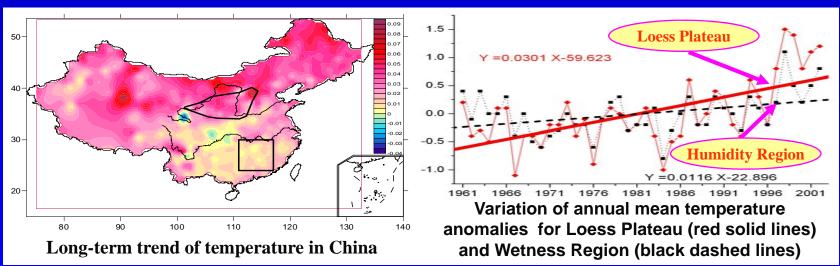
Observation of semi-arid climate change over Northwest China J. Huang et al.



A research observatory (SACOL) has been established since 2005 for understanding semiarid climate change over Loess Plateau.



Semi-arid region of Northwest China is one of the fast warming area over global continental.



Dust aerosol can cause:

- heating atmosphere
- evaporate cloud droplets
- reduce cloud water path and optical depth
- reduce cloud cooling effect lead to warm local climate
- lower precipitation rate

Absorbing aerosol (dust & black carbon) may speed warming and drying semi-arid climate over Northwest China.