

Dear Dr. Alexander Ukhov:

We are very grateful to your valuable suggestion on our manuscript “Multi-model simulations of springtime dust storms in East Asia: Implications of an evaluation of four commonly used air quality models (CMAQ v5.2.1, CAMx v6.50, CHIMERE v2017r4, and WRF-Chem v3.9.1)”.

You recommended us to use WRF-Chem version (4.1 and above) to conduct the dust simulation, as there were errors in the GOCART gravitational settling (module `module_gocart_settling.F`) and in `optical_prep_gocart` routine. We did not catch these errors during our simulation by WRF-Chem v3.9.1 and this may lead to bias and error of the simulating results. Now we have fixed these errors in our used WRF-Chem v3.9.1. The future work will be implemented under the corrected or the latest WRF-Chem version. However, the model simulations, analyses and evaluations in this study were finished before the release of WRF-Chem v4.1. We don't have enough time to rerun all the simulations during the response stage of our manuscript. But we have pointed out these source code errors which were not corrected in this study in the manuscript.

Thank you again for your helpful advice which have helped us to improve our works.