

1 **Global Land Surface Air Temperature Dynamics since 1880**

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15

16 **ABSTRACT**

17       The geographical extent, magnitude, and uncertainty of global climate change have  
18 been widely discussed and have critical policy implications at both global and local  
19 scales. In this study, a new analysis of annual mean global land surface air temperature  
20 since 1880 was generated, which has greater coverage and lower uncertainty than  
21 previous distributions. The Biased Sentinel Hospitals Areal Disease Estimation  
22 (BSHADE) method, used in this study, makes a best linear unbiased estimation (BLUE)  
23 when a sample is small and biased to a spatially heterogeneous population. For the  
24 period of 1901–2010, the warming trend was found to be  $0.109^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{decade}$  with 95%  
25 confidence intervals between  $0.081^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $0.137^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Additionally, warming exhibited  
26 different spatial patterns in different periods. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (1923–1950),  
27 warming occurred mainly in the mid-high latitudes of the Northern Hemisphere,  
28 whereas in the most recent decades (1977–2014), warming was more spatially  
29 extensive across the global land surface. Compared with other common methods, the  
30 difference in results appears in the areas with few stations and in the early years, when  
31 stations had sparse coverage and were unevenly distributed. Validation, which was  
32 performed using real data that simulated the historic situation, showed a smaller error  
33 in the BSHADE estimate than in other methods. This study produced a new database  
34 with greater coverage and less uncertainty that will improve the understanding of  
35 climate dynamics on the Earth since 1880, especially in isolated areas and early periods,  
36 and will benefit the assessment of climate-change-related issues, such as the effects of  
37 human activities.

- 38 Key words: global; land surface air temperature dynamics; biased observations; best
- 39 linear unbiased estimate (BLUE)

## 40 **1. Introduction**

41 Temperature is a key metric for assessing the state of the climate. The extent,  
42 magnitude, and uncertainty of global surface temperature change have been highly  
43 related to policy-making and public affairs on both global and local scales. According  
44 to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the last three decades are the  
45 warmest period since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, and the warming is unequivocal and  
46 unprecedented (Hartmann et al., 2013). Many studies indicate that global warming will  
47 negatively impact human activities, natural environments, and ecosystems, such as ice  
48 melting, sea level rise, floods and droughts, the spread of disease, human health,  
49 species extinction, etc. (Gething et al., 2010; Hansen et al., 2006; McMichael et al.,  
50 2006; Patz et al., 2005; Rahmstorf, 2007; Walther et al., 2002). These studies have  
51 directed the focus of science towards explaining the driving forces behind the rapid  
52 warming of the Earth, and today there is widespread agreement that human activity is  
53 the dominant cause for the increase of greenhouse gases, although uncertainty of its  
54 relative contribution still remains (Bindoff et al., 2013; Qin, 2014; Santer et al., 1996;  
55 Stott et al., 2000). It is essential to construct a spatial analysis of the global land surface  
56 temperature at a large scale and with less uncertainty from the limited and even biased  
57 observations made since 1880. Doing so will enable a thorough understanding of the  
58 pace of climate change and its effects on human activity at both a global and local basis.

59 Currently, maps of global land surface air temperature using instrumental records  
60 have been developed mainly by four groups: the UK Met Office Hadley Centre and the  
61 University of East Anglia Climatic Research Unit (CRUTEM4), the National Oceanic

62 and Atmospheric Association's (NOAA's) National Center for Environmental  
63 Information (NCEI), the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS), and the  
64 Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature Project (Berkeley) (Jones, 2016). The results  
65 published by these groups correspond with each other after 1900 (Hansen et al., 2010;  
66 Hartmann et al., 2013), while there are greater differences between their results before  
67 the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, although similar data sources were used (Jones and Wigley, 2010;  
68 Lawrimore et al., 2011; Vose et al., 2005). The differences are mainly caused by the  
69 various groups using different approaches to remove the inhomogeneities of the dataset  
70 and deal with the issue of sparsely distributed stations, which is an important  
71 uncertainty source in global or regional (i.e., continental) mean temperature estimation  
72 in these early decades (Jones, 2016; Brohan et al., 2006; Hansen et al., 2010; Jones et  
73 al., 2012; Jones and Wigley, 2010). The influence of sparse data coverage first appeared  
74 before 1950 (Lawrimore et al., 2011), and estimation error decreased as station  
75 coverage become more dense.

76       The influence of sparse station coverage on the observed climate is also evident in  
77 recent years due to international exchange of data and station closures. This reduction  
78 in station numbers is much more significant in Africa and South America. The sparse  
79 coverage of stations results in sample bias when the population is spatially  
80 heterogeneous. By sample bias, we mean that the sample's histogram is different from  
81 that of the population's. A biased sample will lead to a biased estimate if the sample  
82 bias is not accounted for (Wang et al., 2012).

83       In order to solve this problem, we used the Biased Sentinel Hospitals Areal

84 Disease Estimation (BSHADE) method in the estimation of the land surface air  
85 temperature anomaly and uncertainty for China between 1900–2006 ( Wang et al., 2014;  
86 Wang et al., 2011; Xu et al. 2013; Hu et al. 2013). In theory, the method has the potential  
87 to remedy station bias resulting from sparse coverage when the population is spatially  
88 heterogeneous and simultaneously accounting for the characteristics of spatial  
89 autocorrelation.

90 Using station data on China’s annual temperature anomaly from 1900–2006, the  
91 BSHADE method exhibits a smaller error variance of estimation than traditional  
92 methods, especially for periods with sparse station coverage ( Wang et al., 2014).

93 The present study aims to reconstruct the dynamic of temperature anomalies for  
94 the global land surface from 1880–2014 using BSHADE and the CRUTEM4.4.0.0  
95 station data. The findings are expected to improve the understanding of historical  
96 temperature change since 1880, at both the global and local scales.

97 The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, the data and  
98 methods are described. In Section 3, the results are presented, including: (1) the  
99 geographical distribution of global land surface air temperature anomalies; (2) the  
100 global land surface air temperature anomaly series; (3) a trend map of global land  
101 surface temperature; and (4) validation of the estimation. Section 4 includes a  
102 discussion and conclusions.

## 103 **2. Data and Methods**

### 104 **2.1 Station Data**

105 The CRUTEM4.4.0.0 (Jones et al., 2012) station data, from 1880 to 2014,

106 downloaded from the website of Met Office Hadley Centre, was employed to estimate  
107 the spatial distribution of global land surface air temperature. This dataset was  
108 constructed using monthly mean temperature data. Quality control was undertaken by  
109 checking whether a station's annual average was more than 5 times the standard  
110 deviation beyond the average (based on the period of 1941–1990), and the identified  
111 outlier records (0.096%) were deleted from the dataset. For any given year, the monthly  
112 records having no missing values were averaged to annual values.

113 Before the 1900s, the spatial distribution of stations was very sparse and highly  
114 biased, with the majority of stations located in Western Europe and United States, and  
115 only a few stations located on other continents. For example, stations were mainly  
116 located near the coastal areas of Africa, South America, Japan, India, and the southeast  
117 area of Australia. The stations number increased sharply during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup>  
118 century between 1901–1960. The station number reaches its maximum in 1961–1990.  
119 However, even in recent years, the spatial distribution of stations in some areas is still  
120 sparse and uneven, such as in the Antarctic, the Arctic, and the interior of Africa and  
121 South America. Figure S1 shows the number of stations from 1880 to 2010. In the  
122 station anomaly estimation, reference series were defined as the station data from 1961–  
123 1990. Stations less than 15 years of missing data during 1961–1990 were selected, and  
124 the average temperatures in the period were estimated from the remaining records  
125 (Figure S1A).

126 The data under study is both spatially autocorrelated and spatially heterogeneous,  
127 and the geographical distribution of meteorological stations is highly uneven, especially

128 in some areas and in the earlier years. An estimator's theoretical merits would apply in  
 129 practice only when its assumption was identical or approximate to reality; therefore we  
 130 choose to use the BSHADE algorithm in this study.

## 131 2.2 BSHADE Algorithm

132 In BSHADE, the continental mean anomaly  $\bar{Y}$  is estimated by a weighted station  
 133 average  $\bar{y}$ :

$$134 \quad \bar{y} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i y_i \quad (1)$$

135 where  $w_i$  ( $i=1, \dots, n$ ) is the weight of the  $i$ -th station and is calibrated by the Eq. (S1) and  
 136 observed data.

137 The weight  $w_i$  satisfies the unbiased condition

$$138 \quad E\bar{y} = \bar{Y} \quad (2)$$

139 and minimum estimation variance

$$140 \quad \min_w v(\bar{y}) = E(\bar{y} - \bar{Y})^2 \quad (3)$$

141 where  $E$  denotes the statistical expectation,  $v$  indicates statistical variance, and  $\bar{Y}$   
 142 represents the true average value of an area.

143 Eq. (2) can be expressed as

$$144 \quad E\bar{y} = E\sum_{i=1}^n w_i y_i = \bar{Y} \quad (4)$$

145 that is:

$$146 \quad \sum_{i=1}^n w_i b_i = 1$$

147 where we set

$$148 \quad b_i = E y_i / \bar{Y} \quad (5)$$

149  $b_i = 1$  will guarantee the sample estimator  $\bar{y}$  to be unbiased, while  $b_i \neq 1$  will lead  
 150 to  $\bar{y}$  being biased. The weight  $w_i$  for each station can be calibrated by Eq. (S1), and by



151 insert the weights into Eq. (1), the regional mean anomaly  $\bar{Y}$  can be estimated by  $\bar{y}$ .

152 Furthermore, the estimation variance

$$153 \quad v(\bar{y}) = E(\bar{y} - \bar{Y})^2 = C(\bar{y}, \bar{y}) + C(\bar{Y}, \bar{Y}) - 2C(\bar{y}, \bar{Y}) \quad (6)$$

154 can also be calculated by Eq. (6), in which  $C$  denotes the statistical covariance.

155 In BSHADE, the characteristic of geographical spatial correlation is indicated by  
156 the parameters of the covariance, which is derived by the semivariogram of geostatistics  
157 theory (Isaaks and Srivastava, 1989, Chaper 16). The correlation will decrease with the  
158 increase of distance between two sites, and the relationship between spatial correlation  
159 and distance is different between continents. Some studies use a correlation distance of  
160 up to 1200 km (Hansen et al., 2006), while Lawrimore et al. found that temperatures  
161 were sufficiently correlated more than 1000 km away (Lawrimore et al., 2011). Figure  
162 S2 illustrates a semivariogram representing the relationship between the spatial  
163 correlation of the annual temperature anomaly and distance for each continent, which  
164 indicates that spatial correlations extend beyond 1000 km in all regions. In order to  
165 produce lower uncertainty in this study, 1000 km was used as the distance limitation  
166 for the neighbouring station selection in the estimation.

167 Meanwhile, the bias of sample is quantitatively reflected by the parameter vector  
168  $B\{b_i\}$ . The parameter  $b_i$  is the ratio between the anomaly of the  $i$ -th station and the  
169 continental mean value. This parameter reflects the phenomenon that the mathematical  
170 expectation of the station records' mean value is not equal to the true value across the  
171 whole continent, an effect which is caused by spatial heterogeneity. The sample bias  
172 occurs more clearly in areas with few stations and high heterogeneity and in the early

173 period when the coverage of meteorological stations was sparse and uneven. Due to  
174 BSHADE method's ability to account for the characteristics of both the spatial  
175 correlation and spatial heterogeneity of the target domain and sample bias, an objective  
176 function of errors which is minimized and remedies the biased sample problem to  
177 produce an estimate that is BLUE (best linear unbiased estimate). This happens when  
178 the assumption of a model approximates the characteristics of a population and the way  
179 of sampling. (Wang et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2011; Xu et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2012).

180

### 181 **3. Results**

#### 182 **3.1. Geographical Distribution of Global Land Surface Air** 183 **Temperature Anomalies**

184 Annual global land surface air temperature anomaly maps from 1880 to 2014 were  
185 developed by the BSHADE method. Each grid box is 5° latitude by 5° longitude. The  
186 results are shown in Figure S3. Before the 1900s, the projected temperature anomaly  
187 map covers all of Europe; most of North America, except for the regions near the Arctic;  
188 Asia, except for some northern areas and western parts of China; and almost the whole  
189 area of Australia. Some parts of South America and Africa are missing because too few  
190 stations were available. After 1920, there are estimated temperatures for most land areas,  
191 except some parts of interior South America and Africa, and all of Antarctica. After  
192 1940, our temperature anomaly distribution maps cover almost all areas.

193 From the maps in Figure S3, we can see that there is substantial interannual spatial  
194 variability for the spatial distribution of the global mean surface air temperature  
195 anomaly. For example, in the year 2001, the areas with large positive temperature

196 anomalies were mainly distributed over the northeast of North America, while in the  
197 next year, the areas with large positive temperature anomalies were across the Bering  
198 Strait, extending to the mid-to-high latitudes of Asia. However, in the year of 2003, the  
199 area with the largest positive temperature anomalies moves to the north, compared with  
200 the distribution of 2002, and covers higher latitude regions of Europe-Asia and North  
201 America.

202 Besides the global land surface air temperature anomaly, the spatial distribution of  
203 the estimation error variance for each year is also presented in Figure S3, which shows  
204 that the estimation error variance is significantly smaller in recent years than for earlier  
205 years. In addition, the high estimation error is mainly evident over areas that have few  
206 stations. For example, in the year 2001, grids with higher estimation error are mainly  
207 located over Southeast Asia and West Asia and the interior of Africa. These areas have  
208 significantly fewer stations compared with other regions.

209

### 210 **3.2. Global Land Surface Air Temperature Anomaly Series**

211 In addition to its application for mapping, BSHADE was also used to estimate  
212 continental and global mean temperature anomalies from 1880–2014. In order to  
213 compare the estimated results with those from the traditional methods (Jones, 1994),  
214 we also calculated results using the CAM and Block Kriging method. Using the CAM  
215 approach, anomalies are calculated for all stations within their corresponding grid box,  
216 and which are then aggregated to get a regional mean temperature (Jones, 1994). The  
217 Block Kriging method produces maps based on the spatial correlation of target fields  
218 (Cressie, 1993; Goovaerts, 1997; Isaaks and Srivastava, 1989). The bias of stations and

219 spatial heterogeneity of population were not fully considered in the Block Kriging  
220 method. The description of the calculation process of CAM and Block Kriging is  
221 presented in supporting information (SI). Figure 1 is the estimated annual temperature  
222 anomalies.

223 All three series in Figure 1 agree on the overall warming trend since 1920 across  
224 global land areas. After 1920, the coverage of stations became more evenly distributed  
225 and much denser. They differ slightly more before 1920, when the meteorological  
226 stations were fewer and more unevenly distributed over global land areas, especially  
227 for the period before 1900. In the period between 1880 and 1900, the global land values  
228 estimated by the Block Kriging method are lower compared with BSHADE and CAM.

229 In Table 1, the overall trends of the various temperature series for different time  
230 periods are compared. The linear trends for the periods of 1901–1950, 1880–2010,  
231 1901–2010, 1951–2010, and 1979–2014 have been calculated for BSHADE, Block  
232 Kriging and CAM with 95% confidence intervals (CI) (Table 1). The confidence  
233 intervals of the linear trends were estimated using the generalized least squares  
234 technique within each period. The effects of serial autocorrelation in the models’  
235 residuals were accounted for (Gujarati, 2003). In the period of 1880–2010, the  
236 temperature warms by 0.092–0.108°C/decade, as estimated by the three methods. In  
237 the same period, the overall trend estimated by BSHADE was 0.096°C (95% CI:  
238 0.075°C – 0.117°C). This trend is similar to that estimated by CAM but lower than that  
239 estimated by Block Kriging. The linear trends in 1901–2010 with 95% CIs for  
240 BSHADE, Block Kriging, and CAM were 0.109°C ± 0.028°C, 0.115°C ± 0.029°C, and

241  $0.104^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.026^{\circ}\text{C}$  per decade, respectively. In addition, it appears that there is a  
242 significant difference between the first and the second halves of the twentieth century  
243 (Figure 1). For BSHADE, the 1901–1950 linear trend with 95% CI s was  $0.118^{\circ}\text{C} \pm$   
244  $0.032^{\circ}\text{C}$ , while the trend for 1951–2010 was  $0.223^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.049^{\circ}\text{C}$ , which is significantly  
245 higher than that in the first half of the century. In the two periods, the trend for BSHADE  
246 is between the trend identified by the other two methods. For the recent years between  
247 1979 and 2014, the warming trend calculated by BSHADE is  $0.304^{\circ}\text{C}$  (95% CI:  
248  $0.244^{\circ}\text{C} - 0.364^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), a value that is unprecedented for more than a century. In all these  
249 periods, the warming trend estimated by Block Kriging is higher than that estimated  
250 using the other two methods. The reason for this will be explained in the discussion  
251 section. Please take notice that the CIs are calculated under the assumptions of the  
252 methods. Some of the model assumptions, such as the assumption of the 2<sup>nd</sup> order  
253 spatial stationarity in Kriging, is inconsistent with the reality. The accuracies of the  
254 estimations are compared using cross validation in Section 3.4.

255 In order to compare the global mean trends with the results from Berkeley, NCEI,  
256 GISS, 20th Century Reanalysis 2m air temperature (20CR) (Compo et.al., 2013), and  
257 Karl et al. (2015), the results from these products are also provided in Table 1, although  
258 these results were derived using different source station datasets and methods. These  
259 results show that in the period of 1901–2010, the temperature warmed by  $0.090-$   
260  $0.194^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{decade}$ , as estimated from all the series listed in Table 1. For the final period  
261 of 1979–2014 the temperature warms by  $0.254-0.329^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{decade}$ , about 3 times  
262 compared with the period of 1901–2010.

263 In this study, the urban heating's affect on the estimation of global temperature  
264 land average for BSHADE was analyzed as well (see details in SI). The results showed  
265 that during the period of 1901 to 2010 there was an urban heating effect of  $0.03^{\circ}\text{C}/100$   
266 years. This is similar with the results from previous studies (Parker 2004, 2006; Wang  
267 et al., 2017).

### 268 **3.3. Trend Map of Global Land Surface Temperature**

269 Although shown as a global average, a warming trend is readily apparent—  
270 especially in recent decades—but there are significant geographical variations. Figure  
271 2 show distribution maps of the warming trend of global land surface air temperature  
272 estimated by the BSHADE method for the periods of 1901–1950, 1951–2010, 1901–  
273 2010 and 1977–2014. The values for each grid were calculated when the data satisfied  
274 two conditions: (1) more than 70% of records are available in the period, and (2) the  
275 start and the end decades are both available. The symbol “+” implies that estimated  
276 warming trends are significant, using a 90% CI, for that grid box. White areas were not  
277 estimated because of incomplete or missing data.

278 Since 1901 almost all land areas have experienced warming. The greatest rates of  
279 warming occurred in mid-continental locations rather than coastal areas. This is most  
280 notable in the mid to high-latitudes of North America and the middle latitudes of  
281 interior Asia. From Figure 1, it shows that there is an apparent difference between the  
282 first and the second half of the twentieth century. The warming trend in the two periods  
283 also exhibits very distinct spatial signatures. In the early years of 20<sup>th</sup> century (1923–  
284 1950), warming is mainly evident in the mid-to-high latitude regions of Northern  
285 Hemisphere, whereas the more recent warming (1977-2014) covers all global land areas

286 (Figure 2).

287 The maps of temperature anomalies estimated by BSHADE, Block Kriging, and  
288 CAM generally correspond with each other in the recent period. However, some  
289 discrepancies are present in the early period and in the areas with sparse station  
290 coverage, such as Africa, South America, East and West Australia, and North Asia  
291 (Figures 3). This indicates that the differences in the linear trends for global land surface  
292 average temperatures in the last century or longer periods for different methods are  
293 caused mainly by data availability and bias of the observations in the early periods.

294

#### 295 **3.4. Validation of Estimation**

296 In principle, the accuracy of an estimate is determined by the properties of the  
297 population, the way of sampling, and the method of estimation, actually the match  
298 between the three, referred to as the spatial sampling and inference trinity (Wang et al.,  
299 2012). The merits of an estimator are fulfilled only if its assumption is identical to the  
300 properties of the population and the way of sampling. In this study, the population is  
301 both spatially autocorrelated (see semivariogram) and spatially heterogeneous, and the  
302 sample (meteorological stations) is highly biased (vector  $B$ ) in remote areas and in early  
303 years. Therefore, we chose to use BSHADE, a method which takes into account both  
304 the properties of a population and biased sample to make a BLUE estimate.

305 Though the theoretical confidence intervals can be estimated, they depend upon the  
306 assumptions of the models. The theoretical merits of BSHADE are validated by  
307 empirical tests. A sparse network of stations was selected for analysis in each year  
308 between 1961 and 1990. The stations were chosen to match the reduced spatial

309 coverage of stations in 1880, but the temperatures were those observed during the 1961-  
310 1990 period. The global average mean temperature for each year was computed from  
311 the sparse network and then compared with the global means computed by CAM using  
312 the full network of stations from 1961-1990. In recent decades, when there was the  
313 largest number of stations, the estimated values from the different methods are highly  
314 consistent with each other. The absolute errors in each year for 1961–1990 are  
315 calculated by the difference of the estimated and the true values (see Figure 4).

316 From Figure 4, the absolute errors from BSHADE, Block Kriging, and CAM  
317 were 0.16°C, 0.18°C, and 0.18°C, respectively. In order to compare the results within  
318 the same domain, the polar areas (e.g. Greenland) were not included in the Block  
319 Kriging validation. This demonstrates that the estimates of BSHADE have the smallest  
320 absolute errors compared to the other methods, which implies that, in the early years  
321 having sparse and unevenly distributed stations, the results estimated by BSHADE in  
322 this study will have the highest accuracy.

323

#### 324 **4. Conclusion and Discussion**

325 In this study, the spatial distribution maps of global mean surface air temperature  
326 anomalies for each year from 1880 to 2014 were created using the BSHADE approach.  
327 These maps have greater spatial coverage and less uncertainty compared to existing  
328 studies. Validation was performed using a few selected stations in 1961–1990 with the  
329 same location as stations in 1880. This showed a smaller estimation error using  
330 BSHADE compared to other common methods.



331 The reliabilities of regional mean temperature estimation (Li et al., 2010; Peterson,  
332 2003; Rohde et al., 2013) are determined by the combination of real land surface air  
333 temperature field, the configuration of meteorological stations, and the estimators  
334 employed, known as the spatial sampling and statistical trinity (Wang et al., 2012; Cao  
335 et al., 2013; Ge et al., 2013; Hansen et al., 2006; Jones et al., 2008; Lawrimore et al.,  
336 2011; Peterson et al., 1998; Yan et al., 2010). The discrepancy between global  
337 temperature dynamics estimated by different methods can be understood by the spatial  
338 sampling and statistical trinity.

339 Sparseness of stations is an important uncertainty source in global or regional mean  
340 temperature estimation. Meteorological stations are sparse and have uneven coverage  
341 in some periods and in some areas, i.e., the sample is biased to population, the histogram  
342 of the sample is different from that of the population). This occurs when the population  
343 is spatially stratified heterogeneity (Wang et al., 2016), and some strata have no sample.  
344 In this case, the sample should not be regarded as randomly drawn from a population,  
345 as is usually assumed in statistics. Thus, the mathematical expectation of the mean value  
346 of the stations' records, under the assumption of the 1<sup>st</sup> order stationary population, is  
347 not equal to the true value across the whole region. The real regional annual temperature  
348 anomalies cannot be directly represented by the samples under the assumption of  
349 random sampling. The situation is worsened in early years, especially before the end of  
350 19<sup>th</sup> century, compared to recent years. For example, in the 1880s, existing stations were  
351 mainly located in western Europe and the northeast coasts of the USA. Although there  
352 are numerous stations available in recent years, they are uneven and sparse in some

353 regions. For example, in the Asian continent, stations are mainly located in regions with  
354 high population density, while the mountains or plateaus.

355 In this study, the warming trend estimated by Block Kriging is higher than the other  
356 two methods. One of the possible reasons is that the Block Kriging estimation had more  
357 coverage than the other methods, especially in polar areas (e.g., Greenland) where the  
358 warming has been the most intense. The other reason is for Block Kriging's higher  
359 estimation is the sparse and biased station distributions in the years of the late 19<sup>th</sup>  
360 century in Africa and South America. In these areas, the mean values estimated by  
361 Block Kriging were lower than those estimated by BSHADE for the period, which  
362 results in the higher linear trends from Block Kriging. However, Block Kriging's linear  
363 trend has more uncertainty; the validation in the preceding section shows that the mean  
364 values estimated by Block Kriging in the early period have higher errors than those  
365 from BSHADE. The situation can be avoided in BSHADE due to its potential to remedy  
366 the biased sample by the value of the parameter  $b$ .

367 There is discrepancy between the CAM results and the other methods. For example,  
368 in 1880, Australia showed strong warm anomalies with CAM in the southeast of the  
369 continent, while the BSHADE method showed slight anomalies. However, there is an  
370 overlap of their error bars, where the 95% CI of CAM and BSHADE were [-0.055,  
371 3.35], [0.25, 0.63] respectively. One of the reasons for the discrepancy is that only local  
372 stations within a box of 5° latitude by 5° longitude were used in the estimation of  
373 average land surface air temperature anomaly in each grid. Meanwhile, spatial  
374 correlation information was not used in CAM.

375 Besides comparing the results from the traditional methods and BSHADE, we  
376 also compared the results from BSHADE with reanalysis data and other widely used  
377 datasets. Compo et.al. (2013) have presented the linear trend of 20CR and eight  
378 different near-global datasets constructed from land surface observations. The linear  
379 trend of spatial patterns estimated by BSHADE over the 1901–2010 and 1951–2010  
380 periods correspond with the eight datasets (see Figures 3, S2, and S3 in the 2013 paper  
381 by Compo et.al.). The linear trend of spatial patterns between BSHADE and 20CR in  
382 the above two periods also have the same general agreement with differences in local  
383 areas such as Argentina, eastern Brazil and the midwestern United States, which may  
384 be induced by some uncertainty of 20CR caused by factors such as land use and land  
385 cover, pressure observations, and so on. Detailed regional analyses and trends between  
386 the various methods and how the improved coverage affects regional means and trends  
387 could be conducted but are outside of the scope of this paper.

388 This paper provides a new estimation of global land surface air temperature since  
389 1880 with greater spatial coverage and lower uncertainty. In this study, we took the  
390 mean values of spatial correlation matrix  $C$  in Kriging and BSHADE and sample bias  
391 vector  $B$  in BSHADE. The theories behind the parameters deserve further investigation  
392 in future studies. Although BSHADE has advantages compared with traditional  
393 methods, there is potential to improve the method's parameterizations in the future by  
394 information fusion, such as using more data sources in the method, such as tree ring  
395 data.

396

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399

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532 Figure 2. Trends in global land surface temperature estimated by BSHADE method for  
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538 Figure 4 Maps of differences of average temperature anomaly in the periods 1880-1900, 1923-1950  
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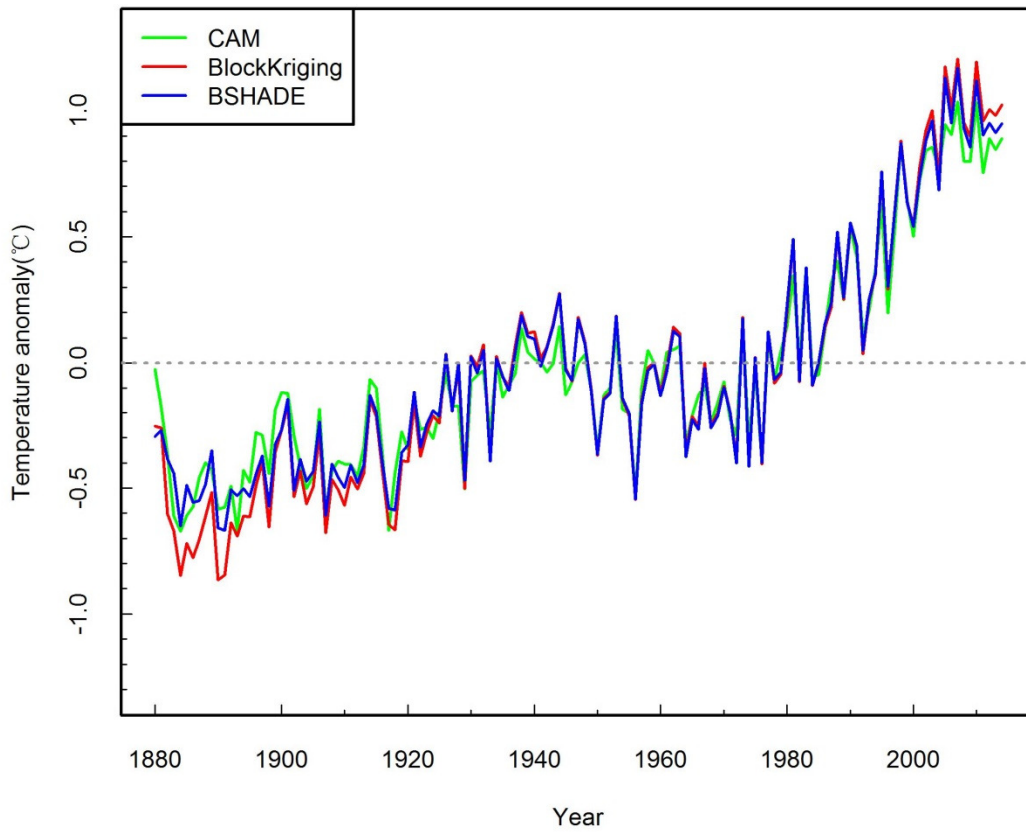
541 Table 1. Trend estimates and 95% confidence intervals (°C/decade) during different periods.

	1901–1950	1880–2010	1901–2010	1951–2010	1979–2014
BSHADE	0.118±0.032	0.096±0.021	0.109±0.028	0.223±0.049	0.304±0.060
CAM	0.097±0.034	0.092±0.020	0.104±0.026	0.207±0.048	0.278±0.052
Block Kriging	0.143±0.039	0.108±0.021	0.115±0.029	0.229±0.052	0.329±0.061
Berkeley ( <i>Rohde et al., 2013</i> )	0.124±0.040	0.100±0.016	0.107±0.020	0.185±0.039	0.255±0.053
*NCEI ( <i>Hartmann et al., 2013; Lawrimore et al., 2011</i> )	0.100±0.033	0.094±0.016	0.107±0.020	0.197±0.031	0.273±0.047
*GISS ( <i>Hansen et al., 2010; Hartmann et al., 2013</i> )	0.098±0.032	0.095±0.015	0.099±0.020	0.188±0.032	0.254±0.049
20th Century Reanalysis ( <i>Compo et al., 2013</i> )	/	/	0.090	#0.134	/
Karl <i>et al. (2015)</i>	/	&0.106±0.017	\$0.194±0.031	/	/

542 Note: Berkeley used a different dataset compared with the three methods in this study. The symbol  
543 “\*” indicates these trends were calculated for the periods of 1901–1950, 1880–2012, 1901–2012,  
544 1951–2012, 1979–2012 in the cited sources. The symbol “#” indicates the trend was calculated for  
545 the period 1952–2010 in the cited sources. The symbol “&” indicates the trend was calculated for  
546 the period 1880–2014 in the cited sources. The symbol “\$” indicates the trend was calculated for  
547 the period 1951–2012 in the cited sources. The symbol “/” indicates no data available.

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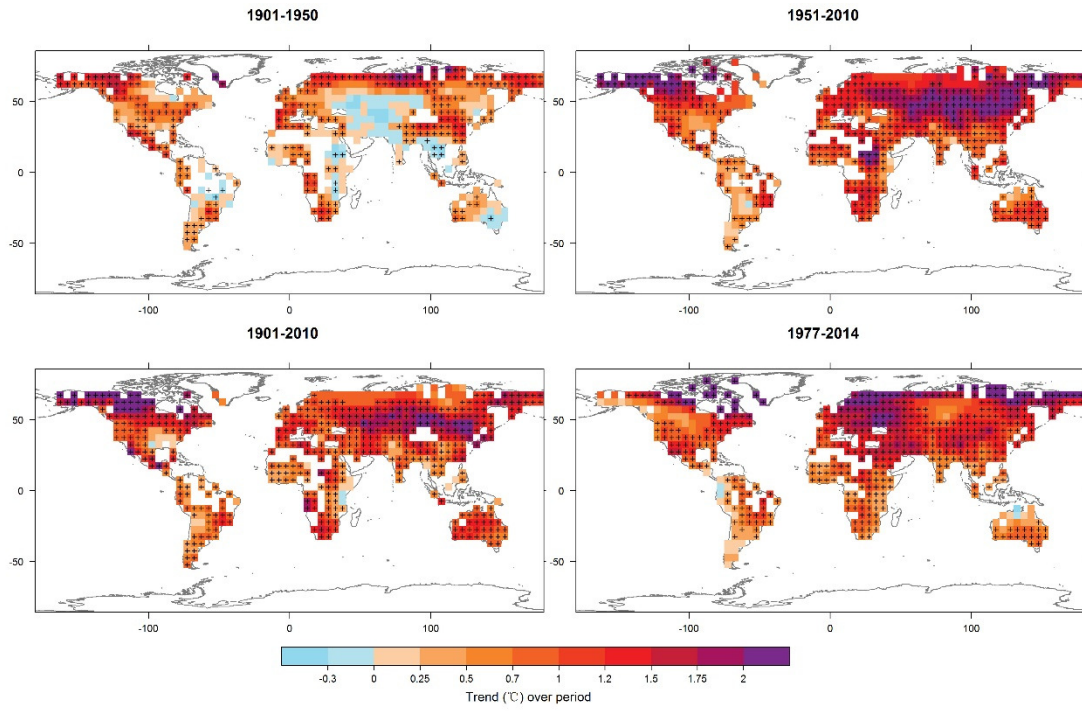
551 Figure 1. Annual global land surface air temperature anomaly time series in 1880–2014 relative  
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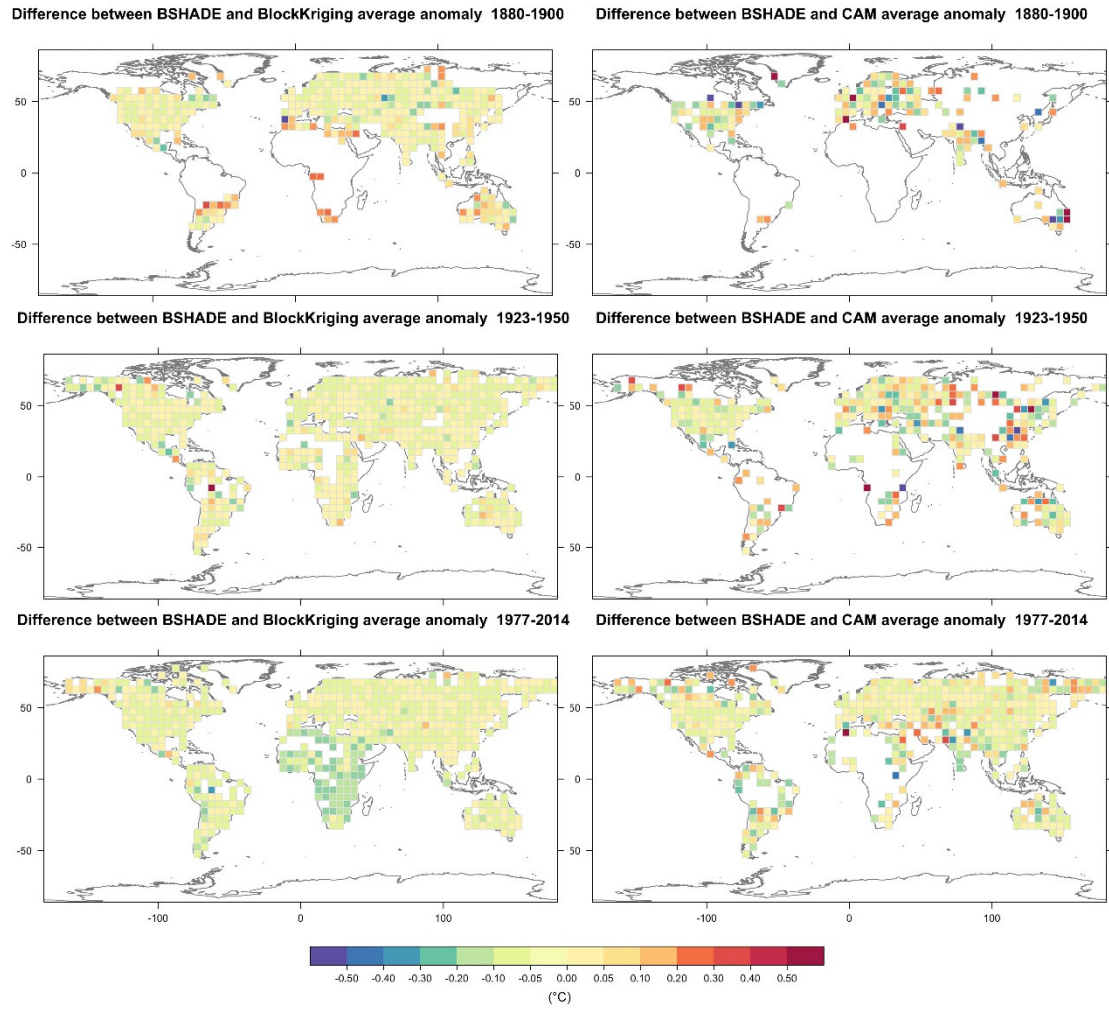


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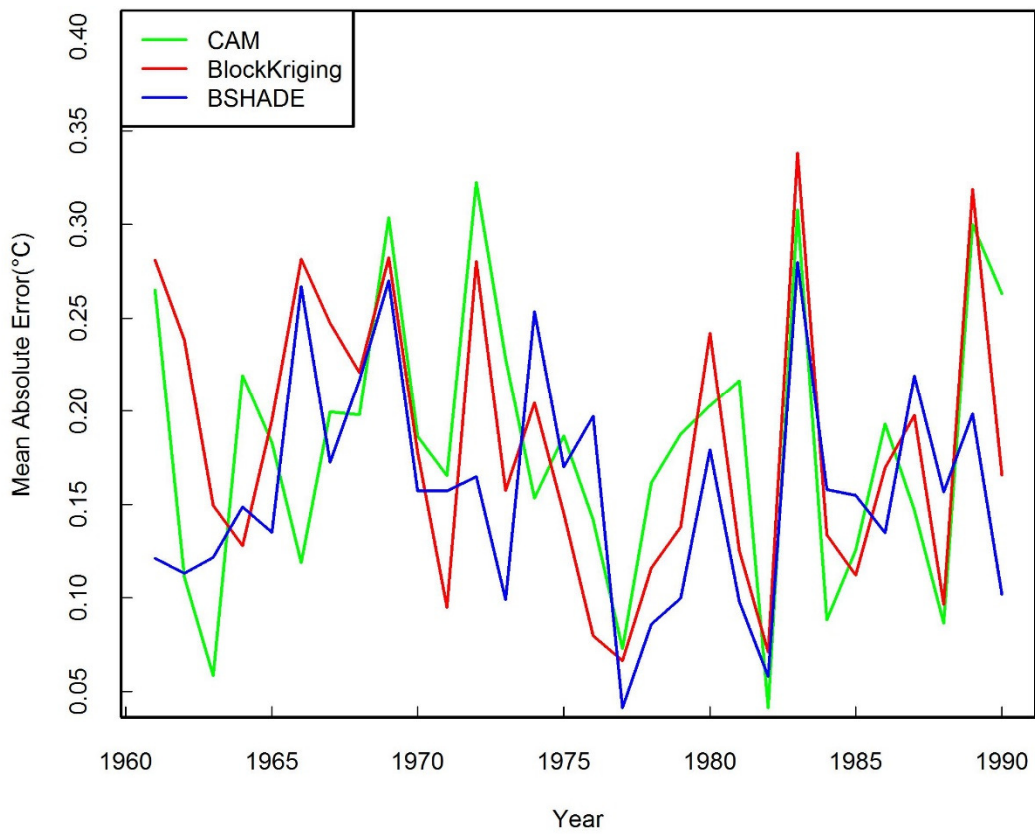
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