

## **Main revisions and response to reviewers' comments**

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Title: Quantification and evaluation of atmospheric pollutant emissions from open biomass burning with multiple methods: A case study for Yangtze River Delta region, China

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We thank very much for the valuable comments and suggestions from the two reviewers, which help us improve our manuscript. The comments were carefully considered and revisions have been made in response to suggestions. Following is our point-by-point responses to the comments and corresponding revisions.

### **Reviewer #1**

*1. General comments: This manuscript presents a very comprehensive study of historical trend of OBB emissions in YRD. I am very impressed by the large amounts of work done in this study. The presentation is also of high quality, and the structure is well organized. The constraining method is a little bit weak, but makes the story complete. I would suggest the authors improve the constraining method in future studies. The authors have acknowledged the weakness, which is great. I only have very minor comment for improvements. For constraining method, the correction is based on the comparisons of PM10, and the correction factor was applied to all other species. The authors should acknowledge this limitation in the method section.*

### **Response and revisions:**

We appreciate the reviewer's positive remarks on our manuscript. We thank the reviewer's suggestion and will improve the constraining method in future studies

from following aspects. The method can be improved incorporating the observed ambient concentrations of multiple pollutants (e.g., PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, OC and EC) if those concentrations with sufficient temporal and spatial resolution get available. Improvement on the results of constraining method can be expected if more reliable emission factors of biomass burning and improved and the emissions of other sources are obtained and applied in the study. For constraining method, the correction of activity level was based on the comparison between simulated and observed PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations, and the emissions of other species were then revised according to the changed activity level. In this method, the emission estimation of other species depends largely on the reliability of emission factors for PM<sub>10</sub> and those species. Large uncertainty may exist due to lack of sufficient domestic measurements. We take the reviewer's suggestion and acknowledge this limitation in the method section. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 258-264 of Page 9 in the revised manuscript.**

## **Reviewer #2**

*1. This manuscript estimates the air pollutant emissions from open biomass burning(OBB) in Yangtze River Delta for 2005-2015 using traditional bottom-up, fire radiative power (FRP)-based, and constraining approaches, and analyzed the differences between those methods and their underlying reasons. The manuscript is generally well written. However, there are still some issues in the manuscript which authors shall pay attention to. So the paper cannot be accepted for publication before authors address the following comments.*

## **Response and revisions:**

We appreciate the reviewer's crucial and important comments. In general, the presentation of the work has been improved, based on specific comments/suggestion from the reviewer. Same emission factors as bottom-up method were applied to estimate the OBB emissions for 2010 based on FRP-based method, and the results

were compared with those based on bottom-up method. Both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations were used to evaluate the model performance and to analyze the contribution of OBB in June 7-13, 2014. The benchmarks of the evaluation for model performance and meteorological parameters were added in Table 2 and Table S6 in the supplement. We also take the reviewer's suggestion and provide the monthly variations of fire occurrence for other years in Figure S3 in the supplement. Details follow.

*2. As shown in Table S1 and Table S4, the authors use different emission factors for OBB in bottom-up method and FRP-based method. I suggest same emission factors shall be used for both methods. This is why that for most air pollutants, emissions estimated by bottom-up method is higher than that by FRP-based but the emissions of NMVOC and NH<sub>3</sub> from bottom-up method is much lower than that by FRP-based method.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. In the bottom-up method, the masses of crop residues burned in the field (CRBF) for different crop species could be obtained, therefore the emission factors for different crop types were usually used. However, the masses of CRBF for different crop species in FRP-based method could not be obtained, and the emission factors based on burned area or fire radiative power (BA or FRP method) by other researchers (van der Werf et al., 2010, Kaiser et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2015; Randerson et al., 2018) were applied, ignoring the difference between crop types. In order to know the differences between the OBB emissions based on FRP-based and bottom-up methods with same emission factors, we followed the reviewer's comment and made an extra case: the emission factors applied in the bottom-up method were weighted with the masses of various crop types and used to estimate the OBB emissions for 2010 with the FRP-based method. The estimated OBB emissions (FRP-based (WSE)) were compared with the emissions based on

bottom-up method as shown in Table 3. The OBB emissions for all species in FRP-based (WSE) were smaller than those derived by bottom-up method. The differences in OBB emissions between bottom-up and FRP-based (WSE) method were larger than 50% of those between the bottom-up and the original FRP-based method with different emission factors for most species. It indicated that the discrepancy in activity level contributed the most to the difference in OBB emissions between bottom-up and FRP-based method. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 200-205 of Page 7 and lines 553-559 of Page 18 in the revised manuscript.**

*3. The spatial resolutions of the two domains were set at 27 and 9 km respectively. 9km is kind of coarse resolution. How does this spatial resolution affect the CMAQ modeling results? Will you get a better model performance if you use a 3km resolution?*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. The model performance largely depends on the reliability of emission inventories. The emissions of other sources in this study were obtained from the downscaled the Multi resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC) with an original spatial resolution of  $0.25^{\circ} \times 0.25^{\circ}$ . The model performance with a finer resolution might not necessarily be better since the emissions were probably not distributed in the correct grids in finer resolution with a simple spatial interpolation (Zheng et al., 2017). Improvement on emission inventory with the underlying data carefully compiled and analyzed is important to achieve better model performance with high-resolution chemistry transport modeling. Our previous study by Zhou et al. (2017) evaluated the downscaled MEIC and improved local emission inventory with CMAQ modeling at a 3 km resolution in southern Jiangsu of Yangtze River Delta (YRD), and found the model performance was better for the latter inventory. Once the emission inventory of all the anthropogenic sources get improved for the whole YRD region, therefore, a better model performance with high-resolution modeling (e.g., 3km) can be expected.

4. Considering that the PM emissions from OBB are mainly  $PM_{2.5}$ , and the ambient  $PM_{10}$  is more affected by the local road dust emissions, it is not appropriate to only use  $PM_{10}$  concentration to evaluate the model performance and analyze the contribution of OBB. I think authors shall use both  $PM_{10}$ ,  $PM_{2.5}$ , CO,  $NO_2$ ,  $SO_2$ , OC, EC to do the model evaluation. At least  $PM_{2.5}$  shall be included considering that most Chinese cities release  $PM_{2.5}$  hourly concentrations since 2013. Although authors give a couple of figures in SI, this is not enough. Specifically, the correction based on the comparisons of  $PM_{10}$  cannot be used for all other species.

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. We agree with the reviewer that observation of more relevant species should ideally be included in the constraining method and evaluation of OBB emissions. However, the most and the second most fire counts were found for YRD region in 2012 and 2010 from 2005 to 2015, while the concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$ , CO,  $NO_2$ , and  $SO_2$  were unavailable before 2013. The largest daily mass ratio of  $PM_{2.5}$  to  $PM_{10}$  could reach 91.3% in Nanjing during the OBB event of 2012 and 77.2% in Lianyungang during the event of 2014. The contribution of OBB to  $PM_{10}$  estimated in this study was 37% in YRD and 55% in Anhui province during OBB period in June 2012. The OBB could thus be identified as an important source of  $PM_{10}$  during the OBB event periods as well. Therefore, we used  $PM_{10}$  concentration to evaluate the model performance and analyze the contribution of OBB in 2010 and 2012. Compared to  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$ , OBB was not a major source of  $NO_2$  and  $SO_2$ , and the OC and EC concentrations were still unavailable at present as they were not considered as regulated pollutants in China. In this case, we followed the reviewer's suggestion and applied both  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations to evaluate the model performance and analyze the contribution of OBB in June 7-13, 2014. Similar to 2010 and 2012, the NMBs and NMEs between observed and simulated particle concentrations with constrained OBB emissions were smaller than most of those without OBB emissions or with OBB emissions based on FRP-based. **Corresponding**

**revision was shown in lines 459-475 of Page 15 and 490-498 of Page 16 in the revised manuscript.** The average contributions of OBB to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> during June 7-13, 2014 were estimated at 29% and 23% for 22 cities in YRD. It again suggested that the OBB was an important source of both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> during OBB event. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 587-593 and lines 605-607 of Page 19 in the revised manuscript.**

We also admitted the limitation of constrained method, as our response to Question 1 of Reviewer 1. We agree with the reviewer that the concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> or OC were more suitable for constraining OBB emissions. However, the data were unavailable before 2013, particularly for 2010 and 2012 with the most and the second most fire counts detected by satellite. As OBB was an important source of PM<sub>10</sub> as well, we had to apply PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations to constrain the OBB emissions. The activity level was constrained based on the comparisons between simulated and observed PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations, and the OBB emissions of other species were revised according to the changed activity level. The reliability of emissions for other species depended largely on the accuracy of emission factors for PM<sub>10</sub> and those species. Uncertainties would be introduced to the emission estimation, resulting from lack of sufficient and qualified domestic field tests on OBB emission factors. We admit this limitation in the method section, and improvement can be expected with more measurements on concentrations of multiple pollutants and local emission factors available in the future. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 258-264 of Page 9 in the revised manuscript.**

*5. The model performance statistics for meteorological parameters shown in Table S6 and that for PM10 concentrations as shown in Table 2 shall include the benchmark of the evaluation.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. The benchmarks of the evaluation for meteorological parameters from Emery et al. (2001) and Jiménez et al. (2006) were

added in Table S6. The meteorological parameters of this study were basically in compliance with benchmarks. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 312-317 of Page 11 in the revised manuscript.**

As many factors would influence the model performance of chemistry transport model, no uniform benchmark was obtained for different regions. We selected the results in US (Zhang et al., 2006) as the benchmark for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations, as added in Table 2. As can be found in the table, the NMBs and NMEs for most case with the constrained OBB emissions were close to those by Zhang et al. (2006). The NMEs for hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> were slightly larger. Given the larger uncertainty in emission inventory of anthropogenic sources for China and the uncertainty in spatial and temporal distribution of OBB emissions due to satellite detection limit, we believe the model performance with the constrained OBB emissions was improved and acceptable. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 490-498 of Page 16 in the revised manuscript.**

*6. For OBB, temporal allocation is very important. It is good to see the monthly variations of fire occurrence in Figure 1. However, the authors only give information for year 2010 and 2012, I wonder if the authors can provide such information for other years.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's suggestion and provide the information for other years (2005-2015) in Figure S3 in supplement.

*7. Figure 2 shall give the name of each city in the YRD. Otherwise it is difficult for readers to understand when author talk about Lianyungang, Fuyang, Shanghai, Suzhou, Wuxi, Changzhou, etc.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's suggestion and provide the name of each city in the YRD in Figure 2.

*8. The color in Figure 4 is very difficult to read.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's reminder. We applied thicker lines and changed the colors to make the figure easier to read.



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**Quantification and evaluation of atmospheric pollutant emissions from open biomass burning with multiple methods: A case study for Yangtze River Delta region, China**

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## Abstract

18  
19 Air pollutant emissions from open biomass burning (OBB) in Yangtze River  
20 Delta (YRD) were estimated for 2005-2015 using three (traditional bottom-up, fire  
21 radiative power (FRP)-based, and constraining) approaches, and the differences  
22 between those methods and their sources were analyzed. The species included PM<sub>10</sub>,  
23 PM<sub>2.5</sub>, organic carbon (OC), ~~black~~-elemental carbon (BCEC), CH<sub>4</sub>, non-methane  
24 volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>. The  
25 inter-annual trends in emissions with FRP-based and constraining methods were  
26 similar with the fire counts in 2005-2012, while that with traditional method was not.  
27 For most years, emissions of all species estimated with constraining method were  
28 smaller than those with traditional method except for NMVOCs, while they were  
29 larger than those with FRP-based except for EC, CH<sub>4</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>. Such discrepancies  
30 result mainly from different masses of crop residues burned in the field (CRBF)  
31 estimated in the three methods. Chemistry transport modeling (CTM) was applied  
32 using the three OBB inventories. The simulated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations with constrained  
33 emissions were closest to available observations, implying constraining method  
34 provided the best emission estimates. CO emissions in the three methods were  
35 compared with other studies. Similar temporal variations were found for the  
36 constrained emissions, FRP-based emissions, GFASv1.0 and GFEDv4.1s, with the  
37 largest and the lowest emissions estimated for 2012 and 2006, respectively. The  
38 temporal variations of the emissions based on traditional method, GFEDv3.0 and Xia  
39 et al. (2016) were different with them. The constrained CO emissions in this study  
40 were commonly smaller than those based on traditional bottom-up method and larger  
41 than those based on burned area or FRP in other studies. In particular, the constrained  
42 emissions were close to GFEDv4.1s that contained emissions from small fires. The  
43 contributions of OBB to two particulate pollution events in 2010 and 2012 were  
44 analyzed with brute-force method. Attributed to varied OBB emissions and  
45 meteorology, the average contribution of OBB to PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in June 8-14  
46 2012 was estimated at 37.6% (56.7 μg/m<sup>3</sup>), larger than that in June 17-24, 2010 at  
47 21.8 % (24.0 μg/m<sup>3</sup>). Influences of diurnal curves of OBB emissions and meteorology  
48 on air pollution caused by OBB were evaluated by designing simulation scenarios,  
49 and the results suggested that air pollution caused by OBB would become heavier if  
50 the meteorological conditions were unfavorable, and that more attention should be

51 paid to the OBB control at night. Quantified with Monte-Carlo simulation, the  
52 uncertainty of traditional bottom-up inventory was smaller than that of FRP-based one.  
53 The percentages of CRBF and emission factors were the main source of uncertainty  
54 for the two approaches, respectively. Further improvement on CTM for OBB events  
55 would help better constraining OBB emissions.

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## 1. Introduction

58 Open biomass burning (OBB) is an important source of atmospheric particulate  
59 matter (PM) and trace gases including methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ), non-methane volatile organic  
60 compounds (NMVOCs), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ), oxides of  
61 nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_x$ ), sulfur dioxide ( $\text{SO}_2$ ), and ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) (Andreae and Merlet, 2001;  
62 van der Werf et al., 2010; Wiedinmyer et al., 2011; Kaiser et al., 2012; Giglio et al.,  
63 2013, Qiu et al., 2016; Zhou et al., 2017a). As it has significant impacts on air quality  
64 and climate (Crutzen and Andreae, 1990; Cheng et al., 2014; Hodzic and Duvel, 2018),  
65 it is important to understand the amount, temporal variation and spatial pattern of  
66 OBB emissions.

67 Various methods have been used to estimate OBB emissions, including  
68 traditional bottom-up method that relied on surveyed amount of biomass burning  
69 (traditional bottom-up method), the method based on burned area or fire radiative  
70 power (BA or FRP method), and emission constraining with chemistry transport  
71 model (CTM) and observation (constraining method). In the traditional bottom-up  
72 method that was most frequently used, emissions were calculated as a product of crop  
73 production level, the ratio of straw to grain, percentage of dry matter burned in fields,  
74 combustion efficiency, and emission factor (Streets et al., 2003; Cao et al., 2007;  
75 Wang and Zhang, 2008; Zhao et al., 2012; Xia et al., 2016, Zhou et al., 2017a). The  
76 BA or FRP method was developed along with progress of satellite observation  
77 technology. BA was detected through remote sensing, and used in OBB emission  
78 calculation combined with ground biomass density burned in fields, combustion  
79 efficiency and emission factor. As burned area of each agricultural fire was usually  
80 small and difficult to be detected, this method could seriously underestimate the  
81 emissions (van der Werf et al., 2010; Liu et al., 2015). In FRP-based method, fire  
82 radiative energy (FRE) was calculated with FRP at over pass time of satellite and the  
83 diurnal cycle of FRP. The mass of crop residues burned in the field (CRBF) were then

84 obtained based on combustion conversion ratio and FRE, and emissions were  
85 calculated as a product of the mass of CRBF and emission factor (Kaiser et al., 2012;  
86 Liu et al., 2015). In the constraining method, observed concentrations of atmospheric  
87 compositions were used to constrain OBB emissions with CTM (Hooghiemstra et al.,  
88 2012; Krol et al., 2013; Konovalov et al., 2014). The spatial and temporal  
89 distributions of OBB emissions were derived from information of fire points from  
90 satellite observation. Although varied methods and data sources might lead to  
91 discrepancies in OBB emission estimation, those discrepancies and underlying  
92 reasons have seldom been thoroughly analyzed in previous studies. Moreover, few  
93 studies applied CTM to evaluate emissions obtained from different methods, thus the  
94 uncertainty and reliability in OBB emission estimates remained unclear.

95 Due to growth of economy and farmers' income, a large number of crop straws  
96 were discharged and burned in field, and OBB (which refers to crop straws burned in  
97 fields in this paper) became an important source of air pollutants in China (Streets et  
98 al., 2003; Shi and Yamaguchi 2014; Qiu et al., 2016; Zhou et al., 2017a). It brings  
99 additional pressure to the country, which is suffering poor air quality (Richter et al.,  
100 2005; van Donkelaar et al., 2010; Xing et al., 2015; Guo et al., 2017) and making  
101 efforts to reduce pollution (Xia et al., 2016; Zheng et al., 2017). Located in the eastern  
102 China, Yangtze River Delta (YRD) including the city of Shanghai and the provinces  
103 of Anhui, Jiangsu and Zhejiang is one of China's most developed and heavy-polluted  
104 regions (Ran et al., 2009; Xiao et al., 2011; Cheng et al., 2013, Guo et al., 2017).  
105 Besides intensive industry and fossil fuel combustion, YRD is also an important area  
106 of agriculture production, and frequent OBB events aggravated air pollution in the  
107 region (Cheng et al., 2014).

108 In this study, we chose YRD to develop and evaluate high resolution emission  
109 inventories of OBB with different methods. Firstly, we established YRD's OBB  
110 emission inventories for 2005-2012 using the traditional bottom-up method (the  
111 percentages of CRBF for 2013-2015 were currently unavailable), and inventories for  
112 2005-2015 using FRP-based and constraining methods. The three inventories were  
113 then compared with each other and other available studies, in order to discover the  
114 differences and their origins. Meanwhile, the three inventories were evaluated using  
115 Models-3 Community Multi-scale Air Quality (CMAQ) system and available ground  
116 observations. Contributions of OBB to particulate pollution during ~~two~~three typical  
117 OBB events in 2010 ~~and~~ 2012 and 2014 were evaluated through brute-force method.

118 Influences of meteorology and diurnal curves of OBB emissions on air pollution  
119 caused by OBB were also analyzed by designing simulation scenarios. Finally,  
120 uncertainties of the three OBB inventories were analyzed and quantified with  
121 Monte-Carlo simulation.

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## 2. Data and methods

### 2.1 Traditional bottom-up method

124 Annual OBB emissions in YRD were calculated by city from 2005 to 2012 using  
125 the traditional bottom-up method with following equations:  
126

$$127 \quad E_{(i,y),j} = \sum_k (M_{(i,y),k} \times EF_{j,k}) \quad (1)$$

$$128 \quad M_{(i,y),k} = P_{(i,y),k} \times R_k \times F_{(i,y)} \times CE_k \quad (2)$$

129 where  $i$  and  $y$  indicate city and year (2005-2012), respectively;  $j$  and  $k$  represent  
130 species and crop type, respectively;  $E$  is the emissions, metric ton (t);  $M$  is the mass of  
131 CRBF, Gg;  $EF$  is the emission factor, g/kg;  $P$  is the crop production, Gg;  $R$  is the ratio  
132 of grain to straw (dry matter);  $F$  is the percentage of CRBF; and  $CE$  is the combustion  
133 efficiency.

134 As summarized in Table S1 in the supplement, emission factors were obtained  
135 based on a comprehensive literature review, and those developed in China were  
136 selected preferentially. The mean value was used if various emission factors could be  
137 obtained. When the emission factors for one crop straw were not obtained, the mean  
138 value of the others was used instead. Annual production of crops at city level was  
139 taken from statistical yearbooks (NBS, 2013). The ratios of straw to grain for different  
140 crops were obtained from Bi (2010) and Zhang et al. (2008), and the combustion  
141 efficiencies for different crop were obtained from Wang et al. (2013), as provided in  
142 Table S2 in the supplement. Without officially reported data, the percentages of CRBF  
143 were estimated to be half of the percentages of unused crop residues, following Su et  
144 al. (2012). In Jiangsu, the percentages of unused crop residues were officially reported  
145 for 2008, 2011 and 2012, while data for other years were unavailable. In this work,  
146 therefore, the percentages of CRBF were assumed to be constant before 2008 and to  
147 decrease by same rate (-15.2%) from 2008 to 2011, since a provincial plan was made  
148 in 2009 to increase the utilization of straw (JPDRC and SMAC, 2009). Similarly, the  
149 percentages of CRBF for Shanghai were assumed to be constant before 2008 and to

150 decrease by same rate (-16.8%) from 2008 to 2012. Without any official plans  
 151 released, in contrast, constant percentages of CRBF were assumed for Zhejiang and  
 152 Anhui before 2011, and that for 2012 was taken from NDRC (2014). We applied  
 153 uniform percentages of CRBF for cities within a province attributed to lack of detailed  
 154 information at city level, as summarized in Table S3 in the supplement. OBB  
 155 emissions after 2012 were not calculated with the traditional bottom-up method,  
 156 attributed to lack of information on percentages of CRBF and unused crop residues  
 157 for corresponding years.

## 158 2.2 FRP-based method

159 Similar to traditional bottom-up method, OBB emissions of FRP-based method  
 160 were calculated by multiplying the mass of CRBF and emission factors of various  
 161 pollutants, but mass of CRBF were derived from FRP instead of government-reported  
 162 data. As the burned crop types could not be identified with FRP, uniform emission  
 163 factors were applied for different crop types (Randerson et al., [2015](#); Liu et al.,  
 164 2016; Qiu et al., 2016), as provided in Table S4 in the supplement.

165 The mass of CRBF was calculated with the following equation:

$$166 \quad M = FRE \times CR \quad (3)$$

167 where  $M$  represents the mass of CRBF, kg;  $CR$  represents the combustion conversion  
 168 ratio from energy to mass (kg/MJ); and  $FRE$  represents the total released radiative  
 169 energy in an active fire pixel obtained from satellite observation (MJ). We used a  
 170 combustion ratio ( $CR$ ) of  $0.41 \pm 0.04$  (kg/MJ) based on the results of Wooster et al.  
 171 (2005) in the field and Freeborn et al. (2008) in the laboratory. Diurnal cycle of FRP  
 172 from crop burning was assumed to follow a Gaussian distribution. Following Vermote  
 173 et al. (2009) and Liu et al. (2015),  $FRE$  was calculated using a modified Gaussian  
 174 function as below:

$$175 \quad FRE = \int FRP = \int_0^{24} FRP_{peak} \left( b + e^{-\frac{(t-h)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right) dt \quad (4)$$

$$176 \quad FRE_{peak} = \frac{FRP_t}{\left[ b + e^{-\frac{(t-h)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right]} \quad (5)$$

177 where  $FRP_{peak}$  is the peak fire radiative power in the fire diurnal cycle;  $t$  is the  
 178 overpass time of satellite; and  $b$ ,  $\sigma$ , and  $h$  represent the background level of the diurnal  
 179 cycle, the width of fire diurnal curve, and the peak hour (local time, LT), respectively.

180 FRP data were taken from MODIS Global Monthly Fire Location Product  
181 (MCD14ML) which provides data from both the Terra and Aqua satellites (Davies et  
182 al., 2009). The active fire data in MCD14ML were derived from Terra with overpass  
183 times at approximately 10:30 AM and 10:30 PM LT and Aqua satellite with overpass  
184 times at 1:30 AM and 1:30 PM LT. The fire products provided the geographic  
185 coordinates of fire pixels (also known as fire points), overpass times, satellites and  
186 their FRP values. The land cover dataset (GlobCover2009) was used to define  
187 croplands (European Space Agency and Université Catholique de Louvain, 2011).

188 Parameters  $b$ ,  $\sigma$ , and  $h$  from 2005 to 2015 were calculated using the inter-annual  
189 Terra to Aqua (T/A) FRP ratios provided in Table S5 in the supplement:

$$190 \quad b = 0.86r^2 - 0.52r + 0.08 \quad (6)$$

$$191 \quad \sigma = 3.89r + 1.03 \quad (7)$$

$$192 \quad h = -1.23r + 14.57 + \varepsilon \quad (8)$$

193 where  $r$  represents the average T/A FRP ratio. Following Liu et al. (2015), we added a  
194 parameter  $\varepsilon$  (4h) to modify  $FRP_{peak}$  hour (h) of the diurnal curve, and the modified  
195 FRP diurnal curves could better represent observed FRP temporal variability than the  
196 original, as shown in Figure S1 in the supplement. As a result, FRE was calculated to  
197 range from  $1.49 \times 10^6$  MJ in 2009 to  $1.95 \times 10^6$  MJ in 2005, with a mean value of  
198  $1.74 \times 10^6$  MJ for YRD region (Table S5).

199 To further understand the sources of discrepancies between bottom-up and  
200 FRP-based methods, the emission factors applied in the bottom-up method were  
201 weighted with the masses of various crop types and used to estimate the OBB  
202 emissions for 2010 with the FRP-based method. The estimated OBB emissions  
203 (FRP-based (WSE)) were compared with the emissions based on bottom-up method in  
204 section 3.3.

### 205 **2.3 Constraining method**

206 CTM and observation of ground particle matter (PM) concentrations were  
207 applied in constraining OBB emissions given the potentially big contribution of OBB  
208 to particle pollution for harvest seasons (Fu et al., 2013; Cheng et al., 2014; Li et al.,  
209 2014). To characterize the non-linearity between emissions and concentrations, an  
210 initial inventory including OBB and other sources was applied in CTM, and the  
211 response of PM concentrations to emissions was calculated by changing OBB  
212



214 emissions by a certain fraction (5% in this study) in the model. We defined a response  
 215 coefficient as the ratio of relative change in PM concentrations to that in OBB  
 216 emissions. Simulated PM concentrations were then compared with available  
 217 observation, and the mass of CRBF and OBB emissions of all species were corrected  
 218 combining the obtained response coefficient and the discrepancy between observed  
 219 and simulated PM concentrations. The corrected emissions were further applied in  
 220 CTM and the process (including recalculation of response coefficient) repeated until  
 221 the discrepancies between observation and simulation was small enough (the value of  
 222  $I$  in equation (9) is less than 0.1% in this study). To limit the potential uncertainty in  
 223 emissions from other sources, the differences between simulated and observed PM  
 224 concentrations for non-OBB event period were included in the analysis:

$$225 \quad I = \left| \frac{\sum_{x,i} S_{x,i} - \sum_{x,i} Q_{x,i} \times N_i}{\sum_{x,i} O_{x,i}} - 1 \right| \quad (9)$$

226 where  $x$  and  $i$  stand for the time (time interval of simulation is hour) and city,  
 227 respectively;  $O$  is the observed PM concentration;  $S$  and  $Q$  are the simulated PM  
 228 concentration with and without OBB emissions, respectively; and  $N$  is the normalized  
 229 mean bias (NMB) for non-OBB event period.

230 As primary particles emitted from OBB are almost fine ones, ambient  $PM_{2.5}$   
 231 concentrations were commonly observed to account for large fractions of  $PM_{10}$  during  
 232 the OBB event. Figure S2 shows the observed concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  at  
 233 Caochangmen station in Nanjing (the capital of Jiangsu) in June 2012, and the  
 234 average mass ratio of  $PM_{2.5}$  to  $PM_{10}$  reached 79% during the OBB event in June 8-14,  
 235 2012. The ratios might be even higher in northern YRD where most fire points were  
 236 detected. As ground  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were unavailable in most cities of northern  
 237 YRD before 2013, we expected that  $PM_{10}$  was an appropriate indicator for OBB  
 238 pollution, and observed  $PM_{10}$  concentrations were used to constrain OBB emissions  
 239 instead in this study. The daily mean  $PM_{10}$  concentrations of all cities were derived  
 240 from the officially reported Air Pollution Index (API) by China National  
 241 Environmental Monitoring Center (<http://www.cnemc.cn/>). The conversion from API  
 242 scores to  $PM_{10}$  concentrations is discussed in the Supplement.

243 | Figure 1 illustrated the ~~monthly variations of fire occurrences in 2010 and 2012~~  
 244 | (~~panels a1 and a2, respectively~~), spatial patterns of fire points (panels ~~b1-a1~~ and ~~b2-a2~~)

245 in June 2010 and 2012, city-level  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in YRD region in June 2010  
246 and 2012 (panels [e1b1](#) and [e2b2](#)), and temporal variations of daily fire occurrences in  
247 June 2010 and 2012 (panels [d1c1](#) and [d2c2](#)). From 2005 to 2012, most OBB  
248 activities were found in June 2010 and 2012 and northern YRD was the region with  
249 the intensive fire counts. Accordingly  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in northern YRD cities  
250 were higher than those in more developed and industrialized cities in the eastern YRD  
251 (e.g., Shanghai, Suzhou, Wuxi, and Changzhou), because emissions of OBB  
252 overwhelmed those from other sources (Li et al., 2014; Huang et al., 2016). Therefore  
253 we constrained OBB emissions with observed  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in northern YRD  
254 cities including Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, Chuzhou  
255 and Bozhou. Suggested by the monthly and daily distribution of fire counts (Figures  
256 [1a-S3](#) and [1d1c](#)), two strong OBB events were defined for June 17-24, 2010 and June  
257 8-14, 2012, and other days in June of 2010 and 2012 were defined as non-OBB event  
258 period. For other years, OBB emissions were first scaled from the constrained  
259 emissions in 2010 and 2012 with the ratios of FRE for corresponding year to that for  
260 2010 and 2012 respectively, and then calculated as average of the two. Remarkably,  
261 the correction of activity level was based on the comparisons of simulated and  
262 observed  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in constraining method, and then the emissions of other  
263 species were changed revised based on according to the corrected changed activity  
264 level. The reliability of emissions estimation for other species based on this method  
265 thus depended was largely depend on the accuracy reliability of emission factors for  
266  $PM_{10}$  and those species. Uncertainty It brought would be introduced to some  
267 uncertainties to the emissions of those species method, s due attributed to the lack of  
268 sufficient and qualified uncertainties domestic measurements on of emission factors.  
269 Moreover, the uncertainty of constrained OBB emission from other reasons was  
270 analyzed in section 3.5.

271 Traditional bottom-up method was used to calculate the initial emission input for  
272 all species (NMVOCs emission factor was taken from FRP-based method instead as  
273 those in bottom-up method (Li et al., 2007) did not contain oxygenated VOCs). In  
274 contrast to application of uniform percentage of CRBF within one province, however,  
275 percentage of CRBF for each city was calculated based on that in whole YRD and the  
276 fraction of FRP in the city to total YRD FRP, to make the spatial distribution of OBB  
277 emissions consistent with that of FRP all over YRD region:

$$F_{(i,y)} = \frac{FRP_{(i,y)}}{FRP_{(YRD,y)}} \times \frac{\sum_k P_{(YRD,y),k}}{\sum_k P_{(i,y),k}} \times F_{(YRD,y)} \quad (10)$$

where  $i$  and  $k$  represent city and crop type, respectively;  $y$  indicates the year (2010 and 2012);  $F$ ,  $P$ , and  $FRP$  are the percentage of CRBF, crop production, and fire radiative power, respectively. The initial percentage of CRBF for total YRD ( $F_{(YRD,y)}$  in eq (10)) was expected to have limited impact on the result and it was set at 10%, smaller than those in previous studies (Streets et al., 2003; Cao et al., 2007; Wang and Zhang, 2008; Zhao et al., 2012; Xia et al., 2016, Zhou et al., 2017a).

#### 2.4 Temporal and spatial distributions

The spatial and temporal patterns of OBB emissions in the three inventories were determined according to the FRP of agricultural fire points. The emissions of  $m$ -th grid in region  $u$  on  $n$ -th day in year  $y$  were calculated using equation (11):

$$E_{(m,n),j} = \frac{FRP_{(m,n)}}{FRP_{(u,y)}} \times E_{(u,y),j} \quad (11)$$

where  $FRP_{(m,n)}$  is the FRP of  $m$ -th grid on  $n$ -th day;  $FRP_{(u,y)}$  and  $E_{(u,y),j}$  are the total FRP and OBB emissions of species  $j$  for region  $u$  in year  $y$ , respectively. The region  $u$  indicates city for FRP-based and constraining method, while it indicates province for traditional bottom-up method since uniform percentages of CRBF was applied within the same province in the method.

#### 2.5 Configuration of air quality modeling

The Models-3 Community Multi-scale Air Quality (CMAQ) version 4.7.1 was applied to constrain OBB emissions and to evaluate OBB inventories with different methods. As shown in Figure 2, one-way nested domain modeling was conducted, and the spatial resolutions of the two domains were set at 27 and 9 km respectively in Lambert Conformal Conic projection, centered at (110°E, 34°N) with two true latitudes 25 and 40° N. The mother domain (D1, 180×130 cells) covered most parts of China, Japan, North and South Korea, while the second domain (D2, 118×97 cells) covered the whole YRD region. OBB inventories developed in this work were applied in D2. Emissions from other anthropogenic sources in D1 and D2 were obtained from the downscaled the Multi resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC, <http://www.meicmodel.org/>) with an original spatial resolution of 0.25°×0.25°. Population density was applied to relocate MEIC to each modeling domain. Biogenic

308 emission inventory was from the Model Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from  
309 Nature developed under the Monitoring Atmospheric Composition and Climate  
310 project (MEGAN MACC, Sindelarova et al., 2014), and the emission inventories of  
311 Cl, HCl and lightning NO<sub>x</sub> were from the Global Emissions Initiative (GEIA, Price et  
312 al., 1997). Meteorological fields were provided by the Weather Research and  
313 Forecasting Model (WRF) version 3.4, and the carbon bond gas-phase mechanism  
314 (CB05) and AERO5 aerosol module were adopted. Other details on model  
315 configuration and parameters were given in Zhou et al. (2017b).

316 Meteorological parameters of WRF model were compared with the observation  
317 dataset of US National Climate Data Center (NCDC), as summarized in Table S6 in  
318 the Supplement. For June 2010, the average biases between the two datasets were  
319 0.06 m/s for wind speed, 9.84 degree for wind direction, 0.64 K for temperature and  
320 2.99% for relative humidity.~~For June 2012, the average biases between the two~~  
321 ~~datasets were 0.01 m/s for wind speed, -7 degree for wind direction, 0.91 K for~~  
322 ~~temperature and 3.1% for relative humidity. The analogue numbers were 0.01 and~~  
323 ~~0.67 m/s, 7 and 18.22 degree, 0.91 and 0.43 K and 3.1 and 0.07% respectively for~~  
324 ~~June 2012 and 2014, respectively.~~~~The analogue numbers were 0.06 m/s, 9.84 degree,~~  
325 ~~0.64 K and 2.99% respectively for June 2010. The meteorological parameters of this~~  
326 ~~study were basically in compliance with -conformity to- the benchmarks derived from~~  
327 ~~Emery et al. (2001) and Jiménez et al. (2006).~~ Simulated daily PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations  
328 were compared with observation for non-OBB event period in June 2010 and 2012 in  
329 Table S7 in the supplement. The average of normalized mean biases (NMB) and  
330 normalized mean errors (NME) were -19.92% and 38.9% for 17 YRD cities in June  
331 2010, and -2220.98% and 33.9% for 22 cities in June 2012, respectively. Simulated  
332 daily and hourly PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were compared with the observation  
333 for non-OBB event period in June 2014 in Table S8 in the supplement. The hourly  
334 NMB of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> were -29.9% and -39.8%, and the hourly NME of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and  
335 PM<sub>10</sub> were 49.8% and 54.7%. The model performance was similar with that derived  
336 by Zhang et al. (2006) in US in general. As shown in Figure ~~S3-S4~~ in the supplement,  
337 moreover, simulated hourly PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were in good agreement  
338 with observations at four air quality monitoring sites in YRD during non-OBB event  
339 period in June 2012. The comparison thus implied the reliability of emission  
340 inventory of anthropogenic origin used in this work, while underestimation might  
341 occur indicated by the negative NMB.

342

343

### 3. Results and discussions

#### 3.1 OBB emissions estimated with the three methods

345 OBB emissions estimated with the traditional bottom-up method for 2005-2012  
346 were shown in Table [S8-S9](#) in the supplement. As emission factors were assumed  
347 unchanged during the period, similar inter-annual trends were found for all species  
348 and CO<sub>2</sub> was selected as a representative species for further discussion. As shown in  
349 Figure 3, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from traditional bottom-up method were estimated to  
350 decrease from 23000 in 2005 to 19973 Gg in 2012, with a peak value of 27061 Gg in  
351 2008. In contrast, the number of fire points in YRD farmland increased from 7158 in  
352 2005 to 17074 in 2012. The fire counts detected from satellite thus did not support the  
353 effectiveness of OBB restriction by government in YRD before 2013. Table [S9-S10](#) in  
354 the supplement presents the annual OBB emissions derived from FRP-based method  
355 for 2005-2015 in YRD region. Associated with fire counts, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were  
356 estimated to grow by 119.7% from 2005 to 2012, with the largest and the second  
357 largest annual emissions calculated at 19977 and 12718 Gg for 2012 and 2010,  
358 respectively (Figure 3). Similar temporal variability was found for fire counts, which  
359 increased by 138.5% from 2005 to 2012, with the most and the second most counts  
360 found at 17074 and 12322 for 2012 and 2010, respectively.

361 With the constraining method, as shown in Figure [S54](#) in the supplement, the  
362 ratio of constrained mass of CRBF for 2012 to 2010 was 1.51, clearly lower than the  
363 ratios of original FRE (1.75) but close to the ratio of modified FRE for 2012 to 2010  
364 (1.57). The comparison suggested that modified FRE better reflect the OBB activity  
365 in YRD than original FRE. In order to make the ratio of FRE for the two years be  
366 closer to the ratio of constrained mass of CRBF, an improved method was developed  
367 for calculating the FRE. Given the possible variation of FRP<sub>peak</sub> hour between years,  
368 we obtained the diurnal cycle of total FRP of YRD [for 2005-2015](#) based on Gaussian  
369 fitting as shown in Figure [S65](#) in the supplement. The ratio of FRE for 2012 to 2010  
370 was recalculated at 1.54, further closer to the ratio of constrained mass of CRBF.  
371 Therefore the ratios of FRE for another given year to 2012 and 2010 were calculated  
372 with this improved method, and were then applied to emission scaling for that year.  
373 The constrained OBB emissions from 2005 to 2015 were summarized in Table 1. The  
374 inter-annual trend in constrained emissions was similar with those in fire counts and

375 FRP-based emissions but different from that in emissions with traditional bottom-up  
376 method, as shown in Figure 3. It is usually difficult to collect accurate percentages of  
377 CRBF from bottom-up method, as it demands intensive investigation in the rural areas.  
378 In addition, the percentages of CRBF were not updated for each year, and same  
379 percentages were commonly applied for years without sufficient data support from  
380 local surveys.

381 The constrained CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for Jiangsu, Anhui, Zhejiang and Shanghai were  
382 calculated at 5790, 4699, 1104 and 419 Gg in 2005, accounting for 48.2%, 39.1%,  
383 9.2% and 3.5% of total OBB emissions in YRD, respectively. The analogue numbers  
384 for 2012 were 7345, 16159, 2574 and 394 Gg, and 27.7%, 61.0%, 9.7% and 1.5%,  
385 respectively. Jiangsu and Anhui were found to contribute largest to OBB emissions in  
386 YRD for 2005 and 2012, respectively. In the traditional bottom-up method, however,  
387 Anhui was estimated to contribute largest for both years. City-level OBB emissions  
388 | estimated with the three methods were summarized in Table [S10-S11-S12-S13](#) in the  
389 supplement. With the constraining method, in particular, largest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were  
390 found in Suzhou (1708 Gg) of Anhui, Lianyungang (1578 Gg) and Xuzhou (1401 Gg)  
391 of Jiangsu in 2005, accounting for 14.2%, 13.1% and 11.7% of the total emissions,  
392 respectively. In 2012, Suzhou, Bozhou of Anhui, and Xuzhou of Jiangsu were  
393 identified as the cities with the largest emissions, with the values estimated at 5007,  
394 2433, and 2109 Gg, respectively. Depending on distribution of fire points, the shares  
395 of OBB emissions by city were close between constraining and FRP-based method,  
396 and large emissions concentrated in the north of YRD. Based on surveyed percentages  
397 of CRBF and crop production, in contrast, the emission shares by city in traditional  
398 bottom-up method were clearly different from the other two, and emissions  
399 concentrated in Anhui cities with high crop production level.

400 The average annual emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> for 2005-2011 with traditional bottom-up  
401 method were 87.0% larger than those in constraining method and the emissions for  
402 2012 was 24.6% times smaller than those in constraining method. Given the same  
403 sources of emission factors for all species except NMVOCs, the discrepancies of OBB  
404 emissions for most species between constraining and traditional bottom-up methods  
405 come from the activity levels (i.e., percentages of CRBF and crop production). The  
406 average annual constrained emissions from 2005 to 2015 were larger than those  
407 derived by FRP-based method for all species except EC, CH<sub>4</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>, since the

408 average annual mass of CRBF from constraining method were 36.9% larger than  
409 those from FRP-based method for these years, as shown in Figure S76.

410 The percentage of CRBF is an important parameter to judge OBB activity and to  
411 estimate emissions. Besides the investigated values applied in traditional bottom-up  
412 approach, the percentages of CRBF were recalculated based on the constrained  
413 emissions at provincial level and were shown in Figure S7-S8 in the supplement. The  
414 largest and smallest percentages of CRBF in the whole YRD region were estimated at  
415 18.3% in 2012 and 8.1% in 2006, respectively. The inter-annual trend in percentages  
416 of CRBF for YRD was closest to that for Anhui province, as the province dominated  
417 the crop burning in the region. The different inter-annual trends by province were  
418 strongly influenced by agricultural practice and government management.  
419 Agricultural practice could be associated with income level and mechanization level.  
420 Increased income, would lead to more crop residues discarded and burned in the field,  
421 while development of mechanization would lead to less. The constrained percentages  
422 of CRBF for Shanghai increased from 2005 to 2007 and declined after 2007, while  
423 those for Jiangsu decreased from 2005 to 2008 and increased after 2008. Increasing  
424 trends were found for the percentages of CRBF for Anhui and Zhejiang from 2005 to  
425 2012, and they might result largely from growth of farmers' income. Note that  
426 percentages of CRBF for all provinces except Zhejiang decreased significantly in  
427 2008, attributed largely to the measures of air quality improvement for Beijing  
428 Olympic Games. Shanghai was the only one with its percentage of CRBF  
429 significantly reduced in 2010, resulting mainly from the air pollution control for  
430 Shanghai World Expo in that year. Compare to the percentages of CRBF used in  
431 bottom-up method, the constrained ones of Anhui and Jiangsu for all the years except  
432 2012 were smaller, leading to lower constrained OBB emissions than bottom-up ones  
433 in those years.

434 The constrained percentages of CRBF and straw yields for 2012 were shown by  
435 city in Figure S8-S9 in the supplement, and clear inconsistency in spatial distributions  
436 can be found. The percentage of CRBF was not necessarily high for a city with large  
437 straw production. For instance, straw production of Yancheng was higher than most  
438 other cities, but its percentage of CRBF was 5.7% and lower than most other cities.  
439 Through linear regression, correlation coefficient was calculated at only 0.06 between  
440 constrained percentage of CRBF and straw yield at city level. The poor correlation  
441 between them thus suggested that large uncertainty could be derived if uniform

442 percentage of CRBF was applied to calculate OBB emissions for cities within given  
443 province, as what we did in the traditional bottom-up methodology.

### 444 **3.2 Evaluation of the three OBB inventories with CMAQ**

445 Figures 4 and 5 illustrate the observed 24-hour averaged and simulated hourly  
446 PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for selected YRD cities in June 17-25, 2010 and June 8-14, 2012,  
447 respectively. Four emission cases, i.e., inventory without and with OBB emissions  
448 estimated using the three methods, were included. The simulated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations  
449 without OBB emissions were significantly lower than observation for all cities,  
450 implying that OBB was an important source of airborne particulates during the two  
451 periods. Simulations with OBB emissions derived from the three methods performed  
452 better than those without OBB emissions for most cities during June 17-25, 2010 and  
453 all cities during June 8-14, 2012. The best performance was found for simulations  
454 with constrained OBB emissions in most cities during the two periods, and the high  
455 PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations were generally caught by CTM for the concerned OBB events. In  
456 2010, the observed high concentrations were simulated with constrained emissions in  
457 Lianyungang during June 21-23, and Fuyang and Huainan during June 19-21. In 2012,  
458 the observed high concentrations were caught with constrained emissions in Xuzhou  
459 during June 12-14, Lianyungang during June 13-14, Fuyang during June 11-12,  
460 Bozhou during June 10 and Chuzhou during June 11-12. The results thus indicated  
461 that fire points could principally capture the temporal and spatial distribution of OBB  
462 emissions. Overestimation still existed with constrained OBB emissions for the cities  
463 with intensive fire points (e.g., Xuzhou, Bozhou and Fuyang in 2012 and Bengbu in  
464 2010), while underestimation commonly existed for cities with fewer fire points (e.g.,  
465 Hefei, Chuzhou and Huainan in 2010 and 2012). Due to limitation of MODIS  
466 observation, fires at moderate to small scales could not be fully detected (Giglio et al.,  
467 2003; Schroeder et al., 2008), thus the spatial allocation of OBB emissions based on  
468 FRP could possibly result in more emissions than actual in areas with intensive fire  
469 points. In order to further evaluate the OBB emissions, Moreover, we used both  
470 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations (which were available since 2013) to evaluate the  
471 model performances when the constrained, FRP-based or no OBB emissions based  
472 on constraining and FRP-based methods and without OBB emissions were applied in  
473 CTM for during OBB event of during June 7-13, 2014. Figures S10 and S11 in the  
474 supplement illustrate the observed and simulated hourly concentrations for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and



475 PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for in selected YRD cities on June 7-13, 2014, respectively. The  
476 best performance was found for simulations with the constrained OBB emissions in  
477 most cities during the periods, and the high PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>1</sub> peak particle<sub>0</sub>  
478 concentrations were generally caught by CTM for the concerned OBB events. The  
479 observed high concentrations were simulated with the constrained emissions in  
480 Lianyungang and Suqian during on June 12 and Huaian and Yancheng during on June  
481 13.

482 The NMB and NME between observed and simulated PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>  
483 concentrations are shown in Table 2. ~~Among all~~In most the cases, the NMB and NME  
484 with constrained OBB emissions were smaller than ~~most of~~ those with other OBB  
485 emissions, implying the best guess of OBB emissions obtained through the  
486 constraining method combining CTM and ground observation. The simulated PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
487 and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations using FRP-based OBB emissions were smaller than  
488 observation for the ~~threetwo~~ periods, due mainly to the mass of CRBF were  
489 underestimated. The results thus indicated that OBB emissions might be  
490 underestimated in FRP-based method in 2010, 2012 and 20142, since many small  
491 fires in YRD were undetected in MODIS active fire detection products. The  
492 probability of MODIS detection was strongly dependent upon the temperature and  
493 area of the fire being observed. The average probability of detection for tropical  
494 savanna was 33.6% when the temperature of fire was between 600 and 800 °C and the  
495 area of fire was between 100 and 1000 m<sup>2</sup> (Giglio et al., 2003). In YRD region, on  
496 one hand, the fire temperature of crop residue burned in fields was relatively low. On  
497 the other hand, nearly 100 farmers were possibly located in a single 1 × 1 km MODIS  
498 pixel (Liu et al., 2015), and a famer commonly owned croplands of several hundred  
499 square meters. Therefore many fire pixels in YRD might not be detected, leading to  
500 underestimation in the total FRE. The simulated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations using traditional  
501 bottom-up OBB emissions were higher than observation in 2010 but lower in 2012.  
502 The results thus implied the growth in OBB emissions from 2010 to 2012 could not  
503 be captured by traditional bottom-up method, attributed partly to application of  
504 unreliable percentage of CRBF. We further selected the performance of CMAQ  
505 modeling in US (Zhang et al., 2006) as the benchmark for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> simulation.  
506 As can be seen in Table 2, the NMBs and NMEs for most case with the constrained  
507 OBB emissions were close to those by Zhang et al. (2006). The NMEs for hourly

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508 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> were slightly larger. Given the larger uncertainty in emission  
509 inventory of anthropogenic sources for China and the uncertainty in spatial and  
510 temporal distribution of OBB emissions due to satellite detection limit, we believe the  
511 model performance with the constrained OBB emissions was improved and  
512 acceptable.

513 ~~The NMB of hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> during OBB event of June 2014 with~~  
514 ~~constrained OBB emissions were smaller than those of Zhang (2006), and the NME of~~  
515 ~~hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> with constrained OBB emissions were larger than those of~~  
516 ~~Zhang (2006). Considering that the accuracy of emissions of other sources for US~~  
517 ~~might be higher than that used in this study and there were uncertainties in the~~  
518 ~~temporal and spatial distribution of OBB emissions derived from satellite due to~~  
519 ~~insufficient satellite detection capability, the model performance with constrained~~  
520 ~~OBB emissions was acceptable. However, the NMB and NME of hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> and~~  
521 ~~PM<sub>10</sub> without OBB emissions and with FRP-based emissions were higher than those~~  
522 ~~of Zhang (2006).~~

### 524 3.3 Comparisons of different methods and studies

525 We selected CO to compare emissions in this work and other inventories for  
526 YRD, given the similar emission factors of CO applied in different studies. CO  
527 emissions from the three methods in this study were compared with GFASv1.0  
528 (Kaiser et al., 2012), GFEDv3.0 (van der Werf et al., 2010), GFEDv4.1 (Randerson et  
529 al. [20152018](#)), Wang and Zhang (2008), Huang et al. (2012), Xia et al. (2016) and  
530 Zhou et al. (2017a), as shown in Figure 6. The emissions from Wang and Zhang  
531 (2008), Huang et al. (2012), Xia et al. (2016) and Zhou et al. (2017a) were derived by  
532 traditional bottom-up method, while GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1 were  
533 based on FRP and BA methods. In particular, emissions from small fires were  
534 included in GFEDv4.1. Similar inter-annual variations were found for emissions  
535 derived from FRP measurement including the constrained and FRP-based emissions  
536 in this work, GFAS v1.0, and GFED v4.1, while those of GFEDv3.0 and Xia et al.  
537 (2016) were different. The percentages of CRBF were assumed unchanged during the  
538 studying period in Xia et al. (2016), thus the temporal variation of OBB emissions  
539 were associated with the change in annual straw production.

540 The constrained CO emissions in this work were lower than other studies using  
541 traditional bottom-up method (Wang and Zhang, 2008; Huang et al., 2012; Xia et al.,  
542 2016) and higher than those based on burned area and FRP derived from satellite  
543 (GFEDv3.0; GFASv1.0; GFEDv4.1). In particular, the average annual constrained  
544 emissions from 2005 to 2012 were 3.9, 0.5 and 15.0 times larger than those in  
545 GFASv1.0, GFEDv4.1s and GFEDv3.0, respectively. The constrained emissions were  
546 closest to GFED v4.1s that included small fires. Since the area of farmland belonging  
547 to individual farmers was usually small, small fires were expected to be important  
548 sources of OBB emissions in YRD. GFEDv4.1s might still underestimate OBB  
549 emissions due to the omission errors for the small fires in MODIS active fire detection  
550 products (Schroeder et al., 2008). In addition, the constrained CO emission for 2013  
551 was 31.5% larger than those by Qiu et al. (2016) calculated based on burned area from  
552 satellite observations. The average annual CO emissions from 2005 to 2012 by the  
553 constraining method were 57.2% smaller than Xia et al. (2016), and the constrained  
554 emissions for 2006 were respectively 27.6% and 56.9% lower than those by Huang et  
555 al. (2012) and Wang and Zhang (2008). It implied again that the emissions derived  
556 from traditional bottom-up method might be overestimated. Moreover, discrepancy in  
557 estimations for the same year between Huang et al. (2012) and Wang and Zhang  
558 (2008) with traditional bottom-up resulted mainly from application of different  
559 percentages of CRBF, implying that calculation of OBB emissions was sensitive to  
560 the parameter with the bottom-up approach.

561 The spatial distribution of constrained emissions in this work and those in  
562 GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s were illustrated in Figure 7. Intensive OBB  
563 emissions in GFEDv3.0 were mainly found in parts of Anhui, Jiangsu and Shanghai,  
564 while the constrained emissions, GFEDv4.1s and GFASv1.0 emissions occurred in  
565 most YRD regions in accordance with the distribution of fire points. Therefore,  
566 GFEDv3.0 might miss a large number of burned areas, leading to underestimation in  
567 emissions and bias in spatial distribution.

568 In order to understand the discrepancies of emissions for different species in this  
569 work and other inventories, the emissions of 2010 derived from the three methods in  
570 this study, GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0, GFEDv4.1s and Xia et al. (2016) were summarized  
571 in Table 3. Similar to CO, the constrained emissions for all species in this work were  
572 lower than Xia et al. (2016) and OBB emissions of this study based on traditional  
573 bottom-up method. The constrained emissions for all species in this work were larger

574 than GFASv1.0 and those for all species except NH<sub>3</sub> were larger than GFEDv3.0 and  
575 GFEDv4.1s. In addition, the constrained emissions for most species were lower than  
576 the emissions from Huang et al. (2012), Wang and Zhang (2008) and Xia et al. (2016)  
577 using traditional bottom-up method in 2006. In most cases, the discrepancy in activity  
578 levels between studies was larger than that in emission factors. Specifically, the OBB  
579 emissions for all species— in FRP-based (WSE) with same emission factors as  
580 bottom-up method based on FRP-based method were lower smaller than those derived  
581 by bottom-up method. The differences in OBB emissions between bottom-up and  
582 FRP-based (WSE) method were larger than 50% of those between the bottom-up and  
583 the original FRP-based method with different emission factors for most species. The  
584 differences of in OBB emissions for most species between bottom-up and FRP-based  
585 method with same emission factors (WSE) were larger than or half more than those  
586 between bottom-up and FRP-based method with different emission factors. It  
587 indicated that the discrepancy in activity levels contributed the most of to the  
588 difference of in OBB emissions between bottom-up and FRP-based the two methods.

589 Resulting from the different sources of emission factors, the discrepancies  
590 between studies or methods varied greatly by species. For PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, as an  
591 example, the emissions by Xia et al. (2016) were respectively 35.8% and 50.3%  
592 higher than constrained emissions in 2010. The discrepancies for SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> were  
593 larger: the emissions by Xia et al. (2016) were 4.7 and 3.1 times larger than our  
594 constrained emissions, respectively. Moreover, the constrained NMVOCs emission  
595 was 152.5 and 10.7 times larger than that of GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s in 2010, as  
596 the emission factors of GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s did not contain oxygenated VOCs.  
597 In contrast, the constrained NH<sub>3</sub> emission was 4.7% and 47.9% smaller than that of  
598 GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s. The comparisons indicated that emission factors were  
599 important sources of uncertainties in estimation of OBB emissions with different  
600 methods.

### 601 3.4 Contribution of OBB to particulate pollution and its influencing factors

602 The brute-force method (BFM, Dunker et al., 1996) was used to analyze the  
603 contributions of OBB to ~~particulate-PM<sub>10</sub>~~ pollution for the two OBB events, June  
604 17-24, 2010 and June 8-14, 2012. Simulated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations with and without  
605 constrained OBB emissions were compared, and the difference indicated the  
606 contribution from OBB as shown by city in Figure 8. The average contribution in June

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607 8-14, 2012 was estimated at 37.6% ( $56.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) for 22 cities in YRD, and the  
608 contribution for June 17-24, 2010 was smaller at 21.8 % ( $24.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) for 17 cities.  
609 Our result for 2012 was nearly the same as that for 5 YRD cities in 2011 (37.0%) by  
610 Cheng et al. (2014). Using the BFM method, the contribution of OBB emissions to  
611  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentrations were estimated to increase by 136.3% from 2010 to 2012 in this  
612 work, and the growth rate was larger than that of OBB emissions (50.8%). Therefore,  
613 factors other than emissions (e.g., meteorology) could also play an important role in  
614 elevating the contribution of OBB to ambient particle pollution. For example, the  
615 average precipitation in June 8-14, 2012 was 36% lower than that in June 17-24, 2010,  
616 exaggerating the particle pollution during OBB event. For the OBB event during June  
617 7-13, 2014, in order to know the contributions of OBB to both  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$   
618 pollution during OBB event, the brute force method was used to analyze the  
619 contributions of OBB to  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  in June 7-13, 2014, and the contributions  
620 from OBB to both  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentrations were shown by city in Figure 9.  
621 The average contributions of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  in June 7-13, 2014 were estimated at  
622 29.3% ( $20.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and 23.1% ( $17.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) for 22 cities in YRD, indicating again-  
623 Therefore, the contribution of OBB to  $\text{PM}_{10}$  was up to 78.8% of the contribution of  
624 OBB to  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ . It suggested that the OBB was an important source of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  
625  $\text{PM}_{10}$  ambient particles simultaneously. The O-BB contributions of to  $\text{PM}_{10}$  for 2014  
626 was obviously smaller than that of for 2012 and close to that of 2010, attributed mainly  
627 due mainly to the reduced straw burning in crop land. difference of OBB emissions.

628 The average contributions of OBB for 2012 were estimated at 55.0% ( $98.4$   
629  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 36.4% ( $58.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 23.6% ( $12.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), and 14.4% ( $11.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) for 6  
630 cities of Anhui, 10 cities of Jiangsu, 5 cities of Zhejiang and Shanghai, respectively.  
631 For individual cities, large contributions of OBB for 2012 were found in Xuzhou,  
632 Bozhou, Fuyang, and Lianyungang located in the north YRD, reaching 82.3% ( $284.3$   
633  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 75.2% ( $207.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 71.9% ( $134.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and 63.5% ( $96.2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ),  
634 respectively. Similarly, large contributions for 2010 were found in Lianyungang,  
635 Fuyang and Bozhou reaching 63.3% ( $69.8 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 58.2% ( $71.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and 78.8%  
636 ( $53.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), respectively. In general the spatial distribution of contributions to  $\text{PM}_{10}$   
637 mass concentrations was similar with that of fire points, confirming the rationality of  
638 constraining OBB emissions with observed  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentration in cities in north  
639 Anhui and Jiangsu. The similar result was found in For contributions of OBB to  
640  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  during the OBB event in 2014, the large contributions of OBB were found in

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641 | [Xuzhou, Huaian and Suqian located in the in the north YRD during the event in 2014,](#)  
642 | [reaching 67.5% \(111.7  \$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3\$ \), 60.7% \(50.6  \$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3\$ \) and 53.2% \(49.6  \$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3\$ \),](#)  
643 | [respectively.](#)

644 | To explore the influence of meteorology on air pollution caused by OBB, we  
645 | simulated  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentrations for June 8-14 (PE1) and June 22-28 2012 (PE2) with  
646 | varied meteorology conditions but fixed OBB emissions (i.e., constrained emissions  
647 | for June 8-14, 2012). Poorer meteorology conditions during PE1 were found than PE2.  
648 | The average wind speed in PE1 was 2.4 m/s, 17% lower than that in PE2. The average  
649 | wind direction in PE1 was  $168.3^\circ$ , close to south with polluted air in land. In contrast,  
650 | the average wind direction in PE2 was  $118.3^\circ$ , close to east with clean air from the  
651 | ocean. The average precipitation in PE2 was 6.8mm, 28% higher than that in PE1. As  
652 | shown in Figure 910, the average contribution of OBB to  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentrations for 22  
653 | cities in YRD region was estimated at  $56.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  for PE1, 23% larger than that for  
654 | PE2, and the contributions in most cities were much larger for PE1 than those for PE2,  
655 | except for Bozhou and Fuyang. The comparisons thus suggest that air pollution  
656 | caused by OBB would exaggerate under poorer meteorology conditions. To reduce air  
657 | pollution caused by OBB in harvest season in YRD, therefore, more attention should  
658 | be paid to the OBB restriction on those days with unfavorable meteorology conditions  
659 | such as calm wind and rainless period.

660 | To further analyze the influence of diurnal variation of emissions on air pollution  
661 | caused by OBB, we simulated  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentrations of June 17-24 2010 with various  
662 | diurnal curves of OBB emissions (i.e., those for 2010 and 2012). Constrained  
663 | emissions were applied in the simulation. As shown in Figure 4011, the contributions  
664 | of OBB to  $\text{PM}_{10}$  concentrations based on diurnal curve of 2012 were larger than those  
665 | based on 2010 for almost all YRD cities, and the average contribution for the 17 cities  
666 | was calculated at  $28.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  based on diurnal curve of 2012, 10% larger than that  
667 | based on 2010. The contribution in Bozhou changed most (1.37 times larger with  
668 | 2012 curve), while those in Shanghai, Huzhou and Shaoxing changed least. The time  
669 | of peak value for OBB emissions in 2012 was 2.5 hours later than 2010, indicating  
670 | that the fraction of OBB emissions at night for 2012 would be larger than that for  
671 | 2010. As the diffusion condition for air pollutants at night was usually worse than that  
672 | during daytime, more OBB emissions at night would elevate its contribution to  
673 | particle pollution. In the actual fact, the supervision of OBB prohibition was usually  
674 | conducted by government during daytime, thus some farmers burned more crop

675 residues at night to avoid the punishment. To improve the air quality in harvest season  
676 in YRD, more attention should be paid to the OBB restriction at night.

### 677 **3.5 Uncertainty analysis**

678 The uncertainties of OBB emissions estimated with bottom-up and FRP-based  
679 methods were quantified by species using a Monte-Carlo simulation for 2012. A total  
680 of 20,000 simulations were performed and the uncertainties were expressed as 95%  
681 confidence intervals (CIs) around the central estimates. The parameters contributing  
682 most to OBB emission uncertainty were also identified according to their contribution  
683 to the variance in Monte-Carlo simulation.

684 For traditional bottom-up method, parameters included crop productions,  
685 percentages of CRBF, straw to grain ratios, combustion efficiencies, and emission  
686 factors. Crop production was directly taken from official statistical yearbooks (NBS,  
687 2013) and its uncertainty was expected to be limited and not included in the analysis.  
688 As the percentage of CRBF was determined at half of the percentage of unused crop  
689 residues, its uncertainty was set at -100% to +100%. The combustion efficiencies  
690 were assumed within an uncertainty range of 10% around the mean value according to  
691 de Zarate (2005) and Zhang et al. (2008). Uncertainties of emission factors were  
692 obtained from original literatures where they were derived. If emission factor was  
693 derived from a single measurement, normal distribution was applied with standard  
694 deviation directly taken from that work. If emission factor was derived from multiple  
695 measurements and the samples were insufficient for data fitting, uniform distribution  
696 was tentatively applied with a conservative strategy to avoid possible underestimation  
697 of uncertainty: The uncertain range of given emission factor would be expanded  
698 according to Li et al. (2007) if the range originally from multiple studies was smaller  
699 than that in Li et al. (2007). Summarized in Table [S13-S14](#) in the supplement was a  
700 database for emission factors and percentages of CRBF, with their uncertainties  
701 indicated by probability distribution function (PDF). As shown in Table 4, the  
702 uncertainties of OBB emissions with traditional bottom-up method for PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>,  
703 EC, OC, CH<sub>4</sub>, NMVOCs, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> in 2012 were estimated at  
704 -56% to +70%, -56% to +70%, -50% to +54%, -54% to +73%, -49% to +58%, -48%  
705 to +59%, -46% to +73%, -48% to +60%, -47% to +87%, -59% to +138% and -51% to  
706 +67%, respectively. For most species, the percentages of CRBF contributed largest to

707 the uncertainties of OBB emissions, while emission factors were more significant to  
708 SO<sub>2</sub> uncertainty.

709 For FRP-based method, parameters included total FRE, combustion conversion  
710 ratio and emission factors. Uncertainty of total FRE was associated with FRP value,  
711 MODIS detection resolution, and the methodology used to calculate FRE per fire  
712 pixel. Indicated by Freeborn et al. (2014), the coefficient of variation of MODIS FRP  
713 for a fire pixel was 50%, but it declined to smaller than 5% for the aggregation of over  
714 50 MODIS active fire pixels. Give the large number of fire pixels for in YRD (more  
715 than 17000 in 2012), FRP was expected to contribute little to uncertainty of total FRE  
716 and could thus be ignored. Due to limitation of MODIS resolution, small fires could  
717 not be fully detected and the number of fire pixel could be underestimated by 300%  
718 on crop-dominant areas (Schroeder et al., 2008), therefore the uncertainty of number  
719 of fire pixel was assumed to be 0 to +300%. The method used to calculate FRE based  
720 on single fire pixel assumed that fire lasted one day. Given the small cropland owned  
721 by one farmer in YRD, individual fire normally lasted several hours, and FRE could  
722 be overestimated. As the total FRE in FRP-based method was estimated 2.6 times  
723 larger than that from constraining method based on the same number of the fire pixel,  
724 we tentatively assumed the uncertainty range of FRE for one fire pixel at 0% to -72%.  
725 The uncertainty of total FRE was then estimated at -17% to +154% (95% CIs) based  
726 on the principle that total FRE was calculated as the number of fire pixel multiplied  
727 by average FRE. The uncertainty of combustion conversion ratio was derived from  
728 Wooster et al. (2005) and Freeborn et al. (2008), while those of emission factors taken  
729 from Akagi et al. (2011). As a result, uncertainties of FRP-based inventory were  
730 estimated at -77% to +274%, -63% to +244%, -78% to +281%, -78% to 276%, -83%  
731 to +315%, -63% to +243%, -52% to +223%, -21% to +164%, -82% to +303%, -78%  
732 to +279%, and -82% to +302% for PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, EC, OC, CH<sub>4</sub>, NMVOCs, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>,  
733 NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> in 2012, respectively. Emission factors contributed most to the  
734 uncertainties of emissions for all species except CO<sub>2</sub>.

735 The uncertainty of constrained emissions could hardly be provided by  
736 Monte-Carlo simulation, as the results were associated with CTM performance. In  
737 general, CTM performance could be influenced by emission estimates for sources  
738 other than OBB, chemistry mechanism of CTM and temporal and spatial distribution  
739 of OBB emissions. Emission inventory of anthropogenic sources that incorporates the  
740 best available information of individual plants was expected to improve the CTM



741 performance at the regional or local scale (Zhou et al., 2017b). The influence of  
742 chemistry mechanism came mainly from secondary organic carbon (SOC) modeling.  
743 According to the Cheng et al. (2014) and Chen et al. (2017), the mass fraction of SOC  
744 to PM<sub>10</sub> could reach 10% during the OBB event in YRD, and that part might not be  
745 well constrained with the approach we applied in this work. Similar to FRP-based  
746 method, moreover, temporal and spatial distribution of OBB emissions based on FRP  
747 might not be entirely consistent with the reality, due to omission errors in the MODIS  
748 active fire detection products and limited times of satellite overpass as discussed  
749 earlier. Due to data limitation, finally, we relied on available PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in  
750 current method. More data of multi pollutant concentrations (e.g., PM<sub>2.5</sub>, OC and EC)  
751 with sufficient temporal and spatial resolution are in great need to better constrain the  
752 OBB emissions.

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753 In general, uncertainties of OBB emissions with traditional bottom-up method  
754 were estimated smaller than those with FRP-based method, and uncertainties for CO<sub>2</sub>  
755 and CO were usually smaller than other species in both methods attributed mainly to  
756 fewer variations in their emission factors. OBB emission estimation with traditional  
757 bottom-up method could be improved if more accurate percentages of CRBF are  
758 obtained, and that with FRP-based method could be improved when the omission  
759 error of satellite and the uncertainties of emission factors are reduced. Efforts should  
760 also be recommended on improvement of CTM for better constraining the OBB  
761 emissions.

762

#### 763 4. Conclusions

764 Taking YRD in China as an example, we have thoroughly analyzed the  
765 discrepancies and their sources of OBB emissions estimated with traditional  
766 bottom-up, FRP-based and constraining methods. The simulated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations  
767 through CMAQ with constrained emissions were closest to available observation,  
768 implying the improvement of emission estimation with this method. The inter-annual  
769 variations in emissions with FRP-based and constraining methods were similar with  
770 the fire counts, while that with traditional bottom-up method was not. It indicated that  
771 emissions with traditional bottom-up method could not capture the real inter-annual  
772 trend of OBB emissions. The emissions of all species except NMVOCs based on  
773 traditional bottom-up method might be overestimated in most years, attributed mainly

774 to the elevated percentages of CRBF used in the method. The emissions with  
775 FRP-based method might be underestimated in 2005-2015, attributed to the omission  
776 errors in the MODIS active fire detection products and thereby to the underestimation  
777 in mass of CRBF. The CO emissions with traditional bottom-up, FRP-based and  
778 constraining methods were compared with other studies. Similar temporal variations  
779 were found for the constrained emissions, emissions based on FRP-based, and  
780 emissions in GFASv1.0 and GFEDv4.1s. CO emissions based on traditional  
781 bottom-up method both in this work and other studies were usually higher than those  
782 derived by constraining method, and the CO emissions based on FRP-based method  
783 both in this work and other studies usually were lower than those derived by  
784 constraining method. It again demonstrated that traditional bottom-up method might  
785 overestimate OBB emissions in YRD and FRP-based method might underestimate  
786 them. The contributions of OBB to particulate pollution in typical episodes were  
787 analyzed using the Brute-force method in CMAQ modeling. The OBB emissions in  
788 2012 were 51% larger than those in 2010, while its contribution to average PM<sub>10</sub> mass  
789 concentrations was estimated to increase by 136% from 2010 to 2012. It indicated that  
790 the elevated contribution of OBB was not attributed only to growth in OBB emissions  
791 but was also influenced by the meteorology. Quantified with a Monte-Carlo  
792 framework, the uncertainties of OBB emissions with traditional bottom-up method  
793 were smaller than those with FRP-based method. The uncertainties of emissions based  
794 on traditional bottom-up and FRP-based were mainly from the percentages of CRBF  
795 and emission factors, respectively. Further improvement on CTM for OBB events  
796 would help better constraining OBB emissions.

797 Limitations remained in this study. Given the difficulty in field investigation,  
798 annual CRBF used in traditional bottom-up method was obtained from limited studies  
799 and it could not correctly reflect the real OBB activity. The reliability of OBB  
800 emissions with FRP-based method depended largely on the detection resolution of the  
801 satellite. In YRD where the burned areas of individual fires were small, many fires  
802 could not be detected by MODIS. The accuracy of constrained emissions depended  
803 largely on model performance and spatial and temporal distributions of OBB  
804 emissions derived from satellite-observed FRP. Therefore FRP-based and constraining  
805 method may be improved if more reliable fire information is obtained. In addition,  
806 more measurements on local emission factors for OBB are suggested in the future to  
807 reduce the uncertainty of emissions.

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809

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1017 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

1018 **Figure 1. ~~(a) Monthly variations of fire occurrences in 2010 and 2012, (b)~~**  
1019 **spatial patterns of fire points in June 2010 and June 2012, ~~(c)~~ PM<sub>10</sub>**  
1020 **concentrations for city-level in YRD in June 2010 and June 2012, and ~~(d)~~**  
1021 **temporal variations of daily fire occurrences in June 2010 and 2012. City**  
1022 **abbreviations FY, BZ, BB, HN, HF, CZ(a), XZ, LYG, NJ, YZ, ZJ, TZ, NT, CZ,**  
1023 **WX, SZ, HZ(a), JX, HZ, SX, NB, SH indicate is Fuyang, Bozhou, Bengbu,**  
1024 **Huainan, Hefei, Chuzhou, Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Nanjing, Yangzhou, Zhenjiang,**  
1025 **Taizhou, Nantong, Changzhou, Wuxi, Suzhou, Huzhou, Jiaxing, Hangzhou,**  
1026 **Shaoxing, Ningbo, and Shanghai).**

1027 **Figure 2. Model domain and locations of 43 meteorological monitoring sites. The**  
1028 **numbers of 1-41 represent the cities of Fuyang, Bozhou, Huaibei, Suzhou,**  
1029 **Huainan, Bengbu, Luan, Hefei, Chuzhou, Anqing, Chaohu, Maanshan, Chizhou,**  
1030 **Tongling, Wuhu, Huangshan, Xuancheng, Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Suqian,**  
1031 **Huaian, Yancheng, Yangzhou, Taizhou, Nanjing, Zhenjiang, Nantong,**  
1032 **Changzhou, Wuxi, Suzhou; Huzhou, Jiaxing, Hangzhou, Shaoxing, Ningbo,**  
1033 **Zhoushan, Quzhou, Jinhua, Taizhou, Lishui and Wenzhou, respectively.**  
1034 **~~Model domain and locations of 43 meteorological monitoring sites.~~**

1035 **Figure 3. Fire counts and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimated with traditional bottom-up,**  
1036 **FRP-based and constraining methods for YRD 2005-2012.**

1037 **Figure 4. Observed 24-hour averaged PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations and simulated hourly**  
1038 **PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations without OBB emissions (No\_OBB) and with OBB emissions**  
1039 **based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional\_OBB), FRP-based (FRP\_OBB) and**  
1040 **constraining (Constrained\_OBB) methods in Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bozhou,**  
1041 **Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, and Chuzhou during June 17-25, 2010.**

1042 **Figure 5. Observed 24-hour averaged PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations and simulated hourly**  
1043 **PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations without OBB emissions (No\_OBB) and with OBB emissions**  
1044 **based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional\_OBB), FRP-based (FRP\_OBB) and**  
1045 **constraining (Constrained\_OBB) methods in Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Fuyang,**  
1046 **Bozhou, Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, and Chuzhou during June 8-14, 2012.**

1047 **Figure 6. Annual CO emissions from OBB in YRD obtained in this work and**  
1048 **other studies from 2005 to 2012.**



1049 **Figure 7. Spatial distributions of CO emissions from OBB obtained in this work**  
1050 **(constraining method), GFAS v1.0, GFED v3.0 and GFED v4.1s in 2010.**

1051 **Figure 8. The contribution of OBB to PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for different YRD**  
1052 **cities during OBB events in June 2010 and 2012.**

1053 [Figure 9. The contribution of OBB to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for](#)  
1054 [different YRD cities during OBB event in June 2014.](#)

1055 **Figure 910. PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations contributed by OBB for different YRD cities in**  
1056 **Jun 8-14 (PE1) and June 22-28 (PE2), 2012.**

1057 **Figure 1011. PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations contributed by OBB for different YRD cities**  
1058 **based on the diurnal variations of 2010 and 2012 in Jun 8-14, 2010.**

1059

1060

## TABLES

1061 **Table 1. Constrained OBB emissions from 2005 to 2015 in YRD (Unit: Gg).**

	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	EC	OC	CH <sub>4</sub>	NMVOCs	CO	CO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NH <sub>3</sub>
2005	175.7	153.7	4.4	38.7	32.1	420.3	670.2	12011.2	22.2	2.7	4.1
2006	171.3	149.9	4.3	37.8	31.3	409.9	653.7	11716.7	21.7	2.6	4.0
2007	219.1	191.7	5.5	48.3	40.0	524.2	835.9	14981.9	27.7	3.4	5.1
2008	176.7	154.6	4.4	39.0	32.3	422.8	674.3	12085.2	22.3	2.7	4.1
2009	178.8	156.4	4.5	39.4	32.6	427.7	682.0	12223.3	22.6	2.8	4.2
2010	257.9	225.7	6.5	58.3	47.6	624.5	987.7	17720.3	33.0	4.0	6.1
2011	188.9	165.3	4.7	41.7	34.5	452.0	720.7	12917.7	23.9	2.9	4.4
2012	389.0	340.4	9.6	83.6	70.2	919.4	1478.6	26473.6	48.6	6.0	9.0
2013	260.7	228.1	6.5	57.5	47.6	623.8	994.7	17828.1	33.0	4.0	6.1
2014	332.4	290.8	8.3	73.3	60.7	795.2	1268.1	22729.0	42.0	5.1	7.8
2015	109.9	96.1	2.8	24.2	20.1	262.9	419.3	7514.6	13.9	1.7	2.6

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1065 | **Table 2. Model performance statistics for concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> from**  
 1066 | **observation and CMAQ simulation without OBB emissions (No\_OBB) and with**  
 1067 | **OBB emissions based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional\_OBB), FRP-based**  
 1068 | **(FRP\_OBB) and constraining methods (Constrained\_OBB) for the ~~two~~-three**  
 1069 | **OBB events of June 2010 ~~and~~, 2012 ~~and~~ 2014.**

			June 2010		June 2012					
			NMB	NME	NMB	NME				
<u>No_OBB</u>			-47%	50%	-60%	68%				
<u>Traditional_OBB</u>			11%	44%	-16%	45%				
<u>FRP_OBB</u>			-33%	41%	-45%	52%				
<u>Constrained_OBB</u>			-16%	37%	-10%	45%				
			<u>No_OBB</u>		<u>Traditional_OBB</u>		<u>FRP_OBB</u>		<u>Constrained_OBB</u>	
			NMB	NME	NMB	NME	NMB	NME	NMB	NME
<u>2010</u>	<u>PM<sub>10</sub></u>	<u>Daily</u>	-47%	50%	11%	44%	-33%	41%	-16%	37%
<u>2012</u>	<u>PM<sub>10</sub></u>	<u>Daily</u>	-60%	68%	-16%	45%	-45%	52%	-10%	45%
	<u>PM<sub>10</sub></u>	<u>Daily</u>	-59%	59%			-54%	54%	-37%	42%
	<u>PM<sub>10</sub></u>	<u>Hourly</u>	-59%	60%			-54%	57%	-37%	52%
<u>2014</u>		<u>Daily</u>	-52%	52%			-41%	42%	-12%	39%
	<u>PM<sub>2.5</sub></u>	<u>Hourly</u>	-52%	56%			-41%	51%	-13%	54%
<u>Bench</u>	<u>PM<sub>10</sub></u>								-45%	49%
<u>-mark</u>	<u>PM<sub>2.5</sub></u>								-33%	43%

1070 |  
 1071 | Note: <sup>a</sup> from Zhang et al. (2006). NMB and NME were calculated using following equations (*P*  
 1072 | and *O* indicate the results from modeling prediction and observation, respectively):

1073 | 
$$NMB = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_i - O_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (O_i)} \times 100\% ; NME = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |P_i - O_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^n (O_i)} \times 100\% .$$

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1075 **Table 3. OBB emissions in YRD derived from this work and other studies in**  
 1076 **2010 (Unit: Gg).**

	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	EC	OC	CH <sub>4</sub>	NMVOCs	CO	CO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	SO <sub>2</sub>	NH <sub>3</sub>
Traditional (this work)	362.4	317.1	9.3	85.7	67.9	154.9	1391.8	24978.0	47.0	5.4	8.7
FRP-based (this work)	57.8	50.6	6.4	18.5	46.5	412.5	820.1	12718.0	24.9	3.2	17.7
<u>FRP-based (WSE)<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>158.6</u>	<u>139.1</u>	<u>4.1</u>	<u>38.5</u>	<u>30.1</u>	<u>68.7</u>	<u>612.8</u>	<u>11004.3</u>	<u>20.9</u>	<u>2.4</u>	
Constrained (this work)	257.9	225.7	6.5	58.3	47.6	624.5	987.7	17720.3	33.0	4.0	6.1
GFASv1.0	-	17.8	1.0	9.5	15.6	88.7	196.3	3097.8	5.1	1.0	3.1
GFEDv3.0	-	3.5	0.2	1.7	3.2	4.1	39.4	701.6	1.1	0.2	6.4
GFEDv4.1s	-	33.6	4.0	12.4	31.3	53.2	548.3	8519.7	16.7	2.2	11.7
Xia et al, (2016)	350.2	339.3	14.8	137.8	-	-	1989.9	49835.1	134.3	22.6	-

1077 <sup>1</sup> FRP-based (WSE): the OBB emissions were ~~derived~~estimated with FRP-based method,  
 1078 applying ~~the same emission factors as~~ used in the bottom-up method ~~in FRP-based~~  
 1079 method ~~and t~~. The emission factors were obtained by weighting emission factors in the  
 1080 bottom-up method with the masses of various crop ~~straws of different crop species types~~.  
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带格式表格

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**Table 4. The uncertainties of OBB emissions in YRD indicated as 95% CIs and the top two parameters contributing most to emission uncertainties based on traditional bottom-up and FRP-based methods for 2012. The percentages in the parentheses indicate the contributions of the parameters to the variances of emissions.**

	Traditional bottom-up method		FRP-based method	
PM <sub>10</sub>	-56%, +70%	PCRBF <sup>1</sup> <sub>Anhui</sub> (42%)	-77%, +274%	EF (76%)
		EF <sub>wheat</sub> (41%)		AF <sup>2</sup> (11%)
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	-56%, +70%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (43%)	-63%, +244%	EF (65%)
		EF <sub>wheat</sub> (41%)		NFP <sup>3</sup> (16%)
EC	-50%, +54%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (69%)	-78%, +281%	EF (75%)
		PCRBF <sub>Jiangsu</sub> (11%)		NFP (11%)
OC	-54%, +73%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (42%)	-78%, +276%	EF (75%)
		EF <sub>rice</sub> (37%)		NFP (11%)
CH <sub>4</sub>	-49%, +58%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (65%)	-83%, +315%	EF (79%)
		PCRBF <sub>Jiangsu</sub> (11%)		NFP (9%)
NMVOCs	-48%, +59%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (64%)	-63%, +243%	EF (65%)
		PCRBF <sub>Jiangsu</sub> (10%)		NFP (16%)
CO	-46%, +73%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (62%)	-52%, +223%	EF (57%)
		PCRBF <sub>Jiangsu</sub> (10%)		NFP (19%)
CO <sub>2</sub>	-48%, +60%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (69%)	-21%, +164%	NFP (44%)
		PCRBF <sub>Jiangsu</sub> (10%)		AF (42%)
NO <sub>x</sub>	-47%, +87%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (51%)	-82%, +303%	EF (78%)
		EF <sub>wheat</sub> (23%)		NFP (10%)
SO <sub>2</sub>	-59%, +138%	EF <sub>wheat</sub> (35%)	-78%, +279%	EF (74%)
		PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (27%)		NFP (12%)
NH <sub>3</sub>	-51%, +67%	PCRBF <sub>Anhui</sub> (55%)	-82%, +302%	EF (79%)
		EF <sub>wheat</sub> (12%)		NFP (10%)

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<sup>1</sup> PCRBF, the percentage of crop residues burned in the field (the subscript indicates province); <sup>2</sup> AF, the average FRE of fire pixels; <sup>3</sup> NFP, the number of fire pixels; <sup>4</sup> MCRBF, the mass of crop residues burned in the field.

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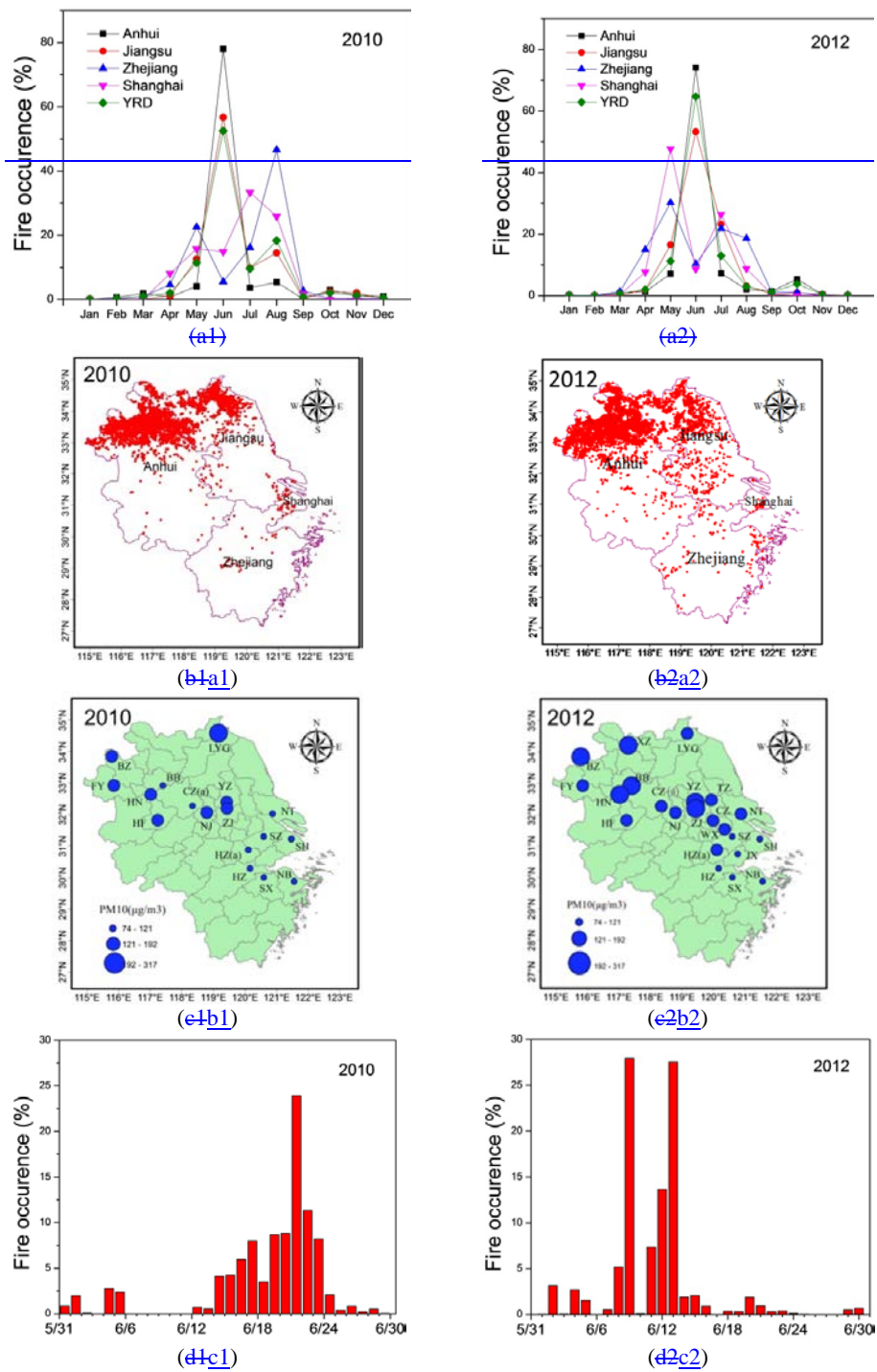
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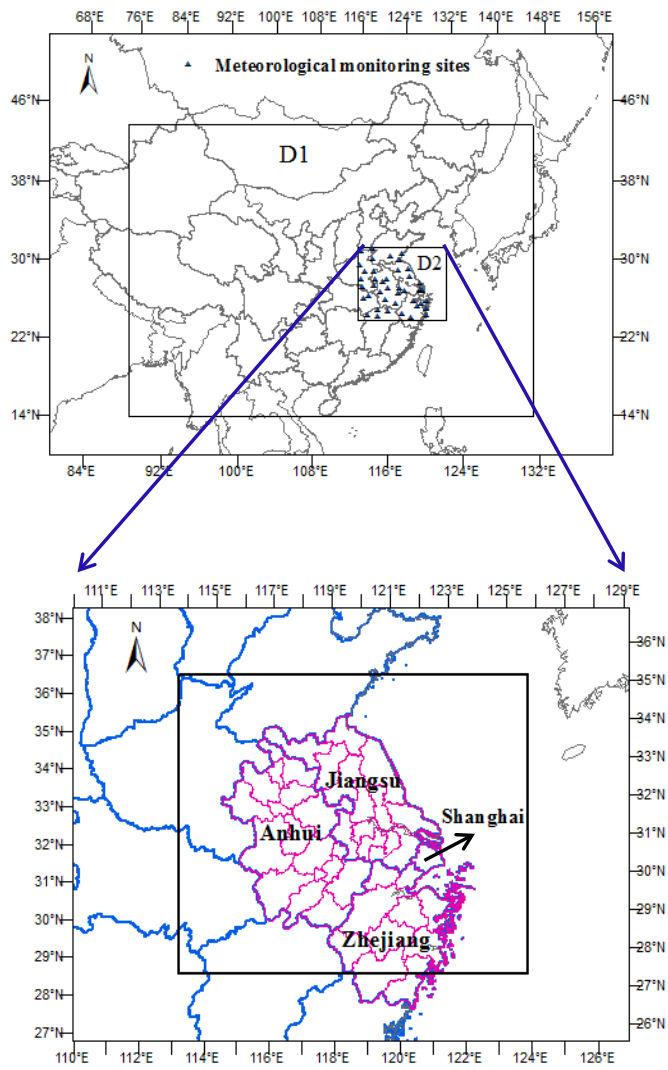
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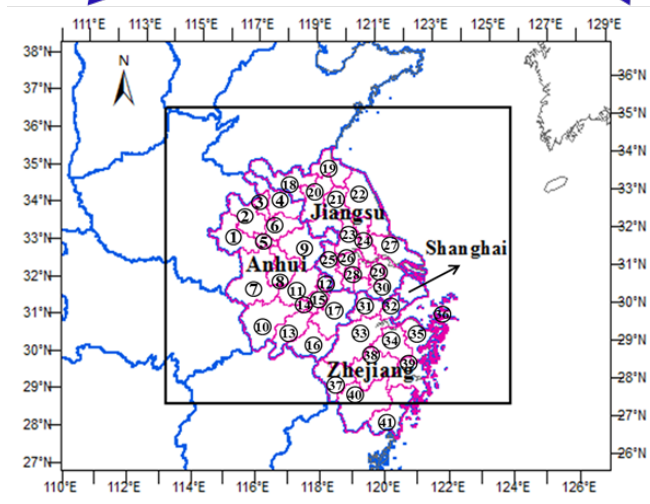
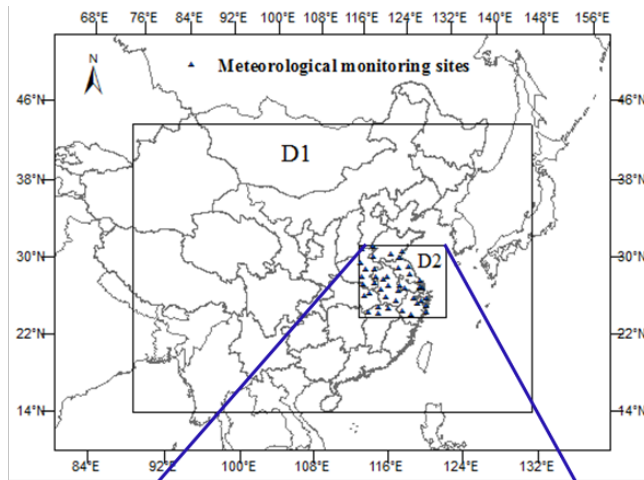
Figure 1.



1093 **Figure 2.**



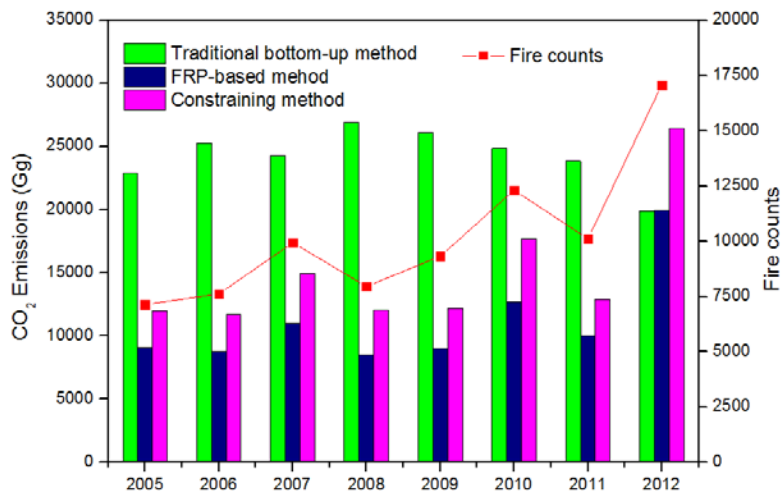
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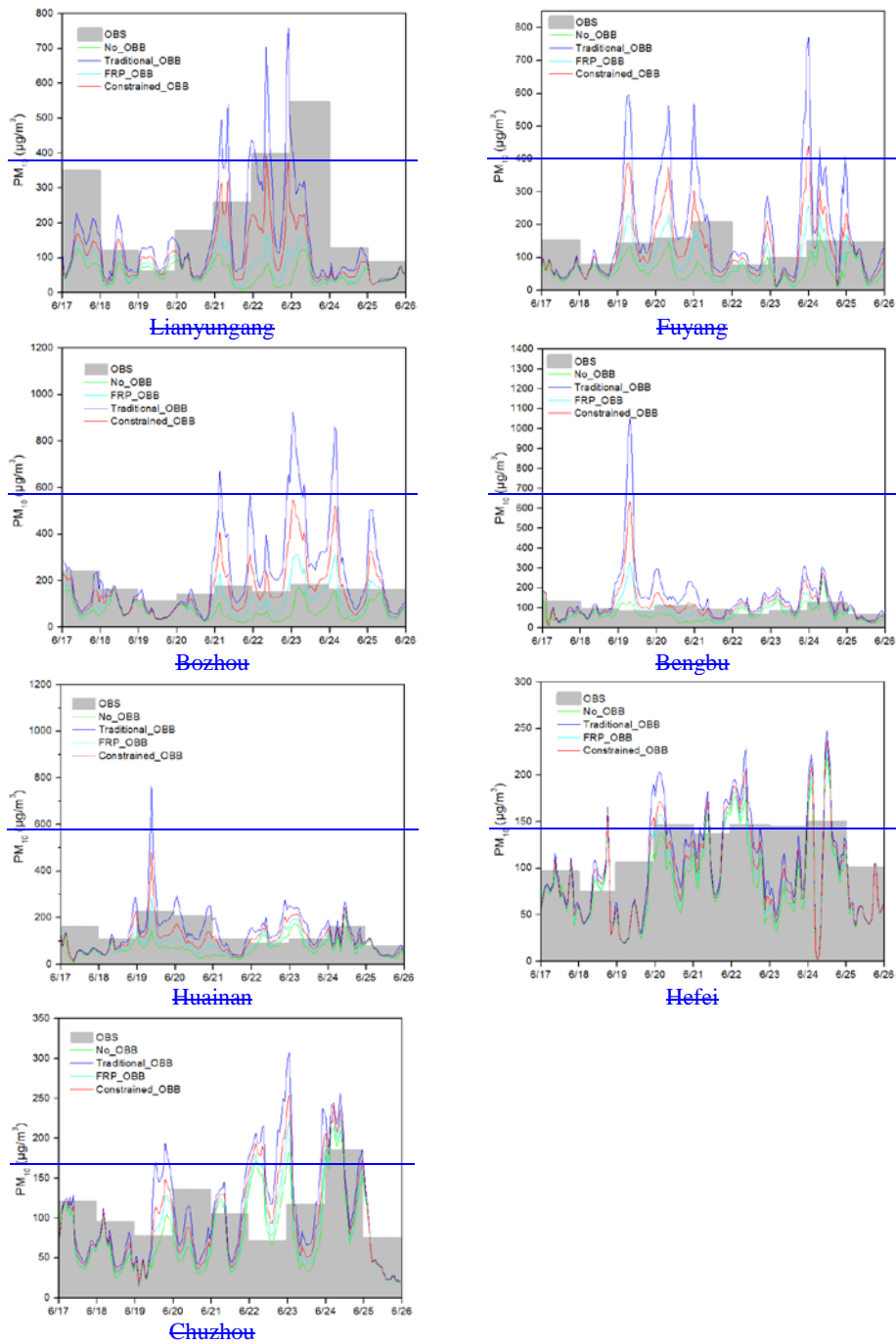
1097 **Figure 3.**

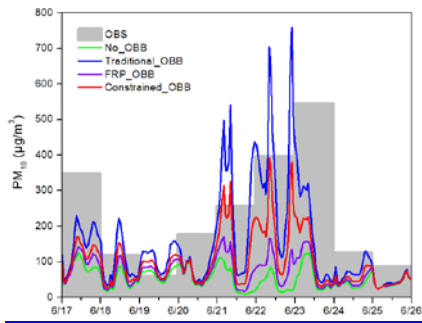


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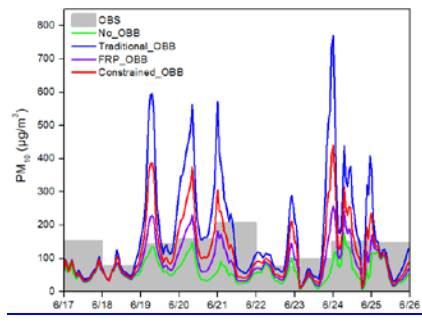
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Figure 4.

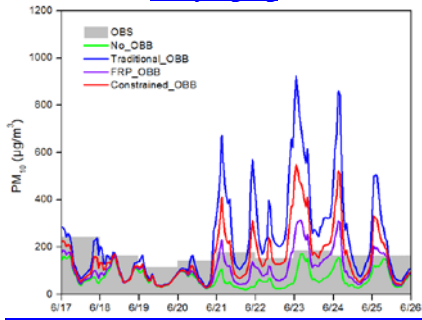




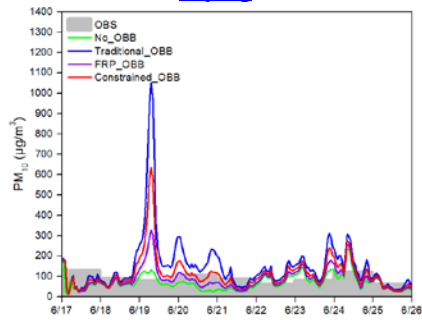
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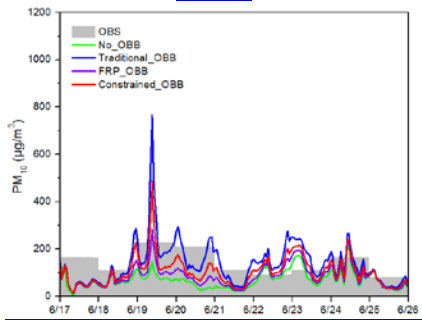
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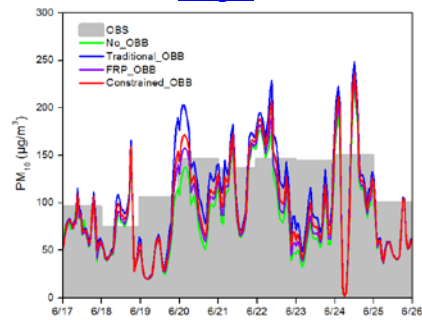
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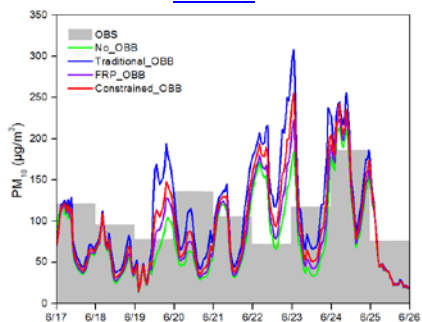
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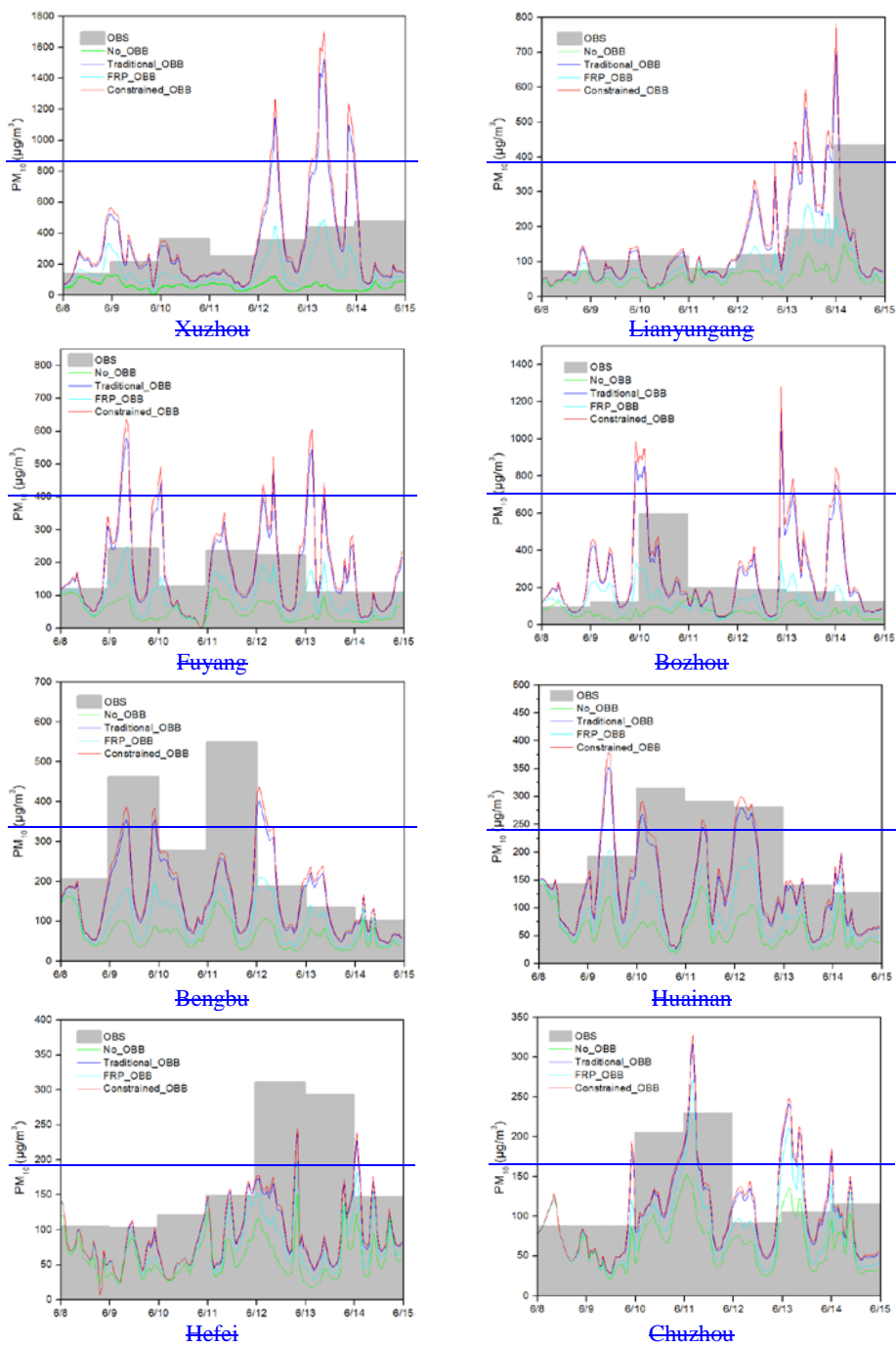


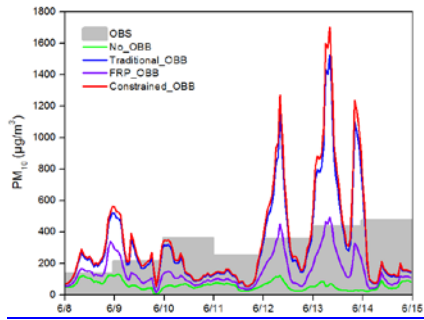
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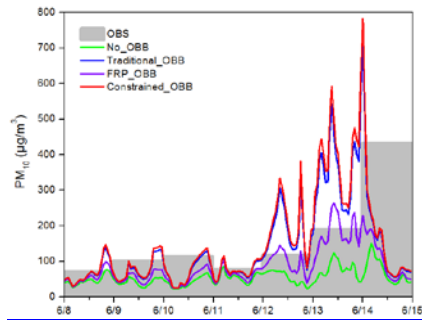
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Figure 5.

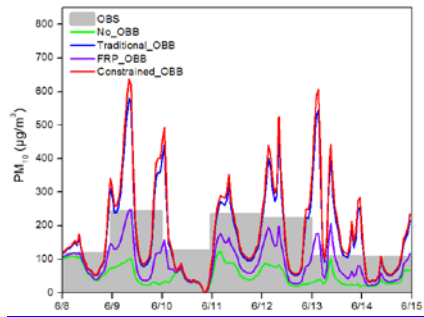




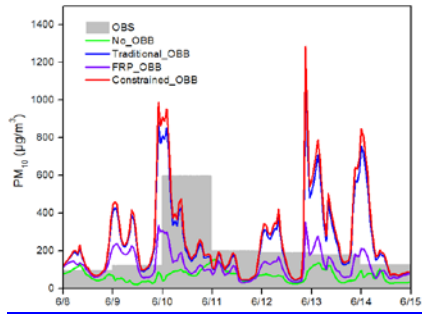
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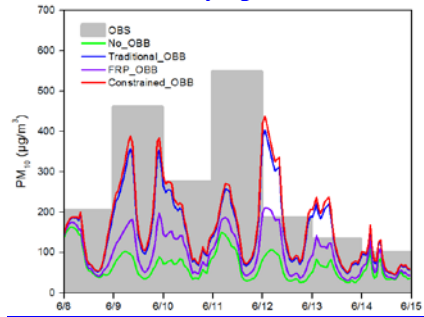
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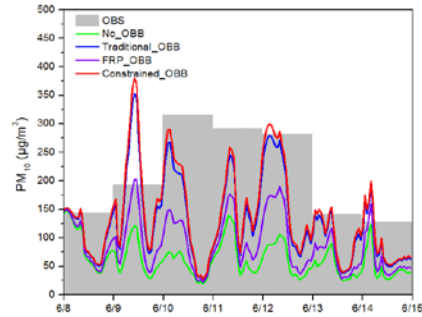
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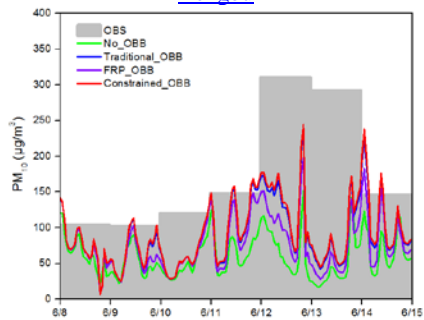
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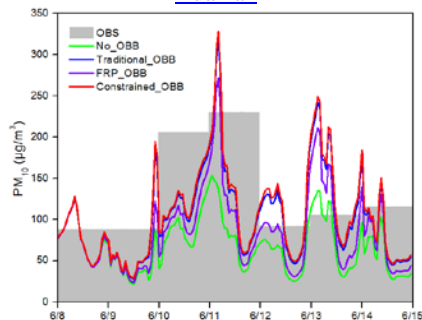
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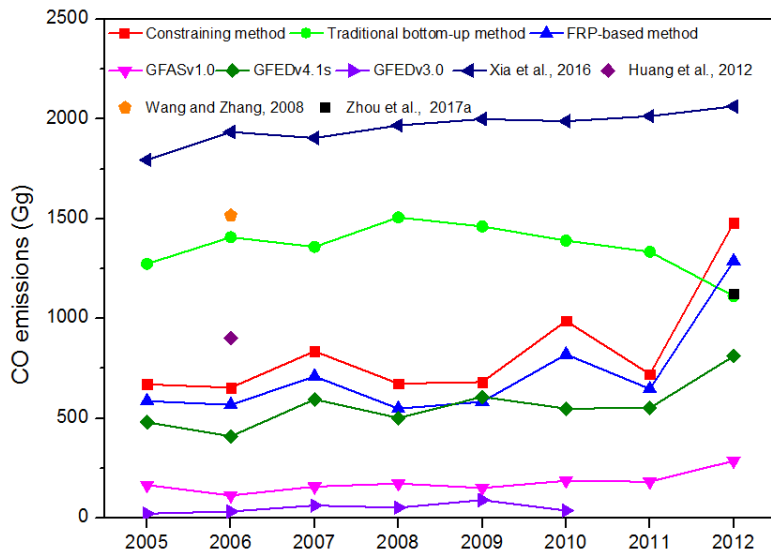


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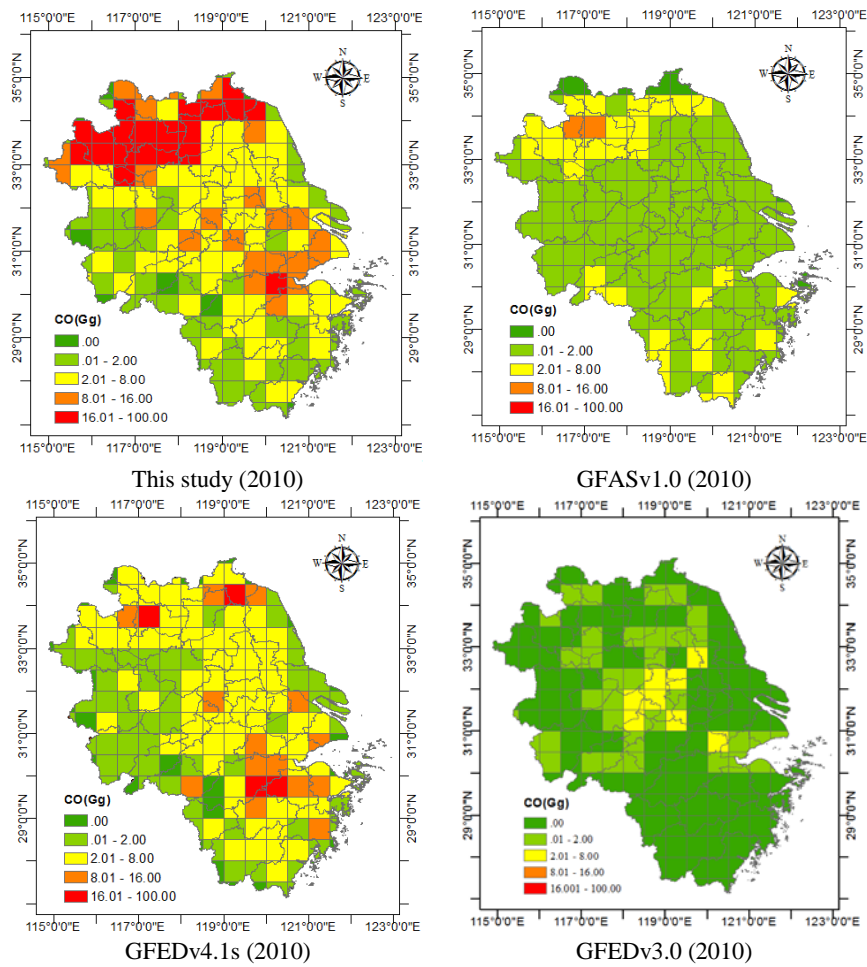
1107 **Figure 6.**



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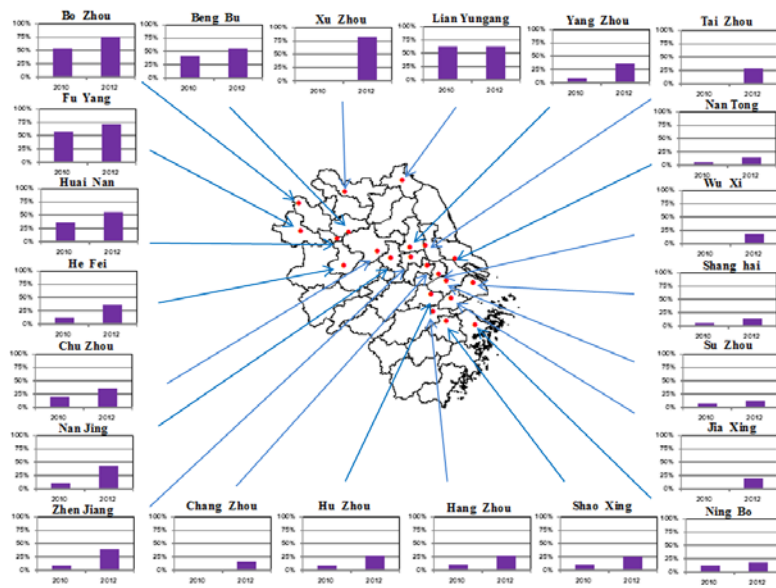
1110 **Figure 7.**



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1113 **Figure 8.**

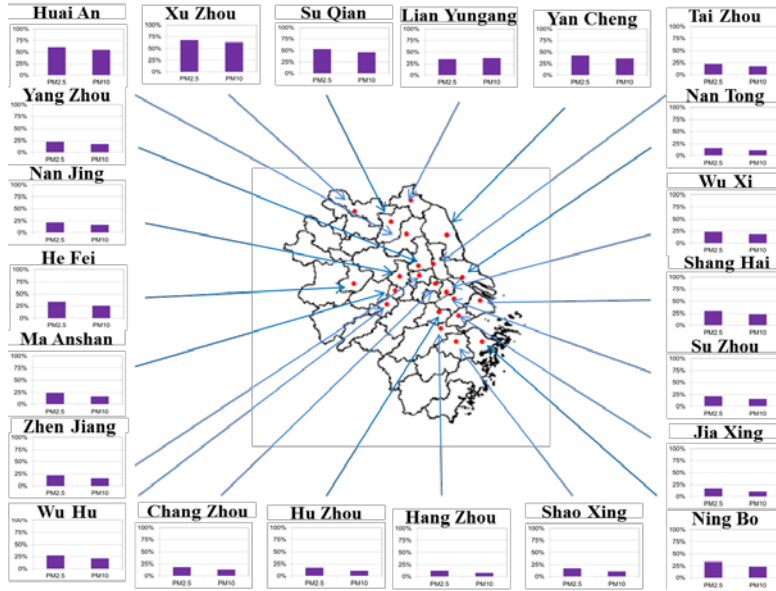


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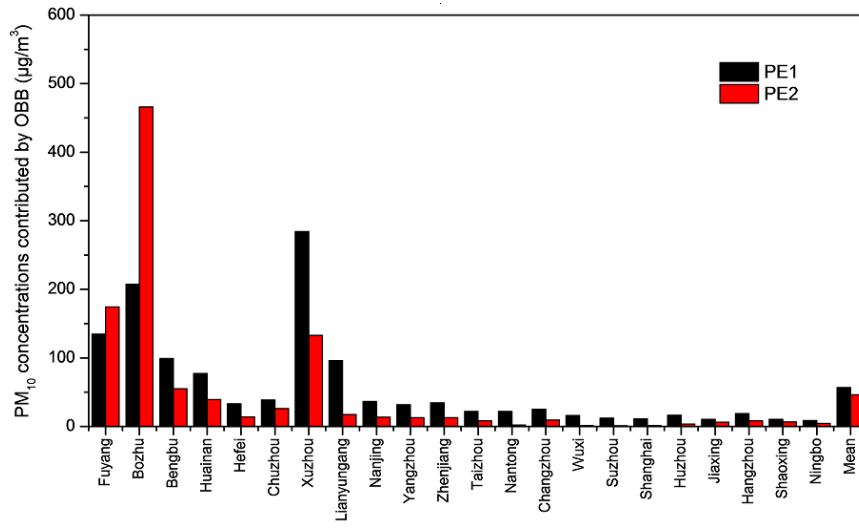
**Figure 9.**



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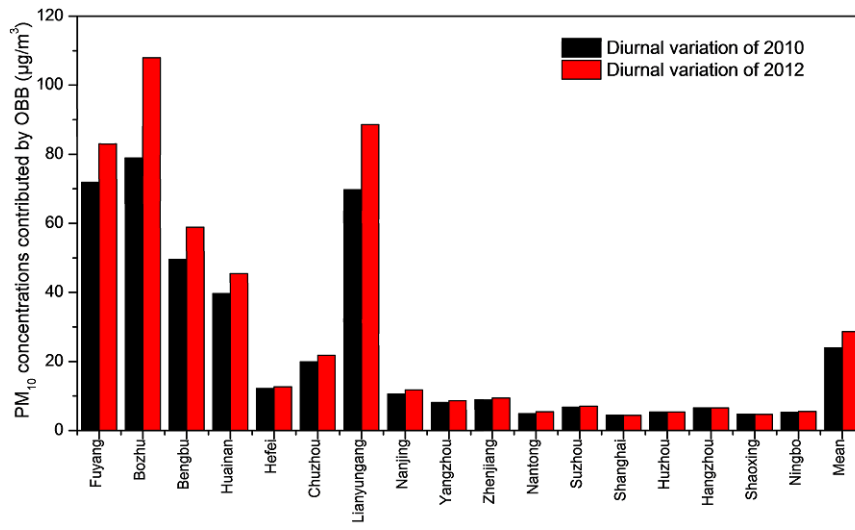
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1119 | **Figure 910.**  
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1123 | **Figure 1011.**



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