



1 **The Role of Meteorological Conditions and Pollution Control**  
2 **Strategies in Reducing Air Pollution in Beijing during APEC 2014 and**  
3 **Parade 2015**

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11

12 **Abstract**

13 To control severe air pollution in China, comprehensive pollution control  
14 strategies have been implemented throughout the country in recent years. To evaluate  
15 the effectiveness of these strategies, the influence of meteorological conditions on  
16 levels of air pollution needs to be determined. We therefore developed a generalized  
17 linear regression model (GLM) to establish the relationship between the concentrations  
18 of air pollutants and meteorological parameters. Using the intensive air pollution  
19 control strategies implemented during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum  
20 in 2014 (APEC 2014) and the Victory Parade for the Commemoration of the 70<sup>th</sup>



21 Anniversary of the Chinese Anti-Japanese War and the World Anti-Fascist War in 2015  
22 (Parade 2015) as examples, we estimated the role of meteorological conditions and  
23 pollution control strategies in reducing air pollution levels in Beijing. During the APEC  
24 (1 October to 31 December 2014) and Parade (1 August to 31 December 2015)  
25 sampling periods, atmospheric particulate matter of aerodynamic diameter  $\leq 2.5 \mu\text{m}$   
26 ( $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ) samples were collected and gaseous pollutants ( $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{NO}$ ,  $\text{NO}_x$ , and  $\text{O}_3$ ) were  
27 measured online at a site in Peking University (PKU). The concentrations of all  
28 pollutants except ozone decreased dramatically (by more than 20%) during both events,  
29 compared with the levels during non-control periods. To determine the influence of  
30 meteorological conditions on the levels of air pollution, we first compared the air  
31 pollutant concentrations during days with stable meteorological conditions (i.e. when  
32 the daily average wind speed (WS) was less than  $2.50 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and planetary boundary  
33 layer (PBL) height was lower than 290 m). We found that the average  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$   
34 concentration during APEC decreased by 45.7% compared with the period before  
35 APEC and by 44.4% compared with the period after APEC. This difference was  
36 attributed to emission reduction efforts during APEC. However, there were few days  
37 with stable meteorological conditions during Parade. As such, we were unable to  
38 estimate the level of emission reduction efforts during this period. Finally, GLMs based  
39 only on meteorological parameters were built to predict air pollutant concentrations,  
40 which could explain more than 70% of the variation in air pollutant concentration levels,  
41 after incorporating the nonlinear relationships between certain meteorological  
42 parameters and the concentrations of air pollutants. Evaluation of the GLM



43 performance revealed that the GLM, even based only on meteorological parameters,  
44 could be satisfactory to estimate the contribution of meteorological conditions in  
45 reducing air pollution, and hence the contribution of control strategies in reducing air  
46 pollution. Using the GLM, we found that the meteorological conditions and pollution  
47 control strategies contributed 30% and 28% to the reduction of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration  
48 during APEC 2014, and 38% and 25% during Parade 2015. We also estimated the  
49 contribution of meteorological conditions and control strategies implemented during  
50 the two events in reducing the concentrations of gaseous pollutants and PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
51 components with the GLMs, revealing the effective control of anthropogenic emissions.

## 52 **1 Introduction**

53 Air pollution poses serious health risks to human populations and is one of the  
54 most important global environmental problems. To control air pollution in China, the  
55 State Council of China (2013) has released the Action Plan for Air Pollution Prevention  
56 and Control, which sets pollution control targets for different regions, e.g. atmospheric  
57 particulate matter of aerodynamic diameter  $\leq 2.5 \mu\text{m}$  (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentrations in 2017  
58 shall fall in Beijing–Tianjin–Hebei (BTH) by 25%, in the Yangtze River Delta by 20%,  
59 and in the Pearl River Delta by 15%, compared with 2012 levels. To meet these targets,  
60 comprehensive pollution control strategies have been implemented at the national,  
61 provincial, and city levels. However, it is not clear how effective these strategies are in  
62 reducing air pollution. One of the challenges in evaluating the effectiveness of these  
63 strategies is that the long-term strategies cannot improve air quality in the short term.



64 The efforts made to ensure satisfactory air quality for special events, such as the Beijing  
65 2008 Olympics, provide a unique opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of pollution  
66 control strategies (Kelly and Zhu, 2016). During the Beijing Olympics comprehensive  
67 pollution control strategies were implemented intensively over a short period of time.  
68 Based on the successful experience during this event, the Chinese government  
69 implemented similar air pollution control measures for the 41<sup>st</sup> Shanghai World Expo  
70 in 2010 (SEPB, 2010), the 16<sup>th</sup> Guangzhou Asian Games and Asian Para Games in 2010  
71 (GEPB, 2009), and the Chengdu Fortune Forum 2013 (CEPB, 2013). To ensure  
72 satisfactory air quality in Beijing during the two most recent events: the Asia-Pacific  
73 Economic Cooperation Forum in 2014 (APEC 2014) and the Victory Parade for the  
74 Commemoration of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chinese Anti-Japanese War and the  
75 World Anti-Fascist War in 2015 (Parade 2015), the Chinese central government and the  
76 local government in Beijing, together with its surrounding provinces, implemented  
77 comprehensive air pollution control strategies, including the control of emissions from  
78 traffic, industry, and coal combustion, as well as dust pollution control (Table 1). These  
79 two events provide a good opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of air pollution  
80 control strategies.

81 One challenge when evaluating the effectiveness of air pollution control strategies  
82 over a short period of time is separating out the contribution of meteorological  
83 conditions from the reduction in air pollution levels.

84 Most previous studies have only provided a descriptive analysis of the changing  
85 concentrations of air pollutants during these events. Wen et al. (2016) reported that the



86 average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration during APEC decreased by 54%, 26%, and 39% compared  
87 with the levels before APEC in Beijing, Shijiazhuang, and Tangshan, respectively. The  
88 authors also reported that the average concentration of total elements in PM<sub>2.5</sub> during  
89 APEC decreased by 75%, 35%, and 36% compared with the levels before APEC in  
90 these three sites, respectively. Han et al. (2015) observed that the extinction coefficient  
91 and absorbance coefficient decreased significantly during APEC compared with the  
92 values before.

93 An increasing number of studies have recognized the importance of  
94 meteorological conditions in determining air pollution in Beijing and North China Plain  
95 (e.g., Zhang et al., 2012). A northerly wind is considered to be favourable for pollutant  
96 diffusion, while a southerly wind is considered to be favourable for the transport of  
97 pollutants to Beijing (Zhang et al., 2014). When assessing the effectiveness of air  
98 pollution control strategies, a few studies have distinguished between the contribution  
99 of meteorological conditions and pollution control strategies in reducing air pollution  
100 by comparing air pollutant concentrations under similar meteorological conditions  
101 (Wang et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2009). However, in these studies, days with stable  
102 meteorological conditions were determined subjectively, which may introduce  
103 uncertainties and inconsistencies when estimating changes in air pollutant  
104 concentrations.

105 Statistical models have been developed to establish the relationship between air  
106 pollutant concentrations and meteorological parameters. Table 2 summarizes these  
107 models, with their respective R<sup>2</sup> values. Multiple linear regression models have been



108 widely applied to demonstrate the quantitative relationship between air pollutant  
109 concentrations and meteorological parameters, by assuming a linear relationship.  
110 However, these relationships are often non-linear (Liu et al., 2007; Liu et al., 2012).

111 Table 2 shows that most of the models with good explanation ( $R^2 > 0.6$ ) have  
112 actually adopted visibility, aerosol optical depth (AOD), and air quality index (AQI) as  
113 independent variables to improve the performance of the regression models (Liu et al.,  
114 2007; Sotoudeheian and Arhami, 2014; Tian and Chen, 2010; You et al., 2015). This  
115 could cause problems in the prediction of air pollutant concentrations during intensive  
116 emission control periods because visibility, AOD, and AQI are also dependent on air  
117 pollution levels; hence, the statistical models may not function when air pollutant levels  
118 are drastically reduced over a short period. A statistical model based solely on  
119 meteorological parameters to predict air pollutant concentrations is therefore required.

120 In this study, we used the air pollution control periods during APEC 2014 and  
121 Parade 2015 to estimate the role of meteorological conditions and pollution control  
122 strategies in reducing air pollution in the megacity of Beijing. We first measured the  
123 changes in air pollutant concentrations, including  $PM_{2.5}$ , gaseous pollutants, and the  
124 components of  $PM_{2.5}$ . We then estimated the role of meteorological conditions and  
125 pollution control strategies in reducing air pollution by comparing the pollutant  
126 concentrations during days with stable meteorological conditions. Finally, we  
127 developed a statistical model based only on meteorological parameters to evaluate the  
128 role of meteorological conditions and pollution control strategies in reducing the levels  
129 of air pollution in Beijing. Compared with the models used in previous studies, our



130 statistical model had the following advantages: (1) all of the independent variables were  
131 meteorological parameters; (2) we considered the non-linear relationships between air  
132 pollutant concentrations and meteorological parameters; and (3) in addition to  
133 predicting PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass concentrations, our model could also predict concentrations of  
134 gaseous pollutants and individual PM<sub>2.5</sub> components.

## 135 **2 Measurements and Methods**

### 136 **2.1 Measurements of Air Pollutants**

137 Gaseous pollutants (SO<sub>2</sub>, NO, NO<sub>x</sub>, and O<sub>3</sub>) were measured online, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
138 samples were collected on filters at an urban monitoring station in the campus of Peking  
139 University (39.99°N, 116.33°E) northwest of Beijing (Huang et al., 2010). The station  
140 is located on the roof of a six-floor building, about 20 m above the ground and about  
141 550 m north of the fourth ring road.

142 A PM<sub>2.5</sub> four-channel sampler (TH-16A, Wuhan Tianhong Instruments Co., Ltd.,  
143 Hubei, China) was used to collect PM<sub>2.5</sub> samples. The sampling duration was 23.5 h  
144 (from 09:30 to 09:00 LT the next day). Both 47-mm quartz filters (QM/A, Whatman,  
145 Maidstone, England) and Teflon filters (PTFE, Whatman) were used. The flow rate was  
146 calibrated to 16.7 L min<sup>-1</sup> each week and a blank PM<sub>2.5</sub> sample was collected once a  
147 month. The quartz filters were baked at 550°C for 5.5 h before use. Immediately after  
148 collection, the filter samples were stored at -25°C until analysis. A total of 225 PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
149 filter samples were collected during APEC (1 October to 31 December 2014) and  
150 Parade (1 August to 31 December 2015) sampling periods. During the sampling periods,



151 20 days of PM<sub>2.5</sub> samples were missed due to rain or sampler failures. Sulphur dioxide  
152 (SO<sub>2</sub>) was measured with an SO<sub>2</sub> analyzer (43i TL, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham,  
153 MA, USA), with a precision of 0.05 ppb. Nitric oxide (NO) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>)  
154 were measured with a NO-NO<sub>x</sub> analyzer (42i TL, Thermo Fisher Scientific), with  
155 precisions of 0.05 ppb for NO and 0.17 ppb for NO<sub>2</sub>. Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) was measured with  
156 an O<sub>3</sub> analyzer (49i, Thermo Fisher Scientific), with a precision of 1.0 ppb. The SO<sub>2</sub>  
157 and NO-NO<sub>x</sub> analyzers both had a detection limit of 0.05 ppb, and the O<sub>3</sub> analyzer had  
158 a detection limit of 0.50 ppb. All of the gaseous pollutant analyzers had a time  
159 resolution of 1 min, and were maintained and calibrated weekly following the  
160 manufacturer's protocols.

## 161 2.2 Meteorological Data

162 Meteorological data were obtained from the National Climate Data Center  
163 ([www.ncdc.noaa.gov](http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov)) dataset. The meteorological parameters were monitored at a  
164 station located in the Beijing Capital International Airport, and consisted of temperature  
165 (T), relative humidity (RH), wind direction (WD), wind speed (WS), sea level pressure  
166 (SLP), and precipitation (PREC). The PBL height was computed from the simulation  
167 results of the National Center for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Global Data  
168 Assimilation System (GDAS) model ([www.ready.arl.noaa.gov/READYamet.php](http://www.ready.arl.noaa.gov/READYamet.php)).

## 169 2.3 Analysis of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> Filter Samples

170 To obtain daily average PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass concentrations, Teflon filters were weighed  
171 before and after sampling using an electronic balance, with a detection limit of 10 µg





172 (AX105DR) in a super-clean lab (T:  $20 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ , RH:  $40 \pm 3\%$ ). A portion of each Teflon  
173 filter was extracted with ultrapure water for the measurement of water-soluble ions ( $\text{Na}^+$ ,  
174  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and  $\text{Cl}^-$ ), with an ion-chromatograph (IC-2000 &  
175 2500, Dionex, Sunnyvale, CA, USA). The detection limits of  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  
176  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and  $\text{Cl}^-$  were 0.03, 0.06, 0.10, 0.10, 0.05, 0.01, 0.01, and 0.03 mg  
177  $\text{L}^{-1}$ , respectively. A portion of each Teflon filter was digested with a solution consisting  
178 of nitric acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ ), hydrochloric acid (HCl), and hydrofluoric acid (HF) for the  
179 measurement of trace elements (Na, Mg, Al, Ca, Mn, Fe, Co, Cu, Zn, Se, Mo, Cd, Ba,  
180 Tl, Pb, Th and U), with inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (ICP-MS,  
181 Thermo X series, Thermo Fisher Scientific). The recoveries for all measured elements  
182 fell within  $\pm 20\%$  of the certified values. A semi-continuous organic carbon/elemental  
183 carbon (OCEC) analyzer (Model 4, Sunset Laboratory, Tigard, OR, USA) was used to  
184 analyze organic and elemental carbon from a round punch (diameter: 17 mm) from each  
185 quartz filter sample. The T protocol of the National Institute for Occupational Safety  
186 and Health (NIOSH) thermal-optical method was applied (see details in Table S1).

187 All analytical instruments were calibrated before each series of measurements. The  
188  $R^2$  values of the calibration curves for ions, elements, and sucrose concentrations were  
189 higher than 0.999.

#### 190 **2.4 Generalized Linear Regression Model (GLM)**

191 A generalized linear regression model (GLM) was used to establish the  
192 relationship between air pollutant concentrations and meteorological parameters. The



193 objective dependent variables included concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$ , individual  $PM_{2.5}$   
194 components, and gaseous pollutants.

195 To match the 23.5-h (09:30–09:00 LT the next day) sampling time of the  $PM_{2.5}$   
196 filter samples, metrological parameters were averaged over the same time span (Table  
197 3) and used in the GLM alongside other parameters, e.g. the daily maximum of certain  
198 meteorological parameters. The meteorological parameters used in the GLM were T,  
199 RH, WD, WS, PBL height, SLP, and PREC. WDs were grouped into three categories,  
200 with relevant values and assigned to each category: north (NW, W and NE) as 1, south  
201 (SW, SE and E) as 2, and “calm and variable” as 3. A calm wind was defined as when  
202 the WS was less than  $0.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . A variable WD was defined as a condition when: (1)  
203 the WD fluctuated by  $60^\circ$  or more during a 2-min evaluation period, with a WS greater  
204 than 6 knots ( $11 \text{ km h}^{-1}$ ); or (2) the WD was variable and the WS was less than 6 knots  
205 ( $11 \text{ km h}^{-1}$ ).

206 A preliminary analysis showed that the concentrations of air pollutants and  
207 meteorological parameters fitted best with an exponential function or power function  
208 (Figure S2); therefore, these functions were natural log transformed and introduced into  
209 the GLM.

210 We applied the stepwise method to evaluate the level of multicollinearity between  
211 the independent variables based on relevant judgement indexes, such as the variance  
212 inflation factor (VIF) or tolerance. Based on the assumption that the regression residuals  
213 followed a normal distribution and homoscedasticity, which is discussed in a later  
214 section, we developed the following model to calculate the concentrations of air



215 pollutants and chemical components of PM<sub>2.5</sub> based on meteorological parameters:

$$216 \ln C_{ij} = \beta_0 + \sum_{k=1}^m \beta_{1k} x_k + \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_{2k} \ln x_k + \sum_{k=1}^{m'} \beta_{3k} x_k (lag) + \sum_{k=1}^{n'} \beta_{4k} \ln x_k (lag) \quad (1)$$

217 where  $C_{ij}$  is the concentration of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  air pollutant averaged over the  $i^{\text{th}}$  day,  $x_k$  is the  
218  $k^{\text{th}}$  meteorological parameter,  $\beta_k$  is the regression coefficient of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  meteorological  
219 parameter, and  $\beta_0$  is the intercept. For meteorological parameters containing both  
220 positive and negative values (i.e. T), only the exponential form was applied.  $m$ ,  $n$ ,  $m'$ ,  
221 and  $n'$  are the number of different forms of meteorological parameters that were  
222 eventually included in the model, and were determined based on the stepwise entering  
223 method of the regression model. The suffix of (*lag*) refers to the meteorological  
224 parameters of the previous day. The main assumption for equation (1) was that the  
225 concentrations of air pollutants were only a function of the meteorological parameters,  
226 and the emission intensities were constant. Hence, we only used the data before and  
227 after APEC 2014 and Parade 2015 control periods in equation (1), excluding the data  
228 collected during each period and during the heating season, e.g. after 15 November  
229 2014.

### 230 **3 Results and Discussion**

#### 231 **3.1 Changes of Air Pollutant Concentrations during the APEC 2014 and Parade** 232 **2015 Campaigns**

233 Figure 1 shows the time series of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and the concentrations of its components,  
234 as well as the meteorological parameters during the APEC 2014 and Parade 2015  
235 campaigns. The APEC 2014 campaign consisted of three distinct periods: before APEC



236 (BAPEC, 18 October to 2 November 2014), during APEC (APEC, 3 to 12 November  
237 2014), and after APEC (AAPEC, 13 to 22 November 2014). The Parade 2015 campaign  
238 was also divided into three distinct periods: before Parade (BParade, 1 to 19 August  
239 2015), during Parade (Parade, 20 August to 3 September 2015), and after Parade  
240 (AParade, 4 to 23 September 2015).

241 There were two pollution episodes during APEC, on 4 November and 7–10  
242 November 2014, which corresponded to two relatively stable periods with low WS,  
243 mainly from the south. The T declined gradually from 12.2°C before APEC to 4.9°C  
244 after APEC, and the RH was above 60% during the two pollution episodes. During  
245 Parade, the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were low during the whole control period, with the  
246 prevailing WD from the north and low WS. The T was mostly higher than 20°C, which  
247 differed from that during the APEC campaign when it was lower than 20°C.

248 Table 4 lists the mean concentrations and standard deviations of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, gaseous  
249 pollutants, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> components during the APEC and Parade campaigns. The mean  
250 concentration of PM<sub>2.5</sub> during APEC was  $48 \pm 35 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , 58% lower than during  
251 BAPEC ( $113 \pm 62 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), and 51% lower than during AAPEC ( $97 \pm 84 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). The  
252 mean concentration of PM<sub>2.5</sub> during Parade was  $15 \pm 6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , 63% lower than during  
253 BParade ( $41 \pm 14 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), and 62% lower than during AParade ( $39 \pm 28 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ).

254 Figure 1 here

255 Figure 2 shows the proportion of the measured PM<sub>2.5</sub> components, including OC;  
256 EC; the sum of the sulphate, nitrate, and ammonia (SNA); and chloride ion (Cl<sup>-</sup>) and  
257 trace elements, which together accounted for 70–80% of the total PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass



258 concentration. The proportions of OC (23.5%) and EC (3.5%) in PM<sub>2.5</sub> were highest  
259 during APEC. The proportion of SNA in PM<sub>2.5</sub> during APEC (40.6%) was lower than  
260 during BAPEC (50.7%) and higher than during AAPEC (37.2%). The proportions of  
261 Cl<sup>-</sup> (4.3%) and elements (6.8%) in PM<sub>2.5</sub> during APEC were higher than during BAPEC  
262 and lower than during AAPEC. For the Parade campaign, the proportions of OC (26.6%)  
263 and elements (6.6%) in PM<sub>2.5</sub> were highest during Parade. The proportions of EC (4.9%)  
264 and Cl<sup>-</sup> (1.1%) in PM<sub>2.5</sub> during Parade were higher than during BParade and lower than  
265 during AParade. The proportion of SNA in PM<sub>2.5</sub> was lowest during Parade (37.3%).  
266 Similarly, during the pollution control periods of APEC and Parade, the proportions of  
267 OC and elements in PM<sub>2.5</sub> tended to increase and the proportion of SNA in PM<sub>2.5</sub> tended  
268 to decrease.

269 Figure 2 here

270 EC is usually considered to be a marker of anthropogenic primary sources, while  
271 the sources of OC include both primary and secondary organic aerosols. The correlation  
272 between OC and EC can reflect the origin of carbonaceous fractions (Chow et al., 1996).  
273 Figure 3 shows the correlation between EC and OC concentrations during the APEC  
274 and Parade campaigns. During the APEC and Parade campaigns, the correlation  
275 coefficient during both control periods ( $R^2 = 0.9032$ ) was larger than that during non-  
276 control periods ( $R^2 = 0.6468$ ), indicating that OC and EC were mainly derived from the  
277 same sources during both pollution control periods, and were from different sources  
278 during the non-control periods. The slope of the OC/EC correlation during the pollution  
279 control period was 6.86, which was higher than that during the non-control period (3.97).



280 This could be due to high levels of secondary OC (SOC) formation during the control  
281 periods, and/or the higher contribution from residential solid fuel (coal and biomass)  
282 burning (Liu et al., 2016).

283 Figure 3 here

284 Figure 4 shows the proportion of SNA in  $PM_{2.5}$  ( $\rho(SNA)/PM_{2.5}$ ), the sulphur (S)  
285 oxidation ratio ( $SOR = [SO_4^{2-}]/([SO_2]+[SO_4^{2-}])$ ), and nitrogen oxidation ratio ( $NOR =$   
286  $[NO_3^-]/([NO_x]+[NO_3^-])$ ), along with  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations during the APEC (a) and  
287 Parade (b) campaigns. During APEC, the average  $\rho(SNA)/PM_{2.5}$  was 27%, which was  
288 significantly lower than during BAPEC (42%). During Parade, the average  
289  $\rho(SNA)/PM_{2.5}$  was 35%, which was also significantly lower than during BParade (47%).

290 During the APEC campaign, the average  $SO_2$  concentration was  $11.3 \mu g m^{-3}$   
291 before APEC,  $9.5 \mu g m^{-3}$  during APEC, and  $34.8 \mu g m^{-3}$  after APEC, respectively. The  
292 average  $NO_x$  concentration was  $151 \mu g m^{-3}$  before APEC,  $81 \mu g m^{-3}$  during APEC, and  
293  $220 \mu g m^{-3}$  after APEC, respectively. During the Parade campaign, the average  $SO_2$   
294 concentration during Parade was  $1.6 \mu g m^{-3}$ , lower than both during BParade ( $2.7 \mu g$   
295  $m^{-3}$ ) and AParade ( $5.9 \mu g m^{-3}$ ). The average  $NO_x$  concentration was also lower during  
296 Parade ( $26 \mu g m^{-3}$ ), than during BParade ( $57 \mu g m^{-3}$ ) and AParade ( $63 \mu g m^{-3}$ ).

297 During the APEC campaign, both the SOR and NOR declined gradually. The  
298 average SOR was 42%, 27%, and 17% in the BAPEC, APEC, and AAPEC periods,  
299 respectively. The average NOR was 13%, 8%, and 5% in the BAPEC, APEC, and  
300 AAPEC periods, respectively. SOR and NOR exhibited different patterns during the  
301 Parade campaign. The average SOR was 75%, 64%, and 55% in the BParade, Parade,



302 and AParade periods, respectively. The average NOR was 8%, 5%, and 8% in the  
303 BParade, Parade, and AParade periods, respectively. The SOR was higher during the  
304 Parade campaign (64%) than during the APEC campaign (30%). For NOR, a higher  
305 average value was found during the APEC campaign (9%) than during the Parade  
306 campaign (7%).

307 The APEC campaign occurred during autumn and early winter, while the Parade  
308 campaign occurred during late summer and autumn. The active photochemical  
309 oxidation during the Parade campaign resulted in high SO<sub>2</sub>-to-sulphate transformation  
310 rates, as indicated by the high SOR. In addition, the higher RH in summer favoured the  
311 heterogeneous reaction of sulphate formation. For NOR, the T was higher during Parade  
312 than during APEC, which favoured the volatilization of nitric acid and ammonia from  
313 the particulate phase of nitrate.

314 These results indicate significant reductions of air pollution during the pollution  
315 control periods of APEC 2014 and Parade 2015. However, it is necessary to evaluate if  
316 meteorological conditions contributed to this improvement.

317 Figure 4 here

### 318 **3.2 Reduction of Air Pollution under Similar Meteorological Conditions**

319 Figure 5 shows the prevalence of WD during the APEC and Parade campaigns.  
320 During APEC, the prevailing WD was from the north and northwest, and accounted for  
321 30–40% of the wind frequency. The mean WS during APEC was 3.1 m s<sup>-1</sup>, higher than  
322 during BAPEC (2.2 m s<sup>-1</sup>) and AAPEC (2.4 m s<sup>-1</sup>). The “calm and variable” proportion



323 of APEC was 28.5%, which was lowest during the APEC campaign. During Parade, a  
324 northern and northeastern WD accounted for more than 30% of the wind frequency, and  
325 the “calm and variable” proportion was 18.5%, much lower than during BParade and  
326 AParade (25.7% and 20.3%, respectively).

327 Figure 5 here

328 Figure 6 shows a time series of daily average  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations and PBL  
329 heights during the APEC and Parade campaigns, indicating that they have an anti-  
330 correlation. In both the BAPEC and AAPEC periods, the PBL heights were mostly less  
331 than 400 m. Compared with during APEC and during Parade, the PBL heights were  
332 constantly high, which was much more favourable for the diffusion of air pollutants  
333 during the control period.

334 Both WS and PBL height during APEC and Parade were favourable for pollutant  
335 diffusion. Therefore, it is necessary to consider meteorological conditions when  
336 assessing the impacts of pollution control. One way to do this is to compare air pollution  
337 concentrations during periods when meteorological conditions were the same, i.e. under  
338 stable conditions (Wang et al., 2015; Zhang et al., 2009).

339 Figure 6 here

### 340 3.2.1 Identify Stable Meteorological Periods

341 Stable conditions can be defined based on the relationship between air pollution  
342 levels and both WSs and PBL height. Figure 7 shows scatter plots between  $PM_{2.5}$   
343 concentrations and WS and PBL heights. The relationship can be fitted with a power





344 function. A stable condition could be defined by identifying the turning points when the  
345 slopes changed from large to relatively small values, and stable conditions could be  
346 defined when WSs and PBL heights were lower than the values of the turning points.

347 The slopes of the power function were monotone, varying with no inflection point.  
348 Thus, we used piecewise functions to identify the turning points. As Figure 7 shows,  
349 the intersections of two fitting lines represented the turning points of the meteorological  
350 influence on  $PM_{2.5}$ ; thus, we defined days with stable meteorological conditions to be  
351 those with a daily average WS less than  $2.50 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and a daily average PBL height  
352 lower than 290 m. We could then compare the corresponding pollutant concentrations  
353 between days with stable meteorological conditions.

354 Figure 7 here

### 355 **3.2.2 Variation of Air Pollutant Concentrations under Stable Meteorological** 356 **Conditions**

357 The days with stable meteorological conditions were determined with the method  
358 introduced in Section 3.2.1. As a result, eight days before APEC (18, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29,  
359 30, and 31 October 2014), six days during APEC (3, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10 November 2014),  
360 and seven days after APEC (14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 22 November 2014) were  
361 defined as having stable meteorological conditions. Table 5 lists the meteorological  
362 conditions (WSs and PBL heights), and the concentrations of pollutants on the days  
363 with stable meteorological conditions during the APEC campaign. For the Parade  
364 campaign, only one day in each of the BParade, Parade, and AParade periods was  
365 defined as having stable meteorological conditions. This was considered to not be well



366 representative of the Parade campaign. Thus, we only assessed the variation of air  
367 pollutant concentrations during stable meteorological periods of the APEC campaign.

368 For days with stable meteorological conditions during the APEC campaign, the  
369 average WS was 1.4, 1.9, and 1.7 m s<sup>-1</sup> in the BAPEC, APEC, and AAPEC periods,  
370 respectively; and the average PBL height was 191, 194, and 160 m in the same three  
371 periods, respectively. This clearly shows that the meteorological conditions of days  
372 considered to be stable throughout the APEC campaign were very similar.

373 Figure 8 shows the percentage reductions calculated by comparing the decreased  
374 average concentrations for all days during APEC to the average concentrations before  
375 APEC in black bars, and the percentage reductions based on the days with stable  
376 meteorological conditions in red bars. For the difference between the APEC and  
377 BAPEC periods, the percentage reduction on days with stable meteorological  
378 conditions was much lower than the reduction calculated when considering all days,  
379 except for Ca and NO. This indicates that the method applied to days with stable  
380 meteorological conditions excluded part of the meteorological influence on pollutant  
381 concentrations.

382 The standard deviations were also calculated with an error transfer formula that is  
383 described in detail in the Supplementary Information. Figure 8 shows that the standard  
384 deviations of the percentage reduction based on days with stable meteorological  
385 conditions decreased significantly. For example, the standard deviation of the  
386 percentage reduction in PM<sub>2.5</sub> based on the days with stable meteorological conditions  
387 decreased from 39% to 26% compared with the same measurement when all days were



388 considered. This indicates that by considering only days with stable meteorological  
389 conditions, the uncertainties associated with the percentage reduction figures were  
390 reduced and the reliability of the changes of air pollutants concentrations were  
391 improved.

392 Figure 8 here

393 Figure 9 shows the changes of pollutant concentrations on days with stable  
394 meteorological conditions during the APEC campaign. The average  $PM_{2.5}$   
395 concentration was  $70 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  during APEC, which represented a 45.7% decrease  
396 compared with the concentration in the BAPEC period ( $129 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) and a 44.4%  
397 decrease compared with the concentration in the AAPEC period ( $126 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ).

398 A similar pattern was observed for SNA. The SNA concentration decreased  
399 significantly during APEC compared with the BAPEC period. In the BAPEC period,  
400 the average sulphate, nitrate, and ammonium concentrations were 13.4, 34.2, and 16.7  
401  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively. During APEC, the average concentrations of sulphate, nitrate and  
402 ammonium were 5.6, 17.0, and  $7.4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively. In the AAPEC period, the  
403 average concentrations of sulphate, nitrate, and ammonium were 12.5, 21.8, and 13.6  
404  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively.

405 The average OC concentration was  $15.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  during APEC, which represented  
406 a 15.4% decrease compared with the concentration in the BAPEC period ( $18.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ).  
407 In comparison, the average EC concentration was  $2.4 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  during APEC, which  
408 represented a 35.1% decrease compared with the concentration in the BAPEC period  
409 ( $3.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). This indicates that the reduction of the OC concentration was less



410 significant than that of the EC concentration during APEC.

411 During APEC, the average concentrations of  $\text{Cl}^-$  and potassium ion ( $\text{K}^+$ ) were 3.1  
412 and  $0.96 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , which represented a decrease of 22.5% and 31.4%, compared with the  
413 concentrations in the BAPEC period. The average concentrations of  $\text{Cl}^-$  and  $\text{K}^+$   
414 increased significantly to 8.9 and  $2.01 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in the AAPEC period, which represented  
415 an increase of 187.1% and 109.4%, respectively compared with the concentrations  
416 during APEC. The average concentrations of several anthropogenic elements, including  
417 Pb, Zn, Ni, and Mn, all significantly decreased during APEC compared with the  
418 concentrations in the BAPEC and AAPEC periods. In contrast, the average  
419 concentration of Ca was  $634 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$  during APEC, which represented only an 8.2%  
420 decrease compared with the concentration before APEC ( $691 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ ), this may be due  
421 to the fact that Ca is mainly derived from geogenic sources (Mustaffa et al., 2014; Tao  
422 et al., 2014).

423 The average  $\text{SO}_2$  concentration was  $12.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  during APEC, which was almost  
424 equal with that in the BAPEC period ( $12.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), but it increased significantly to  $41.8$   
425  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in the AAPEC period. In comparison, the average concentrations of NO and  
426  $\text{NO}_x$  decreased significantly during APEC (61.0% and 42.9%, respectively) and  
427 increased substantially in the AAPEC period (376.7% and 139.3%, respectively).  
428 During APEC, the average concentration of  $\text{O}_3$  was  $27.1 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , which represented an  
429 increase of 92.2% and 133.6%, compared with the concentrations in the BAPEC and  
430 AAPEC periods. The significant increase in the average  $\text{SO}_2$  concentration in the  
431 AAPEC period was consistent with the increased ratios of the average concentrations



432 of  $\text{Cl}^-$  and  $\text{K}^+$  in the same period, indicating an increase in coal combustion, which  
433 coincided with the government subsidised heating season in north China that started on  
434 15 November. The inverse variation patterns of  $\text{NO}_x$  and  $\text{O}_3$  indicate that the significant  
435 increase of  $\text{O}_3$  may be because of the decline in average  $\text{NO}_x$  concentration during the  
436 pollution control period of APEC.

437 Figure 9 here

438 Table 6 lists the percentage differences among the mean  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations of  
439 four periods (P1, P2, P3, and P4) that were randomly selected from within the non-  
440 control days of the APEC and Parade campaigns. Based on the assumptions that days  
441 with stable meteorological conditions were representative of the corresponding periods  
442 during the APEC campaign, and the emission intensities were constant, the percentage  
443 differences in the mean  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations between these four random periods should  
444 be close to zero. The mean concentrations during P1, P2, P3, and P4 were 120, 101, 96,  
445 and  $87 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively. The standard deviation (SD) during P1, P2, P3, and P4  
446 were 97, 58, 40, and  $23 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively, with the average SD being  $59 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . The  
447 mean value of the percentage differences of the mean  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentrations between P1,  
448 P2, P3, and P4 was  $-16\%$ , with a root mean square error (RMSE) of  $18\%$ . Hence,  
449 uncertainties remain within the percentage differences based on the days with stable  
450 meteorological conditions, although the size of these uncertainties was reduced. This  
451 may be due to the limited sample size on days with stable meteorological conditions  
452 during the APEC campaign. It is therefore necessary to further quantify the  
453 meteorological influences.





475 in the CV test. Figure 11 shows the time series of the observed and CV-predicted  $PM_{2.5}$   
476 concentrations, which demonstrates a good performance for the  $PM_{2.5}$  GLM.

477 Figure 11 here

478 Table 7 shows the CV-predicted  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations. The adjusted  $R^2$  values  
479 for the five CV periods ranged from 0.710 to 0.807, which was lower than the value  
480 (0.808) derived from the  $PM_{2.5}$  model, due to the lack of input data. The observed mean  
481  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were 94, 59, 44, 54, and  $41 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  for the five CV periods,  
482 respectively. The corresponding CV-predicted mean  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were 82, 57,  
483 52, 65, and  $47 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively. The relative error (RE) between the observed mean  
484  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations and the CV-predicted mean  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations ranged from  $-17\%$   
485 to  $15\%$ , with a mean RE of  $-5\%$ . The RMSE of the RE was  $14.6\%$ , reflecting the  
486 uncertainties of the GLM method in quantitatively estimating the contribution of the  
487 meteorological conditions to the air pollutant concentrations.

488 Table 7 also lists the daily RMSE for each CV period and the total RMSE. The  
489 daily RMSE for each CV period was calculated with the daily average  $PM_{2.5}$   
490 concentrations during each CV period, and the total RMSE was calculated with the  
491 daily average  $PM_{2.5}$  concentration throughout all five CV periods combined. The daily  
492 RMSE ranged from 19 to  $53 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , and the total RMSE was  $33 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , indicating that  
493 the model prediction accuracy at the daily level needs to be improved. Liu et al. (2012)  
494 used a generalized additive model (GAM) to predict  $PM_{2.5}$ , which had a total daily  
495 RMSE of  $23 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . Compared with their results, the CV performance in our study was  
496 satisfactory considering that the independent variables in our model were only based



497 on meteorological parameters, while the model of Liu et al. (2012) included AOD.

498 The relative error calculated with the CV method for GLM was  $-5\%$  (Table 7),  
499 which was smaller than the mean percentage difference ( $-16\%$ ) calculated based on  
500 days with stable meteorological conditions (Table 6). Moreover, the RMSE of relative  
501 error calculated with the CV method for GLM (Table 7) was  $14.6\%$ , which was also  
502 smaller than the RMSE of percentage difference ( $18\%$ ) calculated based on days with  
503 stable meteorological conditions (Table 6).

504 These indicate that the GLM reduced uncertainties of the method in  
505 quantitatively estimating the contribution of the meteorological conditions to the  
506 pollutant concentrations.

### 507 3.3.2 Residual Analysis of GLM

508 Table 8 shows the concentrations of air pollutants for the GLM with adjusted  $R^2$   
509 values higher than 0.6. Again, we used the  $PM_{2.5}$  model as an example. Table 9 lists the  
510 output indexes of the  $PM_{2.5}$  GLM, including a model summary, analysis of variance  
511 (ANOVA), coefficients, and other indexes. The values of  $R$ ,  $R^2$ , and adjusted  $R^2$  were  
512 0.910, 0.828, and 0.808, respectively, indicating that the  $PM_{2.5}$  model can explain 80.8%  
513 of the variability of the daily average  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations. The model was statistically  
514 significant according to the p-value ( $<0.05$ ) from an F-test, and the meteorological  
515 parameters eventually selected as the independent variables of the model were  
516 statistically significant according to the p-values ( $<0.05$ ) from a t-test. The  
517 meteorological parameters eventually included in the model were  $\ln WS$ ,  $\ln WS_{\max(\text{lag})}$ ,





518 PBL<sub>max</sub>, PREC,  $\ln\Delta T_{(\text{lag})}$ , WS<sub>mode</sub>, WD/WS<sub>(lag)</sub>, PBL<sub>min(lag)</sub>, PREC<sub>(lag)</sub>, and SLP<sub>min</sub>.  
519 According to the collinearity statistics, all the VIF values were within 5 and tolerance  
520 values were larger than 0.1, indicating that no serious multicollinearity existed between  
521 the independent parameters. The Durbin–Watson value (1.910) was close to 2,  
522 accounting for the good independence of the variance.

523 Figure 12 shows a residual analysis of the model. According to the residual  
524 histogram (a), the mean value of the regression standardized residual was  $-0.01$ , with  
525 a standard deviation of 0.955. According to the P-P graph (c), the distribution of the  
526 observed and expected cumulative probability spread along the diagonal of  $y = x$ .  
527 According to the de-trended P-P graph (d), the deviations from a normal distribution  
528 were within  $\pm 0.05$ . These results indicate that the model residuals followed a normal  
529 distribution. The scatter diagram of residuals and simulated values (b) could be applied  
530 to test the homoscedasticity, i.e. the distribution of the regression residual did not  
531 change over the range of values predicted by the regression. Figure S4 demonstrates  
532 the time series of the observed pollutant and GLM-predicted pollutant concentrations,  
533 which displayed a good correlation.

534 Figure 12 here

### 535 **3.3.3 Quantitative Estimates of the Contribution of Meteorological Conditions to** 536 **Air Pollutant Concentrations**

537 We applied the GLM to predict air pollutant concentrations during APEC 2014  
538 and Parade 2015 based on meteorological parameters. The difference between the  
539 observed and GLM-predicted concentrations was attributed to emission reduction



540 through the implementation of air pollution control strategies.

541 Table 10 lists the percentage differences between the observed and GLM-predicted  
542 concentrations of air pollutants during APEC and Parade. The mean concentrations of  
543 the observed and predicted  $PM_{2.5}$  were 48 and  $67 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  during APEC, i.e. a 28%  
544 difference. The mean concentrations of the observed and predicted  $PM_{2.5}$  were 15 and  
545  $20 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  during Parade, i.e. a 25% difference. These differences are attributed to the  
546 emission reduction through the implementation of air pollution control strategies. As  
547 described in Section 3.1, the mean concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$  decreased by 58% and 63%  
548 during APEC and Parade, therefore, the meteorological conditions and pollution control  
549 strategies contributed 30% and 28% to the reduction of the  $PM_{2.5}$  concentration during  
550 APEC 2014, respectively, and 38% and 25% during Parade 2015, respectively.

551 The emission reduction during APEC in this study is comparable to the results of  
552 other studies where meteorological influences were considered. For example, the  $PM_{2.5}$   
553 concentration decreased by 33% under the same weather conditions during APEC in  
554 Beijing as modelled by the Weather Research and Forecasting model and Community  
555 Multiscale Air Quality (WRF/CMAQ) model (Wu et al., 2015). In addition, emission  
556 control implemented in Beijing during APEC resulted in a 22% reduction in the  $PM_{2.5}$   
557 concentration, as modelled by WRF-Chem (Guo et al., 2016).

558 Same as  $PM_{2.5}$ , the differences listed in Table 10 for other pollutants show the  
559 reduction in emission of these pollutants and/or their precursors. The differences for EC  
560 were 37% (from  $2.7$  to  $1.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during APEC and 33% (from  $1.2$  to  $0.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )  
561 during Parade. In contrast, the differences for OC were 11% (from  $12.6$  to  $11.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )



562 during APEC and 8% (from 3.7 to 4.0  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during Parade. The differences for  
563 carbonaceous components (OC + EC) were 16% (from 15.3 to 12.9  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during  
564 APEC and 2% (from 4.9 to 4.8  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during Parade. This indicates that the emission  
565 reduction for OC and its precursors were smaller than the reduction of EC during APEC  
566 and Parade. A similar pattern was found for the reduction for EC and OC based on days  
567 with stable meteorological conditions discussed in Section 3.2.2.

568 Table 10 also shows the differences for sulphate were 44% (from 2.7 to 3.9  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )  
569 during APEC and 50% (from 5.2 to 2.6  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during Parade. The differences for  
570 nitrate were 44% (from 19.0 to 10.6  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during APEC and 56% (from 3.4 to 1.5  $\mu\text{g}$   
571  $\text{m}^{-3}$ ) during Parade. The differences for ammonium were 13% (from 5.5 to 4.8  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )  
572 during APEC and 38% (from 2.4 to 1.5  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during Parade. In total, the differences  
573 for SNA were 29% (from 27.2 to 19.3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during APEC and 49% (from 11.0 to 5.6  
574  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) during Parade.

575 The concentration of sulphate is determined by primary emissions and secondary  
576 transformation from  $\text{SO}_2$ ; thus, the changes in sulphate concentrations may not reflect  
577 the effectiveness of emission control strategies. One needs to also include the changes  
578 in  $\text{SO}_2$  concentrations. By adding the molar concentrations of  $\text{SO}_2$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  ( $S = [\text{SO}_2]$   
579  $+ [\text{SO}_4^{2-}]$ ), the concentration of total S was calculated. Table 10 shows the differences  
580 for  $\text{SO}_2$  were 50% (from 6.59 to 3.32 ppb) during APEC and 2% (from 0.56 to 0.57  
581 ppb) during Parade, while the differences for total S were 41% (from 0.322 to 0.189  
582  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-3}$ ) during APEC and 33% (from 0.079 to 0.053  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-3}$ ) during Parade. Coal  
583 combustion emissions is the major contributor to total S, this demonstrates the effective



584 control of coal combustion during both APEC 2014 and Parade 2015. The difference  
585 for SO<sub>2</sub> during APEC was larger than that during Parade, while the difference for  
586 sulphate during Parade was larger than that during APEC. As discussed in Section 3.1,  
587 the mean SOR was 27% and 64% during APEC and Parade, respectively, indicating  
588 that the SO<sub>2</sub>-to-sulphate transformation rate during APEC (autumn and early winter)  
589 was much lower than during Parade (late summer and autumn).

590 It is interesting to note that the difference for OC during APEC was only 11%  
591 (Table 10) and the observed concentration of OC was even 8% higher than the GLM-  
592 predicted concentration during Parade, indicating that the control of the OC  
593 concentration was not as effective as the control of other PM<sub>2.5</sub> components during  
594 APEC and Parade. This may be because OC can originate from both primary emission  
595 and secondary transformation. In contrast, the control of the SNA concentration was  
596 very effective during APEC and Parade, leading to a significant decrease of PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
597 during both events.

598 Table 10 shows NO<sub>x</sub> and other PM<sub>2.5</sub> components also had significant emission  
599 reduction during APEC 2014 and Parade 2015. The differences between the observed  
600 and GLM-predicted concentrations of NO<sub>x</sub> were 56% (from 102 to 45 ppb) during  
601 APEC and 35% (from 20 to 13 ppb) during Parade. The differences for Cl<sup>-</sup> were 20%  
602 (from 2.58 to 2.06 μg m<sup>-3</sup>) during APEC and 6% (from 0.17 to 0.16 μg m<sup>-3</sup>) during  
603 Parade. The differences for K<sup>+</sup> were 37% (from 1.03 to 0.65 μg m<sup>-3</sup>) during APEC and  
604 25% (from 0.24 to 0.18 μg m<sup>-3</sup>) during Parade. The differences for Pb, Zn, and Mn  
605 ranged from 21% to 53% during APEC and Parade.



606 The concentrations of  $\text{Cl}^-$  have been found to be high in the fine particles produced  
607 from coal combustion (Takuwa et al., 2006), while the concentrations of  $\text{K}^+$  are high in  
608 particles derived from combustion activities, e.g. biomass burning and coal combustion.  
609 Lead is typically considered to be a marker of emissions from coal combustion, power  
610 stations, and metallurgical plants (Dan et al., 2004; Mukai et al., 2001; Schleicher et al.,  
611 2011). Zinc can be produced by the action of a car braking and by tire wearing (Cyrus  
612 et al., 2003; Sternbeck et al., 2002). Manganese mainly originates from industrial  
613 activities. Major sources of  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions include power plants, industry, and  
614 transportation (Liu and Zhu, 2013). The differences for the concentrations of total S,  
615  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ , Pb, Zn, Mn, and  $\text{NO}_x$ , indicate that the control of anthropogenic emissions,  
616 especially coal combustion, was very effective during APEC and Parade.

#### 617 **4 Conclusions**

618 During the pollution control periods of APEC 2014 and Parade 2015, the  
619 concentrations of air pollutants except ozone decreased dramatically compared with the  
620 concentrations during non-control periods, accompanied by meteorological conditions  
621 favourable for pollutant dispersal.

622 To estimate the contributions of meteorological conditions and pollution control  
623 strategies in reducing air pollution, comparing the concentrations of air pollutants  
624 during days with stable meteorological conditions is a useful method, but has limitation  
625 due to high uncertainty and lack of a sufficient number of days with stable  
626 meteorological conditions



627 Our study shows that, if including the nonlinear relationship between  
628 meteorological parameters and air pollutant concentrations, GLMs based only on  
629 meteorological parameters could provide a good explanation of the variation of  
630 pollutant concentrations, with adjusted  $R^2$  values mostly larger than 0.7. Since the  
631 GLMs contained no parameters dependent on air pollution levels as independent  
632 variables, they could be used to estimate the contributions of meteorological conditions  
633 and pollution control strategies to the air pollution levels during emission control  
634 periods.

635 With the GLMs method, we found meteorological conditions and pollution control  
636 strategies played almost equally important roles in reducing air pollution in megacity  
637 Beijing during APEC 2014 and Parade 2015, e.g. 30% and 28% to the reduction of the  
638  $PM_{2.5}$  concentration during APEC 2014, as well as 38% and 25% during Parade 2015.  
639 We also found that the control of the SNA concentration was more effective than  
640 carbonaceous components. The differences between the observed and GLM-predicted  
641 concentrations of specific pollutants ( $Cl^-$ ,  $K^+$ , Pb, Zn, Mn,  $NO_x$ , and S) related to coal  
642 combustion and industrial activities revealed the effective control of anthropogenic  
643 emissions.

644 In the future, combining the methods of source apportionment, the contributions  
645 of emission reductions for different sources in reducing air pollution could be estimated,  
646 enabling further analysis of pollution control strategies.

647

648 **Data availability.** The data of stationary measurements are available upon requests.



649 **Author contribution.** T. Zhu and P. F. Liang designed the experiments. P. F. Liang  
650 collected and weighed the PM<sub>2.5</sub> filter samples. P. F. Liang, Y. H. Fang, Y. Q. Han, and  
651 J. X. Wang carried out the analysis of the components in PM<sub>2.5</sub>. Y. S. Wu and M. Hu  
652 provided the data of gaseous pollutant concentrations. Y. R. Li computed the data of  
653 planetary boundary layer heights from GDAS and P. F. Liang developed the generalized  
654 linear regression model. J. X. Wang managed the data. P. F. Liang analyzed the data  
655 with contributions from all co-authors. P. F. Liang prepared the manuscript with helps  
656 from T. Zhu.

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815 **Figure Captions:**

816

817 Figure 1. Time series of atmospheric particulate matter of aerodynamic diameter  $\leq 2.5$   
818  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ) and the concentrations of its components, wind direction (WD), wind speed  
819 (WS), temperature (T), and relative humidity (RH) before, during, and after (a) APEC  
820 2014 and (b) Parade 2015. The grey-shaded areas highlight the pollution control periods  
821 of APEC 2014 (3 November to 12 November 2014) and Parade 2015 (20 August to 3  
822 September 2015).

823

824 Figure 2. Proportions of the measured components in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  during (a) APEC 2014 and  
825 (b) Parade 2015 campaigns, including organic carbon (OC), elemental carbon (EC),  
826  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$  and elements. B: before; A: after.

827

828 Figure 3. Scatter plot and correlations between organic carbon (OC: y-axis) and  
829 elemental carbon (EC: x-axis) concentrations of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  during the APEC 2014 and  
830 Parade 2015 campaigns. The red symbols denote the non-control period and the black  
831 symbols denote the pollution control period. The linear regression equations and  $R^2$   
832 values are given for these two campaigns.

833

834 Figure 4. Upper panel: time series of the proportion of sulphate, nitrate, and ammonia  
835 (SNA) in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  ( $\rho(\text{SNA})/\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ) and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  mass concentrations (the black bar  
836 represents  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  concentration and the red line represents  $\rho(\text{SNA})/\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ). Middle panel:  
837  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , and SOR ( $[\text{SO}_4^{2-}]/([\text{SO}_2]+[\text{SO}_4^{2-}])$ ). Lower panel:  $\text{NO}_x$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and NOR  
838 ( $[\text{NO}_3^-]/([\text{NO}_x]+[\text{NO}_3^-])$ ). Data collected during the (a) APEC 2014 and (b) Parade



839 2015 campaigns. The hollow bars represent gaseous pollutants (red for SO<sub>2</sub>, blue for  
840 NO<sub>x</sub>), and solid bars represent secondary inorganic ions (red for sulphate, blue for  
841 nitrate).

842

843 Figure 5. Wind rose plots based on frequencies of half-hourly data before APEC  
844 (BAPEC), during APEC, and after APEC (AAPEC) on the left, and before Parade  
845 (BParade), during Parade, and after Parade (AParade) on the right.

846

847 Figure 6. Time series of daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations and planetary boundary layer (PBL)  
848 heights during the (a) APEC and (b) Parade campaigns. The black line represents PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
849 concentrations and the red line represents PBL heights. The grey-shaded areas highlight  
850 the pollution control periods of APEC 2014 (3 November to 12 November 2014) and  
851 Parade 2015 (20 August to 3 September 2015).

852

853 Figure 7. Scatter plot showing the correlation between daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations (*y*-  
854 axis) and (a) daily PBL heights (*x*-axis) and (b) daily WSs (*x*-axis) during the APEC  
855 2014 sampling period (October to December 2014) and Parade 2015 sampling period  
856 (August to December 2015). The red and black scattered points represent different  
857 distribution areas. The piecewise function regression equations and the corresponding  
858 values of PBL height and WS according to the intersections are given.

859

860 Figure 8. The black bars represent the percentage reductions calculated by comparing  
861 the decreased average concentrations during APEC to the average concentrations  
862 before APEC. The red bars represent the percentage reductions calculated by comparing



863 the decreased average concentrations during APEC to the average concentrations  
864 before APEC based only on the days with stable meteorological conditions. The  
865 whiskers represent the standard deviations of the percentage reductions.

866

867 Figure 9. Variations of air pollutant concentrations during days with stable  
868 meteorological conditions during the APEC 2014 campaign, including PM<sub>2.5</sub>, sulphate,  
869 nitrate, and ammonium (SNA), organic carbon (OC), elemental carbon (EC), Cl<sup>-</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>,  
870 elements (Pb, Zn, Ni, Mn, and Ca), and gaseous pollutants (SO<sub>2</sub>, NO, NO<sub>x</sub>, and O<sub>3</sub>).  
871 The red points represent mean values. The black cross bars are median values. The  
872 black box denotes the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. The whiskers represent the maximum  
873 and minimum, respectively. B: before; A: after.

874

875 Figure 10. Scatter plot and correlations between GLM-predicted (*y*-axis) and observed  
876 (*x*-axis) concentrations of pollutants transformed to a natural log. The linear regression  
877 equations and R<sup>2</sup> values are given.

878

879 Figure 11. Time series of the observed and cross-validation (CV) predicted PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
880 concentrations during five CV periods. The black line represents the observed PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
881 concentration and the red line represents the CV-predicted PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration.

882

883 Figure 12. Residual analysis of the model. (a) Histogram of the regression standardized  
884 residual. (b) Scatter plot between the regression standardized predicted value and  
885 regression standardized residual. (c) Normal P-P plot of the regression standardized



886 residual between the observed cumulative probability and expected cumulative  
887 probability. (d) De-trended normal P-P plot of the standardized residual of observed  
888 cumulative probability.  
889  
890



891 Table 1. Air pollution control strategies during APEC 2014 and Parade 2015.

Periods	Control measures	Detail of measures
<b>APEC 2014</b> (3 to 12 November 2014) and <b>Parade 2015</b> (20 August to 3 September 2015)	Traffic control	The odd/even plate number rule for traffic control in Beijing, Tianjin, Hebei and Shandong; 70% (APEC 2014)/80% (Parade 2015) of official vehicle and “yellow label vehicles” were banned from Beijing’s roads; Trucks limited to run inside the 6th Ring Road between 6 AM to 24 PM.
	Industrial emission control	More than 10,000 factories production limited or halted in Beijing and Hebei, Tianjin, Shandong, Shanxi and Inner Mongolia which surround Beijing city.
	Dust pollution control	Dust emission factories and outdoor constructions shut down or limited in Beijing and near area; Enhancing road cleaning and spray and aspirating in Beijing.
	Coal-fired control	State-owned enterprise productions enhancing limited and 40% coal-fired boilers shut down in Beijing; more special pollutant emission factory limited around Beijing.

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893





894 Table 2. Summary of statistical models applied to predict air pollutant concentrations  
 895 with meteorological parameters.

Dependent variables	Independent variables	R <sup>2</sup>	Methods*	Applications
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	meteorological parameters (T/RH/PBL/WS/cloud fraction), AOT	0.47	MLR	Gupta and Christopher, 2009
PM <sub>10</sub>	meteorological parameters (T/WD/RH/PBL/WS), AOD	0.21/0.30 (MODIS/MISR)	MLR	Sotoudeheian and Arhami, 2014
PM <sub>10</sub>	meteorological parameters (RH/WS/T), AOD	0.49-0.88 (spatial-temporal variability)	MLR	Chitranshi et al., 2015
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	meteorological parameters (T/RH/PREC), AOT	0.60/0.58 (MOD/MYD)	MLR	Nguyen et al., 2015
ln(PM <sub>2.5</sub> ), ln(PM <sub>2.5-10</sub> )	meteorological parameters (ln(PREC)/ln(RH)/ln(WS)/ln(SUN)/ln(T)), atmospheric turbulence parameters (ln( $\Delta u/\Delta z$ )/ln( $\Delta \theta/\Delta z$ ))	0.60-0.74	GLM	Hien et al., 2002
ln(PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	meteorological parameters (T/WD/ln(WS)/ln(PBL)), ln(AOT), categorical parameters	0.51/0.62 (MODIS/MISR)	GLM	Liu et al., 2007
log(PM <sub>2.5</sub> ), log(BC)	meteorological parameters (T/wind index), traffic-related parameters	0.62/0.42 (PM <sub>2.5</sub> /BC)	GLM	Richmond-Bryant et al., 2009
ln(PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	meteorological parameters (ln(PBL)/GEO-4 RH/ln(surface RH)/T), ln(AOD)	0.65	GLM	Tian and Chen, 2010
ln(PM <sub>10</sub> )	meteorological parameters (T/WD/RH/ln(PBL)/ln(WS)), ln(AOD)	0.18/0.38 (MODIS/MISR)	GLM	Sotoudeheian and Arhami, 2014
ln(PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	meteorological parameters (ln(PBL)/RH/Vis/ln(T)/ln(WS)), ln(AOD)	0.67/0.72 (MODIS/MISR)	GLM	You et al., 2015
ln(PM <sub>2.5</sub> )	meteorological parameters (WS/WD/T/RH/pressure), optical properties (absorption/scattering/attenuation coefficient)	0.54/0.31/0.32/0.88 (winter/pre-monsoon/monsoon/post-monsoon)	GLM	Raman and Kumar, 2016
PM <sub>10</sub> , PM <sub>2.5</sub>	smooth non-parametric functions of spatial/temporal variates	0.58	GAM	Barnpadimos et al., 2012
PM <sub>2.5</sub> , PM <sub>10</sub> , PM <sub>2.5-10</sub>	smooth non-parametric functions of spatial/temporal variates	0.77/0.58/0.46-0.52 (PM <sub>2.5</sub> /PM <sub>10</sub> /PM <sub>2.5-10</sub> )	GAM	Yanosky et al., 2014
PM <sub>10</sub>	meteorological parameters (WS/T <sub>min</sub> /T <sub>max</sub> ), previous day PM <sub>10</sub>	0.78	ANN	Diaz-Robles et al., 2008
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	meteorological parameters (WS/RH/PBL/WS*PBL), AOD, spatial	0.89	LUR	Chudnovsky et al., 2014



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PM <sub>10</sub> , NO <sub>2</sub>	explanatory variables meteorological parameters (T/RH/WS/air pressure/cloud cover/percentage of haze/mist/rain/sun), spatial explanatory variables	0.45/0.43 (PM <sub>10</sub> /NO <sub>2</sub> )	LUR	Liu et al., 2015
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\*MLR: multiple linear regression model, GLM: generalized linear regression model, GAM: generalized additive model, ANN: artificial neural networks, LUR: land use regression model.

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898 Table 3. Meteorological parameters used in the GLM. The calculation of each  
 899 meteorological parameter is based on the sample duration of 23.5 h (09:30–09:00 LT  
 900 the next day).

Parameters	Abbreviations	Description
Wind direction value*	WD	The average of wind direction values.
	WD <sub>sum</sub>	The sum of wind direction values.
	WD <sub>mode</sub>	The mode of wind direction values.
Wind speed (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	WS	The average of wind speed.
	WS <sub>mode</sub>	The mode of wind speed.
	WS <sub>max</sub>	The maximum of wind speed.
Temperature (°C)	T	The average of temperature.
	T <sub>max</sub>	The maximum of temperature.
	T <sub>min</sub>	The minimum of temperature.
	ΔT	The difference of temperature.
Sea level pressure (hPa)	SLP	The average of sea level pressure.
	SLP <sub>max</sub>	The maximum of sea level pressure.
	SLP <sub>min</sub>	The minimum of sea level pressure.
Relative humidity (%)	RH	The average of relative humidity.
	RH <sub>max</sub>	The maximum of relative humidity.
Precipitation (mm)	PREC	The accumulation of precipitation.
Wind index	WD/WS	The average of wind direction value/wind speed.
	WD/WS <sub>sum</sub>	The sum of wind direction value/wind speed.
Planetary boundary layer height (m)	PBL	The average of 3-h planetary boundary layer height.
	PBL <sub>min</sub>	The minimum of 3-h planetary boundary layer height.
	PBL <sub>max</sub>	The maximum of 3-h planetary boundary layer height.

\* Since the degree data of wind direction cannot be applied directly, the values of wind directions are donated such that value = 1, 2, 3 for north, south, and “calm and variable”, respectively.

901



902 Table 4. Statistical summary showing the mean concentrations and standard deviations  
 903 of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, gaseous pollutants, and PM<sub>2.5</sub> components. B: before; A: after.

Pollutants	Units	BAPEC	APEC	AAPEC	BParade	Parade	AParade
PM <sub>2.5</sub>		113±62	48±35	97±84	41±14	15±6	39±28
OC		15.3±8.7	11.2±7.2	21.3±15.5	7.4±1.9	4.0±1.0	6.3±3.1
EC		2.7±1.4	1.7±1.0	3.5±1.8	1.6±0.3	0.8±0.1	2.0±1.0
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>		12.6±9.1	3.9±3.0	9.6±12.4	10.6±6.2	2.6±1.3	7.9±7.3
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>		29.4±21.4	10.6±11.0	16.3±19.4	5.0±3.9	1.5±1.5	6.4±6.2
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>		15.0±10.6	4.8±4.2	10.3±11.9	5.2±2.6	1.5±1.0	5.4±5.4
Cl <sup>-</sup>		3.19±1.61	2.06±2.11	6.59±6.67	0.20±0.16	0.16±0.12	0.53±0.24
Na <sup>+</sup>	μg m <sup>-3</sup>	0.50±0.26	0.26±0.15	0.57±0.46	0.16±0.09	0.10±0.05	0.16±0.08
K <sup>+</sup>		1.20±0.63	0.65±0.51	1.52±1.43	0.30±0.13	0.18±0.08	0.38±0.20
Mg <sup>2+</sup>		0.07±0.03	0.09±0.02	0.13±0.07	0.01±0.01	0.01±0.00	0.02±0.01
Ca <sup>2+</sup>		0.52±0.34	0.28±0.19	0.53±0.40	0.14±0.07	0.10±0.04	0.17±0.05
SO <sub>2</sub>		11.3±5.0	9.5±6.8	34.8±15.3	2.7±1.6	1.6±1.4	5.9±5.2
NO		54.2±30.5	21.9±13.8	112.3±63.2	3.2±2.1	1.2±0.9	9.3±7.5
NO <sub>x</sub>		151±62	81±46	220±107	57±11	26±13	63±24
O <sub>3</sub>		23±16	38±19	17±14	116±33	79±22	74±27
Ca		582±431	591±335	1536±579	202±64	108±36	188±130
Co		0.48±0.21	0.34±0.18	0.90±0.52	0.21±0.08	0.05±0.02	0.16±0.10
Ni		3.20±1.56	5.07±7.42	5.17±2.50	1.75±1.16	0.63±0.72	1.16±0.67
Cu		35.7±16.2	19.1±12.6	43.3±31.2	12.4±5.1	3.7±1.3	9.6±6.5
Zn		320±146	128±120	315±310	97±46	20±9	71±54
Se		6.45±3.46	3.76±3.84	5.22±6.56	7.06±3.41	3.19±2.76	3.17±2.76
Mo		2.20±1.12	1.63±1.14	2.85±2.67	0.62±0.41	0.16±0.14	0.53±0.46
Cd		3.86±2.53	1.41±1.25	3.11±2.52	2.35±5.72	0.22±0.17	0.71±0.74
Tl		1.87±0.90	0.87±1.01	2.03±1.96	0.50±0.31	0.05±0.06	0.33±0.39
Pb	ng m <sup>-3</sup>	121±59	55±52	104±81	36±19	9±6	29±26
Th		0.09±0.05	0.06±0.03	0.09±0.06	0.02±0.01	0.01±0.01	0.01±0.01
U		0.06±0.02	0.05±0.03	0.09±0.06	0.02±0.01	0.00±0.00	0.01±0.02
Na		529±261	355±209	907±632	182±71	96±39	181±96
Mg		153±94	105±47	236±143	43±13	15±8	24±15
Al		516±324	338±154	588±406	141±82	130±60	136±93
Mn		55.5±23.3	34.5±24.1	61.6±52.4	17.3±6.4	3.6±1.8	14.8±9.2
Fe		755±314	573±336	883±538	269±71	98±28	234±139
Ba		16.3±8.0	11.0±8.4	13.8±8.1	4.7±1.6	1.9±0.6	4.1±2.3

904

905



906 Table 5. Statistical summary showing the meteorological conditions (WS and PBL  
 907 height), and the concentrations of pollutants on the days with stable meteorological  
 908 conditions during the APEC campaign. B: before; A: after.

	WS	PBL	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	OC	EC	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO	NO <sub>x</sub>	O <sub>3</sub>	
	(m s <sup>-1</sup> )	(m)	(µg m <sup>-3</sup> )										
	10/18	1.27	145	153	-	-	14.3	43.0	19.4	-	73	240	45.2
	10/22	1.46	233	67	10.9	3.6	7.4	14.0	9.3	12.1	59	153	4.4
	10/23	1.46	188	108	18.0	2.6	11.3	23.7	13.2	11.5	91	200	6.6
	10/24	1.52	171	177	20.5	3.0	24.6	54.2	28.3	12.0	73	205	20.4
BAPEC	10/28	1.71	232	87	15.9	3.8	7.0	17.8	7.9	13.0	69	165	14.2
	10/29	1.10	193	132	23.6	5.3	10.6	35.2	14.0	15.6	99	229	10.0
	10/30	1.00	160	170	26.0	4.0	18.5	56.0	25.7	18.4	77	195	7.5
	10/31	1.50	209	138	17.0	3.9	13.5	29.3	16.1	8.1	79	183	4.6
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>1.38</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>14.1</b>
	11/3	1.98	211	39	11.1	1.8	1.8	4.9	2.6	5.8	19	84	36.5
	11/4	1.85	163	116	22.7	2.9	9.6	33.1	13.2	26.0	31	144	20.5
	11/7	1.63	264	59	12.5	2.8	4.3	10.9	6.1	13.6	30	101	15.0
APEC	11/8	2.00	196	76	17.3	2.4	7.3	21.1	8.8	11.8	26	101	33.6
	11/9	1.79	154	66	17.6	2.5	4.9	14.0	6.3	9.2	44	125	27.7
	11/10	2.13	177	61	14.3	1.8	5.6	17.9	7.5	10.2	31	115	29.2
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>1.90</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>27.1</b>
	11/14	1.58	169	61	15.2	4.5	3.4	6.4	4.1	30.3	87	171	14.7
	11/15	1.38	173	118	24.2	6.6	7.2	19.6	10.6	52.0	148	276	5.0
	11/17	2.48	252	57	14.5	3.8	2.8	4.0	3.7	30.4	125	206	25.0
	11/18	1.44	106	101	27.1	3.8	6.3	14.3	8.3	54.5	162	285	6.2
AAPEC	11/19	1.23	121	267	53.2	5.0	38.2	55.6	35.2	54.6	190	369	1.0
	11/20	1.94	120	220	41.6	3.7	26.2	46.9	28.8	38.8	200	383	2.9
	11/22	1.96	178	58	14.0	3.3	3.3	5.4	4.5	32.2	89	183	26.7
	<b>Mean</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>11.6</b>

909



910 Table 6. The percentage differences (PD) for the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations of four periods  
911 (P1, P2, P3, and P4) that were randomly selected from within the non-control stable  
912 days of the APEC 2014 and Parade 2015 campaigns.

Periods	Mean values ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )	SD ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )	Total SD ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ )	Percentage differences (PD)*				Mean PD	RMSE of PD
				P1	P2	P3	P4		
P1	120	97		-	-	-	-		
P2	101	58	59	-16%	-	-	-	-16%	18%
P3	96	40		-20%	-5%	-	-		
P4	87	23		-28%	-14%	-9%	-		

\* Percentage difference (PD) = (Mean value of P<sub>n+1</sub> - Mean value of P<sub>n</sub>)/Mean value of P<sub>n</sub> × 100%.

913  
914



915 Table 7. The cross-validation (CV) performance of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> GLM.

Periods	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	Observed mean values (µg m <sup>-3</sup> )	Predicted mean values (µg m <sup>-3</sup> )	Daily RMSE (µg m <sup>-3</sup> )	Total RMSE (µg m <sup>-3</sup> )	Relative errors (RE)*	Mean RE	RMSE of RE
CV1	0.748	94	82	53		15%		
CV2	0.798	59	57	20		4%		
CV3	0.783	44	52	19	33	-15%	-5%	14.6%
CV4	0.710	54	65	27		-17%		
CV5	0.807	41	47	30		-13%		

\*Relative error (RE) = (Predicted mean value - Observed mean value)/Predicted mean value × 100%.

916


 917 Table 8. The concentrations of air pollutants for the GLM with adjusted  $R^2$  values higher  
 918 than 0.6.

Pollutants	Model descriptions	Adjusted $R^2$
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	$\ln(\text{PM}_{2.5}) = -0.48 \ln \text{WS} - 0.43 \ln \text{WS}_{\max(\text{lag})} -$ $0.00076 \text{PBL}_{\max} - 0.11 \text{PREC} + 0.25 \ln \Delta T_{(\text{lag})} -$ $0.14 \text{WS}_{\text{mode}} + 0.48 \text{WD} / \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.0043 \text{PBL}_{\min(\text{lag})} -$ $0.025 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} - 0.015 \text{SLP}_{\min} + 19.51$	0.808
EC	$\ln(\text{EC}) = 0.60 \ln \text{WD} / \text{WS}_{\text{sum}} - 0.59 \ln \text{PBL} -$ $0.017 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.22 \ln \Delta T -$ $0.50 \ln \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.25 \ln \text{PBL}_{\max(\text{lag})} - 0.17$	0.780
OC	$\ln(\text{OC}) = -0.44 \ln \text{WS} + 0.47 \text{WD} / \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} - 0.67 \ln \text{PBL} -$ $0.020 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.67 \ln \text{WD} + 0.17 \ln \Delta T -$ $0.65 \ln \text{RH}_{\max(\text{lag})} + 7.84$	0.751
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	$\ln(\text{SO}_4^{2-}) = -0.99 \ln \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.066 \text{T}_{\min} - 0.040 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} -$ $1.20 \ln \text{PBL} + 0.0011 \text{PBL}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.019 \text{RH} -$ $0.12 \text{PREC} + 0.087 \text{WS}_{\max} + 6.68$	0.795
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	$\ln(\text{NO}_3^-) = -1.90 \ln \text{PBL} -$ $0.96 \ln \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.88 \text{WD} + 0.0045 \text{PBL}_{\min} -$ $0.20 \text{PREC} + 0.12 \text{WS}_{\max} + 1.57 \ln \text{RH} + 0.60 \ln \Delta T_{(\text{lag})} -$ $1.22 \ln \text{RH}_{\max(\text{lag})} - 0.047 \Delta T + 9.32$	0.833
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	$\ln(\text{NH}_4^+) = 0.040 \text{RH} - 1.27 \ln \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} - 1.03 \ln \text{RH}_{(\text{lag})} -$ $0.00075 \text{PBL}_{\max} - 0.16 \text{PREC} + 0.33 \ln \Delta T_{(\text{lag})} + 4.28$	0.813
Cl <sup>-</sup>	$\ln(\text{Cl}^-) = -1.12 \ln \text{PBL} - 0.072 \text{T}_{(\text{lag})} + 1.60 \ln \text{WD} -$ $2.32 \ln \text{RH}_{\max(\text{lag})} + 0.53 \ln \text{WD} / \text{WS}_{\text{sum}(\text{lag})} + 14.69$	0.737
K <sup>+</sup>	$\ln(\text{K}^+) = -0.75 \ln \text{PBL} - 0.66 \ln \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} -$ $0.020 \text{RH}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.0056 \text{PBL}_{\min} - 0.20 \text{WS}_{\text{mode}} + 0.33 \ln \Delta$ $\text{T}_{(\text{lag})} - 0.47 \ln \text{PBL}_{\max(\text{lag})} - 0.087 \text{PREC} + 0.66 \ln \text{RH} + 5.46$	0.717
Pb	$\ln(\text{Pb}) = -0.61 \ln \text{WS} - 0.67 \ln \text{WS}_{\max(\text{lag})} + 0.36 \ln \Delta T_{(\text{lag})} -$ $0.00062 \text{PBL}_{\max} - 0.19 \text{WS}_{\text{mode}} - 0.030 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} + 5.39$	0.721
Zn	$\ln(\text{Zn}) = -0.81 \ln \text{WS} - 0.41 \ln \text{WS}_{\max(\text{lag})} - 0.0016 \text{PBL} -$ $0.36 \ln \text{WS}_{\text{mode}(\text{lag})} + 6.56$	0.627
Mn	$\ln(\text{Mn}) = 0.80 \text{WD} / \text{WS} - 0.98 \ln \text{PBL} -$ $0.043 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} + 0.57 \text{WD} / \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} - 0.017 \text{RH} -$ $0.023 \text{SLP} + 0.0030 \text{PBL}_{\min(\text{lag})} + 31.04$	0.656
SO <sub>2</sub>	$\ln(\text{SO}_2) = -1.32 \ln \text{PBL} - 0.071 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} -$ $0.047 \text{PREC} + 0.29 \text{WD}_{\text{mode}(\text{lag})} - 0.026 \text{RH} -$ $0.47 \ln \text{WS}_{(\text{lag})} + 14.12 \ln \text{SLP}_{\max} - 87.56$	0.803
NO <sub>x</sub>	$\ln(\text{NO}_x) = 0.014 \text{WD} / \text{WS}_{\text{sum}} - 0.030 \text{T}_{\min} + 0.27 \ln \Delta T -$ $0.44 \ln \text{PBL} - 0.015 \text{PREC} - 0.012 \text{PREC}_{(\text{lag})} + 5.30$	0.772

919





920 Table 9. The output indexes of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> GLM, including a model summary, analysis  
 921 of variance (ANOVA), coefficients, and other indexes.

Model Summary and ANOVA						
R	R <sup>2</sup>	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson	F	Sig.*
0.910	0.828	0.808	0.411	1.910	41.763	0.000
Coefficients						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		t	Sig.*	Collinearity Statistics	
	B	Std. Error			Tolerance	VIF
(Constant)	19.512	6.871	2.840	0.006		
lnWS	-0.483	0.162	-2.971	0.004	0.313	3.194
lnWS <sub>max(lag)</sub>	-0.431	0.153	-2.818	0.006	0.300	3.331
PBL <sub>max</sub>	-0.001	0.000	-6.747	0.000	0.395	2.534
PREC	-0.110	0.029	-3.735	0.000	0.618	1.618
lnΔT <sub>(lag)</sub>	0.247	0.083	2.975	0.004	0.662	1.512
WS <sub>mode</sub>	-0.135	0.050	-2.726	0.008	0.493	2.027
WD/WS <sub>(lag)</sub>	0.476	0.148	3.222	0.002	0.353	2.829
PBL <sub>min(lag)</sub>	0.004	0.001	3.510	0.001	0.407	2.459
PREC <sub>(lag)</sub>	-0.025	0.009	-2.796	0.006	0.707	1.415
SLP <sub>min</sub>	-0.015	0.007	-2.176	0.032	0.707	1.414

\*The significance level is 0.05.

922



923 Table 10. The percentage differences between the observed and GLM-predicted  
 924 concentrations of the air pollutants during APEC and Parade.

Pollutants	Units	During APEC			During Parade		
		Observed	Predicted	Percentage differences <sup>1</sup>	Observed	Predicted	Percentage differences <sup>1</sup>
PM <sub>2.5</sub>		48	67	28%	15	20	25%
OC		11.2	12.6	11%	4.0	3.7	-8%
EC		1.7	2.7	37%	0.8	1.2	33%
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	μg m <sup>-3</sup>	3.9	2.7	-44%	2.6	5.2	50%
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>		10.6	19.0	44%	1.5	3.4	56%
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>		4.8	5.5	13%	1.5	2.4	38%
Cl <sup>-</sup>		2.06	2.58	20%	0.16	0.17	6%
K <sup>+</sup>		0.65	1.03	37%	0.18	0.24	25%
Pb	ng m <sup>-3</sup>	55	70	21%	9	17	47%
Zn		128	171	25%	20	41	51%
Mn		34.5	51.5	33%	3.6	7.6	53%
SO <sub>2</sub>		ppb	3.32	6.59	50%	0.57	0.56
NO <sub>x</sub>	45		102	56%	13	20	35%
OC+EC	μg m <sup>-3</sup>	12.9	15.3	16%	4.8	4.9	2%
SNA	μg m <sup>-3</sup>	19.3	27.2	29%	5.6	11.0	49%
total S <sup>2</sup>	μmol m <sup>-3</sup>	0.189	0.322	41%	0.053	0.079	33%

<sup>1</sup>Percentage difference = (Predicted - Observed)/Predicted × 100%.

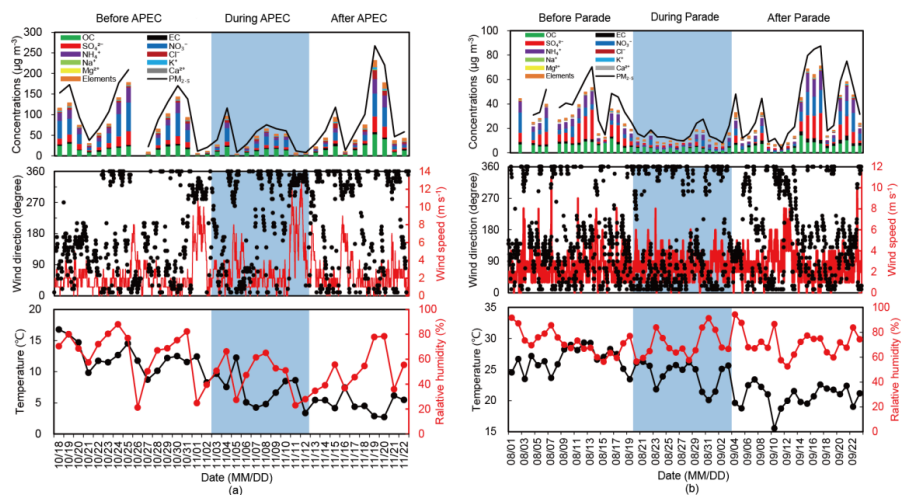
<sup>2</sup>total S = [SO<sub>2</sub>] + [SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>].

925

926



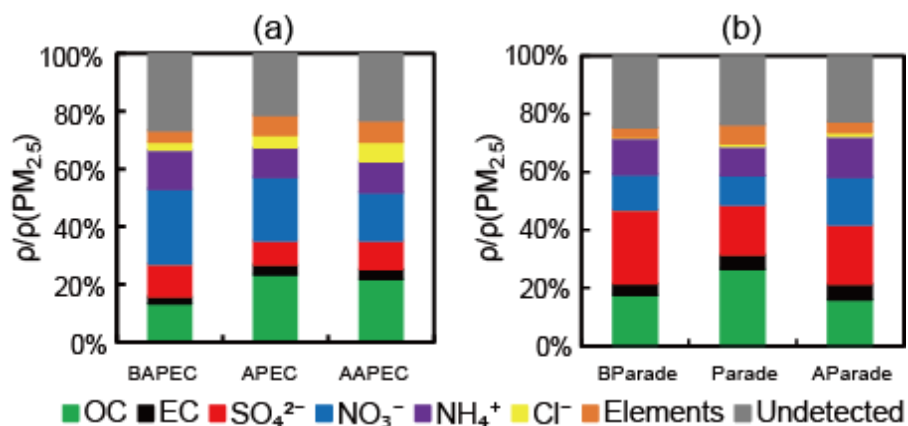
927



928

929 Figure 1. Time series of atmospheric particulate matter of aerodynamic diameter  $\leq 2.5$   
930  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ) and the concentrations of its components, wind direction (WD), wind speed  
931 (WS), temperature (T), and relative humidity (RH) before, during, and after (a) APEC  
932 2014 and (b) Parade 2015. The grey-shaded areas highlight the pollution control periods  
933 of APEC 2014 (3 November to 12 November 2014) and Parade 2015 (20 August to 3  
934 September 2015).

935



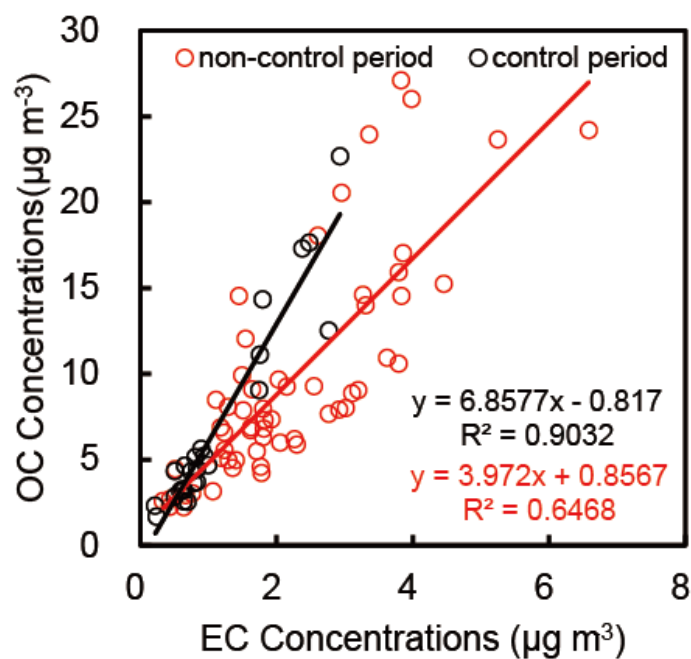
936

937 Figure 2. Proportions of the measured components in PM<sub>2.5</sub> during (a) APEC 2014 and

938 (b) Parade 2015 campaigns, including organic carbon (OC), elemental carbon (EC),

939 SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup> and elements. B: before; A: after.

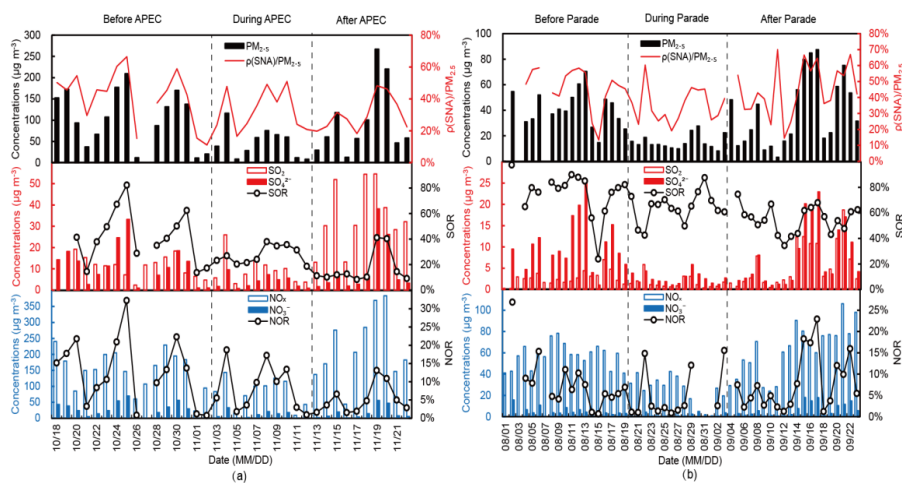
940



941

942 Figure 3. Scatter plot and correlations between organic carbon (OC: y-axis) and  
943 elemental carbon (EC: x-axis) concentrations of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  during the APEC 2014 and  
944 Parade 2015 campaigns. The red symbols denote the non-control period and the black  
945 symbols denote the pollution control period. The linear regression equations and  $R^2$   
946 values are given for these two campaigns.

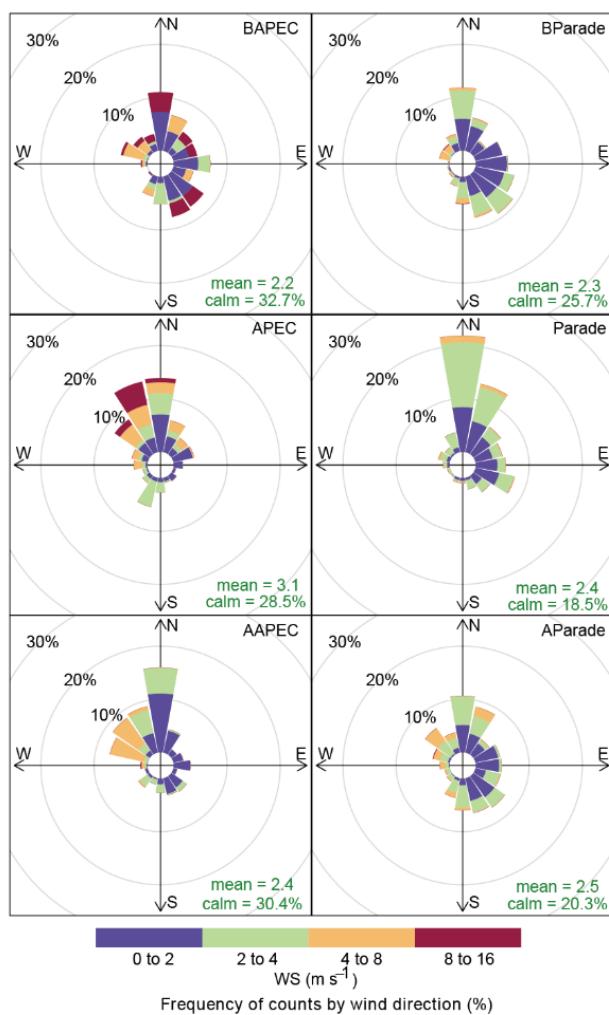
947



948

949 Figure 4. Upper panel: time series of the proportion of sulphate, nitrate, and ammonia  
950 (SNA) in PM<sub>2.5</sub> ( $\rho(\text{SNA})/\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ) and PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass concentrations (the black bar  
951 represents PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration and the red line represents  $\rho(\text{SNA})/\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ). Middle panel:  
952 SO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, and SOR ( $[\text{SO}_4^{2-}]/([\text{SO}_2] + [\text{SO}_4^{2-}])$ ). Lower panel: NO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, and NOR  
953 ( $[\text{NO}_3^-]/([\text{NO}_x] + [\text{NO}_3^-])$ ). Data collected during the (a) APEC 2014 and (b) Parade  
954 2015 campaigns. The hollow bars represent gaseous pollutants (red for SO<sub>2</sub>, blue for  
955 NO<sub>x</sub>), and solid bars represent secondary inorganic ions (red for sulphate, blue for  
956 nitrate).

957



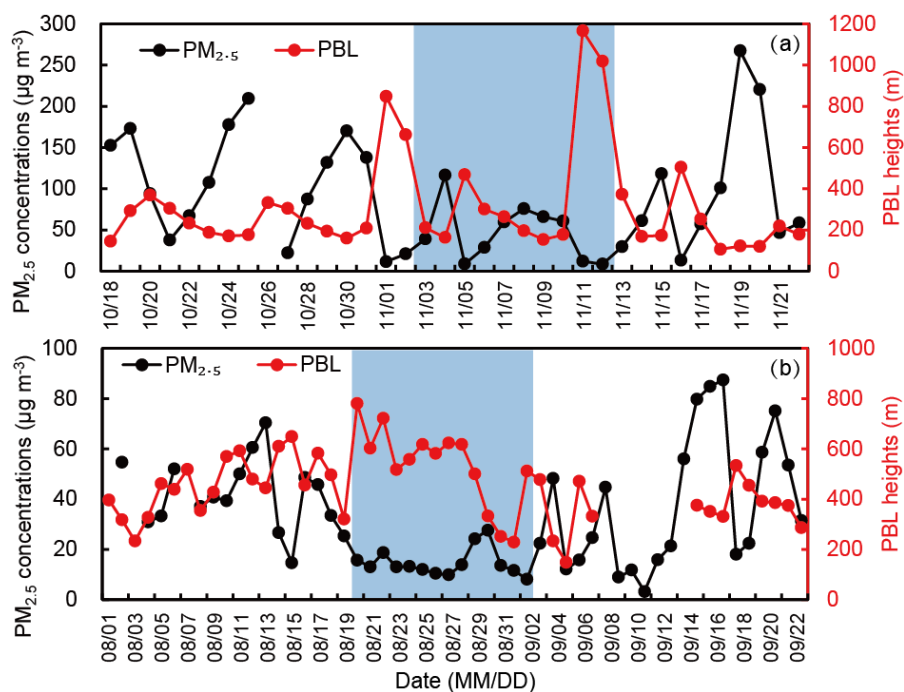
958

959 Figure 5. Wind rose plots based on frequencies of half-hourly data before APEC

960 (BAPEC), during APEC, and after APEC (AAPEC) on the left, and before Parade

961 (BParade), during Parade, and after Parade (AParade) on the right.

962



963

964 Figure 6. Time series of daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations and planetary boundary layer (PBL)

965 heights during the (a) APEC and (b) Parade campaigns. The black line represents PM<sub>2.5</sub>

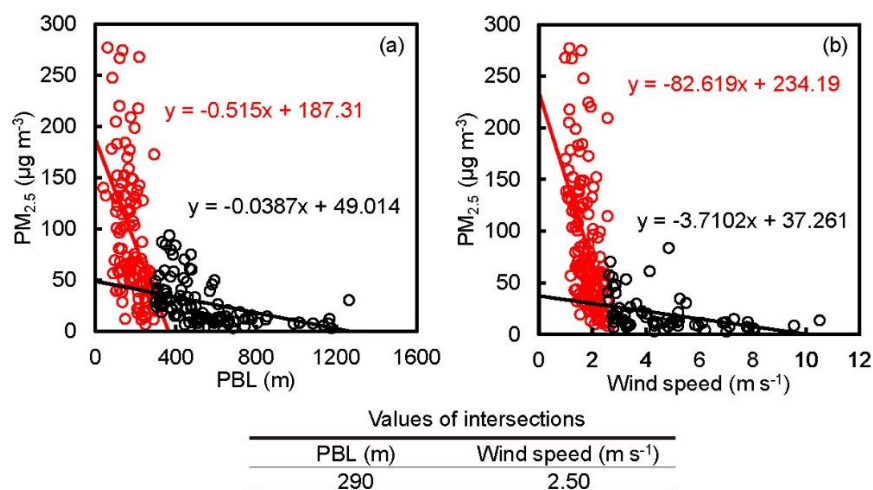
966 concentrations and the red line represents PBL heights. The grey-shaded areas highlight

967 the pollution control periods of APEC 2014 (3 November to 12 November 2014) and

968 Parade 2015 (20 August to 3 September 2015).

969

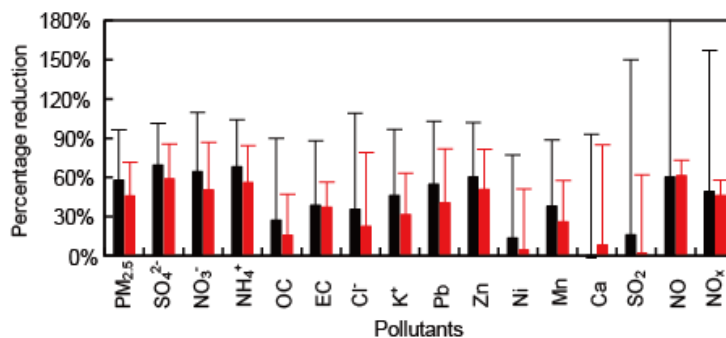




970

971 Figure 7. Scatter plot showing the correlation between daily PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations (y-  
 972 axis) and (a) daily PBL heights (x-axis) and (b) daily WSs (x-axis) during the APEC  
 973 2014 sampling period (October to December 2014) and Parade 2015 sampling period  
 974 (August to December 2015). The red and black scattered points represent different  
 975 distribution areas. The piecewise function regression equations and the corresponding  
 976 values of PBL height and WS according to the intersections are given.

977



978

979 Figure 8. The black bars represent the percentage reductions calculated by comparing

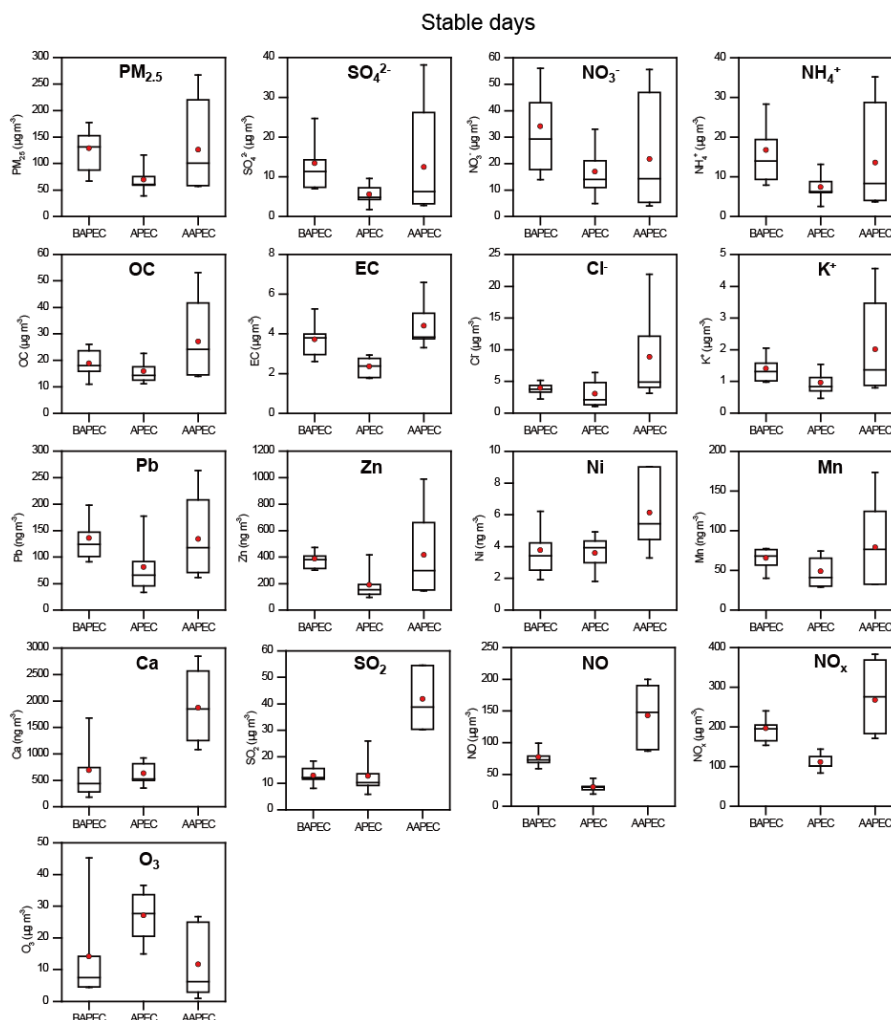
980 the decreased average concentrations during APEC to the average concentrations

981 before APEC. The red bars represent the percentage reductions calculated by comparing

982 the decreased average concentrations during APEC to the average concentrations

983 before APEC based only on the days with stable meteorological conditions. The

984 whiskers represent the standard deviations of the percentage reductions.

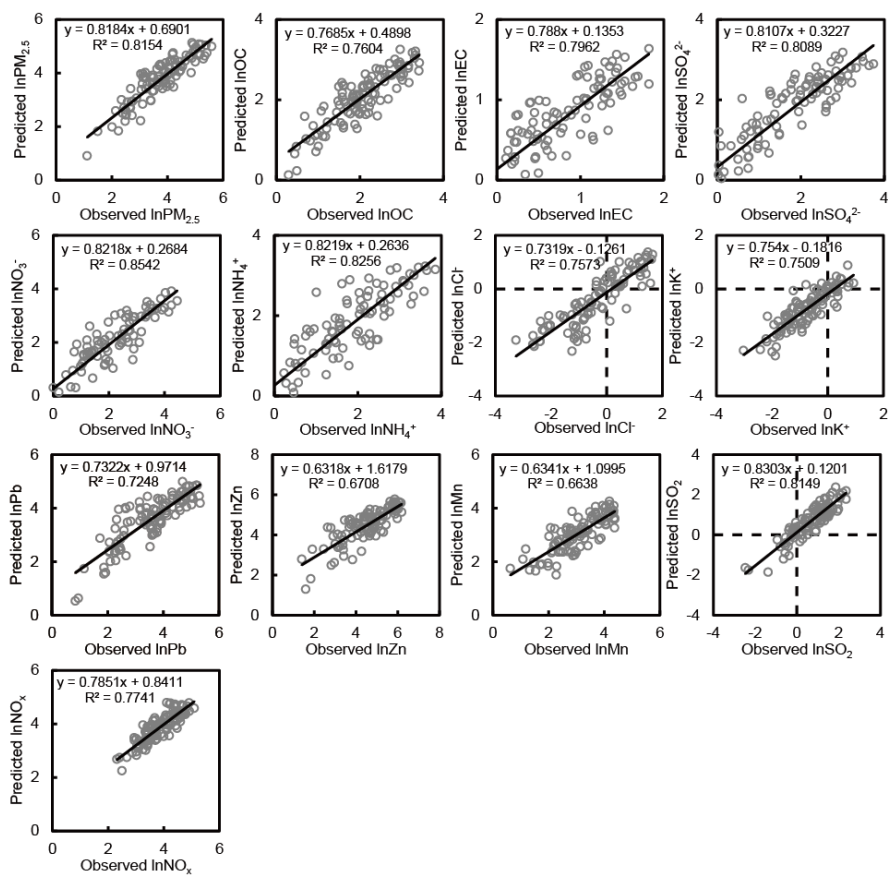


985

986 Figure 9. Variations of air pollutant concentrations during days with stable  
987 meteorological conditions during the APEC 2014 campaign, including  $PM_{2.5}$ , sulphate,  
988 nitrate, and ammonium (SNA), organic carbon (OC), elemental carbon (EC),  $Cl^-$ ,  $K^+$ ,  
989 elements (Pb, Zn, Ni, Mn, and Ca), and gaseous pollutants ( $SO_2$ , NO,  $NO_x$ , and  $O_3$ ).  
990 The red points represent mean values. The black cross bars are median values. The  
991 black box denotes the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. The whiskers represent the maximum  
992 and minimum, respectively. B: before; A: after.



993

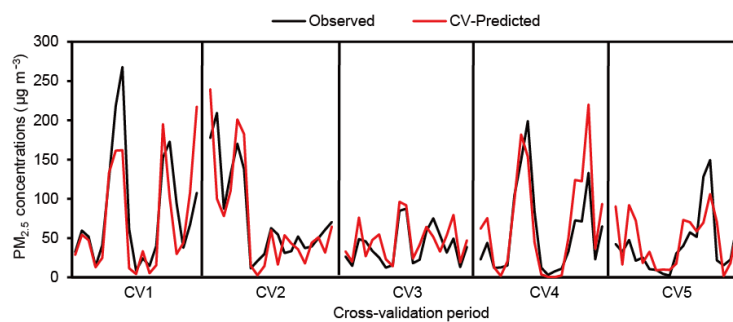


994

995 Figure 10. Scatter plot and correlations between GLM-predicted ( $y$ -axis) and observed  
996 ( $x$ -axis) concentrations of pollutants transformed to a natural log. The linear regression  
997 equations and  $R^2$  values are given.

998

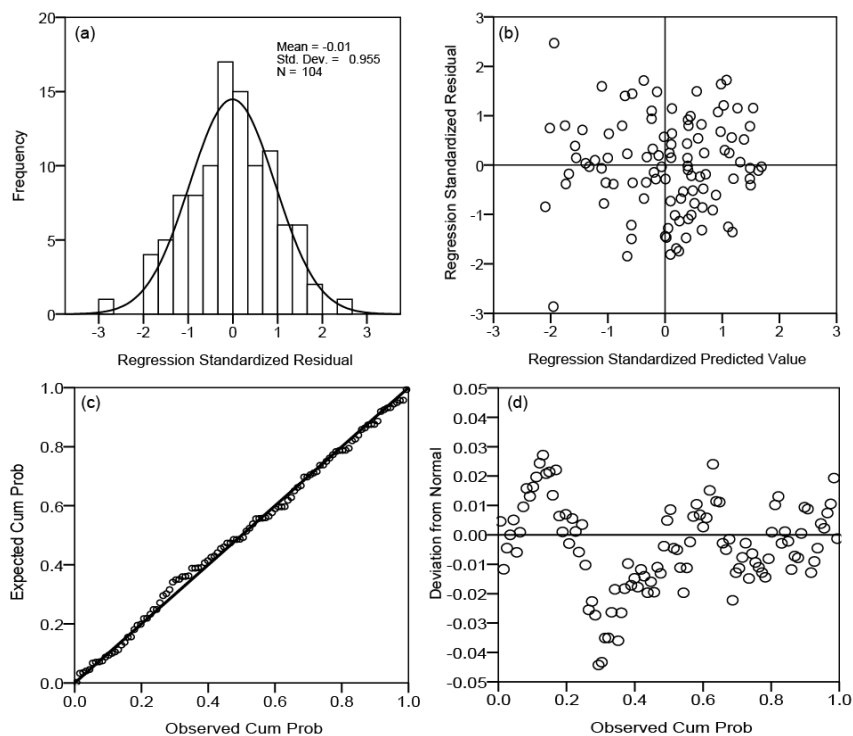
999



1000

1001 Figure 11. Time series of the observed and cross-validation (CV) predicted  $PM_{2.5}$   
1002 concentrations during five CV periods. The black line represents the observed  $PM_{2.5}$   
1003 concentration and the red line represents the CV-predicted  $PM_{2.5}$  concentration.

1004



1005

1006 Figure 12. Residual analysis of the model. (a) Histogram of the regression standardized  
1007 residual. (b) Scatter plot between the regression standardized predicted value and  
1008 regression standardized residual. (c) Normal P-P plot of the regression standardized  
1009 residual between the observed cumulative probability and expected cumulative  
1010 probability. (d) De-trended normal P-P plot of the standardized residual of observed  
1011 cumulative probability.