 3D reconstruction, and virtual displays of cultural heritage, achieving its digital preservation and transmission. Additionally, digital technology can be utilized to develop derivative products and cultural tourism projects based on cultural heritage, promoting its industrial development. In the context of Sino-French cultural exchange, both countries can work together on the digital protection and inheritance of cultural heritage, fostering the sharing and transmission of their cultural legacies.

5.2.1 Application of Digital Protection Technology

Digital technology provides strong support for the protection of cultural heritage. High-precision scanning, 3D reconstruction, and other technologies can transform cultural heritage into digital formats for permanent preservation. This digital protection not only prevents physical damage to cultural heritage but also facilitates subsequent research and dissemination.

5.2.2 Application of Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality

The application of virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies offers new ways of presenting cultural heritage. Through VR technology, people can "visit" historical scenes in a virtual environment, experiencing the unique charm of cultural heritage. AR technology, on the other hand, overlays virtual information in real-world scenes, providing intuitive support for interpreting cultural heritage. The application of these technologies not only enriches the forms of cultural heritage presentation but also enhances audience engagement.

5.2.3 Digital Dissemination and Sharing of Cultural Heritage

Digital dissemination facilitates the sharing of cultural heritage. Through online platforms, cultural heritage can be widely disseminated, allowing more people to learn about and appreciate it. For example, China and France can jointly establish an online cultural heritage database, making it easier for people from both countries to access, while also promoting international exchange and cooperation in cultural heritage.

5.2.4 Integration and Development of Cultural Industries

The protection and inheritance of cultural heritage is not only about preserving the past but also about integrating it into modern society and making it part of the cultural industry. The application of digital technology can lead to the development of various cultural heritage-related creative products and services, such as digital artworks and cultural tourism projects. These initiatives not only promote the active use of cultural heritage but also stimulate the development of related industries.

The above analysis shows that digital humanities technology plays an important role in the reshaping and

inheritance of cultural identity. In the context of globalization, both China and France need to continuously explore and practice to meet the demands of cultural transformation. By enhancing digital resource sharing, promoting interdisciplinary research, and driving the integration and development of cultural industries, China and France can not only better protect and inherit their respective cultural heritages but also promote cultural exchange and cooperation, jointly contributing to the development of human civilization. With the continuous advancement of digital technology, we have reason to believe that in future cultural exchanges and cooperation, digital humanities will continue to play an irreplaceable role.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Conclusion

This paper explores the civilizational changes and interactions between China and France during the modernization process from the perspective of digital humanities. The research shows that digital technology plays a significant role in cultural exchange, the dissemination of literary works and cultural products, cross-cultural dialogue and understanding, as well as the reshaping and inheritance of cultural identity. China and France have each undergone unique processes of civilizational change in their modernization journeys and have engaged in extensive exchanges and cooperation against the backdrop of globalization. Through the application and promotion of digital humanities technology, China and France can more conveniently share cultural resources, disseminate cultural achievements, and deepen mutual understanding and friendship. Sino-French cooperation is not limited to a specific stage, field, or market.

In the digital era, with the rapid updates and iterations of artificial intelligence, especially Artificial Intelligence Generated Content (AIGC) technology, China and France can continue to jointly produce more works that reflect the shared values of humanity, enriching the supply of content in the international market.[7]Specifically, digital humanities not only provide new research methods and tools for understanding the civilizational changes of both countries but also promote cross-cultural dialogue and understanding, enhancing cultural identity recognition and reshaping. For example, through digital means, China and France can more conveniently showcase their cultural achievements, spread their cultural values, and deepen mutual understanding and friendship. Furthermore, the application of digital technology offers new solutions for the protection and inheritance of cultural heritage, such as digital protection and virtual displays, which are important issues that both countries face during their modernization processes.

6.2 Outlook

Looking to the future, the role of digital humanities in the modernization process will become more prominent. With the continuous development and application of big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and other technologies, digital humanities will provide more convenient and efficient means for cultural exchange and cooperation. At the same time, we must pay attention to the potential issues and challenges in the application of digital humanities technology, such as the digital divide and information security concerns. Therefore, it is essential to strengthen international cooperation and exchange, jointly

promoting the healthy development and application of digital humanities technology.

In the context of Sino-French cultural exchange, we look forward to both countries continuing to deepen cooperation and exchange, jointly promoting the development and progress of human civilization. Specifically:

- ***Strengthening Digital Resource Sharing:*** China and France can jointly establish a digital cultural heritage database to promote the digital protection and inheritance of cultural heritage and achieve resource sharing.
- ***Promoting Interdisciplinary Research:*** Encourage scholars and researchers to engage in interdisciplinary cooperation, exploring the application of digital humanities in various fields such as history, linguistics, and art.
- ***Driving the Integration and Development of Cultural Industries:*** Through digital means, develop derivative products and cultural tourism projects based on cultural heritage, driving the integration and development of cultural industries.

In terms of cross-cultural understanding and exchange, the application of digital humanities technology will provide us with broader spaces and platforms. Through digital means, we can more easily understand the backgrounds, histories, and characteristics of different cultures, enhancing our recognition and respect for them. Additionally, we can use digital technology to promote cross-cultural dialogue and understanding, fostering exchanges and integration between different cultures.

Regarding cultural diversity and sustainability, we need to focus on the role and value of digital technology in the protection and inheritance of cultural heritage. Protecting and inheriting cultural heritage through digital means can achieve the permanent preservation and continued development of cultural heritage, providing new opportunities and momentum for the industrial development of cultural heritage. Therefore, we need to strengthen the application and promotion of digital technology in the protection and inheritance of cultural heritage, contributing to the realization of cultural diversity and sustainability.

With the continuous development and improvement of digital humanities technology, we have every reason to believe that future cultural exchanges and cooperation between China and France in the context of globalization will become deeper and more extensive. Digital humanities will not only provide new perspectives for understanding civilizational changes in the modernization process but will also contribute more wisdom and strength to the development and progress of human civilization.

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