

Dear editor,

We have revised our manuscript according to your recommendations. The point-to-point responses were listed as follows.

1. Page 13, Line 330, “an increase during ...”

Response: Revised.

2. Page 15, Line 364-370. I think this part represents a comparison but is kinda apart from the context. I suggest rephrase the sentences. For example, “... will be reduced to 27t in 2020. This is much lower than the estimation from our previous study using the transformed normal distribution function...”.

Response: Revised.

“If we assumed that the crude steel production reached a conservative value of 1000 Mt and that advanced dust collectors (ESP or FF), desulfurization towers, and denitration technologies were fully applied in ISP, atmospheric Hg emissions in ISP will be reduced to 27 t in 2020. Thus, a decreasing trend will be expected from 2015 to 2020. Such conclusion is opposite with the study using transformed normal distribution method (Wu et al., 2016).”

See revised manuscript, Page 14-15, 361-366.

3. Figure 4 has been revised into black/white version as compared with the ACPD version. I think the color one is better.

Response: Revised.

4. Page 15, Line 384-385, “... were the largest two emission processes, accounting for 49% and 24% of national emissions, respectively.”

Response: Revised.

5. In table 1, column for NS of Limestone, some numbers “1” are in red, what does it mean?

Response: The red color was used to highlight our revision in previous manuscript. The color was changed.

6. I suggest to add words on the improvement of the method and finding in the conclusion. For example, Line 390 can be extended to specify the innovation and merits of the method and findings compared with previous studies.

Response: Revised.

“In this study, we applied the technology-based emission factor method for better quantification of Hg into ISP and atmospheric Hg emissions from different processes of ISP. Compared with previous studies, the uncertainty of atmospheric Hg emissions from ISP has largely reduced with better understanding of Hg flow in ISP. This method has provided more objective estimation of current emissions and forecast of future emissions.”

See revised manuscript, Page 16, 392-396.