



The influence of spatiality on shipping emissions, air quality and potential human exposure in Yangtze River Delta/Shanghai, China

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Abstract: The Yangtze River Delta (YRD) and the megacity of Shanghai are host to one of the
25 busiest port clusters in the world, the region also suffers from high levels of air pollution. The goal
of this study was to estimate the contributions of shipping to emissions, air quality, and population
exposure and characterize their dependence on the geographic spatiality of ship lanes from the
regional scale to city scale for 2015. The WRF-CMAQ model was used to simulate the influence
of coastal and inland-water shipping, in port emissions, shipping-related cargo transport on air
30 quality and, population-weighted concentrations, a measure of human exposure. Our results showed
that the impact of shipping on air quality in the YRD was attributable primarily to shipping
emissions within 12 NM of shore, but emissions coming from the coastal area of 24 to 96 NM still
contributed substantially to ship-related PM_{2.5} concentrations in YRD. The overall contribution of
ships to PM_{2.5} concentration in YRD could reach to 4.62 µg/m³ in summer when monsoon winds
35 transport shipping emissions onshore. In Shanghai city, inland-water going ships were major
contributors (40-80%) to the shipping impact on urban air quality. Given the proximity of inland-
water ships to urban populations of Shanghai, the emissions of inland-water ships contributed more



to population-weighted concentrations. These research results provide scientific evidence to inform policies for controlling future shipping emissions; in particular, stricter standards could be considered for the ships on inland rivers and other waterways close to residential regions.

- 5 **Key words:** Shipping, ports, emissions, source apportionment, population-weighted concentration, Shanghai/YRD, emission control area

1 Introduction

With the increase of international maritime trade, shipping emissions and their impacts have attracted increased attention globally over the past decades (Capaldo et al., 1999; Cooper, 2003; Eyring et al., 2010; Sofiev et al., 2018). Shipping emits air pollutants that contribute to adverse impacts on climate, on air quality and on the health of people living near ports (Li et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2016a). Globally, about 50,000 to 90,000 deaths due to cardiopulmonary diseases and lung cancer each year are attributable to exposure to particulate matter emitted from shipping (Corbett et al., 2007; Partanen et al., 2013; Winebrake et al., 2009). In Europe, ozone pollution caused by international ships led to around 3.6 % of the total estimated years of life lost and 2.6 % of premature deaths in 2005 (Campling et al., 2013). In East Asia, around 14,500 to 37,500 premature deaths per year has been primarily attributed to PM_{2.5} from shipping; about one third of those deaths were in the area surrounding the East China sea, with the largest impacts in mainland China (Liu et al., 2016a).

As of 2016, China was home to 7 of the top 10 container ports, and the size of those ports has been rapidly growing to serve the increased trade via international shipping (UNCTAD, 2017). Yangtze River Delta (YRD) is one of the economic centers as well as the busiest port clusters, comprised of more than 15 ports, including Shanghai port, Ningbo-Zhoushan port, Zhenjiang port, Nantong port, Lianyungang port, Taizhou port, and Wenzhou port. In 2016, YRD generated a GDP of RMB 17.72 trillion (US \$2.76 trillion) – about 20 percent of national GDP (Preen, 2018). Shanghai megacity itself is an important economic center, accounting for about 22 % of the total GDP in YRD. Shanghai port lies at the intersection of the East China Sea and the Yangtze River and has been the largest container port in the world since 2010 (Liu et al., 2016b).

Shanghai and the YRD are also among the most densely populated regions of China. The YRD is home to 239.1 million people; Shanghai is one of the largest cities and houses about 12.1 % of



the total population of the YRD (Bright et al., 2016).

This region has suffered from severe air pollution over the past decade due to the anthropogenic emissions from multiple sources. In December 2013, for example, YRD experienced a haze episode, in which the maximal observed PM_{2.5} concentration in YRD exceeded 590 µg/m³ (Sun et al., 2016).

5 As severe air pollution episodes have continued and ports have grown, the shipping sector, a subset of transportation pollution sources, has received more attention.

The high ship traffic density in Shanghai and YRD has led to high emissions of shipping-related air pollutants in this region (Fan et al., 2016). Shipping-related sources of air pollution in Shanghai comprise coastal ships, inland-water ships, container-cargo trucks, and port terminal
10 equipment. Because some of these emissions sources are also close to densely populated areas, in particular those from ships traveling in inland waterways and from container trucks transporting cargo in and around the city, there is greater potential for higher population exposures to ship-related air pollution..

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) regulates emissions of marine pollution on a
15 global scale. Current rules limit fuel sulfur content (FSC) to 3.5 % globally and will lower this limit to 0.5 % in 2020. The IMO has also designated several regional Emission Control Areas (ECAs) to benefit the atmospheric environment and human health in port and coastal communities that establish more stringent emissions limits up to 200 NM from the coast in the Baltic Sea (SO_x), North
20 Sea (SO_x), North America (SO_x, NO_x, and PM), and the United States Caribbean Sea area (SO_x, NO_x, and PM) (Viana et al., 2015). Fuel sulfur content is limited to 0.1 % in the ECAs.

China does not have an ECA designated by the IMO, but in December 2015 it designated three Domestic Emission Control Areas (DECAs) that operate in a similar manner. These DECAs limited fuel sulfur content to 0.5 % for ocean-going vessels (OGV) in 3 regions: YRD, Pearl River Delta (PRD) and Bohai Sea. The DECA implementation timeline specified that all ships at berth in 11
25 core ports within these regions would be in compliance by January 1, 2017 and all ocean-going vessels (OGV) or coastal vessels within 12 NM of the shoreline would be in compliance by January 1, 2019. These areas would also be in compliance with the IMO requirements for fuel sulfur content. A study reported that the average reduction of PM_{2.5} and SO₂ mass concentrations over land in the PRD due to the DECA policy were 2.7% and 9.54% (Liu et al., 2018a). China is currently
30 considering additional DECA restrictions for the period beyond 2019. Starting on October 1, 2018,



three months earlier than the original plan, the Shanghai Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) has enforced the DECA policy limiting fuel sulfur content to 0.5 % for ocean-going vessels and domestic coastal vessels in Shanghai port. However, the DECA policies for fuel sulfur content currently make no distinction between coastal ships that enter inland water areas and other ships.

5 Ships like those in Shanghai and the YRD that enter inland waterways bring emissions sources closer to population centers resulting in a greater potential for exposure and health impacts.

Shipping emission inventories for the YRD, PRD, and Bohai-Rim area and their major ports indicate that shipping is an important pollution source surrounding port regions (Chen et al., 2016; Fan et al., 2016; Li et al., 2016; Yau et al., 2012). Several studies have investigated the contribution of shipping emissions to ambient air quality using different methods. Zhao et al. (2013) analyzed aerosol samples in Shanghai Port and reported that ship traffic contributed $0.63 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to $3.58 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (or 4.2 % to 12.8 %) of the total $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in Shanghai Port. Using half-hour aerosol time-of-flight mass spectrometer measurements, Liu et al. (2016b) estimated that the number concentrations of primary ship-emitted particles typically contributed 1.0 to 10.0 % of the measured

10 particles, with the contribution rising to as high as 50.0 % in spring and summer. Tao et al. (2016) reported that shipping emissions were among the top contributors to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in Guangzhou and Zhuhai, accounting for greater than 17% of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ mass concentrations. Using WRF-CMAQ, Chen et al. (2017b) estimated the contribution of shipping emissions to the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ mass concentrations in Qingdao is the highest in summer (13.1%) and the lowest in winter (1.5 %). Chen et al. (2019)

15 reported that ship traffic sources could contribute 4.0 % of annual $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ mass concentrations over the land area in YRD and the maximum could reach 35.0% in port region in 2014. However, the impacts of shipping emissions at varying distances from shore on air quality and potential human exposure, which are important when considering ECA policy, have not been rigorously studied.

The overall goal of this study was to characterize the spatial distribution of shipping-related emissions and their impacts on air quality and human exposure in the YRD and Shanghai for the

25 baseline year 2015, prior to the implementation of China's DECAs in 2016. For YRD region, we focused on shipping emissions in different offshore areas, while for Shanghai city, we studied individual ship-related sources in areas under the jurisdiction of Shanghai MSA. The impacts were evaluated for two different months, January and June, to represent seasonal differences. The results

30 of this study could be informative to the design of future emissions control areas for shipping and



its related sources in Shanghai/YRD.

2 Methodology

In this study, we first established a shipping emission inventory based on highly-resolved automatic identification system (AIS) data in 2015. Then, we used WRF-CMAQ model to evaluate the impacts on air quality from shipping emissions in different offshore coastal areas (within 12 NM including inland waters, 12-24 NM, 24-48 NM, 48-96 NM, and 96-200 NM) in the YRD region. The model domains were shown in Figure S1. Simulations were also conducted to estimate the influence of individual shipping-related sources (coastal ships, inland-water ships, container-cargo trucks, and port terminal equipment) on air quality in Shanghai. Finally, population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations attributable to shipping sources were calculated.

2.1 Study area and period

Figure 1 shows the geographic area and population density for the YRD and Shanghai, the location of 16 core cities of the YRD region, and 16 administrative districts within Shanghai city. The coastal cities in the YRD are Nantong, Shanghai, Jiaxing, Ningbo, Taichou, and Zhoushan.

The simulation network was developed for four domains at resolutions of 81 km × 81 km, 27 km × 27 km, 9 km × 9 km, and 1 km × 1 km, respectively (Fig. S1). Domain 1 covers East-Asia and part of south-east Asia. Nested domains 2, 3, and 4 cover a large part of East-China (2), the YRD region (3, including Jiangsu, Zhejiang, and Shanghai), and Shanghai with a finer resolution (4), respectively. The geographic scope for the YRD study area extended from 116.5 °E to 127 °E and 27 °N to 35 °N and included an offshore distance of approximately 200 NM. The Shanghai study area included from 120.5 °E to 122.3 °E and from 30.5 °N to 32 °N, where the water is within the jurisdiction of Shanghai MSA (up to about 12 NM from shore).

Two contrasting months in the year 2015, January and June, were selected to compare the seasonal effects. The highest shipping impacts were expected in June because shipping activity and emissions are higher in summer than at other times of year (Fan et al., 2016; Jalkanen et al., 2009) and prevailing winds from the summer monsoon are directed from the ocean to the shore. January was chosen as a contrasting period with prevailing winds away from shore.

2.2 Shipping emission inventories

2.2.1 Ship-related emission inventories

In this study, emission inventories were constructed based primarily on automatic identification



system (AIS) data for all ship traffic activity in the Shanghai and YRD geographic domains. AIS data includes international ships, coastal ships, and inland-water ships. Emissions from ships entering the geographic domains for YRD or Shanghai were calculated using the AIS-based model developed by Fan et al. (Fan et al., 2016). For Shanghai, estimates of emissions from those ships without AIS devices were supplemented by using 2015 vessel call data provided by Shanghai MSA and Shanghai Municipal MSA. The detailed method, assumptions and sources are provided in section S.1 of the supplemental materials. The actual speeds and operation times of the ships involved in the calculation can be obtained from AIS data with high accuracy, while the installed power of the main engine (ME), auxiliary engine (AE), and auxiliary boiler (AB) and the maximum speed of ships necessary to complete the estimates were obtained from Lloyd's register (Lloyds, 2009) and the China Classification Society database. Sources of emission factors, low load adjustment multipliers, and control factors are provided in section S.2. Values of these factors can be found in our earlier study (Fan et al., 2016). We assumed that the sulfur content of the fuel burned by the main engines was 2.7% for international coastal ships, and 1.5% for domestic coastal ships.

Within the Shanghai port domain, separate emissions inventories were developed to estimate the relative air quality impacts of coastal and inland-water and of ship-related container-cargo trucks transport and port terminal equipment (cranes, forklifts, and trucks used for internal transport). Many coastal ships operate in both the outer port and in the inner river region of Shanghai Port, which includes the Yangtze River, Huangpu River and other rivers in Shanghai. Consequently, a geographic boundary was used to divide the shipping emissions inventory based on AIS data into coastal and inland sources (see Figure 3c in which the black line denotes a division between coastal and inland shipping contributions to emissions).

Emissions from container-cargo trucks were estimated using International Vehicle Emission (IVE) model (Wang et al., 2008). The vehicular activity data was provided by the Shanghai Traffic Department. The emissions from port terminal equipment including the trucks in port were calculated based on fuel consumption for each part of the port. Given their smaller emissions relative to shipping and other non-port sources, emissions from container-cargo trucks and terminal equipment were combined and gridded at a resolution of 1 km × 1 km.

2.2.2 Non-shipping emission inventories

National and local YRD emission inventories were used for emissions from all other sources



(non-shipping). For the national scale domain, we used a 2015 national emission database at a 27 km × 27 km resolution that included 5 pollutants (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x and VOCs) and 14 source types (see Table S1 for details) (Fu et al., 2013). Since the national emission inventory database lacked data on CO and NH₃ emissions, which are compulsory inputs for CMAQ model, supplemental data on these pollutants were obtained from the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) database (at a 0.5° × 0.5° resolution). The Shanghai Academy of Environmental Sciences (SAES) provided the local YRD land-based emission inventory at a 4 km × 4 km resolution; it included 8 source types and 7 pollutants (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x, CO, VOCs and NH₃). Details are provided in Table S2.

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2.3 WRF-CMAQ model setup

The models used in this study were the Weather Research and Forecasting Model (WRF) version 3.3 and the Community Multiscale Air Quality (CMAQ) model version 4.6. The selected simulation periods were 1 January to 31 January and 1 June to 28 June, with 72 hours of spin-up time for each run. The initial and boundary conditions for meteorology were generated from the Chinese National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) Final Analysis (FNL) with resolution at 1° × 1° at six hour time intervals. Vertically, 27 sigma layers were set for the WRF simulation, and the results were then converted to the 24 layers required by CMAQ (version 4.6) using the MICP (Meteorology-Chemistry Interface Processor). CMAQ was configured to use the Carbon Bond mechanism (CB05) for gas-phase chemistry and the AERO4 aerosol module (Liu et al., 2016b).

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2.4 Simulations of source contribution to air quality

Individual source contributions to gridded ambient concentrations of air pollution were estimated as the difference between the concentrations simulated with all sources included and those with the individual source excluded. For the YRD region (domain 3), the simulation was conducted for ships within different boundaries from shore (12 NM, 12-24 NM, 24-48 NM, 48-96 NM and 96-200 NM). For the city of Shanghai, simulations were conducted for all ship-related sources in the water area under the jurisdiction of Shanghai MSA (within approximately 12 NM of shore), coastal and inland-water shipping (as defined geographically above), and container-cargo transport and port

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terminal equipment (combined). Details of each simulation can be found in Table S3.

2.5 Model evaluation

Performance of the models was spatially evaluated by comparison with monthly-average observations at monitoring stations (Fig. 2). Generally, the simulated results showed trends consistent with the observations, with increased concentrations of SO₂ and PM_{2.5} along the Yangtze River and in the urban areas. Also, daily-average observations from 53 monitoring stations in 16 core YRD cities were compared with daily-average simulated ambient SO₂ and PM_{2.5} concentrations. Normalized Mean Bias (NMB), Normalized Mean Error (NME), Root Mean-square Error (RMSE), and Pearson's correlation coefficient (*r*) were used to qualify the degree of deviation between the observed data and modeling results (Eder and Yu, 2007). Detail equations of the above statistical metrics are shown in section S.3. For each of the cities, the statistical metrics were calculated based on the average observed data and simulated results of the monitoring stations in the city, as shown in Table 1. For most cities, SO₂ and PM_{2.5} concentrations were underestimated to varying degrees, which NMB was in the range of -36% to -18% and -34% to 8%, respectively. The deviations between the simulation results and the monitoring data were mainly due to the uncertainties of emission inventories and some deficiencies of meteorological and air quality models.

2.6 Population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentration

To provide a better estimate of human exposure to shipping-related air pollution, this study estimated population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations for the 16 cities of YRD region and the 16 districts with Shanghai city. The population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentration of the given grid cell *i* is calculated based on Eq. (1) (Prasannavenkatesh et al., 2015):

$$\text{Population-weighted PM}_{2.5} \text{ concentration} = \sum_{i=1}^n (PM_i \times \frac{P_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n P_i}) \quad (1)$$

where, PM_i is defined as the PM_{2.5} concentration in the *i*th grid cell, P_i is the population in the *i*th grid value of, and n is the number of grid cells in the selected geographical area, for example city or region. Population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations are a better approximation of potential human exposure because they give proportionately greater weight to concentrations in areas where most people live.



3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Characteristics of shipping emissions

Based on the average emissions from January and June, we estimated 7.2×10^5 tons of annual SO₂ emissions from ships in China in 2015 (see Fig. 3a for the spatial pattern). Below, we discuss the quantity and other characteristics of primary emissions from ships in different offshore coastal areas in YRD regions (Section 3.1.1) and from different ship-related sources in Shanghai (3.1.2).

3.1.1 Shipping emissions in YRD region

Based on the AIS data of the whole year 2015, the annual emissions of SO₂, NO_x, and PM_{2.5} from shipping sectors in YRD region were estimated at 2.2×10^5 tons (one third of the value for China), 4.7×10^5 tons and 2.7×10^4 tons, respectively, which accounted for 7.4%, 11.7% and 1.3% of the total emissions from all sources in the YRD in 2015. The emission estimates of SO₂, NO_x, and PM_{2.5} were a bit lower than Fan et al.'s estimates for 2010 year and Chen et al.'s estimates for 2014 year due to the different temporal or spatial statistical scope (Chen et al., 2019; Fan et al., 2016). However, the proportion of ship SO₂ emissions of YRD region accounting for the whole China in this study is consistent with the 30%-37% in the other studies (Chen et al., 2017a; Chen et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2018b; Lv et al., 2018)

More than 60% of annual emissions of SO₂ from ships in the YRD occurred inland or within 12 NM of shore, where 75.0% of the NO_x emissions and 48.4% of the PM_{2.5} emissions from ships occurred (Table 2). Similar results were obtained in a study in the PRD in 2016 (Liu et al., 2018a). Our estimate of 1.3×10^5 tons of annual SO₂ emissions emitted by ships on inland waters or within 12 NM of shore was 47% higher than Liu et al.'s estimate of 8.83×10^4 tons. However, our estimate of average emission intensity of SO₂ within 12 NM of shore in the YRD was 0.66 ton/yr/km², much lower than Liu et al.'s estimate of 4.04 ton/yr/km². One explanation for the different results may be that the YRD has a longer coastline than the PRD which leads to larger total emissions but to lower intensity. Emissions occurring within 24-48 NM and 48-96 NM from shore were not negligible; annual SO₂ emissions in these two areas accounted for 11.4% and 14.9% of the total shipping emissions in the YRD, respectively. The spatial pattern of annual SO₂ emissions from ships varied



in different offshore coastal areas in the YRD (Fig. 3b). SO₂ emissions were also high at the intersection of Yangtze River and Huangpu River, between 24 and 48 NM from shore and in the north-south shipping lanes between 48 and 96 NM from shore.

3.1.2 Emissions from different ship-related sources in Shanghai

5 The annual emissions of SO₂, NO_x and PM_{2.5} from all ship-related sources within the administrative water area of Shanghai in 2015 were 4.9×10⁴ tons, 1.4×10⁵ tons and 6.5×10³ tons, respectively. The breakdown of emissions from individual sources in Shanghai are shown in Table 3. The emissions of SO₂, NO_x, and PM_{2.5} from inland-water ships and coastal ships accounted for the majority of primary emissions from all shipping related sources in Shanghai port, ranging from
10 72% for VOCs to about 99% for SO₂. The shipping emissions in Shanghai port were estimated to account for 23% of SO₂, 26% of NO_x and 23% of PM_{2.5} from total shipping emissions in YRD.

Emissions estimates from this study fall within the range of estimates from Fu et al.'s study conducted in 2010 for the same region. On the basis of shipping visa data, Fu et al. (2012) determined that the total amounts of SO₂, NO_x, and PM_{2.5} in the vicinity of Shanghai port in 2010
15 were 3.5 × 10⁴ ton/yr, 4.7 × 10⁴ ton/yr, and 3.7 × 10³ ton/yr, respectively, substantially lower than estimates in our study.

Within Shanghai, following the geographical division, inland-water ships were the most important ship-related source of emissions, accounting for 67% of SO₂, 66% of NO_x, 62% of PM_{2.5} and 57% of VOC emissions from all ship-related sources in Shanghai (Table 2). They comprised
20 about 12% of SO₂, 19% of NO_x, 4% of PM_{2.5} and 0.5% of VOC emissions from all pollution sources in Shanghai. Emissions of SO₂, NO_x, PM_{2.5} and VOCs from cargo trucks and port terminal equipment comprised a smaller percentage of emissions from all shipping related sources and particularly from all pollution sources so were therefore combined into one category in model simulation.

25 The spatial patterns of annual emissions from ship-related sources in Shanghai are shown using SO₂ as an example in Fig. 3c and Fig. 3d. SO₂ emissions from coastal ships were more prominent on the east-west shipping lanes and the vicinity of Yangshan port (Fig. 3c) while SO₂ emissions from inland water-going ships were significant concentrated along the Yangtze River and the



Huangpu River, which run through the center of Shanghai.

3.2 The impact of shipping emissions on air quality

3.2.1 Contribution to ambient concentrations of SO₂ and PM_{2.5} from all ships in YRD

5 On average, ships contributed 0.55 µg/m³ in January (Fig. 4a) and 0.73 µg/m³ in June (Fig. 4c) to the land ambient SO₂. The contribution of shipping emissions to the ambient monthly-average SO₂ concentration was higher in June 2015 than in January 2015 in the YRD region. The contribution from ships to land ambient SO₂ concentration peaked at 6.0 µg/m³ (24.3% of ambient SO₂) in January and 8.84 µg/m³ (69.7% of ambient SO₂ from all pollution sources) in June.

10 On average, ships contributed 0.36 µg/m³ in January (Fig. 4b) and 0.75 µg/m³ in June (Fig. 4d) to the ambient PM_{2.5} concentrations across the YRD. Similarly, the contribution of shipping emissions to ambient monthly-average PM_{2.5} concentrations was higher in June 2015 than in January 2015 in the YRD region. The contribution from ships to ambient PM_{2.5} concentration peaked at 1.84 µg/m³ (2.2% of the total ambient PM_{2.5} concentration from all pollution sources) in
15 January and 4.62 µg/m³ (18.9 % of total ambient PM_{2.5}) in June. The highest shipping contributions to PM_{2.5} were located near the Shanghai port.

The differences between January and June contributions of shipping to air quality mainly reflect differences in meteorology. The summer monsoon winds in June flow from the sea toward and, transporting shipping emissions inland in June whereas the winter monsoon winds in January
20 transport shipping emissions out to sea. Differences in shipping emissions did not explain the different results for January and June. Monthly shipping emissions in YRD were 1.9 × 10⁴ tons of SO₂ and 2.3 × 10³ tons of PM_{2.5} in January and 1.8 × 10⁴ tons of SO₂ and 2.3 × 10³ tons of PM_{2.5} in June.

3.2.2 The influence of different offshore coastal areas in YRD on air quality

25 Shipping emissions on inland waters or within 12 NM of shore accounted for 30% to 85% of the total air quality impacts of ships within 200 NM of shore in January and June 2015, respectively (Fig. 5). These results are similar to those of Lv et al. (2018) who reported that shipping emissions within 12 NM of shore contributed 30% to 90% of the PM_{2.5} induced by emissions within 200 NM.



On average, ships contributed $0.24 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to the ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in January (Fig.5a) and $0.56 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations in June (Fig.5f). Peak contributions were $1.62 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in January and $4.02 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in June, respectively. The average and peak contributions from the shipping emissions in specific offshore coastal areas to the ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations on shore for the two months are listed in Table S4.

Shipping emissions at distances of 12-24 NM, 24-48 NM and 48-96 NM from shore contributed on average $0.01\text{-}0.07 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to the ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations. Peak contributions of shipping emissions from areas beyond 12 NM ranged from $0.05 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (12-24 NM) to $0.14 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (48-96 NM) in January (Fig. 5b-d); the peak influence was higher in June and ranged from $0.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (12-24 NM) to $0.34 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (24-48 NM) (Fig. 5g-i). In the YRD region, shipping emissions on inland waters or within 12 NM of shore had larger contributions to ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ than did more distant ships (Fig. 5). However, the busy north-south shipping lanes in the distant region from shore also impacted ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations. Shipping emissions from 96 to 200 NM from shore had little impact on air quality over land and contributed less than $0.05 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (or 3% of the ship-related contribution) to the ambient land $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ (Fig. 5e and Fig. 5i).

The cumulative contributions to ambient SO_2 concentrations in the 16 core YRD cities from ships at different distances from shore in January and June 2015 differed from $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ results (Fig. 6). In both January (Fig. 6a) and June (Fig. 6c), shipping emissions within 12 NM accounted for at least 78% of the ship-related contribution to ambient SO_2 concentrations in these cities. Shipping emissions beyond 12 NM had limited contribution to SO_2 concentrations in 16 core YRD cities, which may be attributed to the quicker chemical reaction and shorter lifetime of SO_2 (Junkermann and Roedel, 1983).

In contrast to SO_2 , the cumulative contributions to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in the 16 core YRD cities from ships at different distances from shore showed greater differences in January and June 2015. In January, the relative contributions of ships inland or within 12 NM of shore to ship-related $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations ranged from 78.7% in Zhoushan, which were mostly influenced by the closest shipping emissions, to 26.3% in Yangzhou (Fig. 6b). In June, the relative contributions of ships inland or within 12 NM of shore to all $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ emissions from ships ranged from 85.2% in Nanjing to 54.6% in Taizhou (Fig. 6d). Therefore, in both months, shipping emissions within 12 NM were a major contributor to ship-related $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations in most of core YRD cities. Although busy



north-south shipping lanes 24-96 NM from shore contributed little SO₂ concentrations to YRD cities, shipping emissions from this area contributed 12% to 39% of ship-related PM_{2.5} concentrations in YRD cities. Of PM_{2.5} in YRD cities contributed by ships within 200 NM of shore, 97% is accounted for by shipping emissions within 96 NM of shore.

5 3.2.3 The influence of different ship-related sources in Shanghai port on air quality

The impact of shipping-related sources on city-scale air quality in Shanghai was significant, and the dominant sources of shipping-related emissions (i.e., coastal ships, inland-water ships, and other shipping-related sources) varied depending on the season and their locations relative to cities (Figure 7). Inland-water ships had a larger influence on areas within Shanghai near the Yangtze River and Huangpu River. Inland-water ships contributed on average 0.24 µg/m³ in January (Fig.7a) and 0.37 µg/m³ in June (Fig.7d) to ambient PM_{2.5}, and accounted for 40% to 80% of all PM_{2.5} from ship-related sources. The inland-water ships had their large influence in areas near the cross section of Yangtze River and Huangpu River, where their contributions to ambient PM_{2.5} peaked at 1.87 µg/m³ in January and 2.67 µg/m³ in June (Fig.7a and Fig. 7d). Coastal ships contributed on average 0.02 µg/m³ in January and 0.30 µg/m³ in June to ambient land PM_{2.5} concentrations. Peak contributions of coastal ships to ambient PM_{2.5} were 0.1 µg/m³ in January (Fig.7b) and 0.71 µg/m³ in June (Fig.7e). The impact of coastal ships was much smaller in January than in June due to meteorological reasons described earlier. Container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment contributed on average 0.15 µg/m³ in January (Fig.7c) and 0.12 µg/m³ in June (Fig.7f) to ambient PM_{2.5} concentrations, and accounted for 10 to 45% of PM_{2.5} from shipping-related sources. Peak contributions of container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment were 2.14 µg/m³ in January and 1.40 µg/m³ in June. The slightly larger contribution of container-cargo trucks and terminal equipment to PM_{2.5} concentrations was mainly because the lower wind speed in winter hindered the dispersion of pollutants. Although the contributions of container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment to ambient PM_{2.5} were generally lower than the contributions of ships, these other shipping-related sources were still important in both winter and summer due to their impact on air quality near the Shanghai city center.

3.3 Population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations



3.3.1 Influence of different offshore coastal areas in YRD on population-weighted PM_{2.5}

Population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations in the YRD from shipping-related sources were larger in June (0.4 µg/m³ to 2.6 µg/m³ in June; Fig. 8d) than in January (0.1 µg/m³ to 1.2 µg/m³; Fig. 8b). This is in contrast to population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations from all pollution sources, which were higher in January (33.1 µg/m³ to 80.2 µg/m³; Fig. 8a) than in June (9.5 µg/m³ to 48.4 µg/m³; Fig. 8c). Of the 16 core YRD cities, the highest ship-related population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations were found for Shanghai in June (2.6 µg/m³), 1.5 times higher than the second-highest city Nantong (1.7 µg/m³). The six cities in the YRD with the largest contributions of PM_{2.5} from shipping sources were all coastal cities, which suggests as expected that people living in coastal regions would have higher exposures to air pollution from shipping-related sources than people living in farther inland, especially during the summer monsoon.

Taking the population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations from all shipping sources within 200NM as the base, the shipping, both in inland waters and within 12NM of shore, was a major contributor to population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations in 16 YRD cities; they accounted for 52.9% to 82.7%. The Population-weighted PM_{2.5} concentrations from shipping within 12-24NM from shore were much smaller, accounting for 2.5% to 6.6%. But shipping emissions in the area 24-48 NM accounted for 6.8% to 11.5% and ships 48-96 NM from shore accounted for 6.3% to 31.6%. These contributions in greater distance were larger than the contribution from ships in 12-24 NM from shore, probably because the busier shipping lanes fall within the more remote areas like 24-48 NM from shore. Therefore, although shipping inland and within 12 NM of shore was the dominant contributor to potential population exposure to PM_{2.5}, ships as far as 24-96 NM could also be important.

3.2.3 The influence of different ship-related sources in Shanghai port on potential exposure

Of the shipping-related sources in Shanghai, inland-water ships were the largest contributors to both PM_{2.5} and population-weighted PM_{2.5} (Fig. 9b). The population-weighted PM_{2.5} in January was 0.38 µg/m³ from inland-water ships (Fig. 9a). In June, the population-weighted PM_{2.5} from inland-water ships contributed reached 0.57 µg/m³ because the region near the Huangpu River and Yangtze River had a high population where inland-water ships contributed high levels of PM_{2.5} (Fig.



9b). In contrast, coastal ships contributed $0.27 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment contributed only $0.14 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in June. Population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from shipping sectors in January were lower than those in June, while population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment was slightly higher. In both June and
5 January, population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations from ship-related sources were larger than the average $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations from ship-related sources because the population was denser in the areas most highly influenced by shipping-related sources (Fig. 9a and 9b). The difference between average $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration and population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration was largest for inland-water ships, which contributed two times more population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration than the
10 average $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration.

Population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations were not evenly distributed among the 16 administrative districts in Shanghai. The population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from all pollution sources ranged from $44.8 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to $124.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in January (Fig. 9c) and $23.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to $67.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in June (and Fig. 9g). Heavy motor vehicle traffic probably contributed to higher population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$
15 in the city center (Huangpu, Jingan and Hongkou).

Areas in the city center had high population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from inland-water ships because of the combination of dense population and location close to Huangpu River (Fig. 9d and Fig. 9h). Among them, Baoshan and Yangpu had the highest population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations from inland-water ships (both around $1.31 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in June. Besides, in June, population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$
20 from coastal ships ranged from $0.17 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to $0.40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and the coastal district (Fengxian) suffered the largest impacts. Transport of emissions by the summer monsoon caused impacts on population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ not only in coastal districts but also in the highly populated city center. As for population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ caused by container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment, Baoshan had the highest population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in both January ($0.4 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and June ($0.45 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) due
25 to its high population and location close to the source (Fig. 9f and 9j).

4 Conclusions

As the major economic and shipping center in China, the YRD, and in particular Shanghai, experiences high emissions of shipping-related pollutants that result in significant contributions to



ambient and population-weighted air pollutant concentrations. Our results showed that on average in 2015 ships contributed $0.75 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to the ambient land $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in YRD, with a peak of $4.62 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (18.9% of the total ambient $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration from all pollution sources) near Shanghai Port. The shipping emissions affecting air quality in the YRD were mainly within 12 NM of shore (over 75% for ship-related SO_2 and 50% for ship-related $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations) but emissions coming from 24 to 96 nm offshore also contributed substantially to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations in the YRD under the transport of summer monsoon. The megacities of Shanghai and Nantong had the highest ship-related population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations from the combination of high population density and high shipping emissions. In Shanghai, the inland-water ships contributed a majority (40-80%) of the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from shipping-related sources; inland-water ships also contributed prominently to population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in several districts in Shanghai. These study results on contributions of ships at different distances from shore in the YRD and shipping-related sources in and near Shanghai to ambient air quality and population-weighted $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ could inform future ECA policies. Ship fuel and emissions standards for both coastal and inland-water ships may be important because both have influence on local air quality and human exposures.

Author contribution

YZ and KW conceived the study and made a roadmap for organizing this paper. JF did the air quality simulation and wrote the manuscript. SL ran the shipping emission inventory model. JM ran the WRF model. YZ and CH provided port-related emission inventory. CL and HK provided roadmap for human exposure analysis. AP and WM provided constructive comments in analyzing data. JA and LL provided local-scale land-based emission inventory. YS and JL provided river shipping emission data. XW and QF provided monitoring data. SW and DD provided national land-based emission inventory. JC, WG, and HZ provided container cargo-car traffic emission inventory.

Acknowledgement

This research work was partly supported by the National Key Research and Development Program of China (grant no. 2016YFA060130X) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (21677038). Katherine Walker and Allison Patton give their thanks to the Bloomberg



Foundation. The authors wish to thank Noelle Selin and Freda Fung for providing valuable advice. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not reflect the view of Fudan University, Shanghai Academy of Environmental Science, Shanghai Environmental Monitoring Center, Tsinghua University, Shanghai Urban-rural Construction and Transportation Development
5 Research Institute, or the Health Effects Institute or its sponsors, nor do they necessarily reflect the views and policies of the EPA or motor vehicle and engine manufacturers.

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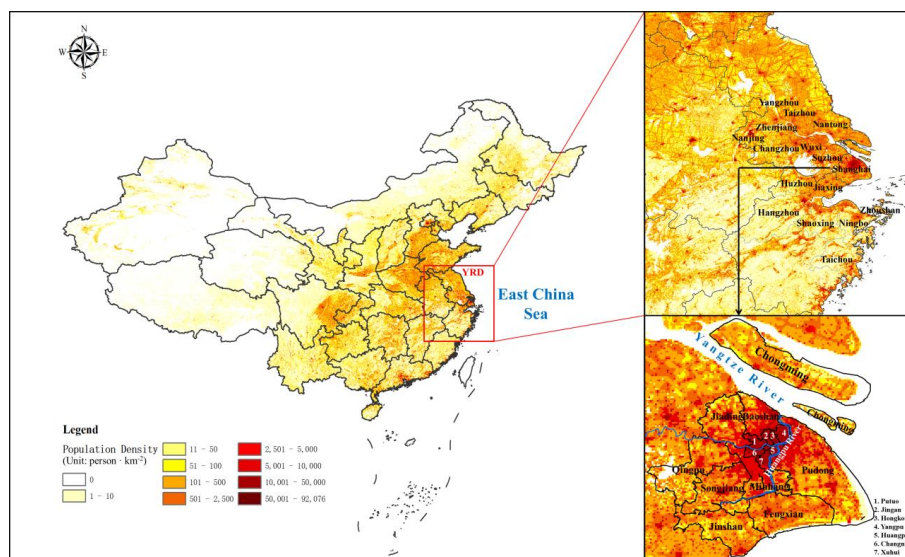
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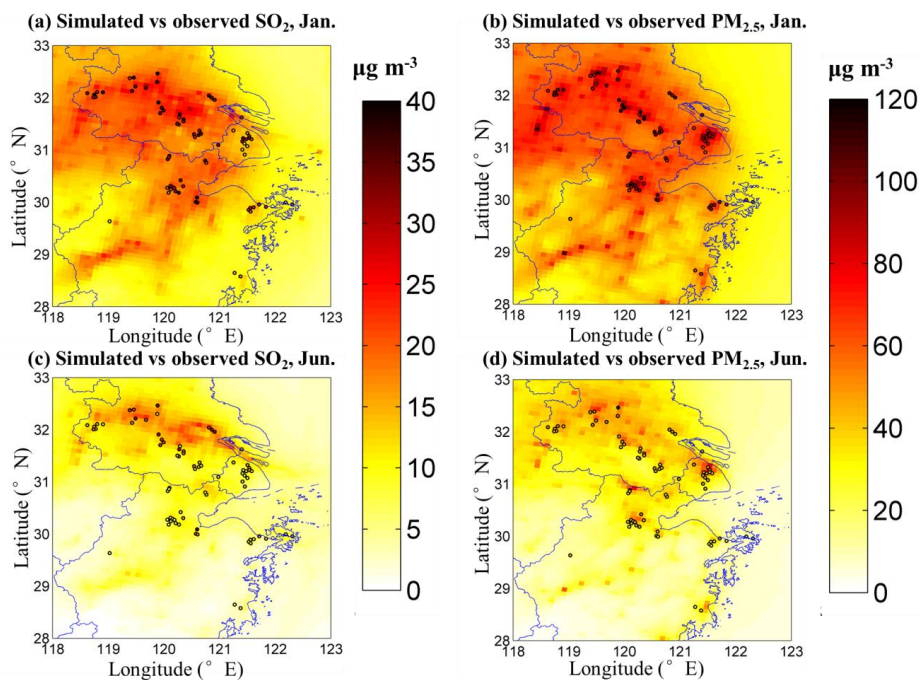


Figure 2. The simulated (grid) and observed (circles) SO₂ concentration distribution in YRD region, in January 2015 (a) and June 2015 (c); the simulated (grid) and observed (circles) PM_{2.5} concentration distribution in YRD region, in January 2015 (b) and June 2015 (d)

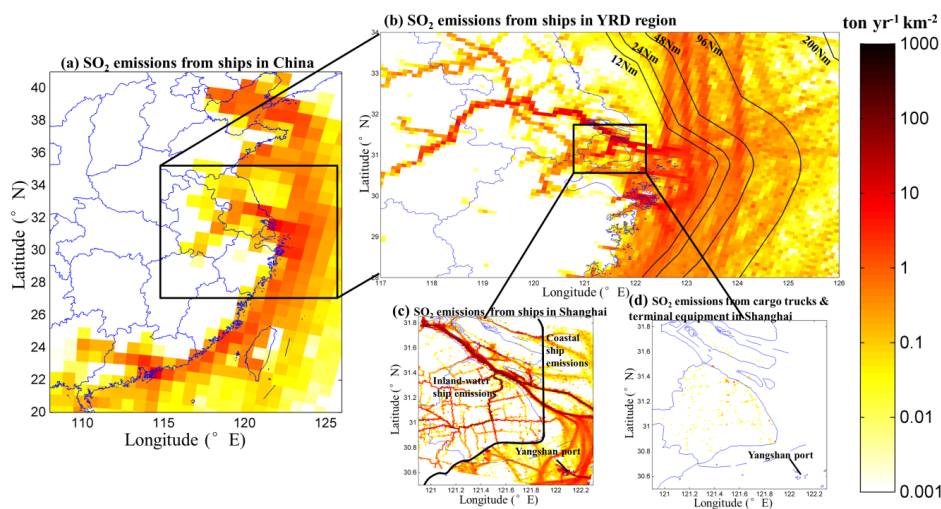


Figure 3. SO₂ emissions in 2015 from (a) shipping traffic in China (the average value of January and June) at resolution of 81km × 81km; (b) ships in different offshore coastal areas (inland-water and within 12 NM, 12-24 NM, 24-48 NM, 48-96 NM and 96-200 NM) in the YRD region, at resolution of 9km × 9km; (c) inland-water ships and coastal ships in Shanghai, at resolution of 1km × 1km; and (d) container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment in Shanghai, at resolution of 1km × 1km. The black line in (c) refers to the division line between the inland water and coastal water for Megacity Shanghai defined in this study.

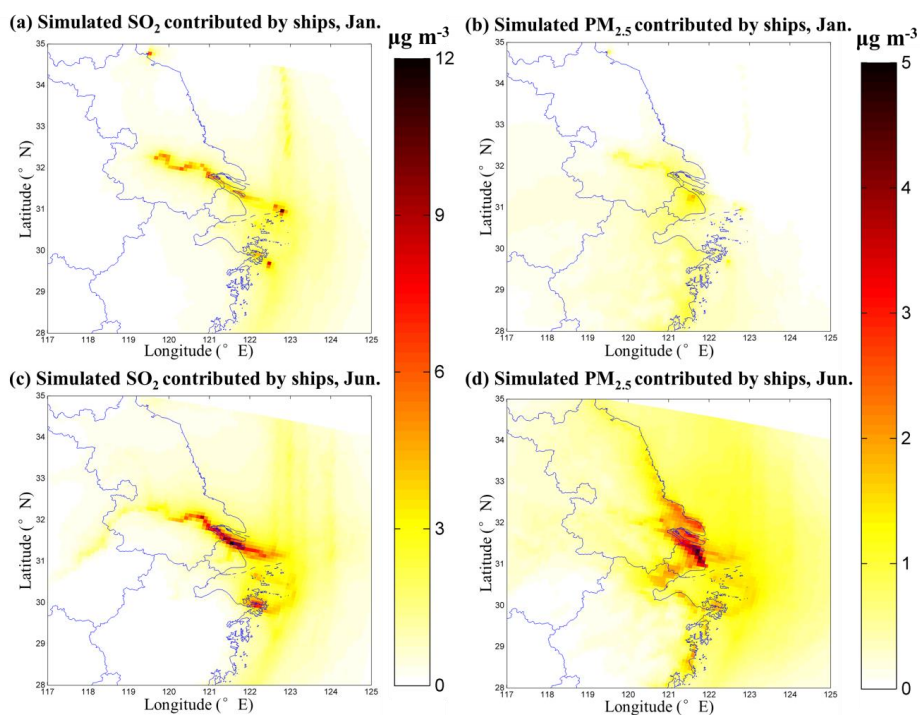
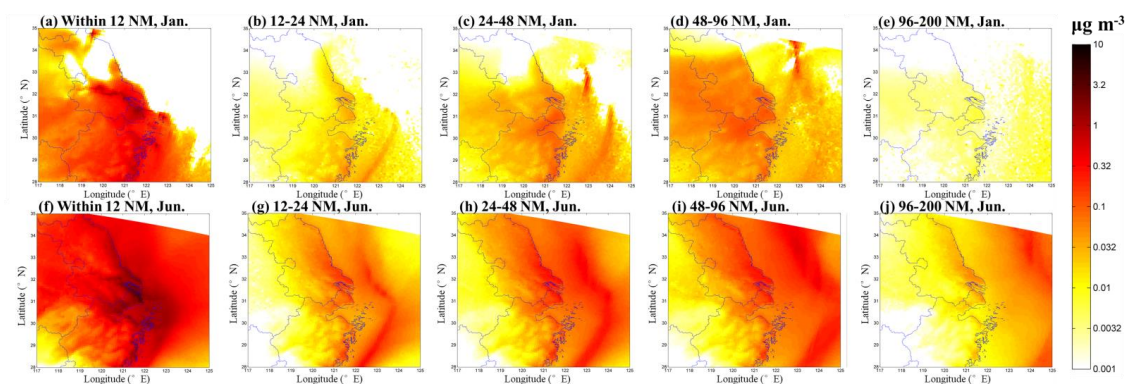


Figure 4 Simulated SO_2 (a, c) and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ (b, d) concentrations contributed by shipping traffic sources in YRD region, in January 2015 (a, b) and June 2015 (c, d)



5 Figure 5. Contributions to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations from shipping emissions at distances within 12 NM of shore (including inland-waters) (a, f), 12 to 24 NM from shore (b, g), 24 to 48 NM from shore (c, h), 48 to 96 NM from shore (d, i) and 96 to 200 NM from shore in January 2015 (a-e) and in June 2015 (f-j).

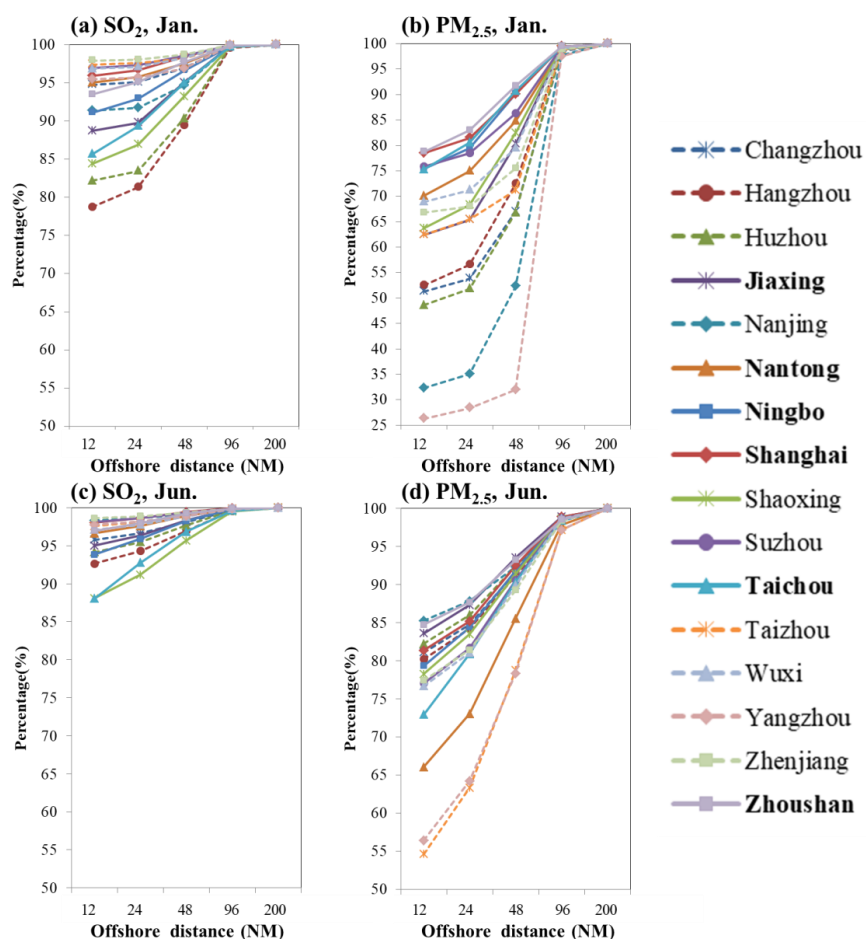


Figure 6. Cumulative contributions of shipping emissions in the YRD at distances within 12 NM of shore (including inland-waters), 24 NM from shore, 48 NM from shore, 96 NM from shore, and 200 NM from shore to PM_{2.5} concentrations (a, c) and SO₂ concentrations (b, d) in January 2015 (a, b) and in June 2015 (c, d). Names of Coastal cities are bold in the legend.

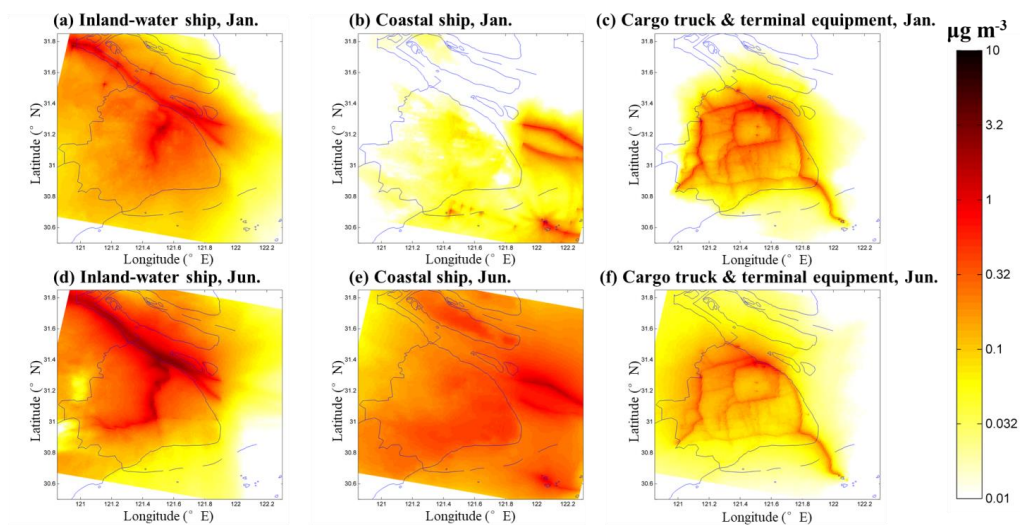


Figure 7. Contributions to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations from inland-water ships (a, d), coastal ships (b, e) and container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment (c, f) in January 2015 (a-c) and June 2015 (d-f).

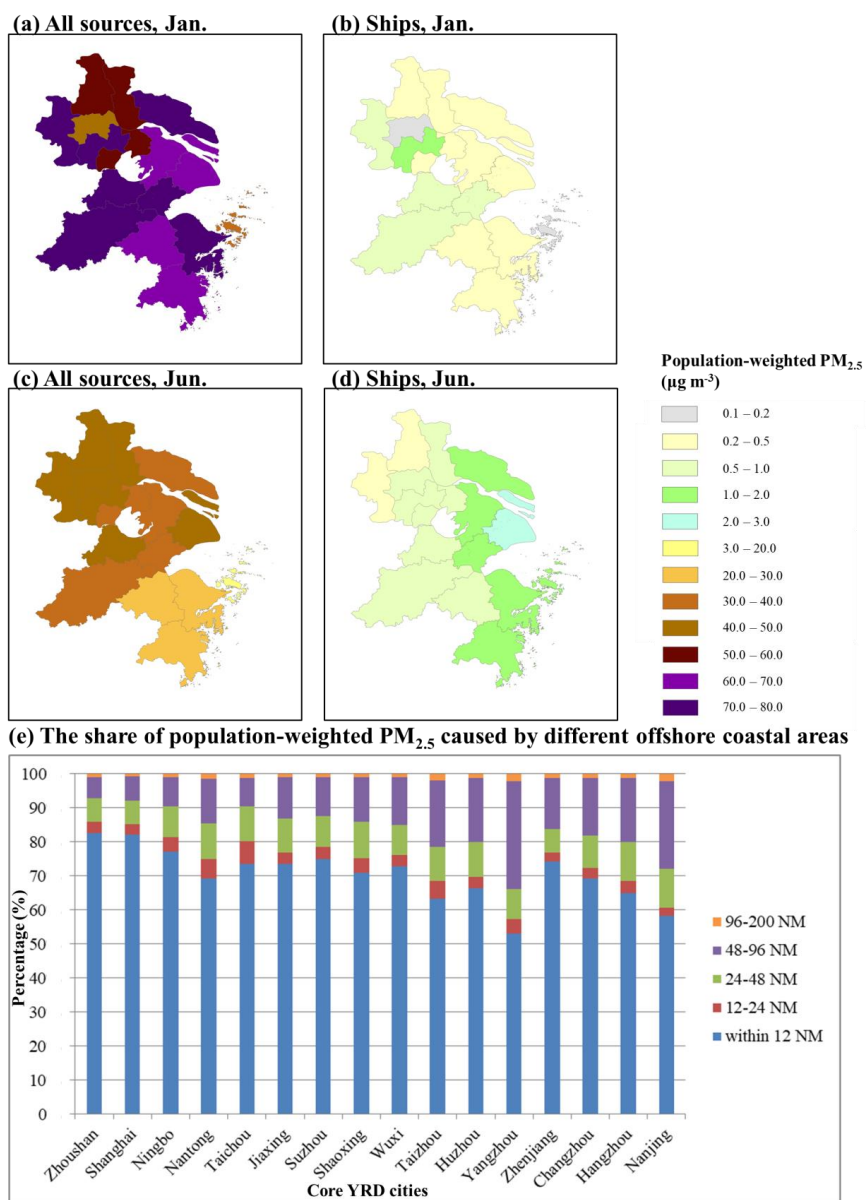


Figure 8. The spatial distribution of population-weighted $PM_{2.5}$ in 16 YRD cities caused by all pollution sources (a, c) and by all ships (b, d) in January 2015 (a, b) and June 2015 (c, d); the average share of population-weighted $PM_{2.5}$ in 16 YRD cities caused by different offshore coastal areas in all ships. The cities' names are ordered by their distance to the coast.

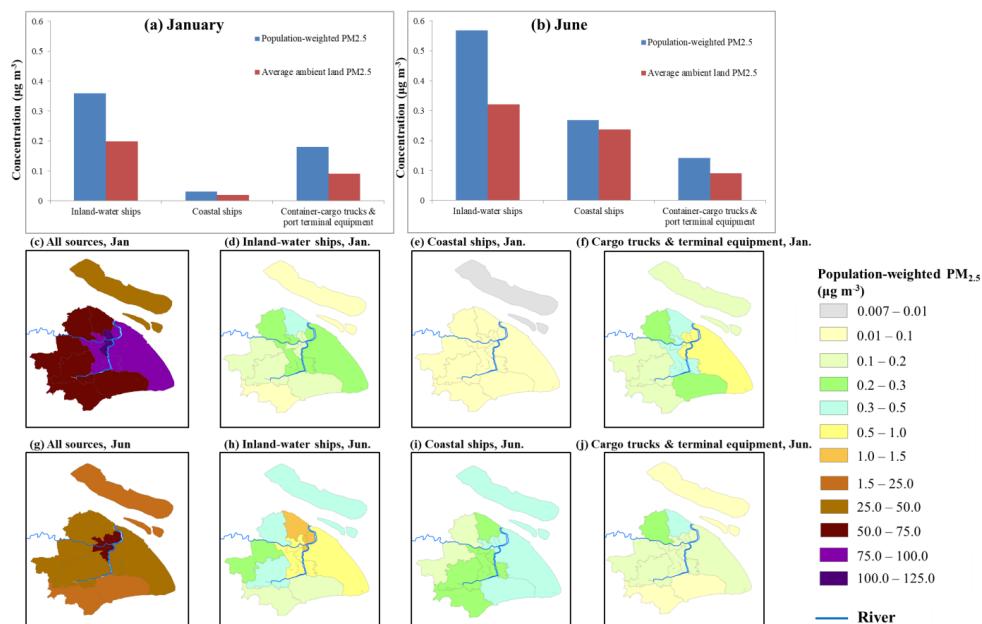


Figure 9. Population-weighted PM_{2.5} and average PM_{2.5} caused by different ship-related sources in Shanghai, in January(a) and in June (b); population-weighted PM_{2.5} caused by all pollution sources (c, g), inland-water ships (d, h), coastal ships (e, i) and container-cargo trucks and port terminal equipment (f, j) in 16 districts in Shanghai, in 5 January 2015(c-f) and June 2015 (g-j).



Table 1 Statistical metrics of the model evaluation

City	SO ₂						PM _{2.5}					
	Obs.	Sim.	NMB (%)	NME (%)	RMSE (µg m ⁻³)	<i>r</i>	Obs.	Sim.	NMB (%)	NME (%)	RMSE (µg m ⁻³)	<i>r</i>
Changzhou	31.24	20.14	-35.55	40.85	15.79	0.80	74.21	68.27	-8.01	32.51	31.99	0.76
Hangzhou	16.84	13.75	-18.35	28.74	6.77	0.83	59.35	56.96	-4.03	28.21	22.05	0.75
Huzhou	19.25	14.73	-23.52	38.81	11.45	0.80	65.13	70.50	8.25	45.60	39.17	0.47
Jiaxing	25.37	16.84	-33.67	50.58	17.31	0.75	61.31	57.01	-7.02	33.98	29.96	0.65
Nanjing	22.39	16.38	-20.60	26.50	10.13	0.76	68.20	55.71	-14.06	27.80	32.30	0.60
Nantong	32.73	22.05	-32.66	49.69	23.21	0.70	68.69	51.15	-25.54	39.27	37.23	0.69
Ningbo	16.20	10.47	-35.42	42.01	7.64	0.83	55.47	48.06	-13.37	34.51	28.49	0.75
Shanghai	19.16	12.32	-35.72	40.23	10.72	0.83	63.64	67.77	6.50	36.18	28.71	0.75
Shaoxing	22.47	14.63	-34.91	40.03	10.36	0.80	61.90	56.86	-8.15	34.06	27.21	0.70
Suzhou	21.37	15.16	-29.09	37.26	10.39	0.85	67.11	56.45	-15.89	33.41	28.76	0.76
Taichou	10.72	7.55	-29.64	34.07	5.25	0.80	47.55	43.69	-8.11	35.35	24.09	0.52
Taizhou	29.64	20.84	-29.70	61.53	22.63	0.67	74.56	62.82	-15.75	31.75	33.49	0.63
Wuxi	24.64	18.89	-23.35	30.85	10.58	0.87	73.45	59.36	-19.20	31.80	30.92	0.77
Yangzhou	25.78	18.75	-27.31	44.22	15.17	0.62	62.30	60.12	-3.50	46.10	37.08	0.57
Zhenjiang	29.65	21.50	-27.51	39.49	16.23	0.61	67.78	62.61	-7.63	33.88	30.31	0.59
Zhoushan	9.99	8.04	-19.60	40.42	6.73	0.64	30.13	19.81	-34.28	49.15	16.82	0.78


 Table 2. Primary emission, emission share and density from shipping at different boundaries in YRD region^a in 2015

		Within	12-24	24-48	48-96	96-200
Pollutants		12 NM	NM	NM	NM	NM
Shipping emission inventory (ton)	SO ₂	1.3 × 10 ⁵	1.4 × 10 ⁴	2.5 × 10 ⁴	3.2 × 10 ⁴	1.3 × 10 ⁴
	NO _x	3.6 × 10 ⁵	2.0 × 10 ⁴	3.5 × 10 ⁴	4.5 × 10 ⁴	1.8 × 10 ⁴
	PM _{2.5}	1.3 × 10 ⁴	2.4 × 10 ³	4.5 × 10 ³	5.4 × 10 ³	1.5 × 10 ³
	VOC _s	7.9 × 10 ³	8.3 × 10 ²	1.3 × 10 ³	1.5 × 10 ³	3.0 × 10 ²
Emission share in all shipping emission (%)	SO ₂	61.4	6.4	11.4	14.9	5.8
	NO _x	75.0	4.1	7.4	9.6	3.9
	PM _{2.5}	48.4	9.0	16.9	20.2	5.5
	VOC _s	66.6	7.0	11.2	12.6	2.6
Emission density (ton/yr/km ²)	SO ₂	0.66	0.54	0.49	0.33	0.06
	NO _x	1.74	0.86	0.77	0.51	0.08
	PM _{2.5}	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.01
	VOC	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.001

a. domain 3

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 Table 3. Primary emission inventories for all ship-related sources in Shanghai^a in 2015

Ship-related source		SO ₂	NO _x	PM _{2.5}	VOC
Emission inventory (ton/yr)	Inland-water ships ^b	3.3 × 10 ⁴	9.2 × 10 ⁴	0.40 × 10 ⁴	0.27 × 10 ⁴
	Coastal ships ^c	1.6 × 10 ⁴	2.9 × 10 ⁴	0.18 × 10 ⁴	0.067 × 10 ⁴
	Container-cargo trucks	0.0	1.8 × 10 ⁴	0.064 × 10 ⁴	0.11 × 10 ⁴
	Port terminal equipment ^d	0.0021 × 10 ⁴	0.18 × 10 ⁴	0.0057 × 10 ⁴	0.022 × 10 ⁴
Emission share in all pollution sources in Shanghai (%)	Inland-water ships	11.8	18.7	3.6	0.5
	Coastal ships	5.6	5.8	1.6	0.1
	Container-cargo trucks	0.0	3.7	0.6	0.2
	Port terminal equipment	0.01	0.36	0.05	0.04

a. domain 4

b. defined as ships operate in both the outer port and in the inner river region of

 10 Shanghai Port, which include Yangtze River, Huangpu River and other river ways in
 Shanghai

c. includes China coastal and international ships

d. includes cranes and forklifts used for internal transport