

# A Very Large Synchronous Corpus as Monitoring Corpus:

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## Functions of Large Synchronous Corpora

#### 1. rich resources for

- natural language processing
  - segmentation, parsing, MT, etc.
- human and automatic content analysis

### 2. As *monitoring corpora*, also for

- A. Synchronous linguistic variations (lex, syn, pragm)
  - Cross-communal comparison of language developments
  - Historical developments in language and spread in time
- B. Tracking and analyzing salient cultural items of speech communities

## 3 kinds of corpora

- 1. LIVAC
- 2. Sentiment Analysis
- 3. Bilingual/Trilingual (English, Chinese, Japanese) Patents



## 漢語共時語料庫

**Linguistic Variations Across Chinese Communities** 

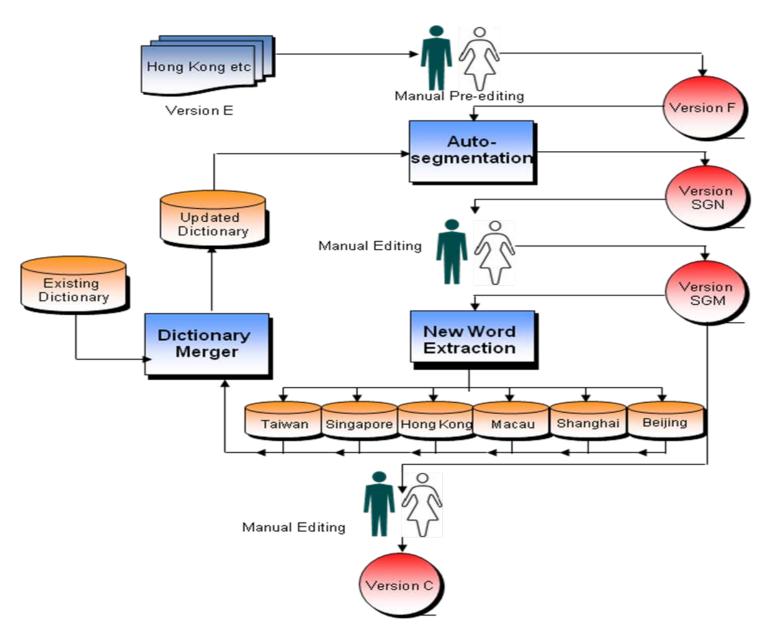
http://www.livac.org

# **Design of LIVAC**

Geographical coverage:	Hong Kong, Taipei, Macau, Singapore, Shanghai, Beijing, Canton, Shenzhen, (Japan)
Data source:	Representative local (Chinese) media texts
Time span:	Since 1995 (>= 16 years)
Coverage:	Main news, editorials, international news, local news, entertainment, sports, finance, etc.
Corpus size:	Up to 2010: 400M character, 1.5Mword types

5

### LIVAC segmentation system workflow



# 1. Segmentation Problems in Chinese 歧義與分詞的重要性

上海市長江大橋 上海市長江大橋 The mayor of Shanghai Zhang Daqiao 上海市 長江大橋 Shanghai Yangtze River Bridge

2. POS Tagging



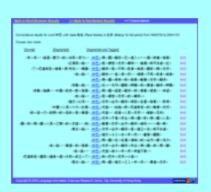
LIVAC ID:	
Password:	
	Login

#### **Introduction of LIVAC Synchronous Corpus**

The LIVAC (Linguistic Variations in Chinese Speech Communities) synchronous corpus, pioneered by the Research Centre on Linguistics and Language Information Sciences at The Hong Kong Institute of Education, contains texts from representative Chinese newspapers and electronic media of Hong Kong, Taiwan, Beijing, Shanghai, Macau and Singapore. The collection of materials from the diverse communities is synchronized, and so offers an innovative "Window" approach for a whole variety of comparative studies and useful IT applications.

Analyzed by various linguistic units (e.g. characters, words, sentences), the LIVAC corpus serves many purposes. In particular, it provides an important database and means for in-depth investigation of lexical development, including the evolution of new concepts and their expressions, in contemporary Chinese

All corpus texts have undergone automatic segmentation, and the results have been manually verified. A lexical database is derived from the segmented texts. Apart from ordinary words, those expressing new concepts or undergoing sense shifts, as well as regionalistic words from the six communities, are singled out. The database is thus a rich resource for research into linguistics, sociolinguistics, and Chinese language and society. Up to date, quantitative data on the Chinese language are also particularly useful for applications in the field of Information Technology, including the development of search engines and machine translation systems in language engineering.



Fresh textual materials for the corpus have been collected every four days since July 1995, with a 10-year time span planned for the collection to capture salient pre- and post-millennium evolving cultural and social fabrics of the diverse Chinese speech communities. Up to January 2010, the unique and growing corpus contains over 150 million Chinese characters and over 720,000 word types, and is still expanding.

The Centre has launched a bi-weekly Celebrity Roster listing the top 25 celebrities in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Taiwan according to their media exposure in Chinese newspapers, and similar indices for place names and common words. Comments and feedback are welcome.

Try LIVAC now

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Word Browser	
Word Browser	
Input a word or a wo	ord fragment. Change parameters below as needed. Only traditional Chinese characters are accepted.
Enter query	Search
Match Mode	<ul> <li>● Partial Match</li> <li>← Exact Match</li> <li>← As Prefix Only</li> <li>← As Suffix Only</li> <li>← As Infix Only</li> </ul>
Word Length	From 1 v To unlimited v Characters
	✓ No Tags ✓ Personal Names ✓ Place Names ✓ Organizational Names
Word Class [select all] [clear all]	✓ Reduplication ✓ Alias ✓ Haplology ✓ Number
	✓ Other Nouns ✓ Works Names
[Reset query parame	
[Clear results and Si	Start over]
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2898 results have been retrieved with the above query parameters. Please select words for geographical distributions by checking the boxes beside them. Specify the target date range, and click "Show Geographical Distribution" butto Note: your current access level entitles you to access corpus data spanning from 1995-07-01 to 2009-06-20. Shortcuts for selection: [select all] [clear all [toggle all] Show Geographical Distribution From: 1995-07-01 To: 2009-06-20 Other Classes (其他詞類) 登車 重車 Other Classes (其他詞類) Other Classes (其他詞類) 竊車 Other Classes (其他詞類) 擁重 攔車 Other Classes (其他詞類) Other Classes (其他詞類) 惧車 Other Classes (其他詞類) Other Classes (其他詞類) 肋車 Other Classes (其他詞類) 救車 Other Classes (其他詞類) (10) (11) 📗 進車 Other Classes (其他詞類)

(1) 🗌 登車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(2) ■ 重車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(3) 🔲 竊車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(4) [ 瀬車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(5) 🔲 攔車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(6) 🔲 快車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(7) 🗌 針車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(8) 🗌 尬車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(9) 🗌 肋車	Other Classes (其他詞類)
(10) 🗌 救車	Other Classes (其他詞類)

	$\overline{}$	Beijing	Shanghai	НК	Taiwan	Macau	Singapore	Shenzhen	Guangzhou
	客車其他詞類	1139 (25.05%)	1758 (38.66%)	86 (1.89%)	203 (4.46%)	479 (10.53%)	72 (1.58%)	238 (5.23%)	572 (12.58%)
(2)	轎車其他詞類	1840 (22.24%)	3229 (39.03%)	152 (1.84%)	455 (5.50%)	226 (2.73%)	484 (5.85%)	763 (9.22%)	1124 (13.59%)
(3)	奶車其他詞類	3 (60.00%)	2 (40.00%)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	炮車其他詞類	6 (23.08%)	10 (38.46%)	2 (7.69%)	3 (11.54%)	0	2 (7.69%)	0	3 (11.54%)
(5)	糞車 其他詞類)	7 (41.18%)	10 (58.82%)	0	0	0	0	0	0

## Balanced corpus

(平衡語料庫)

## **Avoid repetition of content**

内容避免重覆

## Synchronous/Homothematic corpus (共時/同題語料庫)

Purposeful repetition of content

內容刻意重覆

## LIVAC 漢語共時語料庫

- Gigantic, Homothematic and Synchronous Chinese corpus
- 大規模, 同題, 共時 漢語語料庫

- It can monitor
  - Pan-Chinese language development (漢語語言發展), and
  - Underlying Pan-Chinese changing cultural trends (不同漢語地區文化差異)

# Synchronous corpus

共時語料庫

Variables:

Domain

Time (diachronic) Space (synchronic)

"WINDOW 視窗" approach

## WINDOW Approach

 Observations through WINDOW reflect broader and deeper developments

Consistency in WINDOW approach

Comparability in WINDOW size

### I. Monitoring Chinese lexical development

The Chinese '□□' BAR word family

### II. Comparing Chinese and Japanese

• 車 (VEHICLE) word family

## 'III' BAR: Monitoring Bar culture in Chinese

• 吧 (ba): phonetic replica of bar (吧檯)

 An establishment for consuming liquor in a congenial setting



• 酒吧 (jiu-ba): liquor-bar [disyllabic word]

• 吧女 (bar-girl), 吧娘 (bar-woman), 吧檯 (bar-table)

## Examples of bar-words in LIVAC

HK	基吧 'gay-bar'	BJ	森林氧吧 'forest-oxygen-bar' 公話話吧 'public-phone-bar'
MC	卡拉OK吧 'karaoke-bar' 雪糕吧 'ice-cream-bar'	TW	影吧 'film-bar' 玻璃吧 'glass-bar' 琴吧 'piano-bar'

## Examples of bar-words from LIVAC

SH	啤酒吧 'beer-bar'	軟陶吧 'soft-clay-bar'
	搖頭吧	黃陶吧'yellow-clay-bar'
	'head-shaking-bar'	舊吧 'vintage-bar'
	自助吧 'self-service-bar'	木吧 'wooden-bar'
	電腦網吧	紙吧 'paper-bar'
	'computer-internet-bar'	涼吧 'cool-bar'
	咖(啡)吧 'coffee-bar'	緑吧 'green-bar'
	網絡咖啡吧	
	'cyber-coffee-bar'	
SG	飲料吧 'beverage-bar' 奶吧 'milk-bar' 茶吧 'tea-bar' 沐浴吧 'shower-bar'	

### Distributions of "BAR" words in LIVAC

(%)	НК	MC	SH	BJ	TW	SG	TOTAL
Types	10.4	14.3	42.9	14.3	16.9	15.6	100
Tokens	30.1	20.8	23.6	12.7	4.4	8.4	100

#### - Shanghai

- greatest variety in lexical derivatives of bar
- greatest variety of relative cultural developments related to BAR

#### Hong Kong

- the highest concentration of smaller range of bar related events
- greater penetration of bar culture

## Meaning extension of BAR in Chinese

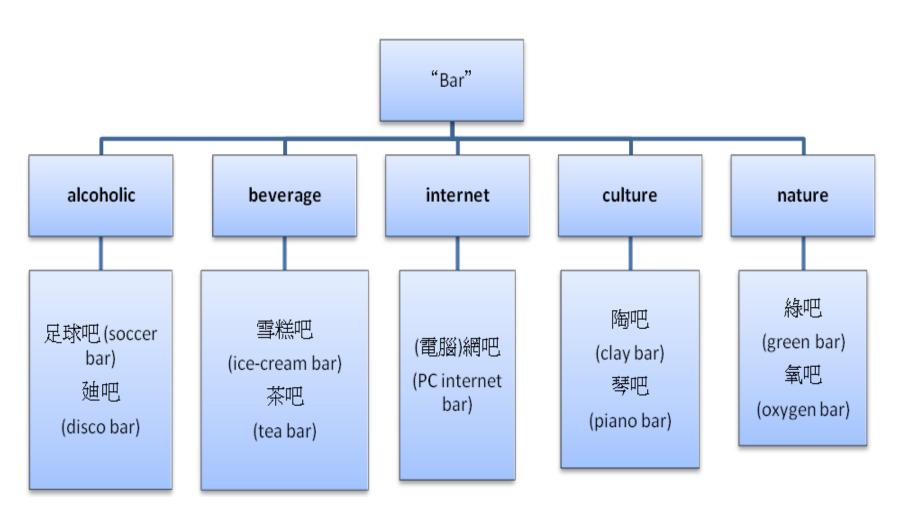
Beyond the traditional association with liquor

- 網吧 (internal-bar / Internet Cafe)
- 咖啡吧 (coffee-bar)

"liquor-drinking places"

"Leisure places which have specific functions or facilities"

## Five categories of 'Bar'



## Distribution of bar-word tokens

Tokens (%)	HK	MC	SH	BJ	TW	SG
Alcoholic	56.3	61.1	43.2	22.6	64.6	61.7
Beverage	0.5	2.8	1.6	0	1.2	4.4
Internet	43.2	35.8	47.4	70.3	26.8	32.7
Culture	0	0	5.3	0.8	4.9	0
Nature	0	0.3	1.6	2.9	0	0
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100

# 吧 (BAR): Observations from HK, MC, TW, SG

Mainly alcoholic and internet establishments





# Distribution of bar-word types

<b>Type (%)</b>	HK	MC	SH	BJ	TW	SG	Total
Alcoholic	17.2	20.7	27.6	10.3	10.3	13.8	100
Beverage	7.1	14.3	42.9	0	7.1	28.6	100
Internet	13.3	13.3	20	20	13.3	20	100
Culture	0	0	66.7	<i>6.7</i>	26.7	0	100
Nature	0	12.5	50	37.5	0	0	100

## 吧 (BAR): Observations from SH, BJ

- Shanghai and Beijing:
  - mostly related to culture and nature
  - more innovative in extending semantic range
- Shanghai: more acculturated towards foreign culture than Beijing

# II. Comparing Chinese and Japanese: Vehicular # word

Chinese (LIVAC) vs. Japanese (Asahi Shinbun)

2 one-month WINDOWs: 1996 vs. 2006 (10 years apart)

Mutual Intelligibility

# VEHICLE 車-related words in 1996 and 2006 WINDOWs: Chinese

No. of items  WINDOW content	Pan- Chinese	HK	MC	TW	SH	SG
1996	190	76	63	55	92	55
Items retained from 1996 in 2006	108	45	42	30	38	35
New in 2006	112	32	42	39	42	38
TOTAL in 2006	220	77	84	69	80	73

## Observations

 44% from 1996 WINDOW retained in 2006 WINDOW

 51% new items in 2006 WINDOW not found in 1996 WINDOW

Shanghai WINDOW: most content change

#### **VEHICLE-related words appear in the Pan-Chinese context**

	1996	2006
1	車	車
2	車輛	車輛
3	汽車	汽車
4	貨車	貨車
5	火車	火車
6	卡車	卡車
7	列車	列車
8	裝甲車/坦克	坦克/裝甲車
9	消防車	消防車
10	救護車	救護車
12	轎車	轎車
13	軍車	中巴
14	客車	巴士
15	警車	賽車
16		車子

Generic items

□ comes from "bus" and was used in Cantonese speech community only

# VEHICLE-related words in 1996 and 2006 WINDOW:

## Japanese (車/カー)

Items	Japanese
No. in the 1996 WINDOW	112
No. retained from 1996 WINDOW	37
No. of others found in 2006 WINDOW	43
Total no found in the 2006 WINDOW	80

## Observations

- Items retained from 1996-WINDOW: CORE vehicle items
  - 自転車 (bicycle)
  - ダンプカー (dump car)
  - 列車 (train)
  - 電車 (electric train)
  - 救急車 (ambulance)
  - 消防車 (fire engine)
  - バス (bus)
  - バイク (bike)
  - タクシー (taxi)

## Observations

- New items in 2006-WINDOW can reflect an increasing concern with different social issues in Japan:
  - 環境対応車 (car powered by electricity)
  - 禁煙車 (non-smoking car)
  - ダンプカー(green car)
  - 自爆車 (suicidal explosion car)
  - 装甲車両 (armored car)

# Comparison of mode of adaptation of VEHICLE words

#### Phonetic adaptation:

- ダンプカー (dump car),バス (bus),バイク (bike), タクシー (taxi)

#### Semantic adaptation:

- 消防車 (fire-engine), 救護車 (ambulance)

#### Hybrid:

- キャンペーン車 (campaign car), クレーン車 (crane), 坦克車 (tank),

## Cultural Compatibility: Hypothesis

 Correlation between linguistic adaptation method and Cultural Compatibility of new concepts/artifacts

1.Accessibility

親近情況

2. Agreeability

投合情况

3. Familiarity

熟悉情況 (Tsou 2000)

### **Cultural Compatibility**

- a) Accessibility
- b) Agreeability
- c) Familiarity



### Distribution of 3 adaptation methods: VEHICLE

%	Phonetic		Hybrid		Semantic	
	1996	2006	1996	2006	1996	2006
Japan	38	15.2	2.8	21.5	59.2	63.3
Hong Kong	18.8	7	6.2	19.2	75	73.7
Macau	4.6	6.5	6.2	9.7	89.2	83.9
Taiwan	6.5	4.3	6.5	10.6	87	85.1
Shanghai	3.8	7.7	6.3	5.8	90	86.5
Singapore	7.4	7.5	5.6	9.4	87	83

#### Observations

 Japan and Hong Kong have significant reduction in using purely phonetic adaptation

Hybrid forms most increase

# Comparative distribution of VEHICLE—related words using KANJI

	1996	2006
Kanji	74 (66%)	52 (65%)
Kana	19 (17%)	18 (22.5%)
Kanji + Kana	19 (17%)	10 (12.5%)

- 1. Kanji, reflecting semantic adaptation, remains stable
- 2. Kana, representing phonetic adaptation, has a slight increase

### Mutual Intelligibility

 A measure of 2-way understanding of words between 2 languages

E.g. Japanese Kanji vs. Chinese characters

 "a Chinese speaker or a Japanese speaker can usually understand words represented by common Kanji/Chinese characters"

# Distribution of Mutual Intelligibility of VEHICLE-related terms

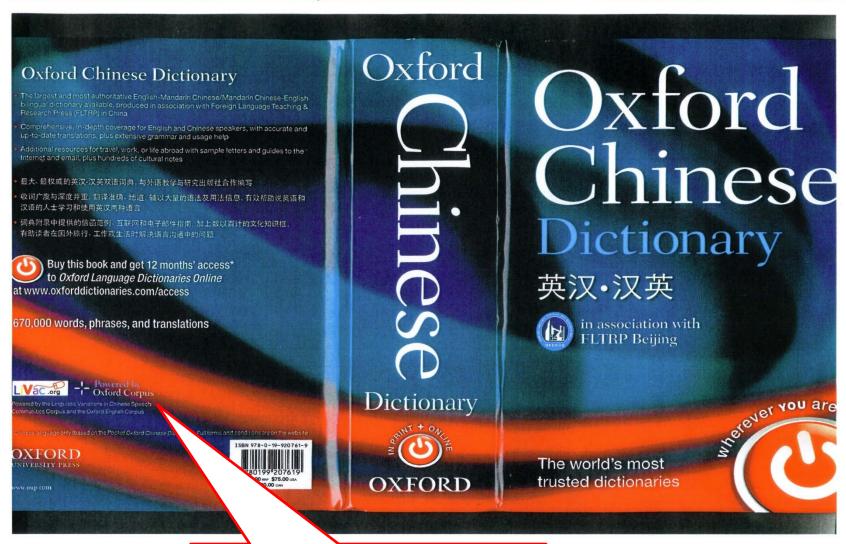
%	China → Japan	Japan → China	Hong Kong → Shanghai	Shanghai→ Hong Kong
1996	78	51.3	80.7	91.7
2006	98	25	98.1	82.5

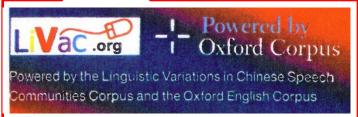
E.g. "China → Japan" means "Chinese understanding of Japanese kanji words"

#### Observations

 Language understanding can be non-mutual between 2 languages

- Significant decrease of Japanese intelligibility of Chinese items in 2006 (i.e. 51.3% → 25%): WHY?
  - Many Chinese VEHICLE-words are phonetically adapted or in hybrid forms: 吉普車 (jeep-car), 坦克 (tank), 摩托 (motor), 的士 (taxi), etc.
  - Meanings are not transparent for phonetic adaptation
    - 坦克≠坦+克 的士≠的+士
  - Japanese kanji 漢字 retain basic semantic link to (original)
     Chinese







### Dazao "打造" "fabricate" (verb) 演變 Selectional Restriction

- I) 「打造」: fabricate concrete objects (動補結構, 以實物為對象賓語)
  - (a) "金縷玉衣" (jade suit)
  - (b) "家具" (furniture)
  - (c) "船隻" (ships)"
- II) 半虛化 (metaphoricalization):
  - a) 打造汽車業的「航空母艦」 fabricate an "aircraft carrier" in automotive manufacturing
  - b) 打造與網絡有關的全新航空母艦 fabricate a brand new "aircraft carrier" of the internet



#### Full relaxation of S-R:

"打造"全虚化的延伸

a)新台灣

New Taiwan

b)新願景

New vista

c)京劇

Peking opera

d)未來

*Future* 

e)新專輯

New special edition

f)新希望

New hope

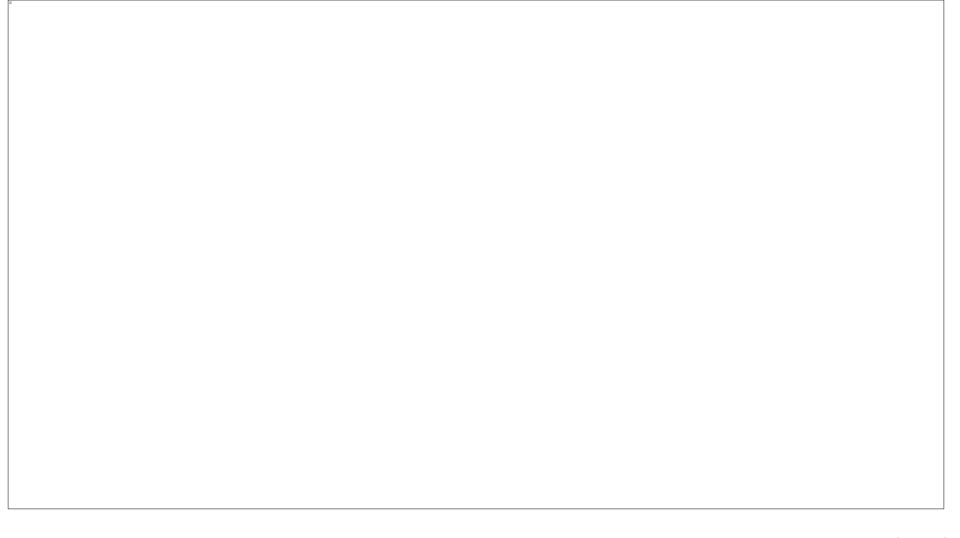
g)新品牌

New brand

h)生活空間

Leisure time

# "打造"語法進化過程



### Some other uses of the monitoring corpus

A. Content analysis and monitoring

- B. Sentiment Analysis
- Report on political personalities
- ..... Products
- •
- C. Cultural icon

  Identity and ethnicity
- D. Linguistic changes

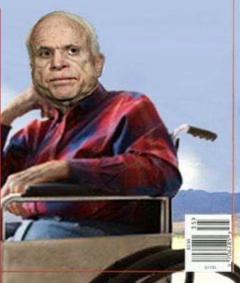












### **Polarity of celebrities**

#### 新聞人物褒貶指數

- Celebrities from 600 news from LIVAC 2004 (i.e. highest exposure in newspaper)
- 選自2004年LIVAC共時語料庫600篇報導中的名人 (即曝光率最高的新聞人物)



### 新聞人物褒貶指數 Polarity of celebrities

人物	北京 BJ	香港 HK	台北TW
鄧小平 Deng Xiaoping	10	10	10
克里 John Kerry	10	0.6	1.4
小泉純一郎 Junichiro Koizumi	-8.4	-10	-4.6
劉翔 Lu Xiang	9.6	10	10
陳水扁 Chen Shuiben	-10	-6.2	-4.6
董建華 Tung CH	10	-2.6	-7.0

# National Identity & Ethnicity

## Titles:稱謂

- 1. (中國)國家主席 江澤民/ 胡錦濤 (China) President Jiang Zemin/ Hu Jiantao
- 2. 李鵬總理/朱鎔基總理/溫家寶總理 Prime Minister Li Peng/ Zhu Rongji/ Wen jiabao
- 3. 李總理/朱總理/溫總理 Prime Minister Li/ Zhu/ Wen
- 4. 李總/朱總/溫總

#### Media use of titles on National figures: HK (1995-2002)

### 香港媒體稱呼國家領導人

### 總理 Premier李鵬、朱鎔基、溫家寶

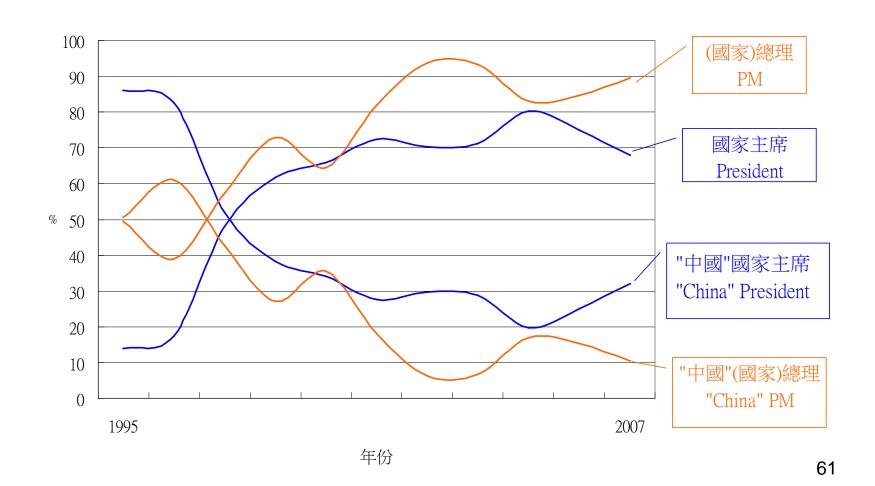
年份	冠有 "中國"	不冠"中國"
	+ "Chinese"	- "Chinese"
	(%)	(%)
95	58.33	41.67
96	67.80	32.20
97	48.08	51.92
98	26.13	73.87
99	31.15	68.85
00	17.46	82.54
01	4.05	95.95
02	8.33	91.67

#### - 國家主席 President 江澤民

年份	冠有"中國"	不冠"中國"
	+ "Chinese"	– "Chinese
	(%)	(%)
95	93.75	6.25
96	85.90	14.10
97	57.14	42.86
98	40.28	59.72
99	41.98	58.02
00	22.62	77.38
01	22.37	77.63
02	19.05	80.95

# National Identity of Hong Kong people: Reference to National Leaders

香港人的民族情感: 媒體稱呼國家領導人



# Titles:稱謂

英國首相 梅杰/ 布莱尔/ 布朗/ 卡梅倫 [恆常]
Prime Minister Major/ Blair/ Brown/ Cameron (always)

#### Media use of titles on National figures: Macau (1995-2002)

#### 澳門媒體稱呼國家領導人

### 總理 Premier李鵬、朱鎔基、溫家寶

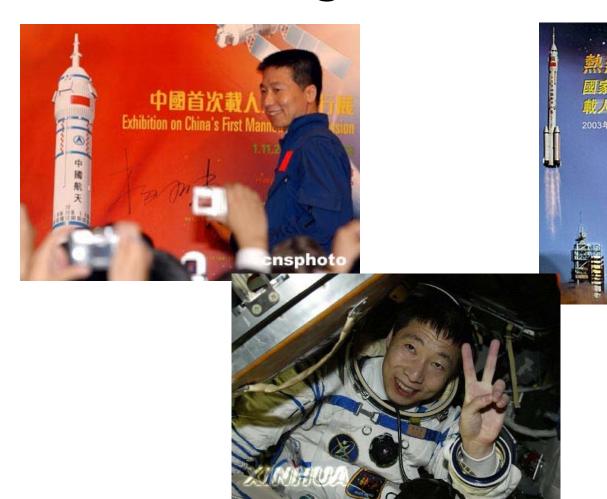
年份	冠有中國	不冠中國
	+ "Chinese"	- "Chinese"
	(%)	(%)
95	46.97	53.03
96	46.81	53.19
97	29.41	70.59
98	25.71	74.29
99	33.33	66.67
00	36.36	63.64
01	44.44	55.56
02	37.50	62.50

#### - 國家主席 President 江澤民

年份	冠有中國	不冠中國
	+ "Chinese"	- "Chinese"
	(%)	- (%)
95	65.31	34.69
96	60.61	39.39
97	78.41	21.59
98	54.43	45.57
99	44.05	55.95
00	40.00	60.00
01	56.52	43.48
02	59.38	40.63

### The first Chinese astronaut:

## Yang Liwei



#### Media coverage of the first Chinese astronaut 楊利偉 (Yang Liwei)

#### 京港台起凹地2003年新聞名人榜

香港、台灣、北京、上海四地見報率最高的名人

	HONG KONG	TAIWAN	BEIJING	SHANGHAI
1	小布殊	小布希	胡錦濤	姚明
2	碧嵐	<b>陳水扁</b>	温家寶	薩達姆
3	薩達姆	哈珊	布什	布什
4	<b>並建華</b>	胡錦濤	江澤民	陳良宇
5	劉德華	劉泰英	吳邦國	韓正
6	謝霆鋒	李登輝	薩達姆	胡錦濤
7	張國榮	游錫	李肇星	哈恩
8	張柏芝	温家寶	吳儀	貝克漢姆
9	梅艷芳	江澤民	阿巴斯	奥尼爾
10	胡錦濤	馬英九	曾慶紅	科比
11	王見秋	張國榮	<b>賈慶林</b>	楊利偉
12	温家寶	布萊爾	李長春	巴金
13	梁錦松	謝深山	楊利偉	小威廉姆斯
14	王菲	宋楚瑜	希拉克	阿拉法特
15	葉劉淑儀	連戦	姚明	小泉純一郎
16	鄭秀文	呂秀蓮	李元龍	吳金貴
17	唐英年	劉德華	唐家璇	吳承瑛
18	<b>陳水扁</b>	朱安雄	毛澤東	烏代
19	陳冠希	阿諾	鮑威爾	成耀東
20	江澤民	李遠哲	阿拉法特	雷鋒
21	梁朝偉	郝龍斌	布萊爾	陳貞虎
22	楊永強	吳國棟	李瑞環	馬良行
23	李克勤	林全	郁建與	江澤民
24	貝理雅	游盈隆	黃菊	阿加西
25	楊利偉	證嚴	陳衛國	阿巴斯

### Chinese- English Bilingual Patents:

- 1.160k patent pairs
- 2.503k sentence pairs for abstracts,150k of very good quality
- 3.5.9M for claims, 1.9M of very good quality
- 4.38M for descriptions, 11M of very good quality

Japanese- English patents: 100K+

### Through Direct or Indirect Vendors









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### Conclusion

- LIVAC, as a Homothematic and synchronous corpus, is very useful as a *monitoring corpus* 
  - To track language development across Chinese communities;
  - To explore social and cultural changes quantitatively and qualitatively;
  - To explore changes in relative cultural orientations and mutual influences among the Chinese communities,
  - and between Chinese and Japanese societies

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