

Interactive comment on “Winter temperature variations over middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River during the past three centuries” by Z.-X. Hao et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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1. Page 104 line 25 The south border of winter monsoon is located in South China, rather than in MLRYR as usually indicated in the text book of Climatology. The south China is in the south of 25°N, but MLRYR is in about 30°N. MLRYR is a proper region, not because that it is near or not the south border of the winter monsoon, but rely on that where winter temperatures (T) correlate closely to precipitations (R). No such good correlation was found in North China. A correlation map between T and R based on the observations for 1951–2007 can prove this point of view. Less variance of T is explained by snowfall days in the most north and the most south of the region studied supported the idea.
2. Page 106 line 24 It is needed to note that the length of Chinese Fen or Cun may
C33

change in Qing Dynasty, the scale used in the paper was accepted in late Qing and early 20th century, it may or may not differ in early time.

3. Page 118 Fig 2 It is suggested that to show the correlation coefficient for 1951–2007 on the upper right corner, to give the confidence interval for low frequency curve, but not for annual value, and to use a filter rather than 10-year smoothing.
4. Page 119 Note please what is WT and so on.
5. Conclusion This paper in first time of China gives the annual series of winter temperature for the period longer than that observation is available. Therefore, it seems acceptable. The methodology used is proper. The result is easy to understand.

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