Main revisions and response to reviewers' comments

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Title: Development of a high-resolution emission inventory and its evaluation and

application through air quality modeling for Jiangsu Province, China

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We thank very much for the valuable comments and suggestions from the two

reviewers, which help us improve our manuscript. The comments were carefully

considered and revisions have been made in response to suggestions. Following is our

point-by-point responses to the comments and corresponding revisions.

Reviewer #1

1. General comments: This paper presents the development of a provincial (Jiangsu)

emission inventory, which can reduce the uncertainty in previous national level

emission inventory and improve capability of air quality forecasting in Jiangsu

province. The manuscript is well organized and written. Comprehensive evaluations

were conducted, including comparisons with other inventories, with satellite data and

with measurements of air pollutants. Another highlight of this manuscript is the

inclusion of modeling results and sensitivity analysis of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> formation in

Nanjing, which provides some implications of emission control strategies. The

presentation of this newly developed high resolution emission inventory is suitable for

being published in ACP.

**Response and revisions:** 

We appreciate the reviewer's positive remarks on our manuscript.

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**2.** Line 51-52: change "Issued in 2013, for example, the National Air Pollution Prevention Action Plan required" to "For example, the National Air Pollution Prevention Action Plan issued in 2013 required".

### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's suggestion and the sentence has been corrected as suggested in lines 51-52 Page 3 in the revised manuscript.

3. line 232: The sentence "For other sources, the temporal distributions in Shanghai investigated by Li et al. (2011)." is not complete.

### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder. The sentence has been revised as "For other sources, the temporal distributions for Shanghai investigated by Li et al. (2011) were adopted" in lines 241-242 Page 10 in the revised manuscript.

**4.** line 284-285: D3 also includes some areas of Anhui, Zhejiang and Shanghai, but the provincial inventory was developed for Jiangsu. How were emissions in D3 treated for provincial inventory case? Please clarify.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder and admit that we did not clarify the emission inventory applied in the provincial modeling case. In the provincial case, the emissions for the regions outside Jiangsu in D3 were obtained from the relocated 4×4 km regional inventory developed by Fu et al. (2013). Corresponding revision was shown in lines 591-593 Page 22 in the revised manuscript.

**5.** line 436-437: This implication might be questionable since the difference might be mainly driven by different methods (including different data sources) used in developments of emissions.

### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment and agree that the implication could not be sufficiently supported. The sentence has been removed in the revised manuscript.

**6.** Sect. 3.3 shows the comparisons of pollutants from typical sources, how about pollutants from all sources? As shown in Figure 3, these typical sources account for significant but not entire amounts of the selected pollutants. The spatial distributions of total pollutants may substantially differ.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. The main purpose of Section 3.3 is not to compare the spatial distribution of the total emissions between inventories, but to investigate the influence of different methods and data sources on the spatial distribution of pollutants in emission estimation. Therefore emissions from selected sources are included in the comparisons between inventories at national and provincial scales. For example, industrial combustion was generally treated as area sources in the national inventory, while information of 6,194 point sources was collected and compiled in this work to develop the provincial inventory. The linear regression analysis between gridded emissions of industrial combustion in provincial and national inventories thus implies the deviations in spatial distributions of emissions resulting from different methods and data.

7. Page 19, line 514: NOx emissions in Jiangsu are only 65% higher than those of Shanghai. Given the large areas of Jiangsu, NOx emissions in south Jiangsu areas are

comparable to those in Shanghai, and south Jiangsu is very close to Shanghai. It is hard to say local source in south Jiangsu is dominant. Is "those of Shanghai and Zhejiang Shanghai" a typo? Please correct it.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder and admit a mistake in the original sentence. Jiangsu's NO<sub>X</sub> emissions were estimated 282% instead of 65% higher than Shanghai's in MEIC, and they were also 65% and 94% larger than those of another two contiguous provinces Zhejiang and Anhui, respectively. According to the YRD regional inventory by Fu et al. (2013), moreover, NOx emissions of Suzhou and Wuxi in southern Jiangsu were nearly twice of those for the nearby cities Jiaxing and Huzhou in northern Zhejiang. Therefore we believe the local emissions played an important role in air pollution level in southern Jiangsu. In lines 537-538 Page 20 in the revised manuscript, the word "dominated" has been deleted and the sentence has been modified accordingly.

8. Sect. 4.2: Provincial emission inventory was developed but the innermost domain was only configured with focus on south Jiangsu. However, the newly developed emission in north Jiangsu might have impacts on the air quality simulations in south Jiangsu (as shown in Figure S6, some sources are from north). Besides, the evaluations using surface measurements were only shown in Nanjing, how about in other cities, particularly in north Jiangsu?

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. Compared to northern regions, intensive economy and industry are located in the more developed southern Jiangsu, thus the air quality issue is more concerned in the region. In this work, the emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, CO, TSP, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, BC, OC, CO<sub>2</sub> and VOCs in the five cities in southern Jiangsu were estimated to contribute collectively 54.1%, 53.3%, 47.2%, 52.4%, 48.8%, 48.6%,

42.7%, 30.2%, 56.3% and 48.4% to the total emissions of the whole province in 2012, respectively. As shown in Figure S3, grids with relative large emissions (red color) were mainly clustered in southern Jiangsu. Therefore, we focused mainly on southern Jiangsu in the air quality simulation. As the emissions from northern Jiangsu were just applied in D2 simulation that provided the boundary conditions for D3 simulation, we believe the effects of those emissions were limited.

Regarding the model evaluation, the official data on air quality from surface measurements have been routinely published since 2013, thus the complete data for Jiangsu were unavailable for the years before 2013, except for its capital city Nanjing. Therefore only the observations at the nine sites in Nanjing were applied in this work.

**9.** Page 23, line 641-642: How were VOCs mapped to VOCs species? Were the same species profile applied for three emission inventories? Please clarify.

# Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. In this work, total NMVOC emissions for given source type in Table S1 were broken down into individual species using Eq. (1):

$$E(i,k) = E(i) \times X(i,k) \tag{1}$$

where E and X are the emissions and the chemical profile of VOCs (%), respectively; i and k represent the source type and individual VOCs species, respectively.

Different species profiles were applied in various inventories. The chemical profiles were mainly taken from domestic measurements, including residential fossil fuel and biomass burning, open biomass burning, on-road transportation, iron & steel, paint production, solvent use and oil refineries. For sources without sufficient local measurements, results from foreign studies were applied including the SPECIATE database by USEPA (2014). To reduce the possible uncertainty of source profile from individual measurement, Li et al. (2014) developed the "composite profiles" for sources where multiple candidate profiles were available, by revising the oxygenated

volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) fraction and averaging the fractions in different profiles for each species. In this work, "composite profiles" were updated following the method by Li et al. (2014), and the most recent source profiles from domestic results were contained.

To meet the requirement of CMAQ modeling, VOCs emissions were assigned to chemical mechanism (Carbon Bond 05) species by multiplying the emissions of individual species and mechanism-specific conversion factors:

$$E(i,m) = \frac{E(i,k)}{M(k)} \times C(k,m)$$
(2)

where E, M, and C are the emissions, mole weight, and the conversion factor, respectively; i, m, and k represent the source type, individual species, and the chemical mechanism species, respectively.

All the details could be found in another paper specifically for the development and evaluation of provincial VOC emission inventory (Zhao et al., in preparation), and we have stated that in lines 232-234 Page 9, and in lines 681-683 Page 25 in the revised manuscript.

10. Figure S5: the wind vectors and colors are difficult to read, please make clearer plots.

#### Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's suggestion and an updated Figure S5 with clearer plots has been provided in the revised supplement.

11. Page 26, line 716-721: Please clarify the starting time in Figure S6. Are surface winds plotted in figure S5? Wind directions vary at different heights (for example, blue red and green lines show different directions), so it cannot imply the inconsistence

with WRF results. The trajectories include vertical information, but the WRF winds are horizontal winds.

# Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder. HYSPLIT 24 h back-trajectories at 50, 250 and 500 m are calculated every 6 hours starting at 11pm on 9<sup>th</sup> October and ending at 5 am on 8<sup>th</sup> October (**The caption of Figure S6 in the supplement has been revised**). Figure S6 showed the air flow at the height of 50, 100 and 200m originated from Xuanwuhu site. Given the height of the first modeling layer in WRF was set at 50 m, the back trajectory at 50 m should be more suitable to indicate the air transport from 5 am on 8<sup>th</sup> to 11 pm on 9<sup>th</sup> October. As indicated in Figure S6 in the supplement, the air mass at 50 m altitude (the red line) came from northeast at 11pm on 9<sup>th</sup> October. However, the result was notably different with that simulated by WRF, in which the dominant wind direction was northwest (150°-170°) at that time.

## Reviewer #2

1. This manuscript presents the development and evaluation of detailed emission inventories for major anthropogenic emission sources in Jiangsu Province, China. Emission is one of the major sources of uncertainty chemical transport modeling in China, where air pollution poses increasing threat to public health. Although it focuses only on one province (a relatively small emitter), which limits its scientific value to the broad ACP readership, this work could help establish procedures to develop and improve similar emission inventories in other provinces in this region. This manuscript could be improved in several key aspects to meet the requirements ACP. First, the presentation, in the current form, needs to be polished. There are several places in the text that the expression is either ambiguous or confusing. Second, the manuscript lacks detailed information on how these inventories were compiled (formula, parameters, etc), and where to find the key information to verify or reproduce the results reported here. Third, some of the materials included here are not

relevant to the main theme. For example, the sensitivity of ozone and PM2.5 to 50% reduction of NOx and VOC emissions has nothing to do with development and evaluation of the emission inventories. The authors may consider either broadening the theme (development, evaluation, and application of the EIs) or removing the sensitivity section. Finally, the interpretation of some results need to be toned down or adjusted.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We appreciate the reviewer's crucial and important comments. In general, the presentation of the work has been improved, based on specific comments/suggestion from the reviewer. Detailed information on emission inventory development has been added, as indicated in the response to Questions 4, 7, 9, and 11 from the reviewer. In particular, Table S1 has been expanded and a new Table S3 has been added in the supplement to provide more detailed information on data sources of activities and emission factors. We also take the reviewer's suggestion and broaden the theme by adding the word "application" in the title of the paper. Uncertainties of the analysis have been also discussed to avoid overstatement of the work, as indicated in the response to Questions 14 and 16 from the reviewer.

#### **2.** *L6: process(es).*

# **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder and it is now corrected.

**3.** L26-30: Please reword this sentence. Define "unfavorable meteorology". Is the meteorology simulated by WRF inaccurate or the meteorology condition not conducive to pollution formation and accumulation? If the meteorology simulation is problematic, emission may reduce the model bias by offsetting opposite bias caused by meteorology inputs, but that does not warrant the quality of emission data per se.

#### **Response and revisions:**

The term "unfavorable meteorology" mentioned in the mansucript referred to the meteorology condition with low wind speed and PBL height, in which horizontal and vertical movement of atmosphere was limited. Under such condition, primary pollutants from large emitters would be easily accumulated over time, and air quality would thus be largely influenced by local sources. The sentence has been revised as "Under the unfavorable meteorology in which horizontal and vertical movement of atmosphere was limited, the simulated SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at downtown Nanjing (the capital city of Jiangsu) using the regional or national inventories were much higher than observation, implying the overestimated urban emissions when economy or population densities were applied to downscale or allocate the emissions" in lines 26-31 Pages 2-3 in the revised manuscript.

We also agree with the reviewer that uncertainties existed in meteorology field simulation and that the performance of air quality modeling might be offset by the opposite bias of emission inventory and simulated meteorology. To test the deviation caused by meteorology field simulation with WRF, the model performance of SO<sub>2</sub> was reevaluated excluding the data from 5pm Oct 9<sup>th</sup> to 5am 10<sup>th</sup>. The normalized mean bias (NMB) were recalculated at -13%, 66%, and 50%, and the normalized mean errors (NME) were 45%, 88%, and 78% using the provincial, regional, and national inventories, respectively. This result thus implied that the provincial inventory could better support the air quality modeling, even uncertainties existed in meteorology field simulation.

**4.** Section 2.1: There are at least eight sectors considered here. Is Eq. (1) applied to all sectors or only to point sources? In the case that other formulas are used, please explain in more details (only citations are briefly provided here). It will be very useful to provide a table that includes the following key information: 1) sector; 2) sources

included in that sector; 3) method to estimate emission; 4) key parameters and data sources to obtain the information; 5) special adjustment made.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's important comment. We checked the sectors, and confirmed that there are seven main sectors (residential & commercial is one sector). We have stated in line 133 Page 6 in the revised manuscript that Eq. (1) is applied only to point sources. No equation is provided for mobile sources (i.e., on-road vehicles) as their emissions were estimated using COPERT model. We have also provided the equation and explanation for calculating the emissions from area sources in lines 148-151 Page 7 in the revised manuscript. As suggested by the reviewer, the detailed source categories by sector and the main data sources of activity levels by category were summarized in the revised Table S1 in the supplement. We keep the discussions on data sources of emission factors by category in Section 2.3, with the detailed information provided in Table S2 and a new Table S3 in the supplement, as explained in the response to Q7.

# **5.** *L177*: which model requirement?

# **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder and admit the original word was confusing. The "model" here indicates COPERT 4 applied for calculating the emissions from on-road vehicles. Since differences exist in the categories of vehicle types between Chinese and European criteria, population of each Chinese vehicle category should be converted to the number consistent with the COPERT categories, in order to use the model. According to Cai and Xie (2007), for example, the buses, passenger cars (PC), heavy-duty trucks (HDT), light-duty trucks (LDT), and motorcycles (MT) in COPERT 4 indicate the big-size and middle-size passenger cars, small-size and mini passenger cars, heavy-duty and intermediate duty trucks, light-duty and mini trucks, and motorcycles in Chinese statistic system. The original sentence has been modified

as "Populations of different vehicle types were derived from statistical yearbooks by city and then converted to the numbers in COPERT 4 categories" in lines 183-184

Page 8 in the revised manuscript.

**6.** L181-185: Can not understand this sentence. Please rephrase it. It seems a subtraction is involved here, by using data from different sources. What is the implication for uncertainty by subtracting data from different sources?

# Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's important comment. In this work, as indicated in lines in the revised manuscript, information from the official environmental statistics, Pollution Source Census (PSC), and on-site survey on large emitters were collected to estimate the emissions from point sources. Although most of large industry sources could be investigated through this method, information of certain small plants were not included in those datasets and had to be treated as area sources. Thus the energy consumption and production provided in provincial statistical yearbooks were applied to check the completeness of point source investigation, and the difference between the energy statistics and overall activity levels of point sources was assumed as the activity levels of industrial area sources. The sentence has been revised as "For area sources, the coal consumption of residential activities was directly taken from National Energy Statistic Yearbook (NBSC, 2013c), while that of small industrial plants were calculated by subtracting the coal consumed by industrial point sources from the coal consumption of total industry provided in the provincial energy balance (NBSC, 2013c)" in lines 188-192 Page 8 in the revised manuscript.

7. Section 2.3. Again, a list of emission factors for each sector/source will be very useful. Maybe a table in the supplementary information.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's important comment. As required by the reviewer, a new Table S3 was provided in the revised supplement, summarizing the detailed emission factors and their sources by sector.

**8.** L227: "by with"? Please revise the sentence.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder and admit the typo error. Now the error has been corrected in line 237 Page 10 in the revised manuscript.

**9.** L233-240. Please provide information of the spatial maps used to distribute emissions for each sector. Currently only the data for open burning have been given.

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's suggestion and agree that more detailed information on spatial distribution of emissions should be provided. For point sources, information of latitude and longitude for each plant was collected from PSC. Locations of the total 6750 point sources shown in Figure S2 in the supplement were verified and modified in Google Earth. The road and hydrographic net in Jiangsu were respetively used to distribute the emissions from on-road transportation and ships city-by city.

Densities of GDP and population in Jiangsu applied to allocate emissions of area sources were from the research by Huang et al. (2014) and Fu et al. (2014). NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from livestock, fertilizer usage and agricultural vehicles were allocated by incorporating the population density and distribution of land types categorized to agricultural activities from the land cover dataset GlobCover2009 (http://globalchange.nsdc.cn). Such information has been added in lines 243-256 Page 10 in the revised manuscript.

**10.** L280: "initial (concentration) and boundary conditions"

# **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder and the text has been corrected in line 293

Page 11 in the revised manuscript.

11. L290-291: Please elaborate how the vertical distribution is determined here. Is this applied to all sectors or just point sources?

# Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's important suggestion and admit that it was not clearly explained in the original manuscripts. The vertical distributions of emissions were directly taken from L. Wang et al. (2010) except for the power sector, as the height of discharge outlet for each power plant was available for Jiangsu. According to L. Wang et al. (2010), the fractions of emissions of industry sources were 50%, 30% and 20% in layers 1-3, respectively. For the sources near the surface, i.e., transportation, residential & commercial combustion, solvent use, agriculture, and other sources, emissions were overall allocated to the first vertical layer in the model. The emissions of power plants were concentrated in layers 2-5, with the fractions estimated as 14.7%, 45.7%, 34.9% and 4.7%, respectively, based on the height information of the stacks. We have added the information in lines 304-311 Page 12 in the revised manuscript.

12. L447-449: Is the agricultural GDP increase due to change in market price or commodity quantity?

## **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's crucial comment and agree that application of commodity quantity would be more reasonable and persuasive to illustrate the case. We have checked the growth of livestock and poultry in Jiangsu from the provincial statistics. In lines 465-468 Page 17 in the revised manuscript, the sentence has been modified as "According to the provincial statistics, the total numbers of livestock and poultry increased 6% and 10% from 2010 to 2012 in Jiangsu (JSNBS, 2013). The growth of activity levels was expected to result in enhanced emissions, as very little progress was achieved for NH<sub>3</sub> control for these years."

13. Section 2 may need a sub-section to describe the measurement data (satellite and ground observations) used in this study.

# Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The ground observation and retrieval of satellite data were not the main tasks of this study, and the data were directly taken from other publication/groups without any extra modification. Therefore, we do not think it is necessary to describe the data in a specific section, and we have kept the description in corresponding sections in the revised manuscript, i.e., **lines 593-599** for ground observations and **lines 526-534 Pages 19-20** for satellite observation.

**14.** Section 4.1 Using satellite NO<sub>2</sub> data for emission evaluation has been well explored (check the literature for more details). There are several issues related to the method used here. Note OMI observes VCD, not emission. Therefore, it may make more sense to compare the VCD from OMI to the equivalent from CMAQ, not the emission distribution directly, unless the nonlinear relationship between emission and VCD is accounted for. In addition, the noise to signal ratio in OMI NO<sub>2</sub> increases with decreasing VCD. The interpretation of the correlation between emission and OMI VCD needs to consider these factors.

# **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's very important comment and agree that the uncertainty of the method should be discussed in the paper. First, the quality control and reliability of OMI retrieved NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs has been added in **lines 529-534 Pages 19-20** in the revised manuscript with literature provided. We then acknowledged that the comparisons between spatial distribution of NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs and emissions should be cautiously interpreted particularly for regions with relatively low values, as the noise to signal ratio in OMI NO<sub>2</sub> increases with decreased VCDs. Although summer NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs were applied in this study to eliminate the effects of long lifetime of NO<sub>2</sub> on pollution plums transport and chemical reaction, non-linear relationship still exists between VCDs and emissions. More detailed comparisons between NO<sub>2</sub> from satellite observation and CTM are thus recommended when improved characterization of NO<sub>2</sub> vertical distribution is available for the region. We have added such discussions in **lines 576-582 Page 21 in the revised manuscript**.

15. Section 4.3: It is good to see that the new emission inventories can reduce high bias during extreme events when the meteorology is not correctly simulated. Do we have any results showing that this emission data can be used to improve prediction of real pollution events? This manuscript discusses the new emission data for the entire province. Why is only the model prediction over Nanjing discussed in the model-observation comparison?

#### **Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's positive remarks and suggestion. As shown in Table 2, better model performances for  $SO_2$ , NOx,  $O_3$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  simulation could be achieved with provincial inventory than those with national or regional inventory for the whole October, implying the improvement of provincial emission inventory for Jiangsu. Besides the special case discussed in Section 4.3, the simulated  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations from 8pm on  $18^{th}$  to 5pm on  $19^{th}$  October with different inventories could also indicate the advantage of the provincial inventory against the regional and national inventories in a pollution event prediction. Taking Caochangmen (CCM) site as the example, the observed  $PM_{2.5}$  concentration kept increasing from 8pm on  $18^{th}$  with the highest value reaching  $114 \mu g/m^3$  at 2am on  $19^{th}$ . Simulated  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations with

provincial, regional and national inventory at that time were 90, 53 and 45  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. The correlation coefficients between observations and simulations with the three inventories were calculated as 0.66, 0.44 and 0.30 in the episode, respectively, indicating the better performance with provincial inventory in real pollution episode simulation. We have added such discussions in lines 619-626 Page 23 in the revised manuscript.

Regarding the second question, the official data on air quality from surface measurements have been routinely published since 2013, thus the complete data for Jiangsu were unavailable for the years before 2013, except for its capital city Nanjing. Therefore only the observations at the nine sites in Nanjing were applied in this work.

16. As mentioned earlier, this section may not be necessary to support the main argument here. The interpretation of the results needs to acknowledge several caveats in the design and scope of these simulations. For instance, the brute force method does not consider nonlinearity in ozone response to precursor change. Large uncertainties exist in the emission dataset, including VOCs that have not been evaluated here, which will affect the chemistry and directionality of the ozone response. In addition, the sensitivity examines ozone response, but NOx and VOCs changes also result in changes in other pollutants, such as PM<sub>2.5</sub>. It is hence premature to draw such conclusion as in L770-772.

# Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's very crucial comment and suggestion. As suggested, we revised the title of the paper, stressing the "application" of the emission inventory. We agree with the reviewer that the brute-force method ignores the nonlinearity of O<sub>3</sub> response to the changes of precursor emissions, and that is a big uncertainty of the analysis. The results should thus be cautiously interpreted, and the comparisons with other simulation methods that take the nonlinearity mechanisms into account (e.g.,

OSAT or tagged species method) are further recommended. We have added the discussions in lines 825-831 Page 30 in the revised manuscript.

For VOC, the detailed information on development and evaluation of provincial inventory with source profiles is presented in a separate paper (Zhao et al., in preparation). Regarding the length of current paper, we have briefly stated that in lines 232-234 Page 9, and in lines 681-683 Page 25 in the revised manuscript.

We also agree with the reviewer that the air quality includes many issues besides O<sub>3</sub> problem, thus the sentence in lines 770-772 in the original manuscript has been deleted to avoid overstating the case.

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# TITLE PAGE

# Development of a high-resolution emission inventory and its evaluation and application through air quality modeling for Jiangsu Province, China

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#### **ABSTRACT**

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Improved emission inventories combining detailed source information are crucial for better understanding the atmospheric chemistry and effectively making emission control policies using air quality simulation, particularly at regional or local scales. With the downscaled inventories directly applied, chemical transport model might not be able to reproduce the authentic evolution of atmospheric pollution processes at small spatial scales. Using the bottom-up approach, a high-resolution emission inventory was developed for Jiangsu China, including SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, CO, NH<sub>3</sub>, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), total suspended particulates (TSP), PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, black carbon (BC), organic carbon (OC), and CO<sub>2</sub>. The key parameters relevant to emission estimation for over 6000 industrial sources were investigated, compiled and revised at plant level based on various data sources and on-site survey. As a result, the emission fractions of point sources were significantly elevated for most species. The improvement of this provincial inventory was evaluated through comparisons with other inventories at larger spatial scales, using satellite observation and air quality modeling. Compared to the downscaled Multi-resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC), the spatial distribution of NO<sub>X</sub> emissions in our provincial inventory was more consistent with summer tropospheric NO2 VCDs observed from OMI, particularly for the grids with moderate emission levels, implying the improved emission estimation for small and medium industrial plants by this work. Three inventories (national, regional, and provincial by this work) were applied in the Models-3/Community Multi-scale Air Quality (CMAQ) system for southern Jiangsu October 2012, to evaluate the model performances with different emission inputs. The best agreement between available ground observation and simulation was found when the provincial inventory was applied, indicated by the smallest normalized mean bias (NMB) and normalized mean errors (NME) for all the concerned species SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. The result thus implied the advantage of improved emission inventory at local scale for high resolution air quality modeling. Under the unfavorable meteorology, in which horizontal and vertical movement of atmosphere was limited the simulated SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at downtown Nanjing (the capital city of Jiangsu) using the regional or national inventories were much higher than observation, implying the

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overestimated urban emissions when economy or population densities were applied to downscale or allocate the emissions. With more accurate spatial distribution of emissions at city level, the simulated concentrations using the provincial inventory were much closer to observation. Sensitivity analysis of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> formation was conducted using the improved provincial inventory through the Brute Force method. Iron & steel and cement plants were identified as important contributors to the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations in Nanjing. The O<sub>3</sub> formation was VOCs-limited in southern Jiangsu, and the concentrations were negatively correlated with NO<sub>X</sub> emissions in urban areas owing to the accumulated NO<sub>X</sub> from transportation. More evaluations are further suggested for the impacts of speciation and temporal and vertical distribution of emissions on air quality modeling at regional or local scales in China.

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

With rapid development of economy and growth of energy consumption, eastern China is experiencing severe atmospheric pollution attributed to the large emissions of primary air pollutants and the subsequent formation of secondary pollution, e.g., fine particles and O<sub>3</sub>. Relatively high concentrations of surface PM<sub>2.5</sub> were observed in eastern China based on the national monitoring network (data source: http://106.37.208.233/), and only 9.5% out of 190 cities with the measurement data reported in 2014 met the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), i.e., 35 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration (MEP, 2012). Under the serious case of air pollution, series of measures have been conducted to reduce the pollutant emissions and to improve the air quality across the country. For example, the National Air Pollution Prevention Action Plan issued in 2013 required strict emission controls on both industry and transportation sectors, and aimed to achieve a 25%, 20% and 15% reduction of annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration for Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei (JJJ), Yangtze River Delta (YRD), and Pearl River Delta (PRD) region from 2012 to 2017, respectively. Given the non-linear response of ambient concentrations to emissions, chemical transport modeling (CTM) has been widely applied to study the mechanisms of complex pollution processes and the impacts of emission abatement (Zhang et al., 2006; Streets et al., 2007; B. Zhao et al., 2013; Zhang et

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large emitters were not fully considered, and the densities of

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al., 2012). As the key input of CTM, therefore, improved emission inventories, particularly at regional or local scales, become important for scientific air quality simulation and effective policy making.

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Progress has been increasingly achieved in emission inventory studies for China. Compared to earlier national emission inventories including those for Transport and Chemical Evolution over the Pacific Mission (TRACE-P, Streets et al., 2003), Intercontinental Chemical Transport Experiment-Phase B (INTEX-B, Zhang et al., 2009), and Regional Emission inventory in Asia (REAS, Ohara et al., 2007; Kurokawa et al., 2013), Tsinghua University developed the Multi-resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC, http://www.meicmodel.org/), in which the information of large power plants and cement factories was investigated and the uncertainties of emission estimation for those typical sources were reduced (Wang et al., 2014). Besides, high-resolution emission inventories at regional and city scales were gradually established in the developed regions JJJ, YRD and PRD, attributed to better data support and stronger need to combat air pollution (Zheng et al., 2009; S. Wang et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2011; B. Zhao et al., 2012; Zhao et al., 2015).

Resulting from various methods and data sources, clear discrepancies exist in different emission inventories in China, both at national (Y. Zhao et al., 2013; Xia et al., 2016) and local scales (Zhao et al., 2015). When applied in CTM, the uncertainties in emission estimation would inevitably lead to bias in air quality simulation, besides the errors of meteorological field modeling and deficiencies of built-in atmospheric chemical mechanisms (Zheng et al., 2012). Based on the Models-3/Community Multi-scale Air Quality (CMAQ) system, for example, Zhang et al. (2014) simulated PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> concentrations in southeastern United States using the different versions of national emission inventory (NEI), and compared the results with several ground observational datasets. The model performance with updated inventory (NEI05) was much better than that with old one (NEI99), indicating the impacts of emission inventory on the accuracy of CMAQ simulations. Han et al. (2015) conducted NO<sub>2</sub> vertical column simulation for China with CMAQ, and found that the modeled results using INTEX-B inventory were closer to satellite observation than those using REAS. At regional or local scales, emission inventory that incorporates the detailed information of individual sources is assumed to have advantages in air quality research prior

to downscaled national inventory that generally applied regional average levels of emission factors due to unavailability of data (Zhao et al., 2015). The benefits of improved emission estimation, spatial and temporal distribution, or chemical speciation of pollutants, however, have not been sufficiently confirmed with CTM. Recently, Yin et al. (2015) conducted CMAQ simulation on O<sub>3</sub> using updated VOC emission inventory for PRD, implying that the reduced uncertainties of total emission estimation and spatial distribution could improve the model performance compared with ground observation.

We select Jiangsu, a typical province with well-developed industry in eastern China, to develop and evaluate the high-resolution emission inventory. The geographic location and cities of the province are illustrated in Figure S1 in the supplement. With a total area of 107 200 km<sup>2</sup> and population of 79.2 million in 2012, Jiangsu was the first ranked province in gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in China (NBSC, 2013a; JSNBS, 2013). It accounted for 8.0%, 7.6%, 8.9%, and 10.2% of the country's power generation, cement, pig iron, and crude steel production in 2012, respectively (NBSC, 2013b). Intensive energy consumption and industry resulted in heavy air pollution: all the 13 cities had their annual average concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> exceeding the NAAQS in 2012, with the highest reaching 74 μg/m<sup>3</sup> in the capital city, Nanjing. Clear uncertainties exist in current multi-scale emission inventories. Zhao et al. (2015), for example, estimated Nanjing's SO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions at 165 and 71 Gg in 2012, respectively, while the results by Fu et al. (2013) were 131.8 and 35.3 Gg. implying the necessity of improvement and assessment of regional emission inventory, for both scientific and policy implication. In this work, a comprehensive emission inventory for Jiangsu with high temporal and spatial resolutions was first established with the best available data of local emission sources incorporated. This provincial emission inventory was then compared with other inventories and satellite observation to test its improvement on emission estimation and spatial distribution. CMAQ was further applied to indicate the advantage of the provincial inventory prior to downscaled national and regional ones. In particular, the impacts of spatial distribution of emissions on model performance were analyzed for period with unfavorable meteorological condition. Finally, the improved inventory was applied for sensitivity analysis on regional PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> formation.

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#### 2.1 Methodology of provincial emission inventory development

The emissions of gaseous pollutants (SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, CO, NH<sub>3</sub> and VOCs), greenhouse gas 121 122 CO<sub>2</sub>, particulate matter (total suspended particulates, TSP, PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and its chemical compositions (black carbon, BC and organic carbon, OC) of anthropogenic origin in Jiangsu 123 124 were estimated with a bottom-up method. Emission sources were classified into seven main 125 categories, including power plant, industry, solvent use, transportation, residential & commercial, agriculture and other sources. Industry was subdivided into iron & steel, cement, 126 and other industry including nonferrous metal smelting, brick and lime kilns, chemical 127 industry and other industry boilers. Residential & commercial sector included household 128 combustion of fossil fuel and biofuel. Agriculture included livestock and fertilizer usage. 129 130 Open biomass burning, cooking, and waste (water) disposal, were considered as other sources. 131 The detailed categories were summarized in Table S1 in the supplement. For each category, point, mobile and area sources were defined depending on the detailed levels of information 132 and the emission characteristics. For point sources, information on emission factor and 133 134 activity level was investigated and compiled for individual plants, and the annual emissions of atmospheric pollutants were calculated using Eq. (1), as described in Zhao et al (2015). 135

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$$E_{i} = \sum_{i,m} AL_{i,j,m} \times EF_{i,j,m} \times (1 - \eta_{i,j,m})$$
 (1)

where i, j and m represented the pollutant species, individual plant, and fuel/technology type, respectively; AL was the activity level data; EF was the uncontrolled emission factor; and  $\eta$ was removal efficiency of air pollutant control device.

Regarded as mobile sources, the emissions of on-road transportation were calculated by the CORPERT model (EEA, 2012) and then spatially allocated based on the road net information of the province. Area sources included non-road transportation, solvent use, residential & commercial sector, agriculture, and small industry plants without detailed information collected. The emissions from non-road transportation and agriculture were estimated following the methods by Zhang et al. (2010) and Dong et al. (2009), respectively.

For other sources, the emissions were calculated using Eq. (2)

 $E_{i,n} = \sum_{m} AL_{i,m,n} \times EF_{i,m,n} \times (1 - \eta_{i,m,n})$ 

(2)

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# where *n* represented the source type; $EF_n$ and $n_n$ were the average levels of uncontrolled

emission factors and removal efficiencies for given source p. For sources without any emission control measure (e.g., residential combustion),  $\eta = 0$ .

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#### 2.2 Activity level

The main sources of activity data are summarized by category in Table S1 in the supplement. Most of coals in Jiangsu were used by power and industry sectors, and household accounted for only 0.3% of total coal consumption in the province in 2012 (JSNBS, 2013), indicating the significance to reduce the uncertainties of emission estimation for power and industry plants. Therefore a comprehensive database for power and industrial sector was established with the information collected and modified from the official environmental statistics, Pollution Source Census (PSC, internal data), and on-site survey on large emitters. location, Parameters including geographical combustion/production technology, fuel/burner/boiler type, installed air pollution control device (APCD) and its removal efficiency were investigated for individual plants. Totally 6750 plants were identified as point sources, including 191 power plants, 185 iron & steel plants, 231 cement factories, 707 lime and brick factories, 365 chemical plants and 5071 other industrial factories, as illustrated in Figure S2 in the supplement. In particular, the kilns for combustion and factories for calcination were separately investigated for cement production, and 25% of cement plants contained the both processes. For power, cement, and iron & steel sectors, the aggregated activity levels compiled plant by plant, i.e., the coal consumption of power generation, and the production of cement, clinker, coke, pig iron, and crude steel, were estimated at 108%, 95%, 120%, 109%, 104%, and 98% of the provincial statistics, respectively (JSNBS, 2013). The comparison indicates, on one hand, that larger activity levels would be obtained based on detailed investigation of individual emission sources than official statistics for power and most processes of iron & steel sectors. On the other hand, almost complete investigation on point sources was conducted for those sectors, as very small fractions of activities (5% for cement and 2% for steel production) had to be estimated as area sources. For other industrial

sectors, smaller fractions of point sources were achieved, e.g., 32% and 36% for ammonia and sulfuric acid production, respectively.

For on-road transportation, the input parameters of COPERT 4 include regional meteorological information, vehicle population by type, fleet composition by control stage (China I–IV, equivalent to Euro I–IV), average vehicle speeds, and annual average kilometers traveled (VKT). Monthly mean temperature and relative humidity were obtained from the China Meteorological Data Sharing Service System (http://www.escience.gov.cn). Populations of different vehicle types were derived from statistical yearbooks by city and then converted to the numbers in COPERT 4 categories. The fleet composition by control stage was obtained from the survey by local government (internal data, Zhao et al., 2015). Vehicle speed by road type (i.e., freeway, arterial and residential road) and VKT by vehicle type were determined according to previous studies (Cai and Xie, 2007; Wang et al., 2008) and the guidebook of emission inventory development for Chinese cities (He, 2015). For area sources, the coal consumption of residential activities was directly taken from National Energy Statistic Yearbook (NBSC, 2013c), while that of small industrial plants were calculated by subtracting the coal consumed by industrial point sources from the coal consumption of total industry provided in the provincial energy balance (NBSC, 2013c). The original data on the activity levels of agriculture, solvent use, non-road transportation and open biomass burning were obtained from the provincial or city statistical yearbooks (JSBNS, 2013).

#### 2.3 Emission factor

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Following previous studies (Zhao et al., 2008; 2010; 2011; 2012a; 2012b; Y. Zhao et al., 2013), an emission factor database for Jiangsu was established with detailed information and available results of emission measurements on local sources incorporated. For power sector, parameters relevant to emission factors were obtained at individual plant level including installed capacity, fuel type and quality (e.g., sulfur and ash content), combustion technology, and the type and removal efficiencies of APCDs. In particular, the information of APCD installation obtained from provincial environmental statistics and on-site survey was further corrected according to the official documents on APCD projects of power plants published by Ministry of Environment Protection of China

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(http://www.zhb.gov.cn/gkml/hbb/bgg/201305/t20130506\_251654.htm). As summarized in Table S2 in the supplement, the application rates of flue gas desulfurization (FGD), selective catalytic reduction (SCR)/selective non-catalytic reduction (SNCR), and dust collectors for Jiangsu's power plants in 2012 were 97%, 57% and 99% in terms of coal consumption, and the average removal efficiencies of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx and TSP weighted by coal consumption were calculated at 83.3%, 37.1% and 98.0%, respectively. Combining all the above-mentioned information, the emission factors for individual plant and facility were calculated using the methods developed by Zhao et al. (2010).

Table S3 in the supplement summarizes the emission factors of main industrial processes. For iron & steel production, emission factors of the four main manufacturing processes (coking, sintering, pig iron production, and steel making) were estimated combining the unabated emission factors from previous database (Zhao et al., 2011; Y. Zhao et al., 2013) and the investigated information on penetrations and removal efficiencies of APCDs at plant level. Provided in Table S2, 64.3% of Jiangsu's iron & steel plants installed FGD in 2012 and the average SO<sub>2</sub> removal efficiency was estimated at 78.0%. Dust collectors were installed at almost all the furnaces for pig iron production and steel making, with the averages of PM removal efficiency estimated at 96% and 94%, respectively. For cement production, emission factors were calculated for the two main processes, coal combustion and calcination, following Lei et al. (2011). With dust collectors installed at 99% of plants, the average of overall removal efficiency on TSP was estimated at 97.3% according to our plant-by-plant investigation (Table S2).

For area sources, emission factors for non-road transportation were obtained from Zhang et al. (2010), Ye et al. (2014) and Fu et al. (2012). Emission factors for household fossil fuel and biofuel combustion were from the summary of field measurements in Y. Zhao et al. (2013). For agricultural activities including livestock and fertilizer use, emission factors were obtained from Dong et al. (2009) and Yin et al. (2010). Emission factors of VOCs were mainly from Wei et al. (2009) with update for typical sources based on limited local measurements and survey (Bo et al., 2008; EEA, 2013; Xia et al., 2014). The source profiles of VOC for Jiangsu were obtained following Li et al. (2014) with the most recent data from domestic results incorporated (Zhao et al., in preparation).

#### 2.4 Temporal and spatial distributions

The monthly variations of emissions from power plants and industrial sources were assumed to be dominated by the variations of electricity generation and typical industrial production, respectively, and those data were obtained from National Bureau of Statistics of China (http://data.stats.gov.cn/). As the real-time monitoring on urban traffic was unavailable for the whole province, the temporal distribution of emissions from on-road vehicles in other cities was considered to the same as Nanjing (Zhao et al., 2015). For other sources, the temporal distributions for Shanghai investigated by Li et al. (2011) were adopted.

Different parameters were used to conduct the spatial allocation of emissions by sector. Latitude and longitude of each point source collected from PSC were checked and revised according to Google Earth to avoid the unexpected errors in the existing database (Figure S2 in the supplement). The products of GDP (Huang et al., 2014) and population distribution with high resolution at 1km (Fu et al., 2014) were applied to allocate the emissions from industrial area sources, and residential & commercial sources, respectively. Emissions from on-road transportation were allocated based on the road net by city. As the ship flow was unavailable, the widths of Yangtze River and the Grand Cannel within Jiangsu were used as indicators for ship emissions. Emissions from open biomass burning were allocated by the locations and brightness of agricultural fire spots observed by MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer, https://earthdata.nasa.gov/data/near-real-time-data/firms). NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from livestock and fertilizer usage were allocated based on the density of rural population and the distribution of agricultural lands obtained from the land utilization dataset GlobCover 2009 (http://globalchange.nsdc.cn).

#### 2.5 Configuration of air quality modeling

The Models-3/Community Multi-scale Air Quality (CMAQ) version 4.7.1 was applied to evaluate the emission inventory for Jiangsu. As shown in Figure 1, three one-way nested domain modeling was conducted, and the spatial resolutions were set at 27, 9 and 3 km respectively in Lambert Conformal Conic projection, centered at (110° E, 34° N) with two true latitudes 25°N and 40°N. The mother domain (D1, 180×130 cells) covered most part of China, Japan and the whole Korea and part of other country. Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Shanghai,

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Anhui and parts of other provinces were at the second modeling region (D2, 118×97 cells). The third (D3, 124×70 cells) covered the mega city Shanghai and six most developed cities in southern Jiangsu including Nanjing, Changzhou, Zhenjiang, Wuxi, Suzhou and Nantong. The simulation period was selected from October 1 to 31, 2012, with the first five days chosen as spin-up period to provide initial conditions for later simulations.

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Meteorological fields were provided by the Weather Research and Forecasting Model (WRF) version 3.4 with the main physical options set as Fu et al. (2013), and the outputs were transferred by meteorology chemistry interface professor (MCIP) version 4.2 into the chemistry transport module in CMAQ (CCTM). In WRF, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) database was adapted as terrain and land use data, and the first guess field of meteorological modeling was provided by the final analysis dataset (ds083.2) from National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP). Statistical indicators including Bias, Index of Agreement (IOA), and root mean squared error (RMSE) were applied to evaluate the performance of WRF modeling against observation (Baker, 2004; Zhang et al., 2006). Ground observations in three hours interval at meteorological stations were downloaded from National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), including 43 stations in the second modeling domain D2 and 7 stations in the innermost domain D3 (as labeled in Figure 1). The statistics of those indicators for wind speed and direction at 10 m (WS10 and WD10), temperature at 2 m (T2) and relative humidity at 2 m (RH2) for October 2012 in D2 and D3 were summarized in Table S4. Discrepancies between WRF simulations and ground observations were within acceptable range (Emory et al., 2001) and comparable to the results of other studies (Wang et al., 2014). Better agreements were found for simulations of T2 and RH2 than WS10 and WD10. In spite of moderate overestimation by 0.3% and 3.5% in T2 and RH2, the IOA of those two variables were 0.97 and 0.90, indicating the high consistency with observational. Slightly higher than observation in D2 and D3, simulated WS10 might enhance the diffusion process of pollutants in atmosphere eventually and thus lead to underestimation in pollutant concentrations. For WD10, the bias between simulations and observations was 3.6 degree in D3 within the benchmark range (Emory et al., 2001).

The carbon bond gas-phase mechanism (CB05) and AERO5 aerosol module were adopted in all the CMAQ modules. The initial concentrations and boundary conditions for

first modeling domain was the default clean profile, while for nested domain they were extracted from the CCTM outputs of its mother domain. Anthropogenic emissions used for domains D1 and D2 were obtained from the downscaled MEIC with an original spatial resolution of 0.25°×0.25°. For Jiangsu domain in D3, three inventories, i.e., downscaled MEIC, the regional inventory of YRD by Fu et al. (2013), and the provincial inventory developed in this work, were used to test the modeling performance and potential improvement in emission estimation. In addition, biogenic emission inventory was from the Model Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature developed under the Monitoring Atmospheric Composition and Climate project (MEGAN-MACC, Sindelarova et al., 2014), and the emission inventories of Cl, HCl and lightning NO<sub>x</sub> were from the Global Emissions Initiative (GEIA, Price et al., 1997). The vertical distributions of emissions were directly taken from L. Wang et al. (2010) except for the power sector, as the height of discharge outlet for each plant was available. According to L. Wang et al. (2010), the fractions of emissions of industry sources were 50%, 30% and 20% in layers 1-3, respectively. For the sources near the surface, i.e., transportation, residential & commercial combustion, solvent use, agriculture, and other, emissions were overall allocated to the first vertical layer in the model. The emissions of power plants were concentrated in layers 2-5 with the fractions estimated at 14%, 46%, 35% and 5%, respectively, based on the height information of the stacks.

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#### 3.1 Emission estimation and sector contribution

The total annual emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, CO, TSP, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, BC, OC, CO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub> and VOCs were calculated at 1142, 1642, 7680, 2606, 1394, 941, 57, 138, 860458, 1100 and 1747 Gg for Jiangsu in 2012, respectively. The emissions by city were provided in Table 1. In general, higher emissions were found in cities in southern Jiangsu with large population and intensive economy and industry than those in northern Jiangsu. Taking 52% of the provincial industrial GDP, Suzhou, Nanjing, and Wuxi were estimated to collectively account for 41%, 41%, 35%, 31%, 43% and 39% of the total emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, CO, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> and VOCs, respectively. Xuzhou, different with other cities in northern Jiangsu, had a relative

high emissions of pollutants due to its well development of large-scale industry. Because of the active agricultural development, NH<sub>3</sub> emissions in Huai'an and Nantong were estimated at 195.9 and 187.1 Gg, significantly higher than other cities.

Shown in Figure 2 is the detailed sector contribution of pollutants from point, mobile (on-road transportation) and area sources. The point sources including power and industrial plants contributed 84%, 71%, 55%, 83%, 75%, 64%, 41%, 31%, 83%, 2% and 36%, to the total emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, CO, TSP, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, BC, OC, CO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub> and VOCs, respectively. Notably the emission fractions of point sources were larger than those in other regional inventories (Fu, 2009; Tang et al., 2012; B. Zhao et al., 2012), resulting mainly from the compiling and application of information on individual power and industrial plants from varied data sources. Defined as area source, open biomass burning contributed 12%, 19%, 23%, 11% and 41% to the total CO, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, BC and OC, respectively.

The dominant contributors to SO<sub>2</sub> were power plant, iron & steel and other industry, with the emission fractions estimated at 38%, 10% and 45%, respectively. Although the coal consumption in power sector was 3.5 times larger than that in other industry sector (cement and iron & steel production excluded, JSNBS, 2013), smaller contribution to SO<sub>2</sub> emissions were found for coal-fired power plants, implying the benefits of strict control on SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power sector. As shown in Table S2, the application rate and average SO<sub>2</sub> removal efficiency of FGD in power sector were significantly higher than those in other industry, suggesting the improvement in SO<sub>2</sub> abatement for industrial coal combustion other than power plants would be an effective measure to further reduce the emissions at present.

Power sector was the largest source for  $NO_X$ , contributing 41% to the total emissions, while the share of coal consumption of the sector reached 65% (JSNBS, 2013). It thus implied the tightened controls from implementation of new emission standard (GB13223-2011) and improved use of SCR/SNCR on power plants since 2011 compared to other sectors. Compiled from unit level, the average NOx removal efficiency of SCR/SNCR was calculated at 37% for Jiangsu's power plants in 2012 (Table S2), while Tian et al. (2013) estimated the values for SCR and SNCR at 70% and 25%, respectively, indicating the differences in assessment of emission controls for power sector between the provincial and national emission inventories with varied data sources. Transportation (including on-road and non-road) was estimated to be

the second largest sector for  $NO_X$  emissions, with the share to the total emissions calculated at 24%. Without specific control measures, cement and other industry were estimated to account for 7% and 18% of total NOx emissions.

CO was mainly generated from the manufacturing processes in iron & steel plants. The production of pig iron and crude steel in Jiangsu accounted for 9% and 10% to the national total in 2012, respectively (NBS, 2013), and was higher than other provinces in China except Hebei. Due to the intensive iron & steel industry, the contribution of the sector to the provincial total CO emissions was estimated at 35%. Residential biofuel combustion, open biomass burning and on-road transportation were also large contributors to CO with the emission fractions calculated as 24%, 12% and 11% respectively.

For particles, iron & steel and cement production were estimated to be the largest sources, contributing 24% and 27% to the total emissions of PM<sub>10</sub>, and 27% and 19% to PM<sub>2.5</sub>, respectively. Even with the largest coal consumption among all the sectors, the emissions from power plants were relatively small (6% and 4% to the total PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions, respectively), resulting mainly from the relatively high penetrations and removal efficiencies of dust collectors. Great differences existed in the sector distribution of BC and OC emissions. Iron & steel was estimated to be the largest source of BC, while open biomass burning and biofuel burning in residential stoves dominated OC, with the shares estimated at 41% and 29%, respectively. Moreover, as BC exhausted from the diesel engines was demonstrated to be higher than OC in previous situ measurements (He et al., 2015), BC emissions from non-road transportation (agricultural machines, rural vehicles, ships and construction machines) was estimated more than twice larger than OC.

For VOCs, solvent use and other industry including oil refinery, chemical industry and combustion were identified as the largest sources contributing 30% and 29% to total emissions, respectively. In particular, oil refinery and chemical engineering collectively accounted for 74% of the emissions of other industry. Due to lack of investigation on chemical industry plants, the fraction of area sources to the emissions of other industry reached 35%. Transportation and residential cooking are estimated to contribute 12% and 4% to total VOCs emissions, respectively. Livestock and fertilizer use were the two dominating sources of NH<sub>3</sub>, with the shares to total emissions estimated at 47% and 45%, respectively.

For industry, ammonia production was the main source accounting for half of NH<sub>3</sub> emissions.

The spatial distribution of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, CO, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, VOCs and NH<sub>3</sub> emissions were at a resolution of 3×3km were illustrated in Figure S3 in the supplement. Outstandingly high emissions of SO<sub>2</sub>, NOx, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and VOC indicated the existence of large industrial plants, particularly in Suzhou, Nanjing and Wuxi along with the Yangtze River. For CO and NOx, large emissions were distributed along the road net in the province, reflecting the important contribution of on-road transportation. Unlike other pollutants, high NH<sub>3</sub> emissions were more evenly distributed in rural areas as dominated by agricultural activities.

#### 3.2 Comparisons with other studies

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Figure 3 compares the emission estimations for Jiangsu between our provincial inventory and previous studies including two regional inventories (Fu et al., 2013; Li et al., 2011) and two national ones (MEIC; Xia et al., 2016). Note this work and Xia et al. (2016) reported the numbers for 2012, while Fu et al. (2013), Li et al. (2011) and MEIC were for 2010. As the emissions from open biomass burning were not included in other inventories except Fu et al. (2013) and this work, two values labeled as A and B were provided for our provincial inventory indicating the emissions with and without biomass open burning, respectively. While provincial economy and energy data were generally applied in all the national/regional inventories, information of individual large emitters were incorporated as well in MEIC, Fu et al. (2013) and Li et al. (2011). For example, the emissions of big plants for power generation, iron & steel and cement production in Jiangsu were partially investigated in Fu et al. (2013) and Li et al. (2011). For MEIC, large fraction of emissions from power generation sector was calculated plant by plant with relatively good data availability, while emissions from other industrial sectors were basically calculated at regional average and spatially allocated as area sources. The results in Fu et al. (2013) were generally smaller than those in other two inventories for 2010.

Attributed mainly to the improved use of FGD, the total SO<sub>2</sub> emissions were estimated to decline from 2010 to 2012 for the whole country (Xia et al., 2016) and typical city in Jiangsu (Zhao et al., 2015). It was reasonable to some extent that the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Jiangsu estimated in this work for 2012 was less than the 2010 results of Li et al. (2011) and MEIC.

Our estimation was 15% lower than the result for Jiangsu extracted from the national inventory by Xia et al. (2016), due mainly to the discrepancies in the penetration and SO<sub>2</sub> removal efficiency of FGD applied in the two inventories. Such information was obtained at provincial or national average level by Xia et al. (2016), in contrast to the provincial inventory based on investigation at plant level. For example, Xia et al. (2016) assumed that the penetration rates of wet and dry FGD technologies in coal-fired power sector were 83% and 5% in 2012, with the removal efficiencies estimated at 80% and 40%, respectively, and that there was not any SO<sub>2</sub> control in the remaining 11% of installed capacity at all. According to our plant-based investigation, the controls in Jiangsu were clearly enhanced, as shown in Table S2. As a result, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power sector was calculated at 430.0 Gg for Jiangsu 2012 in this work, 42% lower than those in Xia et al. (2016). The result for 2012 in our provincial inventory, however, is very close to the estimation by MEIC for 2010 (437.4 Gg), even though the coal consumption of power generation increased 29% for the period 2010-2012 (JSNBS, 2013). Besides the uncertainty in emission estimation from varied data sources of the two inventories, the improved use of FGD in the sector could be an important reason for the restrained emissions. Similar fact was found for Nanjing, the capital city of Jiangsu, that the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions of power generation calculated at city level kept stable along with a 25% growth of coal consumption from 2010 to 2012 (Zhao et al., 2015).

NOx emissions in our provincial inventory was slightly higher than those of Li et al. (2011) and clearly lower than the two national inventories. The major difference between the provincial inventory and MEIC was from industry, attributed probably to the application of varied emission factors. With different methods and data sources for certain sectors, the NOx emissions from industry were calculated at 388.1 and 566.2 Gg respectively by this work and Xia et al. (2016). For on-road transportation, the emission factors were estimated using CORPERT in this work, while they were obtained from limited domestic measurements in Xia et al. (2016). That was also the most important reason for the discrepancies in CO emission estimation between the two studies. For 2010, the NO<sub>X</sub> emissions estimated by Fu et al. (2013) was 18% and 36% lower than those by Li et al. (2011) and MEIC, resulting mainly from the higher application rate and removal efficiency of SCR/SNCR technologies for power sector used in Fu et al. (2013).

442 The PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions in the provincial inventory were estimated to be 6% and 23% higher than those of Xia et al. (2016), and the sector contributions were notably different 443 in the two inventories. For example, industry was estimated to contribute 77% and 80% of 444 445 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> in the provincial inventory, much larger than the fractions at 45% and 52% by Xia et al. (2016), respectively. In this work, the PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from cement 446 production were calculated at 181 and 384 Gg, i.e., 2.5 and 2.0 times to those in Xia et al. 447 (2016), and the analogue numbers for iron & steel production were 134 and 263 Gg, and 1.8 448 and 1.7 times, respectively. The discrepancies resulted mainly from the inconsistent 449 penetration rates and removal efficiencies of dust collectors determined at national level and 450 from on-site survey at provincial level. Taking cement as an example, all the plants were 451 assumed to be installed with dust collectors, and the national average removal efficiency at 452 99.3% was applied in Xia et al. (2016), clearly larger than that from plant-by-plant survey as 453 shown in Table S2. Note that the particle emissions in the provincial inventory were estimated 454 455 higher than those in national ones including MEIC and Xia et al. (2016), while the gaseous 456 pollutant emissions were lower except for NH<sub>3</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>. Compared to the emissions for 2010 estimated by other studies, the PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> in our provincial inventory were 58% and 56% 457 larger than Fu et al. (2013) (biomass open burning included), and 24% and 25% larger than Li 458 et al. (2011) (biomass open burning excluded), respectively, beyond the growth rate of 20% 459 460 for coal consumption during 2010-2012 (NBS, 2011; 2013).

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MEIC was only half of them for 2010. Using the results for 2006 from Huang et al. (2012), MEIC made a very low estimation in NH<sub>3</sub> emissions from livestock. The NH<sub>3</sub> emissions for

The NH<sub>3</sub> emissions of Fu et al. (2013) and Li et al. (2011) were close to each other, while

2012 in this work was calculated 11% and 22% larger than the results for 2010 by Fu et al. (2013) and Li et al. (2011), respectively. According to the provincial statistics, the total

numbers of Jivestock and poultry increased 6% and 10% from 2010 to 2012 in Jiangsu

(JSNBS, 2013). The growth of activity levels was expected to result in enhanced emissions,

as very little progress was achieved for NH<sub>3</sub> control for these years.

#### 3.3 Analysis of spatial distribution of emissions from given sectors

To further explore the discrepancies in emission estimation and spatial distribution from

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varied data and emission allocation methods, comparisons between MEIC and our provincial inventory were conducted for pollutants from typical sources, including SO<sub>2</sub> from power plants, NO<sub>X</sub> from transportation, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> from industry. The estimates in this work were reallocated into the 0.25°×0.25° grids, consistent with the spatial resolution of MEIC, and the correlation coefficients for emissions in all the grids can be calculated, as shown in Figure 4. Due mainly to the relatively transparent and easily available information of power plants, good consistency was found for SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power sector in the two inventories, with the correlation coefficient calculated at 0.7 (Figure 4a). Even though the fundamental information of power plants in China is more accessible than other industry sources, mismatches still exist in different data sources. For example, some emission hotspots in our provincial inventory were not totally identical with those in MEIC in Suzhou, Nantong and Nanjing. In contrast to plant-by-plant investigation, the data from existing statistics at national level could not fully track the actual changes in the emitters, e.g., operation of new-built units, shutting down the small ones, or relocation of individual plants. In MEIC, moreover, the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in several grids were estimated extremely small (less than 1 Mg), indicating that part of emissions from power sector was still allocated as area sources based on density of GDP or population. In contrast, all the plants were identified as point sources in the provincial inventory, based on the thorough investigation on individual sources.

For NO<sub>X</sub> from transportation, the correlation coefficient was calculated at 0.8, indicating an even better consistency than SO<sub>2</sub> from power plants between the two inventories (Figure 4b). Although the difference in total emissions was small between our provincial inventory (682 Gg) and MEIC (722 Gg), the estimation of MEIC was notably higher than our result for northern Jiangsu including Yancheng, Huai'an and Suqian, implying the impacts from different ways for emission allocation. In this work, emissions from on-road vehicles were calculated and allocated based on road net that incorporates the information of transportation flow by road grade for each city. For non-road sources, large fraction of emissions was allocated based on the GDP density incorporated with land-use type. In national emission inventories, however, the emissions were first calculated at provincial level, and then downscaled at certain horizontal resolution. Despite of the discrepancies, it could be indicated by the relatively high spatial correlation between the two inventories that using GDP as proxy

for emission allocation would be acceptable when detailed information on road net and transportation flow was unavailable, since vehicles were largely concentrated in downtown with the intensive economic activity.

For PM<sub>2.5</sub> from industry, the correlation coefficient was calculated at 0.335, significantly lower than those mentioned above, indicating larger discrepancy in spatial distribution of industrial emissions between provincial and national inventories compared to power and transportation sectors. As shown in Figure 4c, the emission hotspots in the provincial inventory are highly consistent with the locations of large industrial PM<sub>2.5</sub> emitters (more than 10 Gg) estimated in this work, while the emission in MEIC were more distributed in developed cities (e.g., Suzhou) with high density of population or economy. Along with fast urbanization, super industrial sources have gradually been relocated to the rural and suburban areas, and the spatial correlation between industrial emissions and population could thus be weakened. In our provincial inventory, most industrial enterprises were identified as point sources, with the key parameters including geographic location, activity level and removal efficiency of dust collector investigated and corrected at plant level. In MEIC, the emissions were calculated using parameters at regional average level and allocated as area sources according to densities of population and/or economic activity. Without detailed information for individual sources, it might lead to errors in emission estimation and spatial distribution at regional or local scale. According to the survey at plant level, for example, only 20% of the lime factories were installed dust collectors in Jiangsu 2012, much lower than the value (roughly 90%) assumed in national inventories. As a result, the PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from industry were calculated at 570 Gg in our provincial inventory, 78% higher than those of MEIC.

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## 4 ASSESSMENT OF THE PROVINCIAL EMISSION INVENTORY

### 4.1 Evaluation of spatial distribution of NO<sub>X</sub> emissions with satellite observation

Tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> vertical column density (VCD) retrieved from Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI) by the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (Boersma et al., 2011) was employed to test the spatial distribution of NOx emissions in MEIC and this work.

Tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> over China in this product is consistent with NO<sub>2</sub> data from ground-based

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measurements with multi-axis DOAS (R²=0.96; Lin et al., 2014). Since clouds reduce the accuracy of satellite measurements, only pixels with cloud fraction ≤0.2 have been analyzed. NO₂ VCDs in summer were used due to the short lifetime of NO₂ in atmosphere at high temperature and the difficulty in accumulation for primary emissions with strong air convection. In addition, the summer prevailing wind for Jiangsu was generally from southeast where Shanghai and Zhejiang Province are located (see Figure S1 for the locations of the three regions). Total NO₂ emissions of Jiangsu were estimated to be 65% and 282% larger than those of Zhejiang and Shanghai in MEIC, indicating the local sources played an important role in the air pollution formation for the province (Cheng et al., 2011). As Mijling et al. (2013) illustrated satellite observations could be used to evaluate the primary emissions for regions where NO₂ VCDs were mainly affected by local emissions, it was thus feasible to apply the OMI NO₂ VCDs in Jiangsu to assess its NOx emissions.

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NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs in July 2010 and 2012 with original spatial resolution of 0.125°×0.125° were used for comparisons with the emissions in MEIC and our provincial inventory, respectively. To be consistent with MEIC, the emissions in our provincial inventory and the NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs from OMI were first upscaled to 0.25°×0.25° for the purpose of visualization and correlation analysis. As can be seen in Figure 5a and 5b, clear reduction in summer NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs was found in southern Jiangsu from 2010 to 2012, indicating the benefits of efforts on NO<sub>X</sub> abatement since 2011. The NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs in the area along the Yangtze River were notably higher than that in other regions, attributed possibly to the substantial emissions from vessels and small captive power plants of the chemical and refinery industrial parks along the river without stringent controls as big power plants. Shown in Figure 5c and 5d are the spatial distributions of Jiangsu's NO<sub>X</sub> emissions in MEIC and our provincial inventory, respectively, and the emission hotspots were generally consistent between the two inventories. Figure 5e and 5f shows the linear regression results between NO2 VCDs and NOx emissions in MEIC and the provincial inventory, respectively. The correlation coefficients between VCDs and emissions were separately provided for all the grids and grids in different emission intervals, i.e., top 50%, 50%-75%, and last 25%.

The correlation coefficient between NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs and NOx emissions from the provincial inventory was 0.534, close to that between NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs and MEIC at 0.531. The result

indicated that there was no significant difference in spatial distribution of emissions between the national and provincial inventories at the relatively low horizontal resolution. However, great discrepancies existed when the correlation analysis was conducted for grids in different emission intervals. As shown in Figure 5e, the correlation coefficients between VCDs and MEIC emissions were calculated at 0.24 and 0.34, respectively, for the top 50% (20 grids with emissions ranged 32-121 Gg) and last 25% of gridded emissions (161 grids with emissions ranged 0-12 Gg). For our provincial emission inventory, the correlation coefficients were estimated slightly higher at 0.28 and 0.38, respectively, for the top 50% (18 grids with emissions ranged from 30-75 Gg) and last 25% of gridded emissions (176 grids with emissions ranged 0-12 Gg). Moreover, the coefficient between NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs and gridded emissions for the 50% -75% interval in provincial inventory was 0.26, while negative value (-0.07) was calculated for MEIC, indicating that the emission estimation for areas with small and medium sources in the provincial inventory was more consistent with satellite observation. To better quantify the emissions at local scale, the results revealed the practical significance of careful investigation on individual small industrial sources that were usually identified as area sources due to lack of detailed information in national or regional inventories.

The comparisons between spatial distribution of VCDs and emissions should be interpreted cautiously, particularly for regions with relatively low values, as the noise to signal ratio in OMI NO<sub>2</sub> increases with decreased VCDs. Moreover, although summer data were applied to mitigate the effects of long lifetime of NO<sub>2</sub> on pollution plums transport and chemical reaction, non-linear relationship still exists between emissions and VCDs. More comparisons between NO<sub>2</sub> from satellite observation and CTM are thus recommended when improved characterization of NO<sub>2</sub> vertical distribution is available for the region.

## 4.2 Evaluation of multi-scale inventories with CMAQ

 As mentioned in Section 2.5, anthropogenic emission inventories at provincial, regional and national scales were applied respectively to explore the impacts of emission input on the performance of city-scale air quality simulation using CMAQ. With the original horizontal resolutions at  $0.25 \times 0.25$  and  $4 \times 4$  km, respectively, national (MEIC) and YRD regional inventories (Fu et al., 2013) were reallocated into the D3 of CCTM modeling at  $3 \times 3$ km

(Figure 1), consistent with our provincial inventory. The vertical and temporal distributions of the two inventories were assumed to be same as those of our provincial inventory, as indicated in Section 2.4. For the simulation with provincial inventory, emissions inside and outside Jiangsu in D3 were taken from the provincial inventory developed in this study and from the 592 reallocated YRD regional inventory by Fu et al. (2013), respectively. Given the very limited data accessible on air quality for the province in 2012, the available observation data at nine state-operated monitoring sites in Nanjing including six urban sites (Xuanwumen (XWM), Shanxilu (SXL), Zhonghuamen (ZHM), Ruijinlu (RJL), Caochangmen (CCM), and Maigaoqiao (MGQ)), and three suburban sites (Pukou (PKS), Xianlin (XLS) and Olympic sports center (OSC)) were applied to evaluate the simulation performances with different emission inputs (see locations of the nine sites in Figure 1).

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The hourly ground concentrations from observation and CMAQ simulation for October 2012, expressed as the averages for all the monitoring sites in Nanjing, were compared and illustrated in Figure S4 in the supplement for SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, ozone and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Even though all the simulations could well reproduce the time variation of each species, discrepancies existed when different anthropogenic emission inventory were used. The simulated SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations using the provincial inventory were notably lower than those with other two inventories. In addition, simulations failed to catch the high PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> concentrations for some heavy polluted episodes. For example, the average PM<sub>2.5</sub> ground concentration during October 21st-23rd and 28th-29th were simulated at 40 and 31 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 1.4 and 3.2 times lower than observations. Two statistical indicators, normalized mean bias (NMB) and normalized mean error (NME), were applied to evaluate the model performance (Zhang et al., 2006), as summarized in Table 2. Among all the species, the best simulation performance was found for  $NO_2$ , with the NMBs ranged within  $\pm 30\%$  for different emission. In general, simulations using the provincial emission inventory performed notably better than those with national and regional ones for all the species, and the NMEs and NMBs were calculated at 47%, 33%, 44%%, 52% and -10%, -14%, -25%, -43% for SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> respectively, comparable to previous U.S. studies (Zhang et al., 2006; Wang et al., 2009). The result thus partly confirmed that air quality simulation at local or regional scales would be largely improved

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when detailed information on individual sources could be incorporated in the emission inventory. Improved model prediction for pollution event was also achieved with provincial inventory. Taking the pollution episode between 8pm on 18<sup>th</sup> and 5pm on 19<sup>th</sup> October as an example, the observed PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration at CCM site kept increasing from 8pm on 18<sup>th</sup> with the highest value reaching 114 μg/m<sup>3</sup> at 2am on 19<sup>th</sup>. Simulated PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations with provincial, regional and national inventory at that time were 90, 53 and 45 μg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. The correlation coefficients between observation and simulations with the three inventories were calculated as 0.66, 0.44 and 0.30 during the episode, respectively, indicating the advantage of provincial inventory in the pollution event simulation.

Compared to primary pollutants SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>, species with strong secondary formation process (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in this case) were clearly under predicted by CMAQ, no matter which inventory was applied. Lack of dust emissions in inventories might be one reason for underestimation of PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Moreover, as the significant composition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in eastern China (Yang et al., 2011), secondary organic and inorganic aerosols might be under predicted attribute to the weakness of chemical mechanisms in the version of CMAQ including the transformation of sulfate and the formation of secondary organic aerosols (Wang et al., 2009). For ozone simulation, better performance was found at suburban sites than urban sites, and the lower simulated concentrations than observation could possibly come from the underestimation in precursor VOCs emissions. For example, the NMB was estimated at -26% for PKS, where many chemical industrial plants were located nearby. In addition, the uncertainty of NO<sub>X</sub> emission estimation might also contribute to the discrepancy. As indicated by the data from available continuous emission monitoring systems on Jiangsu's power plants, the NO<sub>X</sub> emission factors of power sector applied in current inventory might be overestimated for 2012 (unpublished).

The total emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> and NOx in Jiangsu estimated by Fu et al. (2013) was 1126 and 1257 Gg, i.e., 9% and 22% lower than the results of our provincial inventory, respectively. Using the regional inventory by Fu et al. (2013), much higher concentrations of SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> were simulated than observation at the monitoring sites, with the NMBs calculated at 74% and 30%, respectively. Even with larger emissions, in contrast, the NMBs for simulation with

our provincial inventory were -10% and -14%, indicating lower simulated concentrations than observation. This result implies the possible impacts of spatial distributions of emissions on air quality modeling. In regional inventory, densities of population and economic activities were generally applied to allocate large fraction of emissions, leading to particularly high emissions in urban areas, as the economy and population was generally centralized in downtown. Given all the monitoring sites in Nanjing are located in urban or suburban areas, air quality simulation using regional emission inventory was thus liable to over predict the ground concentrations at those sites.

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Spatial distributions of the monthly mean for simulated concentrations using national, regional and provincial inventories were plotted for SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>2,5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Figure 6, and the differences between simulations with varied emissions were shown in Figure 7. As the MEIC emissions were greatly averaged when they were directly downscaled from 0.25°×0.25° to 3×3 km, the simulated high concentrations using MEIC were broadly distributed in the modeling domain and commonly located in downtown (as indicated in Figure S1), with the large emitters hardly identified (Figure 6a). For results using the regional and provincial inventories, there were several grids with notably outstanding simulated concentrations, indicating the existence of large emitters (Figure 6b and 6c), and differences with the simulation using MEIC were induced (Figure 7a and 7b). As shown in Figure 7c, moreover, clear differences were also detected between simulations using regional and provincial inventories, implying the discrepancy in allocations of high emissions between the two inventories. With the locations of large power, iron & steel, and cement plants incorporated, the YRD regional emission inventory by Fu et al. (2013) allocated a large fraction of emissions from industries as area sources. In contrast, the emissions from most power and industrial plants were calculated based on source-specific information and were precisely allocated in the provincial inventory, avoiding particularly the emission overestimation in downtown. In addition, the simulated NO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> concentrations for regions outside Jiangsu (i.e., Shanghai and part of Zhejiang and Anhui) using the provincial inventory were 22% lower and 40% higher in average than those using the regional one, respectively (Figure 7c), although same emissions (Fu et al., 2013) were used outside Jiangsu for the two inventories. The result indicates that both local and regional emissions were

677 important for the simulations of the secondary pollutant like O<sub>3</sub>. Total VOCs emissions for 678 Jiangsu were estimated at 1740 Gg in MEIC, slight higher than those in the regional (1659 Gg) and provincial inventory (1617 Gg), while the simulated monthly mean O<sub>3</sub> concentrations 679 within Jiangsu using MEIC were notably lower than those using the latter two emissions. 680 Categorized by CB05, differences in chemical compositions of VOCs could be found in the 681 three inventories, attributed to the varied source contributions to VOC emissions and to the 682 different source profiles used in emission speciation (Zhao et al., in preparation). For example, 683 684 the emissions of ethane (ETH) and ethanol (ETHA) with relatively high ozone formation potential in the provincial inventory were 44% and 209% higher than those in MEIC, 685 respectively. Therefore, the total emission amount, spatial distribution of emissions, and the 686 chemical compositions of precursors are all crucial to the accuracy of ozone simulations, and 687 further analysis on those factors are suggested. 688

### 4.3 Improved SO<sub>2</sub> simulation under special meteorological condition

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To further examine the simulated concentration response to varied emission inputs at local scale, the simulated SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations using national, regional and provincial inventories were compared with observation at three monitoring sites in downtown Nanjing (XWH, RJL and ZHM) for 6<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> October 2012, as illustrated in Figure 8. The simulated concentrations using our provincial inventory were the most consistent with observation, while apparent overestimation was found for the simulations using national or regional inventories. At 8 pm October 9 (local time), in particular, the SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were observed at 33, 12, and 14 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at XWH, RJL and ZHM sites, respectively, while the simulated concentrations were respectively simulated at 205, 246 and 228 µg/m<sup>3</sup> using MEIC, i.e., 5-19 times higher than the observation. The analogue numbers with regional inventory by Fu et al. (2013) even reached 550, 477 and 476µg/m<sup>3</sup>, i.e., 15-38 times higher than observation. Although concentrations remained over predicted, better performance was achieved when the improved provincial inventory was used, implying its advantage prior to national or regional ones in the high-resolution air quality modeling. The discrepancies in emissions and the simulated meteorological condition including wind velocity and height of planetary boundary layer (PBL) were inspected to understand the very high concentrations

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Figure S5 in the supplement shows the simulated wind fileds from 2 pm on 9<sup>th</sup> to 5am on 10<sup>th</sup> October. From 2 pm on 9<sup>th</sup> October 9, WS10 in downtown Nanjing started to decline gradually and reached the minimum of 0.22 m/s at 8 pm, simply not beneficial for the horizontal convection of atmosphere. In addition, the monthly average of PBL height at XWH was simulated at 485 m at day and 140 m at night in October. From 5pm on 9<sup>th</sup> to 10am on 10<sup>th</sup>, however, the average PBL height decreased to 39m, with the minimum simulated at 32 m at 11pm on 9<sup>th</sup>, seriously restricting the vertical diffusion of pollutants. Under the meteorological condition that horizontal and vertical movement of atmosphere were limited, primary pollutants from large emitters would be easily accumulated over time, possibly leading to high concentrations for areas close to the emission sources. In this case, therefore, the simulated SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations would be largely influenced by the emissions from local and nearby sources, as discussed below.

The total SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Nanjing were estimated at 141 Gg in the provincial inventory, 2% and 7% higher than those of national and regional ones respectively. Without big difference in total amount, large discrepancies in spatial distribution existed in those inventories, particularly at high horizontal resolution as shown in Figure 9. Downscaled from 0.25°×0.25° to 3×3 km, grids with similar emissions were clustered for MEIC and spatial variations in emissions could hardly be detected other than the hotspot in downtown (Figure 9c). Notably lower emissions in downtown Nanjing were found in our provincial inventory than the regional one (Figure 9a and 9b). In addition, the grid with maximum SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (15.7 Gg) in the provincial inventory was in the northwestern of Nanjing where a super power plant was located, labeled as the black star (point A) in Figure 9. As a comparison, the grid with the maximum SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the regional inventory labeled as the black triangle (point B) in Figure 9 was adjacent to the location of A, and its emissions were calculated to be only 28% of the result in the provincial one. Given no other super emitters located nearby, we expected that the discrepancy resulted mainly from the varied emission estimation and positioning for the same power plant in the two inventories. According to on-site survey, only one unit out of two for the plant was installed with FGD, and the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions of the plant was estimated at 13.6 Gg, accounting for 87% of the total emissions in the grid. In contrast, a

higher FGD installation rate at 85% was uniformly assumed for the power sector in the regional inventory by Fu et al. (2013), leading to possible underestimation in emissions for the plant. The comparison implied that detailed information compiled from individual plants were crucial for estimation and spatial distribution of pollutant emissions at local scales. SO<sub>2</sub> emissions at given monitoring sites were extracted from the gridded national, regional and provincial inventories and summarized in Table 3. As most large SO<sub>2</sub> emitters were located in suburban or rural areas, relatively small emissions were found in the provincial inventory for downtown Nanjing where the monitoring sites were located. As large fractions of emissions were allocated by the density of economy and population, however, the SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the regional emission inventory were estimated at 1791, 1721, 1918, and 1635 Mg at XWH, RJL, ZHM and CCM sites, which were 4-5 times higher than those of our provincial inventory. In MEIC, the emissions at XWH, RJL, ZHM and MGQ sites were identically estimated at 1298 Mg from the downscaling approach, and they were also much larger than those in the provincial inventory. Given the unfavorable condition of pollutant transport for 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October, the overestimation in local emissions around the downtown monitoring sites in the national and regional inventories thus lead to terribly high simulated concentrations, while the results using the provincial one were much more reasonable. The comparison confirms the benefits of precise quantification of emissions on local air quality modeling.

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Despite of significant improvement, overestimation in SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations still existed in the simulation with our provincial inventory, attributed possibly to the error of meteorology modeling. Here we selected XWH site as an example to conduct the back trajectory analysis using HYSPLIT model (http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/HYSPLIT.php). Shown in Figure S6 in the supplement, the air mass reaching the site at 50 m altitude came mainly from northeast at 11pm on 9<sup>th</sup> October. However, it was inconsistent with WRF modeling results, which indicated the dominating wind was from northwest (150°-170°) at that time. As mentioned above, a big power plant was located northwest to XWH (Figure 9a), and the site might partly be influenced by the large emissions from the plant and enhanced concentrations would then be obtained when northwest wind was simulated.

# 5 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF PM<sub>2.5</sub> AND OZONE FORMATION IN NANJING

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Using the improved provincial inventory, the sensitivity of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> concentrations to emissions were further analyzed through the Brute-Force method (BFM, Dunker et al., 1996). For PM<sub>2.5</sub>, four simulation scenarios were designed: Scenario B (the base case) in which the emissions from all types of sources are included; and Scenarios S1, S2, and S3 in which the pollutant emissions of power, iron & steel and cement plants in D3 were zero out, respectively. The changes in simulated PM<sub>2.5</sub> ground concentrations in S1, S2, and S3 compared to those in base case for October 2012 are illustrated in Figure S7 in the supplement. The average concentration increments in urban area of Nanjing caused by power, iron &steel, and cement plants were calculated respectively at 3, 11 and 7 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, accounting for 6%, 26% and 16% of the monthly mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations, and the maximum increments within the domain reached 10, 72, and 25 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. Given the tiny emission fraction of power sector for primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> (4% in Jiangsu Province) and the small share in the ground layers (15% for 1st plus 2nd vertical layers), its contribution to PM<sub>2.5</sub> ground concentration was notably lower than those of iron & steel and cement. Summarized in Table 4 are the contributions of power, iron & steel, cement sectors to monthly mean PM2.5 at the nine monitoring sites in Nanjing, October 2012. The contributions of the three sectors to average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at all the sites were estimated at 8%, 13% and 9%, respectively. Since all the sites are located in the urban or suburban areas, the estimated PM<sub>2.5</sub> contributions at individual site varied slightly to each other. Besides monthly mean, the hourly maximum and minimum contributions are provided as well in Table 4. The largest hourly contributions from power, iron & steel and cement plants to PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were 65% at PKS, 89% at MGO and 58% at both CCM and OCS, respectively. The contributions became negative at 2 pm on 26<sup>th</sup> October with average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration of all the sites observed as 164 μg/m<sup>3</sup> and simulated as 151 µg/m<sup>3</sup> under the base case, i.e., increased particle concentrations were simulated at the moment when emissions from given sector was turned off. The result indicated, on one hand, the relatively high uncertainty of simulation for heavy PM pollution episode dominated by regional transport. On the other hand, as the simulated increments were mostly from the elevated sulfate  $(SO_4^{2-})$ , nitrate  $(NO_3^{-})$  and ammonium  $(NH_4^{+})$ , the negative

contributions might also be caused by the complex chemical mechanisms of  $SO_2$  and NOx reactions with  $NH_3$  under the  $NH_3$ -rich condition in YRD (Wang et al., 2011). Intensive real-time observation on chemical composition of  $PM_{2.5}$  is thus recommended to better capture and analyze the processes.

To explore the sensitivity of O<sub>3</sub> formation to its precursor emissions, two scenarios were set besides the base case: the VOC-abatement scenario with 50% reduction of all anthropogenic VOCs emissions in D3 (Scenario P1), and the NOx-abatement scenario with 50% reduction of NOx in D3 (Scenario P2). Shown in Figure S8 in the supplement were the average O<sub>3</sub> concentration changes from October 6<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>. The simulated O<sub>3</sub> average concentration from 11am to 5pm declined significantly under Scenario P1, with the maximum reduction at 54 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (Figure S8a) within D3, and changes in the downwind region were greater than the upwind. In contrast, the concentrations were generally enhanced under P2 with the maximum increment at 19 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Similar variation pattern was found for 1-hour maximum O<sub>3</sub> concentration in Figure S8b and monthly mean concentration in Figure S8c. The 1-hour maximum O<sub>3</sub> concentrations in most downwind area of Shanghai and southern Jiangsu decreased 10-20 μg/m<sup>3</sup> with the reduction in VOCs emissions, and the concentrations would generally increase 10-30 μg/m<sup>3</sup> with the NO<sub>X</sub> reduction. The similar patterns of O<sub>3</sub> concentration variation in urban and downwind areas in D3 under P1 or P2 scenario indicated that the O<sub>3</sub> formation was VOCs-limited in all those areas in southern Jiangsu. Therefore, VOC emission abatement could be effective for O<sub>3</sub> pollution control in southern Jiangsu, while NO<sub>X</sub> abatement might aggravate the pollution in autumn.

The temporal changes in the simulated  $O_3$  concentrations between the P1/P2 and base scenarios at urban (XWH, SXL, RJL, MGQ, ZHM and CCM) and suburban sites (XLS, OCS and PKS) in Nanjing were illustrated for October  $6^{th}$ - $16^{th}$  in Figure 10. Simulated  $O_3$  concentrations at urban and suburban sites were generally decreased once the VOC emissions declined and the maximum hourly reduction reached 77.3 and 49.6  $\mu$ g/m³, respectively. In contrast, concentrations were elevated with the NOx emission reduction and the maximum growth were 78.7 and 15.4  $\mu$ g/m³, respectively. Under VOCs-limited regime, in general, the  $O_3$  concentration would be little sensitive to the change of NOx unless it was rich enough to turn to the negative correlation with  $O_3$ . Therefore, due to the intensive NOx emissions from

824 on-road transportation in downtown Nanjing, the variations of O<sub>3</sub> concentrations in P2 825 scenario at urban monitoring sites were notably greater than those at suburban sites. It should be acknowledged that uncertainty existed in the analysis, as the brute-force method ignores 826 the nonlinearity of O<sub>3</sub> response to the changes of precursor emissions. With techniques other 827 than brute-force, e.g., ozone source apportionment (OSAT, Li et al., 2012) or tagged species 828 829 method (Zhang et al., 2011), the nonlinearity mechanism of O<sub>3</sub> formation could be taken into account. Comparisons between results with different methods are further recommended for 830 the region. 831

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833 **6 CONCLUSIONS** 

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The bottom-up approach was applied to develop a high-resolution emission inventory for Jiangsu, with substantial detailed information on local sources incorporated. Key parameters relevant to emission estimation were examined and revised plant by plant including geographic position, energy consumption and removal efficiencies of APCD from various data sources and on-site survey on large emitters. Compared to previous studies, the emission fractions of point sources were significantly enhanced, except for NH<sub>3</sub> and OC, which are mainly from agriculture activities and biomass open burning, respectively. As lower removal efficiencies of dust collectors were obtained from local investigation, larger primary PM emissions were estimated in our provincial inventory than other national or regional ones. Moreover, clear discrepancy existed in spatial distribution of industrial PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions between this work and the national inventory MEIC, indicating the uncertainty of emission downscaling from coarse horizontal resolution. The spatial distribution of NO<sub>X</sub> emissions in the provincial inventory was more consistent with summer tropospheric NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs observed from OMI than that of MEIC, particularly for the emissions from small and medium industrial plants. WRF-CMAQ air quality modeling system was set up to evaluate the reliability and improvement of the provincial emission inventory by comparing the simulation performance with that using a national (MEIC) and regional one. Among the three inventories, the best agreement was found between the observation and simulation with the provincial one for all the concerned species at the nine monitoring sites in Nanjing, while underestimation existed

particularly for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> that were strongly influenced by secondary formation. Under the unfavorable meteorology of pollutant transport, extremely high SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were simulated using the regional and national inventories, while the results using provincial one were much closer to the observation. The results indicated the advantage of improved estimation and spatial distribution of emissions on air quality modeling at regional or local scales. The improved provincial inventory was further applied for the sensitivity analysis on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> formation using BFM simulation, and provided the preliminary results for the policy making of regional haze and photochemical pollution control in southern Jiangsu.

Limitations remained in the current inventory. Attributed to unavailability of detailed information, the weekly and hourly variation of emissions could not be fully tracked for each city, and the vertical distribution of emissions by sector, depending mainly on the stack height, temperature and flow of flue gas, could not be accurately determined. Instead, empirical data from previous work (Li et al., 2011; L. Wang et al., 2010; 2014) had to be applied, which might be inconsistent with the reality. In addition, some sources were not included in the current inventory, e.g., fugitive dust emissions from construction sites and road transportation, resulting from lack of reliable data and thereby potentially large uncertainties in the emission estimation at provincial level. Finally, the effects of source profiles on air quality modeling, e.g., the speciation of primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> and VOC, were not <u>fully</u> evaluated. As they are important on the formation of O<sub>3</sub> and secondary particles, more investigations on typical sources and evaluation through chemistry transport modeling are suggested in the future.

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- 1110 Figure 1. Modeling domain and locations of 43 meteorological and 9 air quality
- 1111 monitoring sites.
- 1112 Figure 2. Source contributions to total estimated emissions by species in Jiangsu 2012.
- 1113 Colors indicate the sectors and the shade patterns indicate the source type (point, mobile
- 1114 and area).
- 1115 Figure 3. Comparison between the emissions estimated in this work and other studies
- for Jiangsu. A and B indicate the emissions without and with open biomass burning,
- 1117 respectively.
- 1118 Figure 4. Spatial distributions (a-c) and linear regression (d) of certain pollutant
- emissions from typical sources estimated in our provincial inventory and MEIC. (a) SO<sub>2</sub>
- from power plant; (b) NOx from transportation; (c) PM<sub>2.5</sub> from industry. The black
- points indicate the locations of plants with PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions larger than 10 Gg estimated
- in this work.
- Figure 5. Spatial distributions of NO<sub>2</sub> VCDs observed by OMI in Jiangsu in 2010 (a) and
- 1124 2012 (b), and those of Jiangsu's NOx emissions from MEIC (c) and our provincial
- inventory (d) at the resolution of 0.25°×0.25°. Linear regressions of gridded VCDs and
- emissions are illustrated for MEIC (e) and our provincial inventory (f).
- Figure 6. Spatial distributions of the monthly means of simulated SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and
- 1128 O<sub>3</sub> concentrations using the national, regional and provincial emission inventories for
- 1129 October 2012.
- Figure 7. The differences in the monthly means of simulated SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>
- 1131 concentrations using different emission inventories: (a) Provincial-national; (b)
- 1132 Regional-national; and (c) provincial-regional. The black star A and triangle B referred
- 1133 to the locations of grids with maximum  $SO_2$  emissions in provincial and regional
- inventory.
- 1135 Figure 8. The observed and simulated hourly SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (expressed with 3-h
- interval) using the national, regional, and provincial inventories at XWH (a), RJL (b),
- and ZHM (c) from October 6<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- Figure 9. Spatial distributions of the estimated SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Nanjing at the
- resolution of 3×3km in the provincial (a), regional (b) and national emission inventory
- 1140 (c). The black dots indicate the locations of given air quality monitoring sites. The black
- star (point A) indicates the location of the power plant with the largest SO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- estimated in the provincial inventory. The black triangle (point B) indicates the
- speculated position of the same power plant in the regional inventory.
- Figure 10. The changes in simulated O<sub>3</sub> concentrations at urban (XWH, SXL, RJL,
- 1145 MGQ, ZHM, and CCM) and suburban air quality monitoring sites (XLS, OSC, and
- PKS) in Nanjing under P1 (a) and P2 (b) scenarios compared to the base case for 6<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>
- 1147 October 2012.

TABLES  $\label{tables}$  Table 1. The estimated annual emissions by city for Jiangsu 2012 (unit: million metric tons (Tg) for CO2 and kilo metric tons (Gg) for other species).

City	$SO_2$	NOx	CO	TSP	$PM_{10}$	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	BC	OC	$CO_2$	NH <sub>3</sub>	VOCs
Southern											
Nanjing	140.6	210.5	742.9	157.3	97.3	75.8	5.8	7.1	97.1	64.2	221.9
Suzhou	220.8	286.7	1383.3	380.6	194.9	137.3	9.8	11.0	184.4	144.8	297.8
Wuxi	107.7	180.0	545.5	271.3	126.9	77.2	3.4	9.6	84.5	24.2	167.2
Changzhou	104.0	107.7	734.6	413.3	194.6	126.2	3.6	7.5	65.2	33.4	104.2
Zhenjiang	44.0	89.6	231.6	143.3	66.8	40.9	1.9	6.6	53.0	38.1	55.4
Central											
Nantong	76.8	130.1	443.4	244.9	108.2	66.0	4.8	9.3	51.6	181.7	162.2
Yangzhou	55.3	93.9	310.7	54.1	39.9	31.1	2.6	8.5	52.1	83.1	82.5
Taizhou	56.6	70.5	315.1	207.6	98.2	52.3	2.7	8.8	31.4	100.7	76.9
Northen											
Xuzhou	138.9	232.5	805.5	223.2	146.5	101.9	6.1	19.1	139.2	49.2	161.2
Huai'an	52.2	61.5	590.0	97.4	64.5	49.5	3.7	12.0	32.5	195.9	78.6
Yancheng	49.9	78.5	639.7	203.8	111.8	72.0	5.6	16.1	28.2	101.0	185.0
Lianyungang	60.6	61.0	571.1	131.0	89.0	68.6	3.9	11.9	28.3	25.1	78.0
Suqian	34.1	39.7	366.8	77.8	55.5	42.3	3.2	11.0	12.9	59.1	76.4
Total	1141.5	1642.2	7680.0	2605.6	1394.0	941.1	57.0	138.5	860.5	1100.3	1747.3

Table 2. Model performance statistics for concentrations of given species from observation and CMAQ simulation using the national, regional and provincial inventories at the nine air quality monitoring sites in Nanjing for October 2012.

Pollutants —	National (MEIC)		Regional (F	u et al., 2013)	Provincial (this work)		
	NMB	NME	NMB	NME	NMB	NME	
$SO_2$	48.45%	76.53%	74.08%	95.04%	-9.97%	47.49%	
$NO_2$	21.02%	35.99%	29.84%	43.45%	-14.47%	33.22%	
$O_3$	-65.55%	68.57%	-53.93%	61.59%	-24.98%	44.29%	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	-51.63%	55.32%	-49.16%	56.00%	-43.64%	51.81%	

Note: NMB and NME were calculated using following equations (*P* and *O* indicate the results from modeling prediction and observation, respectively):

$$NMB = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (P_i - O_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} O_i} \times 100\%; \quad NME = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} |P_i - O_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} O_i} \times 100\%$$

Table 3. The annual  $SO_2$  emissions estimated in three inventories at given air quality monitoring sites in downtown Nanjing.

SO <sub>2</sub> /Mg	National (MEIC)	Regional (Fu et al., 2013)	Provincial (this work)
XWH	1297.5	1790.9	411.0
RJL	1297.5	1720.8	303.1
ZHM	1297.5	1918.3	396.2
CCM	928.6	1635.3	371.8
MGQ	1297.5	478.6	395.0

Table 4. The monthly mean contributions of power, iron & steel and cement plants to the  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations at the air quality monitoring sites in Nanjing in October 2012.

Monitoring site	Contri. of power (%)			Contri. of iron & steel (%)			Contri. of cement (%)		
	Max.	Min.	Ave.	Max.	Min.	Ave.	Max.	Min.	Ave.
XWH/SXL	52	-6	8	82	-2	14	43	-1	8
RJL	42	-6	7	79	0	11	44	0	9
ZHM	44	-5	7	71	-3	12	48	0	9
CCM	32	-8	7	83	-4	13	58	-5	8
MGQ	58	-5	9	89	-2	8	35	-5	7
XLS	35	-5	7	67	-3	10	57	0	10
PKS	65	-6	7	77	-1	11	45	-1	7
OCS	33	-7	7	87	0	12	58	0	8

Note: Max., min., ave. and contri. indicate maximum, minimum, average and contribution, respectively.

Figure 1

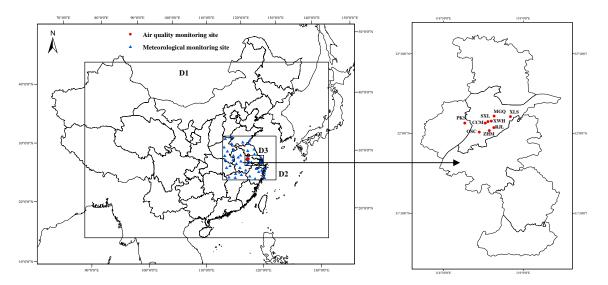


Figure 2

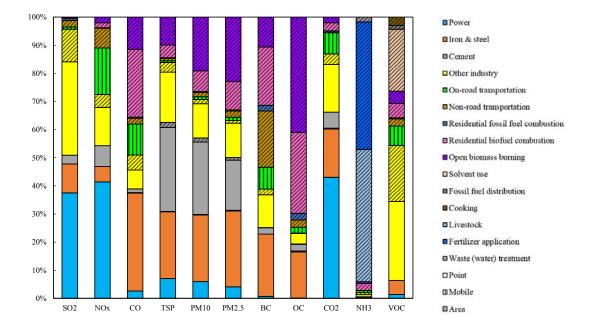


Figure 3

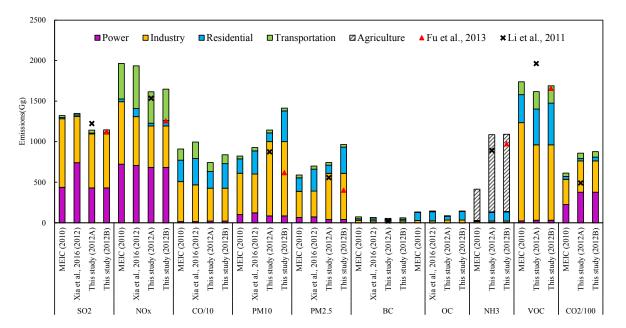


Figure 4

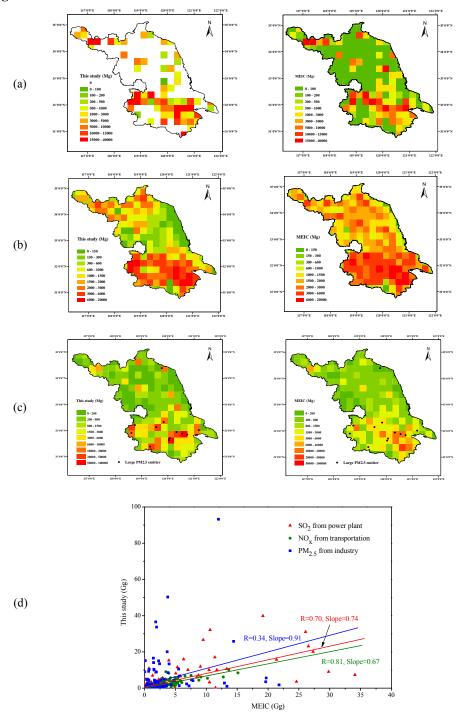


Figure 5

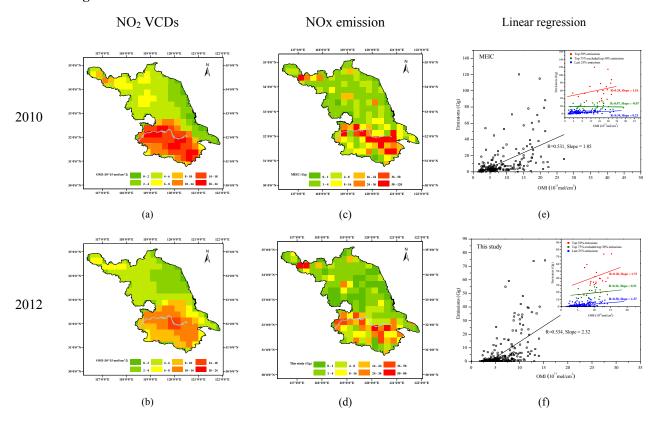


Figure 6

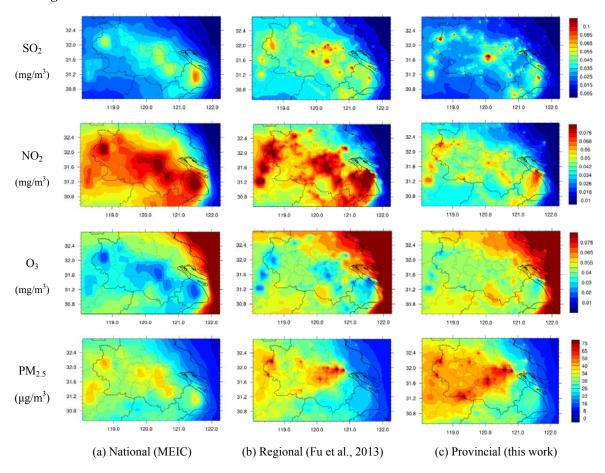


Figure 7

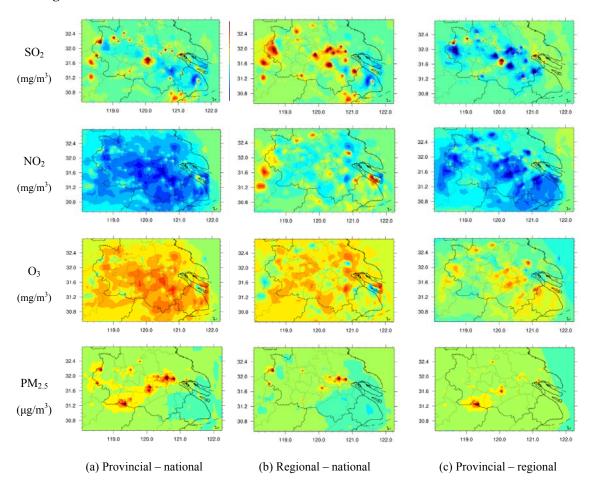
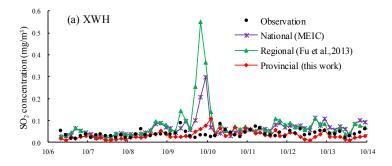
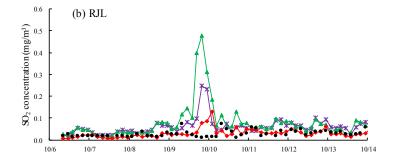


Figure 8





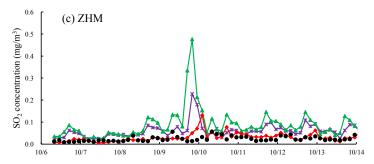
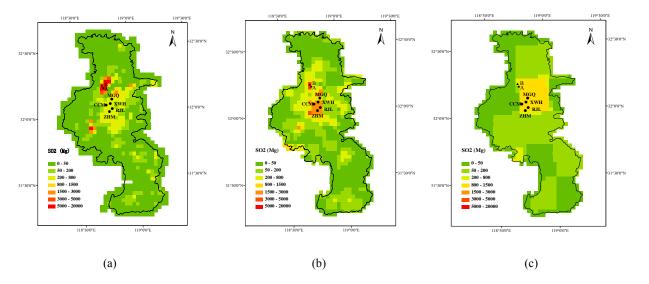
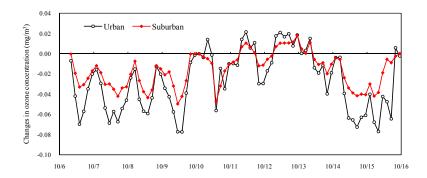


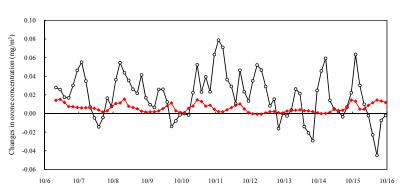
Figure 9



# Figure 10



(a)



(b)