

Interactive comment on “Changing trends and abrupt features of extreme temperature in mainland China during 1960 to 2010” by S. Fang et al.

A. Referee

p_zaxswcde@sina.cn

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The authors argue that there has been very little research reported on the occurrences of high extremes warm days and cold nights according to 5th or 1st (95th or 99th) percentiles. This is true, but the reason is simple. We do not have enough samples to accurately estimate the 95% or 99% percentile. As in the present paper, there are only 51 years' data. Moreover, in line 21-23 the authors wrote "Most of the researches based on the 10th (90th) percentiles as thresholds set to assess moderate extremes that averagely occur 36.5 times every year (10 percentage of 365 days)". It seems that the authors do not understand what are the climate extremes defined in the literature.

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The 10% percentile is estimated according to the samples of the same day (or several days centered on the day of interest to increase samples) over the 51 years. This is totally different from what the authors have thought.

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