



1 **Multi-pollutants emissions from the burning of major**  
2 **agricultural residues in China and the related**  
3 **health-economic effect assessment**

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17 **Abstract.** Multi-pollutants in smoke particulate matter (SPM) were identified and  
18 quantified for biomass burning of five major agricultural residues such as wheat, rice,  
19 corn, cotton, and soybean straws in China by aerosol chamber system combining  
20 with various measurement techniques. The primary emission factors (EFs) for PM<sub>1.0</sub>  
21 and PM<sub>2.5</sub> are 3.04-12.64 and 3.25-15.16 g kg<sup>-1</sup>. Organic carbon (OC), elemental  
22 carbon (EC), char-EC, soot-EC, water-soluble inorganics (WSI), water-soluble  
23 organic acids (WSOA), water-soluble amine salts (WSA), trace mineral elements  
24 (THM), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and phenols in smoke  
25 PM<sub>1.0</sub>/PM<sub>2.5</sub> are, 1.34-6.04/1.54-7.42, 0.58-2.08/0.61-2.18, 0.51-1.67/0.56-1.76,  
26 0.05-0.41/0.05-0.42, 0.51-3.52/0.52-3.81, 0.13-0.64/0.14-0.77,  
27 (4.39-85.72/4.51-104.79)×10<sup>-3</sup>, (11.8-51.1/14.0-131.6)×10<sup>-3</sup>, (1.1-4.0/1.8-8.3)×10<sup>-3</sup>,  
28 and (7.7-23.5/9.7-41.5)×10<sup>-3</sup> g kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. EC and soot-EC mainly exist in



29  $PM_{1.0}$ , which are confirmed by morphology analysis. Heavy metal-bearing particles  
30 favor to reside in the range of smoke  $PM_{1.0-2.5}$ .

31 With respect to five scenarios of burning activities or straw field burning rates, the  
32 total emissions of SPM from agricultural open burning in China in 2012 were  
33 estimated for  $PM_{2.5}$ ,  $PM_{1.0}$ , OC, EC, char-EC, soot-EC, WSI, WSOA, WSA, THM,  
34 PAHs, and phenols to be 0.74-1.24, 0.66-1.11, 0.32-0.53, 0.10-0.16, 0.08-0.14,  
35 0.02-0.03, 0.18-0.30, 0.019-0.031,  $4.23-7.19 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $6.36-10.64 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $0.35-0.59 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  
36 and  $2.02-3.40 \times 10^{-3}$  Tg, respectively. The emissions were further temporal-spatially  
37 characterized using geographic information system (GIS) at different regions in  
38 summer and autumn post-harvest periods. It is found less than 25 % of the total  
39 emissions were released during summer harvest period that was mainly contributed  
40 by the North Plain and the Central of China, especially Henan, Shandong, and Anhui,  
41 leading the top three provinces of smoke particle emissions.

42 Flux concentrations of primarily emitted smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  that were calculated using  
43 box-model method based on five versions of emission inventories all exceed the  
44 carcinogenic risk permissible exposure limits (PEL). The health impacts and  
45 health-related economic losses from the smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  short-term exposure were  
46 assessed. The results show that China suffered from 7836 (95 % confidence interval  
47 (CI): 3232, 12362) premature mortality and 7267237 (95 % CI: 2961487, 1130784)  
48 chronic bronchitis in 2012, which led to 8822.4 (95 % CI: 3574.4, 13034.2) million  
49 US\$, or 0.1 % of the total GDP losses. We suggest that percentage of open burnt  
50 crop straws at post-harvest period should be cut down by over 97 % to ensure risk  
51 aversion from carcinogenicity, especially the North Plain and the Northeast, where  
52 the emissions should decrease at least by 94% to meet the PEL. Under such emission  
53 control, over 92 % of the mortality and morbidity attributed to agricultural fire  
54 smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  can be avoided in China.

55 **Key words:** agricultural straw burning, aerosol chamber, smoke particle, emission  
56 factor, emission inventory, health effect, emission control policy



## 57 **1 Introduction**

58 Biomass burning (BB) is a significant source of particulate- and gaseous- pollutants  
59 (Andreae et al., 2001; Clarke et al., 2007; Ram et al., 2011; Saikawa et al., 2009;  
60 Tian et al., 2008). It was estimated that open burning of biomass contributed  
61 approximately 40% of the globally averaged annual submicron black carbon (BC)  
62 aerosol emissions and 65 % of primary OC emissions (Bond et al., 2013). China is  
63 the major contributor that bears over 24 % of global emissions of carbonaceous  
64 aerosols, especially from agricultural field burning, about 0.04~0.5 Tg EC and  
65 0.4~2.1 Tg OC are released annually (Bond, 2004; Cao et al., 2006; Qin et al., 2012;  
66 Saikawa et al., 2009), resulting in great radiative forcing, air quality deterioration,  
67 visibility reduction, premature mortality, and economic loss regionally and globally  
68 (Bølling et al., 2009; Bond et al., 2013; Huang et al., 2014; Janssen et al., 2011;  
69 Rosenfeld, 2006; Saikawa et al., 2009; Shindell et al., 2012).

70 BB also represents one of the most uncertainties in the emission, climate effect,  
71 and public health assessments, which finally relies on the uncertainties in detailed  
72 chemical emission factors or related properties and burning activities like strength or  
73 percentage of biomass fuel burned (Tian et al., 2008; Andreae et al., 2001; Levin et  
74 al., 2010). For example, studies have focused on OC and EC emissions due to their  
75 specific optical properties (Bond et al., 2013; Cao et al., 2006; Qin et al., 2012; Ram  
76 et al., 2011). OC like sulfate and nitrate can cool the atmosphere by increasing the  
77 Earth's reflectivity, however, smoke OC on the other hands together with brown  
78 carbon have been found to be a significant source of light absorption (Chen et al.,  
79 2015; Ackerman, 2000; Chakrabarty et al., 2010; Christopher et al., 2000). The  
80 coated or internal mixed sulfate or nitrate can act as lens to enhance the light  
81 absorption activity of BC (Zhang et al., 2008b), probably also the activity of brown  
82 carbon (Chen et al., 2015). However, primary emissions for OC, EC, and alkali  
83 components are confused and have a wide range (Sen et al., 2014; Cao et al., 2006;  
84 Hayashi et al., 2014), and some study still took OC with negative forcing activity  
85 (Saikawa et al., 2009; Shindell et al., 2012). Besides, smoke EC is consisting of soot



86 and char, and soot-EC has a higher light-absorption potential compared to char-EC  
87 (Arora et al., 2015; Reid et al., 2005a). Division and quantification of char- and  
88 soot-EC emissions for biomass burning are understudied (Arora et al., 2015; Han et  
89 al., 2009). However, other components like organic acids, amines, phenols, and  
90 mineral elements that enable CCN activity or endow health hazard of smoke aerosol  
91 are also deficient, variable, or outdated, which may hinder our overall understanding  
92 of biomass burning contributions and also atmospheric process of smoke particles  
93 (Li et al., 2015; Akagi et al., 2011; Chan et al., 2005; Dhammapala et al., 2007; Ge  
94 et al., 2011; Reid et al., 2005b).

95 Studies using carbon mass-balance method (CMB) and pollutant concentration-  
96 chamber volume quantification method are the two common methods to derive the  
97 emission factors for biomass burning aerosols (Akagi et al., 2011; Li et al., 2007;  
98 Zhang et al., 2008a). Carbonaceous and inorganics components of smoke particles  
99 not only vary with biomass issues (fuel types, water content, or burning strength),  
100 but also relate to burning condition and environment (flaming or smoldering, field  
101 burning or laboratory simulation), extent of aging, sampling methods and  
102 measurement technologies (Grieshop et al., 2009; Hayashi et al., 2014; Reid et al.,  
103 2005b). Comparing to field observations that are closer to the actual burning (Li et  
104 al., 2007; Akagi et al., 2011; Rose et al., 2011; Saffari et al., 2013), laboratory  
105 studies have a definite advantage over field burning research in emission analysis  
106 (Zhang et al., 2008a; Sun et al., 2016; Jayarathne et al., 2014). For example, the  
107 environment, amount of fuel, and burning conditions can be precisely controlled, the  
108 contamination from ambient atmosphere to the emissions can be excluded, and  
109 chemical compositions at different aging extent can be quantified using aerosol  
110 chamber system (Li et al., 2015, 2016; Aurell et al., 2015; Dhammapala et al., 2007).

111 The activity rates of biomass burning (burning rate of biomass fuels) are also  
112 response to the great uncertainties in the emission estimates (Zhang et al., 2008a;  
113 Sun et al., 2016). Seldom study ever focused on the burning rates, and the limited  
114 data were treated as simplex constant or dynamic values in many studies of emission  
115 estimation in a certain year or for annual variations with a long time scales, thus,



116 significant difference among the results were founded (Zhang et al., 2011; Qin et al.,  
117 2012; Qin et al., 2011; Zhao et al., 2012). For instance, Cao et al. (2006; 2011)  
118 estimated primary smoke carbonaceous materials emissions for 2000 and 2007 in  
119 China with same field burning rates, the results were almost the same for the two  
120 year with 103-104 Gg yr<sup>-1</sup> BC and 425.9-433.3 Gg yr<sup>-1</sup> OC emitted. He et al. (2011b)  
121 found the declining trends in biomass burning emissions in the Pearl River Delta for  
122 the period 2003-2007 based on constant activity data of burning rates. Lu et al. (2011)  
123 developed primary carbonaceous aerosol emissions in China for 1996-2010 with  
124 time-dependent activity rates extrapolated from 2008 to 2010 based on national  
125 fast-track statistic, rapid increase of OC and EC emissions were reported, and OC  
126 increased from 1.5 to 2.3 Tg yr<sup>-1</sup>, BC increased from 418 to 619 Gg yr<sup>-1</sup>. Qin et al.  
127 (2012) estimated BC emission from crop straw open burning for 1980-2009 with  
128 variable burning rates based on peasants' income development, the increasing trend  
129 in BC emission was also confirmed, and BC emission increased from 4.3 to 116.6  
130 Gg yr<sup>-1</sup>.

131 As most anthropogenic pollutants are concentrated in submicron particulate  
132 matters (PM<sub>1.0</sub>) (Ripoll et al., 2015), more pronounced relationship of ambient PM<sub>1.0</sub>  
133 to haze formation and adverse health effect has been reported (Huang et al., 2003;  
134 Roemer et al., 2001; Shi et al., 2014). Nevertheless, associated chemical  
135 characterization of PM<sub>1.0</sub> is still undefined (Li et al., 2015; Safai et al., 2013; Cheng  
136 et al., 2006). The study of source-specific PM<sub>1.0</sub> chemical compositions and  
137 emissions are necessary to replenish database for contribution assessment and model  
138 application in atmospheric chemistry, climate changes, and public health evaluation.

139 The emission inventories and forecasting in the emissions of atmospheric  
140 pollutants have been widely studied, and the incurred mortality, climatic effect, and  
141 economic loss have also been estimated (Ostro et al., 1998; Saikawa et al., 2009;  
142 Shindell et al., 2012), based on which the emission control policies were proposed.  
143 Shindell et al. (2012) considered ~400 control measures in tropospheric BC and O<sub>3</sub>  
144 emissions for the benefit of global or regional human health and food security, and  
145 14 optimal measures targeting CH<sub>4</sub> and BC emissions were identified. Saikawa et al.



146 (2009) compared different scenarios of OC, EC, and sulfate emissions in China in  
147 2030, concluding that maximum feasible reduction may avoid over 480000  
148 premature deaths in China and decrease the radiative force from -97 to -15 mW m<sup>-2</sup>  
149 globally. Wang et al. (2008) reported field burning restriction may save about 5  
150 billion dollars losses from biological resource and air pollution. However, the  
151 generalized strategies in emission reduction were inadequate and lack actual  
152 practicality (Streets, 2007; Lin et al., 2010).

153 In this study, burning experiments with five major agricultural straws were  
154 conducted using a combustion stove in combination with an aerosol chamber system.  
155 Accurate compositions and emission factors for SPM in PM<sub>1,0</sub> and PM<sub>2,5</sub> were  
156 characterized and established. Afterwards, up-to-date emissions for agricultural open  
157 burning aerosol in 2012 were developed, health and health-related economic impacts  
158 from smoke PM<sub>2,5</sub> exposure were also assessed. Finally, emission reduction strategy  
159 that was implemented in field burning rate control for the carcinogenic risk concern  
160 was proposed, which should help establish the policy and provide an idea for the  
161 emission control.

## 162 2 Methodology

163 An overview of the research procedures including emission factors acquirement and  
164 emission inventory calculation is shown in Fig. 1. Tabulation of emission factors is  
165 self-established in our laboratory using a combustion stove to simulate open burning  
166 and an aerosol chamber to quantify the emissions. Then, we use a bottom-up  
167 approach to calculate the emission inventory of agricultural field burning over China  
168 mainland based on crop production data in 2012. Emissions for each species are  
169 estimated as:

$$170 E_{k,j} = \sum_i A_{k,i} \times EF_{i,j} \quad (1)$$

171 where E<sub>j</sub> is emission, A<sub>k,i</sub> is effective biofuel consumption, and EF<sub>i,j</sub> is emission  
172 factor. k, i, and j indicates region, agricultural residue type, and particulate chemical  
173 species.

174 State-of-the art chemical transport and box models were commonly applied to



175 reproduce or simulate the ambient aerosol concentrations (Ram et al., 2011; Reddy  
176 et al., 2000; Saikawa et al., 2009). In this study, spatio-temporal dynamic box model  
177 is used to calculate the emission flux concentration. Regional crop straws are  
178 premised to be combusted proportionally only in the fire occurrence days.  
179 Dismissing interaction of emitted pollutants in space and time, pollutants will  
180 distribute uniformly in a space covering an area of specific region with mixing  
181 height of 0.5 km (atmospheric boundary layer). The flux concentration of  
182 agricultural burning smoke can be calculated by Eq. (2):

$$183 \quad C_{k,j} = \frac{E_{k,j}}{S_k \times h \times T_k} \quad (2)$$

184 in Eq. (2),  $C_{k,j}$  is flux concentration of smoke aerosol,  $S_k$  is regional area,  $h$  is  
185 boundary layer height,  $T_k$  is agricultural field fire duration time.

## 186 **2.1 Aerosol chamber work and emission factors**

### 187 **2.1.1 Crop straws**

188 Five kinds of representative crop residues were used for the burning experiments, i.e.,  
189 wheat, rice, corn, cotton, and soybean straws. The straws were collected based on  
190 regional features of agricultural planting, winter wheat straws were collected from  
191 Anhui province, late rice straws from Shanghai, corn straws from Henan province,  
192 cotton and soybean residues from Xinjiang. All straws were stored under dark, airy,  
193 and cooling condition. Prior to the burning experiment, the dirt and weeds were  
194 removed, then straws were dehydrated (at 100 °C for 24 h) to minimize effect of the  
195 water content on the burning and pollutant emissions, as study found pollutants  
196 emissions and combustion efficiencies (CE) are response to water content, increased  
197 moisture content enhances the emissions but also alter the chemical compositions of  
198 smoke aerosols (Reid et al., 2005b; Aurell et al., 2015; Hayashi et al., 2014).  
199 Although straws in the field are not well dried and moisture contents vary with  
200 weather, ventilation, and storing times, for the convenience of practical application  
201 and comparison of burnings and emissions, water contents of the straws were  
202 controlled within 2 %. The dry straws were then cut to a length of approximately 10



203 cm and weighted 10.0 g per serving.

### 204 **2.1.2 Burning experiments**

205 The experiments were conducted using an aerosol chamber system (Fig. S1 in  
206 supplement information, SI), which was loaded in a temperature-controlled room  
207 (18–22 °C, 40%–60% RH). A stainless combustion stove was self-designed to simulate  
208 typical field burning of crop straws, automatic ignition with LPG (Liquid petroleum  
209 gas) in particular, albeit on a small scale (ignition time less than 0.1 s). 10.0 g  
210 conditioned residues were sealed in the 0.227 m<sup>3</sup> combustion stove in advance, once  
211 ignited, the force-ventilation and HEPA filtrated particle-free air were supplied (300  
212 L min<sup>-1</sup>). The emissions were immediately injected into a clean, evacuated aerosol  
213 chamber. The burning last about 1 min and over 1 m<sup>3</sup> particle-free air flushed the  
214 stove to ensure all the emissions were transferred into the chamber.

215 The chamber was costume-built to quantify the emissions and characterize the  
216 physiochemical properties of smoke aerosols, detailed description of the chamber  
217 can be found elsewhere (Zhang et al., 2008a; Zhang et al., 2011; Li et al., 2015,  
218 2016). Briefly, the chamber has a volume of 4.5 m<sup>3</sup> with 0.3 mm Teflon coating on  
219 the inner side, a magnetic fan fixed on the bottom to stir the aerosol uniformly, and a  
220 hygroclip monitor (Rotronic, Model IM-4) equipped inside to measure the  
221 temperature and relative humidity. Before experiment, the chamber was flushed with  
222 particle-free air for 6 h, oxidized by high concentration ozone (~3 ppm) for 12 h,  
223 then flushed again, filled with pure dry air to 80 KPa, and connected to the stove  
224 finally. The emissions from straw burning were aspirated into the chamber till room  
225 pressure, afterwards, size measurement and chemical samplings were conducted  
226 from the chamber. For each type of straw, four burning experiments were conducted.  
227 The unburned residues were weighted and deducted from 10.0 g after each test.

228 Modified combustion efficiency (MCE) for each burning was monitored. A  
229 gas-chromatograph (GC, model 930, Shanghai, Hai Xin Gas Chromatograph Co.,  
230 LTD) equipped with a flame ionization detector, an Ni-H convertor, and a stainless  
231 steel column (2 m long) packed with 15% DNP was used to measure CO and CO<sub>2</sub>





232 concentrations in the chamber. And MCE were 0.89-0.96 for all the experiments,  
233 indicating flaming combustion dominated, which were comparable to that in the  
234 field burning (Li et al., 2003; Li et al., 2007).

### 235 **2.1.3 Size and morphology of smoke aerosol**

236 Size distribution (10 nm-10  $\mu\text{m}$ ) of smoke particles was measured using Wide-range  
237 Particle Spectrometer (WPS, Model 1000XP, TSI, USA), which has been described  
238 by Zhang et al (2011). Briefly, WPS integrates the function of scan mobility particle  
239 sizer (SMPS) and laser particle sizer (LPS), 0.3 L  $\text{min}^{-1}$  flow is introduced to SMPS  
240 part to classify mobility size from 10 nm to 500 nm, and 0.7 L  $\text{min}^{-1}$  flow is  
241 introduced to LPS part to measure aerodynamic diameter from 350 nm to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .  
242 Particle density and refractive index are set as 1.0 g  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  and 1.45. A diffusion dryer  
243 tube filled with descant-silica gel is set prior to the inlet of WPS. Before experiment,  
244 WPS was calibrated with certified polystyrene latex spheres (PSL, 40, 80, and 220  
245 nm, Duke Scientific).

246 SPM from the 5 types crop straws burning were sampled onto copper grids coated  
247 with carbon film (carbon type-B, 300-mesh copper, Tianld Co., China) using a  
248 single-stage cascade impactor with a 0.5 mm diameter jet nozzle at a flow rate of 1.0  
249 L  $\text{min}^{-1}$ . The sampler has a collection efficiency of 100 % at 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  aerodynamic  
250 diameter. More information can be found elsewhere (Fu et al., 2012; Hu et al., 2015).  
251 Then, a JEOL-2010F field emission high-resolution transmission electron  
252 microscope (FE-HRTEM) coupled with an oxford energy-dispersive X-ray spectrum  
253 (EDX) was applied to investigate the morphology, composition, and mixing state of  
254 individual particles.

### 255 **2.1.4 Chemical sampling and analysis**

256  $\text{PM}_{1.0}$  and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  samples for each burning were collected on 90 mm quartz filter  
257 (Tissuquartz, Pall Corp., USA) from the chamber using a high-volume Particle  
258 Sampler (HY-100, Qingdao Hengyuan S.T. Development Co., Ltd) operating at 100  
259 L  $\text{min}^{-1}$ . Each filter sampling duration time is 5 min, and total 44 samples (including



260 4 blank samples) were gathered for the experiments. The quartz microfiber filters  
261 were prebaked for 8 h at 450 °C to eliminate contamination. Before and after the  
262 sampling, the filters were weighted using a balance (Sartorius BP211D) with an  
263 accuracy of 10 µg, and the balance was treated in an electronic desiccator (40 % RH,  
264 22 °C) for 24 h before its use. After weighting, the loaded filters were stored at -20  
265 °C in a refrigerator for further analysis.

266 Water soluble species including general inorganic ions (ions: F<sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>,  
267 SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>), organic acids (CH<sub>3</sub>COOH, HCOOH, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>,  
268 CH<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H), and seven protonated amines (MeOH<sup>+</sup>, TeOH<sup>+</sup>, MMAH<sup>+</sup>, DMAH<sup>+</sup>,  
269 TMAH<sup>+</sup>, MEAH<sup>+</sup>, and DEAH<sup>+</sup> for short, corresponding to monoethanolaminium,  
270 triethanolaminium, monomethylaminium, dimethylaminium, triethylaminium,  
271 monoethylaminium, and diethylaminium ) were measured from 1/4 of each filter  
272 with ion chromatography (IC, Model 850 Professional IC, Metrohm, USA) consists  
273 of a separation column (Metrosep A Supp 7 250/4.0 for anion and organic acids,  
274 Metrosep C-4 150/4.0 for cation, and Metrosep C4-250/4.0 for water soluble  
275 aminiums).

276 1/4 of each filter was acid dissolved to measure the selected elements (As, Pb, Cr,  
277 Cd, Ni, V, Zn, Al), of which As, Zn, Pb, Cr, Cd, and Ni are USEPA priority  
278 controlled pollutants (Wu et al., 2011). The smashed filters were digested at 170 °C  
279 for 4 h in high-pressure Teflon digestion vessel with 3 mL concentrated HNO<sub>3</sub>, 1 mL  
280 concentrated HClO<sub>4</sub>, and 1 mL concentrated HF. Afterwards, the almost dry solution  
281 was diluted and characterized using Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission  
282 Spectrometer (ICP-OES, Atom Scan 2000, JarroU-Ash, USA).

283 Another 1/4 of each filter was ultrasonically extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extracts  
284 were then condensed with rotary evaporator. 16 targeted PAHs (2-ring, naphthalene  
285 (Nap); 3-ring, acenaphthylene (Ac), acenaphthene (Ace), fluorene (Fl), phenanthrene  
286 (Phe), anthracene (Ant); 4-ring, fluoranthene (Flu), pyrene (Pyr), benzo[a]anthracene  
287 (BaA), chrysene (Chr); 5-ring, benzo[b]fluoranthene (BbF), benzo[k]fluoranthene  
288 (BkF), benzo[a]pyrene (BaP), dibenzo[a,h]anthracene (DBA); and 6-ring:  
289 indeno[1,2,3-cd] pyrene (IP), benzo[ghi]perylene (BghiP)) and 5 selected phenols



290 (phenol, 2-methoxyphenol, 4-ethylphenol, 4-ethyl-2-methoxyphenol,  
291 2,6-dimethoxyphenol) were measured from those concentrated extracts using gas  
292 chromatography-mass spectrometer (GC-MS, Agilent 6890-5973N) equipped with  
293 column DB-5ms (Agilent 123-5532).

294 Organic carbon (OC) and elemental carbon (EC) were measured with the rest  
295 quartz filters using a carbon analyzer (Sunset laboratory Inc., Forest Grove, OR)  
296 based on the thermal-optical transmittance (TOT) method with a modified  
297 NIOSH-5040 (National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health) protocol. Four  
298 organic fractions (OC1, OC2, OC3, and OC4 at 150, 250, 450, and 550 °C,  
299 respectively), PC fraction (a pyrolyzed carbonaceous component determined when  
300 transmitted laser returned to its original intensity after the sample was exposed to  
301 oxygen), and three EC fractions (EC1, EC2, and EC3 at 550, 700, and 800 °C,  
302 respectively) are produced. And OC is technically defined as OC1 + OC2 + OC3 +  
303 OC4 + PC, while EC is defined as EC1 + EC2 + EC3 - PC (Seinfeld et al., 2012).  
304 Han et al (2007; 2009) furtherly differentiated char-EC and soot-EC from EC  
305 measurement as EC2 + EC3 equals to soot-EC, and the rest is char-EC.

306 The quality of the data above was guaranteed by standard materials calibration,  
307 recovery rate, and operational blank correction.

### 308 **2.1.5 Calculation of emission factors**

309 The emission quantities derived from the experiment were converted into quantities  
310 per unit weight of initial residues as emission factor (EF, unit: g kg<sup>-1</sup>), which can be  
311 calculated from effective filter sampling weight, chamber volume, and amount of  
312 crop straw consumed (Dhammapala et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2008a). To be more  
313 accurate, wall loss and makeup air dilution of smoke particles in the chamber during  
314 sampling should be corrected, and details see in SI.

## 315 **2.2 Emission inventory calculation**

### 316 **2.2.1 Agricultural field fire survey**

317 Fire sites over China from 2011 to 2013 were statistically analyzed, and the data was



318 collected from the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China that obtained by  
319 NASA's Terra and Aqua satellites remote sensing (<http://www.mep.gov.cn/>).  
320 Agricultural fire sites were screened out from MODIS daily fire products (1 km × 1  
321 km resolution level 3 hotspot) using a high resolution real time land use based on  
322 geography information system (GIS). Spatial and temporal distributions of fire sites  
323 were displayed in Fig. S2 (SI), over 5000 fire sites were allocated into two  
324 prominent field burning periods corresponding to summer (May to July) and autumn  
325 (September to November) harvests, and field burning lasts 54 days and 60 days on  
326 statistical average during the two harvests. In the North of China, open burning  
327 occurred primarily in autumn, while temporal-character of field fires was not  
328 significant in the North Plain and the Center of China.

### 329 2.2.2 Crop straw production

330 Crop straw production was generally derived from annual or monthly crop production  
331 by multiplying crop-specific ratios of production-to-residue (He et al., 2011b; Cao et  
332 al., 2011; Zhao et al., 2012). In this study, crop productions were furtherly classified  
333 into summer harvest and autumn harvest productions according to field fire sites  
334 analysis and traditional seasonal planting and harvesting. The amount of straw  
335 produced was calculated by Eq. (3):

$$336 \quad M_{t,k,i} = P_{t,k,i} \times r_i \times H_{t,k,i} \times D_i \quad (3)$$

337 in which  $M$  is mass of crop straws produced;  $P$  is annual crop-specific amount of  
338 crop production;  $r$  is the production-to-residue ratio;  $D$  is the dry matter  
339 content;  $H_{t,k,i}$  is production ratio of crop  $i$  at region  $k$  during summer or autumn  
340 harvest period  $t$ .

341 Province-level crop production data of wheat, rice, corn, cotton, and soybean were  
342 taken directly from the China Yearbook 2013 (National Bureau of Statistics of China,  
343 NBSC, 2013). Crop-specific production-to-residue ratios were cited from Chinese  
344 Association of Rural Energy Industry (CAREI, 2000; Wang et al., 2008; data  
345 available at <http://www.carei.org.cn/index.php>, in Chinese). Dry matter contents of  
346 crop straws were referred to He et al. (2011b) and Greenhouse Gas Inventory



347 Reference Manual (IPCC, 2007). The parameters of production-to-residue ratios and  
348 dry matter contents were summarized in Table S1 (SI). The regional crop production  
349 ratios in summer and autumn harvests were listed in Table S2 (SI).

### 350 **2.2.3 Field burning rate**

351 Uncertainty of emission estimations mostly relies on intangibility of straw open  
352 burning rate (Zhao et al., 2012; He et al., 2011b). However, regional or national  
353 percentage of straw open burned was seldom studied, and the limited data were  
354 outdated and variable. The available studies indicate national field burning rate of  
355 crop straws range from 15.2% to 27.2% in China (Daize, 2000; Wei et al., 2004;  
356 Zhang et al., 2008a), and more detailed studies indicate about 31.9% of the crop  
357 burned in the Pearl River Delta from 2003 to 2007 (He et al., 2011b), while the  
358 corresponding figures were almost 100% for the Huabei region in 2003 (Zhao et al.,  
359 2012). Two versions of province-level field burning rates that commonly used were  
360 reported by Cao et al. and Wang et al. Cao et al. (2006; 2011; 2005; Chen et al., 2001)  
361 deduced the rates based on regional economic level, the proposal of the rates to be  
362 proportional to peasants' income was confirmed later, and the rates was first used to  
363 calculate the open burning emission in 2000. Wang and Zhang (2008) obtained  
364 provincial percentage of residue open burnt via field survey in 2006. Herein, the two  
365 versions were both applied directly into the emission estimation of 2012 and named  
366 as business-as-usual scenarios (BAU, BAU-I from Cao et al. and BAU-II from Wang  
367 and Zhang in specific).

368 In fact, the burning rates should be dynamic parameters that been influenced by  
369 industrial structure, government policy orientation, or public awareness. With crop  
370 yields increasing and energy consumption structure changes in rural areas, more  
371 straws will be discarded and burned in the field. Nonetheless, rigorous agricultural  
372 fire policy may still suppress the condition worsen as it worked during 2008 for  
373 Beijing Olympics and 2010 for Shanghai Expo (Huang et al., 2013; Cermak et al.,  
374 2009; Wang et al., 2010). Qin et al. (2012; 2011) ever deduced year specific open  
375 burning rates in different zone for the period of 1980-2009 according to their



376 respective peasant income changes in a certain year on the basis of peasant income  
 377 and filed burning rates in 2006. However, the simple linear relationship should be  
 378 doubted, as great increase in per capita income after 2006 will surely overestimate  
 379 the burning rates. We supposed that the values were inverse proportional to peasants'  
 380 agricultural income proportion (AIP), without considering the policy or potential  
 381 gain or loss related to agricultural residue treatment. Thus the burning rates  
 382 established in 2000 and 2006 from Cao et al. (2005) and Wang and Zhang (2008) can  
 383 be converted into that of 2012 based on economic data from equation below:

$$384 \quad R_{k,2012} = \frac{I_{k,2012}}{AI_{k,2012}} \times \frac{AI_{k,y}}{I_{k,y}} \times R_{k,y} \quad (4)$$

385 where  $R$  is agricultural straw filed burnt rate,  $I_{k,y}$  is peasants' annual income,  $AI_{k,y}$   
 386 is peasants' annual agricultural income.  $y$  indicates reference year (2000 for BAU-I,  
 387 and 2006 for BAU-II).  $I_{k,y}$  and  $AI_{k,y}$  can be found or calculated from China  
 388 Yearbook and China Rural Statistic Yearbook (NBSC, 2004-2013).

389 The versions of converted rates based on primary industry level were called  
 390 Economic Models I and II (EM -I and EM-II in short) corresponding to BAU-I and  
 391 BAU-II. Besides, in 2013, the National Development and Reform Commission of  
 392 China published the Chinese agricultural straw treatment report of 2012 (NDRC,  
 393 [2014] No.516, data available at <http://www.sdpc.gov.cn/>, in Chinese) for the first  
 394 time. The percentages of crop residues discarded in the report were applied in our  
 395 estimation, which was called NDRC version.

#### 396 **2.2.4 Emission and flux concentration**

397 From above study, emission of SPM pollutants can be calculated by recount of Eq.  
 398 (1), as Eq. (5) showed below:

$$399 \quad E_{t,k,j} = \sum_i M_{t,k,i} \times R_k \times f_i \times EF_{i,j} \quad (5)$$

400 where  $E_{t,k,j}$  is emission amount of chemical species  $j$  at region  $k$  during harvest  
 401 period  $t$ ;  $f_i$  is burning efficiency, the crop specific values were cited as 0.68 for  
 402 soybean residue and 0.93 for the rest four straws (Zhang et al., 2011; Wang and



403 Zhang, 2008; Zhang et al., 2008a; Koopmans et al., 1997). Thus, flux concentration  
404 of corresponded pollutants can be also assessed from box model as mentioned in  
405 front.

## 406 **2.3 Estimating health impacts and health-related economic losses**

### 407 **2.3.1 Carcinogenic risk of Smoke Particulate Matter (CRSPM)**

408 Apart from the enormous climatic effects due to optical properties of smoke particle  
409 from IPCC, new epidemiological and toxicological evidence have also linked  
410 carbonaceous aerosol to cardiovascular and respiratory health effects according to  
411 the World Health Organization (Bruce et al., 1987; IPCC, 2007). Here, we present  
412 the fuel-specific carcinogenic risk of SPM (CRSPM, unit: per  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) to assess  
413 health hazard from agricultural straw burning particles and help source-specific air  
414 quality control. The cancer risk attributed to inhalation exposures of smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$   
415 from crop straw i burning was calculated as:

$$416 \quad \text{CR}_i = \sum_j f_j \times \text{UnitRisk}_j \quad (6)$$

417 where  $f_j$  is mass fraction of individual species  $j$  in smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ,  $\text{UnitRisk}_j$  is  
418 corresponded unit carcinogenic risk value of species  $j$  extracted from database  
419 provided by the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS), California  
420 Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA), and related documents (Bruce et al.,  
421 1987; Burkart et al., 2013; Tsai et al., 2001; Wu et al., 2011; Wu et al., 2009).

422  $\text{CR}_i$  is estimated based on dose addition model of selected hazardous air  
423 pollutants (HAPs) including USEPA priority pollutants of PAHs and heavy metals.  
424 And  $\text{UnitRisk}$  values of the selected HAPs presented in Table S3 (SI). Synergistic  
425 interactions among pollutants are dismissed, albeit possible. The cancer risk of  
426 chromium is adjusted by multiplying a factor of 0.2, assuming that only 20% Cr  
427 measured is in the toxic hexavalent form (Bell et al., 1997). Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) is  
428 used as an indicator compound of carcinogenicity, legally binding threshold of BaP  
429 in most countries ranges from 0.7 to 1.3  $\text{ng m}^{-3}$ , corresponded carcinogenic risk of  
430 BaP is about  $1.1 \times 10^{-6}$  per  $\text{ng m}^{-3}$  (Bruce et al., 1987; Burkart et al., 2013). Thus, one



431 in million level of carcinogenic potential is frequently used to identify risks of  
432 concern in public health and environmental decision making, and permissible  
433 exposure limits (PEL, unit:  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) of crop straw burning particles can be estimated  
434 as:

$$435 \text{ PEL}_i = \frac{10^{-6}}{\text{CR}_i} \quad (7)$$

### 436 2.3.2 Human exposure and health impacts

437 Robust relationship between surface  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and health effects has been revealed and  
438 confirmed by many studies (Pope et al., 2004; Wong et al., 2008).  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ -related  
439 health endpoints are composed of a range of elements from sub-clinical effects to the  
440 onset of diseases and the final death (Davidson et al., 2005). In this study, incidence  
441 of commonly studied endpoints like premature mortality, respiratory and  
442 cardiovascular hospital admissions, and chronic bronchitis from primary emitted  
443 smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  short-term exposure were assessed using the Poisson regression model,  
444 shown as below (Guttikunda et al., 2014):

$$445 \Delta E = \Delta\text{Pop} \times \text{IR} \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{e^{\beta \times \Delta C}}\right) \quad (8)$$

446 where  $\Delta E$  represents the number of estimated cases of mortality and morbidity,  $\Delta C$   
447 is the incremental concentration of particulate matter or flux concentration;  $\Delta\text{Pop}$  is  
448 the population exposed to the incremental particulate concentration of  $\Delta C$ ; IR is  
449 short for incidence rate of the mortality and morbidity endpoints, and  $\beta$  is the  
450 coefficient of exposure-response function, defined as the change in number case per  
451 unit change in concentration per capita.

452 Concentration-response function and incidence rate of each health endpoint are  
453 important in health impacts evaluation and they have variation for different  
454 population and regions (Yang et al., 2012; Wong et al., 2008). Here, the variance for  
455 sex and ages were neglected. Region-specific exposure-response coefficients for  
456 individual mortality were summarized from previous studies, as presented in Table  
457 S4 (SI). The coefficients for individual respiratory and cardiovascular hospital  
458 admission, and chronic bronchitis were cited as 1.2 %, 0.7 %, and 4.4 % (per 10  $\mu\text{g}$





459  $\text{m}^{-3}$ , 95% CI) from Aunan and Pan's work (Aunan et al., 2004). This is the case  
460 because seldom studies ever confirmed these topics in China. Region-specific  
461 mortality and hospitalization IRs were taken from statistical reports authorized by  
462 National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China  
463 (NHFPC, 2013), and morbidity of chronic bronchitis were defined as 13.8 ‰ based  
464 on the forth national health survey, which was released by the Chinese Ministry of  
465 Health in 2008 (CMH, 2009).

### 466 2.3.3 Economic valuation of the health impacts

467 The economic losses of the health impacts associated with smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  exposure in  
468 2012 were further evaluated. The amended human capital (AHC) approach was  
469 employed to calculate the unit economic cost of premature mortality. The commonly  
470 applied AHC method uses per capita GDP to measure the value of a statistical year  
471 of life (IBRD and SEPA, 2007) based on Eq. (9). It can be used as a social statement  
472 of the value of avoiding premature mortality and estimates human capital (HC) from  
473 the perspective of entire society, neglecting individual differences (Hou et al., 2012).

$$474 \text{HC}_k = \frac{\text{GDP}_k}{\text{POP}_k} \times \sum_{i=1}^{\tau} \frac{(1+\alpha)^i}{(1+\gamma)^i} \quad (9)$$

475  $\text{GDP}_k$  and  $\text{POP}_k$  are gross domestic production and population of target region  $k$   
476 that were reported in the statistical yearbook in 2012;  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are economic  
477 parameters referring to national GDP growth rate and social discount rate, which  
478 were 7.7 % and 8.0 % in 2012 from National Bureau of Statistics of China (NBSC,  
479 2013, data available at <http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/ndsj/>, in Chinese).  $\tau$  is the  
480 life-expectancy lost due to aerosol pollution, and 18 year of life was widely applied  
481 (Hou et al., 2012). The annual exchange rate of US dollar to RMB was 6.31 in 2012.  
482 One can deduce the HC values of the provinces, municipalities, and autonomous  
483 regions in the country, and the calculated regional HC values were listed in Table S5  
484 (SI). In this paper, the cost of respiratory, cardiovascular hospital admissions, and  
485 chronic bronchitis were 632.2, 1223.4, and 948.6 US\$ per case in 2012, which were  
486 derived from the national health statistical reports (NHFPC, 2013).

487 The regional and national health-related economic loss from smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$



488 exposure can be calculated based on the excess mortality and morbidity multiplied  
489 by the corresponding unit economic values.

### 490 **3 Result**

#### 491 **3.1 Particulate chemical compositions and emission factors**

##### 492 **3.1.1 Organic carbon and elemental carbon**

493 An overview of particulate chemical compositions for smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{1.0}$  is  
494 pie-graphically profiled in Fig. 2, and the corresponded emission factors are given in  
495 Table 1-4. Significant differences of chemical compositions in size range and fuel  
496 types can be observed, implying the non-uniform mixing and distribution of  
497 particulate pollutants from biomass burning. Emission factors of particulate species  
498 from this study are comparable with that from literature as summarized in Table 5.  
499 EFs of smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{1.0}$  were  $8.99 \pm 5.55$  and  $7.91 \pm 4.67$   $g\ kg^{-1}$  for the five  
500 kinds of crop straws, and over 70 wt.% of SPM was organic components (OM and  
501 EC), with average of 73.4 wt.% in  $PM_{2.5}$  and 71.3 wt.% in  $PM_{1.0}$ . Organic matter  
502 (OM) was converted from OC by multiplying a factor of 1.3 to account for  
503 noncarbon materials (Li et al., 2007). Due to the technical limitation and ambiguous  
504 artificial boundary, carbon contents of biomass burning particles have vast variability  
505 and uncertainty (Lavanchy et al., 1999; Levin et al., 2010). EFs of EC and OC from  
506 this work agree well with previous study, average EFs of OC were 4.21 and 3.58  $g$   
507  $kg^{-1}$  in smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{1.0}$ , and the values for EC were 1.09 and 1.01  $g\ kg^{-1}$ .  
508 Mass ratio of OC/EC is an important parameter to indicate the primary organic  
509 aerosol (OA) emission and secondary organic aerosol (SOA) production. The ratio is  
510 response to burning conditions, source, aging extent, and particle size (Engelhart et  
511 al., 2012; Grieshop et al., 2009). Smoke emitted from smoldering fires is  
512 OC-dominated while flaming combustion produces more EC, and the discrepancy of  
513 OC/EC ratio can be an order of magnitude (Grieshop et al., 2009). SOA production  
514 upon photo-oxidation will increase the OC/EC ratio, and positive relation between  
515 oxidation level of OA and OC/EC ratio was reported (Grieshop et al., 2009). Here,



516 OC/EC ratio in primary emissions varied from 2.4 to 6.2 under flaming condition,  
517 similar to previous studies (Lewis et al. 2009; Dhammapala et al. 2007; Hayashi et al.  
518 2014; Arora et al. 2015). The ratios were larger in  $PM_{2.5}$  with average value of 3.8,  
519 while it was 3.6 in  $PM_{1.0}$ , indicating more EC resides in  $PM_{1.0}$ .

520 EC in smoke particle can be further classified as char-EC and soot-EC based on  
521 the distinct different physiochemical properties and formation mechanisms of soot  
522 and char (Arora et al., 2015; Lin et al., 2011; Reid et al., 2005a; Richter et al., 2000).  
523 Both char- and soot-EC represent the major light-absorbing fraction of PM; however,  
524 light-absorption potential of soot-EC exceeds char-EC (Arora et al., 2015). Char-EC  
525 can be distinguished as brown carbon, as carbonaceous materials that are optically  
526 between the strongly absorbing soot and non-absorbing organics are operationally  
527 defined as brown carbon (Yang et al., 2009; Andreae et al., 2006). Char-EC is  
528 formed from solid residues during relative low-temperature combustion, while  
529 generation of soot-EC takes place under high-temperature conditions from  
530 recondensation and dihydrogen-carbonization of gaseous materials (Han et al., 2009;  
531 Han et al., 2007). Average EFs of char- and soot-EC in smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  were  $0.93 \pm$   
532  $0.50$  and  $0.15 \pm 0.15$   $g\ kg^{-1}$  in this study. Mass ratio of char-EC/soot-EC is a more  
533 effective indicator for source identification and apportionment than OC/EC (Han et  
534 al., 2009; Han et al., 2007). The ratios of char-EC/soot-EC also varied with fuel  
535 types and PM fraction. Similar to OC/EC, char-EC/soot-EC was larger in  $PM_{2.5}$  with  
536 average ratio of 7.28, and the ratio was 6.29 in  $PM_{1.0}$ , the result indicates that  
537 char-EC dominates the EC fraction in SPM and char particle has a larger size than  
538 soot, as soot particle is mainly within several hundred nanometers, while char is  
539 reported primarily to be supermicron particle (Arora et al., 2015; China et al., 2014;  
540 Lin et al., 2011; Wornat et al., 2007). Besides, correlation among the multi-pollutants  
541 was analyzed by relevance matrix as shown in Table S6 (SI), the strong positive  
542 linear relationship ( $R^2 > 0.99$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) between EC and char-EC also confirms the  
543 reliable source of biomass burning to produce char-EC (Lin et al., 2011; Arora et al.,  
544 2015).



### 545 3.1.2 Water soluble organic acids

546 Smoke particles comprise a considerable amount of water soluble organic acids  
547 (WSOA), it was 3.35 wt.% in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and 3.17 wt.% in PM<sub>1.0</sub> on average, which was  
548 in line with previous work that organic acids measured represented less than 5 wt.%  
549 of the total smoke aerosol mass load (Falkovich et al., 2005; Gao et al., 2003). Acetic  
550 acid followed by methanesulfonic acid contributes the most of the measured low  
551 molecule weight acids. The sums of EFs of these organic acids ranged from 46.7 to  
552 770.0 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>, and the WSOA were highly correlated with emissions of OC and PM  
553 in Table S6 (SI). Study has shown organic acids contribute a significant fraction of  
554 both oxygenated volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) in gaseous phase and SOA in  
555 particulate phase, the direct emission of particulate organic acids from biomass  
556 burning also represents a significant source of precursors for SOA formation, as the  
557 low molecular organic acids will evaporate into gas phase or involve in the  
558 heterogeneous reaction directly (Takegawa et al., 2007; Veres et al., 2010; Yokelson  
559 et al., 2007; Carlton et al., 2006). Moreover, as the significant fraction of water  
560 soluble organic carbon, organic acids plays major response to CCN activity of smoke  
561 particles, and organic acids coating or mixing can amplify hygroscopic growth of  
562 inorganic salts by decreasing the deliquescence RH, enable the particle to be CCN at  
563 relative low degree of supersaturation (Falkovich et al., 2005; Ghorai et al., 2014). In  
564 the ambient environment, organic acids can enhance atmospheric new particle  
565 formation by impairing nucleation barrier (Zhang et al., 2004), besides, particulate  
566 organic acids can also mobilize the solubility of mineral species, like iron, altering  
567 the chemical process of particles (Cwiertny et al., 2008). And prominent optical  
568 properties of organic acids like humic/fulvic substance make them as potential  
569 contributors to the global warming (Yang et al., 2009; Andreae et al., 2006).

### 570 3.1.3 Water soluble aminiums

571 Interest has been focused on the vital role of amines in particle nucleation-growth  
572 process and acidity regulating due to their strong base (Tao et al., 2016; Bzdek et al.,  
573 2011; Bzdek et al., 2010). Though ultratrace gaseous amines and particulate



574 aminiums were on the order of pptv and  $\text{ng m}^{-3}$ , aminium salts exhibit potential  
575 climatic and health effect due to their significant different properties in hygroscopic,  
576 optical and also toxicological (Qiu et al., 2012; Qiu et al., 2011; Samy et al., 2013;  
577 Zheng et al., 2015; Ho et al., 2015; Tao et al., 2016). It ever proposed that biomass  
578 burning is an important emission source of gaseous amines, especially from  
579 smoldering burning, and particulate alkyl amides can be served as biomarkers (Ge et  
580 al., 2011; Ho et al., 2015; Lee et al., 2013; Lobert et al., 1990; Simoneit et al., 2003).  
581 However, seldom study ever quantitatively explored the particulate water soluble  
582 amine salts (WSA) in primary smoke particle emissions (Schade et al., 1995; Ge et  
583 al., 2011). From this study, WSA contributed 4.81 wt.% of smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and 4.69 wt.%  
584 of  $\text{PM}_{1.0}$  on average, implicating aminium favored to be abundant in fine-mode  
585 smoke particles, especially in  $\text{PM}_{2.5-1.0}$ .  $\text{DEAH}^+$ ,  $\text{TMAH}^+$ ,  $\text{TEOH}^+$  and  $\text{DMAH}^+$  made  
586 up over 80 wt. % of the measured WSA. Fuel-dependence of WSA distribution and  
587 emission were obvious. EFs of WSA ranged from 4.5 to  $104.8 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$  in smoke  
588  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ , the least was from burning of soybean straw and the largest from cotton and  
589 rice straws. We used mass ratio of WSA to  $\text{NH}_4^+$  to denote the enrichment of  
590 aminium in particulate phase.  $\text{WSA}/\text{NH}_4^+$  in smoke  $\text{PM}_{1.0}$  and in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  was  $0.16 \pm$   
591  $0.03$  and  $0.18 \pm 0.06$ .

#### 592 **3.1.4 PAHs and Phenols**

593 Atmospheric PAHs are primarily the byproduct of incomplete combustion of  
594 biomass and fossil fuels (Simcik et al., 1999; Galarneau, 2008). Due to their high  
595 degree of bioaccumulation and carcinogenic or mutagenic effect, the sources and  
596 environmental fate of the ubiquitous PAHs have been the subjects of extensive  
597 studies (Santodonato, 1997; Kim et al., 2013). PAHs can involve in photochemical  
598 reaction to form SOA, the process is influenced by gas-to-particle partition and  
599 meteorological conditions. Oxidation may increase the toxicity of PAHs (Arey et al.,  
600 2003; Wang et al., 2011). Biomass burning is one of the main sources of gaseous and  
601 particulate PAHs, which even contributes to about half of total PAHs emissions in  
602 the atmosphere in China (Xu et al., 2006; Zhang et al., 2011). Burning conditions



603 can significantly influence the emission of PAHs, under the flaming phase in this  
604 study, PAHs contributed 0.46 wt.% of smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  and 0.28 wt.% of  $PM_{1.0}$ , over 60%  
605 of the total PAHs were associated to respiratory submicron particles. Emission  
606 factors of 16 PAHs in smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  ranged from 1.81 to 8.30  $mg\ kg^{-1}$ , which were  
607 consistent with the values from literature (Dhammapala et al., 2007; Lee et al., 2005;  
608 Zhang et al., 2011). Dhammapala et al. also found laboratory simulated burnings  
609 might overestimate the emission factors of PAHs compared with field burnings  
610 (Dhammapala et al., 2007). The distribution of particulate PAHs emission factors  
611 was presented in Fig. 3a. Of the particle bound PAHs, 3~4-rings components were  
612 the primary ones, including Pyr, Ant, Ace, Flu, Phe, and Chr. Concentration ratios of  
613 selected PAHs, namely diagnostic ratios, were usually used to trace the source and  
614 make apportionment of specific pollutions (Yunker et al., 2002; Simcik et al., 1999).  
615 In this work, average  $Ant/(Ant+Phe)$ ,  $Flu/(Flu+Pyr)$ ,  $BaA/(BaA+Chr)$ , and  
616  $IP/(IP+BghiP)$  ratios of 5 types agricultural residue burning smokes were 0.72, 0.36,  
617 0.47, and 0.58, respectively. There was no significant difference of the ratios in  
618  $PM_{1.0}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ . According to previous work,  $Ant/(Ant+Phe)$  above 0.1 and  
619  $BaA/(BaA+Chr)$  above 0.35 indicate the dominance of combustion and pyrolytic  
620 sources,  $Flu/(Flu+Pyr)$  and  $IP/(IP+BghiP)$  ratios greater than 0.50 suggest coal or  
621 biomass burnings dominate (Simcik et al., 1999; Yunker et al., 2002). However,  
622 validation of source apportionment using specific diagnostic ratios should have its  
623 constraints, because of variations in source strengths and atmospheric processing of  
624 PAHs (Arey et al., 2003; Galarneau, 2008).

625 From Table S6 (SI), The PAHs in smoke particles were highly correlated with EC  
626 and OC contents. PAHs primarily originate from pyrolysis of organic materials  
627 during combustion, and formation mechanisms of PAHs and soot are closely  
628 intertwined in flames. High-molecular-weight PAHs (>500 atomic mass unit) act as  
629 precursors of soot particles (Lima et al., 2005; Richter et al., 2000). Thus, PAHs with  
630 3, 4, and 5 rings accumulate and dominate in the emissions of biomass burning, as  
631 larger molecular weight PAHs tend to incorporate into soot particles. PAHs  
632 expulsion-accumulation in OC and EC fractions were analyzed by linear fitting of



633 PAHs mass fractions and EC mass fractions in carbonaceous materials (EC+OC) in  
634 Fig. 3b. The partitions can be parameterized as Eq. (10):

$$635 \quad f_{\text{PAHs}} = \frac{m_{\text{PAHs}}}{m_{\text{OC}} + m_{\text{EC}}} = \beta_{\text{EC}} \times \frac{m_{\text{EC}}}{m_{\text{OC}} + m_{\text{EC}}} + \beta_{\text{OC}} \times \frac{m_{\text{OC}}}{m_{\text{OC}} + m_{\text{EC}}} = \beta_{\text{EC}} \times f_{\text{EC}} + \beta_{\text{OC}} \times f_{\text{OC}} \quad (10)$$

636 where  $f_{\text{EC}}$  and  $f_{\text{OC}}$  are the mass fraction of OC and EC in carbonaceous materials  
637 (EC+OC).  $\beta_{\text{EC}}$  and  $\beta_{\text{OC}}$  are expulsion-accumulation coefficients of PAHs in OC and  
638 BC. The coefficient of  $\beta_{\text{EC}}$  is  $1.1 \times 10^{-3}$  in smoke  $\text{PM}_{1.0}$  and  $1.9 \times 10^{-3}$  in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ; the  
639 corresponded  $\beta_{\text{OC}}$  is  $0.3 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $0.5 \times 10^{-3}$ .

640 Phenols are the most common SOA precursor/product and organic pollutants in  
641 the atmosphere (Berndt et al., 2006; Schauer et al., 2001). Hydroxyl functional group  
642 and aromatic benzene ring make phenols a paradigm in heterogeneous reaction upon  
643 photo oxidation research and aqueous phase reaction research. Phenols are also ROS  
644 precursors that present health hazard (Bruce et al., 1987). Phenol and substituted  
645 phenols are thermal products of lignin pyrolysis during biomass burning  
646 (Dhammapala et al., 2007), and the five measured phenols contributed 2.98 wt. %  
647 and 2.47 wt. % of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{1.0}$ . 2, 6-dimethoxyphenol was the major one of the  
648 measured phenols. Mass fraction of phenols was about 7~9 time of PAHs in smoke  
649 aerosols.

### 650 3.1.5 Inorganic components

651 From Fig. 2, smoke particles consisted of approximately 24 wt.% water soluble  
652 inorganics (WSI), and the inorganic salts resided more in  $\text{PM}_{1.0}$ .  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ , and  
653  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  were the major inorganic ions in WSI. Particulate enriched  $\text{K}^+$  together with  
654 levoglucosan are treated as tracers of pyrogenic source (Andreae et al., 1998). And  
655 specific mass ratio of  $\text{K}^+/\text{OC}$  or  $\text{K}^+/\text{EC}$  will help make source apportionment of  
656 particulate pollutants with PMF (Positive Matrix Factorization) and PFA (Principle  
657 Balance Analysis) models (Lee et al., 2015).  $\text{K}^+/\text{OC}$  in smoke particles ranged from  
658 0.11 to 0.25 with average value of 0.17 in  $\text{PM}_{1.0}$  and 0.14 in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ , which were  
659 similar to those reported for the Savannah burning and agricultural waste burning  
660 emissions in India and China (Echalar et al., 1995; Ram and Sarin, 2011). However,  
661 OC represents large uncertainty arise from degree of oxidization and burning



662 condition,  $K^+/EC$  is more practical parameter to distinguish the pyrogenic pollutants  
663 in ambient study. To smoke particle emitted from flaming fires,  $K^+/EC$  was  $0.58 \pm$   
664  $0.24$  in  $PM_{1.0}$  and  $0.53 \pm 0.18$  in  $PM_{2.5}$ .  $Cl^-$  was the main anion to balance the charge  
665 of WSI in smoke particles. Mean charge ratio of  $Cl^- : K^+$  was 1.46 and 1.49 in  $PM_{1.0}$   
666 and  $PM_{2.5}$ , with atmospheric aging, the ratio will decrease as chloride be replaced by  
667 secondary sulfate and nitrate (Li et al., 2015; Li et al., 2003). Equivalent charge ratio  
668 of primary cations ( $NH_4^+ + K^+$ ) to primary anions ( $SO_4^{2-} + Cl^-$ ) was 1.05 in  $PM_{1.0}$   
669 and 1.01 in  $PM_{2.5}$  on average, and charge ratios of total cations to anions ( $R_{C/A}$ ) was  
670 1.09 and 1.07 in  $PM_{1.0}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ .  $R_{C/A}$  was used to indicate the neutralizing level of  
671 particulate matters in many studies.  $R_{C/A} \geq 1$  indicates most of the acids can be  
672 neutralized, while  $R_{C/A} < 1$  means atmospheric ammonia is deficient and the aerosol is  
673 acidic (Adams et al., 1999; He et al., 2011a; Kong et al., 2014). In ambient  
674 environment, acidic aerosol was prevailing urban pollutants in many cities from field  
675 investigation (He et al., 2011a; Kong et al., 2014). Acidic aerosols can increase the  
676 risks to human health and affect the atmospheric chemistry by activating hazardous  
677 materials and promoting the solubility of particulate iron and phosphorus (Amdur et  
678 al., 1989; Meskhidze, 2005). The emission and transport of biomass burning  
679 particles may neutralize the acidity of ambient particles. However, only limited WSI  
680 were brought into in the analytical system, considering the existence of massive  
681 organic acids and ammoniums, it is not really to tell the acidity or base of smoke  
682 particles.

683 Trace mineral elements attracted great attention for the role as catalyst in  
684 atmospheric heterogeneous reaction and health cares (Davidson et al., 2005;  
685 Dentener et al., 1996). Wet/dry deposition of particles during long range transport  
686 will affect the ecological balance by releasing mineral elements (Jickells et al., 2005).  
687 Dust storm, weathering, and industrial process are the main sources of particulate  
688 metals, and incineration can also produce a lot of mineral elements (Moreno et al.,  
689 2013). However, the emissions of trace metals from biomass burning are highly  
690 uncertain (Li et al., 2007), the great influence from local soil environment and soil  
691 heavy metal pollution will certainly affect the metal content in biomass fuel and





692 smoke particle. In this study, THM resided more in PM<sub>2.5</sub> than in PM<sub>1.0</sub>. Smoke  
693 PM<sub>2.5</sub> consisted of 6.7 wt.% THM on average, PM<sub>1.0</sub> comprised 4.1 wt.% THM. EFs  
694 of THM in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub> were 0.056 g kg<sup>-1</sup> and 0.028 g kg<sup>-1</sup> for all the five straws  
695 burning aerosol. Al contributed over 90% of total THM, and As was the second most  
696 element. Smoke particles from wheat, rice, and corn straws contained more mineral  
697 elements than that from cotton and soybean residues combustion. Regardless the  
698 difference in biomass fuels, the result can imply that soil heavy metal pollution is  
699 heavier in the East China than that in Xinjiang in the West North of China (Wei et al.,  
700 2010).

### 701 **3.2 Size, morphology, and mixing state of smoke particles**

702 Fresh smoke particles exhibited unimodal size distribution within 500 nm (Fig. S3,  
703 SI), and previous chamber study has also confirmed that agricultural fire produces  
704 large amount of ultrafine particles, implying more profound threat to human health  
705 (Araujo et al., 2008; Delfino et al., 2005; Zhang et al., 2011). However, the role of  
706 particles in the atmospheric process and health hazard depends not only size, but also  
707 morphology and chemical mixing states (Dusek et al., 2006; Kennedy, 2007;  
708 Mikhailov et al., 2006; Schlesinger, 1985). From TEM images in Fig. 4, agricultural  
709 straw burning aerosols comprised a broad class of morphological and chemically  
710 heterogeneous particles. Non-uniformly internal mixing of the agglomerates was  
711 noticeable, including the major carbonaceous particles and a considerable amount of  
712 inorganic salt particles, which was consistent with particulate chemical compositions  
713 analysis. KCl particles containing minor sulfate or nitrate were the primary inorganic  
714 particles, which presented crystal or amorphous state from X-ray diffraction analysis  
715 (Fig. 4 a, b, c). And potassium-bearing particles have been used as a tracer of  
716 ambient biomass burning pollutants. Fly ash particles were arresting due to visible  
717 morphology difference and mineral chemical composition (Fig. 4 d, e, f). Fly ash  
718 particles were more compact and rich in mineral elements like Ca, Si, Fe, Al, Mn,  
719 and Cr. Besides, these particles had larger size, statistical average diameter of fly ash  
720 particles obtained from bulk analysis was  $2.2 \pm 1.6 \mu\text{m}$ . The result also proved heavy



721 metals resided more in  $PM_{2.5}$  than  $PM_{1.0}$ . Fly ashes are by products of incineration  
722 process (Buha et al., 2014), including coagulation of fuel issue debris, condensation  
723 of evaporated mineral metal from biomass fuels or adhered dirt at different burning  
724 phase. These fly ashes coated by or agglomerated with carbonaceous materials were  
725 like mash of mineral without clear lattice. Tar ball as a specific form of brown  
726 carbon and soot were representative particles of biomass burning aerosol (Wilson et  
727 al., 2013; Chakrabarty et al., 2010; Tóth et al., 2014). From Fig. 4 g, chain-like soot  
728 particles were coagulated with tar ball. Soot particles were agglomerates of small  
729 roughly spherical elementary carbonaceous particles, these chemical consistent  
730 particles were within 20~30 nm, and high-resolution TEM showed the soot spheres  
731 consisted of concentrically wrapped graphitic layers, while monomeric tar balls  
732 possessed disordered microstructure. Tar balls and soot corresponded to different  
733 stages in the aging of organic particles; tar balls abundant in fresh or slightly aged  
734 biomass smoke are formed by gas-to-particle conversion of high-molecular weight  
735 organic species or from aged primary tar droplets upon biomass burning. Soot  
736 represents further aged carbon-bearing particles, formed from the pyrolysis of lignin,  
737 cellulose, or tar balls (Pósfai, 2004; Tóth et al., 2014). The botryoid aggregates in  
738 Fig. 4 g can be viewed as transformation of tar ball to soot. Tar ball and soot were  
739 also internal mixed with inorganic salt including sulfate and nitrate (Fig. 4 g, h, i),  
740 which made the physiochemical properties of BC even complicated, as study has  
741 confirmed inorganic sulfate mixing will enhance light absorption and hygroscopicity  
742 of BC (Zhang et al., 2008b). Dark-ring like shell of tar ball (Fig. 4 g, h) and spot-like  
743 particles adhered to the surface of tar ball (Fig. 4 i) were K-rich materials. And size  
744 of soot particles was mainly within 200 nm, while tar ball and other carbonaceous  
745 particles can be over one micrometer.

### 746 3.3 Open burning emissions

#### 747 3.3.1 Crop straw production

748 The agricultural straw productions were calculated and geographically displayed in  
749 Fig. 5 a-c. Totally 647.3 Tg agricultural straws were produced in 2012 and dispersed



750 mainly in the North and Northeast of China. The distributions of the straws clearly  
751 correspond to the distinct planting regions that are divided by Qinling  
752 Mountain-Huaihe River line and the Yangtze River. Rice is primarily planted in the  
753 south of Qinling Mountain-Huaihe River line, only 10 % rice (single cropping rice  
754 dominate) is planted in Heilongjiang, Jilin, and Liaoning province, while wheat and  
755 corn are grew mostly in the north of the Yangtze River. Over 90 % of the wheat  
756 planted in China is winter wheat that gets ripe in summer, and more than 80 % rice  
757 including middle and late rice grows mature in autumn. Summer harvest contributed  
758 about 25 % of the agricultural straw production, which solely consists of rice and  
759 wheat straws in this period and distributes in the central and east of China. 493.9 Tg  
760 crop straws were produced mainly from corn and rice harvesting in autumn. Soybean  
761 and cotton straws account for about 8.6 % of autumn straw production that were  
762 primarily produced in Heilongjiang and Xinjiang province.

### 763 3.3.2 Open burning rate

764 The five scenarios of field burning rates and regional AIP ( $\frac{I_{k,y}}{At_{k,y}}$ ) in the year of  
765 2000, 2006, and 2012 were listed in Table 6 and statistically analyzed in Fig. 6. A  
766 significant difference of regional burning rates among the versions was observed,  
767 and the rates from NDRC report were generally higher. For convenience, six zones  
768 were classified by geographic divisions and economic areas in China, including the  
769 North Plain (Anhui, Shandong, Hebei, Shanxi, Tianjin, Beijing), the Central of  
770 China (Hunan, Henan, Hubei), the Yangtze River Delta (Zhejiang, Jiangsu,  
771 Shanghai), the Northeast of China (Heilongjiang, Liaoning, Jilin), the Pan-Pearl  
772 River Delta (Hainan, Guangdong, Fujian, Guangxi, Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan,  
773 Jiangxi), the West of China (Shanxi, Chongqing, Xinjiang, Qinghai, Ningxia, Tibet,  
774 Inner Mongolia, Gansu). And the bulk-weighted burning rates that averaged from  
775 BAU, EM, and NDRC versions for the six zones were 22.3 %  $\pm$  3.1 %, 21.1 %  $\pm$   
776 3.3 %, 28.4 %  $\pm$  6.2 %, 23.3 %  $\pm$  9.2 %, 21.4 %  $\pm$  6.5 %, and 14.2 %  $\pm$  8.0 %,  
777 respectively. It was obvious that condition of agricultural field burning was most  
778 serious in the Yangtze River Delta, especially in the Zhejiang province. The



779 nationwide filed burning rate was 21.4 %, 16.3 %, 26.0 %, 14.9 %, and 26.8 % for  
780 BAU-I, BAU-II, EM-I, EM-II, and NDRC, respectively, which were comparable  
781 with the document values (Daize, 2000; Wei et al., 2004; Zhang et al., 2008a).

### 782 3.3.3 Agricultural open burning emissions

783 PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from agricultural field burnings based on BAU, EM, and NDRC  
784 versions were calculated and geographically presented in Fig. 7 (emissions of  
785 detailed chemical species in SI). A similar spatial character of regional emission  
786 distribution was observed for BAU, EM, and NDRC versions, most emissions were  
787 allocated in the North Plain and the Central of China where the primary agricultural  
788 regions locate, echoing the agricultural fire sites in Fig. S2 (SI). Although filed  
789 burning rates were higher in the Yangtze River Delta, the crop residue productions of  
790 this zone were much less, which only contributed 4.3 % of the national straw  
791 productions. Take NDRC as the basis, BAU and EM scenarios all underestimated the  
792 emissions in the Northeast of China, especially in Heilongjiang.

793 The temporal distributions of field burning emissions also echoed the crop residue  
794 productions and the agricultural fire sites in summer and autumn harvest. Apart from  
795 Henan and Tibet where the main crop straws were produced in summer period, more  
796 pollutants were emitted in autumn harvest period to the rest place, which has been  
797 confirmed by many studies (He et al., 2011b; Wang and Zhang, 2008). And the large  
798 scale filed burning emissions in autumn exhibited great influence on the haze  
799 formation and visibility degradation in the North and East of China (Leng et al.,  
800 2014; Shi et al., 2014). In summertime, filed burnings concentrated in the North  
801 Plain, the Central, and the South regions. While in autumn, filed burning emissions  
802 became more ubiquitous and serious in the Northeast of China.

803 Nationwide emission inventories and flux concentrations were graphically  
804 displayed in Fig. 8 and tabular presented in Table 7. The total PM<sub>2.5</sub> emission from  
805 agricultural field burnings was 0.74-1.24 Tg in 2012, of which PM<sub>1.0</sub> was 0.66-1.11  
806 Tg, OC was 0.32-0.53 Tg, and EC was 0.09-0.16 Tg, and the results were  
807 comparable with the precious studies (Cao et al., 2006; Cao et al., 2011; Wang et al.,



808 2012). Allocated the emissions into the six zones to get the contribution of the North  
809 Plain (21 %)  $\geq$  the Northeast (20 %) > Pan-Pearl River Delta (19 %)  $\geq$  the Central  
810 (19 %) > the West (16 %) > the Yangtze River Delta (5 %). Summertime field  
811 burnings accounted for 20-25 % of national emissions. 24.60 Gg char-EC, 3.79 Gg  
812 soot-EC, 6.82 Gg WSOA, 1.00 Gg WSA, 0.11 Gg PAHs, 0.86 Gg phenol and  
813 substituted phenols, and 2.07 Gg THM on average were released in summer harvest  
814 from agricultural field burning. The corresponded values for autumn harvest were  
815 88.77, 17.21, 18.36, 4.82, 0.37, 1.86, and 6.62 Gg, respectively. Zhang et al. (2011)  
816 estimated particulate PAHs emissions from three types of crop residues to be 0.46  
817 Gg in 2003. Xu et al. (2006) counted PAHs from all straws without considering  
818 burning rates to get 5-10 Gg emissions in 2003.

819 The nationwide flux concentration of smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  was 0.7-1.0  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{d}^{-1}$  in  
820 summer harvest and 1.4-3.5  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{d}^{-1}$  in autumn harvest, while average annual flux  
821 concentrations for OC and EC were 0.80 and 0.25  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{d}^{-1}$ . Saikawa et al. (2009)  
822 assessed the annual concentrations of OC and BC from biomass burning primary  
823 emission in China using global models of chemical transport (MOZART-2) to be 1.8  
824 and 0.35  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . The most polluted areas were Anhui, Henan, Shandong, Jiangsu,  
825 Liaoning, and Hunan.

### 826 **3.3.4 Uncertainties of the emissions**

827 The fuzziness and uncertainties of major pollutants emissions from fuel combustion  
828 in China came from the uncertainties in specific-source emission factors and  
829 effective consumption of bio- or fossil fuel. Frey et al. analyzed uncertainties in  
830 emission factors and emissions of air toxic pollutants and technology dependent  
831 coal-fire power plants via bootstrap simulation method (Frey et al., 2004; Frey et al.,  
832 2002). Zhao et al. estimated uncertainties in national anthropogenic pollutants  
833 emissions based on Monte Carlo simulation, and they believed activity rates (e.g.  
834 fuel consumption) are not the main source of emissions uncertainties at the national  
835 level (Zhao et al., 2012; Zhao et al., 2011). The uncertainties can also be estimated  
836 by comparing the specific emissions from different studies. With this method, the



837 uncertainties represent the bias among different copies of emission inventory.

838 In this study, the bias in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions among BAU, EM, and NDRC  
 839 versions was investigated and presented in Table 8. The average national smoke  
 840 PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions had 19% relative error. More variability of the emissions was in the  
 841 West of China (51.4 %), followed by the Northeast (39.8 %), Pan-Pearl River Delta  
 842 (25.9 %), and Yangtze River Delta (21.5 %). Although uncertainty was largest in the  
 843 West, the contribution of the emissions was much less.

### 844 **3.4 Health and health-related economic impacts**

#### 845 **3.4.1 Carcinogenic risk**

846 Calculated CR<sub>SPM</sub> for smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> from wheat, corn, rice, cotton, and soybean  
 847 straw burning were 5.3×10<sup>-6</sup>, 3.8×10<sup>-6</sup>, 2.6×10<sup>-6</sup>, 0.7×10<sup>-6</sup>, and 1.3×10<sup>-6</sup> per μg m<sup>-3</sup>,  
 848 respectively. And the corresponded one in million PEL was 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 1.4, and 0.8  
 849 μg m<sup>-3</sup>. Wu et al. (2009) ever assessed unit risk of wood and fuel burning particles  
 850 using metals merely, the results were 3.2×10<sup>-6</sup> and 1.5×10<sup>-6</sup> per μg m<sup>-3</sup>, which were  
 851 close to that in our study. In actual application, PEL of smoke particles should be  
 852 bulk mass concentration of mixed aerosols.

853 It was noticeable that apart from Tibet and Qinghai, the flux concentration of  
 854 smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> among all the five emission versions in other regions far surpassed the  
 855 PEL, especially the North Plain and the Central of China, exhibiting great potential  
 856 inhalable cancer risk. For the health care, emission flux concentration should be  
 857 constrained within the PEL of crop straw burning aerosol. Thus the critical field  
 858 burning rates can be derived to ensure risk aversion following Eq. (11):

$$859 \quad R_k \leq \frac{10^{-6} \times S_k \times h \times T_k}{\sum_j \sum_i P_{t,k,i} \times r_i \times H_{t,k,i} \times D_i \times f_i \times EF_{ij} \times CRF_i} \quad (11)$$

860 The conservative values of regional field burning rates from Eq. (11) were named  
 861 as Carcinogenic Risk Control scenarios (CRC) and listed in Table S7 (SI), which  
 862 would be instructive in emission control. Under CRC, national crop straw field  
 863 burning rate was less than 3%, emissions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> were geographically presented in  
 864 Fig. S4 (SI), and 146.3 Gg yr<sup>-1</sup> smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> should be released at largest in China,



865 the corresponded annual flux concentration of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  was within  $0.3 \mu\text{g m}^{-3} \text{d}^{-1}$  (see in  
866 SI).

### 867 **3.4.2 Health impacts**

868 Health impacts from acute exposure of agricultural residue burning aerosol were  
869 assessed using daily flux concentrations of smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ , the result was tabulated in  
870 Table S8 (SI). The impacts from smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  exposure were severest in Jiangsu,  
871 Shandong, and Henan province, where annual premature mortality was over one  
872 thousand. On average, China suffered from 7836 (95% CI: 3232, 12362) premature  
873 death, 31181 (95% CI: 21145, 40881) respiratory hospital admissions, 29520 (95%  
874 CI: 12873, 45602) cardiovascular hospital admissions, and 7267237 (95% CI:  
875 2961487, 1130784) chronic bronchitis related to agricultural fire smoke in 2012 from  
876 Table 9. According to national health statistical reports (NHFPC, 2013), the hospital  
877 admission due to respiratory and cardiovascular disease was 5071523 in China in  
878 2012, and smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  exposure might contribute ~1.2% of the hospital admissions  
879 from this study. Saikawa et al. (2009) ever reported 70000 premature deaths in China  
880 and an additional 30000 deaths globally due to OC, EC, and sulfate exposure that  
881 were primarily emitted from biofuel combustion in China in 2000, however, the  
882 results should be overestimated not only in the exaggerated pollutant emissions but  
883 also in the iterative operations of respective species induced mortality, besides, the  
884 exposure-response coefficient  $\beta$  and incidence rate he applied from Pope et al. (2002)  
885 and WHO (2000) were higher than the practical values from local research (Cao et  
886 al., 2012; Chen et al., 2011; Hou et al., 2012). From Table 9, under CRC version,  
887 over 92 % mortality and morbidity can be avoided.

### 888 **3.4.3 Health-related economic losses**

889 Health-related total economic losses from straw open burning smoke  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  exposure  
890 were assessed to be 8822.4 (95% CI: 3574.4, 13034.2) million US\$ on average from  
891 Table 10, accounting for 0.1 % of the total GDP in 2012, and detailed regional  
892 economic losses were listed in Table S9. Economic losses from premature death



893 contributed about 17% of total losses, and loss from chronic bronchitis dominated.  
894 Hou et al. (2012) ever estimated 106.5 billion US\$ lost due to ambient PM<sub>10</sub>  
895 exposure in China in 2009; even a severe haze episode (PM<sub>2.5</sub> be focused on) in  
896 January 2013 may cause 690 premature death and 253.8 million US\$ loss in Beijing,  
897 and source-specification analysis stressed the emission from biomass burning (Yang  
898 et al., 2015; Gao et al., 2015). It was obvious that smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> contributed a  
899 noticeable damage to public health and social welfare. According to CRC version  
900 estimation, the carcinogenic risk control policy can save over 92 % of the economic  
901 loss.

#### 902 **4 Conclusion**

903 Detailed chemical compositions of smoke aerosol from five major agricultural  
904 straws burning were characterized using an aerosol chamber system. And  
905 corresponded emission factors for particulate OC-EC, char-/soot-EC, WSI, WSOA,  
906 WSA, PAHs, Phenols, and THM in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub> were established.

907 Permissible exposure limits (PEL) of the smoke particles were assessed for  
908 carcinogenic risk concern based on selected hazard pollutants including PAHs and  
909 THM in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Daily exposure concentration should be constrained within  
910 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 1.4, and 0.8 μg m<sup>-3</sup> for wheat, corn, rice, cotton, and soybean straw,  
911 respectively.

912 Emission inventories of primary particulate pollutants from agricultural field  
913 burning in 2012 were estimated based on BAU-I, BAU-II, EM-I, EM-II, and NDRC  
914 scenarios, which were further allocated into different regions at summer and autumn  
915 open burning periods. The estimated total emissions were 0.74-1.24 Tg PM<sub>2.5</sub>,  
916 0.66-1.11 Tg PM<sub>1.0</sub>, 0.32-0.53 Tg OC, 0.09-0.16 Tg EC, 0.08-0.14 Tg char-EC,  
917 0.02-0.03 Tg soot-EC, 18.77-30.82 Gg WSOA, 4.23-7.19 Gg WSA, 0.35-0.59 Gg  
918 PAHs, 2.02-3.40 Gg Phenols, and 6.36-10.64 Gg THM, respectively. The spatial and  
919 temporal distributions of the five versions have similar characters that echo to the  
920 agricultural fires sites from satellite remote sensing. Less than 25 % of the emissions  
921 were released from summer field burnings that were mainly contributed by the North





922 Plain and the Central of China. Large uncertainties of the emissions were found in  
923 the West and the Northeast of China (59.4% and 39.8% relative error). Flux  
924 concentrations of annual smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  that were calculated using box-model method  
925 based on five versions all exceed the PEL. From assessment of health impacts and  
926 health-related economic losses due to smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  short-term exposure, China  
927 suffered from 7836 (95%CI: 3232, 12362) premature mortality and 7267237 (95%  
928 CI: 2961487, 1130784) chronic bronchitis in 2012, which led to 8822.4 (95%CI:  
929 3574.4, 13034.2) million US\$, or 0.1 % of the total GDP losses.

930 Percentage of open burned crop straws at post-harvest period should cut down to  
931 less than 3% to ensure risk aversion from carcinogenicity, especially the North Plain  
932 and the Northeast, where the emissions should decrease at least by 94% to meet the  
933 PEL. And by applying such emission control policy, over 92% of the mortality and  
934 morbidity attributed to agricultural fire smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  can be avoided in China.

935 **Supplementary material related to this article is available online at:**

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- 1467



- 1468 **Tables and figure captions**
- 1469 **Table 1.** Emission factors of particulate chemical species in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> from  
1470 agricultural residue burning.
- 1471 **Table 2.** Emission factors of particulate chemical species in smoke PM<sub>1.0</sub> from  
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- 1477 **Table 5.** Comparison of emission factors with literature (specific chemical materials  
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- 1488 **Figure 1.** Schematic methodology for developing emission estimations
- 1489 **Figure 2.** Chemical profiles of smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub> from 5 types agricultural  
1490 residue burnings. OM (organic matter = 1.3×OC). OWSI, other water soluble ions  
1491 including F<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>. THM, trace heavy metals. WSA, water-soluble  
1492 amine salts. WSOA, water-soluble organic acids.
- 1493 **Figure 3.** a) Emission factors of 16 USEPA priority PAHs in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub>;  
1494 b) expulsion-accumulation of PAHs in OC-EC of smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub>
- 1495 **Figure 4.** Transmission electron microscope (TEM) images and EDX analysis of  
1496 fresh agricultural residue burning particles. (a)-(c) Crystal and amorphous KCl  
1497 particles internally mixed with sulfate, nitrate, and carbonaceous materials. (d)-(f)  
1498 Heavy metal-bearing fractal-like fly ash particles. (e)-(g) Chain-like soot particles and  
1499 tar ball.
- 1500 **Figure 5.** Annual agricultural residue production of five major crops and allocated



1501 into two harvest (summer and autumn harvest) based on agricultural yield in China,  
1502 2012.

1503 **Figure 6.** Statistical analysis of field burning rates from BAU, EM, and NDRC  
1504 versions

1505 **Figure 7.** Spatial and temporal distribution of smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  emissions and flux  
1506 concentrations from agricultural field burning over China, 2012

1507 **Figure 8.** Nationwide  $PM_{2.5}$  emissions and flux concentrations based on different  
1508 burning versions. The inset pie-graphs are chemical compositions of integrated  $PM_{2.5}$   
1509 from five major agricultural residue burning.

1510



1511 **Table 1.** Emission factors of particulate chemical species in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> from  
 1512 agricultural residue burning.

Chemical Species (g kg <sup>-1</sup> )	wheat straw	corn straw	rice straw	cotton residue	soybean residue
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	5.803 ± 0.363	5.988 ± 0.723	14.732 ± 2.417	15.162 ± 2.053	3.249 ± 0.350
OC	2.813 ± 0.147	2.393 ± 0.351	6.882 ± 0.689	7.415 ± 0.547	1.539 ± 0.253
EC	0.676 ± 0.027	0.778 ± 0.152	2.182 ± 0.278	1.192 ± 0.171	0.614 ± 0.190
Char-EC	0.606 ± 0.024	0.667 ± 0.132	1.761 ± 0.166	1.072 ± 0.154	0.564 ± 0.177
Soot-EC	0.069 ± 0.007	0.110 ± 0.043	0.421 ± 0.061	0.120 ± 0.034	0.051 ± 0.031
<b>Inorganic ions (g kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>1.273 ± 0.072</b>	<b>1.810 ± 0.030</b>	<b>3.086 ± 0.266</b>	<b>3.810 ± 0.246</b>	<b>0.523 ± 0.149</b>
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	0.084 ± 0.028	0.217 ± 0.041	0.409 ± 0.127	0.701 ± 0.081	0.073 ± 0.014
Cl <sup>-</sup>	0.576 ± 0.038	0.709 ± 0.034	1.158 ± 0.232	1.351 ± 0.114	0.178 ± 0.030
F <sup>-</sup>	0.023 ± 0.061	0.061 ± 0.005	0.073 ± 0.024	0.265 ± 0.012	0.009 ± 0.004
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.023 ± 0.000	0.032 ± 0.002	0.051 ± 0.025	0.072 ± 0.004	0.009 ± 0.004
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.006 ± 0.001	0.016 ± 0.002	0.018 ± 0.002	0.036 ± 0.001	0.004 ± 0.003
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	0.030 ± 0.011	0.036 ± 0.003	0.046 ± 0.007	0.060 ± 0.003	0.010 ± 0.002
Na <sup>+</sup>	0.005 ± 0.001	0.012 ± 0.001	0.028 ± 0.004	0.050 ± 0.004	0.005 ± 0.001
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.152 ± 0.005	0.197 ± 0.010	0.542 ± 0.107	0.347 ± 0.008	0.029 ± 0.004
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	0.005 ± 0.000	0.017 ± 0.002	0.023 ± 0.004	0.032 ± 0.002	0.005 ± 0.001
K <sup>+</sup>	0.368 ± 0.041	0.514 ± 0.009	0.739 ± 0.049	0.947 ± 0.070	0.200 ± 0.023
<b>Organic Acids (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>156.680 ± 81.830</b>	<b>46.670 ± 9.000</b>	<b>557.130 ± 269.380</b>	<b>769.990 ± 317.550</b>	<b>143.310 ± 39.770</b>
CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	148.900 ± 79.290	36.640 ± 8.210	417.930 ± 186.140	743.320 ± 159.600	135.500 ± 62.320
MSA	7.170 ± 2.110	10.030 ± 30.000	136.990 ± 81.700	12.980 ± 1.530	3.200 ± 1.530
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	2.610 ± 0.430	ND	2.210 ± 1.560	4.760 ± 2.640	2.170 ± 2.380
HCOOH	ND	ND	ND	8.930 ± 2.630	2.440 ± 1.450
<b>Amine salts (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>19.246 ± 9.368</b>	<b>32.877 ± 19.141</b>	<b>104.787 ± 15.635</b>	<b>102.409 ± 13.379</b>	<b>4.514 ± 1.776</b>
MeOH <sup>+</sup> + MMAH <sup>+</sup>	1.322 ± 0.086	5.735 ± 0.102	17.226 ± 1.454	19.888 ± 0.351	0.456 ± 0.196
MEAH <sup>+</sup>	0.201 ± 0.055	0.675 ± 0.135	4.175 ± 0.920	3.690 ± 1.959	ND
TEOH <sup>+</sup>	2.562 ± 0.962	4.118 ± 0.741	25.129 ± 0.343	14.376 ± 8.688	0.672 ± 0.558
DEAH <sup>+</sup> + TMAH <sup>+</sup>	13.728 ± 7.512	18.973 ± 0.466	46.148 ± 12.185	28.568 ± 5.321	2.012 ± 0.878
DMAH <sup>+</sup>	1.434 ± 0.925	3.376 ± 0.674	12.110 ± 6.166	35.887 ± 2.940	1.374 ± 0.144
<b>Elemental Species (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>53.813 ± 18.860</b>	<b>53.546 ± 9.070</b>	<b>131.612 ± 5.920</b>	<b>27.577 ± 3.700</b>	<b>14.003 ± 8.710</b>
<b>Phenols (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>26.785 ± 8.582</b>	<b>16.390 ± 2.652</b>	<b>27.238 ± 4.861</b>	<b>41.481 ± 5.517</b>	<b>9.673 ± 2.272</b>
<b>PAHs (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>1.814 ± 0.348</b>	<b>2.706 ± 0.798</b>	<b>7.267 ± 1.722</b>	<b>8.302 ± 2.856</b>	<b>1.832 ± 0.353</b>

1513 ND means not detected



1514 **Table 2.** Emission factors of particulate chemical species in smoke PM<sub>1.0</sub> from  
 1515 agricultural residue burning.

Chemical Species (g kg <sup>-1</sup> )	wheat straw	corn straw	rice straw	cotton residue	soybean residue
PM <sub>1.0</sub>	5.298 ± 0.295	5.360 ± 0.551	13.200 ± 1.440	12.635 ± 1.243	3.036 ± 0.257
OC	2.419 ± 0.126	2.063 ± 0.340	6.024 ± 0.602	6.036 ± 0.360	1.338 ± 0.128
EC	0.650 ± 0.037	0.728 ± 0.122	2.083 ± 0.413	1.023 ± 0.205	0.575 ± 0.260
Char-EC	0.567 ± 0.033	0.580 ± 0.098	1.671 ± 0.331	0.916 ± 0.184	0.511 ± 0.233
Soot-EC	0.083 ± 0.014	0.148 ± 0.057	0.411 ± 0.073	0.107 ± 0.048	0.063 ± 0.057
<b>Inorganic ions (g kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>1.215 ± 0.040</b>	<b>1.768 ± 0.010</b>	<b>2.940 ± 0.249</b>	<b>3.516 ± 0.145</b>	<b>0.510 ± 0.156</b>
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	0.078 ± 0.011	0.199 ± 0.032	0.333 ± 0.107	0.581 ± 0.054	0.073 ± 0.056
Cl <sup>-</sup>	0.544 ± 0.033	0.712 ± 0.027	1.145 ± 0.118	1.243 ± 0.067	0.175 ± 0.031
F <sup>-</sup>	0.022 ± 0.007	0.041 ± 0.004	0.078 ± 0.030	0.151 ± 0.011	0.001 ± 0.001
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.021 ± 0.005	0.027 ± 0.002	0.043 ± 0.016	0.061 ± 0.003	0.009 ± 0.002
NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.006 ± 0.001	0.010 ± 0.003	0.013 ± 0.004	0.019 ± 0.002	0.004 ± 0.003
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	0.027 ± 0.013	0.028 ± 0.002	0.045 ± 0.008	0.067 ± 0.005	0.010 ± 0.002
Na <sup>+</sup>	0.004 ± 0.000	0.012 ± 0.000	0.027 ± 0.003	0.056 ± 0.006	0.005 ± 0.002
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.147 ± 0.005	0.191 ± 0.009	0.511 ± 0.067	0.401 ± 0.004	0.031 ± 0.005
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	0.005 ± 0.001	0.035 ± 0.001	0.024 ± 0.006	0.033 ± 0.002	0.005 ± 0.001
K <sup>+</sup>	0.359 ± 0.040	0.513 ± 0.015	0.721 ± 0.073	0.994 ± 0.067	0.197 ± 0.035
<b>Organic Acids (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>124.310 ± 25.170</b>	<b>47.830 ± 10.610</b>	<b>427.400 ± 221.270</b>	<b>639.820 ± 244.960</b>	<b>130.760 ± 59.310</b>
CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	115.790 ± 21.940	38.960 ± 9.610	383.360 ± 179.050	615.790 ± 232.860	124.310 ± 69.000
MSA	6.830 ± 2.030	8.870 ± 2.730	41.380 ± 38.480	11.380 ± 2.360	3.200 ± 1.730
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1.690 ± 1.200	ND	2.660 ± 1.760	3.620 ± 1.250	1.560 ± 1.670
HCOOH	ND	ND	ND	9.030 ± 7.710	1.690 ± 1.390
<b>Amine salts (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>18.191 ± 5.351</b>	<b>29.891 ± 13.480</b>	<b>81.726 ± 11.455</b>	<b>85.720 ± 21.337</b>	<b>4.385 ± 1.445</b>
MeOH <sup>+</sup> + MMAH <sup>+</sup>	1.300 ± 0.282	5.647 ± 0.342	16.627 ± 0.104	18.834 ± 1.991	0.464 ± 0.265
MEAH <sup>+</sup>	0.157 ± 0.037	0.787 ± 0.211	3.581 ± 0.602	2.771 ± 1.304	ND
TEOH <sup>+</sup>	1.719 ± 0.283	5.115 ± 0.732	17.575 ± 0.844	11.441 ± 3.229	0.529 ± 0.304
DEAH <sup>+</sup> + TMAH <sup>+</sup>	13.716 ± 9.047	15.921 ± 1.620	33.565 ± 6.795	29.057 ± 3.793	2.278 ± 0.533
DMAH <sup>+</sup>	1.300 ± 0.702	2.420 ± 0.575	10.377 ± 4.521	23.617 ± 20.086	1.115 ± 0.343
<b>Elemental Species (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>31.586 ± 10.630</b>	<b>29.265 ± 4.240</b>	<b>51.062 ± 5.920</b>	<b>16.738 ± 3.480</b>	<b>11.817 ± 6.650</b>
<b>Phenols (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>20.774 ± 4.972</b>	<b>13.193 ± 2.181</b>	<b>20.480 ± 1.403</b>	<b>23.521 ± 8.521</b>	<b>7.689 ± 1.356</b>
<b>PAHs (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>1.257 ± 0.398</b>	<b>1.420 ± 0.232</b>	<b>3.967 ± 0.970</b>	<b>4.359 ± 1.373</b>	<b>1.123 ± 0.205</b>

1516 *ND means not detected*



1517 **Table 3.** Emission factors of particulate THM, PAHs, and Phenols in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
 1518 from agricultural residue burning.

Chemical Species (mg kg <sup>-1</sup> )	wheat straw	corn straw	rice straw	cotton residue	soybean residue
<b>Elemental Species</b>	<b>53.813 ± 18.860</b>	<b>53.546 ± 9.070</b>	<b>131.612 ± 5.920</b>	<b>27.577 ± 3.700</b>	<b>14.003 ± 8.710</b>
As	6.433 ± 1.424	4.684 ± 0.879	6.724 ± 0.737	2.082 ± 1.078	0.777 ± 0.525
Zn	0.868 ± 0.180	0.358 ± 0.624	0.275 ± 0.177	0.229 ± 0.264	0.053 ± 0.046
Pb	ND	ND	0.467 ± 0.313	0.063 ± 0.053	0.059 ± 0.047
Cd	ND	ND	0.053 ± 0.000	ND	ND
Ni	0.726 ± 0.074	0.695 ± 0.138	1.100 ± 0.113	0.372 ± 0.170	0.193 ± 0.092
Cr	1.026 ± 0.335	0.746 ± 0.299	3.324 ± 0.257	0.543 ± 0.055	0.266 ± 0.127
V	0.159 ± 0.006	0.104 ± 0.061	0.560 ± 0.022	0.110 ± 0.011	0.051 ± 0.044
Al	44.602 ± 5.269	46.957 ± 10.471	119.108 ± 4.636	24.178 ± 2.331	12.603 ± 6.709
<b>PAHs</b>	<b>2.407 ± 0.348</b>	<b>2.706 ± 0.798</b>	<b>7.267 ± 1.722</b>	<b>6.017 ± 2.856</b>	<b>1.832 ± 0.353</b>
naphthalene	0.417 ± 0.116	0.087 ± 0.077	0.780 ± 0.128	0.116 ± 0.086	0.093 ± 0.041
acenaphthylene	0.032 ± 0.023	0.028 ± 0.013	0.701 ± 0.269	0.201 ± 0.277	0.004 ± 0.006
acenaphthene	0.107 ± 0.034	0.285 ± 0.143	1.713 ± 0.542	0.502 ± 0.667	0.073 ± 0.173
fluorene	0.021 ± 0.010	0.003 ± 0.002	0.069 ± 0.005	0.017 ± 0.024	0.001 ± 0.001
anthracene	0.343 ± 0.121	0.384 ± 0.111	0.656 ± 0.003	1.177 ± 0.536	0.245 ± 0.127
phenanthrene	0.179 ± 0.090	0.112 ± 0.030	0.202 ± 0.007	0.547 ± 0.239	0.105 ± 0.011
flouranthene	0.368 ± 0.071	0.561 ± 0.217	0.926 ± 0.029	0.930 ± 0.250	0.306 ± 0.042
pyrene	0.628 ± 0.107	0.853 ± 0.240	1.460 ± 0.039	1.818 ± 0.598	0.586 ± 0.178
benz[a]anthracene	0.057 ± 0.019	0.056 ± 0.023	0.118 ± 0.016	0.158 ± 0.056	0.058 ± 0.026
chrysene	0.058 ± 0.008	0.088 ± 0.033	0.119 ± 0.010	0.166 ± 0.057	0.063 ± 0.010
benzo[a]pyrene	0.148 ± 0.025	0.113 ± 0.044	0.398 ± 0.083	0.148 ± 0.076	0.131 ± 0.072
benzo[b]flouranthene	0.017 ± 0.012	0.051 ± 0.049	0.026 ± 0.008	0.086 ± 0.011	0.047 ± 0.007
benzo[k]flouranthene	0.021 ± 0.008	0.014 ± 0.011	0.022 ± 0.009	0.036 ± 0.006	0.020 ± 0.013
benzo[g,h,i]pyrene	0.006 ± 0.003	0.024 ± 0.024	0.011 ± 0.004	0.046 ± 0.011	0.033 ± 0.046
indeno[1,2,3-cd]pyrene	0.005 ± 0.001	0.086 ± 0.011	ND	0.022 ± 0.012	ND
dibenz[a,h]anthracene	0.002 ± 0.001	0.038 ± 0.051	0.068 ± 0.027	0.066 ± 0.003	0.067 ± 0.047
<b>Phenols</b>	<b>26.785 ± 8.582</b>	<b>16.390 ± 2.652</b>	<b>27.238 ± 4.861</b>	<b>41.481 ± 5.517</b>	<b>9.673 ± 2.272</b>
phenol	2.357 ± 0.797	3.974 ± 0.759	10.737 ± 6.373	3.992 ± 0.128	2.834 ± 2.944
2-methoxyphenol	0.567 ± 0.061	0.531 ± 0.015	2.545 ± 0.200	0.371 ± 0.083	0.363 ± 0.712
4-ethylphenol	2.239 ± 0.323	1.417 ± 0.536	1.624 ± 0.740	5.105 ± 0.707	0.475 ± 0.358
4-ethyl-2-methoxyphenol	0.671 ± 0.318	0.290 ± 0.070	0.383 ± 0.116	1.588 ± 0.244	0.187 ± 0.375
2,6-dimethoxyphenol	20.952 ± 8.677	10.178 ± 2.334	11.949 ± 0.456	30.424 ± 4.662	5.815 ± 2.117

1519 *ND means not detected*





1520 **Table 4.** Emission factors of particulate THM, PAHs, and Phenols in smoke PM<sub>1.0</sub>  
 1521 from agricultural residue burning.

Chemical Species (mg kg <sup>-1</sup> )	wheat straw	corn straw	rice straw	cotton residue	soybean residue
<b>Elemental Species</b>	<b>31.586 ± 10.630</b>	<b>29.265 ± 4.240</b>	<b>51.062 ± 5.920</b>	<b>16.738 ± 3.480</b>	<b>11.817 ± 6.650</b>
As	2.781 ± 1.159	2.984 ± 0.617	4.861 ± 0.737	1.751 ± 1.529	0.342 ± 0.750
Zn	0.607 ± 0.514	0.137 ± 0.091	0.293 ± 0.489	0.112 ± 0.059	0.040 ± 0.035
Pb	ND	ND	ND	0.007 ± 0.004	0.013 ± 0.006
Cd	ND	ND	0.043 ± 0.000	ND	ND
Ni	0.435 ± 0.057	0.365 ± 0.042	0.654 ± 0.113	0.218 ± 0.033	0.171 ± 0.098
Cr	0.556 ± 0.024	0.487 ± 0.000	0.923 ± 0.257	0.292 ± 0.030	0.233 ± 0.092
V	0.101 ± 0.005	0.118 ± 0.044	0.188 ± 0.022	0.065 ± 0.010	0.049 ± 0.023
Al	27.106 ± 3.566	25.115 ± 3.497	44.037 ± 4.636	14.293 ± 1.834	10.968 ± 5.592
<b>PAHs</b>	<b>1.257 ± 0.398</b>	<b>1.420 ± 0.232</b>	<b>3.967 ± 0.970</b>	<b>3.159 ± 1.373</b>	<b>1.123 ± 0.205</b>
naphthalene	0.118 ± 0.031	0.112 ± 0.131	0.360 ± 0.106	0.043 ± 0.011	0.082 ± 0.130
acenaphthylene	0.023 ± 0.018	0.028 ± 0.021	0.339 ± 0.333	0.074 ± 0.102	0.008 ± 0.008
acenaphthene	0.034 ± 0.014	0.173 ± 0.055	0.828 ± 0.783	0.269 ± 0.354	0.068 ± 0.025
flourene	0.009 ± 0.007	0.003 ± 0.001	0.033 ± 0.005	0.006 ± 0.006	0.002 ± 0.000
anthracene	0.210 ± 0.107	0.209 ± 0.052	0.178 ± 0.166	0.600 ± 0.251	0.197 ± 0.051
phenathrene	0.097 ± 0.030	0.084 ± 0.016	0.055 ± 0.045	0.259 ± 0.048	0.077 ± 0.149
flouranthene	0.212 ± 0.086	0.219 ± 0.077	0.636 ± 0.048	0.475 ± 0.116	0.178 ± 0.026
pyrene	0.391 ± 0.146	0.385 ± 0.142	1.160 ± 0.009	1.043 ± 0.714	0.298 ± 0.065
benz[a]anthracene	0.031 ± 0.009	0.032 ± 0.016	0.097 ± 0.006	0.086 ± 0.010	0.033 ± 0.019
chrysene	0.034 ± 0.004	0.056 ± 0.022	0.091 ± 0.011	0.096 ± 0.009	0.037 ± 0.018
benzo[a]pyrene	0.071 ± 0.031	0.057 ± 0.038	0.129 ± 0.039	0.107 ± 0.010	0.055 ± 0.002
benzo[b]flouranthene	0.013 ± 0.005	0.018 ± 0.018	0.047 ± 0.033	0.043 ± 0.010	0.031 ± 0.005
benzo[k]flouranthene	0.009 ± 0.003	0.011 ± 0.008	0.014 ± 0.005	0.018 ± 0.001	0.012 ± 0.013
benzo[g,h,i]pyrene	0.005 ± 0.005	0.007 ± 0.005	ND	0.005 ± 0.005	0.014 ± 0.057
indeno[1,2,3-cd]pyrene	ND	0.011 ± 0.006	ND	0.011 ± 0.012	ND
dibenz[a,h]anthracene	ND	0.014 ± 0.015	ND	0.025 ± 0.029	0.031 ± 0.001
<b>Phenols</b>	<b>20.774 ± 4.972</b>	<b>13.193 ± 2.181</b>	<b>20.480 ± 1.403</b>	<b>23.521 ± 8.521</b>	<b>7.689 ± 1.356</b>
phenol	3.296 ± 1.962	4.389 ± 0.089	8.917 ± 2.588	2.824 ± 0.031	1.660 ± 0.293
2-methoxyphenol	0.604 ± 0.003	0.682 ± 0.357	1.711 ± 0.155	0.353 ± 0.088	0.195 ± 0.034
4-ethylphenol	1.387 ± 0.408	0.490 ± 0.246	1.171 ± 0.233	2.965 ± 0.441	0.495 ± 0.087
4-ethyl-2-methoxyphenol	0.438 ± 0.193	0.231 ± 0.004	0.222 ± 0.039	0.834 ± 0.180	0.137 ± 0.024
2,6-dimethoxyphenol	15.050 ± 6.336	7.402 ± 0.478	8.459 ± 0.759	16.545 ± 2.113	5.202 ± 0.917

1522 *ND means not detected*



**Table 5.** Comparison of emission factors with literature (specific chemical materials in form of PM<sub>2.5</sub>).

Species	Emission factors (g kg <sup>-1</sup> )		Reference
	This work	Reference value	
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	8.99 ± 5.55	7.6~11.7(AR), 6.26~15.3 (TL), ~3.0 (AR), 2.2~15.0 (AR)	Li et al., 2007; Akagi et al., 2011; Dhammapala et al., 2007; Hayashi et al. 2014
PM <sub>1.0</sub>	7.91 ± 4.67	4.4.3~12.1 (TL)	May et al., 2014
OC	4.21 ± 2.73	2.7~3.9 (AR), 2.3~9.7(TL), ~1.9(AR), 1.0~9.3 (AR), 0.8~5.9 (TL)	Li et al., 2007; Akagi et al., 2011; Dhammapala et al., 2007; Hayashi et al., 2014; May et al.2014
EC	1.09 ± 0.65	0.35~0.49 (AR), 0.37~0.91(TL), ~0.4(AR), 0.21~0.81(AR), 1.13~1.73 (TL)	Li et al., 2007; Akagi et al., 2011; Dhammapala et al., 2007; Hayashi et al., 2014; May et al.2014
WSOA	0.33 ± 0.31	0.039~0.109 (TL)	Akagi et al., 2011
WSA	0.05 ± 0.05	0.08~0.13 (TL), ~0.55 (TL)	Akagi et al., 2011; Andreae et al., 2001
WSI	2.10 ± 1.34	1.84~4.9 (AR),0.8~1.31(TL), 0.43~1.63 (AR)	Li et al., 2007; Akagi et al., 2011; Hayashi et al., 2014
THM	0.06 ± 0.05	0.06~0.09 (AR)	Li et al., 2007
PAHs (×10 <sup>3</sup> )	4.38 ± 3.15	~17(AR), 0.72~1.64(AR), ~9.0 (W)	Dhammapala et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2011; Lee et al.2005
Phenols (×10 <sup>3</sup> )	24.31 ± 12.11	~35(AR), ~5 (AR), ~13 (TL)	Dhammapala et al., 2007; Hays et al., 2005; Andreae et al.2001

AR: agricultural residue; TL: total, including forest fires and straw burning; W: wood

**Table 6.** Summary of field burning rates and economic data in China.

Province	Burning rate from literature		Agricultural income ratio <sup>c</sup>			Estimated burning rate		NDRC report <sup>d</sup>	Average rate
	BAU-I <sup>a</sup>	BAU-II <sup>b</sup>	2000	2006	2012	EM-I	EM-II	NDRC	
Beijing	0.00	0.17	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.19	0.13	0.10 ± 0.08
Tianjin	0.00	0.17	0.10	0.14	0.12	0.00	0.20	0.30	0.13 ± 0.12
Hebei	0.20	0.17	0.27	0.22	0.24	0.22	0.16	0.19	0.19 ± 0.02
Shanxi	0.20	0.17	0.20	0.21	0.25	0.16	0.14	0.22	0.18 ± 0.03
Inner Mongolia	0.00	0.12	0.44	0.49	0.66	0.00	0.09	0.27	0.10 ± 0.10
Liaoning	0.20	0.12	0.30	0.29	0.39	0.16	0.09	0.34	0.18 ± 0.09
Jilin	0.30	0.12	0.73	0.73	0.77	0.28	0.11	0.25	0.21 ± 0.08
Heilongjiang	0.30	0.12	0.99	0.83	0.59	0.50	0.17	0.25	0.27 ± 0.13
Shanghai	0.00	0.32	0.10	0.08	0.09	0.00	0.29	0.12	0.15 ± 0.14
Jiangsu	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.22	0.30	0.32	0.23	0.19	0.27 ± 0.05
Zhejiang	0.30	0.32	0.19	0.08	0.09	0.64	0.28	0.22	0.35 ± 0.15
Anhui	0.20	0.32	0.44	0.39	0.43	0.21	0.29	0.43	0.29 ± 0.08
Fujian	0.30	0.32	0.18	0.10	0.14	0.39	0.22	0.17	0.28 ± 0.08
Jiangxi	0.20	0.11	0.45	0.31	0.44	0.20	0.08	0.25	0.17 ± 0.06
Shandong	0.30	0.17	0.33	0.25	0.24	0.40	0.17	0.21	0.25 ± 0.09
Henan	0.20	0.17	0.39	0.35	0.33	0.23	0.18	0.22	0.20 ± 0.02
Hubei	0.20	0.11	0.42	0.30	0.41	0.21	0.08	0.30	0.18 ± 0.08
Hunan	0.20	0.33	0.47	0.31	0.43	0.22	0.24	0.35	0.27 ± 0.06
Guangdong	0.30	0.33	0.19	0.10	0.13	0.44	0.25	0.18	0.30 ± 0.09
Guangxi	0.20	0.33	0.40	0.25	0.33	0.25	0.25	0.35	0.28 ± 0.06
Hainan	0.30	0.33	0.35	0.16	0.21	0.51	0.25	0.56	0.39 ± 0.12
Chongqing	0.20	0.11	0.35	0.23	0.30	0.24	0.08	0.45	0.22 ± 0.13
Sichuan	0.20	0.11	0.37	0.22	0.28	0.26	0.09	0.30	0.19 ± 0.08
Guizhou	0.20	0.11	0.38	0.23	0.25	0.31	0.10	0.43	0.23 ± 0.13
Yunnan	0.20	0.11	0.36	0.26	0.31	0.24	0.09	0.28	0.18 ± 0.07
Tibet	0.00	0.16	0.15	0.09	0.05	0.00	0.30	0.16	0.12 ± 0.11
Shannxi	0.20	0.17	0.33	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.18	0.28	0.22 ± 0.04
Gansu	0.10	0.16	0.25	0.20	0.28	0.09	0.11	0.33	0.16 ± 0.09
Qinghai	0.00	0.16	0.23	0.10	0.08	0.00	0.20	0.28	0.13 ± 0.11
Ningxia	0.10	0.16	0.42	0.38	0.45	0.09	0.13	0.16	0.13 ± 0.03
Xinjiang	0.10	0.16	0.43	0.61	0.73	0.06	0.13	0.30	0.15 ± 0.08
<b>Nationwide</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>0.21 ± 0.05</b>

a. Zhao et al., 2012; Cao et al., 2006; Cao et al., 2011

b. Wang and Zhang., 2008

c. Calculated based on data from China Yearbook 2001~2013 (NBSC, 2001-2013), China Rural Statistic Yearbook 2001~2013, data available at <http://www.grain.gov.cn/Grain/>

d. Data from the National Development and Reform Commission report ([2014]No.516) : <http://www.sdpc.gov.cn/>



**Table 7.** National agricultural field burning emissions of BAU, EM, NDRC, and CRC scenarios in China in 2012.

Unit: Gg	BAU-I		BAU-II		EM-I		EM-2		NDRC		Average		
	Total	Autumn	Total	Autumn	Total	Autumn	Total	Autumn	Total	Autumn	Total	Autumn	
	Summer		Summer		Summer		Summer		Summer		Summer		
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1001.05	218.99	782.06	626.13	1211.92	258.58	953.34	556.02	1241.69	258.24	983.46	226.007	781.646
PM <sub>1.0</sub>	897.52	198.93	698.59	558.65	1087.05	234.85	852.20	496.20	1111.90	234.44	877.46	205.217	697.911
OC	429.51	102.87	326.64	263.32	519.26	121.33	397.94	233.29	533.19	120.86	412.33	105.885	327.300
EC	133.61	27.37	106.24	84.88	162.71	32.39	130.32	75.21	164.97	32.53	132.45	28.404	106.010
char-EC	112.75	23.76	88.99	70.94	137.15	28.09	109.06	62.98	139.21	28.14	111.07	24.596	88.770
soot-EC	20.80	3.59	17.21	13.91	25.50	4.28	21.22	12.21	25.70	4.36	21.33	3.787	17.205
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	30.22	3.96	26.26	21.04	36.39	4.71	31.68	18.76	38.21	4.78	33.44	4.155	26.285
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	4.35	0.84	3.51	2.75	5.24	0.99	4.25	2.47	5.40	0.99	4.41	0.864	3.486
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	32.08	6.37	25.71	20.44	39.09	7.54	31.55	18.11	39.46	7.59	31.87	6.623	25.580
K <sup>+</sup>	67.49	13.12	54.38	42.37	81.40	15.45	65.95	38.20	83.62	15.36	68.26	13.469	53.943
WSOA	24.44	6.55	17.89	15.55	29.69	7.76	21.93	13.30	30.82	7.81	23.01	6.815	18.360
WSA	5.75	0.95	4.80	3.90	6.99	1.13	5.86	3.43	7.19	1.15	6.04	1.000	4.815
PAHs	0.48	0.11	0.37	0.30	0.58	0.12	0.45	0.26	0.59	0.13	0.47	0.480	0.371
Phenols	2.71	0.85	1.87	1.47	3.25	0.99	2.26	1.323	3.40	0.98	2.36	2.721	1.861
THM	8.68	2.01	6.67	5.27	10.56	2.37	8.19	4.69	10.64	2.37	8.27	8.702	6.628
WSI	249.96	47.46	202.50	159.22	301.75	56.01	245.74	142.82	310.31	55.88	254.43	48.927	201.342



**Table 8.** Uncertainties in emission estimates.

Region	2012	Region	2012
Anhui	28.9%		
Shandong	35.5%		
Hebei	11.4%	The North Plain	12.7%
Beijing	84.0%		
Tianjin	87.7%		
Shanxi	16.0%		
Hubei	43.5%		
Hunan	22.6%	The Center of China	16.0%
Henan	11.4%		
Shanghai	94.1%		
Jiangsu	19.4%	The Yangtze River Delta	21.5%
Zhejiang	42.0%		
Liaoning	48.0%		
Jilin	38.1%	The Northeast of China	39.8%
Heilongjiang	49.1%		
Guangdong	28.8%		
Guangxi	20.2%		
Hainan	31.3%		
Fujian	27.6%	The Pan-Pearl River Delta	25.9%
Sichuan	42.6%		
Guizhou	54.5%		
Yunnan	39.9%		
Jiangxi	37.5%		
Inner Mongolia	93.4%		
Tibet	91.5%		
Shannxi	19.6%		
Gansu	56.5%	The West of China	51.4%
Qinghai	87.1%		
Ningxia	22.9%		
Xinjiang	54.7%		
Chongqing	60.5%		
<b>Nationwide</b>	<b>19.8%</b>		



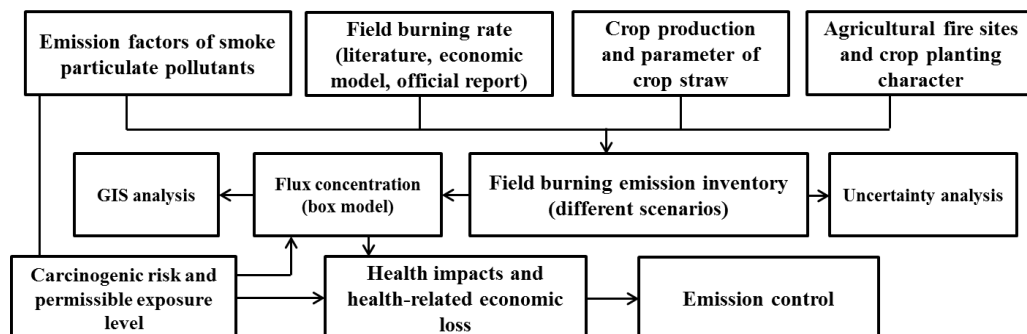
**Table 9.** Estimated number of cases (95% CI) attributable to agricultural fire smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure in China, 2012.

Emission version	Mortality	Respiratory hospital admission	Cardiovascular hospital admission	Chronic bronchitis
BAU-I	7864 (3154, 12489)	31123 (21114, 40788)	29454 (12849, 45481)	7577067 (2952006, 11024705)
BAU-II	7187 (3056, 11260)	28711 (19443, 37693)	27156 (11825, 42007)	7132581 (2735111, 10523803)
EM-I	9435 (3817, 14933)	36950 (25151, 48269)	35116 (15373, 54042)	8712880 (3484325, 12430411)
EM-II	6175 (2554, 9751)	25166 (17004, 33112)	23745 (10316, 36816)	6383442 (2407643, 9526727)
NDRC	8523 (3581, 13377)	33957 (23015, 44542)	32131 (14003, 49664)	8332216 (3228351, 12148274)
Average	7836 (3232, 12362)	31181 (21145, 40881)	29520 (12873, 45602)	7267237 (2961487, 1130784)
CRC	538 (227, 850)	2191 (1462, 2920)	2038 (874, 3199)	636650 (214617, 1052153)



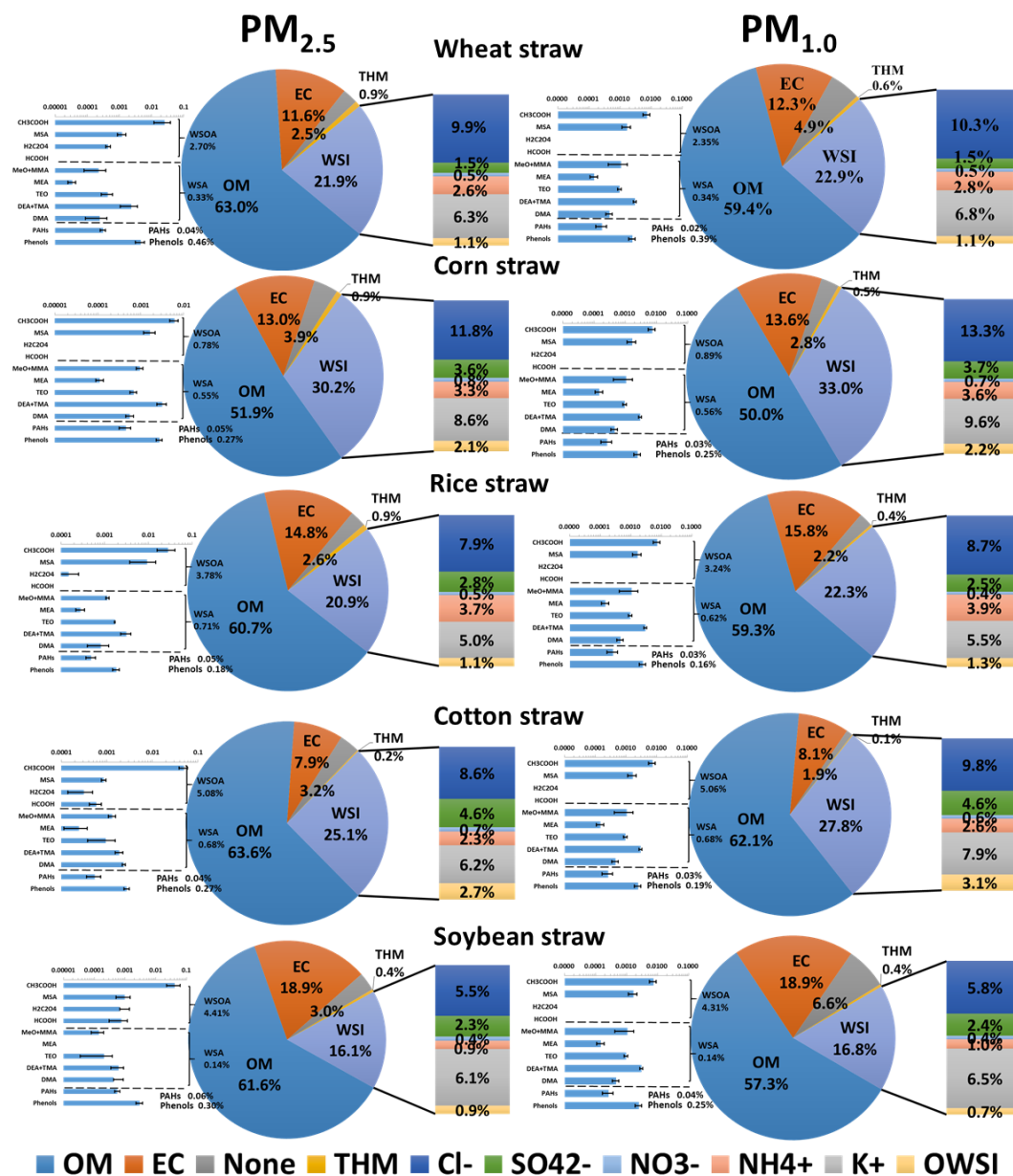
**Table 10.** Health-related economic loss (95% CI) from agricultural fire smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure in China, 2012.

Emission version	Economic cost (million US\$)				Total cost (million US\$)	GDP ratio (%)
	Mortality	Respiratory hospital admission	Cardiovascular hospital admission	Chronic bronchitis		
BAU-1	1544.5 (730.7, 2430.0)	19.6 (13.3, 25.7)	36.0 (15.7, 55.6)	7187.6 (2800.3, 10458.3)	8787.8 (3560.0, 12969.4)	1.0 (0.4, 1.5)
BAU-2	1453.9 (719, 2252.2)	18.1 (12.2, 23.8)	33.2 (14.4, 51.3)	6766.0 (2594.5, 9982.9)	8271.2 (3340.3, 12310.3)	1.0 (0.4, 1.4)
EM-1	1855.2 (870.3, 2913.7)	23.3 (15.9, 30.5)	42.9 (18.8, 66.1)	8265.0 (3305.2, 11791.5)	10186.5 (4210.2, 14801.8)	1.2 (0.5, 1.7)
EM-2	1228.1 (600.6, 1917.6)	15.9 (10.7, 20.9)	29.0 (12.6, 45.0)	6055.3 (2283.9, 9037.1)	7328.4 (2907.9, 11020.7)	0.9 (0.3, 1.3)
NDRC	1573.4 (759.3, 2456.2)	21.4 (14.5, 28.1)	39.3 (17.1, 60.7)	7903.9 (3062.4, 11523.9)	9538.2 (3853.4, 14069.0)	1.1 (0.4, 1.6)
Average	1531.0 (736.0, 2393.9)	19.7 (13.3, 25.8)	36.1 (15.7, 55.7)	7235.6 (2809.3, 10558.7)	8822.4 (3574.4, 13034.2)	1.0 (0.4, 1.5)
CRC	100.0 (48.0, 157.1)	1.3 (0.9, 1.8)	2.4 (1.0, 3.9)	603.9 (203.6, 998.1)	707.8 (253.6, 1160.9)	0.1 (0.0, 0.1)

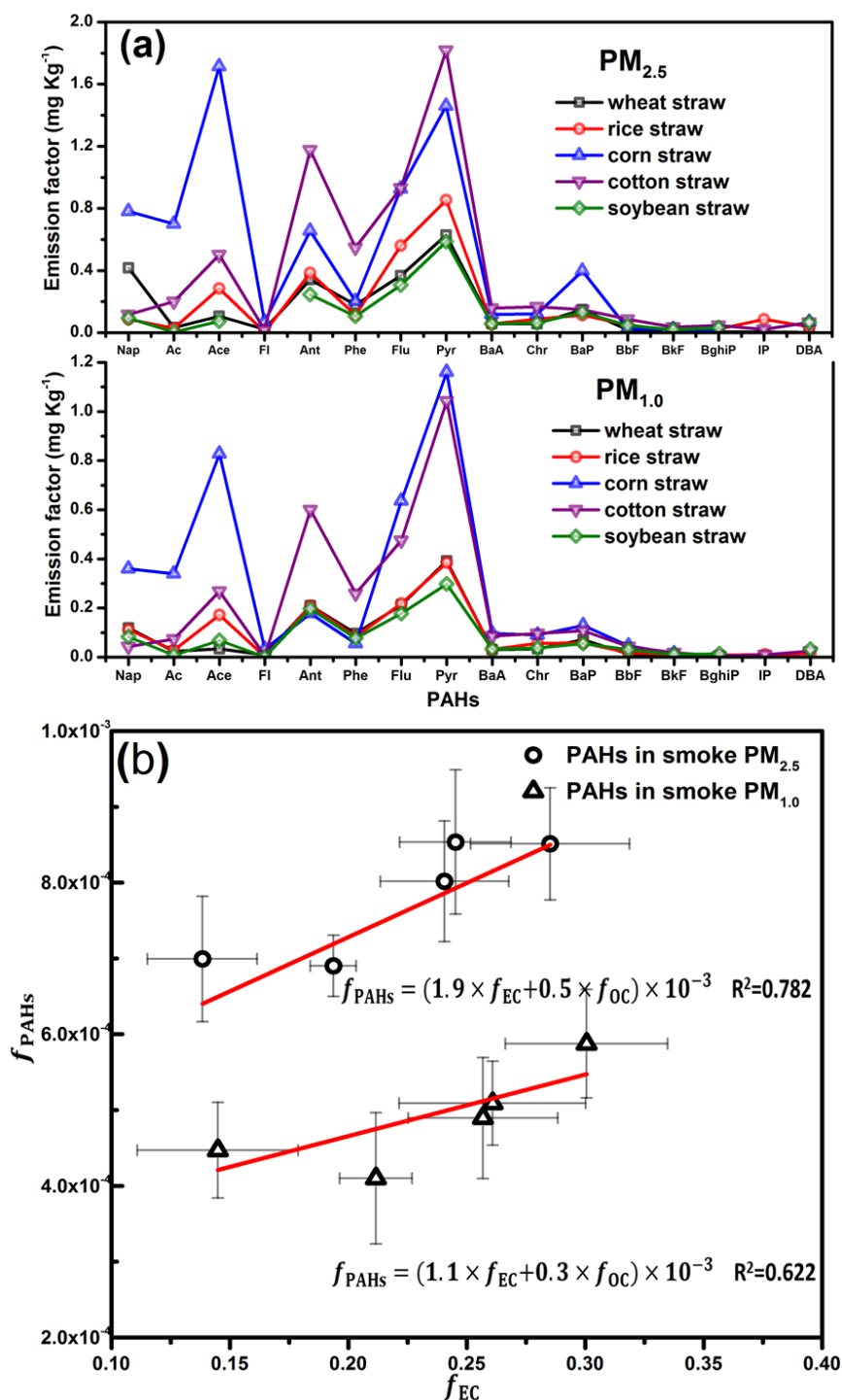


**Figure 1.** Schematic methodology for developing emission estimations.

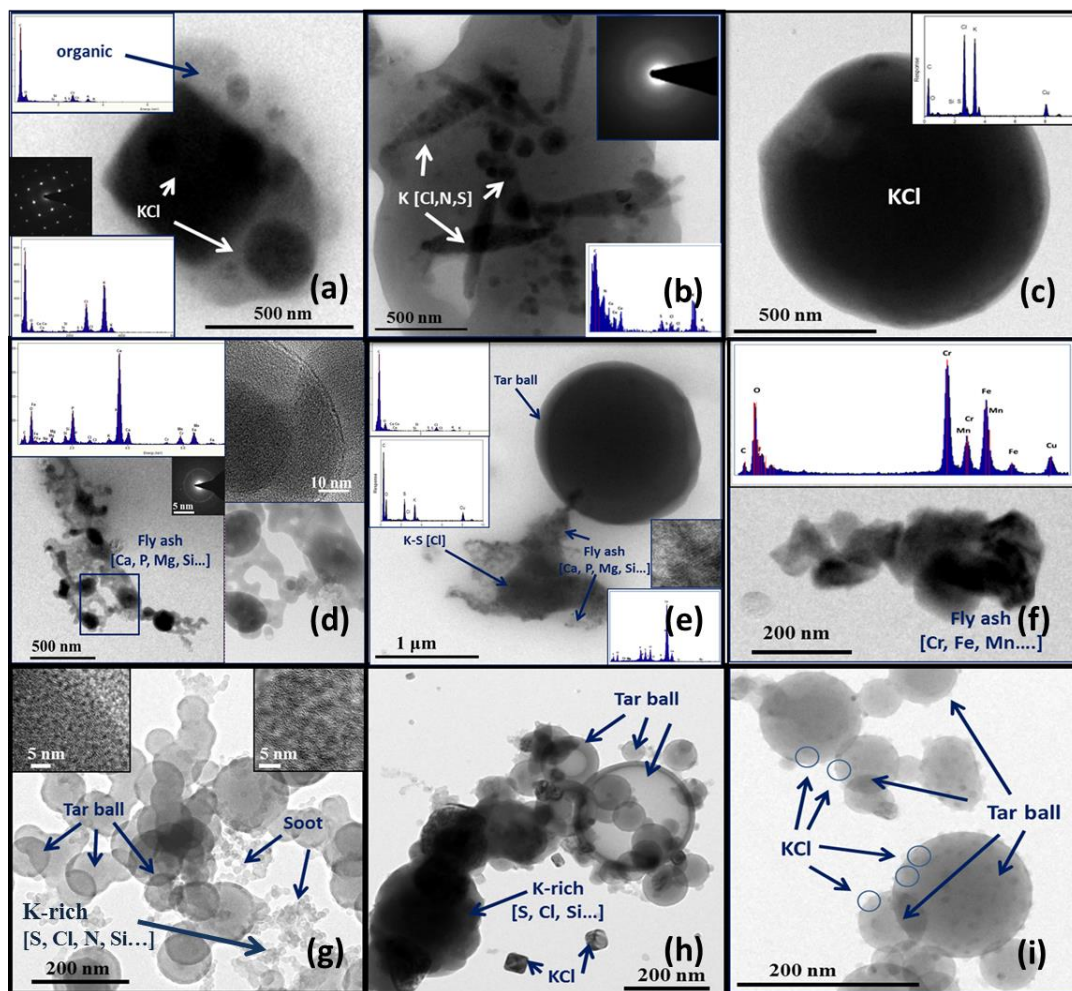




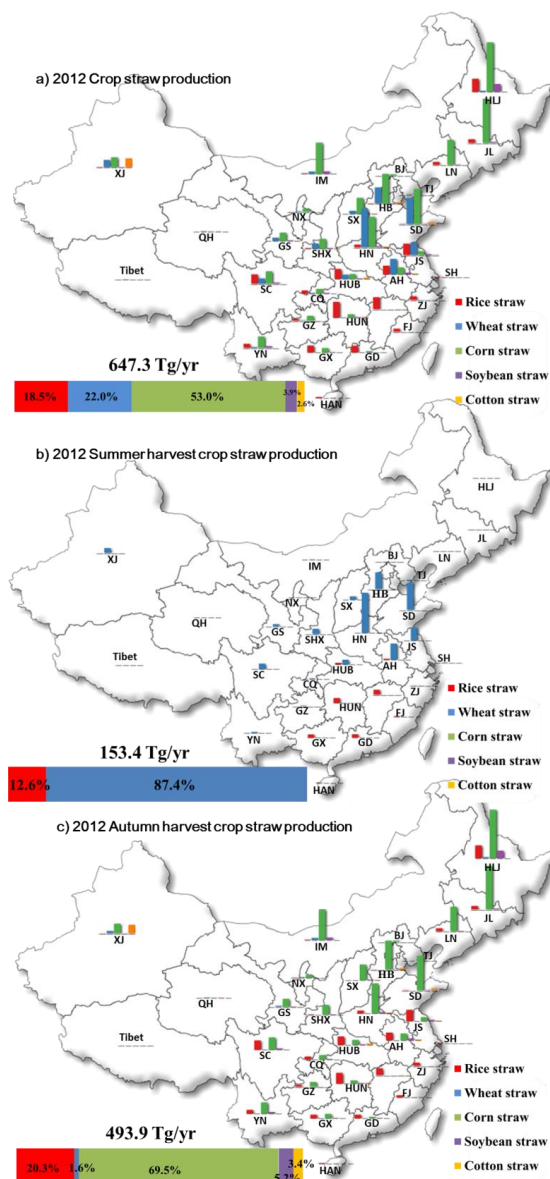
**Figure 2.** Chemical profiles of smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub> from 5 types agricultural residue burnings. OM (organic matter = 1.3×OC). OWSI, other water soluble ions including F<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, and Mg<sup>2+</sup>.



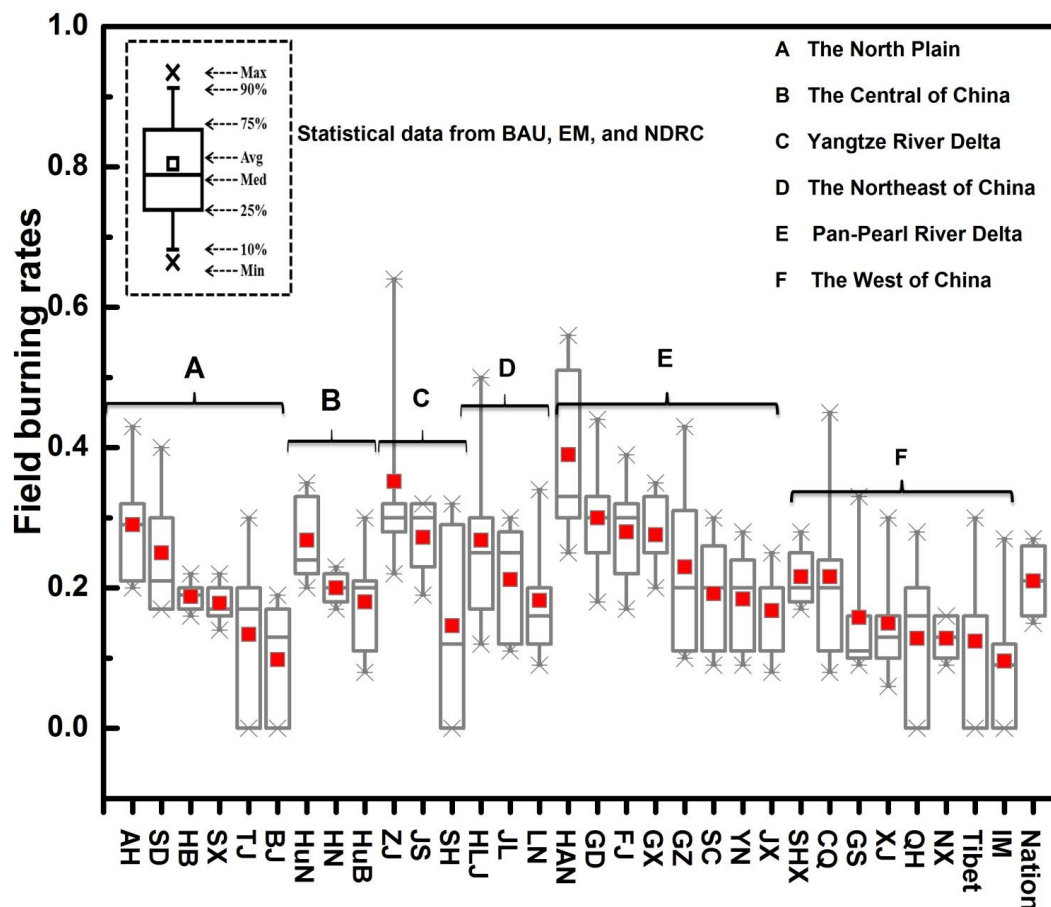
**Figure 3.** (a) Emission factors of 16 USEPA priority PAHs in smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub>; (b) expulsion-accumulation of PAHs in OC-EC of smoke PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1.0</sub>.



**Figure 4.** Transmission electron microscope (TEM) images and EDX analysis of fresh agricultural residue burning particles. (a)-(c) Crystal and amorphous KCl particles internally mixed with sulfate, nitrate, and carbonaceous materials. (d)-(f) Heavy metal-bearing fractal-like fly ash particles. (e)-(g) Chain-like soot particles and tar ball.

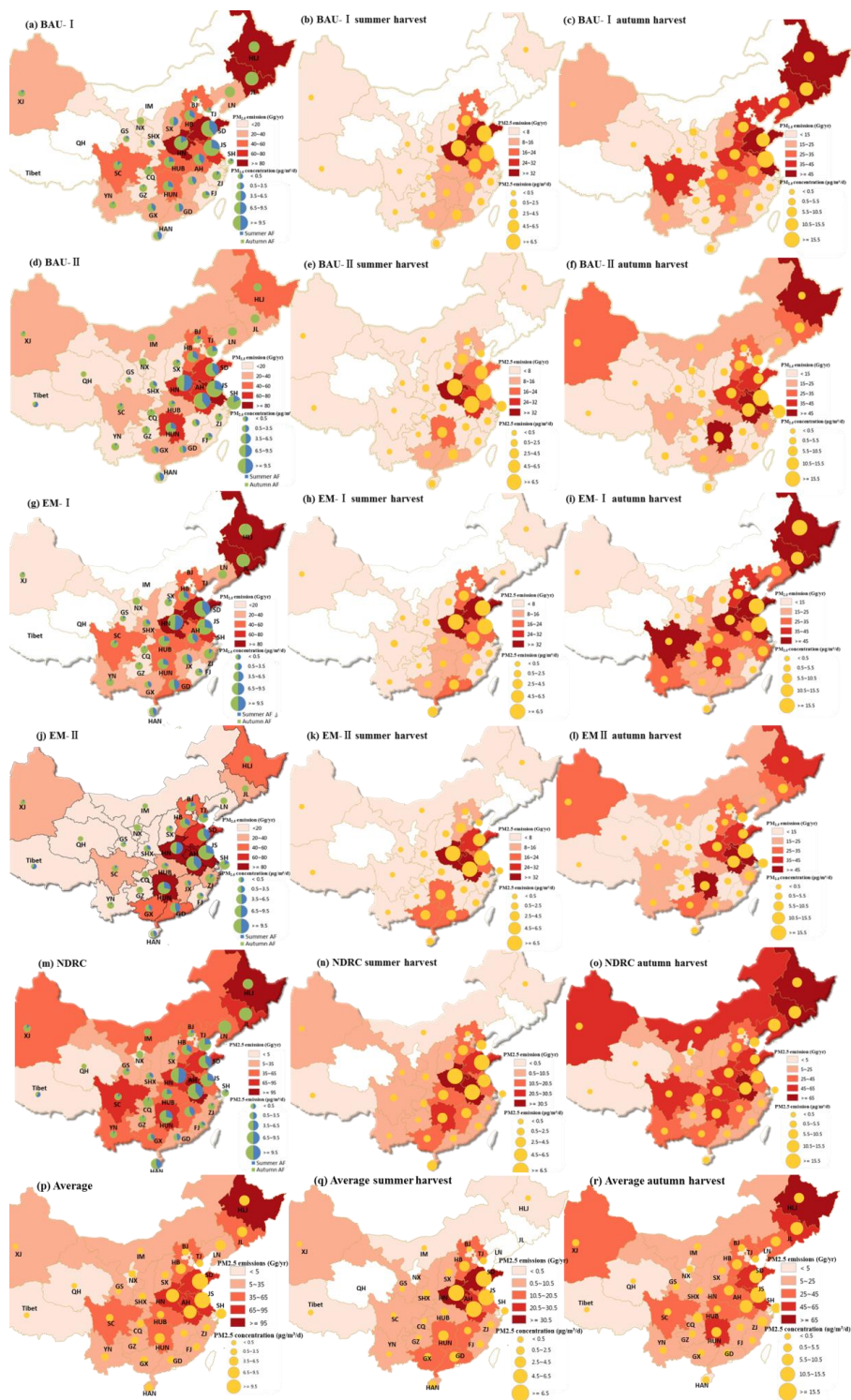


**Figure 5.** Annual agricultural residue production of five major crops and allocated into two harvest (summer and autumn harvest) based on agricultural yield in China, 2012. (Abbreviation, BJ: Beijing; TJ: Tianjin; HB: Hebei; SX: Shanxi; IM: Inner Mongolia; LN: Liaoning; JL: Jilin; HLJ: Heilongjiang; SH: Shanghai; JS: Jiangsu; ZJ: Zhejiang; AH: Anhui; FJ: Fujian; JX: Jiangxi; SD: Shandong; HN: Henan; HUB: Hubei; HUN: Hunan; GD: Guangdong; GX: Guangxi; HAN: Hainan; CQ: Chongqing; SC: Sichuan; GZ: Guizhou; YN: Yunnan; SHX: Shannxi; GS: Gansu; QH: Qinghai; NX: Ningxi; XJ: Xinjiang)

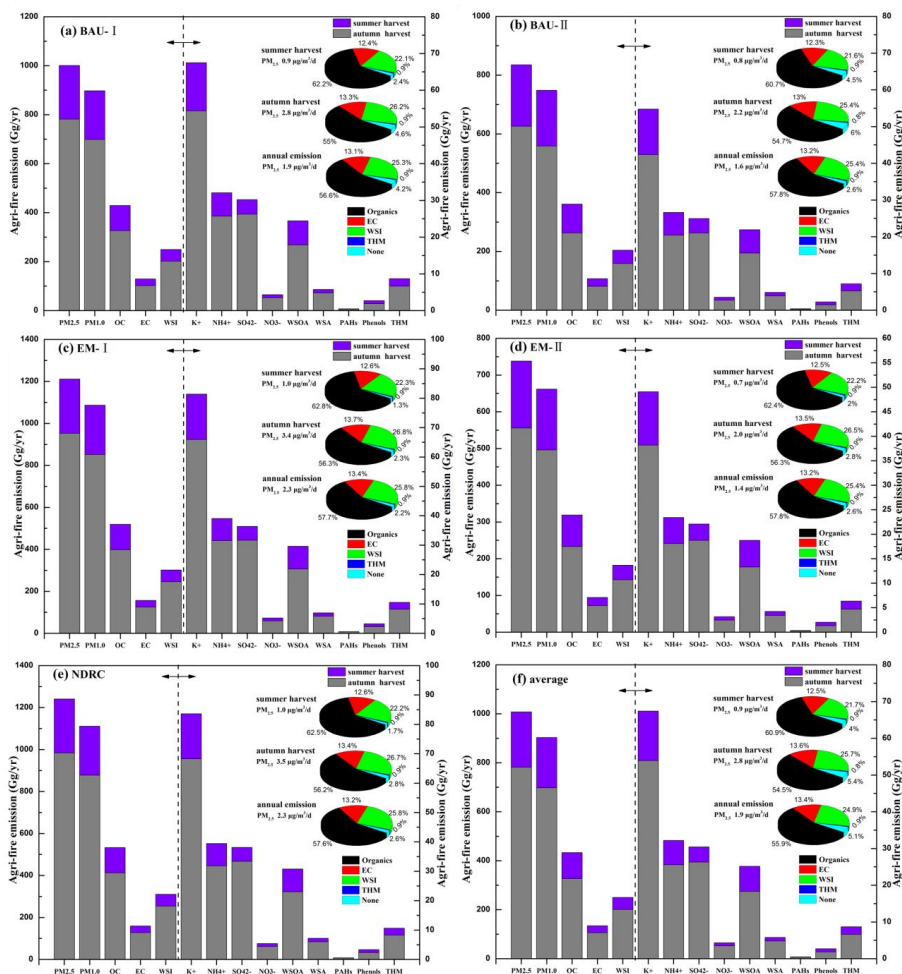


**Figure 6.** Statistical analysis of field burning rates from BAU, EM, and NDRC versions. The North Plain (Anhui, Shandong, Hebei, Shanxi, Tianjin, Beijing), the Central of China (Hunan, Henan, Hubei), the Yangtze River Delta (Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Shanghai), the Northeast of China (Heilongjiang, Liaoning, Jilin), the Pan-Pearl River Delta (Hainan, Guangdong, Fujian, Guangxi, Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan, Jiangxi), the West of China (Shannxi, Chongqing, Xinjiang, Qinghai, Ningxia, Tibet, Inner Mongolia, Gansu)





**Figure 7.** Spatial and temporal distribution of smoke  $PM_{2.5}$  emissions and flux concentrations from agricultural field burning over China, 2012.



**Figure 8.** Nationwide PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions and flux concentrations based on different burning versions. The inset pie-graphs are chemical compositions of integrated PM<sub>2.5</sub> from five major agricultural residue burning.