

## ***Interactive comment on “Building a long-time series for weather and extreme weather in the Straits Settlements: a multi-disciplinary approach to the archives of societies” by Fiona Williamson***

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Very well studied, rich resources with originality, also many priority that this author can claim.

Yet, I guess a few amendments would make this paper better. My suggestions are as follows:

l.72, an historical and historical, either should be removed. l.271, climatic factors as significant factors, double "factors" sounds redundant, one should be parameters, or element, or, second factors should just be omitted. l.484, as, not necessary.

C1

l.75 (Perdue 1987) missing in reference. l.365, Irvine Rowell, in reference, this person's name is hyphenated, as Irvin-Rowell.

l.405, feet, 408, 2 foot, l.416 and 417, inches. I see those are from original, and this is historical usage. But, in this contemporary international academic journal, should those be added with metric system measurement, in bracket, like "three feet (almost 91.5 cm)", etc.

Some difficult words and native vocabulary, that this author is native, so that less familiar words for non-native should be changed into easier and compatible words, in order to make non-native readers easier access: l.12. paucity > lack, scarcity l.77 extant > existing, remaining l.164 and 185 provenance » origin, in this context metadata, l.336 death knell » metaphorical expression, but not familiar to those from non-Christian cultures. l.486 lower survivability rate > remaining rate, or simply, less-known.

Paragraph l.470-478 in this context is odd. This part should be moved to before l.65, or after l.75.

l.238, A neighbor..., it would be better to change paragraph. l.243, Into the early 1870s. ... also another paragraph.

l.135-, Table 1. This would be easier to show time-line, like the note that I made, seen in Fig.1 and 2.

In this Table, Start date and End date is there, but if you add duration (how many days, years, etc.) , that would held readers to see which ones lasted longer.

Also about floods and droughts, see in fig.3.

l.266-281, Clear and good reasoning. In order to enforce this argument, please add a bit more of explanation about how, when, where and by whom this medical meteorology "became common practice across the colonies of British Empire". Nominate one major scientist or a few leading scholars, or periodical journal that everyone submitted their reports from all over the world, or, those cosmopolitan science society that

C2

peers were gathered, and that would have connected and tried all colonial practitioners. Such historical explanation of scientific community might help understand this situation better.

Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/cp-2020-140>, 2020.

C3

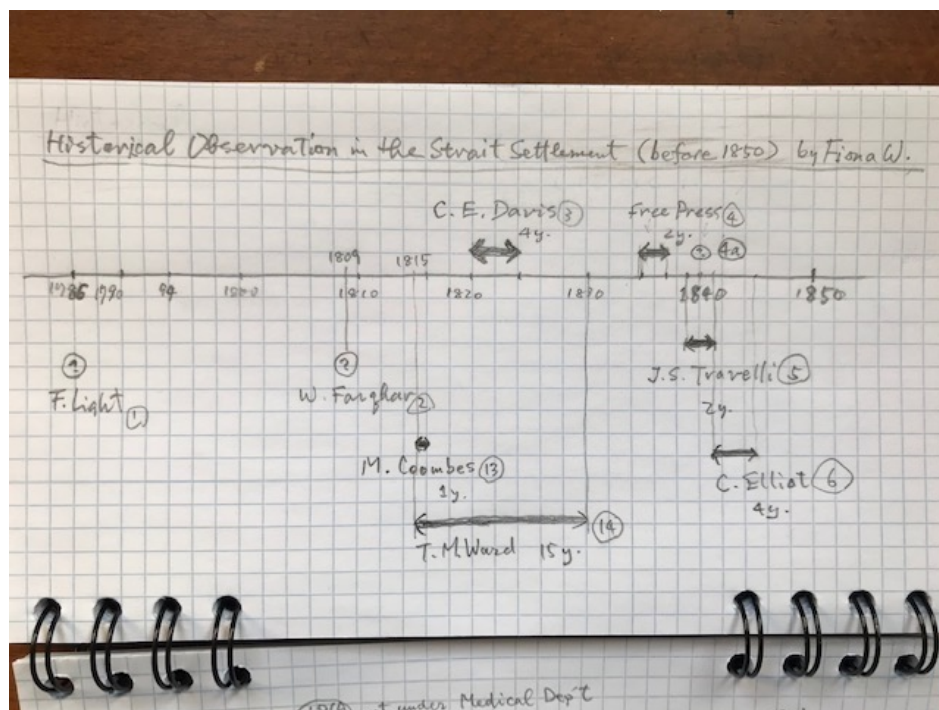


Fig. 1. before 1850

C4

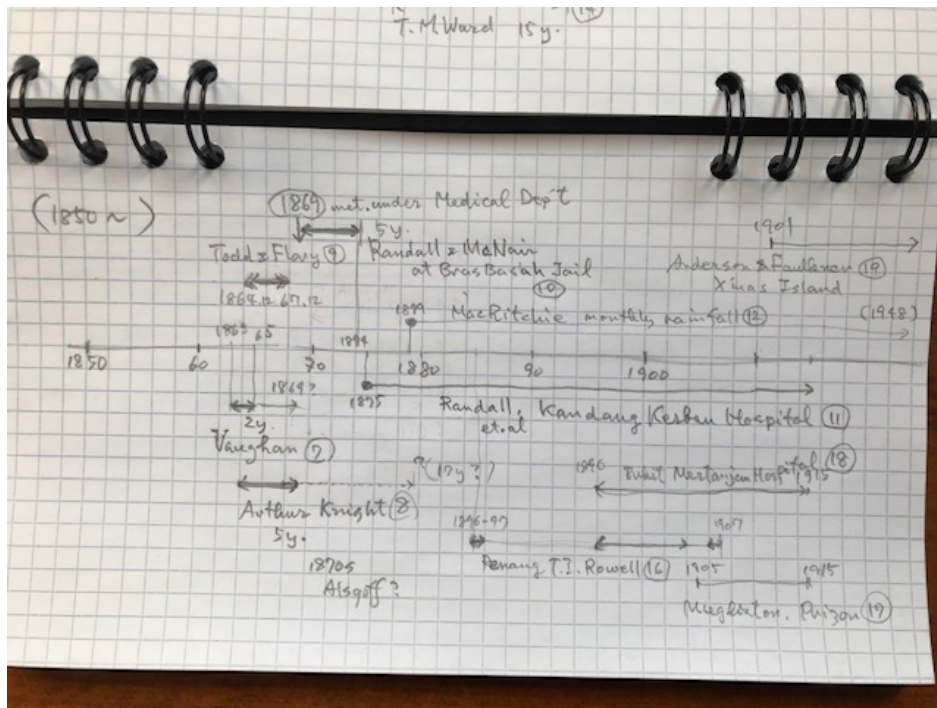


Fig. 2. after 1850

C5

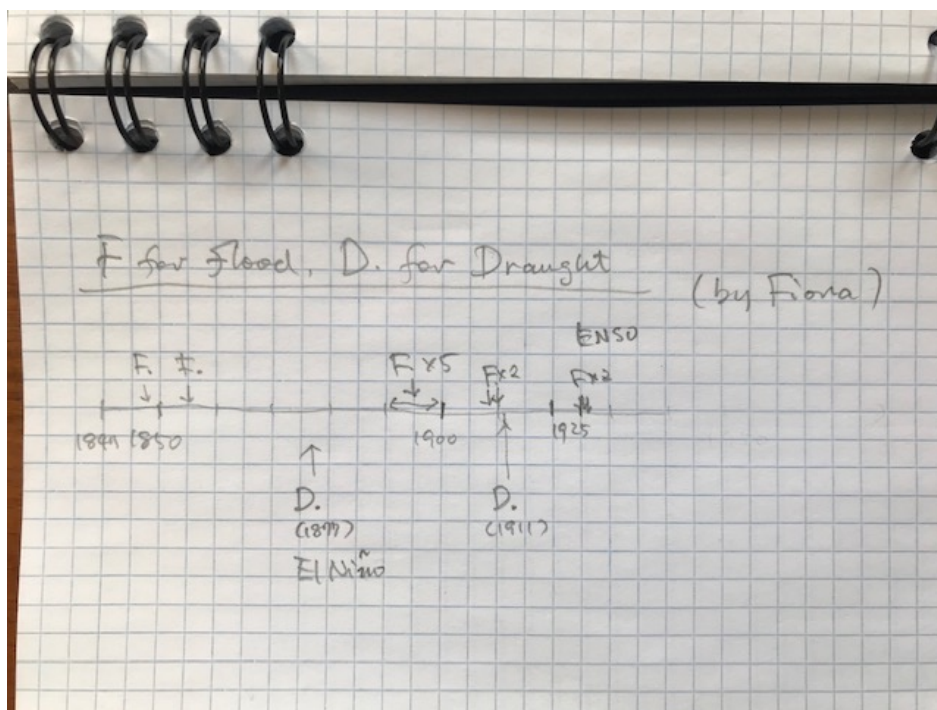


Fig. 3. flood and drought

C6