

Key Laboratory for Big Data Application Technologies of Comprehensive Transportation, Beijing Jiaotong University, Ministry of Transport, PRC



# China-Europe freight trains with the Belt and Road Initiative—Envision of an Interconnected Eurasia



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### **Outlines**



- The Belt and Road Initiative
- China-Europe Freight Trains
  - · Main Corridors and Routes
  - Main Characteristics
  - Pricing Rules and Costs
  - Freight Management
  - Development Plan (2016-2020)
- Sichuan International Freight Train Program
  - · Current Developments
  - · Future Challenges
- Conclusions



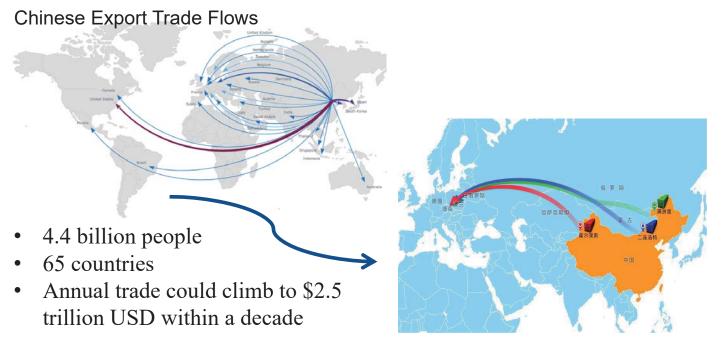
#### **Reviving the Silk Road**

Announced by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013, the Silk Road initiative, also known as China's Belt and Road initiative, aims to invest in infrastructure projects including railways and power grids in central, west and southern Asia, as well as Africa and Europe.



## The Belt and Road Initiative





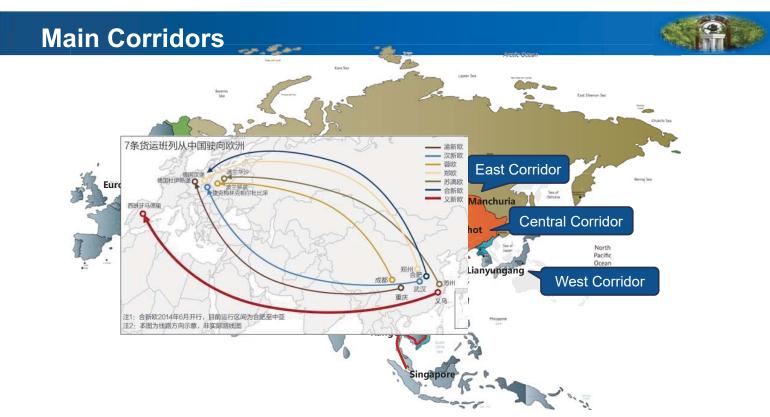
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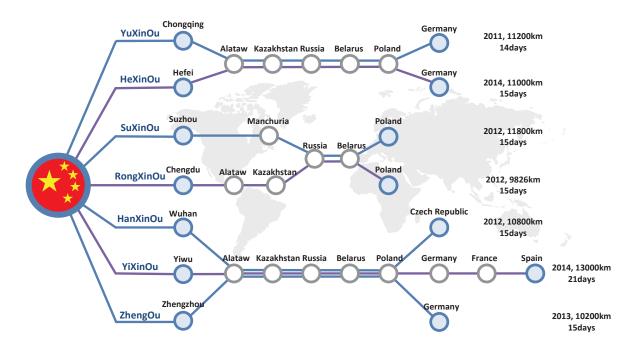
**企** 北京交通大學

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## **Seven Railway Routes**



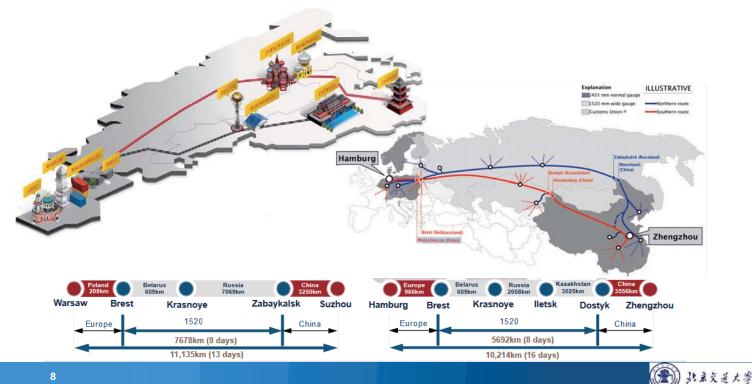


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## **Comparison of Two Routes**





## **Chongqing—Germany (Duisburg)**



- YuXinOu (渝新欧): Chongqing-Xinjiang-Kazakhstan-Russia-Belarus-Poland-Germany, 32 railway lines
- 3/19/2011, 11200 km
- 14 days compared with 20 days by sea
- 1 or 2 trains per day, 700 trains in 2017 from Chongqing
- Over 5000 trains till Oct 2017
- Go through 28 cities in China and arrive 22 cities in 12 countries of Europe
- **145794 TEU** in 2016



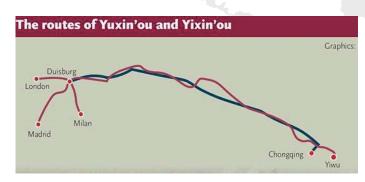
➤ 0.7% of containers shipping by sea ➤ 1.2 times of cargos shipping by air ➤ is 32.8% of total international containers shipping by railway.

**全大原交流北** 

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## Yiwu—Spain (Madrid)

- YiXinOu (义新欧): Yiwu-Alataw-Kazakhstan-Russia-Belarus-Poland-Germany-France-Spain
- 2014
- 13052km
- 21 days
- 94 trains till Oct 2016





- Five key factors
- The longest route
- · Pass eight countries
- Go through six provinces
- Three times of track changing
- The first county-level city

## **Main Terminals in China**





## "12235(6)N" Characteristics



#### One agent

#### **Two containers transfers**

#### **Goes through five counties**

The third party or China Railway International Multimodal Transport Co. Ltd Differences in track gauge (Dostyk station 1435mm/1520mm)

China, Russia, Republic of Belarus, Poland, Germany. West line with Kazakhstan, Central line with Mongolia













## Two international transport organizations involved

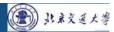
International Union of Railways (UIC), 120 counties, headquarters in Paris; Organization for Cooperation of Railways (OSShD), 28 counties, headquarters in Warsaw

#### three custom zones

China, Eurasian Customs Union (EACU), and European Union Customs Union (EUCU)

## N Shipping companies

Freight management

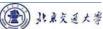


## **Main Characteristics**



- Accelerated growth
- From inland to coast, from Germany to Spain .....
- More and more goods categories
- From independent to unified
- Unbalanced headhaul and backhaul





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## **Train volume statistics**



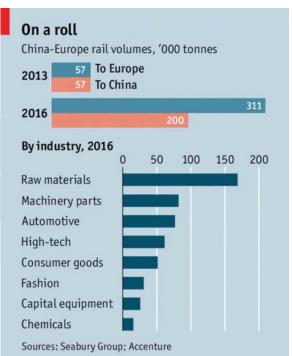
	Train Volume			Ratio
Year	Total	China- Europe	Europe- China	(China/ Europe%)
2011	17	17	0	-
2012	42	42	0	2
2013	80	80	0	1.4
2014	308	280	28	10
2015	815	550	265	48.2
2016	2191	1599	592	37.01
合计	3453	2568	885	34.47

Rapid Expansion: China-Europe Freight Train Service

2011-Aug 2015 More than 900 trains Sep-Dec 2015 About 400 trains

Jan-Aug 2016

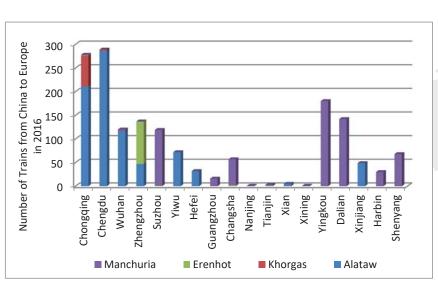
More than 900 trains
(annual growth rate: +130%)

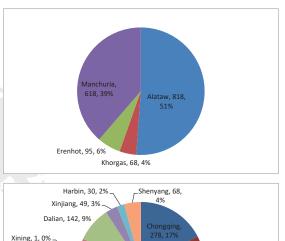


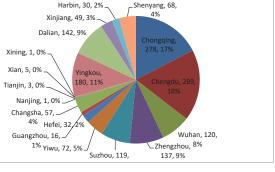
**企** 建杂交通大等

## Competition between the Major Cities







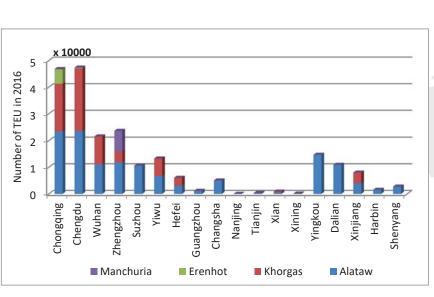


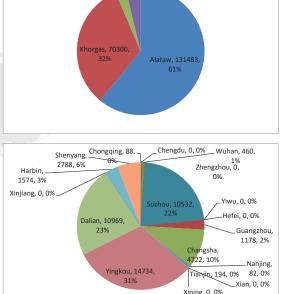
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## **Competition between the Major Cities**

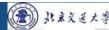






Manchuria, 8198, 4%

Erenhot, 5664



## **Pricing Rules and Costs**



- Same as the sea cargo or a little bit higher
- Certain subsidies
- China-Europe (Poland, Germany)\$0.50-0.6 per km for a 40 ft container in 1520 mm sections, \$0.65-1 in Europe, \$0.6 in China, average \$0.65-0.7; Europe-China, average \$0.55
- China-Moscow through Alataw, \$0.6-0.65 per km for non-domestic sections, China-Moscow through Manchuria, \$0.45-0.55 per km for non-domestic sections
- For non-domestic sections, through Alataw to Poland or Germany, estimated \$3800-4300; through Manchuria would be lower

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## **Freight Management**



#### China-Europe Freight Train Goods





#### Western Europe

Computer, electronics accessories & supplies, home appliances, Automobiles & parts, tires.

Transfer mainly



#### **Eastern Europe**

Automobiles & parts, home appliances, fabrics & cloths, groceries, luggage & handbags, decorative material, building materials furniture



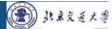
#### Russia

Groceries, luggage & handbags, decorative material, building materials, steel, mechanical equipment, PVC, chemicals & raw materials, tea, ketchup, coffee, furniture.



#### Central&Western Asia

Home appliances, Automobiles & parts, tires, fabrics & cloths, viscose fiber, groceries, luggage & handbags, decorative material, building materials, steels, mechanical equipment, PVC, chemicals and raw materials, tea, ketchup, coffee, furniture.



## **Freight Management**





"YuXinOu"
Local service

"YingManOu" Intermodal transport

> "LianXinYa" Transit rail

"ZhengOu" Logistics Hub

Xinjiang Region cooperation

Six computer companies in Chongqing. According to the requirements of transport time, quality, safety, and reliability, organize direct train service to Germany.

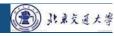
Take advantage of low shipping fee of ocean transport and Russia rail, develop intermodal transport between Southeastern coast, Japan, and South Korea. Organize direct train from Dalian, Yingkou to Moscow, Slovakia, Belarus, and Poland.

Take advantage of freight rate policy in transit shipment, organize the goods from Japan, South Korea, and Southeast Asia countries visa China to Central Asia and Europe.

Develop Central China logistics hub. Attract the goods from central China and organize the direct train to Germany.

Through region cooperation, organize freight train to Central Asia or Europe.

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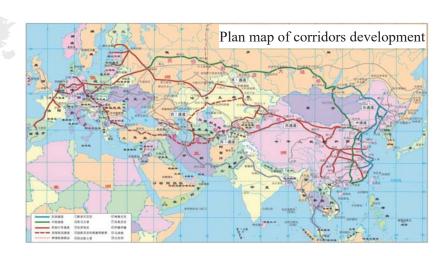


## Development Plan (2016-2020)



#### **Developing goals**

- The development of basic transit corridors will be completed
- Basic hubs will be built
- Goods gathering effects will start to show
- Operate 5000 trains per year
- Significate improvement of return train quality



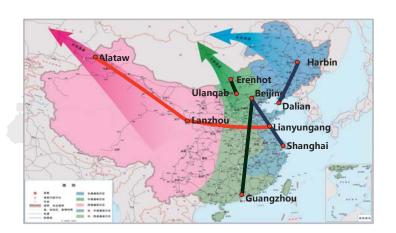


## **Development Plan (2016-2020)**



#### **Attraction Zone of Goods**

- West Corridors: transit through
  Lianyungang-Lanzhou, Lanzhou-Alataw
- Central Corridors: transit through
  Guangzhou-Beijing, Ulanqab-Erenhot
- East Corridors: transit through Shanghai-Beijing, Dalian-Harbin



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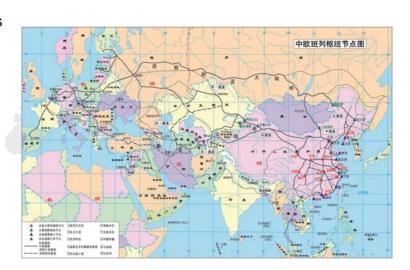


## **Development Plan (2016-2020)**



#### **Important Hubs & Terminals**

- Inland major freight hubs, two direct trains per week, can attract returning trains, gather and manage freight
- Major rail terminals, important station in transport network
- Important harbor hubs, provide sea-rail intermodal transport, more than 3 direct trains per week
- Entry port nodes, can provide custom services and cargo transfer



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## Sichuan International Freight Train Program

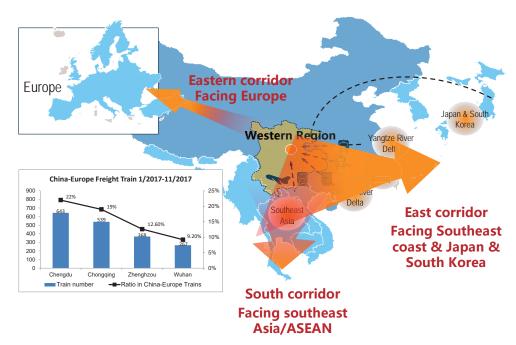


The belt and road initiative promote new patterns and framework

"Depart 13 and return 10" per week in 2017

Average loading rate will reach 70%

First place (25% train volume in China)





## "RongOu+" Freight Trains





## **Future Challenges**



Encourage the migration of industries to Chengdu

Drive advanced manufacturing gathering around Chengdu

Develop new trade modes

Provide easy & convenient services

Develop industries and business

Strengthen existing manufacturing

> Computer

> Automobile

> Shoes

> Clothing

Develop potential industries

> Phones and comm. devices

> Optical instruments

> Toys

> Medical equipment

## **Future Challenges**





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## **Conclusions**



- Better freight management
  - Develop information and resource sharing platform
  - Develop logistics hub in east, central, and west port corridors managing goods
- Establish better subsidies policies, increase competitiveness
- Better balance between quality and quantity
- Better cooperation mechanism
  - Simplify transfer procedures
  - Information exchange & paperless technology
  - Improving transport regulation, standards and laws
- Better organization and coordination at border stations

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Thank you!!

Questions and Comments!!!

