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Spatiotemporal variation of minimum magnitude of completeness in The JMA catalog

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The detection capability of JMA for seismicity has been changed according to the improvement of the observational network and/or the processing systems. We systematically investigate the spatiotemporal variation of minimum magnitude (M_c) of completely detected earthquakes in the JMA catalog 1/1/1926 through 9/30/2000. Our results show that, in particular, the deployment of 76-type seismometers in 1976 and the beginning of the processing of increased data provided by other institutions in 1997 significantly affected the change of M_c .