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# Particulate matter source apportionment in Cairo: recent measurements and comparison with previous studies

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**Abstract** This paper presents results of an atmospheric particulate matter (PM) monitoring and source apportionment study conducted during summer and fall 2010 in Cairo. These results are compared to those of similar studies in 1999 and 2002. Concentrations of PM2.5 and PM<sub>10</sub> mass and their chemical constituents were determined and chemical mass balance modeling was conducted to estimate the source contributions to ambient PM. Emphasis was placed on characterizing the long-term trends in atmospheric lead (Pb) concentrations and their sources in Cairo.  $\ensuremath{\text{PM}_{2.5}}$  and  $\ensuremath{\text{PM}_{10}}$  concentrations were highest during fall 1999 at four of the five study sites. This was also the case for open (vegetative/trash) burning contributions, which showed a smaller increase during fall 2010. Burning of agricultural waste after the fall harvest continues to be a major source of PM in Cairo. Both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> mass decreased dramatically at Shobra, an industrial site, from 1999 to 2010. A reduction of lead smelting has resulted in a decrease of ambient Pb concentrations of up to two orders of magnitude from 1999 to 2010 at Shobra, El-Zamalek, and El-Qualaly. From 1999 to 2010, the mobile source contribution has been relatively stable at most of the study sites. Future efforts to reduce ambient PM should focus on controlling emissions from motor vehicles and open burning and implementing

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M. W. Labib Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, Cairo, Egypt mitigation strategies for reducing resuspended road and construction dust.

**Keywords** Cairo · Particulate matter · Source apportionment · Lead smelter

# Introduction

Cairo, Egypt is classified as one of the world's "megacities", with an estimated population in excess of 20 million people in the greater Cairo area. Air quality is degraded by high concentrations of particulate matter (PM), carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, ozone, and sulfur dioxide (El-Shazly et al. 1990; Hindy 1991; Nasralla 1994; Rodes et al. 1996; Sturchio et al. 1997; Abu-Allaban et al. 2002, 2007). In order to develop and implement a pollutioncontrol strategy and to reduce the health impacts of air pollution in Cairo, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) sponsored the Cairo Air Improvement Project (CAIP) (Chemonics International Inc 1997). One aspect of the CAIP includes routine monitoring of PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and lead (Pb) at sites throughout the greater Cairo area. Howes et al. (2000) reported baseline year monitoring results for the CAIP. Only 37 of the 1,783  $PM_{10}$ measurements recorded during the study period were below the Government of Egypt 24 h limit of 70  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>. The highest annual average PM<sub>10</sub> Pb levels observed were  $26 \ \mu g/m^3$  at the highly industrialized Shobra Kheima site.

As part of the CAIP,  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  monitoring and source attribution studies were conducted in Cairo during the periods of February 21 to March 3, 1999, October 29 to November 27, 1999, and June 8 to June 26, 2002 (Abu-Allaban et al. 2002, 2007). PM sampling was done at six sites: (1) Kaha (background); (2) El-Maa'sara



(industrial/residential): (3) Shobra (El-Sahel, site 19, industrial/residential); (4) El-Qualaly (mobile sources); (5) El-Zamalek (residential); and (6) Helwan (residential). The sites are shown in Fig. 1. Source emissions samples representing soil and road dust, brick manufacturing, cast iron foundry, copper foundry, lead smelting, refuse and biomass burning, Mazot oil combustion, restaurants, and motor vehicles were also characterized. Shobra exhibited the highest daily average PM2 5 and PM10 mass concentrations, which ranged from 61 to 216 and 154 to 360  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. For comparison, annual average PM2 5 concentrations ranged from 58 to 95  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> in Shanghai from 2003 to 2005 (Chan and Yao 2008). In Mexico City, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> mass concentrations ranged from 25 to 49 and 39 to 108  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively, at six sites during February and March 1997 (Chow et al. 2002; Vega et al. 2009). Monthly average PM<sub>10</sub> mass concentrations in Delhi ranged from 100 to 800  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> from August 2007 through October 2008 (Tiwari et al. 2012). In Cairo, the lowest values in both size fractions were observed at Helwan and Kaha. Average PM<sub>10</sub> Pb concentrations at Shobra were 34, 12.7, and 7.2  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> during winter 1990, fall 1999, and summer 2002, respectively. Lead concentrations at Shobra and in Cairo in general were so high that they were in excess of PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> mass concentrations observed in many cities in the US. Depending on the site, the major contributors to PM<sub>10</sub> included resuspended geological material, mobile source emissions, and open (vegetative/trash) burning. PM<sub>2.5</sub> tended to be dominated by mobile source emissions, open (vegetative/trash) burning, and secondary species such as ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulfate, and ammonium chloride. Both Pb concentrations and Pb smelter source contributions were highest at Shobra during winter 1999 and decreased by nearly a factor of 5 by the summer of 2002. Similar trends were seen at El-Zamalek, El-Qualaly, and El-Maa'sara although the absolute levels were at least an order of magnitude lower than at Shobra.

PM monitoring and source apportionment studies were conducted in Cairo during summer and fall 2010 to establish long-term trends in air quality and source attribution. This study builds on the previous 1999 and 2002 source apportionment studies and allows for an assessment of how pollution controls have impacted the source contributions over time. It provides new data for improving and validating ongoing emissions inventory development in Cairo and provides regulatory agencies with sufficient data to support policies aimed at reducing ambient PM concentrations. Emphasis is placed on determining the sources of airborne Pb and PM in greater Cairo and the effectiveness of control strategies on ambient Pb concentrations. These studies allow for evaluation of long-term efforts to improve air quality in a highly polluted urban area.



# **Experimental methods**

#### Sampling sites

Five of the six previous sites were chosen for the current study (Fig. 1). Kaha (background) is a Nile delta site with significant agricultural activity. During most of the year, the prevailing winds come from this direction. Shobra (industrial/residential) is located in a heavily industrialized area which had been downwind of numerous Pb smelters and other industrial sources. Since the earlier studies, many of these facilities were relocated outside of the city. El-Qualaly Square (mobile sources) is located in downtown Cairo with high exposure to light- and heavy-duty (bus) traffic. El-Zamalek and Helwan are residential locations. El-Zamalek is located on an island in the Nile River and is a residential area with limited nearby sources. Helwan is impacted by emissions from motor vehicles and nearby cement plants and has higher PM levels than at El-Zamalek.

#### Ambient measurements

Ambient  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  samples were collected every second day at the five sites from May 28 to June 21, 2010 (summer) and October 10 to 30, 2010 (fall). All samples were of 24 h duration. Two  $PM_{10}$  and two  $PM_{2.5}$  lowvolume Airmetric Minivol samplers with flow rates of approximately 5 L/min were deployed at each location. For each size cut, one sampler was loaded with a 47 mm Teflon membrane filter (PallFlex R2PJ047) and the other with a 47 mm quartz-fiber filter (Pallflex 2500QAT-UP) (Pall Corporation, Ann Arbor, MI, USA). Fifty-six summer and 55 fall  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  sample pairs were subjected to detailed chemical analysis.

# Laboratory analysis

Following collection, the samples were shipped to the Desert Research Institute (DRI) in Reno, NV for chemical analysis.  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  mass on the Teflon filters was determined gravimetrically on a Cahn C-31 microbalance. Filters were equilibrated at low relative humidity (<30 %) before weighing to avoid water uptake by hygroscopic species on the filter. Elemental (Al, Si, P, S, Cl, K, Ca, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Ni, Cu, Zn, Se, Br, Rb, Sr, Sn, Sb, Ba, and Pb) concentrations on the Teflon filter were measured with X-ray fluorescence (XRF) on a Kevex 0700/8000 XRF analyzer. The quartz filters were extracted in water and sulfate (SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>), nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>), and chloride (Cl<sup>-</sup>) ions in the water extracts were determined by ion chromatography (IC) on a Dionex ICS 3000 ion chromatograph with a Dionex AS14 column. Soluble sodium (Na<sup>+</sup>) and





potassium (K<sup>+</sup>) were determined by atomic absorption (AA) spectroscopy on a Varian SpectraAA-880. Ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>) was determined by automated colorimetry (AC) on an Astoria Pacific Astoria Analyzer using the indophenol blue method. Bulk organic and elemental carbon (OC and EC) on the quartz filters were determined by thermal/optical reflectance (TOR) (Chow et al. 1993).

# Source apportionment modeling

The chemical mass balance (CMB) receptor model was used to apportion PM and its chemical constituents to their

sources (Watson et al. 1984). The CMB consists of a set of linear equations which express the ambient concentrations of chemical species as the sum of the products of the source contributions ( $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup>) and the source composition profiles. Source profiles are the fractions of emitted PM mass for each chemical species. The current CMB software (EPA version 8.2 http://www.epa.gov/scram001/receptor\_cmb. htm) applies the effective variance least-squares solution developed and tested by Watson et al. (1984) to solve these equations.

Source characterization was conducted during the CAIP study (Abu-Allaban et al. 2007). Road dust and soil



samples were collected at each ambient sampling site. The samples were resuspended and collected in the PM2.5 and PM<sub>10</sub> size fractions in a laboratory chamber (Chow et al. 1994). Stack samples were collected at a lead smelter, a copper foundry, a cement plant, a scrap iron foundry, and at a Mazot oil power plant. Samples were collected just downwind of open burning. Motor vehicle emissions were sampled in a tunnel near the Sheraton Hotel in Cairo and thus represented a mixture of emissions from spark ignition (gasoline) and diesel vehicles travelling through the tunnel. The source profiles used in the Cairo CMB modeling are described in Table 1. The PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> source profiles are presented in Tables 1S and 2S, respectively, in the supplementary material. These profiles were compiled from previous CAIP and other studies. Tests were done to determine which profiles best explained the ambient concentrations. Geological (e.g., paved and unpaved road dust, desert soil) CAIP profiles were used in all cases. It was not possible to distinguish gasoline from diesel vehicles because the available profiles were too similar (collinear).

The CAIP copper foundry and lead smelter profiles were needed to account for Zn and Pb, respectively. The Mazot power plant profile was enriched in vanadium (V), which distinguishes heavy oil combustion emissions. Soluble potassium (K<sup>+</sup>) accounted for a large fraction of the PM<sub>2.5</sub> K in the ambient samples. This is consistent with emissions from open (vegetative/trash) burning, which are prevalent in Cairo, because the ratio of water-soluble K<sup>+</sup> to total K is recognized as a marker for vegetative burning (Chow et al. 1992). While soluble K<sup>+</sup> is enriched in open (vegetative/ trash) burning emissions, it was essentially absent in the original CAIP refuse burning profile. Clearly, these limited measurements were not representative of burning emissions that impact air quality in Cairo. For this reason, we used a vegetative burning profile (RICEBURN2) from a US study (Chow and Watson 1999). Chow et al. (2007) found that K<sup>+</sup> was sufficient to distinguish vegetative burning from other combustion emissions.

Secondary particulates are not emitted directly but are formed from gas-to-particle chemical reactions in the atmosphere. Pure secondary ammonium sulfate (AMSUL), ammonium bisulfate (AMBSUL), sulfuric acid ( $H_2SO_4$ ), and ammonium chloride (AMCL) source profiles were needed to account for these compounds in ambient PM. Sea salt profiles, needed to account for soluble Na<sup>+</sup> in the ambient samples, were used to represent marine-derived

Table 1 Description of source profiles used in Cairo CMB source apportionment

Abbreviations	Source ID	Description	Reference
Geol	BSSOIL	El-Zamalek soil	CAIP
Geol	HESOIL	Helwan soil	CAIP
Geol	KASOIL	Kaha soil	CAIP
Geol	ELMAUPRD	El-Maa'sara unpaved road	CAIP
Geol	QUAPVRD	El-Qualaly paved road	CAIP
Geol	SHOBUPRD	Shobra unpaved road	CAIP
Geol	KAHAUPRD	Kaha unpaved road	CAIP
Geol	LIME	Pure CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Pure COMPOUND
MV	MVSHERAT	Motor Vehicle (mixed)	CAIP
Pb	LEADAVE	Lead smelter	CAIP
Cu	CUFOUNDR	Copper foundry	CAIP
Cem	TCEMENT	Cement plant	CAIP
Fe	FESCRAP	Scrap iron production	CAIP
Oil	MAZOTPP	Mazot oil power plant	CAIP
Veg	RICEBURN2	Vegetative burning	Chow and Watson (1999)
Secsul	$H_2SO_4$	Secondary sulfuric acid	Pure COMPOUND
Secsul	AMBSUL	Secondary ammonium bisulfate	Pure COMPOUND
Secsul	AMSUL	Secondary ammonium sulfate	Pure COMPOUND
Secnit	AMNIT	Secondary ammonium nitrate	Pure COMPOUND
SecCl	NH <sub>4</sub> CL	Secondary ammonium chloride	Pure COMPOUND
Mar	MAR100	Pure sea salt	Watson et al. (1994)
Mar	MAR75	Sea salt 25 % nitrate replacement	Watson et al. (1994)
Mar	MAR50	Sea salt 50 % nitrate replacement	Watson et al. (1994)
Mar	MAR25	Sea salt 75 % nitrate replacement	Watson et al. (1994)
Mar	MAR0	Sea salt 100 % nitrate replacement	Watson et al. (1994)



aerosols. Gaseous nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub>) reacts with pure sea salt (MAR100) to form sodium nitrate and releases gaseous HCl (Mamane and Gottlieb 1992). The percent of chloride remaining after nitrate replacement is denoted in the sea salt profile ID, e.g., MAR25 represents 75 % nitrate replacement. The AMCL profile was used to account for high chlorine concentrations in excess of the marine contribution.

The most significant requirement for successful CMB source attribution is that the source profiles are representative of the source emissions in the air shed. For the Cairo studies, local emissions were characterized for mobile, geological, and industrial sources. It is also the case that source profiles may vary over short and long time scales. Source apportionment studies frequently use profiles from data bases such as the US EPA SPECIATE source profile library (US EPA 2008). In many cases, such profiles were determined at different times and locations from the ambient PM studies. Even with realistic source profiles, it may not be possible to differentiate sources whose emissions have similar chemical composition. This is particularly the case for combustion sources, for example, diesel and gasoline vehicles, cooking, and open (vegetative/trash) burning which all emit EC and OC in various proportions. Resuspended paved and unpaved road dust and soil dust are generally quite similar in terms of their major elemental (e.g., Al, Si, Fe, Ca) composition. Industrial processes that use the same type of fuel may be also difficult to distinguish based on carbon emissions but specific processes can release unique trace elements, e.g., Pb from lead smelters, nickel (Ni) and V from heavy oil combustion, copper (Cu) from copper smelters, zinc (Zn) from incineration and metal production and processing.

#### **Results and discussion**

# Ambient measurements

Average  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  and selected chemical concentrations are presented for June (summer) and October (fall), 2010 in Tables 2 and 3, respectively. The mass measurements for  $PM_{10}$  mass,  $PM_{10}$  silicon (Si) and  $PM_{2.5}$  lead (Pb) are presented as time series plots for June and October, 2010 in Fig. 2. Silicon is a marker for geological material and the correspondence between the  $PM_{10}$  mass and  $PM_{10}$  Si time series illustrates the significance of geological sources. Lead, a highly toxic inorganic pollutant, is found mainly in the  $PM_{2.5}$  size fraction. Average  $PM_{2.5}$  mass concentrations were higher during fall than summer at all sites except Helwan. This was also true for  $PM_{10}$  mass.  $PM_{10}$  exceeded 300 µg/m<sup>3</sup> on October 14, 2010 at Shobra. Note the peak in  $PM_{10}$  which occurred at

all sites on June 11, 2010. A similar  $PM_{10}$  peak was also seen on October 14 and 16, 2010 at all sites. These peaks are also seen for  $PM_{2.5}$  mass. The geological origin of these high mass concentrations is apparent from the Si time series. The Si peaks are consistent with the mass peaks and indicate resuspended dust events during these periods.

Tables 2 and 3 show that average  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  Pb concentrations were higher during fall at all sites. The highest average  $PM_{10}$  Pb concentrations were found at Shobra (0.67 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) and El-Zamalek (0.24 µg/m<sup>3</sup>). Figure 2 indicates that the temporal trends in  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  Pb were similar. The highest Pb concentrations occurred at Shobra. Concentrations were higher during fall than summer. During summer, Pb concentrations were uniformly low at all sites except Shobra. During fall, there were episodic periods with elevated Pb at all sites on October 20, 2010 and at Shobra, El-Zamalek and El-Qualaly on October 26, 2010. These patterns suggest that Shobra remains a hot spot for Pb emissions and that other sites experienced transport from Shobra under the appropriate meteorological conditions.

Soluble K<sup>+</sup> is a useful marker for biomass burning (Chow et al. 2007). Roughly 10-15 % of geological K is soluble. The average ratio of soluble to total K in all Cairo  $PM_{2.5}$  samples was  $0.90 \pm 0.23$  (0.80  $\pm 0.23$  in summer and  $1.00 \pm 0.28$  in fall). These high ratios indicate the presence of biomass burning. Table 2 shows higher PM<sub>2.5</sub> K<sup>+</sup> concentrations in fall than summer at all sites. This could be due to a higher burning source activity during fall or to meteorological factors such as lower mixing height or wind direction. Table 2 shows that while PM2.5 EC concentration (which comes from all combustion sources) was somewhat higher during fall, the seasonal difference was not as great as for  $K^+$ . This suggests that there was more open (vegetative/trash) burning during fall than summer. Table 2 indicates that the highest average  $PM_{2.5}$  K<sup>+</sup> concentrations were found at the background site Kaha  $(2.2 \ \mu g/m^3)$  during fall and at Shobra  $(1.46 \ \mu g/m^3)$  during fall. Average sulfate  $(SO_4^{2-})$  concentrations were higher during summer than fall at all sites in both size fractions. Average  $SO_4^{2-}$  concentrations during summer showed very little variation  $(7.1 \pm 0.2 \ \mu g/m^3)$  across the five sites, demonstrating the secondary character of this species.

# Source attribution results

Average CMB results for June and October, 2010 at each of the five sites are given for the  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  fractions in Table 4 for sources described in Table 1. Table 4 shows that the largest contributor to  $PM_{2.5}$  at all sites during summer was motor vehicles (MV). These contributions ranged from 11.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at Kaha to 24 µg/m<sup>3</sup> at El-Qualaly. There was a significant increase in the open (vegetative/ trash) burning (VEG) contribution in October. The VEG



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	El-Qualaly		Helwan		Kaha		Shobra		El-Zamalek	
	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010
Mass	$48 \pm 14$	$58 \pm 22$	$38 \pm 15$	$38 \pm 17$	$32 \pm 11$	$57 \pm 22$	$38 \pm 19$	$56 \pm 20$	$36 \pm 13$	$48 \pm 17$
CI_	$1 \pm 0.7$	$2.4 \pm 2.8$	$0.9\pm0.8$	$0.9 \pm 0.9$	$0.8\pm0.8$	$6.7 \pm 5.6$	$1.5 \pm 1.1$	$4.3 \pm 5.5$	$0.8\pm0.6$	$2.4 \pm 3$
$NO_3^-$	$1.7 \pm 0.6$	$1.7\pm0.6$	$1.4 \pm 0.4$	$1.5\pm0.6$	$1.8\pm0.4$	$3.4 \pm 1.1$	$1.8\pm0.6$	$2.3 \pm 0.8$	$1.7\pm0.5$	$2 \pm 0.6$
$\mathrm{S0}_4^{2-}$	$7 \pm 1.6$	$4.3\pm1.4$	$6.7 \pm 1.8$	$4 \pm 1.3$	$7 \pm 1.5$	$5.4 \pm 1.2$	$7.4 \pm 1.7$	$5.1 \pm 1.5$	$7.2 \pm 1.8$	$4.6\pm1.8$
$\mathrm{NH_4^+}$	$3 \pm 0.9$	$2.4\pm1.8$	$2.4 \pm 0.6$	$1.4 \pm 0.5$	$3.1\pm0.7$	$5 \pm 3.1$	$2.9\pm0.9$	$3.2 \pm 3.1$	$2.9\pm0.8$	$2.4 \pm 2.1$
$Na^+$	$0.9 \pm 1.8$	$0.4\pm0.1$	$0.9 \pm 1.8$	$0.5 \pm 0.1$	$0.9\pm1.8$	$0.5\pm0.1$	$1.7 \pm 2.3$	$0.7\pm0.3$	$0.9 \pm 1.8$	$0.6\pm0.1$
$\mathbf{K}^+$	$0.3 \pm 0.2$	$0.9\pm0.6$	$0.3 \pm 0.2$	$0.7 \pm 0.4$	$0.4\pm0.1$	$2.2\pm0.9$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$1.5\pm0.8$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$1\pm 0.5$
oc	$15 \pm 3$	$19\pm 6$	$11 \pm 2$	$12 \pm 5$	$9.8\pm2.5$	$22 \pm 8$	$12 \pm 2$	$21 \pm 7$	$11 \pm 3$	$17 \pm 4$
EC	$12 \pm 3$	$16\pm 5$	$7.2 \pm 2.1$	$8.8\pm5.9$	$4 \pm 1.3$	$7 \pm 2.7$	$6.2 \pm 1.7$	$11 \pm 7$	$6.5\pm1.9$	$8.2\pm2.1$
Al	$0.4\pm0.4$	$0.4\pm0.3$	$0.5\pm0.4$	$0.3 \pm 0.2$	$0.6\pm0.6$	$0.5\pm0.3$	$0.6\pm0.6$	$0.6\pm0.3$	$0.5\pm0.6$	$0.4\pm0.2$
Si	$1.1 \pm 1$	$0.8\pm0.7$	$1.2 \pm 1$	$0.7 \pm 0.6$	$1.4 \pm 1.7$	$0.9\pm0.6$	$1.5\pm1.5$	$1.2 \pm 0.9$	$1.2 \pm 1.3$	$0.8\pm0.6$
К	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$1.1 \pm 0.7$	$0.4 \pm 0.2$	$0.8\pm0.5$	$0.5\pm0.2$	$2\pm0.8$	$0.5\pm0.2$	$1.5\pm0.7$	$0.4\pm0.2$	$1.1 \pm 0.6$
Ca	$0.7 \pm 0.6$	$0.6\pm0.5$	$0.9\pm0.7$	$0.9 \pm 0.6$	$0.8 \pm 1$	$0.4 \pm 0.3$	$0.9\pm0.9$	$0.8\pm0.5$	$0.7\pm0.8$	$0.6\pm0.4$
>	$0.01\pm 0.01$	$0.005\pm0.003$	$0.009 \pm 0.006$	$0.004 \pm 0.003$	$0.008\pm0.004$	$0.01\pm0.01$	$0.01\pm 0.01$	$0.006 \pm 0.004$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$	$0.01\pm 0.01$
Fe	$0.7 \pm 0.3$	$0.6\pm0.4$	$0.5\pm0.4$	$0.4 \pm 0.3$	$0.6\pm0.5$	$0.4\pm0.3$	$0.6\pm0.5$	$0.5\pm0.4$	$0.6\pm0.5$	$0.5\pm0.3$
ïZ	$0.008 \pm 0.004$	$0.004 \pm 0.004$	$0.004\pm0.003$	$0.003 \pm 0$	$0.004\pm0$	$0.008\pm0.007$	$0.005\pm0.003$	$0.004 \pm 0$	$0.009 \pm 0.004$	$0.006\pm0.003$
Cu	$0.02 \pm 0.01$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$	$0.009 \pm 0.006$	$0.008 \pm 0.005$	$0.005\pm0.004$	$0.006\pm0.005$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$	$0.03\pm0.02$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$	$0.02\pm0.01$
Zn	$0.3 \pm 0.2$	$0.5\pm0.3$	$0.4\pm0.6$	$0.3 \pm 0.3$	$0.05\pm0.05$	$0.1 \pm 0.1$	$0.2\pm0.1$	$0.6\pm0.4$	$0.3\pm0.2$	$0.3\pm0.3$
Pb	$0.05 \pm 0.04$	$0.2\pm0.2$	$0.03 \pm 0.03$	$0.1 \pm 0.2$	$0.02\pm0.02$	$0.04\pm0.06$	$0.2 \pm 0.1$	$0.5\pm0.5$	$0.06\pm0.05$	$0.2\pm0.3$





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	El-Qualaly		Helwan		Kaha		Shobra		El-Zamalek	
	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010	June 2010	October 2010
Mass	121 ± 41	$130 \pm 47$	$134 \pm 56$	$132 \pm 43$	$105 \pm 40$	$140 \pm 41$	$165 \pm 58$	$184 \pm 77$	$104 \pm 38$	133 土 46
Cl_	$3.2 \pm 1.8$	$5.9 \pm 4.1$	$3.6\pm2.3$	$7.1 \pm 5.1$	$3 \pm 1.8$	$9.9\pm 6.5$	$3.6\pm1.4$	$8.7 \pm 7$	$2.7 \pm 1.3$	$6.2 \pm 4$
$NO_3^-$	$6.8 \pm 2.2$	$5.5\pm1.6$	$6.9 \pm 2.3$	$6.3 \pm 2.6$	$6 \pm 2$	$5.8\pm2.2$	$6.9\pm1.9$	$6.2 \pm 1.7$	$6.2 \pm 1.8$	$5.9\pm1.6$
$\mathrm{S0}_4^{2-}$	$11 \pm 2$	7.4 ± 2	$11 \pm 3$	$9.8 \pm 4.3$	$8.1 \pm 2$	$7.2 \pm 1.6$	$11 \pm 2$	$9.4 \pm 3.4$	$9 \pm 1.7$	$7.8 \pm 1.9$
$\mathrm{NH_4^+}$	$3.8\pm1.3$	$2.6\pm1.9$	$2.8\pm0.8$	$1.6\pm0.7$	$3.3 \pm 1$	$5 \pm 3.4$	$3.1 \pm 0.7$	$3.1 \pm 3.2$	$3.2 \pm 1$	$2.7 \pm 1.9$
$Na^+$	$2.1 \pm 1.7$	$2.1 \pm 0.7$	$2.3 \pm 1.8$	$2.6\pm1.1$	$1.8 \pm 1.9$	$1.7\pm0.5$	$2.9 \pm 2.3$	$2.5\pm0.6$	$1.9 \pm 1.8$	$2 \pm 0.5$
$\mathbf{K}^+$	$0.7\pm0.2$	$1.5\pm0.9$	$0.9\pm0.3$	$1.6\pm0.8$	$0.7\pm0.2$	$2.6\pm0.9$	$0.8\pm0.1$	$1.9 \pm 1$	$0.6\pm0.1$	$1.6\pm0.8$
oc	$27 \pm 7$	$30\pm10$	$24 \pm 6$	$30 \pm 12$	$15 \pm 4$	$28 \pm 9$	$22 \pm 5$	$35\pm16$	$18 \pm 4$	$26\pm9$
EC	$15 \pm 2$	$18 \pm 4$	$9.3 \pm 3.2$	$13 \pm 6$	$4.6\pm1.7$	$6.9\pm2.5$	$7.2 \pm 1.9$	$12 \pm 9$	$7.3 \pm 2$	$11 \pm 3$
Al	$2.5\pm1.6$	$1.8\pm0.9$	$2.5\pm1.8$	$1.9 \pm 1$	$3 \pm 1.9$	$2.5 \pm 1.1$	$3.9 \pm 2.1$	$3.2\pm1.5$	$2.2 \pm 1.3$	$2.2 \pm 1.1$
Si	$7.1 \pm 4.5$	$5.2 \pm 3.1$	$7.7 \pm 5.1$	$5.9 \pm 2.9$	$8.7 \pm 5.4$	$6.8 \pm 3.1$	$12 \pm 6$	$9.6\pm 5$	$6.3 \pm 3.5$	$6.4 \pm 3.3$
К	$1.1 \pm 0.5$	$1.6\pm0.7$	$1.2 \pm 0.8$	$1.3 \pm 0.6$	$1.4 \pm 0.7$	$2.9 \pm 1$	$1.7\pm0.7$	$2.4 \pm 1$	$1 \pm 0.4$	$1.9 \pm 0.8$
Ca	$7.4 \pm 4.3$	$7 \pm 4.3$	$14 \pm 7$	$12 \pm 5$	$5.7 \pm 4.3$	$4.8\pm2.3$	$13 \pm 6$	$13 \pm 7$	$5.9 \pm 3.3$	$7.4 \pm 3.9$
Λ	$0.02\pm0.01$	$0.009 \pm 0.004$	$0.01 \pm 0.01$	$0.007 \pm 0.004$	$0.01 \pm 0.01$	$0.03\pm0.02$	$0.02\pm0.01$	$0.02\pm 0.01$	$0.03\pm0.02$	$0.02\pm0.01$
Fe	$3.7 \pm 1.7$	$3.2\pm1.8$	$3.6 \pm 2.4$	$2.8\pm1.4$	$4 \pm 1.9$	$3.2 \pm 1.3$	$5.6 \pm 2.4$	$5 \pm 3$	$3.1 \pm 1.3$	$3.4\pm1.5$
ïN	$0.01\pm0.004$	$0.008 \pm 0.007$	$0.007\pm0.005$	$0.004 \pm 0$	$0.007 \pm 0.003$	$0.01 \pm 0.01$	$0.01 \pm 0$	$0.007 \pm 0.003$	$0.01\pm0.01$	$0.009 \pm 0.005$
Zn	$0.4\pm0.2$	$0.6\pm0.4$	$0.7 \pm 1$	$0.4 \pm 0.3$	$0.07 \pm 0.06$	$0.2 \pm 0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.3$	$0.9\pm0.5$	$0.3\pm0.2$	$0.4 \pm 0.3$
Pb	$0.09\pm0.05$	$0.2 \pm 0.2$	$0.05\pm0.03$	$0.1 \pm 0.1$	$0.02 \pm 0.02$	$0.07 \pm 0.07$	$0.3 \pm 0.2$	$0.7\pm0.6$	$0.08\pm0.07$	$0.2\pm0.3$

Table 3Average  $PM_{10}$  concentrations ( $\mu g/m^3$ , average  $\pm$  standard deviation) during June and October 2010 at five Cairo sites



Fig. 2 Time series of  $PM_{10}$  mass,  $PM_{10}$  silicon, and  $PM_{2.5}$  lead at five Cairo sites

contribution increased from 3.3 to 15.0  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> at El-Qualaly, 4.9 to 8.9  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> at Helwan, 4.6 to 43  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> at Kaha, 5.5 to 33  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> at Shobra, and 3.8 to 22  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> at El-Qualaly. This is consistent with the large increases in soluble K<sup>+</sup> concentrations at all sites during fall (see Tables 2, 3) and likely results from the burning of agricultural waste (rice straw) following the fall harvest (Favez et al. 2008; Marey et al. 2010, 2011).

The geological source contribution to PM2.5 was also significant at all sites, ranging from 5.1  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (10.8 %) at El-Qualaly to 8.6  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (23 %) at Kaha during summer. The absolute and relative geological source contributions decreased during the fall season, ranging from 2.4  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (7.0 %) at Helwan to 5.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (7.4 %) at Shobra. This could indicate drier and windier conditions in summer than in fall and is also consistent with lower mixing heights during fall (Pye 1989).

Secondary sulfate (SECSUL) was a major contributor to PM<sub>2.5</sub> during summer 2010, ranging from 16.7 % at El-Qualaly to 23 % at Kaha. The relative contribution of SECSUL to PM<sub>2.5</sub> decreased significantly during fall, ranging from 6 % at El-Qualaly and Kaha to 8.3 % at Helwan. The higher contribution during summer reflects greater photochemical activity during this period and the relatively small variations in SECSUL contributions over the five sites demonstrates regional-scale mixing of sulfur dioxide and its oxidation to sulfate.

The Pb smelter source contributed less than 1  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> to PM<sub>2.5</sub> at all sites and seasons. However, because of its potential adverse impact on human health, it is notable that this source contribution to  $PM_{2.5}$  ranged from 0  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> at Helwan and Kaha to 0.22  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (0.5 %) at Shobra during summer and from 0.04  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (0.1 %) at Kaha to 0.65  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (0.9 %) at Shobra during fall. This may be attributable to higher source emissions and/or to meteorological factors associated with colder temperatures and lower mixing heights in October.

The marine contribution to PM<sub>2.5</sub> was significant, ranging from 2.8 % at El-Qualaly and Kaha to 6.7 % at Shobra during summer and 0 % at Kaha to 1.9 % at Helwan during fall. The marine contribution to PM<sub>10</sub> was larger than its contribution to PM2.5, which is expected since marine aerosols are mainly in the coarse fraction. The magnitude of the estimated marine contribution depends on the degree of substitution of nitrate for chloride. We would expect the contributions to be roughly similar at all sites due to the distance from the upwind (the prevailing wind direction is from the north) marine source (the Mediterranean Sea is about 100 miles to the north). Indeed, average  $Na^+$  concentrations (Tables 2, 3) were quite similar at most sites, although Na<sup>+</sup> concentrations at Shobra were somewhat higher. This was the case for both  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  $Na^+$ .

Industrial source contributions other than Pb smelters were generally low. However, the large uncertainties for the cement plant and oil combustion contributions suggest the effects of collinearity involving their source profiles in the CMB solution. Nonetheless, as shown in Table 4, the largest cement plant contributions were seen at Helwan, particularly in the PM<sub>10</sub> fraction. The Torah and Helwan cement companies are located in this area.

Geological dust was the largest contributor to PM<sub>10</sub> at all sites, ranging from 36  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (39 %) at El-Zamalek to 86  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> (58 %) at Shobra. As with PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the geological contribution to PM10 decreased during the fall season, ranging from 29 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (23 %) at El-Qualaly to 53 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (31 %) at Shobra. MV contributions to PM<sub>10</sub> were similar to (within the estimation uncertainty) or somewhat higher than the corresponding contributions to  $PM_{2.5}$ . This means that some of the motor vehicle contribution was in the coarse fraction. The open (vegetative/trash) burning contribution to PM<sub>10</sub> was significantly higher than the corresponding contribution to PM<sub>2.5</sub> at all sites. As seen for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the open (vegetative/trash) burning contribution to PM<sub>10</sub> was also significantly higher during fall than summer.

Distinguishing combustion source contributions with CMB modeling is difficult because the source profiles are typically similar, being dominated by carbon (EC and OC). While we used a vegetative burning source profile that was



Table 4 Average CMB results (µg/m<sup>3</sup> and percent of predicted mass) at 5 Cairo sites during summer and fall 2010

PM 2.5					$PM_{10}$			
June 2010			October 2010		June 2010		October 2010	
	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%
El-Qualaly								
Geological	$5.1 \pm 0.5$	10.8	$3.0 \pm 0.5$	5.5	$52 \pm 6$	42	$29 \pm 4$	23
Pb smelter	$0.02\pm0.01$	0.0	$0.16\pm0.03$	0.3	$0.02\pm0.01$	0.0	$0.06\pm0.02$	0.0
Cu smelter	$0.34\pm0.05$	0.7	$0.67\pm0.08$	1.2	$0.34\pm0.06$	0.3	$0.71\pm0.09$	0.6
Fe foundry	$1.38\pm0.22$	2.9	$1.45\pm0.26$	2.6	$3.5\pm0.7$	2.8	$5.1\pm0.8$	4.1
Cement plant	$0.63\pm0.70$	1.3	$1.63\pm1.81$	2.9	$1.15 \pm 1.41$	0.9	$4.5\pm3.6$	3.6
Oil comb.	$1.58\pm1.61$	3.4	$1.66 \pm 1.38$	3.0	$0.22\pm0.39$	0.2	$0.44\pm0.40$	0.3
Motor veh.	$24 \pm 2$	51	$25\pm3$	44	$32 \pm 4$	26	$31 \pm 4$	25
Open burn	$3.3\pm0.6$	7.0	$14.9\pm1.6$	7.0	$14.7\pm2.2$	12.0	$41 \pm 4$	32
Marine	$1.34\pm0.33$	2.8	$0.26\pm0.12$	0.5	$5.7\pm0.9$	4.6	$5.4\pm0.8$	4.3
Sec. sulfate	$7.9\pm0.8$	16.7	$3.3\pm0.6$	6.0	$9.3 \pm 1.3$	7.6	$4.0 \pm 1.2$	3.2
Sec. nitrate	$1.48\pm0.28$	3.1	$1.84\pm0.31$	3.3	$3.6\pm0.9$	2.9	$1.71\pm0.79$	1.4
Sec. chloride	$0.13\pm0.08$	0.3	$1.71\pm0.28$	3.1	$0.33\pm0.30$	0.3	$2.4\pm0.7$	1.9
Measured	$48 \pm 2$		$58 \pm 2$		$121 \pm 2$		$130 \pm 3$	
Predicted	$47 \pm 3$		$55 \pm 4$		$122 \pm 7$		$126 \pm 8$	
Helwan								
Geological	$7.2\pm0.6$	17.8	$2.3 \pm 0.4$	7.0	$46 \pm 6$	38	$38 \pm 5$	29
Pb smelter	$0.00\pm0.00$	0.0	$0.10\pm0.03$	0.3	$0.00\pm0.00$	0.0	$0.08\pm0.02$	0.1
Cu smelter	$0.57\pm0.08$	1.4	$0.37\pm0.05$	1.1	$0.81\pm0.11$	0.7	$0.48\pm0.07$	0.4
Fe foundry	$0.66\pm0.16$	1.6	$0.21\pm0.13$	0.6	$1.60\pm0.58$	1.3	$1.73\pm0.59$	1.3
Cement plant	$2.0 \pm 1.5$	5.0	$4.8 \pm 2.1$	4.4	$17.3\pm9.0$	14.5	$11.1\pm7.5$	8.5
Oil comb.	$1.12 \pm 1.27$	2.8	$1.36 \pm 1.21$	4.1	$0.37\pm0.44$	0.3	$0.08\pm0.23$	0.1
Motor veh.	$13.9\pm1.8$	34.5	$11.0 \pm 1.8$	2.8	$13.2 \pm 2.9$	11.1	$15.1 \pm 3.1$	11.5
Open burn	$4.9\pm0.7$	12.2	$8.9 \pm 1.4$	6.5	$24 \pm 3$	21	$49 \pm 5$	37
Marine	$1.78\pm0.37$	4.4	$0.65\pm0.16$	1.9	$5.5 \pm 0.7$	4.6	$7.1 \pm 1.0$	5.4
Sec. sulfate	$7.2 \pm 0.7$	17.8	$2.8 \pm 0.5$	8.3	$7.0 \pm 1.4$	5.9	$6.9 \pm 1.1$	5.3
Sec. nitrate	$0.73\pm0.21$	1.8	$1.00\pm0.24$	3.0	$2.6 \pm 0.9$	2.2	$1.8\pm0.61$	1.4
Sec. chloride	$0.28\pm0.10$	0.7	$0.00\pm0.00$	0.0	$0.36\pm0.68$	0.3	$0.08\pm0.22$	0.1
Measured	$39 \pm 2$		$38 \pm 1$		$138 \pm 3$		$132 \pm 3$	
Predicted	$40 \pm 3$		$34 \pm 3$		$119 \pm 12$		$131 \pm 11$	
Kaha								
Geological	$8.6 \pm 0.6$	23	$3.9 \pm 0.4$	5.1	$54 \pm 4$	54	$39 \pm 4$	26
Pb smelter	$0.00 \pm 0.00$	0.0	$0.04 \pm 0.01$	0.1	$0.00 \pm 0.01$	0.0	$0.06 \pm 0.01$	0.0
Cu smelter	$0.02 \pm 0.01$	0.1	$0.15 \pm 0.02$	0.2	$0.07 \pm 0.02$	0.1	$0.19 \pm 0.03$	0.1
Fe foundry	$0.54 \pm 0.13$	1.4	$0.30 \pm 0.15$	0.4	$0.01 \pm 0.48$	0.0	$0.83 \pm 0.66$	0.6
Cement plant	$0.00 \pm 0.00$	0.0	$0.14 \pm 0.33$	0.2	$1.04 \pm 3.50$	1.0	$2.5 \pm 3.5$	1.6
Oil comb.	$0.81 \pm 1.21$	2.1	$1.77 \pm 1.07$	2.3	$0.65 \pm 0.33$	0.7	$1.36 \pm 0.45$	0.9
Motor veh.	$11.4 \pm 1.3$	30	$12.7 \pm 2.1$	6.8	$8.6 \pm 1.4$	8.6	$9.2 \pm 2.1$	6.1
Open burn	$4.6 \pm 0.6$	12.3	$43 \pm 3$	57	$18.0 \pm 2.1$	18.1	$76 \pm 6$	50.7
Marine	$1.05 \pm 0.22$	2.8	$0.00 \pm 0.05$	0.0	$5.0 \pm 0.7$	5.0	$3.3 \pm 0.7$	2.2
Sec. sulfate	$8.5 \pm 0.8$	23	$6.0 \pm 0.8$	7.9	$7.3 \pm 1.2$	7.4	$6.3 \pm 2.6$	4.2
Sec. nitrate	$1.68 \pm 0.26$	4.5	$4.5 \pm 0.5$	6.0	$4.0 \pm 0.7$	4.1	$4.2 \pm 1.0$	2.8
Sec. chloride	$0.42 \pm 0.10$	1.1	$3.0 \pm 0.5$	3.9	$0.87 \pm 0.40$	0.9	$7.2 \pm 1.4$	4.8
Measured	$32 \pm 1$		$57 \pm 2$		$105 \pm 2$		$140 \pm 3$	
Predicted	$38 \pm 2$		$76 \pm 4$		$99 \pm 6$		$150 \pm 9$	



PM 2.5					PM <sub>10</sub>			
June 2010			October 2010		June 2010		October 2010	
	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	%
Shobra								
Geological	$8.1\pm0.6$	18.8	$5.4 \pm 0.6$	7.4	$86 \pm 6$	58	$53 \pm 8$	31
Pb smelter	$0.22\pm0.03$	0.5	$0.65\pm0.09$	0.9	$0.33\pm0.05$	0.2	$0.83\pm0.12$	0.5
Cu smelter	$0.31\pm0.04$	0.7	$0.95\pm0.11$	1.3	$0.54\pm0.07$	0.4	$1.22\pm0.15$	0.7
Fe foundry	$0.74\pm0.19$	1.7	$1.12\pm0.24$	1.6	$1.00 \pm 1.01$	0.7	$5.2 \pm 1.3$	3.1
Cement plant	$0.70\pm0.76$	1.6	$2.2 \pm 2.0$	3.0	$0.00\pm0.00$	0.0	$12.6 \pm 10.7$	7.5
Oil comb.	$1.58 \pm 1.39$	3.7	$1.48 \pm 1.38$	2.1	$0.68\pm0.54$	0.5	$0.31\pm0.49$	0.2
Motor veh.	$13.6 \pm 1.6$	32	$16.9 \pm 3.0$	23	$16.6 \pm 2.4$	11.2	$19.9 \pm 3.9$	11.9
Open burn	$5.5\pm0.7$	12.7	$33 \pm 3$	46	$24 \pm 3$	16.4	$59\pm 6$	35
Marine	$2.9\pm0.5$	6.7	$0.51\pm0.26$	0.7	$7.5 \pm 1.1$	5.1	$6.3 \pm 0.9$	3.8
Sec. sulfate	$8.5\pm0.8$	19.8	$4.3 \pm 0.7$	6.0	$7.5 \pm 1.5$	5.0	$4.7 \pm 1.70$	2.8
Sec. nitrate	$0.73\pm0.30$	1.7	$2.2 \pm 0.4$	3.1	$2.9 \pm 0.9$	2.0	$1.7\pm0.88$	1.0
Sec. chloride	$0.15\pm0.08$	0.3	$3.2 \pm 0.7$	4.5	$0.62\pm0.70$	0.4	$4.3 \pm 1.0$	2.5
Measured	$38 \pm 1$		$56 \pm 2$		$165 \pm 3$		$184 \pm 3$	
Predicted	$43 \pm 3$		$72 \pm 5$		$148 \pm 7$		$168 \pm 15$	
El-Zamalek								
Geological	$6.4 \pm 0.5$	16.0	$3.4 \pm 0.4$	6.4	$36 \pm 3$	39	$33 \pm 5$	26
Pb smelter	$0.03\pm0.01$	0.1	$0.23\pm0.05$	0.4	$0.03\pm0.01$	0.0	$0.24\pm0.05$	0.2
Cu smelter	$0.36\pm0.05$	0.9	$0.50\pm0.06$	0.9	$0.39\pm0.05$	0.4	$0.60\pm0.08$	0.5
Fe foundry	$1.02\pm0.19$	2.5	$1.03\pm0.20$	1.9	$0.97\pm0.54$	1.0	$2.60\pm0.76$	2.1
Cement plant	$0.15\pm0.30$	0.4	$1.18 \pm 1.07$	2.2	$2.1 \pm 3.7$	2.2	$4.2 \pm 4.5$	3.4
Oil comb.	$2.5 \pm 1.4$	6.1	$2.4 \pm 1.3$	4.4	$0.66\pm0.45$	0.7	$0.49\pm0.49$	0.4
Motor veh.	$15.0\pm1.6$	37	$15.1 \pm 2.1$	28	$17.3 \pm 2.3$	18.8	$21 \pm 3$	16.6
Open burn	$3.8\pm0.5$	9.5	$22 \pm 2$	40	$17.7\pm1.9$	19.2	$48 \pm 4$	38
Marine	$1.40\pm0.30$	3.5	$0.71\pm0.21$	1.3	$5.4 \pm 0.8$	5.8	$5.5\pm0.9$	4.3
Sec. sulfate	$8.2\pm0.8$	20	$3.7\pm0.7$	7.0	$7.9 \pm 1.3$	8.5	$4.8 \pm 2.2$	3.8
Sec. nitrate	$1.23\pm0.27$	3.1	$1.75\pm0.35$	3.3	$3.5\pm0.8$	3.8	$2.3 \pm 1.1$	1.8
Sec. chloride	$0.19\pm0.07$	0.5	$1.97\pm0.71$	3.7	$0.30\pm0.44$	0.3	$3.1 \pm 1.1$	2.5
Measured	$36 \pm 1$		$48 \pm 2$		$104 \pm 2$		$133 \pm 3$	
Predicted	$40 \pm 2$		$54 \pm 4$		$92 \pm 6$		$126 \pm 9$	



Fig. 3 Relationships between  $PM_{2.5}$  open (vegetative/trash) burning source contributions and  $K^+$  (a) and between lead smelter source contributions and Pb (b)

**Table 5** Trends in seasonal average concentrations ( $\mu g/m^3$ ) for mass and lead in Cairo from 1999 to 2010

	Size	Sampling period	El-Zamalek	El-Qualaly	Helwan	Kaha	Shobra	Average
Mass	PM10	Winter 1999	127	220	88	93	265	159
		Fall 1999	249	252	146	205	360	242
		Summer 2002	99	136	142	100	154	126
		Fall 2010	133	130	132	140	184	144
		Summer 2010	104	121	134	105	165	126
	PM2.5	Winter 1999	62	85	29	50	216	88
		Fall 1999	132	135	100	111	174	130
		Summer 2002	40	59	48	35	61	48
		Fall 2010	48	58	38	57	57	52
		Summer 2010	36	48	38	32	38	38
Lead	PM10	Winter 1999	1.6	4.8	0.2	0.1	34	8.1
		Fall 1999	1	1.8	0.3	0.1	12.7	3.2
		Summer 2002	0.2	0.5	0.2	0	7.2	1.6
		Fall 2010	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.3
		Summer 2010	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.3	0.1
	PM2.5	Winter 1999	0.7	1.6	0.1	0	27	5.8
		Fall 1999	0.7	1.4	0.2	0.1	9.2	2.3
		Summer 2002	0.1	0.3	0.1	0	5.1	1.1
		Fall 2010	0.2	0.2	0.1	0	0.5	0.2
		Summer 2010	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.2	0.1

not specific to Cairo, we are confident that this contribution was reliably distinguished from other combustion sources, e.g., MV. Figure 3a compares  $PM_{2.5}$  soluble  $K^+$  and the corresponding open (vegetative/trash) burning contribution for individual samples. The relationship is strong, with  $R^2 = 0.90$ . While the relative variations of the estimated open (vegetative/trash) burning contributions are probably realistic, the absolute value of this source contribution is accurate to the degree that the source profile used in the CMB has the same K<sup>+</sup> composition as the open (vegetative/trash) burning emissions in Cairo. Similarly, Fig. 3b shows the relationship between  $PM_{2.5}$  lead (Pb) and the corresponding lead smelter source contribution. In this case, the relationship is also very strong ( $R^2 = 0.98$ ).

# PM source attribution in Cairo for 1999, 2002, and 2010

Table 5 presents seasonally averaged  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  mass and lead concentrations at the five sampling sites for 1999, 2002, and 2010. Results for 1999 and 2002 were taken from Abu-Allaban et al. (2007).  $PM_{2.5}$  mass concentrations were significantly lower during fall 2010 compared with fall 1999 at all sites. This is also the case for  $PM_{10}$  mass at all sites; however, the difference was smaller at Helwan. Summer  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were somewhat lower (generally within 20 %) in 2010 compared with 2002. The difference was most dramatic at Shobra (37 %). There was no significant trend for  $PM_{10}$  between summer 2002 and summer 2010.  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  mass concentrations averaged over the five sites peaked at 242 and 130 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively, during fall 1999, and decreased and remained relatively constant thereafter. It should be emphasized that inter-seasonal variations may be due in part to meteorological factors such as wind speed and direction and mixing height, as well as differences in emission strength. However, it is not feasible to quantify these effects.

By contrast,  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  Pb concentrations decreased dramatically from 1999 to 2010. The largest change was at Shobra, where  $PM_{10}$  Pb decreased from 34 µg/m<sup>3</sup> during winter 1999 to 0.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> during summer, 2010.  $PM_{10}$  Pb at Shobra also decreased significantly from 34 to 12.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup> between winter and fall 1999. A similar decrease in  $PM_{10}$  Pb by a factor of 2.7 over this period occurred at El-Qualaly. Large decreases in  $PM_{10}$  Pb between the summers of 2002 and 2010 were seen at Shobra and El-Qualaly. Similar trends are seen for  $PM_{2.5}$  Pb.

Table 6 presents the relative source contributions to  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$ , respectively, as a percent of total predicted mass. The values represent seasonal averages over the five sampling sites. Geological material is the dominant source of  $PM_{10}$  mass. The geological contribution to  $PM_{10}$ peaked during the summer of 2002 due to high contributions at El-Qualaly, El-Zamalek, and Helwan and during the summer of 2010 due to high contributions at Kaha and



Table 6 Change	s in PM <sub>2.5</sub> a	and PM <sub>10</sub> sources	s (% of predi	icted mass) a	iveraged over	r five sites in	Cairo from	1999 to 20.	10				
Years	Size	Geological	Pb smelter	Cu smelter	Fe foundry	Cement plant	Oil Comb	Motor vehicle	Open burning	Marine	Secondary sulfate	Secondary nitrate	Secondary chloride
Winter 1999	PM 25	5.7	6.3	0.1	2.3	0.6	7.2	19	22	0.7	8.2	5.9	19
Fall 1999	PM 2.5	5.1	1.7	0.0	0.9	0.3	3.1	17	47	0.4	7.1	4.4	12
Summer 2002	PM 2.5	7.4	2.6	0.0	1.9	0.0	5.4	33	28	1.7	17	1.8	0.0
Summer 2010	PM 2.5	17	0.1	0.0	2.2	0.0	3.0	36	14	6.0	21	0.5	0.0
Fall 2002	PM 2.5	6.3	0.4	0.0	1.4	5.3	3.2	29	39	6.0	7.1	3.7	2.3
Fall 2002	PM2.5	6.3	0.4	0.0	1.4	5.3	3.2	29	39	6.0	7.1	3.7	2.3
Winter 1999	PM10	27	6.1	0.0	2.6	3.1	1.7	14	23	3.2	1.2	4.5	13
Fall 1999	PM 10	29	1.3	0.0	2.0	1.1	0.7	6	41	2.3	2.8	4.1	5.4
Summer 2002	PM 10	44	1.7	0.0	2.0	1.1	0.7	14	23	3.5	4.8	4.7	0.0
Summer 2010	PM 10	45	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.3	17	19	6.5	8.7	1.6	0.0
Fall 2002	PM 10	27	0.2	0.0	2.2	4.9	0.4	14	39	4.0	3.8	1.7	2.4



Fig. 4 Trends in PM2.5 and PM10 source contributions in Cairo

Shobra. However, there is no long-term trend, suggesting that meteorological factors determine the geological dust contribution. Lead smelter and copper smelter (foundry) contributions were a small fraction of PM2.5 at all sites except Shobra. Because of the reduction of Pb smelter emissions after 1999 and 2002, there were discernible decreases at the other sites as well. The iron foundry contribution in both size fraction has not changed significantly over time. The relative oil combustion (Mazot) contribution to PM2.5, decreased after winter 1999, but there was a discernible peak during the summer of 2002 at El-Qualaly, El-Zamalek, Kaha, and Shobra. This suggests a relative increase in industrial activity or power production in the summer of 2002. There has been a general increase in the motor vehicle contribution as a percent of PM<sub>2.5</sub>. In general, open (vegetative/trash) burning was the largest contributor to PM2.5. The highest percentages were found during the fall season, although the relative contributions do not appear to have changed significantly from fall 1999 to fall 2010.

Figure 4 shows time series of estimated source contributions from winter 1999 to fall 2010 for greater Cairo (averaged over the five sites). There were no apparent trends in the geological (GEOL) contributions for either the  $PM_{2.5}$  or  $PM_{10}$  size fractions, although there was a peak in

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 $PM_{10}$  GEOL during fall 1999 due to high geological contributions at El-Qualaly, Helwan and Shobra. There were peaks in the open (vegetative/trash) burning contributions to  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  during fall 1999 and to a lesser extent during fall 2010. This is attributed to burning of agricultural waste following the fall harvest and this persists through the present. While there was a small increase during fall 1999, the trend in motor vehicle contributions to  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  was generally flat over the past decade. By contrast, there was a clear decline in the Pb smelter contribution in Cairo. This was due to a relocation of Pb smelters, mainly in the Shobra area, outside of the city. This resulted in lower Pb smelter contributions at the other sites.

#### Conclusion

A PM monitoring and source apportionment study was conducted during June and October, 2010 at five sites in greater Cairo: El-Qualaly (mobile sources), Helwan (residential), Kaha (background), Shobra (industrial), and El-Zamalek (residential). This study demonstrates that the Cairo population continues to be exposed to high levels of air pollution. The Egyptian 24 h PM<sub>10</sub> standard of 70  $\mu$ g/m<sup>3</sup> was exceeded at all sites during 91 and 96 % of the sampling periods in June and October, respectively. The major contributors to PM<sub>10</sub> included resuspended geological dust, mobile source emissions, and open (vegetative/ trash) burning. During the fall 2010 period, the open (vegetative/trash) burning contribution exceeded that from soil and MV. This is likely due to agricultural waste burning following the fall harvest. A large fraction (65 %) of the open (vegetative/trash) burning contribution was found in the coarse  $(PM_{10}-PM_{2.5})$  size fraction probably because of the uncontrolled nature of the combustion. By contrast, most (88 %) of the motor vehicle contribution occurred in the PM<sub>2.5</sub> fraction.

Long-term trends were examined by comparing the results from the summer and fall 2010 studies to those from source attribution studies we conducted in winter and fall 1999 and summer 2002. The highest  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations occurred during fall 1999. Average  $PM_{10}$  concentrations were lower and largely invariant before and after fall 1999. Average  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were lower and relatively constant after fall 1999. The  $PM_{10}$  geological contribution averaged 51 µg/m<sup>3</sup> over all sites and seasons. Much of this likely comes from resuspended road dust and construction activities.  $PM_{10}$  open (vegetative/trash) burning contributions were highest during fall 1999 and 2010 and averaged 37 µg/m<sup>3</sup> over all sites and seasons. The  $PM_{10}$  motor vehicle contribution remained relatively constant over the period, averaging 19 µg/m<sup>3</sup> over all sites and

seasons. Without significant reduction of geological dust, motor vehicle, and open (vegetative/trash) burning emissions, the daily  $PM_{10}$  standard of 70 µg/m<sup>3</sup> will continue to be exceeded. By contrast,  $PM_{10}$  lead concentrations have declined by nearly two orders of magnitude from winter 1999 to summer 2010. This reflects a highly successful policy of relocating large lead-emitting sources from the Shobra industrial area outside of the city.

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