

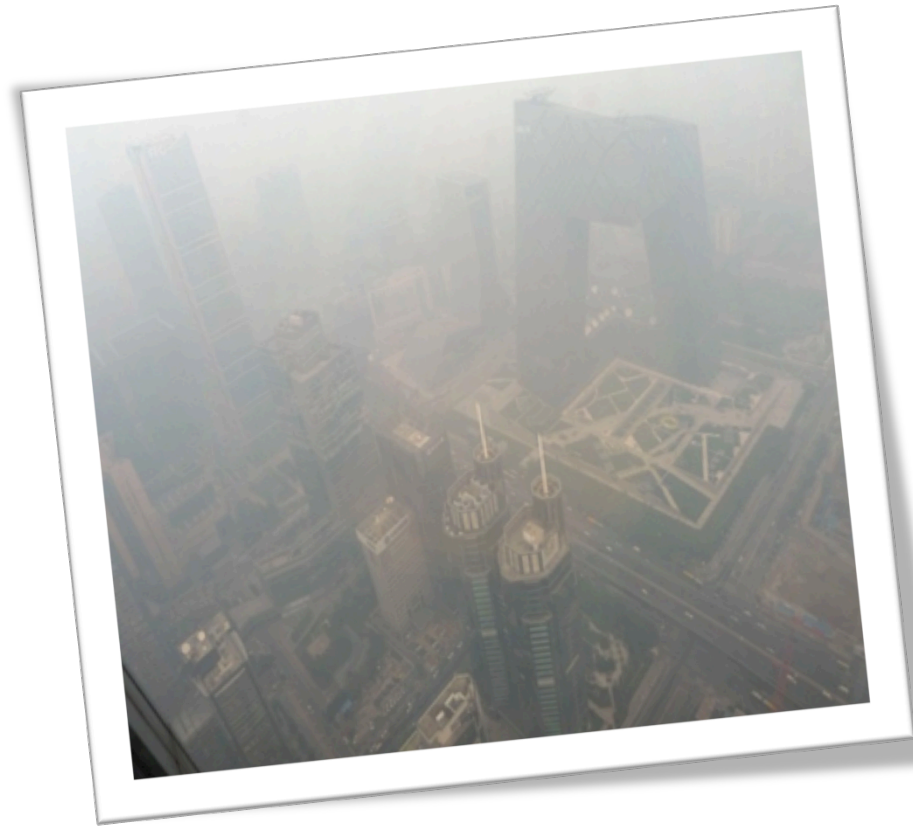
# The CHIPOMAP Project

## Software Studies on Chinese Environmentalism

Research Project Presentation

# + Research Summary

- *“Website Analysis in China: The China Pollution Map of the Institute for Public and Environmental Affairs” (CHIPOMAP)*
- A three-year project studying the software tools used by a Chinese NGO to disclose information about pollution.
- Timeframe: June 2014-June 2017
- Funded by SNF - Project #153291



# + Research Team



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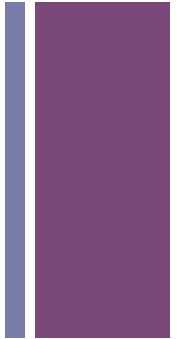


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- Co-Investigator,  
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# Case Study



- IPE: one of the most important Chinese Environmental NGOs.
- Founded by Ma Jun in 2006.
- Plays a growing role in Chinese environmental governance.
- Operates a website and a mobile app aggregating data on pollution in China.
- IPE's software is part of a wide network of human and nonhuman actors (monitoring centers, sensors, factories, local governments, transnational enterprises)



# + Case Study



# + Key Research Questions



What social representations, practices, power relations and epistemologies are shaping the software artifacts IPE produces?



What can we understand about the Chinese environmental crisis by studying the software systems it entails?



Can software studies provide useful tools to area studies such as sinology?

# + Methods

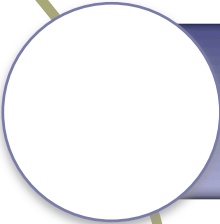
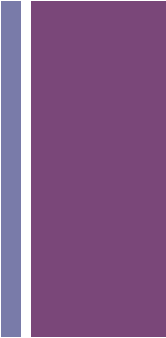
Analysis of IPE's interfaces (website; mobile app; Weibo account; Weixin account).

Analysis of source code and database structure.

Analysis of documents, videos and press coverage produced by and about IPE.

Participant observation of IPE's activities (9 months total).

# + Some Preliminary Findings



Chinese eNGOs act as data curators within a fragmented dataspace.



Pollution cartography in China is still in search of an audience.



Pollution Data is increasingly repackaged within other informational formats (e.g. lifestyle tips).

# + For more Information

<http://www.unige.ch/ic/recherche/>

<https://ic.unige.ch/?p=703>

