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# Climatic warming in China during 1901-2015 based on an extended dataset of instrumental temperature records

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Monthly mean instrumental surface air temperature (SAT) observations back to the nineteenth century in China are synthesized from different sources via specific quality-control, interpolation, and homogenization. Compared with the first homogenized long-term SAT dataset for China by Cao et al. (2013), which contained 18 stations mainly located in the middle and eastern part of China, the present dataset includes homogenized monthly SAT series at 32 stations, with an extended coverage especially towards western China. Missing values are interpolated by using observations at nearby stations including those from neighboring countries. Cross validation shows that the mean bias error (MBE) is generally small and falls between 0.45°C and -0.35°C. Multiple homogenization methods and available metadata are applied to assess the consistency of the time series and to adjust inhomogeneity biases. The homogenized annual mean SAT series show a range of trends between 1.1 and 4.0°C/century in northeastern China, between 0.4 and 1.9°C/century in southeastern China, and between 1.4 and 3.7°C/century in western China to the west of 105E (from the beginning years of the stations to 2015). The unadjusted data include unusually warm records during the 1940s and hence tend to underestimate the warming trends at a number of stations. The mean SAT series for China based on the Climate Anomaly Method shows a warming trend of 1.56°C/century during 1901-2015, larger than those based on other currently available datasets.

**Keywords:** surface air temperature (SAT); long-term meteorological observations; homogenization; China; global warming.

## 1. Introduction

Climatic warming during the past century has been evident in worldwide surface air temperature (SAT) records (Hartmann *et al* 2013, Jones 2016). It is clear that long-term and homogeneous instrumental SAT series are essential for quantifying the observed climate trend. Great efforts have been made for decades to develop reliable long-term SAT series for different regions over the world (Jones *et al* 1999, Jones 2016).

Collection, compilation, and construction of long-term instrumental SAT data in China have also been on-going over recent decades (Tao *et al* 1991, Wang *et al* 1998, Cao *et al* 2013). However, the estimates of climatic warming trends during the last century for China in previous studies show a large range (from 0.3°C to 1.5°C per century), primarily due to various data issues especially for the early period before 1950 (Tang *et al* 2009). For comparison, the regional mean SAT series based on different numbers of stations for the period since the 1950s agree well with each other (e.g., *Jones et al* 2008). Cao *et al* (2013) established for the first time a set of homogenized long-term SAT series at 18 stations in middle and eastern China and showed a regional mean warming of 1.52°C for the 1909-2010 period. Here, we update the data series and extend the dataset especially towards western China, where observations were sparse.

The extension to a more spatially complete dataset of long-term instrumental temperature observation series for China occurred mainly due to a number of pieces of early observation series becoming available for western China. At the same time, it is beneficial to update the existing dataset, as five years have passed since the time the early work of Cao *et al* (2013) was undertaken (the final year then was 2010) and significant improvements have been made to the availability of SAT data in China in this period.

The present paper introduces how the new dataset "China Homogenized Monthly Temperature Dataset (CHMTD-V1.0) during 1873-2015" is constructed, including quality-control, interpolation of missing records, and homogenization of the long-term series. The new dataset serves as an improved data base for studying the geographical pattern of SAT change and, in particular, updating the estimate of the century-scale warming trend over China.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 introduces the sources of additional data and datasets used for comparison. Section 3 explains the basic data processing, including interpolation and homogenization techniques used to develop the dataset. Section 4 presents the results. Section 5 is

a summary.

#### 2. Data

The original SAT records and the associated metadata before 1951 are from two main sources. One is the early work "Two climatic data bases of long-term instrumental records of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in the People's Republic of China" (Tao *et al* 1991). The other is the long-term series of SAT and metadata developed since 2002 by the National Meteorological Information Center of the China Meteorological Administration (CMA), including digitized long-term instrumental records and metadata for the 60 largest cities of China. A further digitized long-term temperature dataset of 78 stations set up in 2013 is also included. The metadata, which are archived in text files for each station, include detailed information about changes in the observational instrumentation, times, locations and environment. CMA also holds the original records of SAT and the associated metadata during 1951-2014 for over 2400 national meteorological stations across China (Cao *et al* 2016). Instrumental temperature records for Hong Kong and Macao are available from the websites of the Hong Kong Observatory and the Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau, respectively. Instrumental temperature records for Tainan and Hengchun stations are available from the website of Central Weather Bureau of Taiwan.

The CRUTEM4 (Jones *et al* 2012, Osborn and Jones 2014) database of SAT within China area is used for comparing the regional average series based on the climate anomaly method (CAM) (Jones 1994, Jones and Moberg 2003). CRUTEM4 additionally includes the previously published 18 homogenized temperature time series (Cao et al., 2013). The GISTEMP dataset is also used for comparison, which does not include the present homogenized station series from China. A principle rule for choosing stations for the present dataset is that the station is of at least 30-year series of SAT records before 1951 if it is in eastern China or over 10-years if it is in western China (to the west of 110E). As shown in Figure 1, the 32 stations chosen are reasonably well distributed over China. Compared with the dataset of Cao *et al* (2013), the new dataset includes 7 more stations in western China with relatively long observation series. For eastern China, there are also 7 new stations, including 2 from Taiwan. Table 1 shows the station names and there abbreviations for the 32 stations of Figure 1.

#### 3 Methods

## 3.1 Data quality control and interpolation

The original daily mean maximum and minimum temperature (Tmax and Tmin) series records of 1951-2015 were collected from the China National Stations' Fundamental Elements Datasets V3.0 (Ren *et al* 2012). These datasets are quality-controlled and updated every month and serve as the latest version of the surface climate datasets with the best quality and integrity among those having been applied to date (Ren *et al* 2012).

We perform compilation and quality control using the method of Cao *et al* (2013) to determine the reliability of each station's monthly SAT series and then consider any obviously erroneous value as a missing value. Table 2 shows the percentage of missing records for the 14 new stations of long-term monthly mean SAT series. Only two stations, Tainan and Hengchun in Taiwan, have continuous monthly mean SAT from their start dates to the end of 2015. Ten stations have missing rates between 0.36% and 7.44%. Wulumuqi and Tengchong have the largest missing rates (10.95% and 9.33%, respectively). Hetian station started in 1942, and has the shortest time series among all 32 stations. It is beneficial to interpolate some missing records especially for the western part of China. To do so, records at neighboring stations (including some in neighboring countries) with instrumental observations before 1950, particularly during the 1940s, were used. After infilling all those missing records we produced complete temperature series for all the stations.

When undertaking the interpolation for a given station, the reference stations were chosen from those of 152 stations in China area (Figure 2, green dot), which are within a distance of 300 km from the candidate station and have data value for more than 10 years before 1951. It is difficult for the seven stations in western China to choose neighboring temperature series, as none may exist within China. We therefore chose 76 stations bordering China for interpolating missing records at the stations in western China. These stations are located in 11 countries: Bangladesh, India, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam and Nepal (Figure 2, blue dot). The temperature data series at the stations outside China are from CMA's first global monthly temperature dataset over land, which was developed by integrating four existing global temperature datasets and several regional datasets from major countries or regions (Xu et al.)

2014). The temperature series of Kathmandu extending from January 1921 to December 1975 is archived at CRU (via P D Jones). To ensure that the temperature series at the reference stations are highly correlated with those at the candidate station, we set a distance threshold of 500km. For Wulumuqi, Hetian and Lhasa stations, the threshold distance were enlarged to 1000km.

A three-step interpolation technique for the monthly mean SAT anomaly from the local climatological mean is applied, using one of four independent statistical approaches for each step, i.e., the standardized method, partial least squares regression, multivariate linear regression and gradient plus inverse distance square method (full details given in Cao *et al* 2013). Cross validation is conducted to assess the reliability of the interpolation results. Table 3 shows the mean bias error (MBE) and root mean square error (RMSE) for each of the 12 stations from the starting year of station observations to 2015.

As Table 3 shows, MBE is generally small and falls between 0.45°C and -0.35°C. RMSE is smaller than 1°C at six stations (Xining, Yingkou, Dalian, Yantai, Xiamen, and Nanning) and is generally below 1°C at Changchun and Lhasa. These interpolation errors are similar in magnitude to previous results for stations in eastern China (Cao *et al* 2013). A relatively large RMSE (between 1.5°C and 1.6°C) is found at two stations in western China (Wulumuqi, Lhasa) for 119-month interpolated values.

In total, we interpolated 738 monthly values for 12 stations (accounting for 5.4% of the total monthly records) to develop continuous time series of monthly mean SAT from the start year up to 2015 for the 32 stations.

#### 3.2 Homogenization of SAT time series

The inhomogeneity of an SAT time series is usually expressed as a sudden change (breakpoint) compared with neighboring station records. A homogeneous time series should diminish the sudden changes due to non-climatic factors, such as changes in observational locations, times and instruments. A variety of homogenization algorithms have been developed and assessed in recent years (Venema *et al* 2012). In this work, we applied some existing homogenization methods together with station metadata to perform the inhomogeneity detection and adjustment. Any gradual trend biases, e.g., due to an enhancing urban heat island effect during recent decades, may remain in the homogenized series for some studied sites.

The RHtests version 3 software package (Wang and Feng 2010) was used as the primary method to detect and adjust changepoints. This package includes the PMTred algorithm, which is based on the penalized maximum t (PMT) test, and the PMFred algorithm, which is based on the penalized maximum F (PMF) test (Wang 2008). The PMT test is a relative homogeneity test and must be used with a reference series. The PMF test can be used without a reference series. Cao  $et\ al\ (2012)$  showed that the PMTred algorithm is suitable for detecting multiple changepoints with a reference series representing a regional temperature series when the observational network is dense, while the PMFred algorithm is often applied to a sparse observational network where a reference series may be quite distant. Therefore, we use both PMFred and PMTred algorithms with a statistical test at the 1% significance level.

Firstly, for the time series of monthly mean SAT at the 14 new stations before 1950, we apply the PMFred algorithm without a reference series because the observational stations were sparse during this period. To increase the reliability of the PMFred method in detecting changepoints, we repeat the above work using the two-phase regression (TPR) method (Easterling and Peterson 1995) and a running student's *t* test. When one changepoint is detected by at least two methods or is supported by the metadata, it is accepted as a break point. When the changepoints detected by different methods are close to each other (within two years), these changepoints are considered as one and its occurrence time is determined by available metadata or is set to the first occurring year if without metadata.

Secondly, for the 12 stations (excluding Tainan and Hengchun) during 1951-2015, the PMTred algorithm considering a reference series is applied to detect changepoints. Each reference series is constructed on the basis of stations with continuous and homogeneous series (hereafter the reference stations). The reference stations are selected from the national network of 2419 meteorological stations across China (Cao *et al* 2016). The homogeneity of the time series at each reference station is checked by using the PMFred algorithm. The reference series is chosen to be highly correlated with the tested station (with a correlation coefficient larger than 0.8). For each tested station, if there are more than two reference stations, their arithmetic average is defined as a reference series.

In the third step, possible changepoints in the 1950s are further detected by using PMFred algorithm to ensure the continuity of the whole series. In fact, the metadata shows that many stations were relocated in the years during the early 1950s, when the national meteorological network was rebuilt.

Table 2 shows the detected changepoints at the 14 new stations. There are no breakpoints at three stations (Hetian, Yingkou and Tainan). Each temperature series identified to contain significant changepoints is then adjusted to the latest segment of the data series, using the mean-adjustments of RHtestsV3. Finally, we obtain the homogenized time series of monthly mean SAT at each of the 14 stations. Figure 3 shows the time series of the annual mean SAT anomaly at Xining station from 1937 to 2015 as an example. It is notable that discontinuity dates are different for the Tmax and Tmin series (Figure 3b, 3c and 3d). In Tmin, there are two changepoints detected, due to relocation in 1975 and 1995, while the Tmax series is homogeneous. This means the two relocations had little influence on Tmax series. This phenomenon is quite common for temperature observations in China. Overall, the Tmin series have more changepoints than the Tmax series do, implying that the Tmin measurement is more sensitive to changes in the observation system in China. A part of physical reason is that Tmin series usually has a smaller variance than Tmax is in this region, hence any non-natural biases in the Tmin series are more statistically significant..

When averaging Tmax and Tmin to generate the Tm series, the discontinuity still exists. The long-term series of Tm has one more changepoint in 1951 (Figure 3a), corresponding to a relocation recorded in metadata. Xining station was moved in Jan. 1951 from downtown to the nearby airport, which was located in the eastern suburb, about 8 km away from the downtown, causing the jump in the temperature series (Figure 3a). The adjusted Tm series shows an increasing trend.

#### 4 Cases of relative warmth during the 1940s

It is clear that the century-scale warming trend estimation is uncertain when using different datasets (Tang *et al* 2009, Jones 2016). The most significant differences occurred during the 1920s-1940s. Especially during the 1940s, China experienced wars and a large number of observations were missing. Figure 4 gives the temperature series for Beijing and Nanjing stations during 1905-2015 before and after homogenization. For Beijing station, we can hardly see a warming trend in the raw temperature series before 1965, when the station was moved from downtown to the Southeast of Daxing District, about 3.88km away. The homogenized series (the red line) shows a consistent warming trend and the relative warmth before the 1940s is not as obvious as in the raw data. Based on the present method, the Beijing series did not exhibit significant changepoints before 1951, though it was possible to make some minor adjustments based on other methods (e.g., Yan et al 2001).

For Nanjing station, a warm peak occurs around 1941. However, Nanjing had many continuous missing months during 1938–1945. The early warm peak was a result of interpolation from three stations (Shanghai, Xuzhou and Dafeng) (Cao *et al* 2013). According to the metadata, Nanjing station was located in the urban district during the 1940s and observations were missed due to the war. In 1958, the station was moved to Yuhua suburb to the south and southeast of the downtown (6.8km away), with a declining jump of the temperature records (albeit it is not statistically detectable).

By analyzing the metadata, we found that in China many stations (about 40% of the studied stations in this paper) moved from the city center to a suburb due to the rapid urbanization development shortly after the foundation of the People's Republic of China in 1949. The environment of stations did not accord with the observation criteria in the earlier times and these relocations usually lead to obvious jumps to cooler temperatures. Fig. 3a shows a typical case (see the change point around 1951). Thus, cases such as Nanjing station need more attention and perhaps further adjustments. In general, there is still potential for further homogenization of the present dataset, because the present work has adjusted only the most significant biases in the station series.

### 5 Century-scale warming trends in China

Figure 5 shows that eight stations had records from 1901 or earlier. After 1901, the number of stations with records increased rapidly, reaching 18 stations in 1909 and 32 stations in 1942. Therefore, we focus on analyzing the trend of temperature change for China during 1901-2015. Linear trends are calculated for the annual mean SAT series by using the least-squares regression method, with significance assessment based on t-test ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

Figure 6 shows the linear trends of the annual mean SAT series for the 32 stations from 1901 or the later start year to 2015, compared with the results based on the unadjusted station data over the 32 stations. As Figure 6a shows, based on the unadjusted SAT series, nine stations have large warming trends over 1.5°C/century, with the largest warming rates over 3.0°C/century at three stations in the northeast (Hailar) and northwest (Wulumuqi, and Hetian). Eight stations mostly located in southern China (Macao, Tianjin, Wuhan, Shapingba, Changsha, Fuzhou, Xiamen and Nanning) have a range of small trends between -0.6 and 0.4°C per century. The other 15 stations have a range of trends between 0.5 and 1.5°C per century.

In Figure 6b, the homogenized annual mean SAT series show larger warming trends in general.

The largest warming trends occur at Harbin (4.0°C/century), Wulumuqi (3.7°C/century), and Changchun (3.5°C/century), which are located in the most northeast or northwest of China. By and large, the original time series tend to underestimate the local warming trends during the overall period from 1901 to 2015. Similar results were noted in previous studies. Li and Yan (2009) showed that many stations in China moved from some urbanized locations to out-of-town during their history, causing cooling biases in the SAT series. Comparatively, the adjusted data presents a more geographically coherent pattern of climatic warming (Figure 6b) than the original data do (Figure 6a). The adjusted data demonstrate a range of trends between 1.1° and 4.0°C per century in northern China; between 0.4° and 1.9°C per century in southeastern China, and between 1.4 and 3.7°C per century in western China (to the west of 110E).

To calculate the country-wide average trend, we applied the most widely used method, the climate anomaly method (CAM) (Jones 1994, Jones and Moberg 2003), to avoid the biases caused by uneven station density. The base period from 1961 to 1990 was taken to calculate the mean climatology and temperature anomalies. Grid-box anomaly values were then produced by averaging the individual station anomaly values within each 5°×5° grid box. Figure 7 shows the time series of SAT anomalies for China during 1901-2015, based on the original and adjusted data. The data from CRUTEM4 and GISTEMP are also used for comparison.

As Figure 7a shows, the four temperature series of CRUTEM4, GISTEMP, original (CHMTD-RAW) and adjusted (CHMTD-ADJ) station data are similar to each other since the 1950s. The correlation coefficients among them are beyond 0.99 for the period since 1951. The regional mean SAT series for China based on the 32 stations agrees well with that based on a much denser station network for the period 1951-2015 (T-China in Figure 7b). The T-China series is the average of 2419 stations' homogenized Tm series over whole China (Cao *et al* 2016). The long-term temperature series have slight trends before the late 1960s, followed by a rapid warming after about 1970. For the period 1901-2015, the linear trend is 1.13±0.21°C /century based on the original data, 1.56±0.20°C/century based on the homogenized data, and 1.21±0.16 and 1.30±0.19°C/century based on GISTEMP and CRUTEM4, respectively.

The warming trend estimated on the adjusted data is larger than that based on the raw data, because in many cases the raw station data involve cooling biases as discussed *supra*. Note that CRUTEM4 additionally includes 18 stations of the homogenized dataset published in Cao et al (2013),

thus showing a trend nearest to that based on the present adjusted data. GISTEMP does not include the present homogenized data but with some processing of homogenization of the original data used, hence the trend based on GISTEMP is between that of the raw data and that of CRUTEM4. It is also worthwhile noting that the difference between different datasets in terms of the regional mean series appears smaller than those between the raw and adjusted data for individual stations, because inhomogeneities at individual stations may compensate each other when calculating the regional mean.

Uncertainty in the regional mean series also arises from the different numbers of stations during the different periods. Two series for the period 1943-2015 are present in Figure 7c in addition to the original China mean temperature anomaly series involving 32 stations. One involves 25 stations with continuous records since 1920 or earlier; the second involves 15 stations with continuous records since 1905 or earlier. The differences among the three series during 1943-2015 as shown in Figure 7c are acceptable and serve as measures of possible uncertainties in the early parts of the long-term series.

According to Figure 7, the warmest year for China during the period of study is 2007, with the SAT anomaly being 1.69°C / 1.70°C based on the original / adjusted data. Following the relatively cool years of 2010-2012, the SAT anomalies tend to recover in 2013-2015.

#### 6 Summary

Via consistent quality control, multi-way interpolation and homogenization in this study, we have established an extended set of monthly mean SAT series in China back to the 19th century. The dataset includes 32 stations across China and would be available at <a href="http://data.cma.cn/">http://data.cma.cn/</a> according to the data sharing policy of China Meteorological Administration. Different source datasets are synthesized to produce the new dataset. Compared to the earlier version dataset of Cao et al. (2013), the new dataset has a much improved coverage towards western China, with 9 stations located to the west of 110E.

Several homogenization methods and available metadata were applied. Major inhomogeneous biases in the original data were adjusted. Compared to the original data, the adjusted series of annual mean SAT shows a larger warming trend for most stations. The warming rates range from 1.1 to 4.0°C/century in northern China. Trends are generally weaker in southeastern China.

The regional mean SAT series for China based on the 32 stations agrees well with that based on a much denser station network for the period 1951-2015. The linear trend in the regional mean SAT series of 1901-2015 is 1.56±0.20°C/century, with an enhanced warming rate of 0.26±0.04°C/decade

for the recent period 1951-2015. There was little trend over the early period before 1951, due to relative warmth around the 1920s in the region (Zeng et al., 2003). Uncertainty mainly arises from the sparse observations during the early period. There is potential to further homogenize the early series before 1950.

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Table 1. Station names and the abbreviations for the 32 stations of Figure 1

Station No.         Station Name         Abbreviation         Station No.         Station Name         Abbreviation Name         Above Table Name         Abbreviation Name         Abbreviation Name         Above Table Name							
45011         Macao         AM         55591         Lhasa         LS           50527         Hailar         HLR         56739         Tengchong         TC           50953         Harbin         HEB         56778         Kunming         KM           51463         Wulumuqi         ULMQ         57494         Wuhan         WH           51828         Hetian         HT         57516         Shapingba         SPB           52866         Xining         XN         57679         Changsha         CS           53463         Hohehot         HHHT         57816         Guiyang         GY           53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	Station No.		Abbreviation	Station No.		Abbreviation	
50527         Hailar         HLR         56739         Tengchong         TC           50953         Harbin         HEB         56778         Kunming         KM           51463         Wulumuqi         ULMQ         57494         Wuhan         WH           51828         Hetian         HT         57516         Shapingba         SPB           52866         Xining         XN         57679         Changsha         CS           53463         Hohehot         HHHT         57816         Guiyang         GY           53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	45005	Hongkong	НК	54857	Qingdao	QD	
50953         Harbin         HEB         56778         Kunming         KM           51463         Wulumuqi         ULMQ         57494         Wuhan         WH           51828         Hetian         HT         57516         Shapingba         SPB           52866         Xining         XN         57679         Changsha         CS           53463         Hohehot         HHHT         57816         Guiyang         GY           53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	45011	Macao	AM	55591	Lhasa	LS	
51463         Wulumuqi         ULMQ         57494         Wuhan         WH           51828         Hetian         HT         57516         Shapingba         SPB           52866         Xining         XN         57679         Changsha         CS           53463         Hohehot         HHHT         57816         Guiyang         GY           53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	50527	Hailar	HLR	56739	Tengchong	TC	
51828         Hetian         HT         57516         Shapingba         SPB           52866         Xining         XN         57679         Changsha         CS           53463         Hohehot         HHHT         57816         Guiyang         GY           53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	50953	Harbin	HEB	56778	Kunming	KM	
52866         Xining         XN         57679         Changsha         CS           53463         Hohehot         HHHT         57816         Guiyang         GY           53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	51463	Wulumuqi	ULMQ	57494	Wuhan	WH	
53463         Hohehot         HHHT         57816         Guiyang         GY           53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	51828	Hetian	HT	57516	Shapingba	SPB	
53772         Taiyuan         TY         58238         Nanjing         NJ           54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	52866	Xining	XN	57679	Changsha	CS	
54161         Changchun         CC         58367         Shanghai         SH           54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	53463	Hohehot	НННТ	57816	Guiyang	GY	
54342         Shenyang         SY         58847         Fuzhou         FZ           54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	53772	Taiyuan	TY	58238	Nanjing	NJ	
54471         Yingkou         YK         59134         Xiamen         XM           54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	54161	Changchun	CC	58367	Shanghai	SH	
54511         Beijing         BJ         59287         Guangzhou         GZ           54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	54342	Shenyang	SY	58847	Fuzhou	FZ	
54527         Tianjin         TJ         59358         Tainan         TN           54662         Dalian         DL         59431         Nanning         NN	54471	Yingkou	YK	59134	Xiamen	XM	
54662 Dalian DL 59431 Nanning NN	54511	Beijing	ВЈ	59287	Guangzhou	GZ	
Time II Time III	54527	Tianjin	TJ	59358	Tainan	TN	
54765 Yantai YT 59559 Hengchun HC	54662	Dalian	DL /	59431	Nanning	NN	
	54765	Yantai	YT	59559	Hengchun	НС	

Table 2. Missing percentages of records and the number of changepoints at 14 stations from their starting dates to the end of 2015

Station	Station	Starting time	Length	Missing	Missing	Numb	er of
No.	Name	(Month/Year)	(Months)	Months	Percentage	Change	
		, ,			(%)	Before	After
						1950	1951
51463	Wulumuqi	01/1930	1032	113	10.95	0	2
51828	Hetian	01/1942	888	32	3.60	0	0
52866	Xining	11/1936	950	11	1.16	0	3
54161	Changchun	01/1909	1284	56	4.36	1	0
54471	Yingkou	01/1905	1332	74	5.56	0	0
54662	Dalian	01/1905	1332	78	5.86	1	0
54765	Yantai	01/1905	1332	73	5.48	0	1
55591	Lhasa	05/1935	968	72	7.44	0	2
56739	Tengchong	01/1916	1200	112	9.33	0	1
57516	Shapingba	01/1924	1104	4	0.36	0	1
59358	Tainan	01/1897	1428	0	0.00	0	0
59134	Xiamen	01/1915	1212	56	4.62	0	1
59431	Nanning	01/1922	1128	57	5.05	0	2
59559	Hengchun	01/1897	1428	0	0.00	0	1

Table 3. Error estimation of cross validation of interpolation methods at 12 stations from their starting observations to 2015 (MBE: Mean bias error, RMSE: Root mean square error)

RMSE (°C)
1.606
1.606
1.469
0.613
, 7
<b>\</b>
0.644
0.044
1.211
0.432
01.152
0.588
0.404
0.484
0.642
0.042
0.542
0.3 12
0.986
0.700
1.5
1.17
1 107
1.187
0.563
0.658
0.597

#### Figure captions

Figure 1. Distributions of 32 stations of long-term temperature series (Red dots: the 18 stations in Cao et al. (2013); Green dots: new stations in the eastern part of China; Blue dots: new stations in the western part of China)

Figure 2. Location of 76 stations (blue) around China and 152 stations (green) in China for interpolation

Figure 3. (a) Original (RAW) and adjusted (ADJ) Tm series from 1937-2015 for Xining station; (b) Original (RAW) and adjusted (ADJ) DTR series from 1954-2015; (c) Same as (b) but for Tmax series (no changepoints detected); (d) Same as (b) but for Tmin series.

Figure 4.Time series of original (RAW) and adjusted (ADJ) Tm series of (a) Beijing and (b) Nanjing stations during 1905 to 2015.

Figure 5. Number of stations during 1873-2015.

Figure 6. (a) Linear trend (°C/year) of unadjusted annual mean SAT at Hong Kong, Macao, Beijing, Tianjin, Qingdao, Shanghai, Tainan and Hengchun stations from 1901-2015 and the other 24 stations from the starting of observation to 2015. (b) Same as Figure 6a but for the adjusted data.

Figure 7. (a) The mean temperature anomaly series for China during 1901-2015, based on the original (CHMTD-RAW) and adjusted (CHMTD -ADJ) station data, compared with those based on CRUTEM4 and GISTEMP. The anomalies (°C) are from the 1961-1990 climatology. (b) The CHMTD-ADJ series (1901-2015) vs the T-China series (1951-2015) based on 2419 stations (Cao et al., 2016). (c) The mean temperature anomaly series for China during 1943-2015. CHMTD-ADJ involves all the 32 stations; CHMTD-ADJ-25 involves the 25 stations with continuous records since 1920 or earlier; CHMTD-ADJ-15 involves the 15 stations with continuous records since 1905 or earlier



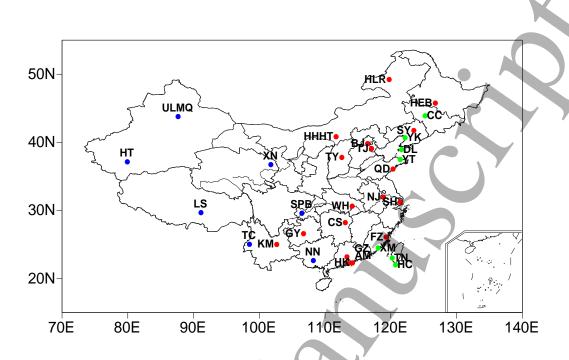


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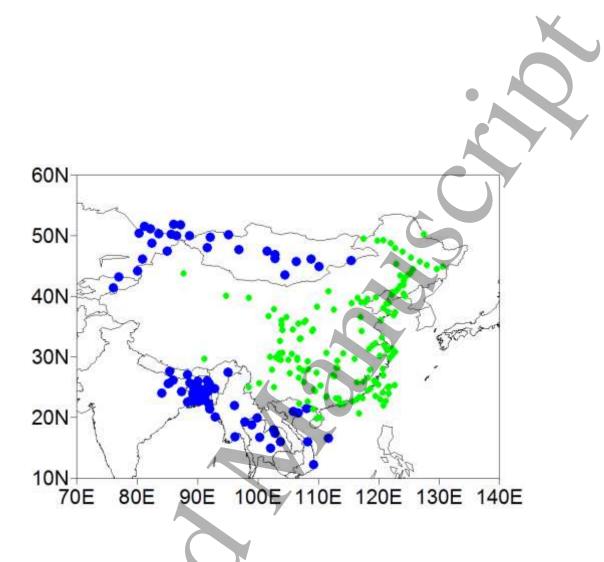


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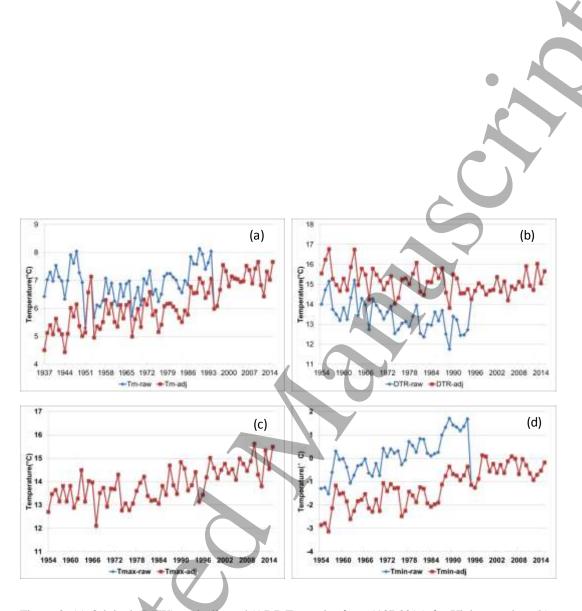


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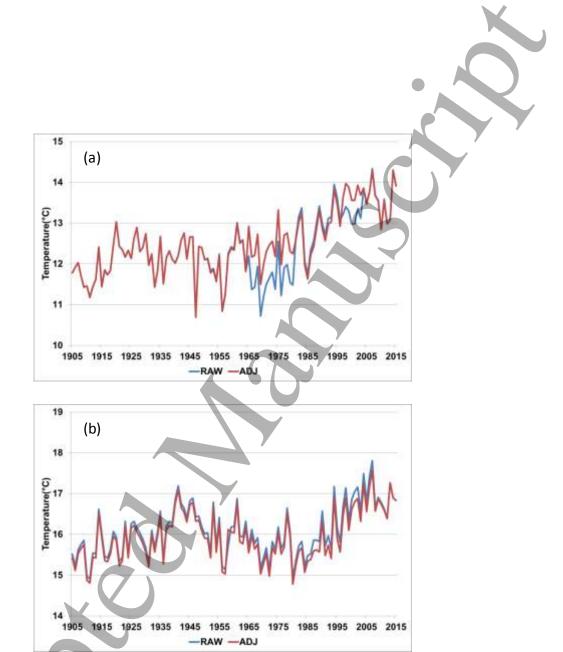


Figure 4.Time series of original (RAW) and adjusted (ADJ) Tm series of (a) Beijing and (b) Nanjing stations during 1905 to 2015.

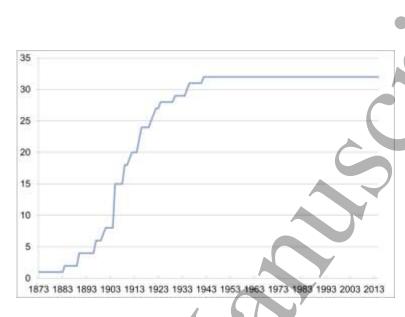


Figure 5. Number of stations during 1873-2015.

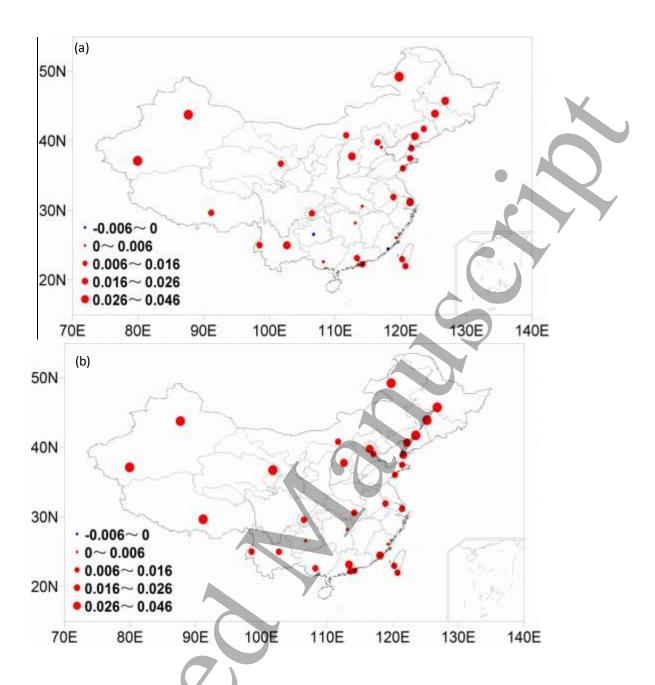


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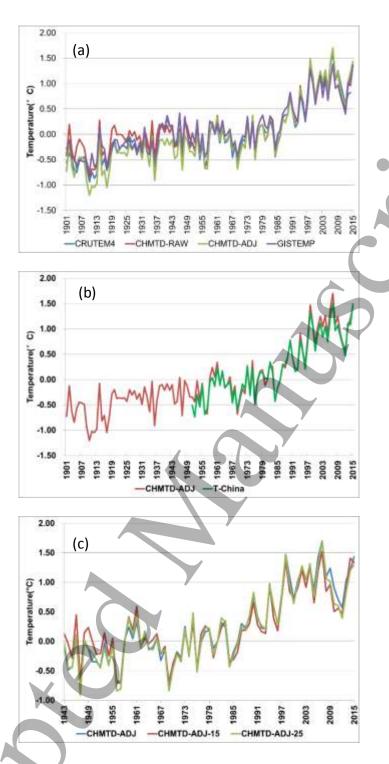


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