

1 **Coupling lead isotope ratios and multi-element analysis from particulate matter and lichens**
2 **from the Athabasca Oil Sands Region to identify local, regional, and global source contributions**

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12
13 **Abstract**

14 Ambient air particulate matter was collected at the Wood Buffalo Environmental Association (WBEA)
15 AMS-1 Fort McKay monitoring station in the Athabasca Oil Sand Region (AOSR) in Alberta, Canada
16 from February 2010 to July 2011. Daily twenty-four hour integrated fine (PM_{2.5}) and coarse (PM_{10-2.5})
17 particulate matter was collected using a sequential dichotomous sampler. A subset of 100 filter pairs
18 were selected for element and Pb isotope analysis to determine short term variation in source
19 contributions. Pb isotope results from 120 lichen samples collected in 2008 were analyzed to examine
20 longer term source contributions. The results from measurements of ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb isotope
21 ratios were used to identify local regional and global sources in the PM and lichen data sets. The key for
22 identifying the global source was the recognition of thorogenic Pb from western Asia in three isotope
23 ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb versus ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb plots. If one combines the results from the coarse and fine PM,
24 contributions from China (34.4%) exceed those from mixed sources of fine PM from the AOSR (19.7
25 %), regional western Canada sources of fine PM (19.0%), coarse PM from haul and access roads
26 (10.2%), oil sands (9.4%) and tailings sand (7.3%) sources. Regional sources contribute 51.7% of the Pb
27 in the lichens, local sources 27.8% and global sources 20.6%. If the mixing model results from the
28 proximal lichens (0-30 km) and distal lichens (30-160 km) are separated, local and regional sources
29 predominate at the proximal sites, and global sources are more important at the distal sites. It is
30 remarkable that we could identify and quantify the amount of this global transport signature in a location
31 within the footprint of the world's largest concentration of bitumen mining and upgrading facilities.

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33
34 Keywords: Pb isotopes, Particulate Matter, Fugitive Dust, Asian Sources, Global Transport

36 **Introduction**

37 The Athabasca Oil Sands Region (AOSR) in northern Alberta, Canada contains the world's largest
38 concentration of bitumen production and upgrading facilities with economically recoverable petroleum
39 reserves estimated to be approximately 170 billion barrels (Attanasi and Meyer, 2010; Alberta Energy
40 Regulator, 2015). Quantifying ambient particulate matter (PM) concentrations and atmospheric
41 deposition from this large scale industrial activity is essential for emission mitigation strategies in the
42 AOSR from human and ecosystem health concerns. Landis et al. (2017) quantified the ambient PM_{2.5}
43 (fine) and PM_{10-2.5} (coarse) concentrations and sources from 100 sets of PM collected in 2010 -2011
44 within the Fort MacKay First Nation community in the AOSR using positive matrix factorization (PMF)
45 techniques. Fort Mackay is located centrally within the footprint of the AOSR surface mining operations
46 (Figure 1). A PM_{2.5} Pb factor was identified by PMF that had a pronounced seasonality component with
47 enhanced contributions during the spring of 2010 and the spring of 2011. This seasonal pattern did not
48 appear to be correlated with known emissions from local or regional sources, but is consistent with
49 previously observed trans-Pacific transport of pollution from Asia to western North America (Yienger et
50 al., 2000; VanCuren et al., 2002; VanCuren, 2003). Based on multi-element studies long range transport
51 to the North Pacific region and adjacent land masses in western North America can include large
52 contributions from western Asian sources superimposed over local sources (Uematsu et al., 1983; Jaffe
53 et. al., 1999; Zdanowicz, 2006; Osterberg et al., 2008) with the contributions from western Asian
54 sources enhanced in the springtime (Fischer et al., 2009).

55 It is known that lead can be emitted into the atmosphere by high temperature anthropogenic processes
56 including non-ferrous metal smelting, battery recycling, coal combustion, waste incineration, and
57 transportation fuels (U.S. EPA, 2015). Once emitted, lead may be transported on local, regional, or
58 intercontinental scales depending on several factors, including particle size, the elevation of emission,
59 and meteorology. We hypothesized that Pb isotope analysis could be used in consort with multi-element
60 measurements to quantify contributions from Pb sources on local, regional, and global scales in the
61 AOSR. Pb has four major isotopes, 204, 206, 207, and 208. ²⁰⁸Pb is formed from the radioactive decay
62 of ²³²Th, ²⁰⁷Pb from ²³⁵U, and ²⁰⁶Pb from ²³⁸U. ²⁰⁴Pb is referred to as common Pb (has no radioactive
63 parent, and is much less abundant than the other isotopes). The uranium and thorium parents have
64 differing decay rates resulting in predictable changes in Pb isotope ratios (Faure, 1986). The Pb isotope
65 ratios from source materials can reflect the age at which Pb was incorporated into the parent material
66 (e.g., ore deposit, coal, oil,) which is preserved without fractionation during the subsequent process that

67 emitted the Pb into the environment (Graney et al., 1995). Following emission from high temperature
68 processes such as smelting, coal combustion, or oil refining, Pb species typically nucleate or condense
69 onto atmospheric aerosols very quickly.

70 Recent particulate matter studies indicate that after the phasing out of the use of leaded gasoline in
71 China (Zheng et al., 2004; Chen et al., 2005; Wang et al., 2006), energy generation processes,
72 predominantly coal combustion, are the major source of Pb emissions to the atmosphere with smaller
73 contributions from metal refining (Chen et al. 2008; Kong et al., 2011; Li et al., 2012). The atmospheric
74 emissions from China are characterized by lead from thorogenic sources (Mukai et al., 1993, 1995;
75 Bellis et al., 2005, Cheng and Hu, 2010) which results in higher $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ than lead
76 from other sources (Bollhofer and Rossman, 2001, Tan et al., 2006). Thorogenic Pb contributions
77 identified in Pb isotope studies have been used to identify transboundary pollution contributions from
78 China to lake sediment in Japan (Hosono et al., 2016), the North Pacific (Gallon et al., 2011) and
79 aerosols in the western United States (Ewing et al., 2010) as well as ice cores in western Canada (Gross
80 et al., 2012) and Greenland (Bory et al., 2014). Pb isotopes have been used to document regional and
81 local emission, transport, and deposition processes using lichens in western Canada (Simonetti et al.,
82 2003) and the AOSR (Graney et al., 2012) but a thorogenic component representing long distance
83 transport has yet to be recognized in the AOSR.

84 Based on the results from metal accumulation in peat cores in the AOSR, Shotyk et al. (2017)
85 recommended that long range transport needed to be considered in source assessments. Lichens (as well
86 as peat cores) integrate deposition over long time scales (several years), so to better determine what
87 proportion of the lead in the PM in the AOSR is from Asian sources rather than regional or local sources
88 shorter sampling intervals may be needed. This paper follows up on the recommendation of Shotyk et
89 al. (2017) by merging multi-element PM data sets with Pb isotope measurements to help distinguish
90 between aerosol sources. We anticipated the use of Pb isotope ratios from daily PM samples coupled
91 with findings from lichens could provide both short and long term temporal resolution for quantifying
92 PM sources from local, regional, and global sources. Whether a thorogenic Asian lead source can be
93 identified in particulate matter collected from a remote area in western Canada superimposed over the
94 industrial fingerprint associated with oil sands processing was a goal of this study. We will demonstrate
95 that a coupled multi-element and Pb isotope approach can be used to quantify an Asian anthropogenic
96 Pb signal in the AOSR.

97

98 **Methods**

99 ***Sampling Site***

100 The Wood Buffalo Environmental Association (WBEA) AMS-1 Bertha Ganter-Fort McKay ambient air
101 monitoring station (57°11'21.70" N; -111°38'26.06" W) is located in the Fort McKay First Nation and
102 Metis community. The AMS-1 site is located in an area that is in close proximity to ongoing oil sand
103 production operations such as mining, separating, and upgrading of bitumen (Figure 1). Twenty-four
104 hour ambient PM samples for mass and element determinations were collected on a daily basis from
105 February 22, 2010 through July 27, 2011 using a ThermoScientific Model 2025D Sequential
106 Dichotomous air sampler (a U.S. EPA designated Federal Equivalent Method for PM_{2.5}). The
107 dichotomous sampler had a PM₁₀ impactor inlet operating at 16.7 LPM to make the initial particle size
108 cutoff at 10 µm mass median aerodynamic diameter (MMAD). The virtual impactor in line after the
109 PM₁₀ impactor inlet acts as a dichotomous splitter and dynamically segregates the particles into fine (≤
110 2.5 µm) and coarse (10 – 2.5 µm) size fractions (Loo and Cork, 1998). The PM_{2.5} and PM_{10-2.5} size
111 fractions were collected onto two separate 47 mm MTL Teflon filters (Measurement Technologies
112 Laboratories, Minneapolis, MN) with Teflon support rings. Calibrated mass flow controllers maintained
113 the fine particle filter flow at 15.0 LPM and the coarse particle filter flow at 1.67 LPM to ensure the
114 correct MMAD size cut.

115 The use of a virtual impactor results in the collection of all coarse mode particles from the total flow and
116 the fine mode particles in the minor flow on the coarse filter (Mc Farland et al., 1978). As a result, the
117 fine mode and corrected coarse mode concentrations (mass and elements) are adjusted for this
118 contribution using equation 1 and 2, respectively.

119
$$C_{Fine} = \left(\frac{M_{Fine}}{V_{Fine}} \right) \quad (1)$$

120

121
$$C_{Coarse} = \left[\frac{M_{Coarse} - \left(\frac{M_{Fine} * V_{Coarse}}{V_{Fine}} \right)}{V_{Total}} \right] \quad (2)$$

122 Where: C_{Fine} = Concentration PM_{2.5} (µg m⁻³)
123 C_{Coarse} = Concentration PM_{Coarse} (µg m⁻³)
124 V_{Fine} = Volume of Air Through PM_{2.5} Filter (m⁻³)
125 V_{Coarse} = Volume of Air Through PM_{Coarse} Filter (m⁻³)
126 V_{Total} = Volume of Air Through Sampler (m⁻³)
127 M_{Fine} = Mass on Fine Filter (µg)
128 M_{Coarse} = Mass on Coarse Filter (µg)

129
130 Further details of the pre and post filter weighing, sample collection and shipment protocols performed
131 by ARA Inc. (Atmospheric Research & Analysis, Inc., Cary, North Carolina, USA) are found in Landis
132 et al., 2017.

133
134 ***Filter Selection for Element and Pb Isotope Analysis***

135 Over the course of the study 392 valid daily dichotomous PM_{2.5} and PM_{10-2.5} sample pairs were collected
136 with mean concentrations of $6.8 \pm 12.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (mean \pm standard deviation) and $6.9 \pm 5.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$,
137 respectively. A subset of 100 dichotomous sample pairs was selected for element and Pb isotope
138 analysis. The selected samples included an even distribution across the seasons.

139
140 ***Teflon Filter Extraction and Trace Element Analysis***

141 The dichotomous sampler filters were digested using a CEM Corporation (Matthews, NC) Mars Express
142 microwave digestion system in a mixture of ultra-pure H₂O₂, HF and HNO₃ in a procedure similar to
143 that developed by Jalkanen and Hasanen (1996). The digestion involved heating the samples in 5 ml of
144 the mixed acid mixture at 180°C for 40 minutes (Edgerton et al., 2012). After the sample extracts had
145 cooled, American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) Type I ultrapure (18.2 MΩ·cm) water was
146 added to each vessel to bring the extract up to a final volume of 15 ml. A 25-30 mg aliquot of NIST
147 SRM 1633c was also digested with each batch of 30-35 filters to determine extraction efficiency. Further
148 details of the digestion procedure are provided in Edgerton et al., 2012.

149 The sample extracts were then analyzed for a suite of elements using a Perkin-Elmer (Waltham, MA)
150 Model 9000 Elan-II dynamic reaction cell inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (DRC-
151 ICPMS). The samples were introduced into the DRC-ICPMS by pneumatic nebulization. Peak
152 characteristics for each target element were considered in the method to eliminate interferences from
153 polyatomic ions derived from the plasma gas, reagents, or sample matrix. Instrument drift and
154 suppression, or enhancement of instrument response caused by the sample matrix, was corrected by
155 internal standardization (Edgerton et al., 2012). Target isotopes and study specific MDLs, and a
156 summary of the DRC-ICPMS analytical results for the 100 PM_{2.5} and PM_{10-2.5} samples were published in
157 Landis et al. 2017.

158
159 ***Pb Isotope Ratio Analysis***

160 Aliquots of the filter digests that had been used for the multi-element determinations were subsequently

161 measured for stable Pb isotopes using a Thermo Scientific (Franklin, Massachusetts, USA) model
162 Element2 inductively coupled plasma high resolution magnetic sector field mass spectrometer (ICP-
163 SFMS). The method used to measure the Pb isotope ratios in has been described in detail in Graney et
164 al. (2012), and included: (i) self-aspiration of sample through a cyclonic spray chamber with an uptake
165 rate of 200 $\mu\text{l min}^{-1}$ to maximize signal stability; (ii) optimization of the detector dead time in the
166 scanning speed operation mode; (iii) utilization of low resolution detection mode to produce flat- topped
167 peak shapes; and (iv) use of a narrow mass width window (10% of the peak top-width) scanned at a high
168 sweep rate. A bracketing technique was used to correct for mass bias during the Pb isotope ratio
169 measurements using NIST SRM 981 (Krachler et al., 2004; Yip et al., 2008). The average of the Pb
170 isotope ratios from the NIST SRM 981 bracketing samples was then used to correct the results from the
171 replicate analyses for ICP-SFMS mass bias (Krachler et al., 2004; Graney et al., 2012).

172

173 **Results and Discussion**

174 *Fort McKay Ambient Dichotomous Sample Element Results*

175 The subset of 100 dichotomous sample pairs selected for element and Pb isotope analysis had an average
176 $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ of $8.6 \pm 21.6 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and $\text{PM}_{10-2.5}$ of $7.6 \pm 5.8 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ with the temporal variability presented in
177 Figure 2a. The concentration of Pb was typically greater in the fine than coarse fraction, and Pb
178 concentration in the fine PM was notably higher in April – May 2010 and January – May 2011 (Figure
179 2b). In contrast the S and Al concentrations showed more variability on a day to day basis (Figure 2cd),
180 with S concentrations much higher in the fine than coarse PM, and the Al concentrations higher in the
181 coarse than the fine PM. This suggests that the source(s) of the Pb are partially decoupled from the PM,
182 S, and Al sources.

183 PM studies indicate that the Pb concentration in aerosols collected in China can be as much as a factor
184 of 100 greater than those measured in Ft. McKay. Pb concentrations as high as several hundred ng m^{-3}
185 have recently been reported in several locations in China (Schleicher et al., 2011; Widory et al., 2010;
186 Wang et al., 2015; Zhou et al., 2016) versus the several ng m^{-3} typical in Ft. MacKay (this study).
187 Because the Pb concentrations in aerosols at Ft. McKay from local sources are low, it may be feasible to
188 determine contributions from local, regional and global sources through coupled source apportionment
189 and Pb isotope ratio results.

190 Application of the U.S EPA positive matrix factorization (PMF) receptor model on the same 100 pairs
191 of Fort McKay PM used for the Pb isotope ratio measurements in this study resolved six $\text{PM}_{10-2.5}$

192 sources which explained 99% of the mass including fugitive dust from haul roads, oil sands, and mixed
193 sources as well as biomass combustion, and mobile sources (Landis et al., 2017). 40% of the PM_{10-2.5}
194 mass was characterized by elevated concentrations of Ca, Fe, Mg, Mn, Si, Sr indicative of haul road
195 dust, and 27% of the mass was elevated in both bitumen (V, Ni, S, Mo) and sand (Si, Al, Ti)
196 components indicative of a fugitive oil sand source. PMF resolved five PM_{2.5} sources which explained
197 96% of the mass. PM_{2.5} sources included contributions from oil sands upgrading (32% of fine PM mass
198 characterized by elevated SO₂, S, Mo, V, and Ni with negligible crustal element contributions), mixed
199 source fine fugitive dust (26%, elevated Al, Ca, Ce, Fe, La, Nb, Nd, Si, Sm, and Ti), biomass
200 combustion (25%, elevated Cd, K, Rb, Zn), with lesser contributions from a lead source (9%) and winter
201 road salt (4%). The temporal variation in the source contributions in the coarse and fine PM based on
202 the PMF results are presented in Figure 3a and b.

203

204 ***Fort McKay Ambient Dichotomous Sample Pb Isotope Results***

205 The ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb isotope ratios from all of the coarse and fine fraction PM samples from
206 Ft. McKay are plotted in Figure 4a. The coarse fraction samples plot in an elliptical field that in general
207 has higher ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb than the elliptical field that encompasses the fine fraction samples.
208 If one plots the coarse and fine results from the same sample collection day, the coarse fraction almost
209 always has higher ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb than the fine fraction (not shown here). Because the PM
210 sources that contribute to the coarse and fine PM differ based on the PMF source apportionment results
211 it is possible Pb isotopes might also impart a signature that reflects differences in PM sources. That
212 possibility is explored in the next section.

213

214 ***Results and Insights from Pb Isotopes from Source and Soil Samples from the AOSR***

215 Pb isotopes were measured on source samples from the AOSR from exposed (weathered) and fresh oil
216 sands, processed materials produced during the upgrading operations as well as the sand and clay from
217 tailings ponds, limestone from quarrying operations, access road materials, and PM from stacks and
218 heavy hauler fleets (Figure 4b). The PM source samples from upgrader stacks and the heavy hauler fleet
219 had been collected using dilution systems to allow aerosols to form via condensation and coagulation as
220 the exhaust stream cools to ambient temperature (Wang et al., 2012; Watson et al., 2012; Wang et al.,
221 2016). In addition, soils from lichen sample collection sites were collected and analyzed for Pb isotopes
222 as part of a prior study (Graney et al., 2017) and are included in Figure 4b.

223 The processed material and stack samples had the highest $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ ratios whereas the
224 fleet, tailings and soils had lower $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ ratios, with the weathered and fresh oil
225 sands displaying a wide range of Pb isotope ratios. The Pb isotopes from the oil sands samples plot in a
226 linear array that does not intersect the processed material and stack samples.

227 In the AOSR near source atmospheric pollution mainly consists of coarse fugitive PM emissions (wind-
228 blown dust) and fine PM diesel engine combustion exhaust from shovel and truck fleet operations
229 (Landis et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2015a; Wang et al., 2015b). Therefore the fine fraction PM near
230 mining operations likely contains a large component of combustion exhaust whereas the coarse fraction
231 PM contributions are likely a mixture from several fugitive dust sources.

232 We would expect the PM from the fleet samples (as well as the PM from other high temperature
233 combustion processes such as oil sands upgrading) to be $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ dominant whereas the oil sand,
234 limestone, and tailing sands would be predominantly in the $\text{PM}_{10-2.5}$ fraction (Landis et al., 2017). The
235 Pb isotope ratios from the dichot results reflect this expectation for results from the $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ are most
236 similar to values from the fleet samples, whereas the $\text{PM}_{10-2.5}$ is most similar to a mixture of the oil sand,
237 limestone, and tailing sands values (Figure 4ab). The dichot results do not suggest a large contribution
238 from AOSR stack emissions based on the extent of the elliptical fields for either the coarse or fine Pb
239 isotope results. It is possible that the stack emissions would be reflected more in far field deposition
240 rather than near field deposition. Because the AMS-1 site in Fort MaKay is located proximal to several
241 of the mining and upgrading facilities PM at this site was expected to be heavily impacted by near field
242 sources. To assess far field deposition information from sites proximal and distal to mining operations
243 are needed.

244

245 ***Results and Insights from Pb Isotopes from Lichen Samples from the AOSR***

246 Lichen samples had been collected in the AOSR in 2008 to assess element and Pb isotope trends at 121
247 sites proximal and distal from mining operations (Edgerton et al., 2012; Graney et al., 2012). Based on
248 this previous work in the AOSR, it has been demonstrated that the Pb isotope composition of lichens is a
249 better indicator of source strength than Pb concentrations (Graney et al., 2012) The Pb isotope results
250 from the lichens collected in 2008 suggest a decrease in $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ from the near field
251 to distal sites (Figure 4c) suggesting a larger influence of $\text{PM}_{10-2.5}$ at the near field site, and a greater
252 contribution of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ at the distal sites. The clustering of the results into the two groupings is similar to
253 the results from the dichots. The lichen results plot in elliptical fields that have a smaller magnitude in

254 Pb isotope space than the dichot results. The width of the elliptical fields for the distal lichen samples
255 and the fine PM dichot samples suggest there could be more variability in Pb isotope space, and hence
256 sources and their signatures, than in the proximal lichens and coarse PM dichot samples.

257
258 ***Insights from Pb Isotopes from Aerosol Samples from other Studies***

259 Particulate matter and lichen biomonitoring studies have identified the fugitive emission of coarse mode
260 PM (PM_{10-2.5}) from oil sand production activities as the primary driver of the observed near field
261 atmospheric deposition and spatial patterns in the AOSR (Landis et al., 2012, 2017). However the fine
262 PM results indicate that there are other atmospheric emission sources superimposed over the coarse PM
263 results. Specifically, the PM_{2.5} lead source factor identified in the PMF source apportionment
264 demonstrates a seasonal temporal trend (Figure 3a) with two primary episodes of enhanced Pb
265 concentrations observed during the spring of 2010 and the spring of 2011. Other elements with
266 significant loading on this factor were As, Zn, and Cd. This multi-element signature could reflect high
267 temperature anthropogenic emission processes such as coal combustion or smelter emissions associated
268 with long distance transport. If so Pb isotope measurements from aerosols from other regional and
269 global scale studies might provide insights to document long range transport superimposed over local
270 source contributions in the AOSR.

271 The Pb isotope results from aerosols collected in urban areas by Bollhöfer and Rosman (2001 and 2002)
272 are presented in Fig. 4b. Samples from cities in China, Japan, Canada and the United States are included
273 in this plot. Note that the US and Canada aerosols overlap in isotope space, with the US aerosols
274 typically having higher $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ than the samples from Canada. Interestingly the
275 samples from the cities in the US with the highest $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ are from coastal areas
276 where oil fired power plants are located (i.e. Tampa Florida, Pancras et al., 2011). The samples from
277 these coastal cities lie along a linear array that would intersect the source signature for samples from the
278 stack and process samples from the AOSR. These samples likely represent the Pb isotope signature for
279 synthetic oil from upgraded bitumen, and may be representative of the Pb isotope signature emitted by
280 oil combustion processes. Note that the samples from China plot along a linear trend that is offset from
281 the US and Canada field. Specifically the samples from China are offset in Pb isotope space along a
282 trend that has a higher $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ at similar $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ values. This reflects a greater thorogenic
283 component in the China samples in comparison to the US and Canada samples that has been noted in

284 several studies previously (Mukai et al., 1993, 1995; Bellis et al., 2005, Cheng and Hu, 2010). This Pb
285 isotopic distinction has recently been used to quantify the contribution from China in aerosol samples
286 collected in California (Ewing et al., 2010) as well as in ice from western Canada (Gross et al., 2012)
287 and Greenland (Bory et al., 2014). If one examines the results from the PM_{2.5} dichots and distal lichens
288 from the AOSR in detail, one might postulate that there is also a contribution from combustion sources
289 from China in these samples. The next section will attempt to quantify this contribution based on Pb
290 isotope ratios and Pb concentrations in aerosols from the Ft. McKay site.

291 *Quantifying Source Contributions in Fine PM Aerosol Samples from Pb Isotope Perspectives*

292 If the ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb versus ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb results from the fine PM results are examined in detail, a triangular
293 area that encompasses most of the results is found (Figure 5). It is possible that the apices of the triangle
294 represent the endmember Pb isotope sources that mix together to result in the fine PM dichot results.
295 The three endmembers include an isotope composition that “points toward” the fugitive dust from the
296 AOSR (local sources), another endmember that points towards an isotopic composition similar to
297 aerosols collected from cities in western Canada (regional source) and a third endmember that points
298 towards emissions from eastern Asia, particularly cities in China (see below). If we assume that these
299 three endmembers comprise the main sources of Pb in the aerosols collected in the AOSR, a three
300 component mixing model can be used to determine the fractional contribution from the three sources on
301 a sample by sample basis. The measurement of three isotopes of Pb (for example the ²⁰⁸Pb, ²⁰⁷Pb, and
302 ²⁰⁶Pb measured in this study) allow as many as three sources of Pb to be quantified (Gobeil et al., 1995).
303 Pb isotope ratios using measurements from three isotopes of lead have been used previously to constrain
304 Pb sources in sediments (Gobeil et al., 1995) and precipitation samples (Graney and Landis, 2012). The
305 equations for the mixing model and the input parameters used in this study are found in Table 1. Note
306 that the input parameters for the China source correspond to the average of the isotope ratios from the 4
307 cities in China (Figure 4d) reported in Bollhöfer and Rosman (2001). The input parameters for the
308 Canadian source reflect contributions from cities in western Canada (Figure 4d) reported in Bollhöfer
309 and Rosman (2001, 2002). The results from this three component source attribution are presented on a
310 temporal basis in Figure 6ab and summarized in Table 1. Note that the contributions from China are
311 most pronounced (in many cases over 50%) in April and May of 2010, and in January – May in 2011.
312 This temporal relation matches the time of year in multi-element studies when trans-Pacific transport of
313 aerosols is pronounced in North America (Fischer et al., 2009 and references therein). Overall sources
314 from western Asia (China) contribute 47.1% of the Pb in the fine PM, local AOSR sources 27.0% and

315 western Canada 25.9 % based on the results from the Pb isotope ratio mixing model (Table 1) at Ft.
316 McKay over the 2010-2011 sampling timeframe.

317 ***Quantifying Source Contributions in Coarse PM Aerosol Samples from Pb Isotope Perspectives***

318 If the $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ results from the coarse PM results are examined in detail, a
319 triangular area that encompasses most of the results can be constructed (Figure 7). Based upon PMF
320 results from prior studies (Landis et al., 2012, 2017), we would anticipate that the coarse PM would be
321 from local sources including oil sand, haul and access roads and tailings sand. Based on the Pb isotope
322 results from the AOSR source samples (Figure 4b), the three endmembers might include an isotope
323 composition that “points toward” fugitive dust from weathered and fresh oil sand, an endmember that
324 points towards an isotopic composition similar to tailings sand, and a third endmember that may be a
325 haul and access road signature (which would include a major contribution from limestone). If we
326 assume that the oil sand, haul roads and tailings sand are the three endmembers that comprise the main
327 sources of Pb in the coarse PM collected in the AOSR, a three component mixing model can once again
328 be used to determine the fractional contribution from the three sources on a sample by sample basis. The
329 model input parameters are found in Table 1, and the results from this source attribution are presented
330 on a temporal basis in Figure 8ab and summarized in Table 1. Overall the temporal results indicate
331 larger contributions from oil sand sources from March – October 2010 with tailings and road
332 contributions increasing after December 2010 until summer 2011, when oil sands again predominate.
333 Overall roads contribute 37.9% of the Pb in the coarse PM, oil sand 34.9% and tailings sand 27.2 %
334 based on the results from the Pb isotope ratio mixing model (Table 1) at Ft. McKay over the 2010-2011
335 sampling timeframe.

336 If one combines the results from the coarse and fine PM (Table 2), contributions from China (34.4%)
337 exceed those from mixed sources of fine PM from the AOSR (19.7 %), regional western Canada sources
338 of fine PM (19.0%), coarse PM from haul and access roads (10.2%), oil sands (9.4%) and tailings sand
339 (7.3%).

340

341 ***Quantifying Source Contributions in Lichen Samples from the AOSR from Pb Isotope Perspectives***

342 The *Hypogymnia physodes* lichens that were collected in 2008 are known to accumulate both coarse and
343 fine particulate matter (Graney et al., 2017). At present, the age of the lichens is unknown, and we
344 assume that they integrate and retain a longer term Pb isotope signal than the 16 month time frame over

345 which the PM that was collected at Ft. McKay. If the $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ results from the
346 lichen results are examined in detail, a triangular area that encompasses most of the results is also found.
347 The three apices of the triangle point towards coarse PM from the AOSR (local source), a global source
348 from western Asia indicated by the fine PM results and a regional source from Canada that likely
349 includes fine PM from cities in western Canada and biomass combustion as well (Figure 9). Combustion
350 of biomass includes contributions from wildland fires as well as wood for heating residences in the
351 AOSR, and is a large contributor to the PMF source estimates (Figure 3b). The triangular field that
352 encloses the Pb isotope values from the lichens (Figure 9) has a slightly different global endmember
353 composition than the one used for the fine PM. Although a large contribution of Pb from China to the
354 lichens is likely, another source is needed to lower the $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ to an appropriate
355 endmember value to obtain good results from the isotope mixing model. An inclusion of emissions from
356 the mining and processing of the ore deposits in Kazakhstan (central Asia), the major source of Pb ore
357 used in Russia (Mukai, 2001) may contribute to the subtle shift in the Asian (global) Pb isotope
358 endmember composition depicted in Figure 9 versus Figure 7. Average $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ and $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ from
359 the main Pb ore deposit in Kazakhstan is 2.431 and 1.149 (Mukai, 2001) which would shift the Asian
360 source endmember to slightly lower Pb isotope values after mixing with anthropogenic Pb from China.
361 It is known that anthropogenic sources of Pb and other metals are entrained in the aerosol dust from
362 Asian deserts that is transported to North America. Based on results from several PM collection studies
363 in South Korea (Lee et al., 2013, 2015, 2016) the anthropogenic signature from Asian sources
364 overwhelms the signature from the natural Pb contained in the desert dust sources. So, the global
365 component in Figure 9 is likely a mixture of anthropogenic Pb from Kazakhstan (minor component) and
366 China (major component).

367 If the three Pb isotope endmembers calculations from the dichot results are applied in a similar manner
368 to the lichen data (see Table 1), an estimate of long term trans-Pacific transport of aerosols to the AOSR
369 can be obtained. If one uses the metric of distance from the oil sands operations to plot the Pb isotope
370 source contribution results, the more distal samples contain a greater contribution from sources in
371 western Asia. Stated in another way, even though lichens likely integrate the multi-source signals over
372 several years of PM transportation and deposition processes, a source contribution from China is
373 apparent. Overall regional sources contribute 51.7% of the Pb in the lichens, local sources 27.8% and
374 global sources 20.6% based on the results from the Pb isotope ratio mixing model (Table 1). However if
375 the mixing model results from the proximal lichens (0-30 km) and distal lichens (30-160 km) are

376 separated, local and regional sources predominate at the proximal sites, and global sources are more
377 important at the distal sites (Table 2).

378 *Other Insights from this Study*

379 It should be noted that a contribution from bitumen upgrading processes in the AOSR was not apparent
380 in the PM or lichen data sets. The contribution from biomass combustion may have been larger than
381 anticipated reflecting both wildfire and heating sources, and needs to be characterized by further studies.
382 The results from the distal lichen samples (Figure 4c) might best represent the long term Pb isotope
383 source signature for Pb from combusted biomass mixed with western Asian sources. The integrated
384 regional signal from western Canada sources likely includes transportation sources from far field urban
385 sources but was difficult to quantify because the Pb isotopes from the fleet vehicle emissions in the
386 AOSR are likely similar in composition. For the purpose of this analysis we assumed that the fleet
387 vehicle signature represented a contribution in both the local and regional sources.

388

389 **Conclusions**

390 Daily twenty-four hour integrated fine (PM_{2.5}) and coarse (PM_{10-2.5}) particulate matter was collected
391 using a sequential dichotomous sampler at Ft. McKay in the Athabasca Oil Sand Region in northeastern
392 Alberta, Canada. A subset of 100 filter pairs were selected for element and Pb isotope analysis to
393 determine short term variation in source contributions. Pb isotope results from 120 lichen samples
394 collected in 2008 were also analyzed to examine longer term source contributions.

395 The results from measurements of ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb isotope ratios were used to identify local
396 regional and global sources in the PM and lichen data sets. The key for identifying the global source was
397 the recognition of thorogenic Pb from western Asia in three isotope ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁷Pb versus ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁷Pb plots.

398 Because the Pb concentrations in aerosols at Ft. McKay from local sources were low, it proved to be
399 feasible to determine contributions from local, regional and global sources through use of Pb isotope
400 ratios coupled with a three source mixing model for the fine and coarse PM and lichen data sets.

401 If one combines the results from the coarse and fine PM, contributions from China (34.4%) exceed those
402 from mixed sources of fine PM from the AOSR (19.7 %), regional western Canada sources of fine PM
403 (19.0%), and coarse PM from haul and access roads (10.2%), oil sands (9.4%) and tailings sand (7.3%)
404 sources.

405 Regional sources contribute 51.7% of the Pb in the lichens, local sources 27.8% and global sources
406 20.6%. If the mixing model results from the proximal lichens (0-30 km) and distal lichens (30-160 km)
407 are separated, local and regional sources predominate at the proximal sites, and global sources are more
408 important at the distal sites. the ratios associated with many of these spring episodes are consistent with
409 lead of Asian origin.

410 The long range transport of Pb from western Asia sources is superimposed over local PM sources in the
411 AOSR. It is remarkable that we could identify and quantify the amount of this global transport signature
412 in a location within the footprint of the world's largest concentration of bitumen mining and upgrading
413 facilities.

414

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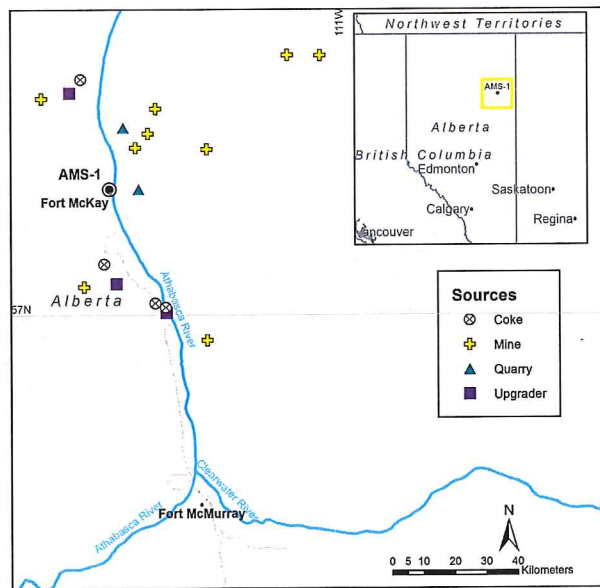
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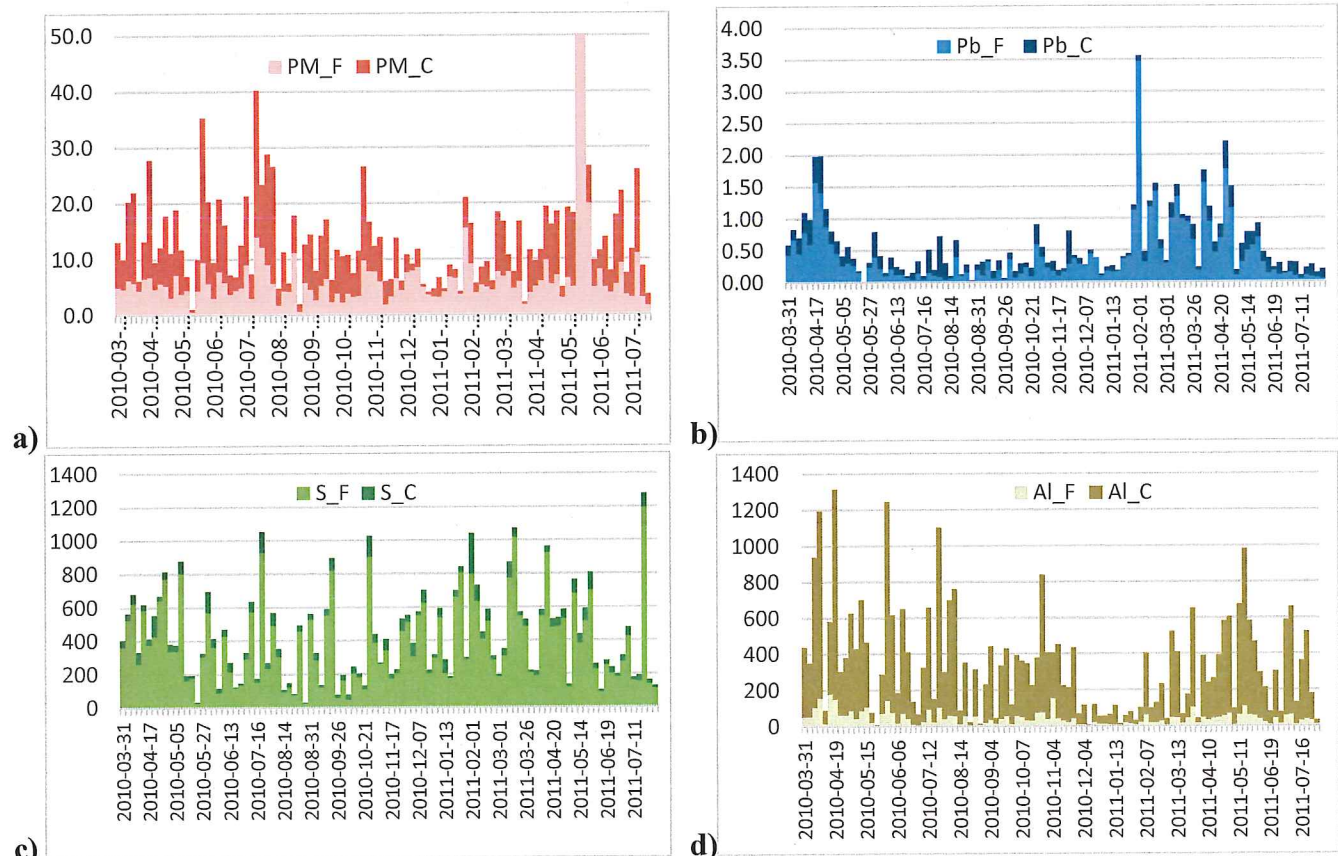
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Figure 1. Map depicting the location of the WBEA AMS-1 Fort McKay ambient monitoring station in relation to major oil sand mining and production facilities in northeastern Alberta, Canada (inset). (update this...with outline of mine footprints superimposed over 2008 lichen collection locations)

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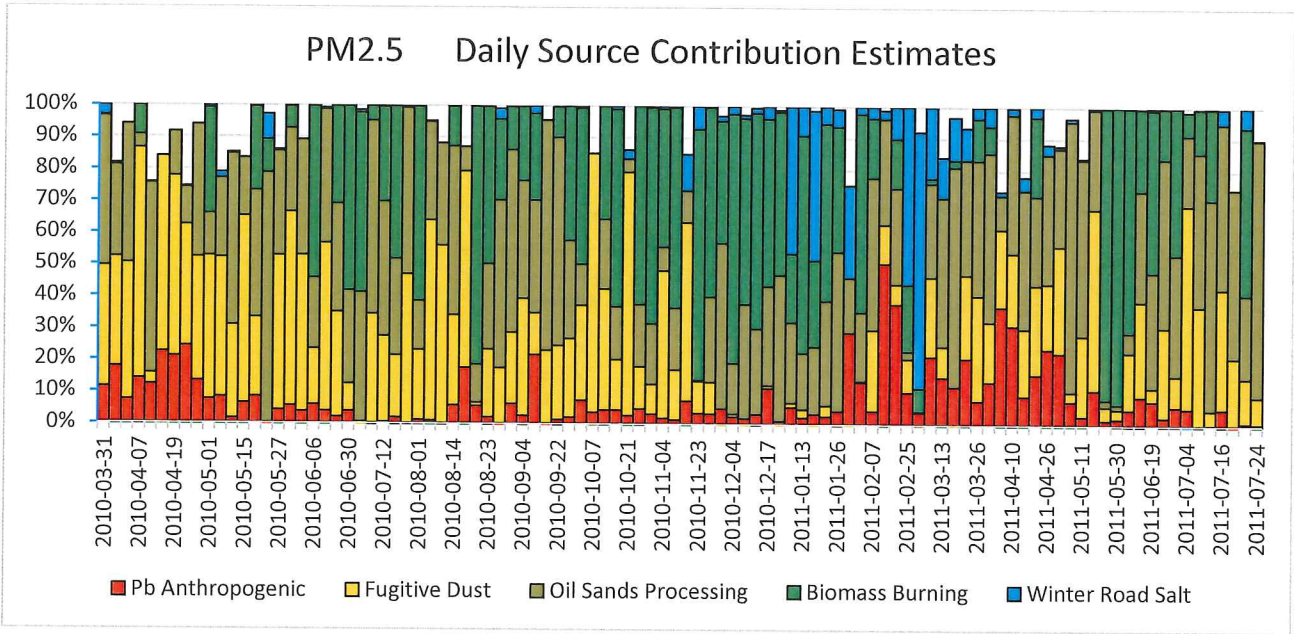


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Figure 2. Temporal concentration results from the coarse (C) and fine fraction (F) dichot samples collected from Ft. McKay in 2010 and 2011. a) Coarse and Fine Total Particulate Matter (PM) concentrations in $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ b) Lead (Pb) c) Sulfur (S) and d) Aluminum (Al) results in ng m^{-3} .

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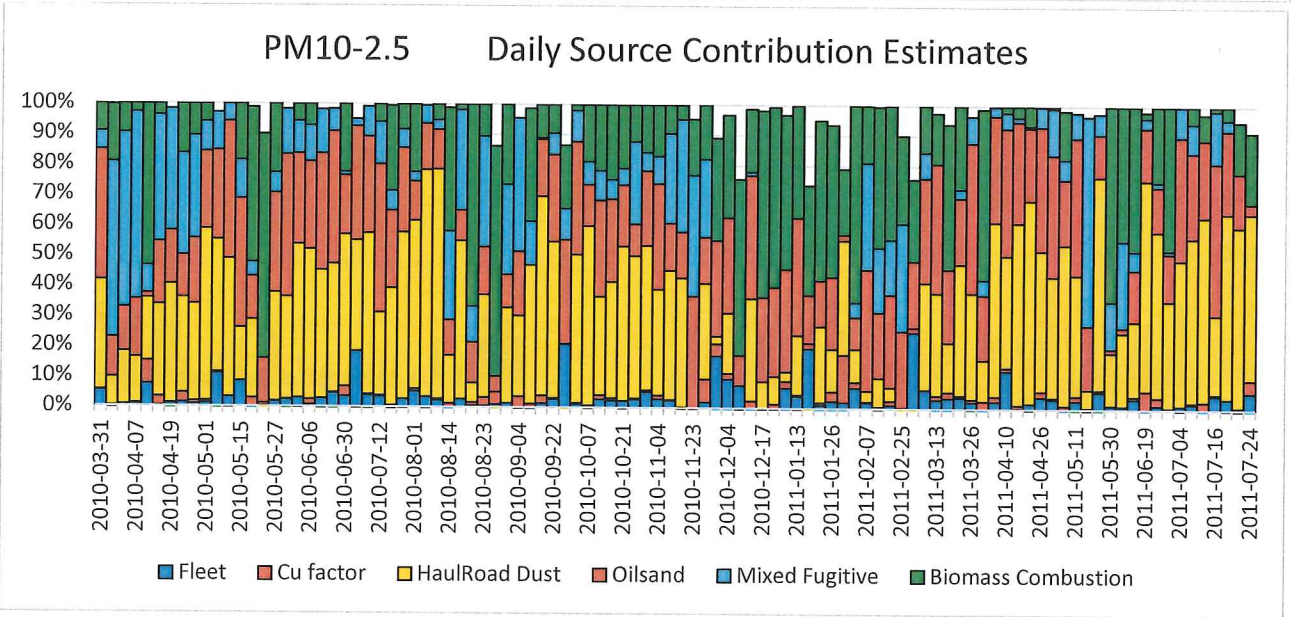
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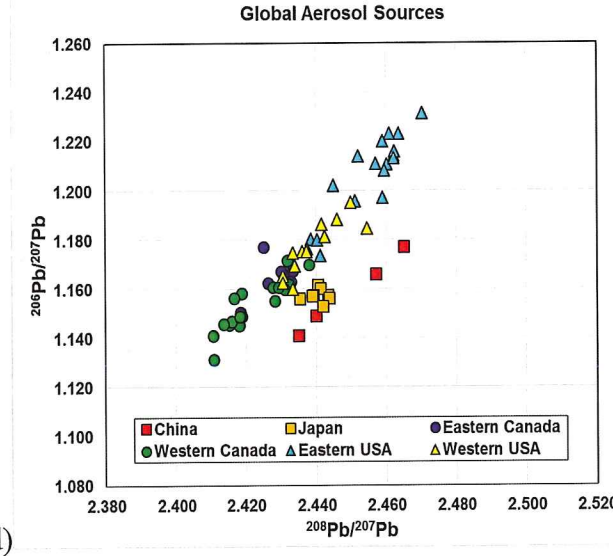
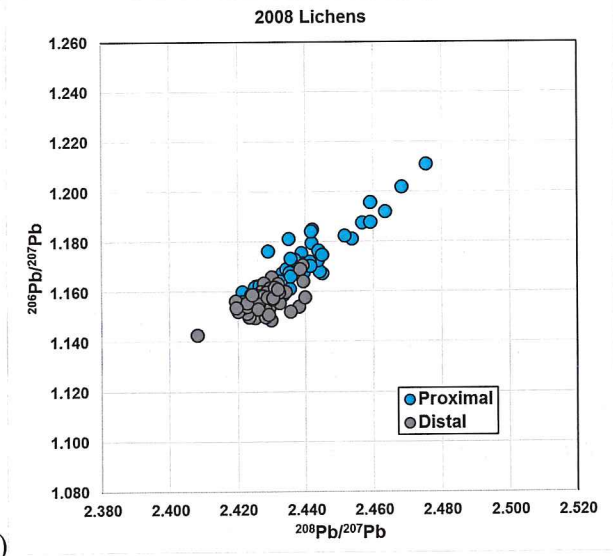
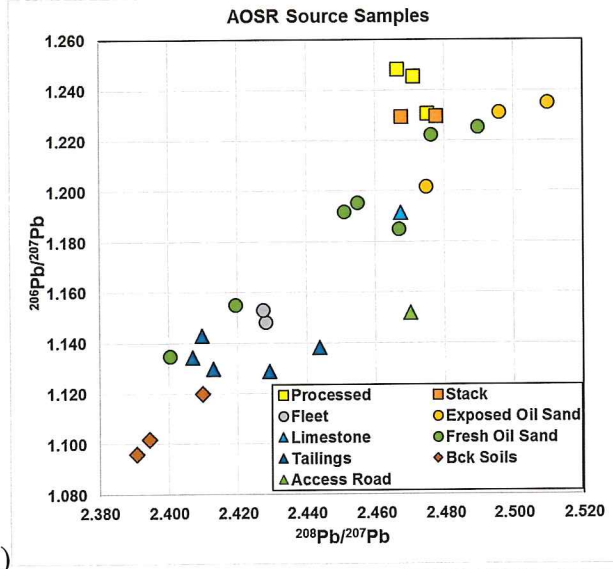
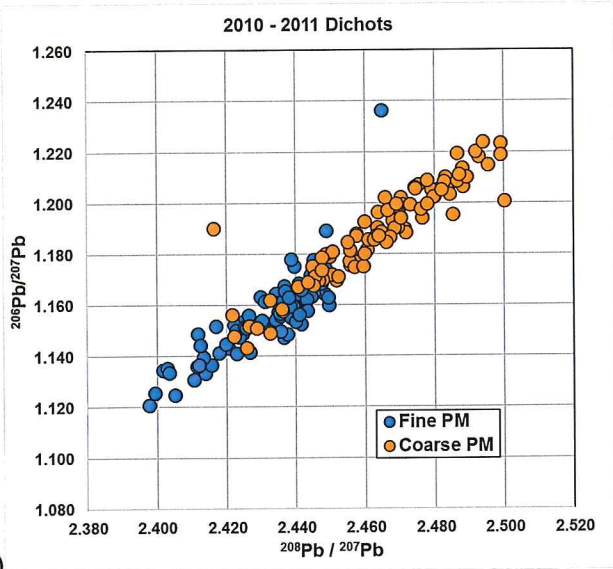
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b)



590 **Figure 3.** PMF source contributions estimate time series from the AOSR Ft. Mackay AMS-1 site for a)
 591 PM_{2.5} and b) PM_{10-2.5}



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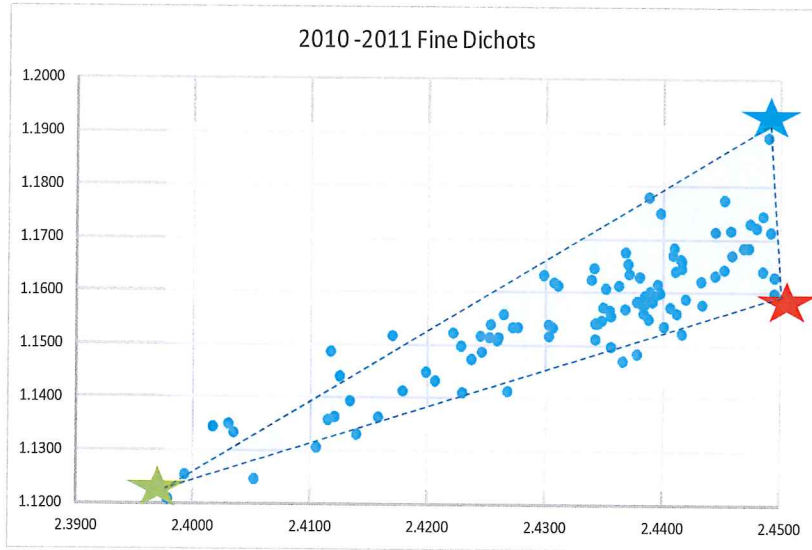
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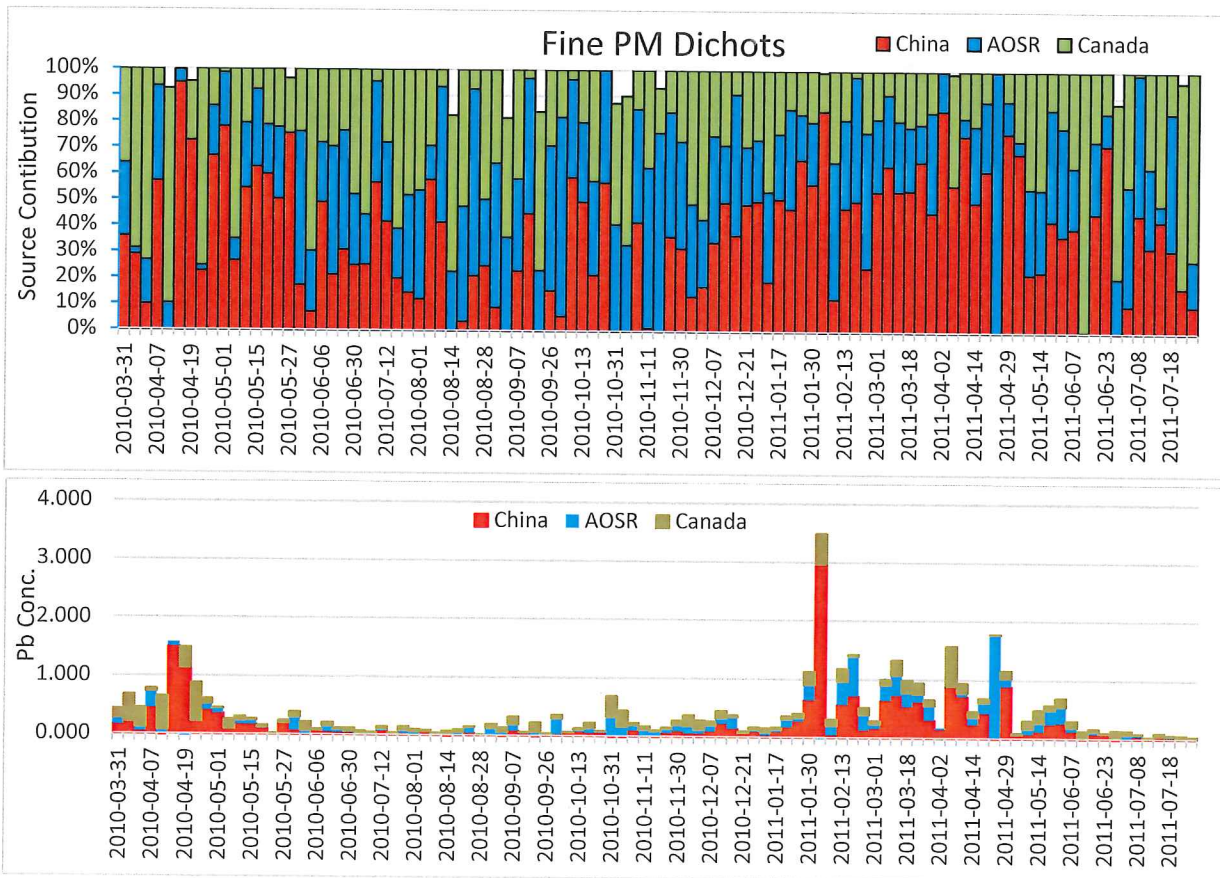
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595 **Figure 4.** Pb isotope results from a) all of the dichot samples collected in 2010- 2011 at Ft. McKay, b)
 596 source samples from the AOSR, c) lichens collected in 2008 at sites proximal (< 30 km) and distal (30-
 597 160 km) from oil sands mining operations, and d) aerosols from China, Japan, Canada, and the United
 598 States (compiled from Bollhöfer and Rosman 2001, 2002 datasets).



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Figure 5. Pb isotope results from the fine fraction PM from Ft. McKay with proposed fine PM endmember compositions from local (AOSR, blue star), regional (western Canada, green star) and global (China, red star) sources. The triangle encloses the Pb isotope ratios from the samples within the three endmember spatial field.



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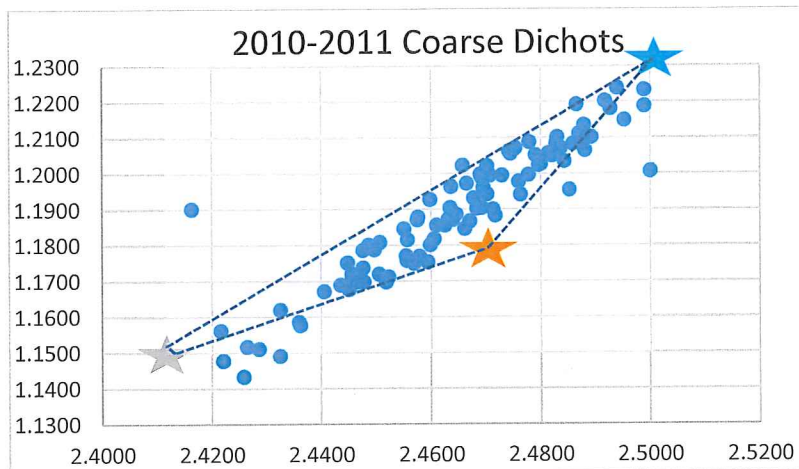
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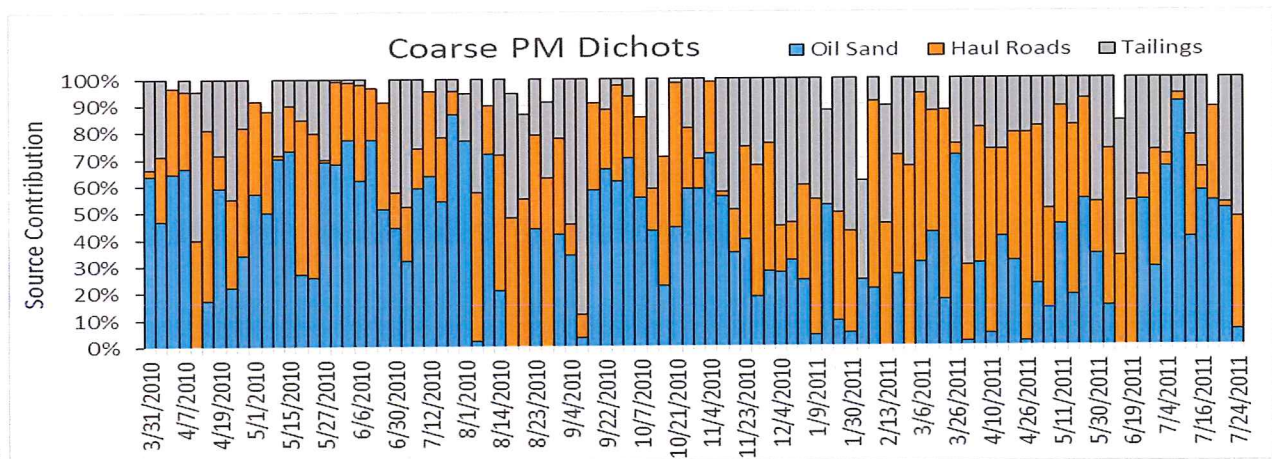
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Figure 6. Temporal fine PM a) percentage and b) Pb concentration contributions from local (AOSR), regional (Canada) and global (China) sources based on three component Pb isotope ratio and concentration mixing model.



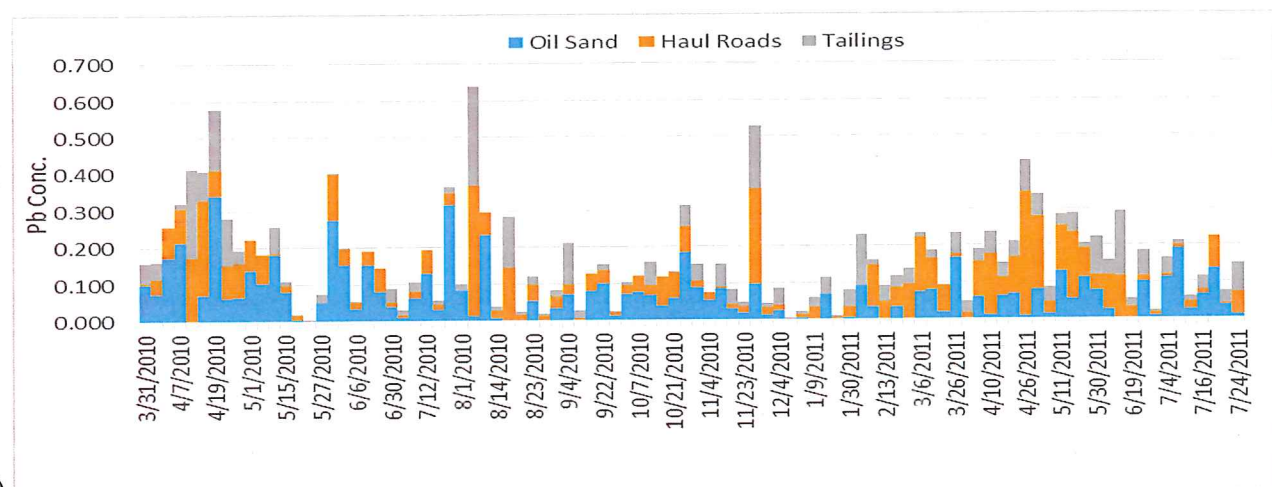
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Figure 7. Pb isotope results from the coarse fraction PM from Ft. McKay with proposed coarse PM endmember compositions from AOSR sources including oil sand (blue star), tailings (gray star) and haul and access roads (brown star) sources. The triangle encloses the Pb isotope ratios from the samples within the three endmember spatial field.



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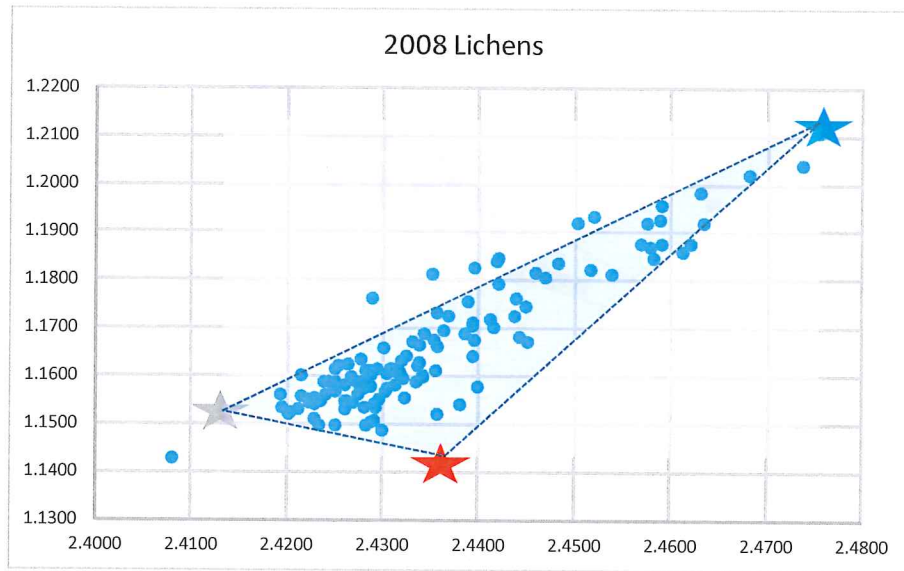
a)



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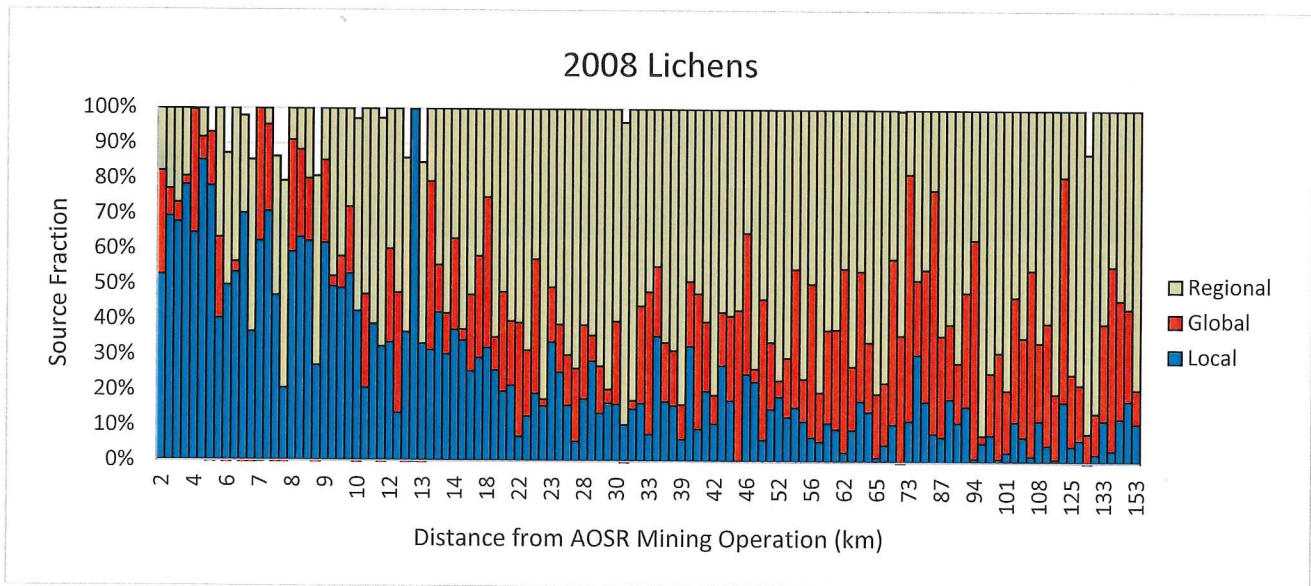
b)

Figure 8. Temporal coarse PM a) percentage and b) Pb concentration contributions from AOSR sources including oil sand, haul roads, and tailings sand based on three component Pb isotope ratio and concentration mixing model.



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Figure 9. Pb isotope results from lichens from the AOSR with proposed endmember compositions from local (coarse PM AOSR fugitive dust, blue star), regional (Canada, grey star) and global (western Asia, red star) sources. The triangle encloses the Pb isotope ratios from the samples within the three endmember spatial field.



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Figure 10. Lichen percentage contributions from regional (Canada), global (western Asia) and local (AOSR) sources based on three component Pb isotope ratio mixing model portrayed as a function of lichen sampling site distance from the nearest AOSR mining operation.

Table 1: Three Pb Isotope Source Mixing Model Parameters and ResultsEquations

$$F1+F2+F3=1$$

$$aF1+bF2+cF3=d$$

$$eF1+fF2+gF3=h$$

Solutions

$$F3= ((h-e)(b-a)-(d-a)(f-e))/((g-e)(b-a)-(c-a)(f-e))$$

$$F2=((d-a)-F3(c-a))/b-a$$

$$F1=1-F2-F3$$

Model Input Parameters

Results Summary

<u>Source</u>	<u>Fine PM</u>		208Pb/207Pb		206Pb/207Pb	<u>Conc sum</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Source</u>
AOSR	F1	a=	2.449	e=	1.189	11.138	27.0	AOSR
China	F2	b=	2.449	f=	1.158	19.459	47.1	China
Canada	F3	c=	2.398	g=	1.121	10.722	25.9	Canada
	mixture	d=	variable	h=	variable	41.318	100.00	Total
<u>Source</u>	<u>Coarse PM</u>		208Pb/207Pb		206Pb/207Pb	<u>Conc sum</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Source</u>
Oil Sand	F1	a=	2.500	e=	1.230	5.309	34.9	Oil Sand
Roads	F2	b=	2.470	f=	1.180	5.777	37.9	Roads
Tailings Sand	F3	c=	2.416	g=	1.153	4.144	27.2	Tailings
	mixture	d=	variable	h=	variable	15.230	100.00	Total
<u>Source</u>	<u>Lichens</u>		208Pb/207Pb		206Pb/207Pb	<u>Conc sum</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Source</u>
Local	F1	a=	2.476	e=	1.211	99.777	27.8	Local
Global	F2	b=	2.438	f=	1.145	73.793	20.6	Global
Regional	F3	c=	2.416	g=	1.153	185.486	51.7	Regional
	mixture	d=	variable	h=	variable	359.057	100.0	Total

Each set of isotope ratios from the fine and coarse PM and lichen datasets was used for model input

The individual results are displayed on temporal plots of % source contributions.

The results summary summed the concentration contributions to provide overall source estimates.

Table 2: Source Attribution Summary

Combined PM Results

<u>PM Pb Conc Sum</u>	<u>PM % Pb Source</u>	<u>Source</u>
19.46	34.4	China (Global) Fine PM
11.14	19.7	AOSR Mixed Fine PM
10.72	19.0	Canada (Regional) Fine PM
5.78	10.2	AOSR Roads Coarse PM
5.31	9.4	AOSR Oil Sand Coarse PM
4.14	7.3	AOSR Tailings Coarse PM
56.55	100.0	sum

Lichen Results

Proximal (0-30 km)

<u>Lichen Pb Conc sum</u>	<u>Lichen % Source</u>	<u>Source</u>
83.09	43.7	Local
81.52	42.9	Regional
25.48	13.4	Global
190.09	100.0	sum

Distal (30-160 km)

<u>Lichen Pb Conc sum</u>	<u>Lichen % Source</u>	<u>Source</u>
103.96	61.5	Regional
48.32	28.6	Global
16.69	9.9	Local
168.97	100.0	sum