

## **Response to Editor:**

Dear ACP Editor Dr. Frank Dentener,

We would like to thank the two referees for their helpful comments, which have been fully taken into account upon manuscript revision. A point-by-point response to all the comments and a change-tracked revised version are shown below.

Best Regards,

Ying Chen

## **Response to comments of referee #1**

### **General comments**

Chen et al. describe the use of a numerical framework for emulation and sensitivity analysis of a regional air quality model in the development of air quality mitigation strategies for the megacity Delhi. They find that a combination of reduction in traffic emissions within the city, combined with simultaneous reductions in all emission sources in the surrounding region would lead to a reduction of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, while avoiding an increase in ozone. The reduction of traffic emissions from Delhi alone would increase peak ozone in Delhi due to the high emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> from traffic, with the resultant reduction in ozone due to changes in the O<sub>3</sub>-NO<sub>x</sub> titration effect.

These results are certainly plausible, and consistent with previous work. The potential for ozone to increase when high local NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are decreased has been well understood for decades, as has the transboundary nature of ozone and the corresponding need to control precursor emissions over large spatial scales in order to achieve reductions in ozone. The authors themselves also cite previous work showing that a large fraction of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi originates outside of the city. I would generally regard the results presented by Chen et al. as unremarkable, and not of sufficient scientific novelty to warrant publication in Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics. The most novel aspect of the study as I see it is the use of a statistical model emulator, combined with a technique called "global sensitivity analysis" to rapidly discover and evaluate effective emission mitigation options with a minimal amount of computational expense. The paper would potentially have merit if it had more of a technical focus on the methodology. Unfortunately, the methods are not described or evaluated well enough in the present version of the manuscript for me to be able to recommend publication. In order to be recommendable for publication, the manuscript needs major revisions focusing on better description and evaluation of the methods for model emulation and sensitivity analysis. I give suggestions for improving the manuscript in my specific comments, below.

*Many thanks to the reviewer for the comments and suggestions.*

*The chemical relationship between O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> has been well understood for decades, however, the reduction of O<sub>3</sub> pollution is still a troublesome issue for mitigation strategy. For example, recently in China, increase of O<sub>3</sub> is attracting increasing concern from the Chinese government*

*and public, despite considerable achievements in controlling PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution, as described in the introduction. Only a handful of studies foresee the potential of O<sub>3</sub> increase in Delhi under the current mitigation strategy focusing on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and provide solutions for it. This work provides a quantified map for mitigating PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution and tackling O<sub>3</sub> increase for Delhi, to avoid the O<sub>3</sub> side-effect that China is now facing. Our results could greatly benefit air pollution mitigation with respect to both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi. In addition, as the reviewer mentioned, this work demonstrates a combined approach with WRF-Chem and statistical methods to rapidly discover and evaluate effective emission mitigation options.*

*We agree with the reviewer that more details regarding the methodology can improve this work. We have therefore improved the manuscript accordingly. Please find point-by-point responses below.*

**Specific comments:**

The introduction is concise and well written, but since the novelty of the paper is in its methodological advances, it needs an expanded discussion of model emulation and global sensitivity analysis.

*Thanks for the comments and suggestions. We have improved the manuscript by adding a clearer introduction to these approaches.*

1) Line 134: WRF-Chem is an online model, which is capable of calculating its own meteorology. Please describe how the model is "driven" by the ECMWF meteorological data. Are they used as boundary conditions? Is some kind of nudging or data assimilation used?

*We have added more description about how the model is driven by ECMWF meteorological data, as shown below.*

*“The ECMWF reanalysis dataset (ERA-Interim) assimilates observations with a number of nearly 10<sup>7</sup> per day (Dee et al., 2011), and is used for grid nudging, initial and boundary conditions for WRF-Chem with horizontal and temporal resolutions of 0.75° × 0.75° and 6 hours, respectively.”*

2) Line 181: The reference given here (Iooss and Lemaitre, 2015) appears to use "global sensitivity analysis" as an umbrella term to describe a range of techniques. The authors should be more specific about what kind of global sensitivity analysis they describe in this manuscript.

*The reviewer is right that there are many different ways to perform global sensitivity analysis, such as brute force, Sobol method, Fourier Amplitude Sensitivity Test (FAST), random-based-design FAST and extended FAST (eFAST). The sections 1.1 and 2.2 of a recent open-accessible work (Ryan et al., 2018) introduce and summarize well the application and theories/equations of different methods for global sensitivity analysis. In this study, we use the eFAST method to perform global sensitivity analysis. The eFAST method, first developed by Saltelli et al. (1999), is more efficient than the other method mentioned above and has been widely used in diverse areas of science (Carslaw et al., 2013; Koehler and Owen, 1996; Queipo et al., 2005; Vanuytrecht and Willems, 2014; vu et al., 2015).*

*We have rewritten the section 2.3 of our manuscript, added the description and equation for calculating global sensitivity indices, and provided more details about eFAST method for perform the sensitivity indices calculation. Detailed modification of section 2.3 will be shown in the point-4, combining with the responses to the points 2-4.*

3) Line 185: The paper by Saltelli et al. (1999) is behind a paywall. Simply giving a reference to this study is not enough to describe the method they employ. The authors must also give a summary of how this works and how it is specifically employed in their study.

*In this study, we use the eFAST method to perform global sensitivity analysis (GSA). The eFAST method, first developed by Saltelli et al. (1999), is more efficient than the other methods mentioned above and has been widely used in diverse areas of science, as stated above.*

*A detailed introduction to the theory and equations of the eFAST method is given in an open-accessible methodological study (Ryan et al., 2018). We have extensively modified section 2.3 of our manuscript to provide a simple introduction to the approaches adopted, and refer to Ryan et al. (2018) and other previous studies for further details.*

**Description of global sensitivity analysis in the section 2.2 of Ryan et al. (2018):**

“A common way of conducting global sensitivity analysis for each point in the output space of the simulator – where the output consists of, for example, a spatial map or a time series – is to compute the first-order sensitivity indices (SIs) using variance-based decomposition; this apportions the variance in simulator output (a scalar) to different sources of variation in the different model inputs. Assuming the input variables are independent of one another – which they are for this study – the first-order SI, corresponding to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  input variable ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ ) and the  $j^{\text{th}}$  point in the output space, is given by the equation (R1).

$$SI_{i,j} = \frac{\text{Var}[E(Y_j | X_i)]}{\text{Var}(Y_j)} \times 100 \quad (R1)$$

where  $X_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of the  $n \times p$  matrix  $X$  (i.e. a matrix with  $n$  rows and  $p$  columns) which stores the  $n$  samples of  $p$ -dimensional inputs, and  $Y_j$  is the  $j^{\text{th}}$  column of the  $n \times m$  matrix which stores the corresponding  $n$  sets of  $m$ -dimensional outputs. We multiply by 100 so that the SI is given as a percentage. The notation given by  $\text{Var}(\bullet)$  and  $E(\bullet)$  denotes the mathematical operations that compute the variance and expectation. The simplest way of computing  $SI_{i,j}$  is by brute force, but this is also the most computationally intensive.”

Source from: the section 2.2 of Ryan et al., (2018)

**Description of eFAST method in the section 2.2.2 of Ryan et al. (2018):**

“The eFAST method is an alternative and more efficient way of estimating the terms in Eq. (R1). A multi-dimensional Fourier transformation of the simulator  $f$ , allows a variance-based decomposition that samples the input space along a curve defined by the equation (R2).

$$x_i(s) = G_i(\sin(\omega_i s)) \quad (R2)$$

where  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_p)$  refers to a general point in the input space that has been sampled,  $s \in R$  is a variable over the range  $(-\infty, \infty)$ ,  $G_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  transformation function, and  $\omega_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  user-specified frequency corresponding to each input. Varying  $s$  allows a multi-dimensional exploration of the input space due to the  $x_i(s)$  being simultaneously varied. Depending on the simulator, we typically require  $n=1000-10,000$  samples from the input space. After applying the simulator  $f$ , the resulting scalar output – denoted generally by  $y$  – produces different periodic functions based on different  $\omega_i$ . If the output  $y$  is sensitive to changes in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  input factor, the periodic function of  $y$  corresponding to frequency  $\omega_i$  will have a high amplitude.”

*Source from: the section 2.2.2 of Ryan et al., (2018)*

*Please refer to the section 2.2.2 of Ryan et al. (2018) for more specific details about the theory and equations of eFAST method. In order not to replicate many mathematic equations in Ryan et al. (2018), in this study, we have rephrased the section 2.3 to summarize the advantage of global sensitivity analysis compared with the widely used ‘one-at-a-time’ sensitivity analysis and to simply describe how we perform GSA with non-mathematic language. The detailed modifications of section 2.3 are shown in the point-4, combining with the responses to the points 2-4.*

4) Line 188: Similarly, "Gaussian process emulation" is not sufficiently well described in the manuscript. A summary of how this technique works and how it is applied must be included.

*To perform global sensitivity analysis and generate response surfaces, which describe relationships between the inputs and outputs of models, usually requires thousands of model runs. This is not feasible for a computationally expensive model like WRF-Chem. Therefore, in our study a Gaussian process (GP) emulator, trained by a few model runs, is used as a surrogate of WRF-Chem model. Mathematically, an emulator is a statistical model that mimics*

*the input-output relationship of a simulator, i.e., the expensive WRF-Chem model in this study. The most common form of an emulator is a GP emulator since it has attractive mathematical properties that allow an analytical derivation of the mean and variance of the emulated output (Ryan et al., 2018). As summarized in Ryan et al. (2018):*

*“More formally, a GP is an extension of the multivariate Gaussian distribution to infinitely many variables (Rasmussen and Williams, 2006). The multivariate Gaussian distribution is specified by a mean vector and covariance matrix. A GP has a mean function which is typically given by  $m(x) = E(f(x))$  and covariance function given by  $c(x, x') = cov(f(x), f(x'))$ ”.*

*Source from: Ryan et al., (2018)*

*Where  $x$  and  $x'$  are two different input-matrix.*

*Detailed theory of GP emulation is introduced in an open-accessible methodological study (Ryan et al., 2018), and equations and the R code for generating GP emulator are also given in Ryan et al. (2018). In our manuscript, we have substantially revised the section 2.3 to summarize the GP emulator with non-mathematical language, and to describe its advantages and how we use it. The revised section 2.3 is shown below, please also find detailed changes in the revise-tracked file.*

### ***Revised section 2.3 of this study:***

#### ***“2.3 Global Sensitivity Analysis of Urban Air Pollution***

We perform global sensitivity analysis (GSA) (Iooss and Lemaître, 2015) to quantify the sensitivity of modelled outputs (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> for this study) to changes in the model inputs, which for this study are emissions from the different emission sectors. One-at-a-time sensitivity analysis is a common way of calculating model sensitivity and involves varying a single model

input while the other inputs are fixed at nominal values, e.g., Wild (2007). While one-at-a-time approach is relatively easy to implement, it assumes that the model response to different inputs is independent and this can lead to biased results (Saltelli et al., 1999;Pisoni et al., 2018;Carslaw et al., 2013). GSA overcomes the problems of the one-at-a-time approach by averaging over the other inputs rather than fixing them at specific values. This allows calculation of first-order sensitivity indices (SIs) for each variable, corresponding to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  input variable and the  $j^{\text{th}}$  output point, is given by the Eq. 1 (Ryan et al., 2018).

$$SI_{i,j} = \frac{\text{Var}[E(y_j | x_i)]}{\text{Var}(y_j)} \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

where  $x_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element of the input; and  $y_j$  is the  $j^{\text{th}}$  element of the output. The ‘ $E(\bullet)$ ’ and ‘ $\text{Var}(\bullet)$ ’ denote the mathematical function that calculate the expectation and variance, respectively. The simplest way of computing  $SI_{i,j}$  is by brute force, but this is also the most computationally intensive (Ryan et al., 2018).

The extended Fourier Amplitude Sensitivity Test (eFAST), first developed by Saltelli et al. (1999), is a commonly used approach to perform GSA and calculate SIs and is adopted in this study because of its high efficiency. A basic overview and detailed equations of the eFAST method are given in the section 2.2.2 of Ryan et al. (2018). A challenge to using eFAST is that it typically requires thousands of model runs. To overcome this, we employ a computationally cheaper surrogate model in place of our expensive simulation model WRF-Chem. A surrogate model is a simple model (usually statistical) which can map the inputs to the outputs of the simulation model with sufficiently good accuracy given the same inputs. In this study, we choose a type of surrogate model called a Gaussian process emulator, which works like a function for multi-dimensional interpolation and has been used extensively in many areas of applied science (Carslaw et al., 2013;Koehler and Owen, 1996;Queipo et al., 2005;Vanuytrecht

and Willems, 2014;vu et al., 2015;Degroote et al., 2012) and uncertainty assessment of atmospheric models (Lee et al., 2016;Lee et al., 2012;Lee et al., 2011). Gaussian process emulators typically require a relatively small number of runs of the computational-expensive model to generate; this is in contrast to other surrogate modelling approaches, such as neural networks, which typically require thousands of model runs to train them. For a basic overview of a Gaussian process emulator see O’Hagan (2006), detailed introduction and equations are also given in the section 2.3 of Ryan et al. (2018). Before using the emulator in place of the WRF-Chem model to carry out the thousands of model runs required for GSA, we train the emulator using a relatively small number of WRF-Chem model runs. Following previous studies (Carslaw et al., 2013;Lee et al., 2016), a Maximin Latin hypercube space-filling design is employed to select the designs of training runs for WRF-Chem. Latin hypercube sampling is a statistical method for generating a near-random sample of parameter values from a multidimensional distribution (Shields and Zhang, 2016). Here, we search through 100,000 Latin hypercube random designs to find the optimal one where the parameter space is filled most effectively. This ensures that the sets of inputs chosen cover as large a fraction of the input space as possible. Full details (including R codes) of how to generate the Gaussian process emulator, eFAST method and GSA can be found in Ryan et al. (2018).”

5) Lines 209-210: "10,000 random samples" are performed to check that the emulator "can fully represent the results of WRF-Chem". Does this mean that the authors performed 10,000 runs of WRF-Chem, and compared them with 10,000 runs of the emulator? Or did they do something else? What do each of the points in Fig. 3 actually represent? This is not clear at all. The authors seem to be relying on this analysis to show that the emulation "provides a good representation of the model", but in my opinion this has not been shown at all. Much more detail is needed here.

*The "10,000 random samples" refers to selection of 10,000 samples from the spatial grid cells and temporal duration of the model run and rebuilding emulators at these points using all but*

*one of the WRF-Chem model training runs, and then comparing these against results from the model run that was omitted in ‘leave-one-out’ cross-validation. This provides an independent check of how well Gaussian process emulator can represent the results of WRF-Chem. And, thanks to reviewer’s suggestion in the last comment, the further validation with the base and regional joint reduction cases also demonstrate good agreement between the emulator and WRF-Chem model (see response to the last comment). We have modified the corresponding context in the last part of section 2.3 to make this clearer, as shown below.*

“We perform ‘leave-one-out’ cross-validation (O’Hagan and West, 2009; Wang et al., 2011) with 10,000 random samples to check that the Gaussian process emulator can fully represent the results of WRF-Chem.”

***Changed to:***

“The accuracy of the emulator as a surrogate of WRF-Chem model is evaluated using a ‘leave-one-out’ cross-validation (Bastos and O’Hagan, 2009). This involves training the emulator using 19 out of the 20 sets of inputs/outputs from the WRF-Chem model runs and then evaluating the emulator against the 20<sup>th</sup> simulation. This process is carried out for each of the 20 sets of inputs/outputs. Given that the output space is multi-dimensional (i.e. modelled O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> varied spatially and in time), the validation of the emulator by comparing 10,000 (random-samples varied spatially and in time) of emulator output values against the corresponding output values of the WRF-Chem model. The emulator validation plot is shown in Fig. 3. Modelled and emulated O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> lie very close to the 1:1 line with R<sup>2</sup> values of more than 95% as shown in Fig. 3, indicating that the emulation provides an accurate representation of the input-output relationship of the WRF-Chem model.”

6) Line 256: NO<sub>x</sub> appears to be significantly underestimated by WRF-Chem during the middle of the day, when peak ozone concentrations are also modelled. Given the central role of NO<sub>x</sub> as an ozone precursor, it appears that the modelled peak ozone is being well simulated for the wrong reasons. There is likely a compensating error in some other aspect of the model. The

authors should provide some discussion about how these errors in WRF-Chem would propagate into their emulator and affect the global sensitivity analysis.

*Thank you for pointing this out. The choice of y-axis range in Fig. S4 was not fully appropriate and makes NO<sub>x</sub> look significantly underestimated by WRF-Chem during the middle of the day when peak ozone occurs. We have changed the y-axis range to [0 200], more in line with convention, as shown below. Instead of a “remarkable underestimation”, the NO<sub>x</sub> is actually underestimated by only ~30%. The daytime variation of NO<sub>x</sub> (Fig. S4) is directly opposite in pattern to that of boundary layer height (red dashed line in Fig. 4a) between 9 am and 6 pm, suggesting that this underestimation in NO<sub>x</sub> is closely associated with the variation in boundary layer behavior, a substantial uncertainty in the simulation for which no observational verification is available.*

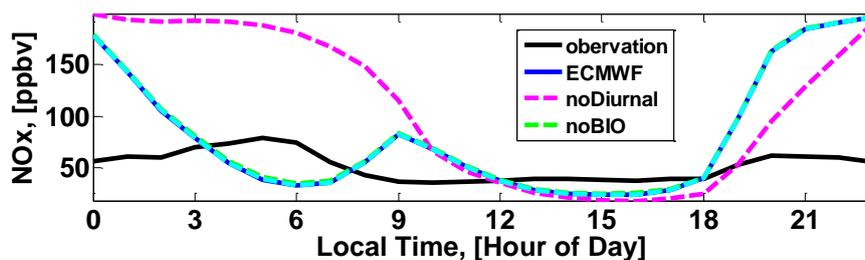
*The reviewer is right that the good simulation of peak O<sub>3</sub> when NO<sub>x</sub> is underestimated highlights an uncertainty within the model. This uncertainty would propagate into the emulator and affect the global sensitivity analysis, because emulator learns from the WRF-Chem model and reproduces whatever the model outputs. We have added discussion about this influence in the sections 3.4 and 3.5, as shown below.*

***In the section 3.4 of revised version:***

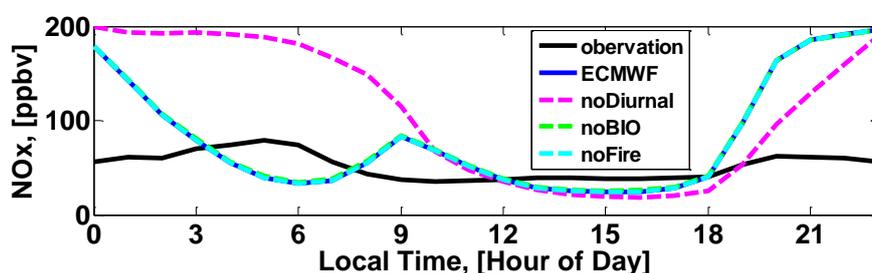
“NO<sub>x</sub>, mainly originating from traffic emissions, is underestimated by ~30% during the O<sub>3</sub> peak period (Fig. S4). This uncertainty can propagate into the Gaussian process emulator and could lead to underestimation of the influence of traffic on peak O<sub>3</sub>, but is not expected to change the nature of our conclusions about the predominance of regional transport and local traffic emissions.”

***In the section 3.5 of revised version:***

“We note that our model may underestimate the influence of traffic emissions on O<sub>3</sub> to some extent as described above (section 3.4), suggesting that the ozone increase could be stronger than we predict. To prevent the side-effect of increasing O<sub>3</sub> by controls on traffic emissions...”



*Original Figure S4. Diurnal patterns of NO<sub>x</sub> concentration from WRF-Chem model and observational results at AIR site. The results are averaged during 02-15 May 2015. Note that ‘ECMWF’ indicates the model results driven by ECMWF reanalysis data.*



*Revised Figure S4. Diurnal patterns of NO<sub>x</sub> concentration from WRF-Chem model and observational results at AIR site. The results are averaged during 02-15 May 2015. Note that ‘ECMWF’ indicates the model results driven by ECMWF reanalysis data.*

7) Line 267: "We remove these sources". From what? WRF-Chem itself, or the emulator?

*We have revised the statement, as shown below.*

*“We turn off these sources in the WRF-Chem simulation”.*

8) Lines 311-312 and Fig. 5b: It should be pointed out somewhere in the discussion that the overwhelming dominance of traffic NO<sub>x</sub> emissions on ozone in Delhi is actually through anti-correlation. Presenting the sensitivity indices of "TRA" and "NCR" together on the same plot is potentially quite misleading unless the authors make it clear that their respective influences have opposite sign.

*The reviewer is right that “overwhelming dominance of traffic NO<sub>x</sub> emissions on ozone in Delhi is actually through anti-correlation.”. Although we have already explained this anti-correlation relationship in section 3.4:*

*“Traffic contributes ~75% of total NO<sub>x</sub> emission in Delhi (Fig. 6b), and the shallow PBL during the night traps the NO<sub>x</sub>. This removes O<sub>3</sub> through chemical reaction”.*

*This may not be clear enough. We have added description at the beginning of this section to make this point clearer, as shown below. Thanks for pointing this out.*

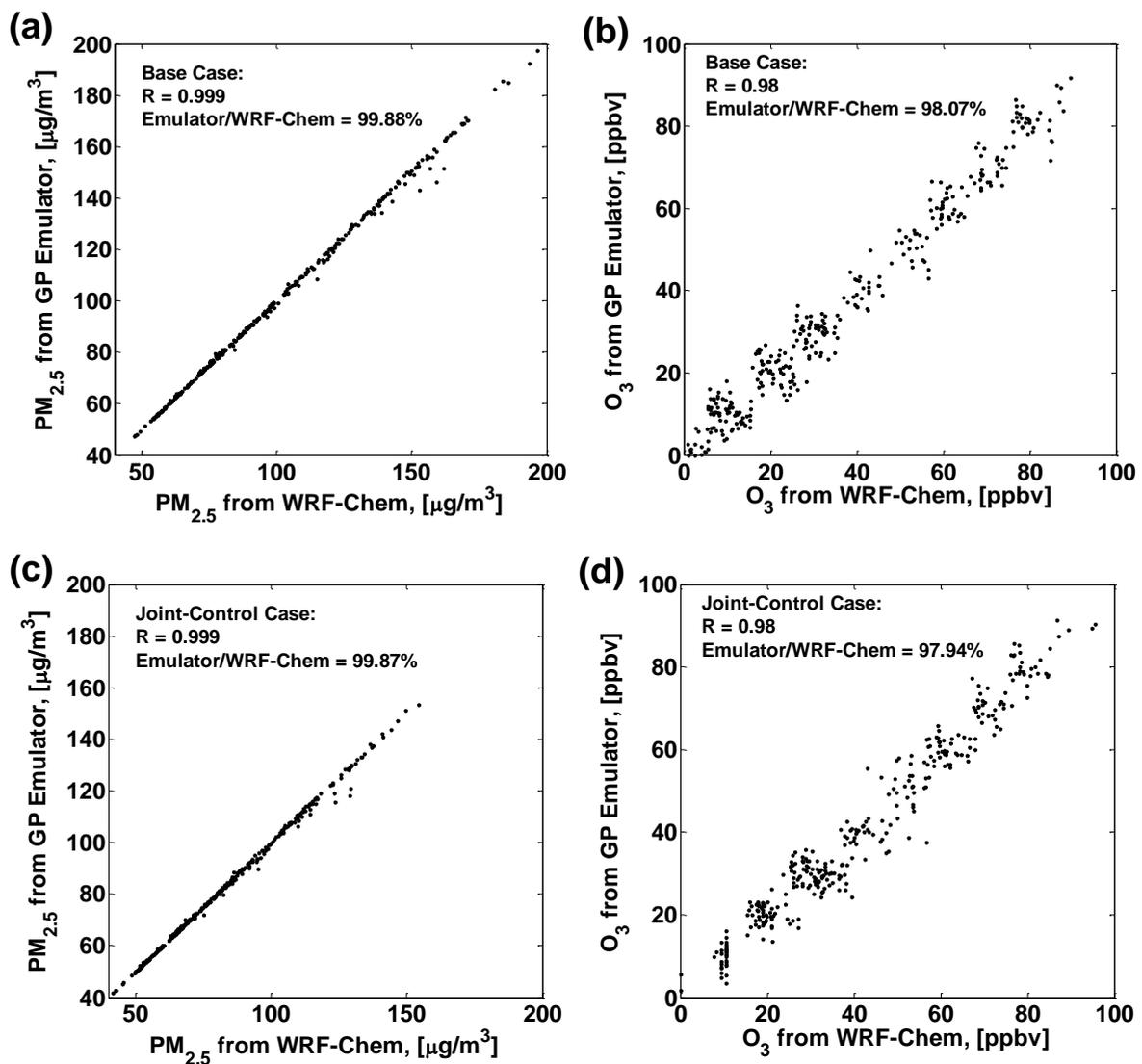
*“The variation of O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi City Region is overwhelmingly dominated by local traffic emissions with a sensitivity index higher than 80% at night-time (Fig. 5b), where O<sub>3</sub> and traffic emissions are anti-correlated.”*

9) Section 3.5: This is a nice example of the potential power and utility of the methodology. Figure 7d is an especially clear illustration of the emissions control trajectory which is required to prevent an increase in ozone in Delhi despite reducing local NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. As mentioned in my general comments, this general approach to emission control (reducing ozone by focusing on regional-scale emissions) is consistent with current understanding of ozone chemistry, so this result by itself is rather unremarkable. What is really interesting here is the ability to rapidly discover an optimal emission mitigation pathway, and quantify its effects. What is missing here though, is a verification that the same combined emission controls for TRA and NCR would result in the same reductions in PM and ozone when employed in the full WRF-Chem model. It would only take one WRF-Chem run to verify this result. In my opinion this extra run is necessary for the authors to be able to show that their approach really is capable of what they claim.

*This is a good point. This one extra WRF-Chem simulation makes the verification of emulator more solid and evident. We have performed the extra simulation as suggested. In addition, we also compare the base case (without change of emissions) WRF-Chem results against the emulator results. Noting that the base case is not part of the training cases for emulator, see a list of training cases in Table S2; therefore, this comparison also provides an independent validation for the GP emulator. The results of WRF-Chem and emulator show almost the same reductions in the joint control case. As shown in the figure below, the emulator does reproduce*

the WRF-Chem simulation nicely, with an uncertainty (normalized mean error) of less than 5% and  $R^2$  higher than 0.95 for both  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $O_3$ . Thanks for the suggestion, we have added this extra validation in the section 3.5, as shown below.

“We test this by performing an additional run with WRF-Chem using emission reductions of 50% and 30% for sectors of local traffic and the surrounding NCR region, respectively. We compare the WRF-Chem results of the additional run and the base case (without change of emissions) against the corresponding results from Gaussian process emulator (Fig. S8). We find that the  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $O_3$  results from the model runs lie within 5% of those estimated with the emulator and with  $R^2$  higher than 95%, demonstrating the high quality of the emulation approach adopted here and underlining its deeper value for identifying mitigation approaches”



Newly added Figure S8. Extra validation of Gaussian process emulator results in the mitigation strategy according to Fig. 7. The accuracy of the emulator for reproducing

*current conditions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> (a) and O<sub>3</sub> (b), i.e. base case without changing emissions. The accuracy of the emulator for reproducing regional joint coordination conditions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> (c) and O<sub>3</sub> (d), i.e. NCR joint control case with local traffic emissions reduced by 50% and regional emissions reduced by 30%. All the results are averaged over Delhi City Region, with hourly resolution during the simulation period.*

## References:

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## Response to comments of referee #2

### General comments

This manuscript uses Gaussian process emulation to generate a efficient surrogate for WRF-Chem to perform the sensitivity analysis of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> to sources, and to provide air pollution mitigation suggestions. The combination of WRF-Chem with Gaussian process emulation is novel to reduce computational complexity for sensitivity analysis. The results, especially the joint control suggestions for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>, are useful in terms of air pollution control. The manuscript is well written, but some parts of it are not clear enough. I would recommend for publication after the authors address the following specific comments:

*Many thanks to the reviewer for the comments and suggestions. We have improved the manuscript accordingly. Please find a point-by-point response below.*

### Specific comments:

1) Line 45: please add references for this statement: Menon, S., Hansen, J., Nazarenko, L. and Luo, Y., 2002. Climate effects of black carbon aerosols in China and India. *Science*, 297(5590), pp.2250-2253. Gao, M., Sherman, P., Song, S., Yu, Y., Wu, Z. and McElroy, M.B., 2019. Seasonal prediction of Indian wintertime aerosol pollution using the ocean memory effect. *Science advances*, 5(7), p.eaav4157.

*Thanks for the useful references. We have added these references (Menon et al., 2002;Gao et al., 2019) as suggested.*

2) Line 81: Is it possible to provide a clear definition of pollutant response surface?

*We have added a description of pollutant response surface in the introduction, as shown below.*

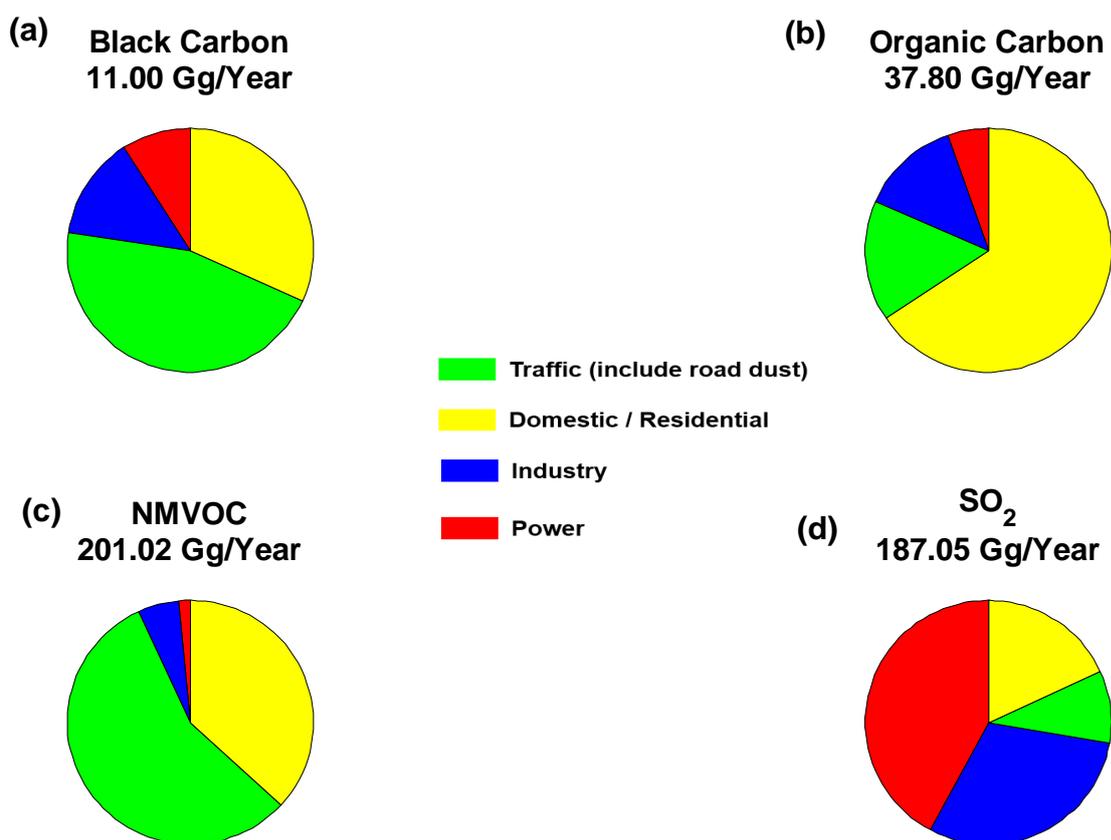
*“The response surfaces describe that how the pollutants, i.e., PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>, will respond to the changes in emissions from different sectors.”*

3) Line 130-132: This statement is a bit general. Better to use measurements of precipitation and clouds to show this point.

*There is no precipitation in Delhi during the simulation period. We have added this statement in the revised version. The climatic averaged monthly precipitation during May in Delhi is only about 20 mm (<https://weather-and-climate.com/average-monthly-precipitation-Rainfall,New-Delhi,India>).*

4) Fig. 6: Better to provide similar plots for other important species, such as organics, SO<sub>2</sub>, etc.

*We have added similar plots for black carbon, non-methane VOC, organic carbon and SO<sub>2</sub> in Figure S13, as shown below.*



*Figure S13. Annual emission of different sectors in Delhi from SAFAR inventory. (a) black carbon; (b) organic carbon; (c) non-methane VOC and (d) SO<sub>2</sub>.*

5) Sect 4: It would be better to compare the results with other similar studies and explain the similarities and differences.

*Thanks for the suggestion. We have revised the corresponding context in Section 4 to include a comparison with other similar studies. The revised version is shown below, please also see the change-tracked file for more details.*

“They co-dominate the O<sub>3</sub> peak and PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi during daytime, while the regional transport governs PM<sub>2.5</sub> during the night, in line with a recent study showing that ~60% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi originates from outside (Amann et al., 2017). Controlling local traffic emissions in Delhi would have the notable side effect of increasing O<sub>3</sub>, at least in the pre-monsoon/summer period (peak O<sub>3</sub> season) that we consider here. This is in line with recent increases in O<sub>3</sub> seen in China (Silver et al., 2018; Li et al., 2018). The Chinese experience suggests that regional joint coordination is required to effectively mitigate PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution in Beijing (Liu et al., 2016). Our pollutant response surfaces go one step further and suggest that joint coordinated emission controls with the NCR region surrounding Delhi would be required to not only achieve a more ambitious reduction of PM<sub>2.5</sub> but also to minimize the risk of O<sub>3</sub> increases.”

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# Mitigation of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and Ozone Pollution in Delhi: A Sensitivity Study during the Pre-monsoon period

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## Abstract:

Fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and surface ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) are major air pollutants in megacities such as Delhi, but the design of suitable mitigation strategies is challenging. Some strategies for reducing PM<sub>2.5</sub> may have the notable side-effect of increasing O<sub>3</sub>. Here, we demonstrate a numerical framework for investigating the impacts of mitigation strategies on both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi. We use Gaussian process emulation to generate a computationally efficient surrogate for a regional air quality model (WRF-Chem). This allows us to perform global sensitivity analysis to identify the major sources of air pollution, and to generate emission-sector based pollutant response surfaces to inform mitigation policy development. Based on more than 100,000 emulation runs during the pre-monsoon period (peak O<sub>3</sub> season), our global sensitivity analysis shows that local traffic emissions from Delhi city region and regional transport of pollutions emitted from the National Capital Region surrounding Delhi (NCR) are dominant factors influencing PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi. They together govern the O<sub>3</sub> peak and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration during daytime. Regional transport contributes about 80% of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> variation during the night. Reducing traffic emissions in Delhi alone (e.g., by 50%) would reduce PM<sub>2.5</sub> by 15-20% but lead to a 20-25% increase in O<sub>3</sub>. However, we show that reducing NCR regional emissions by 25-30% at the same time would further reduce PM<sub>2.5</sub> by 5-10% in Delhi and avoid the O<sub>3</sub> increase. This study provides scientific evidence to support the need for joint coordination of controls on local and regional scales to achieve effective reduction in PM<sub>2.5</sub> whilst minimizing the risk of O<sub>3</sub> increase in Delhi.

## 1. Introduction

Exposure to air pollutants increases morbidity and mortality (Huang et al., 2018a;WHO, 2013). The urban air quality in India, especially in Delhi, is currently among the poorest in the world (WHO, 2013, 2016a, b). In addition to the local impacts, the Indian monsoon can transport air pollutants to remote oceanic regions, inject them into the stratosphere and redistribute them globally (Lelieveld et al., 2018). This makes the impact of Indian air pollution wide ranging regionally and globally ~~as well as having~~ and it has interactions with climate and ecosystems world-wide (Menon et al., 2002;Gao et al., 2019).

PM<sub>2.5</sub> (particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than 2.5 µm) is a major air pollutant, causing increases in disease (Pope et al., 2009;Gao et al., 2015;Stafoggia et al., 2019) and reduced visibility (Mukherjee and Toohey, 2016;Wang and Chen, 2019;Khare et al., 2018). The population of India experiences high PM<sub>2.5</sub> exposure, and this is responsible for ~1 million premature deaths per year (Conibear et al., 2018;Gao et al., 2018). Residential emissions are estimated to contribute ~50% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations and to cause more than 0.5 million annual mortalities across India (Conibear et al., 2018). ~~The World Health Organization (WHO) reported~~ Previous studies reported an annual averaged PM<sub>2.5</sub> loading of ~~~110~~-140 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in Delhi ~~during~~ in 2015-2018, leading to ~10,000 premature deaths per year in the city (Chen et al., 2019; Chowdhury and Dey, 2016; WHO, 2016a). In Delhi, the traffic sector (~50%) and the domestic sector (~20%) are the major local contributors to PM<sub>2.5</sub> (Marrapu et al., 2014). Efforts to control traffic emissions in Delhi in recent years by introducing an alternating ‘odd-even’ licence plate policy have led to reductions in PM<sub>2.5</sub> of less than 10% (Chowdhury et al., 2017). This indicates that there is an urgent need for a coordinated plan to mitigate PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution (Chowdhury et al., 2017).

Surface ozone ( $O_3$ ), another major air pollutant, is damaging to health and reduces crop  
65 yields (Ashworth et al., 2013;Lu et al., 2018;Kumar et al., 2018). The risks of respiratory and  
cardiovascular diseases are increased from short-term exposure to high ambient  $O_3$  and from  
long-term exposure at low levels (WHO, 2013;Turner et al., 2016;Fleming et al., 2018).  
Oxidation of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the presence of nitrogen oxides ( $NO_x$ ) is  
the main source of surface ozone. Rapid economic development in India has greatly increased  
70 the emissions of these  $O_3$  precursors (Duncan et al., 2016), leading to significant increases in  
 $O_3$  especially during the pre-monsoon period (Ghude et al., 2008). Hourly maximum  $O_3$   
reaches as much as 140 ppbv during the pre-monsoon season in Delhi (Ghude et al., 2008),  
comparable to the most polluted regions in China (150 ppbv, Wang et al., 2017) and higher  
than the most polluted areas in the U.S. (110 ppbv, Lu et al., 2018).

75 Mitigation of  $PM_{2.5}$  pollution may lead to an increase in surface ozone, because the  
dimming effect of aerosols and removal of hydroperoxy radicals are reduced, facilitating  $O_3$   
production (Huang et al., 2018b;Li et al., 2018;Hollaway et al., 2019). Furthermore, co-  
reduction of  $NO_x$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  emissions may increase  $O_3$  in cities where  $O_3$  production is in a  
VOC-limited photochemical regime (Ran et al., 2009;Xing et al., 2018;Xing et al., 2017). This  
80 has recently been reported in a number of Asian megacities, e.g. Shanghai (Silver et al., 2018),  
Beijing (Wu et al., 2015;Liu et al., 2017;Chen et al., 2018) and Guangzhou (Liu et al., 2013).  
Delhi and coastal cities in India, which are known to be VOC-limited (Sharma et al., 2017),  
may face increased  $O_3$  as a side-effect of emission controls focused on  $PM_{2.5}$ . Therefore, studies  
of mitigation strategies that target both  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $O_3$  are urgently needed (Chen et al., 2018),  
85 particularly as urban air pollution in India has been much less well studied than in many other  
countries.

To investigate the impacts of mitigation strategies with respect to both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>, we demonstrate a framework for generating emission-sector based pollutant response surfaces using Gaussian process emulation (O’Hagan and West, 2009;O’Hagan, 2006). The response surfaces describe that how the pollutants, i.e., PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>, will respond to the changes in emissions from different sectors. We conduct global sensitivity analysis to identify the dominant emission sectors controlling PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>, and then generate sector based response surfaces to quantify the impacts on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> of emission reductions. In contrast to simple sensitivity analysis varying one input at a time, this allows full exploration of the entire input space, accounting for the interactions between different inputs (Pisoni et al., 2018;Saltelli et al., 1999). Conventionally, chemical transport models (CTMs,~~e.g. WRF-Chem~~) are used to calculate the impacts on pollutants concentrations of different mitigation scenarios. However, the computational expensive of CTMs makes them unsuitable for performing global sensitivity analysis or generating response surfaces, which usually require thousands of model runs. To overcome this difficulty, source-receptor relationships (Amann et al., 2011) or computational efficient surrogate models, trained on a limited number of CTM simulations, are used to replace the expensive CTM. These approaches have been used to perform sensitivity and uncertainty analysis of regional air quality models (Pisoni et al., 2018), assessment of regional air quality plans (Zhao et al., 2017;Xing et al., 2017;Pisoni et al., 2017;Thunis et al., 2016) and sensitivity and uncertainty analysis of global and climate simulations (Ryan et al., 2018;Lee et al., 2016;Lee et al., 2012). Here, we use surrogate model to explore the sensitivity of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> on sector-based emission controls in Delhi, for developing a mitigation strategy addressing both pollutants.

In this study, we demonstrate the value of such a framework for supporting decision makers in determining better mitigation strategies. We give examples of its use in investigating impacts of mitigation scenarios on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> pollutions in Delhi, and demonstrate that

regional joint coordination of emission controls over National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi is essential for an effective reduction of PM<sub>2.5</sub> whilst minimizing the risk of O<sub>3</sub> increase.

## 115 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1 WRF-Chem Model Baseline Simulation

WRF-Chem (v3.9.1) – an online, fully coupled chemistry transport model (Grell et al., 2005) – has been widely used in previous studies of air quality across India (Marrapu et al., 2014; Mohan and Gupta, 2018; Gupta and Mohan, 2015; Mohan and Bhati, 2011). The model  
120 has also been used to estimate the health burden (Conibear et al., 2018; Ghude et al., 2016) and reduction in crop yields (Ghude et al., 2014) from the exposure to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> over India.

In this study, we focus on the hot and dry pre-monsoon period in Delhi, when average temperatures are around 32 °C and relative humidity (RH) is about 35% (Ojha et al., 2012). O<sub>3</sub> approaches its annual peak in pre-monsoon due to strong solar radiation (Ghude et al.,  
125 2008; Ojha et al., 2012). During the pre-monsoon period, desert dust can contribute significantly to particulate matter in Delhi (Kumar et al., 2014b; Kumar et al., 2014a). Here, we perform WRF-Chem simulation for the period of 2–15 May 2015 (with two additional days for spin-up), ~~which when Delhi~~ was not significantly influenced by dust storms ~~in Delhi~~ according to MODIS observations ([https://earthdata.nasa.gov/earth-observation-data/near-real-  
130 time/hazards-and-disasters/dust-storms](https://earthdata.nasa.gov/earth-observation-data/near-real-time/hazards-and-disasters/dust-storms)). Strong dust storms started to influence the Indo Gangetic Plain on 21-24 April and 19 May 2015, respectively. This minimizes the uncertainties resulting from dust storm simulation and permits a stronger focus on anthropogenic emissions. Resuspended dust from road traffic is also a major contributor to PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi, and this is estimated and included in the emission inventory as described below.

135 The model configuration follows the study of Marrapu et al. (2014), and the  
parameterizations used are listed in Table 1. Three nested domains are used, with coverage of  
South Asia (45 km resolution), the Indo Gangetic Plain (15 km resolution), and the National  
Capital Region (5 km resolution), see Fig. 1. A test simulation with a fourth domain over Delhi  
at 1.67 km resolution suggests that a further increase in resolution does not substantially  
140 improve model performance (details in Text S1), and this is in line with results from a previous  
study (Mohan and Bhati, 2011). The Carbon Bond Mechanism version Z (CBMZ, Zaveri and  
Peters, 1999) coupled with the MOSAIC (Zaveri et al., 2008) aerosol module with four size  
bins is used to represent gaseous chemical reaction and aerosol chemical and dynamical  
processes. We neglect wet scavenging and cloud chemistry processes here, as the impact of  
145 these is likely to be negligible during the dry pre-monsoon period over India. No precipitation  
was recoded in Delhi during the simulation period.

The initial and boundary conditions for chemical species are provided from MOZART-4  
global results (<https://www.acom.ucar.edu/wrf-chem/mozart.shtml>). Our baseline simulation  
is driven by European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) meteorological  
150 data, as we find that this reproduces regional meteorology better than that from the National  
Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) over India, consistent with a recent study  
(Chatani and Sharma, 2018). The ECMWF reanalysis dataset (ERA-Interim) assimilates  
observations with a number of nearly  $10^7$  per day (Dee et al., 2011), and is ~~provides analysis  
dataused~~ for grid nudging, initial and boundary conditions for WRF-Chem ~~withat~~ horizontal  
155 and temporal resolutions of  $0.75^\circ \times 0.75^\circ$  and 6 hours, respectively. The wind pattern and  
temperature over Delhi in May 2015 is generally captured well in simulations driven by either  
meteorological dataset, but the model captures the variation in relative humidity much better  
( $R=0.7$ ) with ECMWF data than with NCEP data ( $R=0.4$ , negative bias of 20-40%). More  
detailed discussion is provided in Text S2.

160 The high-resolution Fire Inventory from NCAR (FINN, Wiedinmyer et al., 2011) is  
adopted to provide biomass burning emissions. Interactive biogenic emissions are included  
using the Model of Emissions of Gases and Aerosols from Nature (MEGAN, Guenther et al.,  
2006). The global Emission Database for Global Atmospheric Research with Task Force on  
Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution (EDGAR-HTAP, Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2015)  
165 version 2.2 (year 2010) at  $0.1^\circ \times 0.1^\circ$  resolution is used to represent anthropogenic emissions  
apart from over Delhi, where they are represented by a high-resolution monthly inventory for  
2015 developed under the System of Air Quality Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) project  
(Sahu et al., 2011;Sahu et al., 2015). In the absence of a diurnal variation in emissions specific  
to Delhi, we adopt diurnal variations from Europe in this study (Denier van der Gon et al.,  
170 2011). The SAFAR inventory provides emission fluxes of PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, black carbon, organic  
carbon, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, SO<sub>2</sub> and NMVOC (non-methane volatile organic compounds) from five  
sectors, including power (POW), industry (IND), domestic or residential (DOM), traffic (TRA)  
and wind blow dust from roads (WBD). Wind blow dust includes dust resuspended from  
vehicle movement on paved and unpaved roads (Sahu et al., 2011), and is therefore closely  
175 related to traffic emissions, and we combine this into the traffic sector for our study.

The NMVOC emissions are speciated according to the EDGAR (v4.3.2) global inventory  
(Huang et al., 2017), and are then lumped for the CBMZ chemistry scheme. The speciation  
mapping is detailed in Table 2 and described below, and a toolkit has been developed to  
perform this mapping. Emissions of alcohols and ethers are split 20%:80% between methanol  
180 and ethanol by mass and then converted to molar emissions with a fractionation based on  
Murrells et al. (2009). Emissions of paraffin carbon (PAR) are calculated by converting mass  
emissions from each VOC group to molar emissions and then multiplying by the number of  
paraffin carbons in order to conserve carbon. Hexanes and higher alkanes are converted to  
molar emissions of hexane and then multiplied by six to give PAR emissions. Other alkenes

185 are mapped to molar emissions of butane, and this is then apportioned between terminal olefin  
carbons (OLET), internal olefin carbons (OLEI) and PAR on a molar ratio of 1:1:4 following  
(Zaveri and Peters, 1999). Ketones are split 60%:40% by mass between acetone (KET) and  
methyl-ethyl ketone (MEK), then converted to molar emissions with fractions based on  
(Murrells et al., 2009). As MEK is not included in the CBMZ mechanism, we apportion molar  
190 emissions of MEK equally between KET and PAR.

## 2.2 Observational Network

Air quality and meteorological monitoring networks are operated in Delhi under the  
SAFAR project coordinated by IITM (Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India).  
Measurements of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> during the May 2015 simulation period are available from  
195 six monitoring stations in Delhi: C V Raman (CVR), Delhi University (DEU), Indira Ghandi  
International Airport Terminal-3 (AIR), Ayanagar (AYA), NCMRWF (NCM) and Pusa (PUS).  
The instruments are calibrated and measurements are quality controlled in the SAFAR project  
(<http://safar.tropmet.res.in>); more details are given in previous studies (Sahu et al., 2011; Beig  
et al., 2013; Aslam et al., 2017). Site locations are shown in Fig. 2 and measured variables are  
200 given in Table S1.

## 2.3 Global Sensitivity Analysis of Urban Air Pollution

We perform global sensitivity analysis (GSA) (Iooss and Lemaître, 2015) to quantify the  
sensitivity of modelled outputs (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> for this study) to changes in the model inputs,  
which for this study are emissions from the different ~~each~~ emission sectors. One-at-a-time  
205 sensitivity analysis is a common way of calculating model sensitivity and involves  
where varying a single model inputs is varied while the other inputs are fixed at nominal values,  
e.g., Wild (2007). While one-at-a-time approach is a relatively easy ~~method~~ to implement, it  
assumes that the independence of model response to different inputs is independent and this can

lead to biased results ~~of the sensitivity~~ (Saltelli et al., 1999; Pisoni et al., 2018; Carslaw et al., 2013). Global sensitivity analysis (GSA) has major advantages over a simple one-at-a-time sensitivity analysis, where a single input is varied while the other inputs are fixed at nominal values, as the latter approach can lead to underestimation of the true sensitivity. GSA overcomes the problems of the one-at-a-time approach by averaging over the other inputs rather than fixing them at specific values. This allows calculation of first-order sensitivity indices (SIs) for each variable, corresponding to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  input variable and the  $j^{\text{th}}$  output point, is given by the Eq. 1 (Ryan et al., 2018).

$$SI_{i,j} = \frac{\text{Var}[E(y_j | x_i)]}{\text{Var}(y_j)} \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

where  $x_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element of the input; and  $y_j$  is the  $j^{\text{th}}$  element of the output. The 'E(•)' and 'Var(•)' denote the mathematical function that calculate the expectation and variance, respectively. The simplest way of computing  $SI_{i,j}$  is by brute force, but this is also the most computationally intensive (Ryan et al., 2018).

The extended Fourier Amplitude Sensitivity Test (eFAST), first developed by Saltelli et al. (1999), is a commonly used approach to perform GSA and calculate SIs, and is adopted in this study because of its high efficiency. A basic overview and detailed equations of the eFAST method ~~See are given in the section 2.2.2 of~~ Ryan et al. (2018) ~~for~~. A challenge to using ~~Since~~ eFAST ~~for performing GSA is that it~~ typically requires thousands of model runs. To overcome this, we employ a computationally cheaper surrogate model in place of our expensive simulation model WRF-Chem. A surrogate model is a simple ~~refers to any~~ model (usually ~~statistical model~~) which can map the inputs to the outputs of the simulation ~~another~~ model with sufficiently good accuracy given the same inputs. In this study, we choose a type of surrogate model called a ~~use~~ Gaussian process emulator, which works like a function for multi-

[dimensional interpolation](#) and has been used extensively in many areas of applied science (Carslaw et al., 2013;Koehler and Owen, 1996;Queipo et al., 2005;Vanuytrecht and Willems, 2014;vu et al., 2015;Degroote et al., 2012) [and uncertainty assessment of atmospheric models](#) (Lee et al., 2016;Lee et al., 2012;Lee et al., 2011). ~~ion to create the surrogate model~~ [And a Gaussian process emulators typically requires a relatively small number of runs of the computational-expensive model to generate; \[This is in contrast to other surrogate modelling approaches, such as neural networks, which typically require thousands of model runs to train them.\]\(#\) For a basic overview of a Gaussian process emulator see O’Hagan \(2006\), \[detailed introduction and equations are also given in the section 2.3 of Ryan et al. \\(2018\\).\]\(#\), ~~since a Gaussian process emulator typically requires a relatively small number of runs of the computationally expensive model to generate. This is in contrast to other surrogate modelling approaches, such as neural networks, which typically require thousands of model runs to train them.~~ \[Gaussian process emulators have been used previously in the uncertainty assessment of atmospheric models.\]\(#\) Before using the emulator in place of the \[WRF-Chem modelsimulator\]\(#\) to carry out the thousands of model runs required for ~~the~~ GSA, we ~~need to~~ train the emulator using \[a relatively small number of executions of the WRF-Chem model runs simulator\]\(#\). Following ~~previous~~ \[these\]\(#\) studies \(Carslaw et al., 2013;Lee et al., 2016\), a \[Maximin\]\(#\) Latin hypercube space-filling ~~design approach~~ is employed to ~~provide select~~ the designs of training runs for WRF-Chem. ~~Latin hypercube sampling is a statistical method for generating a near-random sample of parameter values from a multidimensional distribution \(Shields and Zhang, 2016\). Here, we search through 100,000 Latin hypercube random designs to find the optimal one where the parameter space is filled most effectively.~~ \[This ensures that the sets of inputs chosen coverare as large a fraction of space-filling in the input space as possible. Full details \\(including R codes\\) of how to generate the Gaussian process emulator, eFAST method and GSA can be found in\]\(#\) ~~More details of these approaches are described in a previous study~~ Ryan et al. \(2018\).](#)

In this study, we focus on a limited number of the emission sectors to demonstrate the effectiveness of the approach: domestic/residential emissions in Delhi (DOM), traffic emissions in Delhi (TRA, including WBD), power and industry in Delhi (POW+IND) and total emissions in the National Capital Region outside Delhi (NCR). NCR represents the contribution of regional transport to pollution in Delhi. According to the SAFAR emission inventory, the total PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions of DOM, TRA, POW+IND and NCR are about 1.8, 6.1, 3.1 and 8.5 Gg/month in May 2015, respectively. The Gaussian process emulators is trained using are built based on 20 executions training runs of the WRF-Chem simulation model, with emission scaling drawn from a variation range of 0-200% for each of the four specified sectors (Table S2). Emulation of the impacts of mitigation scenarios on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> can be performed in minutes on a laptop, in contrast to simulations with WRF-Chem which require a few days on a high-performance computing cluster. The accuracy of the emulator as a surrogate of WRF-Chem simulator model is evaluated was performed using a We perform 'leave-one-out' cross-validation (Bastos and O'Hagan, 2009). This involves training the emulator using 19 out of the 20 sets of inputs/outputs from the WRF-Chem simulation model runs and then evaluating running the emulator against the 20<sup>th</sup> simulation set of inputs. The resulting emulator outputs are then compared with the outputs from WRF-Chem. This process is carried out for each of the 20 sets of inputs/outputs. Given that the output space is multi-dimensional (i.e. modelled O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> varied spatially and in time), the validation of the emulator by comparing 10,000 (random-samples varied spatially and in time) of emulator output values with against the corresponding output values of the WRF-Chem model. The is emulator validation plot is shown in Fig. 3. Modelled and emulated O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> lie very close to the 1:1 line with R<sup>2</sup> values of more than 95% as shown in Fig. 3, indicating that the emulation provides an accurate representation of the input-output relationship of the WRF-Chem model.

~~with 10,000 random samples to check that the Gaussian process emulator can fully represent the results of WRF-Chem. Modelled and emulated O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> lie very close to the 1:1 line with R values of more than 0.99 as shown in Fig. 3, suggesting that the emulation provides a good representation of the model.~~

## 285 2.4 Response Surfaces

Response surfaces are useful for investigating the relationship between model inputs and outputs, in this case between sectoral emissions and modelled pollutant concentrations. They have been widely applied for air quality studies and policy making (EPA, 2006b, a; Zhao et al., 2017; Xing et al., 2017). Here, we analyse the responses of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> to changes in emissions  
290 from each sector of between 0% and 200%. The computationally efficient Gaussian process emulation enables us to generate response surfaces without the computational burden of a large number of runs of the WRF-chem model.

## 2.5 Outline of Analysis

We use the WRF-Chem model to simulate the hourly concentrations of O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> over  
295 the Delhi region during 2-15 May 2015 and evaluate the results against observations. We perform a simple sensitivity analysis to investigate the contributions of biomass burning and biogenic emissions to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi. We then conduct a global sensitivity analysis, using [the eFAST method \(see section 2.3\) along with](#) Gaussian process emulation, to determine the sensitivity of modelled O<sub>3</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations to changes in the dominant  
300 anthropogenic emission sectors. Finally, we generate response surfaces to identify appropriate mitigation strategies for reducing PM<sub>2.5</sub> while minimizing the risks from O<sub>3</sub> increase.

# 3. Results and Discussion

## 3.1 Model Performance

305 The WRF-Chem model captures the general magnitude and variation in  $PM_{2.5}$  well (Fig. 4a), with mean bias and error of about -3.5% and 11%, respectively, and an index of agreement (Willmott et al., 2012) of 75%. The frequency distributions of modelled  $PM_{2.5}$  are also similar to the observations, with differences in mean and median concentrations of less than 10%, although high concentration spikes are missed by the model (Fig. S1). The modelled  $PM_{2.5}$  peaks around 09:00 local time (LT) because the rush hour enhances traffic emissions before the planetary boundary layer (PBL) height has increased (Fig. 4a). This is also seen in the modelled results at DEU (Fig. S2), which is closer to a motorway and shows a more intense  $PM_{2.5}$  peak in the morning rush hour.  $PM_{2.5}$  is overestimated during the morning rush hour (around 09:00 am) and underestimated during the early morning (03:00-05:00 LT, Fig. 4a and 310 Fig. S2). This may suggest that there is an earlier rush hour or more traffic activity at night in Delhi than in European cities, since we adopted European diurnal emission patterns in this study in the absence of local information. Detailed studies of traffic emissions and their variation in Delhi would help improve these model simulations.

The modelled chemical composition of  $PM_{2.5}$  is shown in Fig. S3. Secondary inorganic aerosol (SIA), including sulphate, nitrate and ammonium, only contributes ~25% of aerosol mass in our simulation. In the absence of particle inorganic composition measurements during the simulation period, we compare our results with a previous modelling study of Delhi during the post-monsoon season (Marrapu et al., 2014), which also shows a ~25% contribution of SIA to  $PM_{2.5}$  loading, in line with our results. Furthermore, our results are also consistent with an 325 observational study, which reported the mass fraction of organic matter (usually calculated as 1.4 times OC) and elemental carbon (usually equivalent to black carbon in modelling studies, Chen et al., 2016b) in  $PM_{2.5}$  of ~20% and ~6% in Delhi during May 2015, respectively (Sharma et al., 2018).

The model well captures the peak O<sub>3</sub> with a bias of less than 5%, although it  
330 underestimates O<sub>3</sub> during night-time (Fig. 4b). In general, the diurnal pattern and magnitude of  
O<sub>3</sub> are captured by WRF-Chem (Fig. 4b), with normalized mean bias and error of about -20%  
and 35%, respectively, and an index of agreement of 65%. The underestimation during night-  
time is likely to be because NO<sub>x</sub> is overestimated by a factor of 2-3 at night (Fig. S4), and the  
excess NO depletes O<sub>3</sub>. This is indicated by the frequency distribution of O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> (Fig.  
335 S5), where the median values of observed O<sub>3</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> are matched well by the model.  
However, the higher peaks of modelled NO<sub>x</sub> concentration lower the modelled O<sub>3</sub> levels,  
indicating that Delhi is in VOC-limited photochemical regime. Similar results are found at  
AYA (Fig. S6). The larger underestimation of O<sub>3</sub> at NCM (Fig. S5d, industrial environment  
site) suggests that NO<sub>x</sub> emission from the industry sector may be overestimated.

### 340 **3.2 Impacts of Biogenic and Biomass Burning Emissions**

Before exploring the importance of the four selected anthropogenic emission sectors on  
PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi during simulation period, we investigate the contributions from other  
factors (biomass burning and biogenic emissions). We ~~remove~~ turn off these sources in the  
WRF-Chem simulation and find that there is a negligible contribution from biogenic emissions  
345 to PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations over Delhi in this season (Fig. 4c and 4d). It is worth noting that  
biogenic emissions may contribute to secondary organic aerosol (SOA) in Delhi, but the  
formation of SOA is not ~~well~~-represented well by the CBMZ-MOSAIC chemistry-aerosol  
mechanisms used in this study. However, this weakness is not expected to have a major  
influence on our pre-monsoon results; as described ~~before~~above, the difference of organic  
350 matter fraction between simulation and observation (Sharma et al., 2018) in May 2015 is less  
than 5%. About 10% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi is derived from biomass burning during the simulation  
period. Crop burning in Haryana and Punjab states is a major source of this (Jethva et al.,  
2018; Cusworth et al., 2018). In contrast, there is a negligible contribution from biomass

burning to O<sub>3</sub>. However, there is a 15-20% contribution to O<sub>3</sub> from biogenic emission of VOCs,  
355 highlighting that O<sub>3</sub> production in Delhi is strongly VOC-limited.

### 3.3 Effect of the Diurnal Variation in Emissions

In order to investigate the competing influences of meteorology and human activities on the diurnal patterns of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> over Delhi, we test the effect of removing the diurnal variation in anthropogenic emissions ('noDiurnal', see Fig. 4c and 4d). Modelled PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
360 concentrations are very similar to the 'baseline' run during daytime when the PBL is well developed, with differences of less than 5%. This suggests that meteorological processes such as vertical mixing, advection and transport are the dominant factors controlling PM<sub>2.5</sub> in the daytime. In contrast, freshly emitted pollutants are trapped at night when the PBL is shallow, and concentrations are very sensitive to the emission flux, so that the diurnal pattern of  
365 emissions is the dominant factor at night. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration is almost doubled in the early morning (03:00-09:00 LT, Fig. 4c) when the PBL is shallow and emissions in the 'noDiurnal' case are higher. There is also a large increase in NO<sub>x</sub> in the early morning (Fig. S4), which leads to greater depletion of O<sub>3</sub> (Fig. 4d). However, the concentration of O<sub>3</sub> is about 20-25% higher during the ozone peak hour in the afternoon in the 'noDiurnal' case, as the  
370 daytime NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are less (Fig. S4). This sensitivity test also highlights the VOC-limited nature of O<sub>3</sub> production in Delhi.

### 3.4 Sensitivity Analysis of Pollutants in Delhi

The importance of each anthropogenic emission sector to pollutant concentrations in Delhi is investigated using global sensitivity analysis and indicated by global sensitivity indices (SIs),  
375 as shown in Fig. 5. The sensitivity index is a measure of the contribution of the variation in pollutants from one emission sector to the total variation across all four sectors considered here.

A larger SI indicates a larger influence from the corresponding sector to the modelled average surface PM<sub>2.5</sub> or O<sub>3</sub> over Delhi City Region (marked in Fig. 2) in this study.

The PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration is most sensitive to emissions from the NCR region surrounding  
380 Delhi, with a sensitivity index higher than 50% most of time (Fig. 5a) and reaching 80-90%  
and ~60% during 03:00-07:00 LT and 12:00-17:00 LT, respectively. During the rush hours in  
the morning and evening, the sensitivity to NCR emissions is lower, while the sensitivity to  
Delhi traffic emissions increases by ~30%. Around 10:00 LT, local traffic emissions and  
emissions from NCR have a similar effect on PM<sub>2.5</sub>. In contrast, local traffic emissions  
385 dominate the PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi around 20:00 LT, with a sensitivity contribution of up to ~80%.  
This is caused by the collapse of the PBL in the evening rush hour at around 20:00 LT which  
enhances the sensitivity to fresh local emissions. Local traffic emissions contribute ~60% of  
primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> emission in Delhi (Fig. 6a), which remains concentrated in the PBL during rush  
hours. In contrast, the fully developed PBL in the daytime mixes air down from the free  
390 troposphere (Chen et al., 2016a), where regional transport of pollutants from NCR can be  
important. This could explain the second peak in the sensitivity to NCR emissions (50-60%)  
during the afternoon (Fig. 5a).

The [variation of](#) O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi City Region is overwhelmingly dominated by local traffic  
emissions with a sensitivity index higher than 80% at night-time (Fig. 5b), [where O<sub>3</sub> and](#)  
395 [traffic emissions are anti-correlated](#). Traffic contributes ~75% of total NO<sub>x</sub> emission in Delhi  
(Fig. 6b), and the shallow PBL during the night traps the NO<sub>x</sub>. This removes O<sub>3</sub> through  
chemical reaction in the absence of solar radiation. As the PBL develops in the morning, the  
sensitivity of O<sub>3</sub> to traffic decreases and the sensitivity to NCR emissions increases. The  
sensitivity to NCR emissions reaches its highest point (70%) when the PBL is fully developed  
400 around 15:00 LT. As discussed above, the downward mixing of air from the free troposphere

and dilution of local emissions in the fully developed PBL could be the reason for this. The O<sub>3</sub> peak coincides with the highest PBL at this time because photolysis and development of the PBL are both driven by solar radiation. The development of the PBL increases the contribution from regional transport, and precursors emitted from the NCR are one of the dominant contributors to the peak of O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi. The NO<sub>x</sub>, mainly originating from traffic emissions, is underestimated by ~30% during the O<sub>3</sub> peak period (Fig. S4). This uncertainty can propagate into the Gaussian process emulator and could lead to underestimation of traffic influence on peak O<sub>3</sub>, peak to some extent. But, it is not expected to change the nature of our conclusion about the predominance of regional transport and local traffic emissions. In addition, it is noteworthy that the NO<sub>x</sub>-rich urban plume from Delhi has a substantial influence on O<sub>3</sub> in downwind regions across the NCR as well, as discussed in Text S3.

### 3.5 Mitigation Strategies

To demonstrate a framework for developing better mitigation strategies for addressing both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> pollution in Delhi, emission-sector based pollutant response surfaces are generated using Gaussian process emulation (Fig. 7). For local emissions in Delhi, we focus mainly on traffic and residential sectors here, because we find that power and industrial emissions have a more limited influence on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> concentrations in Delhi (Fig. 5). A range of different mitigation strategies are analysed, aiming at mitigating PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution whilst minimizing the risk of O<sub>3</sub> increase.

We find that the responses of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> to each emission sector are nearly linear in Delhi. The response surfaces show that reducing local traffic emissions in Delhi leads to an efficient decrease in PM<sub>2.5</sub> loading (Fig. 7a) but increases O<sub>3</sub> greatly (Fig. 7b). Reducing local domestic emissions decreases PM<sub>2.5</sub> loading less than reducing traffic but without increasing O<sub>3</sub>. The small impact on O<sub>3</sub> may be because domestic emissions are not a major source of NO<sub>x</sub>,

425 contributing only 15% of that from traffic (Fig. 6). A 10-20% reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> is expected  
when reduce local domestic emissions by 50%; ~~while, but a 35-45% reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> can be  
430 expected by is seen for~~ a 50% reduction in local traffic emissions (Fig. S7). In addition, VOC  
is reduced more than NO<sub>x</sub> when controlling domestic emissions, as the VOC/NO<sub>x</sub> emission  
ratio (kg/kg) is 1.8 in contrast to a ratio of 0.4 for traffic emissions. Greater reduction of VOC  
435 suppresses the increase of O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi, which is a VOC-limited environment. A reduction in  
local traffic emissions alone of 50% could decrease Delhi PM<sub>2.5</sub> loading by 15-20%, but this  
would also increase O<sub>3</sub> by 20-25%. We note that our model may underestimate the influence  
of traffic emissions on O<sub>3</sub> to some extent as described above (section 3.4), suggesting that the  
ozone increase could be stronger than we predict. -To prevent the side-effect of increasing O<sub>3</sub>  
440 by controls on traffic emissions, regional cooperation would be required to reduce emissions  
in the NCR region surrounding Delhi by 25-30%, which also permits a further reduction of  
PM<sub>2.5</sub> by 5-10% (Fig. 7c and 7d). This is consistent with a recent study showing that ~60% of  
PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi originates from outside (Amann et al., 2017)-. We test this by performing an  
additional run with WRF-Chem using emission reductions of 50% and 30% for sectors of local  
445 traffic and the surrounding NCR region, respectively. We compare the WRF-Chem results of  
the additional run and the base case (without change of emissions) against the corresponding  
results from Gaussian process emulator (Fig. S813). We find that the PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> results from  
the model runs lie within 5% of those estimated with the emulator and with R<sup>2</sup> higher than 95%,  
demonstrating the high quality of the emulation approach adopted here and underlining its  
deeper value for identifying mitigation approaches. The suggested regional joint mitigation  
with NCR surrounding Delhi is in line with a recent study for mitigating PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Beijing,  
which showed that regional coordination over the North China Plain could lead to a reduction  
in PM<sub>2.5</sub> of up to 40% in winter (Liu et al., 2016).

#### 450 4. Summary

Previous studies have shown that emission controls focusing on mitigation of PM<sub>2.5</sub> may result in substantial increases of surface ozone over urban areas that are in VOC-limited photochemical environment. Comprehensive studies of mitigation strategies with respect to both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> are urgently required, but are limited in India. In this study, we demonstrate  
455 a numerical framework for informing emission-sector based mitigation strategies in Delhi that account for multiple pollutants.

By using Gaussian process emulation with an air quality model (WRF-Chem), we generate a computational efficient surrogate model for performing global sensitivity analysis and calculating emission-sector based pollutant response surfaces. These enable us to exhaustively  
460 investigate the impacts of different mitigation scenarios on PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi, which help decision makers choose better mitigation strategies. Global sensitivity analysis shows that pollutants originating from the National Capital Region (NCR) surrounding Delhi and local traffic emissions are the major contributors of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi. They co-dominate the O<sub>3</sub> peak and PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi during daytime, while the regional transport governs PM<sub>2.5</sub> during the  
465 night, in line with a recent study showing that ~60% of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Delhi originates from outside (Amann et al., 2017). Controlling local traffic emissions in Delhi would have the notable side effect of increasing O<sub>3</sub> increases, at least in the pre-monsoon/summer period (peak O<sub>3</sub> season) that we consider here. This is in line with the recent increases in O<sub>3</sub> seen in China (Silver et al., 2018; Li et al., 2018). The Chinese experience suggests that regional joint coordination is  
470 required to effectively mitigate PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution in Beijing (Liu et al., 2016). Our pollutant response surfaces go one step further and suggest that joint coordinated emission controls with the NCR region surrounding Delhi would be required to not only achieve a more ambitious reduction of PM<sub>2.5</sub> but also to minimize the risk of O<sub>3</sub> increases and to achieve a more ambitious

475 ~~reduction of PM<sub>2.5</sub>~~. In the regional joint coordination, residential energy use could be a dominant emission sector over a large region in India (Conibear et al., 2018).

## 5. Discussion

480 The experiences of developed countries (Dooley, 2002;EPA, 2011) and recently in China (Huang et al., 2018a;Wang et al., 2019) show that regional joint coordination can be achieved by changing energy infrastructure (e.g., replacing fossil fuel by renewable energy and natural gas), desulphurisation and denitrification technologies, popularization of new energy vehicles, strict control of vehicle exhaust and reducing road and construction dust. Further studies with more detailed information on specific emission sectors and strategies for clean-technology development and popularization would permit deeper insight into air pollution mitigation 485 approaches suitable for Delhi. These are needed to address both PM<sub>2.5</sub> which has a higher impact on public health (e.g., Huang et al., 2018a), and O<sub>3</sub> which greatly impacts regional ecology and agriculture (e.g., Avnery et al., 2011). A more comprehensive evaluation of the health and economic benefits of different mitigation strategies would greatly help Indian decision makers, and the framework we have demonstrated here would provide a strong 490 foundation for this.

## Author contributions

O-W and Y-C conceived the study. Y-C performed the simulations and emulation, and processed and interpreted the results with help from Y-W. E-R designed and built the Gaussian Process emulator. G-B and S-K-S provided the observations and SAFAR emission inventory. D-L, A-A, S-A-N and G-M help pre-process the emission data and develop the emission toolkit. V-S and R-S-S provided useful discussion on the emission inventory. R-S-S led the development of the PROMOTE project. Y-C and O-W wrote the manuscript with inputs from all co-authors.

## Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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## Data availability

NCEP FNL operational model global tropospheric analyses (ds083.2) were downloaded from <https://rda.ucar.edu/data/ds083.2/>, and sea surface temperature data were downloaded from <http://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/sst/>. ECMWF interim reanalyses (ERA-Interim) were downloaded from <http://apps.ecmwf.int/datasets/data/interim-full-daily>. MOZART-4 global model results are downloaded from <http://www.acd.ucar.edu/wrf-chem/mozart.shtml>. FINN biomass burning emissions dataset is downloaded from <http://bai.acom.ucar.edu/Data/fire/>. Toolkits for emission processing are available from [https://github.com/douglowe/WRF\\_UoM\\_EMIT/releases/tag/v1.0](https://github.com/douglowe/WRF_UoM_EMIT/releases/tag/v1.0) and <https://github.com/douglowe/PROMOTE-emissions/releases/tag/v1.0>.

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**Table 1.** Configuration of WRF-Chem

<b>Physics</b>	<b>WRF option</b>
Micro physics	Lin scheme (Lin, 1983)
Surface Layer	MM5 similarity
Boundary layer	YSU (Hong, 2006)
Cumulus	Grell 3D
Urban	3-category UCM
Shortwave radiation	Goddard shortwave (Chou, 1998)
Longwave radiation	Rapid Radiative Transfer Model
<b>Chemistry and Aerosol</b>	<b>Chem option</b>
Gas-phase mechanism	CBMZ (Zaveri and Peters, 1999)
Aerosol module	MOSAIC with 4 bins (~40 nm to 10 $\mu$ m) (Zaveri et al., 2008)
Photolysis rate	Fast-J photolysis scheme (Wild et al., 2000)
<b>Emissions Inventories</b>	
Anthropogenic Emissions	SAFAR-2015 Delhi and EDGAR-HTAP v2.2
Biogenic Emissions	MEGAN (Guenther et al., 2006)
Biomass Burning Emissions	FINN (Wiedinmyer et al., 2011)

**Table 2.** Map of NMVOC from EDGAR emission to CBMZ scheme.

<b>EDGAR Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>CBMZ [mol]</b>
VOC1	Alcohols	20% CH <sub>3</sub> OH 80% C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH
VOC2	Ethane	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>
VOC3	Propane	PAR*3
VOC4	Butane	PAR*4
VOC5	Pentane	PAR*5
VOC6	Hexanes + other Alkanes	PAR*6
VOC7	Ethene	ETH
VOC8	Propene	OLET+PAR
VOC9	Ethyne	PAR*2
VOC10	Isoprene	ISOP
VOC11	Monoterpenes	ISOP*2
VOC12	Other Alkenes	OLEI*0.5+OLET*0.5+PAR*2
VOC13	Benzene	TOL-PAR
VOC14	Toluene	TOL
VOC15	Xylenes	XYL
VOC16	Trimethylbenzenes	XYL+PAR
VOC17	Other Aromatics	XYL+PAR
VOC18	Esters	RCOOH
VOC19	Ethers	20% CH <sub>3</sub> OH 80% C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH
VOC21	Formaldehyde	HCHO
VOC22	Other Aldehydes	ALD2
VOC23	Ketones	60% KET 40% KET+PAR
VOC24	Alkanoic Acids	RCOOH

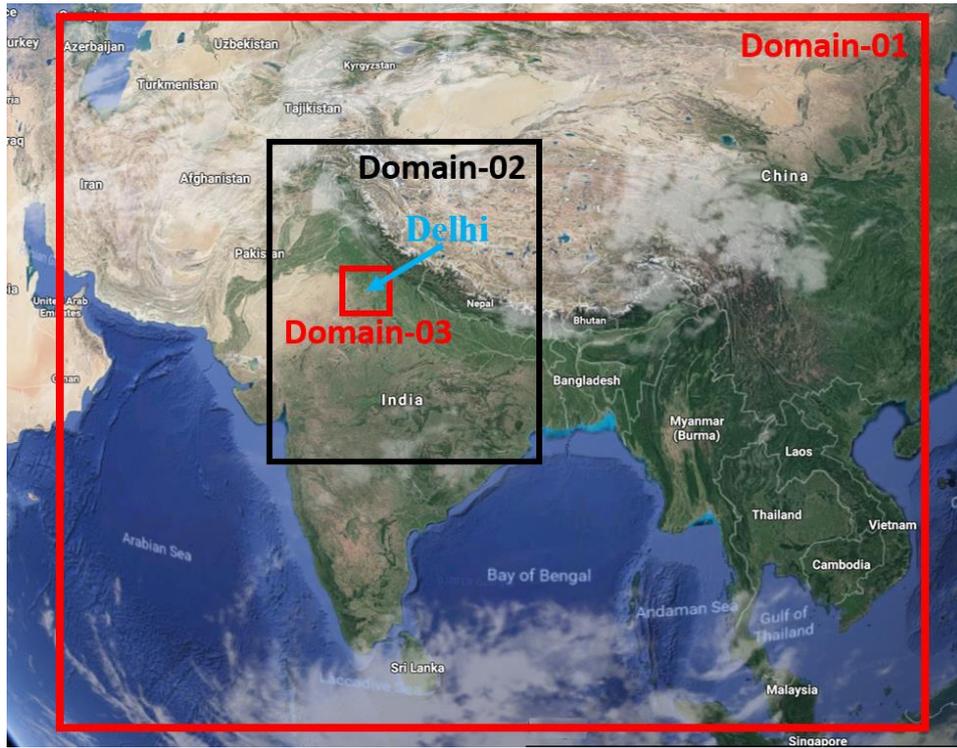


Figure 1. Map of simulation domains, modified from Google Earth.

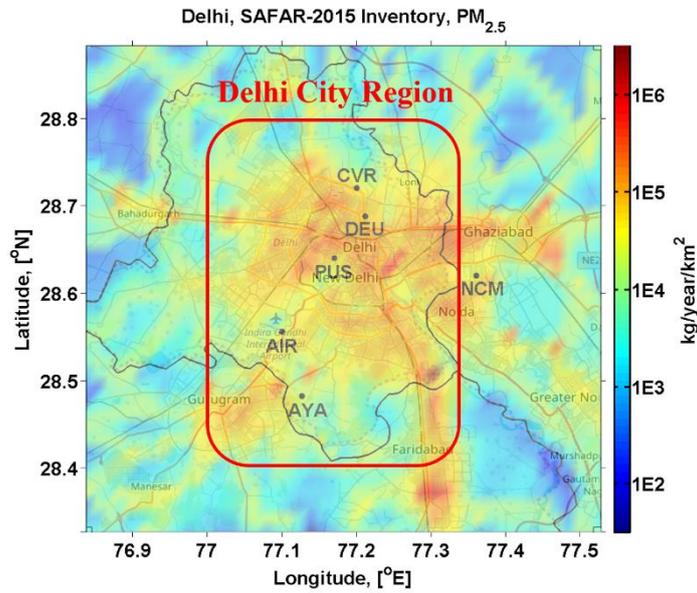
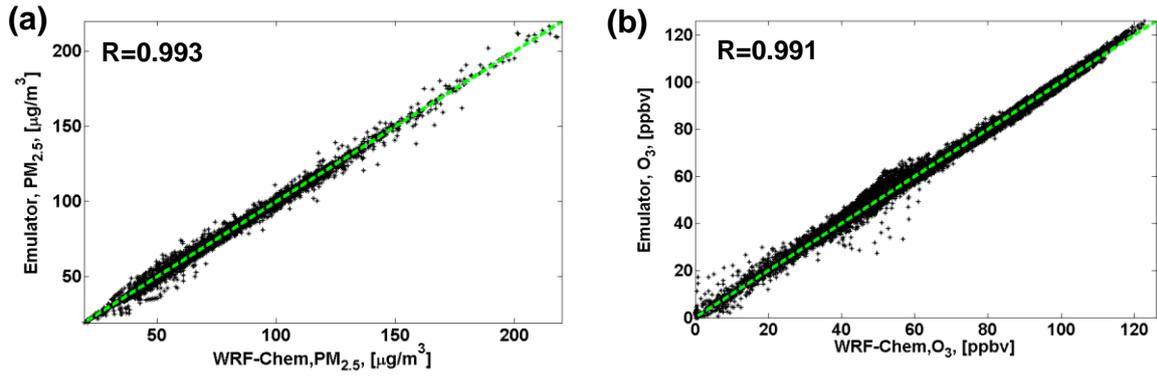
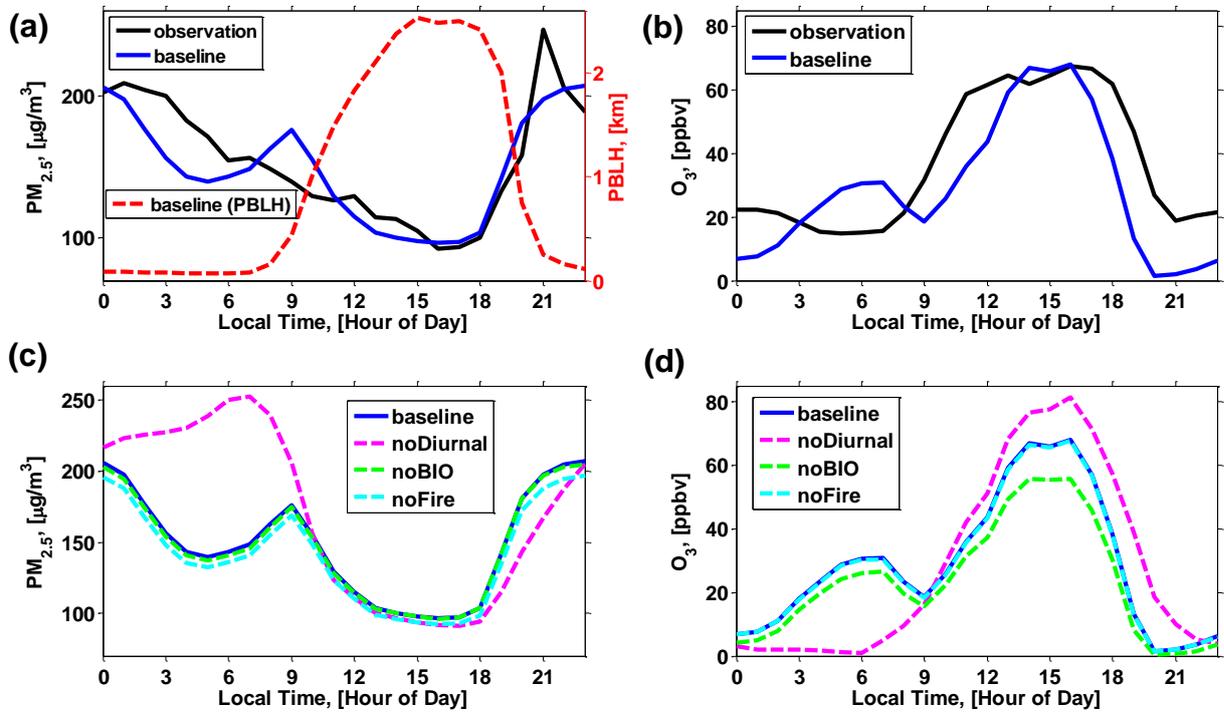


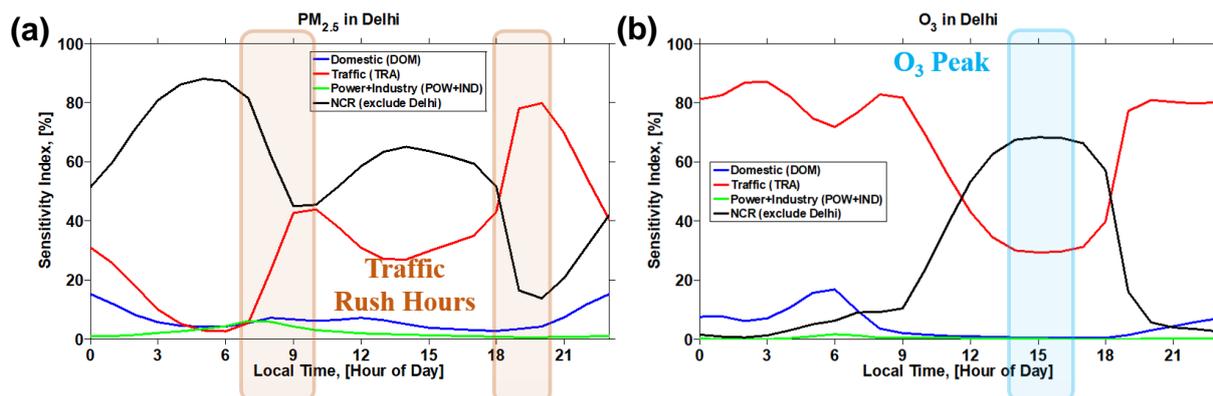
Figure 2. SAFAR inventory of total  $PM_{2.5}$  emission. The locations of measurement sites over Delhi are marked by black dots, and the Delhi City Region is marked by a red box.



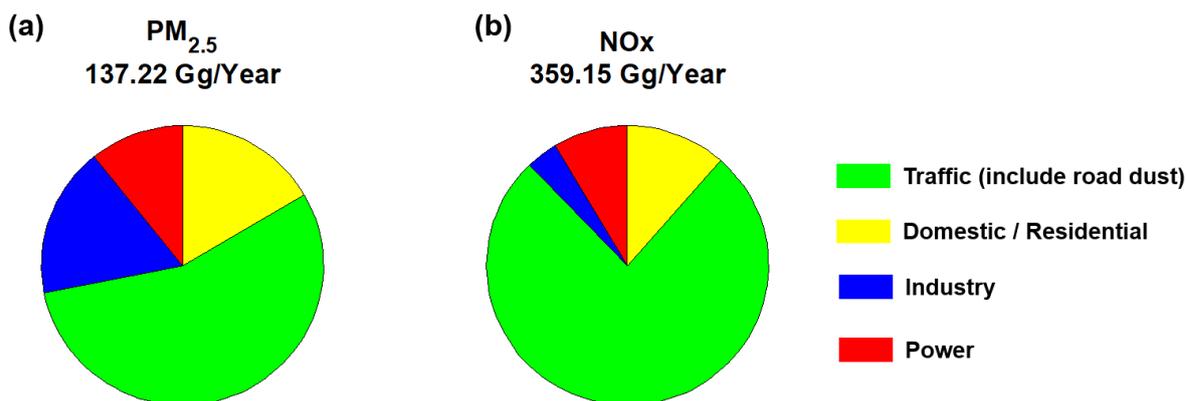
**Figure 3.** Validation of Gaussian process emulator with WRF-Chem model. (a)  $PM_{2.5}$ ; (b)  $O_3$ . The green dashed line indicates the 1:1 line.



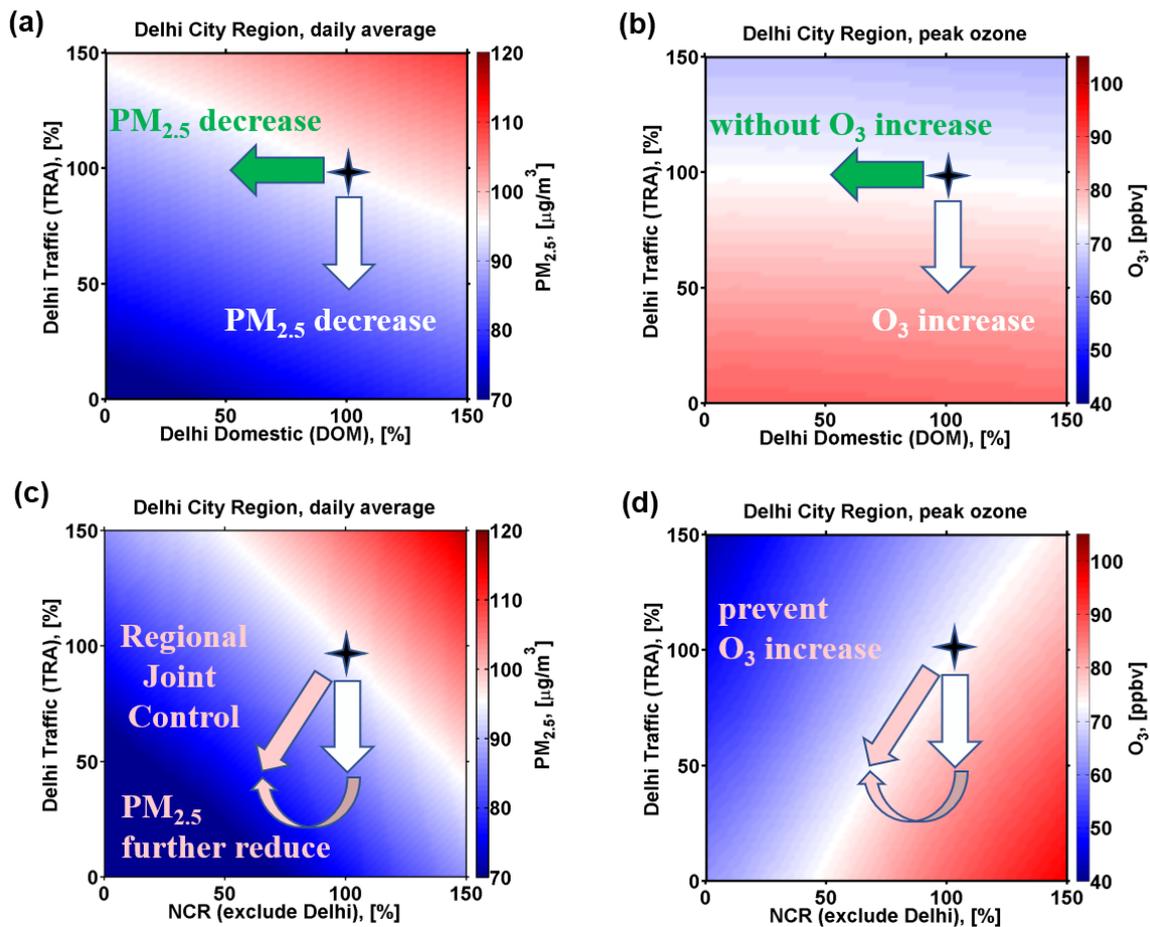
**Figure 4.** Average diurnal patterns of pollutants during the 2-15 May 2015 simulation period. (a) Modelled and observed  $PM_{2.5}$  and model PBL height (PBLH); (b)  $O_3$ ; (c) results of sensitivity studies for  $PM_{2.5}$ ; (d) results of sensitivity studies for  $O_3$ . The left panels (a, c) are for site CVR, and the right panels (b, d) are for site AIR (marked in Fig. 2). The sensitivity runs ‘noFire’ and ‘noBIO’ show model results without biomass burning and biogenic emissions, respectively; and ‘noDiurnal’ show model results with constant anthropogenic emissions rates throughout the day.



**Figure 5.** Averaged diurnal pattern of global sensitivity indices during the 2-15 May simulation period. (a) PM<sub>2.5</sub>; (b) O<sub>3</sub>. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> results are averaged over Delhi City Region (marked with red box in Fig. 2). The morning and evening rush hours and the period of peak ozone are marked with the boxes to highlight the notable changes in contribution from each emission sector.



**Figure 6.** Annual emission of different sectors in Delhi from SAFAR inventory. (a) PM<sub>2.5</sub>; (b) NO<sub>x</sub>. [The emissions of black carbon, organic carbon, non-methane VOC \(NMVOC\) and SO<sub>2</sub> are given in the supplementary Fig. S132.](#)



**Figure 7.** Response surfaces for  $PM_{2.5}$  and ozone concentrations over Delhi City Region, averaged over 2-15 May 2018. (a) Daily average of  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations as a function of local traffic and domestic emissions in Delhi; (b) peak hourly ozone concentrations as a function of local traffic and domestic emissions in Delhi; (c) daily average of  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations as a function of local traffic emissions in Delhi and emissions in NCR region surrounding Delhi; and (d) peak hourly ozone concentrations as a function of local traffic emissions in Delhi and emissions in NCR region surrounding Delhi. The star indicates current conditions and the arrows show the effect of possible emission controls.

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1 Supporting Information

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4 **Mitigation of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and Ozone Pollution in Delhi: A Sensitivity Study**  
5 **during the Pre-monsoon period**

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47 [Figure S132 – SAFAR emission inventory for BC, OC, NMVOC and SO<sub>2</sub>.](#)

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49

## 50 **S1. Comparisons between observations and model results of domain-03 and domain-04**

51

52 The model (driven by ECMWF) results of domain-03 (D03, 5 km) and domain-04 (D04,  
53 1.67 km) are compared with observations, as shown in Fig. S98. One can see that the model  
54 performance is not improved with higher resolution in D04. The median and mean values of  
55 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and ozone from D03 simulation agree well with observations, although there is slightly  
56 overestimation of NO<sub>x</sub>. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>, which are mainly primary pollutants, are even  
57 more overestimated by D04 than by D03. The secondary pollutant ozone is therefore more  
58 underestimated by D04, due to depleted by too much NO<sub>x</sub>. These may imply an overestimation  
59 of NO<sub>x</sub> emission in the inventory and/or an underestimation of horizontal mixing efficiency in  
60 the WRF-Chem model with high resolution simulations.

61

62

## 63 **S2. Comparison between simulations driven by ECMWF and NCEP datasets**

64 The model performance of meteorology simulation is validated by the measurements in  
65 Delhi as shown in Fig. S109 (temperature-T and relative humidity-RH) and Fig. S110 (wind  
66 pattern). Both simulations driven by ECMWF and NCEP datasets reproduce the T very well  
67 with averaged factor around 1 and R=0.9 compared with measurements, although some  
68 underestimations can be found in the results driven by ECMWF when T is less than 35°C. The  
69 model results driven by ECMWF reproduce RH fairly well (R=0.7), and much better than the  
70 NCEP one (R=0.4). The model results driven by NCEP under-predict RH by 20-40%, despite  
71 an underestimation in high RH regime (RH>50%) can also be observed in the results driven by  
72 ECMWF. These findings are consistent with a recent study (Chatani and Sharma, 2018), which  
73 shows the WRF-Chem driven by ECMWF can reproduce much better meteorological  
74 conditions compared with observations over India than the driven by NCEP. They also reported  
75 that this is a general situation over the whole year (2010) of India and North Pakistan simulation,  
76 but the pre-monsoon (April-May) possibly experiences the largest underestimation of RH by

77 more than 20% over Delhi in the results driven by NCEP. The observed wind pattern,  
78 dominated by the West-North wind direction, is reasonably captured by simulations driven by  
79 both ECMWF and NCEP (Fig. S110). Simulation driven by NCEP produces slightly better  
80 wind direction than the one driven by ECMWF, but with a slight overestimation of wind speed  
81 can be observed as indicated by less blue colour regions in Fig. S110b.

82 The model driven by NCEP data predicts slightly lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> (Fig. S1-S2) and very close  
83 O<sub>3</sub> (Fig. S5-S6) concentrations compared to the ECMWF driven one, although a large  
84 difference in relative humidity can be found. The lower PM<sub>2.5</sub> values from NCEP driven results  
85 possibly due to the higher height of PBL, which can approach ~3500 meter during afternoon  
86 in contrast of ~2500 meter of the ECMWF driven one. The deeper PBL dilutes the fresh emitted  
87 PM<sub>2.5</sub> in the surface layer. This can be especially important in Delhi, where primary particles  
88 are the major contributor to PM<sub>2.5</sub> during pre-monsoon (see section 3.1), and secondary  
89 inorganic aerosol (SIA), including sulphate, nitrate and ammonium, only contributes 20-25%  
90 of PM<sub>2.5</sub> loading in both ECMWF and NCEP results. It is worth noting that the difference in  
91 relative humidity results between model driven by ECMWF and NCEP may have a larger  
92 impact on PM<sub>2.5</sub> loading and SIA formation during winter period in Delhi when the atmosphere  
93 is more humid.

94 In general, the model driven by ECMWF can produce better meteorological conditions  
95 and PM<sub>2.5</sub> results than the NCEP driven one, while similar O<sub>3</sub> results are found. In this study,  
96 our baseline simulation is driven by ECMWF dataset.

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### 100 **S3 Regional Influence of the Delhi Urban Plume**

101 The pollution plume from local emissions in Delhi can also influence downwind regions,  
102 particularly to the southeast of Delhi in this season due to the prevailing northwest wind. Fig.  
103 S12~~1~~ shows the spatial distribution of SIs corresponding to traffic emissions for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>  
104 over Delhi and nearby regions. We consider only the local traffic sector (TRA) here, since it is  
105 the governing factor for both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and O<sub>3</sub> in Delhi, and the major contributor of primary PM<sub>2.5</sub>  
106 and NO<sub>x</sub>. In this study, we use O<sub>3</sub> peak hour (15:00 LT) with the fully developed PBL to  
107 represent the influence of plume in daytime. And we use the early morning before PBL  
108 development (05:00 LT) to represent the influence in night, which shows a strong regional  
109 interaction indicated by the highest sensitivity of PM<sub>2.5</sub> to the emissions from NCR emissions  
110 (Fig. 4a). In general, the Delhi urban plume has a broader influence at night, possibly facilitated  
111 by favourable meteorological conditions of strong regional interactions. The NO<sub>x</sub>-rich urban  
112 plume depletes O<sub>3</sub> in downwind regions during the night with sensitivity larger than 70%, in  
113 contrast of a negligible sensitivity (<10%) for PM<sub>2.5</sub>. This indicates that Delhi urban plume has  
114 a larger and broader impact on O<sub>3</sub> than on PM<sub>2.5</sub> in the downwind regions.

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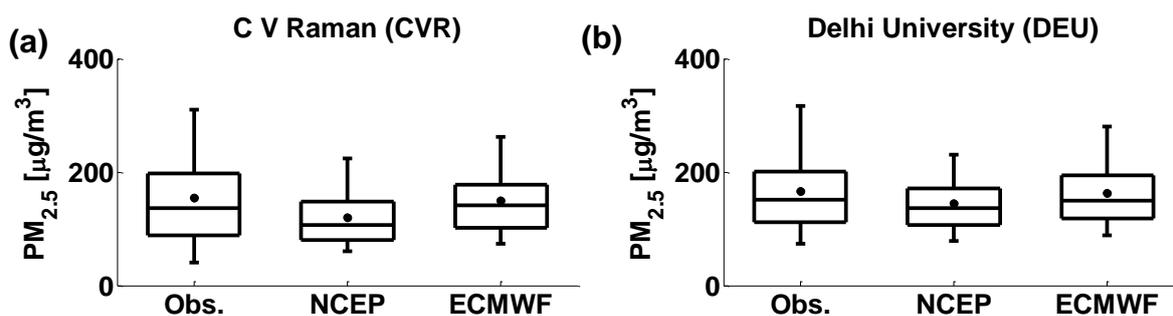
**Table S1.** SAFAR network measurements in Delhi.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Station Name</b>	<b>Short Name</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>	<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>	<b>O<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>NO<sub>x</sub></b>	<b>Meteorology</b>	<b>Environment Describe</b>
1	C V Raman	CVR	28.72	77.20	Yes	--	--	--	Downtown
2	Delhi University	DEU	28.69	77.21	Yes	--	--	--	Highly populated Residential
3	Airport T3	AIR	28.56	77.10	--	Yes	Yes	--	Airport city side
4	Ayanagar	AYA	28.48	77.13	--	Yes	--	Yes	Suburban background
5	NCMRWF	NCM	28.62	77.36	--	Yes	--	Yes	Industrial, Upwind Entry
6	Pusa	PUS	28.64	77.17	--	--	--	Yes	Background

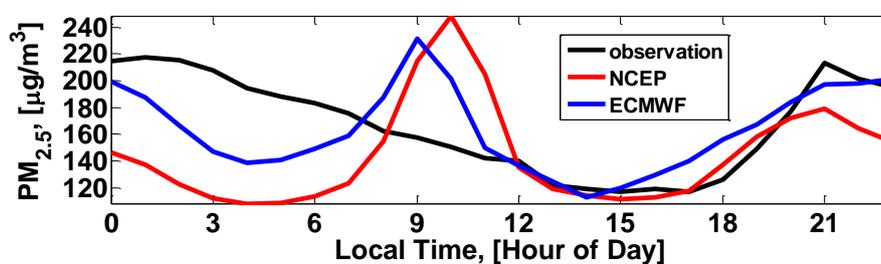
**Table S2.** Design of training runs for building Gaussian process emulator.

Training Runs No.	Factors for each emission sector			
	DOM (area source)	TRA (line source)	POW+IND (point source)	NCR* (regional transport)
1	1.2958	0.87408	1.0316	0.33741
2	0.75507	1.556	1.8606	0.45469
3	0.48991	0.95171	0.22896	1.416
4	1.4326	1.779	0.63716	1.3508
5	1.3191	0.40663	0.59954	1.1988
6	0.067129	0.023068	1.1011	0.50473
7	0.92064	1.83	0.19348	0.06012
8	0.1336	0.19012	0.38896	0.87948
9	0.37848	1.449	0.90053	1.0461
10	1.6056	0.51501	0.013731	0.75497
11	0.51618	1.2396	1.7039	1.208
12	1.12	0.62141	1.3866	0.96124
13	0.84394	0.20906	0.4144	1.8251
14	0.60487	0.3878	1.6648	1.7574
15	1.5254	1.991	1.4452	1.5008
16	1.784	1.629	0.87087	0.23874
17	1.8007	1.0225	1.2664	1.6046
18	1.0119	1.1866	1.5495	1.9241
19	0.26926	0.73029	0.79889	0.17177
20	1.9168	1.3829	1.9492	0.66879

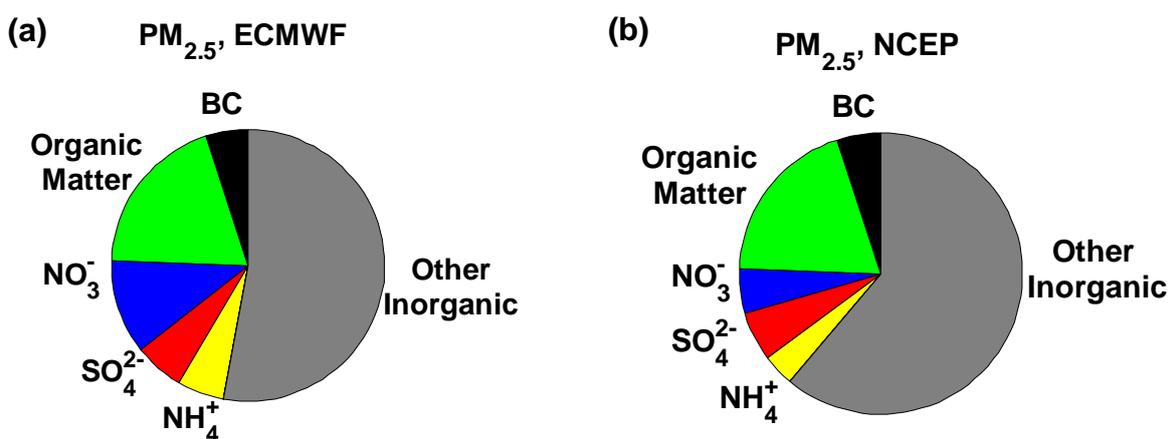
\*Emissions in the National Capital Region surrounding Delhi (domain-03 as shown in Fig. 1), representing the influence of regional transport from surrounding Delhi.



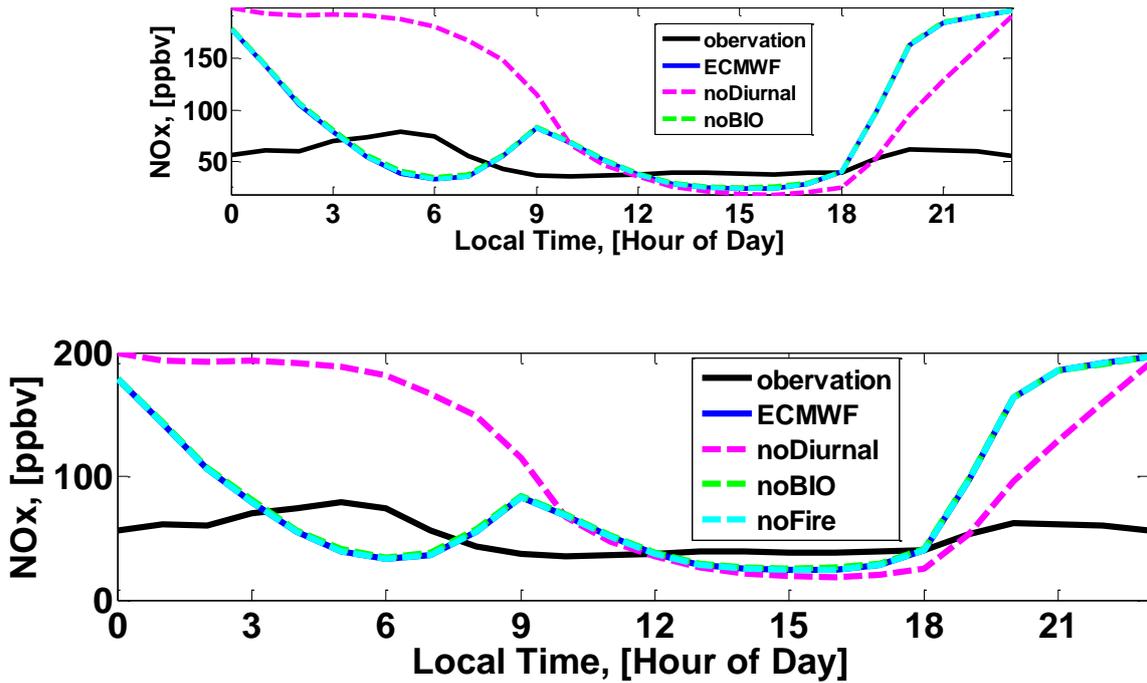
**Figure S1.** Comparison of the frequency distributions of observed and modelled (driven by NCEP and ECMWF datasets) hourly PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations. (a) CVR; (b) DEU. The boxplots show the median, mean (black dot), 25% percentile, 75% percentile, 95% percentile and 5% percentile values.



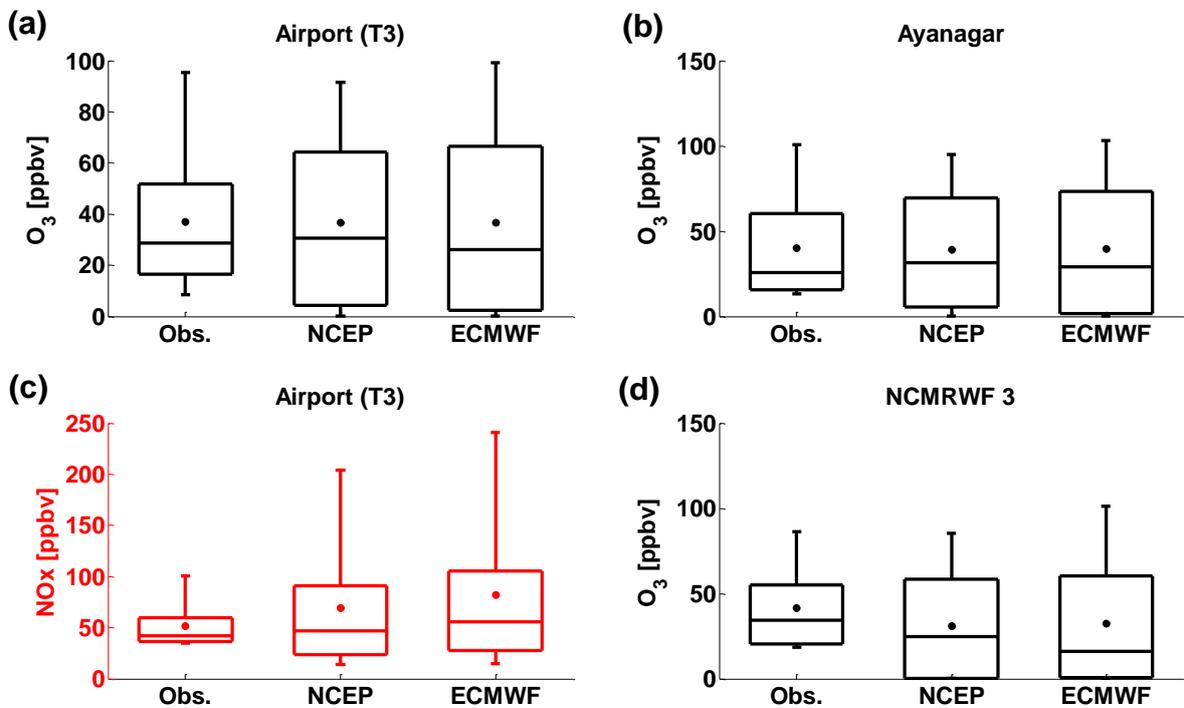
**Figure S2.** Diurnal patterns of PM<sub>2.5</sub> at DEU site (marked in Fig. 2). The results are averaged during 02-15 May 2015.



**Figure S3.** The simulated compositions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> at Delhi city background site (PUS). The modelled masses of each compounds are averaged during 02-15 May 2015. (a) drive by ECMWF data; (b) drive by NCEP data.

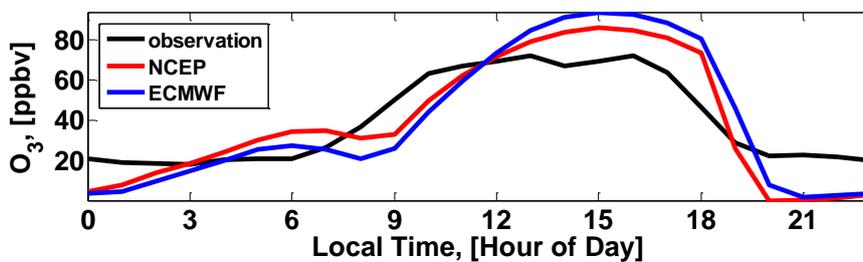


**Figure S4.** Diurnal patterns of NO<sub>x</sub> concentration from WRF-Chem model and observational results at AIR site (marked in Fig. 2). The results are averaged during 02-15 May 2015. Note that ~~‘NCEP’~~ and ~~‘ECMWF’~~ indicates the model results driven by ~~NCEP~~ and ~~ECMWF~~ reanalysis data, respectively.

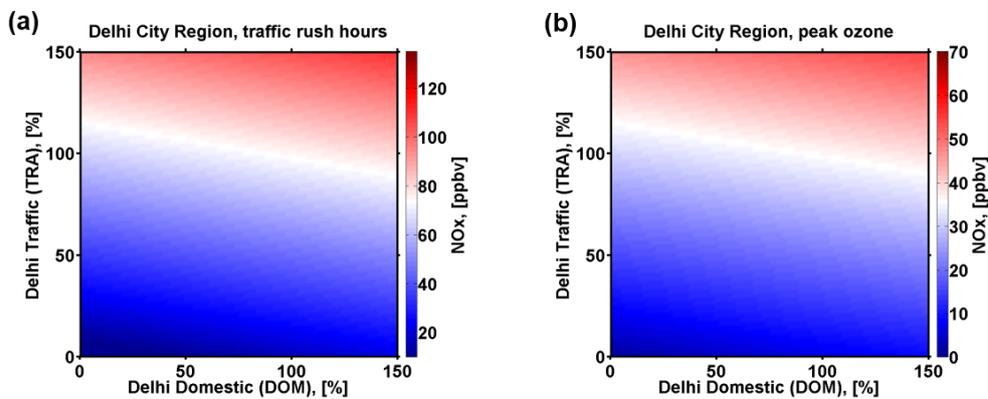


**Figure S5.** Comparison of the frequency distributions of observed and modelled hourly results (driven by NCEP and ECMWF datasets). (a) O<sub>3</sub> at AIR; (b) O<sub>3</sub> at AYA; (c) NO<sub>x</sub> at AIR; (d) O<sub>3</sub> at

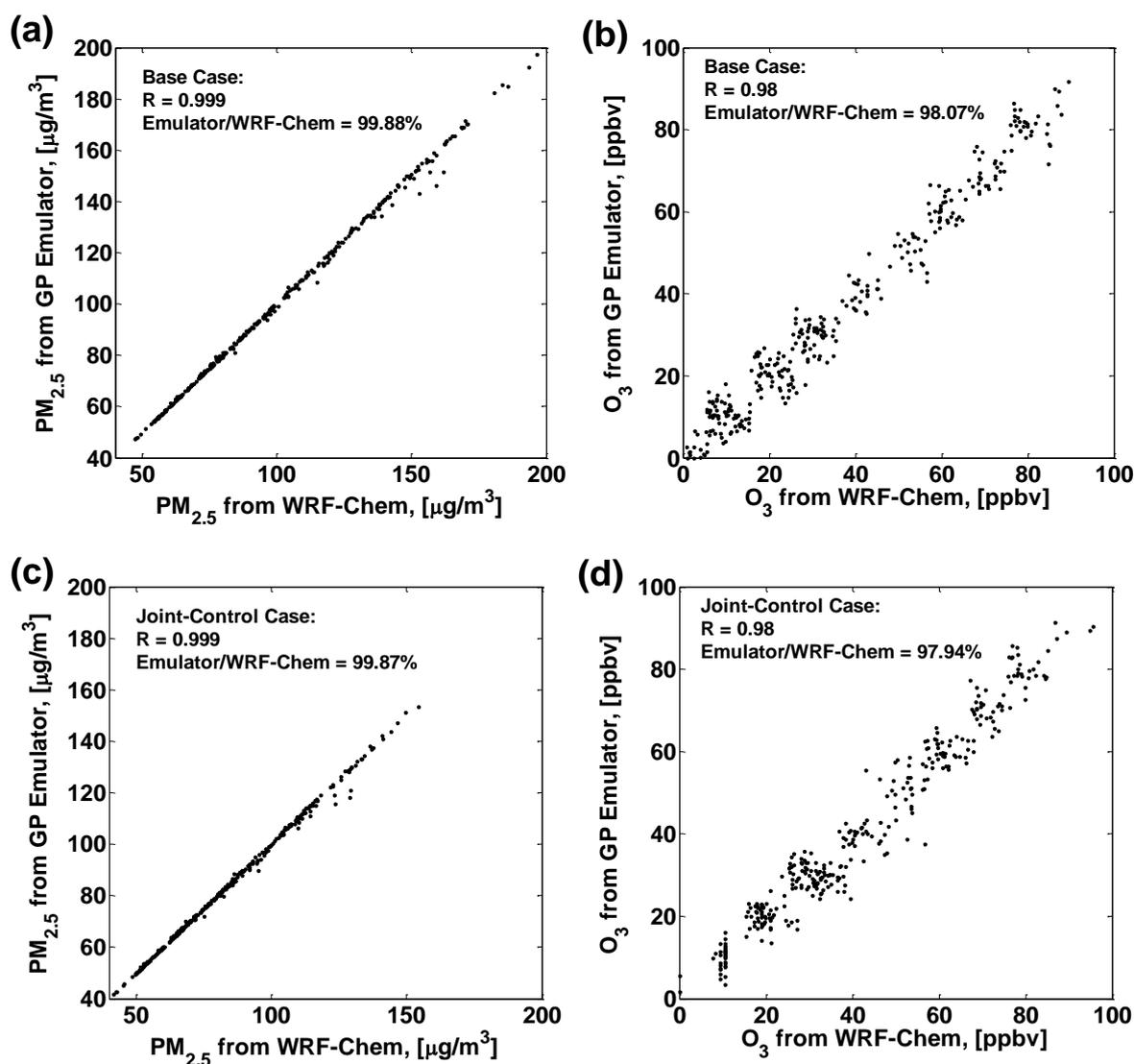
NCM. The boxplots show the median, mean (black dot), 25% percentile, 75% percentile, 95% and 5% values.



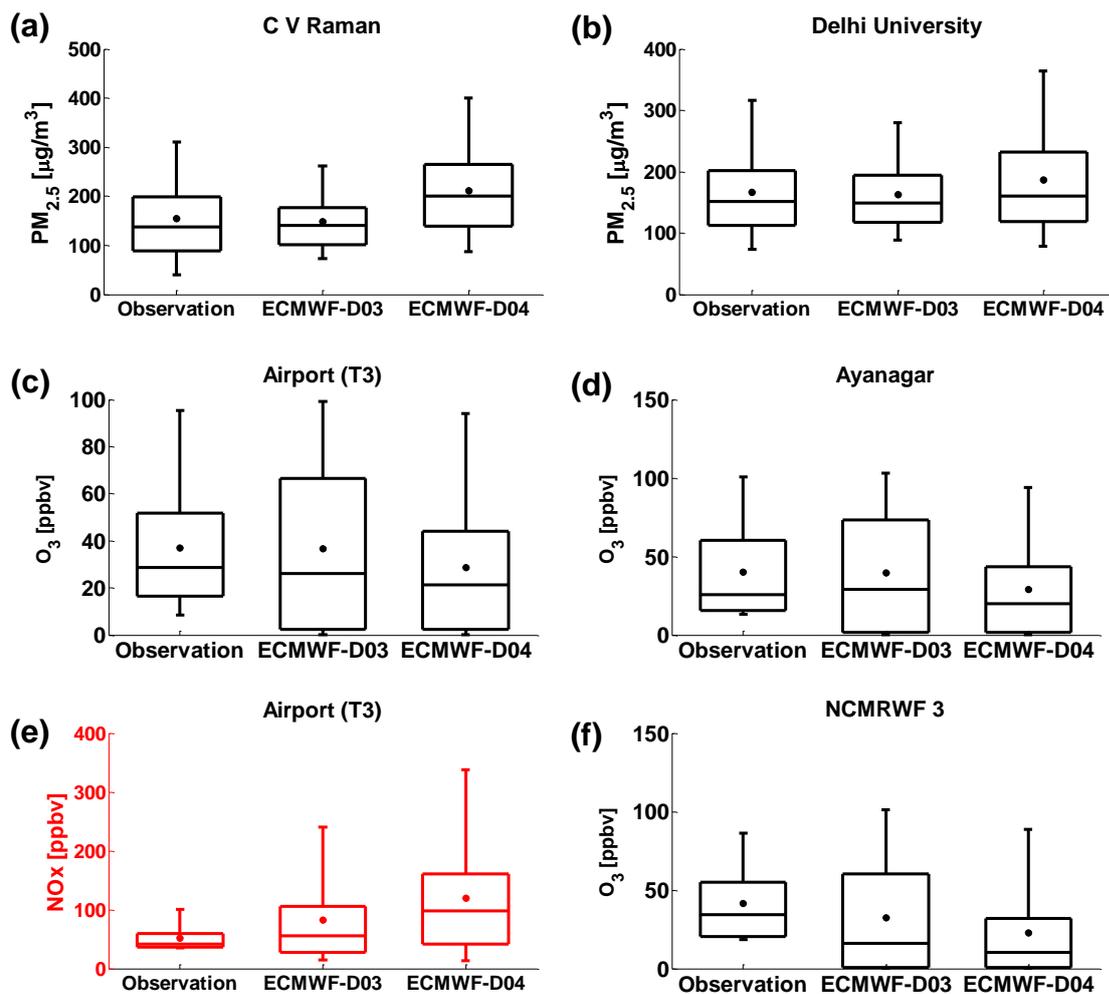
**Figure S6.** Diurnal patterns of O<sub>3</sub> at AYA, similar as Fig. S2. The ‘NCEP’ and ‘ECMWF’ indicate the model results driven by NCEP and ECMWF datasets, respectively.



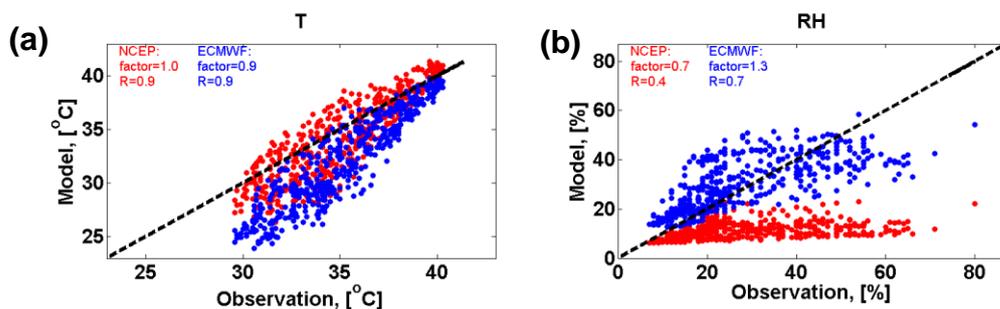
**Figure S7.** Response surfaces for NO<sub>x</sub> concentrations over Delhi City Region as a function of local traffic and domestic emissions in Delhi, during average rush hour (a) and ozone peak period (b).



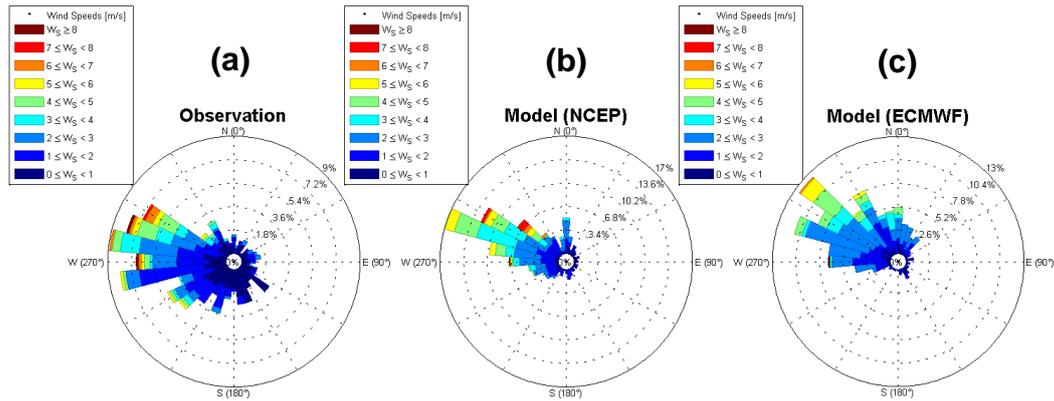
**Figure S8.** Extra validation of Gaussian process emulator results in the mitigation strategy according to Fig. 7. The accuracy of the emulator for reproducing current conditions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> (a) and O<sub>3</sub> (b), i.e. base case without changing emissions. The accuracy of the emulator for reproducing regional joint coordination conditions of PM<sub>2.5</sub> (c) and O<sub>3</sub> (d), i.e. NCR joint control case with local traffic emissions reduced by 50% and regional emissions reduced by 30%. All the results are averaged over Delhi City Region, with hourly resolution during the simulation period.



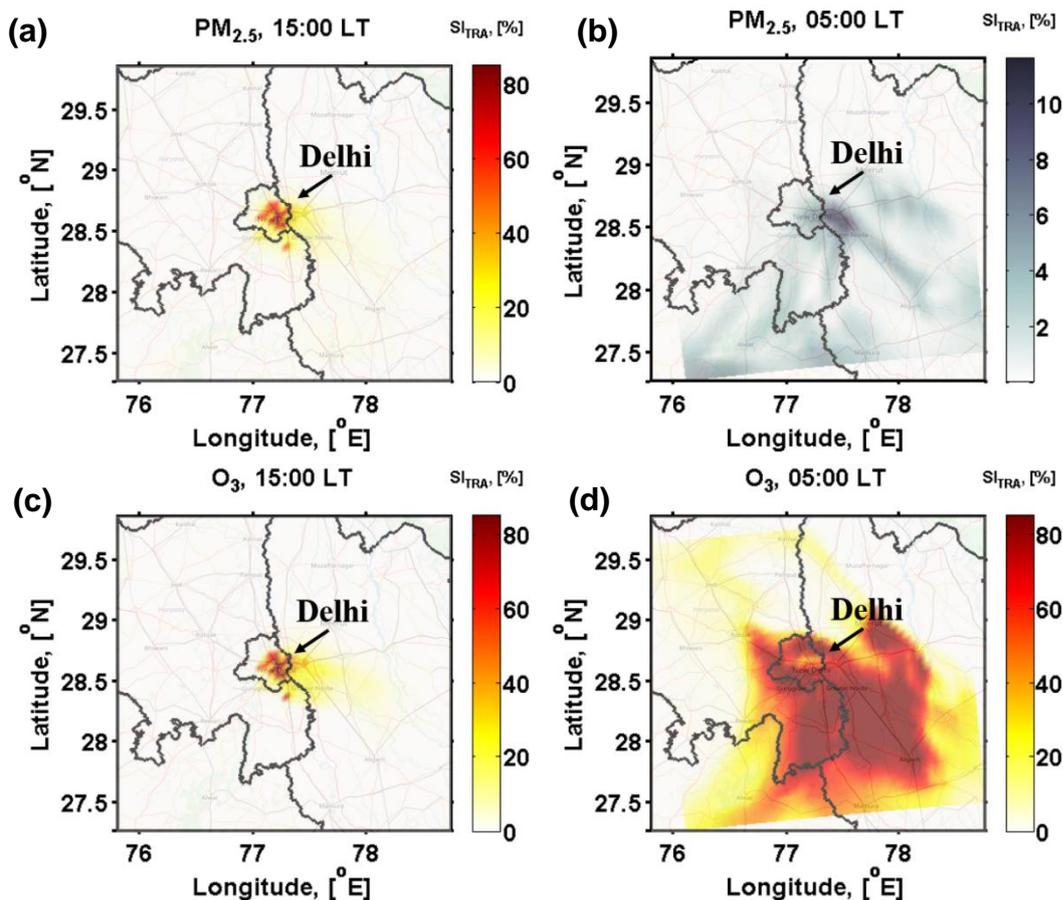
**Figure S98.** Comparisons of frequency distributions between observations and model results of domain-03 and domain-04. (a)  $PM_{2.5}$  at CVR; (b)  $PM_{2.5}$  at DEU; (c)  $O_3$  at AIR; (d)  $O_3$  at AYA; (e)  $NO_x$  at AIR; (f)  $O_3$  at NCM. The WRF-Chem model was driven by ECMWF dataset.



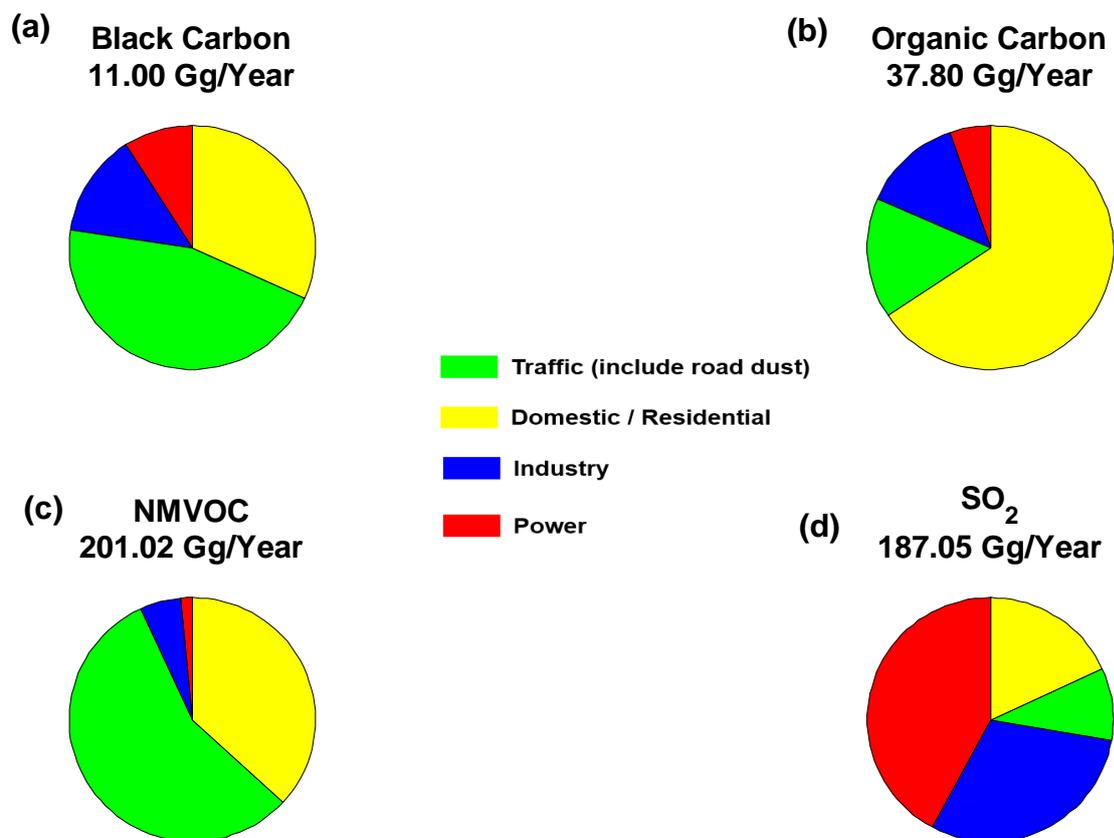
**Figure S109.** Comparisons of modelled meteorological conditions with all measurements over Delhi. (a) temperature (T); (b) RH. The red dots indicate the results of WRF-Chem driven by NCEP reanalysis data, blue dots indicate the results of WRF-Chem driven by ECMWF reanalysis data, and the black dashed line indicates the 1:1 line. The measurement sites are given in Table S1, and the corresponding model results are extracted.



**Figure S119.** Wind rose pattern of measurements and modelled wind pattern over Delhi. The results from all sites are shown. (a) observations; (b) model driven by NCEP; (c) model driven by ECMWF. The measurement sites are given in Table S1, and the corresponding model results are extracted.



**Figure S121.** Horizontal distribution of sensitivity index for local traffic emissions in Delhi ( $SI_{TRA}$ ). The model results are averaged over 02-15 May 2015. Sensitivity indices are shown for: (a)  $PM_{2.5}$  during ozone peak hour (15:00 LT), (b)  $PM_{2.5}$  before PBL developed (05:00 LT), (c)  $O_3$  at 15:00 LT, and (d)  $O_3$  at 05:00 LT. Noting that the scale of colorbar in panel (b) is different from the others.



**Figure S132.** Annual emission of different sectors in Delhi from SAFAR inventory. (a) black carbon; (b) organic carbon; (c) non-methane VOC and (d) SO<sub>2</sub>.

### Supplementary References:

Chatani, S., and Sharma, S.: Uncertainties Caused by Major Meteorological Analysis Data Sets in Simulating Air Quality Over India, *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, 123, 6230-6247, doi:10.1029/2017JD027502, 2018.