#### The Singtao Daily in the Online Age

Group Members: Matt Senate Valerie Woolard Guang "Sunshine" Yang

#### **Research Question**

- How has the Sing Tao Daily, San Francisco's most widely-read Chinese-language newspaper, dealt with the needs of its readership in its transition to an online presence?
  - How did we arrive at this question?
  - What did we examine?

#### **Brief History of the Ethnic Chinese Press**

- The San Francisco Bay Area, as a center of Chinese immigration from the nineteenth century onward, has also been home to many local Chinese papers
- The first overseas Chinese language newspaper, San Francisco News was founded in 1854
- In 2000, 64 Chinese language newspapers were published outside of China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macao

#### The Singtao Daily • San Francisco's largest

San Francisco's largest Chinese-language newspaper, with an estimated circulation of 130,000

Purchased *Chinese Times,* the last major locally-owned Chinese paper, in 2004

- Founded in Hong Kong
- Opened San Francisco
   office in 1975



#### Newspaper on line vs. print version

#### Singtao Daily



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工商快訊



#### 華埠經發會由市行政官主導

本報記者周松亞三藩市報道) 三藩市市長紐 森辦公室周一公佈由廿一人組成的華埠經濟發展 委員會,並委任市府總行政官李偉良暫代委員會 主席一職....

有了倒數計時顯示燈 從容把握變燈時間 行人 過馬路意外劇演



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| 网路市价单<br>只要                          |                       |                           |  |  |  |
| \$7                                  |                       |                           |  |  |  |
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|    | ●<br>星島主頁<br>●<br>美國新聞  | 頭條新聞<br>市場風險投資增強 買美元需求減弱 經濟衰退步伐緩 美元指數一路跌  |  |
|    | 》 灣區新聞 羅省新聞 擬約新聞  | <u>(本報訊)</u><br>在全球經濟露出復蘇曙光,投資者承擔風險意願大增下,美元近來一路走<br>跌,美元兌六種國際主要貨幣的匯率3日下跌至去年9月以來最低水平,原               |  |
|    | <ul> <li>外州新聞</li> <li>◆</li> <li>◆</li> <li>◆</li> <li>◆</li> <li>✓</li> <li>✓<!--</th--><th>因是有證據表明經濟衰退的步伐正在放緩,從而削弱了投資者買入美元作<br/>為安全投資的需求<br/>吳振偉提案增一千中國移民配額</th><th>2009<br/>星島親普小姐<br/>日報 正接受報名</th></li></ul> | 因是有證據表明經濟衰退的步伐正在放緩,從而削弱了投資者買入美元作<br>為安全投資的需求<br>吳振偉提案增一千中國移民配額                                      | 2009<br>星島親普小姐<br>日報 正接受報名   |
|    | 全 高 耐 刊<br>一 星 島 副 刊<br>一 分 類 廣告  | <u>(本報訊)</u><br>美國俄勒岡州華裔聯邦闡議員吳振偉(David Wu,民主黨),上周五提出一<br>項法案,要求每年增加1000個中國職業移民配額                    | <u>報名詳情</u><br>AM1400:<br>Emerate EM96.1:  |
|    | <ul> <li>慶告資料</li> <li>記問服務</li> <li>① Contact Us</li> </ul>  | 新疆破獲五宗暴力恐怖活動<br><u>(本報訊_</u> )  | 粵語台國語台   |
|    | Company Info  | <u>中國政府3日公布,反恐部門近日在新疆破獲五個涉及新疆恐怖活動的犯罪</u><br>集團<br>中國男贊比亞這劫殺 母親重傷命危                                  | 查商中文商戶地址電話<br>星島 天 黄頁  |
|    | 昔日新聞 星島聯網   | 平國另貢比亞這切較 母親里爾印尼<br>(本報訊)<br>中國駐贊比亞大使館3日確認,當地時間3日清晨,一名54歲陳姓中國男子<br>在贊比亞首都盧薩卡遭歹徒劫殺身亡,其母親受重傷,生命垂危,目前正 | sing tao rellow pages<br>www.singtaoyp.com   |
| 15 |   | <u>住具に足自動置版下這少便列救身に,具取税支里場,主即至厄。目前正</u><br>在党協堅院接受拾数  | Contraction of the Contract of |

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### **On-line**

#### advantages

#### Divide news into different groups



Homepage American news Bay area news Local news New York news International news Singtao estate Clarified Ads Singtao community supplement

#### • Like BBS, forum, represent readers' voice



# • You can get different versions in other cities or countries.





#### On line-advantages

- Information, as much information as possible
  - \* As long as you are willing go through it

#### Ads---- will never bother readers







星島中文電台

## **On-line**

### disadvantages

- Information missing
- We only choose news we are interested in and miss the others

### **Print-version**

#### Advantages

#### **Print-version advantages**

 Can be read anywhere; in a café, at bus stations, in the park





#### **Print-version advantages**

#### Modern newspapers----more like a sort of art than just a newspaper



#### 1998



**Courtesy of Internet Archive** 

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2003



**Courtesy of Internet Archive** 

# Conclusions

# Maybe a Mistake?

# Maybe not...

## **Overall a Good Thing**

But the literature is a little naive (technological determinism!)

# **Transnational Identity**

# Democracy

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# Further Research

#### Access

# What about those without access to digital technologies?

### **Comparative Analysis**

Do region or ideology influence online/print version differences?

### **Article Concentrations**

How many stories focus on local vs. international affairs?