Interactive comment on "Spatial characteristics analysis of drought disasters in North China during the Ming and Qing Dynasties" *by* S. Bi et al.

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bishuoben@163.com

Dear Reviewer,

With this letter, we are submitting our revised manuscript entitled "Spatial characteristics analysis of drought disasters in North China during the Ming and Qing Dynasties" to the journal of Natural Hazard and Earth System Sciences. We are grateful to you for your insightful and helpful comments. We have revised the paper very carefully according to the comments. The detailed replies to you and detailed revisions of the manuscript are given underneath. We have done the revision on it and listed as below. All the modified words in the paper are also marked in red color.

Reviewer 2's comments: The authors perform a spatial analysis of the variability of drought disasters throughout China. They use a EOF analysis explaining the spatial

every EOF map. 1) The authors should add figures with time-series of the most relevant principal components (e.g. the leading 5) i.e. projections of the drought intensity fields into the EOFs and then discuss them. Response: Many thanks! That is a good idea. As in this paper we mainly focus on the spatial distribution of grade sequence of drought disasters in Ming and Qing Dynasties in North China, so here we may not pay much attention to the time series analysis of drought disasters. The time series analysis of drought disasters in this region in Ming and Qing Dynasties will be discussed in our next paper.

2) There are many typos and synthactic errors that must be corrected. Some examples are: a) space models —> space modes b) line 32 and 33 (pg 11) The phrase is incomplete. c) line 1 (pg 12) law –> low Response: All the listed mistakes have been modified.

3) The authors should improve considerably the english text. Response: The revised manuscript has been checked by Editage Company.

Finally, we would like to thank you again for the excellent comments and suggestions for improving the paper.

Shuoben Bi 2017/1/28

Please also note the supplement to this comment:
http://www.nat-hazards-earth-syst-sci-discuss.net/nhess-2016-249/nhess-2016-249-AC2-supplement.zip