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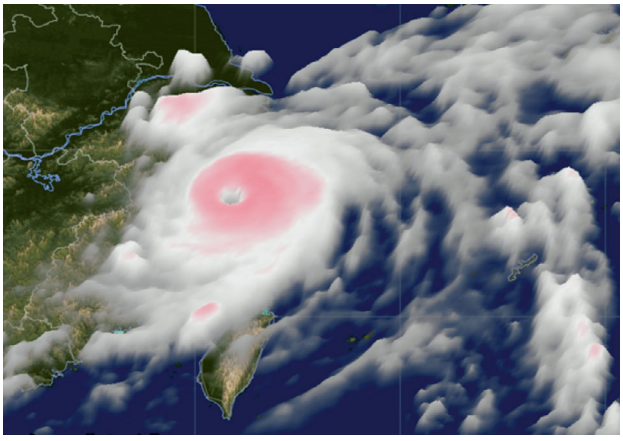
Changes in climatic extremes over mainland China



Landfall of tropical cyclone Saomai (no. 0608) on the coast of China, August 10, 2006

Image: National Satellite Meteorological Center (NSMC), China Meteorological Administration (CMA)

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SPECIALS of Climate Research (*CR*) *present important new information on climate phenomena measured and assessed by closely coordinated group efforts. They concentrate on specific research themes or geographic areas.*

CR SPECIAL 28 analyzes recent and historical changes in extremes of temperature, precipitation, storms and drought in China. The analyses are based on climate indices, tree-ring data, historical documents, NCEP/NCAR reanalysis data, empirical orthogonal functions, and the climate model BCC_CSM1.0.

Contributions to this CR SPECIAL show that there are few recent increases in climate extremes, except with regard to minimum temperatures. The studies, however, provide a baseline for the assessment of future climate change. Furthermore, they document the need to improve observations and methodology for detection of regional climate change, as well as the skill of current climate models.

We are pleased to make the online version of this CR SPECIAL available with Open Access.

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