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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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 µg m^{-3}, with distinct seasonality; high concentrations were recorded during autumn, winter, and spring, and were caused by Asian continental outflows, which reached 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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 (5.2–6.9 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}) varied over the six air mass origin areas; the higher ratios for South Central East China (30–35°N), South China (<30°N), and Korea than for the other areas, i.e., Northeast China (>40°N), North Central East China (35–40°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 (8.3–23 ng m^{-3} 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 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 ΔBC/ΔCO ratio against APT. The transmission efficiency (TE), defined as the ratio of the ΔBC/ΔCO ratio 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 15.0 ± 3.2 mm halved the BC mass concentration. 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 PM2.5, the major components of which are hydrophilic. After correcting for the wet

5 removal effect, trends in the 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
10 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 CO_2, 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
15 global temperature increases in the near future (until ca. 2040); such reductions should be coupled to reductions in CO_2, which has a longer-term buffering effect on temperature increases (Shindell et al., 2008; Jacobson, 2010; UNEP and WMO, 2011).

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
20 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 from regions downwind of the source areas are needed to elucidate the atmospheric status and then to constrain the emission and removal rates, to better characterize the effects on the climate 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
25 analyses. Among filter-based techniques, 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).
30 A series of laboratory and field experiments were conducted to certify the performances of the two instruments. 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 m^2 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 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 m^2 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), 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 m^2 g^{-1}, gave good agreement between the MAAP-derived mass concentrations and the COSMOS results (Kanaya et al., 2013a). 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).

Although the basic features have been 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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 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 km^2), 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 details 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 m^2 g^{-1}) was necessary for quantitative agreement. Figure 2 shows that this relationship was unchanged for a lengthy period, 2009–2015, indicating long-term robustness of the observations. In this study, we used

data from the COSMOS instrument, which has a better detection limit (0.047 µg 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

5 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

10 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/N$_2$, Taiyo-Nissan, Tokyo, Japan) calibrations

15 were performed every few months and the sensitivity fluctuations were estimated to be small (±4%, 1σ).

The PM2.5 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 PM2.5 size cutoff cyclone. The BC wet removal behavior is discussed with reference to PM2.5 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

20 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°N); II, North Central East China (N-CEC, 35–

25 40°N); III, South Central East China (S-CEC, 30–35°N); IV, South China (SC, <30°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

30 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. 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 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. 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.

5   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 µg m^{-3}, calculated from 49 405 hours of observations. This level was higher than the annual average of 0.29 µg m^{-3}, at Cape Hedo (26.87°N, 128.25°E, 60 m asl), Okinawa Island, located in the
10   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 µg m^{-3} or higher, whereas those from June to September were lower (<0.24 µg 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
15   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
20   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
25   categorized as type V, because air masses often arrived from China via Korea (see Fig. 3). Our long-term data for BC mass 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 ΔBC/ΔCO ratio is used to identify the factors that control variations in the BC mass concentration. ΔCO was calculated
30   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.

5   The emission ratio is preserved during travel of the air mass and specific source information can be retrieved from the observed ΔBC/ΔCO 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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, ΔBC/ΔCO ratios, and APTs at a time
10   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 ΔBC/ΔCO ratio showed significant temporal variations, and an anti-correlation with APT, indicating that the wet process removed BC and reduced the ΔBC/ΔCO 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.

15   **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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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
20   traveling time; the time constant of the exponential decay fitting (with a 95% confidence interval) was $(0.56 \pm 2.12) \times 10^{-3}$ 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
25   overestimated over the ocean. Overall, we conclude that dry deposition did not significantly reduce the BC mass 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

30   The ΔBC/ΔCO ratios measured without precipitation over the trajectory (i.e., 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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) ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}] was smaller than that for area III (S-CEC, 6.4 ± 2.2 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}). The difference was statistically significant ($p < 0.01$) when Welch's t-test was applied to the two data set. Figure S1 shows the difference between the frequency distributions of the observed ΔBC/ΔCO ratios for the two areas. The ratio for type IV (South China) was higher (6.9 ± 1.2 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}) but the difference between it and the ratio

5   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 ng m^{-3} 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 m^2 g^{-1}) observations at Mt Huang (30.16°N, 118.26°E, 1840 m asl, Anhui Province, China) during 2006–2009 to derive ΔBC/ΔCO ratios and showed that the value for cluster #1 from North China (Shanxi, Hebei, Henan, and Shandong provinces) was

10   lower (6.5 ± 0.4 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}) than that for cluster #2, mainly from populated urban areas in the Yangtze delta region (8.8 ± 0.9 ng m^{-3} 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 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}, but was higher (6.7 ± 3.7 ng m^{-3} 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. S1). The

15   ratio for area type VI (Japan) was 5.9 ± 3.4 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}, and was not statistically different from that for area type II.

We compared these tendencies of the observed ΔBC/ΔCO 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 (at 273 K and 1013 hPa)

20   were 8.3 and 9.9 ng m^{-3} 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. 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 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}, respectively, in REAS2 for 2008. The higher regional

25   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 m^2 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.

30   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 $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio in DJF satisfying the condition was 5.4 ± 2.5 (1σ range) ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} ($N = 30$) and similar to that for MAM, i.e., 5.2 ± 2.0 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} ($N = 78$). In contrast, for type III (S-CEC), the average $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio for DJF (7.0 ± 2.2 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}, $N = 50$) was significantly higher than that for MAM (5.5 ± 1.6 ng m^{-3} 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 in the BC/CO emission ratio in REAS2 for S-CEC is probably realistic.

As noticed, the absolute values of the BC/CO emission ratios for CEC in REAS2 (8.3 and 9.9 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} for N-CEC and S-CEC) are higher than those observed here (5.3 and 6.4 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} for types II and III), by ~60%. For Korea, the difference is much larger; the REAS2 value (23.2 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}) is ~3.5 times higher than the observed $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio (6.7 $\pm$ 3.7 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} for type V'). Such differences over the continent might stem from 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 μm, 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 $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios increased to 6.0 and 7.6 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} from 5.3 and 6.4 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} for type II and III, respectively. Similarly, for the type V' air masses, the observed average $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio increased from 6.7 to 8.4 ng m^{-3} 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 ± 0.4 ng m^{-3} 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 $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ in the Yangtze River Delta region was 5.9 ng m^{-3} 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. 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 allowing 44% emission of BC from domestic sector as assumed in REAS2, the BC/CO emission ratio from that sector (15 ng m^{-3} 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 (±297%) for the BC emission from domestic sector in China (Kurokawa et al., 2013). On the other hand, the observed ratio for Japan (5.9 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}, or 6.7 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} with the critical choice of the conditions as mentioned above) only differed slightly (~10%) from the REAS2 value (6.5 ng m^{-3} 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 ng m^{-3} 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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

5 observations (Tohjima et al., 2014) commonly estimated CO emissions from China in 2009–2010 to be ~160 Tg y^{-1}, whereas the REAS2 bottom-up inventory (excluding open biomass burning) suggested 202 Tg y^{-1} with an uncertainty of ±86% (Kurokawa et al., 2013). Multiplying ~7 ng m^{-3} 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 (160–202 Tg y^{-1}) gives an estimated BC emission from China of 0.90–1.1 Tg y^{-1}. In comparison, the bottom-up estimate from REAS2 was 1.59 Tg y^{-1} for 2008 with an uncertainty of ±176% (Kurokawa et al.,

10 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 ~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

15 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

20 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 ΔBC/ΔCO ratios.

The CO emission rate for Korea in 2008 was estimated to be 0.69 Tg y^{-1} by REAS2 with an uncertainty of <±131%. Multiplying the observed ΔBC/ΔCO ratio (8.4 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1} when conditions were critically selected) by the CO emission 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

25 y^{-1} (with an uncertainty of <±257%). For Japan, based on a CO emission rate of 5.0 Tg y^{-1} with an uncertainty of <±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 ng m^{-3} 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 <±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 $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratios with precipitation (4.5–5.6 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}, Table 2) were lower than those

5   without precipitation (5.3–6.9 ng m^{-3} 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 3.1–4.8 ng m^{-3} 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 $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio on APT. Cases with all air mass types are included ($N =$

10   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 $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio with increases in APT. The transmission efficiency (TE) of BC for a given time i, is defined as the $\Delta BC/\Delta CO$ ratio normalized by that without precipitation [$(\Delta BC/\Delta CO)_{APT=0}$], as described by Matsui et al. (2011) and Oshima et al. (2012):

$$(TE_{BC})_i = (\Delta BC/\Delta CO)_i / (\Delta BC/\Delta CO)_{APT=0} \qquad (1)$$

15   The $(\Delta BC/\Delta CO)_{APT=0}$ 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 form 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

20   decreases with APT are clearly seen in most cases. For area type III, a higher value of $(\Delta BC/\Delta CO)_{APT=0}$ 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):

$$TE_{BC} = \exp(-A_1 \times APT^{A2}) \qquad (2)$$

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

30   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

5 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.

10 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

15 [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.

20 Figure 9 shows the dependence of the ΔBC/ΔCO 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 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 ng m^{-3} 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).

25 Further subcategorization of the 10th bin (median maximum RH = 99.9%) into cases without precipitation and with precipitation (APT >10 mm or more) showed significantly different values (4.7 and 2.3 ng m^{-3} ppb^{-1}). This suggests that BC loss only occurs with rain, and is not otherwise 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

30 ΔBC (MAAP, 9.2 m^2 g^{-1})/ΔCO ratio at Mt Huang to show that the ratio was lowered to 0.1 ± 0.1 ng m^{-3} 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.

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/.CDAS-1/.DAILY/.Diagnostic/.low-cloud/.bottom/.pressure/). However, we did not find statistically significant differences between the ΔBC/ΔCO ratios with and without cloud impact. This may be partly because the spatio-temporal resolution of the
5 CDAS1 data was not very high (daily, 2.8° latitude × 1.9° longitude).

We further investigated six exceptional cases, surrounded by gray squares in Fig. 8b, in which relatively high ΔBC/ΔCO ratios (5.5–8.8 ng m^{-3} 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
10 (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 ng m^{-3} 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 ΔBC/ΔCO ratios at other locations should be used to verify the relationship. The results from regional- or global-scale model
15 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.

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
20 September were not used, and only data for PM2.5 larger than 2 μg 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.
25 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
30 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 ΔBC/ΔCO ratio decreased with precipitation, similarly to the ΔPM2.5/ΔCO 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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 ΔBC/ΔCO 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

5   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 15.0 ± 3.2 mm, wet removal halved the

10   BC mass concentration. The BC-containing particles arriving at Fukue were already hydrophilic; the wet removal behavior was the same as that for PM2.5. 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 this study show that

15   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: μg 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

Table 2. ΔBC/ΔCO ratios (average and 1σ range) for individual source area types with and without precipitation. REAS2-derived emission ratios are included for comparison.

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

[a]calculated as average over Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shandong, Shanxi

[b]calculated 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.

Source area type	N (without precipitation)	N (with precipitation), binned to 10 classes for fitting (Fig. 8)	Fitting parameters $TE = \exp(-A_1 \times APT^{A_2})$		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
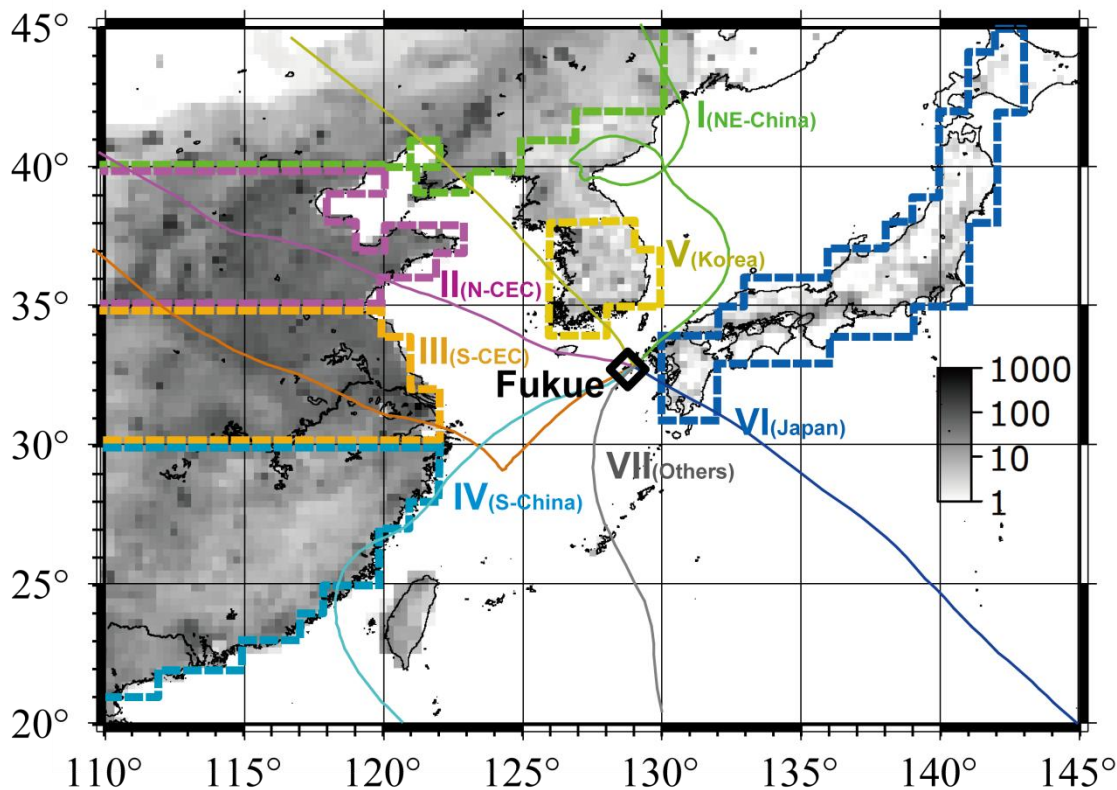
Figure 1: Location of Fukue Island, on black and while contour map, with BC emission rates [t per month/(0.25° × 0.25° grid)] in January 2008 from REAS2 bottom-up inventory (Kurokawa et al., 2013). Borderlines used to classify air mass origin region types are shown by colored broken lines. Example of backward trajectory for each classification is shown by colored solid line.
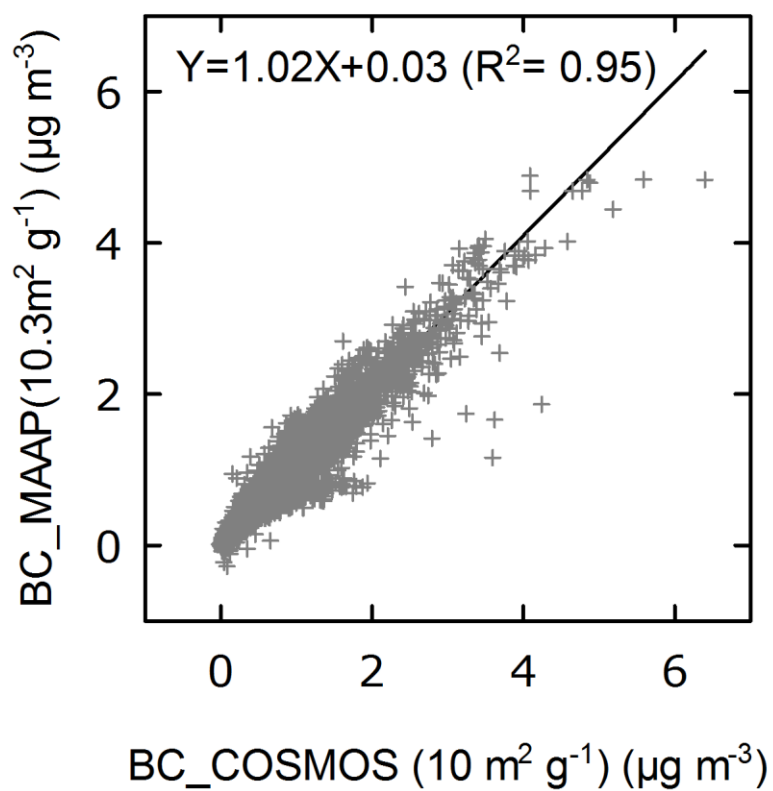
Figure 2: Correlation between hourly BC mass concentrations obtained using COSMOS and MAAP instruments at Fukue Island during 2009–2015.
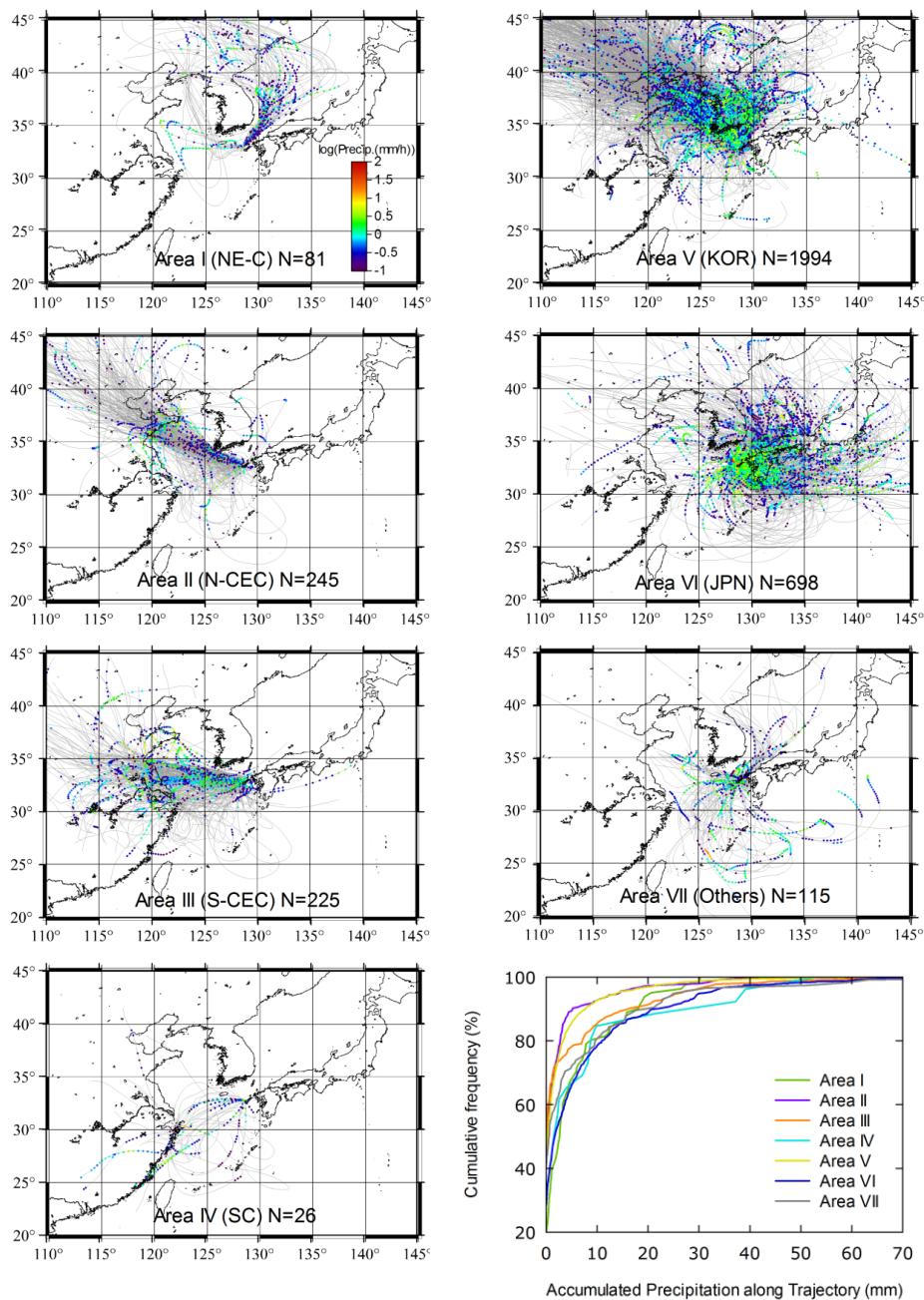
Figure 3: Backward trajectories for cases with valid ΔBC/ΔCO data were classified into seven air mass types. Gray thin lines indicate within 72 hours and at altitude less than 2500 m asl. Colored dots indicate precipitation rate (mm h^{-1}, on log scale) and locations. Cumulative frequency (%) of APT for each category is shown in lower right panel.
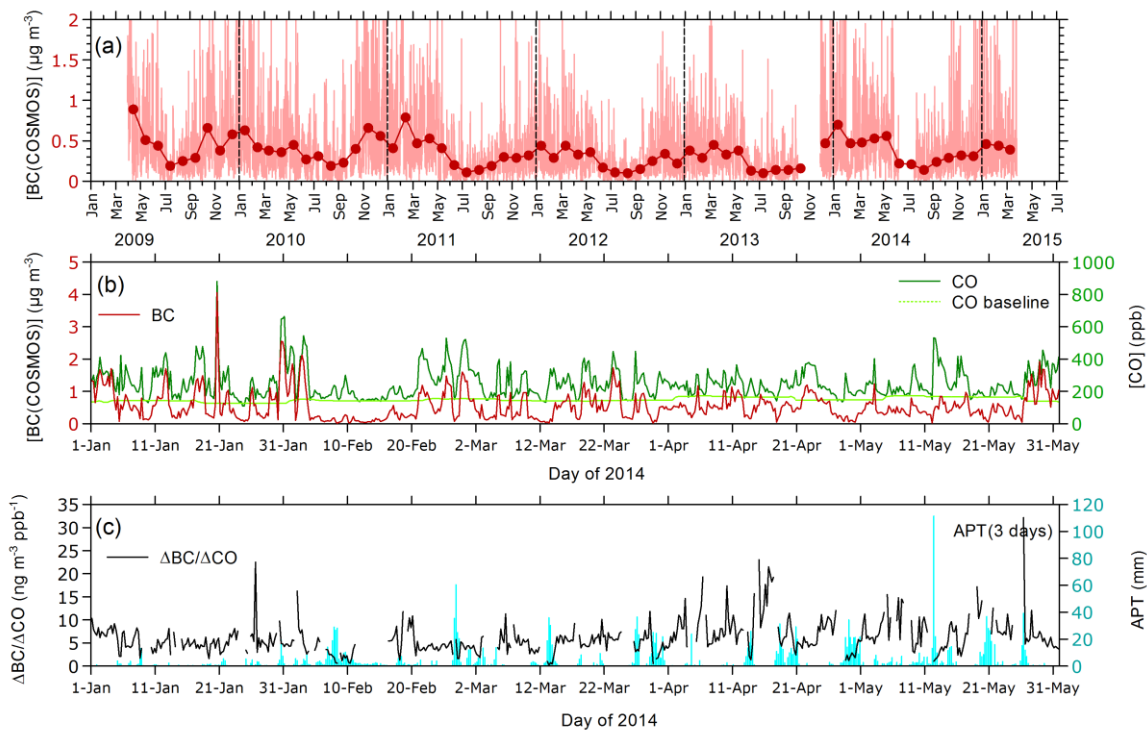
Figure 4: (a) Time series of BC concentrations from COSMOS instrument at Fukue during 2009–2015 (thin line: hourly; dots: monthly averages). (b) and (c) are time series of BC mass concentrations, CO mixing ratios, CO baseline mixing ratios, ΔBC/ΔCO ratios, and APTs during January–May 2014.
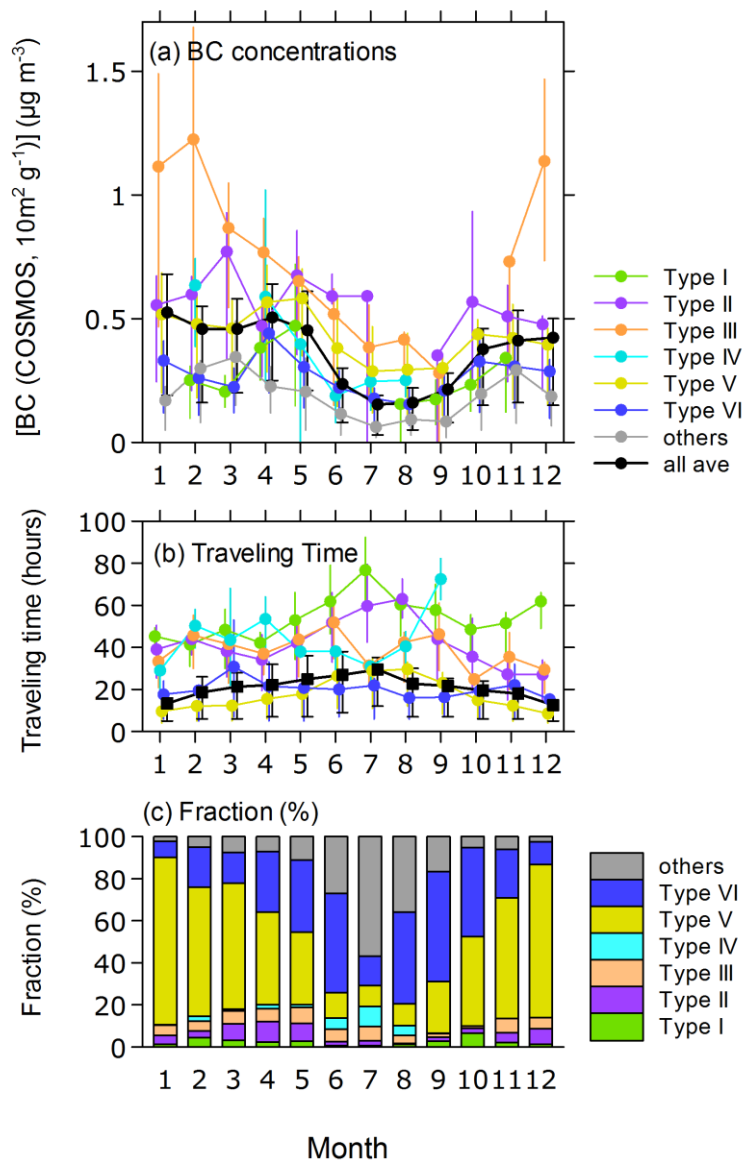
Figure 5: Seasonal variations in (a) BC concentrations and (b) traveling times from borderlines for all cases (black line) and for individual air mass types (colored lines). Averages (solid circles) and interquartile ranges (bars) are shown. (c) Fractions of air mass types for each month.
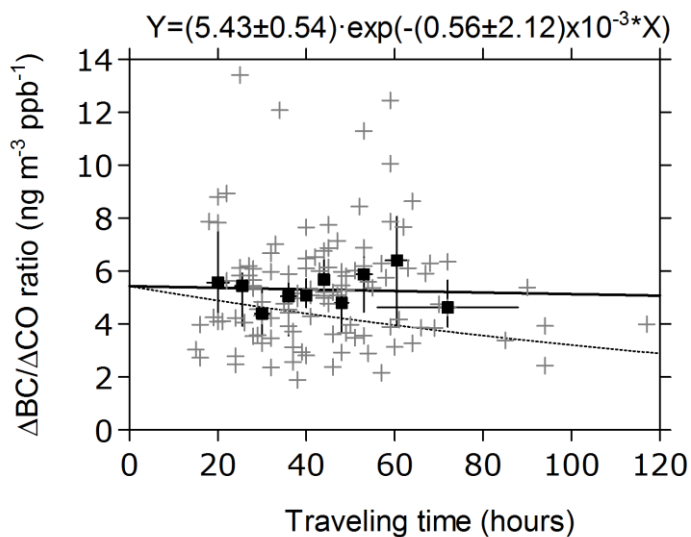
Figure 6: ΔBC/ΔCO ratio satisfying APT = 0 mm plotted against traveling time to determine possible loss of BC from dry deposition. raw data (gray plus signs) and 10-bin averages sorted by traveling time (black solid squares) are shown. Exponential decay fitting result is shown by the black solid line. Theoretical decay with a dry deposition velocity of 0.1 cm s^{-1} is shown by a dotted line.
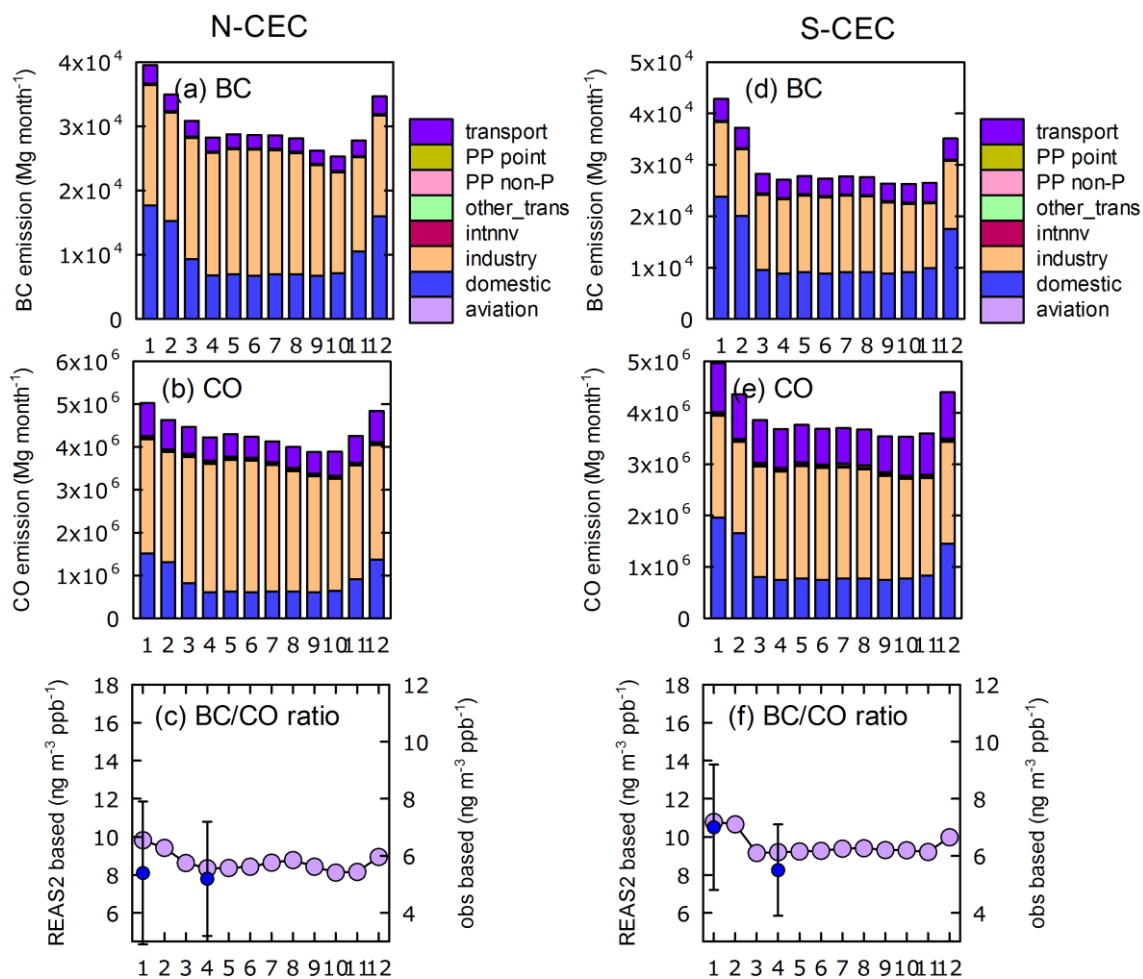
Figure 7: Monthly BC emissions from individual sectors for BC and CO and their ratios (purple) for (a)–(c) N-CEC (Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei, Shandong, and Shanxi) and (d)–(f) S-CEC (Shanghai, Anhui, Henan, Jiangsu, and Hubei) from REAS2 (Kurokawa et al., 2013). PP point and PP non-P are power plants identified as point sources and power plants included as non-point sources. In (c) and (f), observed ΔBC/ΔCO ratios for DJF and MAM at Fukue for those air masses are plotted with blue dots with 1σ ranges.
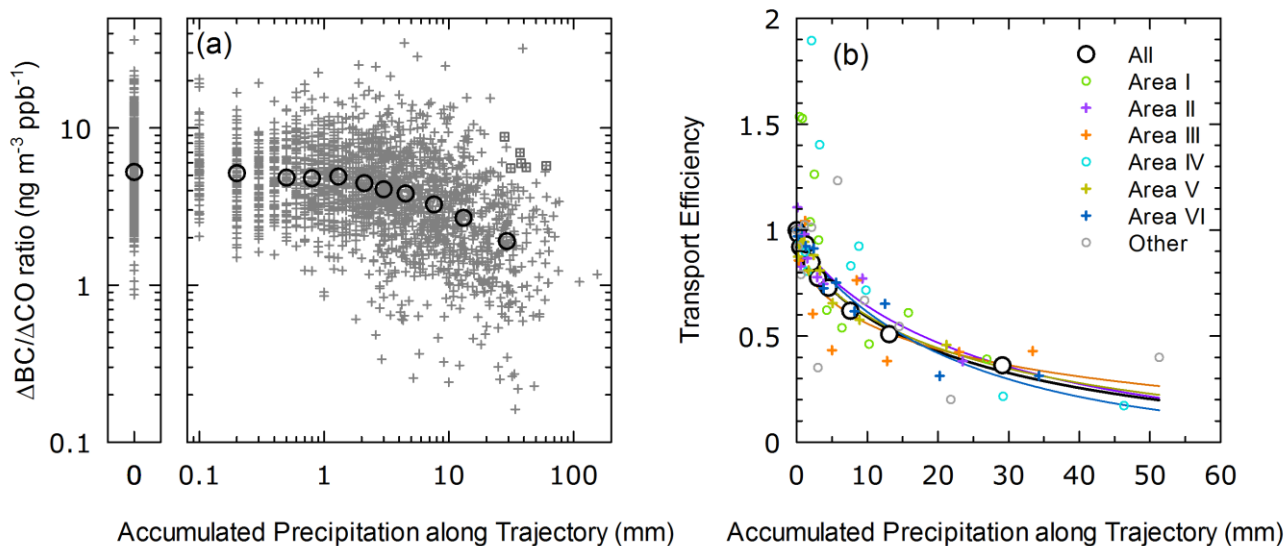
Figure 8: (a) Observed ΔBC/ΔCO ratios as function of APT. Raw data (gray plus signs) and 10 bins sorted by APT (black open circles) are shown. (b) TE as function of APT for overall cases (black open circles) and for individual air mass origin types (color circles and plus signs). Plus signs indicate air mass types for which large amounts of data are included (see Table 3). Only 10 bins sorted by APT are shown.
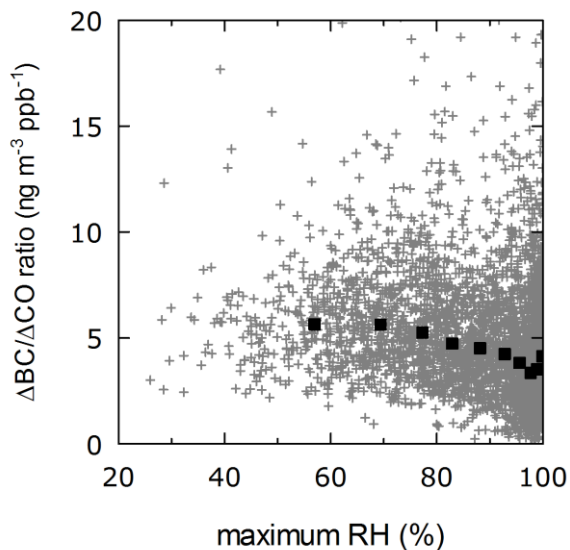
Figure 9: Observed ΔBC/ΔCO ratios as function of maximum RH (%) that air mass experienced in 72 hours before arrival at Fukue Island. Black filled squares show 10 bins sorted by maximum RH.
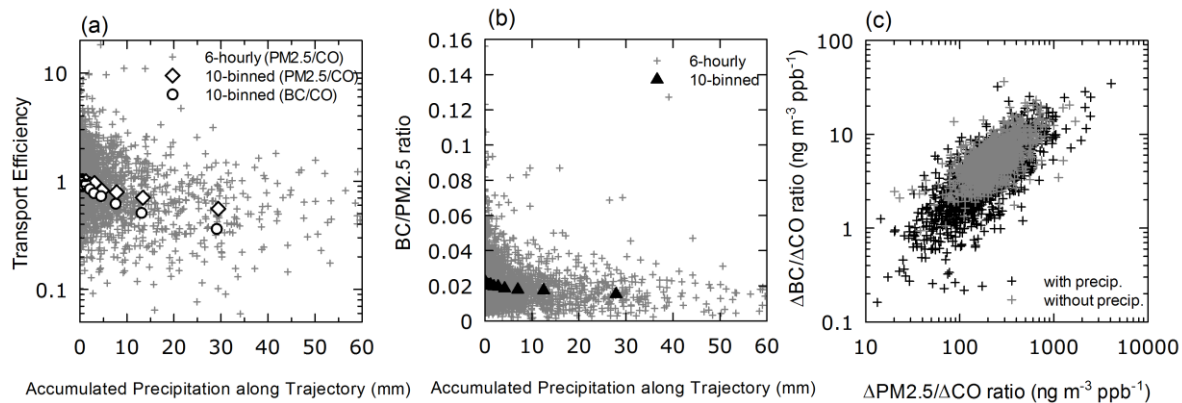
Figure 10: (a) Dependence on APT of transport efficiency of PM2.5 based on ΔPM2.5/ΔCO ratio (raw: gray plus signs; 10 bin median values: open diamonds), and compared with that of TE for BC (open circles). (b) Observed BC/PM2.5 ratio (raw: gray plus signs; 10 bin median values: black filled triangles) plotted against APT. (c) ΔBC/ΔCO ratio plotted against ΔPM2.5/ΔCO ratio for cases with (black) and without (gray) precipitation.
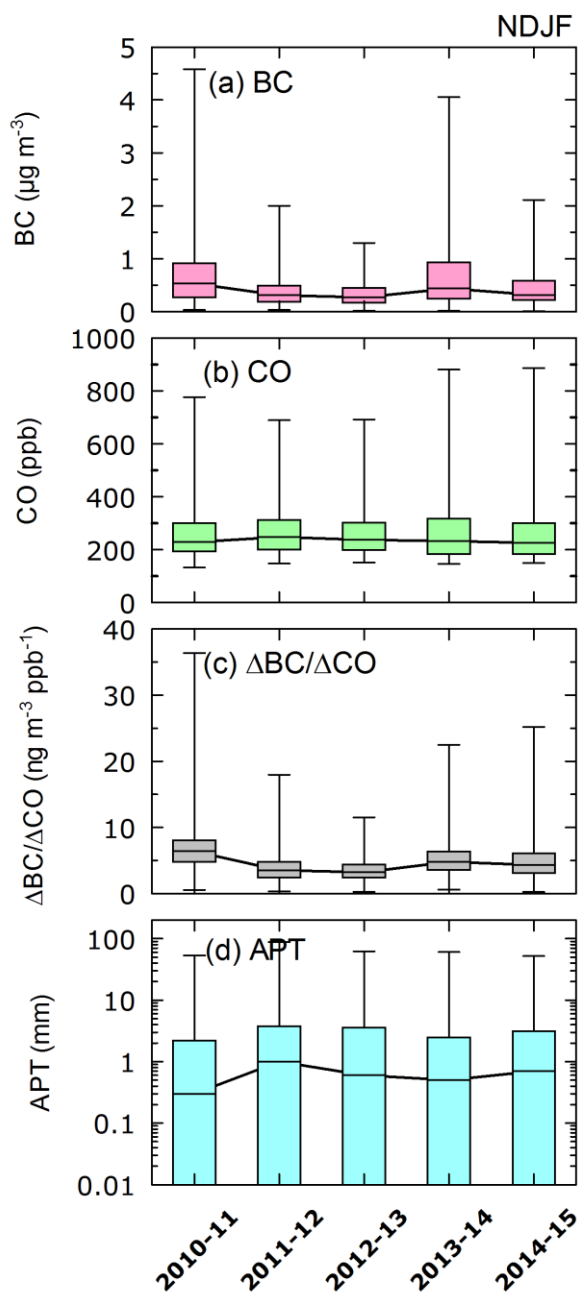
Figure 11: Interannual variations in (a) BC mass concentrations, (b) CO mixing ratios, (c) ΔBC/ΔCO ratios, and (d) APTs, during November–February for 5-year period.
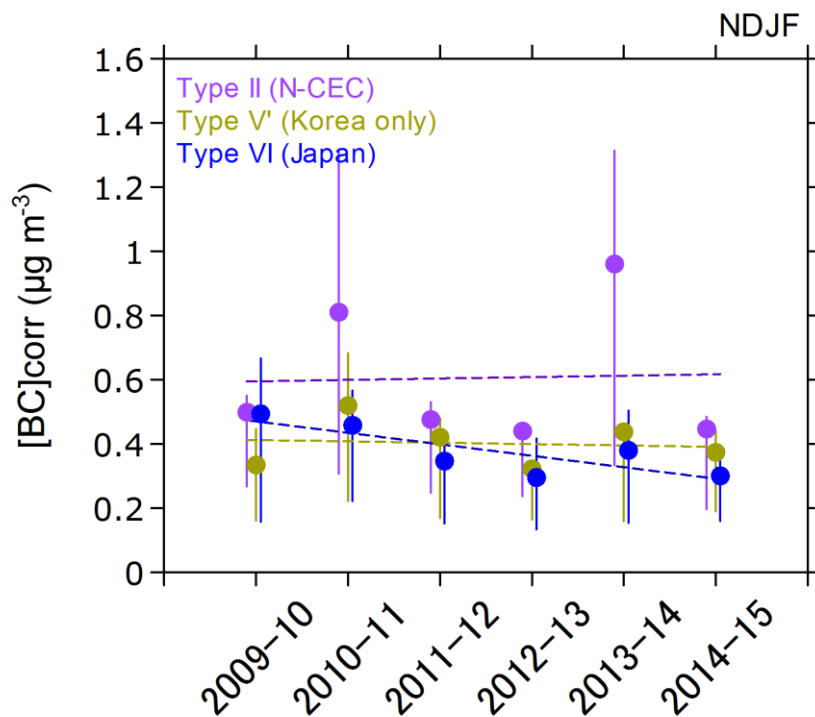
Figure 12: Trends in BC mass concentrations for air mass origin area types II, V', and VI during November–February. Averages and interquartile ranges are shown. BC mass concentration data with non-zero APT were also used after correcting for wet removal loss.