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**Supplementary information**

*Review*

**Anthropogenically breaking macro-ecospacial ‘chains’? – case review of HU Line**

Yi Lin<sup>1,\*</sup>, Martin Herold<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Earth and Space Sciences, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China

<sup>2</sup> Laboratory of Geo-Information Science and Remote Sensing, Wageningen University, 6708 PB

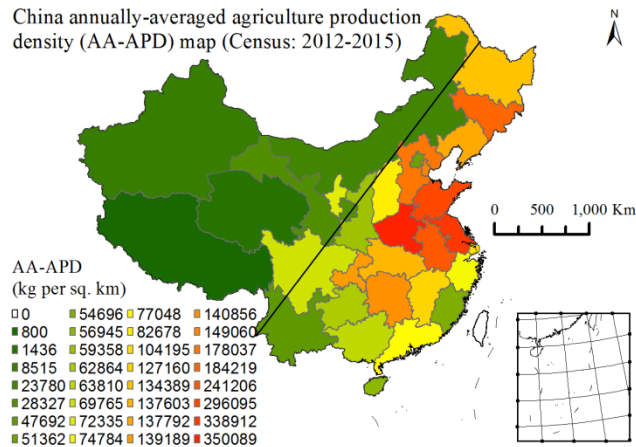
Wageningen, the Netherlands

\* Correspondence, Email: yi.lin@pku.edu.cn

**Supplementary Figures**

Supplementary Figure S1-S2

22 1. Agricultural production



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24 Supplementary Figure S1. China annually-averaged agriculture production density map  
25 (Census: 2012-2015) (The authors generated the image based on the data that is published in  
26 [www.moa.gov.cn](http://www.moa.gov.cn)).

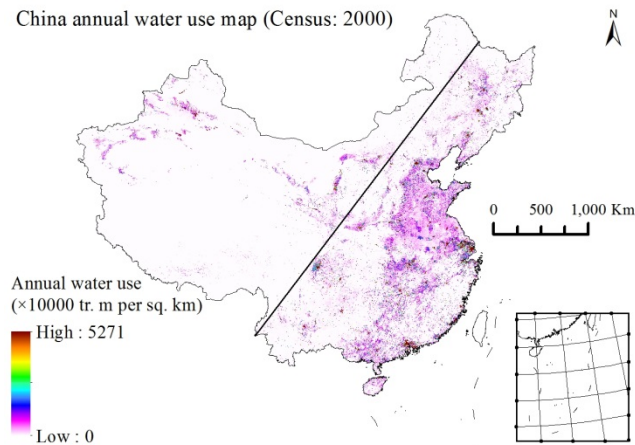
27 Agricultural production is the leading anthropogenic factor closely related to population  
28 distribution, since agricultural production serves as the living basis for human residence and  
29 population increase, which in turn, can enhance agricultural production. This  
30 mutual-enhancement effect has already reached a relatively stable status in China, a  
31 traditional agricultural country. This is manifested in the map of grain yields at the province  
32 scale ([www.moa.gov.cn](http://www.moa.gov.cn)) during 2012–2015, as illustrated in terms of annually averaged  
33 agriculture production density (kg per sq. km) (Supplementary Figure S1). The map shows  
34 that HU Line is also the geographic demarcation line for agriculture productions across China,  
35 as the regional agricultural production in southeast China is obviously larger than the opposite  
36 in northwest China. Wang et al. (2005) revealed that for agriculture production the east and  
37 north boundary of this demarcation line is in the Da and Xiao Xing'an Mountains–Hetao  
38 Plain in the Inner Mongolia–Ningxia–Hexi Corridor of Gansu, and the west of the  
39 demarcation line is in the south Gansu–Sichuan Basin. Overall, the integration of these  
40 separated demarcation line segments obeys the spatial transition layout marked by HU Line  
41 (2015).

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45 2. Resource consumption



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47 Supplementary Figure S2. China annual water use density map (Census: 2000) (The authors  
48 generated the image based on the data that is published in Jiang 2000).

49 Resource consumption is receiving more and more attention by not only economists but  
50 also Earth scientists. Dai and Chen (2010) showed the spatial distribution of extended-energy  
51 based indicators in 30 provinces of China in 2007 and found that the east part consumed more  
52 energy of fossil fuels than the west part. Zhang et al. (2011) examined the spatial distribution  
53 of total energy consumptions of the 30 case cities in China in 2005 and found that energy  
54 consumption is similar to economic activity in terms of spatial pattern, e.g., with the three  
55 representative regions Beijing-Tianjin-Tangshan Area, Yangtze River Delta and Pearl River  
56 Delta. Jiang (2000) derived the spatial distributions of China's annual water use density, as  
57 illustrated in Figure 3a. All of these endeavors indicated that resource consumption follows  
58 the spatial layout marked by HU Line.

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