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Millennial temperature reconstruction intercomparison and evaluation

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Results from an intercomparison of recent reconstructions of the temperature record of the past millenium will be presented. The published reconstructions generally show a gradual cooling trend over most of the last millennium, followed by sharp warming. Several proxy data collections used in the recent literature have been analysed with two statistical methods in order to investigate the relative roles of different methods vs. different data in creating a spread in published reconstructions. It is found that forming a composite and calibrating against northern hemisphere temperature gives fairly robust results, agreeing to within 0.3K in the 11th century, whereas inverse regression gives a much larger spread.