Exercise on xiéshēngzì 1

1. In reconstructing Old Chinese rimes and initials, xiéshēngzì諧聲字 are very useful in two aspects. How are xiéshēngzì used to study the initials and rimes of Old Chinese?
2. The following characters are xiéshēngzì: 工gōng, 空kōng, 江jiāng. The character 工 is also the shared phonetic component. Can you analyze the initials and rimes of these three characters in terms of the xiéshēngzì principles, i.e. what phonological connection should they have in Old Chinese and whether this relation still holds in Modern Standard Chinese pronunciation?