Main revisions and response to reviewers' comments

Manuscript No.: acp-2018-984

Title: Top-down estimate of black carbon emissions for city cluster using ground observations: A case study in southern Jiangsu, China

Authors: Xuefen Zhao, Yu Zhao, Dong Chen, Chunyan Li, Jie Zhang

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

Reviewer #1

0. The authors provide a detailed analysis to constrain BC emissions from Jiangsu (China) using observations from two stations. They found BC emissions are significantly overestimated in the bottom-up inventories, which has important implications. However, I have some major concerns about the representation of their stations to the whole region, and the inversion methodology. I recommend the paper for publication after consideration of the points below.

Response and revisions:

We appreciate the reviewer's remarks on the importance of the work. Regarding the limitations pointed out by the reviewer, we have improved the manuscript accordingly. The spatial representativeness of the two sites in the multiple regression model has been clearly described (please see our response to Q3). Case 2 in which observation data at only one site (NJU) were used has been further re-analysed to avoid confusion to the inversion methodology (please see our response to Q4). **1.** Abstract Lines 28-29, please confirm the same BC concentrations (i.e. 3.4 ug/m^3) at both sites. In addition, Lines 39-40 say: "the simulated annual mean was elevated to 2.6". I assume it is elevated from 3.4 to 2.6?

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment and reminder. We confirmed that the annual mean simulations of BC were 3.44 and 3.39 ug/m³ at NJU and PAES, respectively. When the constrained emissions were applied, the annual mean concentration was simulated to decrease from 3.39 to 2.57 ug/m³ at PAES, and it was indicated **in Table 2 in the revised manuscript**. We corrected the sentence **in line 41 in the revised manuscript**: "At PAES, in particular, the simulated annual mean declined to 2.6 μ g/m³ and the annual normalized mean error (NME) decreased from 72.0% to 57.6%."

2. Line 257-258 Are 5 days long enough to minimize the influences of initial conditions? I checked the methodology of other studies and found much longer initialization periods. For example, 3 months in Wang et al. (2013) and Mao et al. (2015).

Response and revisions:

We thank and agree with the reviewer's comment. Some studies that applied GEOS-Chem or WRF-Chem to constrain BC emissions at larger spatial scale often chose several months as spin up to minimize the influence of initial conditions (Fu et al., 2013 and studies mentioned by the reviewer). For WRF-CMAQ model, in contrast, more studies used several days as initialization periods, for example, 5 days in Chang et al. (2018) and Tran et al. (2018), and 7 days in Ran et al. (2016). The period in this study is expected to be sufficient to minimize the influence of initial condition.

3. *Table 2 As shown with the annual mean result:*

* NJU, the a priori is 0.4 lower than obs, and is reduced by 0.6 in the inversion. The a posteriori is 1.0 lower than obs.

* PAES, the a priori is 0.9 higher than obs, and is reduced by 0.8 in the inversion. The a posteriori is 0.1 higher than obs.

It seems that the inversion simply moves the bias from PAES to NJU by reducing the total emissions, suggesting the inversion system is dominated by PAES. Considering the inconsistency between NJU and PAES, it is hard to say whether the conclusion is reliable to provide a good representation for the whole region.

Response and revisions:

We appreciate the reviewer's important comment. As can been seen in Table 2 and Figures 3 and 4 in the revised manuscript, application of JS-posterior effectively reduced the large biases between simulations and observations for all seasons at PAES and for January and April at NJU, suggested by the reduced NMEs. In particular, most of the overestimations in peak concentrations were corrected at the both sites. We mentioned in lines 489-492, 497-499 and 508 in the revised manuscript. It should be also acknowledged that NMEs for July and October and the annual average of NME were slightly enhanced at NJU. Limitation of the multiple regression model was thus indicated that overestimation and underestimation in concentrations at different sites could hardly be corrected simultaneously without further improvement in spatial distribution of emissions, and we mentioned in details in lines 511-516 in the revised manuscript.

To improve the method and to quantify the effect of spatial representation of observation sites on top-down estimate, we provided Case 3 in which observation data at PAES and NJU were applied to constrain emissions from Nanjing and Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster, respectively, **in Section 4.1 in the revised manuscript**. The best CTM performance was obtained in Case 3, implying

that inclusion of more measurement data with their spatial representativeness considered could improve the top-down method. Given the limited BC observation data in the area, therefore, more measurements with better spatiotemporal coverage were recommended for constraining BC emissions effectively, as mentioned in lines 47-52 in the revised manuscript.

4. Section 4.1 As shown in Table 2, the model simulation (2.38) is already lower than obs (2.69) in April at NJU. When only NJU data is used, how could the inversion keep reducing the emissions with scaling factors, 0.42, 0.95 and 0.65? Theoretically, an inversion system should minimize the discrepancy between model and obs rather than magnifying it.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's important comment. As can been seen in Table 2 in the revised manuscript, the monthly mean of simulated BC concentrations at NJU with JS-prior was 2.38 ug/m^3 for all periods in April, smaller than the observed 2.69 ug/m^3 . For Case 2 in which only NJU data were applied, the scaling factors for industry, residential and transportation emissions were obtained at 0.42, 0.95, and 0.65, respectively, implying a further reduction in BC emissions. The main reason is that the data for the whole April were not fully used due to necessary data screening in the multiple regression model. We acknowledge that the data screening process was not clearly stated in the original manuscript. Before applying in the multiple regression model, we excluded the periods following the criterions: the periods lack of observation data, those for which the contribution of each emission sector (power generation, industry, residential sources and transportation) was simulated to be smaller than zero through the brute-force method, and those for which the sum of contributions of all the four sectors was larger than 100% with CTM. The data screening helped to reduce the uncertainty of CTM in the multiple regression model. We added the description of data screening in lines 240-245 in the revised

manuscript. The number of data after screening in Case 2 was 48% of data in all periods (most data screening was due to lack of observations, accounting for 38%). We divided all the data points in April in Case 2 into two groups: those included in the multiple regression model and those excluded from the model, and analyzed the modeling performances for both groups separately. As can be seen in Table R1, the simulated concentration for periods included in the multiple regression model (2.71 $\mu g/m^3$) was larger than the observation (2.56 $\mu g/m^3$) when JS-prior was applied, different from the case without data screening (i.e., data in all periods were included). The emissions could then be reduced when the observation was applied in the constraining. As a result, application of the top-down estimate in Case 2 effectively reduced the NME for the period included in the model from 34.01% to 21.09%, and the simulated average concentration was closer to the observation. At the same time, the constrained emissions did not increase the bias for periods excluded from the multiple regression model. It thus indicated that the underestimation for periods excluded from the multiple regression model could result largely from factors other than emissions like meteorology. We added the analysis in lines 547-559 in the revised manuscript and included Table R1 as Table S8 in the revised supplement.

Table R1. Statistical indicators for observed and simulated BC concentrations for all periods, those included in the multiple regression model, and those excluded from the model in JS-prior and Case 2 for April 2015 at NJU.

Site	Parameter	JS-prior:	JS-prior:	JS-prior:	Case 2:	Case 2:	Case 2:
	Parameter	All period	Included	Excluded	All period	Included	Excluded
	Average SIM (µg/m ³)	2.38	2.71	2.08	2.27	2.42	2.08
NJU	Average OBS (µg/m ³)	2.69	2.56	2.99	2.69	2.56	2.99
	NMB (%)	-16.02	5.90	-56.48	-21.59	-5.32	-56.63
	NME (%)	42.31	34.01	57.62	32.47	21.09	57.61

5. Table 4 More information is needed in the caption. It is really difficult to follow the discussion to distinguish the Cases (B, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and Cases (6, 7).

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder. As suggested by the reviewer, we added the introduction of different cases in Table 3 in the revised manuscript.

References

Fu, T. M., Cao, J. J., Zhang, X. Y., Lee, S. C., Zhang, Q., Han, Y. M., Qu, W. J., Han, Z., Zhang, R., Wang, Y. X., Chen, D., and Henze, D. K.: Carbonaceous aerosols in China: top-down constraints on primary sources and estimation of secondary contribution, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, 12, 2725-2746, 10.5194/acp-12-2725-2012, 2012.

Chang, X., Wang, S., Zhao, B., Cai, S., and Hao, J.: Assessment of inter-city transport of particulate matter in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, 18, 4843-4858, 10.5194/acp-18-4843-2018, 2018.

Trang, T., Huy, T., Mansfield, M., Lyman, S., and Crosman, E.: Four dimensional data assimilation (FDDA) impacts on WRF performance in simulating inversion layer structure and distributions of CMAQ-simulated winter ozone concentrations in Uintah Basin, Atmospheric Environment, 177, 75-92, 10.1016/j.atmosenv.2018.01.012, 2018.

Ran, L., Pleim, J., Gilliam, R., Binkowski, F. S., Hogrefe, C., and Band, L.: Improved meteorology from an updated WRF/CMAQ modeling system with MODIS vegetation and albedo, Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres, 121, 2393-2415, 10.1002/2015jd024406, 2016.

Reviewer #2

0. In this study, Zhao et al. uses ground-based elemental carbon (EC) measurements from two sites in eastern China to evaluate and constrain black carbon (BC) emissions from two bottom-up inventories: a national/regional inventory for China (MEIC) and a high-resolution inventory for city clusters in southern Jiangsu Province. Both inventories include emissions from transportation, industry, power generation, and the residential sector. The authors show that the posterior emission estimates, constrained by ground measurements, are much smaller than the prior emission estimates, suggesting that pollution control measures by the Jiangsu government have effectively reduced emissions of BC. They also show results from various sensitivity tests, including those on the number of observation sites, spatial representativeness of observation sites, a priori emission inventories, and wet deposition. Overall, this is an interesting study that can be potentially useful for air quality modeling and management, emission inventory development and evaluation, and also studies on regional aerosol effects. Through several fairly detailed sensitivity tests, the authors also demonstrate that the differences between a priori and posteriori emission estimates are robust. However, the paper is overly long (and needs some improvement in presentation quality) and some reorganization may help. And there are also some concerns about the methodology that need to be addressed before this paper can be published in ACP.

Response and revisions:

We appreciate the reviewer's remarks on the importance of the work. We reorganized Figures and Tables following the reviewer's suggestions (please see our response to Q3 and Q7) and specified the methodology of top-down estimate (please see our response to Q1-2). Please see the details in the following response and revision list to the reviewer's comment.

1. Major comments: It is not quite clear whether emissions outside of Jiangsu Province (but within the model domains) are scaled or not. Given the location of the sites, they could be strongly influenced by emissions from nearby provinces. If different local governments implemented different pollution control measures but the same domain wide scaling factors are used for emissions, that may lead to biases in the final estimated emissions for southern Jiangsu.

Response and revisions:

We appreciate the reviewer's important comment. For MEIC-prior and JS-prior, emissions from different provinces and cities within the modeling domain were scaled based mainly on changes in their respective activity levels from 2012 to 2015, including those outside of Jiangsu Province. However, we did not constrain the emissions outside of Jiangsu Province in the top-down method, and we agree the limitation here. The main reason is that there were very few BC observation data available in the cities outside southern Jiangsu. Using observations at NJU or PAES to constrain emissions from those cities would bring more uncertainty for the cases in which local emissions dominated the air quality. Given this limitation, therefore, more measurements with better spatial coverage were recommended to be conducted and published for constraining BC emissions effectively in the future. We discussed this **in lines 545-547 in the revised manuscript**.

The uncertainty of using observations at two sites to constrain emissions from southern Jiangsu was expected to be insignificant in this work. Located in the downwind of the Yangtze River Delta region (YRD), NJU is more representative for the emissions from western YRD through regional transport. PAES is in urban Nanjing and its air quality is commonly influenced by surrounding transportation and residential sources, thus PAES is representative for the local emissions of Nanjing. We quantified the contribution of Nanjing and Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster through the brute-force method in Sector 4.1 in the revised manuscript. As can be seen in Figure S10 in the revised supplement, the monthly mean contributions of the emissions from the two regions in April were aggregated at 54% and 59% at NJU and PAES respectively. We thus believe it is reasonable to use observations at two sites to constrain emissions from southern Jiangsu.

Regarding the influence of emissions outside southern Jiangsu, the contribution of each sector (*C*_{power}, *C*_{industry}, *C*_{residential}, and *C*_{transportation}) in Eq1 in the revised **manuscript** was simulated when the emissions from that sector were zeroed out for the whole third domain. It means that the emissions outside southern Jiangsu were also considered in the multiple regression model to obtain scaling factors. We applied the scaling factors to constrain emissions from southern Jiangsu only while remaining emissions outside southern Jiangsu unchanged so that it could better quantify the improvement of modeling performance at two sites due to the top-down estimate in southern Jiangsu. We acknowledge the uncertainty of including emissions of the whole third domain in the multiple regression model, due to different implementation of pollution control measures by city. As shown in Table R2, we compared the reduction rates of monthly BC emissions in the national inventory MEIC from 2012 to 2015 inside and outside southern Jiangsu in the domain. The difference between the two regions was less than 6%, implying the similar progress of pollution control measurements in two regions. Due to limited BC observations, moreover, we also checked the annual reduction rates in PM2.5 concentrations from 2013 to 2015 for cities in the third domain based on the observation data from China National Environmental Monitoring Center (http://www.cnemc.cn/). As shown in Table R3, the annual reduction rates were ranged from 10% to 17% by city, reflecting again the similar implementation of air pollution control policies around the regions. Relative statement was added in lines 222-235 in the revised manuscript, and Tables R2 and R3 were included as Tables S2 and S3 in the revised supplement.

Table R2. Reduction rates in monthly emissions from 2012 to 2015 in MEIC for

southern Jiangsu and other regions within the third modeling domain.

Region	Jan.	Apr.	Jul.	Oct.
Southern Jiangsu (%)	18	18	26	21
Outside southern Jiangsu (%)	12	16	21	15

Province	City	Reduction rate (%)
Anhui	Hefei	15.26
	Nantong	15.90
	Taizhou	11.76
	Yangzhou	16.84
τ.	Nanjing	15.58
Jiangsu	Suzhou	12.76
	Wuxi	10.45
	Changzhou	12.31
	Zhenjiang	12.80
Shanghai	Shanghai	10.88

Table R3. Reduction rates in annual PM_{2.5} concentration for cities within the third modeling domain from 2013 to 2015.

2. The lack of biomass burning emissions can be concerning. Could the model underestimates of BC in July and particularly October be caused by the biomass burning (particularly agricultural fires)? How does the lack of biomass burning emissions affect the estimated emissions for other sectors?

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. In both inventories (MEIC and JS), the emissions came from four sectors, including power generation, industry, residential sources and transportation, and the residential sources included fossil fuel and biofuel combustion. However, we did not include emissions from biomass open burning. In another paper of our group (Yang and Zhao, 2019), the emissions from biomass open burning in YRD were thoroughly evaluated with various methods, and the emissions were estimated to decrease by 60% from 2012 to 2015 in southern Jiangsu attributed mainly to the enhanced control of crop burning activities by the local government. With the optimized constrained method, the BC emissions from crop open burning were calculated at 0.83 Gg in southern Jiangsu 2015, contributing small in the JS-prior and JS-posterior at 3% and 6%, respectively. As shown in Table R4, in addition, the most intensive crop burning was found in May and August, indicated by

the monthly fire points from satellite dectection. Limited effect of biomass burning was thus expected for the modeling periods in this study.

Table R4. Monthly fire points in southern Jiangsu for 2015, taken from Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Global Monthly Fire Location

Product	(MCD14ML)).
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2015	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Fire point	9	11	12	58	249	30	96	127	16	9	1	10

In this work, the scaling factor of residential sources in October was estimated at 1.52 in JS-posterior, implying the enhancement in BC emissions in autumn to JS-prior. The result thus implied that there were missing sources likely associated with crop waste burning in autumn, and it was discussed in lines 420-424 in the revised manuscript. We also evaluated the sensitivity of the constraining method to the initial emission input in Section 4.2 in the revised manuscript, and found the uncertainty from the a priori inventory had limited effects on the top-down estimate. To summarize, therefore, we believe that lack of biomass burning emissions in the initial inventories would not significantly bias the top-down estimation.

3. The paper is overly long and can be better organized. In particular, if spatial representativeness and wet deposition are important, can the authors focus on the top-down estimates that consider both of these factors? Description of the other sensitivity tests can be brief. Also writing needs to be improved.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. To make the manuscript concise, we moved Figures 9 and 10 in the original manuscript to the revised supplement (Figures S11 and S12) given that the near-linearity was also indicated in previous studies (Wang et al., 2013). We integrated the original Table 8 into Table 3 in the revised manuscript to summarize the modeling performances of different cases. The scaling factors and statistical indicators in Case 7 in the original Table 9 were integrated into Table 5,

while emissions by sector in Case 7 and the relative deviations compared to JS-posterior in Table 9 were integrated into Table 6. We moved the original Figure 3 that presents the seasonal variations in emissions of JS-prior, JS-posterior and MEIC-prior to the revised supplement (the new Figure S8) given the less statistical significant in seasonal patterns of several sectors in JS-posterior. We also moved the original Table 5 that summarizes the emissions from Nanjing and other cities in southern Jiangsu in different cases to Table S9 in the revised supplement. Sections 4.1 and 4.2 in the original manuscript were merged into one section (Section 4.1 in the revised manuscript) to evaluate the effects of number and spatial representativeness of observation sites on the top-down estimate. We believe the analysis on the uncertainty of the a priori inventory was important, as it could help judge the robustness of the constraining method. We found the influence of the a priori emissions was limited, and implied that the method could be potentially applied even if uncertainty existed in the bottom-up inventory. Therefore, we kept this part in the revised manuscript.

4. Specific comments: Figure 3 and the paragraph starting from line 389: given that the scaling factor for April and Oct. are more uncertain (in terms of their statistical significance), are the seasonal patterns in the posterior emission estimates significant?

Response and revisions:

We thank and agree with the reviewer's comment. Though the multiple regression model was statistically significant as a whole indicated by 0.00 of the overall significance in four months, the estimates for certain sources including industry in April and October and residential in April and July were more uncertain to some extent, as illustrated in Table 1 in the revised manuscript. It implied that the constrained emissions for those months/sources need to be cautiously applied in CTM and the seasonal patterns in those sectors could be less significant. Relevant discussion was in lines 383-386 in the revised manuscript and we moved original Figure 3 that presents the seasonal variations in emissions of JS-prior, JS-posterior

and MEIC-prior to Figure S8 in the revised supplement.

5. Figure 5a – what may have caused the model overestimates in mid-January at PAES? How does this period affect emission estimates? Can the authors exclude this period and compare the top-down estimates?

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The overestimation in January at PAES (especially in middle and late January, 16th–26th) may result from the emission control policy implemented for the National Memorial Day of Nanjing Massacre Victims in December 13th in 2014. During the period, Nanjing was undertaking series of stringent restrictions on air pollutant emissions. For example, key petrochemical and steel industries were shut down, and all the high-pollution vehicles were forbidden to drive in Nanjing. Those restrictions had large impacts on emissions and thereby air quality in the following month at PAES, but have not been fully considered in current emission inventories. Beside the emission control measures implemented in Nanjing, we evaluated the effect of planetary boundary layer (PBL) height on the modeling performance at PAES, as illustrated in Figure R1. Higher daily average PBL height was found for periods when the simulated concentrations were relatively lower (e.g., 6th -7th, 12th-15th and 28th-31st), resulting in smaller bias between simulations and observations. In contrast, the lower PBL height found in other periods would exaggerate the overestimation in simulated concentrations, given the elevated emissions in JS-prior. We added the analysis in lines 454-468 in the revised manuscript and included Figure R1 as Figure S9 in the revised supplement. Attributed to the instrument maintenance, moreover, the observation data in January at PAES were relatively insufficient, and the data points were 70% less than those at NJU. Therefore, the contribution of observation at PAES was limited in the multiple regression model.

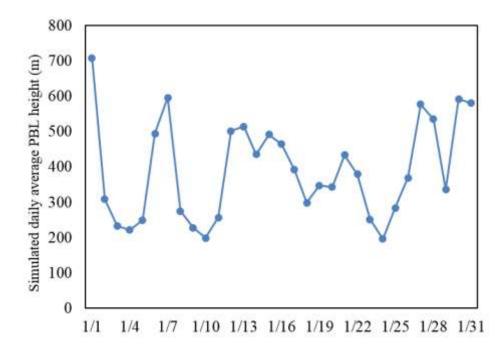


Figure R1. The simulated daily average PBL heights in January 2015 at PAES.

Following the reviewer's suggestion, we excluded the data points in middle and late January (16th -26th) at PAES and re-compared the observed and simulated BC concentrations. As shown in Table R5, the overestimation in CTM was largely reduced when the data were excluded, and the top-down estimate corrected the bias moderately at PAES. We added the discussions in lines 499-503 in the revised manuscript and added Table R5 as Table S6 in the revised supplement.

Site	Parameter	JS-prior	JS-posterior
	Average SIM (µg/m ³)	2.86	2.68
PAES	Average OBS (µg/m ³)	2.15	2.15
	NMB (%)	32.95	24.65
	NME (%)	52.61	49.63
	R	0.72	0.74

Table R5. Statistical indicators for observed and simulated BC concentrations using JS-prior and JS-posterior in January excluding data from 16th to 26th at PAES.

6. Lines 456-461: again, could the model bias be due to the lack of biomass burning emissions?

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The bigger bias found in July and October at NJU when applying JS-posterior resulted mainly from the limitation of the constraining method. We used observations at two sites to constrain emissions from southern Jiangsu as a whole. Therefore, overestimation and underestimation in concentrations at different sites could not be corrected simultaneously without considering the spatial representation of observation sites, as discussed in lines 511-516 in the revised manuscript.

The underestimation in BC concentrations for July and October with JS-prior could be partly due to the lack of biomass open burning emissions. However, such influence was expected to be insignificant (please see our response to Q2), and the impact of the a priori emission input was found limited on the top-down estimation, as discussed in Section 4.2 in the revised manuscript.

7. Tables: There are already many tables in the paper (and maybe not everyone is absolutely necessary). But a table that summarizes the different cases may be helpful for readers to keep track.

Response and revisions:

We thank and follow the reviewer's comment to make the tables concise. We integrated the original Table 8 to a new Table 3 in the revised manuscript to summarize the modeling performance for different cases. For the original Table 9, moreover, the scaling factors and statistical indicators from the multiple regression model in Case 7 were integrated to Table 5, and the emissions by sector and the relative deviations to JS-posterior in Case 7 were integrated to Table 6. We also moved the original Table 5 that summarizes the emissions from Nanjing and other cities in southern Jiangsu in different cases to Table S9 in the revised supplement.

8. Table 4 and related discussion on case 3: would the authors expect somewhat different driving conditions and emission factors for automobiles in urban and

suburban settings? If so, is it still a valid assumption to assume the same scaling factor between NJU and PAES for transportation?

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. In Case 3, we assumed a same scaling factor for transportation for different cities in southern Jiangsu to avoid the collinearity in the multiple regression model. As the observation data at NJU and PAES were applied to constrain emissions from Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster and Nanjing, respectively, the assumption of a same scaling factor at NJU and PAES did not mainly indicate the similar driving conditions or emission factors for automobiles in suburban and urban. Instead, it mainly indicated that the relative changes in emissions from transportation were similar across the cities in southern Jiangsu from 2012 to 2015. As we stated **in lines 591-593 in the revised manuscript**, such assumption is expected to be reasonable, because of the same progress of emission standard implementation (National Standard Stage IV) in southern Jiangsu and the frequent circulation of vehicles among the cities.

References

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Yang, Y., and Zhao, Y.: Quantification and evaluation of atmospheric pollutant emissions from open biomass burning with multiple methods: a case study for the Yangtze River Delta region, China, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, 19, 327-348, 10.5194/acp-19-327-2019, 2019.

Reviewer #3

0. This is a very nice and detailed work to constrain BC emissions in southern Jiangsu. The approach and uncertainty analysis may be applied to other regions. The paper is well written in general, suitable for ACP. Below are a few suggestions to further improve the paper.

Response and revisions:

We appreciate the reviewer's positive remarks on the importance of the work. Please see the details in the following response and revision list to reviewer's comment.

1. It would be nice to discuss in the conclusion section the potential of applying the method to other regions.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The method could be applied to constrain the BC emissions for other regions effectively if there are sufficient observation data with satisfying spatiotemporal coverage. We added the statement in lines 796-799 in the revised manuscript.

2. The regression model needs to be further clarified. Are the scaling factors (betta) for each month, day, or hour? Why is there not a term in Eq. 1 for the background (e.g., lateral boundary condition) reflecting the effect of horizontal transport from regions other than southern Jiangsu? Table S3 and Fig. S7 show that the sum of southern Jiangsu contributions is much smaller than 100%, implying a large contribution from regions other than souther than southern Jiangsu.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The scaling factors were obtained for each month and used to constrain the monthly emissions in southern Jiangsu. We clarified

it in lines 235-237 in the revised manuscript.

Regarding the background reflecting the regional transport, c_{power} , $c_{industry}$, $c_{residential}$ and $c_{transportation}$ in the multiple regression model were simulated by brute-force method in CTM in which emissions from corresponding sector in the third domain were zeroed out. Therefore the contributions of emissions outside southern Jiangsu in the third domain were considered in the model. Moreover, ε reflected the effect of background conditions (e.g., emissions in the first and second domain in CTM and emissions not included in the a priori inventory like those from natural sources). We clarified it **in lines 222-227 and 237-239 in the revised manuscript**. For example, the ε was estimated at 0.96 µg/m³ in the multiple regression model for April in JS-posterior. By zeroing out the emissions from the third domain in CTM, the monthly contribution from boundary conditions were calculated at 0.76 and 0.77 µg/m³ at NJU and PAES, respectively. In spite of the modest bias between ε and the estimated contribution of boundary conditions, including ε would reduce the uncertainty of the multiple regression model.

We added the contributions from four sectors in the third domain at the two sites in Table S5 in the revised supplement. The total contributions were larger than 50% for all the months and sites except for January. We assumed that the smaller contributions in January resulted partly from the longer lifetime of BC in winter due to less wet deposition. We also identified the transport pathways of air masses sampled at NJU for the four months through cluster analysis of back trajectories with Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT, version 4) model as illustrated in Figures R2. Compared to other months, fewer air masses passed through the third modeling domain in January due to the prevailing northerly wind, implying more contribution from regional transport to the air quality at the site in January. Similar results were found for other region. Jia et al. (2008) estimated that regional transport on average contributed nearly 50% of PM (up to 70% in southerly regions) in winter in three sites in Beijing. Sun et al. (2014) considered the accumulation of local BC emissions and estimated a contribution of emissions within the third domain in January, we acknowledged that the multiple regression model was less effective on identifying the sources of BC in winter by constraining the emissions in southern Jiangsu city cluster alone. We added the discussion in lines 360-370 in the revised manuscript and included Figure R2 as Figure S6 in the revised supplement.

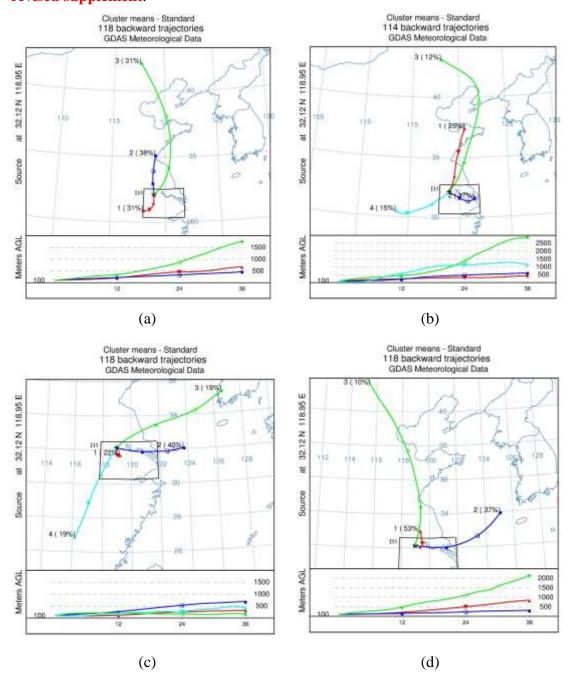


Figure R2. The transport pathways of air masses sampled at NJU based on cluster analysis of back trajectories in HYSPLIT model in January (a), April (b), July (c) and October (d).

3. The idea of testing the spatial representativeness of measurements is very nice. Given the spatial representativeness difference between the two sites, is it possible to use Case 3 as your best case? Alternatively, it would be nice to improve the regression model by taking into account the transport path, e.g., by basing on WRF modeled winds to design a model that considers the trajectory of air movement. The much higher bias in JS-posterior than JS-prior in Case 1, which is a concern, is related to this spatial representativeness issue.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. Among all the cases discussed in the paper, the best CTM performance was obtained in Case 3 in which observations at both sites were used with their difference in spatial representativeness considered in the constraining method. We also appreciate the reviewer's suggestion, which could potentially improve the analysis of spatial representativeness and could be applied with more observation data available in the future. The larger NMEs in July and October at NJU in JS–posterior than JS-prior were related to the spatial representativeness issue, which was discussed in lines 511-516 in the revised manuscript.

4. A clearer discussion of temporal resolution in bottom up inventories and how this resolution affects the top-down constraint will be very helpful.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. We derived the hourly bottom-up emission inventory for CTM. The monthly distributions of emissions from power plants and industry plants in JS-prior were dependent on those of electricity generation and typical industrial production, respectively. Such information was investigated by Zhou et al. (2017) according to the official statistics of the country (http://data.stats.gov.cn/). Meanwhile, the real-time monitoring on urban traffic in Nanjing was applied to allocate the temporal distribution of emissions from on-road

vehicles in the whole regions in JS-prior. The weekly and hourly distributions of different sources in YRD (Li et al., 2011) were adopted to further allocate emissions in JS-prior. For MEIC-prior, we obtained the monthly emissions directly and applied the same weekly and hourly distributions as JS-prior. We described this **in lines 207-215 in the revised manuscript**. The temporal distributions based on local statistical data were expected to be more reliable in CTM than other information. Regarding the effect of the monthly variation on the constraint method, we compared top-down estimate derived from JS-prior and MEIC-prior in April, respectively, **in Section 4.2 in the revised manuscript**. Similar emission estimation, spatial distribution and modeling performance were found for the two a posteriori emissions, even clear difference existed in the two a priori inventories. The result thus implied the insignificant effect of monthly variation of emissions on the top-down constraint. We discussed this **in lines 667-671 in the revised manuscript**. We did not constrain the hourly emissions in this study and the hourly distribution was thus unchanged in the top-down estimate.

5. Comparison with near-surface measurements is sensitive to WRF/CMAQ modeled vertical processes, including the number of vertical layers within the PBL, the thickness of the first layer, and the model error in vertical mixing representation. WRF/CMAQ may have some issues with PBL mixing (Liu et al., 2018). Please specify these model setups. Please discuss the potential effect of model vertical resolution/mixing/transport errors on the BC constraint.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The PBL module adopted in WRF 3.4 was ACM2, and the information was added **in line 285 in the revised manuscript**. There were 27 vertical layers in the model, with the heights of 54, 132, 234, 362, 523, 729, 974, 1417, 1887, 2385, 2914, 3900, 4890, 5886, 6885, 7885, 8891, 9907, 10946, 12000, 13070, 14158, 15278, 16441, 17662, 18966 and 20405 m, respectively. The simulated monthly average PBL heights along with the range of hourly simulations at

NJU and PAES in four months were shown in Table R6. Therefore, there were average 5 vertical layers within the PBL. We found the similar result of the low simulated PBL height in WRF/CMAQ model as Liu et al. (2018) and the overestimation of BC concentration at PAES even after top-down constraint may result from it. We added the analysis in lines 503-507 in the revised manuscript and included Table R6 as Table S7 in the revised supplement.

The effect of vertical distribution on BC emission constraining was evaluated for Asia by Zhang et al. (2015). They repeated the top-down inversions using the OMI retrieval absorption aerosol optical depth (AAOD) based on the CALIOP and GOCART aerosol layer height and found the difference in the optimized BC emissions were less than 30% in April and 10% in October compared to the optimized emissions using the initial GEOS-Chem model. The difference was within the acceptable range compared with up to 500% enhancements in April and 10-50% in October with the top-down constraining. When applying ground observations in this study rather than column concentration in AAOD, the effect of vertical distribution could be smaller.

Site	Monthly average PBL (m)	Hourly average PBL (m)
NJU	370.25	27.59-1443.64
PAES	384.56	27.20-1460.07
NJU	432.73	28.61-2157.87
PAES	441.72	28.61-2157.87
NJU	381.14	30.70-1617.69
PAES	431.02	30.02-1975.01
NJU	462.57	29.70-2065.97
PAES	488.30	29.78-2073.46
	NJU PAES NJU PAES NJU PAES NJU	NJU 370.25 PAES 384.56 NJU 432.73 PAES 441.72 NJU 381.14 PAES 431.02 NJU 462.57

 Table R6. The simulated monthly average PBL heights and the range of hourly simulations at NJU and PAES in four months.

6. Table S2 shows that the prevailing winds in all three meteorological sites are southerly or southeasterly. I thought there would be northerly in the cold months (January and October). Please double check.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. We checked the simulated and observed wind directions again and found the same result. The NMEs of wind directions were found below 40% at three meteorological stations in January and October, reflecting the robustness of the WRF modeling. In January, the average simulations and observations **in Table S4 in the revised supplement** did not mean that the prevailing winds were southerly. The values were the mean of the northerly wind directions ranging from 0-45° or 315-360°. Taking the wind directions at Hongqiao in January and October as examples, the prevailing winds were northerly and easterly in winter and autumn, respectively, as shown in Figures R3.

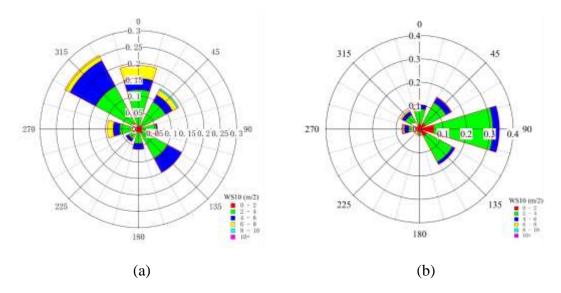


Figure R3. Wind speeds and directions at Hongqiao in January (a) and October (b).

7. Some paragraphs are too long and should be splitted, for example, L71-111, L352-388.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. As suggested by the reviewer, we split L71-111 in the initial manuscript into two parts, one was about the large uncertainties in bottom-up emission inventories, and the other was the challenge existing in updating BC inventories continuously, in lines 74-114 in the revised manuscript. We split L352-388 in the original manuscript and reorganized the paragraphs. One was about the relative change between JS-prior and JS-posterior, and the other was the detailed description about scaling factors for different sectors, in lines 387-424 in the revised manuscript.

8. Abstract – please specify that monthly, sector-level and city-level emissions are optimized.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. We followed the suggestion and specified the optimized monthly, sector-level and city-level emissions in **in line 24 in the revised manuscript**.

9. L22 – "observations," should be "observations" (no comma).

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and deleted the comma in line 23 in the revised manuscript.

10. Abstract – please specify that WRF/CMAQ is used.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and specified the WRF/CMAQ model in lines 21-22 in the revised manuscript.

11. L214 – is there is term for background (due to horizontal transport)?

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. ε reflected the effect of emissions from background conditions, which was added in lines 237-239 in the revised manuscript. (please also see our response to Q2).

12. L218 – "domain-wide" – here you optimize the southern Jiangsu emissions, not the domain-wide emissions. Also, as suggested above, an improved regression model may be used to better account for spatial representativeness of measurements.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment and revised the words for β_1 - β_4 in lines 235-237 in the revised manuscript. We appreciate the reviewer's suggestion to improve the multiple regression model and it could be applied with more observation data available in the future to better consider spatial representativeness.

13. L256 – "coordinated" should be "coordinate"

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and corrected the word in line 281 in the revised manuscript.

14. L274-288 – please specify the temporal resolution of bottom up emissions.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. We specified the temporal distributions of two bottom-up emission inventories used in CTM in lines 207-215 in the revised manuscript. The monthly distributions of emissions from power plants and industry plants in JS-prior were dependent on those of electricity generation and typical industrial production, respectively. Such information was investigated by Zhou et al. (2017) according to the official statistics of the country (http://data.stats.gov.cn/). The real-time monitoring on urban traffic in Nanjing was applied to allocate the temporal distribution of emissions from on-road vehicles in the whole regions in JS-prior. The weekly and hourly distributions of different sources in the Yangtze River Delta (Li et

al., 2011) were directly adopted to further allocate the emissions in JS-prior. For MEIC-prior, we obtained the monthly emissions and applied the same weekly and hourly distributions as JS-prior. The temporal allocations based on local statistical data were expected to be more reliable in CTM.

15. L283-285 – do you remove emissions in the whole domain, or just southern Jiangsu cities?

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. We removed emissions in the whole third domain, and it was specified in lines 308-310 in the revised manuscript.

16. L288 – "Scenarios B and S" should be "Scenarios B and S1-S4"

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and revised it in line 313 in the revised manuscript.

17. L324 – "double" should be "twice"

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment and corrected the word in line 349 in the revised manuscript.

18. L340 – "VIF smaller than 10" – the VIF values in the table are much smaller than 10.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and revised it in lines 374-376 in the revised manuscript.

19. L386-388 – this sentence is not clear

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. Based on the bottom-up approach, Huang et al. (in preparation) incorporated detailed information and changes of individual sources, and estimated BC emissions for Nanjing from 2012 to 2015. The emissions in 2015 were estimated to decrease by 60% compared to those in 2012, and this relative change was close to that for the southern Jiangsu (a 50% reduction from JS-prior to JS-posterior) found in this study. The top-down method could thus capture the changes in emissions due to improved control measures. We revised the sentence in lines 395-398 in the revised manuscript.

20. L418-442 - A figure would be much better than a table for this type of analysis.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. **Figures 3 and 4 in the revised manuscript** illustrated the simulated BC concentrations based on JS-prior and observations in four months at NJU and PAES, respectively. The analysis mentioned by the reviewer was reflected in those figures.

21. L426 – what do you mean by "commonly"? The wording may be improved.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and replaced the word commonly with generally in line 472 in the revised manuscript.

22. L443-446 – The increased bias from JS-prior to JS-posterior at NJU should be discussed in more detail.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The increased bias from JS-prior to JS-posterior in July and October at NJU and the detailed analysis was mentioned in lines 508-516 in the revised manuscript. It resulted mainly from the limitation of current multiple regression model that overestimation and underestimation in

concentrations at different sites could hardly be corrected simultaneously without further improvement in spatial distribution of emissions.

23. L464 – some cases are for other months.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. The sensitivities to observation and bottom-up emission input were evaluated in April (Cases 2-5). We evaluated the near linearity between emissions and concentrations in July and October as the two months were identified as the months with the most and least impact from precipitation suggested by simulated wet deposition to emission ratio. The impacts of simulated wet deposition and satellite-derived accumulated precipitation on top-down estimate were evaluated in July (Case 6-7). We had specified it in lines 518-525 in the revised manuscript.

24. L551 – "initial" should be "a priori". Please revise throughout the text.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and revised it throughout the text.

25. L573-604 – the paragraph contains multiple messages, and is better to be splitted.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment. As suggested, the smaller difference in BC emissions and simulated concentrations between JS-posterior and MEIC-posterior were split in lines 639-666 in the revised manuscript. The effect of the a priori bottom-up emission inventories on top-down estimate was summarized in another paragraph in lines 667-671 in the revised manuscript.

26. Figs. S8-11 – the dates of precipitation are also not very well simulated.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment and delete the evaluation of simulated precipitation dates in lines 703-704 in the revised manuscript. Considering the large discrepancy between simulated and observed precipitation, we conducted Case 7 to screen satellite-derived precipitation and compared the top-down estimates in two cases.

27. L701 – "insignificant" should be "modest"

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's reminder and revised it in line 763 in the revised manuscript.

28. L715-717 – the increased bias at NJU should be mentioned.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment and mentioned the increased bias in lines **779-780** in the revised manuscript.

29. L735-737 - it would be extremely difficult to use satellite AOD to constrain BC

emissions.

Response and revisions:

We thank the reviewer's comment and deleted the texts in the revised manuscript.

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3	Top-down estimate of black carbon emissions for city cluster
4	using ground observations: A case study in southern Jiangsu,
5	China
6	
7 8	Xuefen Zhao ¹ , Yu Zhao ^{1, 2*} , Dong Chen ¹ , Chunyan Li ³ , Jie Zhang ³
9 10	1. State Key Laboratory of Pollution Control and Resource Reuse and School of the Environment, Nanjing University, 163 Xianlin Ave., Nanjing, Jiangsu 210023, China
11 12 13	2. Jiangsu Collaborative Innovation Center of Atmospheric Environment and Equipment Technology (CICAEET), Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, Jiangsu 210044, China
14 15	3. Jiangsu Provincial Academy of Environmental Science, 176 North Jiangdong Rd., Nanjing, Jiangsu 210036, China
16 17	
18	*Corresponding author: Yu Zhao
19	Phone: 86-25-89680650; email: <u>yuzhao@nju.edu.cn</u>

20 Abstract

21 We combined a chemistry transport model (CTMthe Weather Research and Forecasting and the Models-3 Community Multi-scale Air Quality Model, 22 23 WRF/CMAQ), a multiple regression model and available ground observations, to 24 optimize derive top down estimate of black carbon (BC) emissions at monthly, 25 emission sector and city cluster level. We derived top-down emissions and to 26 reduced deviations between simulations and observations for southern Jiangsu city 27 cluster, a typical developed region of eastern China. Scaled from a high-resolution 28 inventory for 2012 based on changes in activity levels, the BC emissions in southern 29 Jiangsu were calculated at 27.0 Gg/yr for 2015 (JS-prior). The annual mean 30 concentration of BC at Xianlin Campus of Nanjing University (NJU, a suburban site) 31 was simulated at 3.4 μ g/m³, 11% lower than the observed 3.8 μ g/m³. In contrast, it 32 was simulated at 3.4 µg/m³ at Jiangsu Provincial Academy of Environmental Science 33 (PAES, an urban site), 36% higher than the observed 2.5 μ g/m³. The discrepancies at 34 the two sites implied the uncertainty of the bottom-up_-inventory of BC emissions. 35 Assuming a near-linear response of BC concentrations to emission changes, we 36 applied a multiple regression model to fit the hourly surface concentrations of BC at 37 the two sites, based on the detailed source contributions to ambient BC levels from 38 brute-force simulation. Constrained with this top-down method, BC emissions were 39 estimated at 13.4 Gg/yr (JS-posterior), 50% smaller than the bottom-up estimate, and 40 stronger seasonal variations were found. Biases between simulations and observations 41 were reduced for most months at the two sites when JS-posterior was applied. At 42 PAES, in particular, the simulated annual mean was reduceddeclined elevated to 2.6 43 μ g/m³ and the annual normalized mean error (NME) decreased from 72.0% to 57.6%. 44 However, application of JS-posterior slightly enhanced NMEs in July and October at 45 NJU where simulated concentrations with JS-prior were lower than observations, 46 implying that reduction in total emissions could not correct CTM-modeling underestimation. The effects of observation site including numbers and spatial 47 2 / 72

48 representativeness of observation sites on top-down estimate were further quantified. 49 The best CTM-modeling performance was obtained when observations of both sites 50 were used with their difference in spatial functions considered in emission 51 constraining. Given the limited BC observation data in the area, therefore, more 52 measurements with better spatiotemporal coverage were recommended for 53 constraining BC emissions effectively. Top-down estimates derived from JS-prior and 54 the Multi-resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC) were compared to test the 55 sensitivity of the method to the a initial-priori emission input. The differences in 56 emission levels, spatial distributions and CTM-modeling performances were largely 57 reduced after constraining, implying that the impact of the a initial priori inventory was limited on top-down estimate. Sensitivity analysis proved the rationality of near 58 59 linearity assumption between emissions and concentrations, and the impact of wet 60 deposition on the multiple regression model was demonstrated moderate through data 61 screening based on simulated wet deposition and satellite-derived precipitation.

62 1 Introduction

63 Black carbon (BC), alternatively referred as elemental carbon (EC), is an crucial 64 component of atmospheric particle and comes mainly from incomplete combustion of 65 fossil fuels and biomass. BC has adverse effect on human health as it absorbs harmful volatile organic compounds like polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (Dachs and 66 67 Eisenreich, 2000). Furthermore, BC contributes to global warming by intercepting 68 and absorbing sunlight (Jacobson, 2001; Ramanathan and Carmichael, 2008). Bond et al. (2013) assessed that the global average radiative forcing of BC was $+1.1 \text{ W/m}^2$ 69 70 (90% confidence interval: 0.17-2.1 W/m²), which was more than two-thirds of that 71 from CO_2 (+1.56 W/m²). Since BC remains for only a few days in the atmosphere, it 72 is an effective way to mitigate climate warming in the short term by reducing BC 73 emissions. However, due to lack of sufficient understanding of major emission 74 sources, the effect of BC on regional climate was not fully quantified by models.

75 BC emission inventories are traditionally developed with the bottom-up method 3/72

76 based on activity levels and emission factors. Previous studies of chemistry transport 77 modeling (CTM) based on emission inventories found large discrepancies between 78 simulated and observed BC concentrations. Koch et al. (2009) found that sixteen 79 models applied in the AeroCom aerosol model inter-comparison project 80 underestimated surface BC levels by a factor of 2-3. Hu et al. (2016) found that CTM 81 significantly underestimated the peak surface concentrations of BC over northwestern 82 United States, likely due to missing strong local fire events in fire emissions. 83 Moreover, large differences existed in various bottom-up emission inventories, 84 particularly for China with large energy consumption, complicated emission source categories, and fast changes in emission characteristics. BC emissions in China for 85 86 2001 and 2006 in the Regional Emission inventory in ASia (REAS 2.1, Kurokawa et 87 al., 2013) were smaller than those in the Intercontinental Chemical Transport Experiment-Phase B (INTEX-B, Zhang et al., 2009), but the growth rate of BC 88 89 emissions in REAS 2.1 was larger than that in INTEX-B (30% versus 15%) for the 90 five-six years. Ohara et al. (2007) evaluated the inter-annual trend in China's BC 91 emissions with constant emission factors, and found that the national emissions 92 continuously decreased by 23% from 1990 to 2000. In contrast, Lei et al. (2011) 93 suggested a much smaller inter-annual variability with the peak annual emissions 94 found in 1996 for the same period. The differences resulted largely from the use of 95 activity levels from various data sources, especially for residential biofuel combustion. 96 The gaps between different studies implied potentially large uncertainties in BC 97 bottom-up emission inventories. The uncertainties of BC emission estimates for China were reported at ±484%, ±208%, and ±98% by Streets et al. (2003), Zhang et al. 98 99 (2009), and Lu et al. (2011), respectively. Due to lack of sufficient local field tests, 100 emission factors were commonly taken from foreign studies with big variety 101 depending on fuel and combustion condition (Bond et al., 2004; Cao et al., 2006; Lei 102 et al., 2011; Qin and Xie, 2012; Streets et al., 2003; Streets et al., 2001; Zhang et al., 103 2009). It was also difficult to obtain accurate and detailed activity data, particularly

104 for the main sources of BC including small industries (e.g., coke and brick 105 production), off-road transportation, and residential solid fuel combustion.

106 Besides the large uncertainty in emission estimation, challenges existed as well 107 in updating BC inventories continuously (Hong et al., 2017; Lu et al., 2011; Xia et al., 108 2016; Zhao et al., 2013). To beat severe air pollution, China has been conducting 109 series of measures in energy conservation and emission control, leading to dramatic 110 changes in energy structure, emission factors and removal rates of air pollutant 111 control devices (Zhao et al., 2014). Such changes could be partly tracked by 112 continuous emission monitoring system (CEMS) that was commonly installed at big 113 industrial enterprises. Large fractions of BC emissions, however, came from medium 114 and small sources, and their most recent improvements in manufacturing technologies 115 and emission controls were relatively difficult to be obtained timely and efficiently.

116 Given above limitations in bottom-up inventories, different top-down approaches 117 were applied to evaluate BC emissions. For example, Cohen and Wang (2014) 118 presented a Kalman filter technique to estimate the global BC emissions based on 119 satellite-derived radiances and surface concentrations from global and regional 120 networks. The adjoint-based 4-D variational approach was also applied to constrain 121 the bottom-up BC emissions at the global or national scales (Zhang et al., 2015; Xu et 122 al., 2013; Guerrette et al., 2017). A near-linear response of BC concentrations to 123 emission changes was generally assumed at national (Fu et al., 2012; Kondo et al., 124 2011; Wang et al., 2013) and regional scales (Li et al., 2015; Wang et al., 2011), due to 125 its weak activity in atmospheric chemistry reaction. The ratio of observed to 126 simulated concentration can be used as a scaling factor to correct BC emissions. 127 Kondo et al. (2011) made continuous measurement of BC concentrations for a full 128 year on a remote island in East China Sea. With the data strongly affected by 129 emissions from China identified and those largely influenced by wet deposition 130 excluded, they estimated China's annual anthropogenic BC emissions at 1.92 TgC/yr. 131 Wang et al. (2013) verified this linearity by conducting sensitivity simulation in which

132 emissions were increased by 50%. After excluding observation data of heavy 133 pollution and strong precipitation events at five Chinese sites, they calculated China's 134 annual BC emissions at 1.80 TgC/yr. The results of both studies were close to a 135 bottom-up estimate at 1.81 TgC/yr by Zhang et al. (2009). Based on observations at 136 10 Chinese background and rural sites, Fu et al. (2012) applied a multiple regression 137 model and CTM to quantify China's BC emissions. They calculated the total emissions at 3.05 TgC/yr, 59% larger than those by Zhang et al. (2009). Using similar 138 139 approach, Li et al. (2015) estimated BC emissions to be 34% larger than bottom-up 140 inventory in Pearl River Delta in south China by Zheng et al. (2012). Park et al. (2003) 141 used the multiple linear regression to fit the Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) data and estimated that BC emissions from fossil 142 143 fuel and biofuel burning in the United States should be increased by 15%. Combining 144 a general circulation model simulation and the receptor modeling approach, Verma et 145 al. (2017) constrained BC emissions over India based on the scaling factor (the ratio 146 of simulated to observed BC concentration).

147 To our knowledge, limitations remained in the assessment of BC emissions based 148 on the top-down approach. Current available studies focused mainly on global or national scale, and few evaluations could be found for city clusters. In aims of 149 150 examining emission control policies and quantifying impacts of BC on local climate 151 and air quality, there was a strong need for studies at city cluster scale that require 152 ground observation and emission inventory with improved details. Regarding 153 measurement data, monthly or annual means were commonly used in previous studies, 154 and information of heavy-polluted events were lost when targeting a local scale. In 155 general, observations at a higher temporal resolution were considered as an important 156 means to effectively reduce uncertainties (Matsui et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2013; 157 Gilardoni et al., 2011). Moreover, it was somewhat arbitrary to differentiate emissions 158 by sector in previous top-down estimates, attributed to lack of detailed information on 159 source categories from bottom-up inventories. The method was thus insufficient to

160 make substantial improvement on emission evaluation by sector, or to clearly stress161 the direction of further revisions on bottom-up inventories.

162 In this work, therefore, we integrated CTM, multiple regression model and 163 available hourly ground observations to provide top-down constraint of BC emissions 164 and to reduce deviations between simulations and observations at city cluster scale. 165 We selected southern Jiangsu city cluster including cities of Suzhou, Wuxi, 166 Changzhou, Zhenjiang, and Nanjing, a typical region with large population and 167 economy in the Yangtze River Delta (YRD), China (see the geographic location and 168 cities in Figure S1 in the supplement). Given its intensive industry and energy 169 consumption, the city cluster was regarded as one of the largest BC emission sources 170 in eastern China and BC emissions from this region accounted for nearly half of the 171 total emissions in Jiangsu (Zhou et al., 2017). The heavy air pollution was found in 172 the region: the annual averages of fine particle (PM2.5) concentrations in all the cities 173 exceeded the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS, 35 µg/m³) in 2012. 174 Under the pressure of air quality improvement, Jiangsu conducted aggressive actions 175 of emission control, leading to 20% reduction in the annual average of PM2.5 176 concentration from 2013 to 2015. Based on a provincial bottom-up emission inventory, we estimated the contributions to BC concentrations by sector at two ground 177 178 observation sites through the brute-force method in CTM. The results, together with 179 observed ambient BC concentrations, were incorporated in a multiple regression 180 model to derive the top-down estimate of BC emissions for southern Jiangsu city cluster. The advantage of top-down estimate against bottom-up inventory was then 181 182 judged by CTM and ground observations. The factors that would potentially influence 183 the top-down estimate were also evaluated, including number and spatial 184 representativeness of observation sites, and the a initial-priori bottom-up emission 185 input. The <u>near-linearity assumption in uncertainties of</u> the multiple regression model 186 and the effect of wet deposition on the top-down estimate were finally evaluated 187 including the influence of precipitation and the near linear assumption between BC

188 emissions and concentrations.

189 2 Data and method

190 **2.1 Bottom-up inventories of BC emissions**

191 Two bottom-up emission inventories at different spatial scales were used in this 192 work. At the national scale, the Multi-resolution Emission Inventory for China (MEIC, 193 http://www.meicmodel.org/) was developed by Tsinghua University, with an original 194 horizontal resolution at $0.25^{\circ} \times 0.25^{\circ}$. At the provincial scale, Zhou et al. (2017) 195 collected the best available information of industrial sources in Jiangsu and developed an inventory with higher resolution at 3×3 km. The latter was proved to be more 196 197 supportive in air quality simulation at city cluster scale (Zhou et al., 2017; Zhao et al., 198 2017). In both inventories, anthropogenic BC emissions for 2012 came from four 199 major sectors: power generation, industry, residential sources and transportation. The 200 national and provincial inventories for 2015 (mentioned respectively as MEIC-prior 201 and JS-prior hereinafter) were obtained using a simple scaling method based mainly 202 on changes in activity levels (energy consumption and industrial production, etc) 203 between the four years. Table S1 in the supplement summarizes the data sources of 204 activity levels and the scaling factors by sector in JS-prior. As MEIC-prior includes 205 only four major sectors, the scaling factor for each sector was calculated as the 206 average of those for subcategories within the sector. Potential changes in BC emission 207 factors from 2012 to 2015, e.g., those attributed to varied manufacturing technologies 208 and/or penetrations of emission control devices, were not considered in the calculation. 209 The implication and uncertainty from that simplified emission scaling method will be 210 further discussed in Section 4.32. The temporal distribution of the emissions was 211 dependent on that of activity levels by source category. The monthly distributions of 212 emissions from power plants and industry plants in JS-prior were dependent on those 213 of electricity generation and typical industrial production, respectively. Such information was investigated by Zhou et al. (2017) according to the official statistics 214

215	of the country (<u>http://data.stats.gov.cn/).</u> and directly adopted in this work. Meanwhile.
216	<u>+T</u> he real-time monitoring on urban traffic in Nanjing was applied to allocate the
217	temporal distribution of emissions from on-road vehicles in the whole regions in
218	JS-prior. The weekly and hourly distributions of different other sources were taken
219	from in the Yangtze River Delta (Li et al., (-2011), were directly adopted to further
220	allocate emissions in JS prior. As fFor MEIC-prior, we obtained the monthly
221	emissions directly and used applied the same weekly and hourly distributions as
222	JS-prior. The temporal allocations based on local statistical data were expected to be
223	more reliable in CTM.
224	2.2 Top-down emission estimation with multiple regression model
225	The top-down emissions of BC in southern Jiangsu (mentioned as JS-posterior
226	hereinafter) were estimated with a multiple regression model using ground
227	observations as constraint. The regression model matched BC contributions by sector
228	(calculated through CTM) against measured ambient hourly BC concentrations:
229	$c_{obs} = \beta_1 c_{power} + \beta_2 c_{industry} + \beta_3 c_{residential} + \beta_4 c_{transportation} + \varepsilon $ (1)
230	where c_{obs} is the vector of observed hourly BC concentrations $\frac{1}{2} c_{power}$, $c_{industry}$, $c_{residential}$,
231	and <i>c</i> _{transportation} are the vectors of BC concentrations contributed by power generation,
232	industry, residential sources and transportation <u>in southern Jiangsu along withand</u>
233	nearby-cities regions (the third domain of air quality modeling, as described later in
234	Section 2.3), respectively, and they were simulated using the brute-force method as
235	described in Section 2.3. Southern Jiangsu and nearby cities were considered as a

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whole in the multiple regression model as a whole based on thean assumption of the

consistence similar of implementation of aired pollution control measures-there for

the two regions. Regarding the uncertainty of the assumption due to the fact that

different local governments could take different policies from 2012 to 2015, Tables S2

and S3 in the supplement summarize respectively we evaluated the decrease

trendreduction rates of in BC emissions estimated by in-MEIC and -those in

242 observed _-PM2.5 observationsconcentrations for during recentthese years in for 243 southern Jiangsu and nearby cities (limited BC observations in those regions). as shown in Tables S2 and S3 in the supplement. The biasdiscrepancies in reduction 244 245 rates between the two regions were found less than 6% and 7% for monthly BC 246 emissions and annual PM2.5 concentrations, respectively, implying the similar progress 247 of emission control and air quality improvement. of relative reduction of monthly 248 emissions between two regions was less than 6% and analogue bias of PM2.5 observations was 7%, implying the rationality of the assumption.; β_1 - β_4 are the 249 250 domain-wide-scaling factors obtained by sector in the multiple regression model and 251 were applied to optimize southern Jiangsu emissions to best match observations for 252 each month.; and c is the error vector of the model, reflecting the effect of background 253 conditions (e.g., emissions-in outside the third domain in CTM and _the first and 254 second domain in CTM)emissions not included in the a priori inventory like those 255 from natural sources). Before applying observations and simulated contributions by 256 sector in the multiple regression model, the data screening was conducted following 257 the criterions: the periods lack of observation data, those for which the contribution of 258 each emission sector was simulated to be smaller than zero through the brute-force 259 method-with CTM, and those for which the sum of contributions of all the four sectors 260 was larger than 100% with CTM. The data screening helped to minimizereduce the 261 uncertainty of CTM in the multiple regression model. 262 As BC is not one of the six regulated air pollutants in the NAAQS, it was a big

challenge to obtain observation data with high temporal resolution in most cities of southern Jiangsu. For the whole year 2015, hourly ambient BC concentrations were available at two sites in Nanjing, the capital of Jiangsu. As illustrated in Figure 1, one is a suburban site located in the Xianlin Campus of Nanjing University in northeast Nanjing (NJU), and the other is an urban site in Jiangsu Provincial Academy of Environmental Science (PAES). At both sites, BC was sampled and analyzed hourly with semi-continuous carbon analyzer (Model-4, Sunset Lab, USA). Details of the **带格式的**:下标

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270 measurement approach were described in Chen et al. (2017). The statistics of 271 observed ambient BC concentrations at the two sites are shown in Figure S2 in the 272 supplement. The annual average BC concentrations (calculated as the mean of January, 273 April, July and October) were 3.83 and 2.47 μ g/m³ at NJU and PAES, respectively. 274 The hourly average BC observations ranged 0.06-17.65 μ g/m³ and 0.22-19.76 μ g/m³ 275 at NJU and PAES, respectively. The values were similar to those observed in the 276 Guanzhong basin (0.4-23.1 μ g/m³), the Pearl River Delta region (1-13 μ g/m³) and the 277 Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region (2-32 µg/m³) (Li et al., 2016). Much higher BC 278 concentrations were observed in autumn and winter at both sites, with the monthly 279 means at 3.96 and 5.44 μ g/m³ at NJU and 3.62 and 2.80 μ g/m³ at PAES, respectively.

The scaling factors derived from Eq. (1) were used to constrain BC emissions in southern Jiangsu in _JS-prior from a top-down perspective by assuming a near-linear relation between changes in BC concentrations and emissions:

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$$E_{JS-posterior} = \beta_1 E_{power} + \beta_2 E_{industry} + \beta_3 E_{residential} + \beta_4 E_{transportation}$$
(2)

where $E_{JS-posterior}$ is the vector of the total BC emissions from the top-down approach; E_{power} , $E_{industry}$, $E_{residential}$ and $E_{transportation}$ are the vectors of BC emissions from power generation, industry, residential sources and transportation, respectively, in JS-prior.

287 **2.3 Air quality simulation**

288 We used the Models-3 Community Multi-scale Air Quality (CMAQ) version 289 4.7.1 to simulate ambient BC concentrations. As shown in Figure 1, three nested domains were applied with horizontal resolutions of 27, 9, and 3 km, respectively, on 290 291 a Lambert Conformal Conic projection centered at (110°E, 34°N). The mother domain 292 (D1, 177×127 cells) covered most parts of China and other surrounding countries. The 293 second domain (D2, 118×121 cells) covered Jiangsu, Anhui, Zhejiang, Shanghai, and 294 parts of other provinces in China-. The third domain (D3, 133×73 cells) covered 295 Shanghai, part of Anhui province and the city cluster in southern Jiangsu. There were 296 27 vertical levels from the ground surface up to 50 hPa on terrain-following coordinated. The simulations were conducted for January, April, July and October to
represent four typical seasons in 2015. A 5-day spin-up period of each month was
applied to minimize the influence of initial_conditions in the simulations.

300 Meteorological fields were simulated by the Weather Research and Forecasting 301 Model (WRF) version 3.4. and ACM2 planetary boundary layer (PBL) mixing 302 scheme, the carbon bond gas-phase mechanism (CB05) and AERO5 aerosol module 303 were adopted in WRF/CMAQ model. Relevant details of model configuration can be 304 found in Zhou et al. (2017). Statistical indicators including averages of simulations 305 and observations, bias, normalized mean bias (NMB), normalized mean error (NME), root mean squared error (RMSE) and index of agreement (IOA) were applied to 306 evaluate the modeling performance of WRF (Baker et al, 2004; Zhang et al., 2006). 307 308 Ground observation data at 1 or 3 h interval at meteorological stations including 309 Lukou, Hongqiao and Liyang stations in the third domain (labeled in Figure 1) were 310 taken from National Climatic Data Center (NCDC). The statistical indicators for 311 temperature at 2 m (T2) and relative humidity at 2 m (RH2), wind speed and direction 312 at 10 m (WS10 and WD10) for the four typical months in 2015 are summarized in 313 Table S2-S4 in the supplement. Discrepancies between ground observations and WRF 314 modeling were within acceptable range (Emery et al., 2001).

315 To make it applicable in our CTM, MEIC-prior was downscaled into grid 316 systems of each modeling domain, based on the spatial distributions of gross domestic 317 product (GDP, for power generation and industrial emissions) and population (for 318 residential and transportation emissions) at a horizontal resolution of 1×1 km. The 319 downscaled MEIC-prior was used for the first, the second domains and the regions 320 outside Jiangsu of the third domains, while JS-prior was applied for the Jiangsu region 321 of the third domain. After applying the temporal distribution of the emissions 322 discussed in Section 2.1, the hourly bottom up emission inventories were used in

323 <u>CTM. Compared with larger temporal resolution like monthly or annual, the hourly</u>

324 simulated concentrations generated from hourly emissions in CTM could evaluate the

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325 modeling performance more accurately and reduce uncertainties of top down method 326 more effectively (Matsui et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2013; Gilardoni et al., 2011). Wang 327 (2013) compared the two methods using monthly and hourly temporal 328 resolutions as constraint respectively, and concluded that the latter one should be a 329 better choice to derive the top down emissions of BC because it could avoid being 330 greatly affected by outliers or missing data. Brute-force method was applied to estimate contributions to ambient BC concentrations by sector. Five scenarios were 331 332 designed in this study: Scenario B (the base scenario) in which emissions from all 333 sources in the third domain were included, and Scenarios S1, S2, S3, and S4 in which 334 BC emissions from power generation, industry, residential sources and transportation 335 in the whole third domain were zeroed out, respectively. We compared simulated BC 336 concentrations in S1, S2, S3 and S4 with those in Scenario B in four months at two 337 sites, and the contributions from four major emission sectors to ambient BC levels 338 were determined as the differences in simulated concentrations between Scenarios B 339 and S1-4.

340 3 Results

341 3.1 Bottom-up emission estimate

342 The total annual BC emissions of JS-prior were estimated at 26.99 Gg for southern Jiangsu city cluster in 2015, including 0.18 Gg from power generation, 17.67 343 Gg from industry, 3.80 Gg from residential sources and 5.33 Gg from transportation, 344 345 as shown in Figure 2. Accounting for 66% of total annual emissions, industry was 346 identified as the dominant contributor to BC, followed by transportation (20%) and 347 residential sources (14%). Although the policies of energy conservation and emission 348 control have been conducted for years, there were still a number of small facilities 349 with low operation temperatures and combustion efficiencies in southern Jiangsu, 350 leading to a large amount of BC from incomplete combustion. When scaling emissions from 2012 to 2015, in addition, improvements in emission controls were 351

352 not taken into account, such as elevated combustion technologies and enhanced use of 353 dust collectors. The potential reductions in net emission factors for major factories, 354 therefore, were not well quantified, and the emissions from industry could be 355 overestimated. Emissions from power generation were few, resulting from relatively high combustion efficiency of pulverized boilers and large penetrations and removal 356 357 rates of dust collectors. Besides the annual total, the emissions of four months 358 (January, April, July and October) were also estimated and limited seasonal 359 differences were found as shown in Figure 2.

360 Figure S3 in the supplement shows the spatial distribution of annual BC 361 emissions in JS-prior. For power generation and industry sectors, latitude and longitude of each plant were applied to allocate BC emissions, and the outstandingly 362 363 high emissions shown in the map indicated the existence of big power and industrial 364 plants. For residential sources, large emissions were found in the regions with 365 intensive population. Emissions from transportation were mainly distributed along the 366 road net and downtown regions in southern Jiangsu cities (see the geographic 367 locations of downtowns in Figure S1 in the supplement), slightly overlapping with 368 those from residential sources.

369 3.2 Top-down emission estimate

The time series of BC concentrations contributed by various sectors (c in Eq. (1)) 370 371 were simulated with CTM and illustrated in Figures S4 and S5 in the supplement for 372 NJU and PAES, respectively. Among all the sectors, the largest seasonal variation in 373 BC contribution was found for residential sources. The average concentrations 374 contributed by this sector in January reached 0.76 and 0.94 µg/m³ at NJU and PAES, 375 respectively, approximately double-twice of those in another three months. The 376 concentrations contributed by industry were significantly enhanced in certain periods (e.g., January 20th, April 9th-11th, and July 15th-17th), and industrial emissions were 377 expected to be an important reason for the overestimation in BC concentrations 378 379 through CTM (see the model evaluation in Section 3.3). Table \$3-\$5 in the 14/72

380 supplement summarizes the monthly and annual mean BC contributions by sector. 381 The annual contributions of industry at the two sites were close to each other (21.0% 382 and 21.9% at NJU and PAES respectively). Contributions of residential sources and 383 transportation were higher at PAES resulting from large population and heavy traffic 384 in the urban area. Minor contribution of power generation to BC concentrations was 385 found at both sites (the annual means were less than 1%), attributed to its very limited 386 emissions. The total contributions from the four emission sectors were larger than 387 50% for all the months and sites except for January. We assumed that the much 388 smaller contributions in January may resulted partly from the longer lifetime of BCC 389 because of due to less wet deposition in winter .-- Moreover, we conducted the cluster 390 analysis of back trajectories of air masses arriving at NJU with Hybrid Single Particle 391 Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT, version 4) model, and found that 392 lessfewer air masses passed through the third modeling domain in January, as 393 illustrated in Figure S6 in the supplement. The result thus implied more contribution 394 from regional transport to the air quality at the site in winter compared to other 395 seasons. We acknowledged that the multiple regression model was less effective on identifying the sources of BC in winter by constraining the emissions in southern 396 397 Jiangsu city cluster alone. Given the prevailing northerly wind directions in January, 398 regional transport from boundary conditions accounted for the majority of 399 contribution at two sites, the same as the result in other studies (Jia et al., 2008; Li et 400 al., 2015; Sun et al., 2014). It thus would bring more uncertainty when estimating the 401 top down emissions in the multiple regression model in January. The uncertainty 402 would be discussed in Section 3.3. 403 Summarized in Table 1 are the scaling factors β_1 - β_4 estimated from multiple

regression model (Eq. (1)) by season, together with the statistical indicators including the values of t, Sig. (or p) and variance inflation factor (VIF). The values of t and Sig. indicate statistical significance with a threshold of 2 and 0.05, respectively. VIF is a test for multicollinearity and the model is reasonable with when VIF values in the 批注 [zy3]: 全称?

408 table are much smaller than 10. Since the emissions from power generation were 409 small and they contributed very little to ambient BC concentrations, inclusion of 410 power generation component would not significantly improve the regression model. 411 In this study, therefore, we assumed that the simulated BC concentrations from power 412 generation were correct by setting β_1 at 1 and further subtracted them from the 413 observations. Most statistical indicators in Table 1 met the criteria (t>2, Sig.<0.05, 414 VIF<10) and the overall significance was 0.00 in four months, implying acceptable 415 robustness of the multiple regression model. However, the results were not 416 statistically significant indicated by t and p-Sig. values for some months and sectors 417 (e.g., industry in April and October and residential in April and July), implying that 418 the constrained emissions for those months/sectors need to be cautiously analyzed.

419 By applying β_1 - β_4 in Eq. (2), the top-down estimates of BC emissions 420 (JS-posterior) were estimated and illustrated in Figure 2. The total BC emissions for 421 southern Jiangsu city cluster were calculated at 13.4 Gg, 50% smaller than those of 422 JS-prior. For the capital city of Jiangsu Province, Nanjing, Huang et al. (in preparation) 423 conducted detailed analysis on the changes in operation activities and emission 424 control technologies of individual sources based on annually updated official environmental statistics and pollution census. With the bottom-up approach, the 425 426 annual BC emissions in the city were estimated to decrease by 60% from 2012 to 427 2015 as shown in Figure S7 in the supplement. The relative change in annual 428 emissions (60%) was close to that between JS-prior and JS-posterior (50%), implying 429 the constraining approach in this work could capture the changes in emissions due to improved control measures. and the validity of the two methods (the bottom up 430 431 approach by Huang et al. and the top down approach in this work) could be verified. 432 The scaling factors of emissions from industry and transportation (β_2 and β_4)

ranged from 0.22 to 0.42 and from 0.55 to 0.79 for different months, respectively.
Accordingly, the emissions from industry and transportation in JS-posterior were
estimated 67% and 32% smaller than those in JS-prior, respectively. As mentioned

above, the emissions in JS-prior 2015 were simply scaled from those in 2012 436 437 according to activity data, and changes in emission factors were not considered. In the 438 actual fact, however, a series of measures in industry and transportation were 439 conducted to improve energy efficiency and to reduce emissions over recent years. 440 Issued in 2013, for example, the Air Pollution Control Planning for the Key Regions 441 for the 12th Five-Year Plan period (2010-2015) aimed to achieve 7% and 15% 442 reductions in the annual average concentration and industrial emissions of fine 443 particles in Jiangsu province from 2010 to 2015, respectively (Qian, 2013). The 444 measures included eliminating old and energy-inefficient plants of heavy-polluted industries (thermal power generation and steel/building material production), and 445 446 optimizing the energy structure through application of sustainable energy. Meanwhile, 447 the enhanced use of cleaner gasoline and diesel products (National stage V standard) 448 in transportation could lead to reduced vehicle emissions. The government efforts in 449 emissions controls proved effective, indicated by the scaling factors much smaller 450 than 1 (β_2 and β_4 in Table 1) and the reduced emissions of JS-posterior. For residential 451 sources, the emissions in JS-posterior were 3% smaller than those in JS-prior, 452 indicating limited difference in the annual total emissions between the two inventories. However, the scaling factors (β_3) in January and October were 1.31 and 1.52 453 454 respectively, showing a stronger enhancement in BC emissions in winter and autumn 455 in JS-posterior than those in JS-prior. It thus implied that there were missing sources 456 likely associated with low-quality fossil fuels or biofuel used for heating in winter and 457 crop waste burning in autumn in JS-prior. For the capital city of Jiangsu Province, 458 Nanjing, Huang et al. (in preparation) conducted detailed analysis on the changes in 459 operation activities and emission control technologies of individual sources based on 460 annually updated official environmental statistics and pollution census. With the 461 bottom-up approach, the annual BC emissions in the city were estimated to decrease 462 by 60% from 2012 to 2015 as shown in Figure S6 in the supplement. The relative 463 change in annual emissions was close to that between JS prior and JS posterior, and

the validity of the two methods (the bottom up approach by Huang et al. and the
top down approach in this work) could be verified.

466 Figure <u>S83 in the supplement presents the seasonal variations in BC emissions of</u> 467 JS-prior, JS-posterior and MEIC-prior by sector, and stronger variations were 468 generally found in JS-posterior. As shown in Figure 3AS8a, the largest difference 469 among the three inventories existed in the residential sources, and the ratio of 470 maximum to minimum monthly emissions was 4.33 in JS-posterior, close to that in 471 MEIC-prior at 4.00 and nearly 4 times of that in JS-prior at 1.13. The analogue ratio 472 for industry was 2.05 in JS posterior, nearly twice of those in JS prior at 1.14 and 473 MEIC prior at 1.12. The smallest difference was found for transportation among the 474 three inventories. Seasonal variations in total emissions were a combination of those 475 by sector weighted by the contribution of each sector to total emissions. The ratios of 476 maximum to minimum monthly emissions were 1.13, 1.83 and 1.29 for JS-prior, 477 JS-posterior and MEIC-prior, respectively (Figure 3BS8b). The value for JS-posterior 478 was closer to 2.1 for an anthropogenic BC emission inventory in China by Lu et al. 479 (2011) that considered enhanced use of fossil fuels for residential heating in winter in 480 northern China. The comparison thus implied again that current bottom-up inventories 481 might underestimate the emissions of residential solid fuel burning in winter in 482 southern Jiangsu. As central household heating was not conducted in the area in 483 winter, the official energy statistics on which bottom-up inventories were based may 484 not fully capture the elevated fuel burning by disperse households. Spatial distribution 485 of BC emissions in JS-posterior was illustrated in Figure S3 in the supplement.

486 Compared to JS-prior, BC emissions from industry and transportation were greatly487 reduced in downtown regions in southern Jiangsu city cluster.

488 **3.3 Evaluation of the top-down emission estimate**

489 The simulated BC concentrations based on bottom-up (JS-prior) and top-down 490 estimation in emissions (JS-posterior) were compared with observations to evaluate 491 the two inventories, and the results were illustrated in Figures $\underline{34}$ and $\underline{45}$ for NJU and 18/72

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492 PAES-sites, respectively. Statistical indicators including mean concentrations from 493 simulations and observations, NMB and NME, as well as the regression correlation (R) 494 were calculated to evaluate the modeling performance, as summarized in Table 2. 495 In general, CTM based on JS-prior reproduced well the temporal variations of 496 the observed BC concentrations at the two sites. The highest and lowest 497 concentrations were respectively simulated in winter and summer, consistent with 498 observations with an exception at PAES where the observed monthly mean in January 499 (2.80 μ g/m³) was lower than that in October (3.62 μ g/m³). The overestimation in 500 January at PAES (especially in middle and late January, 16th-26th)-may might result 501 partly from the emission control policy implemented for the National Memorial Day 502 of Nanjing Massacre Victims in December 13th in 2014. During the period, Nanjing 503 was undertaking series of stringent restrictions on air pollutant emissions. For 504 example, key petrochemical and steel industries were shut down, and all the 505 high-pollution vehicles were forbidden to drive into the city-Nanjing. Those 506 restrictions had large impacts on emissions and thereby air quality in the following 507 month at PAES, but have notwere been not fully considered in current emission 508 inventories. Moreover, the bias could be enhanced under certain meteorology 509 conditions. Meanwhile, As illustrated in Figure S89 in the supplement, higher daily 510 average PBL height at PAES was found for periods when the simulated 511 concentrations were relatively lower (e.g., 6th -7th, 12th-15th and 28th-31st), resulting in 512 smaller bias between simulation and observation. we evaluated the effect of 513 meteorology on the modeling performance at PAES, and the simulated daily average 514 PBL heights at PAES were illustrated in Figure S8 in the supplement. For periods 515 when simulated concentrations were lower than other period (e.g., 6th -7th, 12th -15th 516 and 28th-31st), the simulated PBL height were higher so that it would help BC to disperse, resulting in lower simulations and smaller bias between simulations and 517 observations. In contrast, the lower PBL height -found in other periods would 518 519 exaggerate the overestimation in simulated concentrations, given the elevated

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批注 [zy4]: check 明确到底是什么原因导致了模拟的偏差 520 emissions the lower PBL heights in other periods would result in higher simulated 521 concentrations and larger bias, let alone the overestimated emissions-in JS-prior. The 522 seasonal variation of BC concentrations at NJU was larger than that at PAES, 523 suggesting bigger impact of household solid fuel use on the suburban and rural 524 regions. Though the model was able to capture the seasonal variability, discrepancies 525 between simulations and observations existed, and CTM commonly generally 526 underestimated BC concentrations at the suburban site NJU and overestimated those 527 at the urban site PAES. With the monthly means ranged 1.99-5.97 μ g/m³ at NJU, the 528 annual average-of BC concentration (calculated as the mean of January, April, July 529 and October) was simulated at 3.44 μ g/m³, smaller than the observed 3.83 μ g/m³. 530 With the monthly means ranged 2.61-6.46 µg/m³, in contrast, the annual concentration at PAES was simulated at 3.39 μ g/m³, larger than the observed 2.48 μ g/m³. Better 531 532 correlation between observation and simulation was found at NJU, indicated by the 533 larger R. The annual mean NMBs were calculated at -10.16% and 36.67%, and the NMEs were 41.15% and 72.00% at NJU and PAES, respectively. The discrepancy 534 535 suggested that JS-prior used in CTM might misrepresent the spatial pattern of 536 emissions. Population and economy densities were applied to allocate BC emissions, 537 leading to overestimation in emissions and thereby simulated concentrations in urban 538 areas with more population and economic activity. Besides, the model overestimated 539 the peak surface concentrations at both sites particularly when the contribution from 540 industry sector was enhanced as mentioned in Section 3.2 (e.g., January 9th-11th and April 9th-10th at NJU, and April 9th-12th, the second half of July, and October 20th at 541 542 PAES).

Application of JS-posterior in CTM effectively corrected large biases between simulations and observations at the two sites. As shown in Table 2, NMEs were reduced for most months (all months at PAES and January and April at NJU) while effects of applying JS-posterior in CTM varied at two sites. At PAES, the annual average NME declined from 72.00% to 57.55% and the annual mean of BC 548 concentration was simulated at 2.57 µg/m³, in better agreement with the observed 549 2.48 μ g/m³ than the simulated 3.39 μ g/m³ using JS-prior. The largest reductions in 550 NMEs were found in April and July, from 73.18% to 42.87% and from 92.74% to 551 42.37%, respectively. Moreover the overestimations in peak concentrations using 552 JS-prior were partly corrected when JS-posterior was applied, resulting mainly from 553 the reduced emissions from industry and transportation. Regarding the 554 overestimations in January 16th-26th discussed above, we excluded the data points 555 duringfor those datesese periods and re-compared the observations and simulation. As 556 can be seen s, as shown in Table S6 in the supplement, -tThe overestimation in CTM 557 was largely reduced when data were excluded and the top-down estimate corrected the bias moderately in January at PAES. Besides the emissions, overestimation in Even 558 559 after top down constraint, simulated annual BC concentrations at PAES could 560 wereresult partly from the uncertainty in PBL modeling (Liu et al., 2018)-somewhat 561 overestimated at PAES. As shown in Table S7 in the supplement, We evaluated the monthly PBL heights height in WRF model awereweret two sites generally in four 562 563 months and found lower PBL height than thethatose in actual atmosphere, as shown in 564 Table S7 in the supplement. It could , leading toresult in the overestimationenhanced of BC concentrations to some extent, the same result as in. 565 Liu et al. (2018). 566

567 Although simulations of peak concentrations at NJU were improved as well, the 568 annual average NME at NJU slightly increased from 41.15% to 44.16% and the 569 annual mean of BC concentration was simulated at 2.82 µg/m³, smaller than the 570 simulated 3.44 µg/m³ using JS-prior. Bigger bias was found in July and October at NJU, since the reduced emission estimates in JS-posterior led to further 571 572 underestimation in simulated ambient BC levels compared to JS-prior. Limitation of 573 current multiple regression model was thus indicated that overestimation and 574 underestimation in concentrations at different sites could hardly be corrected 575 simultaneously without further improvement in spatial distribution of emissions. For

576	the uncertainty in January due to the major contributions from boundary conditions,
577	considering the relatively small bias between simulations and observations at NJU
578	and PAES (excluding data in the middle and late January in Table S6 in the
579	supplement) in JS-prior compared with other months, and the improvement of
580	modeling performance in JS posterior at two sites, as shown in Table 2, it implied the
581	benefit of the top-down method even large uncertainty occurred in January.
582	

583 4 Discussions

584 We selected April to evaluate the sensitivity of observation and bottom-up 585 emission input to top-down constraint. Observation site number, spatial 586 representativeness of sites, and the a initial-priori bottom-up inventory were changed 587 separately in the constraining approach, and various top-down estimates could be 588 derived and compared with each other. The statistical indicators of modeling 589 performances based on different bottom up and top down emission estimates in April 590 are summarized in Table 3. Furthermore, we evaluated the uncertainty of the multiple 591 regression model, including the assumption of near linearity between emissions and 592 concentrations in July and October and the impact of precipitation in July. The 593 statistical indicators of modeling performances based on different cases are 594 summarized in Table 3. Details were described as below.

595 4.1 The effect of observation-site data application-number

A major challenge in understanding the sources and distributions of BC in China was lack of a consistent and stable measurement network with good spatiotemporal coverage, such as the IMPROVE network in the United States (Malm et al., 1994). Uncertainty existed in the top-down estimates in this work, as hourly measurements on BC concentrations were only available at two sites in southern Jiangsu. Therefore, besides JS-posterior derived from observations at both sites <u>in April</u> as described in Section 3.2 (mentioned as Case 1 hereinafter), we conducted a Case 2 in which 22/72 observation data at only one site (NJU) was were used in the top-down approach, to
 analyze the effect of the site number on emission estimates.

605 The scaling factors of emissions from industry, residential sources and 606 transportation were recalculated at 0.42, 0.95 and 0.65, respectively. Compared with 607 to Scenario BJS-prior in April in Table 2, the NMEs of Case 2, as shown in Table 3. 608 decreased from 42.31% to 32.47% and from 73.18% to 61.59% at NJU and PAES, respectively, implying the benefits of ground measurements (even available only at 609 610 one site) on emission constraint. The NME in Case 2 was slightly smaller than that in 611 Case 1 at NJU, suggesting that application of measurement data at one single site 612 could improve modeling performance moderately at that site. At PAES, in contrast, 613 much larger NME was found in Case 2. Much better modeling performance in Case 1 614 at PAES indicated that inclusion of more measurements with better spatiotemporal 615 coverage could constrain BC emissions at city cluster level more effectively. 616 Regarding the averaged simulations and observations for all periods in Scenario B and Case 2, it seemed that top down estimate magnified the discrepancy. Actually, It 617 618 should be noted thatafter the data screening mentioned in Section 2.2, the number of 619 data applied included in the multiple regression model was 48% of those data for in 620 the wholeall periods (most data screening was due to lack of observations, accounting 621 for 38%) with the data screening mentioned in Section 2.2. In particular, -the period 622 lack of observation accounted for 38% of the whole month. We dividedfurther 623 analyzed the CTM performances for the all the data points into two groups: periods 624 those included in the model and those excluded from the model separately, and 625 analyzed the modeling performances for both groups independentlyas shown in Table 626 S8 in the supplement. The- observed concentration for the periods included in the 627 model (2.56 µg/m³)simulated concentration for periods included in the multiple 628 regression model (2.71 µg/m³) was larger smaller than the tsimulated he observation 629 (2.56 µg/m³) in JS-prior (2.71 µg/m³), different from the case without data screening 630 (i.e., data in all periods were included).leading to the reduced - The emissions-could

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631	then be reduced whenthrough constraining, the observation was applied in the
632	constraining. As a result, the The constrained emissions resulted in a simulated
633	average concentration-in Case 2 (2.42 µg/m ³) (2.42 µg/m ³ in Table S8) was closer to
634	the observation. At for the periods included in the multiple regression model the same
635	time, and the constrained emissions did not increase the bias for the periods excluded
636	from the-multiple regression model. It-thus indicated suggested that factors other than
637	emissions in CTM (e.g., meteorology) might contribute to-that the-underestimation
638	underestimation -for those the periods latter, - could result largely from factors other
639	than emissions like meteorology.

640 4.2 The effect of spatial representativeness of observation sites

641 Besides the number of observation site, sSpatial representativeness of 642 observation sites-was_also identified and its impact on top-down emission constraint 643 was evaluated. Considering the prevailing winds from northeast and southeast, on one 644 hand, NJU located upwind Nanjing is hardly influenced by the emissions from the 645 downtown of the city. Besides the site is downwind of the Yangtze River Delta region 646 (YRD) including the Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster (Chen et al., 647 2017), thus it is more representative for the western YRD emissions through regional 648 transport. On the other hand, PAES is located at urban Nanjing and its air quality is 649 commonly influenced by surrounding transportation, residential, and commercial 650 sources, thus the site is representative for the local emissions of Nanjing. In contrast 651 to previous top-down studies that did not distinguish influence of local emissions and 652 transport on air quality in sub-regions of the research domain (Wang et al., 2011; Fu et 653 al., 2012), the spatial representativeness of the two observation sites were taken into 654 account to improve the top-down approach and the result of constraining BC 655 emissions in southern Jiangsu city cluster. Through the brute-force method described 656 in Section 2.3, we zeroed out the emissions from Nanjing and 657 Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster in CTM, respectively, and 658 compared the simulated concentrations with those in Scenario B to analyze the 24 / 72

659 contributions of the two regions to ambient BC concentrations at NJU and PAES-sites. 660 As shown in Figure S107 in the supplement, the contribution of emissions from 661 Nanjing to PAES was greater than that to NJU in 82% of the modeling period, and the 662 81% analogue number was for the contribution of Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster to NJU greater than that to PAES. 663 664 We thus concluded that emissions from Nanjing contributed significantly to PAES while those from Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster contributed 665 666 significantly to NJU. We then developed a new case of top-down emission estimate in 667 southern Jiangsu (Case 3), in which observation data at PAES and NJU were applied to constrain emissions from Nanjing and Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city 668 669 cluster, respectively.

670 The scaling factors in Case 3 are provided in Table 4. To avoid the collinearity in 671 the multiple regression model, we expected that the relative changes in emissions 672 from transportation in Nanjing and Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster 673 were similar for recent years, resulting from the same progress of emission standard 674 implementation (National Standard Stage IV) in southern Jiangsu and the frequent 675 circulation of vehicles among the cities. Therefore a same scaling factor was assumed 676 for transportation in the two regions. As shown in Table 4, all the scaling factors at 677 PAES were smaller than those at NJU, implying that implementation of emission 678 controls than that in Nanjing were more stringent in Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster from 2012 to 2015. As the host city 679 of the 2nd Asian Youth Games in 2013 and the 2nd Youth Olympic Games in 2014, 680 Nanjing was undertaking series of restrictions on air pollutant emissions. The city 681 682 conducted emission control action on small coal-fired boilers since 2013 and over 683 1200 coal-fired boilers had been shut down by the end of 2014. In addition, central 684 heating units were largely applied to replace the coal with electricity, natural gas or 685 biofuel. As shown in Table 3, the NMEs in Case 3 were the smallest at both sites 686 among all the cases with an exception: the NME at NJU in Case 3 was 32.64%, 687 slightly larger than that in Case 2 at 32.47%. The result implied that inclusion of more 688 measurement data with their spatial representativeness considered could improve the 689 top-down approach in terms of spatial distribution of emissions and could reduce the 690 deviation between observations and simulations.

691 Summarized in Table 5-89 in the supplement are BC emissions from Nanjing and 692 Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster estimated in different cases. All the 693 top-down estimates were approximately half of the bottom-up estimate and the 694 estimate in Case 1 was the smallest among all the cases. The same scaling factors 695 were generated and applied in Cases 2 and 3 to calculate BC emissions from Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou-Zhenjiang city cluster which accounted for 80% of the 696 697 total emissions in southern Jiangsu, resulting in similar top-down emission estimates 698 between the two cases.

4.3-2 The effect of initial the _a priori bottom-up emission input 699

700 Given the large uncertainty in JS-prior that was simply developed based on the 701 changes of activity levels in recent years, we applied MEIC-prior as well to explore 702 the effect of the initial-a priori emission inventory on top-down BC constraints.

703 Figures 56 and 67 a compare the total amount and spatial distribution of 704 emissions between JS-prior and MEIC-prior in April for southern Jiangsu, 705 respectively. The total BC emissions of southern Jiangsu city cluster in JS-prior were 706 21% lower than those in MEIC-prior. In JS-prior, as shown in Figure 67a, the 707 emissions from some industrial plants were extremely larger than those in MEIC-prior, 708 while the emissions in urban areas were found smaller. Both inventories indicated 709 extremely small contribution from power generation. BC emissions from industry 710 sector were calculated at 1.34 Gg in JS-prior, 0.22 Gg smaller than MEIC-prior. 711 Emissions from industry in MEIC-prior were calculated based on regional average of 712 emission factors and allocated according to spatial distribution of GDP. The method 713 would possibly result in underestimation in emissions from big industrial plants but 714 overestimation in urban areas. Emissions from residential sources in JS-prior were 26 / 72

715 close to those in MEIC-prior as similar methodology was applied for the sector in the 716 two inventories. BC emissions from transportation in MEIC-prior (0.85 Gg) were 717 twice of those in JS-prior (0.42 Gg) attributable probably to the application of 718 different emission factors. For on-road transportation, the emission factors in JS-prior 719 were calculated with CORPERT model (EEA, 2012; Zhou et al., 2017) while they 720 were obtained from available domestic measurements in MEIC-prior.

721 Simulation Case 4 was determined using MEIC-prior in CTM. As shown in 722 Table 3, the hourly average of BC concentrations at NJU was simulated at 2.49 µg/m³ for April 2015 in Case 4, close to 2.38 µg/m³-simulated with JS-prior (Scenario B). At 723 724 PAES, however, application of MEIC prior in CTM resulted in much larger 725 concentration than JS prior (5.13 versus 2.98 µg/m³), indicating again that 726 MEIC-prior would overestimate the emissions in urban area. Following the top-down 727 approach described in Section 2.2, we developed Case 5, using MEIC-prior instead of 728 JS-prior as the a initial-priori input of emission data in CTM. The scaling factors of 729 emissions from industry, residential sources and transportation were respectively 730 calculated at 0.15, 1.30 and 0.25 through multiple regression model, and the top-down 731 estimate in BC emissions (mentioned as MEIC-posterior hereafter) were calculated at 732 0.75 Gg in April 2015, close to 0.78 Gg in the JS-posterior (Figure 56). The 733 differences in the emissions from industry and transportation between JS-posterior 734 and MEIC-posterior were 0.06 and 0.07 Gg, respectively, much smaller than those 735 between JS-prior and MEIC-prior. Besides the total amount, differences in spatial 736 distribution in industry plants and urban areas between the top-down estimates 737 (JS-posterior and MEIC-posterior) were also significantly reduced compared to those 738 between bottom-up estimates (JS-prior and MEIC-prior), as shown in Figure 67b. 739 As shown in Table 3, the monthly average BC concentration at NJU in Case 4

740 was simulated at 2.49 μ g/m³ for April 2015, close to 2.38 μ g/m³ simulated with

741 JS-prior in Table 2. At PAES, however, application of MEIC-prior in CTM resulted in

742 much larger concentration than JS-prior (5.13 versus 2.98 µg/m³), indicating again

743 that MEIC-prior would overestimate the emissions in urban area. Figure 8-7 illustrates 744 the scatterplots of the simulated BC concentrations from bottom-up and top-down 745 inventories at NJU (Figure 8a7a) and PAES (Figure 8b7b). Using two bottom-up 746 inventories in CTM, bigger difference in simulated BC concentrations was found at 747 PAES compared to that at NJU, indicated by the slope (1.10) closer to 1 at NJU in 748 Figure 8a7a. The correlation coefficients (R²) between simulated BC concentrations 749 using JS-prior and MEIC-prior were 0.81 at NJU and 0.40 at PAES respectively. 750 Using two top-down estimates, the difference between simulated concentrations at 751 PAES was significantly reduced and the slope got much closer to 1 in Figure 8b7b. 752 The correlation coefficients (R^2) were enhanced to 0.94 and 0.87 at NJU and PAES, 753 respectively.

To summarize, similar results from top-down constraint approach could be obtained in emission level, spatial distribution, and CTM performance, even clear difference existed in the <u>a initial-priori</u> bottom-up inventories. In other word, limited effect of <u>the a initial-priori</u> emission input was evaluated on the top-down estimate from the multiple regression model.

4.4-<u>3-Uncertainty analysis Evaluation of the near-linearity assumption in the</u> multiple regression model

761 As mentioned in Section 2.2, the assumption of near linearity between emissions 762 and concentrations is a principle of the multiple regression model, given the weak 763 chemistry reactivity of BC. The principle has been applied in previous studies to 764 constrain BC emissions (Fu et al., 2012; Kondo et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2013; Park et al., 2003; Verma et al., 2017). In the actual fact, however, processes other than 765 766 chemical reaction, e.g., precipitation or wet deposition, impact the linearity. Therefore, 767 the near-linear assumption needs to be justified, and the uncertainty of the 768 methodology could then be evaluated.

Sensitivity analysis was conducted to assess the rationality of brute-force method
 described in Section 2.3, in which emissions of given sector were zeroed out to
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771 determine their contribution to the ambient concentrations. As summarized in Table 772 <u>S4-S10</u> in the supplement, we first calculated the ratio of simulated wet deposition to 773 emissions by month for NJU, PAES and the whole southern Jiangsu city cluster with 774 JS-prior-(Scenario B) and JS-posterior-(Case 1), respectively. July and October were identified as the months with the most and least impact from precipitation, suggested 775 776 by the largest and smallest ratio, respectively. Two sensitivity simulations were then 777 conducted for the selected two months, in which doubled and halved emissions (i.e., 778 200% and 50% of emissions in JS-prior, respectively) were used in CTM, and the 779 simulated concentrations were then compared to those with JS-prior-(i.e., Scenario-B) 780 at NJU and PAES, as shown in- Figures S119 and S12 in the supplement 781 respectively.10 illustrate the linear correlations of the simulated concentrations in 782 these two sensitivity cases and the base scenario (Scenario B) at NJU and PAES, 783 respectively. As can be seen in all the panels, the fraction of change in simulated 784 monthly average concentration $(F_{conc.})$ was close to that of emission change $(F_{conc.})$, 785 i.e., the ratio of F_{emis} to F_{cone} was around 1.0, within a range of $\pm 10\%$. Similar ratio of 786 change in emissions (ΔE) to that in simulated average concentration (ΔC) was obtained for each month and site as well. The results thus It suggested that the impact 787 788 of non-linearity between emissions and concentrations was limited, no matter the 789 precipitation was strong or not. As the top-down constrained emissions (JS-posterior) 790 were 50% smaller than the bottom-up estimates (JS-prior), the relative change was far 791 beyond the uncertainty from non-linearity (±10%, as discussed in Figure S12 in the 792 supplement), implying the improvement of the top-down approach on emission 793 estimation.

Many studies have reported the difficulty in precipitation simulation with WRF (Annor et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2018; Yu et al., 2011; Yang et al., 2014; Kaewmesri, 2018). In this study, the observed ground precipitation at Lukou, Liyang and Shanghai stations (see Figure 1 for locations) was compared with the simulated one to evaluate the WRF performance for precipitation modeling. As shown in Figures <u>\$8\$13-164</u> in 批注 [u5]:关于非线性的分析我移到 supplement Figures S10 和 S11 图表说明下面。

799 the supplement, the model could capture the dates of precipitation, but it generally 800 overestimated the amount. Similar results were found in previous studies that WRF 801 overestimated precipitation at fine spatial resolution (Politi et al., 2018; Kotlarski et 802 al., 2014; García-Díez et al., 2015). Improvement in physics parameterization 803 schemes in WRF will help better understanding the wet deposition of BC through 804 simulation. To further evaluate the effect of wet deposition on emission constraining, we conducted an extra Case 6, in which the data influenced by simulated wet 805 806 deposition (i.e., the periods with simulated wet deposition at hourly basis) were 807 excluded in the top-down approach. The new scaling factors $\beta_1 - \beta_4$ estimated from the 808 multiple regression model were summarized in Table 65. By applying $\beta_1' \cdot \beta_4'$ in Eq. 809 (2), the top-down estimates of annual BC emissions in Case 6 were calculated at 13.7 810 Gg, and the emissions by sector and month were illustrated in Table $\frac{76}{10}$, together with 811 the relative deviation (RD) compared to emissions in Case 1(_JS-posterior). The 812 relative deviations of monthly total emissions between Case 6 and Case 1JS-posterior 813 were less than 5%, with an exception of July at 14%, and that for annual total was 814 2.6%. Larger relative deviations were found for given sources, e.g., residential in 815 January and transportation in July. The deviations, therefore, were much smaller than 816 that between the emissions in JS-prior and JS-posterior. We consequently applied 817 CTM to evaluate the modeling performance with the emissions in Case 6 for July. 818 Illustrated in Table 38 were the simulated BC concentrations and the statistic 819 indicators obtained through comparisons with observation at the two sites. As 820 suggested by the NME and R values, little improvement on CTM performance was 821 achieved with the emissions in Case 6, compared to those with JS-posteriorCase-1 822 (Table 2). The impact of simulated wet deposition on the top-down approach was thus 823 expected to be moderate in this work.

As the simulated wet deposition varied from the reality to some extent and the impact of precipitation along the transport was not excluded in Case 6, we selected July to conduct a Case 7, in which the data influenced by accumulative precipitation 827 along the back trajectories at the two sites were excluded in the multiple regression 828 model. The merged high-quality precipitation measured by the Tropical Rainfall 829 Measuring Mission (TRMM) satellite instrument was adopted for wet deposition 830 screening, with a temporal resolution of 3 h and a spatial resolution of $0.25^{\circ} \times 0.25^{\circ}$. 831 We used the Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT (-832 version 4.9) model (http://www.ready.noaa.gov) to calculate the 48 h back trajectories of the air masses arriving at NJU and PAES. The back trajectories were calculated 833 834 every 3 hour for July with the simulated layer heights of 50, 100 and 500 m above the 835 ground and the time step of 3 h (the same as the temporal resolution of TRMM). The 836 hourly accumulative precipitation along the 48 h back trajectories at two sites were then calculated to determine the BC-CO data pairs influenced by precipitation, given 837 838 the little effect of precipitation on CO. Figure $\frac{11-8}{2}$ illustrates the changes in the $\angle BC/$ 839 ∠CO ratio observed at two sites for different accumulated precipitation intervals. At 840 NJU, the $\triangle BC / \triangle CO$ ratio of air masses receiving less than 3 mm accumulated 841 precipitation was significantly larger than that of air masses receiving more than 3 842 mm, and the analogue number was 5 mm at PAES. In Case 7, therefore, we excluded 843 the BC-CO data pairs receiving more than 3 mm and 5 mm accumulated precipitation 844 along their trajectories within the last 48 h at NJU and PAES, respectively, in the 845 multiple regression model. It minimized the effect of wet deposition while retained 846 sufficient data points for the statistical significance. Figure 912 shows the simulated 847 wet deposition in Case 6 and the accumulated precipitation in Case 7 for July to 848 compare the data selection in the two cases. In Case 6, the number of data points were 849 reduced to 65% of Case 1 after data screening, and over 500 samples at the two sites 850 were available for the multiple regression model. In Case 7, only 31% of data points 851 remained. The periods excluded in Case 7 contained those in Case 6, implying a 852 stricter data screening to eliminate the effect of precipitation.

Table <u>9-5</u> shows the scaling factors estimated from the multiple regression model in Case 7, and no big changes were found compared to the scaling factors for July in 855 Case 6 (Table 6). Consequently, the emissions by sector and total emissions in Case 7 856 were close to those in Case 6 (Table 76). The relative deviation of total emissions in 857 July between Case 7 and Case 1JS-posterior (RD in Table 96) was 13%, and those for 858 residential and transportation were larger. The influence of precipitation was again 859 indicated insignificant modest, as the deviation was much smaller than that between 860 the estimates obtained from the bottom-up and top-down methods. Moreover, the CTM performance based on Case 7, indicated by NMB and NME, was found similar 861 862 to that based on Case 6, implying the small effect of precipitation screening on 863 simulation. Even excluding the influence of precipitation along the back trajectories, 864 the Sig. for residential sources in Case 7 was still much larger than 0.05 (Table 95), 865 suggesting more efforts on quantification of emissions for this highly uncertain source category. 866

867 5 Conclusions

868 Monthly top-down estimates of BC emissions were derived from a multiple 869 regression model that integrated CTM and hourly BC concentrations from two ground 870 observation sites in southern Jiangsu city cluster. The annual emissions from 871 top-down approach (JS-posterior) were estimated at 13.4 Gg for 2015, 50.3% smaller 872 than those in bottom-up emission inventory that did not include the improved 873 emission controls in recent years (JS-prior), implying the effectiveness of air pollution 874 prevention measures on emission abatement. Application of JS-posterior in CTM 875 reduced the deviations between simulations and observations at two ground sites 876 effectively, especially at the urban site PAES. The increased bias at NJU in certain 877 months reflected the limitation of the top-down estimate. To evaluate the effects of 878 observation data on top-down estimate, two more cases in which observation data of 879 only one site (NJU) and observation data at both sites with their spatial 880 representativeness differentiated were applied to constrain the emissions, respectively. 881 Best CTM performance was found for the third case, indicating that inclusion of more 882 ground measurements with better spatiotemporal coverage in the city cluster would 32 / 72

883 improve the understanding of spatial distributions of BC emissions. In addition, 884 top-down estimates were derived from various bottom-up inventories, and the 885 differences in emission amount, spatial distribution and CTM performance between 886 the constrained emission estimates were significantly reduced compared to those 887 between the bottom-up inventories. The results implied that changes in the a initial 888 priori emission input in the regression model and CTM had limited effect on the 889 top-down estimation. Finally, the assumption of near-linearity between emissions and 890 concentrations was justified, and the influence of wet deposition on the estimated 891 emissions was evaluated to be moderate. This work demonstrated that top-down 892 approach based on ground observations and CTM could capture the fast changes in 893 BC emissions attributed to tightened pollution control policy at a city cluster scale. To 894 further reduce uncertainty of the approach and apply the method to other regions, 895 more ground measurements with sufficient temporal resolution would be 896 recommended, at other regions in the city cluster. Data from other sources, such as 897 aerosol optical depth from satellite observation, could also be included to improve the 898 spatial and temporal distributions of emission estimates.

899

900 Acknowledgement

This work was sponsored by <u>the Natural Science Foundation of China</u> (91644220 and 41575142) and the National Key Research and Development Program of China (2017YFC0210106 and 2016YFC0201507), <u>Natural Science Foundation of</u> China (91644220 and 41575142). We would like to acknowledge Tong Dan from Tsinghua University for national emission data (MEIC).

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- 1116

1117 **Figure captions**

1118 Figure 1. Modeling domain and locations of two observation sites and three-four 1119 meteorological stations.

- 1120 Figure 2. The monthly (left axis) and annual emissions (right axis) by sector for 1121 southern Jiangsu 2015 in JS-prior and JS-posterior (unit: Gg).
- 1122 Figure 3. The seasonal variation of BC emissions by source (a) and total emissions (b)
- 1123 in JS-prior, JS-posterior and MEIC-prior.
- 1124 Figure 34. The observed and simulated hourly BC concentrations at NJU using
- 1125 JS-prior and JS-posterior for January (a), April (b), July (c) and October (d) in 2015 1126
- (unit: ug/m^3).
- 1127 Figure 45. The same as Figure 43 but at PAES (unit: ug/m³).
- 1128 Figure 56. BC emission estimates by source of JS-prior, MEIC-prior, JS-posterior, and
- 1129 MEIC-posterior in April 2015 in southern Jiangsu (unit: Gg).
- 1130 Figure 67. The spatial distributions of the deviations (JS-MEIC, unit: Mg) between
- 1131 JS-prior and MEIC-prior (a) and those between JS-posterior and MEIC-posterior (b).
- 1132 Figure 78. The scatter plots of the simulated BC concentrations using JS inventories
- 1133 versus those using MEIC at NJU (a) and PAES (b).
- 1134 Figure 9. The correlation between the simulated BC concentrations with JS-prior and
- 1135 those with doubled (a and c) or halved emissions in JS prior (b and d) in July (a and b)
- 1136 and October (c and d) at NJU. Femis. and Feone. indicate respectively the fraction of
- 1137 changed emissions and that of changed simulated monthly average concentrations
- 1138 between sensitivity and base simulation (Scenario B). ΔE and ΔC indicated the
- 1139 change in emissions and that in simulated monthly average concentrations,
- 1140 respectively.
- 1141 Figure 10. The same as Figure 9 but at PAES. 42/72

1142	Figure <u>8</u> ++. The \triangle BC/ \triangle CO ratio at NJU (a) and PAES (b) separated by different
1143	accumulated precipitation along the back trajectories during 48 h. The data point
1144	number of remaining data pointseach accumulated precipitation interval (right axis) is
1145	also given.
1146	Figure 912. The wet deposition in Case 6 (right axis, unit: kg/hectare) and

- 1147 accumulated precipitation—in Case 7 <u>(left axis, mm)</u> at NJU (a) and PAES (b). The
- 1148 number of remaining data points is also given.

1149 **Tables**

Month	Sector	Scaling factor	t ^a	Sig. ^b	VIF ^c	Sig.d
	Industry (β_2)	0.42	2.65	0.01	1.76	
January	Residential (β_3)	1.31	3.67	0.00	2.37	0.00
	Transportation (β_4)	0.79	2.23	0.03	2.72	
	Industry (β_2)	0.22	0.96	0.34	2.65	
April	Residential (β_3)	0.58	1.63	0.11	4.62	0.00
	Transportation (β_4)	0.67	2.21	0.03	4.19	
	Industry (β_2)	0.35	3.09	0.00	2.09	
July	Residential (β_3)	0.39	0.95	0.34	2.95	0.00
	Transportation (β_4)	0.55	2.20	0.03	3.46	
	Industry (β_2)	0.34	1.92	0.06	1.53	
October	Residential (β_3)	1.52	4.12	0.00	2.20	0.00
	Transportation (β_4)	0.74	2.80	0.01	2.65	

1150Table 1. The scaling factors and statistical indicators from the multiple1151regression model for estimation of JS-posterior.

1152 Note: The criteria for the statistical significance of the model: a: t>2, b: Sig.<0.05, and

1 153 c: VIF<10, d: the overall significance ≤ 0.05 .

Cita	Dogometer	Ja	nuary	A	April		July		ctober	Annual	
Site	Parameter	JS-prior	JS-posterior								
	Average SIM (µg/m ³)	5.97	5.50	2.38	1.82	1.99	1.29	2.80	2.42	3.44	2.82
	Average OBS (µg/m ³)	5.44	5.44	2.69	2.69	2.65	2.65	3.96	3.96	3.83	3.83
ŊŲ	NMB (%)	8.35	-0.08	-16.02	-32.40	-23.09	-51.32	-29.20	-39.01	-10.16	<u>-</u> 26.43
	NME (%)	37.83	35.54	42.31	38.61	49.62	57.49	40.52	43.06	41.15	44.16
	R	0.67	0.66	0.34	0.43	0.36	0.31	0.42	0.48	0.67	0.69
	Average SIM (µg/m ³)	6.46	5.91	2.98	1.95	2.61	1.63	3.19	2.88	3.39	2.57
	Average OBS (µg/m ³)	2.80	2.80	1.70	1.70	1.51	1.51	3.62	3.62	2.48	2.48
PAES	NMB (%)	151.93	134.59	61.57	14.73	72.17	8.28	-12.01	-20.48	36.67	3.54
	NME (%)	155.53	139.50	73.18	42.87	92.74	42.37	43.10	40.80	72.00	57.55
	R	0.38	0.38	0.64	0.53	0.35	0.37	0.57	0.72	0.38	0.45

1154 Table 2. Statistical indicators for observed and simulated BC concentrations using JS-prior and JS-posterior at NJU and PAES.

1155 Note: SIM and OBS indicated the results from simulation and observation, respectively. NMB and NME were calculated using following

equations (P and O indicated the results from modeling prediction and observation, respectively):

1157
$$NMB = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (P_i - O_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} O_i} \times 100\% ; . NME = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} |P_i - O_i|}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} O_i} \times 100\%$$

1158 Table 3. Statistical indicators for observed and simulated BC concentrations in

1159 different cases in April 2015 at NJU and PAES (Cases 1-5 for April, and Cases

1160 6-7 for July).

Site	Parameter	Case1	Case2	Case3	Case4	Case5	Case 6	Case 7	带格式表格
	Average SIM (µg/m ³)	1.82	2.27	2.06	2.49	1.78	<u>1.40</u>	<u>1.41</u>	
	Average OBS (µg/m ³)	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.65	<u>2.65</u>	
NJU	NMB (%)	-32.40	-21.59	-23.50	-7.46	-33.95	<u>-47.41</u>	<u>-46.72</u>	
	NME (%)	38.61	32.47	32.64	41.58	38.94	<u>54.88</u>	<u>54.44</u>	
	R	0.43	0.49	0.49	0.40	0.46	<u>0.33</u>	<u>0.33</u>	
	Average SIM (µg/m ³)	1.95	2.45	2.01	5.13	2.29	1.76	1.76	
	Average OBS (μ g/m ³)	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.51	1.51	
PAES	NMB (%)	14.73	49.86	18.02	201.35	34.71	16.87	<u>16.65</u>	
	NME (%)	42.87	61.59	39.62	201.56	47.73	<u>44.46</u>	<u>42.71</u>	
	R	0.53	0.63	0.66	0.65	0.59	0.36	<u>0.39</u>	

Note:

1161 1162 Case 1 applied observations at two sites to constrain the emissions from the whole

1163 city cluster (JS-posterior); Case 2 applied observations at only one site (NJU) to

1164 constrain the whole city cluster; Case 3 applied observations at two sites to constrain

1165 emissions from different cities respectively; Case 4 applied the MEIC-prior; Case 5

1166 applied the MEIC-posterior; Case 6 excluded the data influenced by simulated wet

1167 deposition; and Case 7 excluded the data influenced by satellite-derived accumulative

1168 precipitation.

- 1 169 <u>Case 1: using observations at two sites to constrain whole city cluster (JS-posterior)</u>
- 1170 Case 2: using observations at only one site (NJU) to constrain whole city cluster
- 1171 <u>Case 3: using observations at two sites to constrain different cities respectively</u>
- 1172 Case 4: using MEIC-prior
- 1173 <u>Case 5: using MEIC posterior</u>
- 1174 Case 6: excluding data influenced by simulated wet deposition
- 1

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Site	Sector	Scaling factor	t	Sig.	VIF
	Industry (β_2)	0.42	1.71	0.09	2.03
NJU	Residential (β_3)	0.95	2.50	0.01	2.52
	Transportation (β_4)	0.65	2.13	0.03	2.66
	Industry (β_2)	0.19	3.46	0.00	1.44
PAES	Residential (β_3)	0.36	1.89	0.06	1.44
	Transportation(β_4)	0.65	-	-	-

1176Table 4. The scaling factors and statistical indicators from the multiple1177regression model in Case 3.

Casa	Castan	Manilina	Suzhou-Wuxi-Changzhou	Souther
Case	Sector	Nanjing	-Zhenjiang	Jiangsu
	Power	0	0.01	0.01
	Industry	0.21	1.13	1.34
Scenario B	Residential	0.08	0.24	0.32
	Transportation	0.12	0.30	0.42
	Total	0.41	1.68	2.09
	Power	θ	0.01	0.01
Case 1	Industry	0.05	0.25	0.30
Case 1	Residential	0.04	0.14	0.19
	Transportation	0.08	0.20	0.28
	Total	0.17	0.60	0.78
	Power	θ	0.01	0.01
	Industry	0.09	0.47	0.56
Case 2	Residential	0.07	0.23	0.30
	Transportation	0.08	0.20	0.27
	Total	0.24	0.91	1.14
	Power	θ	0.01	0.01
	Industry	0.04	0.47	0.51
Case 3	Residential	0.03	0.23	0.26
	Transportation	0.08	0.20	0.27
	Total	0.15	0.90	1.05

1178Table 5. BC emissions from Nanjing and Suzhou Wuxi Changzhou Zhenjiang city1179cluster in different cases in April 2015 (Gg).

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1181 1182 Table 5. The scaling factors and statistical indicators from the multiple

regression model in Cases 6 and 7.

1183 Table 6. The scaling factors and statistical indicators from the multiple regression*

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1184 1185 1186 model in Case 6.

	Month	Sector	Scaling factor	ť	Sig. ^b	VIF ^e	Sig. ^d	带格式表格
		Industry (β_2 ')	0.41	2.17	0.03	1.71		
	January	Residential (β_3 ')	1.53	3.48	0.00	2.29	0.00	
		Transportation (β_4 ')	0.73	1.65	0.10	2.66		
		Industry (β_2 ')	0.24	0.92	0.36	1.91		
	April	Residential (β_3 ')	0.51	1.32	0.19	3.29	0.00	
		Transportation (β_4 ')	0.70	2.12	0.03	3.03		
Case 6								
		Industry (β_2 ')	0.38	4.43	0.00	1.43		
	July	Residential (β_3 ')	0.34	0.82	0.41	2.52	0.00	
		Transportation (β_4 ')	0.74	3.55	0.00	2.25		
		Industry (β_2 ')	0.33	1.00	0.32	1.44		
	October	Residential (β_3 ')	1.36	2.61	0.01	1.86	0.00	
		Transportation (β_4 ')	0.72	1.89	0.06	2.02		
		<u>Industry (β2')</u>	0.38	<u>2.38</u>	0.02	<u>1.31</u>		
Coss 7	Inter						0.00 +	带格式的: 居中
Case 7	<u>July</u>	<u>Residential (β_3')</u>	<u>0.31</u>	<u>0.31</u>	<u>0.75</u>	<u>2.31</u>	<u>0.00</u>	1. EV • FHNA HLAI
		<u>Transportation (β_4')</u>	0.75	<u>1.8</u>	<u>0.07</u>	<u>1.95</u>		

1187 Note: The criteria for the statistical significance of the model: a: t>2, b: Sig.<0.05, and

1188 c: VIF<10, d: the overall significance.

	Janu	uary	Ap	oril	Ju	ly	Octo	ober	Anr	nual	<u>Ju</u>	ly
	Case 6	RD	Case 6	RD	Case 6	RD	Case 6	RD	Case 6	RD	Case 7	<u>R</u> ₽
Power	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0	<u>0.0</u>
Industry	0.6	-2.4 %	0.3	9.9 %	0.6	9.2 %	0.5	-0.3%	6.0	3.1 %	<u>0.5</u>	<u>9.5</u>
Residential	0.5	16.7 %	0.2	-13.1 %	0.1	-13.7 % -	0.4	-10.2%	3.6	-0.6%	<u>0.1</u>	<u>-20.6</u>
Transportation	0.3	-8.2 %	0.3	4.3 %	0.4	34.4 %	0.3	-3.0 %	3.9	5.4 %	<u>0.4</u>	<u>36.4</u>
Sum	1.4	2.4 %	0.8	2.3 %	1.1	13.6 %	1.2	-4.2 % -	13.5	2.6%	1.0	13.4

1189 1190 Table 76. The monthly and annual emissions by sector for southern Jiangsu 2015 in Cases 6 and 7 (unit: Gg) and the relative deviation compared to Case 1JS-posterior (RD: Case 6 or 7-Case 1JS-posterior)/JS-posterior, %Case 1).

1198 Table 8. Statistical indicators for the observed and simulated BC concentrations 1199 in July 2015 at NJU and PAES in Case 6 and Case 7.

1200

—	Parameter	Case 6	Case 7
	Average SIM (µg/m ³)	1.40	1.41
	Average OBS (µg/m ³)	2.65	2.65
NJU	NMB (%)	47.41	<u>-46.72</u>
	<u>NME (%)</u>	54.88	54.44
	R	0.33	0.33
	2		
	Average SIM (µg/m))	1.76	1.76
	Average OBS (µg/m ³)	1.51	1.51
PAES	NMB (%)	16.87	16.65
	<u>NME (%)</u>	<u>44.46</u>	42.71
	R	0.36	0.39

1201 Note: SIM and OBS indicated the results from simulation and observation,

1202 respectively. NMB and NME were calculated using following equations (P and O

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1203 indicated the results from modeling prediction and observation, respectively):

1204
$$\frac{NMB}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} O_{i}} \times 100\% \quad NME = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} |P_{i} - O_{i}|}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} O_{i}} \times 100\%$$

1223	Table 9. The scaling factors and statistical indicators from the multiple
1224	regression model in Case 7. The emissions by sector for southern Jiangsu 2015
1225	July in Case 7 (unit: Cg) and the relative deviations (RD) compared to Case 1
1226	(RD: Case 7 Case 1)/Case 1) are also shown in table.

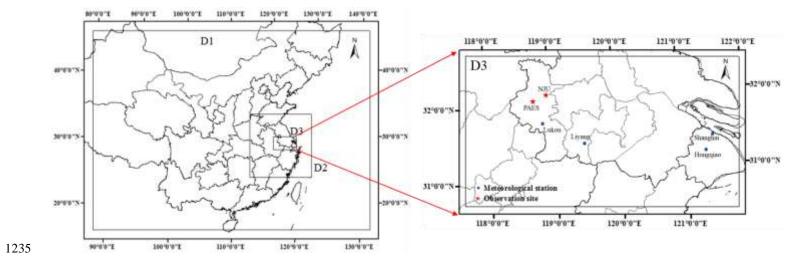
Sector	Scaling factor	ŧ	Sig. ^b	₩₽	Sig. ^d	Emissions	RD
Power						0.0	0.0%
Industry (β₂΄)	0.38	2.38	0.02	1.31		0.5	9.5%
Residential $(\beta_{3'})$	0.31	0.31	0.75	2.31	0.00	0.1	-20.69
Transportation (β_4')	0.75	1.8	0.07	1.95		0.4	36.49
Sum						1.0	13.49

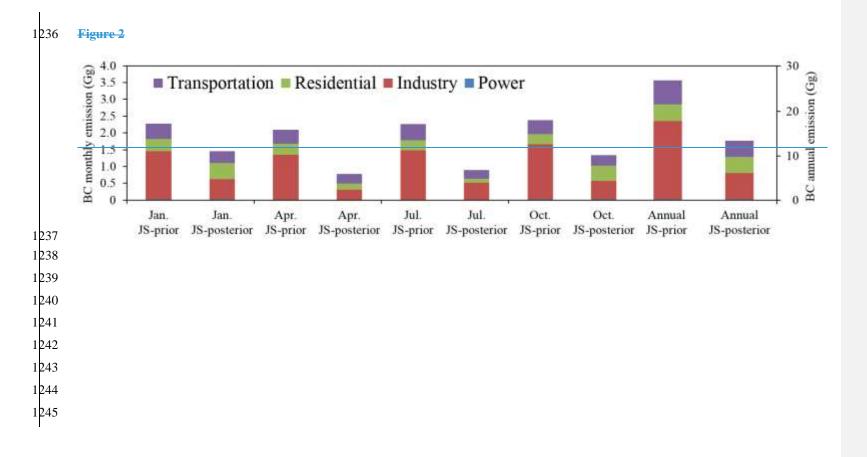
 $122\overline{7}$ 12281220Note: The criteria for the statistical significance of the model: a: t>2, b: Sig.<0.05, and

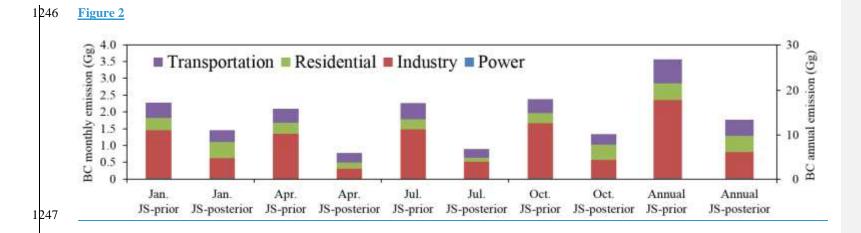
1229	c. VIE<10 d. the overall significance
1441	c. v ii < 10, u. tile overall significance.

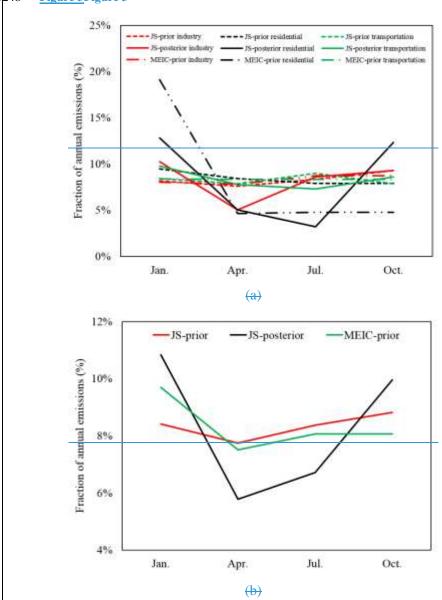






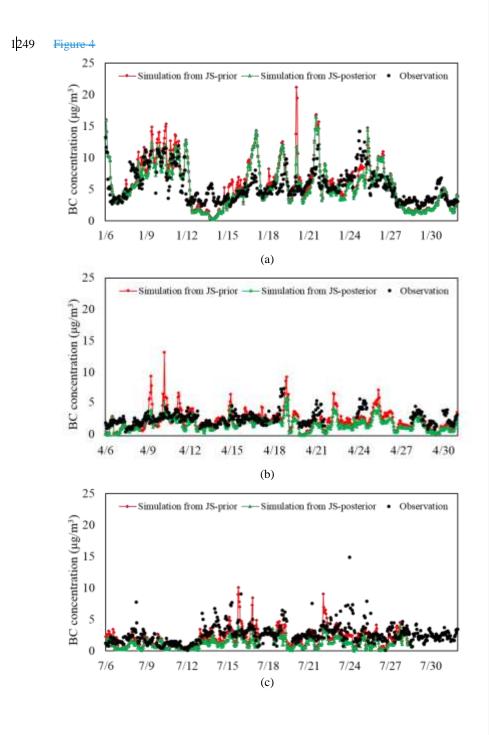


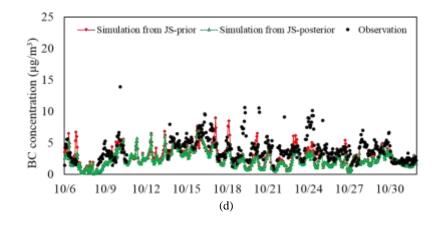




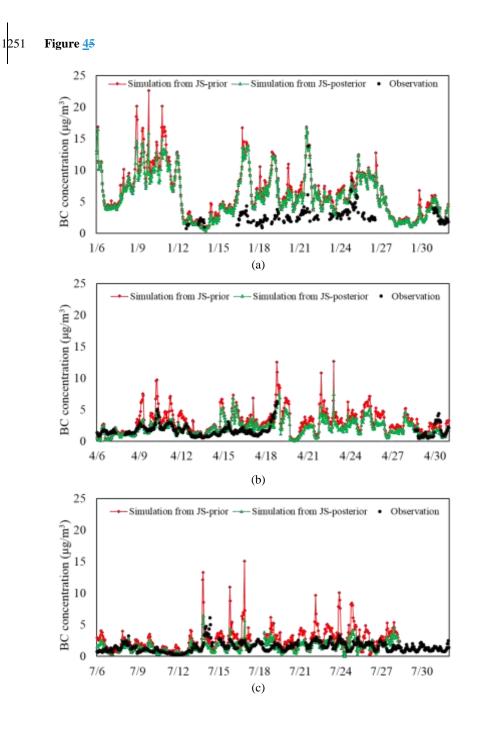
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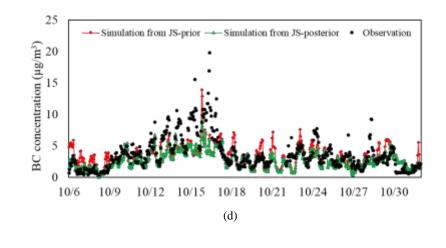
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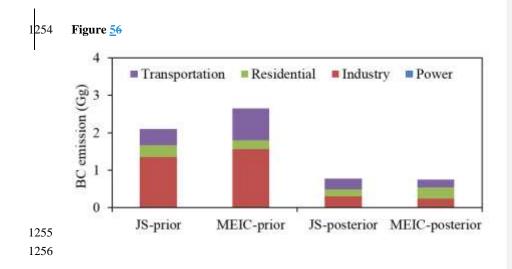


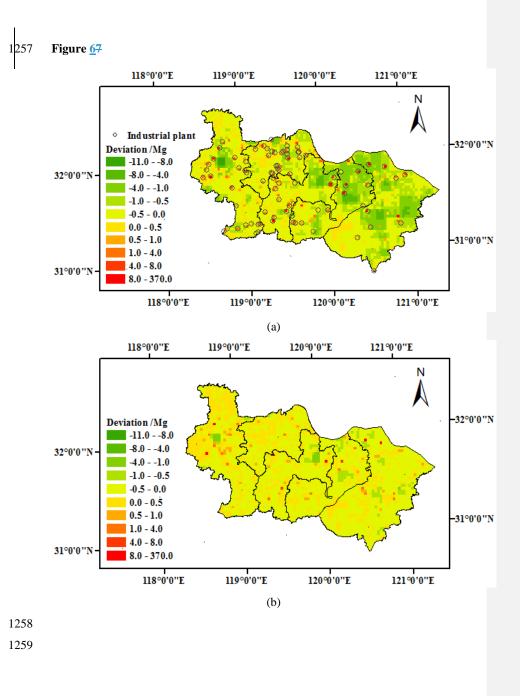


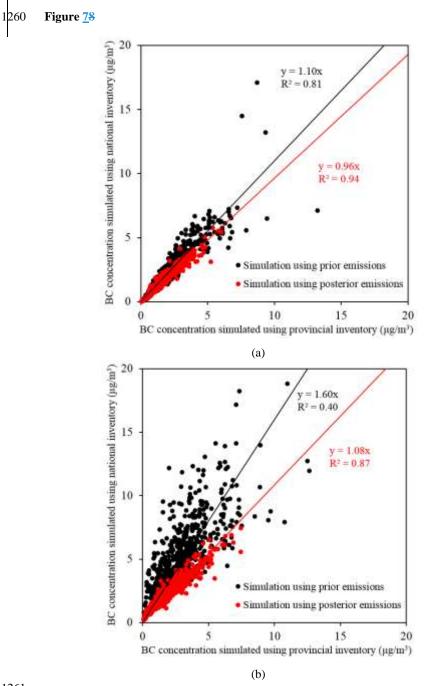




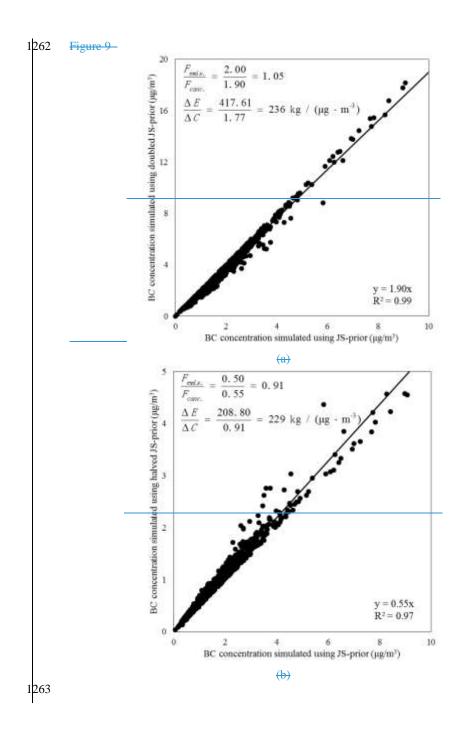






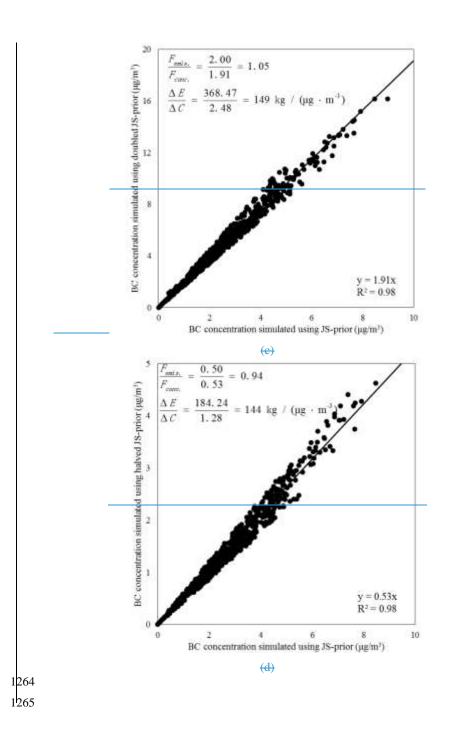




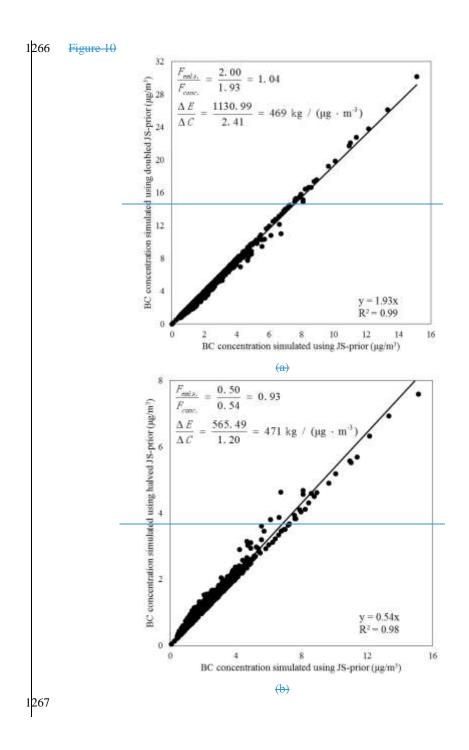


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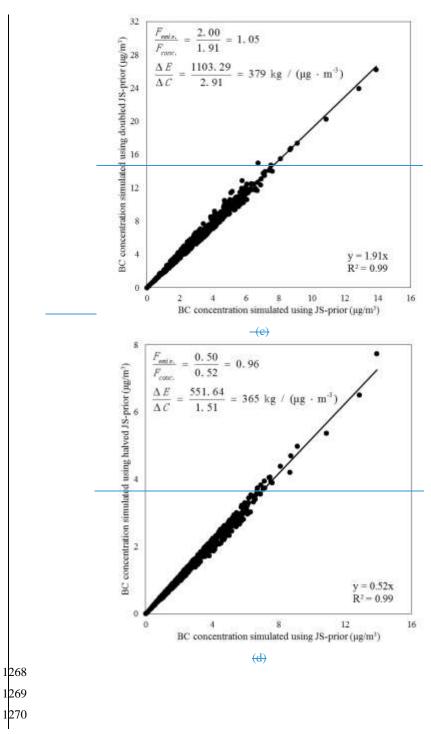
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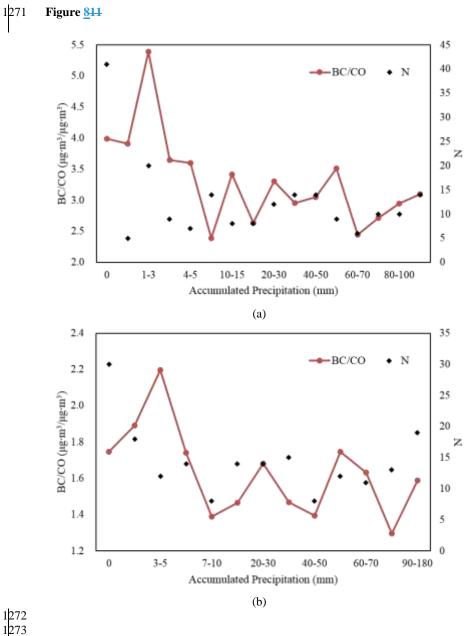
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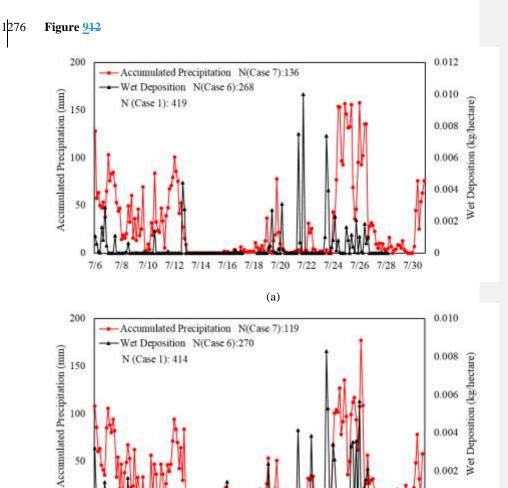




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