

Responses to Review #3

The revised version has addressed many of my initial concerns. However, one major issue remains. The study's analysis is limited to only one specific month for each region, which is justified only if, as stated in authors' response, "the study focuses on the most extreme ozone pollution cases, rather than high ozone pollution cases". Yet, the current use of "severe ozone pollution" throughout the text is prone to misinterpretation, as it is commonly associated with high ozone pollution cases. To enhance clarity and accuracy, I suggest adopting "the most extreme ozone pollution" throughout the manuscript, including the title, abstract, introduction, and conclusion. The authors could also refer to the terminology in Li et al., (2018).

References:

Li, K., Liao, H., Cai, W., and Yang, Y.: Attribution of anthropogenic influence on atmospheric patterns conducive to recent most severe haze over eastern China, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 45, 2072–2081, <https://doi.org/10.1002/2017gl076570>, 2018.

Response:

Thank you for the suggestion. We have now modified the description throughout the manuscript.