

*Supporting Information for:*

**The influence of chemical composition, aerosol acidity, and metal dissolution on oxidative potential of fine particulate matter and redox potential of the lung lining fluid**

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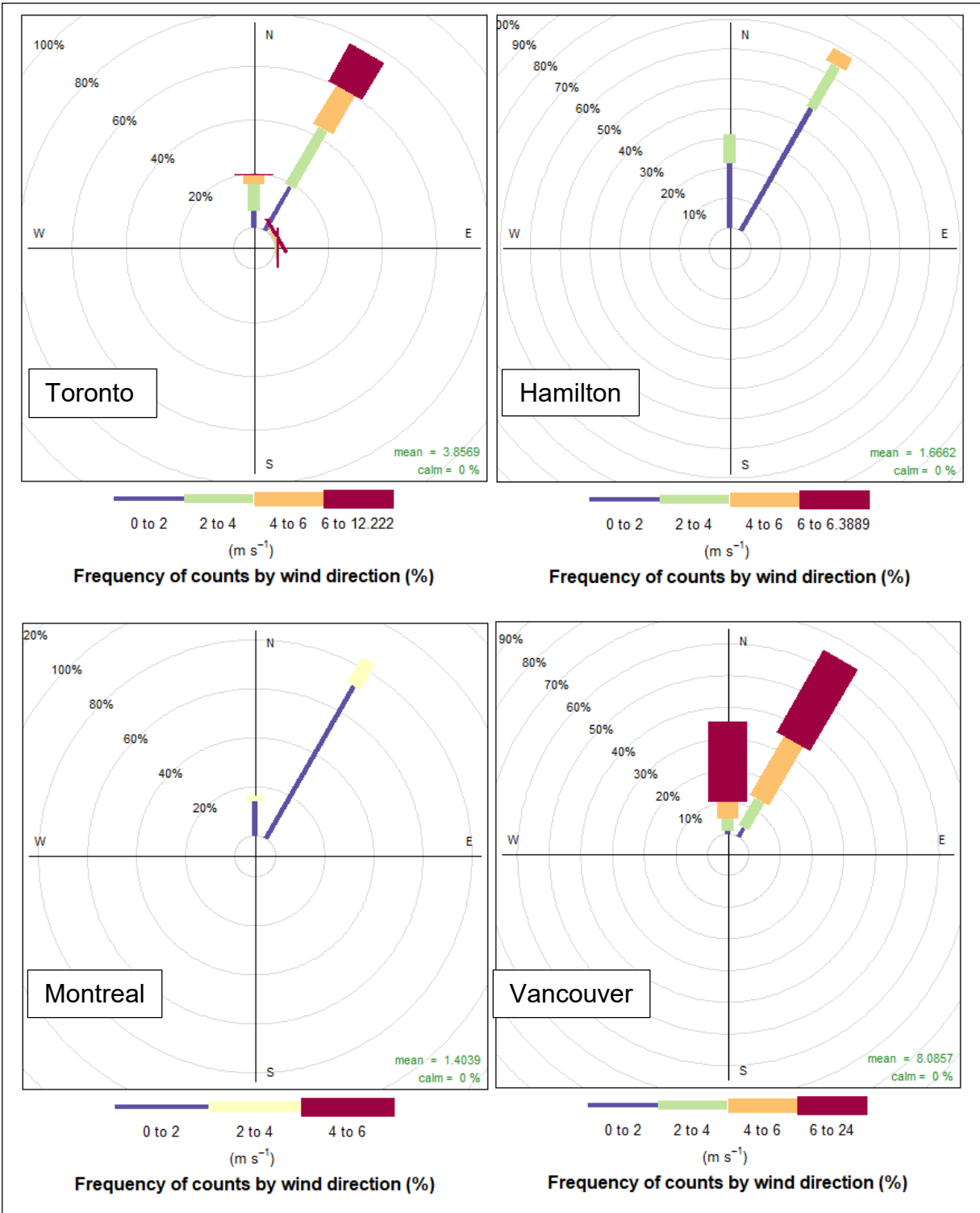
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**Figure S1.** Wind roses obtained from hourly meteorological data for the sampling dates that were considered for oxidative potential analysis. The graphs show the percent frequency of counts by wind directions, as well as the color-coded wind speed across the study locations.

## Section S1. Analysis and speciation of PM<sub>2.5</sub>

The PM<sub>2.5</sub> samples collected on PTFE membranes were analyzed for 22 trace elements using nondestructive energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (ED-XRF, Epsilon 5, Malvern Panalytical Inc., Malvern, Montreal, QC, Canada). These included Al, Si, S, K, Ca, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Ni, Zn, Se, Br, Rb, Sr, Cd, Sn, Sb, Cs, Ba, Pb. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> samples were also analyzed for 25 trace elements using inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS; Agilent Technologies, Wilmington, DE, USA). These trace elements were Cu, Fe, Mn, Be, Al, Ti, V, Cr, Co, Ni, Zn, As, Se, Sr, Mo, Ag, Cd, Sn, Sb, Ba, La, Ce, Tl, Pb, U. The water-soluble cations and anions were analyzed using ion chromatography (IC, Thermo Scientific, Sunnyvale, CA, USA). The species included fluoride, acetate, formate, propionate, methanesulfonic acid, chloride, nitrite, sulphate, oxalate, bromide, nitrate, phosphate, lithium, sodium, ammonium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, strontium, barium. In addition, acidic and basic gaseous species were also analyzed with IC. These species were NH<sub>3</sub>, HNO<sub>3</sub>, HONO, and SO<sub>2</sub>.

**Table S1.** Calculation method used for reconstruction of PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass <sup>a</sup>

PM <sub>2.5</sub> component	Abbreviation	Mass calculation
Black carbon	BC	[EC]
Organic Matter	OM <sup>b</sup>	[OC]×1.6
Ammonium sulfates: (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> , (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> H(SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> , NH <sub>4</sub> HSO <sub>4</sub>	(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>c</sup>	[SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> ] + [NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> ] – 0.29 × [NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ]
Ammonium nitrate	NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub>	1.29 × [NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ]
Sodium chloride	NaCl	[Na] + [Cl]
Mineral dust	MD	3.48 × [Si] + 1.63 × [Ca] + 2.42 × [Fe] + 1.41 × [K] + 1.94 × [Ti]
Trace element oxides	TEO	1.47 × [V] + 1.29 × [Mn] + 1.27 × [Ni] + 1.25 × [Cu] + 1.24 × [Zn] + 1.32 × [As] + 1.08 × [Pb] + 1.2 × [Se] + 1.37 × [Sr] + 1.31 × [Cr]
Unidentified <sup>d</sup>	UI	[PM <sub>2.5</sub> ] – ([BC] + [OM] + [(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] + [NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> ] + [NaCl] + [MD] + [TEO])

<sup>a</sup> Adopted from Dabek-Zlotorzynska et al., (2019); <sup>b</sup> we used the correction factor of 1.6 recommended for converting OC to OM for urban particulate matter (Turpin and Lim, 2001); <sup>c</sup> (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> represents all ammonium sulfate species and is used here for simplicity; <sup>d</sup> represents the aerosol mass that could not be identify, corresponding to PM<sub>2.5</sub> water content, chemical species that were not targeted for analysis, and uncertainty related to estimation of OM.

## Section S2. Estimation of aerosol pH

The aerosol pH was calculated using ISORROPIA II model (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2007). The model performs thermodynamic equilibrium calculation for an inorganic aerosol system, with input parameters consisting of aerosol precursors  $\text{NH}_3$ , Na, Ca, K, Mg,  $\text{HNO}_3$ , HCl, and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , as well as ambient temperature and relative humidity. The inclusion of the crustal material Ca, K, and Mg in this model improves the prediction of ammonium and nitrate partitioning in the aerosol and the estimation of pH, particularly when crustal dust constitutes a considerable fraction of  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ . ISORROPIA II determines a set of sub-system equilibrium equations and solves the equations for equilibrium state using the chemical potential method (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2007). The modelled aerosol system consists of potential components in the gas-phase, i.e.  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$ , HCl,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , in the liquid-phase, i.e.  $\text{NH}_4$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{H}^+$ ,  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{HNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$ , HCl,  $\text{HSO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{OH}^-$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , and in the solid phase, i.e.  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4$ ,  $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{H}(\text{SO}_4)_2$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ , NaCl,  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ,  $\text{NaHSO}_4$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{CaSO}_4$ ,  $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{CaCl}_2$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{KHSO}_4$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$ , KCl,  $\text{MgSO}_4$ ,  $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ , and  $\text{MgCl}_2$ . For  $\text{HNO}_3$ , where measured values were not available, mean of available values were used for pH calculations. The model output is the concentration of  $\text{H}^+$  which is converted to pH using the aerosol liquid water content (LWC). Further details about the pH calculation method and the treatment of input parameters can be found in (Fountoukis and Nenes, 2007).

**Table S2a.** Concentrations of chemical species in PM<sub>2.5</sub> from near-road sites

	Toronto		Vancouver	
	Min-Max	Mean ± SD (Median)	Min-Max	Mean ± SD (Median)
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg m <sup>-3</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	10-30.4	17.3±6.2 (15.3)	1.1-27	8.9±4.8 (8.3)
BC <sup>a</sup>	0.7-2.9	2±0.8 (2.2)	0.5-2.8	1.5±0.7 (1.3)
OC <sup>a</sup>	0.8-4.2	2.6±1 (2.6)	0.7-10	2.3±1.9 (2)
(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>a</sup>	1-5.3	2.2±1.2 (1.8)	0.1-2.4	0.7±0.6 (0.5)
NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.04-14.4	2.6±4.2 (0.2)	0.09-3.1	0.6±0.7 (0.4)
NaCl <sup>a</sup>	0.09-0.64	0.17±0.2 (0.09)	0.09-1.38	0.23±0.34 (0.09)
MD <sup>a</sup>	0.3-2.5	1.3±0.7 (1.1)	0.22-1.09	0.52±0.24 (0.44)
TEO <sup>a</sup>	0-0.21	0.08±0.05 (0.07)	0-0.07	0.03±0.02 (0.03)
UI <sup>a</sup>	1.5-6.7	3.8±1.5 (3.7)	0.4-5.2	2.4±1.4 (2.2)
∑TMs (WS) <sup>a</sup>	0.04-0.22	0.12±0.06 (0.11)	0.01-0.08	0.03±0.02 (0.02)
∑TMs (WI) <sup>a</sup>	0.06-0.57	0.25±0.16 (0.2)	0.06-0.29	0.13±0.06 (0.1)
∑TMs (NT) <sup>a</sup>	0-0.68	0.34±0.21 (0.32)	0-0.34	0.15±0.08 (0.13)
C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> <sup>a</sup>	0.04-0.26	0.13±0.07 (0.12)	0.01-0.43	0.06±0.09 (0.03)
Levoglucosan (ng m <sup>-3</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	12.5-263.2	64.3±70.3 (26.6)	6.6-402.4	160.3±113.9 (138.7)
Mannosan <sup>b</sup>	1.4-36.2	8.3±10 (4.1)	2.1-115.6	39.7±30.5 (31.7)
Galactosan <sup>b</sup>	1.9-12.3	4.8±3.8 (3.8)	2.5-27.9	11.9±7.7 (8.9)
∑Monosaccharides <sup>b</sup>	12.5-311.6	73.5±83.2 (28.5)	6.6-545.9	204.9±152.4 (162.8)
Arabitol <sup>b</sup>	0.6-4.8	2.6±1.5 (2.5)	0.7-4.8	1.9±1.2 (1.5)
Mannitol <sup>b</sup>	2.7-4.1	3.6±0.5 (3.7)	1.7-7.6	2.9±1.5 (2.4)
∑Polyols <sup>b</sup>	0.6-8.6	4.2±3.0 (4.1)	0.7-12.0	4.5±2.7 (3.5)
Cu (NT) <sup>b</sup>	2.5-25.0	11.8±6.8 (11.8)	0.5-18.8	8.5±3.9 (8.4)
Fe (NT) <sup>b</sup>	47.1-589.0	260.6±157 (204.6)	1.7-275.6	119.7±64.2 (107.5)
Mn (NT) <sup>b</sup>	1.6-15.0	5±3.3 (4.3)	0-4.9	2±1.3 (1.7)
Ti (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.6-14.2	6±4 (4.4)	0.1-8.4	3.6±1.9 (3.1)
V (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.07-0.73	0.28±0.14 (0.23)	0-1.96	0.58±0.52 (0.48)
Cr (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.3-2.3	1±0.5 (0.9)	0.1-1.26	0.59±0.34 (0.49)
Co (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.01-0.08	0.04±0.02 (0.03)	0-0.05	0.02±0.01 (0.02)
Ni (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.08-0.88	0.44±0.2 (0.43)	0.07-1.6	0.52±0.35 (0.42)
Zn (NT) <sup>b</sup>	8.6-154.1	40.8±37.7 (25.6)	0.7-24.8	9.7±5.8 (8)
Mo (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.20-1.05	0.5±0.22 (0.5)	0-0.82	0.4±0.19 (0.36)
Ag (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.06-0.12	0.07±0.01 (0.06)	0.012-0.1	0.02±0.018 (0.012)
Cd (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.05-0.28	0.12±0.06 (0.09)	0.01-0.19	0.05±0.04 (0.04)
Cu (WS) <sup>b</sup>	1.4-17.2	8±4 (7.7)	1.1-9	4±1.8 (3.5)
Fe (WS) <sup>b</sup>	8.8-132.6	62.1±37.1 (57.6)	1.7-58	11.4±11 (8.7)
Mn (WS) <sup>b</sup>	1-8	3±1.4 (3.3)	0.2-5.8	1.2±1.2 (0.9)
Ti (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.14-5.09	0.99±0.98 (0.76)	0.06-1.11	0.21±0.21 (0.17)
V (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.04-0.53	0.19±0.12 (0.15)	0.03-1.13	0.33±0.28 (0.24)
Cr (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.08-0.73	0.39±0.15 (0.4)	0.1-7.79	0.45±1.53 (0.1)
Co (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.005-0.032	0.019±0.007 (0.021)	0.002-0.023	0.009±0.007 (0.008)
Ni (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.1-0.4	0.19±0.08 (0.17)	0.05-0.66	0.19±0.16 (0.14)
Zn (WS) <sup>b</sup>	8.5-123.8	39.2±31.2 (26.2)	2.2-20.4	8.4±4.5 (7.7)
Mo (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.13-0.62	0.33±0.14 (0.28)	0.05-0.58	0.22±0.12 (0.2)
Ag (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.009-0.043	0.012±0.008 (0.009)	0.002-0.011	0.003±0.002 (0.002)
Cd (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.05-0.27	0.12±0.06 (0.1)	0.02-0.16	0.05±0.04 (0.03)

<sup>a</sup> concentration unit is µg m<sup>-3</sup>; <sup>b</sup> the unit is ng m<sup>-3</sup>; BC: black carbon; OC: organic carbon; MD: mineral dust; TEO: trace element oxides; UI: unidentified; TMs: transition metals; WS: water-soluble; WI: water-insoluble; NT: near-total; ∑Monosaccharides: sum of the concentrations of levoglucosan, mannosan, and galactosan; ∑Polyols: sum of the concentrations of arabitol and mannitol.

**Table S2b.** Concentrations of chemical species in PM<sub>2.5</sub>

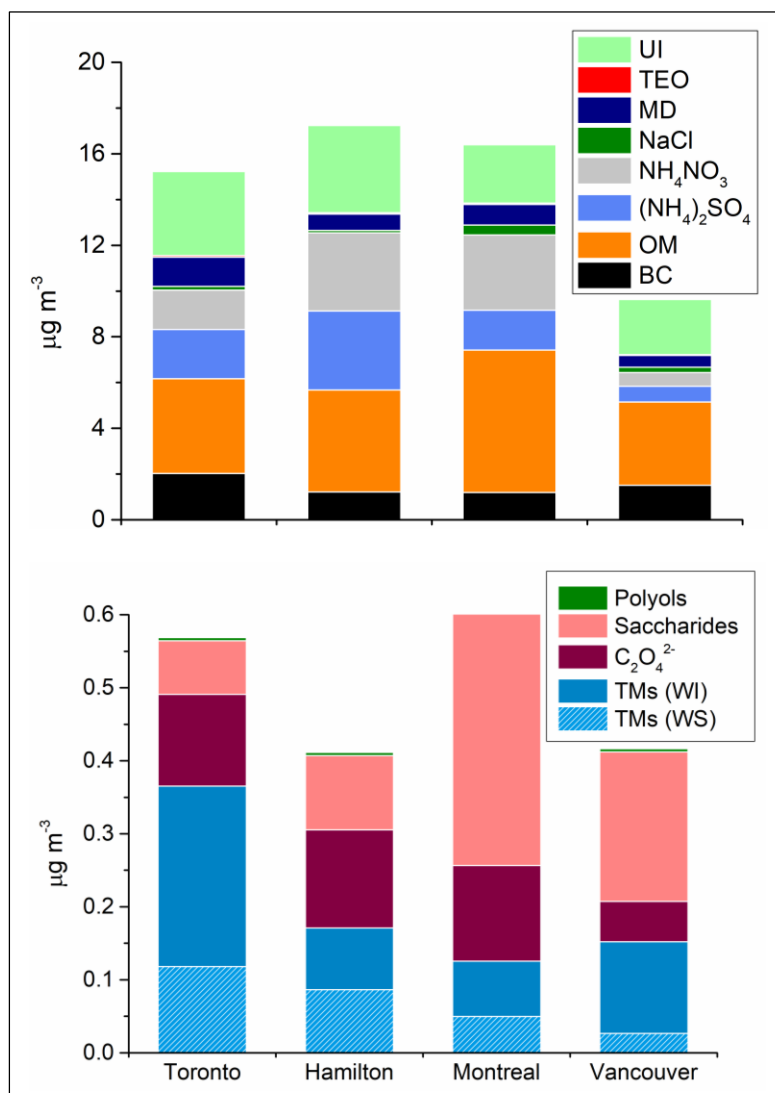
	Hamilton		Montreal	
	Min-Max	Mean ± SD (Median)	Min-Max	Mean ± SD (Median)
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (µg m <sup>-3</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	13.5-26.8	16.8±3.3 (15.3)	13.4-28.5	17.6±4.6 (15.6)
BC <sup>a</sup>	0-2.4	1.2±0.5 (1.2)	0.1-2.8	1.2±0.6 (1.1)
OC <sup>a</sup>	1.2-4.5	2.8±0.9 (2.7)	0.7-7.8	3.9±1.5 (3.6)
(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>a</sup>	1-10.8	3.5±2.3 (2.9)	0-3	1.7±0.9 (1.7)
NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.1-11.5	3.4±3.3 (2.3)	0.1-8.8	3.3±3 (3.6)
NaCl <sup>a</sup>	0.04-0.31	0.11±0.07 (0.09)	0.19-0.83	0.44±0.23 (0.42)
MD <sup>a</sup>	0.06-1.78	0.7±0.47 (0.55)	0.14-1.97	0.90±0.66 (0.66)
TEO <sup>a</sup>	0-0.27	0.07±0.06 (0.05)	0.01-0.11	0.06±0.03 (0.07)
UI <sup>a</sup>	1-5.9	3.8±1.4 (3.8)	1.2-4.0	2.6±1.2 (2.7)
∑TMs (WS) <sup>a</sup>	0-0.22	0.09±0.06 (0.07)	0.01-0.1	0.05±0.03 (0.04)
∑TMs (WI) <sup>a</sup>	0-0.36	0.08±0.09 (0.05)	0.01-0.2	0.08±0.06 (0.06)
∑TMs (NT) <sup>a</sup>	0.01-0.59	0.16±0.14 (0.10)	0.01-0.28	0.13±0.09 (0.11)
C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> <sup>a</sup>	0.01-0.28	0.13±0.08 (0.14)	0.01-0.27	0.13±0.1 (0.1)
Levoglucosan (ng m <sup>-3</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	6.4-405.2	89.4±96.7 (59)	11.1-1313.9	331.9±346.3 (252.9)
Mannosan <sup>b</sup>	2.5-52.8	15.2±14.1 (10.8)	0.7-169.6	41.1±40.6 (36.4)
Galactosan <sup>b</sup>	0.6-23.3	6.2±5.5 (5.6)	0.4-57.4	16.6±14.9 (13.9)
∑Monosaccharides <sup>b</sup>	6.4-481.3	101.9±114.2 (68.9)	11.1-1540.9	382.9±400.2 (303.9)
Arabitol <sup>b</sup>	1-6.1	2.7±1.4 (2.4)	1.2-7.3	3.6±1.9 (3.2)
Mannitol <sup>b</sup>	3.2-8.3	4.9±1.9 (4)	0.7-7.5	3.6±2.4 (3.2)
∑Polyols <sup>b</sup>	1.0-14.4	4.4±3.7 (3.4)	1.2-14.7	5.7±4.2 (4.3)
Cu (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.4-16.7	5.5±3.8 (4.6)	0.7-15.5	5±4.1 (4.6)
Fe (NT) <sup>b</sup>	10-387	110.1±93.7 (73.3)	8.4-209.6	84.9±63.1 (67.1)
Mn (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.3-35.9	7.4±8.8 (3)	0.2-7.4	3.5±2.5 (2.8)
Ti (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.4-5.9	1.6±1.5 (1.2)	0.4-10.8	4±3.3 (3.6)
V (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.04-1.58	0.46±0.36 (0.43)	0.01-0.82	0.36±0.24 (0.36)
Cr (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.11-2	0.58±0.41 (0.44)	0.26-1.17	0.6±0.37 (0.54)
Co (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0-0.07	0.03±0.02 (0.02)	0-0.13	0.04±0.04 (0.03)
Ni (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.66-1.22	0.68±0.1 (0.66)	0.21-0.86	0.47±0.29 (0.34)
Zn (NT) <sup>b</sup>	1-147.2	34.3±36.5 (19.7)	3.1-46.4	25.7±16.2 (22.1)
Mo (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.02-1.08	0.38±0.27 (0.32)	0.01-1.64	0.41±0.45 (0.32)
Ag (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.04-0.12	0.04±0.01 (0.04)	0.01-1.04	0.14±0.32 (0.04)
Cd (NT) <sup>b</sup>	0.01-0.43	0.14±0.09 (0.12)	0.02-0.43	0.23±0.15 (0.29)
Cu (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.5-21.2	4.9±4.5 (3.6)	0.3-11.8	3.4±2.6 (2.9)
Fe (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.9-106.5	38.5±28.6 (26.8)	1-61.8	26.9±16.1 (25.1)
Mn (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.1-26.1	6.3±6.7 (2.7)	0.2-6.7	2.9±1.7 (2.6)
Ti (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.1-1.28	0.43±0.28 (0.4)	0.1-5.5	1.3±1.6 (0.5)
V (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0-1.37	0.39±0.33 (0.34)	0-1.66	0.47±0.43 (0.27)
Cr (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.15-0.58	0.3±0.13 (0.28)	0.15-0.49	0.3±0.11 (0.28)
Co (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.002-0.057	0.018±0.011 (0.016)	0.003-0.063	0.025±0.016 (0.019)
Ni (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.06-0.66	0.21±0.15 (0.21)	0.08-0.46	0.26±0.11 (0.26)
Zn (WS) <sup>b</sup>	2.3-124.4	35.1±33.9 (21.7)	5.6-41.4	21±10.8 (20.6)
Mo (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.04-1.02	0.31±0.22 (0.26)	0.18-1.4	0.37±0.3 (0.3)
Ag (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.002-0.023	0.007±0.006 (0.006)	0.002-0.168	0.03±0.046 (0.01)
Cd (WS) <sup>b</sup>	0.01-0.49	0.15±0.11 (0.12)	0.03-0.38	0.18±0.09 (0.17)

<sup>a</sup> concentration unit is µg m<sup>-3</sup>; <sup>b</sup> the unit is ng m<sup>-3</sup>; BC: black carbon; OC: organic carbon; MD: mineral dust; TEO: trace element oxides; UI: unidentified; TMs: transition metals; WS: water-soluble; WI: water-insoluble; NT: near-total; ∑Monosaccharides: sum of the concentrations of levoglucosan, mannosan, and galactosan; ∑Polyols: sum of the concentrations of arabitol and mannitol.

### Section S3. Composition of PM<sub>2.5</sub> across the study locations

Figure S2a-b shows the concentrations of major PM<sub>2.5</sub> species reconstructed using formulas in Table S1. Toronto had the highest levels of BC (median: 2.2  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ; Figure S2a, Table S2a-b), whereas Vancouver, Hamilton, and Montreal demonstrated relatively low but similar values (median: 1.1-1.3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). The relatively high BC levels at Toronto site are explained by the intense traffic in the vicinity of the sampling site (3 m away; daily average of ~412000 vehicles in 2016; this includes diesel emission from passing trucks). The highest and lowest median values for OM were found in Montreal and Vancouver (5.8 and 3.2  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively), while Toronto and Hamilton showed median values in between this range (4.2 and 4.3  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ; Figure S2a). The levels of  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  were noticeably higher in Hamilton (median: 2.9, and the upper bound of 10.8  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), compared to the other sites (median: 0.5-1.8, and the upper bound of  $\leq 5.3$   $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ); this observation is in line with the industrial activities surrounding this study location. In addition, Hamilton and Montreal had the highest levels of  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  among other sites (median: 2.3 and 3.6  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) compared to the other two sites, i.e. 0.2-0.4  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ .  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  are produced in the atmosphere following the reaction of  $\text{NH}_3$  with  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$ , respectively (Seigneur, 2019). The reaction of  $\text{NH}_3$  with the former is favored under typical atmospheric conditions, leading to the formation of  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ . However, urban areas with high  $\text{NH}_3$  emission and photo-chemically formed  $\text{HNO}_3$  could create local conditions that are thermodynamically favorable to formation of  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$  (Nowak et al., 2010). This pattern was observed with the Montreal study site. This site also demonstrated the highest levels of NaCl (median: 0.4  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ; Figure 1a), which may indicate contribution from road salts applied during the winter months (Montreal typically receives the highest amount of snow annually among the study locations).

The highest levels of mineral dust were observed in Toronto (median: 1.1  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), while the other locations showed similar median values (0.4-0.7  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ). High levels of mineral dust in Toronto are due to the near-road nature of this site and the traffic-related resuspension of the road dust that contributes to the PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass (Dabek-Zlotorzynska et al., 2019). Toronto and Montreal had the highest values of trace element oxides (0.07  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), followed by Hamilton and Vancouver (0.05 and 0.03  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ , respectively).



**Figure S2.** PM<sub>2.5</sub> compositions across the study locations; BC: black carbon, OM: organic matter, MD: mineral dust (i.e. Si, Ca, Fe, K, Ti), TEO: trace element oxides (i.e. V, Mn, Ni, Cu, Zn, As, Pb, Se, Sr, Cr), UI: unidentified chemicals, TMs: transition metals, WS: water-soluble, WI: water-insoluble, saccharides (i.e. monosaccharide anhydrides/biomass burning tracers: levoglucosan, mannosan, galactosan), and polyols (biogenic emission tracers: arabitol and mannitol). For simplicity,  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  represents all ammonium sulfate species considered in mass reconstruction, including  $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{H}(\text{SO}_4)_2$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4$ .



**Table S3.** PM<sub>2.5</sub> chemical species ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ), ambient temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and relative humidity (%) used for pH estimation

	Toronto		Vancouver	
	Min-Max	Mean $\pm$ SD (Median)	Min-Max	Mean $\pm$ SD (Median)
NH <sub>3(g)</sub>	0.5-11.1	5.6 $\pm$ 2.9 (5.6)	2.6-6.7	4.2 $\pm$ 1.4 (3.8)
HNO <sub>3(g)</sub>	0.3-1.5	0.9 $\pm$ 0.5 (0.8)	0.07-1.05	0.21 $\pm$ 0.3 (0.07)
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.3-3.4	1.1 $\pm$ 1 (0.6)	0.08-1.03	0.26 $\pm$ 0.27 (0.16)
Na <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.02-0.3	0.08 $\pm$ 0.09 (0.04)	0.02-0.66	0.15 $\pm$ 0.18 (0.07)
Ca <sup>2+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.02-0.67	0.16 $\pm$ 0.16 (0.13)	0.02-0.15	0.04 $\pm$ 0.03 (0.03)
K <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.02-0.12	0.06 $\pm$ 0.03 (0.05)	0.02-0.15	0.05 $\pm$ 0.04 (0.03)
Mg <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.01-0.04	0.02 $\pm$ 0.01 (0.03)	0.005-0.04	0.012 $\pm$ 0.011 (0.005)
Cl <sup>-</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.05-0.39	0.10 $\pm$ 0.12 (0.05)	0.05-0.84	0.14 $\pm$ 0.21 (0.05)
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0-11.2	2.0 $\pm$ 3.3 (0.1)	0.07-2.4	0.46 $\pm$ 0.54 (0.3)
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.8-4.1	1.7 $\pm$ 0.9 (1.4)	0.17-1.7	0.57 $\pm$ 0.4 (0.42)
T ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	-11.4-25.9	12.9 $\pm$ 12.1 (18.8)	-2.3-19.4	9.5 $\pm$ 6.2 (10.5)
RH (%)	50-87	67 $\pm$ 11 (66)	56-96	82 $\pm$ 10 (84)
LWC	0.4-22.4	5.1 $\pm$ 6.5 (2.6)	0.8-29.2	5.1 $\pm$ 7.8 (2.1)
pH	1.6-5.1	3.2 $\pm$ 1.0 (3.0)	2.4-7.4	3.8 $\pm$ 1.1 (3.5)
	Hamilton		Montreal	
NH <sub>3(g)</sub>	0.5-11.6	4 $\pm$ 2.1 (4.1)	0.5-6	2.4 $\pm$ 1.5 (2.8)
HNO <sub>3(g)</sub>	0.4-1.2	0.6 $\pm$ 0.3 (0.4)	0.3-0.7	0.6 $\pm$ 0.1 (0.6)
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.2-3	1.3 $\pm$ 0.8 (1.1)	0.01-2.11	1.04 $\pm$ 0.6 (0.89)
Na <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.02-0.10	0.03 $\pm$ 0.02 (0.02)	0.02-0.39	0.09 $\pm$ 0.12 (0.02)
Ca <sup>2+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.02-0.23	0.1 $\pm$ 0.06 (0.09)	0.02-0.34	0.13 $\pm$ 0.12 (0.09)
K <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.01-0.14	0.05 $\pm$ 0.03 (0.05)	0.02-0.23	0.09 $\pm$ 0.05 (0.09)
Mg <sup>+</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0-0.06	0.02 $\pm$ 0.01 (0.02)	0.003-0.026	0.013 $\pm$ 0.008 (0.011)
Cl <sup>-</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.02-0.19	0.06 $\pm$ 0.04 (0.05)	0.02-0.50	0.15 $\pm$ 0.15 (0.05)
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0-8.9	1.7 $\pm$ 2.4 (0.6)	0-6.8	2.5 $\pm$ 2.4 (2.8)
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> <sub>(aq)</sub>	0.8-8.1	2.6 $\pm$ 1.7 (2.3)	0-2.3	1.4 $\pm$ 0.6 (1.4)
T ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	-2.1-26.5	14.5 $\pm$ 9 (16.1)	-11.4-26.5	9.4 $\pm$ 13.1 (13.1)
RH (%)	45-100	74 $\pm$ 14 (77)	34-95	68 $\pm$ 16 (71)
LWC	0.5-46.1	9.0 $\pm$ 9.9 (5.0)	0.7-44.3	8.0 $\pm$ 13.9 (2.8)
pH	1.8-3.7	2.7 $\pm$ 0.6 (2.8)	1.8-4.2	2.9 $\pm$ 1.0 (2.9)

$n = 14$  at Toronto (only covering samples from 2017), 20 at Vancouver, 26 at Hamilton, and 9 at Montreal. pH was only calculated for those samples for which all required speciation data were available. LWC: aerosol liquid water content ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) estimated with ISORROPIA model.

**Table S4a.** Results of principal component and multiple linear regression analysis in Toronto

<b>Toronto</b>	<b>Factor 1</b>	<b>Factor 2</b>	<b>Factor 3</b>	<b>Factor 4</b>				
% Variance	27	17	17	16				
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass - Cold	-	-	48	17				
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass - Warm	17	-	60	-				
Factor loading (factor score coefficient)	Fe	0.88 (0.23)	Si	0.88 (0.44)	Oxa	0.94 (0.43)	NO <sub>3</sub>	0.92 (0.39)
	Cu	0.88 (0.27)	Al	0.86 (0.40)	OC	0.82 (0.33)	NH <sub>4</sub>	0.86 (0.30)
	Sn	0.87 (0.28)	Ca	0.79 (0.33)	SO <sub>4</sub>	0.71 (0.26)	Lev	0.74 (0.29)
	EC	0.78 (0.22)						
	Mn	0.75 (0.14)						
	Zn	0.62 (0.15)						
<b>Potential sources</b>	Brake wear/tailpipe emission	Crustal matter	Aged combustion aerosols	Biomass burning				

The values in brackets are the factor score coefficients for individual species

**Table S4b.** Results of principal component and multiple linear regression analysis in Vancouver

<b>Vancouver</b>	<b>Factor 1</b>	<b>Factor 2</b>	<b>Factor 3</b>	<b>Factor 4</b>				
% Variance	37	15	14	14				
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass - Cold	54	-	-	-				
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass - Warm	-	40	23	-				
Factor loading (factor score coefficient)	Fe	0.95 (0.21)	Lev	0.88 (0.41)	NH <sub>4</sub>	0.90 (0.44)	Si	0.86 (0.51)
	Mn	0.89 (0.21)	NO <sub>3</sub>	0.71 (0.28)	SO <sub>4</sub>	0.90 (0.40)	Al	0.61 (0.23)
	Cu	0.88 (0.16)	K	0.69 (0.39)	Oxa	0.63 (0.22)		
	Sn	0.87 (0.17)						
	Zn	0.86 (0.19)						
	EC	0.84 (0.13)						
	OC	0.64 (0.03)						
<b>Potential sources</b>	Brake wear/tailpipe emission	Biomass burning	Aged combustion aerosols	Crustal matter				

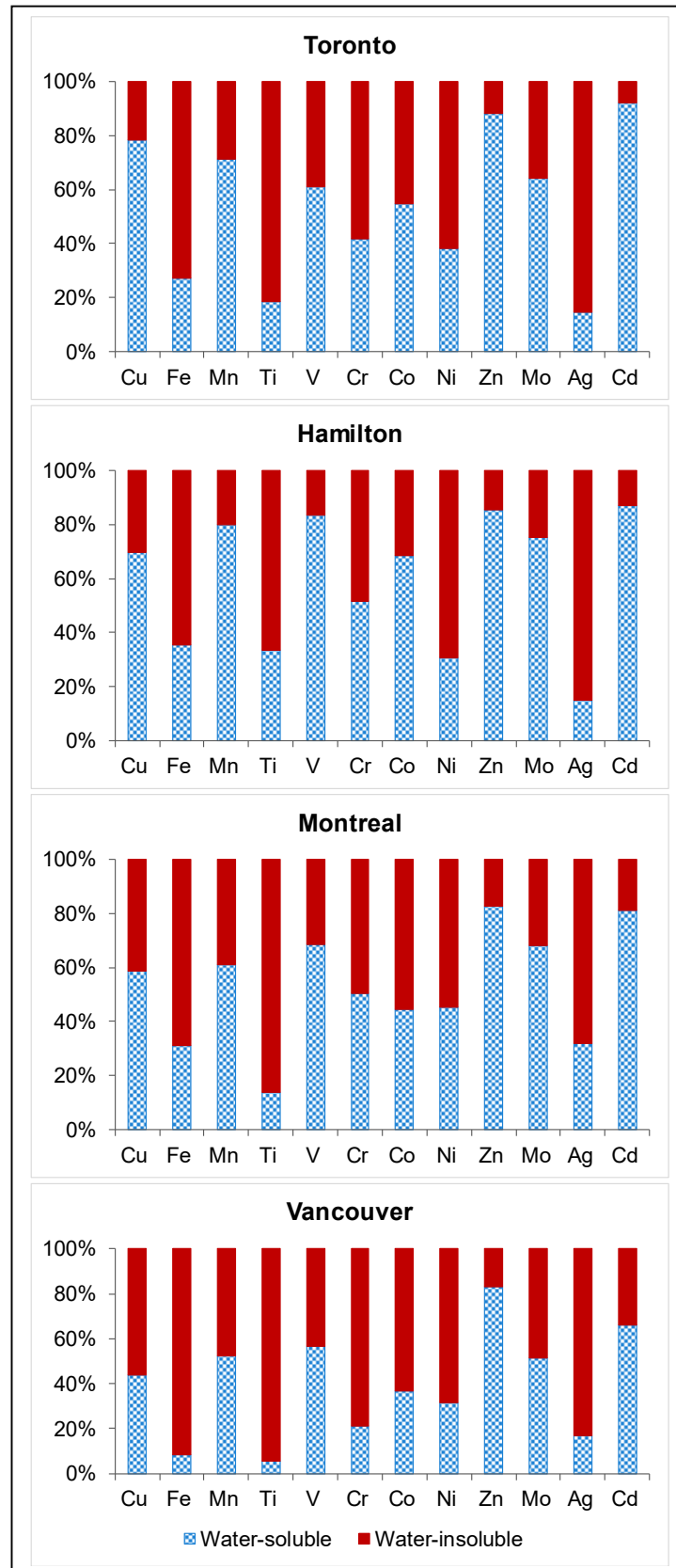
**Table S4c.** Results of principal component and multiple linear regression analysis in Hamilton

<b>Hamilton</b>	<b>Factor 1</b>	<b>Factor 2</b>	<b>Factor 3</b>	<b>Factor 4</b>				
% Variance	30	20	15	15				
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass - Cold	-	48	26	-				
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass - Warm	-	92	-	-				
Factor loading (factor score coefficient)	Mn	0.87 (0.26)	Oxa	0.91 (0.44)	NO <sub>3</sub>	0.91 (0.42)	Si	0.83 (0.52)
	Fe	0.84 (0.23)	OC	0.88 (0.40)	NH <sub>4</sub>	0.90 (0.38)	Ca	0.72 (0.37)
	Zn	0.83 (0.27)	EC	0.71 (0.25)	Lev	0.71 (0.26)	Al	0.69 (0.37)
	Pb	0.82 (0.24)						
	Sn	0.79 (0.20)						
	Cu	0.65 (0.16)						
<b>Potential sources</b>	Industrial-metallurgical emissions/brake wear	Aged combustion aerosols	Biomass burning	Crustal matter				

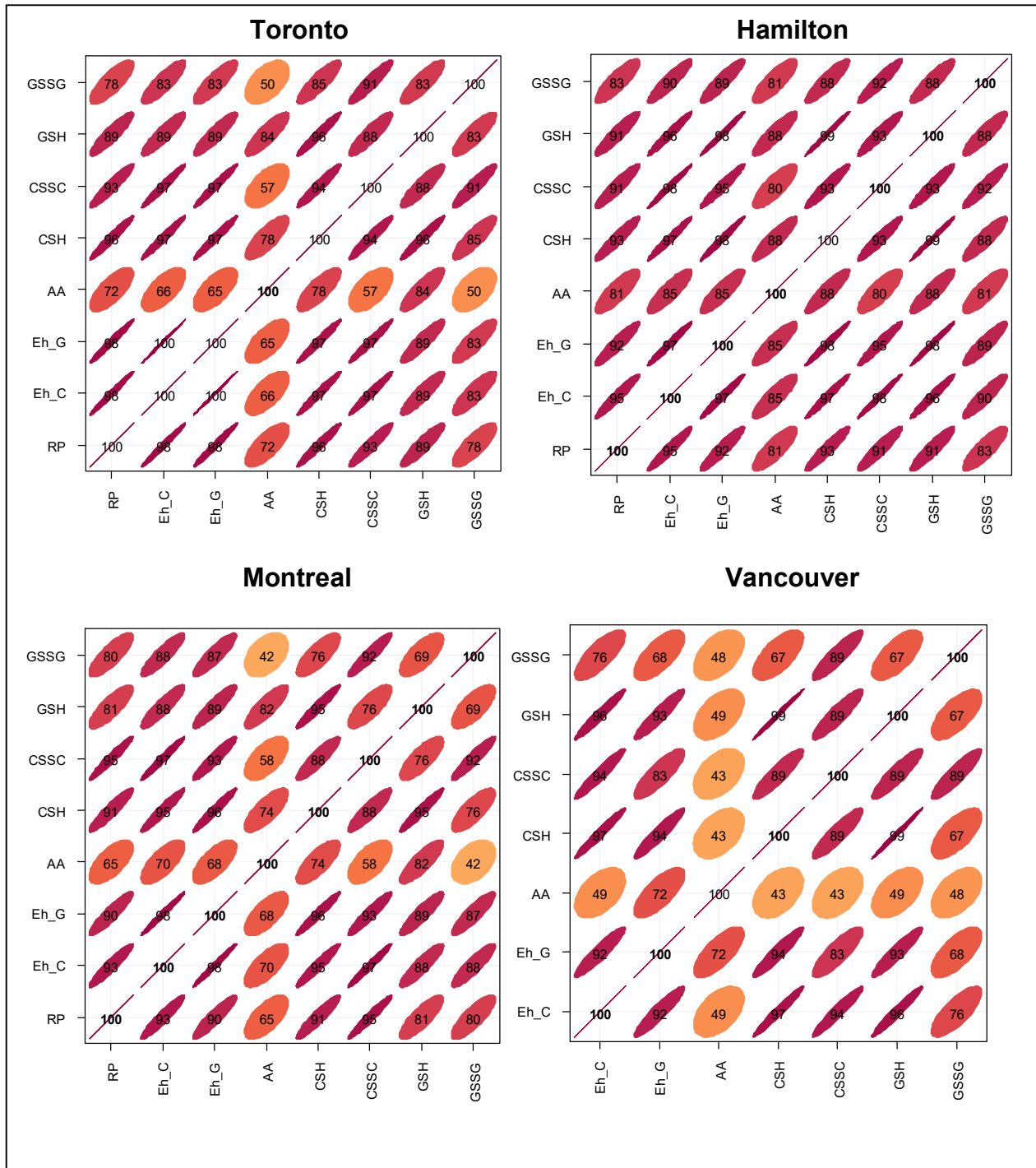
**Table S4d.** Results of principal component and multiple linear regression analysis in Montreal

<b>Montreal</b>	<b>Factor 1</b>		<b>Factor 2</b>		<b>Factor 3</b>	
% Variance	35		23		18	
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass – Cold	11		9		55	
% PM <sub>2.5</sub> mass – Warm	-		-		66	
Factor loading (factor score coefficient)	Fe	0.90 (0.20)	NO3	0.91 (0.32)	Oxa	0.84 (0.45)
	Al	0.90 (0.20)	Lev	0.86 (0.30)	SO4	0.82 (0.41)
	Mn	0.83 (0.20)	NH4	0.74 (0.18)	OC	0.65 (0.24)
	Si	0.83 (0.18)	K	0.64 (0.17)		
	Ca	0.80 (0.19)				
	Cu	0.73 (0.13)				
<b>Potential sources</b>	Crustal material		biomass burning		Aged combustion aerosols	

**Figure S3.** Distribution (%) of water-soluble and water-insoluble transition metals in PM<sub>2.5</sub> across study locations. The graphs depict the median concentrations.



**Figure S4.** Heatmaps of Spearman correlation between oxidative potential indicators across the sites. Correlations are shown as coefficients  $\times 100$  and as color-coded ellipses. The latter can be seen as the visual illustration of scatterplots, with high positive correlations appearing as narrow ellipses at 45 degrees and in dark red, and low correlations appearing as ovals in orange.

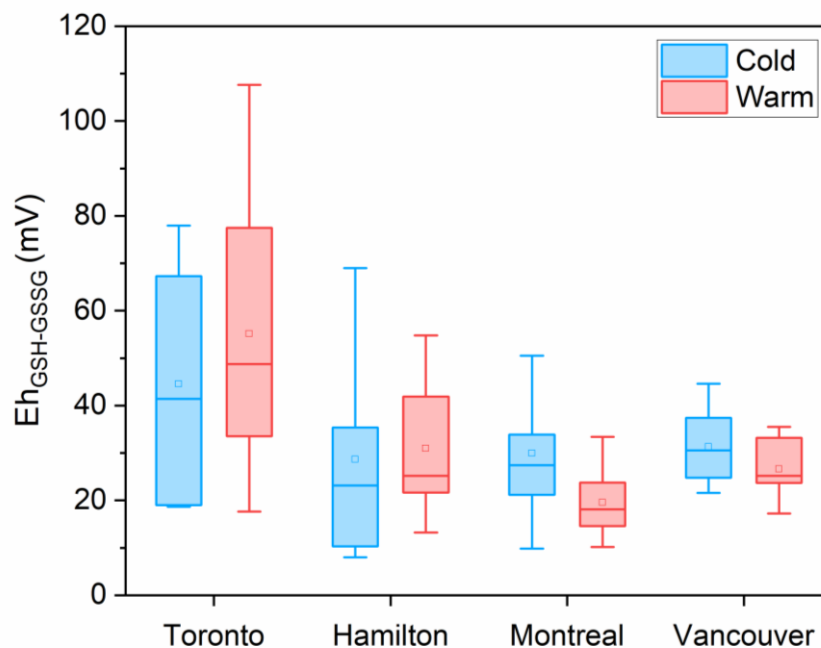


**Table S5.** OP indicators measured across the study sites

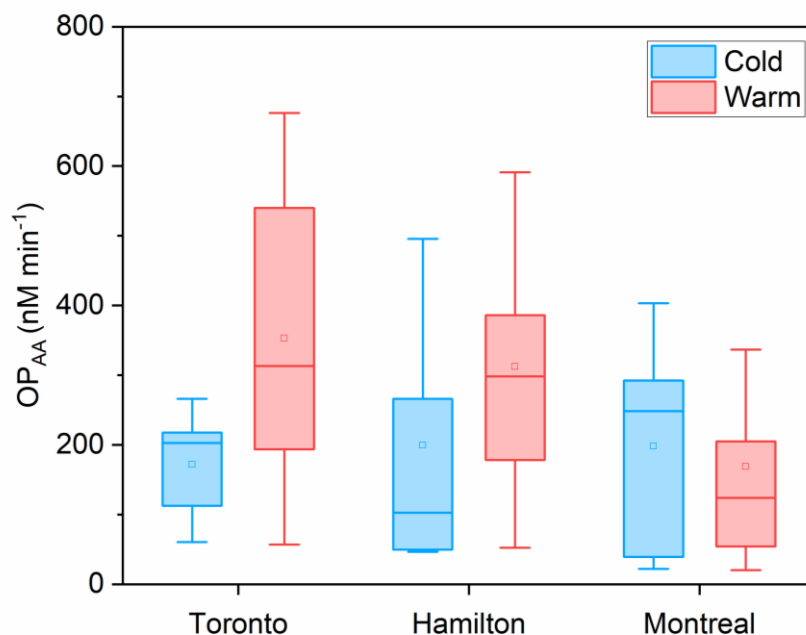
	Toronto		Vancouver	
	Min-Max	Mean $\pm$ SD (Median)	Min-Max	Mean $\pm$ SD (Median)
AA (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	57-676	310 $\pm$ 200 (240)	53-317	174 $\pm$ 93 (144)
GSH (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	111-880	499 $\pm$ 232 (535)	84-313	194 $\pm$ 67 (183)
GSSG (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	72-363	202 $\pm$ 85 (190)	57-176	112 $\pm$ 32 (116)
CSH (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	101-821	471 $\pm$ 225 (529)	78-330	195 $\pm$ 69 (185)
CSSC (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	9-150	71 $\pm$ 44 (71)	14-65	38 $\pm$ 14 (38)
Eh <sub>GSH-GSSG</sub> (mV)	18-108	52 $\pm$ 28 (47)	17-45	29 $\pm$ 7 (25)
Eh <sub>CSH-CSSC</sub> (mV)	20-144	67 $\pm$ 37 (64)	22-56	40 $\pm$ 9 (38)
RP (mV)	6-87	38 $\pm$ 24 (33)	n/a	n/a
	Hamilton		Montreal	
AA (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	47-591	256 $\pm$ 153 (257)	20-503	183 $\pm$ 149 (144)
GSH (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	40-469	223 $\pm$ 130 (174)	43-388	193 $\pm$ 104 (213)
GSSG (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	25-256	123 $\pm$ 58 (101)	37-182	113 $\pm$ 41 (116)
CSH (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	41-505	234 $\pm$ 143 (174)	35-390	206 $\pm$ 100 (215)
CSSC (nmol min <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-3</sup> )	17-119	46 $\pm$ 27 (31)	5-43	22 $\pm$ 13 (19)
Eh <sub>GSH-GSSG</sub> (mV)	8-69	32 $\pm$ 16 (25)	10-34	22 $\pm$ 8 (21)
Eh <sub>CSH-CSSC</sub> (mV)	23-87	46 $\pm$ 18 (36)	13-49	31 $\pm$ 12 (29)
RP (mV)	4-51	20 $\pm$ 14 (14)	3-32	15 $\pm$ 8 (13)

AA: ascorbic acid; GSH: glutathione; GSSG: glutathione disulfide; CSH: cysteine; CSSC: cystine; Eh: estimated redox potential of SELF based on GSH/GSSG and CSH/CSSC redox pairs; RP: redox potential of SELF measured using the oxidation-reduction sensor.

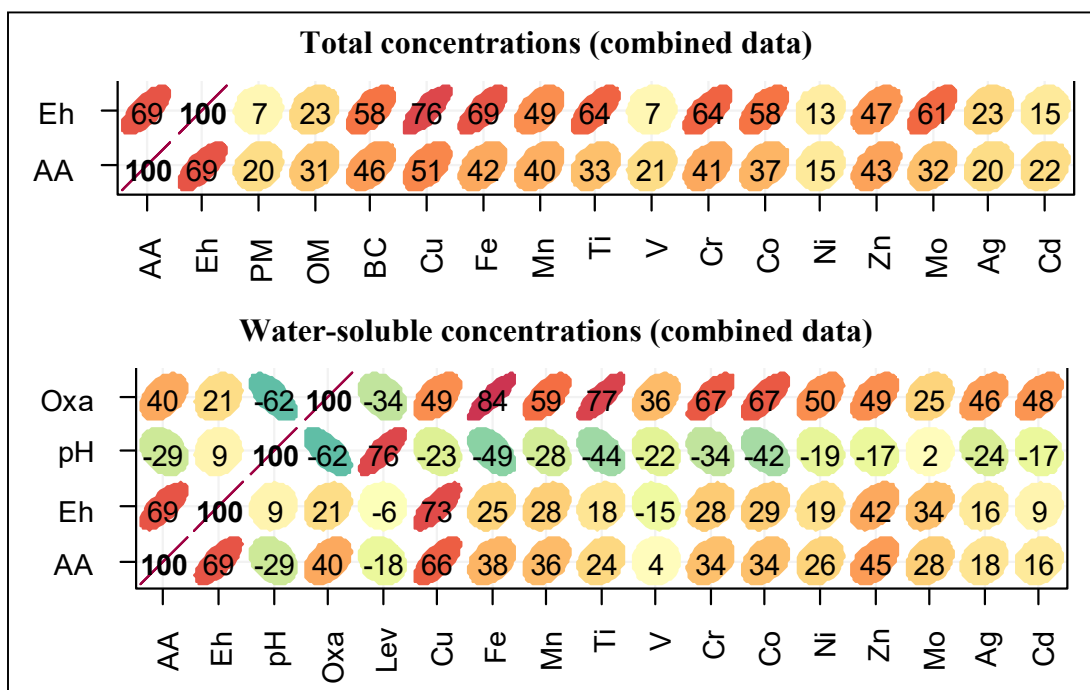
**Figure S5a.** Seasonal variation of oxidative potential across the study sites, Eh<sub>GSH-GSSG</sub> (mV). There was no statistically significant difference in Eh between the warm and cold periods at each site (Mann–Whitney test;  $p > 0.05$ ).



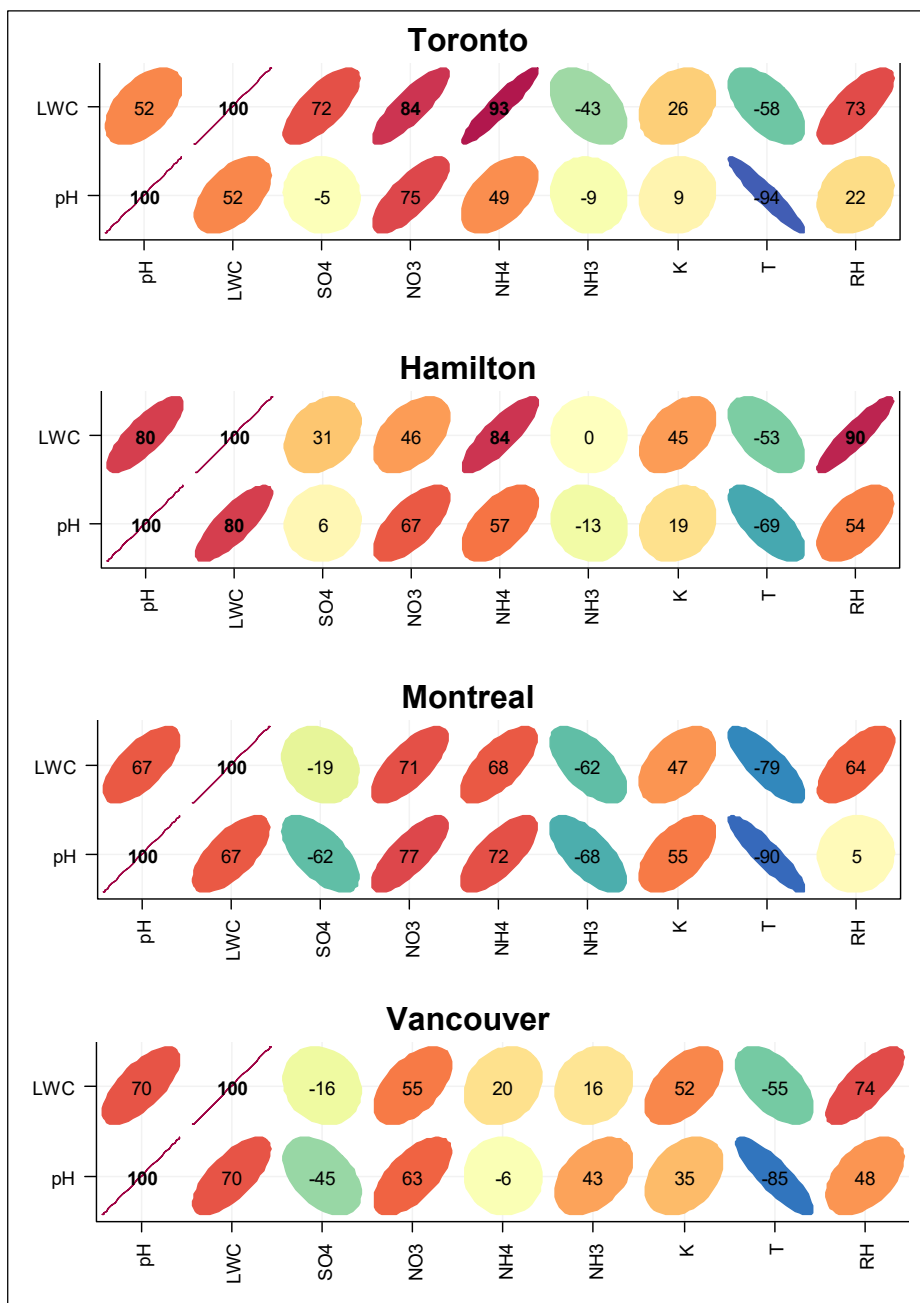
**Figure S5b.** Seasonal variation of oxidative potential across the study sites,  $OP_{AA}$  ( $nM \text{ min}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-3}$ ). Vancouver data was not included since there was only one value that fell in the warm period. There was no statistically significant difference in Eh between the warm and cold periods at each site (Mann–Whitney test;  $p > 0.05$ ).



**Figure S6.** Heatmaps of Spearman correlation between OP indicators and total and water-soluble  $PM_{2.5}$  species from combined samples.



**Figure S7.** Heatmaps of Spearman correlation between pH, PM<sub>2.5</sub> composition, temperature, and relative humidity.



LWC: aerosol liquid water content estimated with ISORROPIA model. pH was only estimated for 2017 samples for Toronto and Montreal, due to the lack of PM speciation data from 2016. Correlations are shown as coefficients  $\times 100$  and as color-coded ellipses (high positive correlation in dark red and high negative correlation in dark blue).



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