

Postprint: Strategies for Reconfiguring and Enhancing News Editing Capabilities in the Big Data Era

Authors: Zhenhui Yang

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Abstract

The rapid development of mobile network technology has ushered us into the era of big data, precipitating tremendous transformations across various industries. News editing constitutes a field profoundly impacted by big data. Unlike traditional news editing, data journalism has undergone substantial changes in product form, distribution channels, and other dimensions. Based on this, this paper proposes several recommendations for reconstructing news editing competencies through an analysis of the transformations in data journalism in the new era, aiming to enhance news editing capabilities and provide high-quality news content for the public.

Full Text

Reconstruction and Improvement Strategies for News Editing Capabilities in the Big Data Era

Abstract: The rapid development of mobile network technology has ushered us into the big data era, bringing tremendous transformation across industries. News editing is one field profoundly impacted by big data. Unlike traditional news editing, data journalism has undergone significant changes in product form, distribution channels, and other aspects. Based on an analysis of the transformations in data news editing in the new era, this paper proposes several recommendations for reconstructing news editing capabilities, aiming to improve these capabilities and provide high-quality news content for the public.

Keywords: big data; news editing; reconstruction

2. The Necessity of Reconstructing Editing Capabilities in the Data Tide

With the rapid development of mobile internet technology, we have entered the big data era, which has exerted profound influence across all industries, with data analysis finding applications in numerous fields. Big data has enabled leapfrog development in news communication, and the news media industry has formed deep integration with big data, with data analysis playing a role that cannot be ignored. The arrival of the big data era presents both opportunities and challenges for the news communication industry. News editors must adapt to the demands of the times, update their work philosophy, recognize the characteristics of data journalism, and enhance their editing capabilities to create needed data news in a competitive work environment. The concept of news editing continuously evolves with the times, and the transition from traditional news to data journalism requires editors to respond with different capabilities. As news editors, they need to adopt entirely new working methods to edit news that meets public demand, embracing the transformations in news editing work in the big data era with fresh thinking and actions. News editing professionals must reconstruct their professional values and personal capabilities to adapt to the information distribution characteristics brought by mobile internet and new media, thereby fulfilling their new role in information reading and promotion.

1. Changes in News Communication Methods Under the Big Data Background

The big data era has initiated a major transformation, inevitably affecting news communication methods and consequently driving changes in news editing approaches. Compared with traditional news, data journalism exhibits characteristics of “diversification” and “fragmentation.” Massive amounts of news information are widely disseminated through various channels, placing higher demands on news editors. The fast-paced lifestyle and fragmented information presentation methods require news editors to transform their working methods and improve efficiency to meet the high standards of data news editing. Another manifestation of the transformation in news communication methods in the big data era is the change in news content. In the big data era, news content has become more timely, shareable, and open, which increases the difficulty of news editing and requires more specialized editing capabilities.

Data journalism leads originate from the analysis of large datasets, understanding user needs through data to uncover news leads—this represents a change in news sourcing in the new era. Traditional news editing is broadly defined to include all personnel who process news information; in other words, individuals who disseminate and publish news messages through networks. This paper focuses on more specialized editing professionals. Only news editors with strong professional capabilities can skillfully produce high-quality data journalism. Data news editing embodies the integration of media carriers and the

convergence of information collection and editing operations [1]. The explosive spread of information and editing work requires news editors to conduct timely, accurate, and in-depth research in digital media platforms.

2.1 Richer Sources of Data News Leads and More Convenient Information Acquisition

With the rapid updating and improvement of media technology, the ways people access information have continuously multiplied, with newspapers, magazines, and television networks constantly pushing various types of information to the public. Faced with complex and diverse information, people consume substantial amounts of time, significantly impacting their lives. This transformation has driven innovation in the news field, giving rise to data journalism. Compared with traditional news, data journalism is more accessible, allowing people to read a news story using fragmented time without temporal or geographical constraints, which greatly saves time and enriches the content of news information people receive. While enriching news information, data journalism also becomes more personalized and targeted. It can grasp public preferences through data analysis, thereby providing news in forms that are easily accepted. For instance, news with accompanying images and manuscripts is more readily accepted by audiences, so news editors can insert pictures, charts, and other elements into news identified through data analysis. In summary, data journalism represents the mainstream trend in news development, fundamentally changing how people obtain news. News editors must seize the opportunity to reconstruct personal editing capabilities to provide higher-quality news and more valuable information to the public.

2.2 Diversified Forms of Data News Presentation

Timeliness, openness, and diversity are the distinctive features of data journalism in the new era. The development of internet technology has provided various platforms for data news presentation. Data journalism strives to simplify complex issues and present them clearly to audiences, making them willing and able to accept the information. This poses challenges for news editing work. To fulfill their duty of explaining complex and difficult data to the public and making data visual, news editors in the new era must possess data analysis capabilities. Only with the ability to deeply mine data information can they fully realize the value of data resources and improve data resource utilization. The reconstruction of news editing capabilities is an objective requirement arising from changes in news presentation methods in the big data era. Only by keeping pace with the times and consciously reconstructing their news editing capabilities can news editing talents secure a place in the competitive news media field.

3. Strategies for Reconstructing and Improving News Editing Capabilities in the Big Data Era

Data news in the big data era is characterized by timeliness, openness, and diversity, enabling people to access various news stories through multiple media platforms within a certain timeframe. Data news reporting places higher demands on editors. News editors in the big data era must continuously update their knowledge structure to adapt to environmental changes. To become qualified data news editors, they must possess not only keen political judgment, profound humanistic literacy, solid theoretical foundations, and strong overall awareness, but also robust learning capabilities to adapt to rapidly evolving editing work. For example, news editorial departments can regularly organize training programs to disseminate new editing concepts and technologies to news editors, thereby accelerating the reconstruction of news editing capabilities. Additionally, news editors should consciously and proactively learn data news editing techniques—including data collection, data analysis, and data news visualization—based on personal interests and strengths, using their skills to create high-quality data journalism for the public.

3.2 Continuously Improving News Editing Capabilities

Traditional news editing follows corresponding workflows, selecting and editing news from relatively limited information, which to some extent helps ensure news authenticity. However, data journalism faces massive databases, with broadened information sources and increased presentation methods, forcing news editing work to make corresponding adjustments. The enormous volume of data news information, more complex work content, and more flexible working methods represent significant changes. A key characteristic of data news editing is the need to analyze and interpret data information, mining and organizing needed news content from vast data to edit valuable news. News editors can enrich their theoretical knowledge by participating in forum discussions and pursuing further studies, and they must practice boldly to demonstrate their mastered data editing capabilities in their work. Simultaneously, they should continuously reflect on and summarize work experiences to improve data news editing capabilities.

3.3 Mastering the Editing Characteristics of Data Journalism

Data news editing requires recognizing two key characteristics. First, data journalism features openness and reliability of information. Current mobile internet technology development enables readers to access massive amounts of data information, but readers have relatively low ability to distinguish information authenticity, and much data information contains conflicts. To reduce the difficulty for readers in identifying reliable information, news editors must do thorough preliminary work to ensure the scientific nature of data information, improve news

information accuracy, and facilitate reader inquiry. Second, data journalism involves large information volumes, requiring news editors to possess organization and analysis capabilities, striving to mine the depth of news information and enhance news value. As times develop, the work responsibilities of news editors also continuously change. Therefore, news editors must proactively change their work thinking, constantly make adjustments, and edit news content that interests readers using ideas and viewpoints that conform to contemporary trends.

3.4 Using Data Visualization Technology to Improve Data News Editing Capabilities

The key to data journalism is achieving visualization of news content. Therefore, data news editors must master corresponding visualization technologies to present data information vividly to the public. For example, the ManyEyes website provides various data visualization services, using technology to present data to users through charts or images. As data news editors, flexibly mastering data visualization technology is an essential work capability. Only by integrating various artistic designs in visualization with news editing can they use big data technology to add value to news products.

4. Conclusion

Facing entirely new working methods and content in the new era, news workers must transform their work philosophy and continuously improve their professional qualities. News editing personnel need not only basic editing capabilities but also the ability to collect, process, and visualize data before presenting it to the public. In the context of data journalism, news editors must also possess the necessary skills to flexibly use media platforms to smoothly conduct news work. In summary, data journalism represents the mainstream trend in news development. Only by keeping pace with the times and reconstructing professional capabilities can news editors become indispensable talents in the new era.

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(Author’s Affiliation: Tiaobingshan City Radio and Television Station, Liaoning Province)

Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.

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