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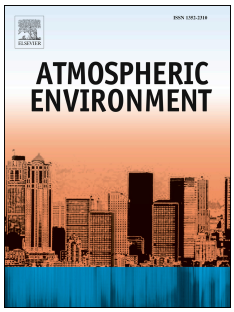

What drives changes in aerosol properties over the Yangtze River Basin in past four decades ?

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PII: S1352-2310(18)30487-4

DOI: 10.1016/j.atmosenv.2018.07.034

Reference: AEA 16140

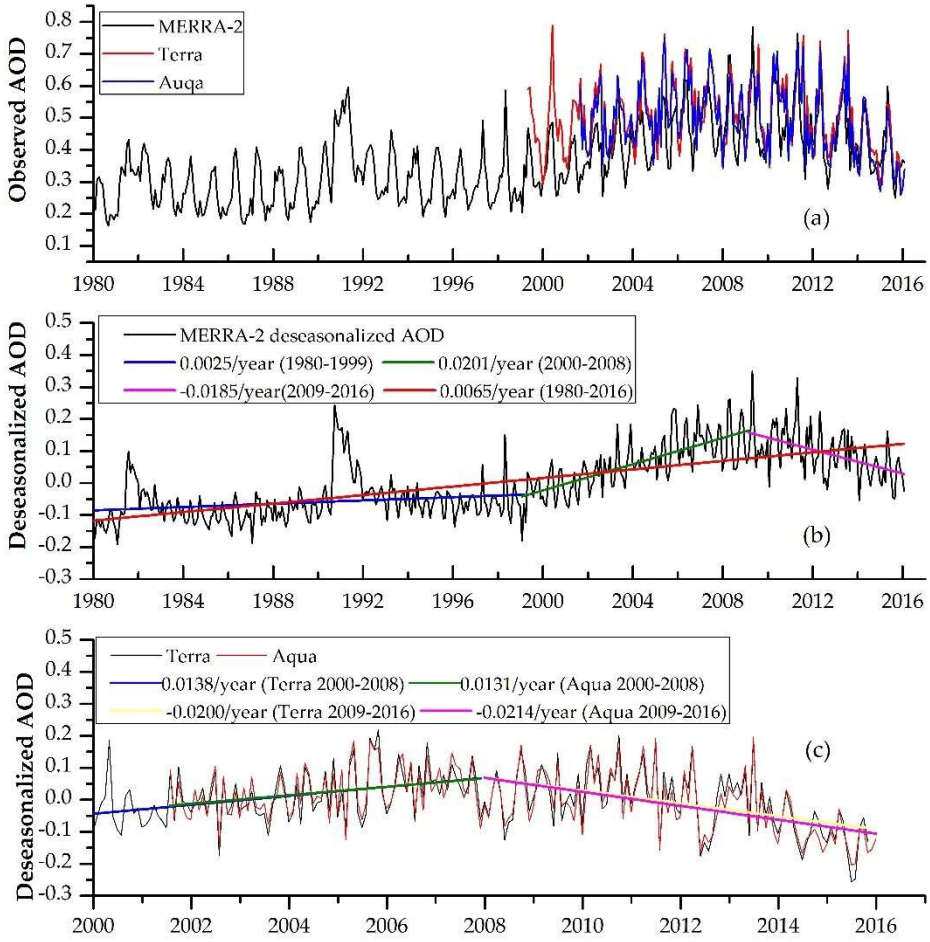
To appear in: *Atmospheric Environment*

Received Date: 24 April 2018

Revised Date: 11 July 2018

Accepted Date: 21 July 2018

Please cite this article as: He, L., Wang, L., Lin, A., Zhang, M., Xia, X., Tao, M., Zhou, H., What drives changes in aerosol properties over the Yangtze River Basin in past four decades ? , *Atmospheric Environment* (2018), doi: 10.1016/j.atmosenv.2018.07.034.



Trend analysis of monthly mean AOD derived from near–full MERRA–2 (1980-2016), Terra (2000-2016) and Aqua (2002-2016) data records over YRB. The observed AOD values are presented in (a), while the deseasonalized MERRA–2 and MODIS AOD values are respectively shown in (b) and (c).