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1 **Evaluation of anthropogenic air pollutant emission inventories for South America at**
2 **national and city scale**

3
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35

36 Abstract

37 The changing composition of the atmosphere, driven by anthropogenic emissions, is the
38 cause of anthropogenic climate change as well as deteriorating air quality. Emission
39 inventories are essential to understand the contribution of various human activities, model
40 and predict the changing atmospheric composition, and design cost-effective mitigation
41 measures. At present, national emission inventories in South America (SA) focus on
42 Greenhouse Gases (GHG) as part of their obligations to the United Nations Framework
43 Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) within the framework of their national
44 communications. Emission inventories other than for GHG in SA focus mainly on growing
45 urban areas and megacities. Therefore, studies examining air quality at national, regional or
46 continental scales in SA depend on (down-scaled) global emission inventories. This paper
47 examines the emission estimates of air pollutants from various global inventories for five
48 SA countries, namely Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru. A more detailed
49 analysis is conducted for the EDGAR and ECLIPSE emission inventories, in particular
50 against local city-scale inventories of a major city in each country. Although total emissions
51 between down-scaled global inventories and local city inventories are often comparable,
52 large discrepancies exist between the sectoral contributions. This is critical as the
53 mitigation of poor air quality will depend on addressing the right sources. Potential sources
54 of discrepancies between global and local inventories include the spatial distribution
55 proxies, difference in emission factors used and/or the use of generic statistical country data
56 when estimating emissions. This highlights the importance of using local information when
57 generating national emission inventories, especially for air quality modeling and
58 development of effective mitigation measures. This work represents a first step towards an
59 increased understanding of the strength and weaknesses of emissions information in SA.

60 Key words;

61 South America, anthropogenic emissions, air pollutants, Argentina, Brazil, Chile,
62 Colombia, Peru, city emission inventories

63 1 Introduction and Rationale

64 Over the last decades, environmental problems such as acidification, eutrophication,
65 air pollution and climate change have caused significant adverse impacts on the
66 environment, human health and vegetation (Steffen et al, 2015; HTAP, 2010;
67 Schneidemesser et al., 2015). These environmental problems are directly related to the
68 atmospheric emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG), air pollutants and their precursors.
69 Reliable emission inventories are a prerequisite to understand these environmental issues
70 including the impact of anthropogenic activity on air quality and climate, and to develop
71 effective mitigation options. Furthermore, emission knowledge of GHG and air pollutants
72 are key in the development of integrated policies addressing climate change and/or air
73 quality (AQ) and reducing unintended consequences (Melamed et al., 2016; Schmale et al.,
74 2014; Reis et al., 2012).

75 Emission inventories developed in different South American (SA) countries at
76 national level typically focus on GHGs as part of the obligations of the Parties to the United
77 Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) within the framework of
78 their national communications (Baumgardner et al., 2018). Emission inventories other than
79 for GHG in SA focus mainly on megacities in an effort to understand the interactions and
80 feedback mechanisms between emissions, AQ and public health (Alonso et al., 2010;
81 Gallardo et al., 2012a). Except for Argentina (Castesana et al., 2018; Puliafito et. Al.,
82 2015; 2017), no national emission inventory for air pollutants is available with the spatial
83 and temporal detail needed for AQ modelling, analysis and policy support. Therefore, the
84 emission inventories currently used for national, regional or continental scale AQ
85 assessments in SA are derived from global data sets (e.g. Longo et al., 2013; Rosario et al.,
86 2013; Kumar et al., 2016; UNEP/CCAC, 2018).

87 South America is a continent that spans over the northern and the southern
88 hemisphere, from the very cold Tierra del Fuego, close to Antarctica, to the equator and

89 beyond to the Caribbean Sea. Its climate exhibits tropical, subtropical as well as
90 extratropical features (Garreaud et al., 2009). It includes the world's largest rainforest, what
91 is considered the driest desert outside polar regions (Rondanelli et al. 2015) and the Andes
92 mountain range peaking well above 6000 meters, introducing east-west climate
93 asymmetries (Garreaud et al., 2009). In short, a very diverse collections of ecosystems,
94 physical landscapes and climate zones. While SA countries experienced similar population
95 growth in the last 20 years, there have been large differences in economic development.
96 Emissions sources of air pollutants dominating impact on air quality also vary largely from
97 country to country from residential combustion in central and southern Chile (Saide et al.,
98 2016; Mazzeo et al., 2018) to transport in Colombia (Gonzalez et al., 2017; Pachon et al.,
99 2018). Furthermore, emission conditions also vary largely, in particular among main
100 metropolitan areas; while pollutants are emitted at sea level in Buenos Aires (Argentina),
101 those in La Paz (Bolivia) are emitted at approximately 3600 m above sea level. This
102 altitude can have an important impact on vehicle emissions with different emissions due to
103 altitude (He et al., 2011; Ni et al., 2014; Szedlmayer and Kweon, 2016; Wang et al., 2018).

104 The available global emission inventories for selected countries are analyzed by
105 source-sector in this paper. These countries are highly urbanized, except for Peru,
106 urbanization is above 80% and more than 50% of the urban population of these countries
107 live in cities larger than 300.000 inhabitants (UN, 2018). Air quality in the SA cities is a
108 major problem. Measurements of particulate matter of 2.5 microns or less (PM_{2.5}) are
109 available for 37 cities in these countries, 35 of them (representing approximately 15% of
110 SA population) experience annual averaged concentrations exceeding the level
111 recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO, 2017).

112 This paper seeks to evaluate, give guidance and provide insight into the differences
113 and similarities among emissions inventories for five selected SA countries, and possible
114 reasons for such discrepancies. This analysis focuses foremost on air pollutants. The global
115 emission inventories and local emission inventories for selected cities in the five SA
116 countries together with the sources considered are presented in section 2. Sections 3 and 4
117 present a comparative analysis of the estimated emissions between the five countries

118 investigating the reasons for discrepancies. A discussion of the main results is presented in
119 section 5 followed by conclusions in section 6.

120

121 2 Methods and data

122 2.1 General country information and data

123 South America has an area of 17,840,000 km² and its population in 2010 is estimated
124 at 395 Million (UN PD, 2017) (Table 1). The five countries selected in this study for
125 analysis of the available emissions data are Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru.
126 They cover 80% of the land area, and 84% of the population of South America (Table 1).

127

Country	ISO3 code	Area (km ²) ^{a)}	Total Population (10 ⁶) ^{b)}	Urban Population [%] ^{c)}
Argentina	ARG	2736690	41.2	92
Brazil	BRA	8459420	196.8	87
Chile	CHL	743800	17	88
Colombia	COL	1109500	45.9	81
Peru	PER	1280000	29.4	78
Sum of 5 countries		14329410	330.3	86
Total South America		17840000	395.3	84

128 **Table 1:** Selected generic data of the selected five countries in South America

129 ^{a)} Source FAOstat accessed through <https://unstats.un.org/>

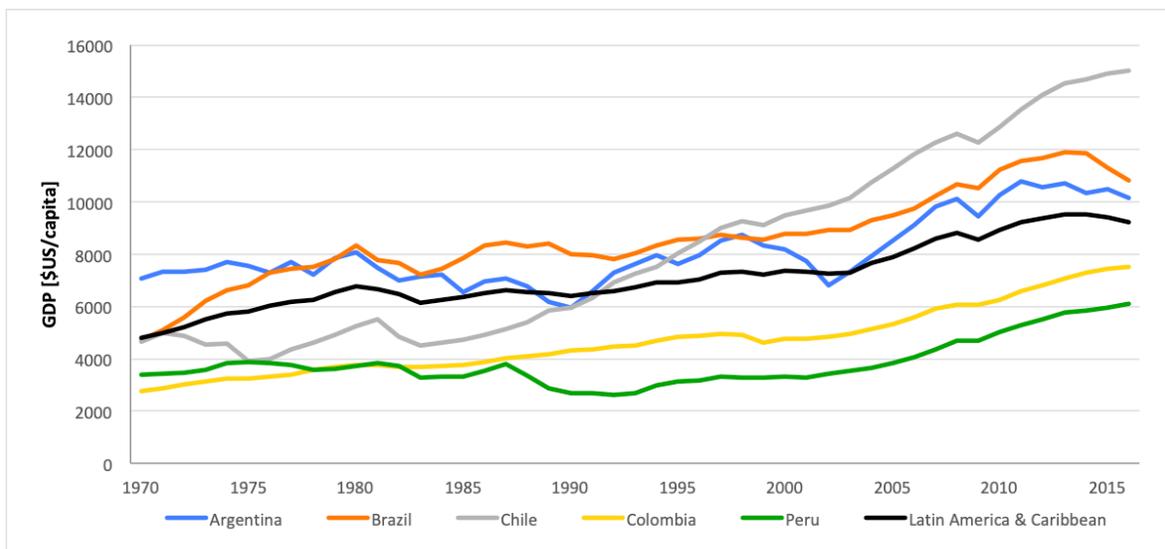
130 ^{b)} UN PD (2017)

131 ^{c)} UN PD (2018)

132

133 The population of the selected countries is estimated at 330 million in 2010. The
134 demographic development of the countries is similar, in all five countries the population
135 doubled since 1970. When we focus on the last 20 years (1995-2015), the population has
136 grown by about 30% and again the pattern for the 5 countries is similar. The development
137 in gross domestic product (GDP), however, has been less similar and less gradual (Figure
138 1). Since Brazil is by far the largest country, its GDP follows the average rather closely but
139 Colombia and Peru are clearly below the average GDP, while Chile and Argentina are

140 above the average. Moreover, while the GDP for Chile has mostly increased since
 141 beginning of the 1980's, Argentina experienced a decrease in GDP from 1998 until 2003
 142 and Peru mostly shows an increase in the last decade. A common feature for all SA
 143 countries is the pervasive inequity (e.g., Solimano and Schaper, 2015; PNUD, 2017), which
 144 is also relevant when considering consumption, emission and exposure patterns (e.g.,
 145 Gallardo et al, 2012b; Carpenter and Quispe-Agnoli, 2015).
 146



147
 148 **Figure 1:** Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita (\$US/capita in constant 2010 prices)
 149 for the same five selected countries in SA. In addition, the GDP corresponding to Latin
 150 America and the Carribbean is also included.
 151

152 2.2 Global emission data

153 Emission inventories providing data for SA countries from 1970 to present are collected
 154 and compared for the pollutants of primary concern: nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur dioxide
 155 (SO₂), Black Carbon (BC), particulate Organic Carbon (OC), particulate matter of 10
 156 microns or less (PM₁₀), particulate matter of 2.5 microns or less (PM_{2.5}), carbon monoxide
 157 (CO), and ammonia (NH₃). Methane (CH₄) is important in atmospheric chemistry (e.g.,
 158 ozone formation) but this pollutant is explicitly included in the GHG emission inventories
 159 and is therefore not discussed in this study. A comparison of the data from the various
 160 inventories by pollutant and by country for the time period of 1970 to 2010 is given in
 161 section 3.1.
 162

163 Although the total number of (global) emission inventories that provide information on SA
 164 is substantial (Table 2), a more in-depth analysis is made for a selection of few recent
 165 inventories. The selection of inventories is based on;

- 166 1. Inventories need to include the recent period 2000-2010 for comparison with other local
 167 data sources such as SA city inventories
- 168 2. From every “family” of EIs we take the latest version at the time of the start of our
 169 investigation; e.g. we look in detail to EDGAR 4.3 and not version 4.2.
- 170 3. The inventory needs to have sectorial emissions information.

171

172 Based on these criteria our further analysis focuses on EDGAR 4.3.1, ECLIPSE v5,
 173 CEDSv3 and MACCity. The MACCity inventory for years after 2000 is a projection based
 174 on the RCP8.5 projection by Riahi et al. (2007). As it was used in several studies in support
 175 of IPCC AR5 analysis, we include it for reference but will not analyze the implied emission
 176 factors or discrepancies in trends compared to the other bottom-up inventories. A brief
 177 introduction to the selected inventories is provided below; we refer to the provided
 178 references for more details. The emission inventories are accessible through the ECCAD
 179 server (<https://eccad.aeris-data.fr/>)

180

181

Acronym	Period	Reference and/or website
MACCity	1980-2010	Granier et al., 2011 http://eccad.aeris-data.fr/
ACCMIP	1980-2010	Lamarque et al., 2010 http://eccad.aeris-data.fr/
RCPs	2000-2010	Van Vuuren et al., 2011 http://www.iiasa.ac.at/web-apps/tnt/RcpDb
EDGAR v4.2	1970-2008	Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2013 http://edgar.jrc.europa.eu/
EDGAR v4.3.1	1970 and 2010	Crippa et al., 2016 http://edgar.jrc.europa.eu/os
HTAPv2	2008 and 2010	Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2015 http://edgar.jrc.europa.eu/htap_v2
ECLIPSE v4a	2005-2010	Stohl et al., 2015 http://eclipse.nilu.no http://www.iiasa.ac.at/web/home/research/researchPrograms/air/ECLIPSEv4a.html

ECLIPSE v5	1990-2010	Klimont et al., 2017 http://eclipse.nilu.no http://www.iiasa.ac.at/web/home/research/researchPrograms/air/ECLIPSEv5a.html
Junker&Liousse	1860-1997	Junker and Liousse, 2008
PKU	2002-2013	Huang et al., 2014 http://inventory.pku.edu.cn
CEDS	1950-2014	Hoesly et al., 2018 http://www.globalchange.umd.edu/ceds/

182 **Table 2:** Overview of selected global emission data sets containing data for anthropogenic emissions for
183 South America.
184

185 2.2.1 EDGAR v4.3.1 (January 2016)

186 The Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR) provides global
187 historic anthropogenic emissions of GHG and air pollutants by country, and sector.
188 EDGAR uses a bottom-up methodology with international activity data and emission
189 factors (Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2017; Crippa et al., 2018). The estimated national
190 emissions by sector are distributed on a 0.1°x0.1° grid using geospatial proxy data.. In
191 EDGARv4.3.1 emissions are calculated for gaseous and particulate air pollutants per sector
192 and country for the time series 1970-2010. This version v4.3.1 is the official release of the
193 EDGAR database used for PEGASOS scenarios (Crippa et al., 2016). Source sector
194 specification follows the IPCC 1996 code, as was also done for EDGAR v4.2).

195

196 2.2.2 Eclipsev5

197 The ECLIPSE emission data set was created with the GAINS (Greenhouse gas – Air
198 pollution Interactions and Synergies; <http://gains.iiasa.ac.at>) model (Amann et al., 2011),
199 which calculates emissions of air pollutants and Kyoto greenhouse gases in a consistent
200 framework. The GAINS model holds essential information about key sources of emissions,
201 environmental policies, and further mitigation opportunities for 170 country-regions. The
202 model relies on international and national statistics of activity data for energy use, industrial
203 production, and agricultural activities for which it distinguishes key emission sources and
204 related control measures. Several hundred technologies to control air pollutant and
205 greenhouse gases emissions are represented allowing simulation of implemented air quality
206 legislation. Recently the regional resolution of the global GAINS model has been improved
207 by distinguishing more countries in Latin America where five regions were replaced with

208 13 regions in version V5a, including most countries of South America (UNEP/CCAC.
209 2018). For more details we refer to Klimont et al. (2017).

210

211 2.2.3 CEDSv3 (as of March 2017)

212 The Community Emissions Database System (CEDS) is an open source data system that
213 produces global, historical (1750 - present) estimates of anthropogenic acidifying gases
214 (Hoesly et al., 2018). Emissions are estimated annually and resolved by country, sector, and
215 fuel, and then gridded by year and sector with monthly seasonality. CEDS estimates rely on
216 existing energy consumption data sets and regional and country-specific inventories to
217 produce emission trends over recent decades. A historical emissions dataset was released in
218 2016 for use in research, including CMIP6. For more detailed information see
219 www.globalchange.umd.edu/CEDS

220

221 2.2.4 MACCity

222 The MACCity emissions dataset is based on the ACCMIP (Atmospheric Chemistry and
223 Climate - Model Intercomparison Project) historical emissions dataset developed by
224 Lamarque et al. (2010) and combined with the IPCC AR5 future emissions scenarios called
225 RCPs (Representation Concentration Pathways, Van Vuuren et al., 2011). The ACCMIP
226 and the RCPs emissions dataset have been adapted and extended on a yearly basis for the
227 period 1990-2010. Anthropogenic emissions were interpolated on a yearly basis between
228 the base years 1990, 2000, 2005 and 2010. For the years 2005 and 2010, the RCP 8.5
229 emissions scenario was chosen. For biomass burning emissions, the ACCMIP dataset was
230 extended as well on a monthly basis.. Best reference to the data set is Lamarque et al
231 (2010).

232

233 2.3 City emission data in South America

234 Local emission inventories are compiled for megacities in South America to address
235 deteriorated air quality and implement measures to reduce concentration of air pollutants in
236 these cities (D'Angiola et al., 2010; Gallardo et al., 2012a).

237 For each of the five countries, one city was selected to evaluate the local inventory
 238 against emissions from down-scaled global inventories. A city inventory contains the
 239 emissions occurring within the territory of the city (Table 3) and therefore the
 240 corresponding emissions from global inventories are extracted based on the squared area
 241 surrounding each city. To assess the impact of the choice of the area surrounding the city,
 242 two domains are considered when extracting the city emissions from global inventories; a
 243 small relatively tight domain following the city limits and a somewhat larger one to test if
 244 potential sources that in fact belong to the city are not included in the smaller domain. This
 245 method is rather crude and may introduce errors in the estimate, which are discussed in
 246 section 4.
 247

City	Country	Year (s)	Sectors	Pollutants	Reference
Buenos Aires	Argentina	1970-2012	Transport	PM ₁₀ , NO _x , SO ₂ , CO, VOC	D'Angiola, et al., 2010
Bogota	Colombia	2012	Transport & Industry	PM ₁₀ , NO _x , SO _x , CO, CO ₂ , VOC	Rojas & Peñalosa, 2012; Pachón et al., 2018
Lima	Peru	2014	Transport, Residential, Industry	PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀ , NO _x , SO _x , CO, CO ₂ , VOC	Reátegui et al., 2018
Santiago	Chile	2012	Transport, Industry, Residential, Agriculture, Construction, Total	PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀ , NO _x , SO _x , CO, CO ₂ , VOC, CH ₄ , NH ₃	USACH, 2014
Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	2013	Transport	TSP, NO _x , SO _x , CO	GQA, 2016

248 **Table 3:** Overview of cities data (city, year(s), pollutants, reference) – see section 3.1 (Please add reference to
 249 each inventory)
 250

251 2.4 Source sector definitions

252 The various global inventories used in this paper do not all share the same source sector
 253 definitions. Therefore, we have aggregated several sectors to come to a common sector
 254 breakdown (Table 4). This implies that individual inventories may have a more detailed

255 sector breakdown than we use here. For example, EDGAR provides emission data for 12
 256 IPCC 1996 main source categories whereas we aggregate the data into 8 different sectors.
 257

<i>Source sector</i>	Description
Agriculture	Agriculture
Power	Power generation, transformation industry and refineries
Industry	Combustion and process emissions from industry
FF_prod	Fossil Fuel production, exploration and transmission
Residential Combustion	Residential and small commercial stationary combustion
Waste	Solid waste disposal and waste incineration (without energy/heat production)
Transportation	Transport excluding international shipping and excluding international non-LTO ^{a)} aviation
Solvents	Use of solvents

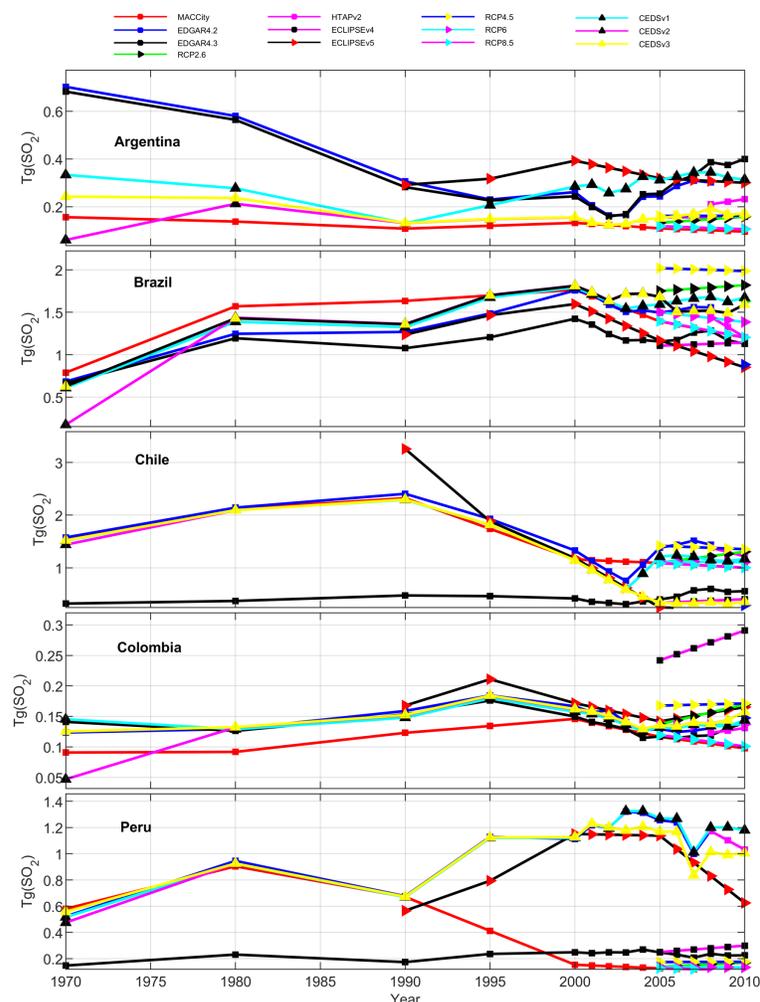
258 **Table 4:** The aggregated source sectors used for intercomparison of selected inventories and city inventories.
 259 Note that in this work, Agriculture does not include savanna burning, but does include agricultural waste
 260 burning. Furthermore, CEDS includes agriculture waste burning under Waste – not under agriculture;
 261 ECLIPSE includes flaring emissions.
 262 ^{a)} Landing and take off

263 3 Results

264 3.1 Emission inventories by pollutant and by country

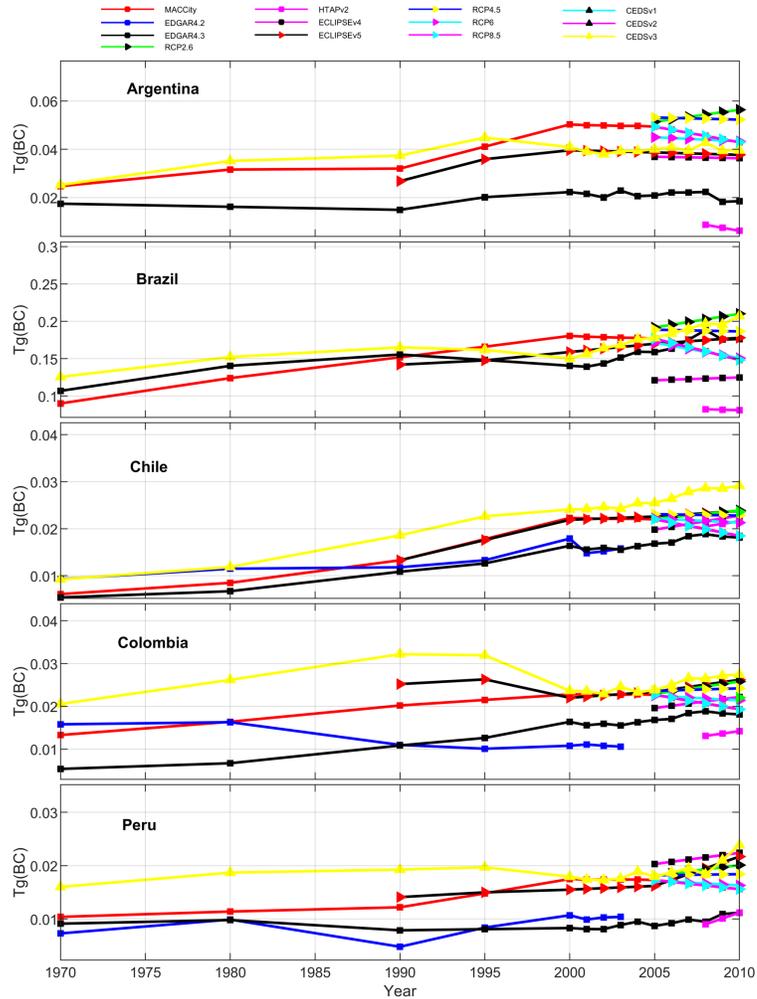
265 The SO₂ and BC emissions from the different global emission inventories (**Table 2**) for the
 266 five SA countries are plotted as a function of time (Fig 2, Fig 3, respectively). Similar
 267 figures for other pollutants are presented in Supplement material section 1 (Figures S01 to
 268 S06). The main observation is that emission estimates from different inventories widely
 269 vary and do not show a trend to converge. For some countries the early years vary widely
 270 (e.g. Argentina SO₂), while for others the discrepancy increases with time (e.g. Peru SO₂).
 271 Overall, discrepancies of a factor 2-3 are present for all countries and pollutants. Some of
 272 the inventories shown in **Table 2** and Fig 2 and Fig. 3 are no longer considered up to date

273 but the overall overview is useful because these inventories were used in important global
 274 assessments and it is not unlikely that those results may be sensitive to such differences in
 275 emission data. We will not discuss all these discrepancies in detail. In general, it can be
 276 stated that discrepancies between the emission inventories have multiple reasons including:
 277 1. Emission factors may have been updated and improved over time.
 278 2. Activity data may have been updated and improved over time.
 279 3. New sources may have been identified over time.
 280 4. The definition of which sources to be included in the inventory may differ between
 281 inventories.



282
 283
 284
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 286
 287

Figure 2: Total annual sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emissions [Tg/yr] for the period 1970 to 2010 for global emission inventories: MACCity, EDGARv2, EDGARv3, HTAPv2, ECLIPSEv4, ECLIPSEv5, RCP2.6, RCP4.5, RCP6, RCP8.5, CEDSv1, CEDSv2 and CEDSv3. See figure legend for colours and symbols associated to each inventory.

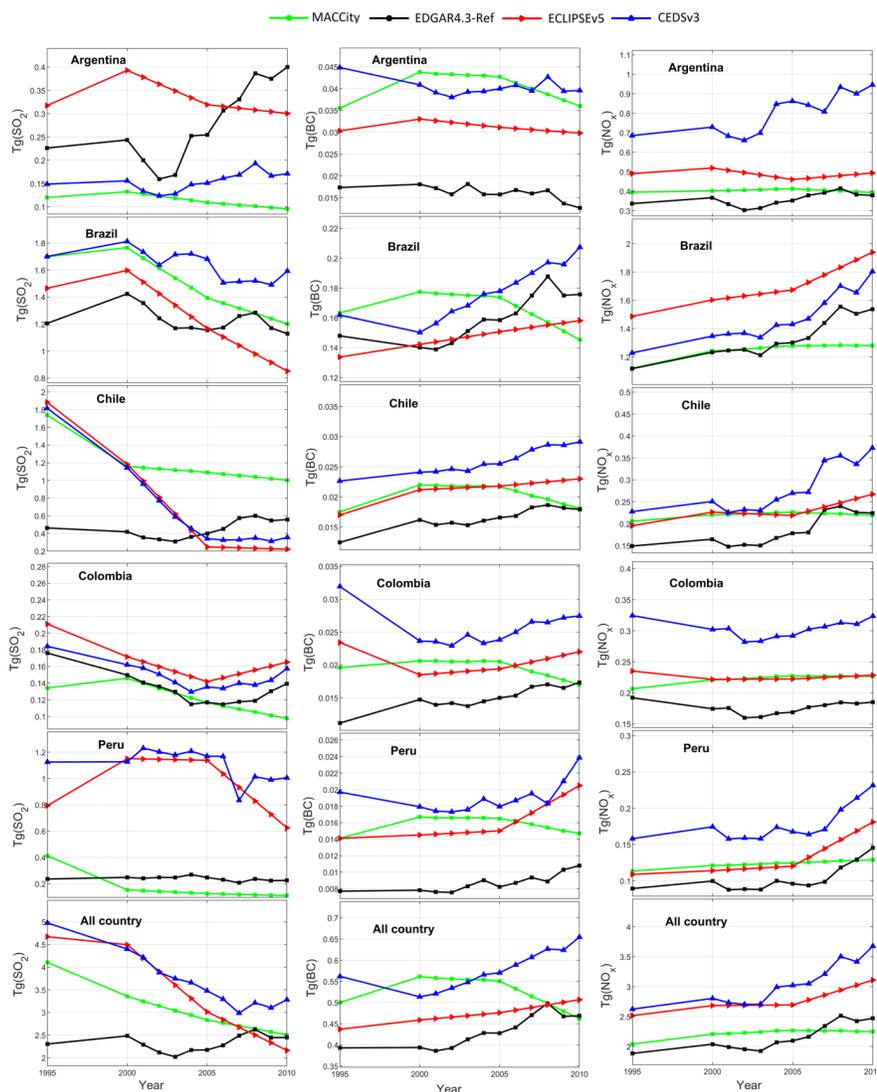


288

289 **Figure 3:** Same as Figure 2 but for black carbon (BC) and global inventories:
 290 MACCity, PKU, Junker-Liousse, HTAPv2, ECLIPSEv4, ECLIPSEv5, RCP2.6, RCP4.5,
 291 RCP6, RCP8.5, EDGARv3 and CEDSV3.
 292

293 Based on the criteria outlined in section 2.3 we focus a further analysis on 4 recent
 294 emission inventories; EDGAR 4.3.1, ECLIPSEv5, CEDSV3 and MACCity and restrict the
 295 analysis only to the years 1995 to 2010. Subsequent versions of emission inventories can
 296 differ substantially because of some of the reasons outlined above. Compare for example
 297 Eclipse v4 and v5; CEDSV1 and v3 in Figure 2 and Figure 3. Klimont et al. (2017)
 298 document that the major change between their ECLIPSE v5 and previous ECLIPSE
 299 versions is that IEA and FAO statistical data were reimported for the period 1990-2010,
 300 international shipping was included and that their global BC numbers are higher than
 301 previously published owing primarily to inclusion of new sources. Another, often

302 overlooked issue is the inclusion or exclusion of semi-anthropogenic sources like forest
 303 fires or agricultural waste burning. Compare for example HTAPv2.2 and EDGARv4.3.1 in
 304 Figure 3 for Brazil. The emissions for all source sectors are equal but HTAPv2.2 excludes
 305 agricultural waste burning, and EDGARv4.3 includes it. In SA this is a relevant source and
 306 therefore HTAPv2.2 and EDGARv4.3.1 appear different inventories but the difference is
 307 simply a result of inclusion or exclusion of agricultural waste burning. Out of simplicity,
 308 the version of each inventory will be omitted henceforth and thus inventories will be
 309 referred to as EDGAR, ECLIPSE and CEDS.



310

311 **Figure 4:** Total annual emissions of SO₂ (left), BC (centre) and NO_x (right) [Tg/yr]
 312 for global inventories MACCity (green), EDGAR4.3 (black), ECLIPSEv5 (red) and
 313 CEDSv3 (blue) for the period 1995 to 2010.

314 It is also important to note that emission inventories may show comparable patterns
315 for one country and significantly diverse patterns for another country. Differences are seen
316 in terms of trend and/or magnitude and this will be mostly related to different key source
317 contributions in different countries. For SO₂ these differences are seen both in terms of
318 trends for Argentina and magnitude for Colombia and Peru (Figure 4). Whereas for NO_x
319 and BC, differences are mostly in terms of magnitude; see for example Argentina and
320 Colombia for NO_x and Brazil and Chile for BC (Figure 4) (See figures S7 to S10 for
321 equivalent figures of the other pollutants considered in this work). We highlight that for
322 most species the SA year-to-year variability (lower panels) is dominated by emissions in
323 Brazil except for SO₂ and NO_x. For SO₂ annual variability is also determined by emissions
324 in Chile and Peru resulting from their mining activities. Argentina also contributes to the
325 SA year-to-year variability for NO_x emissions.

326 In addition to the spread in total emissions presented above, the EIs also differ in the
327 relative contribution of each sector (Table S1 in supplement material). While the diversity
328 between the emission inventories is small for SO₂ and NH₃ it is considerable for the other
329 species. A more detailed description of this diversity in sectorial emissions between
330 inventories is provided in the supplement material.

331

332 3.2 Particulate matter emissions

333 Particulate matter and its components, BC and OC are important species for air quality,
334 health and climate change (Bond et al, 2013; IPCC, 2018). Next to BC and OC, PM_{2.5}
335 and/or PM₁₀ can contain other components like sulphates, nitrates and mineral particles but
336 in combustion emissions the bulk is BC + OC. Therefore, looking at BC+OC in relation to
337 PM provides information on the type of emission factors used. Moreover, theoretically
338 BC+OC cannot exceed PM_{2.5} as BC and OC emissions are smaller than 2.5 µm. The
339 contribution of BC and BC+OC to PM_{2.5} as well as the contribution of PM_{2.5} to PM₁₀ is
340 analysed in more detail in Table 5. In addition, we pay attention to the ratio of CO to NO_x
341 (Table 5), which may provide insights into the role of traffic emissions (Monks et al, 2015;
342 Gallardo et al, 2012a; Vivanco and Andrade, 2006). Note that the present analysis and
343 Table 5 are only for Transport emissions.

344 EDGAR has in general larger BC content in PM_{2.5} than ECLIPSE except for Chile. In
345 both inventories this contribution increases from 1995 to 2010 except for Argentina, and
346 this increase is larger in ECLIPSE than EDGAR. Although BC is the product of incomplete
347 combustion, such a trend can be explained by better combustion at higher temperatures,
348 which first causes less particulate OC formation, and in a later, further advanced stage may
349 also reduce the formation of BC. For the fraction of BC+OC in PM_{2.5}, EDGAR presents the
350 same features as for BC; decreasing trend in Argentina and increasing one in the other
351 countries and the largest increase in Chile. This similarity between both ratios is likely due
352 to the use of the same drivers to estimate the emissions. However, ECLIPSE does not seem
353 to use the same drivers to estimate BC and OC emissions; while for the ratio BC/PM_{2.5} the
354 country with the largest growth was Colombia, for the ratio (BC + OC)/PM_{2.5} Chile and
355 Peru presented the largest increase. We note that both, Argentina and Peru, have unrealistic
356 fractions larger than 1 in EDGAR (Table 5)¹ The use of independent OC emission factors
357 in EDGAR (that is, independent from PM_{2.5}) could explain these unrealistic values and
358 allow BC+OC to be larger than PM_{2.5}. In addition, EDGAR considers that all emitted PM₁₀
359 for road transport is also PM_{2.5} while ECLIPSE estimates the coarse PM fraction (PM₁₀-
360 PM_{2.5}) to be approximately 10%, and gradually increasing over time from approximately
361 8% to 11%. Finally, the CO/NO_x ratio decreases over time with a comparable decrease in
362 both inventories. When comparing the ratios CO/NO_x by country and across the years we
363 see a consistent lower CO/NO_x ratio for ECLIPSE compared to EDGAR. Yet, while in
364 EDGAR, both Argentina and Chile show an increasing trend since 2005; in ECLIPSE only
365 Chile presents this trend. The CO/NO_x emission ratios are important for atmospheric
366 chemistry and composition. If better national data would be available, this discrepancy
367 should be analysed and reconciled or at least better understood as it highlights a
368 fundamental difference.

369

370

371

¹ This is now corrected in version EDGARv4.3.2 where the PM_{2.5}biofuel, PM_{2.5}fossil and BC and OC have been revised and a ratio smaller than 1 is guaranteed for the sum of BC and OC over the sum of PM_{2.5}fossil and PM_{2.5}biofuel.

Transp.	EDGAR4.3.1-Ref			ECLIPSEv5			EDGAR4.3.1-Ref	ECLIPSEv5
1995	BC/PM2.5 (BC+OC)/ PM2.5/PM10 PM2.5			BC/PM2.5 (BC+OC)/ PM2.5/PM10 PM2.5			CO/NOx	CO/NOx
Argentina	0.71	1.18	1.00	0.45	0.82	0.94	14.28	5.51
Brazil	0.52	0.86	1.00	0.45	0.82	0.93	9.57	6.31
Chile	0.38	0.63	1.00	0.44	0.84	0.91	16.77	7.76
Colombia	0.48	0.80	1.00	0.20	0.78	0.91	28.71	12.26
Peru	0.65	1.08	1.00	0.36	0.81	0.92	12.57	5.88
2000								
Argentina	0.69	1.14	1.00	0.48	0.84	0.94	9.70	4.01
Brazil	0.53	0.89	1.00	0.48	0.84	0.92	8.86	5.51
Chile	0.51	0.81	1.00	0.48	0.87	0.90	17.87	6.76
Colombia	0.48	0.79	1.00	0.33	0.80	0.89	23.14	10.17
Peru	0.63	1.04	1.00	0.44	0.85	0.92	10.43	5.46
2005								
Argentina	0.67	1.09	1.00	0.50	0.83	0.93	8.16	3.28
Brazil	0.50	0.83	1.00	0.50	0.84	0.91	7.22	4.81
Chile	0.46	0.73	1.00	0.54	0.90	0.89	11.36	5.08
Colombia	0.52	0.84	1.00	0.39	0.81	0.89	17.66	8.13
Peru	0.71	1.15	1.00	0.48	0.86	0.91	9.27	4.55
2010								
Argentina	0.69	1.13	1.00	0.53	0.85	0.92	13.02	3.13
Brazil	0.54	0.88	1.00	0.53	0.87	0.90	6.11	3.56
Chile	0.50	0.79	1.00	0.57	0.93	0.86	12.01	5.42
Colombia	0.52	0.84	1.00	0.46	0.82	0.89	11.51	5.88
Peru	0.84	1.32	1.00	0.51	0.88	0.89	7.52	3.74

372 **Table 5:** Road transport emission fraction of BC in PM2.5, BC+OC in PM2.5, fraction of PM2.5 in PM10
373 and CO/NOx ratio for EDGAR and ECLIPSE.

374 Note: the color scale only applies to CO/NOx one can see that it becomes lighter from 1995 to 2010 and that
375 EDGAR CO/NOx ratio tends to be higher than ECLIPSE

376

377 3.3 Comparison of city emission data with global inventories

378 Emission estimates from local and global inventories are intercompared for total
379 emission as well as individual source sectors (Transport, Industry and Residential)

380 whenever available. To keep the comparison transparent only EDGAR and ECLIPSE are
381 considered in this analysis because CEDS partly relies on EDGAR and other inventories.
382 One city per country was selected; namely Bogota, Buenos Aires, Lima, Rio de Janeiro and
383 Santiago (Table 3). Unfortunately, the local city inventories differ substantially in terms of
384 sectors included, period and pollutants considered (Table 3). Furthermore, while both
385 global EIs are available for the year 2010, the local city EIs are only available for specific
386 years and the year nearest to 2010 was selected (Table 3). The corresponding emission
387 from the global EIs for a given city was derived by considering emissions within a squared
388 domain surrounding the city. To assess the sensitivity of the method, two domains are
389 considered; a small one with its limits in the vicinity of the city and a larger one
390 considering potential sources excluded in the smaller domain. Maps illustrating each
391 domain as well as the emissions included in each one are provided in the supplement
392 material (Figure S11 to S13).

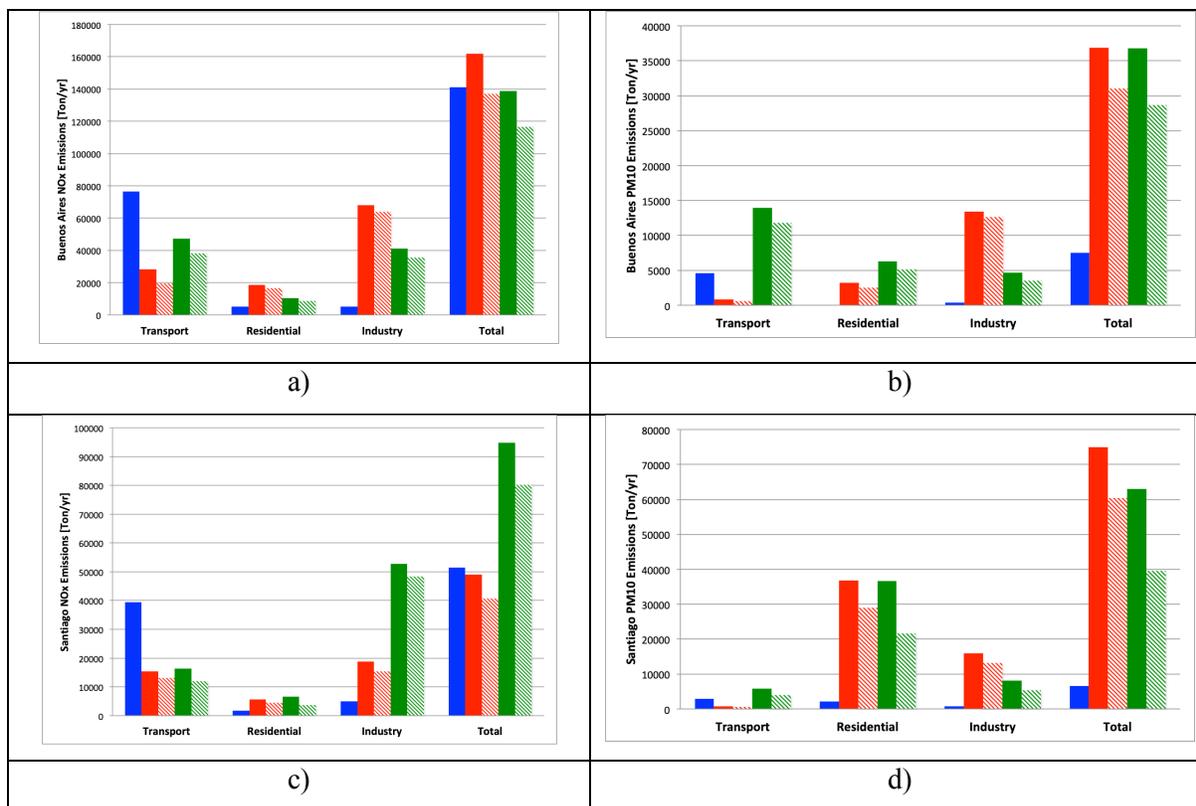
393 The total emissions from Santiago and Buenos Aires (the only two cities with
394 emission estimates for all sectors) will be analyzed first and then the analysis will be
395 extended to sectorial emissions for the remaining cities. We focus on two pollutants; NO_x
396 and PM₁₀, since the goal of this analysis is not to validate either inventory but to highlight
397 differences between them and identify the impact of local information in the estimate. In
398 **Table 6** an overview is given for the cut-out from EDGAR and ECLIPSE that represents the
399 Santiago and Buenos Aires metropolitan areas by sector and how it relates to national total
400 emissions. Knowing that over 1/3 of Argentina's and Chile's population live in their
401 corresponding capitals (Buenos Aires and Santiago, respectively) their share of Transport
402 emissions appears small but an in-depth analysis by inventory would be needed to fully
403 understand this. Furthermore, regardless of the domain considered, ECLIPSE attributes a
404 larger fraction of the total national transport emissions to both cities than EDGAR while the
405 opposite occurs for industrial emissions. For residential and total emissions, percentages
406 between both inventories and for both domains are comparable. In terms of NO_x emissions,
407 for Buenos Aires both inventories assign comparable percentages of the total emissions to
408 transport but differ for residential and industrial emissions. In spite of these differences,
409 both inventories allocate comparable fractions of the national total emissions to Buenos
410 Aires. On the contrary, for Santiago both inventories present comparable percentages for

411 transport and industrial emissions but differ in residential and total emissions. Detailed,
412 spatial explicit national inventories for Argentina and Chile would be extremely useful to
413 elucidate the reasons for the discrepancies highlighted above. For EDGAR the geospatial
414 proxy data have been disclosed in Janssens-Maenhout et al. (2017) for the sake of
415 transparency but exactly why higher or lower shares of emissions are attributed to the city
416 remains unclear.

417 The relative magnitude of total NO_x emissions for both cities depend on the domain
418 or regions considered to estimate the city emission from global inventories. EDGAR
419 presents for Buenos Aires comparable emissions to the local inventory when the smaller
420 domain is considered and larger emissions when using the larger domain, whereas the
421 contrary is observed for Santiago where the estimate based on the larger domain is
422 comparable to the local inventory and the one based on the smaller domain presents smaller
423 emissions than the local one (Figure 5). Spatial distribution of the emission in each city
424 explains this opposite behavior; while for Buenos Aires most of the city NO_x emissions are
425 distributed within the city domain enclosed by the smaller domain, for Santiago the
426 emissions are distributed beyond the city limits and fall thus outside of the smaller domain
427 but are captured by the larger one (Figure S12e and S12n in the supplement material).
428 Contrary to EDGAR for Santiago, ECLIPSE presents larger emissions than the local
429 inventory regardless of the domain used to estimate the city emissions. For Buenos Aires
430 however, the estimate based on the larger domain is comparable to the local inventory
431 while the estimate based on the smaller domain is smaller than the local inventory. The
432 local inventories in both cities estimate smaller emissions for the Transport sector (Figure
433 5). The contrasting estimates between Transport sector and the Residential and Industrial
434 sectors between the Global EIs and the local city EIs may be partly related to the
435 distribution proxies used in the global inventories but the impact on total emissions
436 attributed to the cities is large (Figure 5).

437 Except for Transport, both EIs (and regardless of the domain used to estimate the city
438 emissions) present larger PM₁₀ emissions than local inventories for both cities. Finally, for
439 total emissions both inventories present comparable emissions for Buenos Aires whereas
440 for Santiago EDGAR presents larger emissions than ECLIPSE per domain.

441



442 **Figure 5:** Total and sector emissions (Transport, Residential and Industry) of NOx
 443 and PM10 for Buenos Aires (a and b, respectively) and Santiago (c and d, respectively)
 444 from local EIs (blue) as well as global EIs EDGAR (red) and ECLIPSE (green). Estimates
 445 for a large (filled) and small (shaded) domain are included for each global EI. See figure
 446 S01 for limits of each domain and city boundaries.
 447

448 The analysis is extended to all selected cities for the Industrial, Residential and
 449 Transport sector. Emissions from both global inventories are presented only when a local
 450 inventory is available for comparison (Figure S14 in supplement material). The analysis
 451 focuses on cities not analyzed before, namely Bogota and Lima. Residential and Industrial
 452 emissions present the same features for both pollutants; global inventories are mostly larger
 453 than the local ones. While in general EDGAR emissions are larger than ECLIPSE ones for
 454 both sectors in Bogota the opposite is seen for Lima where ECLIPSE is larger than
 455 EDGAR. We note that for Lima, estimates for each inventory between both approaches are
 456 mostly the same indicating that allocation of the sources are confined within the city
 457 included in the smaller domain. The opposite of Residential and Industrial emissions is
 458 seen in the Transport sector for NOx where the local inventories are mostly larger than the
 459 global ones (probably due to the geospatial allocation of roads x population into the city).

460 Exception to this is Rio de Janeiro where based on the domain considered for the estimate
 461 the estimates are either larger (EDGAR based no large domain), smaller (ECLIPSE based
 462 on small domain) or comparable to the local inventory. For PM10 emissions from the
 463 Transport sector, EDGAR mostly estimates smaller emissions than the local inventory
 464 whereas ECLIPSE in general estimates larger emissions with the exception of Lima where
 465 they are comparable with the local inventory.

466 Although the magnitude of the estimated emissions from the global inventories for
 467 each city depends on the region considered, the results with respect to the local inventories
 468 are in general independent of the selected domain.

469

	EDGAR				ECLIPSE			
	Transport	RCO	Industry	All sectors	Transport	RCO	Industry	All sectors
PM10								
(tons/yr)								
Buenos Aires	580 (868)	2491 (3192)	12643 (13424)	31020 (36836)	11805 (13943)	5146 (6295)	3553 (4647)	28655 (36814)
Percentage of national total	6% (8%)	26% (33%)	28% (30%)	8% (9%)	24% (29%)	31% (38%)	8% (11%)	11% (15%)
Santiago	618 (751)	28976 (36834)	13170 (15989)	60396 (74994)	3994 (5842)	21635 (36640)	5398 (8182)	39611 (62920)
Percentage of national total	4% (5%)	31% (39%)	38% (47%)	25% (31%)	27% (39%)	25% (43%)	10% (15%)	21% (34%)
NOx (tons/yr)								
Buenos Aires	19386 (28285)	16664 (18545)	64053 (68106)	137160 (161879)	38348 (47182)	8760 (10442)	35508 (41205)	116671 (138942)
Percentage of national total	10% (15%)	68% (75%)	75% (80%)	29% (34%)	12% (14%)	45% (54%)	51% (59%)	23% (28%)
Santiago	13125 (15299)	4420 (5564)	15398 (18769)	40774 (49008)	12005 (16360)	3644 (6546)	48420 (52740)	80195 (94801)
Percentage of national total	13% (15%)	51% (64%)	47% (57%)	17% (21%)	9% (13%)	39% (70%)	53% (58%)	30% (35%)

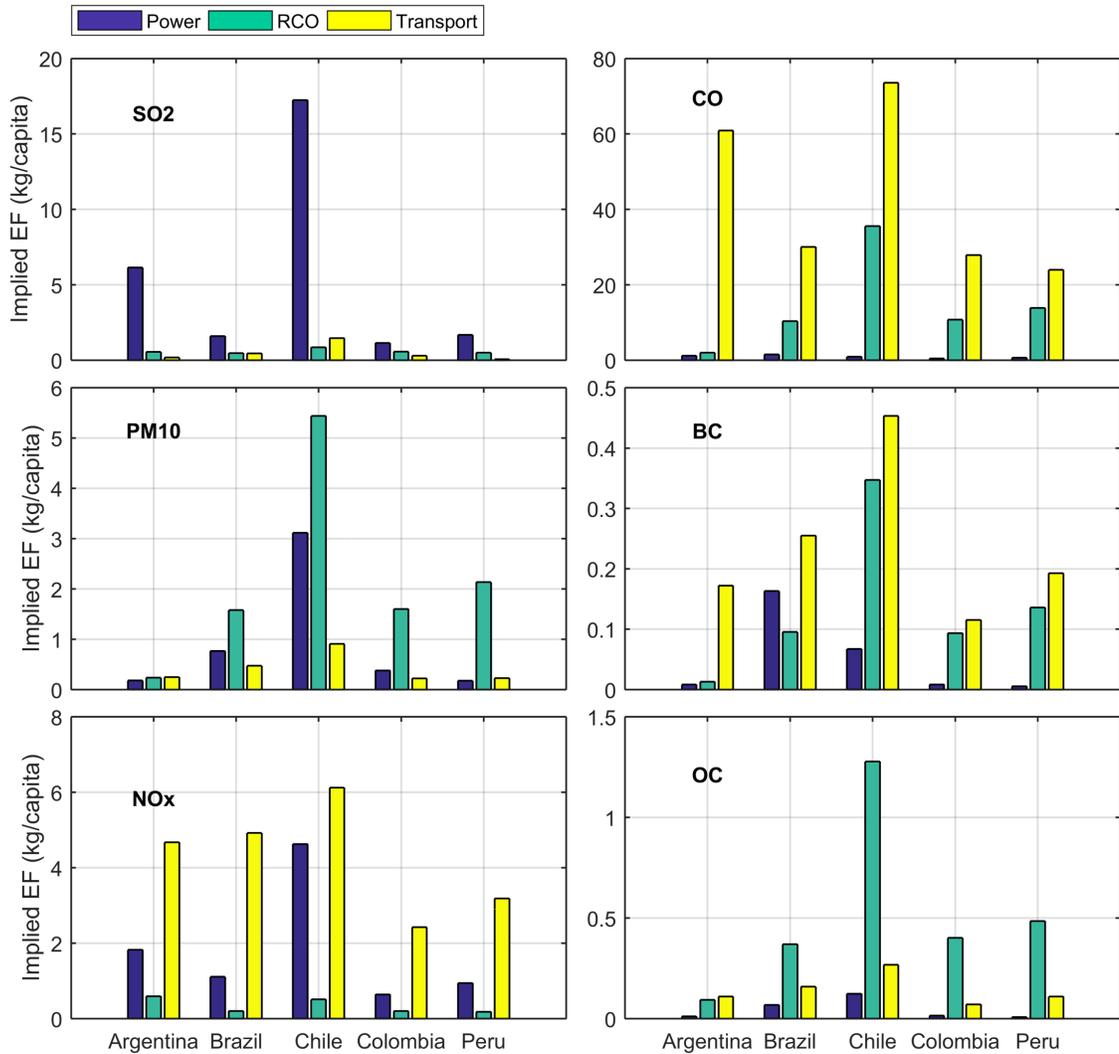
470 **Table 6:** Extracted city domain emissions of small (large) domain for Buenos Aires and Santiago for PM10
 471 and NOx in 2010 and the fraction of national total emissions located in the city domain for 2010
 472

473 4 Discussion.

474 Brazil is the largest emitter of all analyzed species, except for SO₂ where its
 475 emissions are comparable with those from Chile and Peru. This is not surprising as it is the
 476 largest and most populated country in SA. However, when emissions are considered per
 477 capita, i.e. they are normalized by population, this domination of Brazil disappears (Figure

478 6 and 7). To limit the amount of data, we only present normalized data for the inventories
479 ECLIPSE and EDGAR, including more inventories would not give significantly different
480 insights. We only normalize sectors by population if population has a direct link with
481 activities causing emissions, such as heating of houses (residential), commuting (transport)
482 and industrial heat/power use. For sectors like agriculture and industry, population is not a
483 good proxy to normalize emissions. Normalization by population of EDGAR emissions
484 reveals that Chile is, in general, the country with the largest emissions per capita among
485 these five countries. Chile stands out as the largest emitter per capita for SO₂, PM₁₀ and OC
486 mostly related to the residential sector and power generation (Figure 6). For BC, Chile is
487 also dominating due to transport and residential emissions. Finally, emissions of CO and
488 NO_x are dominated by the transport sector where again Chile has the largest emissions per
489 capita, but those from Argentina and Brazil follow with smaller differences than for the
490 other species. Normalization of ECLIPSE emissions by population presents similar figures
491 as EDGAR for the power and residential sector with larger implied emission factors (EF)
492 for EDGAR in the power sector but in general, smaller ones in the residential sector (Figure
493 7). Largest differences between both inventories are seen in the transport sector. While
494 Chile is the largest emitter per capita for PM₁₀, BC, OC and NO_x according to EDGAR, the
495 largest emitter according to ECLIPSE is Argentina. Part of the differences can be
496 understood from geographical data. Chile is the country with a substantial amount of the
497 population living in the South with cold winters and residential emission will be much
498 higher in a cold climate, hence higher per capita emissions for residential sector. Another
499 explaining factor is the economic development, in a relatively affluent country like Chile
500 (see Fig 1) more people will own a car or have access to transportation and as a result more
501 vehicle km (vkm) and transport emissions per person can be expected. This, however,
502 already becomes more difficult to generalize because a more affluent country will have a
503 more modern car fleet with less emission per vkm, but more vkm still create more
504 emissions. So, while per capita transport emissions in Chile rank high (Figure 6 and 7), per
505 vkm they would probably be lower than some of the other countries. The data for power are
506 most difficult to interpret. For SO₂ it is related to the S content in the fuel used but more
507 important we may have to correct for (small) industrial power use and we lack the data to
508 properly do this. Also climatic differences may play a role. In general the normalization in

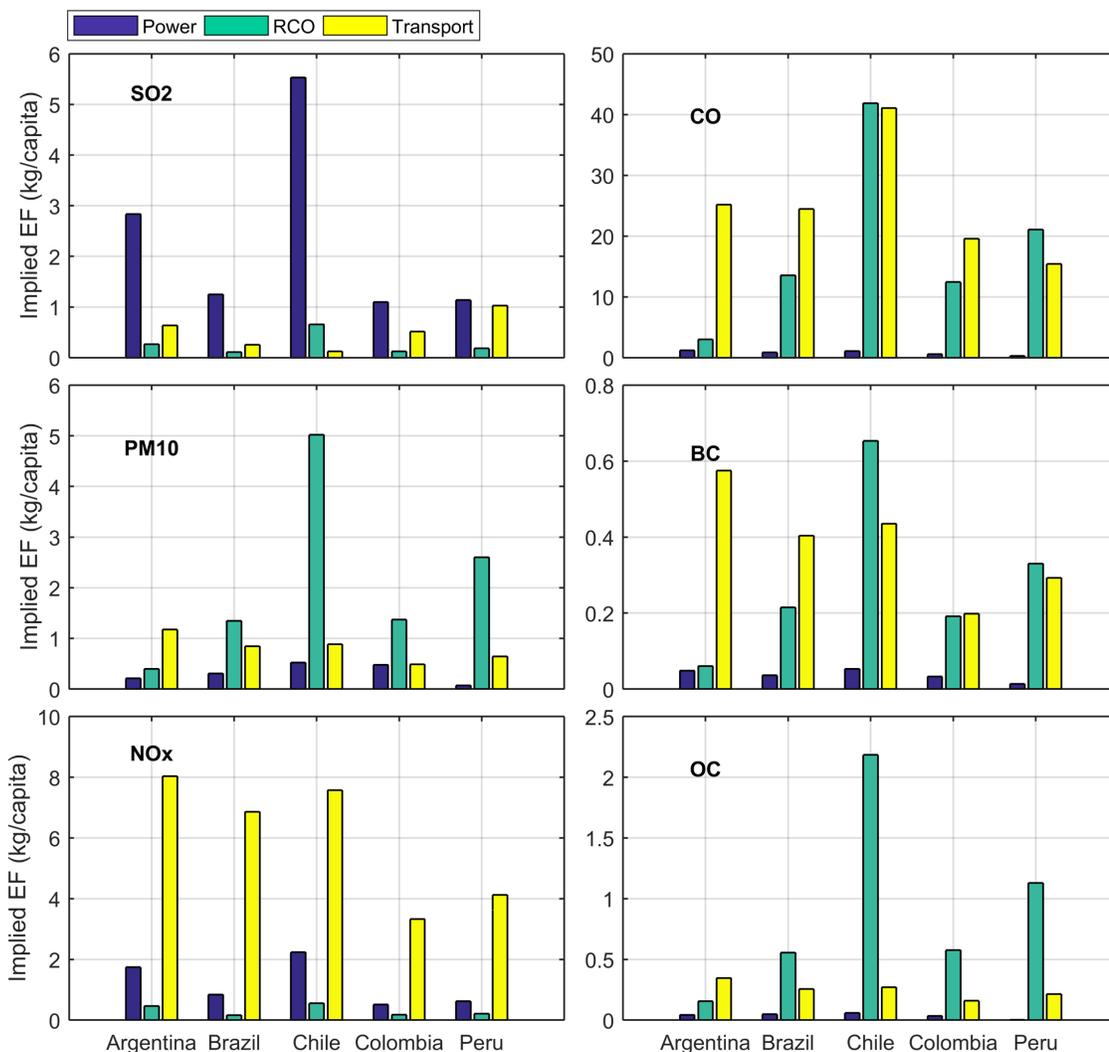
509 Figure 6 and 7 suggests we may expect that per capita emissions from Colombia and Peru
 510 will still grow.
 511



512
 513 **Figure 6:** Normalized (by population) national emissions of SO₂, CO, PM₁₀, BC,
 514 NO_x and OC from the global inventory EDGAR for Transport (yellow), RCO (green) and
 515 Power (blue) sector for the five selected countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and
 516 Peru).

517
 518 Global Inventories use generic statistical country data to estimate emissions by
 519 combining for example transportation fuel sales data with emissions factors (e.g. Klimont et
 520 al. 2017, Crippa et al., 2018). Using road transport as an example, it is known that he

521 emission factors are strongly dependent on the engine technology, type of fuel and fuel
522 quality. The latter is highly variable and rapidly changing in SA. Global scale inventories
523 try to capture this change over time but can only do so in a rather generic way, at best for
524 individual countries but often by grouping multiple countries in similar “stage of
525 technology development” classes. However, for air quality modelling and exposure in
526 major cities the patterns in, and within, individual countries are important. This is
527 illustrated with diesel fuel in Argentina as an example (Table 7). Argentina has three grades
528 of diesel; Grade 1 (Agrodiesel or Gasoil Agro), is intended mainly for agricultural
529 equipment. Grade 2 (Gasoil Común; common diesel fuel), is intended for the bulk of diesel
530 fuelled vehicles and the sulphur limit of 500 ppm is not strictly enforced. Grade 3 diesel
531 fuel, also known as Gasoil Ultra, is the highest quality diesel fuel. Another complication is
532 that a policy or resolution may be accepted but the delay in implementation can be
533 substantial; as seen in Table 7; a resolution for low sulphur fuels was accepted in 2016 but
534 availability on the market is not expected until 3 years later. This kind of details are
535 important but often only known by local or national experts. In the supplement material we
536 provide additional information on sulphur contents in fuel and its evolution in SA (see
537 Table S2), illustrating the importance of national and subnational policies. However, from
538 **Table 7** we can already see how challenging proper incorporation and spatial distribution
539 will be for global emission inventories. Various grades may exist next to each other and
540 will be implemented differently across the country, severely affecting the emissions in
541 urban population centers. The example of the complex temporal and spatial implementation
542 of the sulphur fuel standards shows the importance of working with local and national
543 teams, especially when high resolution and spatial distribution is important to predict
544 exposure and define mitigation measures. For global scale studies these details will be of
545 limited importance but when understanding the air pollution in South American cities or
546 regions it may be crucial. Also, when assessing climate impacts and mitigation options this
547 may become increasingly important.



548

549

Figure 7: Same as Figure 6 but for global inventory ECLIPSE.

550

Grade	name	Sulphur limit (ppm)				
		2006	2008	2009	Current	June 2016 ^{a)}
1	Agrodiesel or Gasoil Agro	3000	2500	2000	1500	1000
2	Gasoil Comun	1500 ^{b)/} 2500	1500 ^{b)/} 2000	500 ^{b)/} 2000	500	30
3	Gasoil Ultra	500	500	50	10	10

551

Table 7: Stepwise changes in diesel Sulphur limits in Argentina since 2006.

552

^{a)} Date of resolution, market availability is expected in 2019.

553

^{b)} Sold in high population zones (more than 90,000 inhabitants, since 2008 50,000 inhabitants)

554

555 The analysis of local city emission estimates against results from global inventories
556 for the corresponding domain strongly highlight the importance of including local
557 information. The emission estimates are dramatically different. If emissions are to be
558 applied to forecast air quality and/or to develop mitigation measures the results from down-
559 scaled global inventories as compared to local city data will be entirely different. To come
560 to more general conclusions we have calculated the ratio by source sector for the down-
561 scaled emissions from the global inventories and the local city inventories (Table 8). In this
562 table a value smaller than 1 indicates that the local estimate is higher (green shading), a
563 value higher than 1 indicates the down-scaled estimate is higher (orange shading). The
564 sectors industry and power had to be grouped because in the city inventories this is often
565 one category. A comparison for total emissions could only be made for Santiago and
566 Buenos Aires because other city inventories are not complete. However, for these two cities
567 the sectors transportation, RCO and Industry and power represent $62 \pm 10\%$ and $79 \pm 9\%$ of
568 the emissions for PM10 and NOx, respectively. Hence, the comparison of the other cities is
569 likely to cover at least the most important sectors and emissions.

570 Except for Lima, for each global inventory the magnitude of the estimated emission
571 between the two domains (large and small) is mostly different, yet the relative magnitude to
572 the local inventory is in general independent of the selected domain with the exception of
573 total NOx Emissions in Buenos Aires from EDGAR and transport PM10 emissions in
574 Bogota and NOx emissions in Lima from ECLIPSE. Therefore, the following analysis will
575 focus on the dominant features between the local inventory and the equivalent estimate
576 from each global inventory.

577 The result show that transportation emissions are estimated to be higher in local city
578 inventories in most of the cities, except for Rio de Janeiro where global inventories are
579 higher than the local inventory. Sometimes the result is close to 1 (e.g. PM10 ECLIPSE for
580 Lima) but more often the discrepancies are large up to a factor of 5 (e.g. NOx ECLIPSE for
581 Santiago) or even up to a factor of 10 when the NOx ECLIPSE estimate for Lima based on
582 the small domain is considered. This is remarkable because the selected cities represent a
583 large fraction of the national population and transport emissions are assumed to be in some

584 way proportional to population, and in the case of Santiago 40% of the Chilean population
 585 lives in the Santiago Metropolitan region.

586
 587

City	Inventory	Transport		Residential		Industry		Total	
		PM10	NOx	PM10	NOx	PM10	NOx	PM10	NOx
Bogota	Local	1 ^{a)}	1	NA ^{a)}	NA	1	1	NA	NA
	EDGAR-S	0.44	0.19			5.5	3.1		
	EDGAR-L	0.54	0.24			8.1	4.3		
	ECLIPSE-S	0.96	0.07			1.2	3.1		
	ECLIPSE-L	2.25	0.22			3.1	3.8		
Lima	Local	1	1	1	1	1	1	NA	NA
	EDGAR-S	0.30	0.52	49	5.4	8.7	32		
	EDGAR-L	0.35	0.60	50	5.6	8.7	32		
	ECLIPSE-S	1.1	0.17	76	8.2	14.2	39		
	ECLIPSE-L	1.1	0.17	76	8.2	14.2	39		
Rio de Janeiro*	Local	1	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	EDGAR-S	0.60	1.3						
	EDGAR-L	0.96	1.9						
	ECLIPSE-S	3.0	0.44						
	ECLIPSE-L	5.2	1.1						
Santiago	Local	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	EDGAR-S	0.21	0.33	13	2.5	18	3.1	9.2	0.79
	EDGAR-L	0.26	0.39	17	3.1	22	3.8	11	0.95
	ECLIPSE-S	1.4	0.31	10	2.0	7.3	9.8	6.0	1.6
	ECLIPSE-L	2.0	0.42	17	3.7	11	11	9.6	1.8
Buenos Aires	Local	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	EDGAR-S	0.13	0.25	6.2	3.2	32	12	4.1	0.97
	EDGAR-L	0.19	0.37	8.0	3.6	34	13	4.9	1.2
	ECLIPSE-S	2.6	0.50	13	1.7	8.9	6.7	3.8	0.83
	ECLIPSE-L	3.0	0.62	16	2.0	12	7.7	4.9	0.98

588 **Table 8:** Ratio of city domain inventory over local city inventory for PM10 and NOx emissions for transport,
 589 RCO and industry & power. A comparison of total emissions could only be done for Santiago and Buenos
 590 Aires.

591 ^{a)} NA = Not Available; A ratio of 1 for the local inventory indicates the source sector is estimated, if no sector
 592 estimate is available in the local inventory, a ratio for EDGAR or ECLIPSE could not be calculated.

593 *PM as TSP in local

594

595 In contrast with the emissions from the transportation sector, the emissions from other
 596 sectors (Residential and Industry & Power) are overwhelmingly larger in the downscaled
 597 global inventories. The discrepancies can easily amount to a factor 10 or more with an

598 extreme of a factor 70 for ECLIPSE PM10 from the Residential sector in Lima. An
599 overestimation in down-scaled global inventories for RCO emissions is not surprising as
600 they are likely to use population density as a proxy, whereas national or cities information
601 may have better data on which fuels are used where in the country; e.g. more in rural or
602 colder mountainous areas. As a result the ratio for the total emission (Table 8, right
603 column) comes again closer to 1 but the unbalance in individual sectors suggests that this is
604 a case of a better fit for the wrong reasons. Moreover, for air quality modelling emission
605 height and emission timing which vary by source sector are important and for mitigation
606 measures the sector information is crucial. While we highlight that the local information is
607 crucial, it should be acknowledged that this is often lacking (only 2 cities provide a
608 complete inventory) and the use of downscaled global inventories is the only option. A
609 deeper understanding is further hampered by the scarcity of national total emission
610 inventories. For example if the national total emission for transport between EDGAR or
611 ECLIPSE and a national inventory would be similar but the ratio for the major city would
612 be really different, we would know that this is due to spatial distribution and much less
613 likely a fundamental difference in activity and emission factors used. So, national country
614 wide emission inventories are not only needed to model air quality on the national scale but
615 also to place city emissions in perspective. Such an analysis was made by Puliafito et al.
616 (2017) for Argentina by comparing their national inventory (GEAA) with EDGAR.
617 Although the estimated CO₂ emissions were very close (within 1%), large differences were
618 found for the air pollutants with the national inventory being 1.7, 1.1, 1.4 higher for NO_x,
619 PM10 and PM2.5 but only 0.4 times the EDGAR estimate for SO₂. In line with our results
620 in Table 8, the attribution to source sectors was often dramatically different partly masking
621 the difference in the totals. Moreover, Puliafito et al. (2017) conclude that the spatial
622 distribution by EDGAR was not adequate for Argentina, especially for transport and
623 residential sectors, leading to an overestimation in rural areas and an underestimation in
624 urban areas. We refer to Puliafito et al. (2017), for a more detailed analysis.

625 In addition to the differences of the fraction of national emissions allocated to the
626 different cities in the global inventories, we note that the spatial distribution of these
627 emissions vary largely not only between the inventories but also with respect to the
628 physical location of the actual city (Figure S12 and S13 in the Supplement material). For

629 example, ECLIPSE locates most of the emissions of Santiago outside the city limits
630 extending even over the Andes to the border with Argentina. Similarly, EDGAR although
631 partially distributes the emissions within the city, they are centred on the northern border
632 and an important fraction is outside the city limits.

633

634 5 Conclusions

635

636 Air quality modeling and exposure assessment needs, next to a validated chemistry
637 transport model, two critical inputs; meteorological data and emissions data. National
638 emission inventories in South America have focused on GHG as part of their obligations to
639 the UNFCCC. Only for Argentina a national emission inventory of air pollutants has recently
640 been released (Castesana et al., 2018; Puliafito et al., 2015, 2017). Hence, studies assessing
641 air quality at national, regional or continental scale in SA have been relying on global
642 emission data sets. Several global emission inventories provide estimates for the selected
643 SA countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru) for the past and present. These
644 have been compiled and compared here with a further analysis focusing on three recent
645 inventories (EDGAR 4.3.1, ECLIPSEv5, and CEDSv3) as they include data at least up to
646 2010 and can be compared with recent national or city scale emissions estimates.
647 Emissions from these global inventories are compared against available city-scale
648 inventories for a major city in each country by selecting the spatial domain from the
649 gridded data of the global inventory. Large discrepancies are found both between the global
650 datasets as well as when comparing downscaled global emissions data with local/national
651 city emissions data for the same domain. A direct conclusion of these discrepancies is that
652 it is not recommended to use a global emission inventory to derive city emission as input
653 for AQ modelling. The local situation appears to be not properly represented and the results
654 of air quality modelling will significantly depend on the choice of inventory. Moreover a
655 ranking of potential efficient mitigation measures would also depend on the choice of
656 emission inventory. Without more detailed national emission data, a clear conclusion on the
657 origin of discrepancies cannot be made although we have given several suggestions in the
658 discussion. In some cases it is clear that emission factors differ substantially and this may

659 need further attention in the future. At the same time spatial allocation can be another cause
660 for large discrepancies. Simply said, the lack of consistent national inventories prohibits a
661 further analysis. Efforts to create such national gridded inventories in South America are
662 urgently needed.

663 The emissions analysed in this study, although limited to five countries out of the 12
664 existing countries in SA, are representative of most of the territory of South America as
665 well as most of its population. This work seeks to increase the understanding of strength
666 and weaknesses of emissions data available for South America by focusing on these five
667 countries. The intention for the future is to include other countries not only from South
668 America but also Central America and the Caribbean.

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