

Interactive comment on “Temporal and spatial variability in precipitation trends in the Southeast Tibetan Plateau during 1961–2012” by X.-L. Zhang et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 23 March 2015

General comments: This manuscript focused on the precipitation trends over a special region, the Southeast Tibetan Plateau during the past half century. It analyzed the trends in annual and different season's precipitation series from 14 meteorological stations, as well as the spatial variability of precipitation caused by the complex topography. There are a lot of publications on precipitation trends at regional or national scales. This manuscript is a piece of regional study on climate change. Some revisions and more explanations were required. In addition, I am not sure whether it is suitable for Climate of the Past, since the scope of this journal is restricted as “CP covers all temporal scales of climate change and variability, from geological time through to multidecadal studies of the last century. Studies focusing mainly on present and future

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climate are not within scope”.

Special comments: 1. P.448, Line 10, “the extreme precipitation, including the maxima and minima...”, I think that they are monthly precipitation. Clarify please! 2. P.450, Line 17, the reference format “J. J. Xu et al.” should be “Xu et al.”, as well as P.455, Line 5 and P.462, Line 25. 3. Figure 2, the name of meteorological stations should be given in the figure, because the results and discussion were explained according to the station name. 4. Figure 5, it is better to use the same legend for all the sub-figures. 5. The method for the interpolation of precipitation from gauges to areal value should be introduced. 6. This manuscript tried to reveal the effect of topographic map on precipitation, however no topography was shown. I suggest a topographic map in Figure 2. 7. In this manuscript, the extreme precipitation was defined as the maximum and minimum monthly precipitation, which is incorrect because the extreme value is usually defined for one rainfall event or daily average. 8. In Data section, the precipitation data was collected at daily or monthly scales? Explain, please!

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., 11, 447, 2015.