

Topographic Relief, High-Speed Railway and Migration Network of Ethnic Groups in China

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Abstract : Geographic condition plays a significant role in spatial segregation between ethnic migrants and Han migrants in China, especially for labor migrants. Different from previous studies, this paper investigates racial segregation in China from a new perspective, a dynamic view, to compare the migration network between Han labor migrants and ethnic labor migrants, and integrated with network analysis to capture more node (city) features in the network. The result shows that topographic relief is highly related to the centrality of a city in the ethnic network; however, this effect is not significant for Han people. For the role of the high-speed railway, it could slightly improve the popularity of a city in the Han network but not significant in the ethnic network; however, the construction of a high-speed railway could consolidate the role of intermediary or mediation of a city in the ethnic network, especially in areas with higher topographic relief.

Keywords : Topographic relief, Transportation, Ethnic migrant, Network analysis

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