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## APPENDIX D: ALTERNATE AIR POLLUTION DATA IN THE ACS STUDY

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### INTRODUCTION

The Reanalysis Team assembled an independent set of air pollution data in order to evaluate the sensitivity of the ACS findings to other sets of pollution data from the same time period. This sensitivity analyses was particularly important given the difficulty experienced in attempting to audit the air pollution data that was used in the ACS Study. The preliminary work in deriving the new dataset was done at the Center for Airpollution Impact and Trend Analysis (CAPITA) at Washington University in St Louis.

### DATA ACQUISITION

At a request from the Reanalysis Team, in July 1999 CAPITA downloaded 1980 to 1989 data from the EPA's Aerometric Information Retrieval System database and converted it into fixed-length ASCII files using the AIRS to Voyager Transformer. CAPITA obtained Total Suspended Particulate matter (TSP), sulfate from TSP, and gaseous species data ( $O_3$ ,  $NO_2$ , CO, and  $SO_2$ ).

The AIRS database includes 24-hour cumulative samples of particulate matter taken every sixth day. For each of the monitors in each of the counties specified by the Reanalysis Team (see Table F.1 in Appendix F), CAPITA aggregated this data into: annual averages, annual means and number of data points per year. This data were provided to the Reanalysis Team along with information about the location of the monitor.

The same procedure was followed in obtaining gaseous species data for the specified counties except that, in this case, hourly data were available from the AIRS database. The hourly data were aggregated into daily means, medians, maximums and numbers of observations. Only those days for which there were 12 or more data points available were used for subsequent calculations. The daily averages and maximums were then used to aggregate to annual averages, medians and numbers of data points.

CAPITA supplied the Reanalysis Team with three sets of data for each pollutant: daily data, yearly data (as outlined above) and monitor location data. The location information provided for each monitor included: AIRS location code, street address, longitude, latitude, altitude, location code and land-use code. The location code consisted of three categories: urban and center city, suburban and rural. The land-use code contained eight categories: residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, forestry, desert, mobile, and blighted.

It is important to note that no filtering was done by CAPITA in obtaining and aggregating the air pollution data except for excluding days of gaseous copollutant measurement if fewer than 12 data points were obtained. AIRS monitors recording sulfate data derived from total suspended particles (TSP) decreased significantly in number between 1980 and 1989. In 1980 sulfate information was available for 132 cities, this decreased to 124 in 1981 and to 60 cities in 1989. The Reanalysis Team restricted its attention to those years which had data for at least 124 cities (1980 and 1981). Out of concern for the stability of the air pollution estimates, the analysis was also restricted to cities for which there were at least

20 observations among all monitoring stations per year. This resulted in a reduction to 107 eligible cities in 1980, and 111 cities in 1981. When 1980 and 1981 data were combined, there were a total of 126 cities with sulfate concentration data. There were a total of 156 cities for which TSP data were available in either 1980 or 1981.

The Reanalysis Team also obtained data from the Inhalable Particle Monitoring Network (IPMN) directly from the EPA. This dataset contained dichotomous sampler information on PM<sub>15</sub>(DC), PM<sub>10-2.5</sub>(DC) and PM<sub>2.5</sub>(DC), as well as TSP (IPMN) and high-volume sampler PM<sub>15</sub> (SSI). For each method and instrument that recorded mass, sulfate concentrations were also available. We were able to obtain sulfate data on 144 of the 151 cities examined by the Original Investigators by combining information on sulfate concentrations from the National Aerometric Database and the Inhalable Particle Network

In order to test whether the land-use in the area around the monitor influenced the city air pollution averages obtained, the Reanalysis Team also did an analysis using sulfate data from only those monitors which had a land-use code of residential, mobile or urban. In this way those monitors in areas of industry, agriculture, forestry, desert, and blight were excluded. This data is not listed. This restriction on land use reduced the number of cities available for analysis from 126 to 120 (based on our selection criteria of at least 20 observations per year). All other analyses discussed were conducted with all of the monitors (including those marked agricultural and industrial etc.) used.

## ADJUSTING FOR FILTER ARTIFACTS

The high-volume samplers employed in the AIRS Network used glass fiber filters which were subject to artifacts due to the presence of sulfur dioxide. This artifact is a function of the amount of sulfur dioxide in the atmosphere near the monitor, temperature, and relative humidity, in addition to the alkalinity of the filter. Sulfate concentrations obtained from the IPMN used Teflon fiber filters which are not subject to such artifacts.

We developed a conversion equation from sulfate obtained via the high-volume sampler (SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>(HV)), and sulfate obtained from the dichotomous sampler ((SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>(DC)) by first selecting all days in which data were available from both sampling systems in the same community for data spanning the period 1980 to 1981 inclusive. There were 41 cities in which both systems were operating, with a total of 488 days. The average value of sulfate from both systems was determined by city and compared using the linear regression equation.

$$\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{DC}) = -3.02 (0.839) + 0.933 (0.071) \text{ SO}_4^{2-}(\text{HV}),$$

where the standard errors of the intercept and slope are given in parentheses. The coefficient of determination ( $r^2$ ) was 0.82. SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>(HV) values based on 1980 and 1981 averages were converted to SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>(DC) concentrations using this equation. Any negative predicted values were set to zero. Data collected in 1980 and 1981 from the IPMN for SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>(DC) were supplemented by adjusted SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>(TSP) data. The Reanalysis Team averaged the daily values corresponding to those cities which had both types of sulfate data. Adjusted sulfate values based on the combined data from the two networks are denoted

as  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{cb-adj})$ . Sulfate data which is not adjusted for the artifactual sulfate prior to combining with the  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (DC) data, is also reported  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{cb-unadj})$ .

Since the amount of the artifact depends on  $\text{SO}_2$  concentrations, we also considered region-specific adjustments. We divided the 41 cities into three groups: 1) West, which included cities in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Texas, and Washington; 2) East – Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Minnesota, Tennessee, DC, Maryland, and Virginia; 3) Ohio Valley /Northeast – Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, New Jersey. There were 13, 12, and 16 cities in each region respectively. The following regression equations were obtained,

West:  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{DC}) = 0.738 (1.213) + 0.410 (0.174) \text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{HV}) \quad (r^2 = 0.33)$   
East:  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{DC}) = -1.836 (1.087) + 0.803 (0.867) \text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{HV}) \quad (r^2 = 0.90)$   
Ohio Valley/  
Northeast:  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{DC}) = -9.898 (1.890) + 1.432 (0.134) \text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{HV}) \quad (r^2 = 0.89)$

Both sulfate and sulfur dioxide concentrations tended to be lower in the West, moderate in the East, and highest in the Ohio Valley/Northeast, although not uniformly for all cities. The slope estimates increased across regions in a similar pattern to the increasing pollution concentrations. The weakest association was observed for the West in which the lowest pollution concentrations were found.

We then divided the United States into three regions corresponding to the cities used in the artifact adjustment analysis: West – Washington, Oregon, California, Montana, Utah, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas; East – Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, DC, New Hampshire, Maine; Ohio Valley/Northeast – Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Massachusetts. We adjusted the sulfate data from the high-volume samplers using three separate equations and combined the data for form a single dataset, denoted by  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{cb-region})$ , which was then compared to the mortality data using the Cox regression model.

We also considered separate calibration equations by season:

April–September:  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{DC}) = -3.17 (0.982) + 0.970 (0.079) \text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{HV}) \quad (r^2 = 0.80)$   
October–March:  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{DC}) = -1.04 (0.736) + 0.660 (0.075) \text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{HV}) \quad (r^2 = 0.74)$

City-specific average sulfate values, obtained using high-volume samplers with glass fiber filters, were converted to values adjusted for the artifactual sulfate for each season separately. A summary average value for each city was obtained by a weighted average of the two seasonally adjusted values, weighted by the number of observations in each season. These seasonally adjusted sulfate values were augmented by sulfate data for those cities with IPMN monitors. These adjusted values [ $\text{SO}_4^{2-}(\text{cb-season})$ ] were then compared to cause specific mortality using the Cox regression model.

**Table D.1.** Annual mean/median levels of particulate air pollution<sup>a</sup> by city in the American Cancer Society Study (in  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

No.	City	State	Pm <sub>2,5</sub> (OI, DC, MD)	S <sub>0,4</sub> (OI)	Pm <sub>2,5</sub> (DC, MD)	TSP (hi-vol)	Pm <sub>10,2,5</sub> (SSI)	Pm <sub>10,5</sub> (DC)	Pm <sub>10,5</sub> (DC)	S <sub>0,4</sub> (DC)	TSP (cb-unadj)	S <sub>0,4</sub> (USA)	S <sub>0,4</sub> (Region)	S <sub>0,4</sub> (Season)
1	Birmingham	AL	24.5	13.1	25.2	28.7	98.5	76.9	30.0	58.7	8.8	90.6	15.6	11.7
2	Huntsville	AL	12.0	12.0	20.9	22.0		20.6	42.6	6.1	53.9	12.7	8.8	8.8
3	Mobile	AL	12.6	5.9	18.6	20.6	65.3	52.2	18.0	38.6	4.8	67.9	12.6	8.8
4	Little Rock	AR	17.8	4.3	13.9	18.5	107.8	73.9	38.7	57.2	2.9	68.8	5.9	2.6
5	Phoenix	AZ	15.2	4.4								124.7	5.4	2.6
6	Tucson	AZ										77.4	5.2	2.2
7	Ahahim	CA	11.5	5.8	10.3	10.3	112.0	100.8	31.7	42.1	2.2	100.9	10.8	2.0
8	Fresno	CA	10.3	14.0	21.8	26.8	78.8	67.9	19.8	46.5	6.2	106.0	5.8	2.0
9	Los Angeles	CA	21.8									106.9	12.4	2.7
10	Riverside	CA		14.6								111.8	12.9	2.7
11	Sacramento	CA		5.8								65.0	5.0	2.7
12	San Diego	CA		11.2		18.9	55.0					79.8	10.6	2.7
13	San Francisco	CA	12.2		6.6	12.2	16.4	58.7	15.0	31.3	3.4	49.1	4.2	2.7
14	San Jose	CA	12.4		6.2	12.4	17.8	87.5	62.8	20.8	38.6	2.5	71.3	5.0
15	Colorado	CO												
16	Denver	CO	16.1		6.1	7.8	10.8	70.7	51.0	19.4	30.1	1.6	77.2	4.4
17	Fort Collins	CO			5.2							109.9	6.8	1.1
18	Greely	CO			4.7							73.9	4.3	1.1
19	Peublo	CO			6.7		10.9	68.2	59.7	15.3	26.2	1.2	79.0	4.2
20	Bridgeport	CT			9.9							70.0	6.1	1.3
21	Hartford	CT	14.8		9.4	14.8	18.4	60.1	45.4	15.0	33.4	6.6	40.3	2.7
22	New Haven	CT			8.5							60.1	5.7	2.7
23	Washington	DC	22.5		14.9	22.5	25.9	69.2	51.6	16.0	41.9	10.3	53.2	11.4
24	Wilmington	DE			19.4		20.4	51.7	41.7	13.0	33.4	9.9	56.6	7.6
25	Fort Lauderdale	FL											19.4	7.4
26	Jacksonville	FL			6.9								15.0	15.6
27	Orlando	FL			11.2									3.3
28	Tampa	FL	11.4	10.3	11.5	13.7								4.3
29	Atlanta	GA	20.3	12.0	20.7	22.6	65.2	56.5	14.8	37.4	8.1	49.2	7.9	4.3
30	Columbus	GA			9.4							57.3	12.4	4.3
31	Savannah	GA					17.8					56.6	9.8	4.3

No.	City	State	Pm <sub>2,5</sub> (OI, DC, MD)	S <sub>0</sub> <sub>4</sub> (OI)	Pm <sub>2,5</sub> (DC, MD)	TSP (hi-vol)	Pm <sub>10</sub> <sub>2,5</sub> (DC)	Pm <sub>10,5</sub> (DC)	S <sub>0</sub> <sub>4</sub> (DC)	TSP (cb-unadj)	S <sub>0</sub> <sub>4</sub> (USA)	S <sub>0</sub> <sub>4</sub> (Region)	S <sub>0</sub> <sub>4</sub> (Season)	
32	Boise City	ID	12.1	12.1	12.1	18.0	85.7	67.1	19.9	37.9	1.7	74.8	1.9	
33	Chicago	IL	21.0	20.3	23.0	72.2	61.7	17.3	40.2	7.3	72.4	8.5	8.5	
34	Blooming- ton	IN		13.7						59.5	13.9	10.0	9.9	
35	Evansville	IN		14.2		25.2	27.5	113.2	84.1	33.2	60.7	12.9	11.1	
36	Gary	IN	25.2	19.1	21.4	23.1	65.8	52.1	19.6	42.7	5.7	78.9	16.5	
37	Indianapolis	IN	21.1	12.6	11.7						69.9	62.9	13.7	
38	South Bend	IN									59.9	13.8	9.8	
39	Terrehaute	IN			13.2						82.3	9.7	6.0	
40	Cedar Rapids	IO			10.6						88.8	9.7	6.0	
41	Des Moines	IO			10.6						62.7	9.4	5.9	
42	Dubuque	IO			8.9							5.8	5.7	
43	Waterloo	IO			9.1						72.4	8.7	5.1	
44	Topeka	KS	10.3	6.8	10.3	11.8	70.8	56.4	17.5	29.3	2.6	66.6	5.8	
45	Wichita	KS	13.6	4.9	13.9	15.0			24.7	39.7	3.1	72.2	8.4	2.7
46	Lexington	KY			14.3						60.2	13.8	9.9	
47	Baton Rouge	LA			11.2						60.7	12.1	8.3	
48	New Orleans	LA			14.6						63.7	14.3	10.3	
49	Shreveport	LA			10.1						55.4	9.3	5.6	
50	Boston	MA	11.0		18.1	60.6	44.8	15.0	33.0	6.2	52.8	9.5	5.9	
51	New Bedford	MA	11.8								50.3	11.7	7.9	
52	Springfield	MA			12.8		41.8	11.4	28.9	6.5	64.0	9.9	6.2	
53	Worcester	MA			10.7		44.8	16.7	33.0	5.5	55.3	10.5	6.8	
54	Baltimore	MD			13.0	21.7	62.0	62.6	13.9	35.6	7.0	67.7	18.3	
55	Bangor	ME			10.2							48.9	12.0	
56	Lewiston	ME			10.7							55.5	10.6	
57	Portland	ME			11.3							46.4	10.1	
58	Detroit	MI			14.7							63.2	15.7	
59	Flint	MI			9.5							61.8	11.3	
60	Lansing	MI			13.1							57.3	13.0	
61	Saginaw	MI			11.3							56.8	9.1	
62	Duluth	MN			7.0							57.2	7.3	
63	Minneapolis	MN	13.7	8.4	13.6	15.5	60.3	50.8	16.7	32.2	3.8	71.4	7.3	
64	Kansas City	MO		10.2	17.8	85.4	64.7	27.0	44.8	4.3	72.8	8.2	4.6	
65	Saint Louis	MO		13.5	22.7	88.5	68.5	25.9	48.6	7.6	90.2		4.8	

No.	City	State	Pm <sub>2.5</sub> (OI, DC, MD)	S0 <sub>4</sub> (OI)	Pm <sub>2.5</sub> (DC, MD)	Pm <sub>2.5</sub> (DC)	TSP (hi-vol)	Pm <sub>15</sub> (SSI)	Pm <sub>15</sub> (DC)	S0 <sub>4</sub> (DC)	TSP (cb-unadj)	S0 <sub>4</sub> (USA)	S0 <sub>4</sub> (Region)	S0 <sub>4</sub> (Season)
66	Jackson	MS	15.7	8.8	15.9	18.1		18.7	36.8	7.5	64.9	8.6	5.0	4.9
67	Billings	MT	7.1	3.6					67.4	7.1	3.6	2.2	2.2	3.6
68	Great Falls	MT							55.5	3.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.3
69	Lincoln	NB	6.6	8.7	13.1	15.3	65.3	52.4	28.7	2.9	71.2	5.3	1.9	1.4
70	Omaha	NB	13.1	11.5	22.4	24.1	60.3	50.0	12.9	37.1	6.8	55.2	12.2	8.3
71	Charlotte	NC	22.6	11.9	18.3	21.0	44.1	36.3	9.2	30.2	7.3	56.9	10.6	6.9
72	Greensboro	NC	16.8	11.9	5.3							61.1	12.1	8.3
73	Raleigh	NC										54.9		
74	Bismarck	ND										68.4		
75	Grand Forks	ND	6.3									50.7	9.8	6.1
76	Fargo	ND	4.8									53.3	8.9	5.3
77	Manchester	NH	11.1										5.3	4.8
78	Portsmouth	NH	8.7											
79	Jersey City	NJ	17.3	13.8	17.2	19.9	74.6	55.3	14.3	34.2	6.7	75.3	13.9	9.9
80	Newark	NJ	11.4									56.3	12.3	8.4
81	Paterson	NJ	12.8									50.2	14.1	10.1
82	Trenton	NJ	12.1									51.8	12.6	8.8
83	Albuquerque	NM	9.0	4.5	9.0	12.9	83.4	60.5	24.4	37.3	1.8	90.8	4.7	1.4
84	Las Vegas	NV	4.2									86.2	4.2	0.9
85	Reno	NV	11.8	4.1	11.8	13.1	81.6	65.8	21.0	34.1	1.3	73.3	3.8	0.5
86	Albany	NY	10.5									49.3	10.7	7.0
87	Buffalo	NY	23.5	11.7	23.0	26.5	85.1	62.9	20.7	47.2	9.2	72.9	12.9	9.0
88	Elmira	NY	6.6									47.1	7.6	4.1
89	Nassau	NY	8.4									47.3	9.2	5.5
90	New York	NY	10.7										3.2	5.5
91	Poughkeepsie	NY	8.1											
92	Rochester	NY	9.9									41.9	8.1	4.5
93	Syracuse	NY	10.2										10.5	6.7
94	Utica	NY	8.6										5.1	5.1
95	Akron	OH	24.6	14.1	24.6	26.0	67.8	53.5	20.1	46.1	10.6	66.3	12.4	8.6
96	Canton	OH	13.6									46.8	10.5	6.7
97	Cincinnati	OH	23.1	14.3	23.1	25.0	56.8	51.5	16.1	41.1	10.4	65.9	13.7	9.7
98	Cleveland	OH	24.6	13.7	24.6	27.9	106.9	66.9	27.8	55.7	10.0	61.9	13.1	8.9
99	Columbus	OH	11.8									73.8	12.3	8.4
100	Dayton	OH	18.8	13.5	18.8	20.8	65.9	61.6	14.4	35.2	6.7	63.6	12.5	8.0



No.	City	State	Pm <sub>2,5</sub> (OI, DC, MD)	S <sub>04</sub> (OI)	Pm <sub>2,5</sub> (DC, MD)	Pm <sub>2,5</sub> (DC)	TSP (hi-vol)	Pm <sub>1,5</sub> (SSI)	Pm <sub>1,5</sub> (DC)	S <sub>04</sub> (DC)	Pm <sub>10-2,5</sub> (DC)	Pm <sub>1,5</sub> (DC)	S <sub>04</sub> (DC)	TSP (cb-unadj)	S <sub>04</sub> (USA)	S <sub>04</sub> (Region)	S <sub>04</sub> (Season)	
134	Port Arthur	TX	14.4							61.7	15.9	11.8	5.8	11.9				
134	Corpus Christi	TX	8.8							68.8	13.3	9.4	4.7	7.3				
135	Dallas	TX	16.5	10.0	16.5	18.8	75.9	57.9	18.5	37.2	4.4	64.7	10.0	6.3	3.4	6.2		
136	El Paso	TX	15.7		13.3	16.9	102.2	98.7	41.7	58.6	3.0	105.5	7.2	3.7	2.2	3.5		
137	Galveston	TX	9.0							65.3	10.0	6.3	3.4	5.5				
138	Houston	TX	13.4	10.5	15.0	18.0	76.8	67.5	20.4	38.4	6.5	80.5	9.4	5.8	3.1	5.7		
139	Lubbock	TX			4.5							99.7	5.2	1.9	1.4	2.1		
140	San Angelo	TX			4.4							61.9	5.9	2.5	1.7	2.1		
141	San Antonio	TX			6.6							60.2	6.4	3.0	1.9	3.1		
142	Waco	TX			10.0							50.5	8.5	4.9	2.7	4.2		
143	Wichita Falls	TX			6.9							64.4	7.8	4.3	2.5	4.4		
144	Salt Lake City	UT	15.4		4.8	15.4	17.5	70.0	69.6	21.6	39.1	2.1	70.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	
145	Danville	VA			13.6							51.4	13.6	9.6	9.1	9.4		
146	Norfolk	VA	16.9		14.8	17.3	19.5	42.2	44.2	8.6	28.1	8.6	54.0	13.8	9.9	9.3	9.4	
147	Richmond	VA			11.0							64.8	10.1	6.4	6.2	6.2		
148	Roanoke	VA			12.4							55.2	12.4	8.6	8.1	8.8		
149	Seattle	WA	11.9		7.5	11.9	14.9	75.3	55.3	15.8	30.7	2.4	71.9	7.0	3.5	2.1	3.6	
150	Spokane	WA			5.6	9.4	13.5	87.2	68.1	28.2	41.7	1.6	127.0	5.2	1.8	1.4	2.1	
151	Tacoma	WA			6.8							69.5	6.5	3.0	1.9	3.2		
152	Eau Claire	WI			8.3							42.1	8.3	4.7	4.8	4.4		
153	Kenosha	WI			10.8							58.9	10.8	7.0	6.8	6.7		
154	Madison	WI			9.8							50.5	9.8	6.2	6.1	6.0		
155	Milwaukee	WI			11.6							61.6	11.7	7.9	7.6	7.9		
156	Racine	WI			11.1							55.8	11.1	7.3	7.1	6.8		
157	Charleston	WV	20.1		17.8	20.1	21.7			17.8	39.5	7.2	66.4	17.4	13.2	15.0	13.7	
158	Huntington	WV	33.4		15.3	33.4	37.8	106.3	53.8	39.5	77.2	71.9	11.1	7.4	6.1	7.2		

a: Based on Inhalable Particulate Network, 1979-1983: PM<sub>2,5</sub>(OI, MD) B median fine particle mass from Original Investigators; PM<sub>2,5</sub>(DC, MD) median fine particulate mass from IP network PM<sub>1,5</sub>(DC) (inhalable fraction from dichotomous sampler), PM<sub>1,5</sub>(DC) (coarse fraction), and PM<sub>10-2,5</sub>(DC) (fine fraction), and PM<sub>1,5</sub>(SSI) - high-vol. volume samplers measuring mass TSP, PM<sub>1,5</sub>(SSI) - high-vol. volume samplers recording PM<sub>1,5</sub> using size selective inlet heads. All values are in means unless indicated by MD (median). based on National Aerometric Database, 1980-1981: TSP B total suspended particulate matter from hi-vol. volume samplers, SO<sub>4</sub>(OI) sulfates from Original Investigator. SO<sub>4</sub>(USA) sulfates from both Inhalable Particulate Network and National Aerometric Database with adjustment for SO<sub>2</sub> artifact based in all U.S. SO<sub>4</sub>(Region) adjusted from SO<sub>2</sub> artifact by two seasons calibrations (April to September and October to March).