

Reply to editor, including a list of all relevant changes made in the manuscript

We appreciate thoughtful comments given by the reviewers. Our answers to the comments are attached from page 3 (same as those posted online).

The manuscript was revised accordingly. The introduced major changes are listed below, with page and line in the revised text. Minor changes are recognized in the marked-up manuscript version. We hope that we adequately answered to the comments and improved the manuscript accordingly.

1. IAP/CAS was included in the affiliation for Xiaole Pan.
2. Abstract. A previous sentence falsely indicated that the high BC/CO ratio was recorded owing to domestic or biomass burning sectors. Now the sentence is simplified, where only difference in the BC/CO ratio between North Central East China and South Central East China. (page 1, lines 24-25)
3. Abstract and Summary. An accumulated precipitation of 25.5 ± 6.1 mm (to reduce transport efficiency (TE) to $1/e$) is mentioned instead of 15.0 ± 3.2 mm (to reduce TE to $1/2$), because the former value is more robust even when considering the in-cloud scavenging without precipitation (see comment 1 from Reviewer#2 and reply). (page 2, line 2, page 15, line 18)
4. Abstract and Summary. As the long-term trend analysis using "corrected" BC concentrations was not found robust (see comment 3 from Reviewer #2 and reply), a sentence stating the trends in the BC concentrations for CEC, Korea, and Japan is removed. Instead, we now include a sentence that wet loss of BC greatly influenced interannual variations in the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios and BC mass concentrations. (page 2, line 4)
5. Introduction
Health effect of BC is now simply mentioned, as recommended by Reviewer #1. (page 2, lines 16-17)
6. Introduction. We mention that observations within the source area are also important, as pointed out by Reviewer #1. (page 2, line 21)
7. Introduction and Methodology: Detailed description on the past evaluation of COSMOS and MAAP instruments, originally included in Introduction, is shortened and most part is moved to Methodology section. (paragraph starting from page 2, line 25, paragraph starting from page 4, line 10)
8. Section 2. A sentence is inserted to explain that air mass origin areas were not fully separated but influence from other regions was not large (see comment 2 from Reviewer #2 and reply). (page 6, lines 1-3)
9. Section 2. We clarify that APT was calculated with GDAS1 precipitation data. (page 6, line 5)
10. Section 2. A sentence discussing the validity of air mass origin regions analyzed with backward trajectories with precipitation is inserted (page 6, lines 7-9). Also, Fig. S1 was inserted in the supplementary material, in which we showed that dependence of CO mixing ratio on the air mass origin regions was retained even with precipitation (see comment and reply with Reviewer #1).
11. Section 3.2.1.2 The scale of conversion of the CO emission rate (from emission inventory) to equivalent mixing ratio was mentioned ($1.25 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ CO at 273 K and 1013 hPa corresponded to 1 ppb). (page 8, line 27)
12. Section 3.2.1.2 and Figure S3. Geographical distribution of the BC/CO emission ratio from

REAS2 inventory is depicted, as recommended by Reviewer #1.

13. Section 3.2.1.2. We mention that prevalence of central heating in N-CEC than in S-CEC could be a cause for the observed difference in the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios. (page 9, lines 19-20)
14. Section 3.2.1.2. As recommended by Reviewer #1, we examined the results from other emission inventories, MEIC and CAPSS, and now mention that the tendency of overestimation of the BC/CO emission ratio was common. (page 9, lines 23-27)
15. Section 3.2.1.2. Past observations of the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio in Korea, Sahu et al. (2009) and Park et al. (2005), are mentioned, upon comment by Reviewer #1. (page 10, lines 4-6)
16. Section 3.2.1.2. We mention that industry and transportation were the sectors having BC/CO emission ratio for Korea (not domestic sector). (page 10, lines 11-14)
17. Section 3.2.2.1 and Fig. 9. Dependence on maximum RH experienced of the observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio is separately studied for the case with APT=0, to investigate potential loss of BC by in-cloud scavenging that was not associated with precipitation (page 13, lines 5-10). The result (16% at maximum) indicated that BC loss is mainly associated with precipitation, and is less influenced by clouds. This point is now more clearly mentioned. The APT values to reduce TE to 1/2 and 1/e were re-examined considering this effect. (page 13, lines 16-19)
18. Section 3.2.2.1 and Fig. 8a. Gray squares were difficult to see in the previous manuscript (as pointed out by the Reviewer #1) and the color was changed to light blue.
19. Section 3.3 and (previous) Figure 12. Discussion on the long-term trends using BC concentrations corrected for the wet removal was deleted (see comment 3 from the Reviewer #2 and reply). Accordingly previous Figure 12 was deleted.

Response to the Reviewer #1

We appreciate the reviewer's careful reading and comments on our manuscript. Detailed point-by-point responses are given below.

1) Page 1, line 23: Is the CO mixing ratio under standard conditions? Why not convert mixing ratio to mass concentration? This would make it easier for direct comparison with emission inventories.

The observed CO concentration is presented in volume mixing ratio. The CO emission rate (from emission inventory) is rather converted to equivalent mixing ratios under 273 K and 1013 hPa (the condition was commonly used for BC mass concentrations). This will be mentioned clearly in the revised manuscript (page 8, line 27). The same units were generally used in previous papers discussing observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios in comparison to emission inventory.

2) Page 2, Line 10: maybe briefly mention the health, air quality effect of BC here.

In the revised manuscript, we will include the sentence below: (page 2, lines 16-17)

Besides the relevance to climate change, World Health Organization warns the health effects of BC (Janssen et al., 2012).

3) Page 2, Line 23: why are downwind measurements important for constraining emissions? One may argue that measurements made in the source region can be even more useful.

The previous sentence will be modified to that below:

Besides observations within the source areas, more observations from regions downwind of the source areas are needed to elucidate regional features of the atmospheric status and then to constrain the emission and removal rates, to better characterize the effects on the climate and health and establish an effective mitigation strategy. (page 2, lines 21-24)

4) Page 2, last paragraph: some of the discussion on measurement technique may be moved to other sections, for example, section 2.

As suggested, a part of the paragraph describing performance of COSMOS and MAAP will be moved to Section 2. In Introduction, we will just mention as follows:

In observations of BC mass concentrations in the atmosphere, the reliability of the instrument used is important for robust analyses. We regard single-particle soot photometer (SP2; Droplet Measurement

Technologies, Boulder, CO, USA) and ECOC analyzers with optical corrections as reliable, but their use for long-term observations is challenging. Among filter-based techniques, more suitable for long-term observations, continuous soot-monitoring systems (COSMOS or BCM3130; Kanomax, Osaka, Japan) and multi-angle absorption photometers (MAAP; Model 5012, Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) are satisfactory because the effects of co-existing scattering particles are minimized. For COSMOS, this is achieved by using a pre-heater to remove nonrefractive species (Miyazaki et al., 2008). For MAAP, multi-angle observations with respect to the particle-laden filter are made to take account of the scattering effect in the radiative transfer calculation (Petzold et al., 2002). The performances of the two instruments were certified against SP2 and ECOC analyzers as detailed in Section 2. For filter-based techniques, using a size cutoff device (PM1 or at least PM2.5) is important for minimizing interference from co-existing light-absorbing particles such as mineral dust. (page 2, line 25 – page 3, line 3)

The description of CAWNET and observations in Jeju and at Lulin station is kept in Introduction but moved to the next paragraph. (page 3, lines 12-17)

5) Page 4, Line 8: have the authors looked into some other emission inventories for comparison?

Although still focusing mainly on REAS version 2, we will mention comparisons with other emission inventories, CAPSS (Clean Air Policy Support System) for Korea and MEIC (Multi-resolution Emission Inventory for China) for China, in section 3.2.1.2 of the revised manuscript. For Korea, CAPSS had an even higher BC/CO emission ratio ($39.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) than REAS2 ($23.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$), and the gap with the observation was larger. MEIC for China had values 9.5 and $9.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for N-CEC and S-CEC, which were similarly higher than observations (5.3 and $6.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) as the case of REAS2 (8.3 and $9.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$). (page 9, lines 23-27)

6) Page 4, Line 25: how does a change in the size-cut affect measurement results?

The change affected the BC mass concentrations by only less than 2%, as estimated from size distribution of BC particles measured with the SP2 instrument during spring 2015 at Fukue Island (Miyakawa et al., in preparation, 2016).

7) Page 5, Line 24: 2500 m seems to be a bit high, if the purpose is to investigate emissions from the source region. Some of the trajectories may not come close to the surface at all.

Among the selected data, fractions entering below 2000 m were large, $>82\%$ for all source regions (except for area I (NE-China), 64%). Here we just intended to screen out the cases of clear descent from the free troposphere. Another criterion that $\Delta\text{CO} > 20 \text{ ppb}$, used together with the altitude criterion, helped to select cases with real influence from emissions.

8) Page 5, Line 34: how was APT calculated, and what is the source of the precipitation data? Also since some precipitation is associated with relatively small-scale processes and strong vertical motion, how reliable are trajectories when precipitation occurs?

The source of the precipitation data (in mm/h) was GDAS1 three-dimensional meteorological field data, and the precipitation rate along the trajectory was integrated over 72 hours. This will be mentioned clearly in the revised manuscript (page 6, line 5). We found that the dependence of CO mixing ratios on air mass origin areas was almost unchanged with the presence of precipitation as shown in Fig. 1 below.

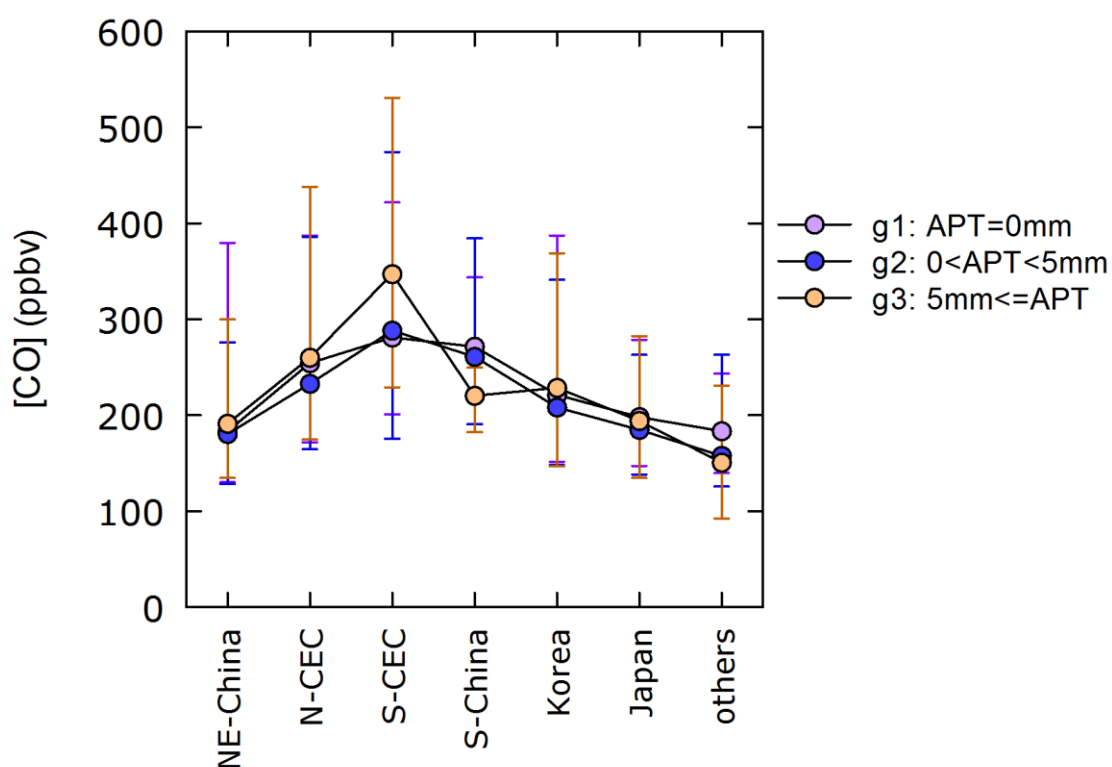


Figure 1. Median and the 10–90 percentile ranges of the CO mixing ratios for individual air mass origin areas. The data were categorized into three groups, with accumulated precipitation along trajectories (APT) = 0 mm, 0–5 mm, and \geq 5mm.

The CO median mixing ratio for S-CEC with APT \geq 5mm was slightly larger than the other APT cases; however, this is within the variation ranges and cannot be attributed to the influence from other air masses (with smaller values). The data numbers for S-China for three groups were small ($N=9$ or 10). From this analysis, the source area information was thought to be retained, even with precipitation, whose amount

was not generally very large in our study.

In text of the revised manuscript, we will include the following sentences:

When precipitation occurred, trajectories might become less reliable. Nonetheless, we found that the dependence of CO mixing ratios on air mass origin areas was almost unchanged with the presence of precipitation. Therefore, origin area information was used for further analysis of wet removal. (page 6, lines 7-9)

The figure will be included in the supplementary material. (Fig. S1)

9) Page 8, Line 7: are the two ratios for Cape Hedo significantly different?

This analysis was from Verma et al. (2011) and there statistical difference was not studied.

12) Page 9, Line 14, the REAS2 Korean BC/CO ratio is greater than that for the domestic sector?

10) Page 8, Line 13: It is interesting (and surprising) that Korea has a higher BC/CO ratio than China, given my impression that Korea is in a more advanced stage of economic development than China. Any reason why?

15) Page 15, Line 3, any measurements in Korea that may shed light on the BC/CO emission ratio from that country?

The BC/CO emission ratio for domestic sector ($15 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) mentioned in the previous manuscript was for China, not Korea. The BC/CO emission ratio for domestic sector in Korea was estimated to be rather low, 2.8 or $4.1 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for REAS2 and CAPSS, respectively. The sectors that raised the BC/CO emission ratio in Korea were industry and transportation (42 and $27 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for REAS2 and 357 and $29.5 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for CAPSS) (page 10, lines 11-14). In the revised manuscript, we cite past two studies on short measurements in Korea, Sahu et al. (2009) reporting the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio from Korean Peninsula of $8.5 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ and Park et al. (2005) reporting $4.2\text{--}6.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ measured in Gwangju city, Korea. Both supported our observed values for Korea rather than those from emission inventories. (page 10, lines 4-7) The discrepancies indicate inappropriateness of the assumed high BC/CO ratio for industry and transportation sectors. This point will be included in the revised manuscript (page 10, lines 11-14). One sentence in Abstract of the previous manuscript falsely indicated that high emission ratio in Korea was influenced by domestic sector. In the revised manuscript, this sentence will be rewritten as follows:

The estimated emission ratios ($5.2\text{--}6.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) varied over the six air mass origin areas; the higher ratios for South Central East China ($30\text{--}35^\circ\text{N}$) than for North Central East China ($35\text{--}40^\circ\text{N}$) indicated the relative importance of domestic emissions and/or biomass burning sectors. (page 1, lines 24-25)

11) Page 9, Lines 7-11. Northern China may have more centralized space heating that uses relatively large,

more efficient boilers with smaller BC emission factors (compared with southern China).

Upon suggestion, we confirmed the prevalence of central heating systems in N-CEC rather than in S-CEC in China Statistical Yearbook 2014. In the revised manuscript, we will mention that prevalence of central heating in N-CEC than S-CEC (China Statistical Yearbook, 2014) might be a cause. (page 9, lines 19-20)

13) Page 13, Line 6, Figure 8b should be Figure 8a? Gray squares are not very easy to see in the figure. May consider using a different color.

Correction is made (Figure 8a). Gray squares will be changed to light blue.

14) Page 14, Line 18, is the decreasing trend for Japan statistically significant?

Upon comment by Reviewer #2, Figure 12 and discussion on the long-term trend using corrected BC mass concentrations will be removed, as the uncertainty is not small enough.

16) Figure 1: may consider using inventory BC/CO emission ratio for the map.

Although considered, we concluded that BC emission rates were better to show here, for readers to get impression of source regions first. In the supplementary material we will show the map of the BC/CO emission ratio. (Fig. S3)

Again we thank the reviewer for providing important comments that improved the manuscript.

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Response to the Reviewer #2:

We thank the reviewer very much for reading our paper carefully and giving us valuable comments.

Detailed responses to the comments are given below.

1) Wet deposition of BC includes both in-cloud and below-cloud scavenging. In-cloud scavenging is where BC gets into cloud droplets and below-cloud scavenging is the washout of BC by falling rain droplets. While the occurrence of the latter is always associated with precipitation, the former may not because not all clouds precipitate. Both scavenging processes are expected to happen during the relative long course of transport BC from its source regions to the Fukue Island sampling site. The authors use precipitation data as a proxy of BC wet deposition, thus neglecting the role of incloud scavenging which may be potentially important. This bias needs to be corrected.

The in-cloud scavenging that occurs without precipitation was partly discussed in the previous manuscript. First part was in section 3.2.1.2, where we discussed that critical selection of data regarding RH, BC mass concentration, and traveling time increased the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ in the cases without precipitation, and the second part was with Figure 9, where we showed the overall tendency of all $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios (i.e., irrespective of zero and non-zero APT) against maximum RH. Upon comment by the reviewer, we strengthened the analysis by (1) studying dependence on maximum RH by selecting data without precipitation, and (2) by a sensitivity test in which we re-evaluated wet removal rates after correcting for the possible in-cloud removal that was not associated with precipitation. For (1), we found that when data with zero APT were only used (red triangles of Fig. 1 below, to be used as Fig. 9 in the revised manuscript), the overall decreasing trend became weak; from the difference between the highest and lowest 3 bins, potential loss of BC by cloud processes without precipitation was estimated to be 16% at maximum. The estimation is consistent with the 13–25% increase that occurred with the $(\Delta BC/\Delta CO)_{APT=0}$ by the critical choice of BC concentrations, maximum RH, and traveling time, as discussed in Sect. 3.2.1.2. These analyses suggest that BC loss is mainly associated with precipitation, and is less influenced by clouds (page 13, lines 5-10). For (2), when 16% upshift in the $(\Delta BC/\Delta CO)_{APT=0}$ was considered to correct for the potential BC loss due to in-cloud scavenging without precipitation, a stretched exponential fitting yielded A_1 and A_2 values of 0.249 and 0.450, respectively, and the APT values to reduce TE to 1/2 and 1/e became 9.8 ± 1.8 mm and 22.4 ± 5.1

mm. As the uncertainty was large, we will mention this analysis as a sensitivity study in the revised manuscript. The APT values to reduce TE to 1/2 was more sensitive (changed from 15.0 to 9.8 mm) than that to reduce TE to 1/e (changed from 25.5 to 22.4 mm) (page 13, lines 16-19). Therefore the latter value (25.5 mm), considered to be more robust, will be mentioned in Abstract and conclusion, instead of the former value (15.0 mm). (page 2, line 2, page 15, line 18)

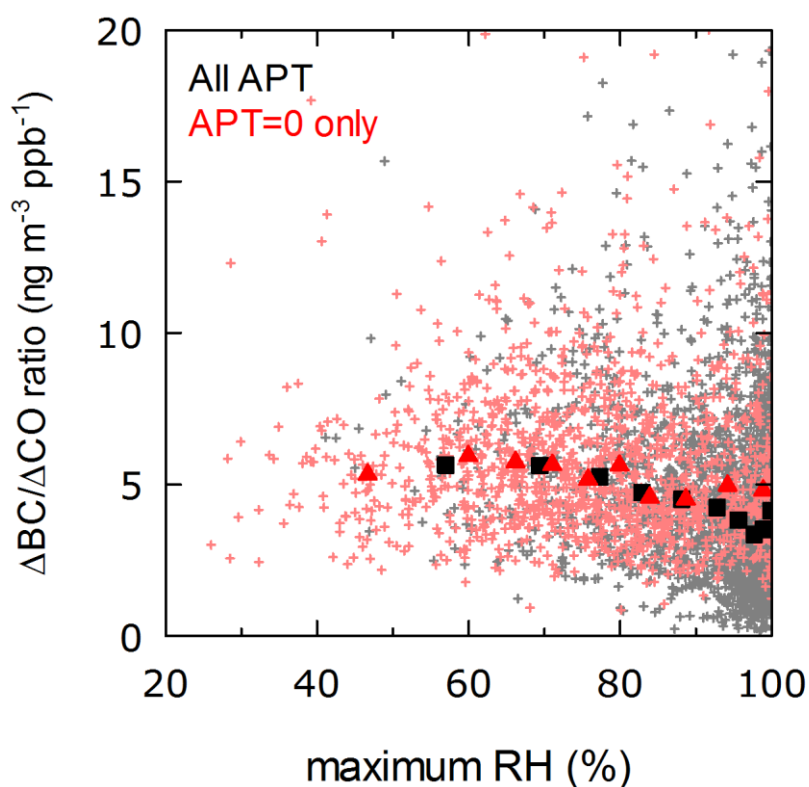


Figure 1: Observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios as function of maximum RH (%) that air mass experienced in 72 hours before arrival at Fukue Island. All data (irrespective of APT) are shown by gray plus signs, while data with zero APT are shown by red plus signs. Black filled squares and red filled triangles show 10 bins sorted by maximum RH.

2) Fig 1 and 3 (source regions of BC sampled at Fukue): It is not clear to me how the different regions are determined. I doubt that observations from a single site are able to offer unambiguous information of such refined source regions. The back trajectories (Fig 3) appear to overlap between different clusters. The authors need to demonstrate BC data at Fukue can distinguish those source regions; if not some of the regions should be lumped together. In addition, the authors seem to claim that the BC observations at Fukue can even distinguish emissions between coasts and in-land of the continent (pg 10, line 14-15),

which is not plausible given the distance of this site from the continent and large spatial extension of the back trajectories.

We agree with the reviewer that fully clear separation was not possible. However, we demonstrate here that reasonable separation is possible. Regarding the important areas II and III, mainly discussed in the manuscript, as the air mass types were defined by the segmented borderlines that the trajectories crossed for the first time, no overlap was found in the regions near the coast. On the other hand, the overlap becomes somewhat significant for the inland areas. When weighted by the geographical distribution of the BC emission strength, however, we found the effect from other regions was estimated to be <25% in total. Therefore main information (>75%) is still from the defined region (page 6, lines 1-3). Regarding area V, influence from other regions was mentioned and thus area V' was defined in the previous manuscript. We did not intend to "distinguish" emissions between coastal and in-land areas. There we meant that the signal "weight" from the coastal area was larger than from in-land, because of the shorter distance to the coastal area from the observational site.

3) Section 3.3 and Figure 12, trend of BC masses by source region: BC data with nonzero APT should not be used to constrain emissions. Wet scavenging is efficient to remove all BC during transport and thus non-zero APT air masses sampled at Fukue have lost all the source signatures of BC and contain only background. Although the authors apply an empirical correction to infer the BC loss due to precipitation, that correction is obviously subject to high uncertainty which is difficult to constrain. The authors should use only a subset of observations which are determined to have minimal influence of wet deposition when constraining emissions.

We reexamined the trend of data with zero APT and found that it was associated with large uncertainty. Therefore we remove this part and Figure 12 from the revised manuscript.

We again thank the reviewer for the important suggestions.

Long-term observations of black carbon mass concentrations at Fukue Island, western Japan, during 2009–2015: Constraining wet removal rates and emission strengths from East Asia

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15 **Abstract.** Long-term (2009–2015) observations of atmospheric black carbon (BC) mass concentrations were performed using a continuous soot-monitoring system (COSMOS) at Fukue Island, western Japan, to provide information on wet removal rate constraints and the emission strengths of important source regions in East Asia (China and others). The annual average mass concentration was $0.36 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, with distinct seasonality; high concentrations were recorded during autumn, winter, and spring, and were caused by Asian continental outflows, which reached

20 Fukue Island in 6–46 hours. The observed data were categorized into two classes, i.e., with and without a wet removal effect, using the accumulated precipitation along a backward trajectory (APT) for the last 3 days as an index. Statistical analysis of the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios was performed to obtain information on the emission ratios (from data with zero APT only) and wet removal rates (including data with non-zero APTs). The estimated emission ratios ($5.2\text{--}6.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) varied over the six air mass origin areas; the higher ratios for South Central East China ($30\text{--}35^\circ\text{N}$), ~~South~~

25 ~~China ($\leq 30^\circ\text{N}$), and Korea~~) than for ~~the other areas, i.e., Northeast China ($> 40^\circ\text{N}$), North Central East China ($35\text{--}40^\circ\text{N}$), and Japan~~) indicated the relative importance of domestic emissions and/or biomass burning sectors. The significantly higher BC/CO emission ratios adopted in the bottom-up Regional Emission inventory in Asia (REAS) version 2 ($8.3\text{--}23 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) over Central East China and Korea needed to be reduced at least by factors of 1.3 and 2.8 for Central East China and Korea, respectively, but the ratio for Japan was reasonable. The wintertime

30 enhancement of the BC emission from China, predicted by REAS2, was verified for air masses from South Central East China, but not for those from North Central East China. Wet removal of BC was clearly identified as a decrease in the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio against APT. The ~~transmission~~~~transport~~ efficiency (TE), defined as the ratio of the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio

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with precipitation to that without precipitation, was fitted reasonably well by a stretched exponential decay curve against APT; a single set of fitting parameters was sufficient to represent the results for air masses originating from different areas. An accumulated precipitation of 45.0 ± 3.2 25.5 ± 6.1 mm ~~halved/reduced~~ the ~~BC mass concentration~~ TE to 1/e. BC-containing particles traveling to Fukue must have already been converted from hydrophobic to hydrophilic particles, because the behavior of TE against APT was similar to that of PM_{2.5}, the major components of which are hydrophilic. ~~After correcting for the wet removal effect, trends~~ Wet loss of BC greatly influenced interannual variations in the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios and BC mass concentrations—were almost flat for the air masses from CEC and Korea and decreasing for those from Japan during 2009–2015. This long-term data set will provide a benchmark for testing chemical transport/climate model simulations covering East Asia.

1 Introduction

Black carbon (BC) particles suspended in the atmosphere induce positive radiative forcing by absorbing sunlight in the atmosphere and by reducing ice/snow albedo once deposited on such surfaces (IPCC, 2013; Bond et al., 2013; Kondo, 2015; and references therein). The increased mass concentrations of BC in the atmosphere since pre-industrial times have directly induced warming of the Earth's climate. The atmospheric residence time of BC particles is only about a week (IPCC 2013), much shorter than that of CO₂, which is a major long-lived greenhouse gas. Because of this, BC is now regarded as an important type of short-lived climate pollutant. Reductions in their emissions could effectively and promptly slow down global temperature increases in the near future (until ca. 2040); such reductions should be coupled to reductions in CO₂, which has a longer-term buffering effect on temperature increases (Shindell et al., 2008; Jacobson, 2010; UNEP and WMO, 2011). Besides the relevance to climate change, World Health Organization warns the health effects of BC (Janssen et al., 2012).

East Asia, especially China, is a major source of BC (Streets et al., 2003; Bond et al., 2004; Ohara et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2009; Kurokawa et al., 2013) and may remain the dominant source region of BC particles present over the Pacific and the Arctic (Wang et al., 2011; Zhang et al., 2015; AMAP 2015). However, there is still a large uncertainty regarding the emission strength and geographical distribution. More observational data Besides observations within the source areas, more observations from regions downwind of the source areas are needed to elucidate regional features of the atmospheric status and then to constrain the emission and removal rates, to better characterize the effects on the climate and health and establish an effective mitigation strategy.

In observations of BC mass concentrations in the atmosphere, the reliability of the instrument used is important for robust analyses. ~~Among filter-based techniques~~ We regard single-particle soot photometer (SP2; Droplet Measurement Technologies, Boulder, CO, USA) and ECOC analyzers with optical corrections as reliable, but their use for long-term observations is challenging. Among filter-based techniques, more suitable for long-term observations, continuous soot-monitoring systems (COSMOS or BCM3130; Kanomax, Osaka, Japan) and multi-angle absorption photometers (MAAP;

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Model 5012, Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) are satisfactory because the effects of co-existing scattering particles are minimized. For COSMOS, this is achieved by using a pre-heater to remove nonrefractive species (Miyazaki et al., 2008). For MAAP, multi-angle observations with respect to the particle-laden filter are made to take account of the scattering effect in the radiative transfer calculation (Petzold et al., 2002). ~~A series of laboratory and field experiments were conducted to certify the performances of the two instruments. The performances of the two instruments were certified against SP2 and ECOC analyzers as detailed in Section 2. For filter-based techniques, using a size cutoff device (PM1 or at least PM2.5) is important for minimizing interference from co-existing light-absorbing particles such as mineral dust. The stability of the mass absorption cross section to be used with the COSMOS instrument was ascertained by comparison with BC mass concentrations determined using an ECOC thermal optical transmittance (TOT) analyzer (Sunset Laboratory, Tigard, OR, USA) in various environments in Asia (Kondo et al., 2009). The results showed that a cross section of $10 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$ was appropriate at the used wavelength (565 nm) when using a PALLEFLY E70 2075W quartz filter. Consistency with the results obtained using a single particle soot photometer (SP2; Droplet Measurement Technologies, Boulder, CO, USA) was also confirmed (Kondo et al., 2011a). The BC concentrations obtained with a MAAP instrument using GF 10 filter roll tape and a manufacturer recommended mass absorption cross section of $6.6 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$ at 639 nm were consistently higher than those obtained by ECOC analyzers and by COSMOS instruments (or a particle soot absorption photometer equipped with a heater as its precursor) at three locations in China, i.e., at the top of Mt Tai, Shandong Province, at Mangshan near Beijing, and at Rudong county, Jiangsu Province (Kanaya et al., 2008, 2012; Pan et al., 2012), and at Fukue Island, west of Japan (Kanaya et al., 2013a). However, excellent positive correlations with the mass concentrations derived using the COSMOS instrument were found and use of a modified mass absorption cross section, i.e., $10 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$, gave good agreement between the MAAP derived mass concentrations and the COSMOS results (Kanaya et al., 2012a). A recent comparison of the mass concentration obtained with MAAP using the modified mass absorption cross section and that obtained with an SP2 at Fukue Island, Japan, showed close agreement (Miyakawa et al., in preparation, 2016). We regard SP2 as reliable, but its use for long term observations in East Asia has not been reported. The BC values obtained using ECOC analyzers are also reliable, but long term operation of the instrument is sometimes challenging. In China, the China Meteorological Administration Atmosphere Watch Network (CAWNET) operates ECOC analyzers at rural sites, using the Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) protocol and optical correction based on thermal/optical reflectance (Zhang et al., 2012). Gosan in Jeju Island, Korea, is a supersite where several instruments (including an ECOC analyzer and a COSMOS) have been operated in parallel for more than 5 years (Kim et al., personal communication, 2015). Based on off line ECOC analysis, Chuang et al. (2014) reported long term (2003–2012) but intermittent observations of EC at Mountain Lulin Atmospheric Background Station, Taiwan [2862 m above sea level (asl)]. Another important method of minimizing interference from co-existing light absorbing particles such as mineral dust is to use a size cutoff device (PM1 or at least PM2.5).~~

Long-term observations using these reliable instruments have started in East Asia in the last decade. Observations using MAAP instruments at Mt Huang, Anhui Province, China, during 2006–2009 and at Fukue Island, Japan, during 2009–2010 have been reported (Pan et al., 2011; Kanaya et al., 2013a). Kondo and colleagues have successfully used COSMOS

instruments to obtain long-term data at Cape Hedo, Happo, and Fukue in Japan, Miyun (a rural site near Beijing), Lulin (Taiwan), and Bangkok (Kondo, 2015; Verma et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2013; Sahu et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2011; Kanaya et al., 2013a; Irwin et al., in preparation, 2016). Early data, i.e., during the first 1–3 years, from these ground-based sites have been used to evaluate regional model simulations and emission rates (Matsui et al., 2013; Kondo et al., 2011b), to estimate transport efficiency (Verma et al., 2011), and for studying wet deposition (Mori et al., 2014). In China, the China Meteorological Administration Atmosphere Watch Network (CAWNET) operates ECOC analyzers at rural sites, using the Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) protocol and optical correction based on thermal/optical reflectance (Zhang et al., 2012). Gosan in Jeju Island, Korea, is a supersite where several instruments (including an ECOC analyzer and a COSMOS) have been operated in parallel for more than 5 years (Kim et al., personal communication, 2015). Based on off-line ECOC analysis, Chuang et al. (2014) reported long-term (2003–2012) but intermittent observations of EC at Mountain Lulin Atmospheric Background Station, Taiwan [2862 m above sea level (asl)].

~~Although the basic features have been~~ Although the basic features are generally clarified by analyzing the data for 3 years or less, longer-term (more than 5 years) data are needed to clarify more-detailed features, with better statistical convergence. For example, Verma et al. (2011) used the data for a year from Cape Hedo, but could not obtain direct observational evidence of statistically significant wet removal; improved analysis may be possible using a data set covering a longer period.

In this paper, we present data for 6 years (2009–2015) of BC observations at Fukue Island, a remote island located in the westernmost part of Japan, which receives continental outflow with negligible local emissions. Fukue is a unique site, at which a COSMOS and a MAAP have been operated together for a long period, i.e., since 2009 (Kanaya et al., 2013a). The methodology is described in Sect. 2, and the basic features of temporal variations and air mass origins are discussed in Sect.

3.1. In Sect. 3.2, the factors controlling the observed BC concentrations, such as emission rates and wet removal, are discussed. The analysis was based on the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios, where delta indicates surplus amounts with respect to the background value, which give source-specific information on the emission ratio under dry condition. In this section, the Regional Emission inventory in Asia (REAS) version 2 BC emissions (Kurokawa et al., 2013) are mainly tested in detail; we examine the source-area dependence of the BC/CO emission ratio over Central North/Central South China, Korea, and Japan, and the seasonality. The $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio is also useful for analysis of cases with precipitation, as wet removal affects BC but does not affect CO. As in previous studies (Matsui et al., 2011; Oshima et al., 2012), accumulated precipitation along the trajectory (APT) is used as an index. For the first time, clear evidence of wet removal of BC is seen as a function of APT from long-term observations at a ground site. The universality of the relationship between APT and BC is discussed. The relationship was parameterized in a way that enabled the model simulation to be easily tested. Finally, the influence of wet removal on the interannual variabilities in BC mass concentrations ~~and long-term trends are is~~ discussed in Sect. 3.3.

2 Methodology

The Fukue Island observatory (Fig. 1, 32.75°N, 128.68°E, 75 m asl) is located in a peninsula in the northwest part of Fukue Island (326 km²), in the westernmost part of Japan (Takami et al., 2005, Kanaya, 2013a, 2016). The main township is located in the east part of the island, and therefore direct observations of continental outflow, free from local emissions, are possible under the west/northwest wind conditions prevalent during the autumn/winter/spring monsoon period. The distance from the Chinese coastline is about 700 km from the Shanghai area and about 1000 km from the Beijing area; the Korean coastline is nearer (~200 km).

Since April 2009, BC mass concentrations have been monitored using a COSMOS and a MAAP at the Fukue site. The performances of the two instruments have been certified by a series of laboratory and field experiments. The stability of the mass absorption cross section to be used with the COSMOS instrument was ascertained by comparison with BC mass concentrations determined using an ECOC thermal optical transmittance (TOT) analyzer (Sunset Laboratory, Tigard, OR, USA) in various environments in Asia (Kondo et al., 2009). The results showed that a cross section of 10 m² g⁻¹ was appropriate at the used wavelength (565 nm) when using a PALLFLEX E70-2075W quartz filter. Consistency with the results obtained using a SP2 was also confirmed (Kondo et al., 2011a). The BC concentrations obtained with a MAAP instrument using GF-10 filter roll tape and a manufacturer-recommended mass absorption cross section of 6.6 m² g⁻¹ at 639 nm were consistently higher than those obtained by ECOC analyzers and by COSMOS instruments (or a particle soot absorption photometer equipped with a heater as its precursor) at three locations in China, i.e., at the top of Mt Tai, Shandong Province, at Mangshan near Beijing, and at Rudong county, Jiangsu Province (Kanaya et al., 2008, 2013; Pan et al., 2012). However, excellent positive correlations with the mass concentrations derived using the COSMOS instrument were found and use of a modified mass absorption cross section, i.e., ~10 m² g⁻¹, gave good agreement between the MAAP-derived mass concentrations and the COSMOS results (Kanaya et al., 2013a). Comparisons with results from ECOC analyzers also supported this modification.

The details of the deployment of the instruments at Fukue have been previously reported (Kanaya et al., 2013a). Briefly, a single air intake tube equipped with a cyclone (PM2.5 and PM1 before and after November 2011) was used to supply ambient air to the two instruments. The influence of co-existing non-BC particles was small for both instruments because a pre-heater at 400 °C (300 °C after December 2013) removed nonrefractive species (e.g., ammonium sulfate, which was dominant at the site) in the case of COSMOS, and reflectance measurements performed at two angles were added to the filter transmittance observations to remove the scattering effect in the case of MAAP. We previously showed a nearly perfect correlation between the data sets from the two instruments at Fukue (Kanaya et al., 2013a) during 2009–2010, although a systematic increase in the mass absorption cross section for MAAP (from 6.6 to 10.3 m² g⁻¹) was necessary for quantitative agreement, similarly to the aforementioned previous studies in China. Figure 2 shows that this relationship was unchanged for a lengthy period, 2009–2015, indicating long-term robustness of the observations. A recent comparison of the mass

concentration obtained with MAAP using the modified mass absorption cross section and that obtained with an SP2 at Fukue Island, Japan, showed close agreement (Miyakawa et al., in preparation, 2016).

In this study, we used data from the COSMOS instrument, which has a better detection limit ($0.047 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). The BC mass concentrations are given as mass concentration per unit volume of air at standard temperature and pressure (STP; 273 K and 1013 hPa). The change in the COSMOS pre-heater temperature was recommended by Kondo et al. (2011a), to minimize the effect of charring of organics, but this did not change the relationship with MAAP results. Filter roll tapes of PALLFLEX (E70-2075W) were replaced by HEPA (L-371M) in December 2013; a factor of 0.914, accounting for the sensitivity change, was applied to the data after the change, as recommended by Irwin et al. (2015).

The CO mixing ratios at Fukue since 2010 have been observed using a nondispersive infrared absorption photometer (48C, Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). A Teflon tube was used to sample ambient air from a height ~ 5 m above the ground. The detection limit was estimated to be 40 ppb (30 s averaging time). The zero level was periodically (every 20 min of each hourly measurement) measured using an external zero air generator equipped with a heated (350°C) Pt catalyst. Summertime measurements (June to September) were discarded because until June 2013 the zero-level observations were made using room air with different water vapor amounts, and this affected the measurements. For the other period, i.e., October to May, a comparison with the results obtained using another CO instrument at the site showed that the effect was small (Yonemura, personal communications, 2015). Span gas (1.09 ppm CO/N₂, Taiyo-Nissan, Tokyo, Japan) calibrations were performed every few months and the sensitivity fluctuations were estimated to be small ($\pm 4\%$, 1σ).

The PM_{2.5} mass concentrations have been continuously measured since March 2009 using a hybrid (nephelometric and β -ray absorption) instrument (SHARP5030, Thermo Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) equipped with a conductive tube inlet and a PM_{2.5} size cutoff cyclone. The BC wet removal behavior is discussed with reference to PM_{2.5} in Sect. 3.2.2.2.

Five-day backward trajectories from an altitude of 500 m asl were calculated every 6 hours using the hybrid single-particle Lagrangian integrated trajectory (HYSPLIT) model (Draxler and Rolph, 2013), using GDAS1 three-dimensional meteorological field data. We preferred an interval of 6 hours, to enable each datum to be handled independently. The results for the last 3 days (72 hours) were used in this study. Similarly to Kanaya et al. (2013a), the air mass origins were classified into six categories according to the borderlines (Fig. 1) that the backward trajectories crossed for the first time at altitudes below 2500 m asl. The types are as follows: I, Northeast China (NE-C, $>40^\circ\text{N}$); II, North Central East China (N-CEC, $35\text{--}40^\circ\text{N}$); III, South Central East China (S-CEC, $30\text{--}35^\circ\text{N}$); IV, South China (SC, $<30^\circ\text{N}$); V, Korea (KOR); and VI, Japan (JPN). Cases that do not fall into the six categories are grouped together as type VII (others). Type V is frequently influenced by other source regions (e.g., II, N-CEC). For Korean emissions, a subcategory V' was defined for cases in which air masses did not travel over any defined regions other than V (see Sect. 3.2.1.2).

Figure 3 shows all the backward trajectories categorized into each of the seven air mass types; these are the cases with valid BC and CO data and are included in the analyses in the following sections. The gray thin lines represent all trajectories during 72 hours where the altitude is lower than 2500 m asl. Trajectories categorized to Areas II and III, to be mainly discussed in the later sections, were also influenced from other areas. Nonetheless, when weighted by BC emission

distribution, the effect from other regions was estimated to be <25%. The colored circles indicate the locations and rates of precipitation. The geographical distribution of the colored circles suggests that most precipitation occurred over the ocean, after the air masses had left the source regions. The APT for the last 3 days calculated with GDAS1 precipitation data was therefore considered to be a useful index and was used both to extract cases not influenced by wet removal processes and to analyze wet removal of BC. When precipitation occurred, trajectories might become less reliable. Nonetheless, we found that the dependence of CO mixing ratios on air mass origin areas was almost unchanged with the presence of precipitation (Fig. S1). Therefore, the origin area information was used for further analysis of wet removal. The APT cumulative frequencies for individual air mass types are shown in the lower right panel of Fig. 3. Types II and V were mostly dry; more than 90% of the cases had APTs less than 10 mm. Type I had a larger fraction of cases with precipitation in the range 10–30 mm, but the fraction with APT > 30 mm was small (<2.5%). Types III, IV, VI, and others had more cases with APT > 30 mm.

3 Results and discussion

3.1 Monthly averages, seasonality, and major source regions

Table 1 and Fig. 4a show the monthly average BC mass concentrations derived using a COSMOS instrument from April 2009 to March 2015. The annual average was $0.36 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, calculated from 49 405 hours of observations. This level was higher than the annual average of $0.29 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, at Cape Hedo (26.87°N , 128.25°E , 60 m asl), Okinawa Island, located in the south of Japan (Verma et al., 2011). The average seasonal variations using all data are shown by a black line in Fig. 5a. There are clear seasonal variations with minima during summer; the monthly concentrations recorded from October to May were $0.38 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ or higher, whereas those from June to September were lower ($<0.24 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). Figure 5a also includes average seasonal variations for individual air mass types. The recorded type II and III values were higher throughout the year, clearly suggesting that N- and S-CEC are the major sources of the BC mass concentrations observed at Fukue Island. The concentrations for types I, IV, and VI were lower than the overall average. The value for air mass type V was similar to the overall average in winter, but tended to be higher in summer. Figure 5b shows the average traveling times for the air masses to reach Fukue after leaving the borderlines. During October to May, the traveling times were ~~longer (around 40 hours)~~ for air masses from China (types I to IV); the monthly average traveling times for types II and III ranged from 25 to 46 hours. The major BC-emitting areas are located near the coast (particularly in China); therefore, the traveling time serves as a gauge of the atmospheric residence times of the observed BC particles. For types V and VI and the overall average, the traveling time was 6–25 hours. Figure 5c shows the relative fractions of each air mass type for individual months. Air mass type V was dominant except in June to September, when type VI (Japan) and others (basically oceanic) became dominant. During October to May, type VI (Japan) was second in importance, after type V. Air masses arriving directly from CEC (types II and III) accounted for a maximum of 20%, although more cases with indirect influence from Chinese emissions were categorized as type V, because air masses often arrived from China via Korea (see Fig. 3). Our long-term data for BC mass

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concentrations at Fukue Island, capturing continental outflow with regional representativeness, will provide a benchmark for testing chemical transport model simulations and constraining BC emissions and loss rates.

3.2 Factors controlling BC variations

The $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio is used to identify the factors that control variations in the BC mass concentration. ΔCO was calculated by subtracting the baseline level (determined as a 14 day moving 5 percentile level) from the observed CO mixing ratio. For BC, the baseline concentration was assumed to be zero; therefore ΔBC was the same as the original concentration. Only data for October to May with ΔCO larger than 20 ppb and positive ΔBC values were used for analysis. BC and CO are commonly emitted from incomplete fuel combustion, and therefore there is a strong correlation between their atmospheric concentrations. The ratio is not influenced by dilution when sufficient account is taken of their background concentrations.

10 The emission ratio is preserved during travel of the air mass and specific source information can be retrieved from the observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio, provided significant loss does not occur. Such losses could occur by wet removal of only BC; therefore in this section we separately discuss the observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios for cases with and without precipitation using the APT over the past 3 days as a primary index.

Figure 4b and c show time series of the BC mass concentrations, CO mixing ratios, $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios, and APTs at a time resolution of 6 hours during January to May 2014 as an example. Coincident peaks for BC mass concentrations and CO mixing ratios were evident, but the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio showed significant temporal variations, and an anti-correlation with APT, indicating that the wet process removed BC and reduced the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio. Detailed statistical analyses to retrieve information on the emission ratios and wet removal rates from long-term observations are presented in the following subsections.

20 3.2.1 Cases without precipitation

3.2.1.1 Evaluation of dry deposition

Before analysis of the emission ratio, we first prove that dry deposition is not the main removal process that alters the ratio. Figure 6 shows the dependence of the observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio (with zero APT) on the traveling time required for the air mass to reach Fukue after leaving the continent, for type II air masses. The ratio does not decrease significantly with traveling time; the time constant of the exponential decay fitting (with a 95% confidence interval) was $(0.56 \pm 2.12) \times 10^{-3} \text{ h}^{-1}$. This value corresponds to central and upper limit deposition velocities of 0.01 and 0.05 cm s^{-1} , respectively, based on the average mixing layer height of 683 m along the backward trajectory for type II air masses during 72 hours, and the assumption that dry deposition did not affect CO. A dry deposition velocity of 0.1 cm s^{-1} , which is typically used for BC in global models (e.g., Emmons et al., 2010), would correspond to the dotted decay line in Fig. 6, indicating that the velocity is overestimated over the ocean. Overall, we conclude that dry deposition did not significantly reduce the BC mass

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concentrations for the typical traveling time ranges in this study; therefore neglecting this process will not essentially affect the following discussion on the emission ratio and wet deposition.

3.2.1.2 Estimates of BC/CO emission ratios: air mass origin dependence, seasonality, and comparisons with past studies and REAS2-bottom-up emission inventory

The $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios measured without precipitation over the trajectory (i.e., $\text{APT} = 0$ mm) were averaged for the classified air mass origin areas (Table 2), assuming insensitivity to traveling time. The features of the estimated emission ratios are discussed in this subsection. First, relative variation of the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios among the air mass origin areas and seasons is discussed. The observed average ratio for area II [N-CEC, 5.3 ± 2.1 (1σ) $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$] was smaller than that for area III (S-CEC, 6.4 ± 2.2 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$). The difference was statistically significant ($p < 0.01$) when Welch's t-test was applied to the two data set. Figure S4S2 shows the difference between the frequency distributions of the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios for the two areas. The ratio for type IV (South China) was higher (6.9 ± 1.2 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$) but the difference between it and the ratio for area II was not statistically significant, mainly because the amount of data was small ($N = 8$). The value for N-CEC is lower than that for S-CEC, in agreement with the results of a past study at Cape Hedo, which gave 7.0 and 7.5 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$, for North China and South China, separated at 33°N (Verma et al., 2011). Pan et al. (2011) used MAAP_BC ($9.2 \text{ m}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$) observations at Mt Huang (30.16°N , 118.26°E , 1840 m asl, Anhui Province, China) during 2006–2009 to derive $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios and showed that the value for cluster #1 from North China (Shanxi, Hebei, Henan, and Shandong provinces) was lower (6.5 ± 0.4 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$) than that for cluster #2, mainly from populated urban areas in the Yangtze delta region (8.8 ± 0.9 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$) when the air masses were dry. This trend identified from shorter observation periods was confirmed by long-term observations.

The ratio for area type V (Korea) was 5.8 ± 3.0 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$, but was higher (6.7 ± 3.7 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$) for air masses that did not pass over other source regions (type V') and became statistically different from the value for area II (see Fig. S4S2). The ratio for area type VI (Japan) was 5.9 ± 3.4 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$, and was not statistically different from that for area type II.

We compared these tendencies of the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios with the emission ratios adopted in the bottom-up inventory (Table 2). REAS version 2 (Kurokawa et al., 2013) was chosen as the comparison target, because it covers the pertinent East Asia region and the base year of 2008 is close to our study period. It should be noted that open biomass burning is not included in REAS2, but other major sectors are included. The REAS2-based ratios ($1.25 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{CO}$ at 273 K and 1013 hPa corresponded to 1 ppb) were 8.3 and 9.9 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$, respectively, for N-CEC (Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shandong, and Shanxi) and S-CEC (Shanghai, Anhui, Henan, Jiangsu, and Hubei), the main source region subdivisions. (see Fig. S3). In terms of relative regional dependences, the observed lower ratio (0.83 times) for N-CEC than for S-CEC was consistent with REAS2 (0.84 times). The three major BC-emitting sectors in REAS2 in China are industry (44%), transport (11%), and domestic (44%); the BC/CO emission ratios were estimated to be 8.7, 5.6, and 15 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ppb}^{-1}$, respectively, in REAS2 for 2008. The higher regional ratio for type III than type II air masses is probably caused by increased BC (and CO) emissions from the domestic sector. Open crop residue burning is another sector with high BC/CO emission ratios. Pan et al.

(2011) used observations for 3 years of ΔBC (MAAP, $9.2 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)/ ΔCO ratios at Mt Huang in China and found that the ratio was increased by the effects of open biomass burning. The influences of these sectors with high BC/CO emission ratios could be stronger in S-CEC than in N-CEC.

The REAS2 inventory further predicts that BC and CO emissions have significant seasonal variations, with wintertime maxima, mainly because of the increased demand for heating in the domestic sector. In REAS2, the monthly emission rates for December, January, and February (DJF) divided by those for March, April, and May (MAM) were 1.31 and 1.19 for BC and CO, respectively, in 2008 in China (Fig. 7a and b for N-CEC, and Fig. 7d and e for S-CEC). The larger CO contribution compared with that of BC from industry flattened the seasonality. As a result, the REAS2 emission inventory predicts that the BC/CO emission ratio can be 10% higher in DJF than in MAM (Fig. 7c and f). Observational detection of such differences was studied for the first time, using the data set for Fukue Island, with source area types II and III. For type II (N-CEC), the average observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio in DJF satisfying the condition was 5.4 ± 2.5 (1σ range) $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ ($N = 30$) and similar to that for MAM, i.e., $5.2 \pm 2.0 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ ($N = 78$). In contrast, for type III (S-CEC), the average $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio for DJF ($7.0 \pm 2.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$, $N = 50$) was significantly higher than that for MAM ($5.5 \pm 1.6 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$, $N = 47$). The statistical convergence shows that the difference is statistically significant, based on Welch's t-test ($p < 0.01$). The collection of large amounts of data for several years was needed to enable such detailed evaluation of seasonality in the emission inventory. Domestic heating is the driver of seasonality; therefore it was unexpected that only S-CEC, which is generally warmer than N-CEC, showed a significant seasonal difference. This implies that more BC-emitting fuels are used for heating in S-CEC than in N-CEC ~~and that the seasonal variation. Prevalence of central heating in the BC/CO emission ratio in REAS2 for N-CEC than S-CEC is probably realistic~~(China Statistical Yearbook, 2014) might be a cause.

As noticed, the absolute values of the BC/CO emission ratios for CEC in REAS2 (8.3 and $9.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for N-CEC and S-CEC) are higher than those observed here (5.3 and $6.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for types II and III), by $\sim 60\%$. ~~Another emission inventory developed in China, Multi-resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC) version 1.0, also had high values, 9.5 and 9.9 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for N-CEC and S-CEC, respectively (Li et al., 2015).~~ For Korea, the difference is much larger; the REAS2 value ($23.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$, Fig. S3) is ~ 3.5 times higher than the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio ($6.7 \pm 3.7 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for type V'). ~~Korean emission inventory Clean Air Policy Support System (CAPSS) had an even higher value, 39.2 $\text{ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$.~~ Such differences over the continent might ~~stem from~~ be partly influenced by biases in the observations. For example, cloud processes may perhaps reduce the ratio via the shift in size of the ambient BC particles to $>1 \mu\text{m}$, even if without precipitation. Indeed, when we more critically choose the conditions (cases with BC concentrations in the highest 25% range, with maximum relative humidity along the trajectory over the previous three days in the lowest 25% range, and with the traveling times in the shortest 25% range), the observed average $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios increased to 6.0 and $7.6 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ from 5.3 and $6.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for type II and III, respectively. Similarly, for the type V' air masses, the observed average $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio increased from 6.7 to $8.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$. However, the increase was only 13–25% and thus would not explain the whole gap. Our value for type II air masses was still lower than the value at Miyun (40.48°N , 116.77°E , 152 m asl) near Beijing during April to October 2010, i.e., $8.4 \pm 0.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for air masses without wet removal. The difference may

arise from differences between the study periods and lengths. Our recent observations of the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ in the Yangtze River Delta region was $5.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ when urban pollution was dominant (Pan et al., 2012). This value was even lower than our observed ratio for type III air masses. From intensive observations in Jeju Island in spring 2005, Sahu et al. (2009) reported the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio from Korean Peninsula was $8.5 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$. Park et al. (2005) reported $4.2\text{--}6.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ measured in Gwangju city, Korea, in spring 2001. The two observations support our values for Korea rather than those from emission inventories. Therefore we conclude here modestly that a downward revision in the BC/CO emission ratios at least by factors of 2.8 and 1.3 over Korea and CEC, respectively, is necessary for the REAS2 emission inventory. ~~When~~For China, when allowing 44% emission of BC from domestic sector as assumed in REAS2, the BC/CO emission ratio from that sector ($15 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) in REAS2 is too high to be reconciled. This conclusion is consistent with the results reported by Wang et al. (2011). REAS2 gave a large uncertainty ($\pm 297\%$) for the BC emission from domestic sector in China (Kurokawa et al., 2013). For Korea, the large discrepancy seems originating from too high BC/CO emission ratios assumed for industry and transportation sectors in emission inventory studies (42 and $27 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for REAS2 and 357 and $29.5 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for CAPSS). On the other hand, the observed ratio for Japan ($5.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$, or $6.7 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ with the critical choice of the conditions as mentioned above) only differed slightly ($\sim 10\%$) from the REAS2 value ($6.5 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$), suggesting that the bottom-up inventory is accurate. These values for Japan are also in close agreement with in-situ observations in Tokyo during 2003–2005 ($5.7 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$), using an ECOC TOT analyzer with an NIOSH temperature protocol (Kondo et al., 2006).

The BC emissions from China can be estimated by multiplying the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio by reliable estimates of the CO emission rate. Recent studies based on top-down estimates using satellite observations (Yumimoto et al., 2014) and field observations (Tohjima et al., 2014) commonly estimated CO emissions from China in 2009–2010 to be $\sim 160 \text{ Tg y}^{-1}$, whereas the REAS2 bottom-up inventory (excluding open biomass burning) suggested 202 Tg y^{-1} with an uncertainty of $\pm 86\%$ (Kurokawa et al., 2013). Multiplying $\sim 7 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ (or 0.0056 g g^{-1}), as average for types II and III air masses, by the range of the CO emission rate ($160\text{--}202 \text{ Tg y}^{-1}$) gives an estimated BC emission from China of $0.90\text{--}1.1 \text{ Tg y}^{-1}$. In comparison, the bottom-up estimate from REAS2 was 1.59 Tg y^{-1} for 2008 with an uncertainty of $\pm 176\%$ (Kurokawa et al., 2013). Zhang et al. (2009) gave an estimation of the BC emission of 1.61 Tg y^{-1} . A recent top-down estimate suggested a value of 1.71 Tg y^{-1} with an uncertainty of $\sim 40\%$, using model-derived BC mass concentrations at Cape Hedo corrected for an average model/observed ratio (Kondo, 2015). An even higher BC emission rate over China (2.54 Tg y^{-1}) was recently estimated using ensemble data assimilation (Wang et al., 2016). There are several possible explanations for the lower value in this study; several important BC emission areas located inland of the continent, such as Shanxi, Hubei, and the Sichuan basin, were not well sampled in this study, although the footprint is relatively large, based on long-term observations (Fig. 3). The dry deposition loss of BC on the continental ground surface was not taken into account. Additionally, seasonal BC emissions from post-harvest open crop residue burning, starting in May (Kanaya et al., 2013b; Yamaji et al., 2010), which may have an impact of the order of 0.1 Tg y^{-1} , were probably not captured because the dominant wind direction during the season did not favor air transport from China to Fukue. Kondo (2015) suggested CO emissions from China had been

underestimated by a factor of ~2. These issues need to be studied simultaneously to further constrain BC emission rates obtained from the present approach using observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios.

The CO emission rate for Korea in 2008 was estimated to be 0.69 Tg y^{-1} by REAS2 with an uncertainty of $<\pm 131\%$. Multiplying the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio ($8.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ when conditions were critically selected) by the CO emission rate gave an estimated BC emission from Korea of 0.0046 Tg y^{-1} , which is significantly lower than the REAS2 value of 0.013 Tg y^{-1} (with an uncertainty of $<\pm 257\%$). For Japan, based on a CO emission rate of 5.0 Tg y^{-1} with an uncertainty of $<\pm 131\%$ by REAS2, the BC emission rate is estimated to be 0.027 Tg y^{-1} with similar uncertainty, assuming the observed BC/CO emission ratio of $6.7 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ (with critical condition selection). The value is in good agreement with the REAS2 estimated value of 0.026 Tg y^{-1} , while the uncertainty range was narrowed (as REAS2 was associated by an uncertainty of $<\pm 257\%$).

3.2.2 Cases with precipitation

3.2.2.1 Wet removal rates for BC

We now extend the analysis to cases where precipitation was present on the trajectories (i.e., APT was non-zero). The overall averages of the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios with precipitation ($4.5\text{--}5.6 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$, Table 2) were lower than those without precipitation ($5.3\text{--}6.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) for all air mass origin types. We can assume that CO was not influenced; therefore this suggests that BC was lost by wet processes. When the APT was 5 mm or more, the ratios were lower, in the range $3.1\text{--}4.8 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ (Table 2), and the difference between the wet and dry cases became statistically significant, based on Welch's t-test, in all cases ($p < 0.01$).

Figure 8a shows the dependence of the observed $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio on APT. Cases with all air mass types are included ($N = 3384$). The median ratios for 10 bins sorted by APT (for APT > 0 mm), shown by open black circles, clearly show a smooth decrease in the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio with increases in APT. The ~~transmission~~transport efficiency (TE) of BC for a given time i , is defined as the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratio normalized by that without precipitation $[(\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO})_{\text{APT}=0}]$, as described by Matsui et al. (2011) and Oshima et al. (2012):

$$(\text{TE}_{\text{BC}})_i = (\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO})_i / (\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO})_{\text{APT}=0} \quad (1)$$

The $(\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO})_{\text{APT}=0}$ values were taken as the median values for all cases or for each air mass type. It should be noted that TE was determined by observations in this study, whereas in some previous studies the TE was determined ~~from~~from modeled BC quantities (e.g., Verma et al., 2011; Oshima et al., 2012). Figure 8b shows the median values of TE for 10 bins sorted by non-zero APTs, together with one more point at APT = 0 mm (TE = 1 by definition) for all data, indicated by black circles. Figure 8b also includes the results for individual air mass types, shown by colored circles and plus signs. Again, smooth decreases with APT are clearly seen in most cases. For area type III, a higher value of $(\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO})_{\text{APT}=0}$ was applied for DJF than for other months, as described in the previous section. For five cases (for all data and for area types II, III, V, and VI, shown by plus signs in Fig. 8b), in which large amounts of data were included ($N \geq 100$ for cases with precipitation,

see Table 3), the decreasing trend for TE was fitted by the following stretched exponential decay equation with two fitting parameters (A_1 and A_2):

$$TE_{BC} = \exp(-A_1 \times APT^{A_2}) \quad (2)$$

The fitting results are shown by black and colored lines in Fig. 8b. The results show that there are high similarities among the cases with different air mass origin area types. This analysis suggests the possibility that wet removal of BC can be parameterized by Eq. (2), with similar fitting parameters for a wide range of cases, at least for cases where ground-based BC concentrations over East Asia are studied. All the fitting parameters and coefficients of determination (R^2) are listed in Table 3. The R^2 values were high, in the range 0.72–0.99, suggesting that the chosen equation is appropriate. For example, R^2 decreased to 0.90 when a simple exponential decay equation (i.e., A_2 was fixed at 1) was used. It should be noted that the fitting equation used is normally used to describe below-cloud scavenging, whereas wet removal of BC is generally believed to be dominated by in-cloud rather than below-cloud processes, because the BC-containing particles are small. This may be why the fitted parameter A_1 , 0.109 for the case using all data, was two orders of magnitude larger than that used for below-cloud scavenging [e.g., 1.06×10^{-3} (Feng, 2007)] for the particle size range 0.04–2.5 μm . In contrast, the value of A_2 , 0.68 for the case using all data, was similar to that of 0.61 for below-cloud scavenging (Feng, 2007). The similarity implies that saturation of the removal effect is similar for below- and in-cloud losses. The A_2 value is important in calculating the TE of BC for longer-range transport, e.g., toward the Arctic. Although decreases in TE with APT have been studied in the past, a different fitting equation was used [$TE = A - B \log(APT)$] (Oshima et al., 2012). Use of this equation for fitting our data set resulted in poorer R^2 values. Based on the larger amount of data and the improved representation of the wet loss process, we propose that the stretched exponential decay equation should be used to obtain a simple description of the loss process in the model and also for evaluating more sophisticated model simulations.

The fitting results for cases using all data show that the TE reaches 0.5 at an APT of 15.0 ± 3.2 mm and $1/e$ at an APT of 25.5 ± 6.1 mm (Table 3). For the individual air mass types (II, III, V, and VI), APT of 14.1–17.9 mm and 23.8–29.1 mm corresponded to TE of 0.5 and $1/e$ (Table 3). Considering the annual average precipitation of 2335 mm at Fukue, the $1/e$ lifetime of BC due to the wet loss corresponds to 4.0 ± 1.0 days. Under drier conditions, however, the $1/e$ lifetime can become longer; 17.6 ± 4.2 days for a site with only 532 mm of annual precipitation, like Beijing. Even at small APT values [2 mm, chosen by Wang et al. (2011) as the criterion for dry extraction conditions], the TE can be lowered to 0.84. Based on observational data gathered using an aircraft-borne SP2 over the East China Sea during April 2009, Oshima et al. (2012) suggested that the TE reached 0.5 at an APT of ~ 10 mm for air masses at altitudes of 2–4 km, in rough agreement with the results of this study. It should be noted that Oshima et al. (2012) suggested a much smaller value of APT for halving TE in the altitude range 4–9 km.

Figure 9 shows the dependence of the 10-bin median $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio on the maximum relative humidity (RH) experienced during travel of the air mass for 3 days before reaching Fukue. The maximum RH, near 100%, would indicate that the air masses were affected by clouds. The 10-bin median values When all data were used for the analysis (i.e., including data with zero and non-zero APT) median values (black squares) decreased with increases in RH, suggesting possible involvement of

cloud processes in BC particle removal. However, there were a large number of points in a relatively high range ($>5 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) even when the maximum RH was higher than 95%; therefore this trend was not as clear as the dependence on APT (Fig. 8a). Further subcategorization of the 10th bin (median maximum RH = 99.9%) into cases without precipitation and with precipitation (APT $>10 \text{ mm}$ or more) showed significantly different values (4.7 and $2.3 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$). This suggests that BC loss only occurs with rain, and is not otherwise influenced by clouds. When data with zero APT were only used (red triangles in Fig. 9), the overall decreasing trend became weak; from the difference between the highest and lowest 3 bins, potential loss of BC by cloud processes without precipitation was estimated to be 16% at maximum. The estimation is consistent with the 13–25% increase that occurred with the $(\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO})_{\text{APT}=0}$ by the critical choice of BC concentrations, maximum RH, and traveling time, as discussed in Sect. 3.2.1.2. These analyses suggest that BC loss is mainly associated with precipitation, and is less influenced by clouds. For example, cloud evaporation could result in BC particle regeneration and BC mass conservation in the atmosphere, even if the particles had been incorporated into cloud droplets. This could explain why Eq. (2) is appropriate for describing the BC wet removal process. Pan et al. (2011) used the ΔBC (MAAP, $9.2 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$)/ ΔCO ratio at Mt Huang to show that the ratio was lowered to $0.1 \pm 0.1 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ after experiencing an RH higher than 70%. This significant decrease with RH is in contrast to the case at Fukue; the difference may arise because at the high altitude on the mountain, cloud droplets frequently co-exist, and the fraction partitioned into the cloud phase could have been missed in the observations. In case of Fukue, when 16% upshift in the $(\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO})_{\text{APT}=0}$ was considered to correct for the potential BC loss due to in-cloud scavenging without precipitation, a stretched exponential fitting yielded A_1 and A_2 values of 0.249 and 0.450, respectively, and the APT values to reduce TE to 1/2 and 1/e were $9.8 \pm 1.8 \text{ mm}$ and $22.4 \pm 5.1 \text{ mm}$.

We tried another classification method for cases that experienced cloud processes, using low-cloud bottom-pressure data from CDAS1, NOAA, and NCEP-NCAR (<http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/SOURCES/NOAA/NCEP-NCAR/CDAS1/DAILY/Diagnostic/low-cloud/bottom/pressure/>). However, we did not find statistically significant differences between the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios with and without cloud impact. This may be partly because the spatio-temporal resolution of the CDAS1 data was not very high (daily, 2.8° latitude \times 1.9° longitude).

We further investigated six exceptional cases, surrounded by ~~graylight blue~~ squares in Fig. 8a, in which relatively high $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios ($5.5\text{--}8.8 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$) were observed, although the APTs were high (28–60 mm). They were commonly associated with air masses traveling from the south via the East China Sea with a clockwise anticyclonic motion. Most rainfall occurred within 24 hours and the air traveled very near the surface (950–1000 hPa), lower than the bottom of low-cloud height (typically at around 900 hPa). The good separation in altitude from clouds might explain the weak influence of wet removal. It is also possible that fresh emissions from ships in the East China Sea might have affected these cases. REAS2 used a BC/CO emission ratio of $30 \text{ ng m}^{-3} \text{ ppb}^{-1}$ for international navigation (Kurokawa et al., 2013).

Overall, Eq. (2) currently best represents BC removal with precipitation. In the future, independent observations of the $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios at other locations should be used to verify the relationship. The results from regional- or global-scale model simulations using parameterizations to represent wet removal should also be tested against Eq. (2). This would enable removal rates to be tested independently from emission rates in the models.

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3.2.2.2 Comparison of TEs for BC and PM2.5

We investigated whether BC was less efficiently removed by precipitation than other, more soluble, fine particles, based on continuous observations of PM2.5 mass concentrations at Fukue observatory. For consistency, the PM2.5 data for June to September were not used, and only data for PM2.5 larger than $2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ were used. Generally, emitted BC particles are originally hydrophobic and become hydrophilic with aging, because of coagulation with other particles. More than 50% of the PM2.5 mass concentrations at Fukue Island consisted of water-soluble inorganic species such as ammonium sulfate and ammonium nitrate (Ikeda et al., 2014; Takami 2005). PM2.5 was therefore regarded as a proxy for soluble fine particles. If wet removal of BC is less efficient than PM2.5 removal, the observed BC-containing particles would still be hydrophobic.

Figure 10a shows that the TE calculated for PM2.5 ($TE_{PM2.5}$) decreased with APT, as in the case of TE_{BC} . The median values of $TE_{PM2.5}$ for 10 bins were slightly higher than those for BC, suggesting that PM2.5 was removed by a wet process similarly to (or less efficiently than) BC. We concluded that the working hypothesis that BC-containing particles were less efficiently removed by precipitation than were other soluble fine particle was not supported. The result was unchanged even when secondary production of PM2.5 was first estimated as a function of traveling time by analyzing data without precipitation, and then corrected for all data. Figure 10b shows that the BC fraction of PM2.5 was almost constant (~2%) over a wide APT range; again, this contradicts the hypothesis. Figure 10c shows that the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio decreased with precipitation, similarly to the $\Delta PM2.5/\Delta CO$ ratio, indicating that the BC removal efficiency was similar to that of PM2.5. All these analyses suggest that BC-containing particles arriving at Fukue were already hydrophilic. Observations performed using the SP2 instrument showed that the major fraction of single-BC-containing particles was internally mixed with more soluble components (Shiraiwa et al., 2008; Miyakawa et al., in preparation, 2016), consistent with our conclusions here.

Zhang et al. (2015), using global model simulations and aircraft observations, deduced that BC particles emitted from East Asia in January, November, June, and August, became hydrophilic within 4 hours, whereas those emitted in April took 38 hours. The traveling time from the continent in this study was typically 10–40 hours; therefore our results are consistent with their analysis.

3.3 Interannual variations and long-term trends

We found that interannual variations in the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios and BC mass concentrations were greatly influenced by wet loss of BC during November to February of the 5 years studied (Fig. 11). The BC mass concentrations were lower in winter in 2011–12 and 2012–13 than in the other years (Fig. 11a and Table 1). The CO mixing ratios were higher in these 2 years (Fig. 11b), suggesting that the low BC concentration was not explained simply by the reduced influences of source regions. The low $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios in these 2 years (Fig. 11c) clearly corresponded to higher APTs (Fig. 11d). A similar relationship was found for March to May (data not shown). This analysis clearly shows the importance of wet loss in the determination of BC mass concentration after transport.

Finally, we examined the trends in BC concentrations during November to February separately for selected source area types. We used BC mass concentrations corrected for wet removal, defined as the observed BC mass concentration divided by the estimated TE_{BC} [Eq. (2)]. This helped to increase the amount of data, and the statistical convergence was improved. Figure 12 shows an overall decreasing trend for the air mass type VI (Japan). The results for air mass types II (N-CEC) and V (Korea only) were influenced by large peaks in 2010–11. Type II was also high in 2013–14. The cause would be transport of less diluted air pollution in these years. Although such meteorological interannual variability still remains, the almost flat trend suggests that no strong increases in BC emission are present for N-CEC and Korea. Welch's t test was used to examine the statistical significance of the difference between the two groups of data for the first 3 and latter 3 years, for type II. The results suggested that the BC emission rates during the latter 3 years were within a range (from -36% to +28%) of that during the first 3 years. Future observations at Fukue Island will enable improved analysis of the long-term trend.

4 Summary

Fukue Island is located in the East China Sea and receives air masses from China, Korea, and Japan, with typical traveling time from these source areas ranging from 10 to 60 hours. Long-term observations of BC mass concentrations at this location during 2009–2015 were discussed in terms of seasonal variations and dominant source areas. High concentrations were recorded during October to May, and for air masses from Central East China. APT was used as an index for classifying air masses that had experienced precipitation during the last 72 hours. For air masses without precipitation (i.e., APT = 0 mm), the observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios were statistically analyzed to estimate the emission ratios. The ratio for S-CEC was estimated to be larger than that for N-CEC, and showed wintertime increases, suggesting the importance of domestic influences. This was qualitatively in agreement with the bottom-up emission inventory REAS2. Quantitatively, however, the observed ratios for air masses originating from CEC and Korea were significantly smaller than the BC/CO emission ratios used in the inventory, at least by factors of 1.3 and 2.8, respectively, pointing to the necessity of revising the emission database. The analysis of the observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios was then extended to include air masses with precipitation (i.e., APT > 0 mm), to study the wet removal of BC. The $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio clearly decreased with APT; therefore the TE, defined as the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio normalized by the ratio without precipitation, was used for further investigations. The dependence of TE on APT was insensitive to the source region, suggesting that it is universal in nature. We proposed a stretched exponential decay equation with a single set of fitting parameters to describe the wet removal rate. At an APT of $45.0 \pm 3.225.5 \pm 6.1$ mm, wet removal halved/reduced the BC mass concentration TE to $1/e$. The BC-containing particles arriving at Fukue were already hydrophilic; the wet removal behavior was the same as that for PM_{2.5}. The effects of wet removal were greater in the winters of 2011–12 and 2012–13 than in those of 2010–11, 2013–14, and 2014–15, and dominated the interannual variabilities of the BC mass concentrations. A clear decreasing trend in the BC mass concentrations was observed after correcting for the wet removal effect in the air masses reaching Fukue via Japan, whereas the trends for N-CEC and Korea were almost flat. The results of

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this study show that emission and wet removal must be determined separately to obtain adequate descriptions of BC behavior in model simulations, to enable mitigation of the impacts of BC on the climate and health.

5 Data availability

Hourly BC mass concentration data are available from <http://ebcrpa.jamstec.go.jp/atmoscomp/obsdata/>. For use of presentations and publications, data users must contact the corresponding author in advance and cite this paper as a reference.

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**Table 1. Monthly average BC mass concentrations derived using COSMOS instrument at Fukue Island (unit: $\mu\text{g STP m}^{-3}$).
Number of hourly measurements included in month is in parentheses.**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	All
▲ Jan		0.63 (744)	0.41 (716)	0.44 (744)	0.38 (744)	0.70 (744)	0.46 (744)	0.53
▲ Feb		0.42 (672)	0.79 (672)	0.29 (696)	0.29 (672)	0.47 (672)	0.44 (672)	0.46
▲ Mar		0.38 (739)	0.47 (744)	0.44 (743)	0.45 (724)	0.48 (744)	0.39 (744)	0.46
▲ Apr	0.89 (720)	0.36 (720)	0.53 (720)	0.33 (689)	0.33 (720)	0.53 (720)		0.51
▲ May	0.51 (744)	0.45 (744)	0.41 (744)	0.36 (744)	0.38 (744)	0.56 (744)		0.45
▲ Jun	0.44 (720)	0.27 (692)	0.20 (720)	0.17 (720)	0.13 (720)	0.22 (302)		0.24
▲ Jul	0.19 (586)	0.31 (503)	0.11 (744)	0.11 (670)	0.10 (743)	0.21 (253)		0.15
▲ Aug	0.25 (744)	0.19 (677)	0.14 (744)	0.10 (744)	0.14 (744)	0.14 (744)		0.16
▲ Sep	0.29 (720)	0.23 (529)	0.19 (719)	0.15 (659)	0.14 (720)	0.24 (720)		0.21
▲ Oct	0.66 (744)	0.40 (726)	0.30 (744)	0.25 (744)	0.16 (179)	0.29 (744)		0.38
▲ Nov	0.38 (720)	0.66 (720)	0.29 (717)	0.34 (720)	N/A	0.32 (703)		0.41
▲ Dec	0.58 (744)	0.56 (744)	0.32 (744)	0.22 (744)	0.47 (704)	0.31 (744)		0.42

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Table 2. $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios (average and 1σ range) for individual **sourceorigin** area types with and without precipitation. REAS2-derived emission ratios are included for comparison.

SourceOrigin area type	Without precipitation			With precipitation, all (APT $\geq 0.1\text{mm}$)		With precipitation, Selected (APT $\geq 5\text{mm}$)	
	$\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ average (ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1})	N	REAS2 BC/CO emission ratio (ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1})	$\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ average (ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1})	N	$\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ average (ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1})	N
I (NE-China)	6.0 \pm 2.8	16		5.0 \pm 3.6	65	3.3 \pm 2.9	26
II (N-CEC)	5.3 \pm 2.1	114	8.3 ^a	5.0 \pm 3.8	131	3.3 \pm 2.3	27
III (S-CEC)	6.4 \pm 2.2	115	9.9 ^b	4.5 \pm 2.6	110	3.1 \pm 2.0	50
IV (S-China)	6.9 \pm 1.2	8		5.6 \pm 4.6	18	3.5 \pm 2.7	9
V (Korea)	5.8 \pm 3.0	860		4.7 \pm 3.0	1134	3.6 \pm 3.1	290
V' (Korea only)	6.7 \pm 3.7	199	23	4.9 \pm 3.2	223	3.7 \pm 3.1	65
VI (Japan)	5.9 \pm 3.4	199	6.5	4.4 \pm 3.1	499	3.3 \pm 2.7	239

^acalculated as average over Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shandong, Shanxi

^bcalculated as average over Shanghai, Anhui, Henan, Jiangsu, Hubei

Table 3. Results for fitting TE as function of APT for overall data and classified air mass types.

SourceOrigin area type	N (without precipitation)	N (with precipitation), binned to 10 classes for fitting (Fig. 8)	Fitting parameters		R ² of fitting (11 points)	APT (mm) (TE = 0.5)	APT (mm) (TE = 1/e)
			A ₁	A ₂			
All Types (including “others”)	1359	2025	0.109±0.010	0.684±0.039	0.99	15.0 ± 3.2	25.5 ± 6.1
II (N-CEC)	114	131	0.075±0.029	0.771±0.156	0.84	17.9	28.8
III (S-CEC)	115	110	0.181±0.076	0.507±0.162	0.72	14.1	29.1
V (Korea)	860	1134	0.115±0.022	0.652±0.085	0.92	15.7	27.6
VI (Japan)	199	499	0.072±0.021	0.830±0.109	0.94	15.3	23.8

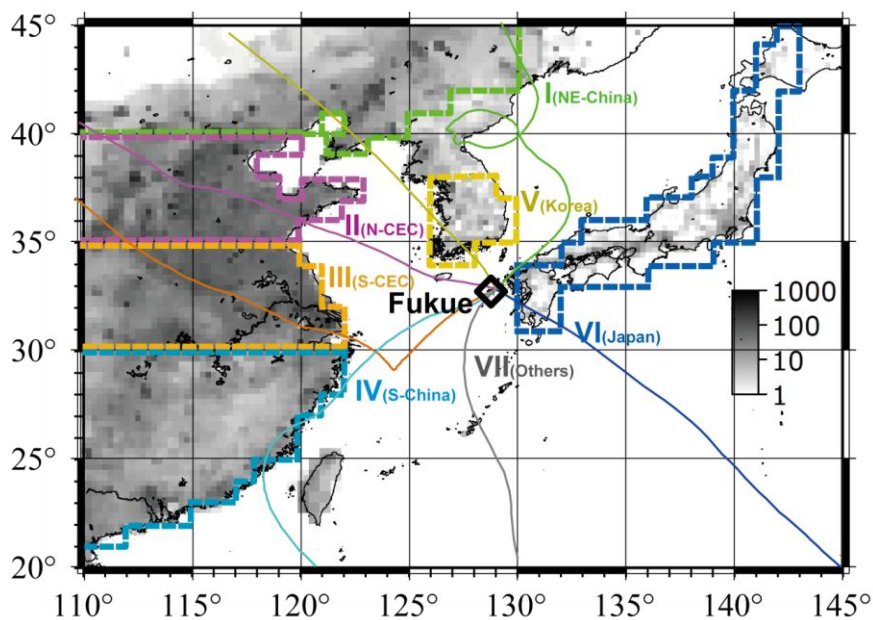


Figure 1: Location of Fukue Island, on black and white contour map, with BC emission rates [t per month/(0.25° × 0.25° grid)] in January 2008 from REAS2 bottom-up inventory (Kurokawa et al., 2013). Borderlines used to classify air mass origin region types are shown by colored broken lines. Example of backward trajectory for each classification is shown by colored solid line.

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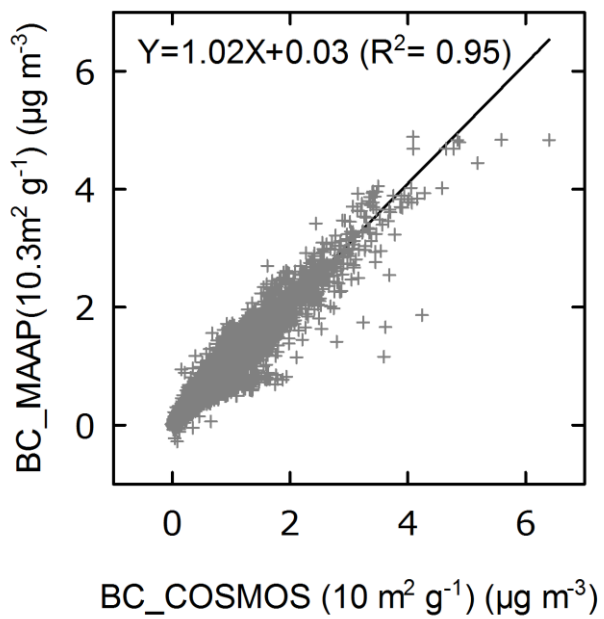
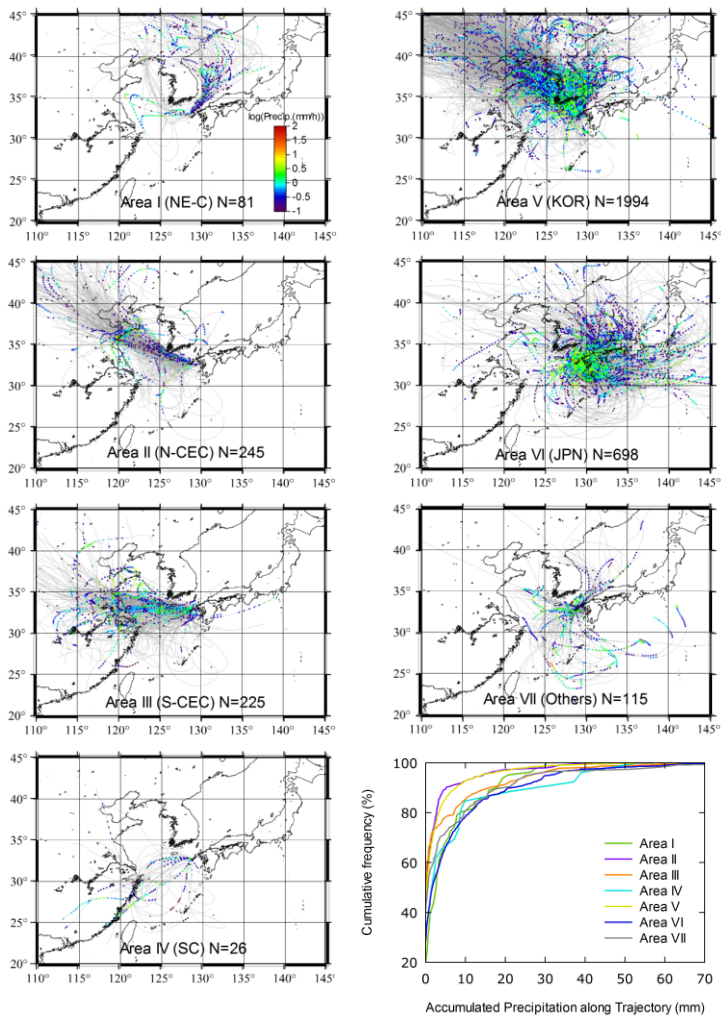


Figure 2: Correlation between hourly BC mass concentrations obtained using COSMOS and MAAP instruments at Fukue Island during 2009–2015.



5 **Figure 3: Backward trajectories for cases with valid ABC/ACO data were classified into seven air mass types. Gray thin lines indicate within 72 hours and at altitude less than 2500 m asl. Colored dots indicate precipitation rate (mm h^{-1} , on log scale) and locations. Cumulative frequency (%) of APT for each category is shown in lower right panel.**

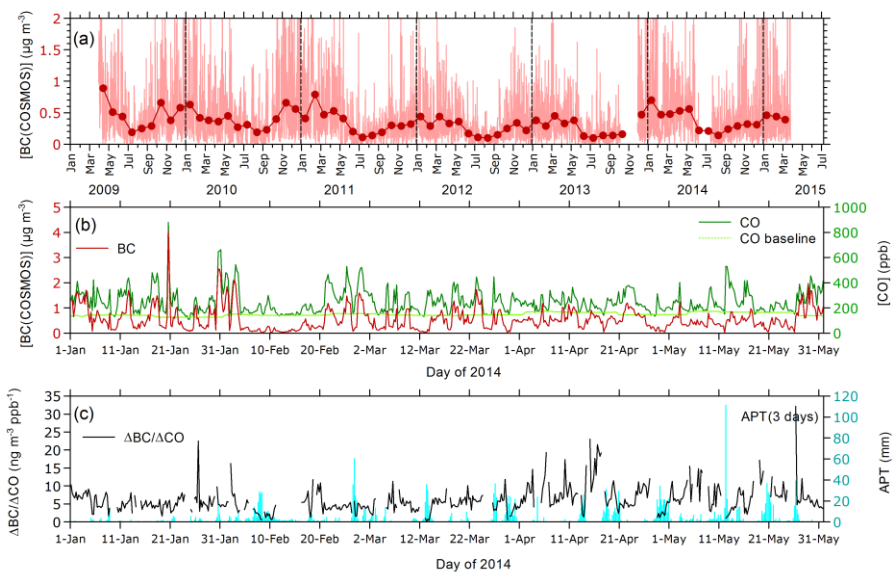


Figure 4: (a) Time series of BC concentrations from COSMOS instrument at Fukue during 2009–2015 (thin line: hourly; dots: monthly averages). (b) and (c) are time series of BC mass concentrations, CO mixing ratios, CO baseline mixing ratios, $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios, and APTs during January–May 2014.

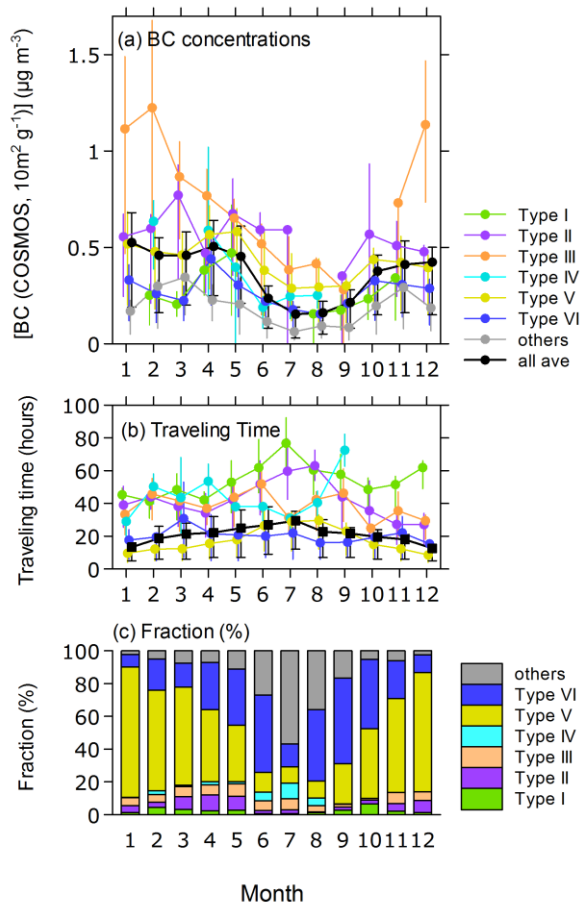


Figure 5: Seasonal variations in (a) BC concentrations and (b) traveling times from borderlines for all cases (black line) and for individual air mass types (colored lines). Averages (solid circles) and interquartile ranges (bars) are shown. (c) Fractions of air mass types for each month.

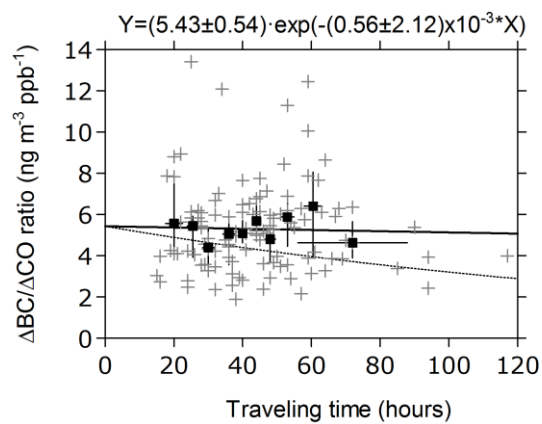
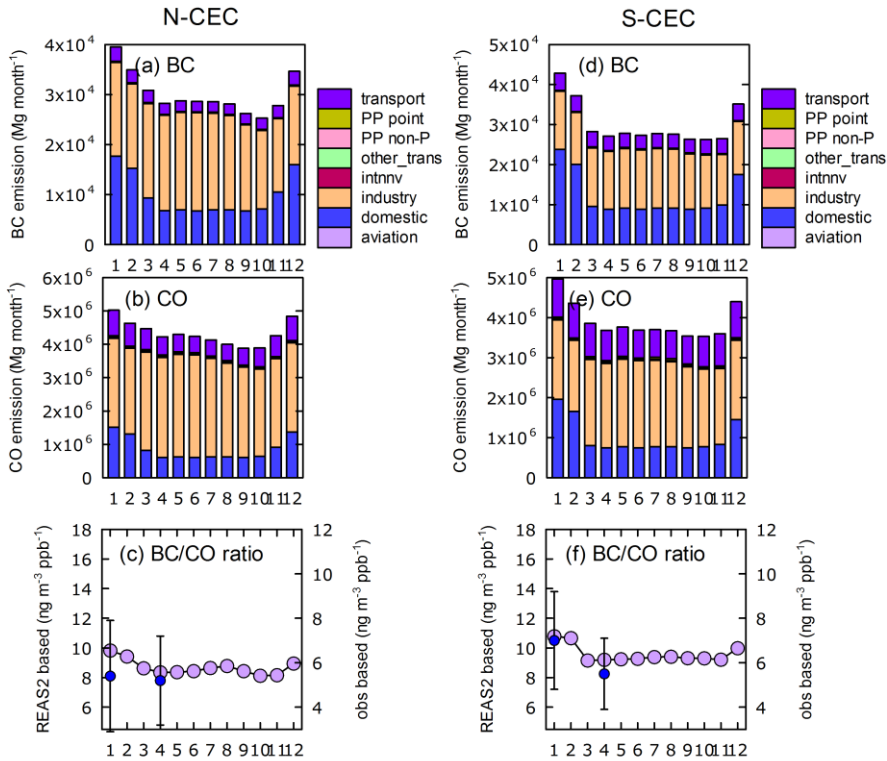


Figure 6: $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio satisfying APT = 0 mm plotted against traveling time to determine possible loss of BC from dry deposition. ~~raw~~Raw data (gray plus signs) and 10-bin averages sorted by traveling time (black solid squares) are shown. Exponential decay fitting result is shown by the black solid line. Theoretical decay with a dry deposition velocity of 0.1 cm s^{-1} is shown by a dotted line.



5 **Figure 7:** Monthly BC emissions from individual sectors for BC and CO and their ratios (purple) for (a)–(c) N-CEC (Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shandong, and Shanxi) and (d)–(f) S-CEC (Shanghai, Anhui, Henan, Jiangsu, and Hubei) from REAS2 (Kurokawa et al., 2013). PP point and PP non-P are power plants identified as point sources and power plants included as non-point sources. In (c) and (f), observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios for DJF and MAM at Fukue for those air masses are plotted with blue dots with 1σ ranges.

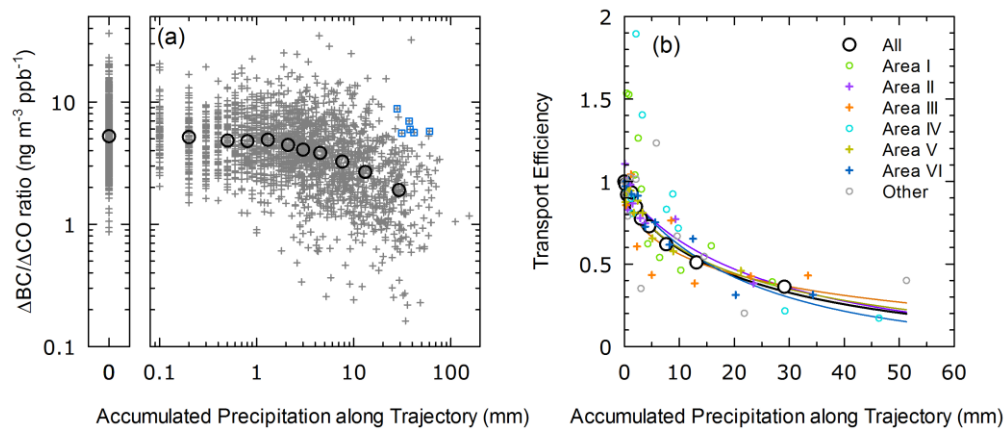
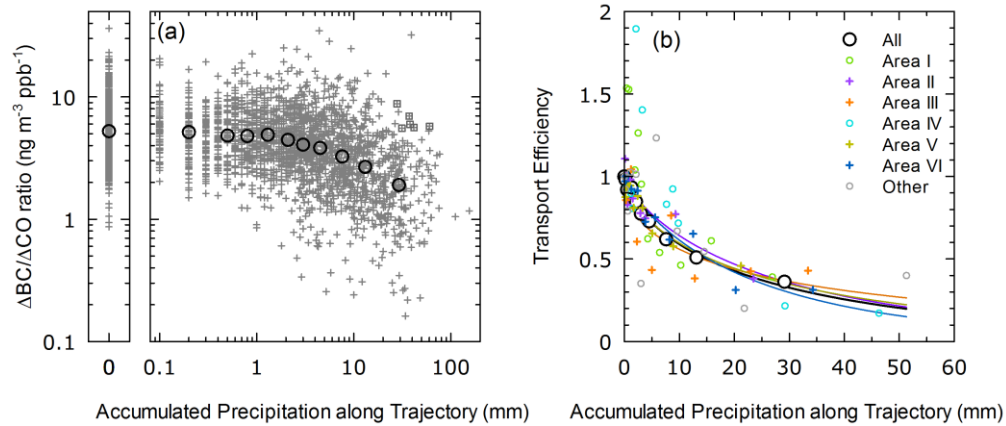


Figure 8: (a) Observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios as function of APT. Raw data (gray plus signs) and 10 bins sorted by APT (black open circles) are shown. (b) TE as function of APT for overall cases (black open circles) and for individual air mass origin types (color circles and plus signs). Plus signs indicate air mass types for which large amounts of data are included (see Table 3). Only 10 bins sorted by APT are shown.

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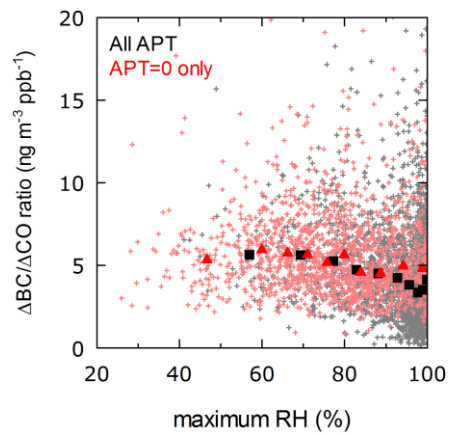
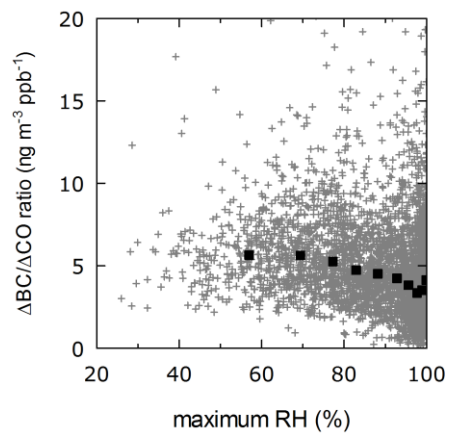


Figure 9: Observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios as function of maximum RH (%) that air mass experienced in 72 hours before arrival at Fukue Island. **Black filled squares** All data (irrespective of APT) are shown by gray plus signs, while data with zero APT are shown by red plus signs. **Black filled squares and red filled triangles** show 10 bins sorted by maximum RH.

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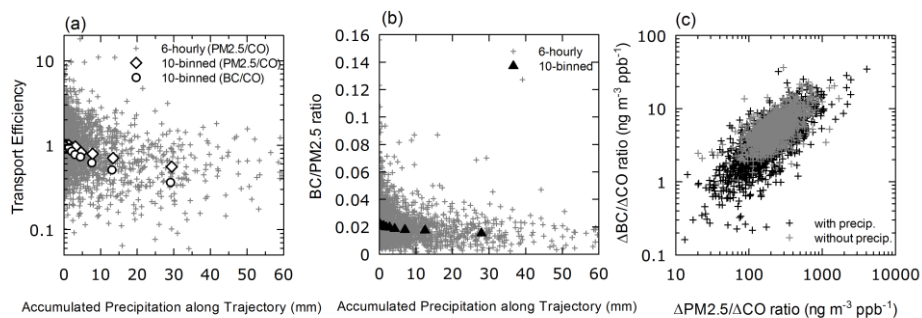


Figure 10: (a) Dependence on APT of transport efficiency of PM2.5 based on $\Delta PM2.5/\Delta CO$ ratio (raw: gray plus signs; 10 bin median values: open diamonds), and compared with that of TE for BC (open circles). (b) Observed BC/PM2.5 ratio (raw: gray plus signs; 10 bin median values: black filled triangles) plotted against APT. (c) $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio plotted against $\Delta PM2.5/\Delta CO$ ratio for cases with (black) and without (gray) precipitation.

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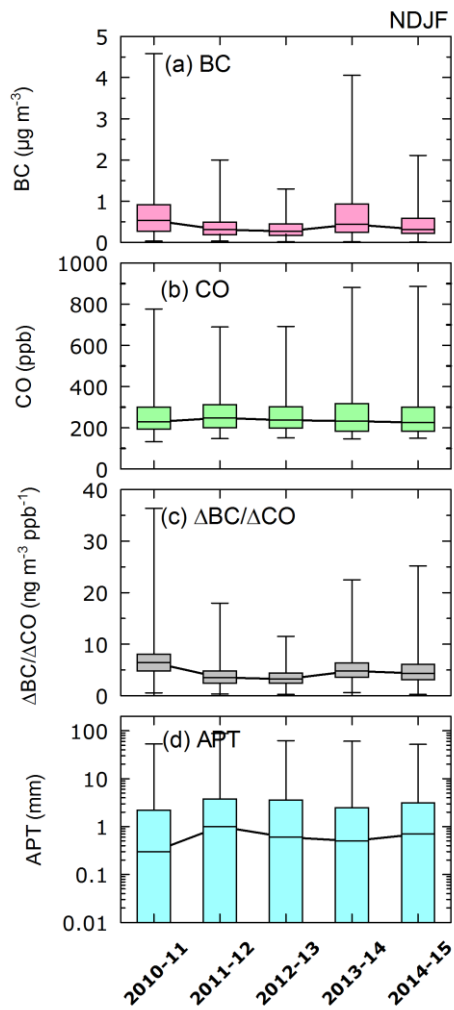


Figure 11: Interannual variations in (a) BC mass concentrations, (b) CO mixing ratios, (c) $\Delta\text{BC}/\Delta\text{CO}$ ratios, and (d) APTs, during November–February for 5-year period.

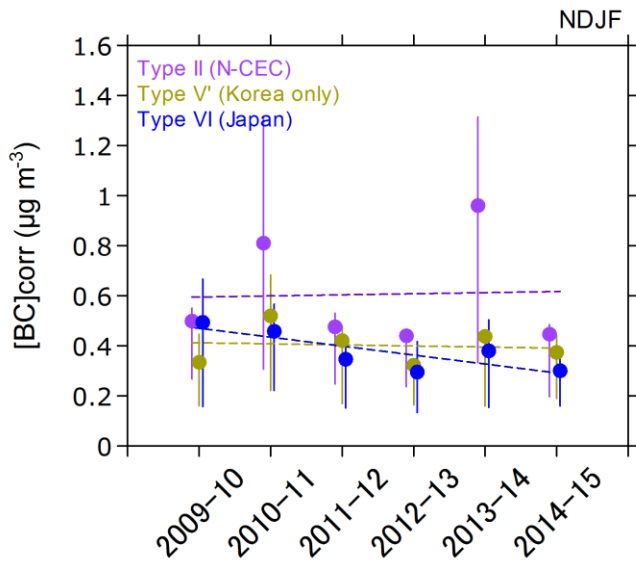


Figure 12: Trends in BC mass concentrations for air mass origin area types II, V', and VI during November–February. Averages and interquartile ranges are shown. BC mass concentration data with non-zero APT were also used after correcting for wet removal loss.

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