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The Use of the Global Multi-Lingual Web in Mainland China: The Ebb and Flow of Government Control of Information

中國網上全球多種語言的使用：政府信息控制的變異

Colin Storey
storey@cuhk.edu.hk

13 April , 2007

Four Themes

- The Chinese Government and written dissent in history;
- PRC Party and State control mechanisms and the free flow of information;
- Internet provision and use in China;
- Possible indicators for the future of Internet and Web control in China.

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The Chinese Government & Written Dissent in History

Qin Shi Huang

Source: Wikipedia

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Qianlong Emperor - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Qianlong Emperor

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from Qianlong)

The **Qianlong Emperor** (born **Hongli**, September 25, 1711 – February 7, 1799) was the fifth emperor of the Manchu Qing Dynasty, and the fourth Qing emperor to rule over China. The fourth son of the Yongzheng Emperor, he reigned officially from October 18, 1735 to February 9, 1796, at which point he retired in favor of his son, the Jiaqing Emperor - a filial act in order not to reign longer than his grandfather, the illustrious Kangxi Emperor. Despite his retirement, however, he retained ultimate power until his death in 1799.

Internet

start Qianlong Emperor - ... EN 16:09

The Qian Long Emperor

"Now of the over ten thousand volumes submitted by the several provinces none has been singled out as offensive. How is it possible that among such a quantity of books bequeathed by former generations not one should contain a trace of sedition? … It stands to reason therefore that among the rumors and gossip there must have been some defamatory of our dynasty. So it is that we must conduct at once a thorough investigation and destruction [of seditious books]; thus may subversive thought be put to an end, men's hearts rectified, and their morals improved; we should not let this matter drop…. Had there been any [such books] of a treasonable kind the commission had its orders to put them apart for destruction by fire".

(Translated by Goodrich 1966, 32)

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Lu Xun - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Lu Xun

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For the leading general under the Kingdom of Wu during the Three Kingdoms era in ancient China, see Lu Xun (Three Kingdoms).

Lu Xun (Traditional Chinese: 魯迅; Simplified Chinese: 鲁迅; pinyin: Lǔ Xùn) or **Lu Hsün** (Wade-Giles), pen name of **Zhou Shuren** (Traditional Chinese: 周樹人; Simplified Chinese: 周树人; Hanyu Pinyin: Zhōu Shùrén; Wade-Giles: Chou Shu-jen) (September 25, 1881 – October 19, 1936) is one of the major Chinese writers of the 20th century. Considered the founder of modern *baihua* (白話 báihuà) literature, Lu Xun was a short story writer, editor, translator, critic and essayist. He was one of the founders of the China League of Left-Wing Writers in Shanghai. Lu Xun's works exerted a very substantial influence after the May Fourth Movement.

Zhou Shuren

Done Internet

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PRC Party & State Control Mechanisms

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Internet Provision and Use in China

The Chinese Language

Written Chinese was universally understood by any literate Chinese person until the split occurred between traditional characters (Taiwan, Hong Kong, Chinese overseas) and simplified characters (the PRC).

Spoken Chinese is split between Modern Standard Chinese – Mandarin - universally understood, and many local dialects such as Shanghainese and Cantonese.

The language reforms of the late 1950s brought in simplified characters and 'romanization' (*pīnyīn* 拼音). *Pīnyīn* is now an almost universal standard of romanization of pronunciation of Modern Standard Chinese.

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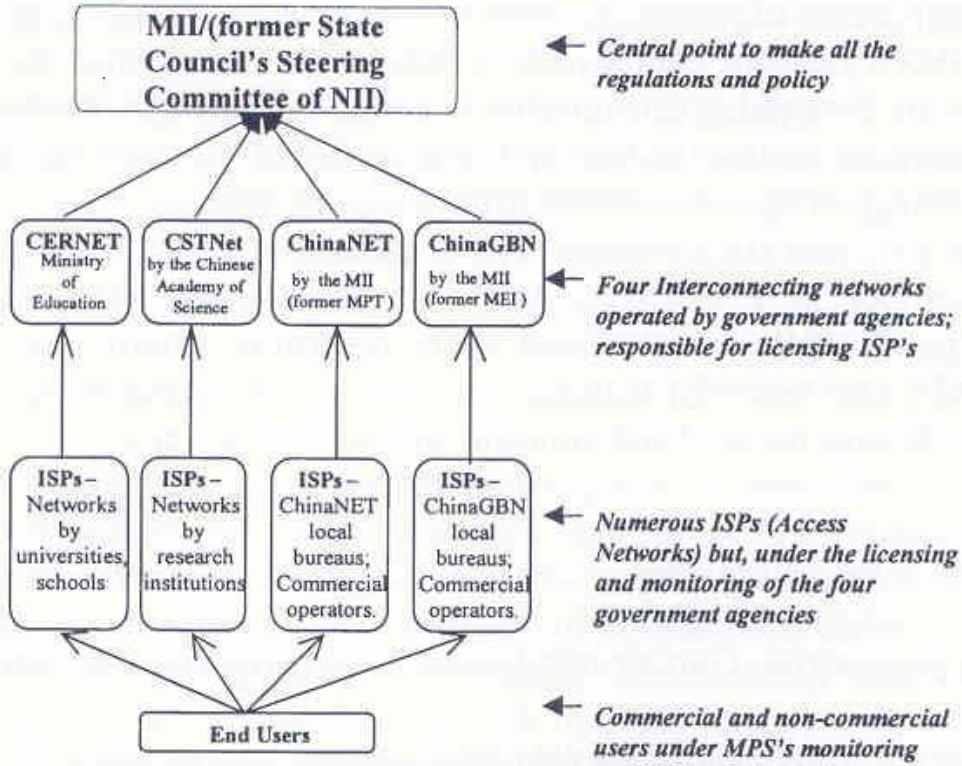
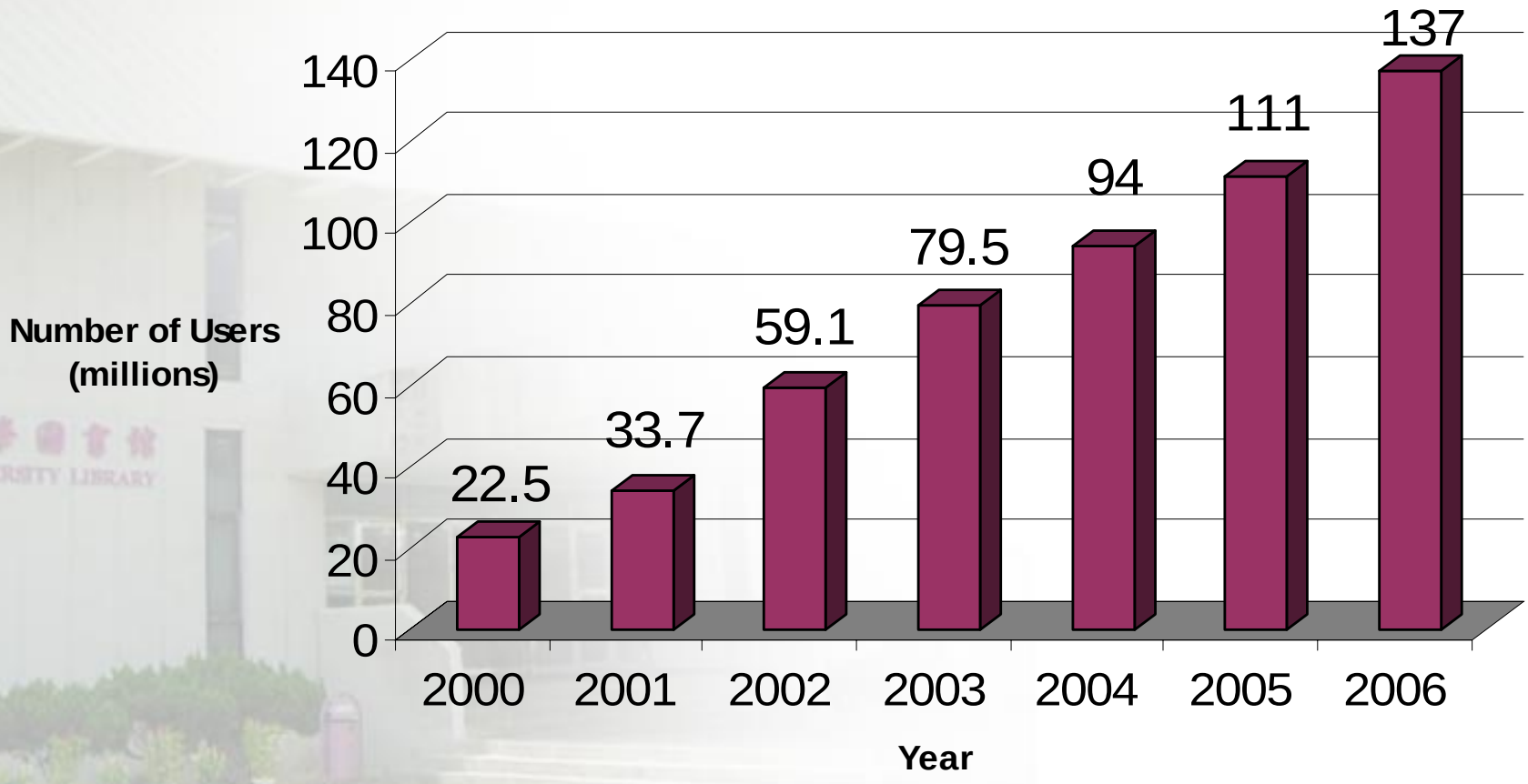
China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC)

http://www.CNNIC.net.cn



The 'Organizational Chart' of China's Internet; MII: Ministry of Information Industry.

Internet Usage in China



Source for statistical data: [*CNNIC Survey Reports 2000-2007*]

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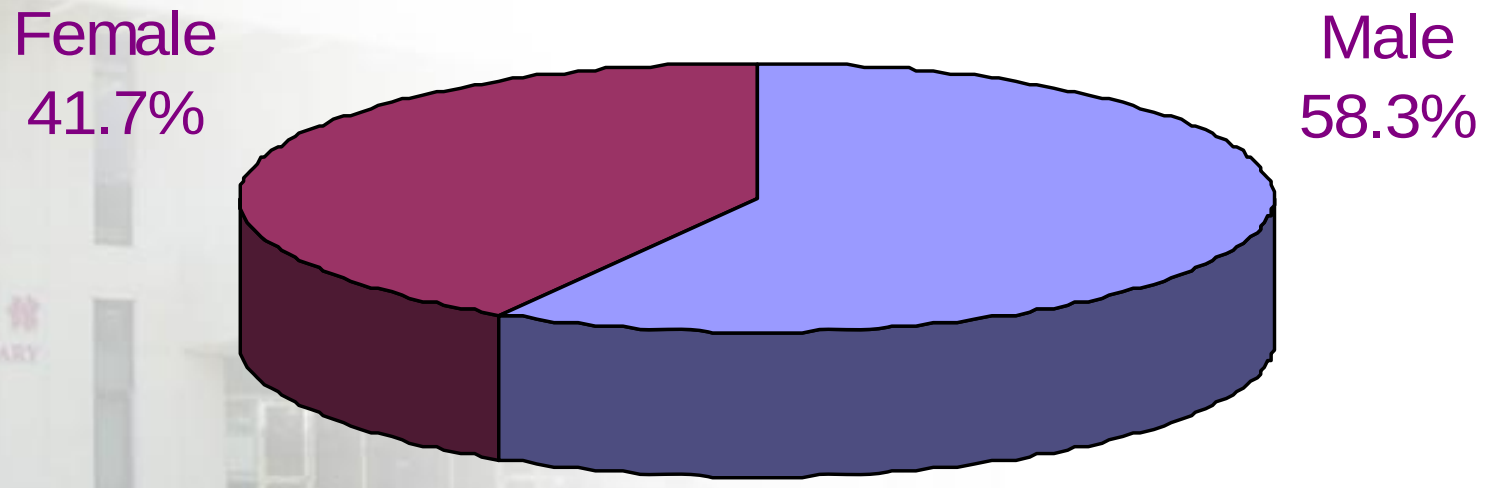
Internet Users by Gender 2006



Source for statistical data: CNNIC Survey Report 2007

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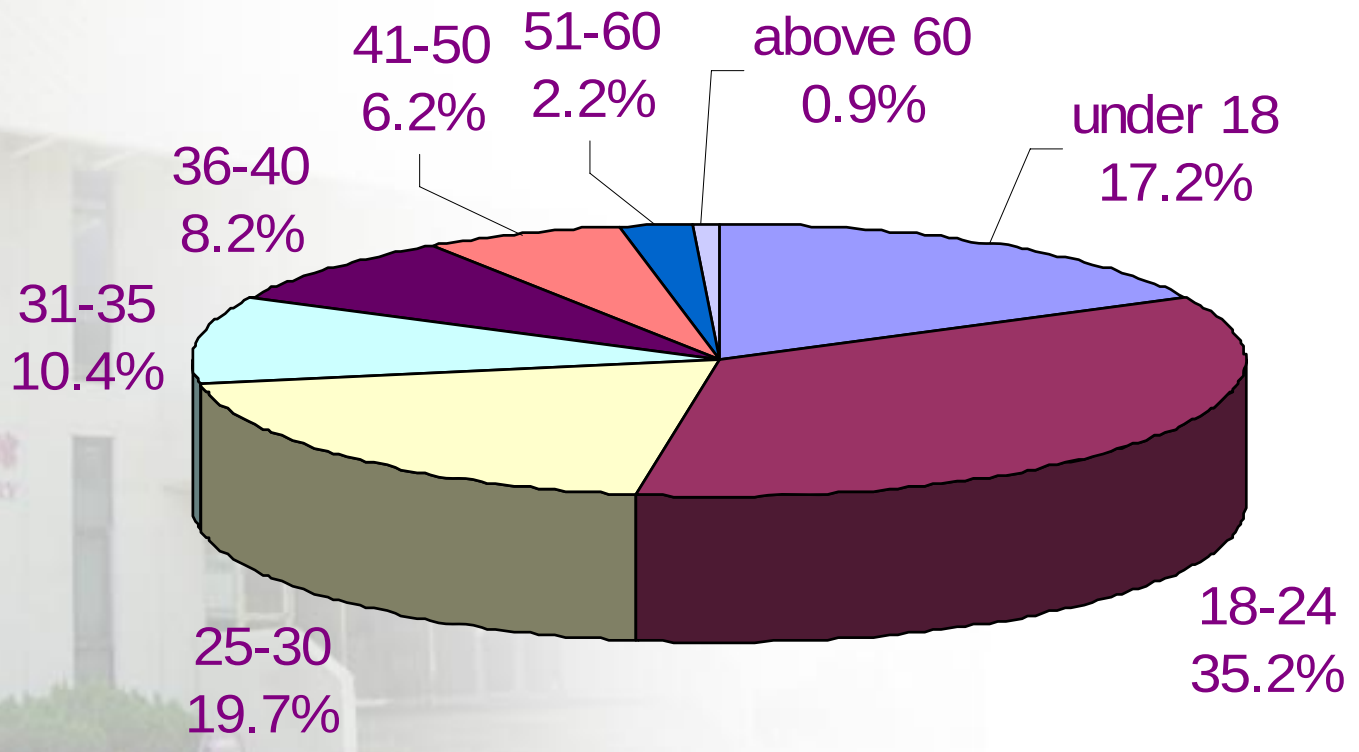
Internet Users by Age 2006



Source for statistical data: CNNIC Survey Report 2007

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1997 Regulations

No unit or individual may use the Internet to create, retrieve, or transmit the following kinds of information:

1. Inciting to resist or breaking the Constitution or laws or the implementation of administrative regulations;
2. Inciting to overthrow the government or the socialist system;
3. Inciting division of the country, harming national unification;
4. Inciting hatred or discrimination among nationalities or harming the unity of the nationalities;
5. Making falsehoods or distorting the truth, spreading rumors, destroying the order of society…

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Internet Access Providers

Internet Access Providers

Company Name	Audience	Network Name	Bandwidth (Mb/s)
China Telecom	General public	CHINANET	46268
China Netcom/CNCNet	Broadband users	CHINA169	19087
China Science and Technology Network	Researchers	CSTNET	5275
China Unicom	Businesses	UNINET	1645
China Mobile		CMNET	1130
China Education and Research Network	Schools	CERNET	1022
China Intl. Economic and Trade Net		CIETNET	2
China Great Wall Communications		CGWNET	Under construction
China Satcom		CSNET	Under construction

Source: CNNIC

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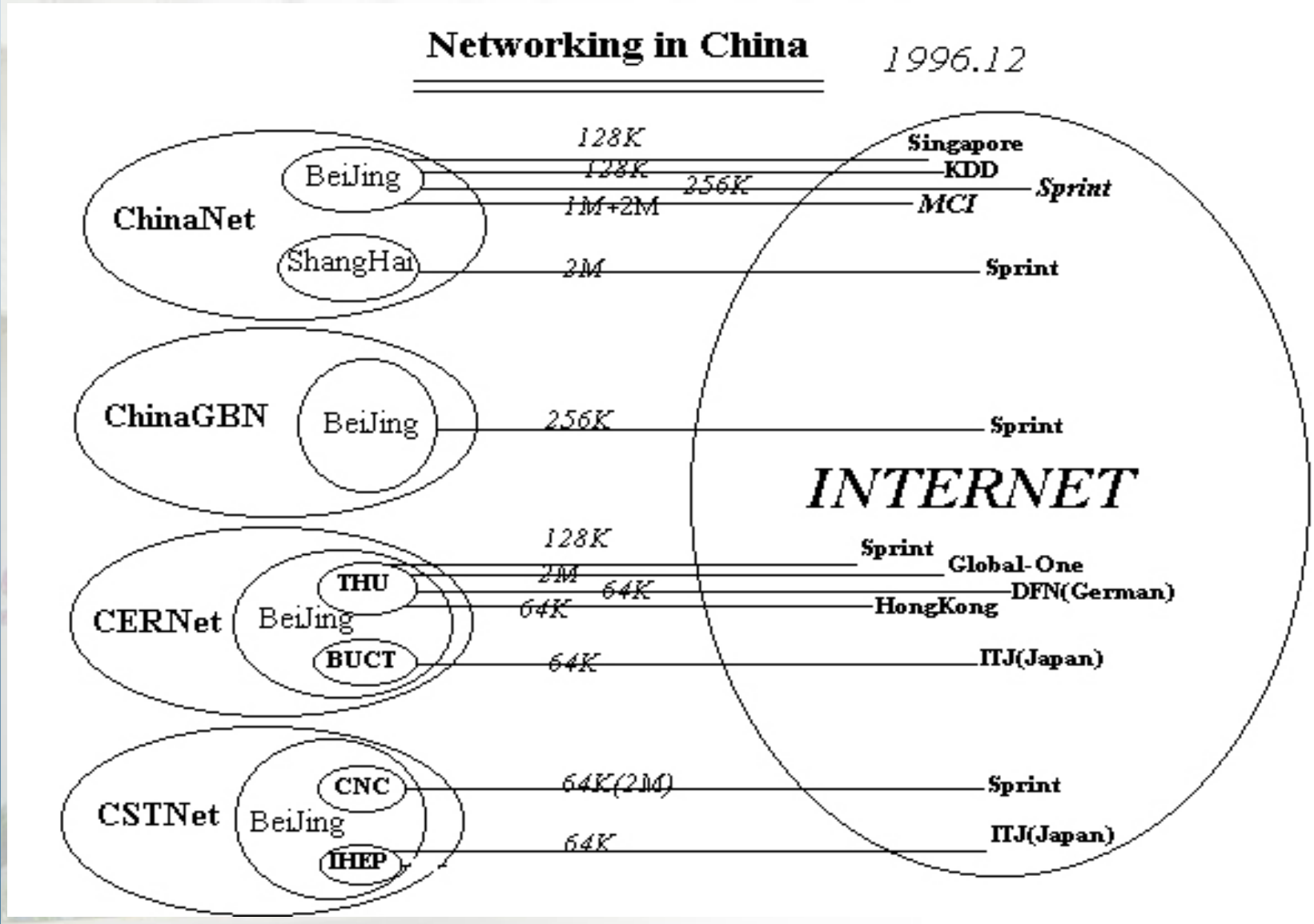
China's Internet Architecture and Bandwidth



Source: [ChinaSite.com: China's Internet]

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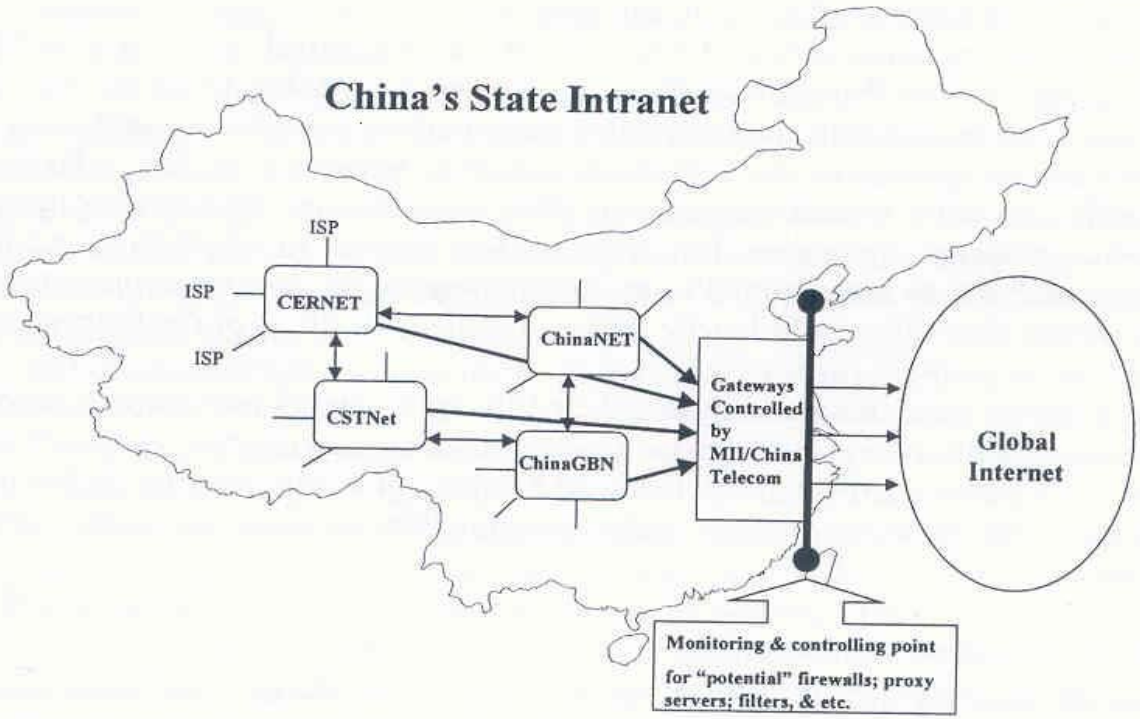
Intranet



China's State Intranet.

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CERNet Topology

Source: CERNet 中國教育網

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Table 1 The Golden Projects

Name	Main participants	Aim & scope
Golden Bridge (Jin Qiao)	Ministry of Information Industry (MII), Jitong, State Information Centre	To build a national backbone and international network interface for transmitting data, voice, image and multimedia information. Also known as National Public Economic Information Communication Network
Golden Card (Jin Ka)	People's Bank of China (PBOC), MII, Ministry of Internal Trade (MIT), Great Wall Computer Company	To set up Smartcard-based electronic financial transaction system and information service
Golden Customs (Jin Guan)	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (MOFTEC), General Administration of Customs (GAC), Jitong	To establish networks to deal with foreign currency settlements, quota management systems, an electronic data interchange (EDI) and an import-export statistical database. Also known as National Foreign Economic Trade Information Network Project
Golden Sea (Jin Hai)	National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), PBOC, State Information Centre	To build a data network linking top government leaders with other institutions, organisations and offices under the direct jurisdiction of the Communist Party Central Committee
Golden Macro (Jin Hong)	China Ex-Im Bank, Ministry of Finance (MOF), State Information Centre	To develop a state economic and policy support system by setting up a database unifying industrial, tax, price, investment, resource, capital, energy, transport and communication information. Also known as National Economic Macro-Policy Technology System
Golden Tax (Jin Shui)	MOF, MII, State Administration of Taxation, Great Wall Computer Company	To make use of computerised work unit tax receipts and invoice returns; to create direct bank connections in order to improve the flow and use of funds across Asia
Golden Intelligence (Jin Zhi)	State Education Commission	To provide up-to-date, accurate information for teachers and research professionals and to improve international and local communication and co-operation.
Golden Enterprise (Jin Qi)	State Economic & Trade Commission	To design and build an integrated enterprise target (quota) and distribution system; to build a country-wide enterprise and product database
Golden Agriculture (Jin Nong)	Ministry of Agriculture	To develop an information service incorporating agricultural supervisory, calculation and forecasting system
Golden Health (Jin Wei)	Ministry of Health	To develop a national healthy information network capable which maximises potential of computer technology, communications technology and scientific information distribution in the medical sector
Golden Info (Jin Xin)	NBS	Statistical information project to develop real-time information flows
Golden Housing	-	To create a property information network
Golden Cellular	MII	To provide the basis for a co-ordinated mobile communications strategy, and to develop national roaming standards and systems
Golden Switch	MII	To build China's domestic digital switch manufacturing industry

Source: Access Asia

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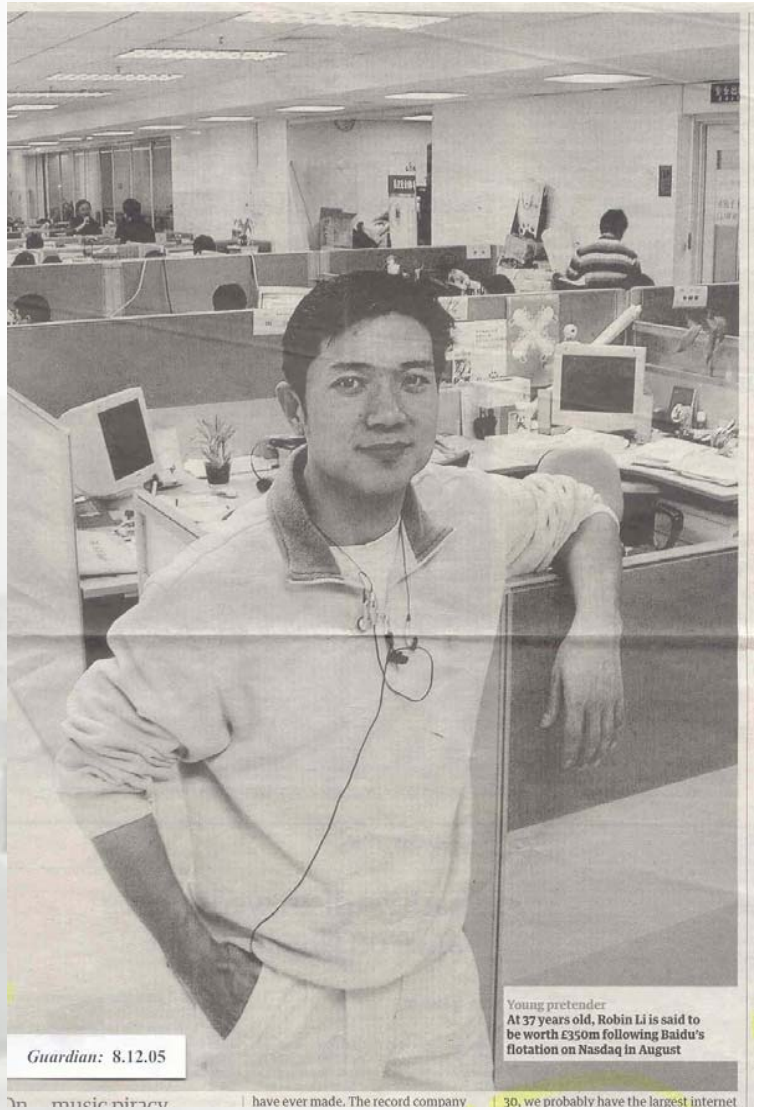
Baidu: Robin Li



Young pretender
At 37 years old, Robin Li is said to be worth £350m following Baidu's flotation on Nasdaq in August

Guardian: 8.12.05

have ever made. The record company

30, we probably have the largest internet

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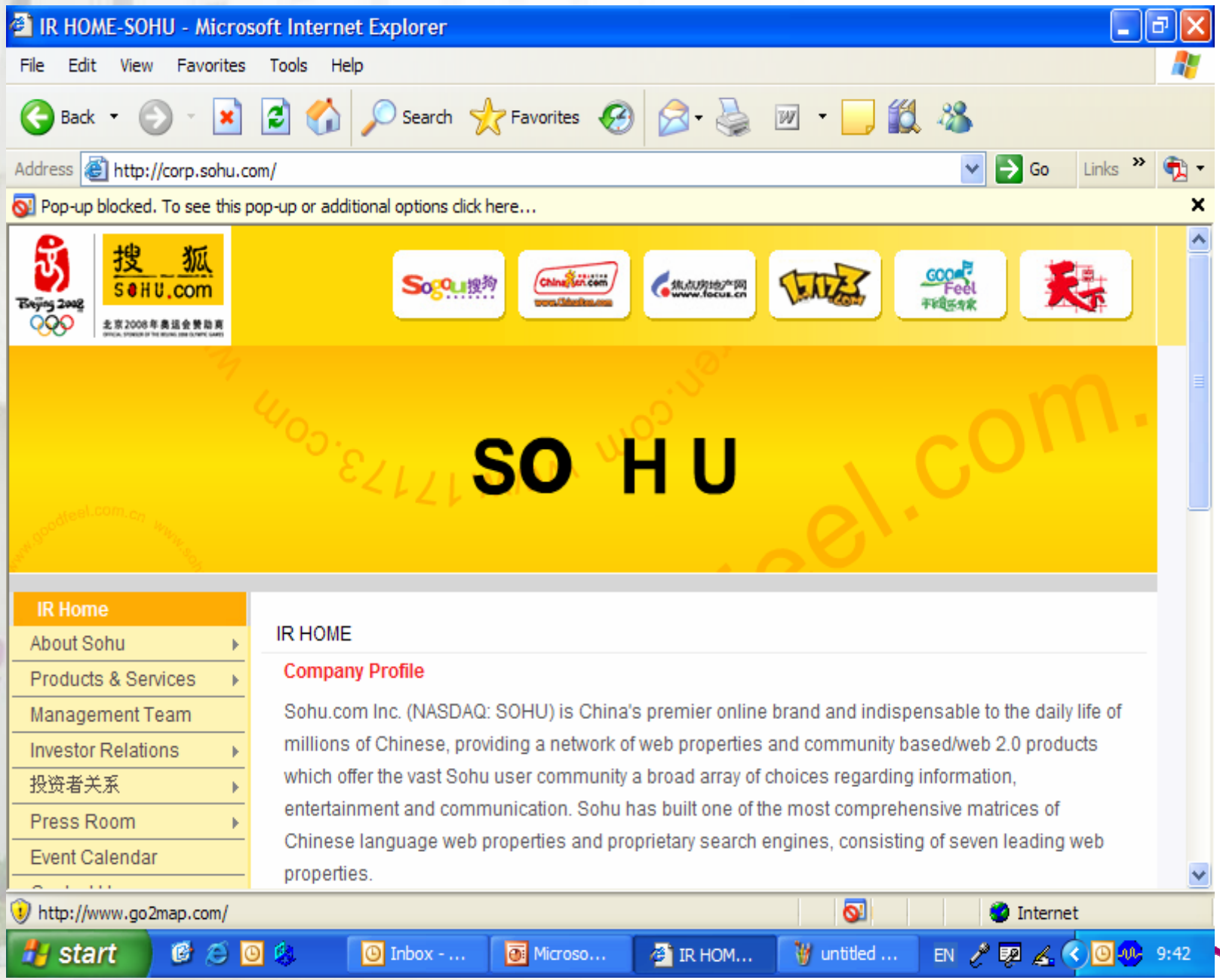
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Address http://corp.sohu.com/
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Pop-up blocked. To see this pop-up or additional options click here...
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SO H U
IR Home
About Sohu
Products & Services
Management Team
Investor Relations
投资者关系
Press Room
Event Calendar
IR HOME
Company Profile
Sohu.com Inc. (NASDAQ: SOHU) is China's premier online brand and indispensable to the daily life of millions of Chinese, providing a network of web properties and community based/web 2.0 products which offer the vast Sohu user community a broad array of choices regarding information, entertainment and communication. Sohu has built one of the most comprehensive matrices of Chinese language web properties and proprietary search engines, consisting of seven leading web properties.
http://www.go2map.com/
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Bingdian editor: Li Datong

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请输入产品名称!
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热门关键字: 坯布 工艺品 暖气片 压克力 螺旋藻 钣金 尼龙管 更多
如何在搜索中位列前三?
上网做生意,只选诚信通 [阿里动态] 5月西湖上演阿里“侠客行” 电子网新登场,四大亮点秀出来 买卖无风险,就靠支付宝
查看所有类目 >>
原材料
化工网
橡塑
冶金矿产
纺织、皮革
1 2 3 如何让我的供应信息 排名前三?
章琳
立即查看
热点采购 日增百万信息,直面千万买家 进入>>
供应商 采购商
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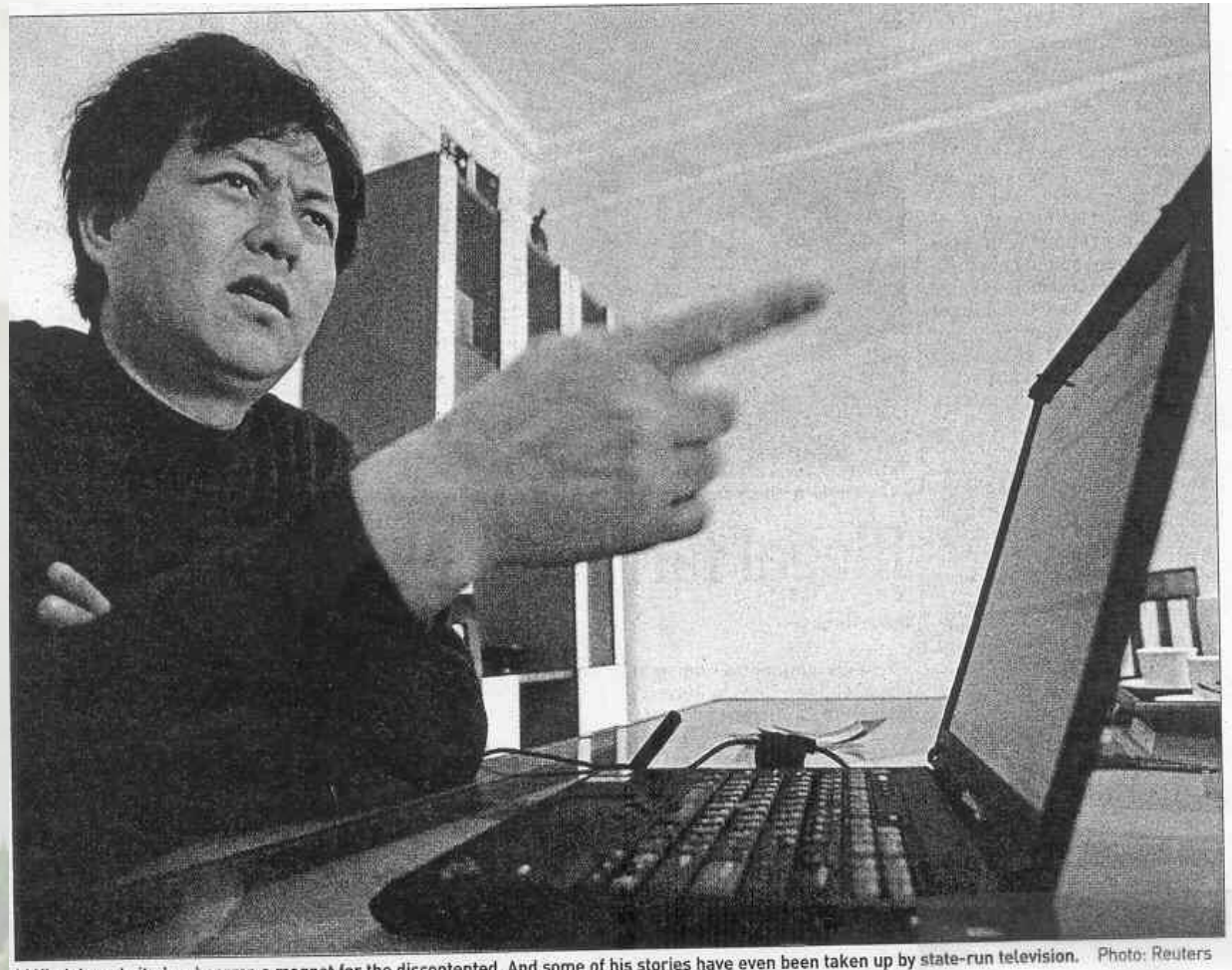
Li Xinde



Li Xinde's website has become a magnet for the discontented. And some of his stories have even been taken up by state-run television. Photo: Reuters

South China Morning Post: 18.2.06

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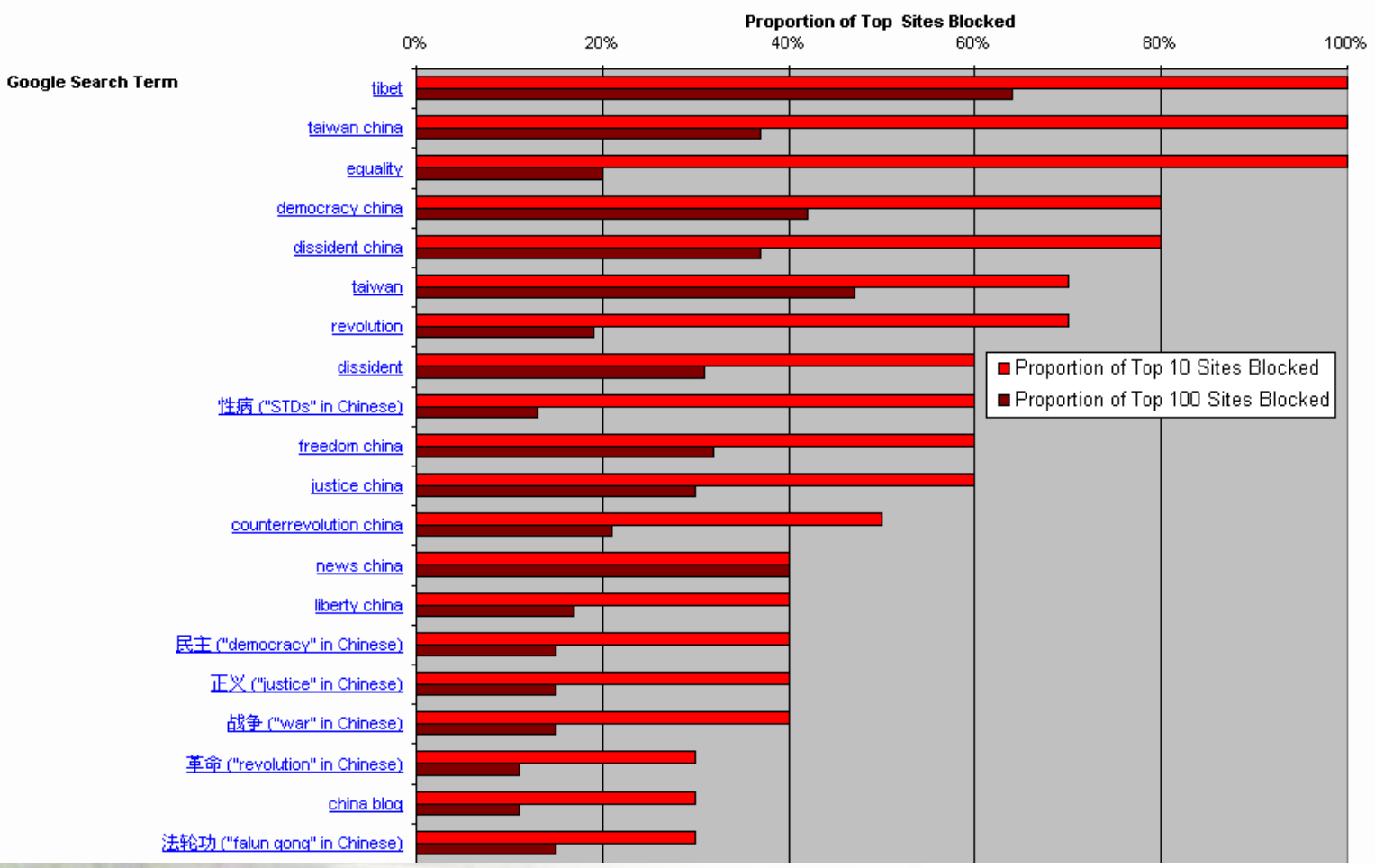
Blocking of Search Results by Google Keyword



Source: *Empirical Analysis of Internet Filtering in China*

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Filtering: Falun Gong

Figure 3 - Falun Gong Sites

Sites Tested	In-State Result	Proxy Result
http://www.faluncanada.net/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.falundafa.org/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.faluninfo.net/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.fofg.org/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.faluninfo.net/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.stanford.edu/group/falun/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.let.leidenuniv.nl/bth/falun.htm	Blocked	Blocked
Total (7 sites)	**100%**	**100%**

Source: Zittrain and Palfrey, 2005

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Filtering: News

Figure 4 - News Sites

Sites Tested	In-State Result	Proxy Result
http://www.boxun.com.cn/	Accessible	Blocked
http://www.voanews.95.cn/	Accessible	Blocked
http://www.epochtimes.com/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.peacehall.com/	Blocked	Blocked
http://news.bbc.co.uk/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.voa.gov/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.voanews.com/	Blocked	Blocked
Total (7 sites)	**71%**	**100%**

Source: Zittrain and Palfrey, 2005

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Filtering: Political Sites

Figure 5 - Political Sites

Sites Tested	In-State Result	Proxy Result	Category
http://edition.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/tiananmen/	Accessible	Accessible	Tiananmen
http://www.hrichina.org/	Blocked	Blocked	Human Rights
http://www.tsquare.tv/	Blocked	Blocked	Tiananmen
http://www.fillthesquare.org/	Blocked	Blocked	Tiananmen
http://www.64memo.com/	Blocked	N/A	Tiananmen
http://www.spacepub.com/users/china/	N/A	Accessible	Boycott
http://www.writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/50s/theoharis.html	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://www.schwarzreport.org/	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://www.niagara.com/~freedom/anticom/first.htm	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://www.informationblast.com/Anti-communism.html	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://www.fact-index.com/a/an/anti_communism.html	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://www.colorado.edu/AmStudies/lewis/2010/mccarthy.htm	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/americananticommunists/	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-communism	N/A	Blocked	Anti-Communist
http://newstrolls.com/news/dev/guest/010899-2.htm	N/A	Blocked	Opposition
http://www.svdc.org/Main.html	N/A	Blocked	Pro-democracy
http://www.innermongolia.org/	N/A	Blocked	Pro-democracy
http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/7288/	N/A	Blocked	Pro-democracy
http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/6901/index.html	N/A	Blocked	Pro-democracy
http://www.freechina.net/pfdc/	N/A	Blocked	Pro-democracy
Total (20 sites)	**80%**	**89%**	

Source: Zittrain and Palfrey, 2005

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Filtering: Taiwan Sites

Figure 6 - Taiwan Sites

Sites Tested	In-State Result	Proxy Result
http://www.taipeitimes.com/	Accessible	Accessible
http://www.theworldpress.com/press/worldpress/taiwanpress/taipeitimes.htm	Accessible	Blocked
http://www.roc-taiwan.org/	Accessible	N/A
http://www.gov.tw/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.taiwan.com/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.taiwanindependence.com/	Blocked	Blocked
http://anti-china.net/	N/A	Blocked
http://cti.formosa.org/	N/A	Blocked
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taiwan_independence	N/A	Blocked
http://members.aol.com/JoJoLewis/Taiwan/Taiwan_index.html	N/A	Blocked
http://taiwansecurity.org/	N/A	Blocked
http://www.taiwandc.org/nws-9845.htm	N/A	Blocked
http://www.taiwanese.com/protest/	N/A	Blocked
http://www.wufi.org.tw/eng/chnamyth.htm	N/A	Blocked
Total (14 sites)	**50%**	**92%**

Source: Zittrain and Palfrey, 2005

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Filtering: Tibet Sites

Figure 7 - Tibet Sites

Sites Tested	In-State Result	Proxy Result
http://www.dalailama-belgium2005.org/	Accessible	Accessible
http://www.gluckman.com/DalaiLama.html	Accessible	Accessible
http://www.tibet.com/	Accessible	Blocked
http://worldbridges.com/Tibet/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.dalailama.com/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.freetibet.org/	Blocked	Blocked
http://www.boycottmadeinchina.org/	N/A	Blocked
http://www.buyhard.fsnet.co.uk/boycottchinafortibet.htm	N/A	Blocked
http://www.studentsforafreetibet.org/	N/A	Blocked
http://www.tibet.ca/en/	N/A	Blocked
http://www.tibetanliberation.org/	N/A	Blocked
http://www.tibetjustice.org/index.html	N/A	Blocked
Total (12 sites)	**50%**	**83%**

Source: Zittrain and Palfrey, 2005

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Simple Test of My Own

- **Falun Gong** (法輪功)

(Note: 'Falun Gong' literally means 'cultivation of the wheel of Buddha's law').

- **Taiwan Independence** (台獨)

Tibetan Independence (藏獨)

- **Tiananmen Massacre** (天安門事件)

(Note: the word *shìjiàn* is commonly used by Chinese native-speakers in this context. It means 'incident'. The U.S. Library of Congress English subjectheading is 'Tiananmen Square Incident')

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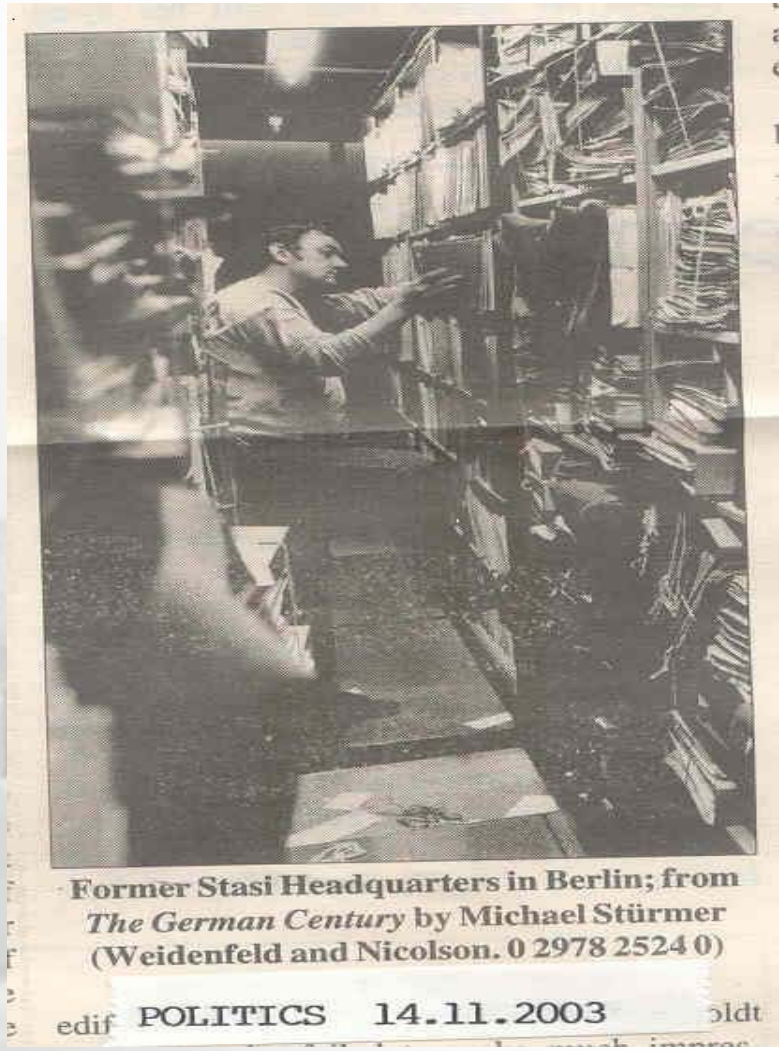
Possible Indicators for Future Internet and Web Control in China

Communist Records Systems



Former Stasi Headquarters in Berlin; from *The German Century* by Michael Stürmer (Weidenfeld and Nicolson. 0 2978 2524 0)

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Seven Considerations

- STM always available…
- What is banned is not necessarily unavailable…
- Exactly who uses the Internet and Web?
- Some sites one might think are good are "bad"…
- Too many policemen…
- Official corruption…
- Self-censorship

Story from *China Digital Times:*
(http://chinadigitaltimes.net/2006/01/image_of_internet_police_jingjing_and_chacha_online_hon.php)

Starting today, when netizens visit all the main portals of Shenzhen city, Guangdong, they will see two cartoon figures "Jingjing" and "Chacha" (*JingCha* = Police). The image of Shenzhen Internet Police will officially be online. From now on, when netizens visit websites and web forums of Shenzhen, they will see these two cartoon police images floating on their screen. Our reporter learned that these are the images of Shenzhen Internet Police, presented by Internet Surveillance Division of Shenzhen Public Security Bureau, for the first time in China …….

Below are *Jingjing* and *Chacha* (from *jingcha*, the Chinese word for police).

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Perry Link

"…the Chinese government's censorship is less liker a man-eating tiger or fire-snorting dragon than a giant anaconda coiled in an overhead chandelier. Normally it doesn't move. It doesn't have to. It feels no need to be clear about its prohibitions. Its silent message is "You yourself decide," after which everyone below makes his or her large or small adjustments – all quite 'naturally'."

(Link 2001, 4)

Place: Number 106 Yongan Road (the office of Beijing News)
Scene: A leader leads a block of birds across the sky. Although the sky is not too clear, they still keep heading to the distant destination of their hearts.
Photograph: By Kang Yafeng (康亞風)
時間：昨日
地點：永安路106號
場景：頭鳥帶領著群鳥飛過高空，天空雖然不是很晴朗，但它們依然會載著心中的目標飛向遠方。

Source: From ***Beijing News*** (December 30, 2005)

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The End 完
Thank You
謝謝