

## **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

Authors: Yang Yang, Yu Zhao

We thank very much for the valuable comments and suggestions from the reviewer, 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 #3**

*General comments: The introduction, description of methods and analysis of data have been documented well and the results are presented in the lucid manner. Also the results showed consistent with those obtained by several other earlier studies. The quantitative estimates of OBB emissions would be helpful to study the fire impacts on regional and local air quality and therefore helpful in the policy-making in the future. But there are some flaws in this study. I recommend for publication but after substantial revision with the considerations provided below and proof-reading to strengthen the paper.*

### **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.

*1. Three methods, namely traditional bottom-up, fire radiative power (FRP)-based, and constraining, were used to estimate the OBB emissions. However, it's quite boring because the author does not put much insight into these methods, but simple quantify the OBB emissions with them. Actually, the bottom-up and FRP-based had been widely applied in the estimations of global or regional OBB emissions. The highlight of this study is the constraining method. This study should be emphasis on reporting the constraining method and describing its advantages relative to other methods.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. Different methods existed in estimating the emissions from open biomass burning, but inventories were still of large uncertainty, and the discrepancies and underlying reasons were seldom analyzed. In this work we aimed to understand the reasons for the discrepancies between inventories with different methods, and thus described the data sources and principles of all the three methods. We took the reviewer's suggestion and discussed the advantages of constraining method. The constraining method did not rely on the activity levels (i.e., the burned biomass in the cropland) that were still of considerable uncertainty in China. The estimation in emissions of the species for which the ground observation was applied as constraint (PM<sub>10</sub> in this case) was less influenced by the uncertainties of emission factors compared to the other two methods. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 228-233 of Page 8 in the revised manuscript.** To explore the advantages of constraining method, the OBB emissions based on the three methods were evaluated with chemistry transport model (CTM) and fire points derived by satellite, and the best model performance was achieved with the constrained OBB emissions applied in CTM, implying the reliability of the method. In contrast, the traditional bottom-up method failed to catch the actual inter-annual trend in emissions and the FRP-based method might underestimate the emissions due to limitation of satellite observation.

2. *The spatial resolution of OBB emission inventories using three methods are also compared. So, what's the allocation factor (cropland or population?) of bottom-up-based OBB emission inventory in this study?*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. We expected that the fire radiative power (FRP) of agricultural fire point detected by satellite was a more appropriate allocation factor than cropland or population. Therefore the FRP of agricultural fire point was applied to determine the spatial pattern of OBB emissions based on the traditional method. We stated this in section 2.4 in the revised manuscript.

3. *The FRP data may miss amount of fire points because of the limitation of satellite overpass periods, leading to the underestimation of OBB emissions. The author should consider it in calculating the uncertainty of OBB emissions.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. The underestimation of OBB emissions based on FRP-based since the limitation of satellite overpass periods and detectability of satellite were considered in this study. According to Schroeder et al. (2008), the number of fire pixel could be underestimated by 300% on crop-dominant areas due to the both reasons, and the result was used to calculate the uncertainties of OBB emissions based on FRP-based method. **Corresponding revision was shown in lines 696-699 of Page 22 in the revised manuscript.**

4. *Compares model output using different inventories with an observational dataset. While interesting. I am interested in why the simulated PM10 level with Traditional\_OBB input is significant higher than with FRP\_OBB and Constrained\_OBB inputs in Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bozhou and Bengbu, while no difference in Hefei and Chuzhou. In addition, more air pollutants, such as CO and*

*PM<sub>2.5</sub> should be compared because OBB emissions is not the major contributor to PM<sub>10</sub>.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's comment. The city of Lianyungang is located in northern Jiangsu, and the cities of Fuyang, Bozhou and Bengbu are located in northern of Anhui province. Indicated by the number of fire points, open biomass burning occurred more frequently in those two regions than the central Anhui where Hefei and Chuzhou are located. Compared to other anthropogenic activities, therefore, the OBB emissions and their contribution to elevated ambient particle concentrations were expected larger in Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bozhou, and Bengbu than those in Hefei and Chuzhou. In this work, for example, the average PM<sub>10</sub> concentration contributed by OBB for the cities of Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bozhou and Bengbu was estimated at 68  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  in the OBB episode in 2010, and that of Hefei and Chuzhou was much smaller at 16  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ . Given more importance of OBB, the discrepancies in PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations simulated from various OBB inventories were thus significantly larger in cities of northern Anhui and Jiangsu than those in cities of central Anhui.

We agree with the reviewer that in general OBB is not the major contributor to PM<sub>10</sub>. However, very few observation data for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and gaseous species were available before 2013. From limited data in Nanjing, we found that the mass fractions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> to PM<sub>10</sub> were 79% during the OBB episodes in 2012, implying that PM<sub>10</sub> could serve as an indicator of PM<sub>2.5</sub>. We stated this in in lines 234-243 of Page 8 in the revised manuscript. Moreover, we used both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations to evaluate the model performance and to analyze the contribution of OBB for 2014. Similar to 2010 and 2012, the NMBs and NMEs between the observed and simulated particle concentrations with constrained OBB emissions were smaller than most of those with FRP-based OBB emissions or without OBB emissions. 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, indicating that OBB was an important source of both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. In addition, we also followed the reviewer's suggestion and

applied CO concentrations to evaluate the model performance for the period. Similar to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>, the NMBs and NMEs between observed and simulated CO concentrations with constrained OBB emissions were smaller than those with FRP-based OBB emissions or without OBB emissions, implying the advantage of constrained OBB emissions against other inventories. **Corresponding revision was shown in line 466-474 of Page 15, lines 475-479 of Page 16 and lines 509-514 of Page 17 in the revised manuscript.**

*5. Specify the grid resolution in Figure 7.*

**Response and revisions:**

We thank the reviewer's suggestion and provide the horizontal resolution of Figure 7 ( $0.5^{\circ} \times 0.5^{\circ}$ ).

**References**

Schroeder, W., Prins, E., Giglio, L., Csiszar, I., Schmidt, C., Morisette, J., and Morton, D.: Validation of GOES and MODIS active fire detection products using ASTER and ETM+ data, *Remote Sens. Environ.*, 112 (5), 2711-2726, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2008.01.005>, 2008.

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

51 the OBB control at night. Quantified with Monte-Carlo simulation, the uncertainty of  
52 traditional bottom-up inventory was smaller than that of FRP-based one. The  
53 percentages of CRBF and emission factors were the main source of uncertainty for the  
54 two approaches, respectively. Further improvement on CTM for OBB events would  
55 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 (CH<sub>4</sub>), non-methane volatile organic  
60 compounds (NMVOCs), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), oxides of  
61 nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) (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; Kononov 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 three typical OBB  
117 events in 2010, 2012 and 2014 were evaluated through brute-force method. Influences

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

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## 2. Data and methods

### 123 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:

$$126 \quad E_{(i,y),j} = \sum_k (M_{(i,y),k} \times EF_{j,k}) \quad (1)$$

$$127 \quad M_{(i,y),k} = P_{(i,y),k} \times R_k \times F_{(i,y)} \times CE_k \quad (2)$$

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

133 As summarized in Table S1 in the supplement, emission factors were obtained  
134 based on a comprehensive literature review, and those developed in China were  
135 selected preferentially. The mean value was used if various emission factors could be  
136 obtained. When the emission factors for one crop straw were not obtained, the mean  
137 value of the others was used instead. Annual production of crops at city level was  
138 taken from statistical yearbooks (NBS, 2013). The ratios of straw to grain for different  
139 crops were obtained from Bi (2010) and Zhang et al. (2008), and the combustion  
140 efficiencies for different crop were obtained from Wang et al. (2013), as provided in  
141 Table S2 in the supplement. Without officially reported data, the percentages of CRBF  
142 were estimated to be half of the percentages of unused crop residues, following Su et  
143 al. (2012). In Jiangsu, the percentages of unused crop residues were officially reported  
144 for 2008, 2011 and 2012, while data for other years were unavailable. In this work,  
145 therefore, the percentages of CRBF were assumed to be constant before 2008 and to  
146 decrease by same rate (-15.2%) from 2008 to 2011, since a provincial plan was made  
147 in 2009 to increase the utilization of straw (JPDRC and SMAC, 2009). Similarly, the  
148 percentages of CRBF for Shanghai were assumed to be constant before 2008 and to  
149 decrease by same rate (-16.8%) from 2008 to 2012. Without any official plans

150 released, in contrast, constant percentages of CRBF were assumed for Zhejiang and  
 151 Anhui before 2011, and that for 2012 was taken from NDRC (2014). We applied  
 152 uniform percentages of CRBF for cities within a province attributed to lack of detailed  
 153 information at city level, as summarized in Table S3 in the supplement. OBB  
 154 emissions after 2012 were not calculated with the traditional bottom-up method,  
 155 attributed to lack of information on percentages of CRBF and unused crop residues  
 156 for corresponding years.

## 157 2.2 FRP-based method

158 Similar to traditional bottom-up method, OBB emissions of FRP-based method  
 159 were calculated by multiplying the mass of CRBF and emission factors of various  
 160 pollutants, but mass of CRBF were derived from FRP instead of government-reported  
 161 data. As the burned crop types could not be identified with FRP, uniform emission  
 162 factors were applied for different crop types (Randerson et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2016;  
 163 Qiu et al., 2016), as provided in Table S4 in the supplement.

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

$$165 \quad M = FRE \times CR \quad (3)$$

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

$$174 \quad FRE = \int FRP = \int_0^{24} FRP_{peak} \left( b + e^{-\frac{(t-h)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right) dt \quad (4)$$

$$175 \quad FRP_{peak} = \frac{FRP_t}{\left[ b + e^{-\frac{(t-h)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right]} \quad (5)$$

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

179 FRP data were taken from MODIS Global Monthly Fire Location Product  
 180 (MCD14ML) which provides data from both the Terra and Aqua satellites (Davies et

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

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

$$189 \quad b = 0.86r^2 - 0.52r + 0.08 \quad (6)$$

$$190 \quad \sigma = 3.89r + 1.03 \quad (7)$$

$$191 \quad h = -1.23r + 14.57 + \varepsilon \quad (8)$$

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193  
194 where  $r$  represents the average T/A FRP ratio. Following Liu et al. (2015), we added a  
195 parameter  $\varepsilon$  (4h) to modify  $FRP_{peak}$  hour (h) of the diurnal curve, and the modified  
196 FRP diurnal curves could better represent observed FRP temporal variability than the  
197 original, as shown in Figure S1 in the supplement. As a result, FRE was calculated to  
198 range from  $1.49 \times 10^6$  MJ in 2009 to  $1.95 \times 10^6$  MJ in 2005, with a mean value of  
199  $1.74 \times 10^6$  MJ for YRD region (Table S5).

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

### 206 **2.3 Constraining method**

207 CTM and observation of ground particle matter (PM) concentrations were  
208 applied in constraining OBB emissions given the potentially big contribution of OBB  
209 to particle pollution for harvest seasons (Fu et al., 2013; Cheng et al., 2014; Li et al.,  
210 2014). To characterize the non-linearity between emissions and concentrations, an  
211 initial inventory including OBB and other sources was applied in CTM, and the  
212 response of PM concentrations to emissions was calculated by changing OBB  
213 emissions by a certain fraction (5% in this study) in the model. We defined a response  
214 coefficient as the ratio of relative change in PM concentrations to that in OBB

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

$$224 \quad I = \left| \frac{\sum_{x,i} S_{x,i} - \sum_{x,i} Q_{x,i} \times N_i}{\sum_{x,i} O_{x,i}} - 1 \right| \quad (9)$$

225 where  $x$  and  $i$  stand for the time (time interval of simulation is hour) and city,  
 226 respectively;  $O$  is the observed PM concentration;  $S$  and  $Q$  are the simulated PM  
 227 concentration with and without OBB emissions, respectively; and  $N$  is the normalized  
 228 mean bias (NMB) for non-OBB event period. The constraining method did not rely on  
 229 the activity levels (i.e., the burned biomass in the cropland) that were still of  
 230 considerable uncertainty in China. The estimation in emissions of the species for  
 231 which the ground observation was applied as constraint ( $PM_{10}$  in this case) was less  
 232 influenced by the uncertainties of emission factors compared to the other two  
 233 methods.

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

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245 Environmental Monitoring Center (<http://www.cnemc.cn/>). The conversion from API  
246 scores to PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations is discussed in the Supplement.

247 Figure 1 illustrated the spatial patterns of fire points (panels a1 and a2) in June  
248 2010 and 2012, city-level PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in YRD region in June 2010 and 2012  
249 (panels b1 and b2), and temporal variations of daily fire occurrences in June 2010 and  
250 2012 (panels c1 and c2). From 2005 to 2012, most OBB activities were found in June  
251 2010 and 2012 and northern YRD was the region with the intensive fire counts.  
252 Accordingly PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in northern YRD cities were higher than those in  
253 more developed and industrialized cities in the eastern YRD (e.g., Shanghai, Suzhou,  
254 Wuxi, and Changzhou), because emissions of OBB overwhelmed those from other  
255 sources (Li et al., 2014; Huang et al., 2016). Therefore we constrained OBB emissions  
256 with observed PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in northern YRD cities including Xuzhou,  
257 Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, Chuzhou and Bozhou. Suggested by  
258 the monthly and daily distribution of fire counts (Figures S3 and 1c), two strong OBB  
259 events were defined for June 17-24, 2010 and June 8-14, 2012, and other days in June  
260 of 2010 and 2012 were defined as non-OBB event period. For other years, OBB  
261 emissions were first scaled from the constrained emissions in 2010 and 2012 with the  
262 ratios of FRE for corresponding year to that for 2010 and 2012 respectively, and then  
263 calculated as average of the two. Remarkably, the correction of activity level was  
264 based on the comparisons of simulated and observed PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations, and the  
265 emissions of other species were revised according to the changed activity level. The  
266 reliability of emission estimation for other species thus depended largely on the  
267 reliability of emission factors for PM<sub>10</sub> and those species. Uncertainty would be  
268 introduced to the method, attributed to lack of sufficient and qualified domestic  
269 measurements on emission factors.

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

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

315 Meteorological parameters of WRF model were compared with the observation  
316 dataset of US National Climate Data Center (NCDC), as summarized in Table S6 in  
317 the Supplement. For June 2010, the average biases between the two datasets were  
318 0.06 m/s for wind speed, 9.84 degree for wind direction, 0.64 K for temperature and  
319 2.99% for relative humidity. The analogue numbers were 0.01 and 0.67 m/s, 7 and  
320 18.22 degree, 0.91 and 0.43 K and 3.1 and 0.07% respectively for June 2012 and 2014,  
321 respectively. The meteorological parameters of this study were in compliance with the  
322 benchmarks derived from Emery et al. (2001) and Jiménez et al. (2006). Simulated  
323 daily PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations were compared with observation for non-OBB event period  
324 in June 2010 and 2012 in Table S7 in the supplement. The average of normalized  
325 mean biases (NMB) and normalized mean errors (NME) were -19.2% and 38.9% for  
326 17 YRD cities in June 2010, and -20.9% and 33.9% for 22 cities in June 2012,  
327 respectively. Simulated daily and hourly PM<sub>2.5+10</sub> and PM<sub>102.5</sub> and CO concentrations  
328 were compared with the observation for non-OBB event period in June 2014 in Table  
329 S8 and S9 in the supplement. The hourly NMB of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> were -29.9% and  
330 -39.8%, and the hourly NME of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> were 49.8% and 54.7%. The model  
331 performance of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> was similar with that derived by Zhang et al. (2006)  
332 in US in general. The hourly NMB and NME of CO were -42.3% and 48.3%, and  
333 they were similar with those derived by Kota et al. (2018). As shown in Figure S4 in  
334 the supplement, moreover, simulated hourly PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were in  
335 good agreement with observations at four air quality monitoring sites in YRD during  
336 non-OBB event period in June 2012. The comparison thus implied the reliability of  
337 emission inventory of anthropogenic origin used in this work, while underestimation  
338 might occur indicated by the negative NMB.

339



340

### 3. Results and discussions

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

342 OBB emissions estimated with the traditional bottom-up method for 2005-2012  
343 were shown in Table [S9-S10](#) in the supplement. As emission factors were assumed  
344 unchanged during the period, similar inter-annual trends were found for all species  
345 and CO<sub>2</sub> was selected as a representative species for further discussion. As shown in  
346 Figure 3, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from traditional bottom-up method were estimated to  
347 decrease from 23000 in 2005 to 19973 Gg in 2012, with a peak value of 27061 Gg in  
348 2008. In contrast, the number of fire points in YRD farmland increased from 7158 in  
349 2005 to 17074 in 2012. The fire counts detected from satellite thus did not support the  
350 effectiveness of OBB restriction by government in YRD before 2013. Table [S10-S11](#)  
351 in the supplement presents the annual OBB emissions derived from FRP-based  
352 method for 2005-2015 in YRD region. Associated with fire counts, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
353 were estimated to grow by 119.7% from 2005 to 2012, with the largest and the second  
354 largest annual emissions calculated at 19977 and 12718 Gg for 2012 and 2010,  
355 respectively (Figure 3). Similar temporal variability was found for fire counts, which  
356 increased by 138.5% from 2005 to 2012, with the most and the second most counts  
357 found at 17074 and 12322 for 2012 and 2010, respectively.

358 With the constraining method, as shown in Figure S5 in the supplement, the ratio  
359 of constrained mass of CRBF for 2012 to 2010 was 1.51, clearly lower than the ratios  
360 of original FRE (1.75) but close to the ratio of modified FRE for 2012 to 2010 (1.57).  
361 The comparison suggested that modified FRE better reflect the OBB activity in YRD  
362 than original FRE. In order to make the ratio of FRE for the two years be closer to the  
363 ratio of constrained mass of CRBF, an improved method was developed for  
364 calculating the FRE. Given the possible variation of FRP<sub>peak</sub> hour between years, we  
365 obtained the diurnal cycle of total FRP of YRD for 2005-2015 based on Gaussian  
366 fitting as shown in Figure S6 in the supplement. The ratio of FRE for 2012 to 2010  
367 was recalculated at 1.54, further closer to the ratio of constrained mass of CRBF.  
368 Therefore the ratios of FRE for another given year to 2012 and 2010 were calculated  
369 with this improved method, and were then applied to emission scaling for that year.  
370 The constrained OBB emissions from 2005 to 2015 were summarized in Table 1. The  
371 inter-annual trend in constrained emissions was similar with those in fire counts and  
372 FRP-based emissions but different from that in emissions with traditional bottom-up

373 method, as shown in Figure 3. It is usually difficult to collect accurate percentages of  
374 CRBF from bottom-up method, as it demands intensive investigation in the rural areas.  
375 In addition, the percentages of CRBF were not updated for each year, and same  
376 percentages were commonly applied for years without sufficient data support from  
377 local surveys.

378 The constrained CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for Jiangsu, Anhui, Zhejiang and Shanghai were  
379 calculated at 5790, 4699, 1104 and 419 Gg in 2005, accounting for 48.2%, 39.1%,  
380 9.2% and 3.5% of total OBB emissions in YRD, respectively. The analogue numbers  
381 for 2012 were 7345, 16159, 2574 and 394 Gg, and 27.7%, 61.0%, 9.7% and 1.5%,  
382 respectively. Jiangsu and Anhui were found to contribute largest to OBB emissions in  
383 YRD for 2005 and 2012, respectively. In the traditional bottom-up method, however,  
384 Anhui was estimated to contribute largest for both years. City-level OBB emissions  
385 estimated with the three methods were summarized in Table [S11-S12-S13-S14](#) in the  
386 supplement. With the constraining method, in particular, largest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were  
387 found in Suzhou (1708 Gg) of Anhui, Lianyungang (1578 Gg) and Xuzhou (1401 Gg)  
388 of Jiangsu in 2005, accounting for 14.2%, 13.1% and 11.7% of the total emissions,  
389 respectively. In 2012, Suzhou, Bozhou of Anhui, and Xuzhou of Jiangsu were  
390 identified as the cities with the largest emissions, with the values estimated at 5007,  
391 2433, and 2109 Gg, respectively. Depending on distribution of fire points, the shares  
392 of OBB emissions by city were close between constraining and FRP-based method,  
393 and large emissions concentrated in the north of YRD. Based on surveyed percentages  
394 of CRBF and crop production, in contrast, the emission shares by city in traditional  
395 bottom-up method were clearly different from the other two, and emissions  
396 concentrated in Anhui cities with high crop production level.

397 The average annual emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> for 2005-2011 with traditional bottom-up  
398 method were 87.0% larger than those in constraining method and the emissions for  
399 2012 was 24.6% times smaller than those in constraining method. Given the same  
400 sources of emission factors for all species except NMVOCs, the discrepancies of OBB  
401 emissions for most species between constraining and traditional bottom-up methods  
402 come from the activity levels (i.e., percentages of CRBF and crop production). The  
403 average annual constrained emissions from 2005 to 2015 were larger than those  
404 derived by FRP-based method for all species except EC, CH<sub>4</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub>, since the  
405 average annual mass of CRBF from constraining method were 36.9% larger than  
406 those from FRP-based method for these years, as shown in Figure S7.

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

431 The constrained percentages of CRBF and straw yields for 2012 were shown by  
432 city in Figure S9 in the supplement, and clear inconsistency in spatial distributions  
433 can be found. The percentage of CRBF was not necessarily high for a city with large  
434 straw production. For instance, straw production of Yancheng was higher than most  
435 other cities, but its percentage of CRBF was 5.7% and lower than most other cities.  
436 Through linear regression, correlation coefficient was calculated at only 0.06 between  
437 constrained percentage of CRBF and straw yield at city level. The poor correlation  
438 between them thus suggested that large uncertainty could be derived if uniform  
439 percentage of CRBF was applied to calculate OBB emissions for cities within given  
440 province, as what we did in the traditional bottom-up methodology.

### 441 3.2 Evaluation of the three OBB inventories with CMAQ

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

475 and Yancheng on June 13. [Figures S12 in the supplement illustrates the observed and](#)  
476 [simulated hourly concentrations for CO in selected YRD cities, respectively. The best](#)  
477 [performance was found for simulations with the constrained OBB emissions in most](#)  
478 [cities during the period, and the observed high CO concentrations were simulated with](#)  
479 [the constrained emissions in Xuzhou and Huaian on June 13.](#)

480 The NMB and NME between observed and simulated PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>  
481 concentrations are shown in Table 2. In most cases, the NMB and NME with  
482 constrained OBB emissions were smaller than those with other OBB emissions,  
483 implying the best guess of OBB emissions obtained through the constraining method  
484 combining CTM and ground observation. The simulated PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>  
485 concentrations using FRP-based OBB emissions were smaller than observation for the  
486 three periods, due mainly to the mass of CRBF were underestimated. The results thus  
487 indicated that OBB emissions might be underestimated in FRP-based method in 2010,  
488 2012 and 2014, since many small fires in YRD were undetected in MODIS active fire  
489 detection products. The probability of MODIS detection was strongly dependent upon  
490 the temperature and area of the fire being observed. The average probability of  
491 detection for tropical savanna was 33.6% when the temperature of fire was between  
492 600 and 800 °C and the area of fire was between 100 and 1000 m<sup>2</sup> (Giglio et al., 2003).  
493 In YRD region, on one hand, the fire temperature of crop residue burned in fields was  
494 relatively low. On the other hand, nearly 100 farmers were possibly located in a single  
495 1 × 1 km MODIS pixel (Liu et al., 2015), and a farmer commonly owned croplands of  
496 several hundred square meters. Therefore many fire pixels in YRD might not be  
497 detected, leading to underestimation in the total FRE. The simulated PM<sub>10</sub>  
498 concentrations using traditional bottom-up OBB emissions were higher than  
499 observation in 2010 but lower in 2012. The results thus implied the growth in OBB  
500 emissions from 2010 to 2012 could not be captured by traditional bottom-up method,  
501 attributed partly to application of unreliable percentage of CRBF. We further selected  
502 the performance of CMAQ modeling in US (Zhang et al., 2006) as the benchmark for  
503 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> simulation. As can be seen in Table 2, the NMBs and NMEs for most  
504 case with the constrained OBB emissions were close to those by Zhang et al. (2006).  
505 The NMEs for hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> were slightly larger. Given the larger  
506 uncertainty in emission inventory of anthropogenic sources for China and the  
507 uncertainty in spatial and temporal distribution of OBB emissions due to satellite

508 detection limit, we believe the model performance with the constrained OBB  
509 emissions was improved and acceptable. The NMB and NME between observed and  
510 simulated CO concentrations are shown in Table S15 in the supplement. Similar to  
511 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>, the NMBs and NMEs between observed and simulated CO  
512 concentrations with constrained OBB emissions were smaller than those with  
513 FRP-based OBB emissions or without OBB emissions, implying the advantage of  
514 constrained OBB emissions against other inventories.

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### 515 3.3 Comparisons of different methods and studies

516 We selected CO to compare emissions in this work and other inventories for  
517 YRD, given the similar emission factors of CO applied in different studies. CO  
518 emissions from the three methods in this study were compared with GFASv1.0  
519 (Kaiser et al., 2012), GFEDv3.0 (van der Werf et al., 2010), GFEDv4.1 (Randerson et  
520 al. 2018), Wang and Zhang (2008), Huang et al. (2012), Xia et al. (2016) and Zhou et  
521 al. (2017a), as shown in Figure 6. The emissions from Wang and Zhang (2008),  
522 Huang et al. (2012), Xia et al. (2016) and Zhou et al. (2017a) were derived by  
523 traditional bottom-up method, while GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1 were  
524 based on FRP and BA methods. In particular, emissions from small fires were  
525 included in GFEDv4.1. Similar inter-annual variations were found for emissions  
526 derived from FRP measurement including the constrained and FRP-based emissions  
527 in this work, GFAS v1.0, and GFED v4.1, while those of GFEDv3.0 and Xia et al.  
528 (2016) were different. The percentages of CRBF were assumed unchanged during the  
529 studying period in Xia et al. (2016), thus the temporal variation of OBB emissions  
530 were associated with the change in annual straw production.

531 The constrained CO emissions in this work were lower than other studies using  
532 traditional bottom-up method (Wang and Zhang, 2008; Huang et al., 2012; Xia et al.,  
533 2016) and higher than those based on burned area and FRP derived from satellite  
534 (GFEDv3.0; GFASv1.0; GFEDv4.1). In particular, the average annual constrained  
535 emissions from 2005 to 2012 were 3.9, 0.5 and 15.0 times larger than those in  
536 GFASv1.0, GFEDv4.1s and GFEDv3.0, respectively. The constrained emissions were  
537 closest to GFED v4.1s that included small fires. Since the area of farmland belonging  
538 to individual farmers was usually small, small fires were expected to be important  
539 sources of OBB emissions in YRD. GFEDv4.1s might still underestimate OBB  
540 emissions due to the omission errors for the small fires in MODIS active fire detection

541 products (Schroeder et al., 2008). In addition, the constrained CO emission for 2013  
542 was 31.5% larger than those by Qiu et al. (2016) calculated based on burned area from  
543 satellite observations. The average annual CO emissions from 2005 to 2012 by the  
544 constraining method were 57.2% smaller than Xia et al. (2016), and the constrained  
545 emissions for 2006 were respectively 27.6% and 56.9% lower than those by Huang et  
546 al. (2012) and Wang and Zhang (2008). It implied again that the emissions derived  
547 from traditional bottom-up method might be overestimated. Moreover, discrepancy in  
548 estimations for the same year between Huang et al. (2012) and Wang and Zhang  
549 (2008) with traditional bottom-up resulted mainly from application of different  
550 percentages of CRBF, implying that calculation of OBB emissions was sensitive to  
551 the parameter with the bottom-up approach.

552 The spatial distribution of constrained emissions in this work and those in  
553 GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s were illustrated in Figure 7. Intensive OBB  
554 emissions in GFEDv3.0 were mainly found in parts of Anhui, Jiangsu and Shanghai,  
555 while the constrained emissions, GFEDv4.1s and GFASv1.0 emissions occurred in  
556 most YRD regions in accordance with the distribution of fire points. Therefore,  
557 GFEDv3.0 might miss a large number of burned areas, leading to underestimation in  
558 emissions and bias in spatial distribution.

559 In order to understand the discrepancies of emissions for different species in this  
560 work and other inventories, the emissions of 2010 derived from the three methods in  
561 this study, GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0, GFEDv4.1s and Xia et al. (2016) were summarized  
562 in Table 3. Similar to CO, the constrained emissions for all species in this work were  
563 lower than Xia et al. (2016) and OBB emissions of this study based on traditional  
564 bottom-up method. The constrained emissions for all species in this work were larger  
565 than GFASv1.0 and those for all species except NH<sub>3</sub> were larger than GFEDv3.0 and  
566 GFEDv4.1s. In addition, the constrained emissions for most species were lower than  
567 the emissions from Huang et al. (2012), Wang and Zhang (2008) and Xia et al. (2016)  
568 using traditional bottom-up method in 2006. In most cases, the discrepancy in activity  
569 levels between studies was larger than that in emission factors. Specifically, the OBB  
570 emissions for all species in FRP-based (WSE) were smaller than those derived by  
571 bottom-up method. The differences in OBB emissions between bottom-up and  
572 FRP-based (WSE) method were larger than 50% of those between the bottom-up and  
573 the original FRP-based method with different emission factors for most species. It

574 indicated that the discrepancy in activity levels contributed the most to the difference  
575 in OBB emissions between the two methods.

576 Resulting from the different sources of emission factors, the discrepancies  
577 between studies or methods varied greatly by species. For PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>, as an  
578 example, the emissions by Xia et al. (2016) were respectively 35.8% and 50.3%  
579 higher than constrained emissions in 2010. The discrepancies for SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> were  
580 larger: the emissions by Xia et al. (2016) were 4.7 and 3.1 times larger than our  
581 constrained emissions, respectively. Moreover, the constrained NMVOCs emission  
582 was 152.5 and 10.7 times larger than that of GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s in 2010, as  
583 the emission factors of GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s did not contain oxygenated VOCs.  
584 In contrast, the constrained NH<sub>3</sub> emission was 4.7% and 47.9% smaller than that of  
585 GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s. The comparisons indicated that emission factors were  
586 important sources of uncertainties in estimation of OBB emissions with different  
587 methods.

#### 588 **3.4 Contribution of OBB to particulate pollution and its influencing factors**

589 The brute-force method (BFM, Dunker et al., 1996) was used to analyze the  
590 contributions of OBB to PM<sub>10</sub> pollution for the two OBB events, June 17-24, 2010  
591 and June 8-14, 2012. Simulated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations with and without constrained  
592 OBB emissions were compared, and the difference indicated the contribution from  
593 OBB as shown by city in Figure 8. The average contribution in June 8-14, 2012 was  
594 estimated at 37.6% (56.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) for 22 cities in YRD, and the contribution for June  
595 17-24, 2010 was smaller at 21.8 % (24.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) for 17 cities. Our result for 2012 was  
596 nearly the same as that for 5 YRD cities in 2011 (37.0%) by Cheng et al. (2014).  
597 Using the BFM method, the contribution of OBB emissions to PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations  
598 were estimated to increase by 136.3% from 2010 to 2012 in this work, and the growth  
599 rate was larger than that of OBB emissions (50.8%). Therefore, factors other than  
600 emissions (e.g., meteorology) could also play an important role in elevating the  
601 contribution of OBB to ambient particle pollution. For example, the average  
602 precipitation in June 8-14, 2012 was 36% lower than that in June 17-24, 2010,  
603 exaggerating the particle pollution during OBB event. For the OBB event during June  
604 7-13, 2014, the contributions of OBB to both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations were  
605 shown by city in Figure 9. The average contributions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> were  
606 estimated at 29% and 23% for 22 cities in YRD, indicating again that the OBB was an



607 important source of ambient particles. OBB contribution to  $PM_{10}$  for 2014 was  
608 smaller than that for 2012, attributed mainly to the reduced straw burning in crop  
609 land.

610 The average contributions of OBB for 2012 were estimated at 55.0% (98.4  
611  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 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  
612 cities of Anhui, 10 cities of Jiangsu, 5 cities of Zhejiang and Shanghai, respectively.  
613 For individual cities, large contributions of OBB for 2012 were found in Xuzhou,  
614 Bozhou, Fuyang, and Lianyungang located in north YRD, reaching 82.3% (284.3  
615  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 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  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ),  
616 respectively. Similarly, large contributions for 2010 were found in Lianyungang,  
617 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%  
618 (53.6  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), respectively. In general the spatial distribution of contributions to  $PM_{10}$   
619 mass concentrations was similar with that of fire points, confirming the rationality of  
620 constraining OBB emissions with observed  $PM_{10}$  concentration in cities in north  
621 Anhui and Jiangsu. For  $PM_{2.5}$ , the large contributions of OBB were found in Xuzhou,  
622 Huaian and Suqian during the event in 2014, reaching 67.5% (111.7  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), 60.7%  
623 (50.6  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) and 53.2% (49.6  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), respectively.

624 To explore the influence of meteorology on air pollution caused by OBB, we  
625 simulated  $PM_{10}$  concentrations for June 8-14 (PE1) and June 22-28 2012 (PE2) with  
626 varied meteorology conditions but fixed OBB emissions (i.e., constrained emissions  
627 for June 8-14, 2012). Poorer meteorology conditions during PE1 were found than PE2.  
628 The average wind speed in PE1 was 2.4 m/s, 17% lower than that in PE2. The average  
629 wind direction in PE1 was  $168.3^\circ$ , close to south with polluted air in land. In contrast,  
630 the average wind direction in PE2 was  $118.3^\circ$ , close to east with clean air from the  
631 ocean. The average precipitation in PE2 was 6.8mm, 28% higher than that in PE1. As  
632 shown in Figure 10, the average contribution of OBB to  $PM_{10}$  concentrations for 22  
633 cities in YRD region was estimated at 56.7  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  for PE1, 23% larger than that for  
634 PE2, and the contributions in most cities were much larger for PE1 than those for PE2,  
635 except for Bozhou and Fuyang. The comparisons thus suggest that air pollution  
636 caused by OBB would exaggerate under poorer meteorology conditions. To reduce air  
637 pollution caused by OBB in harvest season in YRD, therefore, more attention should  
638 be paid to the OBB restriction on those days with unfavorable meteorology conditions  
639 such as calm wind and rainless period.

640 To further analyze the influence of diurnal variation of emissions on air pollution  
641 caused by OBB, we simulated PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations of June 17-24 2010 with various  
642 diurnal curves of OBB emissions (i.e., those for 2010 and 2012). Constrained  
643 emissions were applied in the simulation. As shown in Figure 11, the contributions of  
644 OBB to PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations based on diurnal curve of 2012 were larger than those  
645 based on 2010 for almost all YRD cities, and the average contribution for the 17 cities  
646 was calculated at 28.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup> based on diurnal curve of 2012, 10% larger than that  
647 based on 2010. The contribution in Bozhou changed most (1.37 times larger with  
648 2012 curve), while those in Shanghai, Huzhou and Shaoxing changed least. The time  
649 of peak value for OBB emissions in 2012 was 2.5 hours later than 2010, indicating  
650 that the fraction of OBB emissions at night for 2012 would be larger than that for  
651 2010. As the diffusion condition for air pollutants at night was usually worse than that  
652 during daytime, more OBB emissions at night would elevate its contribution to  
653 particle pollution. In the actual fact, the supervision of OBB prohibition was usually  
654 conducted by government during daytime, thus some farmers burned more crop  
655 residues at night to avoid the punishment. To improve the air quality in harvest season  
656 in YRD, more attention should be paid to the OBB restriction at night.

### 657 **3.5 Uncertainty analysis**

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

664 For traditional bottom-up method, parameters included crop productions,  
665 percentages of CRBF, straw to grain ratios, combustion efficiencies, and emission  
666 factors. Crop production was directly taken from official statistical yearbooks (NBS,  
667 2013) and its uncertainty was expected to be limited and not included in the analysis.  
668 As the percentage of CRBF was determined at half of the percentage of unused crop  
669 residues, its uncertainty was set at -100% to +100%. The combustion efficiencies  
670 were assumed within an uncertainty range of 10% around the mean value according to  
671 de Zarate (2005) and Zhang et al. (2008). Uncertainties of emission factors were  
672 obtained from original literatures where they were derived. If emission factor was

673 derived from a single measurement, normal distribution was applied with standard  
674 deviation directly taken from that work. If emission factor was derived from multiple  
675 measurements and the samples were insufficient for data fitting, uniform distribution  
676 was tentatively applied with a conservative strategy to avoid possible underestimation  
677 of uncertainty: The uncertain range of given emission factor would be expanded  
678 according to Li et al. (2007) if the range originally from multiple studies was smaller  
679 than that in Li et al. (2007). Summarized in Table [S14-S16](#) in the supplement was a  
680 database for emission factors and percentages of CRBF, with their uncertainties  
681 indicated by probability distribution function (PDF). As shown in Table 4, the  
682 uncertainties of OBB emissions with traditional bottom-up method for PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>,  
683 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  
684 -56% to +70%, -56% to +70%, -50% to +54%, -54% to +73%, -49% to +58%, -48%  
685 to +59%, -46% to +73%, -48% to +60%, -47% to +87%, -59% to +138% and -51% to  
686 +67%, respectively. For most species, the percentages of CRBF contributed largest to  
687 the uncertainties of OBB emissions, while emission factors were more significant to  
688 SO<sub>2</sub> uncertainty.

689 For FRP-based method, parameters included total FRE, combustion conversion  
690 ratio and emission factors. Uncertainty of total FRE was associated with FRP value,  
691 MODIS detection resolution, and the methodology used to calculate FRE per fire  
692 pixel. Indicated by Freeborn et al. (2014), the coefficient of variation of MODIS FRP  
693 for a fire pixel was 50%, but it declined to smaller than 5% for the aggregation of over  
694 50 MODIS active fire pixels. Give the large number of fire pixels for in YRD (more  
695 than 17000 in 2012), FRP was expected to contribute little to uncertainty of total FRE  
696 and could thus be ignored. Due to limitation of MODIS resolution [and limited](#)  
697 [overpass times](#), [manysmall](#) fires could not be ~~fully~~ detected and the number of fire  
698 pixel could be underestimated by 300% on crop-dominant areas (Schroeder et al.,  
699 2008), therefore the uncertainty of number of fire pixel was assumed to be 0 to  
700 +300%. The method used to calculate FRE based on single fire pixel assumed that fire  
701 lasted one day. Given the small cropland owned by one farmer in YRD, individual fire  
702 normally lasted several hours, and FRE could be overestimated. As the total FRE in  
703 FRP-based method was estimated 2.6 times larger than that from constraining method  
704 based on the same number of the fire pixel, we tentatively assumed the uncertainty  
705 range of FRE for one fire pixel at 0% to -72%. The uncertainty of total FRE was then  
706 estimated at -17% to +154% (95% CIs) based on the principle that total FRE was

707 calculated as the number of fire pixel multiplied by average FRE. The uncertainty of  
708 combustion conversion ratio was derived from Wooster et al. (2005) and Freeborn et  
709 al. (2008), while those of emission factors taken from Akagi et al. (2011). As a result,  
710 uncertainties of FRP-based inventory were estimated at -77% to +274%, -63% to  
711 +244%, -78% to +281%, -78% to 276%, -83% to +315%, -63% to +243%, -52% to  
712 +223%, -21% to +164%, -82% to +303%, -78% to +279%, and -82% to +302% for  
713 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> and NH<sub>3</sub> in 2012,  
714 respectively. Emission factors contributed most to the uncertainties of emissions for  
715 all species except CO<sub>2</sub>.

716 The uncertainty of constrained emissions could hardly be provided by  
717 Monte-Carlo simulation, as the results were associated with CTM performance. In  
718 general, CTM performance could be influenced by emission estimates for sources  
719 other than OBB, chemistry mechanism of CTM and temporal and spatial distribution  
720 of OBB emissions. Emission inventory of anthropogenic sources that incorporates the  
721 best available information of individual plants was expected to improve the CTM  
722 performance at the regional or local scale (Zhou et al., 2017b). The influence of  
723 chemistry mechanism came mainly from secondary organic carbon (SOC) modeling.  
724 According to the Cheng et al. (2014) and Chen et al. (2017), the mass fraction of SOC  
725 to PM<sub>10</sub> could reach 10% during the OBB event in YRD, and that part might not be  
726 well constrained with the approach we applied in this work. Similar to FRP-based  
727 method, moreover, temporal and spatial distribution of OBB emissions based on FRP  
728 might not be entirely consistent with the reality, due to omission errors in the MODIS  
729 active fire detection products and limited times of satellite overpass as discussed  
730 earlier. Due to data limitation, finally, we relied on available PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in  
731 current method. More data of multi pollutant concentrations (e.g., PM<sub>2.5</sub>, OC and EC)  
732 with sufficient temporal and spatial resolution are in great need to better constrain the  
733 OBB emissions.

734 In general, uncertainties of OBB emissions with traditional bottom-up method  
735 were estimated smaller than those with FRP-based method, and uncertainties for CO<sub>2</sub>  
736 and CO were usually smaller than other species in both methods attributed mainly to  
737 fewer variations in their emission factors. OBB emission estimation with traditional  
738 bottom-up method could be improved if more accurate percentages of CRBF are  
739 obtained, and that with FRP-based method could be improved when the omission  
740 error of satellite and the uncertainties of emission factors are reduced. Efforts should

741 also be recommended on improvement of CTM for better constraining the OBB  
742 emissions.

743

744

#### 4. Conclusions

745 Taking YRD in China as an example, we have thoroughly analyzed the  
746 discrepancies and their sources of OBB emissions estimated with traditional  
747 bottom-up, FRP-based and constraining methods. The simulated  $PM_{10}$  concentrations  
748 through CMAQ with constrained emissions were closest to available observation,  
749 implying the improvement of emission estimation with this method. The inter-annual  
750 variations in emissions with FRP-based and constraining methods were similar with  
751 the fire counts, while that with traditional bottom-up method was not. It indicated that  
752 emissions with traditional bottom-up method could not capture the real inter-annual  
753 trend of OBB emissions. The emissions of all species except NMVOCs based on  
754 traditional bottom-up method might be overestimated in most years, attributed mainly  
755 to the elevated percentages of CRBF used in the method. The emissions with  
756 FRP-based method might be underestimated in 2005-2015, attributed to the omission  
757 errors in the MODIS active fire detection products and thereby to the underestimation  
758 in mass of CRBF. The CO emissions with traditional bottom-up, FRP-based and  
759 constraining methods were compared with other studies. Similar temporal variations  
760 were found for the constrained emissions, emissions based on FRP-based, and  
761 emissions in GFASv1.0 and GFEDv4.1s. CO emissions based on traditional  
762 bottom-up method both in this work and other studies were usually higher than those  
763 derived by constraining method, and the CO emissions based on FRP-based method  
764 both in this work and other studies usually were lower than those derived by  
765 constraining method. It again demonstrated that traditional bottom-up method might  
766 overestimate OBB emissions in YRD and FRP-based method might underestimate  
767 them. The contributions of OBB to particulate pollution in typical episodes were  
768 analyzed using the Brute-force method in CMAQ modeling. The OBB emissions in  
769 2012 were 51% larger than those in 2010, while its contribution to average  $PM_{10}$  mass  
770 concentrations was estimated to increase by 136% from 2010 to 2012. It indicated that  
771 the elevated contribution of OBB was not attributed only to growth in OBB emissions  
772 but was also influenced by the meteorology. Quantified with a Monte-Carlo  
773 framework, the uncertainties of OBB emissions with traditional bottom-up method

774 were smaller than those with FRP-based method. The uncertainties of emissions based  
775 on traditional bottom-up and FRP-based were mainly from the percentages of CRBF  
776 and emission factors, respectively. Further improvement on CTM for OBB events  
777 would help better constraining OBB emissions.

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

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790

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## FIGURE CAPTIONS

1002

1003 **Figure 1. (a) spatial patterns of fire points in June 2010 and June 2012, (b) PM<sub>10</sub>**  
1004 **concentrations for city-level in YRD in June 2010 and June 2012, and (c)**  
1005 **temporal variations of daily fire occurrences in June 2010 and 2012. City**  
1006 **abbreviations FY, BZ, BB, HN, HF, CZ(a), XZ, LYG, NJ, YZ, ZJ, TZ, NT, CZ,**  
1007 **WX, SZ, HZ(a), JX, HZ, SX, NB, SH indicate is Fuyang, Bozhou, Bengbu,**  
1008 **Huainan, Hefei, Chuzhou, Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Nanjing, Yangzhou, Zhenjiang,**  
1009 **Taizhou, Nantong, Changzhou, Wuxi, Suzhou, Huzhou, Jiaxing, Hangzhou,**  
1010 **Shaoxing, Ningbo, and Shanghai.**

1011 **Figure 2. Model domain and locations of 43 meteorological monitoring sites. The**  
1012 **numbers of 1-41 represent the cities of Fuyang, Bozhou, Huaibei, Suzhou,**  
1013 **Huainan, Bengbu, Luan, Hefei, Chuzhou, Anqing, Chaohu, Maanshan, Chizhou,**  
1014 **Tongling, Wuhu, Huangshan, Xuancheng, Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Suqian,**  
1015 **Huaian, Yancheng, Yangzhou, Taizhou, Nanjing, Zhenjiang, Nantong,**  
1016 **Changzhou, Wuxi, Suzhou; Huzhou, Jiaxing, Hangzhou, Shaoxing, Ningbo,**  
1017 **Zhoushan, Quzhou, Jinhua, Taizhou, Lishui and Wenzhou, respectively.**

1018 **Figure 3. Fire counts and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimated with traditional bottom-up,**  
1019 **FRP-based and constraining methods for YRD 2005-2012.**

1020 **Figure 4. Observed 24-hour averaged PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations and simulated hourly**  
1021 **PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations without OBB emissions (No\_OBB) and with OBB emissions**  
1022 **based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional\_OBB), FRP-based (FRP\_OBB) and**  
1023 **constraining (Constrained\_OBB) methods in Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bozhou,**  
1024 **Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, and Chuzhou during June 17-25, 2010.**

1025 **Figure 5. Observed 24-hour averaged PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations and simulated hourly**  
1026 **PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations without OBB emissions (No\_OBB) and with OBB emissions**  
1027 **based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional\_OBB), FRP-based (FRP\_OBB) and**  
1028 **constraining (Constrained\_OBB) methods in Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Fuyang,**  
1029 **Bozhou, Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, and Chuzhou during June 8-14, 2012.**

1030 **Figure 6. Annual CO emissions from OBB in YRD obtained in this work and**  
1031 **other studies from 2005 to 2012.**

1032 **Figure 7. Spatial distributions of CO emissions from OBB obtained in this work**  
1033 **(constraining method), GFAS v1.0, GFED v3.0 and GFED v4.1s in 2010**

1034 | [\(Horizontal resolution:  \$0.5^{\circ} \times 0.5^{\circ}\$  \)](#).

1035 | **Figure 8. The contribution of OBB to  $PM_{10}$  concentrations for different YRD**  
1036 | **cities during OBB events in June 2010 and 2012.**

1037 | **Figure 9. The contribution of OBB to  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations for**  
1038 | **different YRD cities during OBB event in June 2014.**

1039 | **Figure 10.  $PM_{10}$  concentrations contributed by OBB for different YRD cities in**  
1040 | **Jun 8-14 (PE1) and June 22-28 (PE2), 2012.**

1041 | **Figure 11.  $PM_{10}$  concentrations contributed by OBB for different YRD cities**  
1042 | **based on the diurnal variations of 2010 and 2012 in Jun 8-14, 2010.**

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1044

## TABLES

1045 **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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1049 **Table 2. Model performance statistics for concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> from**  
 1050 **observation and CMAQ simulation without OBB emissions (No\_OBB) and with**  
 1051 **OBB emissions based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional\_OBB), FRP-based**  
 1052 **(FRP\_OBB) and constraining methods (Constrained\_OBB) for the three OBB**  
 1053 **events of June 2010, 2012 and 2014.**

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

1054 Note: <sup>a</sup> from Zhang et al. (2006). NMB and NME were calculated using following equations (*P*  
 1055 and *O* indicate the results from modeling prediction and observation, respectively):  
 1056

1057 
$$NMB = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_i - O_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (O_i)} \times 100\% ; NME = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |P_i - O_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^n (O_i)} \times 100\% .$$

1058

1059 **Table 3. OBB emissions in YRD derived from this work and other studies in**  
 1060 **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
FRP-based (WSE) <sup>1</sup>	158.6	139.1	4.1	38.5	30.1	68.7	612.8	11004.3	20.9	2.4	3.9
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	-

1061 <sup>1</sup> FRP-based (WSE): the OBB emissions were estimated with FRP-based method, applying  
 1062 the same emission factors used in the bottom-up method. The emission factors were obtained  
 1063 by weighting emission factors in the bottom-up method with the masses of various crop types.

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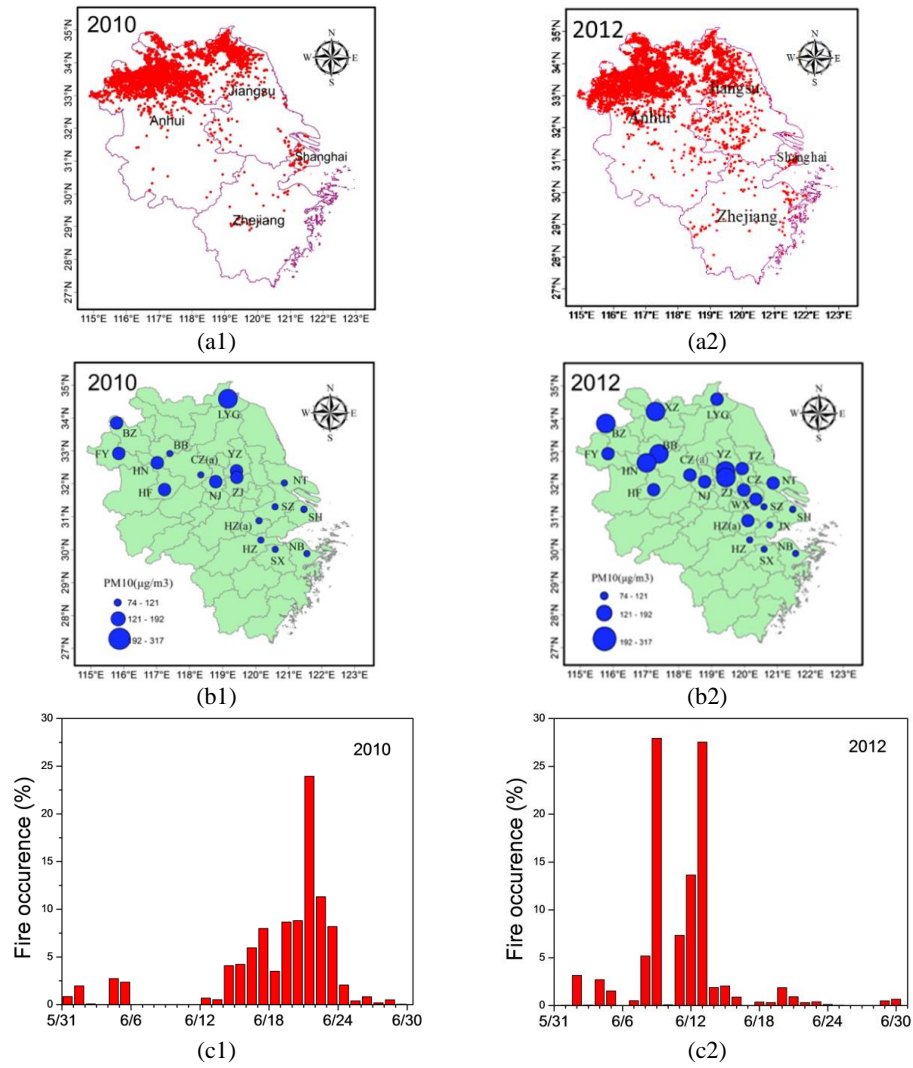


1065 **Table 4. The uncertainties of OBB emissions in YRD indicated as 95% CIs and**  
 1066 **the top two parameters contributing most to emission uncertainties based on**  
 1067 **traditional bottom-up and FRP-based methods for 2012. The percentages in the**  
 1068 **parentheses indicate the contributions of the parameters to the variances of**  
 1069 **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%)

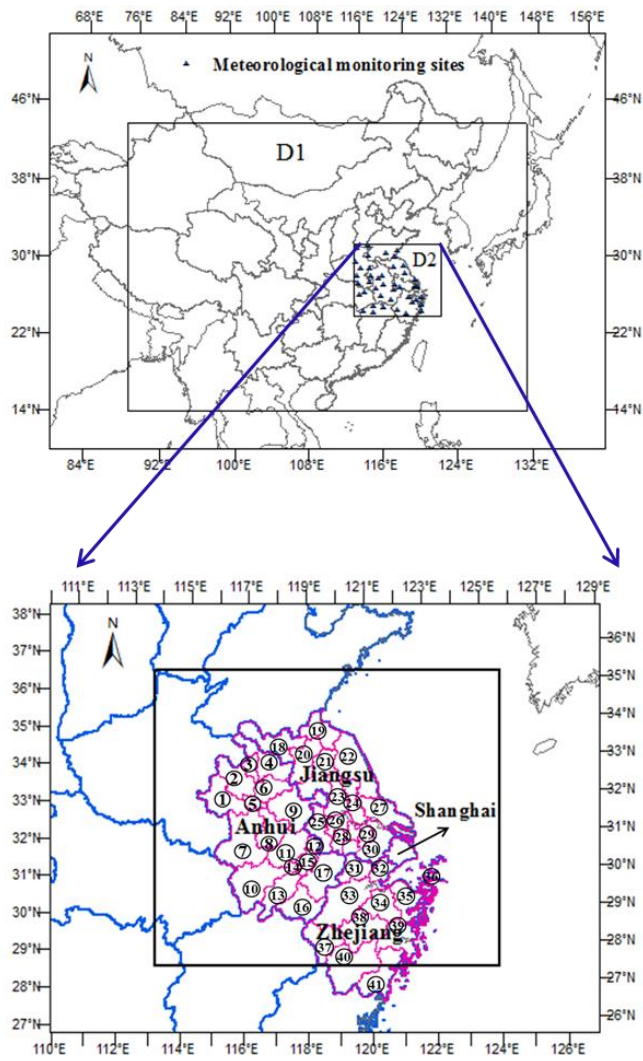
1070 <sup>1</sup> PCRBF, the percentage of crop residues burned in the field (the subscript indicates province); <sup>2</sup>  
 1071 AF, the average FRE of fire pixels; <sup>3</sup> NFP, the number of fire pixels; <sup>4</sup> MCRBF, the mass of crop  
 1072 residues burned in the field.  
 1073

1074 **Figure 1.**



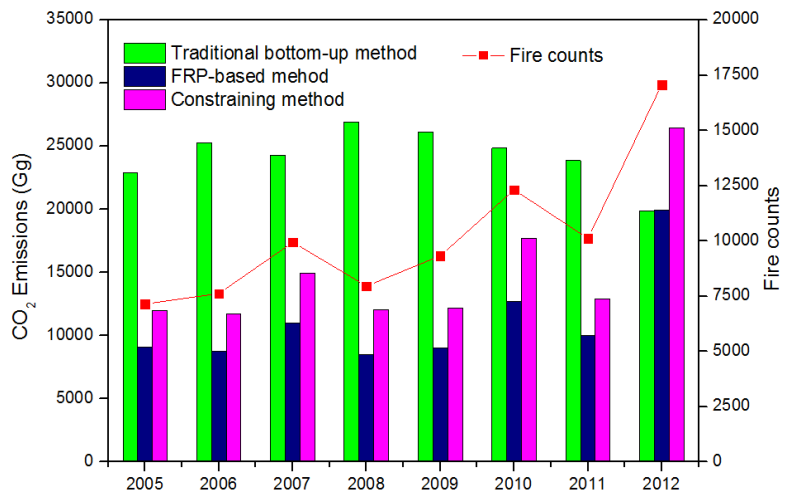
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1076 **Figure 2.**



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1079 **Figure 3.**

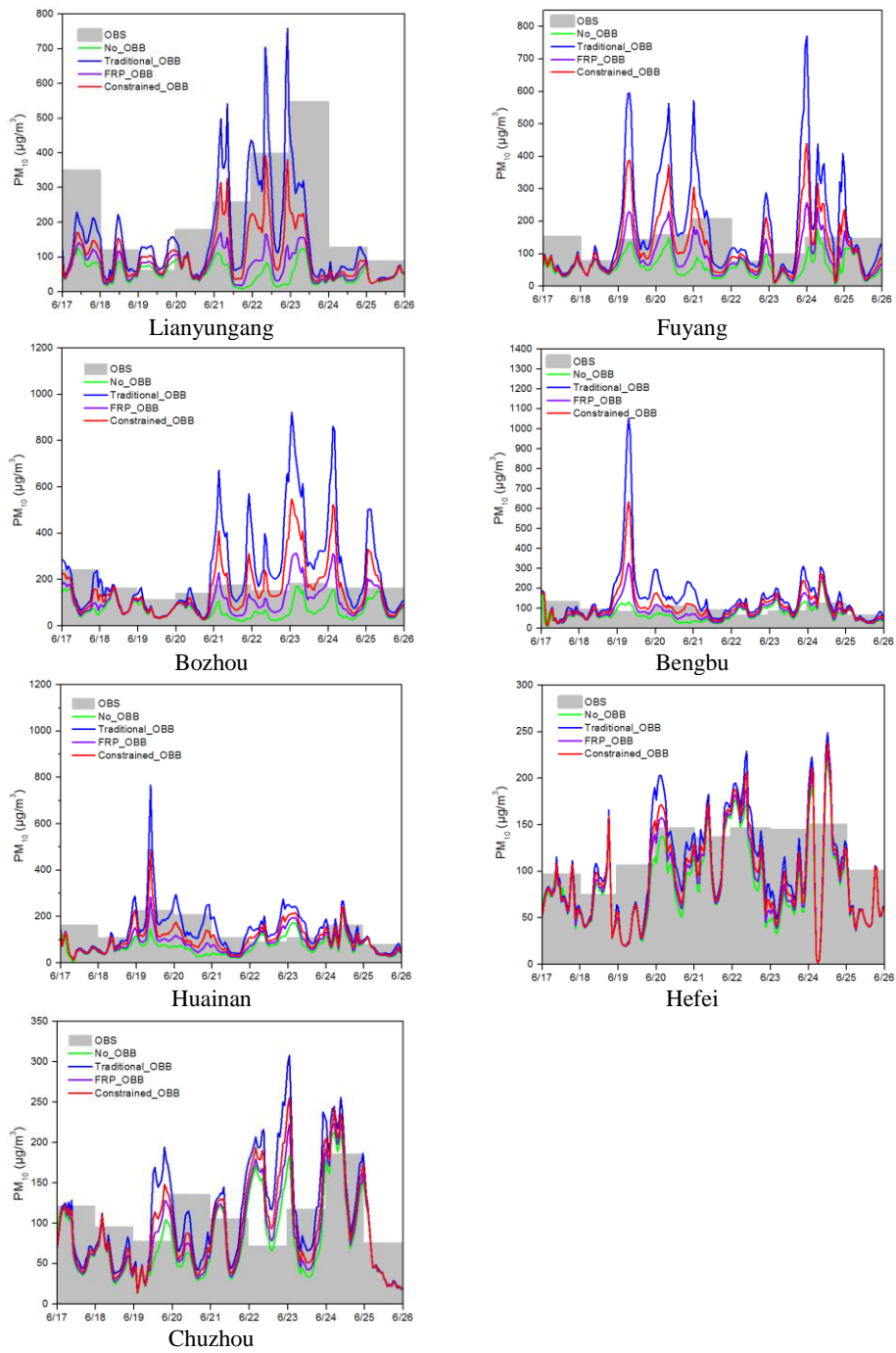


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Figure 4.

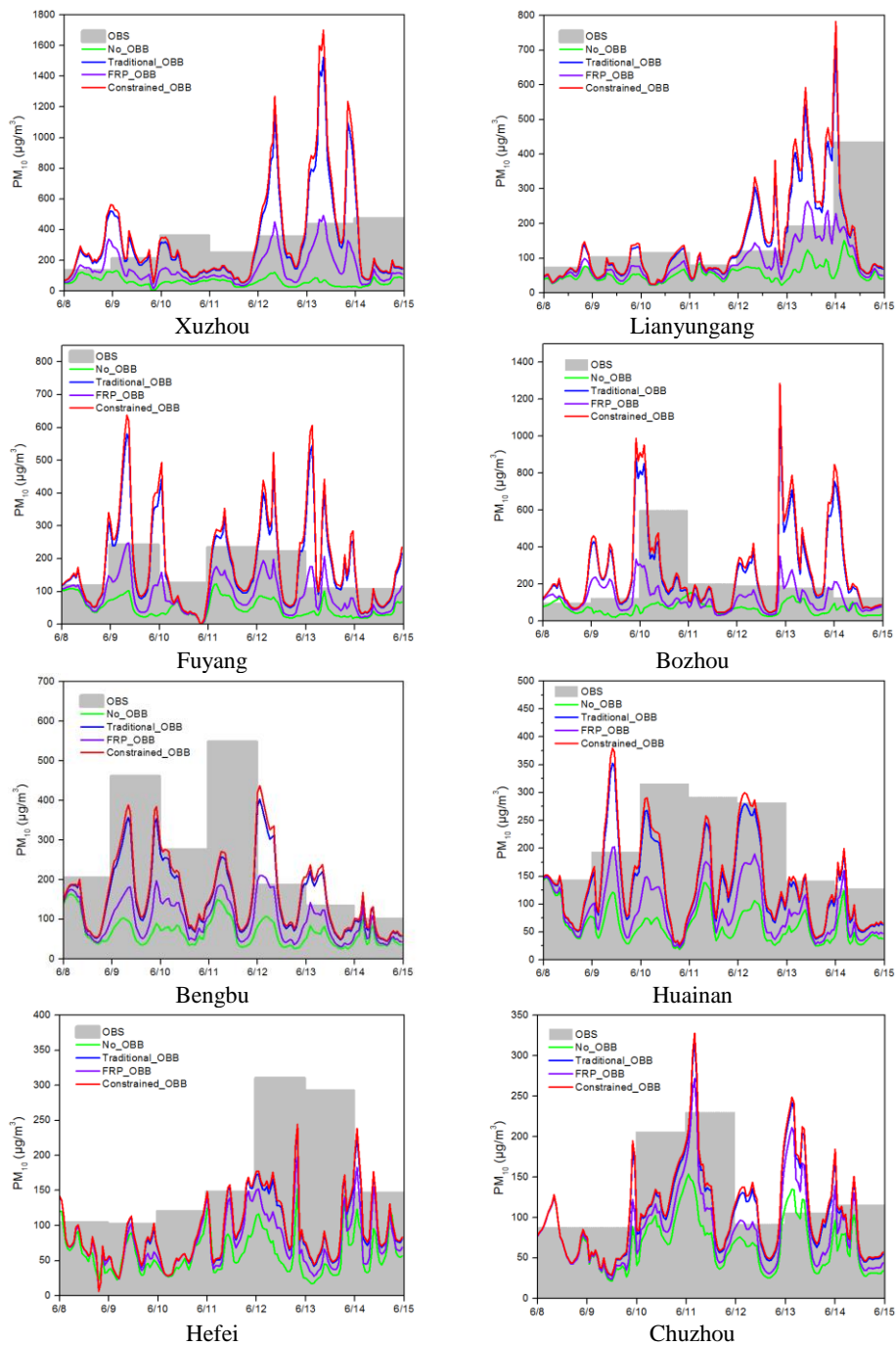


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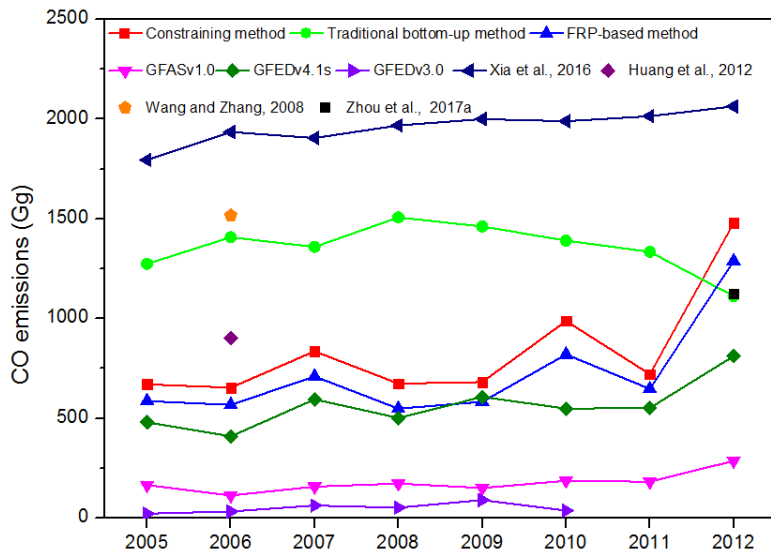
Figure 5.



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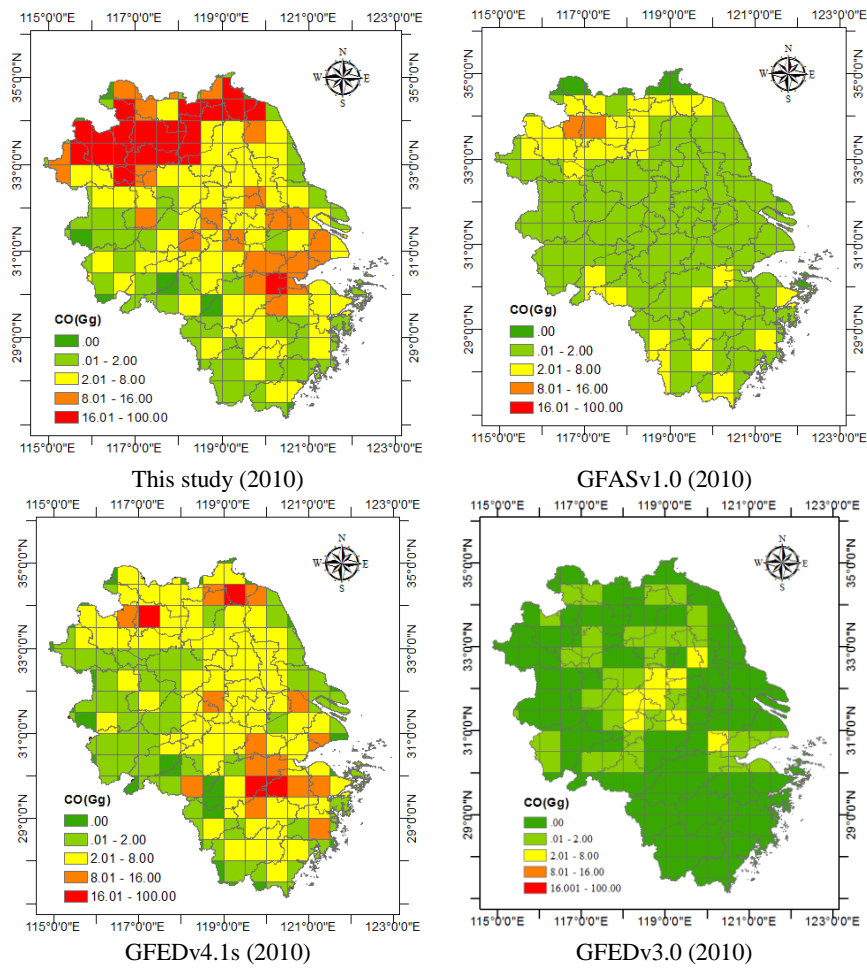
1089 **Figure 6.**



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1092 **Figure 7.**

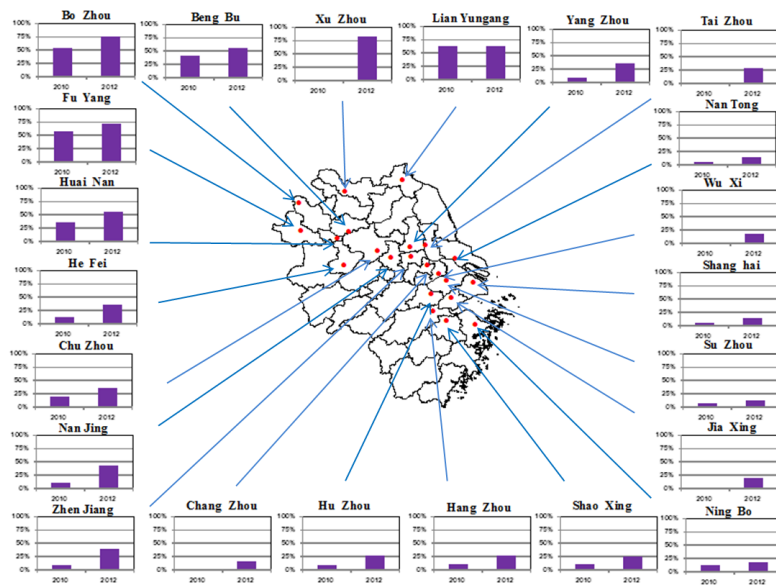


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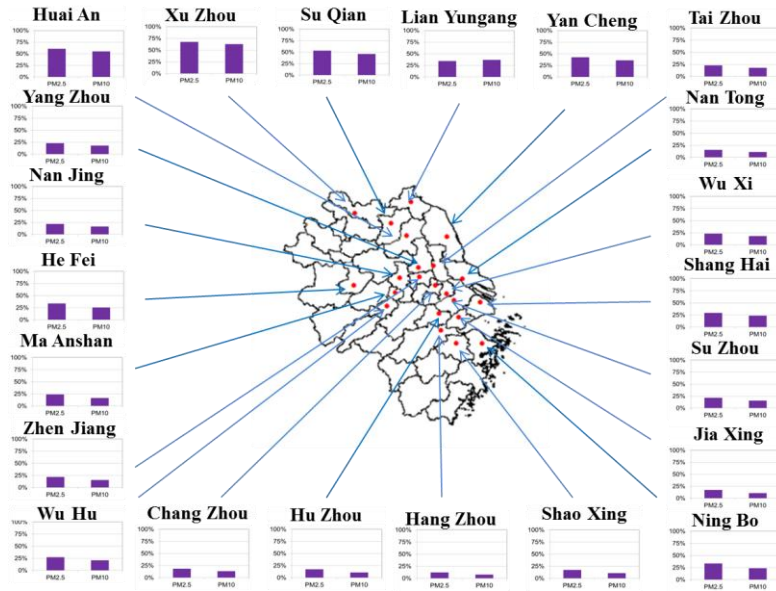
1095 **Figure 8.**



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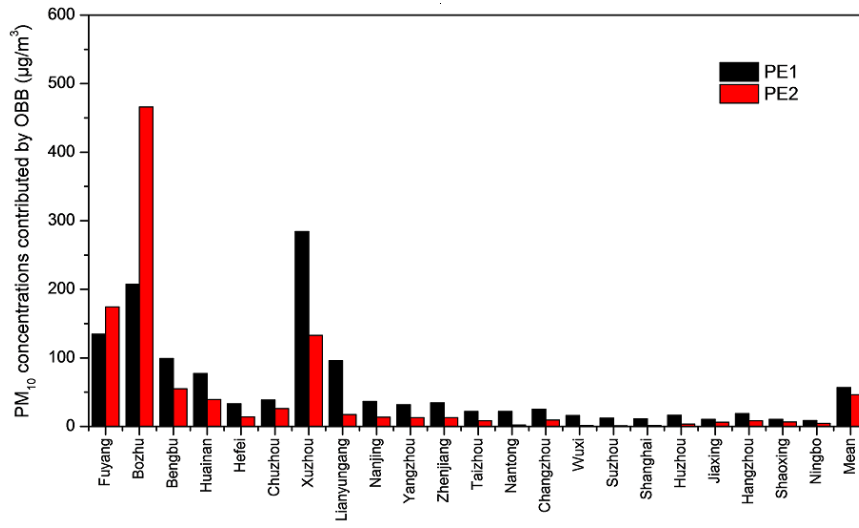
1098 **Figure 9.**



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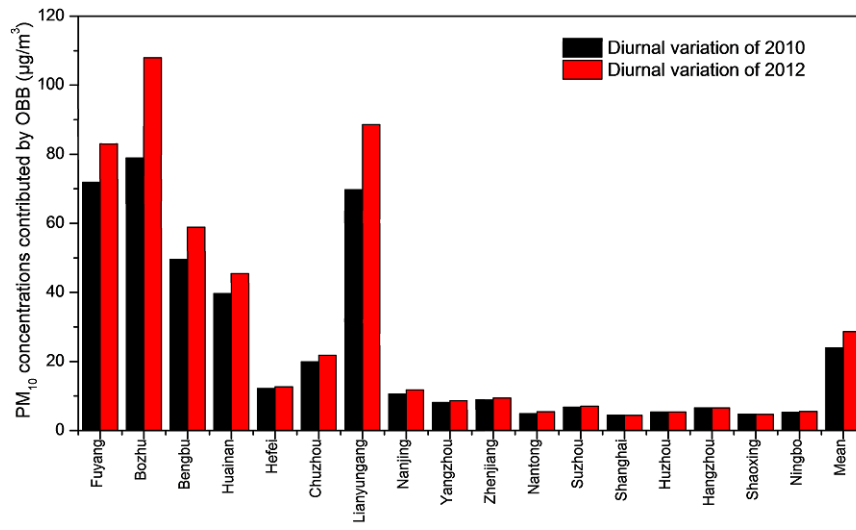
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Figure 10.



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1105 **Figure 11.**



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