

China is not Europe

- Social hierarchy
- Tribute system
 - o Benevolence
 - o Look very different from the bottom and the top
 - o “Christmas tree” model
 - o Nomadic power
 - The power sometimes grab the central power
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 - Consistent sources of problems
 - Mobility, forces
 - o Peaceful doesn't mean no problems
 - Numerous border problems between China, Vietnam...
 - o Acknowledge autonomy

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China between region and world

- States as located actors
 - o States cannot choose their neighbors
- China as region-state
 - o Central management of the regions
- Multi-regional power, but not enclosed by any other region

- o Solving problems in one region will have consequent problems in other regions
- Global presence but not global power in a multi-nodal world
 - o Its strategy is not pursuing global power
 - o Interests matter
 - Brazil traded much with China not because China has the global power in South Asia, but the interest matters
- Importance of perspective

China as region state

- Historical development
- Natural boundaries
- Inward-oriented interaction
 - o Beijing is the central place
 - o Urban orientation

Consequences

- Local differentiation
- Resilience of central organization
- Inside more important than outside

External consequences

- Each province has a different external profile. Guangdong is very different from Guangxi, even though they are neighbors
- Provinces can be competitive, eg. Guangxi-Yunnan and Southeast Asia
- Different interests from the center
- But still one state; no challenging the center

China as a multi-region power

- Power
 - o All political communities have capacities for resistance
 - o Not all can challenge
 - o A power is at the center of attention
 - If $A > b$, $A > c$, $A > d$, $A > f$, then
 - A is the center of them

China's regions

- Northeast Asia
 - o No regional organization
 - o 6 party talks on North Korea nukes
 - o Much more interest now in East Asia community
- Southeast Asia
 - o Bad relations until 1979
 - o Mixed until 1991
 - o Really improved after 1997
 - o China- ASEAN FTA Jan 2010
 - o But more worries about South China Sea
 - Neighbors want to reassure whether their interests can be kept or not
- Central Asia
 - o Potential for disaster, but it didn't happen