Temporal-Spatial Measurement and Prediction between Air Environment and Inbound Tourism: Case of China

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4 Abstract: Air environment and inbound tourism has intricate interactions so that exploring the 5 relationship of coupling coordination between them is contributory to discover the mutual 6 interaction mechanism. The study firstly constructs a correlation model and an aggregated 7 evaluation system to illustrate the interaction mechanism between these two factors; secondly 8 evaluates the development degrees of both air environment and inbound tourism in China with the 9 combined methods of information entropy weight and the technique for order preference by 10 similarity to the ideal solution; thirdly analyzes the spatial-temporal differences of the coupling 11 coordination situations between air environment and inbound tourism with the coupling 12 coordination model; fourthly predicts the coupling coordination status of the regions in China with 13 the gray prediction GM(1,1) model. The results show that the development degrees of air 14 environment are more fluctuated than the ones of inbound tourism in China. The coupling 15 coordination statuses are mildly fluctuating and the gaps among regions gradually narrow, while 16 in the next four years the trend will be different: the spatial variations among regions will increase. 17 The contributions include illustrating the interaction mechanism between the two subsystems 18 theoretically, constructing the evaluation system and processing cross-regional spatial-temporal 19 comparisons of the coupling coordination statuses, and predicting the trend of the coordination 20 statuses, which helps to the proposal of more effective and efficient countermeasures.

21 22 Keywords: coupling coordination; air environment; inbound tourism; China

# 23 1. Introduction

24 There are intricate correlations between air environment and inbound tourism; however, how 25 these two subsystems interact and how they achieve coordinated development are not quite clear 26 (Zhou et al., 2018; Lu et al., 2018; Qureshi et al., 2017). In previous academic literature, it has been 27 researched that air environment plays an important role in affecting inbound tourism both 28 positively and negatively: benign air environment is attractive for international tourists and 29 encourages local authorities to enhance air quality in order to promote inbound tourism, whereas 30 poor air environment causes inbound tourism related problems such as decreasing tourism 31 willingness of international tourists, tourism destination images or reputations, inbound tourism 32 revenue, etc. (Li et al., 2017; Zhou et al., 2019; Xu et al., 2020a; Awan et al., 2020; Khan et al., 2017; 33 Barker et al., 2010) It also has been researched that inbound tourism affects air environment both 34 positively and negatively. In specific, inbound tourism contributes to air environment enhancement 35 if inbound tourism industry is well planned, while inbound tourism activities also increase the 36 vulnerability of air environment by emitting more air pollutants, increasing difficulties in air 37 governance, etc. (Pablo-Remero et al., 2019; Dong et al., 2019; Li and Weng, 2016; Guerranti et al, 38 2016) However, the actual gap, the interactive coupling coordination relationship between air 39 environment and inbound tourism is not clear, exists; therefore, it is needed to explore the 40 correlation coordination mechanism, and use effective systems and approaches to evaluate and 41 predict the interactions between them so that the coordinated improvement of air environment and 42 inbound tourism can be achieved.

In order to fulfil this research gap, by using the data of the 31 provincial regions in China for 15 years, this study aims to firstly theoretically explore the coordination mechanism to discuss the coupling coordination relationship of the two subsystems (air environment and inbound tourism); secondly empirically discover the evolution and distribution rules of development degrees (DD) of air environment and inbound tourism, and the coupling coordination degrees (CCD) with the 48 coupling coordination evaluation system; thirdly predicts the trend of CCD for the next 4 years and49 proposes countermeasures according to the results.

50 In this study, air environment is the status where the air environment's structure and the 51 function are stable; the air environment can support individuals' activities through air eco-services 52 (Wang et al., 2013; Takii et al., 2004). Air environment reflects potential benefits and problems of 53 eco-environment and inbound tourism activities. Meanwhile, inbound tourism is the term 54 depicturing activities of travelling, living, and entertainments of an individual for a period in places 55 outside of his or her nationality (Wu et al., 2019a; Araban et al., 2016). Inbound tourism relates to 56 business such as tourism transportation, tourism agencies, tourism accommodation, etc. Air 57 environment and inbound tourism are two different subsystems, whereas they share similarities -58 they share the same affecting elements such as transportation and carbon emissions – so that the 59 interactions between these subsystems are complicated and the study on the interaction mechanism 60 is significant (Bai et al., 2020).

61 1.1. Air Environment's Effect on Inbound Tourism

62 Air environment affects inbound tourism both positively and negatively. From the positive 63 perspective, air environment provides abundant resources for inbound tourism activities. Firstly, as 64 one of the tourism resources, benign air environment improves the positive image of tourism 65 destinations, is attractive to international tourists and therefore enhances the competitiveness of 66 inbound tourism (Li et al., 2016; Zhou et al., 2019; Deng et al., 2017; Min et al., 2017; Robaina-Alves 67 et al., 2016). Secondly, the benign air environment requires less discharge of air pollutants, 68 upgraded transportation facilities, use of low-carbon and renewable technologies, improved 69 hospitality equipment, etc., which are beneficial to inbound tourism (Liu and Nijkamp, 2019; Xu 70 and Reed, 2019). Thirdly, air environment related governance provides benefits to inbound tourism. 71 In specific, taxes from air governance offers financial support to air pollution reduction, tourism 72 destination renovation, and inbound tourism development (Mou et al., 2020; Geng et al., 2020a; Sato 73 et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2019; Anser et al., 2020); education about air governance enhances 74 awareness and determination for both local residents and international tourists to protect air 75 environment during inbound tourism activities (Tiago et al., 2016; Awan et al., 2020).

76 From the negative perspective, air environment hinders the development of inbound tourism. 77 Firstly, the improper or over use of air related resources in the inbound tourism activities 78 negatively affects inbound tourism development; for instance, improper use of air resources leads 79 to haze pollution, whose spillover effects negatively impact on the inbound tourism of surrounding 80 regions (Xu et al., 2020a; Xu et al., 2020b; Qiao et al., 2019). Secondly, unsatisfactory air environment 81 decreases the expectation and evaluation of inbound tourists so that the international images of the 82 tourism sites are likely to decrease; it is researched that air environment is a main cause in inbound 83 tourism, and places with poor air environment are examined less expected by international tourists 84 (Awan at al., 2020; Chiu et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2019). Thirdly, inbound tourists themselves can be 85 affected by the deteriorating air environment and can generate negative behaviors such as 86 dissatisfaction with the tourism sites, physical or psychological discomfort, getting air related 87 illness, etc. (Xu and Reed, 2017; Xu et al., 2019; Awan at al., 2018) Current research has started to 88 focus on the sustainable development of inbound tourism on the basis of air governance, such as 89 low-carbon tourism, tourism competitiveness, etc. (Chi et al., 2019; Tang, 2018); however, it is still 90 less clear how air environment interactively affects inbound tourism with coordination.

## 91 1.2. Inbound Tourism's Effect on Air Environment

92 Inbound tourism, affected by air environment, in turn affects air environment both positively 93 and negatively. From the positive perspective, inbound tourism contributes to the upgrade of 94 infrastructure, improvement of urban or community functions, and optimization of industrial 95 structures, which are beneficial to air environment (Liu et al., 2019; Saenz-de-Miera and Rosselló, 96 2014; Malik et al., 2016; Guizi, 2019). Cases in certain areas have proved that inbound tourism is 97 playing a role in enhancing air environment (Tang, 2015; Kumar et al., 2020). Besides, inbound

98 tourism business accelerates the improvement of air environment mainly because inbound tourists 99 are more sensitive to air environment than domestic tourists; increasing numbers of critical 100 inbound tourists help local authorities to improve air environment so that the tourism destinations 101 can receive better praises and recommendations (Qiu and Qi, 2020; Gu et al., 2019; Xu at al., 2019; 102 Chiu et al., 2014). Furthermore, some well-organized inbound tourism activities use air 103 environment friendly transportations and accommodations, and arrange visits to exhibition halls or 104 museums, which directly reduce the discharge of carbon emissions and provides opportunities to 105 learn knowledge of air environment protection, which contributes to better air environment. It is 106 researched that these activities are more obvious in developed countries (Worobiec et al., 2008; 107 McCartney and Leong, 2018; Drummond, 2018).

108 From the negative perspective, inbound tourism causes serious problems in air environment. 109 Firstly, inbound tourism activities, especially environment-polluting tourism activities such as car 110 racing and fireworks, increase carbon emission and aggravate air environment pollution. Inbound 111 tourism related transportations and accommodations increase traditional energy consumption so 112 that there is more pressure in air environment (Qureshi et al., 2017; Yan et al., 2019; Yuan et al., 113 2014). Secondly, the educational background, personal values, attitudes or ethics towards air 114 environment protection vary for different inbound tourists; the egoism attitudes or ethics of some 115 international tourists, believing that "air environment of the host country is none of my business", 116 determine their further actions and hinder better air environment protection (Wu et al., 2019b; Pan 117 et al., 2017). Current research has focused on inbound tourism's effects on air environment, but how 118 inbound tourism achieve coordinated effects on air environment is not quite clear, which needs 119 more in-depth research.

# 120 1.3. Interaction between Air Environment & Inbound Tourism

121 The interactions of the two subsystems are intricate: they support and hinder each other with 122 time. Coupling coordination refers to the status where subsystems interact and have effects on each 123 other (Liu et al., 2018; Sofowote et al., 2010), and it is proper to analyze the interactions between the 124 subsystems of air environment and inbound tourism. Coupling coordination reflects how the 125 subsystems interact each other and how the system evolves from disorder to harmony (Ding et al., 126 2015). Coupling coordination has been applied to evaluate the coordination relationship among the 127 systems of environment and tourism in certain regions, and the research results have shown that 128 coupling coordination is important to reveal the interactive mechanisms between eco-environment 129 and tourism (Wang et al., 2011; Shaheen et al., 2019; Gal et al., 2010); however, there are not many 130 studies regarding the coupling coordination relationship between air environment and inbound 131 tourism in the background of regional comparisons both temporally and spatially.

132 The study of the coupling coordination relationship between air environment and inbound 133 tourism is important because such study will help us understand the interactive mechanism of the 134 two subsystems and thus take specific corresponding countermeasures to stimulate the 135 development of the subsystems; however, it is difficult to evaluate such coupling coordination 136 relationship mainly because the coordination mechanism structure between the two subsystems has 137 not been constructed yet, and there are few proper and consensual evaluation indicators currently 138 to dynamically and precisely measure this coordination relationship. What is more, though 139 beneficial and instructive to this study, former research mainly focuses on the coupling 140 coordination relationship between ecological environment and tourism industry, and focuses on 141 individual regions while ignoring regional comparisons, while regional comparisons temporally 142 and spatially will be more meaningful in exploring the coupling coordination relationship between 143 air environment and inbound tourism. So, more detailed study in the coupling coordination 144 relationship between air environment and inbound tourism in different regions is quite necessary, 145 which is also the purpose of this study.

#### 146 **2. Methods**

### 147 2.1. Evaluation Model and Evaluation System

148 In the air environment-inbound tourism system, the two subsystems, namely air environment 149 subsystem and inbound tourism subsystem, have intricate interactions. Effective air governance 150 brings benign air environment status and decreases environmental pressure from air pollution, 151 which supports inbound tourism attractiveness, performance and scale; whereas pressure from air 152 pollutant emissions and poor air conditions restricts the performances and scales of the tourism 153 destinations; on the other hand, incomes from benign inbound tourism activities contribute to 154 monetary devotion into air environment protection and governance, and the increasing scale of 155 inbound tourism industry requires efficient use of air environment resources and enhanced state of 156 air environment, whereas inbound tourism activities increases the burden of air governance and 157 threat the outcome or state of air environment governance. The air environment-inbound tourism 158 system is therefore a system with coupling coordination relationship which is significant to 159 measure the interactive mechanisms between the air environment subsystem and the inbound 160 tourism subsystem. Based on this, a correlation model is constructed to measure the CCD of the air 161 environment-inbound tourism system (Figure 1).



#### 162

Figure 1. Correlation Model of Air Environment-Inbound Tourism System.

163 Then an evaluation system based on the correlation model is constructed. The selection of the 164 evaluation indicators in this system follows several principles (Guo et al., 2018; Pasquini and Pozzi, 165 2005; Geng and Zhao, 2020; Geng and Zhang, 2020). First, the indicators should reflect the national 166 strategy and policies; second, the indicators should reflect the key components of air environment 167 and inbound tourism; third, the indicators should be widely accepted and have been cited; fourth, 168 the indicators should be simple and logically clear; fifth, the multicollinearity of the indicators 169 should be eliminated; sixth, the data of the indicators can be obtained. After qualitative analysis and 170 the tests of correlation coefficients and significance, 15 indicators (9 for air environment subsystem 171 and 6 for inbound tourism subsystem) are determined, and thus the air environment-inbound 172 tourism evaluation system is finally constructed which is applicable to measure the coupling 173 coordination relationship between air environment and inbound tourism (Table 1).

Table 1. Evaluation System.

Subsystem	ubsystem Dimension Indicator		Interpretation
Air	Pressure	Pollutant emission in smoke & dust	Environmental pressure in smoke and dust
Environment		Pollutant emission in	Environmental pressure in nitrogen oxides

		nitrogen oxides			
		Pollutant emission in	Environmental pressure in Sulphur dioxide		
		Dave of air quality po	Current status of air any ironmont in		
		Days of air quanty no			
		lower than Grade 2	general		
		Annual concentration	Current status of air environment in PM10		
	State	of PM <sub>10</sub>			
		Annual concentration	Current status of air environment in NO <sub>2</sub>		
		of NO <sub>2</sub>			
		Annual concentration	Current status of air environment in $SO_2$		
		of SO <sub>2</sub>	Current status of an environment in 502		
		Investment in waste	Response quality to air governance		
		gas treatment projects	Response quality to all governance		
	Response	Proportion of air			
		treatment investment	Response efficiency to air governance		
		in GDP			
		Revenue from	Monetary performance quality in inbound		
	Denfermente	inbound tourism	tourism		
	Performance	Proportion of inbound	Monetary performance efficiency in		
		tourism in GDP	inbound tourism		
		Number of inbound	Scale of inhound touriets		
Tourism		tourists	Scale of inbound tourists		
		Number of hotels	Scale of inbound tourism accommodation		
	Scale	Number of travel	Scale of inhound tourism service		
		agencies	Scale of indound tourism service		
		Number of employees	Scale of inbound tourism service		
		in this industry	participants		

175

176 The subsystem of air environment is consisted of 3 dimensions: pressure, state, and response, 177 which come from the pressure-state-response model which has been widely used to evaluate the 178 effects of environment (Geng et al., 2020a). Pressure dimension is consisted of 3 indicators: 179 pollutant emissions in smoke & dust, nitrogen oxides, and Sulphur dioxide; this dimension reflects 180 the environmental pressure from air pollution, and these three indicators are chosen because these 181 pollutants are representative in emission pressure (Geng and Tan, 2020; Wang et al., 2012). State 182 dimension is consisted of 4 indicators: days of air quality no lower than Grade 2, and annual 183 average concentration of PM10, NO2, and SO2; this dimension reflects the current status of the air 184 environment, and these indicators are chosen because they correspond to the indicators in the 185 pressure dimension (Geng et al., 2020a; Geng and Tan, 2020). Response dimension is consisted of 2 186 indicators: investment in waste gas treatment projects, and proportion of air treatment investment 187 in GDP; this dimension reflects the reaction to air governance quantitatively and qualitatively, and 188 has been accepted widely to represent the response dimension (Geng et al., 2020a; Geng and Tan, 189 2020; Wang et al., 2012). The subsystem of inbound tourism is consisted of 2 dimensions: 190 performance and scale (Chi et al., 2019). Performance dimension is consisted of 2 indicators: 191 revenue from inbound tourism, and the proportion of inbound tourism in GDP; this dimension 192 illustrates the monetary profits of inbound tourism from the quantitative and qualitative 193 perspectives; such choice has been accepted in measuring tourism performance (Kumar et al., 2020; 194 Geng et al., 2020b). Scale dimension is consisted of 4 indicators: numbers of inbound tourists, hotels, 195 travel agencies, and employees in the industry; this dimension illustrates the overall size of the 196 inbound tourism, and the indicators also well represent this dimension (Deng et al., 2017; Tang, 197 2015).

199 Generally, there are two types to evaluate the temporal and spatial coupling coordination 200 mechanism: the subjective approaches and the objective approaches. The subjective ones include 201 Delphi approach, analytic hierarchy process approach, etc. These approaches determine the weights 202 of indicators via personal experiences and judgements; therefore, the weights are likely to be 203 subjective, leading to biased coordination results (Geng and Zhao, 2020; Tan and Geng, 2020). The 204 objective ones include cluster analysis approach, information entropy weight approach (IEW), gray 205 correlation approach, principle component approach, technique for order preference by similarity to 206 an ideal solution approach (TOPSIS), etc. These objective ones measure the weights of indicators via 207 data calculation; therefore, the weights are more objective and less biased, making the results more 208 convincing. However, there are some disadvantages for the objective approaches, for instance, gray 209 correlation approach and cluster analysis approach are considered valid to enhance the preciseness of 210 the results only after they are jointly used with other approaches; principle component approach is 211 relatively easy to miss some important indicators and distort the analysis results when classifying 212 indicators (Geng and Tan, 2020; Wang et al., 2012).

213 The joint use of IEW and TOPSIS is more appropriate in measuring the weights of indicators and 214 coordination mechanism with limited data size (Wang et al., 2019; Chung et al., 2017). IEW is useful in 215 measuring the status uncertainty of the system via objective data, and higher IEW means higher 216 balance of the system and less variations of indicators; thus, the weights of indicators can be 217 objectively calculated by IEW. What is more, TOPSIS is useful in ranking the alternatives within the 218 indicator sets; this approach uses data and objectively calculates the distance between the ideal 219 solution and the calculated alternative, and reflects the relative importance of the alternatives within 220 the indicator sets. There are some highlights of the joint use of IEW and TOPSIS in this study: first, the 221 combined use of IEW-TOPSIS is new in analyzing the coordination mechanism between air 222 environment and inbound tourism, though in fact it has been applied in former studies in other fields; 223 second, this approach guarantees objectivity and preciseness of the results and avoids personal 224 preferences with limited data size (Geng et al., 2020b).

# 225 2.3. Study Area

226 China is consisted of 34 provincial regions, and in this study 31 regions are selected as research 227 cases (Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau are excluded due to the statistical differences). China as the 228 case is representative: the air environment varies spatially, e.g. there is more hazy weather in the 229 northern regions than the southern ones; besides, the inbound tourism resources and development 230 are apparently variant across the regions, e.g. the region with the most inbound visits (Guangdong) 231 was approximately 560 times as many as the region with the least inbound visits (Ningxia). The 232 differences of air environment and inbound tourism among the regions in China are so obvious that 233 such regional differences have causes problems in air governance and inbound tourism 234 development with coordination. Therefore, the 31 regions in China as research cases are meaningful 235 and representative to compare temporal and spatial differences in air environment and inbound 236 tourism, to accelerate air governance and inbound tourism development, and to act as examples 237 and references to explore the coupling coordination relationship in other countries.

## 238 **3.** Calculation

239 3.1. Data Processing

Related data are from China Statistical Yearbook on Environment, China Statistical Yearbook and the Yearbook of China Tourism Statistics (2009-2018); data in some indicators are calculated. The data are all collected by the National Bureau of Statistics of China; thus, they share high quality and guarantee the reliability and objectivity of the results. Besides, the data are collected for continuously 15 years, the size of which is reliable for analysis.

245 3.2. DD Calculation

7 of 29

246 (1) Standardize data to enhance indicator comparability.  $x_{ij}$  is the matrix X where *i* is the 247 alternative under the indicator *j* of all the years. Formula (1) is used when the indicator is positive 248 and formula (2) is used when the indicator is negative. Here i = 1, 2, ..., m; j = 1, 2, ..., n.

$$x_{ij}' = \frac{x_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{ij}}$$
(1)

$$x'_{ij} = 1 - \frac{x_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{ij}}$$
(2)

249  $x' = (x'_{ij})_{m \times n}$  is the standardized matrix;  $\max_{1 \le j \le n} x_{ij}$  and  $\min_{1 \le j \le n} x_{ij}$  are the maximum and the 250 minimum values of indicator *j* of all the years.

251 (2) Use IEW to calculate weights of indicators. Calculate  $ln f_{ij}$  to guarantee the significance.

$$f_{ij} = \frac{1 + x'_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^{m} (1 + X'_{ij})}$$
(3)

252 (3) Calculate information entropy depending on  $x' = (x'_{ij})_{m \times n}$ .

$$IE_{j} = -\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} f_{ij} \ln f_{ij}\right), \tag{4}$$

253 (4) Calculate the weight  $w_j$ .

$$w_{j} = \frac{1 - IE_{j}}{n - \sum_{j=1}^{n} IE_{j}}$$
(5)

(5) Use TOPSIS to calculate DD. Calculate the positive ideal solution with Formula 7 and thenegative ideal solution with Formula 8.

$$X^{+} = \left(\max_{1 \le i \le m} x_{i1}, \max_{1 \le i \le m} x_{i2}, \dots, \max_{1 \le i \le m} x_{in}\right)$$
(6)

$$X^{-} = \left(\min_{\substack{1 \le i \le m}} x_{i1}, \min_{\substack{1 \le i \le m}} x_{i2}, \dots, \min_{\substack{1 \le i \le m}} x_{in}\right)$$
(7)

256 (6) Calculate the separation degree from  $X^+$  to  $X^-$  of alternatives. SDM is the most preferred 257 alternative, and SDL X- is the least preferred alternative.

$$SDM = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{n} w_j (x_{ij} - X_j^+)^2}$$
(8)

$$SDL = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{n} w_j (x_{ij} - X_j^-)^2}$$
9)

258 (7) Calculate *DD<sub>i</sub>*, the relative closeness to the ideal solution of alternative *i*.

$$DD_i = \frac{SDL}{SDM + SDL}$$
(0)

(8) Construct DD's classification grade. The evaluation grade is divided into 5 grades according
to the principle of interval equalization (Table 2). The 5 grades are poor (0-0.2), ordinary (0.2-0.4), fair
(0.4-0.6), good (0.6-0.8), and perfect (0.8-1.0). These 5 grades objectively illustrate the DD status of the
subsystems.

Table 2. DD Classification Grade.ValueDD  $\geq$  0.80.6  $\leq$  DD < 0.80.4  $\leq$  DD < 0.60.2  $\leq$  DD < 0.4DD < 0.2GradeExcellentGoodFairOrdinaryPoor

3.3. CCD Calculation

263

265 CCD demonstrates the subsystems' interactive mechanism and motional relationships. The266 calculation procedures are as follows.

(1) Calculate CD, the system's coupling degree, where DD(a) is the DD of air environmentsubsystem and DD(t) is the DD of inbound tourism subsystem.

$$CD = \left\{ \frac{DD(a) \times DD(t)}{\left(\frac{DD(a) + DD(t)}{2}\right)^2} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
11)

269 (2) Calculate EI, the system's evaluation index, where the coefficients  $\varphi = \tau = 0.5$  because of 270 the equal importance of two subsystems in the interactive mechanism (Geng et al., 2020a; Geng and 271 Tan, 2020).

$$EI = \varphi DD(a) + \tau DD(t) \tag{12}$$

(3) Calculate CCD of the system.

$$CCD = \sqrt{CD \times EI}$$
 (13)

(4) Construct CCD's classification grade, which is divided into 10 grades according to theprinciple of interval equalization (Table 3).

275

Table 3. CCD Classification Grade.

Range	Value	Classification
	$1 \ge \text{CCD} \ge 0.9$	Highly coordinated
Coordinated	$0.9 > \text{CCD} \ge 0.8$	Favorably coordinated
Coordinated	$0.8 > \text{CCD} \ge 0.7$	Moderately coordinated
	$0.7 > \text{CCD} \ge 0.6$	Slightly coordinated
Transitional	$0.6 > CCD \ge 0.5$	Approaching coordinated
coordinated	$0.5 > CCD \ge 0.4$	Approaching uncoordinated
	$0.4 > \text{CCD} \ge 0.3$	Slightly uncoordinated
Uncoordinated	$0.3 > \text{CCD} \ge 0.2$	Moderately uncoordinated
Uncoordinated	$0.2 > CCD \ge 0.1$	Seriously uncoordinated
	$0.1 > \text{CCD} \ge 0$	Highly uncoordinated

#### 276 3.4. CCD Prediction

The gray prediction GM (1,1) model is used to predict the CCD tendency of the air environment-inbound tourism system. GM (1,1) is valid to make relatively precise predictions especially when there are limited sample sizes and relatively unsure situations of the system (Wang et al., 2018); therefore, GM (1,1) model is useful in this study where the data sizes are relatively limited (15 years of data). The calculation procedures of CCD predictions are as follows.

282 (1) For the time series  $X_0 = \{x_0(1), x_0(2), \dots x_0(n)\}$ , there are n observations; generate the 283 sequence  $X_1 = \{x_1(1), x_1(2), \dots x_1(n)\}$  with the accumulation of the original sequence  $x_1(t) =$ 284  $\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_0(i)$ ; calculate differential equation with Formula 14, where  $\mu$  is endogenous control gray 285 value, and  $\alpha$  is development gray value.

$$\mu = \frac{dx_1(t)}{dt} + \alpha x_1(t) \tag{14}$$

286 (2) Calculate  $\hat{a} = (B^T B)^{-1} B^T Y$  with the least square method, where  $\hat{a} = \left(\frac{\alpha}{\mu}\right)$  is the estimated 287 parameter vector,  $B = [-Z_1(2), -Z_1(3), \dots, -Z_1(n), 1, 1, \dots 1]^T$ , and  $Y = [x_0(2), \dots, x_0(n)]^T$ . Solve the 288 differential equation and construct the sequence prediction model. The data are applicable to 289 predict the medium-term and long-term tendency if  $a \le 0.3$ ; the data are applicable to predict the 290 short-term tendency if  $0.3 < a \le 0.5$ .  $\alpha$  is the most applied one to determine the accuracy of the 291 model (Geng et al., 2020b; Wang et al., 2018).

$$\hat{x}(t+1) = \left[x_0(1) - \frac{\mu}{\alpha}\right]e^{-\alpha t} + \frac{\mu}{\alpha}(t=1,2,\cdots,n)$$
(15)

292 (3) Process the posterior error test and the residual error test to determine the prediction's 293 accuracy with the following equations. Calculate  $\varepsilon_0(t)$ , the residual difference, with Formula 16; 294 calculate q(t), the relative error value of  $x_0$ , with Formula 17.

$$\varepsilon_{0}(t) = x_{0}(t) - \hat{x}_{0}(t) \tag{16}$$

$$q(t) = \frac{\varepsilon_0(t)}{x_0(t)} \times 100\%$$
(17)

295  $\bar{\varepsilon}_0 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{t=2}^n \varepsilon_0(t)$  is the mean of  $\varepsilon_0(t)$ ;  $S_{\varepsilon}^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{t=2}^n (\varepsilon_0(t) - \bar{\varepsilon}_0)^2$  is the variance of  $\varepsilon_0(t)$ ; 296  $\bar{x}_0 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{t=2}^n x_0(t)$  is the mean of  $x_0(t)$ ;  $S_x^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{t=2}^n (x_0(t) - \bar{x}_0)^2$  is the variance of  $x_0(t)$ . 297 Calculate the small error probability  $P = p(|\varepsilon_0(t) - \bar{\varepsilon}_0| < 0.6745S_x)$ . The accuracy determination 298 grades are listed in Table 4.

$\mathbf{r}$	O	0
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Table 4. Accuracy Determination Grades.

Accuracy	r	Р
Unaccepted	< 0.60	< 0.60
Accepted	≥ 0.60	≥ 0.60
Moderate	≥ 0.70	≥ 0.70
Favorable	≥ 0.80	≥ 0.80
Excellent	≥ 0.90	≥ 0.95

#### 300 4. Results and Discussions

## 301 4.1. Temporal and Spatial Analysis of DD

302 The DD of air environment subsystem is shown in Table A.1, A.2 and Figure 2. The temporal 303 fluctuations of air environment DD are generally large over time, and the 31 regions are categorized 304 into two grades according to the average value of DD and the classification grades in Table 2. The 305 first grade is "Ordinary" (0.2-0.4), in which most regions (22 of the 31 regions) fall, which proves the 306 ordinary performances in air governance for these regions. Besides, there are obvious declines for 307 certain regions: for instance, Qinghai witnessed two grades of declining. The second grade is "Fair" 308 (0.4-0.6), which contains only a few regions (9 regions), and which proves relative better 309 performances in air environment than other regions. The fluctuations are relatively large in this 310 grade: for example, Shanxi fluctuated among 3 grades. The results that DDs of air environment in 311 most regions of China are apparently fluctuating and declining contradict former literature and 312 common sense (Xu et al., 2020c); in fact, the fluctuations depend on the financial investments in air 313 governance, and the large fluctuations of investments every individual year increase the variations 314 of DD; besides, the devotion of air governance in previous years can make continuous effects so 315 that the decreasing investments in later years are possible, making DD decline.





Figure 2. DD of Air Environment.

318 The DD of inbound tourism subsystem is shown in Table A.3, A.4 and Figure 3. Overall 319 speaking, the grades of DD of inbound tourism are lower than those of air environment, and the 320 temporal fluctuations of the inbound tourism DD are milder than the fluctuations of the air 321 environment DD. The DD can be divided into four grades. The first one is "Excellent" (0.8-1.0), 322 which includes Guangdong only. The inbound tourism development of Guangdong is obviously 323 higher than other regions mainly because of its geographical advantage: it is geographically close to 324 Hong Kong and Macau, the main sources of inbound tourists. The second grade is "Fair" (0.4-0.6), 325 which includes Shanghai and Beijing. As two of the global megacities, Shanghai and Beijing attract 326 inbound tourists all year round and perform fairly in inbound tourism. The third grade is 327 "Ordinary" (0.2-0.4), including 15 regions which are nearly half of the total 31 regions. Among them, 328 several regions encounter fluctuated declines such as Jiangsu (from Fair to Ordinary), while certain 329 ones gradually and mildly increase such as Anhui and Chongqing (from Poor to Ordinary). The 330 fourth grade is "Poor" (0-0.2), accounting for 13 regions, which illustrates the relatively poor 331 performances in inbound tourism. The fluctuations of inbound tourism DD are milder and gentler 332 than air environment DD, mainly because there are more other factors such as bi-lateral national 333 relations, national political systems, etc. to jointly affect inbound tourism and make the DD mildly 334 fluctuate (Farzanegan et al., 2020; Hanon and Wang, 2020).



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Figure 3. DD of Inbound Tourism.

337 Figure 4 shows the spatial distributions of the average DD in air environment and inbound 338 tourism subsystems respectively. In general, there are obvious differences for the spatial 339 distributions of the two subsystems' DD. For air environment subsystem, the northern parts have 340 higher grades in DD than the other regions. Though relatively week in air quality, these regions 341 have devoted much efforts and investment in air governance these years so that the DDs of air 342 environment are higher. This result is consistent with our subjective feelings and former literature: 343 there are decreasing air environment related issues in northern regions these years (Liu et al., 2020). 344 For the inbound tourism subsystem, the spatial distributions of DD show two features: (1) the 345 southern parts are relatively higher in DD; (2) the costal parts are relatively higher in DD. Southern 346 regions enjoy abundant tourism resources and pleasant climate so that the inbound tourism 347 development is relatively better. On the contrary, northern regions such as Henan, Shanxi, Hebei, 348 Heilongjiang and Jilin are weak in tourism related facilities and resources so that the DDs are much 349 lower. What is more, coastal regions are higher in DD mainly because of the geographical 350 advantages, convenient transportation, scientific destination management and planning, etc., 351 whereas regions in the inland are lower in DD mainly because of the drawbacks of the tourism 352 related transportation, resources, facilities, management, etc. (Huang et al., 2020)



353 Figure 4. Spatial Distributions of DD. (a) Air Environment Subsystem; (b) Inbound Tourism Subsystem.

## 354 4.2. Temporal and Spatial Analysis of CCD

355 The temporal fluctuation of the air environment-inbound tourism system's CCD is shown in 356 Table A.5, A.6 and Figure 5. It is found that the CCDs of most regions remain mild fluctuating at the 357 transitional coordination range (0.4-0.6) these years, proving that the coupling coordination of the 358 air environment-inbound tourism system was in the transitioning period. There are some 359 exceptions: Guangdong kept the highest CDD (above 0.7), proving that the two subsystems develop 360 with coordination; limited regions (e.g. Qinghai and Ningxia) remained low CCDs (below 0.4) in 361 the incoordination range; Beijing witnessed obvious decline from the moderate coordinated status 362 (0.6-0.7) to approaching coordinated status (0.5-0.6), meaning that the potential of CCD was getting 363 worse and effective countermeasures should be taken. The temporal tendency of CCD, which is 364 mild fluctuation, is supported by similar literature which finds that the coupling coordination 365 development between tourism and eco-environment among different regions fluctuates with time 366 sequence (Geng et al., 2020b).



367 368

Figure 5. Temporal Fluctuation of CCD.

369 Figure 6 shows the spatial variations of CCD from 2004 to 2018. There are two findings 370 regarding the spatial variations of CCD. The first finding is that the coastal regions have higher 371 CCD while regions in the northwest have relatively lower CCD. Specifically, eastern and southern 372 coastal regions (Shandong, Jiangsu, Shanghai, Zhejiang and Guangdong) kept relatively high 373 statuses in CCD these years (mostly at the slight coordination or moderate coordination status, 374 0.6-0.8) mainly due to large numbers of good days with high quality, many inbound tourists, 375 advanced inbound related facilities, and considerable revenue from inbound tourism. On the 376 contrary, certain northwestern regions such as Gansu, Qinghai, and Ningxia maintained relatively 377 low CCD (mainly at the slight incoordination status, 0.3-0.4) mainly because the investment in air 378 governance was insufficient, air environment was not so satisfied that it could not act as a useful 379 resource for inbound tourism, and the integral development of inbound tourism was relatively 380 backward. Such spatial difference is also supported in former literature in other fields such as 381 environmental governance (Geng et al., 2020a; Tan and Geng, 2020).

382 The second finding is that the gaps of CCD between the coastal regions and other regions are 383 gradually and mildly narrowing. Most non-coastal regions upgraded to higher grades and the 384 spatial differences were gradually diminishing. The narrowing of gaps is mainly due to the 385 scientific planning and development of air governance and inbound tourism industry from the 386 national strategy perspective. These years China has initiated related strategies such as blue-sky 387 protection strategy, environment protection strategy, and poverty alleviation via tourism strategy, 388 which have brought obvious benefits to certain non-coastal regions so that the differences of CCD 389 among regions decline. The finding of the diminishing difference between the coastal regions and 390 other ones is supported by previous established literature; it was researched that the spatial 391 differences of higher education development among regions in China were gradually declining 392 (Geng et al., 2020c).

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Figure 6. Spatial Variations of CCD. (a-o) 2004-2018.

395 4.3. Temporal and Spatial Prediction of CCD

396 During the accuracy test of the GM (1,1) model, most data meet the criteria in Table 4 that a < 397 0.3, r > 0.6, and  $P \ge 0.6$  (shown in Table A7), proving that the model is accurate and the data can be 398 applied to make predictions.

399 Table A.7 and Figure 7 show the temporal tendency of CCD for the next your years. The 400 temporal tendency of the CCD will mostly keep the same trend as in the past years that most 401 regions will remain relatively stable in the former coordination grades, while certain regions will 402 upgrade or degrade the classifications with gentle fluctuations. This tendency is consistent with the 403 performances in previous years, and is reliable to make corresponding countermeasures. For the 404 regions with upgraded CCD (such as Shandong), it is a delightful expectation which proves that air 405 governance and inbound tourism stimulus policies have taken coordinated effects, whereas for 406 those with degraded CCD (such as Beijing), the degradation is not a good signal and corresponding 407 specific countermeasures should be immediately taken. This argument is also supported by 408 previous literature (Valadkhani and O'Mahony, 2018).

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Figure 7. Temporal Fluctuation of the Tendency of CCD.

- 410 The spatial distributions of the CCDs' tendencies are shown in Figure 8. It can be found that the 411 coastal regions will remain the leading predominance in CCD compared with the inland areas for 412 the next four years. This trend is the same as the evolvement rule in the former years. However, 413 there is another tendency which tells a different story: the gaps of CCD among regions will be 414 slightly enlarged for the next four years rather than being narrowed as in the former 15 years. 415 Specifically, coastal regions (e.g. Shandong, Anhui, etc.) will enjoy benign coordination development 416 trends whereas the inland areas will keep the status quo of CCD, so that the variations will be 417 enlarged. This finding is different from the findings of existing studies, demonstrating that 418 corresponding actions are required from both the regional and national strategy perspective in order
- 419 to decrease such differences and enhance balanced CCD among regions.





Figure 8. Spatial Variations of the Tendency of CCD. (a-d) 2019-2022.

# 421 4.4. Countermeasures

The temporal tendencies of CCD between air environment and inbound tourism are mainly declining, and the spatial variations of CCD in different areas will be expanding, so it is important to take coordinated, cooperative, specific and differentiated approaches to prevent further trends of decline and polarization, and to increase the coordinated development between air environment and inbound tourism. Those involved in air environment and inbound tourism development should carefully consider the coupling coordination factors between the two subsystems, and take corresponding measures to improve the quality of air environment and the coordinated development of inbound tourism. Specific countermeasures for different regions are as follows,
which will also help other places with the similar situations in the globe to increase the coupling
coordination between the two subsystems.

432 For the regions where the CCD are high while the tendencies are declining, innovative 433 measures should be taken in order to keep the coupling coordination between air environment and 434 inbound tourism at the high level. First, these regions can innovatively use the air environment as 435 inbound tourism resource and initiate new inbound tourism marketing campaigns. Second, they 436 should invest more in air governance and try to relate the effects of air governance to inbound 437 tourism development so that the tendency of CCD declining will be prevented. Third, they should 438 enhance international and intranational cooperation in air governance and inbound tourism in 439 order to realize the demonstration effects to other regions and to help other regions' coordination 440 development.

441 For the regions where the CCD are fluctuating in the transitional coordination range, the goal 442 of upgrade should be set up and great efforts should be taken to increase coupling coordination 443 between air environment and inbound tourism. First, make clear strategies and schedules to 444 incorporate air environment with inbound tourism, effectively make use of air environment into 445 inbound tourism development, and use inbound tourism to promote air governance so that the two 446 subsystems can realize benign interactive coordination. Second, consider the interaction mechanism 447 of the two subsystems under the scientific and academic structure, facilitate governance 448 mechanism's structural reform, enhance the effectiveness of administrative abilities of local 449 governors, so that the coupling coordination between the two subsystems can be achieved via 450 governance system improvement.

451 For the regions where the CCD are low, leapfrog and high-qualified coordination development 452 are required in order to develop as quickly as possible and decrease the differences with other 453 regions. First, these regions should take advantage of national strategies and attract more 454 investment in air environment protection and inbound tourism growth. Second, they should 455 reconsider their own advantages in air environment and inbound tourism resources, make 456 re-positioning of inbound tourism and realize differentiation development. Third, they should learn 457 from and cooperate with outstanding regions to find out new approaches to enhance the 458 coordination effectiveness between air governance and inbound tourism.

459 From the macroscope national political framework perspective, there are several 460 countermeasures for national or central authorities to enhance the balanced coordinated 461 development in the country as a whole. First, introduce nation-wide stimulus strategies, set up 462 preferential policies for backward regions, and encourage inter-regional cooperation, so that 463 balanced development among regions can be effectively coordinated as a whole. Second, list the 464 coordination development between air governance and inbound tourism as the annual target of the 465 government, and set up specialized organizations such as the national coordination committee to 466 take corresponding pathway to achieve the annual goal; local governments which don't meet the 467 target are suggested to be held accountable.

# 468 5. Conclusions

469 This study aims at constructing a correlation model and an evaluation system to measure the 470 coupling coordination interaction relationship between air environment and inbound tourism, 471 regionally evaluating and predicting the development degrees and coupling coordination statuses 472 of both subsystems temporally and spatially based on the correlation model, and then proposing 473 countermeasures based on the results. Previous research has explored the correlations between air 474 environment and inbound tourism, which gives insights to this study to find out the coupling 475 coordination relationship between these two subsystems in the background of regional 476 comparisons both temporally and spatially.

477 This study gets the following conclusions.

478 (1) The DD of air environment and inbound tourism vary temporally: DD of air environment is479 higher and more fluctuated than that of inbound tourism; besides, the spatial distributions of the

two subsystems vary: the northern regions are higher in air environment DD, and the coastal andsouthern regions are higher in inbound tourism DD.

482 (2) Temporally, the CCDs of most regions remain relatively stable with mild fluctuations.
483 Spatially, the coastal regions have higher CCD while regions in the northwest have relatively lower
484 degrees, and the gaps of CCD among regions are gradually mildly narrowing.

(3) The prediction of CCD shows that the CCD trends of most regions will have temporal
similarities with the previous years (remain stable), while the tendency of the spatial variations will
be different: the gap of CCD will be enlarged for the next four years rather than being narrowed.
Therefore, specific countermeasures are required to realize the coupling coordination between air
environment and inbound tourism.

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The novelties of this study are as follows.

(1) The interaction mechanism between air environment and inbound tourism from the view of
academic rationality is demonstrated, which is rarely seen in previous studies; then the correlation
model for the coupling coordination relationship between them is innovatively constructed, which
is less focused in the past and which is beneficial to understand the interaction mechanism between
these two subsystems theoretically.

(2) By transferring abstract theories to specific indicators, the evaluation system is updated innovatively to meet the specific situations of air governance and inbound tourism development, thus it is more useful to empirically measure the coupling coordination interactions between air environment and inbound tourism objectively; furthermore, the combined cross-regional, temporal, and spatial comparisons between the two subsystems contribute to prior literature in the field of air governance and tourism development.

(3) The predictions for the next four years provide us with new insights to understand the coordination tendencies between air environment and inbound tourism, and the corresponding countermeasures proposed in this study are useful for governors to explore the effecting factors and the future coupling coordination relationship temporally and spatially, and take effective actions beforehand to enhance coordination between the two subsystems and to promote air environment governance and inbound tourism growth.

508 Of course, some limitations exist in this study. First, due to the accessibility of data, only data 509 of 15 years are collected, which is relatively limited in quantity. Second, 4 data points per year, 510 which can include cyclic nature across seasons, are neglected. Third, some additional variables or 511 indicators (such as emissions and concentration of PM2.5, scale of inbound tourism related 512 transportations, etc.) which could impact the coordination mechanism are also excluded because of 513 data missing. In the future research, data of more years, data of the seasons per year, and data of 514 certain other indicators should be selected in order to improve the reliability of the results, enhance 515 comprehensive understanding of the interaction mechanism, and discover potential related biases 516 due to exclusion of related indicators or data.

#### 517 Appendix A

518

Table A.1. DD of Air Environment.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Beijing	0.568	0.334	0.459	0.433	0.435	0.325	0.318	0.315	0.299
Tianjin	0.612	0.406	0.542	0.436	0.436	0.394	0.436	0.365	0.401
Chongqing	0.349	0.297	0.268	0.296	0.295	0.315	0.350	0.338	0.297
Shanghai	0.366	0.312	0.376	0.284	0.284	0.330	0.338	0.347	0.395
Shanxi	0.463	0.554	0.535	0.712	0.702	0.657	0.753	0.573	0.548
Shaanxi	0.429	0.358	0.324	0.290	0.289	0.259	0.475	0.656	0.402
Shandong	0.467	0.396	0.505	0.532	0.545	0.612	0.506	0.535	0.622
Sichuan	0.415	0.459	0.476	0.476	0.482	0.337	0.300	0.311	0.435
Qinghai	0.405	0.304	0.337	0.357	0.349	0.279	0.468	0.352	0.366
Liaoning	0.409	0.357	0.415	0.376	0.376	0.329	0.498	0.428	0.339

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Jilin	0.392	0.312	0.317	0.253	0.251	0.301	0.373	0.348	0.365
Jiangxi	0.362	0.366	0.338	0.338	0.337	0.252	0.281	0.364	0.311
Jiangsu	0.482	0.422	0.632	0.463	0.472	0.385	0.398	0.370	0.474
Zhejiang	0.386	0.324	0.369	0.432	0.437	0.256	0.423	0.330	0.391
Fujian	0.718	0.503	0.696	0.393	0.393	0.362	0.385	0.382	0.417
Anhui	0.472	0.293	0.296	0.254	0.255	0.355	0.390	0.330	0.334
Heilongjiang	0.398	0.315	0.303	0.264	0.260	0.272	0.363	0.293	0.439
Henan	0.453	0.341	0.355	0.425	0.430	0.365	0.329	0.377	0.499
Hubei	0.542	0.321	0.346	0.379	0.380	0.307	0.616	0.638	0.352
Hunan	0.339	0.345	0.440	0.455	0.458	0.318	0.357	0.389	0.337
Hebei	0.438	0.382	0.435	0.443	0.450	0.327	0.389	0.395	0.504
Hainan	0.367	0.280	0.303	0.301	0.300	0.230	0.267	0.283	0.343
Yunnan	0.500	0.325	0.390	0.400	0.398	0.314	0.418	0.462	0.444
Guizhou	0.422	0.356	0.389	0.451	0.436	0.368	0.375	0.397	0.462
Guangdong	0.574	0.450	0.454	0.441	0.447	0.274	0.337	0.338	0.395
Gansu	0.505	0.387	0.478	0.622	0.611	0.381	0.433	0.614	0.495
Guangxi	0.332	0.256	0.409	0.339	0.337	0.274	0.318	0.325	0.364
Ningxia	0.481	0.641	0.396	0.426	0.411	0.471	0.463	0.306	0.403
Nei Mongol	0.330	0.320	0.264	0.550	0.538	0.425	0.476	0.389	0.677
Tibet	0.389	0.273	0.280	0.269	0.270	0.224	0.267	0.284	0.314
Xinjiang	0.395	0.343	0.285	0.279	0.279	0.296	0.548	0.396	0.435

# Table A.2. DD of Air Environment (cont.).

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	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Mean	Grade
Beijing	0.317	0.238	0.218	0.285	0.271	0.277	0.339	Ordinary
Tianjin	0.353	0.288	0.287	0.410	0.245	0.259	0.391	Ordinary
Chongqing	0.291	0.288	0.188	0.257	0.199	0.244	0.285	Ordinary
Shanghai	0.369	0.216	0.245	0.288	0.413	0.326	0.326	Ordinary
Shanxi	0.532	0.537	0.326	0.361	0.372	0.549	0.545	Fair
Shaanxi	0.450	0.466	0.336	0.372	0.318	0.306	0.382	Ordinary
Shandong	0.629	0.619	0.654	0.710	0.660	0.726	0.581	Fair
Sichuan	0.336	0.336	0.279	0.244	0.229	0.274	0.359	Ordinary
Qinghai	0.352	0.288	0.270	0.281	0.358	0.187	0.330	Ordinary
Liaoning	0.329	0.389	0.350	0.327	0.325	0.287	0.369	Ordinary
Jilin	0.322	0.295	0.289	0.302	0.227	0.291	0.309	Ordinary
Jiangxi	0.282	0.314	0.248	0.292	0.246	0.269	0.307	Ordinary
Jiangsu	0.591	0.494	0.362	0.480	0.447	0.372	0.456	Fair
Zhejiang	0.461	0.435	0.386	0.481	0.417	0.391	0.395	Ordinary
Fujian	0.447	0.391	0.297	0.403	0.237	0.307	0.422	Fair
Anhui	0.429	0.393	0.273	0.335	0.346	0.373	0.342	Ordinary
Heilongjiang	0.295	0.378	0.287	0.346	0.320	0.265	0.320	Ordinary
Henan	0.354	0.448	0.400	0.388	0.495	0.415	0.405	Fair
Hubei	0.385	0.387	0.316	0.321	0.265	0.312	0.391	Ordinary
Hunan	0.391	0.335	0.260	0.327	0.249	0.254	0.350	Ordinary
Hebei	0.489	0.495	0.508	0.497	0.338	0.400	0.433	Fair
Hainan	0.371	0.280	0.263	0.234	0.201	0.258	0.285	Ordinary
Yunnan	0.377	0.375	0.279	0.355	0.274	0.219	0.369	Ordinary

Guizhou	0.419	0.400	0.314	0.323	0.219	0.215	0.370	Ordinary
Guangdong	0.506	0.395	0.320	0.331	0.315	0.393	0.398	Ordinary
Gansu	0.425	0.388	0.306	0.235	0.256	0.232	0.425	Fair
Guangxi	0.311	0.323	0.254	0.393	0.281	0.234	0.317	Ordinary
Ningxia	0.455	0.477	0.449	0.388	0.450	0.342	0.437	Fair
Nei Mongol	0.443	0.555	0.514	0.502	0.415	0.434	0.455	Fair
Tibet	0.275	0.203	0.165	0.201	0.163	0.165	0.250	Ordinary
Xinjiang	0.337	0.387	0.375	0.365	0.266	0.290	0.352	Ordinary

## Table A.3. DD of Inbound Tourism.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Beijing	0.456	0.490	0.459	0.455	0.448	0.491	0.413	0.406	0.401
Tianjin	0.235	0.223	0.222	0.227	0.229	0.259	0.247	0.245	0.236
Chongqing	0.171	0.184	0.187	0.189	0.191	0.185	0.202	0.205	0.221
Shanghai	0.439	0.454	0.449	0.445	0.444	0.519	0.424	0.446	0.412
Shanxi	0.147	0.162	0.164	0.173	0.176	0.156	0.200	0.193	0.195
Shaanxi	0.212	0.230	0.227	0.228	0.226	0.218	0.229	0.237	0.250
Shandong	0.264	0.272	0.280	0.294	0.303	0.297	0.313	0.312	0.319
Sichuan	0.204	0.234	0.228	0.234	0.236	0.116	0.184	0.178	0.197
Qinghai	0.066	0.070	0.070	0.072	0.071	0.028	0.061	0.057	0.057
Liaoning	0.268	0.268	0.269	0.280	0.286	0.308	0.316	0.312	0.314
Jilin	0.152	0.147	0.147	0.148	0.153	0.133	0.157	0.156	0.161
Jiangxi	0.144	0.186	0.153	0.192	0.180	0.144	0.184	0.176	0.179
Jiangsu	0.365	0.378	0.384	0.399	0.405	0.460	0.406	0.403	0.414
Zhejiang	0.344	0.355	0.371	0.386	0.393	0.412	0.393	0.391	0.397
Fujian	0.332	0.312	0.314	0.316	0.333	0.372	0.336	0.331	0.343
Anhui	0.176	0.183	0.181	0.194	0.201	0.186	0.219	0.221	0.246
Heilongjiang	0.215	0.204	0.201	0.218	0.226	0.244	0.214	0.213	0.219
Henan	0.173	0.186	0.190	0.198	0.195	0.171	0.203	0.197	0.198
Hubei	0.207	0.203	0.211	0.217	0.219	0.184	0.215	0.221	0.227
Hunan	0.157	0.209	0.211	0.234	0.226	0.212	0.225	0.230	0.232
Hebei	0.179	0.200	0.195	0.199	0.199	0.150	0.195	0.180	0.184
Hainan	0.198	0.174	0.186	0.212	0.214	0.159	0.185	0.175	0.174
Yunnan	0.279	0.264	0.267	0.277	0.281	0.260	0.289	0.279	0.287
Guizhou	0.112	0.145	0.142	0.147	0.142	0.102	0.129	0.126	0.123
Guangdong	0.796	0.765	0.817	0.825	0.837	0.975	0.876	0.890	0.906
Gansu	0.120	0.130	0.131	0.130	0.128	0.040	0.097	0.086	0.081
Guangxi	0.218	0.233	0.236	0.238	0.243	0.210	0.236	0.234	0.244
Ningxia	0.017	0.028	0.030	0.024	0.021	0.005	0.032	0.022	0.023
Nei Mongol	0.186	0.207	0.225	0.216	0.222	0.206	0.205	0.196	0.195
Tibet	0.151	0.167	0.161	0.168	0.212	0.054	0.148	0.147	0.147
Xinjiang	0.150	0.159	0.153	0.159	0.157	0.109	0.142	0.140	0.166

Table A.4. DD of Inbound Tourism (cont.).

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Mean	Grade
Beijing	0.380	0.366	0.356	0.350	0.353	0.343	0.411	Fair
Tianjin	0.247	0.259	0.270	0.275	0.279	0.278	0.249	Ordinary
Chongqing	0.229	0.215	0.218	0.222	0.232	0.240	0.206	Ordinary
Shanghai	0.393	0.382	0.387	0.387	0.394	0.391	0.425	Fair
Shanxi	0.204	0.182	0.140	0.137	0.138	0.137	0.167	Poor

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Shaanxi	0.262	0.253	0.256	0.265	0.276	0.283	0.243	Ordinary
Shandong	0.323	0.284	0.291	0.303	0.305	0.310	0.298	Ordinary
Sichuan	0.212	0.207	0.215	0.231	0.245	0.242	0.211	Ordinary
Qinghai	0.050	0.048	0.055	0.062	0.055	0.061	0.059	Poor
Liaoning	0.325	0.308	0.261	0.251	0.255	0.248	0.285	Ordinary
Jilin	0.168	0.172	0.174	0.184	0.187	0.177	0.161	Poor
Jiangxi	0.181	0.176	0.186	0.185	0.185	0.181	0.175	Poor
Jiangsu	0.416	0.289	0.306	0.313	0.318	0.322	0.372	Ordinary
Zhejiang	0.404	0.368	0.374	0.393	0.320	0.329	0.375	Ordinary
Fujian	0.353	0.341	0.347	0.356	0.392	0.402	0.345	Ordinary
Anhui	0.262	0.256	0.262	0.272	0.279	0.286	0.228	Ordinary
Heilongjiang	0.208	0.183	0.178	0.150	0.155	0.155	0.199	Poor
Henan	0.199	0.180	0.178	0.182	0.188	0.184	0.188	Poor
Hubei	0.238	0.238	0.240	0.256	0.261	0.265	0.227	Ordinary
Hunan	0.221	0.215	0.223	0.222	0.227	0.236	0.219	Ordinary
Hebei	0.187	0.179	0.176	0.172	0.174	0.174	0.183	Poor
Hainan	0.162	0.157	0.142	0.135	0.147	0.179	0.173	Poor
Yunnan	0.295	0.291	0.288	0.300	0.327	0.334	0.288	Ordinary
Guizhou	0.127	0.127	0.125	0.130	0.130	0.117	0.128	Poor
Guangdong	0.938	0.952	0.959	0.963	0.958	0.949	0.894	Excellent
Gansu	0.081	0.079	0.076	0.076	0.076	0.076	0.094	Poor
Guangxi	0.252	0.252	0.253	0.280	0.285	0.288	0.247	Ordinary
Ningxia	0.019	0.027	0.034	0.032	0.042	0.041	0.026	Poor
Nei Mongol	0.197	0.207	0.208	0.203	0.209	0.212	0.206	Ordinary
Tibet	0.124	0.127	0.128	0.134	0.133	0.126	0.142	Poor
Xinjiang	0.168	0.169	0.157	0.159	0.155	0.172	0.154	Poor

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# Table A.5. CCD.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Beijing	0.713	0.636	0.677	0.666	0.664	0.632	0.602	0.598
Tianjin	0.616	0.548	0.589	0.561	0.562	0.565	0.573	0.547
Chongqing	0.494	0.483	0.473	0.486	0.487	0.491	0.516	0.513
Shanghai	0.633	0.614	0.641	0.597	0.596	0.643	0.616	0.627
Shanxi	0.511	0.547	0.544	0.592	0.593	0.566	0.623	0.577
Shaanxi	0.549	0.536	0.521	0.507	0.506	0.487	0.574	0.628
Shandong	0.592	0.573	0.613	0.629	0.637	0.653	0.631	0.639
Sichuan	0.539	0.572	0.574	0.578	0.581	0.445	0.485	0.485
Qinghai	0.404	0.382	0.391	0.401	0.397	0.298	0.411	0.376
Liaoning	0.575	0.556	0.578	0.570	0.572	0.564	0.630	0.604
Jilin	0.494	0.463	0.465	0.440	0.443	0.447	0.492	0.482
Jiangxi	0.477	0.511	0.477	0.504	0.496	0.437	0.477	0.503
Jiangsu	0.647	0.632	0.702	0.656	0.661	0.649	0.634	0.621
Zhejiang	0.604	0.582	0.608	0.639	0.644	0.570	0.639	0.599
Fujian	0.699	0.629	0.684	0.593	0.601	0.606	0.600	0.597
Anhui	0.537	0.481	0.481	0.471	0.476	0.507	0.540	0.519
Heilongjiang	0.541	0.504	0.497	0.490	0.492	0.508	0.528	0.500
Henan	0.529	0.502	0.509	0.539	0.538	0.500	0.508	0.522
Hubei	0.579	0.505	0.520	0.536	0.537	0.488	0.604	0.613
Hunan	0.481	0.518	0.552	0.571	0.568	0.510	0.532	0.547
Hebei	0.529	0.526	0.540	0.545	0.547	0.470	0.525	0.516
Hainan	0.520	0.470	0.487	0.503	0.503	0.437	0.471	0.472
Yunnan	0.611	0.541	0.568	0.577	0.578	0.535	0.590	0.599

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Guizhou	0.467	0.477	0.485	0.508	0.499	0.440	0.469	0.473
Guangdong	0.822	0.766	0.780	0.777	0.782	0.719	0.737	0.741
Gansu	0.496	0.474	0.500	0.534	0.529	0.351	0.453	0.479
Guangxi	0.519	0.494	0.557	0.533	0.535	0.490	0.524	0.525
Ningxia	0.302	0.365	0.330	0.316	0.303	0.222	0.348	0.286
Nei Mongol	0.498	0.507	0.494	0.587	0.588	0.544	0.559	0.526
Tibet	0.492	0.463	0.460	0.461	0.490	0.332	0.446	0.452
Xinjiang	0.494	0.484	0.457	0.459	0.458	0.424	0.529	0.485

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Table A.6. CCD (cont.).

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Beijing	0.588	0.589	0.543	0.528	0.562	0.556	0.555
Tianiin	0.555	0.544	0.523	0.528	0.580	0.511	0.518
Chongging	0.506	0.508	0.498	0.450	0.489	0.463	0 492
Shanghai	0.635	0.617	0.536	0.555	0.578	0.635	0.598
Shanxi	0.572	0.574	0.559	0.462	0.472	0.476	0.523
Shaanxi	0.563	0.586	0.586	0.542	0.560	0.544	0.542
Shandong	0.667	0.671	0.648	0.661	0.681	0.670	0.689
Sichuan	0.541	0.516	0.514	0.495	0.487	0.487	0.507
Oinghai	0.381	0.363	0.343	0.349	0.363	0.374	0.326
Liaoning	0.571	0.572	0.588	0.550	0.535	0.537	0.517
Jilin	0.492	0.482	0.475	0.473	0.486	0.454	0.476
Jiangxi	0.485	0.476	0.485	0.463	0.482	0.462	0.470
Jiangsu	0.665	0.704	0.615	0.577	0.622	0.614	0.588
Zhejiang	0.628	0.657	0.632	0.617	0.659	0.605	0.599
Fujian	0.615	0.630	0.604	0.567	0.616	0.552	0.593
Anhui	0.535	0.579	0.563	0.517	0.550	0.557	0.571
Heilongjiang	0.557	0.498	0.513	0.475	0.477	0.472	0.450
Henan	0.561	0.516	0.533	0.517	0.515	0.552	0.525
Hubei	0.532	0.550	0.551	0.525	0.535	0.513	0.536
Hunan	0.529	0.542	0.518	0.491	0.519	0.488	0.495
Hebei	0.552	0.550	0.546	0.547	0.541	0.492	0.513
Hainan	0.494	0.495	0.458	0.440	0.422	0.414	0.464
Yunnan	0.597	0.578	0.575	0.533	0.571	0.547	0.520
Guizhou	0.488	0.480	0.474	0.445	0.452	0.411	0.398
Guangdong	0.774	0.830	0.783	0.744	0.751	0.741	0.782
Gansu	0.447	0.431	0.419	0.390	0.366	0.373	0.364
Guangxi	0.546	0.529	0.534	0.503	0.576	0.532	0.510
Ningxia	0.310	0.307	0.338	0.351	0.335	0.371	0.345
Nei Mongol	0.603	0.543	0.582	0.572	0.565	0.543	0.551
Tibet	0.464	0.430	0.400	0.381	0.405	0.384	0.380
Xinjiang	0.518	0.488	0.505	0.493	0.490	0.451	0.473

Table A.7. Prediction of CCD.

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			D	Prediction Year				
	а	r	Р	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Beijing	0.010	13.995	0.867	0.524	0.515	0.506	0.497	
Tianjin	0.002	0.621	0.733	0.524	0.521	0.518	0.514	
Chongqing	0.005	1.196	0.733	0.486	0.486	0.485	0.485	
Shanghai	0.001	0.761	0.467	0.586	0.583	0.581	0.578	
Shanxi	0.002	0.029	0.667	0.499	0.492	0.486	0.480	
Shaanxi	0.011	1.005	0.733	0.574	0.577	0.581	0.584	
Shandong	0.007	1.290	0.600	0.696	0.702	0.709	0.716	
Sichuan	0.011	0.530	0.467	0.474	0.469	0.463	0.458	
Qinghai	0.004	1.496	0.733	0.344	0.341	0.338	0.335	
Liaoning	0.002	0.904	0.533	0.544	0.540	0.537	0.534	
Jilin	0.006	0.714	0.600	0.482	0.484	0.486	0.488	
Jiangxi	0.002	1.258	0.600	0.466	0.464	0.462	0.460	
Jiangsu	0.001	0.913	0.467	0.602	0.597	0.592	0.587	
Zhejiang	0.003	0.695	0.400	0.629	0.630	0.631	0.633	
Fujian	0.002	0.993	0.800	0.576	0.572	0.568	0.564	
Anhui	0.012	0.963	0.733	0.583	0.591	0.600	0.608	
Heilongjiang	0.004	1.062	0.600	0.478	0.476	0.473	0.471	
Henan	0.002	0.554	0.533	0.535	0.536	0.538	0.539	
Hubei	0.006	0.952	0.533	0.544	0.544	0.545	0.546	
Hunan	0.002	0.478	0.667	0.496	0.492	0.488	0.484	
Hebei	0.001	0.086	0.467	0.526	0.525	0.525	0.524	
Hainan	0.000	1.830	0.600	0.437	0.433	0.429	0.425	
Yunnan	0.004	1.092	0.600	0.554	0.552	0.551	0.549	
Guizhou	0.002	0.932	0.600	0.425	0.421	0.416	0.411	
Guangdong	0.001	2.367	0.533	0.763	0.763	0.763	0.763	
Gansu	0.011	0.893	0.667	0.359	0.350	0.342	0.333	
Guangxi	0.001	0.223	0.600	0.533	0.534	0.535	0.536	
Ningxia	0.008	0.341	0.667	0.344	0.347	0.350	0.353	
Nei Mongol	0.004	0.749	0.467	0.571	0.573	0.576	0.578	
Tibet	0.004	0.367	0.733	0.380	0.374	0.369	0.363	
Xinjiang	0.006	1.357	0.667	0.490	0.491	0.493	0.494	

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# Conflicts of Interest

# Temporal-Spatial Measurement and Prediction between Air Environment and Inbound Tourism: Case of China

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