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Citation for final published version:

Lui, K. H., Jones, Tim , Berube, Kelly , Sai Hang Ho, Steven, Yim, S. H. L., Cao, Jun-Ji, Lee, S. C., Tian, Linwei, Wi Min, Dae and Ho, K. F. 2019. The effects of particle-induced oxidative damage from exposure to airborne fine particulate matter components in the vicinity of landfill sites on Hong Kong. *Chemosphere* 230 , pp. 578-586. 10.1016/j.chemosphere.2019.05.079

Publishers page: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2019.05.079>

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Supplementary Materials

The effects of particle-induced oxidative damage from exposure to airborne fine particulate matter components in the vicinity of landfill sites on Hong Kong

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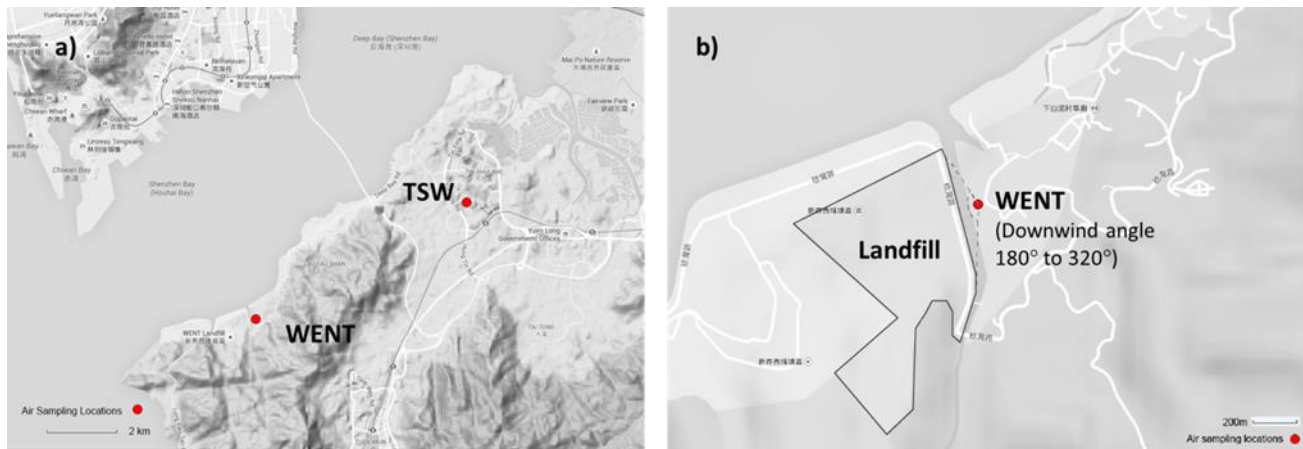
E-mail address: kfho@cuhk.edu.hk

- 27 Figure S1 Sampling location of a) WENT Background Site at Tin Shui Wai and b) WENT
28 Site at Ha Pak Nai.
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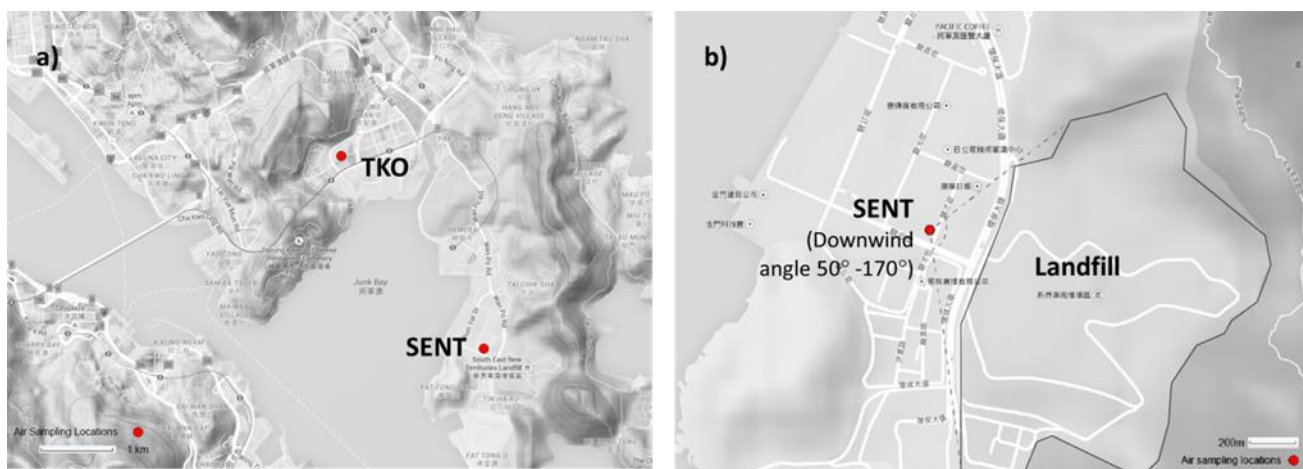
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77 WENT Site at Ha Pak Nai.

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82 SENT Site.

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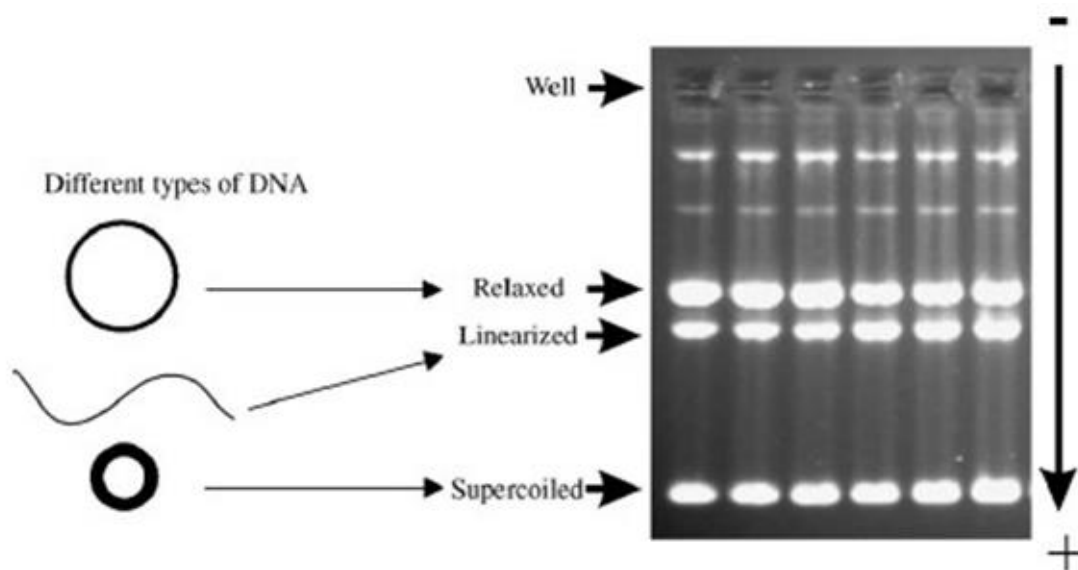


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86 Figure S3 URG PM_{2.5} filter-based sampler at WENT sampling location.

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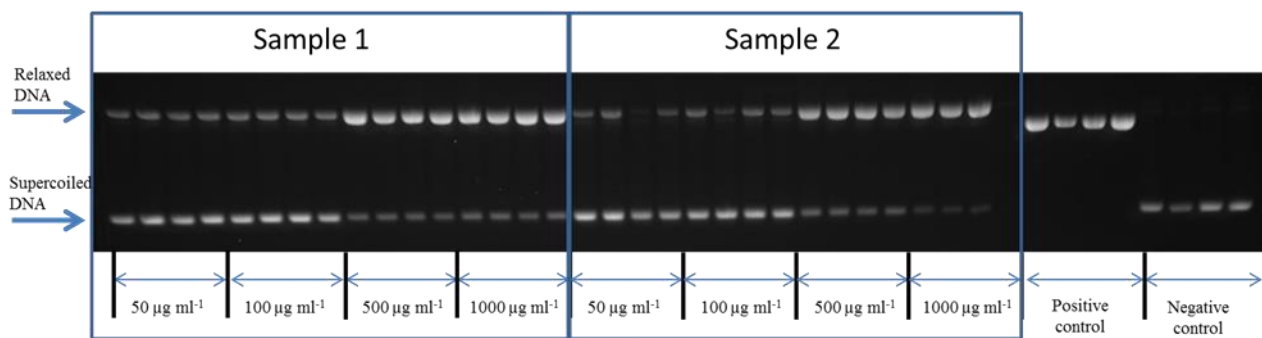
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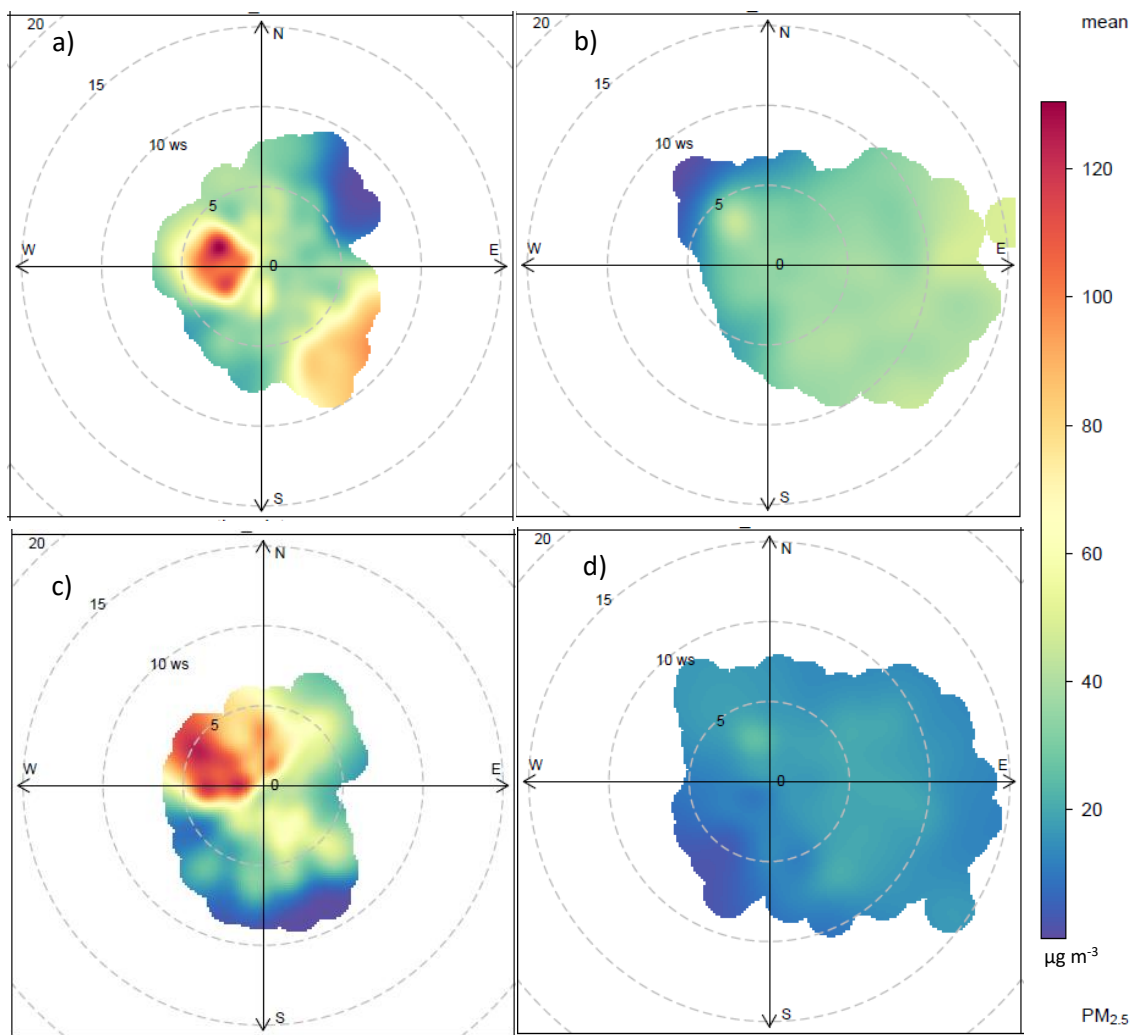
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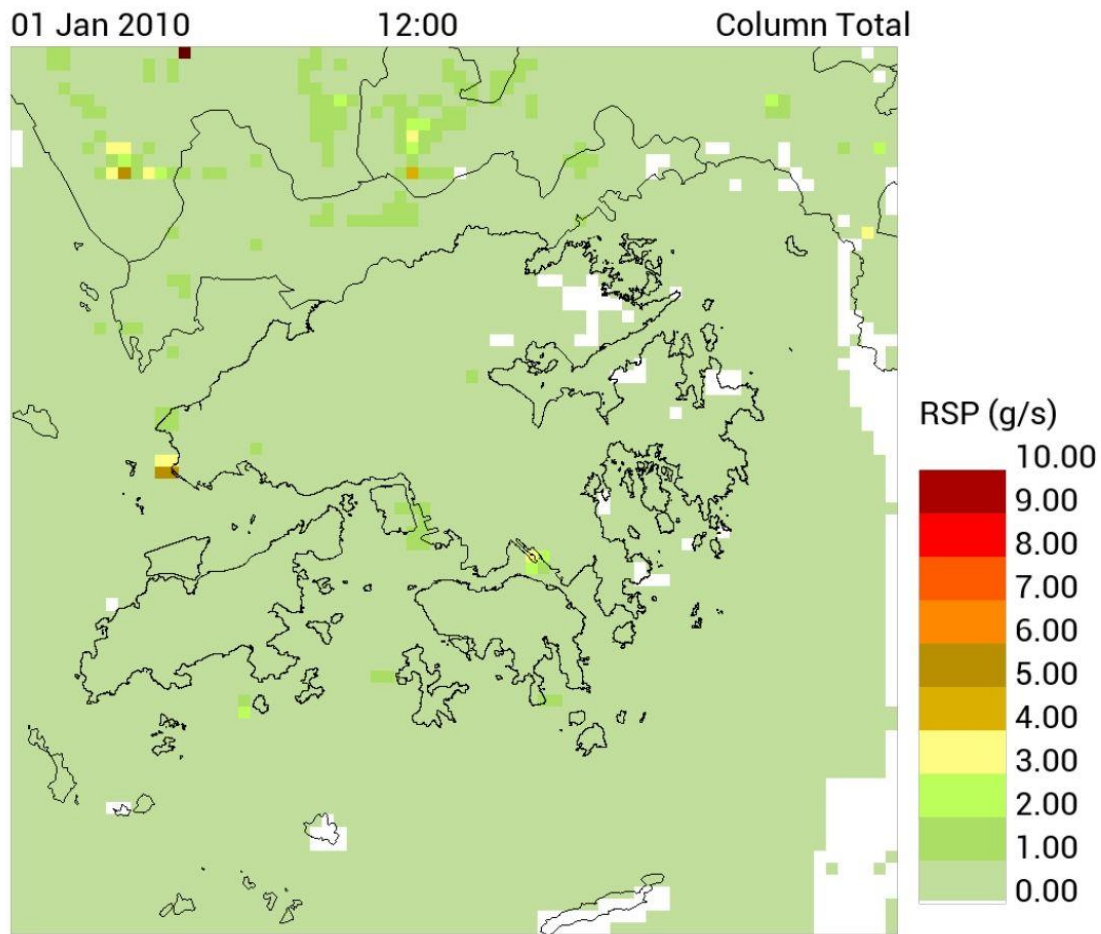
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95 $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ sample.



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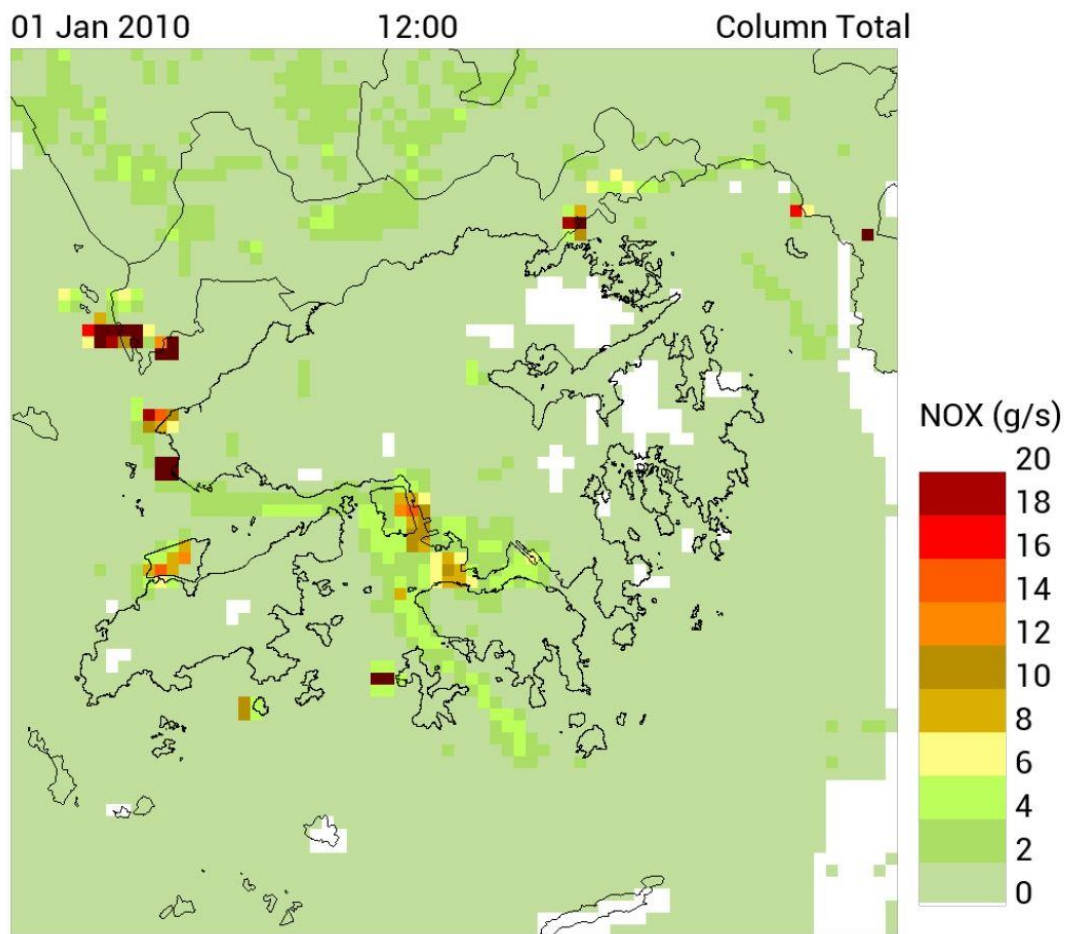
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101 Figure S7 A map of respirable suspended particulate (RSP) emissions (g/s) over Hong
 102 Kong. Source: The Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department, The
 103 Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Available at:
 104 [https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/ai](https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/guide_ref/files/RSP.jpg)
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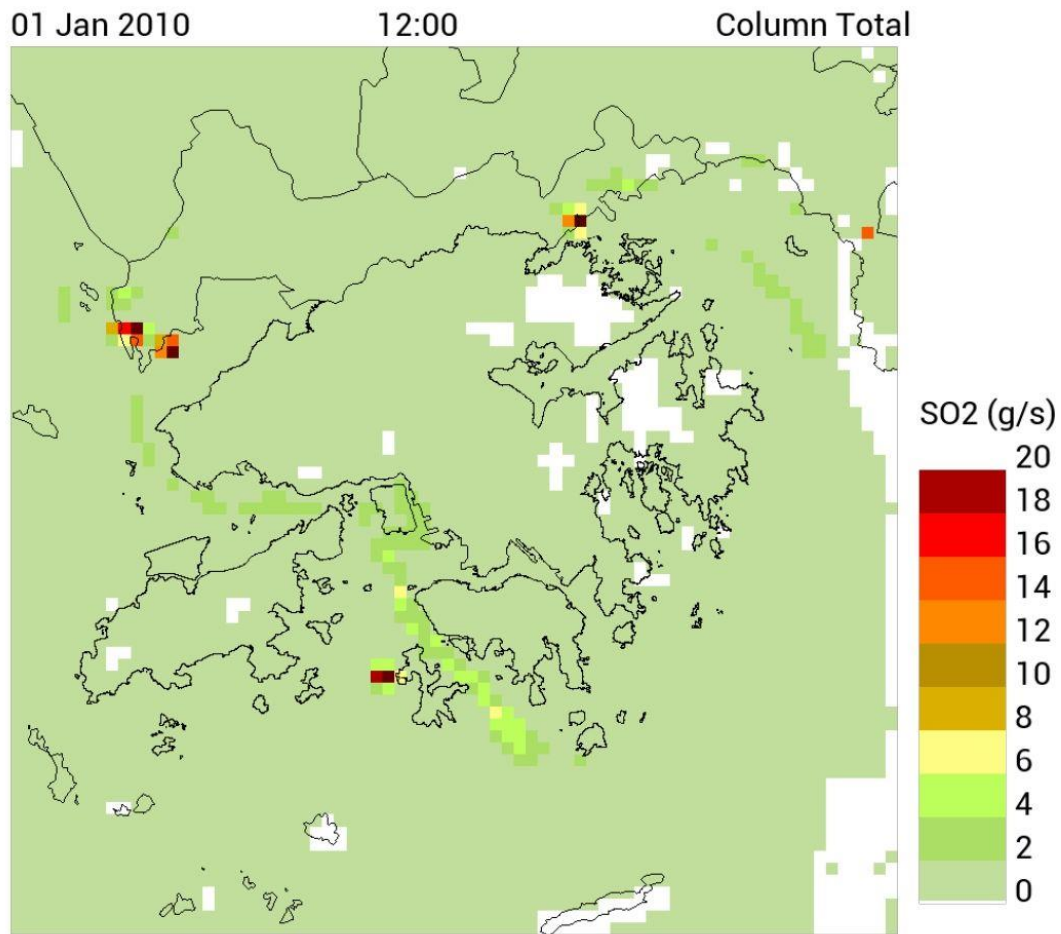
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108 Figure S8 A map of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) emissions (g/s) over Hong Kong. Source: The
 109 Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department, The Government of the
 110 Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Available at:
 111 [https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/ai](https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/guide_ref/files/NOx.jpg)
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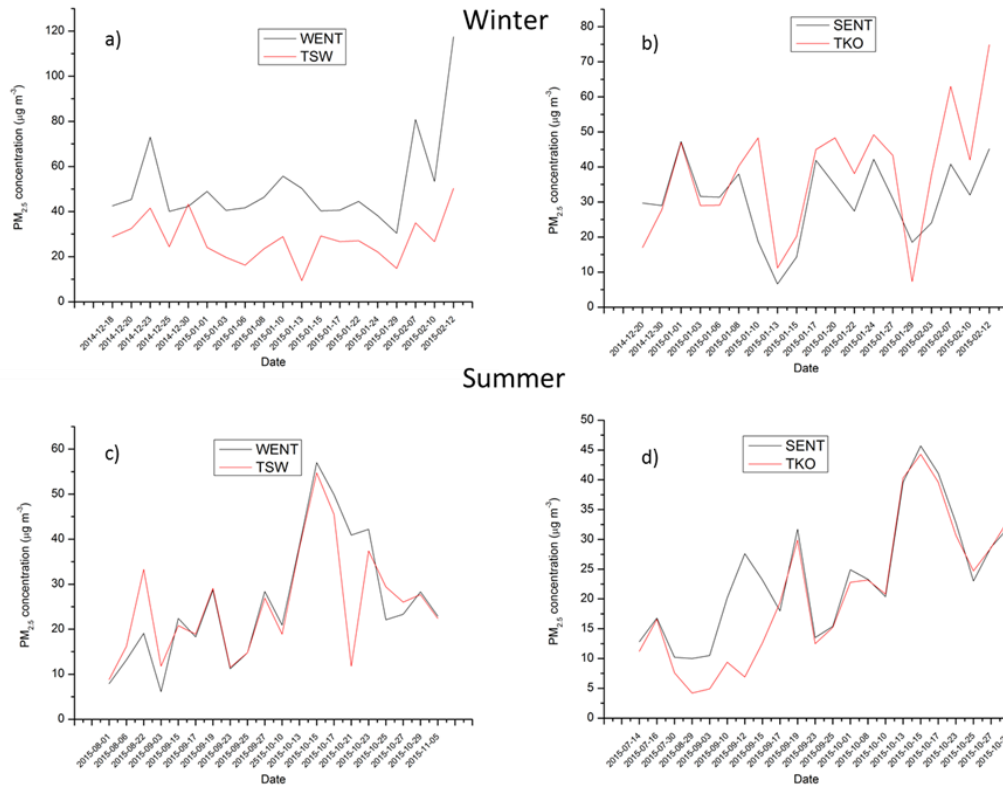
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115 Figure S9 A map of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions (g/s) over Hong Kong. Source: The
 116 Hong Kong Environmental Protection Department, The Government of the
 117 Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Available at:
 118 [https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/ai](https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/guide_ref/files/SO2.jpg)
 119 [r/guide_ref/files/SO2.jpg](https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/guide_ref/files/SO2.jpg)

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122 Figure S10 Daily variations of PM_{2.5} between: WENT and TSW in winter (a) and summer
 123 (c) ; between SENT and TKO in winter (b) and summer (d).

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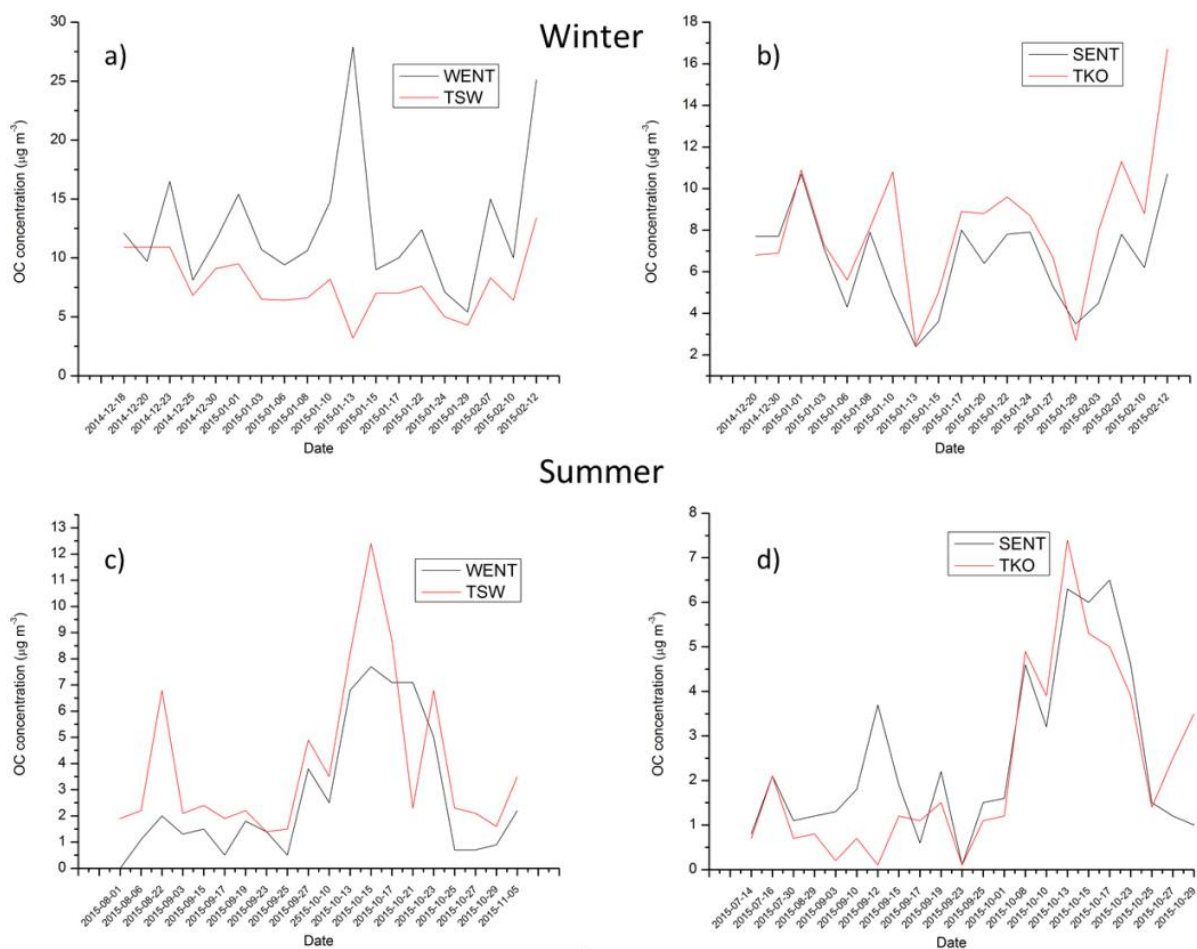
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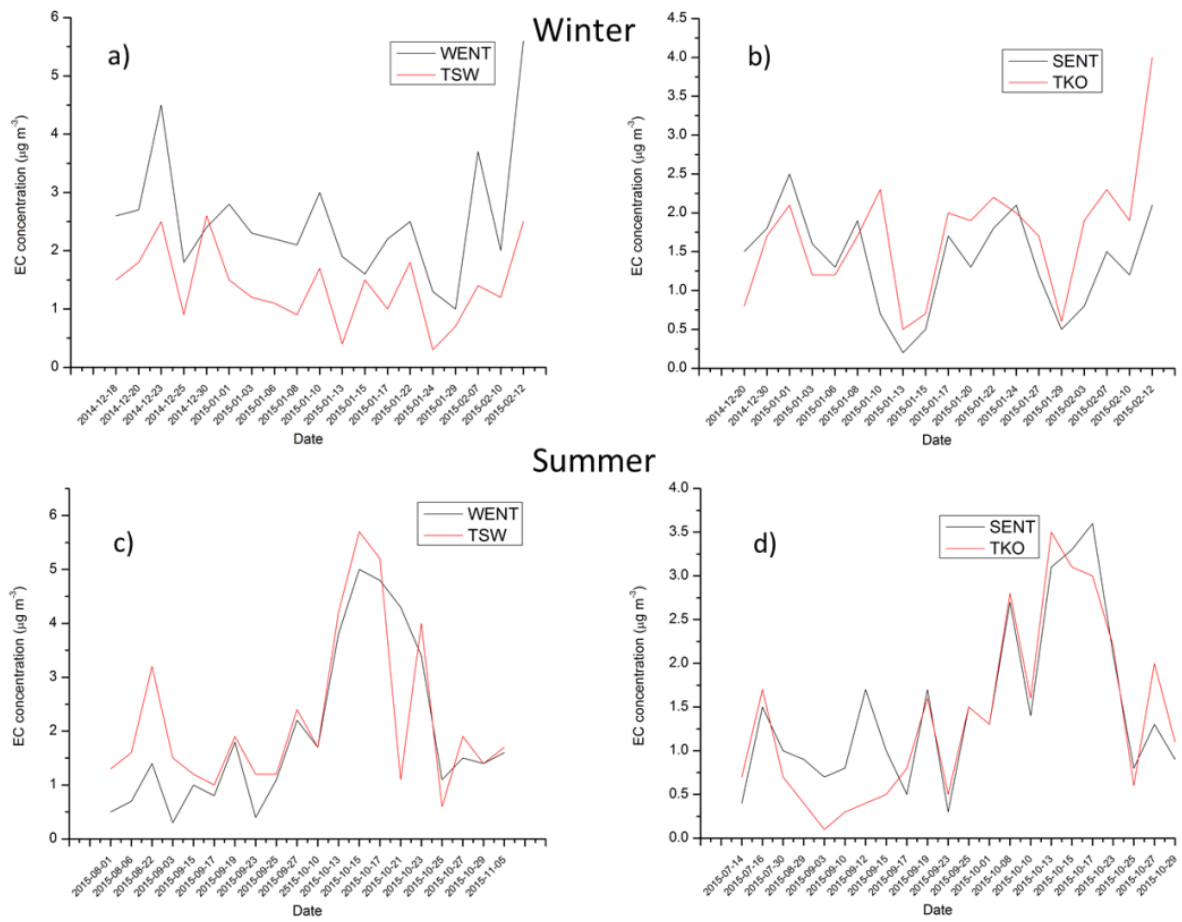


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131 Figure S11 Daily variation of OC concentrations between: WENT and TSW in winter (a)

132 and summer (c); between SENT and TKO in winter (b) and summer (d).

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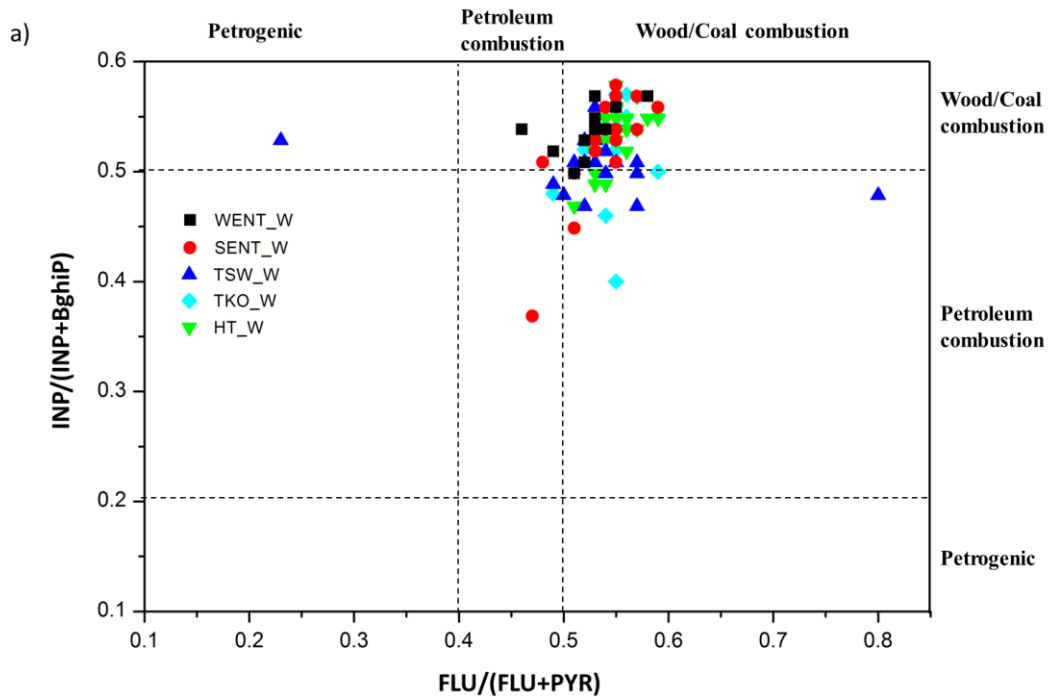


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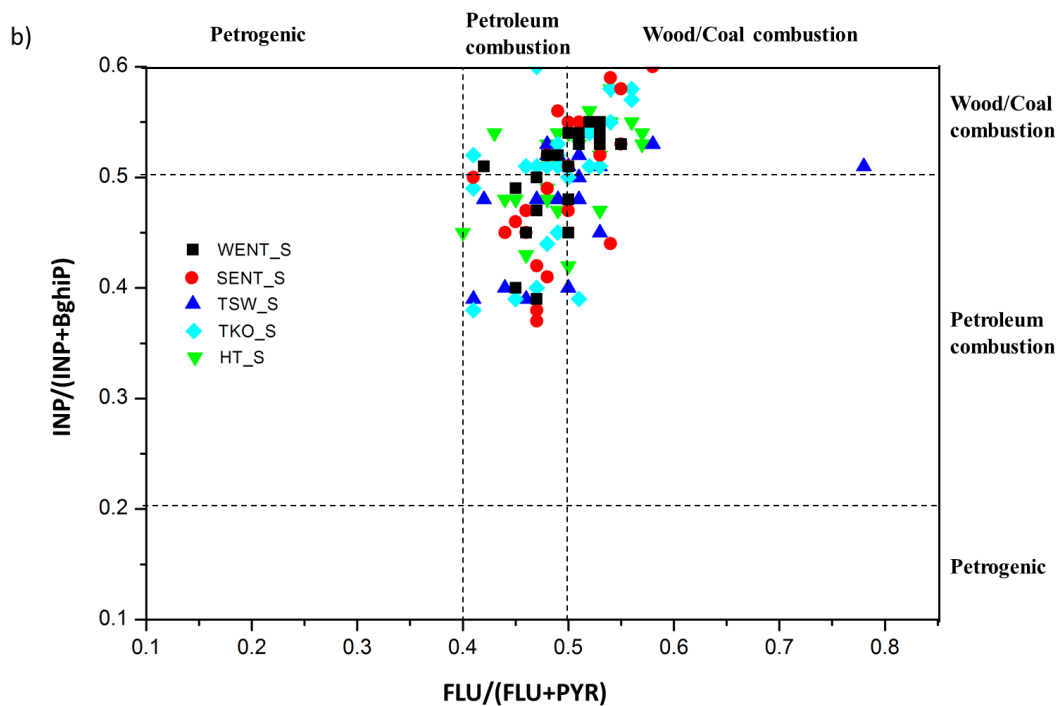
135 Figure S12 Daily variation of EC concentrations between: WENT and TSW in winter (a)

136 and summer (c); between SENT and TKO in winter (b) and summer (d).

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140 Figure S13 Correlations between PAHs diagnostic ratios $FLU/(FLU+PYR)$ and

141 $INP/(INP+BghiP)$ at five sampling locations in winter (a) and summer (b).

142

143 Table S1 Average meteorological parameter during the sampling period

144

		Total Rainfall (mm)
WENT	Winter	12.4±10.7
	Summer	131.4±78.8
SENT	Winter	35.8±7.7
	Summer	182.7±136.9
HT	Winter	28.0±3.2
	Summer	162.6±158.9

145

146 Table S2 The analyzed chemical components in this study.

Name	Abb*	Name	Abb	Name	Abb
<u>Metal</u>		<u>Water-soluble ions</u>			
Magnesium	Mg	Sodium ion	Na ⁺	Chrysene	CHR
Calcium	Ca	Potassium ion	K ⁺	Benzo[<i>b</i>]fluoranthene	BbF
Vanadium	V	Ammonium	NH ₄ ⁺	Benzo[<i>k</i>]fluoranthene	BkF
Chromium	Cr	Sulphate	SO ₄ ²⁻	Benzo[<i>a</i>]fluoranthene	BaF
Manganese	Mn	Nitrate	NO ₃ ⁻	Benzo[<i>e</i>]pyrene	BeP
Iron	Fe	Chloride	Cl ⁻	Benzo[<i>a</i>]pyrene	BaP
Nickel	Ni	<u>PAHs</u>		Perylene	PER
Copper	Cu	Acenaphthene	ACE	Indeno[<i>1,2,3-cd</i>]pyrene	INP
Zinc	Zn	Fluorene	FLU	dibenz[<i>a,h</i>]anthracene	DahA
Arsenic	As	Phenanthrene	PHE	Benzo[<i>ghi</i>]perylene	BghiP
Cadmium	Cd	Anthracene	ANT	Coronene	COR
Barium	Ba	Fluoranthene	FLT	<u>Carbonaceous species</u>	

Lead	Pb	Pyrene	PYR	Organic carbon	OC
		Benz[<i>a</i>]anthracene	BaA	Elemental carbon	EC

147 *Abb = abbreviation

148

149 Table S3 The average concentration of PM_{2.5} in five sampling locations during winter and

150 summer.

Concentration ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Winter		Summer	
	N**	mean (std)*	N	mean (std)
WENT	19	51.2 (20.0)	20	25.8 (13.8)
SENT	19	30.8 (10.8)	24	24.1 (10.0)
TSW	19	27.6 (10.0)	20	25.2 (12.2)
TKO	19	37.8 (17.0)	24	21.5 (11.7)
HT	22	41.5 (14.6)	28	22.7 (11.4)

151 *std = standard deviation

152 **N = number of sampling days

153

154 Table S4 The average concentration of OC and EC in five sampling locations during

155 winter and summer.

Concentration ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	Winter		Summer	
	mean (std)*		mean (std)	
Sampling location	OC	EC	OC	EC
WENT	12.7 (5.7)	2.5 (1.1)	2.7(2.6)	1.9 (1.5)
SENT	6.6 (2.3)	1.4 (0.6)	2.6 (1.9)	1.5 (0.9)

TSW	7.8 (2.5)	1.4 (0.7)	3.9 (3.1)	2.2 (1.5)
TKO	8.1 (3.2)	1.7 (0.8)	2.4 (2.0)	1.4 (1.0)
HT	7.3 (3.5)	2.1 (0.8)	1.8 (1.8)	1.0 (0.8)

156 *std = standard deviation

157

158 Table S5 The average concentration of water-soluble inorganic ions in five sampling

159 locations during winter and summer.

Components	Concentration ($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	WENT	SENT	TSW	TKO	HT
		mean (std)*	mean (std)	mean (std)	mean (std)	mean (std)
Cl ⁻	Winter	0.50 (0.40)	0.31 (0.22)	0.22 (0.24)	0.36 (0.30)	1.11 (1.01)
	Summer	0.48 (0.34)	0.43 (0.12)	0.43 (0.07)	0.55 (0.33)	0.47 (0.26)
NO ₃ ⁻	Winter	8.23 (5.65)	3.93 (1.90)	4.07 (2.20)	4.37 (2.58)	3.83 (2.34)
	Summer	2.25 (1.46)	2.25 (0.89)	2.22 (0.95)	1.85 (0.86)	1.68 (0.86)
SO ₄ ²⁻	Winter	12.43 (5.20)	10.44 (3.83)	7.23 (2.38)	12.96 (5.71)	12.32 (4.87)
	Summer	9.23 (3.68)	9.43 (4.23)	9.47 (3.62)	8.73 (4.61)	9.38 (4.16)
Na ⁺	Winter	0.86 (0.25)	1.16 (0.66)	0.42 (0.22)	1.18 (0.41)	1.62 (0.69)
	Summer	1.58 (0.30)	1.42 (0.28)	1.55 (0.25)	1.50 (0.32)	1.91 (0.67)
NH ₄ ⁺	Winter	5.69 (3.21)	4.17 (1.33)	3.14 (1.29)	5.06 (2.56)	4.28 (2.18)
	Summer	1.81 (1.38)	1.61 (1.16)	1.89 (1.31)	1.57 (1.26)	1.33 (1.03)
K ⁺	Winter	1.06 (0.45)	0.56 (0.25)	0.58 (0.25)	0.76 (0.39)	0.76 (0.43)
	Summer	0.09 (0.13)	0.06 (0.13)	0.06 (0.10)	0.05 (0.10)	0.06 (0.11)
Total	Winter	28.77 (13.81)	20.35 (7.78)	15.66 (5.51)	24.69 (11.21)	23.92 (9.61)
	Summer	15.44 (6.36)	15.21 (6.11)	15.62 (5.67)	13.65 (7.16)	14.77 (6.18)

160 *std = standard deviation

161

162 Table S6 The average concentration of inorganic elements in five sampling locations

163 during winter and summer.

Components	Concentration	WENT	SENT	TSW	TKO	HT
	($\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$)	mean (std)*	mean (std)	mean (std)	mean (std)	mean (std)
Mg	Winter	100.2 (26.2)	95.6 (50.1)	76.4 (25.6)	92.2 (39.6)	133.6 (55.7)
	Summer	35.4 (15.8)	39.8 (18.4)	46.3 (21.2)	44.9 (14.6)	67.1 (30.2)
Ca	Winter	489.9 (172.3)	842.8 (732.4)	765.6 (193.3)	487.5 (376.2)	819.2 (190.2)
	Summer	335.7 (142.4)	265.2 (153.8)	455.4 (166.0)	209.7 (153.7)	347.8 (142.9)
V	Winter	10.5 (9.3)	6.0 (6.9)	5.9 (5.0)	6.2 (6.4)	8.6 (10.4)
	Summer	15.6 (8.8)	16.7 (7.7)	14.1 (8.8)	16.2 (10.1)	22.0 (11.2)
Cr	Winter	11.5 (8.9)	7.6 (3.8)	16.7 (13.6)	9.5 (6.8)	22.0 (16.4)
	Summer	7.0 (3.6)	9.1 (9.8)	15.1 (17.6)	6.9 (8.0)	9.0 (9.4)
Mn	Winter	22.5 (6.8)	10.3 (4.5)	12.4 (6.2)	15.1 (5.7)	10.4 (6.2)
	Summer	13.1 (7.8)	13.7 (8.9)	15.6 (13.3)	16.0 (16.8)	9.7 (5.8)
Fe	Winter	582.8 (142.3)	432.2 (141.6)	473.4 (167.2)	542.5 (192.7)	288.4 (139.7)
	Summer	124.3 (71.3)	144.6 (76.2)	123.4 (79.5)	165.0 (136.5)	83.8 (75.2)
Ni	Winter	16.8 (9.9)	22.7 (59.2)	32.2 (44.2)	28.7 (47.5)	31.6 (26.6)
	Summer	23.4 (22.8)	23.9 (17.4)	34.4 (42.6)	22.7 (27.0)	24.8 (20.3)
Cu	Winter	28.8 (16.4)	18.2 (16.3)	27.1 (25.6)	26.8 (18.1)	37.8 (32.1)
	Summer	23.7 (25.1)	21.4 (23.1)	40.5 (79.7)	24.9 (27.4)	15.9 (16.9)
Zn	Winter	168.4 (60.6)	116.2 (50.0)	85.5 (43.4)	128.5 (56.8)	150.3 (67.1)
	Summer	88.5 (72.4)	84.0 (74.2)	85.3 (72.7)	105.1 (164.5)	77.8 (80.6)
As	Winter	8.1 (4.1)	5.2 (2.8)	4.1 (2.4)	5.8 (3.6)	5.8 (3.9)
	Summer	4.4 (3.8)	4.3 (3.9)	4.6 (4.1)	5.0 (7.0)	4.0 (3.6)
Cd	Winter	1.7 (0.8)	1.0 (0.6)	0.9 (0.5)	1.1 (0.6)	1.1 (0.7)
	Summer	0.7 (0.5)	0.5 (0.4)	0.6 (0.5)	0.7 (1.1)	0.5 (0.4)
Ba	Winter	6.9 (5.5)	4.4 (2.4)	5.0 (2.7)	5.5 (2.2)	4.3 (3.8)
	Summer	20.8 (23.6)	22.4 (24.5)	22.7 (24.4)	20.1 (21.9)	16.0 (22.7)
Pb	Winter	53.5 (22.0)	33.3 (17.6)	29.3 (17.1)	38.7 (20.6)	39.7 (21.5)
	Summer	23.0 (16.1)	17.2 (12.9)	23.4 (17.4)	17.3 (15.1)	16.8 (13.5)

164 *std = standard deviation

165

166 Table S7 The average concentrations of PAHs in five sampling locations during winter

167 and summer.

Component s	Concentration (ng m ⁻³)	WENT		SENT		TSW		TKO		HT	
		mean	std* n	mean	std n	mean	std n	mean	std n	mean	std n
ACE	Winter	0.43	0.3 2	0.10	0.0 4	0.29	0.3 6	0.27	0.1 5	0.18	0.1 5
	Summer	0.03	0.0 1	0.02	0.0 1	0.03	0.0 2	0.03	0.0 1	0.02	0.0 1
FLU	Winter	0.30	0.2 4	0.05	0.0 5	0.10	0.1 5	0.19	0.1 6	0.09	0.0 5
	Summer	0.05	0.0 2	0.05	0.0 1	0.06	0.0 3	0.05	0.0 2	0.05	0.0 4
PHE	Winter	1.01	0.7 8	0.41	0.2 4	0.57	0.3 9	0.70	0.4 3	0.57	0.2 7
	Summer	0.17	0.0 6	0.17	0.0 5	0.21	0.0 7	0.19	0.0 6	0.14	0.0 7
ANT	Winter	0.15	0.1 1	0.04	0.0 2	0.08	0.0 4	0.08	0.0 6	0.05	0.0 2
	Summer	0.05	0.0 2	0.04	0.0 1	0.05	0.0 2	0.04	0.0 1	0.04	0.0 2
FLT	Winter	1.25	0.9 6	0.62	0.4 0	0.72	0.3 7	0.79	0.3 4	0.80	0.4 7

	Summer	0.14	0.10	0.14	0.10	0.16	0.10	0.16	0.11	0.10	0.08
PYR	Winter	1.14	0.88	0.51	0.32	0.59	0.21	0.64	0.26	0.64	0.37
	Summer	0.14	0.09	0.14	0.08	0.16	0.10	0.15	0.09	0.10	0.07
BaA	Winter	0.49	0.46	0.18	0.13	0.24	0.13	0.22	0.09	0.20	0.10
	Summer	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.02
CHR	Winter	1.23	1.13	0.39	0.21	0.55	0.27	0.49	0.19	0.47	0.26
	Summer	0.11	0.08	0.10	0.07	0.15	0.08	0.12	0.08	0.07	0.06
BbF	Winter	1.23	0.83	0.43	0.26	0.74	0.49	0.52	0.19	0.53	0.30
	Summer	0.15	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.19	0.13	0.14	0.11	0.09	0.08
BkF	Winter	0.90	0.65	0.28	0.16	0.56	0.39	0.40	0.14	0.37	0.19
	Summer	0.12	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.15	0.11	0.10	0.08	0.07	0.06
BaF	Winter	0.17	0.13	0.05	0.02	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.02	0.06	0.03
	Summer	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01

BeP	Winter	0.77	0.5 4	0.25	0.1 4	0.49	0.3 4	0.32	0.1 0	0.32	0.1 7
	Summer	0.11	0.0 8	0.07	0.0 6	0.14	0.0 9	0.09	0.0 7	0.06	0.0 5
BaP	Winter	0.55	0.4 2	0.19	0.1 2	0.34	0.2 2	0.23	0.0 9	0.23	0.1 4
	Summer	0.09	0.0 8	0.06	0.0 6	0.11	0.0 9	0.07	0.0 6	0.05	0.0 5
PER	Winter	0.10	0.0 8	0.03	0.0 2	0.06	0.0 4	0.05	0.0 2	0.16	0.3 8
	Summer	0.06	0.1 3	0.02	0.0 1	0.03	0.0 3	0.02	0.0 2	0.01	0.0 1
INP	Winter	0.87	0.6 4	0.27	0.1 6	0.58	0.4 8	0.34	0.1 2	0.37	0.2 2
	Summer	0.12	0.1 1	0.07	0.0 9	0.14	0.1 2	0.08	0.0 9	0.07	0.0 7
BghiP	Winter	0.76	0.5 8	0.24	0.1 3	0.58	0.5 2	0.31	0.1 0	0.32	0.1 9
	Summer	0.11	0.1 0	0.06	0.0 7	0.14	0.1 1	0.08	0.0 8	0.06	0.0 6
DahA	Winter	0.13	0.0 7	0.04	0.0 3	0.07	0.0 5	0.05	0.0 3	0.04	0.0 3
	Summer	0.02	0.0 1	0.01	0.0 1	0.02	0.0 2	0.01	0.0 1	0.01	0.0 1
COR	Winter	0.18	0.1 4	0.05	0.0 4	0.13	0.1 4	0.06	0.0 3	0.07	0.0 5

	Summer	0.04	0.0 4	0.03	0.0 3	0.04	0.0 4	0.03	0.0 3	0.02	0.0 2
Total	Winter	11.6 3	8.0 4	4.02	2.2 9	6.79	4.0 5	5.74	1.9 7	5.43	2.8 0
	Summer	1.58 9	0.9 9	1.20	0.7 6	1.87	1.1 2	1.41	0.8 2	1.00	0.6 6

168 *std = standard deviation

169

170 Table S8 Correlations between wind flow from landfills and PM_{2.5} components.

171

Components	WENT		SENT	
	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer
PM _{2.5}				
Mg				
Ca				
V	+++*	++	++	
Cr				
Mn				
Fe				
Ni				
Cu	++		++	
Zn				
As				
Cd				
Sb				
Ba				
Pb				
OC				
EC				
Cl ⁻	++		++	
NO ₃ ⁻	+*		+	

SO ₄ ²⁻					172
					173
Na ⁺	+		+	+	174
					175
NH ₄ ⁺					176
					177
K ⁺		+			178
Total PAHs					179
					180

181 *+, positive correlation, p < 0.05.

182 **++, positive correlation, p < 0.01.

183

184 Text S1 Sample and meteorological parameter collection

185 The PM_{2.5} samples were collected simultaneously on 47-mm Teflon (Pall Life Sciences, Ann

186 Arbor, MI) and 47-mm quartz-fibre filters (Whatman Inc., Clifton, NJ) at all sites with URG

187 PM_{2.5} samplers (URG-2000-30EH) as shown in Figure S3 (Supplementary Material).

188 WindSonic sensor (Gill Instruments, Model 1405) and real-time PM_{2.5} monitors (MetONE, Met

189 One Instruments, Model ES-642) were installed at two locations in proximity to the landfill

190 sites in order to determine diurnal variations of particulate level, wind speed and direction. The

191 real-time PM_{2.5} monitor is a type of nephelometer which automatically quantifies real-time

192 PM_{2.5} concentration levels using the principle of forward laser light scatter. This scattered light

193 is collected onto a photodiode detector at near-forward angle, and the resulting electronic signal

194 is converted to continuous, real-time measurement of airborne particulate mass concentrations.

195 The resolution of PM_{2.5} data collection was set at 4 seconds to synchronize with the time

196 resolution of the WindSonic sensor for meteorological data collection.

197 Twenty-four hours integrated PM_{2.5} samples were collected in winter (December to March,

198 2014-15) and summer (July to November, 2015) in every 3 days intervals. A total of 214 filter

199 samples were collected for this study. A microbalance (Sartorius Model MC5 Microbalance,

200 Göttingen) with 1 µg precision was used for the mass concentration measurements. Filter

201 preparation and gravimetric analysis were conducted in a high-efficiency particulate absorption

202 (HEPA) clean room that satisfied ISO 14644 (Class 7) at The Hong Kong Polytechnic

203 University in Hong Kong. Microbalance and working mass standards were calibrated by an
204 external contractor on a yearly basis. Temperature (T), relative humidity (RH) and working
205 mass standards verification was calibrated in every quarter of the year. The balance was
206 calibrated with 200 and 100 Class 1 standard weights and tare was set before weighing each
207 batch of filters. After weighing every 10 filters, 200 and 100 mg calibration and tare were re-
208 applied in the process. All initial filters weighing procedures were carried out 30 days before
209 the sampling period. Post-sampling weighing procedures were carried out no later than 30 days
210 after the end of sampling period. All filters were stored at -20 °C and in dark prior to the
211 analysis. The meteorological parameter was collected by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO)
212 climatological database.

213

214 Text S2 Inductively coupled plasma mass spectroscopy (ICP-MS) for elements analysis
215 Total metal concentrations were analysed using inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry
216 (ICP-MS) (Perkin Elmer Sciex ELAN 6100 DRC^{plus}) (Jones et al., 2006). The sample was
217 prepared by digesting half of a filter using concentrated nitric acid (Primar grade, Fisher). The
218 sample solution was then heated progressively to 200°C in a heating block for 2 hr. The solution
219 was diluted with Milli-Q water to 10 ml for the ICP-MS analysis. The detection limits were in
220 a range of 0.1-1 ppt. The analysed elements are shown in Table S2 (Supplementary Material).

221

222 Text S3 Ion chromatography (IC) for water-soluble inorganic ions analysis

223 One quarter of quartz filter was extracted with 10 mL of distilled deionized water and the
224 extractant was used for ion chromatographic (IC) (Dionex DX-600) analysis. IonPac CS12A

225 and AS14A columns were used for the separation of cations and anions, respectively. Six
226 species were analysed and the detection limits for Na⁺, NH₄⁺, K⁺, SO₄²⁻, NO₃⁻, and Cl⁻ were 4.6,
227 4.0, 10.0, 0.5, 15.0 and 20.0 ppb, respectively. Details of the chemical analysis can be referred
228 to Zhang et al (Zhang et al., 2011).

229

230 Text S4 Organic carbon (OC) and elemental carbon (EC) analysis

231 Organic carbon (OC) and elemental carbon (EC) were analysed on a punch (0.526 cm²) from
232 quartz filter by thermal optical reflectance (TOR) technique following the IMPROVE_A
233 protocol on a thermal/optical carbon analyser (DRI Model 2001, Atmoslytic Inc., Calabasas,
234 CA). The EC and OC were all below 1.0 µg m⁻³ detection limit of the instrument. Details of the
235 chemical analysis can be referred to Pathak et al (2011).

236

237 Text S5 Thermal desorption-gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (TD-GC/MS) for
238 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) analysis

239 Concentrations of PAHs were analysed by thermally desorbing a filter strip (quartz filter) in
240 size in the injection port of an HP 5890 gas chromatography (GC) system followed by GC
241 separation and mass spectrometric detection. The GC was equipped with an HP-5MS (5%
242 diphenyl / 95% dimethylsiloxane, 30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 µm) capillary column for the
243 separation. The analysed PAHs are shown in Table S2 (Supplementary Material). Further

244 information about the TD-GC/MS method can be referred to Ho et al. (2008) and Ho et al.
245 (2011). The detection limits were in a range of 9.2–190 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

246

247 Text S6 Plasmid scission assay (PSA) for bioreactivity analysis

248 The plasmid scission assay (PSA) was used to determine the capability of each sample to induce
249 plasmid DNA damage. The level of particle–DNA interaction, and subsequent damage, was
250 measured by the three conformations of plasmid DNA present: supercoiled (no damage),
251 relaxed (minor damage), and linear (severe damage) as shown in Figure S4 (Supplementary
252 Material). Due to the amount of sample required for the analysis, it was required that two
253 filtered samples were pooled together for each bioreactivity analysis. Additional information
254 about the procedure can be obtained from previous studies (Shao et al., 2006; Chuang et al.,
255 2013). The particle samples were run in suspension in molecular grade water over a set range
256 of concentrations. Twenty nanograms (20 ng) of $\Phi\text{X174 RF}$ DNA was added to the liquid and
257 incubated. Each sample was conducted in triplicate analysis. The resultant gels were captured
258 as images and subsequent densitometric analysis was performed with software (Genetools;
259 Syngene system, UK). The toxic dosage of PM causing 50% DNA damage (TD_{50}) was
260 calculated by a non-linear regression exponential rise to the maximum model.

261

262 Text S7 Details of statistical analysis

263 Mann–Whitney U test was conducted to identify seasonal variability. Kruskal-Wallis H test
264 was further used to determine the spatial variability of the analysed components. The PLS
265 regression was used to investigate relationship between physical and chemical parameters with
266 the bioreactivity response. Spearman’s rank correlation coefficient analysis was performed to
267 identify the correlation between oxidative DNA damage and different chemical species.

268

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