



18

Abstract

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 underlying reasons were analyzed. The species
23 included PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, organic carbon (OC), black carbon (BC), CH₄, non-methane
24 volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), CO, CO₂, NO_x, SO₂ and NH₃. 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, CH₄ and NH₃. 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 to
32 test the three OBB inventories. The simulated PM₁₀ concentrations with the
33 constrained emissions were closest to available observations, implying that the
34 constraining method provided the best emission estimates. To further evaluate the
35 effects of method and data on OBB emission estimation, CO emissions in this study
36 were compared with other national and global inventories. In general, inventories of
37 FRP/BA-based method might underestimate the emissions, attributed to the detection
38 limit on small fires. In contrast, the method based on the assumed/surveyed fraction of
39 burned biomass could often overestimate OBB emissions and could hardly track their
40 inter-annual trends. In particular, the constrained emissions in this work were close to
41 GFEDv4.1s that contained emissions from small fires. The contributions of OBB to
42 two particulate pollution events in 2010 and 2012 were analyzed with brute-force
43 method. Attributed to varied OBB emissions and meteorology, the average
44 contribution of OBB to PM₁₀ concentrations in June 8-14 2012 was estimated at
45 37.6% (56.7 μg/m³), larger than that in June 17-24, 2010 at 21.8% (24.0 μg/m³).
46 Influences of diurnal curves of OBB emissions and meteorology on air pollution
47 caused by OBB were evaluated by designing simulation scenarios, and the results
48 suggested that air pollution caused by OBB would become heavier if the
49 meteorological conditions were unfavorable, and that more attention should be paid to
50 the OBB control at night. Quantified with Monte-Carlo simulation, the uncertainty of



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

55

56 **1. Introduction**

57 Open biomass burning (OBB) is an important source of atmospheric particulate
58 matter (PM) and trace gases including methane (CH₄), non-methane volatile organic
59 compounds (NMVOCs), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO₂), oxides of
60 nitrogen (NO_x), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and ammonia (NH₃) (Andreae and Merlet, 2001;
61 van der Werf et al., 2010; Wiedinmyer et al., 2011; Kaiser et al., 2012; Giglio et al.,
62 2013, Qiu et al., 2016; Zhou et al., 2017a). As it has significant impacts on air quality
63 and climate (Crutzen and Andreae, 1990; Cheng et al., 2014; Hodzic and Duvel, 2018),
64 it is important to understand the amount, temporal variation and spatial pattern of
65 OBB emissions.

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



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

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

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



118 pollution caused by OBB were also analyzed by designing simulation scenarios.
119 Finally, uncertainties of the three OBB inventories were analyzed and quantified with
120 Monte-Carlo simulation, and possible ways to improve OBB emission estimation in
121 were accordingly suggested.

122

123 2. Data and methods

124 2.1 Traditional bottom-up method

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

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

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

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., 2016;
164 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 ± 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 , σ , 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 , σ , 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
194
195 where r represents the average T/A FRP ratio. Following Liu et al. (2015), we added a
196 parameter ε (4h) to modify FRP_{peak} hour (h) of the diurnal curve, and the modified
197 FRP diurnal curves could better represent observed FRP temporal variability than the
198 original, as shown in Figure S1 in the supplement. As a result, FRE was calculated to
199 range from 1.49×10^6 MJ in 2009 to 1.95×10^6 MJ in 2005, with a mean value of
200 1.74×10^6 MJ for YRD region (Table S5).

201 2.3 Constraining method

202 CTM and observation of ground particle matter (PM) concentrations were
203 applied in constraining OBB emissions given the potentially big contribution of OBB
204 to particle pollution for harvest seasons (Fu et al., 2013; Cheng et al., 2014; Li et al.,
205 2014). To characterize the non-linearity between emissions and concentrations, an
206 initial inventory including OBB and other anthropogenic sources was applied in CTM,
207 and the response of PM concentrations to emissions was calculated by changing OBB
208 emissions by a certain fraction (5% in this study) in the model. We defined a response
209 coefficient as the ratio of relative change in PM concentrations to that in OBB
210 emissions. Simulated PM concentrations were then compared with available
211 observation, and the mass of CRBF and OBB emissions of all species were corrected
212 combining the obtained response coefficient and the discrepancy between observed
213 and simulated PM concentrations. The corrected emissions were applied again in



214 CTM and the process (including recalculation of response coefficient) repeated until
215 the discrepancies between observation and simulation was small enough (the value of
216 I in equation (9) is less than 0.1% in this study). To limit the potential uncertainty in
217 emissions from other sources, the differences between simulated and observed PM
218 concentrations for non-OBB event period were included in the analysis:

$$219 \quad I = \left| \frac{\sum_{x,i} S_{x,i} - \sum_{x,i} Q_{x,i} \times N_i}{\sum_{x,i} O_{x,i}} - 1 \right| \quad (9)$$

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

224 As primary particles emitted from OBB are almost fine ones, ambient $PM_{2.5}$
225 concentrations were commonly observed to account for large fractions of PM_{10} during
226 the OBB event. Figure S2 shows the observed concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} at
227 Caochangmen station in Nanjing (the capital of Jiangsu) in June 2012, and the
228 average mass ratio of $PM_{2.5}$ to PM_{10} reached 79% during the OBB event in June 8-14,
229 2012. The ratios might be even higher in northern YRD where most fire points were
230 detected. As ground $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations were unavailable in most cities of northern
231 YRD before 2013, we expected that PM_{10} was an appropriate indicator for OBB
232 pollution, and observed PM_{10} concentrations were used to constrain OBB emissions
233 instead in this study. The daily mean PM_{10} concentrations of all cities were derived
234 from the officially reported Air Pollution Index (API) by China National
235 Environmental Monitoring Center (<http://www.cnemc.cn/>). The conversion from API
236 scores to PM_{10} concentrations is discussed in the Supplement.

237 Figure 1 illustrated the monthly variations of fire occurrences in 2010 and 2012
238 (panels a1 and a2, respectively), spatial patterns of fire points (panels b1 and b2) in
239 June 2010 and 2012, city-level PM_{10} concentrations in YRD region in June 2010 and
240 2012 (panels c1 and c2), and temporal variations of daily fire occurrences in June
241 2010 and 2012 (panels d1 and d2). From 2005 to 2012, most OBB activities were
242 found in June 2010 and 2012 and northern YRD was the region with the intensive fire
243 counts. Accordingly PM_{10} concentrations in northern YRD cities were higher than
244 those in more developed and industrialized cities in the eastern YRD (e.g., Shanghai,



245 Suzhou, Wuxi, and Changzhou), because emissions of OBB overwhelmed those from
 246 other sources (Li et al., 2014; Huang et al., 2016). Therefore we constrained OBB
 247 emissions with observed PM₁₀ concentrations in northern YRD cities including
 248 Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, Chuzhou and Bozhou.
 249 Suggested by the monthly and daily distribution of fire counts (Figure 1a and 1d), two
 250 strong OBB events were defined for June 17-24, 2010 and June 8-14, 2012, and other
 251 days in June of 2010 and 2012 were defined as non-OBB event period. For other
 252 years, the OBB emissions were first scaled from the constrained emissions in 2010
 253 and 2012 with the ratios of FRE for the given year to that for 2010 and 2012
 254 respectively, and then calculated as average of the two.

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

$$262 \quad F_{(i,y)} = \frac{FRP_{(i,y)}}{FRP_{(YRD,y)}} \times \frac{\sum_k P_{(YRD,y),k}}{\sum_k P_{(i,y),k}} \times F_{(YRD,y)} \quad (10)$$

263 where i and k represent city and crop type, respectively; y indicates the year (2010 and
 264 2012); F , P , and FRP are the percentage of CRBF, crop production, and fire radiative
 265 power, respectively. The initial percentage of CRBF for total YRD ($F_{(YRD,y)}$ in eq (10))
 266 was expected to have limited impact on the result and it was set at 10%, smaller than
 267 those in previous studies (Streets et al., 2003; Cao et al., 2007; Wang and Zhang, 2008;
 268 Zhao et al., 2012; Xia et al., 2016, Zhou et al., 2017a).

269 2.4 Temporal and spatial distributions

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

$$273 \quad E_{(m,n),j} = \frac{FRP_{(m,n)}}{FRP_{(u,y)}} \times E_{(u,y),j} \quad (11)$$

274 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
 275 FRP and OBB emissions of species j for region u in year y , respectively. The region u



276 indicates city for FRP-based and constraining method, while it indicates province for
277 traditional bottom-up method since uniform percentages of CRBF was applied within
278 the same province in the method.

279 **2.5 Configuration of air quality modeling**

280 The Models-3 Community Multi-scale Air Quality (CMAQ) version 4.7.1 was
281 applied to constrain OBB emissions and to evaluate OBB inventories with different
282 methods. As shown in Figure 2, one-way nested domain modeling was conducted, and
283 the spatial resolutions of the two domains were set at 27 and 9 km respectively in
284 Lambert Conformal Conic projection, centered at (110°E, 34°N) with two true
285 latitudes 25 and 40° N. The mother domain (D1, 180×130 cells) covered most parts
286 of China, Japan, North and South Korea, while the second domain (D2, 118×97 cells)
287 covered the whole YRD region. OBB inventories developed in this work were applied
288 in D2. Emissions from other anthropogenic sources in D1 and D2 were obtained from
289 the downscaled Multi resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC,
290 <http://www.meicmodel.org/>) with an original spatial resolution of 0.25°×0.25°.
291 Population density was applied to relocate MEIC to each modeling domain. Biogenic
292 emission inventory was from the Model Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from
293 Nature developed under the Monitoring Atmospheric Composition and Climate
294 project (MEGAN MACC, Sindelarova et al., 2014), and the emission inventories of
295 Cl, HCl and lightning NO_x were from the Global Emissions Initiative (GEIA, Price et
296 al., 1997). Meteorological fields were provided by the Weather Research and
297 Forecasting Model (WRF) version 3.4, and the carbon bond gas-phase mechanism
298 (CB05) and AERO5 aerosol module were adopted. Other details on model
299 configuration and parameters were given in Zhou et al. (2017b).

300 Meteorological parameters of WRF model were compared with the observation
301 dataset of US National Climate Data Center (NCDC), as summarized in Table S6 in
302 the Supplement. For June 2012, the average biases between the two datasets were
303 0.01 m/s for wind speed, 7 degree for wind direction, 0.91 K for temperature and
304 3.1% for relative humidity. The analogue numbers were 0.06 m/s, 9.84 degree, 0.64 K
305 and 2.99% respectively for June 2010. Simulated daily PM₁₀ concentrations were
306 compared with observation for non-OBB event period in June 2010 and 2012 in Table
307 S7 in the supplement. The average of normalized mean biases (NMB) and normalized
308 mean errors (NME) were -19.9% and 38.9% for 17 YRD cities in June 2010, and



309 -22.8% and 33.9% for 22 cities in June 2012, respectively. As shown in Figure S3 in
310 the supplement, moreover, simulated hourly PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations were in
311 good agreement with observations at four air quality monitoring sites in YRD during
312 non-OBB event period in June 2012. The comparison thus implied the reliability of
313 emission inventory of anthropogenic origin used in this work, while underestimation
314 might occur indicated by the negative NMB.

315

316

3. Results and discussions

3.1 OBB emissions estimated with the three methods

317
318 OBB emissions estimated with the traditional bottom-up method for 2005-2012
319 were shown in Table S8 in the supplement. As emission factors were assumed
320 unchanged during the period, similar inter-annual trends were found for all species
321 and CO_2 was selected as a representative species for further discussion. As shown in
322 Figure 3, CO_2 emissions from traditional bottom-up method were estimated to
323 decrease from 23000 in 2005 to 19973 Gg in 2012, with a peak value of 27061 Gg in
324 2008. In contrast, the number of fire points in YRD farmland increased from 7158 in
325 2005 to 17074 in 2012. The fire counts detected from satellite thus did not support the
326 effectiveness of OBB restriction by government in YRD before 2013. Table S9 in the
327 supplement presents the annual OBB emissions derived from FRP-based method for
328 2005-2015 in YRD region. Associated with fire counts, CO_2 emissions were estimated
329 to grow by 119.7% from 2005 to 2012, with the largest and the second largest annual
330 emissions calculated at 19977 and 12718 Gg for 2012 and 2010, respectively (Figure
331 3). Similar temporal variability was found for fire counts, which increased by 138.5%
332 from 2005 to 2012, with the most and the second most counts found at 17074 and
333 12322 for 2012 and 2010, respectively.

334 With the constraining method, as shown in Figure S4 in the supplement, the ratio
335 of constrained mass of CRBF for 2012 to 2010 was 1.51, clearly lower than the ratios
336 of original FRE (1.75) but close to the ratio of modified FRE for 2012 to 2010 (1.57).
337 The comparison suggested that modified FRE better reflect the OBB activity in YRD
338 than original FRE. In order to make the ratio of FRE for the two years be closer to the
339 ratio of constrained mass of CRBF, an improved method was developed for
340 calculating the FRE. Given the possible variation of FRP_{peak} hour between years, we
341 obtained the diurnal cycle of total FRP of YRD based on Gaussian fitting as shown in



342 Figure S5 in the supplement. The ratio of FRE for 2012 to 2010 was recalculated at
343 1.54, further closer to the ratio of constrained mass of CRBF. Therefore the ratios of
344 FRE for another given year to 2012 and 2010 were calculated with this improved
345 method, and were then applied to emission scaling for that year. The constrained OBB
346 emissions from 2005 to 2015 were summarized in Table 1. As shown in Figure 3, the
347 inter-annual trend in constrained emissions was similar with those in fire counts and
348 FRP-based emissions but different from that in emissions with the traditional
349 bottom-up method. It is usually difficult to collect accurate percentages of CRBF from
350 bottom-up method, as it demands intensive investigation in the rural areas. In addition,
351 the percentages of CRBF were not updated for each year, and same percentages were
352 commonly applied for years without sufficient data support from local surveys.

353 The constrained CO₂ emissions for Jiangsu, Anhui, Zhejiang and Shanghai were
354 calculated at 5790, 4699, 1104 and 419 Gg in 2005, accounting for 48.2%, 39.1%,
355 9.2% and 3.5% of total OBB emissions in YRD, respectively. The analogue numbers
356 for 2012 were 7345, 16159, 2574 and 394 Gg, and 27.7%, 61.0%, 9.7% and 1.5%,
357 respectively. Jiangsu and Anhui were found to contribute largest to OBB emissions in
358 YRD for 2005 and 2012, respectively. In the traditional bottom-up method, however,
359 Anhui was estimated to contribute largest for both years. City-level OBB emissions
360 estimated with the three methods were summarized in Tables S10-S12 in the
361 supplement. With the constraining method, in particular, the largest CO₂ emissions
362 were found in Suzhou (1708 Gg) of Anhui, Lianyungang (1578 Gg) and Xuzhou
363 (1401 Gg) of Jiangsu in 2005, accounting for 14.2%, 13.1% and 11.7% of the total
364 emissions, respectively. In 2012, Suzhou, Bozhou of Anhui, and Xuzhou of Jiangsu
365 were identified as the cities with the largest emissions, with the values estimated at
366 5007, 2433, and 2109 Gg, respectively. Depending on distribution of fire points, the
367 shares of OBB emissions by city were close between the constraining and FRP-based
368 method, and large emissions concentrated in the north of YRD. Based on the surveyed
369 percentages of CRBF and crop production, in contrast, the emission shares by city in
370 the traditional bottom-up method were clearly different from the other two, and
371 emissions concentrated in Anhui cities with high crop production level.

372 The average annual emissions of CO₂ for 2005-2011 with traditional bottom-up
373 method were 87.0% larger than those in constraining method and the emissions for
374 2012 was 24.6% times smaller than those in constraining method. Given the same
375 sources of emission factors for all species except NMVOCs, the discrepancies of OBB



376 emissions for most species between constraining and traditional bottom-up methods
377 come from the activity levels (i.e., percentages of CRBF and crop production). The
378 average annual constrained emissions from 2005 to 2015 were larger than those
379 derived by FRP-based method for all species except EC, CH₄ and NH₃, since the
380 average annual mass of CRBF from the constraining method were 36.9% larger than
381 those from the FRP-based method for those years, as shown in Figure S6 in the
382 supplement.

383 The percentage of CRBF is an important parameter to judge OBB activity and to
384 estimate emissions. Besides the investigated values applied in traditional bottom-up
385 approach, the percentages of CRBF were recalculated based on the constrained
386 emissions at provincial level and were shown in Figure S7 in the supplement. The
387 largest and smallest percentages of CRBF in the whole YRD region were estimated at
388 18.3% in 2012 and 8.1% in 2006, respectively. The inter-annual trend in percentages
389 of CRBF for YRD was closest to that for Anhui province, as the province dominated
390 the crop burning in the region. The different inter-annual trends by province were
391 strongly influenced by agricultural practice and government management.
392 Agricultural practice could be associated with income level and mechanization level.
393 Increased income would lead to more crop residues discarded and burned in the field,
394 while development of mechanization would lead to less. The constrained percentages
395 of CRBF for Shanghai increased from 2005 to 2007 and declined after 2007, while
396 those for Jiangsu decreased from 2005 to 2008 and increased after 2008. Increasing
397 trends were found for the percentages of CRBF for Anhui and Zhejiang from 2005 to
398 2012, and they might result largely from growth of farmers' income. The percentages
399 of CRBF for all provinces except Zhejiang decreased significantly in 2008, attributed
400 largely to the measures of air quality improvement for Beijing Olympic Games.
401 Shanghai was the only one with its percentage of CRBF significantly reduced in 2010,
402 resulting mainly from the air pollution control for Shanghai World Expo in that year.
403 Compare to those in the bottom-up method, the constrained percentages of CRBF for
404 Anhui and Jiangsu for all the years except 2012 were smaller, leading to smaller
405 constrained OBB emissions than the bottom-up ones in those years.

406 The constrained percentages of CRBF and straw yields for 2012 were shown by
407 city in Figure S8 in the supplement, and clear inconsistency in spatial distributions
408 can be found. The percentage of CRBF was not necessarily high for a city with large
409 straw production. For instance, the straw production of Yancheng was larger than



410 most other cities, but its percentage of CRBF was 5.7% and lower than most other
411 cities. Through linear regression, correlation coefficient was calculated at only 0.06
412 between constrained percentage of CRBF and straw yield at city level. The poor
413 correlation between them suggested that large uncertainty could be derived if uniform
414 percentage of CRBF was applied to calculate OBB emissions for cities within given
415 province, as what we did in the traditional bottom-up methodology.

416 **3.2 Evaluation of the three OBB inventories with CMAQ**

417 Figures 4 and 5 illustrate the observed daily averaged and simulated hourly PM_{10}
418 concentrations for selected YRD cities in June 17-25, 2010 and June 8-14, 2012,
419 respectively. Four cases, i.e., emission inventory without and with OBB emissions
420 estimated using the three methods, were included. The simulated PM_{10} concentrations
421 without OBB emissions were significantly lower than observation for all cities,
422 implying that OBB was an important source of airborne particulates during the two
423 periods. Simulations with OBB emissions derived from the three methods performed
424 better than those without OBB emissions for most cities during June 17-25, 2010 and
425 all cities during June 8-14, 2012. The best performance was found for simulations
426 with constrained OBB emissions in most cities during the two periods, and the high
427 PM_{10} concentrations were generally caught by CTM for the concerned OBB events. In
428 2010, for example, the observed high concentrations were caught by CTM with the
429 constrained emissions in Lianyungang on June 21-23, and Fuyang and Huainan on
430 June 19-21. In 2012, the high concentrations were caught in Xuzhou on June 12-14,
431 Lianyungang on June 13-14, Fuyang on June 11-12, Bozhou on June 10 and Chuzhou
432 on June 11-12. The results indicated that fire points could principally capture the
433 temporal and spatial distribution of OBB emissions. Overestimation still existed in
434 CTM with the constrained OBB emissions for the cities with intensive fire points (e.g.,
435 Xuzhou, Bozhou and Fuyang in 2012 and Bengbu in 2010), while underestimation
436 commonly existed for cities with fewer fire points (e.g., Hefei, Chuzhou and Huainan
437 in 2010 and 2012). Due to limitation of MODIS observation, fires at moderate to
438 small scales could not be fully detected (Giglio et al., 2003; Schroeder et al., 2008),
439 thus the spatial allocation of OBB emissions based on FRP could possibly result in
440 more emissions than actual in areas with intensive fire points.

441 The NMB and NME between observed and simulated PM_{10} concentrations are
442 shown in Table 2. Among all the cases, the NMB and NME with the constrained OBB



443 emissions were smaller than most of those with other OBB emissions, implying the
444 best guess of OBB emissions obtained through the constraining method combining
445 CTM and ground observation. The simulated PM_{10} concentrations using FRP-based
446 OBB emissions were smaller than observation for the two periods, due mainly to the
447 underestimated mass of CRBF. The results indicated that the OBB emissions might be
448 underestimated in FRP-based method in 2010 and 2012, since many small fires in
449 YRD were undetected in MODIS active fire detection products. The probability of
450 MODIS detection was strongly dependent upon the temperature and area of the fire
451 being observed. The average probability of detection for tropical savanna was 33.6%
452 when the temperature of fire was between 600 and 800°C and the area of fire was
453 between 100 and 1000 m² (Giglio et al., 2003). In YRD region, on one hand, the fire
454 temperature of crop residue burned in fields was relatively low. On the other hand,
455 nearly 100 farmers were possibly located in a single 1 × 1 km MODIS pixel (Liu et al.,
456 2015), and a farmer commonly owned croplands of several hundred square meters.
457 Therefore many fire pixels in YRD might not be detected, leading to underestimation
458 in the total FRE. The simulated PM_{10} concentrations with the traditional bottom-up
459 OBB emissions were higher than observation in 2010 but lower in 2012. The results
460 thus implied the growth in OBB emissions from 2010 to 2012 could not be captured
461 by traditional bottom-up method, attributed partly to application of unreliable
462 percentage of CRBF.

463

464 3.3 Comparisons of different studies and methods

465 To explore the influence of data and methods on OBB emission estimation, we
466 selected CO to compare emissions in this work and other national and global
467 inventories for YRD, given the similar emission factors of CO applied in various
468 studies. CO emissions from the three methods in this work were compared with
469 GFASv1.0 (Kaiser et al., 2012), GFEDv3.0 (van der Werf et al., 2010), GFEDv4.1
470 (Randerson et al. 2015), Wang and Zhang (2008), Huang et al. (2012), Xia et al. (2016)
471 and Zhou et al. (2017a), as shown in Figure 6. The emissions from Wang and Zhang
472 (2008), Huang et al. (2012), Xia et al. (2016) and Zhou et al. (2017a) were derived by
473 traditional bottom-up method, while GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1 were
474 based on FRP and BA methods. In particular, the emissions from small fires were
475 included in GFEDv4.1. Similar inter-annual variations were found for emissions



476 derived based on FRP measurement including the constrained and FRP-based
477 emissions in this work, GFAS v1.0, and GFED v4.1, while those of GFEDv3.0 and
478 Xia et al. (2016) were different. The percentages of CRBF were assumed unchanged
479 during the studying period in Xia et al. (2016), thus the temporal variation of OBB
480 emissions were associated with the change in annual straw production.

481 The constrained CO emissions in this work were smaller than other studies using
482 the traditional bottom-up method (Wang and Zhang, 2008; Huang et al., 2012; Xia et
483 al., 2016) and larger than those based on burned area and FRP derived from satellite
484 (GFEDv3.0; GFASv1.0; GFEDv4.1). In particular, the average annual constrained
485 emissions from 2005 to 2012 were 3.9, 0.5 and 15.0 times larger than those in
486 GFASv1.0, GFEDv4.1s and GFEDv3.0, respectively. The constrained emissions were
487 closest to GFED v4.1s that included small fires. As described in Section 3.2, the area
488 of farmland belonging to individual farmers was usually small, and small fires were
489 expected to be important sources of OBB emissions in YRD. GFEDv4.1s might still
490 underestimate OBB emissions due to the omission errors for the small fires in MODIS
491 active fire detection products (Schroeder et al., 2008). In addition, the constrained CO
492 emission for 2013 was 31.5% larger than those by Qiu et al. (2016) calculated based
493 on burned area from satellite observations. The average annual CO emissions from
494 2005 to 2012 by the constraining method were 57.2% smaller than Xia et al. (2016),
495 and the constrained emissions for 2006 were respectively 27.6% and 56.9% smaller
496 than those by Huang et al. (2012) and Wang and Zhang (2008). It implied again that
497 the traditional bottom-up method might overestimate OBB emissions during the
498 period. Moreover, the discrepancy in estimations between Huang et al. (2012) and
499 Wang and Zhang (2008) for the same year resulted mainly from application of
500 different percentages of CRBF, implying that calculation of OBB emissions was
501 sensitive to the parameter with the bottom-up approach.

502 The spatial distribution of the constrained emissions in this work and those in
503 GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s were illustrated in Figure 7. Intensive OBB
504 emissions in GFEDv3.0 were mainly found in parts of Anhui, Jiangsu and Shanghai,
505 while the constrained emissions, GFEDv4.1s and GFASv1.0 emissions occurred in the
506 most YRD regions in accordance with the distribution of fire points. Therefore,
507 GFEDv3.0 might miss a large number of burned areas, leading to underestimation in
508 emissions and bias in spatial distribution.



509 In order to understand the discrepancies between this work and other inventories
510 for different species, the emissions of 2010 derived from the three methods in this
511 study, GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0, GFEDv4.1s and Xia et al. (2016) were summarized in
512 Table 3. Similar to CO, the constrained emissions in this work were larger than
513 GFASv1.0, GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s for most species except NH₃, but were smaller
514 than the estimates in Xia et al. (2016) and this study based on the bottom-up method
515 for all the species. In addition, the constrained emissions for most species were
516 smaller than the bottom-up estimates by Huang et al. (2012), Wang and Zhang (2008)
517 and Xia et al. (2016) for 2006. The comparison implied again that the FRP/BA-based
518 method might underestimate the OBB emissions attributed to the detection limit on
519 small fires. In contrast, application of the assumed/surveyed fraction of burned
520 biomass in the bottom-up method could often overestimate OBB emissions.

521 Resulting from the different sources of emission factors, the discrepancies
522 between studies or methods varied greatly by species. For PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, as an
523 example, the emissions by Xia et al. (2016) were respectively 35.8% and 50.3%
524 higher than the constrained emissions in 2010. The discrepancies for SO₂ and NO_x
525 were larger: the emissions by Xia et al. (2016) were 4.7 and 3.1 times larger than our
526 constrained emissions, respectively. Moreover, the constrained NMVOCs emission
527 was 152.5 and 10.7 times larger than that of GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s in 2010,
528 respectively, partly because the emission factors of GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s did
529 not contain oxygenated VOCs. In contrast, the constrained NH₃ emissions were 4.7%
530 and 47.9% smaller than that of GFEDv3.0 and GFEDv4.1s, respectively. The
531 comparisons indicated that emission factors were important sources of uncertainties in
532 estimation of OBB emissions with different methods.

533 3.4 Contribution of OBB to particulate pollution and its influencing factors

534 The brute-force method (BFM, Dunker et al., 1996) was used to analyze the
535 contributions of OBB to particulate pollution for the two OBB events, June 17-24,
536 2010 and June 8-14, 2012. Simulated PM₁₀ concentrations with and without
537 constrained OBB emissions were compared, and the difference indicated the
538 contribution from OBB as shown by city in Figure 8. The average contribution in June
539 8-14, 2012 was estimated at 37.6% (56.7 μg/m³) for 22 cities in YRD, and the
540 contribution for June 17-24, 2010 was smaller at 21.8% (24.0 μg/m³) for 17 cities.
541 Our result for 2012 was nearly the same as that for 5 YRD cities in 2011 (37.0%) by



542 Cheng et al. (2014). Using the BFM method, the contribution of OBB emissions to
543 PM₁₀ concentrations were estimated to increase by 136.3% from 2010 to 2012 in this
544 work, and the enhancement was larger than that of OBB emissions (50.8%). Therefore,
545 factors other than emissions (e.g., meteorology) could also play an important role in
546 elevating the contribution of OBB to ambient particle pollution. For example, the
547 average precipitation in June 8-14, 2012 was 36% smaller than that in June 17-24,
548 2010, exaggerating the particle pollution during OBB event.

549 The average contributions of OBB for 2012 were estimated at 55.0% (98.4
550 µg/m³), 36.4% (58.0 µg/m³), 23.6% (12.9 µg/m³), and 14.4% (11.2 µg/m³) for 6 cities
551 of Anhui, 10 cities of Jiangsu, 5 cities of Zhejiang and Shanghai, respectively. For
552 individual cities, large contributions of OBB for 2012 were found in Xuzhou, Bozhou,
553 Fuyang, and Lianyungang located in the north YRD, reaching 82.3% (284.3 µg/m³),
554 75.2% (207.5 µg/m³), 71.9% (134.7 µg/m³) and 63.5% (96.2 µg/m³), respectively.
555 Similarly, large contributions for 2010 were found in Lianyungang, Fuyang and
556 Bozhou reaching 63.3% (69.8 µg/m³), 58.2% (71.9 µg/m³) and 78.8% (53.6 µg/m³),
557 respectively. In general the spatial distribution of OBB contributions to PM₁₀ mass
558 concentrations was similar with that of fire points, confirming the rationality of
559 constraining OBB emissions with observed PM₁₀ concentration in cities in north
560 Anhui and Jiangsu.

561 To explore the influence of meteorology on air pollution caused by OBB, we
562 simulated PM₁₀ concentrations for June 8-14 (PE1) and June 22-28 2012 (PE2) with
563 varied meteorology conditions but fixed OBB emissions (i.e., constrained emissions
564 for June 8-14, 2012). Poorer meteorology conditions during PE1 were found than PE2.
565 The average wind speed in PE1 was 2.4 m/s, 17% lower than that in PE2. The average
566 wind direction in PE1 was 168.3°, close to south with polluted air in land. In contrast,
567 the average wind direction in PE2 was 118.3°, close to east with clean air from the
568 ocean. The average precipitation in PE2 was 6.8 mm, 28% larger than that in PE1. As
569 shown in Figure 9, the average contribution of OBB to PM₁₀ concentrations for 22
570 cities in YRD region was estimated at 56.7 µg/m³ for PE1, 23% larger than that for
571 PE2, and the contributions in most cities were much larger for PE1 than those for PE2,
572 except for Bozhou and Fuyang. The comparisons suggested that air pollution caused
573 by OBB would exaggerate under poorer meteorology conditions. To reduce air
574 pollution caused by OBB in harvest season in YRD, therefore, more attention should



575 be paid to the OBB restriction on those days with unfavorable meteorology conditions
576 such as calm wind and rainless period.

577 To further analyze the influence of diurnal variation of emissions on air pollution
578 caused by OBB, we simulated PM₁₀ concentrations on June 17-24 2010 with various
579 diurnal curves of OBB emissions (i.e., those for 2010 and 2012). Constrained
580 emissions were applied in the simulation. As shown in Figure 10, the contributions of
581 OBB to PM₁₀ concentrations based on diurnal curve of 2012 were larger than those
582 based on 2010 for almost all YRD cities, and the average contribution for the 17 cities
583 was calculated at 28.6 µg/m³ based on diurnal curve of 2012, 10% larger than that
584 based on 2010. The contribution in Bozhou changed most (1.37 times larger with
585 2012 curve), while those in Shanghai, Huzhou and Shaoxing changed least. The time
586 of peak value for OBB emissions in 2012 was 2.5 hours later than 2010, indicating
587 that the fraction of OBB emissions at night for 2012 would be larger than that for
588 2010. As the diffusion condition for air pollutants at night was usually worse than that
589 during daytime, more OBB emissions at night would elevate its contribution to
590 particle pollution. In the actual fact, the supervision of OBB prohibition was usually
591 conducted by government during daytime, thus some farmers burned more crop
592 residues at night to avoid the punishment. To improve the air quality in harvest season
593 in YRD, more attention should be paid to the OBB restriction at night.

594 **3.5 Uncertainty analysis**

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

601 For traditional bottom-up method, parameters included crop productions,
602 percentages of CRBF, straw to grain ratios, combustion efficiencies, and emission
603 factors. Crop production was directly taken from official statistical yearbooks (NBS,
604 2013) and its uncertainty was expected to be limited and thereby not included in the
605 analysis. As the percentage of CRBF was determined at half of the percentage of
606 unused crop residues, its uncertainty was set at -100% to +100%. The combustion
607 efficiencies were assumed within an uncertainty range of 10% around the mean value



608 according to de Zarate (2005) and Zhang et al. (2008). The uncertainties of emission
609 factors were obtained from original literatures where they were derived. If the
610 emission factor was derived from a single measurement, normal distribution was
611 applied with the standard deviation directly taken from that measurement. If the
612 emission factor was derived from multiple measurements and the samples were
613 insufficient for data fitting, uniform distribution was tentatively applied with a
614 conservative strategy to avoid possible underestimation of uncertainty: The uncertain
615 range of the emission factor would be expanded according to Li et al. (2007) if the
616 range obtained originally from the multiple measurements was smaller than that in Li
617 et al. (2007). Summarized in Table S13 in the supplement was a database for emission
618 factors and percentages of CRBF, with their uncertainties indicated by probability
619 distribution function (PDF). As shown in Table 4, the uncertainties of OBB emissions
620 for 2012 based on the traditional bottom-up method were estimated at -56% to +70%,
621 -56% to +70%, -50% to +54%, -54% to +73%, -49% to +58%, -48% to +59%, -46%
622 to +73%, -48% to +60%, -47% to +87%, -59% to +138% and -51% to +67% for PM₁₀,
623 PM_{2.5}, EC, OC, CH₄, NMVOCs, CO, CO₂, NO_x, SO₂ and NH₃, respectively. For most
624 species, the percentages of CRBF contributed largest to the uncertainties of OBB
625 emissions, while emission factors were more significant to SO₂ uncertainty.

626 For the FRP-based method, parameters included total FRE, combustion
627 conversion ratio and emission factors. The uncertainty of total FRE was associated
628 with FRP value, MODIS detection resolution, and the methodology used to calculate
629 FRE per fire pixel. Indicated by Freeborn et al. (2014), the coefficient of variation of
630 MODIS FRP was 50% for a fire pixel, but it declined to smaller than 5% for the
631 aggregation of over 50 MODIS active fire pixels. Give the large number of fire pixels
632 for in YRD (more than 17000 in 2012), FRP was expected to contribute little to
633 uncertainty of total FRE and could thus be ignored. Due to limitation of MODIS
634 resolution, small fires could not be fully detected and the number of fire pixel could
635 be underestimated by 300% on crop-dominant areas (Schroeder et al., 2008), therefore
636 the uncertainty of number of fire pixel was assumed to be 0 to +300%. The method
637 used to calculate FRE based on single fire pixel assumed that fire lasted one day.
638 Given the small cropland owned by one farmer in YRD, individual fire normally
639 lasted several hours, and FRE could be overestimated. As the total FRE in FRP-based
640 method was estimated 2.6 times larger than that from constraining method based on
641 the same number of the fire pixel, we tentatively assumed the uncertainty range of



642 FRE for one fire pixel at -72% to 0%. The uncertainty of total FRE was then
643 estimated at -17% to +154% (95% CIs) based on the principle that total FRE was
644 calculated as the number of fire pixel multiplied by average FRE. The uncertainty of
645 combustion conversion ratio was derived from Wooster et al. (2005) and Freeborn et
646 al. (2008), while those of emission factors taken from Akagi et al. (2011). As a result,
647 the uncertainties of FRP-based inventory were estimated at -77% to +274%, -63% to
648 +244%, -78% to +281%, -78% to 276%, -83% to +315%, -63% to +243%, -52% to
649 +223%, -21% to +164%, -82% to +303%, -78% to +279%, and -82% to +302% for
650 PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, EC, OC, CH₄, NMVOCs, CO, CO₂, NO_x, SO₂ and NH₃ in 2012,
651 respectively. Emission factors contributed most to the uncertainties of emissions for
652 all species except CO₂.

653 The uncertainty of constrained emissions could hardly be calculated by
654 Monte-Carlo simulation, as the results were associated with CTM performance. In
655 general, CTM performance could be influenced by emission estimates for
656 anthropogenic sources other than OBB, chemistry mechanism of CTM and temporal
657 and spatial distribution of OBB emissions. Emission inventory of anthropogenic
658 sources that incorporates the best available information of individual plants was
659 expected to improve the CTM performance at the regional or local scale (Zhou et al.,
660 2017b). The influence of chemistry mechanism came mainly from secondary organic
661 carbon (SOC) modeling. According to the Cheng et al. (2014) and Chen et al. (2017),
662 the mass fraction of SOC to PM₁₀ could reach 10% during the OBB event in YRD,
663 and that part might not be well constrained with the approach we applied in this work.
664 Similar to FRP-based method, moreover, temporal and spatial distribution of OBB
665 emissions based on FRP might not be entirely consistent with the reality, due to the
666 omission errors in the MODIS active fire detection products and the limited times of
667 satellite overpass as discussed earlier.

668 The uncertainties of OBB emissions with traditional bottom-up method were
669 estimated smaller than those with FRP-based method, and uncertainties for CO₂ and
670 CO were usually smaller than other species in both methods attributed mainly to
671 fewer variations in their emission factors. OBB emission estimation with traditional
672 bottom-up method could be improved if more accurate percentages of CRBF are
673 obtained, and that with FRP-based method could be improved when the omission
674 error of satellite and the uncertainties of emission factors are reduced. Efforts should



675 also be recommended on improvement of CTM for better constraining the OBB
676 emissions.

677

678

4. Conclusions

679 Taking YRD in China as an example, we developed OBB emission inventories
680 with traditional bottom-up, FRP-based and constraining methods, and analyzed the
681 discrepancies between them and the underlying reasons. The simulated PM_{10}
682 concentrations through CMAQ with constrained emissions were closest to available
683 observation, implying the improvement of emission estimation with this method. The
684 inter-annual variations in emissions with FRP-based and constraining methods were
685 similar with the fire counts, while that with traditional bottom-up method was not.
686 The contrast indicated that the bottom-up method could not capture the actual
687 inter-annual trend of OBB emissions. The emissions of all species except NMVOCs
688 based on bottom-up method might be overestimated in most years, attributed mainly
689 to application of elevated percentages of CRBF. The emissions with FRP-based
690 method might be underestimated in 2005-2015, attributed to the omission errors in the
691 MODIS active fire detection products and thereby to the underestimation in mass of
692 CRBF. Compared with other inventories at different spatial scales, similar temporal
693 variations of CO emissions were found for the constrained emissions, FRP-based
694 emissions in this work, and emissions in GFASv1.0 and GFEDv4.1s. The constrained
695 CO emissions in this work were usually smaller than those in the bottom-up
696 inventories derived both in this work and other studies, but larger than those in
697 FRP-based inventories derived both in this work and other studies. The comparison
698 again demonstrated that the bottom-up method might overestimate OBB emissions in
699 YRD and the FRP-based method might underestimate them. The OBB contributions
700 to particulate pollution in typical episodes were analyzed using the Brute-force
701 method in CMAQ modeling. The OBB emissions in 2012 were 51% larger than those
702 in 2010, while its contribution to average PM_{10} mass concentrations was estimated to
703 increase by 136% from 2010 to 2012. The enhanced contribution of OBB was not
704 attributed only to the growth in OBB emissions but was also partly caused by the
705 meteorology. Quantified with a Monte-Carlo framework, the uncertainties of OBB
706 emissions with traditional bottom-up method were smaller than those with FRP-based
707 method. The uncertainties of traditional bottom-up and FRP-based emission



708 estimations were mainly from the percentages of CRBF and emission factors,
709 respectively. Further improvement on CTM for OBB events would help better
710 constraining OBB emissions.

711 Limitations remained in this study. Given the difficulty in field investigation, the
712 annual CRBF used in the traditional bottom-up method was obtained from limited
713 studies and it could not correctly reflect the actual OBB activity. The reliability of
714 FRP-based estimation depended largely on the detection resolution of the satellite. In
715 YRD where the burned areas of individual fires were small, many fires could not be
716 detected by MODIS. The accuracy of constrained emissions depended largely on
717 CTM performance and the spatial and temporal distributions of OBB emissions
718 derived from satellite-observed FRP. Therefore FRP-based and constraining method
719 may be improved if more reliable fire information is obtained. In addition, more
720 measurements on local emission factors for OBB are suggested in the future to reduce
721 the uncertainty of emissions.

722

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925

FIGURE CAPTIONS

926 **Figure 1. (a) Monthly variations of fire occurrences in 2010 and 2012, (b) spatial**
927 **patterns of fire points in June 2010 and June 2012, (c) PM₁₀ concentrations for**
928 **city-level in YRD in June 2010 and June 2012, and (d) temporal variations of**
929 **daily fire occurrences in June 2010 and 2012. City abbreviations FY, BZ, BB,**
930 **HN, HF, CZ(a), XZ, LYG, NJ, YZ, ZJ, TZ, NT, CZ, WX, SZ, HZ(a), JX, HZ, SX,**
931 **NB, SH indicate is Fuyang, Bozhou, Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, Chuzhou, Xuzhou,**
932 **Lianyungang, Nanjing, Yangzhou, Zhenjiang, Taizhou, Nantong, Changzhou,**
933 **Wuxi, Suzhou, Huzhou, Jiaxing, Hangzhou, Shaoxing, Ningbo, and Shanghai).**

934 **Figure 2. Model domain and locations of 43 meteorological monitoring sites.**

935 **Figure 3. Fire counts and CO₂ emissions estimated with traditional bottom-up,**
936 **FRP-based and constraining methods for YRD 2005-2012.**

937 **Figure 4. Observed 24-hour averaged PM₁₀ concentrations and simulated hourly**
938 **PM₁₀ concentrations without OBB emissions (No_OBB) and with OBB emissions**
939 **based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional_OBB), FRP-based (FRP_OBB) and**
940 **constraining (Constrained_OBB) methods in Lianyungang, Fuyang, Bozhou,**
941 **Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, and Chuzhou during June 17-25, 2010.**

942 **Figure 5. Observed 24-hour averaged PM₁₀ concentrations and simulated hourly**
943 **PM₁₀ concentrations without OBB emissions (No_OBB) and with OBB emissions**
944 **based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional_OBB), FRP-based (FRP_OBB) and**
945 **constraining (Constrained_OBB) methods in Xuzhou, Lianyungang, Fuyang,**
946 **Bozhou, Bengbu, Huainan, Hefei, and Chuzhou during June 8-14, 2012.**

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

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

951 **Figure 8. The contribution of OBB to PM₁₀ concentrations for different YRD**
952 **cities during OBB events in June 2010 and 2012.**

953 **Figure 9. PM₁₀ concentrations contributed by OBB for different YRD cities in**
954 **Jun 8-14 (PE1) and June 22-28 (PE2), 2012.**

955 **Figure 10. PM₁₀ concentrations contributed by OBB for different YRD cities**



956 **based on the diurnal variations of 2010 and 2012 in Jun 8-14, 2010.**

957



958

TABLES

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

	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	EC	OC	CH ₄	NMVOCs	CO	CO ₂	NO _x	SO ₂	NH ₃
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

960

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962



963 **Table 2. Model performance statistics for concentrations of PM₁₀ from**
 964 **observation and CMAQ simulation without OBB emissions (No_OBB) and with**
 965 **OBB emissions based on traditional bottom-up (Traditional_OBB), FRP-based**
 966 **(FRP_OBB) and constraining methods (Constrained_OBB) for the two OBB**
 967 **events of June 2010 and 2012.**

	June 2010		June 2012	
	NMB	NME	NMB	NME
No_OBB	-47%	50%	-60%	68%
Traditional_OBB	11%	44%	-16%	45%
FRP_OBB	-33%	41%	-45%	52%
Constrained_OBB	-16%	37%	-10%	45%

968

969 Note: NMB and NME were calculated using following equations (P and O indicate the results
 970 from modeling prediction and observation, respectively):

971
$$NMB = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_i - O_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (O_i)} \times 100\% ; NME = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |P_i - O_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^n (O_i)} \times 100\% .$$

972



973 **Table 3. OBB emissions in YRD derived from this work and other studies in**
974 **2010 (Unit: Gg).**

	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	EC	OC	CH ₄	NMVOCs	CO	CO ₂	NO _x	SO ₂	NH ₃
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
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	-

975



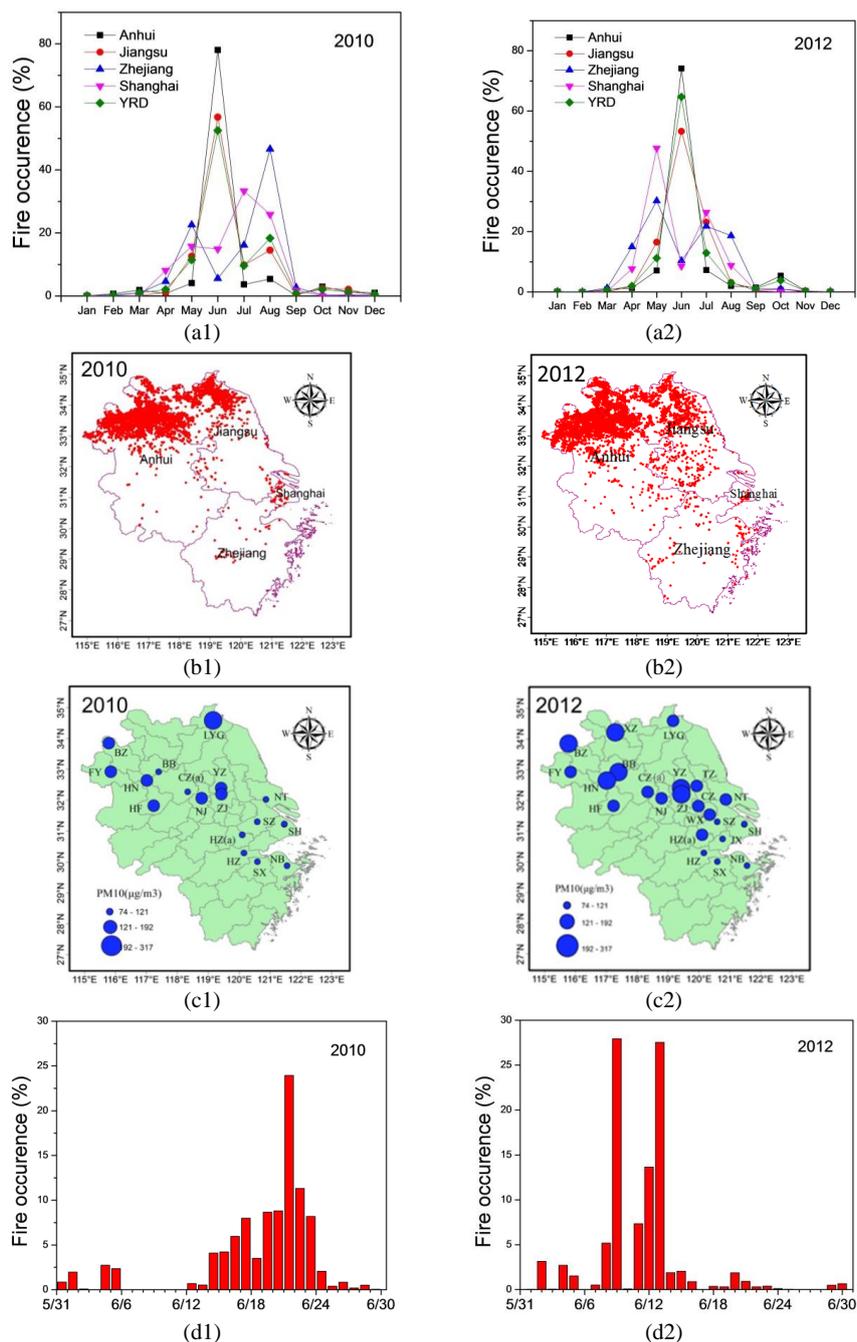
976 **Table 4. The uncertainties of OBB emissions in YRD indicated as 95% CIs and**
 977 **the top two parameters contributing most to emission uncertainties based on**
 978 **traditional bottom-up and FRP-based methods for 2012. The percentages in the**
 979 **parentheses indicate the contributions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

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

981 ¹ PCRBF, the percentage of crop residues burned in the field (the subscript indicates province); ²
 982 AF, the average FRE of fire pixels; ³ NFP, the number of fire pixels; ⁴ MCRBF, the mass of crop
 983 residues burned in the field.
 984



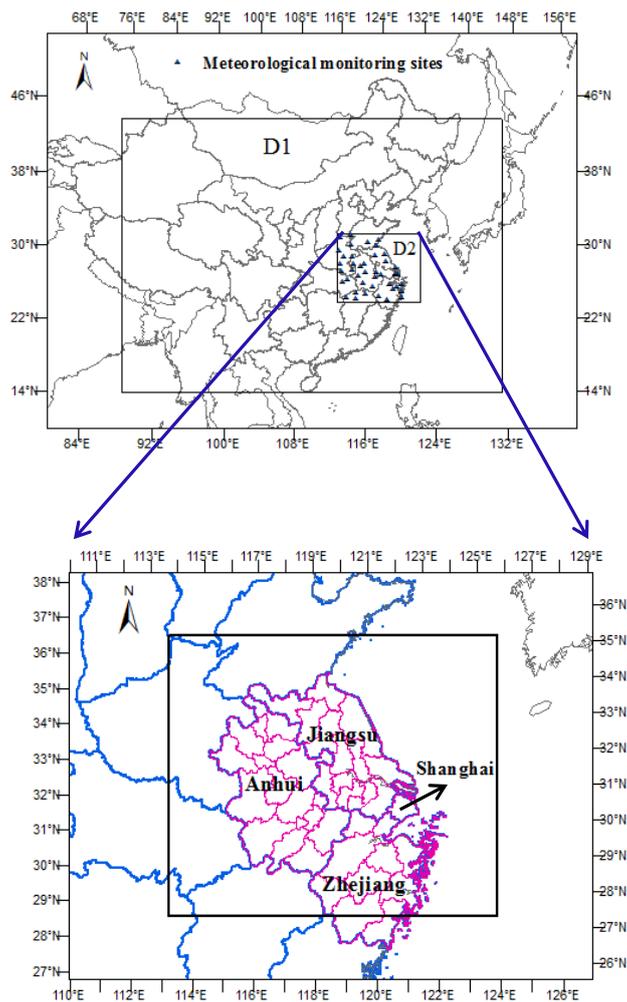
985 **Figure 1.**



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987 **Figure 2.**

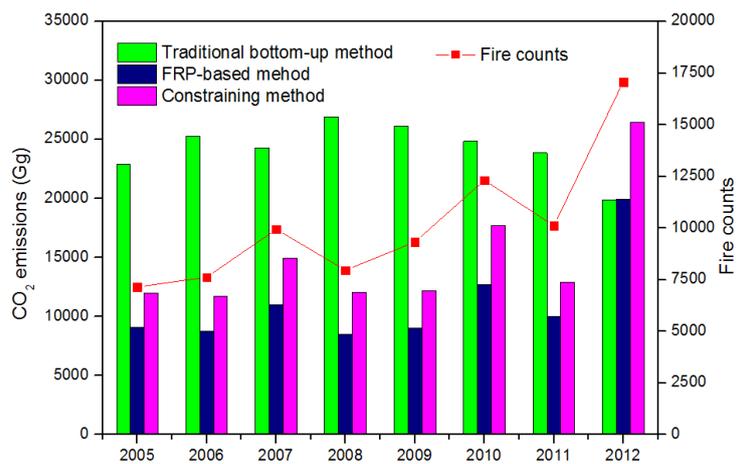


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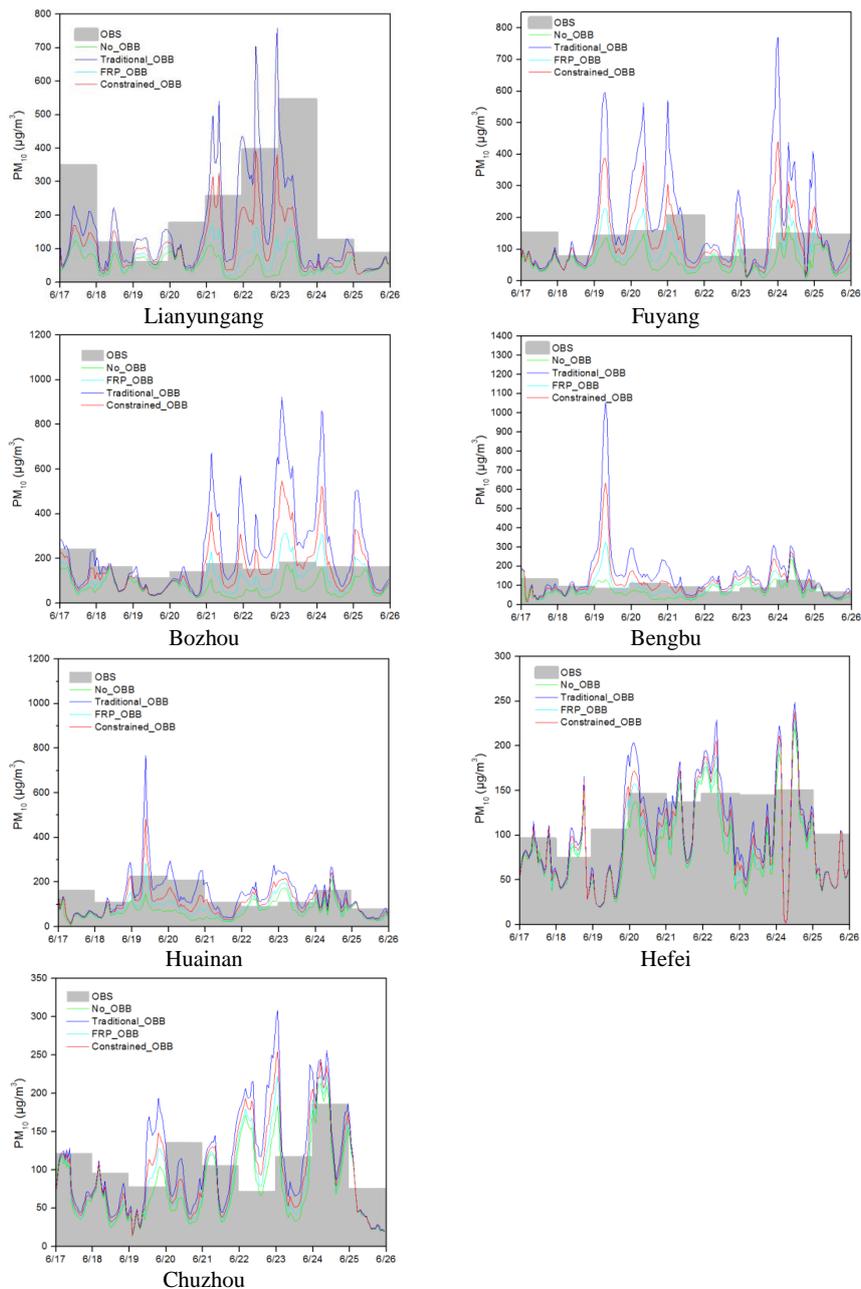
990 **Figure 3.**



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994 **Figure 4.**

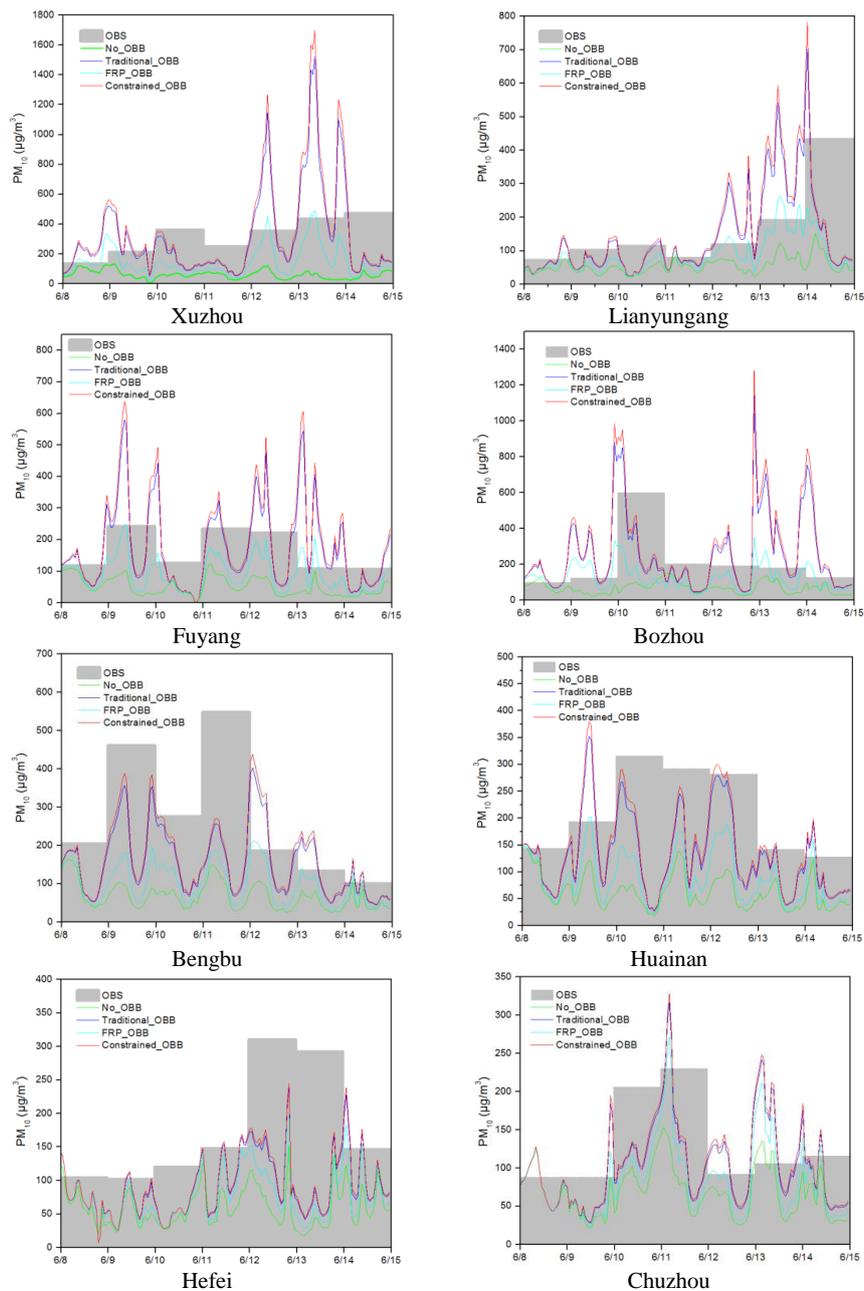


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997 **Figure 5.**

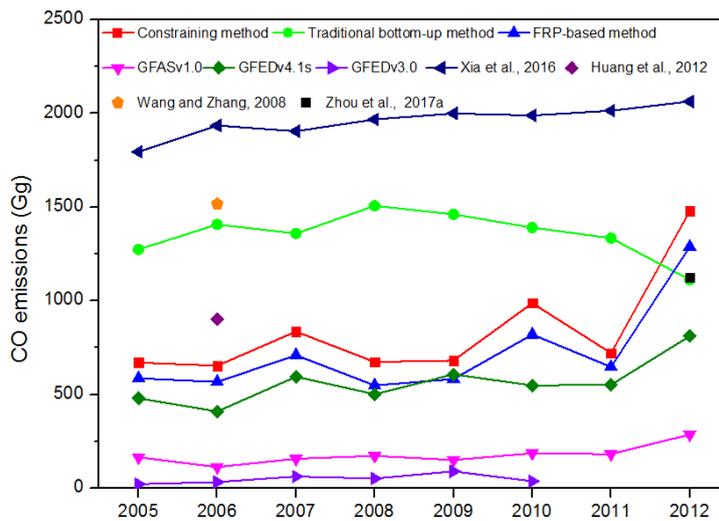


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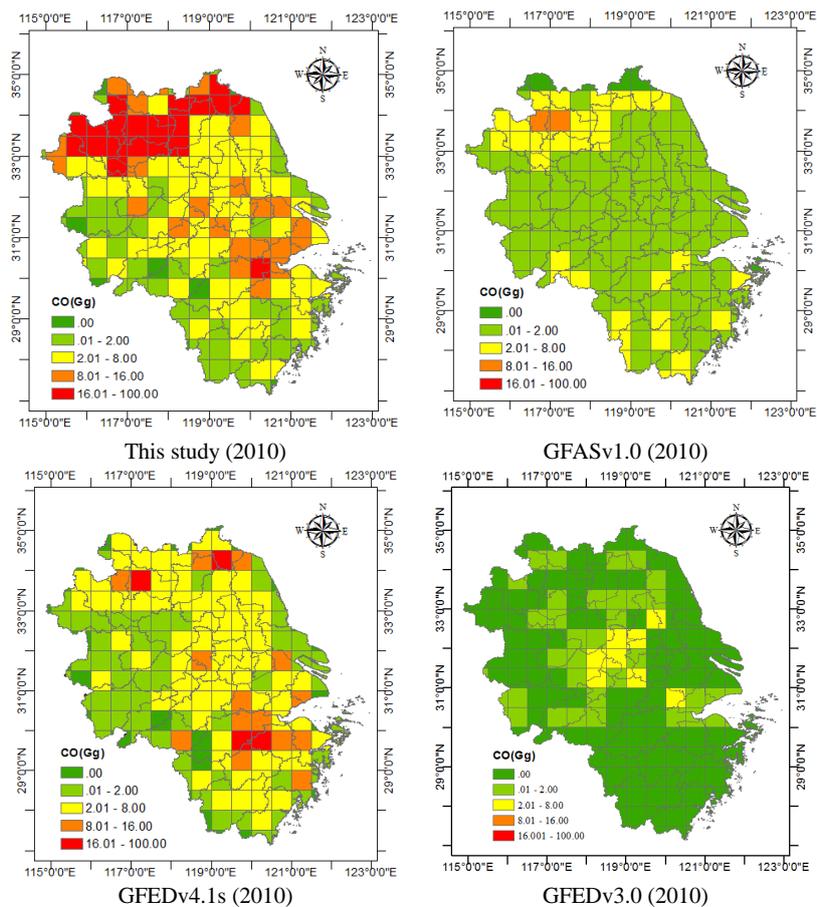
1000 **Figure 6.**



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1003 **Figure 7.**

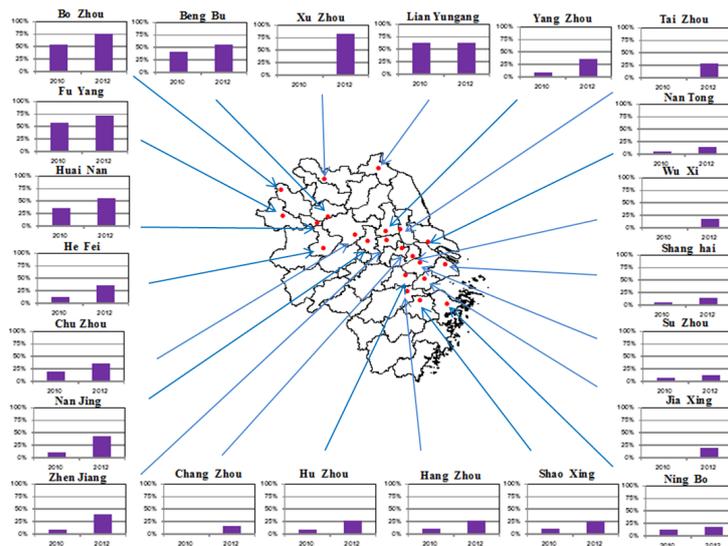


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1006 **Figure 8.**

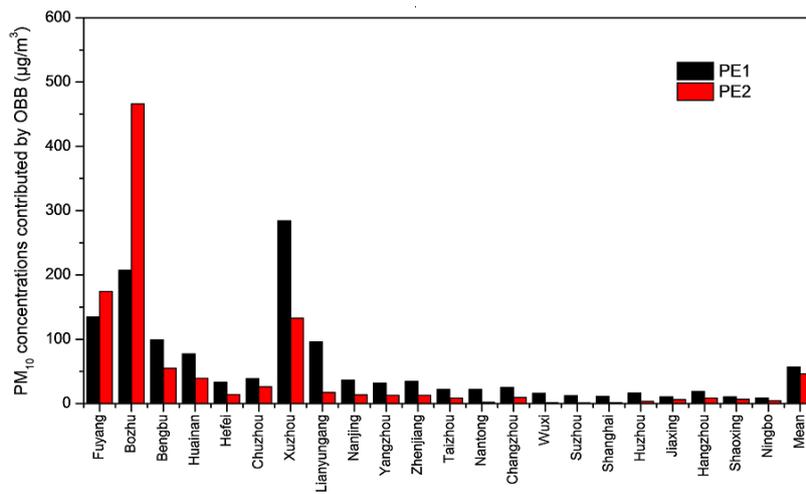


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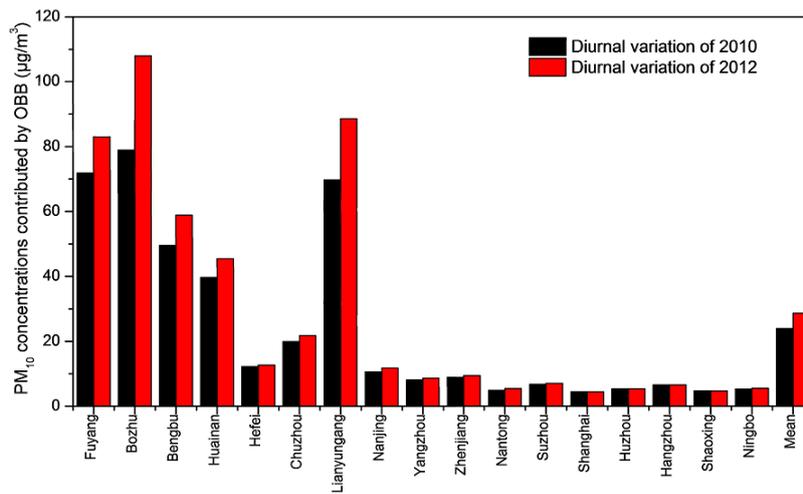
1009 **Figure 9.**
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1013 **Figure 10.**



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