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Interactive comment on “A parameterization of low visibilities for hazy days in the North China Plain” by J. Chen et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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Major comments

Based on ground measurement of aerosol, visibility and meteorological conditions in north china plain, the paper proposed a parameterization scheme for low visibility conditions on hazy days. The analysis is well-grounded, the result is reliable with innovative ideas. The reviewer thinks this paper can be published on ACP.

Minor comments

In the introduction part, the author mentioned “Mass concentrations of PM2.5 in Beijing and Chongqing both exceeded the national air quality standard of particulate matter within $10 \mu\text{m}$ (PM10) for residential areas ($100 \mu\text{gm}^{-3}$) and were at least 10 times those ($5-10 \mu\text{gm}^{-3}$) measured in US continental east (Hidy et al., 2009).” The term

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“air quality standard for residential area” is not clear and improper. It is suggested to revise the sentence to “Mass concentrations of PM2.5 in Beijing and Chongqing both exceeded the ambient air quality standard of China (GB3095-1996) for PM10 (100 μgm^{-3} , grade 2) and were at least 10 times those (5–10 μgm^{-3}) measured in US continental east (Hidy et al., 2009).”

Another suggestion is that besides GB3095-1996, the author may consider referring following PM2.5 standards in China for comparison in the sentence mentioned above:

75 μgm^{-3} (QX/T 113-2010, Observation and forecast levels of haze)

35 μgm^{-3} (grade 2, annual average limit, ambient air quality standard of China, GB3095-20XX (draft), <http://www.zhb.gov.cn/gkml/hbb/bgth/201111/W020111121388004546031.pdf>)

These may help the readers (especially for those non-Chinese readers) to know updated progress of ambient air quality standard revision in china.

Interactive comment on *Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss.*, 11, 31363, 2011.

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