Identifying PM_{2.5} and PM_{0.1} Sources for Epidemiological Studies in California

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The University of California—Davis_Primary (UCD_P) model was applied to simultaneously track ~900 source contributions to primary particulate matter (PM) in California for seven continuous years (January 1st, 2000 to December 31st, 2006). Predicted source contributions to primary PM_{2.5} mass, PM_{1.8} elemental carbon (EC), PM_{1.8} organic carbon (OC), PM_{0.1} EC, and PM_{0.1} OC were in general agreement with the results from previous source apportionment studies using receptor-based techniques. All sources were further subjected to a constraint check based on model performance for PM trace elemental composition. A total of 151 PM_{2.5} sources and 71 PM_{0.1} sources contained PM elements that were predicted at concentrations in general agreement with measured values at nearby monitoring sites. Significant spatial heterogeneity was predicted among the 151 PM_{2.5} and 71 PM_{0.1} source concentrations, and significantly different seasonal profiles were predicted for PM_{2.5} and PM_{0.1} in central California vs southern California. Population-weighted concentrations of PM emitted



from various sources calculated using the UCD_P model spatial information differed from the central monitor estimates by up to 77% for primary $PM_{2.5}$ mass and 148% for $PM_{2.5}$ EC because the central monitor concentration is not representative of exposure for nearby population. The results from the UCD_P model provide enhanced source apportionment information for epidemiological studies to examine the relationship between health effects and concentrations of primary PM from individual sources.

INTRODUCTION

Airborne particulate matter (PM) mass has been associated with adverse health effects across the world (see for example, refs 1-3), the U.S. (see for example, refs 4-6), and within individual states and cities (see for example, refs 7-10). Within the U.S., it is estimated that California suffers a disproportionately large share of PM-related mortality because of major population centers that experience some of the highest PM concentrations across the nation ¹¹. It has been estimated that 14 000-24 000 California residents die prematurely each year due to particulate air pollution ¹². PM is a complex mixture of many components, including sulfate, nitrate, organic chemicals, soot, metals, and crustal elements, etc., emitted from a variety of sources. Recent epidemiological studies have demonstrated that some PM components have stronger correlation with the health effects than the PM mass^{13,14}. Part of this effect may be related to particle size because size determines where particles deposit in the respiratory system. Most epidemiological studies identify the strongest health associations with particles that have diameters

<2.5 μ m (PM_{2.5}))¹⁵ but toxicology studies suggest that particle with diameters <0.1 μ m (PM_{0.1}) may be even more dangerous.^{16,17} Components typically found in smaller particles may therefore have higher apparent toxicity.

Control programs currently treat all PM sources equally based on their mass emissions rate in either the $PM_{2.5}$ or PM_{10} size fractions, despite the measurements showing that different sources emit particles with different chemical compositions and size distributions (see for example, refs 18–21). A comprehensive epidemiology program that systematically quantifies associations between health effects and all primary PM sources in multiple size fractions (including $PM_{0.1}$) could lay the groundwork for the design of much more efficient emissions control programs. A few previous mortality-source apportion-

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ment studies have linked health effects to specific sources of PM.^{22–25} These mortality-source appointment studies provide highly valuable information for effective pollution control strategies. However, the lack of consistent results highlights the need for further studies that use best-available apportionment information for all primary PM sources in numerous size fractions to identify the most toxic sources of airborne particles.

Receptor-oriented statistical models, such as the Chemical Mass Balance (CMB) model and the Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) model are the traditional methods used to identify source contributions to ambient PM25. Receptor models predict the largest ~10 PM source contributions at a single location with a discrete time resolution defined by the monitoring cycle (usually 1 day out of 3 days or 6 days). Receptor models have been widely used for source apportionment calculations throughout the world for over 3 decades (see for example, refs 26-34), but they do not provide a true characterization of the spatial distributions of source contributions on a regional scale. Recently, source-oriented 3D Eulerian air quality models have been developed and applied to estimate the regional contributions from ~ 10 sources.³⁵⁻⁴¹ No studies have been undertaken to estimate exposure and potential health impacts from the hundreds of other regional sources in typical urban areas, and exposure information for size fractions smaller than 2.5 μ m is completely absent.

The present study aims to apply a source-oriented regional air quality model that tracks large numbers (+1000) of primary particle source contributions through the atmosphere while retaining information about particle size, composition, and source-origin. The University of California-Davis Primary (UCD_P) model was applied to predict 24-h average primary PM source contributions in California from 2000 to 2006 with a horizontal resolution of 4 km. The model predictions are compared to published results from studies using receptor models during specific episodes when these results are available. The ability of the source-oriented model to accurately predict PM components is also evaluated and the implications for the accuracy of source predictions are considered. The regional distributions of PM_{0.1} and PM_{2.5} source contributions that pass the model evaluation criteria are presented as possible candidates for inclusion in future epidemiological studies.

MODEL DESCRIPTION

The structure of the UCD P model used in the current study has been described in detail in a companion manuscript⁴² and numerous previous studies utilizing the UCD/CIT model, and so only a brief summary is presented here. The UCD P model was developed to track primary PM (emitted directly from sources) through a simulation of emission, atmospheric transport, and deposition based on the framework of the source-oriented UCD/CIT air quality model. Size and composition resolved particle emissions are described using a library of primary particle source profiles measured during actual source tests.^{43–55} The bulk advection and turbulent diffusion algorithm is described by Kleeman and Cass,³⁵ the dry deposition approach is described by Kleeman et al.,⁵⁶ the vertical advection scheme is described by Hu et al.⁵⁷ and the wet deposition scheme is described by Mahmud et al.⁵⁸ The capability of the UCD/CIT model to accurately estimate source contributions to primary and secondary PM and its major components (such as elemental carbon (EC), organic carbon (OC), nitrate, sulfate, ammonium, etc.) has been demonstrated in multiple source apportionment studies for both the South Coast Air Basin

(SoCAB) and the San Joaquin Valley (SJV) in California.^{59–67} The UCD_P model applied in the current study expands the number of primary sources that can be tracked in model calculations to >1000 but (as noted above) the model processes only consider emissions, advection, diffusion, dry deposition, and wet deposition. Formation of secondary PM is not considered due to the additional computational burden associated with tracking this material on thousands of different primary particle cores.

MODEL APPLICATION

The UCD P model was applied to estimate the source contributions to primary PM and its components for seven continuous years (January first, 2000 to December 31st, 2006) in California using two levels of nested domains. The parent domain covered the entire state of California using 36 km horizontal resolution, and two nested domains SoCAB 4km and SJV 4km covered 92% of California's population using 4 km horizontal resolution. Every source with a unique emissions inventory code (EIC) in the California emissions database was tracked separately through model calculations (in total there are \sim 900 source types tracked in the present application). Meteorological inputs were prepared using the Weather Research and Forecast (WRF) model version 3.1^{68,69}. Gridded emissions were prepared using the raw emissions inventory provided by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) with an emissions model described by Hu et al.⁴² A detailed description of the model setup, the WRF meteorological simulations and statistics, and emissions are provided by Hu et al.⁴²

RESULTS

Daily average primary PM concentrations in multiple size fractions were calculated during the seven year simulation period. Model performance for PM_{2.5} EC, PM_{2.5} trace elements, PM_{0.1} mass, and PM_{0.1} EC was extensively evaluated through comparison to available ambient measurements. A detailed analysis of the model performance for individual PM species has been presented in a companion manuscript.⁴² In summary, predicted PM₂₅ EC best fit concentrations were in excellent agreement with measured ambient concentrations, with an overall Pearson correlation coefficient (R) across all sites of 0.89 when using daily average concentrations, and R of 0.94 when using monthly average concentrations. Nine PM25 trace elements [potassium (K), chromium (Cr), zinc (Zn), iron (Fe), titanium (Ti), arsenic (As), calcium (Ca), manganese (Mn), and strontium (Sr)] had $R \ge 0.8$ at more than five individual measurement sites. Simulated PM_{0.1} mass and PM_{0.1} EC concentrations agreed well with the observed values, with R of 0.92 for PM_{0.1} mass, and R of 0.94 for PM_{0.1} EC. The general agreement between model predictions and measured concentrations provides a solid foundation for the source apportionment of primary PM carried out in the current study.

Source Constraints Based on Comparison to Tracer Based Source Apportionment Studies. $PM_{2.5}$ Source Apportionment during the California Regional $PM_{10}/PM_{2.5}$ Air Quality Study. Figure 1 compares the average relative source contributions to primary $PM_{2.5}$ mass predicted by the CMB receptor model, the UCD/CIT model, and the UCD _ P model at an urban site Fresno (Figure 1a) and a rural site Angiola (Figure 1b) in the Central Valley of California during the period from December 15, 2000 to January 7, 2001. Detailed CMB results were produced as part of the California Regional $PM_{10}/$



Figure 1. Relative source contribution to the average primary $PM_{2.5}$ mass concentrations predicted by CMB receptor model, the UCD/CIT air quality model, and the UCD_P chemical transport model during the CRPAQS episode (December 15, 2000 to January 7, 2001).

PM2.5 Air Quality Study (CRPAQS). The uncertainties for CMB results were estimated by Ying et al ⁶⁴ based on a study conducted by Chow et al.⁷⁰ Dust sources were excluded from the relative source contribution calculation due to previously identified problems with the raw fugitive dust emission inventory.⁶⁴ The source contribution predictions from the three models are in excellent agreement for wood burning, diesel, and gasoline vehicles, generally falling into the uncertainty range of the CMB model, at Fresno and Angiola. The CMB model predicts much higher contribution from meat cooking (29.6% \pm 11.84%) at Angiola than the UCD/CIT model (4.6%) and the UCD P model (3.2%). High uncertainties in cholesterol measurements (a significant organic marker for meat cooking) likely explain the anomalously high CMB meat cooking estimates.⁷⁰ The differences between the UCD/CIT and the UCD_P results are primarily caused by the use of diagnostic meteorological fields for the UCD/CIT calculations and prognostic meteorological fields for the UCD P calculations. The UCD/CIT model also includes gas-particle transfer and coagulation processes that are not in the UCD P model, but the alteration of particle size and density leading to different deposition velocity is a secondary effect.

PM_{0.1} Source Apportionment during the CRPAQS and US EPA Exposure Studies. Figure 2 compares the relative source contributions to PM_{0.1} EC and OC concentrations predicted by the UCD_P model and the receptor-oriented methods based on measured molecular markers^{71,72} at Sacramento, Modesto, and Bakersfield during the winter of 2000 and at Fresno during the summer of 2006. Large uncertainties up to \sim 300% exist in the receptor-based estimation, especially for the PM_{0.1} EC from the mobile sources, due to the limitations associated with measuring minute quantities of molecular markers in the PM_{0.1} size fraction. The CMB and the UCD_P methods are in good agreement for the relative contribution from mobile sources to EC concentrations, but they were not always in agreement for the breakdown of gasoline and diesel contributions within the mobile source category. The large uncertainty band for the receptor-oriented method makes it difficult to perform a detailed analysis of the differences between the two approaches. Predictions for contributions to PM_{0.1} OC from the receptororiented techniques and the UCD P model were in good agreement. Residential wood combustion dominates PM_{0.1} OC in the winter of 2000 at Sacramento (93% predicted by the UCD P model), Modesto (92%), and Bakersfield (87%), while meat cooking and mobile sources are the major sources of $PM_{0.1}$ OC in Fresno during the summer of 2006, contributing \sim 50%, respectively. The two methods also estimated similar source contributions to PM_{1.8} EC and primary OC (Supporting Information, SI, Figure S1).

The general agreement in the source contributions from the mobile, wood burning and meat cooking source categories predicted by the UCD_P and the CMB method provides confidence in the accuracy of the UCD_P predictions for the sources included in these three categories. Therefore, individual sources included in these three categories were treated as passing the constraint check. In total, 71 PM_{2.5} sources and 65 PM_{0.1} sources in the mobile, wood burning, and meat cooking source categories were considered to have passed constraint checks. A brief description of the constrained sources is listed in Table S1 of the SI.

Source Constraints Based on Model Performance for Individual Species. Only a limited number of receptororiented studies are available to evaluate the accuracy of source apportionment calculations during the seven-year modeling period. Furthermore, only 6-8 source categories that mainly contribute to the primary PM mass, EC and OC are generally resolved by the receptor-oriented results, leaving the majority of the sources that are important for other primary PM trace elements (i.e., metals) completely unconstrained. The 890 source predictions in the current study were further evaluated by checking the accuracy of model calculations for individual PM species concentrations at individual receptor sites and then identifying those sources that contributed to those species concentrations. Sources that contributed species concentrations in poor agreement with measured concentrations were flagged. This check does not directly evaluate the accuracy of each source prediction, but it provides a constraint that builds further confidence in the model predictions.

Sources are considered to pass the constraint check in the current study by satisfying the criteria listed in Table 1. Detailed statistics for model performance are summarized in Table S2 of the SI. 109 sources passed the $PM_{2.5}$ species check (marked with "x" in SI Table S3) and 22 sources passed the $PM_{0.1}$ species check (marked with "u" in SI Table S3). The reduced number of constrained $PM_{0.1}$ sources stems from the limited availability of



Figure 2. Relative source contribution to $PM_{0.1}$ EC (left panels: a, b, c, d) and OC (right panels: e, f, g, h) predicted by the CMB receptor model and the UCD_P chemical transport model. Note a winter episode (CRPAQS) is used in the panels a, b, c, e, f, and g; and a summer episode is used in the panels of d and h.

 $PM_{0.1}$ measurements. A larger number of $PM_{0.1}$ sources could be evaluated if more $PM_{0.1}$ composition measurements were available. The majority of the $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{0.1}$ sources that did not pass the constraint check simply did not have chemical speciation profiles that contributed strongly to species concentrations at a monitoring site, and so they could not be evaluated. Generic chemical speciation profiles (composition marked as "unknown") were specified for 157 sources, making it impossible to evaluate their performance using measured species concentrations.

Temporal Variations in Source Contributions. Both of the source constraint checks described above provide increased

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 Table 1. Criteria Used in the Source Constraint Check Based

 on Model Performance of Individual Primary PM Species

| step | criteria |
|------|--|
| 1 | Choose a target PM species with monthly $R \ge 0.8$ and MFB within ± 0.3 |
| | at a given site (see the model statistics in SI Table S1) |
| 2 | Sort emissions from individual sources within 100 km^a of the given site in |

- ascending order based on their contribution to the target species.
 Consider the largest sources contributing to 95%^b of the total PM species emissions as "passing" the constraint check at the given site
- 4 Treat the sources that contributed to the target species at more than 3 different sites as "passing" the overall constraint check and the "good" primary PM sources
- 5 Repeat steps 1-4 for all species

^{*a*}Previous study⁶⁶ revealed that PM_{2.5} OC in the Central California during the stagnant CRPAQS episode (OC was mostly primary in this episode) most likely transported 30–60 km. Considering that the average wind speed in CRPAQS was ~1m/s, and the average wind speed in 2000–06 was ~2m/s, 100 km was then selected as the source influence range. ^{*b*}The minor sources contributing to the last 5% of emissions are not considered to be evaluated by the constraint check since they have little effect on the performance statistics

confidence in the predicted source contribution fields from a total of 151 constrained primary PM2.5 sources (29 PM2.5 sources passed both checks) and a total of 71 constrained primary $PM_{0.1}$ sources (16 $PM_{0,1}$ sources passed both checks). Figure 3 shows the annual variation of these source contributions to primary PM_{2.5} mass and PM_{0.1} mass concentrations averaged over a 7-yr period at the Los Angeles and Fresno sites. A similar plot for PM_{2.5} EC and PM_{0.1} EC is shown in Figure S4 of the SI. The 7day moving averages were calculated for source contributions in every year and then concentrations on same dates (i.e., same month and day) were averaged across the 7 year simulation period to show the annual cycle. The top 30 constrained PM_{25} and $PM_{0,1}$ sources (i.e., the sources with the greatest contributions) were explicitly shown, the remaining constrained sources were lumped as "Other constrained $PM_{2.5}$ (or $PM_{0.1}$) sources", and all the nonconstrained $PM_{2.5}$ (or $PM_{0.1}$) sources were lumped as "Non-constrained PM_{2.5} (or PM_{0.1}) sources". The top 30 constrained sources account for >92% of $PM_{2.5}$ EC and PM_{0.1} EC at Los Angeles and Fresno. The top 30 constrained sources account for 81% of total primary PM25 mass at Los Angeles and Fresno, and account for 46% and 66% of the total primary PM_{0.1} mass at Los Angeles and Fresno, respectively. This demonstrates that some important PM_{0.1} sources are missing from the source constraint checks based on the PM_{0.1} EC and OC analysis, with the implication that more ultrafine PM source studies are needed in the future. Model calculations predict that Fresno has fewer significant primary PM sources than Los Angeles. Wood burning (residential wood fireplaces, residential wood stoves, etc.) are the single biggest primary PM source in Fresno during the winter. Wood smoke concentrations drop off sharply in spring, summer, and fall months due to an assumed annual profile for home heating; a more accurate temporal profile geared to ambient temperatures will be adopted in future studies. Wildfire smoke concentrations are relatively minor averaged across the 7 year period and they are lightly constrained by observations. In addition to emissions-driven trends in wood burning, the primary PM concentrations (mass and EC in $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{0,1}$) from all sources are generally higher in cold months due to the influence of seasonal weather patterns (reduced mixing layer heights).

A companion study⁷³ investigates the total PM (primary + secondary) concentrations and demonstrates that the 7 year

average primary $PM_{2.5}$ mass concentrations account for 72% and 69% of the total $PM_{2.5}$ mass concentrations in Los Angeles and Fresno, respectively. Therefore, the top 30 constrained sources shown in Figure 3 account for over half of the total $PM_{2.5}$ mass concentrations.

In a time series epidemiological study in California, stronger associations were observed in the cooler months between mortality and $PM_{2.5}$ EC, iron, potassium, and vanadium.¹³ The temporal variations of source contributions predicted in the current study may help identify the sources that are responsible for the observed enhancement of particle toxicity during cold weather. The dominant PM sources and their temporal profiles differ between Los Angeles and Fresno, between $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{0.1}$, and between PM primary mass and EC. These findings suggest that size-resolved PM source contribution information in different locations may be informative for health-source apportionment studies at a regional or larger scale.

Spatial Distribution of the Constrained PM_{0.1} and PM_{2.5} Sources. Predicted spatial distributions for contributions from 14 representative sources that actively passed the checks described above are shown for $PM_{0.1}$ (Figure 4). The spatial patterns varied significantly among sources. PM_{0.1} mass from onroad mobile sources followed the pattern of major transportation corridors, with the highest concentrations predicted in urban areas such as Los Angeles and San Francisco. PM₀₁ mass concentrations from off-road engines (such as construction equipment) were also high in urban areas. $PM_{0.1}$ mass associated with agricultural equipment was concentrated in the agricultural regions of the SJV and the Sacramento Valley. Wood burning sources were mainly located in the urban residential areas of northern California. Shipping sources contributed strongly along the coast of California near the major ports in the SoCAB and San Francisco Bay Area. Figure S2 of the SI shows spatial patterns of PM_{0.1} for all sources that passed constraint checks and that have maximum concentrations >1 ng/m^3 . Figure S3 of the SI shows spatial patters of PM2.5 for all sources that passed constraint checks. The predicted PM concentration fields from individual sources over the seven-year simulation window provide information that may be helpful in future epidemiological studies.

DISCUSSION

The UCD_P predictions for $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{0.1}$ source contributions produced in the current study generally agree with tracer-based source apportionment results obtained from previous studies at multiple sites and times, building confidence in the quality of the UCD_P predictions at times and locations where measurements are not available. A total of 151 $PM_{2.5}$ sources and 71 $PM_{0.1}$ sources actively passed constraint checks indicating that they can be used with increased confidence to examine the relationship between health effects and PM sources in epidemiological studies. Unconstrained sources may still be accurately represented in the model calculation, but there is no way to evaluate these predictions, and so they should receive lower priority in downstream studies. The 157 (out of 890) sources with missing chemical speciation profiles should not be used in downstream epidemiological studies.

The constrained $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{0.1}$ concentration fields generated in the current study have complex spatial patterns. Population-weighted concentrations (PWC) provide a simple test that estimates whether this spatial complexity will influence the results of epidemiological studies. The method for PWC calculations is described in ref 42, which shows that PWCs for

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Figure 3. Annual variations of predicted source contributions from the top 30 constrained sources to primary PM_{2.5} mass and primary PM_{0.1} mass at the Los Angeles and Fresno sites.

primary $PM_{2.5}$ mass based on predictions from the UCD_P model are 45% and 37% lower than the central monitor

concentrations (CMC) for $PM_{2.5}$ mass in Los Angeles and Fresno, and 10% and 26% lower for $PM_{0.1}$ mass in Los Angeles

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Figure 4. Predicted primary $PM_{0.1}$ mass concentrations from the 14 representative ultrafine sources that passed the constraint checks. (SI Figure S2 shows predicted primary $PM_{0.1}$ mass concentrations from all constrained $PM_{0.1}$ sources with maximum concentrations greater than 1 ng/m³). All concentrations are expressed as % of the maximum value shown in each subpanel. Absolute unit is μ g/m³. The % scale is shown in the last subpanel.).

and Fresno. Figure 5 shows the ratios of PWC to CMC of primary $PM_{2.5}$ mass and primary $PM_{0.1}$ mass from the top 30 constrained sources at the Los Angeles and Fresno sites. The top sources for primary $PM_{2.5}$ mass are significantly different from the top sources for primary $PM_{0.1}$ mass. The PWC/CMC ratios vary from 0.23 to 1.64 for primary $PM_{2.5}$ sources and from 0.26 to 1.25 for primary $PM_{0.1}$ sources at Los Angeles, and from 0.46 to 1.55 for primary $PM_{2.5}$ sources and from 0.36 to 1.42 for primary

 $PM_{0.1}$ sources at Fresno. PWC/CMC ratios are ~0.5 for onroad mobile sources and ~0.4 for meat cooking sources in both areas. Wood burning sources have PWC/CMC ratios of ~0.9 in Los Angeles, but have lower ratios of ~0.5 in Fresno. Among the top 30 sources, only 4 sources in Los Angeles and 1 source in Fresno have PWC/CMC of $PM_{2.5}$ in the range 0.8–1.2, and only 6 sources in Los Angeles and 4 sources in Fresno have PWC/CMC of $PM_{0.1}$ in the range 0.8–1.2, indicating possible exposure



Figure 5. Ratios of MSA population weighted concentrations to central monitor concentrations of primary $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{0.1}$ mass at the Los Angeles and Fresno sites from the top 30 sources. Diamonds represent the ratios and the numbers are the CMCs in the unit of $\mu g/m^3$ for $PM_{2.5}$ and ng/m^3 for $PM_{0.1}$.

misclassification for source apportionment of PM when the spatial variations are not considered in health-source apportionment studies.

Additional comparison of the PWC and CMC source contributions to EC in $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{0.1}$ (SI Figure S5) reveals significant differences relative to the mass plots (Figure 5). The

results suggest that source specific spatial variations, which are generally not available from central monitor measurements and statistical model calculations, should be considered for different species in different PM fractions sizes. Exposure estimates created from the current study combined with population distributions will provide valuable inputs for the first epidemiological studies to simultaneously evaluate the potential health effects of 151 sources of PM_{2.5} and 71 sources of PM_{0.1}.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

Sources constrained by comparison to tracer based receptor statistical model studies (Table S1), statistic matrix of PM_{2.5} species at individual monitor sites (Table S2), sources that constrained by individual species (Table S3), relative source contribution to PM_{1.8} EC and OC predicted by CMB receptor model and the UCD_P model (Figure S1), predicted spatial distribution of primary PM_{0.1} mass concentrations from the primary PM_{0.1} sources that pass the constraint checks and have maximum concentrations >1 ng/m^3 (Figure S2), predicted spatial distribution of primary PM2.5 mass concentrations from the primary PM_{2.5} sources that passed the constraint checks (Figure S3), predicted annual variations of source contributions from the top 30 constrained sources to $PM_{2.5}$ EC and $PM_{0.1}$ EC at the Los Angeles and Fresno sites (Figure S4), and ratios of MSA population weighted concentrations to central monitor concentrations of PM_{2.5} and PM_{0.1} EC mass at the Los Angeles and Fresno sites from the top 30 constrained sources (Figure S5). All model predictions described in the current study are available for download at faculty.engineering.ucdavis.edu/kleeman. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs. org.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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