Business model

First as a movie information web it is very important to maintain a neutral stance and continue to provide non-biased information. By re-interview the respondents of different groups, I find that they believe that capital-led information is unreliable and this will affect their perception of the site. However, when I asked if they were willing to pay for the information, most of them said they are willing to spend money to support the site if it really helps. This inspired me maybe I can adopt a **paid membership system** and use the membership fee to achieve continuous operation of the website. More specifically, unpaid users can also visit the basic information like the movie rate of different platforms and its abstract. But for other part of the net like the discussion board, they only have one month trial period and can`t continue to use the site properly until pay to become a web member.

According to the interview, the average money that my respondents willing to pay is about 6RMB a moth or 40RMB a year, which means as long as the monthly paid users of the web can exceed 1000, the membership fee can totally cover the costs of this personal website. So, in my point of view, such a model is feasible.

Nevertheless, considering the lack of visibility and user trust in the early stages of the site, I think it`s inappropriate to charge until the site has attract enough initial users to form a stable user base. And the key point of the web is still the content.

Functional & Information Requirement

With reference to the journey map and participants grouping from assignment\_3 as well as the business model above, the main functions and information relating to them of the website should be:

1. Collecting and sorting classic science fiction movies.

2. Providing basic abstract of the movies (e.g. Director, Release Date, Country/District etc.).

3. Integrating movie ratings from different platforms (Douban, IMDB, Rotten Tomatoes)

4. Gathering online sci-fi movie resources.

5. Setting up Release Calendar of the upcoming sci-fi movies

6. Building Discussion board for sci-fi movie fans

7. Establishing a membership system.

**Data Research**

As a science fiction movies information platform, the top priorities is to collect basic information of some representative science movies. Since Douban is the most mentioned platform, I decide to start the data scraping from it.

After collecting a series basic information like the title of a movie from Douban, I found a very useful API which can help to get IMDB rating, release date, runtime, genre, directors, writers, actors, plot, awards, posters & tons of other data of a movie by its title from the IMDB official database with 1000 free request opportunities each day (The online test page of this API: <https://rapidapi.com/rapidapi/api/movie-database-imdb-alternative>). With the help of this API, it is possible for the website to build a movie info database.

As for the remaining information, some of it like the upcoming movies can also be scraped from Douban or IMDB which is not much of a challenge. What is difficult is to gather online sci-fi movie resources from Internet. Except from manually search on Google and Baidu and verify the result one by one, I can't think of any other better way to automate the process at the moment.

Finally the information displayed on discussion board should mainly be the film review and opinions about a movie from the target users of this website that can`t be generate until the real users get involved.

**Data scraping**

In order to obtain preliminary data, I scrap a couple of movie lists with sci-fi theme from Douban at the suggestion of my interviewees. The scraping process and result are attached in the same folder with this doc.