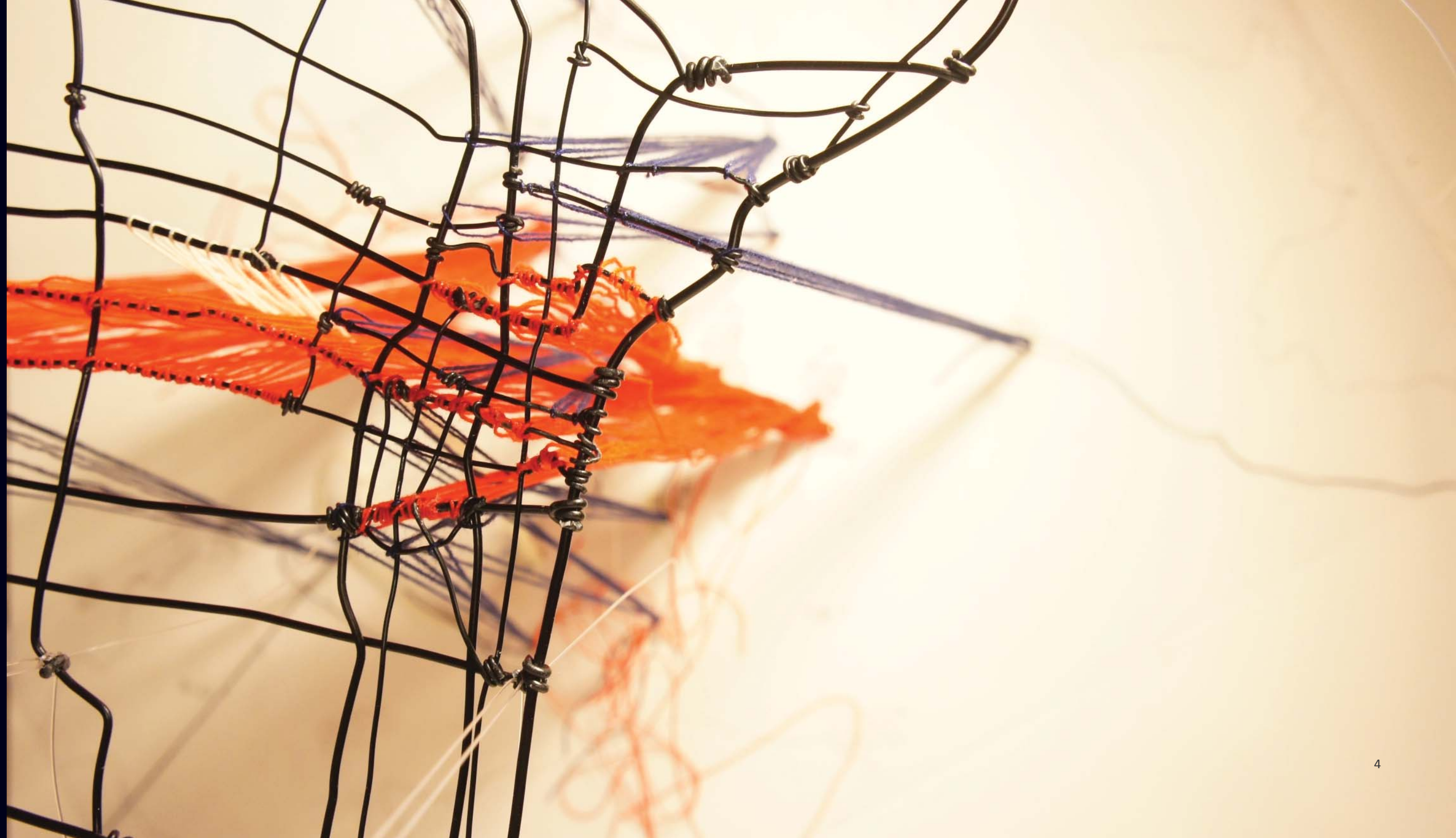


01

June-July 2012
Personal Project

We are the same but different

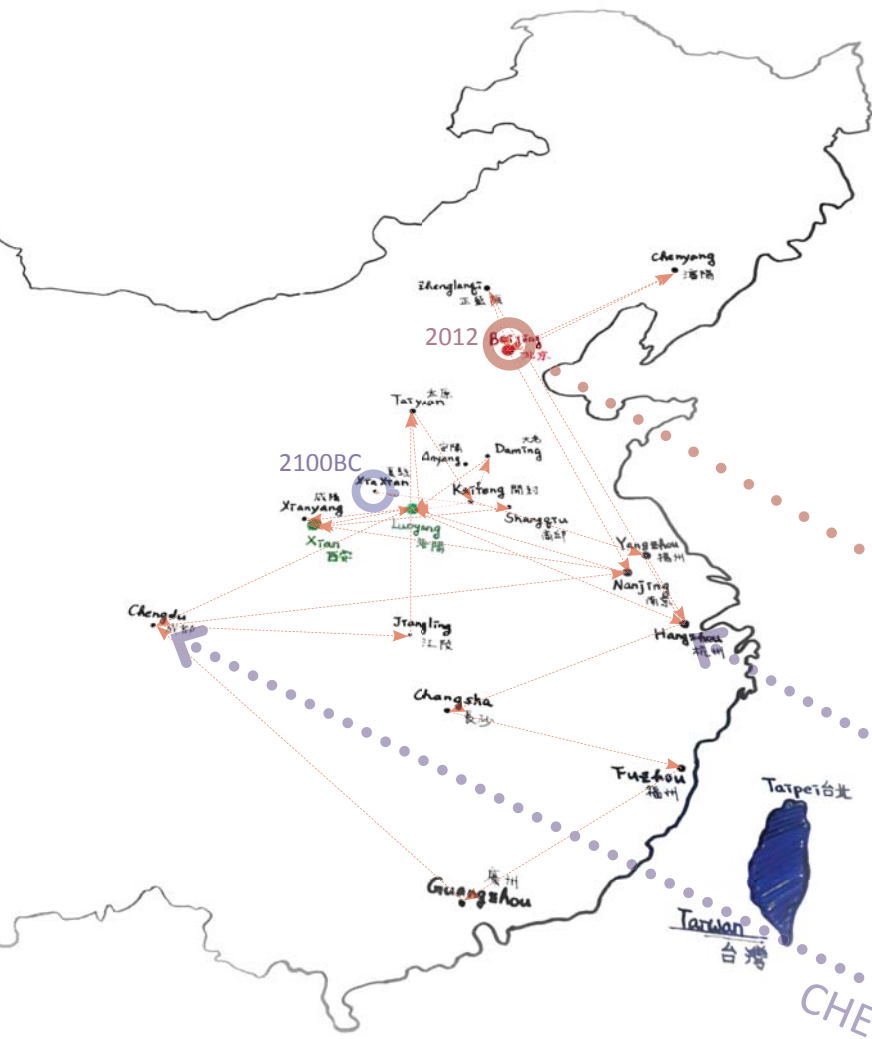
In 1947, about two years after the end of the Japanese reign in Taiwan, an architect was officially sent from China to name the streets and roads within Taipei with the goal and the principle of propagating the Chinese spirit. Interestingly, the architect overlaid the terrain of Taipei City with the atlas of mainland China, and name the streets by using the location names of major provinces and cities of China throughout its past as they fell accordingly over the layout of Taipei city.



Maps

China, with a history for more than 5000 years, has a rich past that dates back as early as 2000 B.C. of the Xia Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty of last century. The location of the capital of China during each dynasty has often been moved and altered.

MAINLAND CHINA



The green dots of Xian and Luoyang are the two places that were frequently chosen as the capital, due to their convenient location in central China.

The orange locus depicts the transition of the capitals from Xia Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty. The purple circle indicates the earliest capital of the Xia Dynasty as well as the beginning of the orange lines. The red circle of Beijing indicates not only the current capital of China but also the end of the orange lines, also marking the conclusion of the lineage of dynasties in China.

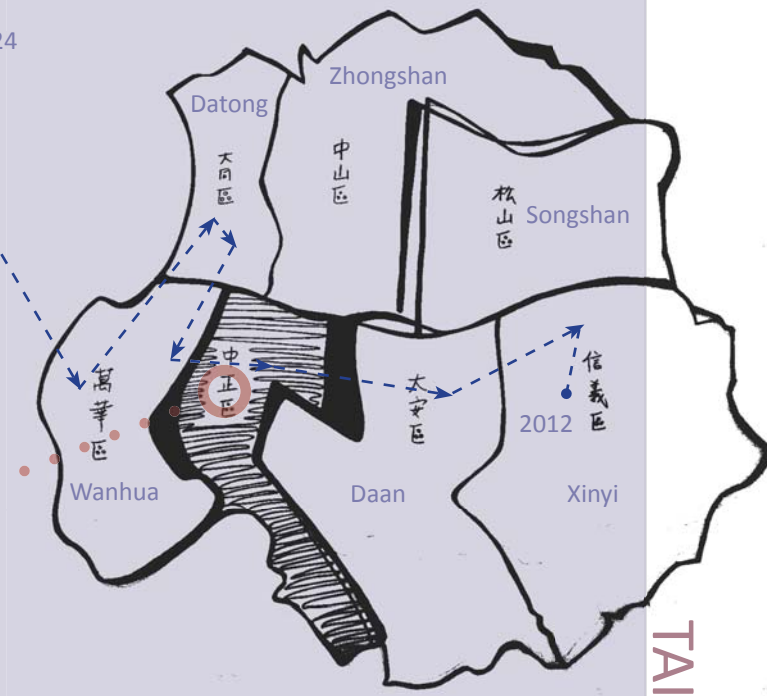
The street map below is of the center of Taipei City, and the colored streets are the counterparts to the capitals of the ancient China. The red circle marks the Taipei train station on Beiping Rd. (Beijing).



BEIJING

Danchui Dist. 1624

The shaded area is where the street map of the center of Taipei City is located.



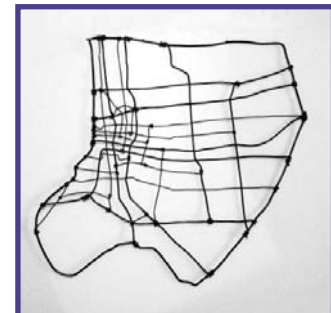
TAIPEI DISTRICT

As time passed, with the growth of economic prosperity and the increase in population density, Taipei City grew to a city of more than 2 million people. The original Taipei city is located mostly in the Zhongzheng District. The blue locus depicts the transition of the economic center of Taipei City. The orange locus and the blue locus are explicitly different in shape, despite the same names on the maps. This is why it can be referred to as “we are the same but different.”

Concept Model



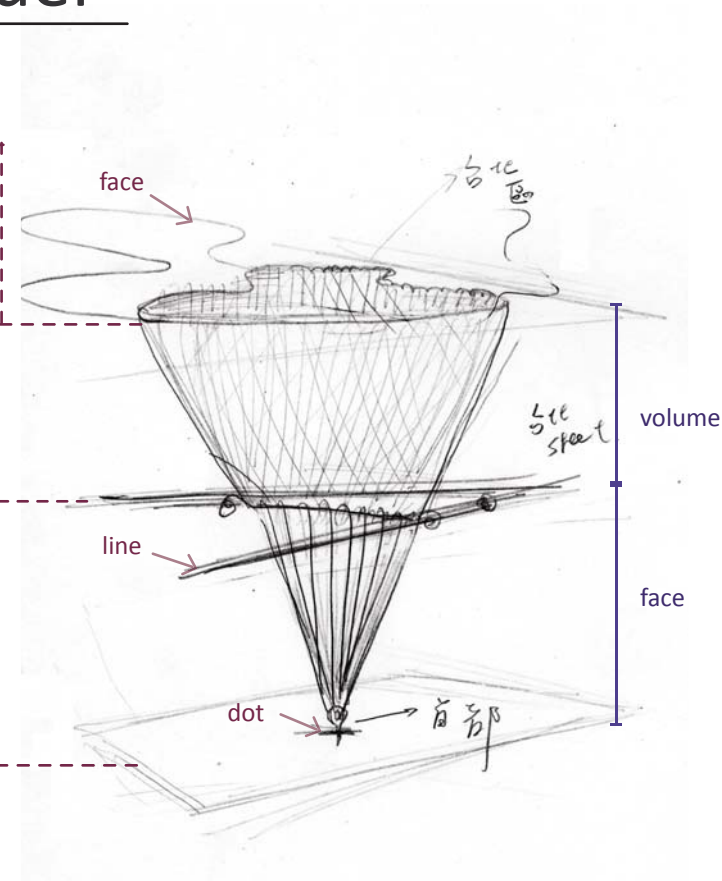
C. District map of Taipei



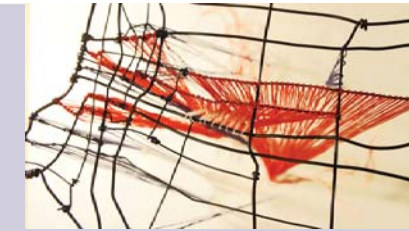
B. Street map of Taipei City



A. Map of Mainland China



The dots on plane A mark the base and depict location of the capitals. Plane B, as second level, shows the lines of the streets. Plane C, as the third level, reveals the facade of the district. Then, the dots and lines are connected in between to form faces. As the last step, the lines and faces are connected to form the volume within.



Looking down from level B

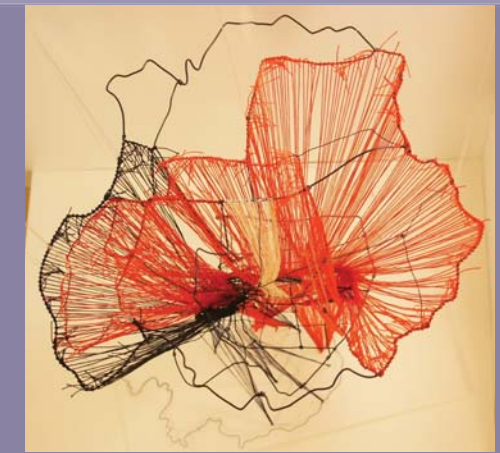


Faces in between level A&B



Final model

Bird view - level C



The middle - level B

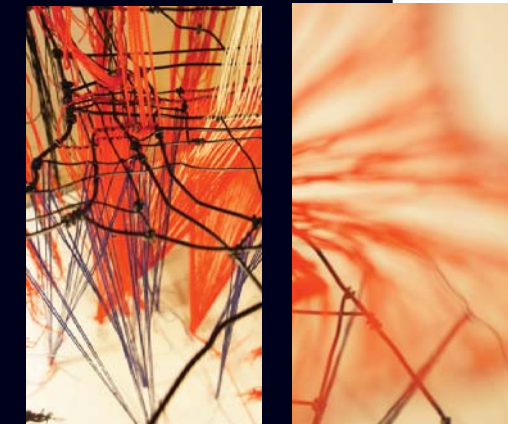


The foot - level A

THREADS



China and Taiwan can be thought of as somewhat related, with cultures and history that are both deeply interconnected. With the visualization of the street names on the maps, both China and Taiwan share some similar roots. Even though we share the same names on the map, the transition of Taipei's economic center does not match the locus of the economic center of China throughout its history. The differences in the locus development show that China and Taiwan are independent of one another to a certain degree, which results in the statement of "We are the same but different."



We are the same but different