

1 **High-resolution quantification of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in the Greater Toronto Area,**  
2 **Canada**

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14

15 **Abstract**

16 Many stakeholders are seeking methods to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions in urban areas,  
17 however reliable, high-resolution inventories are required to guide these efforts. We present the  
18 development of a high-resolution CO<sub>2</sub> inventory available for the Greater Toronto Area and  
19 surrounding region in southern Ontario, Canada (area of  $\sim 2.8 \times 10^5$  km<sup>2</sup>, 26 % of the province of  
20 Ontario). The new SOCE (Southern Ontario CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions) inventory is available at the 2.5 x 2.5 km  
21 spatial and hourly temporal resolution and characterizes emissions from seven sectors: Area,  
22 Residential natural gas combustion, Commercial natural gas combustion, Point, Marine, On-road  
23 and Off-road. To assess the accuracy of the SOCE inventory, we developed an observation-model  
24 framework using the GEM-MACH chemistry-transport model run on a high-resolution grid with 2.5  
25 km grid spacing coupled to the Fossil Fuel Data Assimilation System (FFDAS) v2 inventories for  
26 anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and the European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts  
27 (ECMWF) land carbon model C-TESSSEL for biogenic fluxes. A run using FFDAS for the southern  
28 Ontario region was compared to a run in which its emissions were replaced by the SOCE inventory.  
29 Simulated CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios were compared against in situ measurements made at four sites in  
30 southern Ontario, Downsview, Hanlan's Point, Egbert and Turkey Point, in three winter months,  
31 January-March, 2016. Model simulations had better agreement with measurements when using the  
32 SOCE inventory emissions versus other inventories, quantified using a variety of statistics such as  
33 Correlation Coefficient, root mean square error and mean bias. Furthermore, when run with the  
34 SOCE inventory, the model had improved ability to capture the typical diurnal pattern of CO<sub>2</sub> mixing  
35 ratios, particularly at the Downsview, Hanlan's Point and Egbert sites. In addition to improved  
36 model-measurement agreement, the SOCE inventory offers a sectoral breakdown of emissions,  
37 allowing estimation of average time-of-day and day-of-week contributions of different sectors. Our  
38 results show that at night, emissions from Residential and Commercial natural gas combustion and

39 other Area sources can contribute > 80 % of the CO<sub>2</sub> enhancement while during the day emissions  
40 from the On-road sector dominate, accounting for >70 % of the enhancement.

## 41 **1.0 Introduction**

42 Urban areas are sites of dense population and the intensity of human activities (such as  
43 transportation, industry and residential and commercial development) makes them hot-spots for  
44 anthropogenic carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions. While occupying only 3 % of the total land area,  
45 urban areas are locations of residence for 54 % of the global population and are the source of 53 –  
46 87 % of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions globally (IPCC-WG3, 2014; WHO, 2015). When considering  
47 Canada alone, the urban population accounts for an even larger fraction of the total (81 % in 2011)  
48 (Statistics Canada, 2011) while urban areas cover only 0.25 % of the land area (Statistics Canada,  
49 2009). Recognizing their influence on the global carbon budget, many urban areas are seeking  
50 methods to reduce their anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The Greater Toronto Area (GTA) in  
51 southeastern Canada, for example, has committed to the *Change is in the Air* initiative as well as  
52 being a part of the *C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group*, both of which call to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
53 30 % below 1990 levels by 2020 (C40 Cities, 2016; Framework for Public Review and Engagement,  
54 2007). However, in order to effectively guide anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation strategies, reliable  
55 inventories are needed, particularly at high spatial and temporal resolution, to gain a better  
56 understanding of the carbon cycle (Gurney et al., 2009; Patarasuk et al., 2016). To our knowledge,  
57 the only spatially disaggregated CO<sub>2</sub> inventories available for use in the GTA are the EDGAR v.4.2  
58 (Emission Database for Global Atmospheric Research) CO<sub>2</sub> inventory (available at annual, 0.1° x 0.1°  
59 resolution) (EDGAR, 2010) and the FFDAS v2 (Fossil Fuel Data Assimilation System) CO<sub>2</sub> inventory  
60 (available at hourly, 0.1° x 0.1° resolution) (FFDAS, 2010), both which are limited in their spatial  
61 and/or temporal resolution and therefore are not well-suited for the quantification and

62 understanding of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the urban scale. The Canadian national CO<sub>2</sub> inventory, on the  
63 other hand, is only available at the provincial level (Environment Canada, 2012).

64 Efforts to develop emission inventories at the fine spatial and temporal resolution required  
65 for urban-scale understanding of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has been driven both by policy- and science-related  
66 questions (Gurney et al., 2009; Patarasuk et al., 2016). From a policy perspective, improving CO<sub>2</sub>  
67 emission quantification is essential to independently evaluate whether anthropogenic mitigation  
68 regulations are being effectively implemented. From a scientific perspective, gaining information  
69 about anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from urban areas has been primarily motivated by atmospheric  
70 CO<sub>2</sub> inversions, which are used to better understand the global carbon cycle (Gurney et al., 2009;  
71 Patarasuk et al., 2016). Regardless of the motivation, quantification of CO<sub>2</sub> source/sink processes  
72 currently uses two techniques: the bottom-up approach and the top-down approach. In the bottom-  
73 up approach, local-scale activity level information is combined with appropriate emission factors to  
74 infer emission rates. This method has been used widely to develop many inventories (EDGAR,  
75 2010; FFDAS, 2010; Gurney et al., 2009) but is limited by the accuracy of the input parameters.  
76 Conversely, in the top-down approach, inverse modelling is used to exploit the variability in  
77 atmospheric mixing ratios of CO<sub>2</sub> to identify the source/sink distributions and magnitudes; this  
78 method is limited by insufficient mixing ratio data and uncertainties in simulating atmospheric  
79 transport (Pillai et al., 2011). Given current policy needs, a strategy using solely bottom-up or top-  
80 down approaches is likely insufficient to evaluate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions but rather a synthesis of the two  
81 methodologies is required (Miller and Michalak, 2016). Successful examples of high-resolution CO<sub>2</sub>  
82 inventory development are available on the urban scale, such as the Airparif inventory in Ile-de-  
83 France (publicly available at <http://www.airparif.asso.fr/en/index/index>) and in Indianapolis, Los  
84 Angeles, Salt Lake City and Phoenix through the Hestia project (Gurney et al., 2012), on the national  
85 scale, such as in China (Zhao et al., 2012), and on the global scale (Wang et al., 2013). However, to

86 our knowledge, there are currently no studies that have quantified Canadian CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the  
87 fine spatial and temporal resolution required for urban analyses in Canada.

88 In an effort to address this gap, this study was focused on quantifying CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at a  
89 fine spatial and temporal resolution in the GTA and southern Ontario (we expanded the inventory  
90 beyond the urban area of the GTA so we could exploit information on CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios collected at  
91 rural areas in central and south-western Ontario, proving additional sites for inventory validation).  
92 We present the new high-resolution Southern Ontario CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions (SOCE) inventory, which  
93 quantifies CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from seven source sectors (On-road, Off-road, Area, Point, Marine,  
94 Residential, and Commercial natural gas combustion) at 2.5 km x 2.5 km spatial and hourly  
95 temporal resolution for an area covering ~26 % of the province of Ontario (~2.8 x 10<sup>5</sup> km<sup>2</sup>). The  
96 SOCE inventory was used in combination with the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)  
97 GEM-MACH chemistry-transport model to simulate CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in a domain including south-  
98 eastern Canada and the northeastern USA (hereafter referred to as the “PanAm domain”) for  
99 comparison with in situ measurements made by the Southern Ontario Greenhouse Gas Network.  
100 Until now, estimates of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the GTA were available only from the  
101 EDGAR v.4.2 (EDGAR, 2010) and the FFDAS v2 (FFDAS, 2010) inventories, which have very  
102 different annual totals for this region (1.36 x 10<sup>8</sup> vs. 1.05x 10<sup>8</sup> tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>, respectively). Therefore,  
103 we expect the results of this work will improve our ability to quantify the emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> in the  
104 entire domain as well as the relative contributions of different sectors, providing a more detailed  
105 characterization of the carbon budget in the GTA.

## 106 **2.0 Methods**

### 107 *2.1 Geographic Domain*

108 The geographic focus of this study was the GTA in southern Ontario, Canada. The GTA is the largest  
109 urban area in Canada; it comprises five municipalities, Toronto, Halton, Durham, Peel and York,

110 which together have a population exceeding 6 million (Statistics Canada., 2012b). Although the GTA  
111 comprises only 0.07 % of Canadian land area, it represents over 17 % of the total population as a  
112 result of rapid urbanization over the past few decades (Statistics Canada., 2012b). Therefore, high-  
113 resolution characterization of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can help integrate climate policy with urban planning.  
114 This region is home to a network of measurement sites providing long-term, publicly available  
115 datasets of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio measurements, *Section 2.2* (Environment Canada, 2011)  
116 which can be used to evaluate model outputs and inventory estimates. In 2016 the government of  
117 Ontario released a Climate Change Action Plan, which includes an endowment given to the Toronto  
118 Atmospheric Fund of \$17 million to invest in strategies to reduce greenhouse gas pollution in the  
119 GTA (Ontario, 2016). Therefore this research can provide timely information on the carbon budget  
120 in the GTA and help to implement effective reduction strategies.

## 121 *2.2 The Southern Ontario Greenhouse Gas Network*

122 Measurements of ambient CO<sub>2</sub> dry air mixing ratios began in 2005 in southern Ontario at the Egbert  
123 station followed by the Downsview station (2007), Turkey Point station (2012) and Hanlan's Point  
124 station (2014), Figure 1. Measurements were also temporarily made at a site in downtown Toronto,  
125 the Toronto Atmospheric Observatory (TAO) (43.7°N, 79.4°W), but the instrument was relocated  
126 from this site in January 2016. Egbert is located ~75 km north-northwest of Toronto in a rural area,  
127 Downsview is located ~20 km north of downtown core of the city of Toronto in a populated  
128 suburban area, Turkey Point is located to the south-west of the GTA in a rural area on the north  
129 shore of Lake Erie, and Hanlan's Point is located on Toronto Island, just south of the city of Toronto  
130 on the shore of Lake Ontario. Site details and instrument types used can be found in Table 1. CO<sub>2</sub>  
131 measurements are collected as a part of ECCC's Greenhouse Gas Observational Program. The  
132 measurement procedure follows a set of established principles and protocols outlined by a number  
133 of international agencies through recommendations of the *Meeting on Carbon Dioxide, Other*

134 *Greenhouse Gases, and Related Measurement Techniques*, coordinated by the World Meteorological  
135 Organization (WMO) every 2 years.

136           The atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> observational program at the Egbert site is based on non-dispersive  
137 infrared (NDIR) methodology and fine-tuned for high precision measurements (Worthy et al.,  
138 2005). A detailed description of the NDIR observational system can be found in Worthy et al,  
139 (2005). The atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> observational programs at Turkey Point, Downsview, and Hanlan's  
140 Point are based on Cavity Ring-Down Spectrometer (CRDS). Each Picarro CRDS system is calibrated  
141 in the ECCC central calibration facility in Toronto before deployment to the field. The response  
142 function of the analyzer is determined against 3 calibrated standards tanks (Low, Mid, High). The  
143 working (W) and target (T) tanks assigned to the system are also included in the injection sequence  
144 and calibrated. At each site, ambient measurements are made using two sample lines placed at the  
145 same level. Each sample line has separate dedicated sample pumps and driers (~ -30°C).  
146 Pressurized aluminum 30 L gas cylinders are used for the working and target tanks. The sample  
147 flow rate of the ambient and standard tank gases is set at ~300 cc/min. The injection sequence  
148 consists of a target and working tanks sequentially passed through the analyzer for 10 minutes  
149 each every 2 days. The ambient data from line1 is passed through the analyzer for 18 hours  
150 followed by Line2 for 6 hours. The Line1/Line2 sequence repeats one time before the target and  
151 working tanks are again passed through the system. The working and target tanks are calibrated on  
152 site at least once per year against a single transfer standard transported between the sites and the  
153 central laboratory facility in Toronto. The CO<sub>2</sub> measurements from both the NDIR and CRDS  
154 analytical systems have a precision of around 0.1 ppm based on one-minute averages and are  
155 accurate to within 0.2 ppm.

156

157

158 2.3 GEM-MACH chemistry- transport model

159 In this project, we used the GEM-MACH (Global Environmental Multi-scale–Modelling Air quality  
160 and CHemistry) chemistry–transport model (CTM) (Gong et al., 2015; Moran et al., 2013; Pavlovic  
161 et al., 2016; Talbot et al., 2008) to link surface emission estimates and atmospheric mixing ratios.  
162 GEM-MACH is an on–line CTM embedded within the Canadian weather forecast model GEM (Côté et  
163 al., 1998a; Côté et al., 1998b). The configuration of GEM-MACH used in our study has 62 vertical  
164 levels from the surface to ~1.45 hPa on a terrain-following staggered vertical grid for a log-  
165 hydrostatic pressure coordinate. The thickness of the lowest layer was 40 m. The PanAm domain  
166 used in our simulations, which includes central and southern Ontario, as well as western Quebec  
167 and the northeastern USA, is shown in Figure 1. The PanAm domain has 524 x 424 grid cells in the  
168 horizontal on a rotated latitude-longitude grid with 2.5-km grid spacing and covers an area of  
169 approximately 1310 km x 1060 km (total domain area is  $1.39 \times 10^6$  km<sup>2</sup>). A 24-hour forecasting  
170 period was used with a 60-second time step for each integration cycle. Meteorological fields (wind,  
171 temperature, humidity, etc.) were re-initialized every 24 hours (i.e., after each model integration  
172 cycle); chemical fields were carried forward from the previous integration cycle (i.e., perpetual  
173 forecast). Hourly meteorological and chemical boundary conditions were provided by the ECCC  
174 operational 10-km GEM-MACH air quality forecast model (Moran et al., 2015).

175 In our study, we simulated two scenarios of CO<sub>2</sub> surface fluxes, indicated by the sum of the  
176 following:

177 Scenario 1:

- 178 • Anthropogenic fossil fuel CO<sub>2</sub> emissions within the province of Ontario estimated by the  
179 SOCE inventory, available at 2.5 km x 2.5 km spatial and hourly temporal resolution, as  
180 described in *Section 2.4*

- 181 • Anthropogenic fossil fuel CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimated by the FFDAS v2 inventory (FFDAS,  
182 2010) outside of the province of Ontario (province of Quebec and USA), available at 0.1° x  
183 0.1° spatial and hourly temporal resolution
- 184 • Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes from the C-TESSSEL land surface model, as described in *Section 2.5*

185 Scenario 2:

- 186 • Anthropogenic fossil fuel CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimated by the FFDAS v2 inventory (FFDAS,  
187 2010) for the entire domain, available at 0.1° x 0.1° spatial and hourly temporal resolution
- 188 • Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes from the C-TESSSEL land surface model, as described in *Section 2.5*

189 CO<sub>2</sub> is not a usual chemical species considered by GEM-MACH but a set of special inert tracer fields  
190 were added to GEM-MACH for this project to account for CO<sub>2</sub> concentration fields associated with  
191 difference source sectors and the lateral boundaries. The CO<sub>2</sub> boundary conditions set at the lateral  
192 and top edges of the domain were obtained from the Monitoring Atmospheric Composition and  
193 Climate (MACC) global inversion, v.10.2 (<http://www.copernicus-atmosphere.eu/>). Model  
194 simulated specific humidity (q, kg/kg) was used to convert estimated CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios to dry air  
195 mixing ratios. CO<sub>2</sub> dry air mixing ratios are hereafter referred to CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios.

#### 196 *2.4 High-Resolution SOCE inventory development*

197 The high-resolution SOCE inventory was constructed primarily from a pre-existing carbon  
198 monoxide (CO) inventory developed by the Pollutant Inventories and Reporting Division (PIRD) of  
199 ECCC as part of the 2010 Canadian Air Pollutant Emissions Inventory (APEI). The CO inventory is a  
200 comprehensive national anthropogenic inventory that includes emissions from area sources, point  
201 sources, on-road mobile sources and off-road mobile sources, including aircraft, locomotive and  
202 marine emissions for base year 2010 (Moran et al., 2015). This annual inventory at the provincial  
203 level compiled by PIRD was transformed into model-ready emissions files using the Sparse Matrix

204 Operator Kernel Emissions (SMOKE, <https://www.cmascenter.org/smoke/>) emissions processing  
205 system for spatial allocation (distribution of non-point source emissions to 2.5 km x 2.5 km  
206 (roughly 0.02° x 0.02° resolution) using spatial surrogate fields) and temporal allocation  
207 (conversion of inventory annual emission rates into hourly values) (Moran et al., 2015). Because  
208 Ontario CO emissions in the 2010 APEI were processed in separate steps with SMOKE by primary  
209 source sector, files of gridded hourly CO emissions fields were available for seven different  
210 inventory sectors: area sources; point sources; on-road mobile sources; off-road mobile sources;  
211 marine sources; residential natural-gas sources; and commercial natural-gas sources. The spatial  
212 and temporal allocations applied to these seven sectors were different, so in effect they constitute a  
213 set of spatiotemporal emissions basis functions. More detailed information about the CO inventory  
214 compilation and subsequent processing has been provided elsewhere (Environment Canada, 2013;  
215 Moran et al., 2015; PIRD, 2016).

216         The objective of our work was to calculate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions based on this processed, sector-  
217 specific, model-ready CO inventory for Ontario grid cells using sector-specific emission ratios  
218 estimated by the Canadian National Inventory Report (NIR) (Environment Canada, 2012). The NIR  
219 estimates CO<sub>2</sub> and CO emissions using primarily bottom-up estimates; for example, emissions from  
220 industrial process are estimated using production data reported directly by facilities whereas  
221 emissions from road transport activities are estimated using vehicle population data, fuel  
222 consumption ratios, and vehicle kilometers travelled as reported by Environment Canada (2012).  
223 In the Ontario, model-ready CO inventory, emission sources are classified by SCC (Source  
224 Classification Code) and were mapped to NFR (Nomenclature for Reporting) codes for accurate  
225 cross-reference with the NIR CO<sub>2</sub> and CO estimates. Provincial totals for CO<sub>2</sub> and CO are estimated  
226 based on the NFR sources that are included in the sector, producing the following NIR sector-  
227 averaged CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio:

228 
$$CO_{2(sector,kt)} = CO_{(sector,kt)} * \frac{CO_{2(Ontario\ sector,kt)}}{CO_{(Ontario\ sector,kt)}} \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

229 This sector-averaged CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio is used to convert the APEI-based model-ready gridded CO  
230 emissions fields into CO<sub>2</sub> emissions fields at the same spatial and temporal resolution. Because the  
231 spatial and temporal variability of the sources of CO<sub>2</sub> are similar to those of CO, the fine-resolution  
232 gridded CO sectoral emissions fields for Ontario were primarily used as spatial and temporal  
233 proxies for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions; the use of NIR-based CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratios helps to produce realistic emissions  
234 estimates of CO<sub>2</sub> despite uncertainties in CO emissions estimates. A detailed outline of this  
235 conversion is presented for each of the seven CO emissions sectors in the following subsections.  
236 Unless otherwise noted, temporal allocation of emissions in each sector is based on estimates made  
237 available by SMOKE.

#### 238 *2.4.1 Area emissions*

239 Area emissions are mostly small stationary sources that represent diffuse emissions that are not  
240 inventoried at the facility level. In the APEI CO inventory, the major emission sources in the Area  
241 sector include emissions from public electricity and heat production (1A1a), residential and  
242 commercial plants (1A4a and 1A4b), stationary agriculture/forestry/fishing (1A4c), iron and steel  
243 production (2C1), and pulp and paper (2D1). The NIR estimates an Ontario total from these (and  
244 other minor sources) of 2.3 x10<sup>4</sup> kt CO<sub>2</sub> and 219 kt CO, producing a CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio of 107 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/kt  
245 CO. This ratio was applied to every Area sector grid cell belonging to Ontario in the domain to  
246 convert sector CO emissions to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

#### 247 *2.4.2 Point emissions*

248 Point emissions are stationary sources in which emissions exit through a stack or identified  
249 exhaust. In the APEI CO inventory, the major emission sources in the Point sector include public  
250 electricity and heat production (1A1a), stationary combustion in manufacturing industries and

251 construction (1A2f), chemical industry (2B5a), pulp and paper (2D1), iron and steel production  
252 (2C1) and other metal production (2C5). Unlike the Area sector, we found that applying a single  
253 CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio to every facility did not produce realistic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due to the negligible emissions  
254 of CO and therefore highly variable CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratios (because of a small denominator). Therefore, we  
255 used ECCC Facility Reported Data (Environment Canada, 2015) to identify the geocoded location  
256 and annual average CO<sub>2</sub>:CO for 48 individual facilities in Ontario (Table S1) and applied the specific  
257 CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratios to the grid cells where the facilities were located. In addition, stack height of  
258 individual facilities were included in the emission model to optimize plume rise. All other point  
259 sources (minor facilities) were scaled by a sector average CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio of 313 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/kt CO,  
260 calculated from Ontario total CO<sub>2</sub> and CO point-source emissions from the NIR. Temporal allocation  
261 of emissions in the Point sector are based on facility level operating schedule data collected by  
262 ECCC.

### 263 *2.4.3 On-road mobile emissions*

264 On-road emissions include the emissions from any on-road vehicles (quantified by the Statistics  
265 Canada Canadian Vehicle Survey) (Environment Canada, 2013). In the APEI CO inventory, the major  
266 emission sources in the On-road sector includes gasoline and diesel-powered light- and heavy-duty  
267 vehicles (1A3b). The NIR estimates an Ontario total from these (and other minor on-road sources)  
268 of  $4.4 \times 10^4$  kt CO<sub>2</sub> and  $1.5 \times 10^3$  kt CO, producing a CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio of 29 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/kt CO. This ratio was  
269 applied to every On-road grid cell belonging to Ontario in the domain to convert sector CO  
270 emissions to CO<sub>2</sub>. Temporal allocation of emissions in the On-road sector is estimated using data  
271 collected in the FEVER (Fast Evolution of Vehicle Emissions from Roadways) campaign in 2010  
272 (Gordon et al., 2012a; Gordon et al., 2012b; Zhang et al., 2012). There are challenges associated with  
273 using a single CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio for all on-road vehicles (both gasoline and diesel powered) as well as for  
274 all hours of the day (e.g., cold-start emissions from vehicles are different than running emissions).

275 Therefore, the CO<sub>2</sub> On-road emissions estimated in this study are an approximation of a more  
276 complex reality.

#### 277 *2.4.4 Off-road mobile emissions*

278 Off-road emissions include the emissions from any off-road vehicles that do not travel on  
279 designated roadways, including aircraft, all off-road engines (such as chainsaws, lawn mowers,  
280 snow blowers, and snowmobiles), and locomotives. In the APEI CO inventory, the major emission  
281 sources in the Off-road sector include civil aviation (1A3a), railways (1A3c), and  
282 agriculture/forestry/fishing: off-road vehicles and other machinery (1A4c). Similar to the Point  
283 sector, we found that applying a single CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio to every grid cell did not produce realistic CO<sub>2</sub>  
284 emissions for the two major airports in the GTA, Pearson International Airport (hereafter referred  
285 to as Pearson Airport) and Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (hereafter referred to as Billy Bishop  
286 Airport). Therefore, we used air quality assessment reports compiled for each airport (RWDI AIR  
287 Inc., 2009; RWDI AIR Inc., 2013) to identify the geocoded location and facility-specific annual  
288 average CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio. Sources of emissions from each airport include aircraft (landing and take-off  
289 cycles), auxiliary power units, ground support equipment, roadways, airside vehicles, parking lots,  
290 stationary sources and training fires; note that emissions from aircrafts in-transit between airports,  
291 which are injected in the free troposphere, have not been included in this inventory (Moran et al.,  
292 2015; RWDI AIR Inc., 2009). Based on these two reports, we applied a ratio of 175 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/kt CO to  
293 the grid cell containing Pearson Airport and a ratio of 20 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/kt CO to the grid cell containing  
294 Billy Bishop Airport. All other off-road sources belonging to Ontario grid cells were scaled by a  
295 sector average CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio of 7 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/kt CO, calculated from NIR-reported Ontario total CO<sub>2</sub> and  
296 CO emissions. Similar to On-road emissions, there are challenges associated with using a single  
297 CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio for all vehicles (both gasoline and diesel powered) as well as for all hours of the day.

298 Therefore, the CO<sub>2</sub> Off-road emissions estimated in this study are an approximation for a very  
299 complex sector.

#### 300 *2.4.5 Marine emissions*

301 Commercial marine emissions include the emissions from any marine vessels travelling on the  
302 Great Lakes (quantified by the Statistics Canada *Shipping in Canada*) (Environment Canada, 2013).  
303 In the APEI CO inventory, the major emission source in the Marine sector is national navigation  
304 (1A3d). The NIR estimates an Ontario total from this source of 729 CO<sub>2</sub> and 0.86 kt CO, producing a  
305 CO<sub>2</sub>:CO ratio of 844 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/kt CO. This ratio was applied to every marine grid cell in the domain to  
306 convert sector CO emissions to CO<sub>2</sub>. Note that inclusion of this source sector was desirable because  
307 two of the CO<sub>2</sub> measurement stations considered in this study (Turkey Point and Hanlan's Point)  
308 are near-shore stations.

#### 309 *2.4.6 Residential and commercial emissions*

310 Residential and commercial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reflect on-site combustion of natural gas for electricity  
311 and heating, a source that we found was not included in the APEI CO inventory because of the high  
312 efficiency of the furnaces and resulting low CO emissions. To include the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from these  
313 on-site furnaces, we used the Statistics Canada 2012 Report on Energy Supply and Demand to  
314 quantify the amount of natural gas consumed by residential and commercial buildings in Ontario,  
315  $7.9 \times 10^3$  gigalitres (Gl) and  $4.9 \times 10^3$  Gl respectively (Statistics Canada, 2012a). The Canadian NIR  
316 estimated 1879 g CO<sub>2</sub> m<sup>-3</sup> natural gas as the CO<sub>2</sub> emission factor specific for the province of Ontario,  
317 based on data from a chemical analysis of representative natural gas samples and an assumed fuel  
318 combustion efficiency of 99.5 % (Environment Canada, 2012). Using this emission factor, CO<sub>2</sub>  
319 emissions from residential and commercial on-site furnaces in Ontario were estimated to be  $1.5 \times$   
320  $10^7$  tonnes and  $9.2 \times 10^6$  tonnes, respectively. These two emission totals were spatially allocated

321 using a “capped-total dwelling” spatial surrogate developed by ECCC and temporally allocated using  
322 the SMOKE emissions processing system (Moran et al., 2015).

### 323 *2.5 Biogenic fluxes*

324 The net ecosystem exchange fluxes used in our simulations were provided by the land surface  
325 component of the ECMWF forecasting system, C-TESSSEL (Bousetta et al., 2013). Fluxes are  
326 extracted at the highest available resolutions, 15 x 15 km and 3 hour for January and February 2016  
327 and 9 x 9 km and 3 hour for March. These data are interpolated in space and time to be consistent  
328 with our model resolution. With our main priority being understanding anthropogenic emissions in  
329 the GTA, we chose to analyze a period where the biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> flux is minimized and therefore this  
330 paper focuses on three winter months in 2016, January to March inclusive.

331

## 332 **3.0 Results and Discussion**

### 333 *3.1 The SOCE inventory*

334 Figure 1 displays the PanAm domain total anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimated by the SOCE  
335 inventory for the province of Ontario portion (~0.02° x 0.02°) and by the FFDAS v2 inventory (0.1°  
336 x 0.1°) (FFDAS, 2010) for the remainder of the domain. Regions of high emissions typically  
337 correspond to population centers, for example the GTA in Ontario, Montreal and Quebec City in  
338 Quebec, and Chicago, Boston and New York City (amongst others) in the USA. Emissions from  
339 highways and major roadways are only clear in the province of Ontario (at higher spatial  
340 resolution) but industrial and large scale area sources are evident across the entire domain.

341 The total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be separated into contributions from the seven sectors in the  
342 province of Ontario described in Section 2.4. Figure 2 shows the anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> contributions

343 from the Area sector, Residential and Commercial sector, Point sector, Marine sector, On-road  
344 sector and Off-road sector, focused on southern Ontario and the GTA. If we consider emissions from  
345 a domain including the area solely around the GTA (indicated by the black-box in Figure 2a), the  
346 total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimated by the SOCE inventory is 94.8 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> per year, Table 2. Figures 2a  
347 and b display the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the Area sector and from Residential and Commercial natural  
348 gas combustion in southern Ontario. These two sectors combined represent the largest source of  
349 CO<sub>2</sub> in the black-box area (41.6 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year, contributing 43.9 % of the total). The majority of these  
350 emissions are concentrated in the GTA and surrounding urban areas as a result of a significant  
351 portion of the population (64 %) being reliant on natural gas for heat production (Statistics Canada,  
352 2007; Statistics Canada, 2012a). Figure 2c represents emissions from the Point sector, contributing  
353 24.4 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year, 25.7 % of the total. The largest point source emitters are located on the western  
354 shore of Lake Ontario (Hamilton and surrounding areas) as this area is one of the most  
355 industrialized regions of the country with intensive metal production activities. Figures 2d, e and f  
356 display CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from various transportation sectors, Marine, On-road, and Off-road  
357 respectively, which together contribute more than 30 % of total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the area within  
358 the black box. While emissions from marine activity are minimal, those from On-road and Off-road  
359 sources are significant (25.0 % and 5.3 %, respectively), concentrating on the major highways  
360 connecting the various population centres of the GTA to the downtown core, as well as at Pearson  
361 Airport located within the city.

### 362 *3.2 Comparison of the SOCE inventory with other inventories*

363 The EDGAR v4.2 inventory estimates CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on an annual basis and by sector based on  
364 Selected Nomenclature for Air Pollution (SNAP) sub-sectors while FFDAS v2 provides hourly mean  
365 grid cell totals. Table 2 shows a comparison between the sectoral CO<sub>2</sub> estimates of the SOCE and  
366 EDGAR v4.2 inventories (SNAP sectors were grouped to correspond to SOCE sectors, Table S2) as

367 well as the domain total estimated by the FFDAS v2 inventory for the area surrounding the GTA  
368 (the black-box area outlined in Figure 2a). There is a significant discrepancy between the CO<sub>2</sub>  
369 emissions estimated by the SOCE and EDGAR v4.2, inventories both in the relative sectoral  
370 contributions as well as domain total (percent difference >35 %). The largest sectoral discrepancies  
371 are in the Point and the On-road sectors, where the EDGAR v4.2 inventory estimates a contribution  
372 1.9 and 1.7 times larger than that of the SOCE inventory, respectively. Figure 3 shows a comparison  
373 of the spatial distribution of the CO<sub>2</sub> inventory predicted by a) FFDAS v2, b) EDGAR v4.2, and c)  
374 SOCE (aggregated to 0.1° x 0.1° to match the resolution of EDGAR v4.2 and FFDAS v2) for the GTA  
375 area. Figure 3 reveals that the largest differences between the SOCE inventory and the EDGAR v4.2  
376 inventory is the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the GTA; EDGAR v4.2 predicts much higher emissions in the GTA  
377 (in some grid cells, differences are an order of magnitude), particularly in the downtown core  
378 relative to the SOCE inventory.

379         Although there is no sectoral breakdown in the FFDAS v2 inventory, the domain total  
380 around the GTA can be compared to that of the SOCE inventory, Table 2. Unlike the comparison  
381 with the EDGAR v4.2 inventory, there is a closer agreement between the FFDAS v2 inventory and  
382 the SOCE inventory (difference of ~10 %). The comparison plots in Figure 3 show a good  
383 agreement of the spatial variability of emissions in the GTA between the FFDAS v2 and SOCE  
384 inventories; however, the gradient between urban and rural areas is not as sharp in the SOCE  
385 inventory as it is in the FFDAS v2 inventory. Furthermore, emissions along the western shore of  
386 Lake Ontario (Hamilton and the surrounding areas) are predicted to be larger in the SOCE  
387 inventory relative to FFDAS v2. The FFDAS v2 inventory was interpolated to 0.02° x 0.02° using a  
388 mass conservative interpolation scheme to allow the production of a difference plot of the two  
389 inventories, SOCE minus FFDAS v2, shown in Figure S1. The difference plot reveals the largest  
390 divergence between the inventories occurs in the GTA and Ottawa, with the FFDAS v2 inventory  
391 estimating >1000 g CO<sub>2</sub>/second (~30 kt CO<sub>2</sub>/year) more than the SOCE inventory in some grid

392 cells. In addition to similar spatial variability, the FFDAS v2 and SOCE inventories also have similar  
393 temporal variability. Figure S2 shows the diurnal profile of estimated emissions from January-  
394 March for both the FFDAS v2 and SOCE inventories for the black-box area in the PanAm domain.  
395 Both inventories allocate the highest emissions between 08:00 and 18:00 and the lowest emission  
396 between 00:00 and 5:00, however the amplitude of the diurnal cycle is higher in SOCE, and  
397 emissions in the morning are as high as in the afternoon. FFDAS allocates a relatively larger  
398 proportion of the emissions to the 15:00 – 19:00 period.

### 399 *3.3 Preliminary analyses using the SOCE, FFDAS v2 and EDGAR v4.2 inventories with FLEXPART*

400 To investigate the impact of the different inventories on ambient mixing ratios, preliminary  
401 analyses were run with footprints generated for every third hour of the day (i.e., 00h, 03h, 06h, 09h,  
402 etc.) by the FLEXPART Lagrangian particle dispersion model (Stohl et al., 2005) driven by GEM  
403 meteorology for two sites, Downsview and TAO. Footprint areas were multiplied by the inventory  
404 estimates to arrive at mixing ratio enhancements and then compared against the measured CO<sub>2</sub>  
405 gradient between the Downsview and TAO stations for the year 2014. Gradients were used to  
406 capture the CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in the downtown core of the city (since Downsview and TAO are  
407 situated just north and south of downtown Toronto, respectively). Observed gradients ranged from  
408 +20 to -10 ppm. Figure S3 displays the measured and modelled CO<sub>2</sub> gradients. These results show  
409 that when the EDGAR v4.2 inventory was used, simulated CO<sub>2</sub> gradients were consistently  
410 overestimated by ~10-60 ppm relative to observations. Conversely, when the SOCE inventory was  
411 used, a higher level of agreement was obtained between simulated mixing ratios and  
412 measurements; however, none of the model simulations were able to capture times when the  
413 gradient was negative ( $CO_{2,TAO} > CO_{2,Downsview}$ ), an effect we believe to be due to the TAO inlet being  
414 ~60 m above ground level and surrounded by many high-rise buildings creating canyon flows and  
415 turbulence which are not properly accounted for in GEM at this resolution. These factors

416 contributed to the decommissioning of TAO in January 2016. The poor performance of our model  
417 system when using the EDGAR v4.2 inventory to simulate CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios was also found by a  
418 study quantifying on-road CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Massachusetts, USA (Gately et al., 2013). In this study,  
419 EDGAR emission estimates were found to be significantly larger than any other inventory by as  
420 much as 9.3 million tons, or >33 %. The difference in estimates between the EDGAR v4.2 and the  
421 SOCE inventories is likely explained by their underlying differences in methodology. Being a global  
422 product and not specifically designed for mesoscale applications, the EDGAR v4.2 inventory  
423 estimates CO<sub>2</sub> emissions based on country-specific activity data and emission factors, however the  
424 spatial proxies used to disaggregate the data are not always optimal. A study performed by  
425 McDonald et al. (2014) showed that the use of road density as a spatial proxy for vehicle emissions  
426 in EDGAR v4.2 causes an overestimation of emissions in population centers (McDonald et al., 2014).  
427 Given the much larger emission estimates for On-road CO<sub>2</sub> from EDGAR v4.2 (Table 2), this also  
428 seems to be an issue in the GTA. Based on this large discrepancy, the EDGAR v4.2 inventory was not  
429 further used in this study and we focussed on the inventories developed for regional scale studies.

430           When similar preliminary analyses were run with FLEXPART footprints using the FFDAS v2  
431 inventory, Figure S3, good agreement was observed with CO<sub>2</sub> gradients measured between the  
432 Downsview and TAO stations. We are confident that the enhanced measurement agreement  
433 between the FFDAS v2 and SOCE relative to EDGAR v4.2 is due to improved methodology; spatial  
434 allocation of emissions in FFDAS v2 is achieved through the use of satellite observations of  
435 nightlights from human settlements from the U.S. Defense Meteorological Satellite Program  
436 Operational Linescan System (DMSP-OLS).

437           Beyond the differences in methodology for estimating and allocating emissions, it is  
438 important to note that the emissions reported in Table 2 by the FFDAS v2, SOCE and EDGAR v4.2  
439 inventories also fundamentally differ in time period quantified. The emissions reported for both

440 FFDAS v2 and the SOCE are based on emissions from three winter months (January-March 2010)  
441 extrapolated for the entire year. However, emissions from EDGAR v4.2 are annual averages of all  
442 twelve months of 2010. Since CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the GTA are higher in the winter months relative to  
443 the summer months because of increased building and home heating, it is likely that the average  
444 annual estimates of SOCE and FFDAS v2 are slightly overestimated. This does not affect the relative  
445 agreement between SOCE and FFDAS v2 however it does further increase the divergence between  
446 the EDGAR v4.2 and SOCE and FFDAS v2 inventories. Following this and the improved agreement  
447 with observations, the FFDAS v2 inventory was used with the SOCE inventory for all subsequent  
448 modelling analyses.

#### 449 *3.4 Simulation of CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in the Greater Toronto Area*

450 We used the GEM-MACH chemistry-transport model and the SOCE and FFDAS v2 inventories to  
451 simulate hourly CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in the PanAm domain. The model framework was evaluated for a  
452 continuous three-month period, January-March 2016 using four sampling locations in the GTA,  
453 Figure 1 (note that measurements for the Hanlan's Point site were not available until January 14,  
454 2016). Figure 4 displays afternoon (12:00-16:00 EST) measured and simulated CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios  
455 produced with the SOCE and FFDAS v2 inventories for the two emissions scenarios described in  
456 Section 2.3 for the month of February (Figures S4 and S5 show the same figure for other months).  
457 We chose to present only afternoon data as this is the time of day when the mixed layer is likely to  
458 be the most well-developed; nighttime and morning data showed largest variations in observations  
459 as a result of the shallow boundary layer causing surface emissions to accumulate within the lowest  
460 atmospheric layers (Breon et al., 2015; Chan et al., 2008; Gerbig et al., 2008). During the night,  
461 atmospheric mixing ratios are most sensitive to vertical mixing, an atmospheric process that is  
462 difficult to model for stable boundary layers.

463           The time series comparisons at all four sites demonstrate the model's general ability to  
464 capture variability in observations of CO<sub>2</sub>, albeit with better skill for the Downsview and Egbert  
465 sites (this is particularly clear when we look at model-measurement difference plots, Figure S6).  
466 The model is able to capture many extreme events of mixing ratio increases and decreases, such as  
467 February 11-14, 2016 at the Downsview site; however, some short time periods are poorly  
468 simulated, such as January 21-23, 2016 at Hanlan's Point, when the model significantly  
469 overestimated measured CO<sub>2</sub>. Generally, mixing ratios simulated by the FFDAS v2 inventory are  
470 similar or larger than those produced when the SOCE inventory is used, with differences most  
471 noticeable at the Downsview and Hanlan's Point sites. This was expected as the difference plot  
472 shown in Figure S1 reveals that the SOCE and FFDAS v2 inventories diverge the most in the GTA  
473 (where the Downsview and Hanlan's Point sites are located) and are more similar in rural areas  
474 (where the Turkey Point and Egbert sites are located).

475           Measured CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios have a typical diurnal pattern, in which mixing ratios are higher  
476 at night and lower during the day, despite higher emissions during the day. This results from the  
477 daily cycle of the mixed layer, which is shallow at night due to thermal stratification and deepens  
478 during the day due to solar heating of the surface. Figure 5 displays the measured and modelled  
479 mean diurnal profile of CO<sub>2</sub> at the four sites in our network using data from January-March, 2016  
480 (note difference in y-axis scale for urban vs. rural sites). At all four sites, the shapes of the modelled  
481 and measured mixing ratios throughout the day agree very well, suggesting that the GEM  
482 meteorology in our framework is capturing the diurnal variation in emissions and the boundary  
483 layer evolution. At the Downsview site, there is a very strong agreement between the modelled and  
484 measured diurnal profiles when using the SOCE inventory, whereas the FFDAS v2 simulated profile  
485 largely overestimates mixing ratios, particularly at nighttime. This is consistent with the FFDAS  
486 inventory having larger emissions than the SOCE inventory during the night (Fig S2). At the  
487 Hanlan's Point site, a difference of ~ 5 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> is observed when using the SOCE inventory relative

488 to measurements; however, similar to the Downsview site, the FFDAS v2 simulated profile has a  
489 larger difference of  $\sim 10$  ppm CO<sub>2</sub>. At both the Egbert and Turkey Point sites, the use of both  
490 inventories similarly overestimates the diurnal pattern of CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios by  $\sim 3$ -5 ppm, again  
491 likely a result of the similarities of these two inventories at these sites, Figure S1. At all four sites, it  
492 is possible that some of the biases that are observed in simulated CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios may arise from  
493 inaccuracies in the boundary CO<sub>2</sub> provided by MACC; this aspect was not, however, further explored  
494 in this study.

### 495 *3.5 Quantifying model-measurement agreement*

496 Figure 6 shows scatter plots of afternoon (12:00-16:00 EST) modelled versus measured CO<sub>2</sub> mixing  
497 ratios from January- March, 2016 at the four sites used in this study. The top row shows the  
498 correlation between measured and modelled mixing ratios using the SOCE inventory and the  
499 bottom row shows the correlation using the FFDAS v2 inventory. It is immediately clear that there  
500 is a stronger model-measurement correlation at the Downsview and Egbert sites ( $R > 0.75$ ) relative  
501 to that of Hanlan's Point or Turkey Point ( $R < 0.53$ ). The difficulty with accurately simulating CO<sub>2</sub>  
502 mixing ratios at Hanlan's Point and Turkey Point may arise from their proximity to shorelines,  
503 Hanlan's Point to Lake Ontario and Turkey Point to Lake Erie (see Figure 1). Differential heating of  
504 land versus water near these lakes creates pressure gradients driving unique circulation patterns  
505 (Burrows, 1991; Sills et al., 2011). These circulation patterns are difficult for models to capture and  
506 therefore may contribute to the relatively poor correlation observed at Hanlan's Point and Turkey  
507 Point.

508 It is also clear from Figure 6 that simulating CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios at the Egbert and Turkey  
509 Point sites using either the FFDAS v2 or the SOCE inventory results in similar performance, likely  
510 because the emissions estimated by the two inventories are similar in the vicinity of these two rural  
511 sites (see also Figure 5). However at both the Downsview and Hanlan's Point sites, using the SOCE

512 inventory provided a slightly higher correlation and reduced RMSE and MB relative to using the  
513 FFDAS v2 inventory. The improvement by using the SOCE inventory is likely a result of both the  
514 improved spatial resolution (2.5 km versus 10 km), and therefore more accurate allocation of  
515 emissions to grid cells, and also a better estimation of emission magnitudes, as large differences are  
516 shown in Figures 3 and S1.

### 517 *3.6 Sectoral contributions to simulated CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios*

518 One of the major advantages of the SOCE inventory over the FFDAS v2 inventory is the availability  
519 of sectoral emission estimates. Figure 7 displays the sectoral percent contributions to diurnal CO<sub>2</sub>  
520 mixing ratio enhancements (calculated as local CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios above the MACC estimated  
521 background) for the Downsview station in February 2016 averaged by the day of week (Figures S7  
522 and S8 displays the same for other months). This figure clearly demonstrates the importance of  
523 Area emissions (defined here as the sum of the Area + Residential natural gas combustion +  
524 Commercial natural gas combustion) to simulated CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios, reaching ~80 % contribution  
525 in the early morning and late evening, consistent with times when emissions from home heating are  
526 the dominant source of CO<sub>2</sub>. Contributions from Area emissions decrease to ~35 % midday, which  
527 coincides with when emissions from other sources, such as On-road, gain importance. In the  
528 midday, emissions from the On-road sector can contribute ~50 %, which is consistent with  
529 transportation patterns of the times when the population is travelling to and from work and other  
530 activities. The relative contributions to CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios from point source emissions is quite  
531 variable during the course of a day and week, but generally seems to increase in the early morning  
532 and evening and can contribute a significant portion of total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (up to ~20 %). Figure 7  
533 indicates that biogenic sources of CO<sub>2</sub> play a negligible role during January-March in the GTA (the  
534 Biogenic line is not visible because it is located on the zero line underneath the Marine line). Recent  
535 studies, however, have shown the importance of the biospheric contribution (up to ~132-308 g CO<sub>2</sub>

536 km<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) to measured CO<sub>2</sub> in urban environments during the growing season (Decina et al., 2016).  
537 Therefore, this finding supports the importance of modelling CO<sub>2</sub> in the wintertime in cities like the  
538 GTA to avoid complications associated with biospheric contributions. The new ability to  
539 understand the sectoral contributions to CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios in the GTA and southern Ontario has  
540 implications from a policy perspective; with recent initiatives to curb CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, understanding  
541 from which sector the CO<sub>2</sub> is being emitted could be useful to assess how effective applied  
542 mitigation efforts have been or where to target future efforts. These efforts could be complemented  
543 by running simulations with additional tracers, such as carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides  
544 (NO<sub>x</sub>), or stable carbon isotopes (<sup>12</sup>C and <sup>13</sup>C) to gain further insight.

#### 545 *4.0 Conclusions*

546 We presented the SOCE inventory for southern Ontario and the GTA, the first, to our knowledge,  
547 high-resolution CO<sub>2</sub> inventory for southern Ontario and for a Canadian metropolitan region. The  
548 SOCE inventory provides CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates at 2.5 km x 2.5 km spatial and hourly temporal  
549 resolution for seven sectors: Area, Residential natural gas combustion, Commercial natural gas  
550 combustion, Point, Marine, On-road and Off-road. When compared against two existing CO<sub>2</sub>  
551 inventories available for southern Ontario, the EDGAR v4.2 and the FFDAS v2 inventories, using  
552 FLEXPART footprints, the SOCE inventory had improved model-measurement agreement; FFDAS  
553 v2 agreed well with in situ measurements, but the EDGAR v4.2 inventory systematically  
554 overestimated mixing ratios. We developed a model framework using the GEM-MACH chemistry-  
555 transport model on a high-resolution 2.5 km x 2.5 km grid coupled to the SOCE and FFDAS v2  
556 inventories for anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and C-TESSSEL for biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes. We compared  
557 output simulations to observations made at four stations across southern Ontario and for three  
558 winter months, January – March, 2016. Model-measurement agreement was strong in the afternoon  
559 using both anthropogenic inventories, particularly at the Downsview and Egbert sites. Difficulty in

560 capturing mixing ratios at the Hanlan's Point and Turkey Point sites was hypothesized to be a result  
561 of their close proximity to shorelines (Lake Ontario and Lake Erie, respectively) and the model's  
562 inability to capture the unique circulation patterns that occur in those environments. Generally,  
563 across all stations and months, simulations using the SOCE inventory resulted in higher model-  
564 measurement agreement than those using the FFDAS v2 inventory, quantified using R, RMSE and  
565 mean bias. In addition to improved agreement, the primary advantage of the SOCE inventory over  
566 the FFDAS v2 inventory is the sectoral breakdown of emissions; using average day of week diurnal  
567 mixing ratio enhancements, we were able to demonstrate that emissions from area sources can  
568 contribute >80 % of CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratio enhancements in the early morning and evening with on-road  
569 sources contributing >50 % midday. The applications of the SOCE inventory will likely show future  
570 utility in understanding the impacts of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction efforts in southern Ontario and identify target  
571 areas requiring further improvement.

#### 572 *Author Contributions*

573 The SOCE inventory was prepared by Stephanie C. Pugliese, with critical input from Felix Vogel and  
574 Jennifer Murphy. The CO inventory which the SOCE inventory is based upon and the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
575 fields for residential and commercial natural-gas combustion were provided by Michael D. Moran,  
576 Junhua Zhang and Qiong Zheng. The GEM-MACH modelling analyses were performed by Shuzhan  
577 Ren and Craig Stroud. The ambient CO<sub>2</sub> data were collected by Douglas Worthy and his team at  
578 Environment and Climate Change Canada. The MACC and C-TESSSEL products used in our model  
579 simulations were provided by Gregoire Broquet. The data was analyzed and interpreted for  
580 publication by Stephanie C. Pugliese. This manuscript was written by Stephanie C. Pugliese, with  
581 critical input from Jennifer Murphy, Felix Vogel and Mike Moran.

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589 and for Pegah Baratzadeh for her help creating the SOCE inventory.

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736 *Environment*, 59, 214-223.

737 **Table 1: Summary of atmospheric measurement programs in Southern Canada operated by**  
 738 **Environment and Climate Change Canada**

Start Date	Site Name	Coordinates	Elevation (asl)	Intake Height	In-situ Instrumentation
March, 2005	Egbert	44.231037N, 79.783834W	251m	3m, 25m*	NDIR
November, 2010	Downsview	43.780491N, 79.468010W	198m	20m	NDIR
November, 2012	Turkey Point	42.635368N, 80.557659W	231m	35m	CRDS
June, 2014	Hanlan's Point	43.612201N 79.388705W	87m	10m	CRDS

739 \* At Egbert, a 25 m tower was installed in March 9, 2009

740 NDIR = Non-dispersive infrared

741 CRDS = cavity ring-down spectroscopy

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743 **Table 2: Anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the year 2010 in the black-box area (shown in**  
744 **Figure 2a) by sector. Values in parentheses indicate the percentage contribution of the**  
745 **sector to the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the black-box area.**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>FFDAS v2‡ CO<sub>2</sub> Inventory (Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year)</b>	<b>EDGAR v4.2# CO<sub>2</sub> Inventory (Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year)</b>	<b>SOCE CO<sub>2</sub> Inventory (Mt CO<sub>2</sub>/year)</b>
<b>Area*</b>	-	46 (33.9 %)	42 (43.9 %)
<b>Point</b>	-	46 (33.7 %)	24 (25.7 %)
<b>Marine</b>	-	0.1 (0.10 %)	0.1 (0.10 %)
<b>On-road</b>	-	41 (30.2 %)	24 (25.0 %)
<b>Off-road</b>	-	3 (2.2 %)	5 (5.3 %)
<b>Total</b>	105	136	95

746 \*Area sector represents the summation of Area + Residential + Commercial natural gas combustion.

747 #The EDGAR inventory v4.2 can be found at <http://edgar.jrc.ec.europa.eu>.

748 ‡The FFDAS v2 inventory can be found at <http://hpcg.purdue.edu/FFDAS/>.

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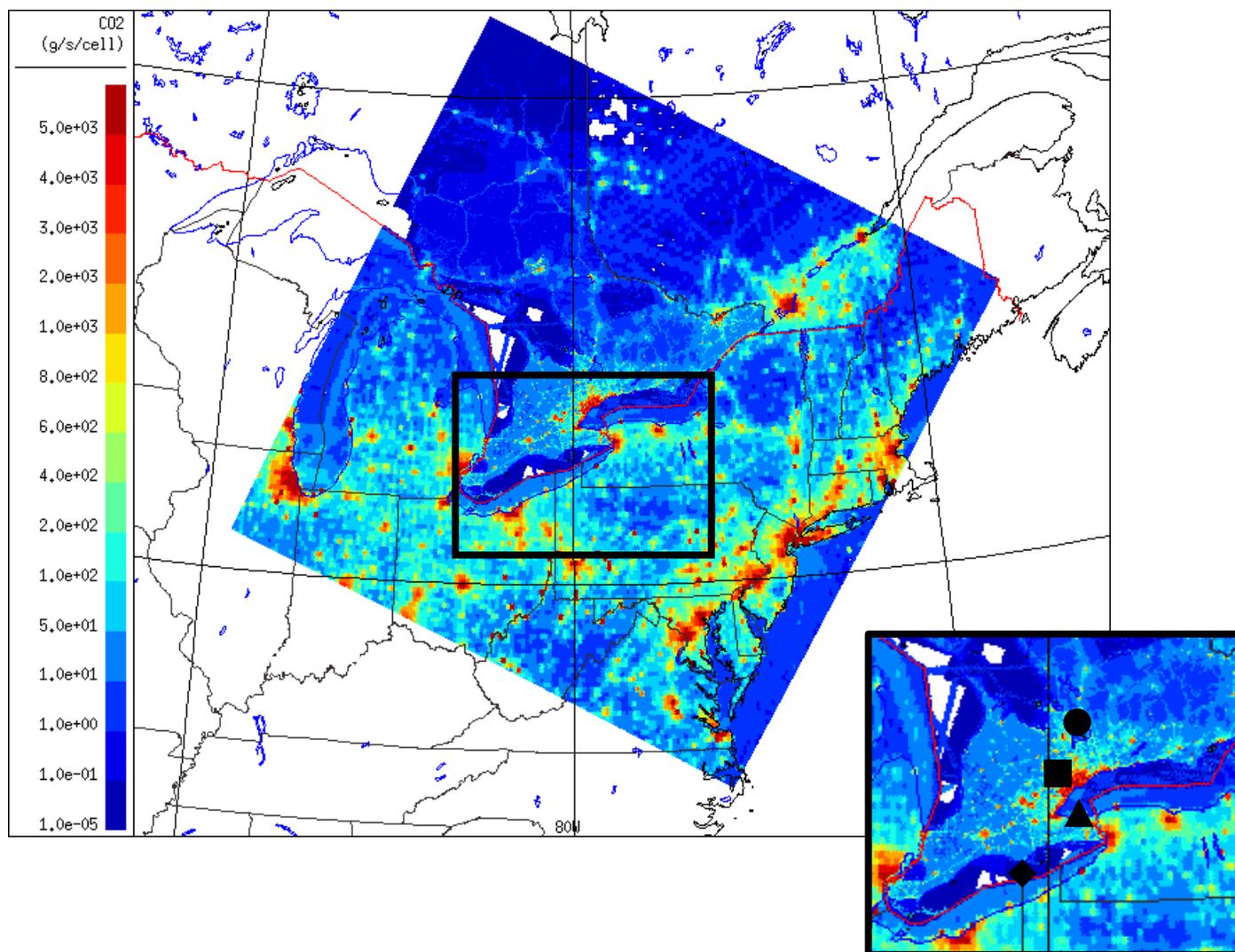
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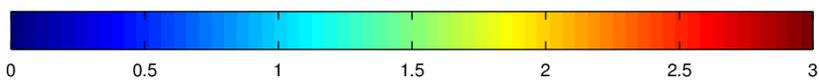
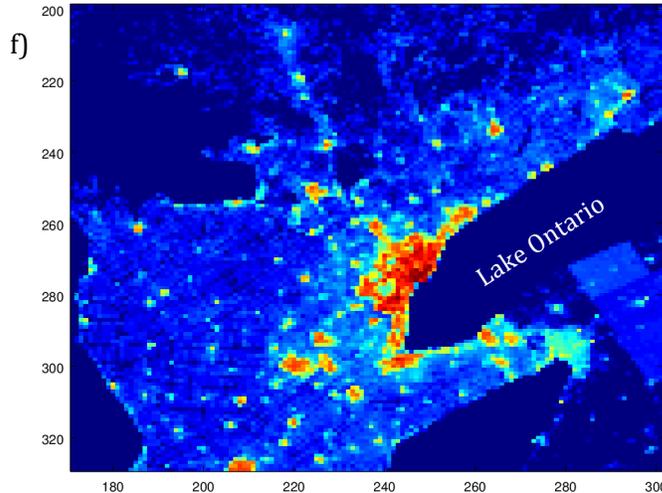
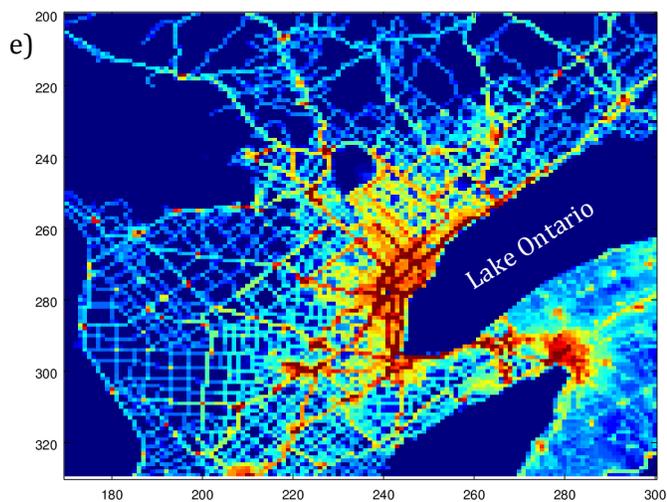
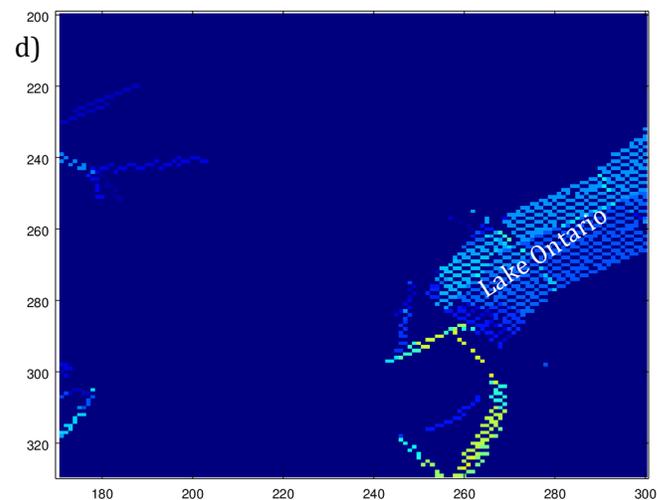
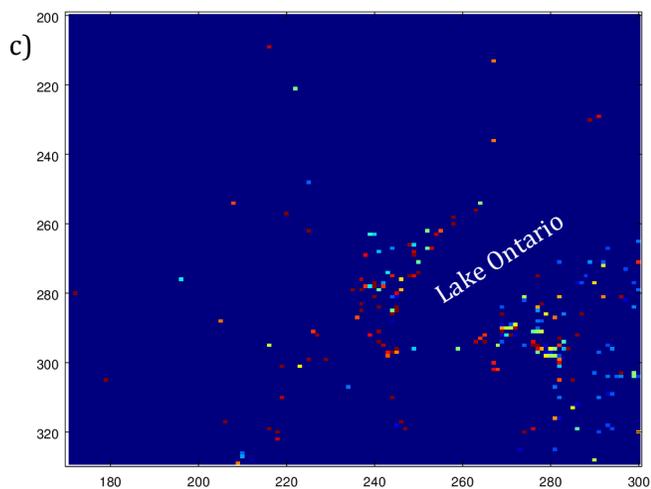
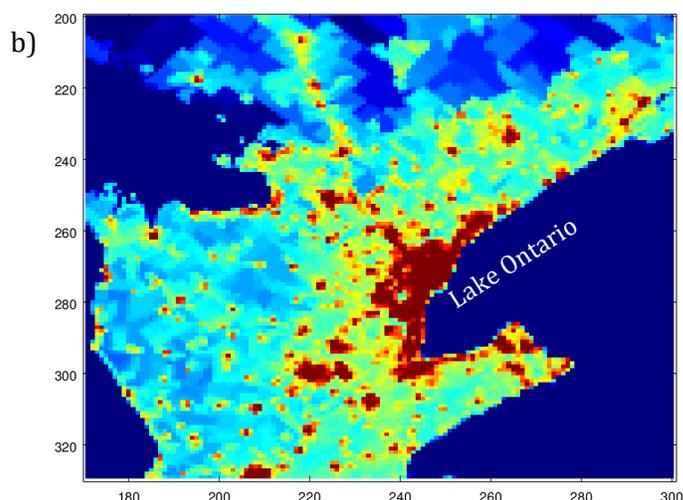
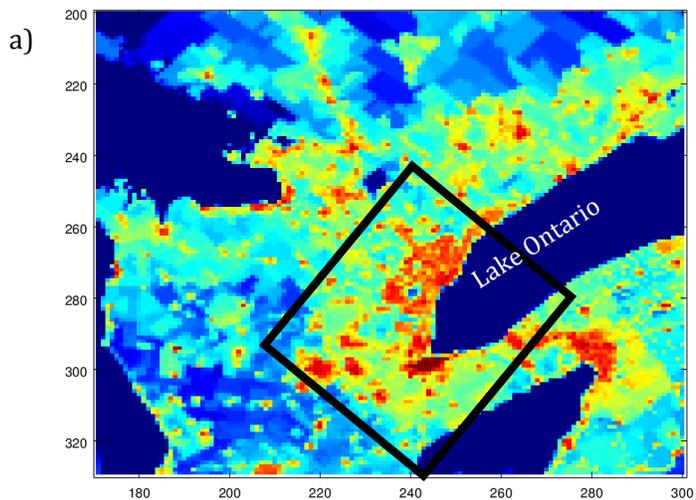
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770 **Figure 1: Total anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for a weekday in February 2010 estimated by**  
771 **the SOCE inventory for the province of Ontario and by the FFDAS v2 inventory for the**  
772 **remainder of the GEM-MACH PanAm domain. Locations of in-situ measurements of CO<sub>2</sub> in the**  
773 **Southern Ontario GHG Network are shown in the inset (Downsview = square, Egbert = circle,**  
774 **Hanlan's Point = triangle, Turkey Point = diamond). The Downsview and Hanlan's Point sites**  
775 **are both located in the GTA. Units: g CO<sub>2</sub>/second/grid cell.**

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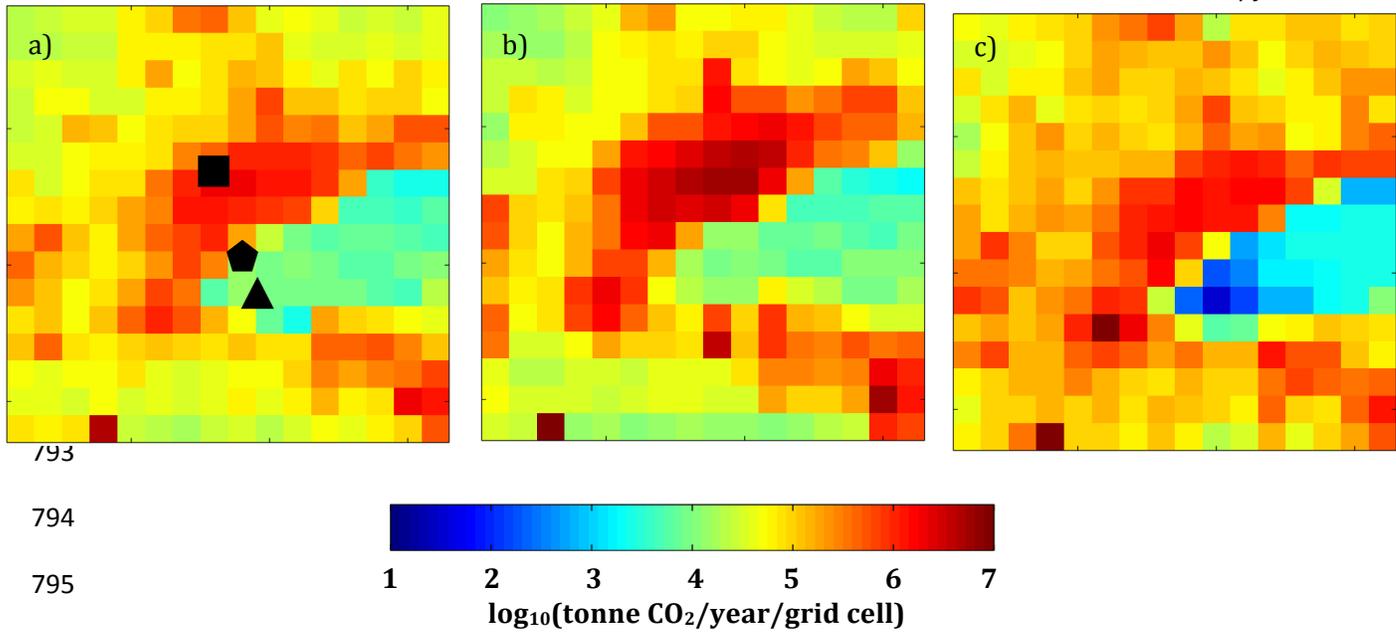
780 **Figure 2: Anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for a weekday in February 2010 in southern Ontario.**  
781 **Emissions are estimated by the SOCE inventory for the (a) Area sector; (b) sum of the**  
782 **Residential and Commercial sectors; (c) Point sector; (d) Marine sector; (e) On-road sector;**  
783 **(f) Off-road sector. Units: log<sub>10</sub>(g CO<sub>2</sub>/second/grid cell).**

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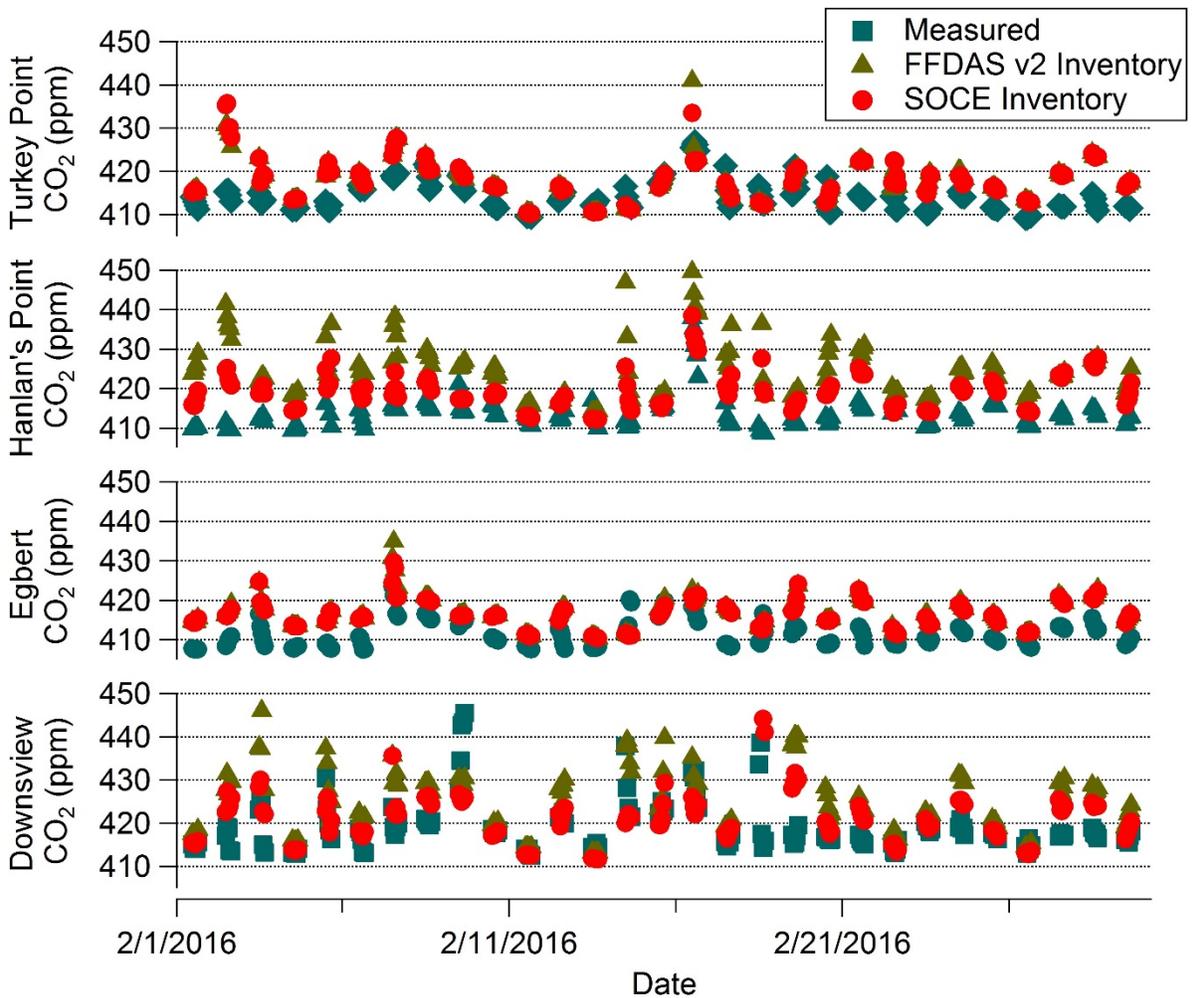
785 FFDAS v2 Domain Total:  
1.1x10<sup>8</sup> tonne/year

EDGAR v4.2 Domain Total:  
1.4x10<sup>8</sup> tonne/year

SOCE Domain Total:  
9.5x10<sup>7</sup> tonne/year



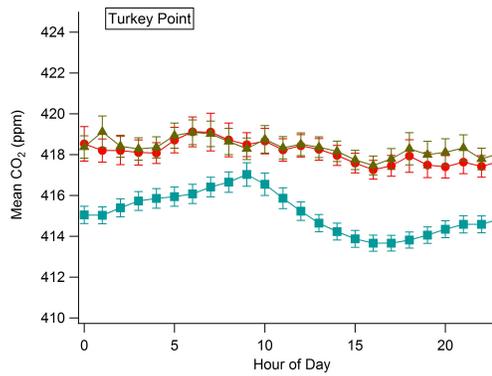
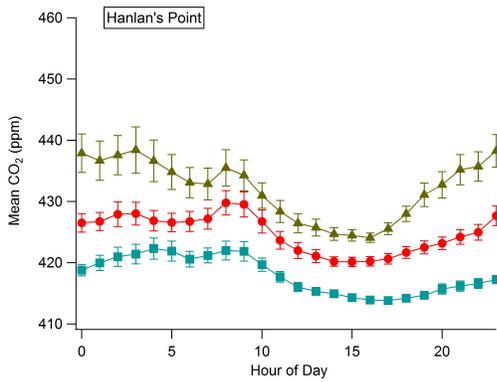
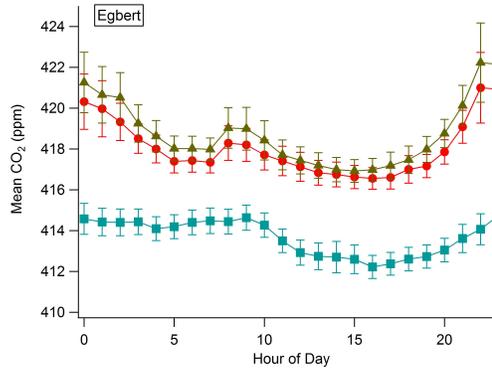
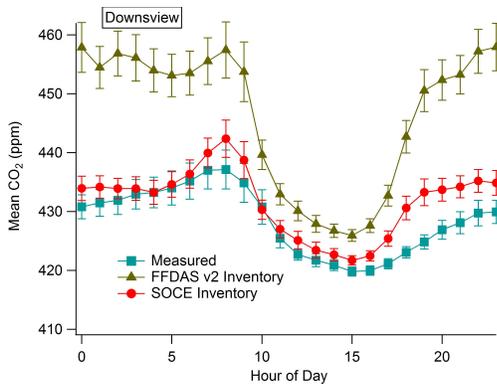
**Figure 3: Comparison of spatial distribution of annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions inventories for the black-box area (shown in Figure 2a) at 0.1° x 0.1° resolution. Panel a) shows the FFDAS v2 inventory estimate, Panel b) shows the EDGAR v4.2 inventory estimate and Panel c) shows the SOCE inventory estimate. Domain totals are shown on top of each panel and locations of in-situ measurements of CO<sub>2</sub> for three stations in the Southern Ontario GHG Network are shown on Panel a (Downsview = square, Hanlan's Point = triangle, TAO = pentagon). The other two stations, Egbert and Turkey Point, are located outside this area.**



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807 **Figure 4: Time series of measured (blue) and modelled February afternoon (12:00-16:00**  
 808 **EST) CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios for the four sites used in this study. The red and gold markers are the**  
 809 **modelled mixing ratios when using the SOCE CO<sub>2</sub> inventory and the FFDAS v2 inventory,**  
 810 **respectively.**

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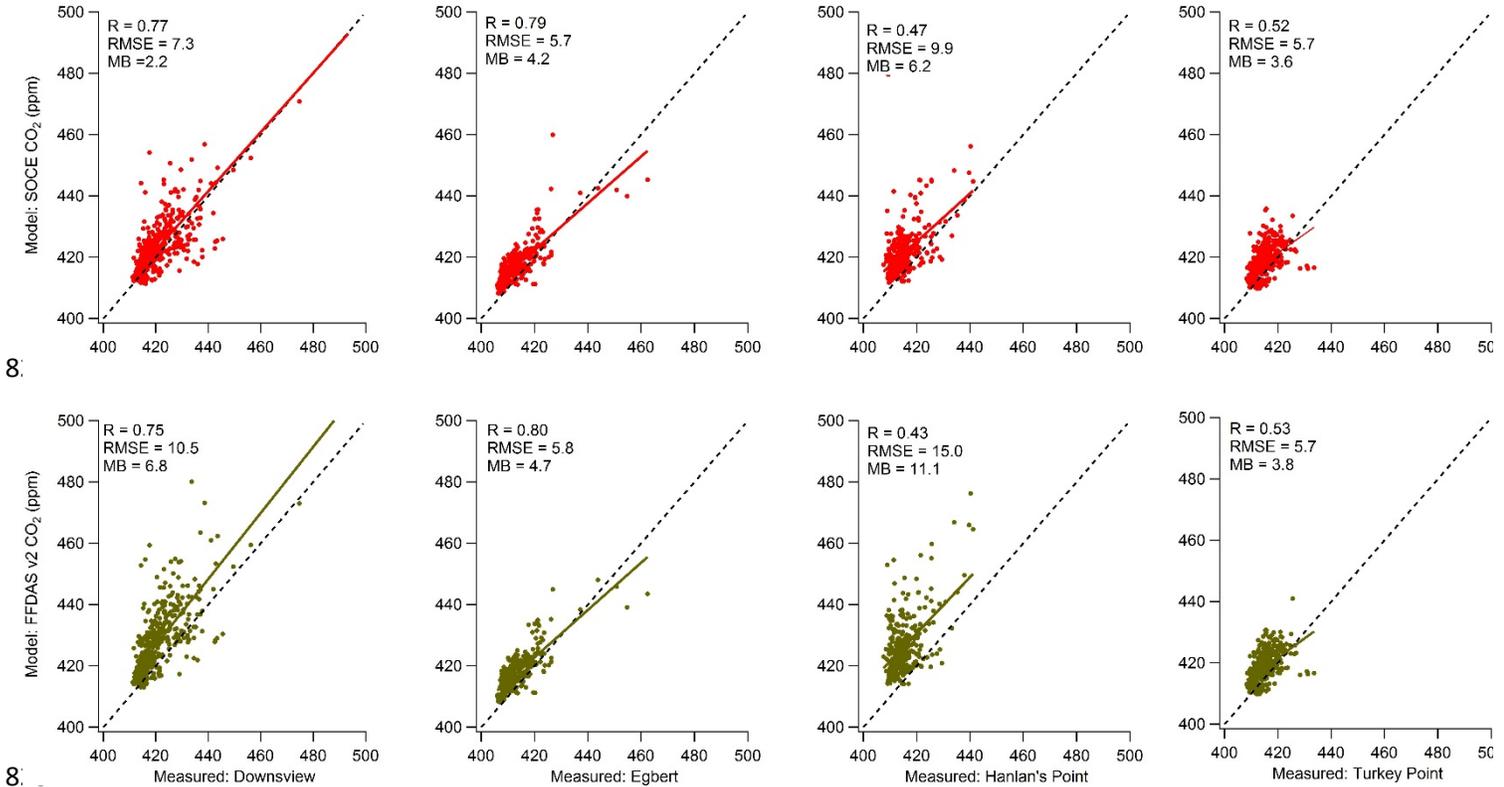
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815 **Figure 5: Time series of mean measured (blue) and modelled diurnal CO<sub>2</sub> mixing ratios at**  
 816 **the four sites considered in this study for January – March 2016. The red and gold markers**  
 817 **are the modelled diurnal mixing ratios when using the SOCE CO<sub>2</sub> inventory and the FFDAS v2**  
 818 **inventory, respectively. Note the difference in scale for urban and rural sites. Error bars**  
 819 **represent standard error of the mean.**

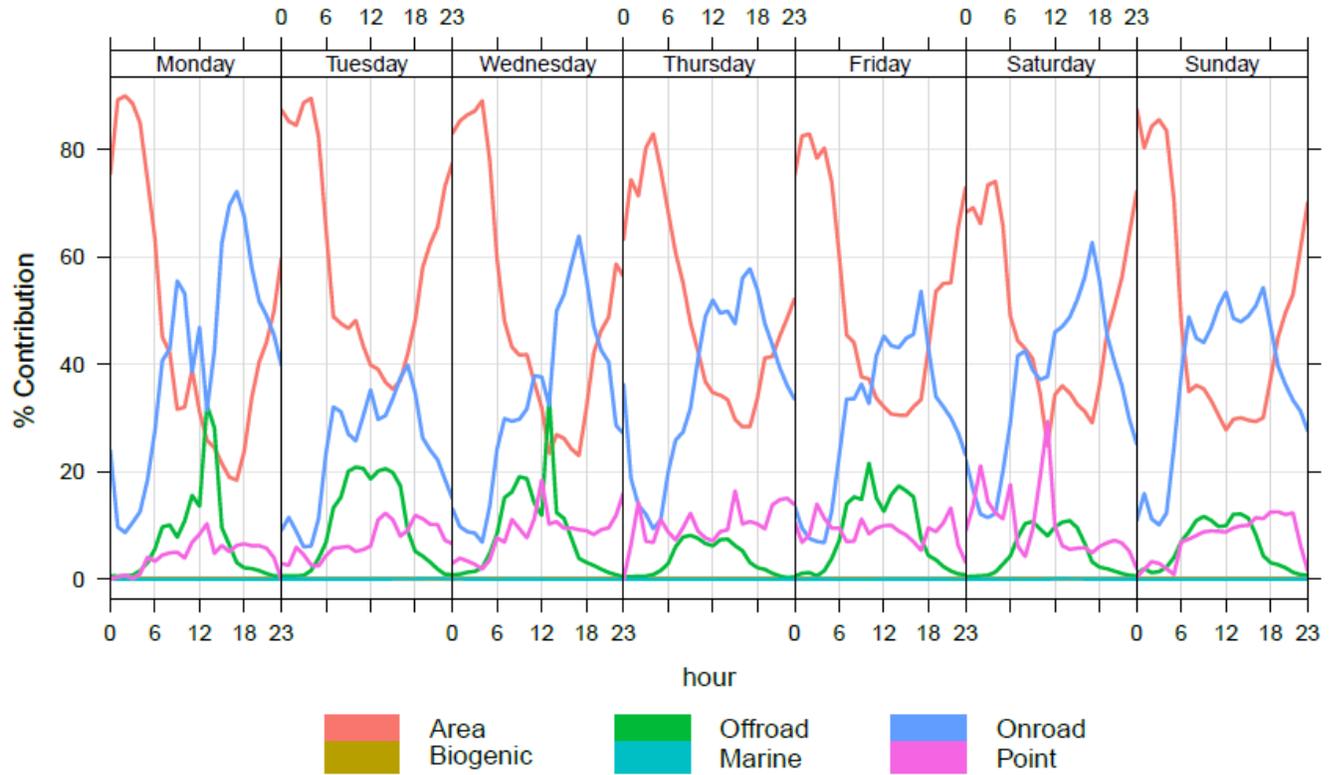
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824 **Figure 6: Scatter plot of the modelled and measured afternoon (12:00-16:00 EST) CO<sub>2</sub> mixing**  
 825 **ratios from January-March, 2016 at the four monitoring stations used in this study. The top**  
 826 **and bottom panels show measurement-model correlation when the SOCE inventory and the**  
 827 **FFDAS v2 inventory were used, respectively. The model vs. measurement Correlation**  
 828 **Coefficient (R), root mean square error (RMSE) and mean bias (MB) (units: ppm) are**  
 829 **provided within each panel. Solid lines are the standard major axis regression lines and**  
 830 **dashed lines are 1:1 lines shown for reference.**

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834 **Figure 7: Modelled sectoral percent contributions to diurnal local CO<sub>2</sub> enhancement for**  
 835 **February 2016 at Downsview averaged by day of week. Note: Area = Area + Residential**  
 836 **natural gas combustion + Commercial natural gas combustion. (Time zone is EST).**

837