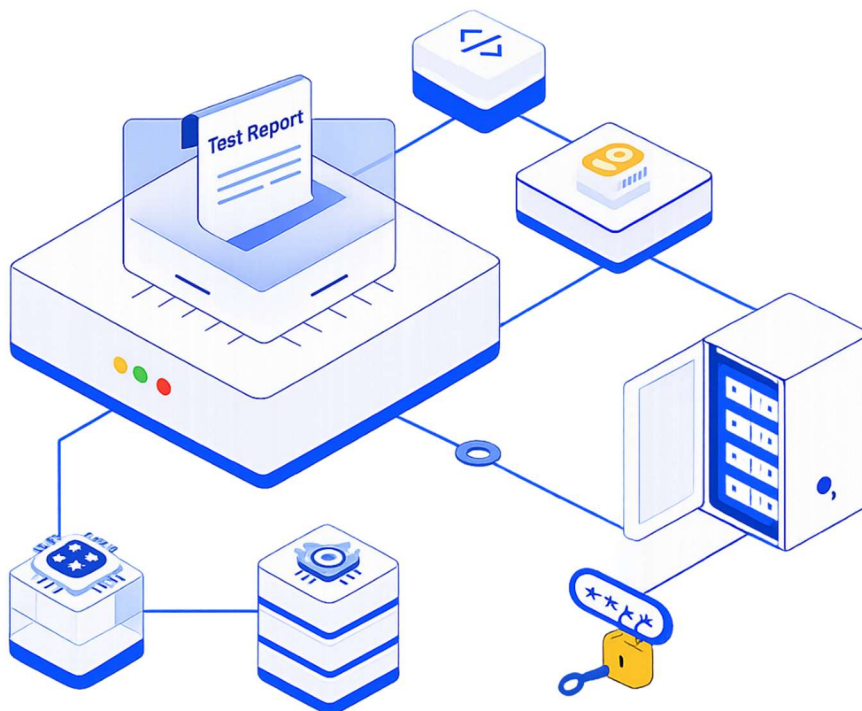


***Can your business be seen in China?***  
***Website visibility testing from inside China***

**24 June 2026**



Author: Peter Heather

Access to China Ltd

[webpagetest@accesstochina.com](mailto:webpagetest@accesstochina.com)

[www.accesstochina.com](http://www.accesstochina.com)

## Chinese Internet site testing tools

Release 3 (3.0)

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Primary Authors: Peter Heather

*Testing your website in China is often seen as complex. It is not. This paper will help you understand the testing process.*

*If you need further help on the points raised, find an error, or find points not covered, please get in touch with [webpagetest@accesstochina.com](mailto:webpagetest@accesstochina.com).*

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<i>A general update of the paper</i>	<i>V2.15</i>	<i>25 July 24</i>	<i>25 July 24</i>
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In keeping with open-source principles and China's Access to Information policy, this testing tool and supporting information to help correct issues are free to use.

This testing process was created using open-source software originally developed by ALO and later enhanced by Google.

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## Can your business website be seen in China?

Like the rest of the world, Chinese companies and consumers are looking for products and services; the starting point is an Internet search.

Since international social media is unavailable in China, your website is the local source of information about your business.

Only 20% of international websites are visible in China. The first step is to understand what parts, if any, can be seen from China; [run visibility testing in China](#).

### Why use our internet site testing tools?



Most website testing tools only check whether your business domain can be accessed from mainland China using a simple “ping test”. A “ping test” is like poking your website to see if it's up and running.

A “ping test” only determines whether your website's IP address is blocked in China. It does not explain your website's performance in China or whether parts of your content are blocked.

The testing process helps you understand which parts of your business can be seen online in China and the response times. Most international sites take over 30 seconds to load. This is due to global social media and Google site content being blocked or slowed down, leaving your website with missing components or not working.

The reports show how each part of your website's content performs. Your website's performance is measured by how end users perceive your website and business.

This testing process was created using open-source software originally developed by ALO and later enhanced by Google.

In keeping with open-source principles and the Access to China policy to share information, this testing tool and supporting information to help correct issues are free to use.



If you need help reviewing and correcting your internet site visibility in Chinese, please do not hesitate to get in contact. [webpagetest@accesstochina.com](mailto:webpagetest@accesstochina.com)

## Test your website.

Start testing here: <https://webtest.accesstochina.com/>



The screenshot shows the 'Website visibility testing from China' interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: HOME, TEST RESULT, TEST HISTORY, LEARN MORE, ABOUT, and LOGIN. Below the navigation bar is the title 'Website visibility testing from China'. The main content area has two tabs: 'Test Website Page' (selected) and 'Traceroute'. There is a text input field for 'Enter a Website page URL'. Below it are two dropdown menus: 'Test Location' (set to 'Japan') and 'Browser' (set to 'Chrome'). At the bottom of the form, it says 'Number of test you run today: 0, out daily maxuman of 20'. To the right of the form is a blue button that says 'Please login to start testing'. Below the form is a link to 'Website visibility testing from China manual'.

<https://webtest.accesstochina.com/>

You can run up to 20 tests per day without charge. However, your email address is limited to prevent robotic testing.

If you wish to run more than 20 tests in a day, please email [webpagetest@accesstochina.com](mailto:webpagetest@accesstochina.com)

Given the details to be reviewed during testing, we recommend using a tablet or PC for this website.

## Login / Register



The screenshot shows the login/register interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: HOME, TEST HISTORY, LEARN MORE, ABOUT, and LOGIN. Below the navigation bar is the title 'Please log into Access to China website test process'. There is a text input field for 'Email Address:'. Below it is a text input field for 'Enter Login Code:'. At the bottom are three buttons: 'Login', 'Request/Reset Login Code', and 'Clear'.

We need your email address to enable you to access test results and to control access to testing processes.

Your email address is only used by Access to China. If you wish us to remove your details from our database, please email us at [webpagetest@accesstochina.com](mailto:webpagetest@accesstochina.com).

We use one cookie only to deliver our services. Access to China does not keep or use any information collected using cookies. It is only present to control data between screens. We will remove this cookie during our next system upgrade.

If you need further help on the points raised, find an error, or have questions about points not covered, do not hesitate to contact us at [webpagetest@accesstochina.com](mailto:webpagetest@accesstochina.com).

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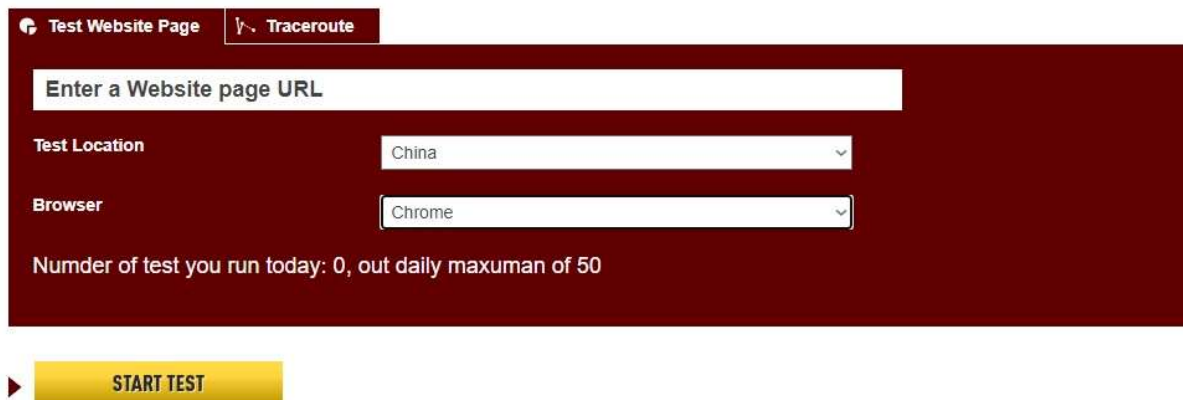
No part of this website may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or by any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission from the author.

By logging into our test system, we understand that you have accepted the points above.

## The testing processes



## Start your testing



Test Website Page | Traceroute

Enter a Website page URL

Test Location: China

Browser: Chrome

Number of test you run today: 0, out daily maxuman of 50

START TEST

Enter the URL for the page you wish to test:

This can be the www subdomain, the domain name, or the IP address.

Select the test location:

If you have not tested your web page before, we recommend that you baseline it on a location outside China. Any problem shown from outside China can be identified as an existing problem.

Select browser:

Chrome is the most widely used in China.

Press “Start Test”:

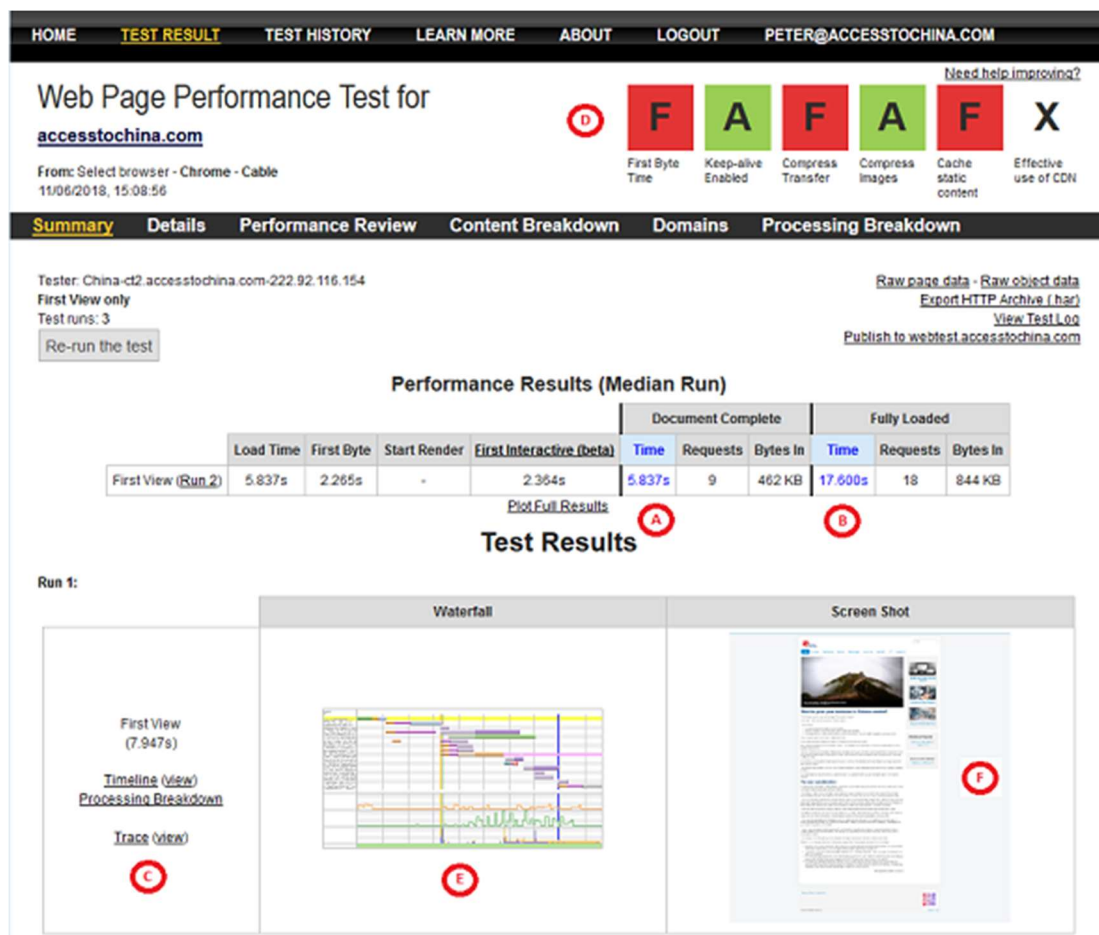
Test runs take up to 10 minutes. The tests are run three times, and the results are shown as each test is completed.

If you want to run multiple tests, return to the home page and start another once your original test has begun. The first test will remain in the queue and be processed as resources become available.

More than one test agent is running on each network in China, so the wait should not be too long.

## Review test results

Once the internet site page has been tested three times, you will see results like this:



(a) The average time over three tests has been taken to show the user browser's first response.

(b) The average time over three tests it has taken to load the entire website page.

- (c) The time it has taken to load the entire internet site page content for each test.
- (d) The website response time components are graded for each test.
- (e) Waterfall chart showing all the components of your website page and their individual response time. If you are new to Internet waterfall reports, please see <https://webtest.accesstochina.com/learnmore.php>.
- (f) An image of the website page from the test location.

## Make corrections

Make changes to your website when response times are slow and missing. For ideas on potential changes, please see <https://webtest.accesstochina.com/learnmore.php>.

## Re-run test

Retest website pages as required and confirm any changes have been successful.

Please test from outside China first to ensure that any changes you have made have not affected your website's general performance or content.

## Reviewing your internet page test results

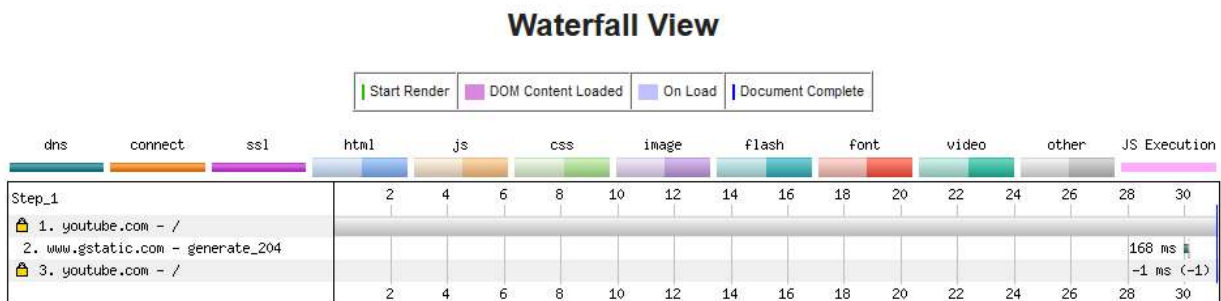
The web test page results are run three times. Each time, the local browser history is cleared. In doing so, it creates the following reports:

### Waterfall View Report

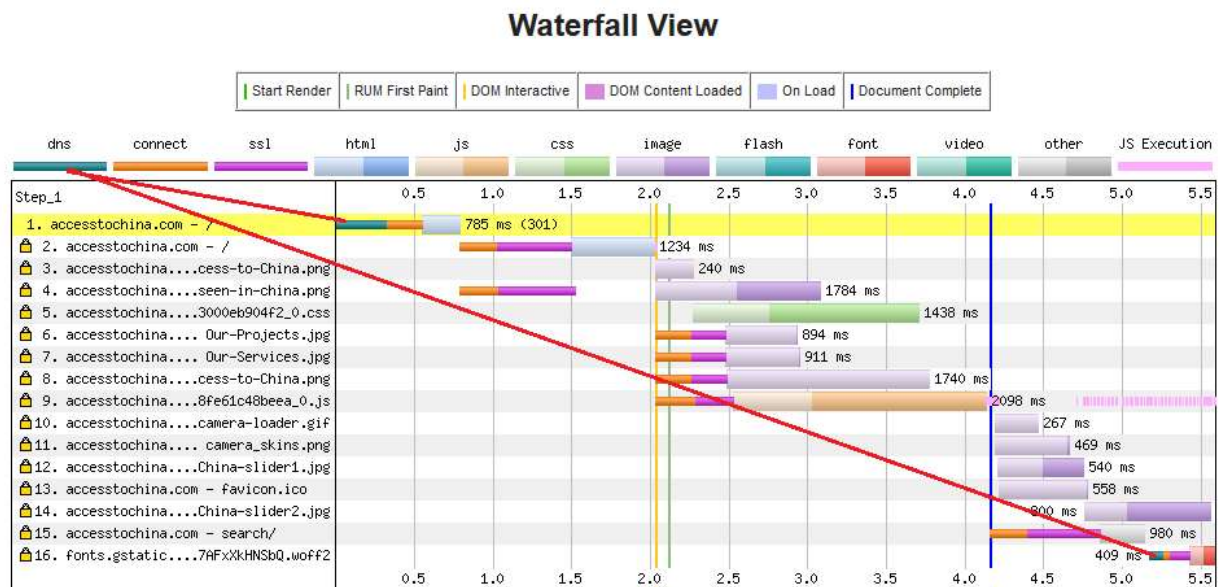
You may see the following issue from the outset;

- On the first test, you may see that your web page was not found. This often happens in China if the domain name has not been used recently. It does find the domain name on its first attempt,
- If all three tests show nothing found, the web page is blocked, or your URL was wrongly entered.

This is an example of blocked internet site content: youtube.com

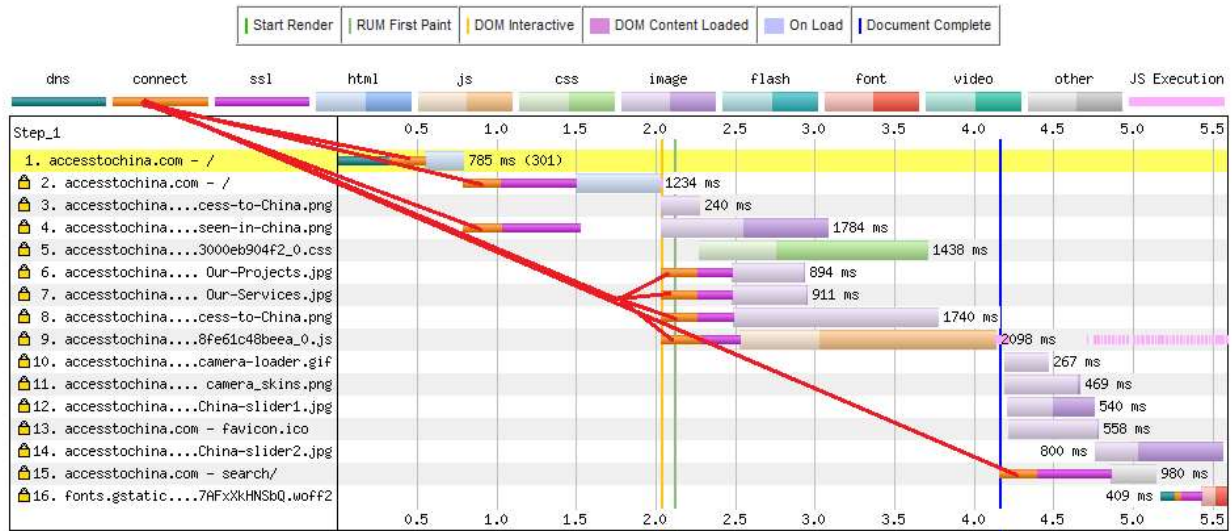


The DNS lookup is performed for each domain used in your website. This example is our web page, accesstochina.com, showing the DNS load time (green line).



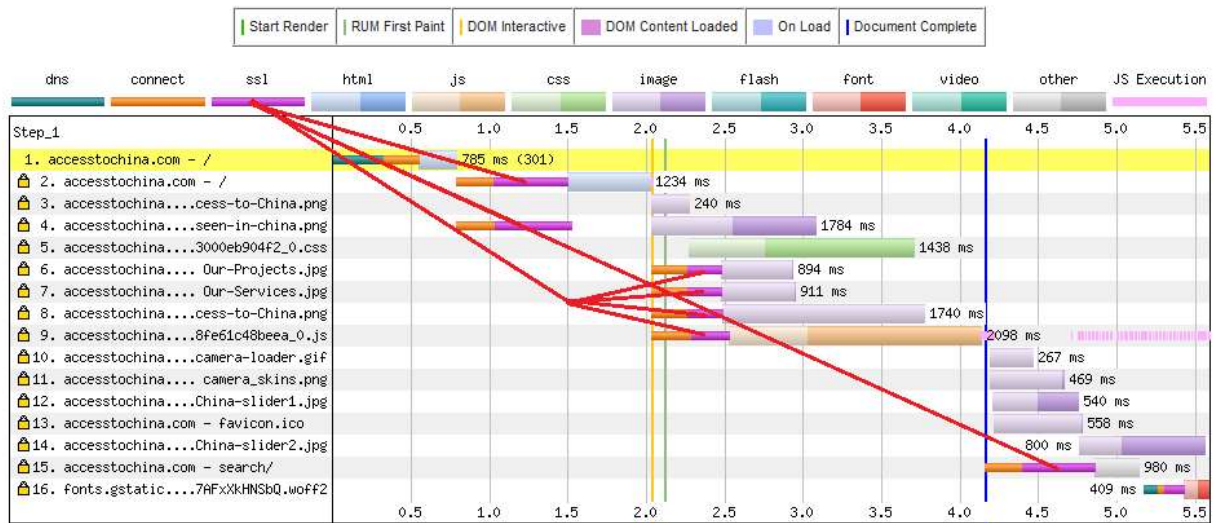
The connection time from the browser to the service is shown in orange;

## Waterfall View



If you are using an SSL certificate to secure your website, it will affect the response time, shown on the purple line;

## Waterfall View

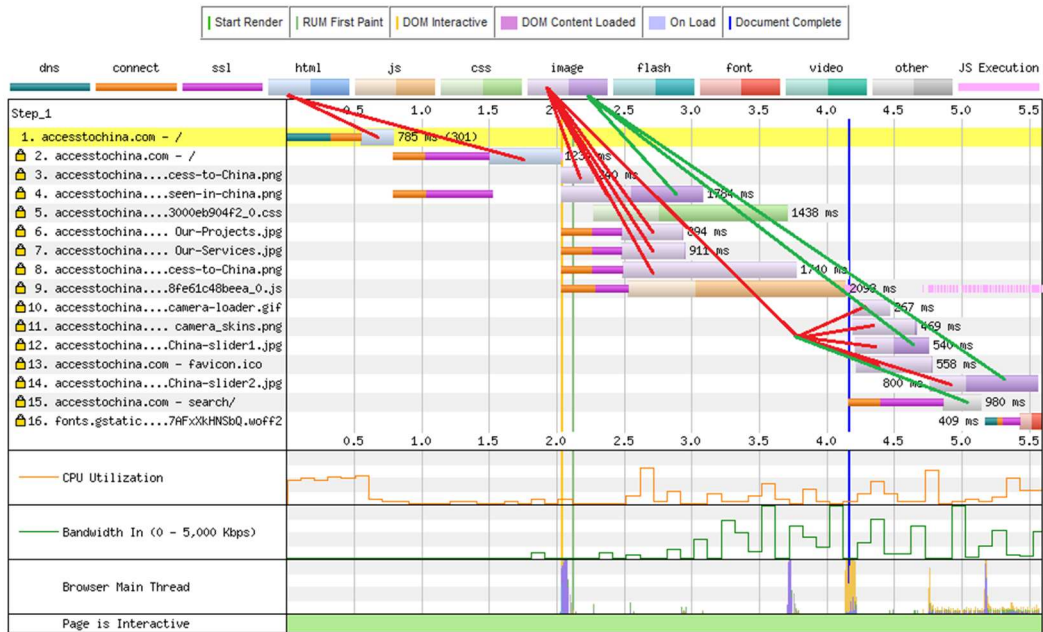


The waterfall report shows each web page element. The lighter colours for each component indicate the time it takes to load the first data byte. The end of the line, in a darker colour, indicates the time it took to load the element in the browser.



Here is an example showing the HTML elements

### Waterfall View



The overall response time is measured from the start to fully loaded when all the data on your web page has been collected.

“Start Render” is the point at which the browser begins displaying information.

Document Complete is when the browser has displayed the full page of your website. This can be misleading if you display a “Cookie” message or a background script. This type of message often locks up a webpage until it is Fully Loaded.

If you have this problem on your website, the user will often "click " on some of your website's pages and, in doing so, lock your website. This is why remote testing of your website is so important.

### Waterfall View



### Connection View

This shows the connection between the browser and the server. The slower the response time, the more connections are reviewed.

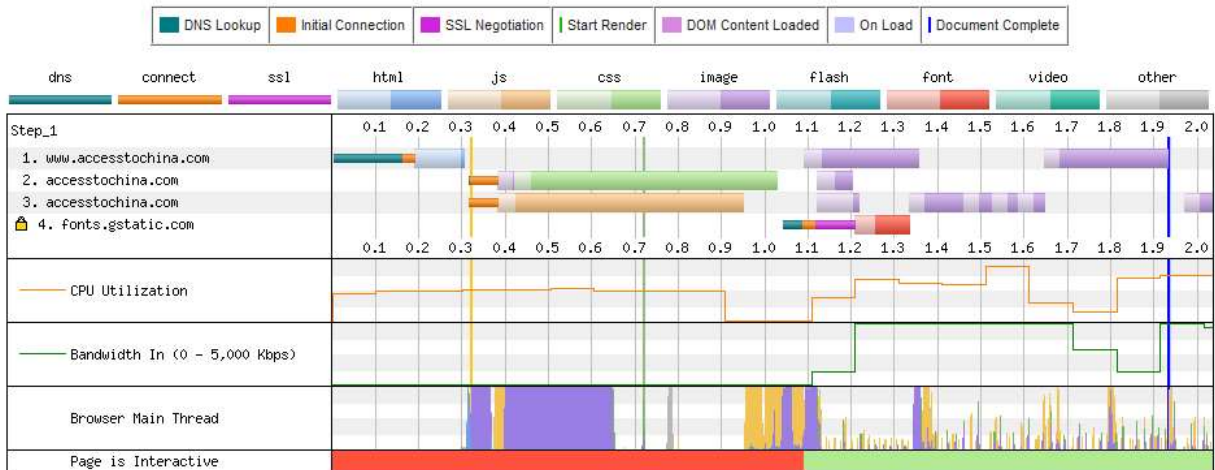
This connection view is accessible from a browser in China to a server in the UK.

### Connection View



This connection view is accessed from China.com from a UK browser to a UK server.

## Connection View



## Request detail Report

The request detail report summarises the status codes the browser receives when trying to access your internet site. For example, Google Captcha is accessible from China. Below is a list of status codes for your reference.

## Request Details



Request Details												
#	Resource	Content Type	Request Start	DNS Lookup	Initial Connection	SSL Negotiation	Time to First Byte	Content Download	Bytes Downloaded	Certificates	Error/Status Code	IP
1	http://oap.com/oa_CSzQAQIFBzABAQ%3D%3D	application/oap-response	0.866 s	84 ms	69 ms	-	75 ms	-	-	-	200	-
2	https://www. [redacted] /ted/product-createsales	text/html	0.944 s	87 ms	296 ms	557 ms	736 ms	46 ms	6.8 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
3	https://www. [redacted] /s/app-ofc467da9.cs	text/css	1.691 s	-	-	-	350 ms	612 ms	75.6 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
4	https://www. [redacted] /8a986cb43b905190.cs	text/css	1.691 s	-	-	-	1013 ms	-	4.6 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
5	https://www. [redacted] /xQnnnlQAvEBDbYbaP2h7	text/css	1.691 s	-	-	-	969 ms	-	0.4 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
6	https://www. [redacted] /s/oa/clientarea.cs	text/css	1.692 s	-	-	-	875 ms	38 ms	15.9 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
7	https://www. [redacted] /ted/img/ue-top.png	image/png	1.692 s	-	-	-	309 ms	-	1.5 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
8	https://www. [redacted] /assets/img/logo.png	image/png	1.692 s	-	-	-	642 ms	9 ms	3.3 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
9	https://www. [redacted] /assets/img/logo.svg	image/svg+xml	1.692 s	-	-	-	330 ms	4 ms	2.4 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
10	https://www.google.captcha/api.js?hl=en	-	1.695 s	-	-	-	1265 ms	-	-	-	-1	-
11	https://www. [redacted] /img/ua-left.svg	image/svg+xml	1.708 s	-	-	-	301 ms	11 ms	2.8 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44
12	https://www. [redacted] /js/dropdown.min.js	application/javascript	1.711 s	-	-	-	1538 ms	-	3.3 KB	-	200	104.20.173.44

CODE	INDICATION
<b>2xx</b>	<b>Success</b>
200	OK, the request was fulfilled.
201	OK, following a POST command.
202	OK; accepted for processing, but processing is not completed.
203	OK; partial information--the returned information is only partial.
204	OK; no response. The request was received, but there was no information to send back.
<b>3xx</b>	<b>Redirection</b>
301	Moved--the data requested has a new location, and the change is permanent.
302	Found- the data requested has a temporary URL.
303	Method- under discussion; a suggestion is for the client to try another location.
304	Not Modified- the document has not been modified as expected.
<b>4xx</b>	<b>The error seems to be on the client side.</b>
400	Bad request--syntax problem in the request, or it could not be satisfied.

401	Unauthorised--the client is not authorised to access data.
402	Payment required — indicates that a charging scheme is in effect.
403	Forbidden access is not required even with authorisation.
404	Not found — server could not find the specified resource.
<b>5xx</b>	<b>The error seems to be in the server.</b>
500	Internal Error — The server could not fulfil the request due to an unexpected condition.
501	Not implemented — the server does not support the requested facility.
502	The server was overloaded, and the high load (or servicing) was in progress.
503	Gateway timeout- the server waited for another service that was not completed in time.
-1	This denotes an aborted/timed-out request (either the server is down, the client is not connected to the internet, or the client manually cancelled the request)—this is often the status when Chinese internet is blocking content on the site.

## Request Header Report

A list of all the files required to display your website page.

### Request Headers

[+ Expand All](#)

- + Request 1: <http://www.accesstochina.com/>
- + Request 2: <https://www.accesstochina.com/>
- + Request 3: [https://accesstochina.com/media/plg\\_jchoptimize/cache/css/6dc239ff6655fc7ac2755f5552bc8133\\_0.css](https://accesstochina.com/media/plg_jchoptimize/cache/css/6dc239ff6655fc7ac2755f5552bc8133_0.css)
- + Request 4: <https://accesstochina.com/images/Access-to-China.png>
- + Request 5: [https://accesstochina.com/media/plg\\_jchoptimize/cache/js/22d06b1206aa89a1ba7f395f197d57af\\_0.js](https://accesstochina.com/media/plg_jchoptimize/cache/js/22d06b1206aa89a1ba7f395f197d57af_0.js)
- + Request 6: [https://accesstochina.com/modules/mod\\_slideshowck/themes/default/images/camera-loader.gif](https://accesstochina.com/modules/mod_slideshowck/themes/default/images/camera-loader.gif)
- + Request 7: [https://accesstochina.com/modules/mod\\_slideshowck/themes/default/images/camera\\_skins.png](https://accesstochina.com/modules/mod_slideshowck/themes/default/images/camera_skins.png)
- + Request 8: <https://www.accesstochina.com/images/home-slider/China-slider1.jpg>
- + Request 9: <https://accesstochina.com/templates/protostar/favicon.ico>
- + Request 10: <https://accesstochina.com/images/rtlogoshowcase/being-seen-in-china.png>
- + Request 11: <https://accesstochina.com/images/rtlogoshowcase/Our-Projects.jpg>
- + Request 12: <https://accesstochina.com/images/rtlogoshowcase/Our-Services.jpg>
- + Request 13: <https://accesstochina.com/images/qrcodes/Access-to-China.png>
- + Request 14: <https://www.accesstochina.com/index.php/component/search/?Itemid=101&format=opensearch>
- + Request 15: <https://www.accesstochina.com/images/home-slider/China-slider2.jpg>
- + Request 16: <https://fonts.gstatic.com/s/droidsans/v8/SIGVmQWmvZQldix7AFxXkHNSbQ.woff2>

## Reviewing your test results

If you have not used this type of testing service before, we recommend that you review your test results as follows.

- 1) Check the social media and multimedia content for missing information
- 2) Check the “Full Load” time for your internet page. If greater than 8 seconds, review the Waterfall reports to identify the parts of your website content that have slow response times. These parts of your website content will need to be changed for the Chinese market.

- 3) Check the test report for error codes 400, 500, and -1. (Internet site content not found)
- 4) Review the Waterfall report and compare it with your “baseline” report. Focus on the differences. Again, these parts of your website content will need to be changed for the Chinese market.

Access to China is cost-effective.

### **Your website cannot be viewed in China.**

This does not happen often, but when it does, your internet site cannot be seen at all. Please see “Chinese Internet monitoring” in the report “Publishing on the Internet in China” to check that your internet site is not a subject that is blocked in China.

In most cases, your internet site is blocked in China due to international social media. There are a few cases, though not very often, where the IP address is blocked because another website is running on it, which is not appropriate for the Chinese internet.

If this is the case, ask your internet service provider to change your site's IP address.

### **Fixing the web page performance issues**

Below are the most common problems and recommendations for improving web page performance.

By making your web page accessible to the Chinese internet, you may be creating additional problems for your local internet.

We do not recommend creating a second set of web pages for Chinese and Asian markets. Maintaining two or more internet sites creates significant overhead and can become a full-time job, even though our Core Data service is low-cost and low-risk.

To keep within the spirit of open source, here are the most common problems we see and how we have fixed them.

### **The EU GDPR compliant (Cookie acceptance)**

There is now a ruling requiring EU countries to ask internet users whether they accept your business's tracking of internet site data.

This is leading to confusion when reviewing your website in China / Asia;

- Often, the “accept” change button is poorly coded, so it locks your data until the browser has fully loaded all the data. The internet user may be waiting minutes for this to complete.
- Cookie acceptance is not understood by someone who cannot read your language. If they use the browser translate option, it often does not work on pop-up messages.

- Poor technical coding of the “cookie acceptance message” often leaves the web page unusable.
- Chinese search engines will see your web pages as poor performance, and you will get poor search engine ranking.
- Google Analytics performs very poorly in China, dramatically slowing down your web page performance.

We recommend removing all tracking cookies from your web pages so that the EU GDPR-compliant acceptance message is no longer required. You will lose some marketing data; more importantly, your web pages can be read.

Use our web page test tool to monitor what an internet user in China/ can see.

## Poor Internet site design and coding

Not all websites are written well enough to be accessed over a slow internet connection.

Subject	Issue	Recommendation
Large-sized images and videos	Images have not been resized for the user screen.	Update coding and multimedia so that they are sent over the Internet at the correct size to the end user. This change will significantly improve your mobile response worldwide.
Number of files that make up your internet site page	The more files you have on your internet site page, the slower the response time	Use the waterfall to determine the overall performance of many files. If the number of files is reduced, redesign/recoding may be required.
Number of files required by third-party services	Files needed to load third-party services, e.g. Google Analytics	Use the waterfall to determine the overall performance of third-party services in China. A design change/replacement service may be required.
Scripts that lock the web page until all the sites are loaded, e.g. "cookie acceptance."	Users must wait for the full page to load before accessing the website.	Change the web page's code to prevent this from happening.

## Social Media is blocked on the Chinese internet.

Most social media are blocked in China. There are ways around most of the issues this can create.

Subject	Issue	Recommendation
Images and videos	Blocked in China when images and videos from international social media	Copy and load the photos and videos directly from your internet site server.
Social media icons	These can be slow to download from social media websites or can be blocked.	Copy and load the images and videos directly from your internet site server.
Cannot access international social media.	International social media is blocked in China.	Copy and load your international social media content to a Chinese platform.

### Third-party services

Most third-party services, except for security services, are not blocked in China. Some are slowed down, making them unusable.

The exception to this point is Google reCAPTCHA, which is blocked.

Subject	Issue	Recommendation
Google Maps	It takes a long time to load in China; it does not load at all.	Replace Google maps with Bing or Baidu maps. With all mapping tools, there is an option to display in Chinese.
Google fonts	It can take up to 60 seconds to load a full copy of the font file.	Make a copy of Google fonts and load the files directly from your server.
Google reCAPTCHA	This is blocked in China. If you use this on a web page, your service will not work.	Replace Google reCAPTCHA with a local tool running on your server.
Google Analytics	Like with all other Google services, its access speeds are slowed down	Monitor and remove/replace as required

For more information, please see [Improving Website Performance in China](#)

## Web page test links

### Chinese web page testing

<https://webtest.accesstochina.com/>

Title	Chinese website performance free testing service
Description	Run a free Chinese website speed test worldwide using real browsers at consumer connection speeds with detailed optimisation recommendations.

### Chinese web page testing results page

<https://webtest.accesstochina.com/result/- test results code does here ->

Title	Chinese website Test Results
Description	Chinese Website Performance Test Result

### Chinese web page testing results history

[https://webtest.accesstochina.com/test\\_results\\_display.php](https://webtest.accesstochina.com/test_results_display.php)

Title	Web page performance analysis for China
Description	Speed up the performance of your web pages in China with an automated analysis.

### Learn more about Chinese web page testing.

<https://webtest.accesstochina.com/learnmore.php>

Title	Learn more about web page performance analysis for China.
Description	Learn more about how you can speed up the performance of your web pages in China with an automated analysis.

### About Access to China testing web test page

<https://webtest.accesstochina.com/about.php>

Title	About Access to China Testing Service
Description	How can you test your website pages from China? How does your web page perform from mainland China?

### Log in and start testing in China.

Title	Start your Chinese website performance testing.
Description	Register and log in to start testing your company website in China.