

1 **Appendix A: Supplementary Material**

2 **Title:** Co-precipitation induces changes to carbon and iron chemistry and spatial  
3 distribution at the nanometer scale

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## 24 **A1. Supplementary Methods**

### 25 *A1.1 Iron K-edge XANES Model*

26 To describe the shift in energy associated with Fe(II), we used an Fe K-edge X-ray  
27 absorption near-edge structure (XANES) model modified from Inagaki et al. (2020) and  
28 Possinger et al. (2020a). In this study, we used four non-negative Gaussian functions  
29 with varying height, energy position, for Gaussian functions at ~7112 (pre-edge  
30 centroid), 7117-7120, 7124, and 7128 eV. The function at the ~7117-7120 eV energy  
31 position was constrained to  $\sim 7118 \pm 3 \sin(\sim 0)$ . The FWHM of all functions was  
32 constrained to  $2\text{eV} \pm 2 \sin(\sim 0)$ . The model was fit in Fityk v. 0.9.8 (Wojdyr, 2010) using  
33 the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm with 1000 maximum iterations to minimize the  
34 maximum sum of squared residuals (MSSR). The relative change in spectral shape  
35 associated with increasing Fe(II) was estimated by the proportion of 7117-7120 eV area  
36 as a function of total Gaussian area. This approach emphasizes relative changes in  
37 Fe(II), rather than absolute abundance. The detection of increased 7117-7120 eV area  
38 in mixed Fe(II)/Fe(III) and predominantly Fe(II) minerals only suggests that the XAS  
39 analysis did not systematically induce Fe(II) damage artifacts (Supplementary Fig.  
40 A3.10).

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### 42 *A1.2 Cryogenic STEM-EELS Damage Assessment*

43 Electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) low-dose measurements (~10,000 and  
44 67,000 electrons ( $e^- \text{Å}^{-2}$ ) from Possinger et al. (2020b) and measurements in this study  
45 (~100,000 to ~1,000,000  $e^- \text{Å}^{-2}$ ) were used to assess the presence of artifacts from  
46 increasing exposure on C K-edge and Fe L<sub>2,3</sub>-edge EELS spectral fine structure

47 (Supplementary Figs A3.1-A3.2). For each image, average spectra were extracted  
48 using the Cornell Spectrum Imager (CSI) package (Cueva et al., 2012) in ImageJ v.  
49 2.0.0 (Schneider et al., 2012). A standard linear combination of power laws (LCPL)  
50 approach was used to subtract the background signal with 3-pixel local background  
51 averaging. Differences in C K-edge and Fe L<sub>2,3</sub>-edge region intensities as a function of  
52 dose were assessed by estimation of area under the curve (AUC) for aromatic C (284.5-  
53 285.5 eV), substituted aromatic C (286.0-287.0 eV), aliphatic C (287.0-287.5 eV),  
54 carboxylic C (287.8-289.0 eV), reduced Fe(II) (707.0-709.75 eV) and oxidized Fe(III)  
55 (709.75-712.5 eV). The AUC was estimated using the trapezoidal method in the  
56 “DescTools” package (Signorell et al., 2020) for R v. 4.0.2 (R Core Team, 2019) in  
57 RStudio v. 1.1.423 (RStudio Team, 2015). To interpret changes in AUC, we calculated  
58 Fe(II)/Fe(III) and (aromatic + substituted aromatic)/(aliphatic + carboxylic C) ratios,  
59 termed here lower/higher-energy ratios, respectively, for simplicity. In addition, the  
60 lower/higher-energy AUC ratio for Fe was compared between adsorbed and co-  
61 precipitated WEOM-Fe images collected at a similar dose (Supplementary Fig. A3.3).

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### 63 *A1.3 EELS Elemental Spatial Distribution*

64 Elemental electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) maps of iron (Fe), carbon (C),  
65 nitrogen (N), and oxygen (O) in Site 1 water-extractable organic matter (WEOM)-  
66 ferrihydrite samples and Fe and C in Site 2 WEOM-ferrihydrite samples were used to  
67 assess spatial relationships between elements and the spatial aggregation patterns of  
68 Fe. Elemental maps were obtained by background-subtracting spectra and integrating  
69 edges with the Cornell Spectrum Imager (CSI) package (Cueva et al., 2012) in ImageJ

70 v. 2.0.0 (Schneider et al., 2012). A standard linear combination of power laws (LCPL)  
71 approach was used to subtract the background signal with 3-pixel local background  
72 averaging. Spatial analysis of maps was performed using R in RStudio. Non-sample  
73 area (vacuum) was manually filtered to avoid inflation of correlation estimates  
74 (Supplementary Figs A3.4-A3.5) and pixel intensity was normalized to maximum  
75 intensity = 1. Pixel intensity correlation between element pairs (Fe-C, Fe-N, and Fe-O)  
76 and C and Fe components was determined in base R in RStudio using Spearman Rank  
77 Correlation with asymptotic  $t$  approximation for  $p$ -values.

78

#### 79 *A1.4 Iron Distribution and Clustering*

80 To determine the effect of co-precipitation on the spatial clustering of Fe relative to  
81 surface adsorption, elemental Fe maps were analyzed using the Ripley's  $K(t)$  and  
82 Moran's  $I$  functions using the "spatstat" (Baddeley et al., 2015) and "ape" (Paradis et al.,  
83 2004) R packages in RStudio. Ripley's  $K(t)$  gives a distribution as a function of distance  
84 from randomly sampled points in a spatial point pattern, providing information on the  
85 distribution of features within an image. Ripley's  $K(t)$  distributions were plotted in  
86 comparison to the Poisson distribution that is expected with a complete spatially random  
87 distribution; values above the Poisson distribution are considered clustered, while  
88 values below the Poisson distribution are considered evenly spaced (Baddeley et al.,  
89 2015). Ripley's  $K(t)$  plots were generated using the border method for edge estimation  
90 and ~99% confidence envelopes. Moran's  $I$  tests autocorrelation of Fe-contained pixels  
91 in each image. To meet the assumption of square image geometry for Ripley's  $K$   
92 analysis, the largest square area in filtered images used for elemental correlations was

93 rescaled (intensity range 0 to 1) and converted to a binary image (pixel intensity >50%  
94 set to 1) (Supplementary Fig. A3.4-A3.5). Moran's I autocorrelation was compared  
95 between co-precipitation and adsorption treatments using the Wilcoxon Rank Sum Test  
96 (base R in RStudio).

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## 98 **A2. Supplementary Results and Discussion**

### 99 *A1.2 Cryogenic STEM-EELS Damage Assessment*

100 For both C and Fe, spectra did not vary systematically as a function of the applied dose  
101 (Supplementary Fig. A3.1A). In contrast, measurements made in spatially proximal  
102 regions of interest (ROI) accounted for the major differences in spectral fine structure  
103 (Supplementary Fig. A3.1B). Within a given ROI, the ratio of lower/higher-energy AUC  
104 in some cases increased with increasing dose (Supplementary Fig. A3.2). For C, this  
105 was driven mostly by decreased signal in the carboxylic region (287.8-289.0 eV)  
106 (Supplementary Fig. A3.1B). However, changes in lower/higher-energy AUC ratio were  
107 not consistent across all ROIs for either Fe or C (Supplementary Fig. A3.2).

108 For Fe, our measurements were conducted below the dose observed for room-  
109 temperature EELS formation of Fe(II) damage artifacts in ferrihydrite ( $3 \times 10^6 \text{ e}^- \text{ \AA}^{-2}$ )  
110 (Pan et al., 2006). This is further supported by the fact that our measurements were  
111 performed under cryogenic conditions, which can stabilize materials compared to  
112 measurement at room temperature (Kourkoutis et al., 2012; Miot et al., 2014).  
113 Additionally, the Fe(II)/Fe(III) AUC ratio of the L<sub>3</sub>-edge was higher for co-precipitated  
114 WEOM-Fe at comparable dose and identical microscope conditions (Supplementary  
115 Fig. A3.3), highlighting that the presence of Fe(II) was treatment-dependent and not  
116 linked to damage artifacts. Additionally, we detected reduced Fe(II) MCR components in  
117 images varying in dose by a factor of 4.4 (Supplementary Table A4.5).

118 For C, decreased carboxylic intensity in the highest dose spectrum  
119 (measurement “i”, shown in detail in manuscript Figs. 4-6) may be influenced by beam  
120 exposure. This measurement was not collected with a paired lower-dose measurement

121 in the same region; therefore, so we cannot definitively conclude whether sample  
122 location or beam exposure was the primary driver of the spectrum fine structure  
123 difference relative to the other measurements. However, AUC between this high-dose  
124 measurement and a sample region with similar properties (measurement “d”) differed by  
125 26% at maximum, and less than 5% for carboxylic C, despite a 4.4 factor difference in  
126 applied dose (Supplementary Table A4.5). The spatial correlations (Spearman’s  $\rho$ )  
127 between total and lower-energy C and reduced Fe(II) components were also similar  
128 between these measurements (Supplementary Fig. A3.13).

129       Taken together, these observations suggest that carboxylic C may be more  
130 sensitive to beam damage than other C components, but that our interpretations are not  
131 driven by carboxylic C beam damage artifacts. However, to avoid overinterpretation of  
132 subtle differences in spectral features, we limited interpretation of the co-precipitate  
133 EELS data shown in main text Figs 4-6 and Supplementary Fig. A3.13 to generalized  
134 energy regions of statistically-resolved MCR components (note that a well-resolved  
135 lower-energy MCR component was identified in all co-precipitated samples, regardless  
136 of dose, as shown in manuscript Fig. 4A). Moreover, spatial correlations of MCR  
137 components defined as “lower- and higher-energy C” were used, rather than differences  
138 in individual peak height or variations in specific bonding environments (i.e., functional  
139 groups).

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#### 141 *A2.2 Chemical Composition of WEOM: Rationale for Pooled Observations*

142 Water-extractable organic matter (WEOM) used in this study was collected for the co-  
143 precipitation and adsorption experiments from two sites on a hillslope transect. The

144 upslope, “E” podzol site (Site 2) had slightly higher coniferous basal area (35% vs 0%  
145 for the sampling area) than the “typical” site (Site 1) (Possinger et al., 2020a). However,  
146 basal area was dominated by the same deciduous species (*Betula alleghaniensis*), and  
147 throughout the course of the experiment, no appreciable differences in WEOM  
148 composition (via C K-edge XANES), co-precipitate or adsorption C content, or bulk co-  
149 precipitate vs. adsorption sample XAS (Fe or C) associated with WEOM source were  
150 detected. Co-precipitate and adsorption complex C:Fe molar ratio was adjusted to 10:1  
151 for both WEOM sources, accounting for differences in the initial C content.  
152 Consequently, the interpretations on the spatial and compositional changes between co-  
153 precipitation and adsorption were therefore pooled with respect to WEOM source.  
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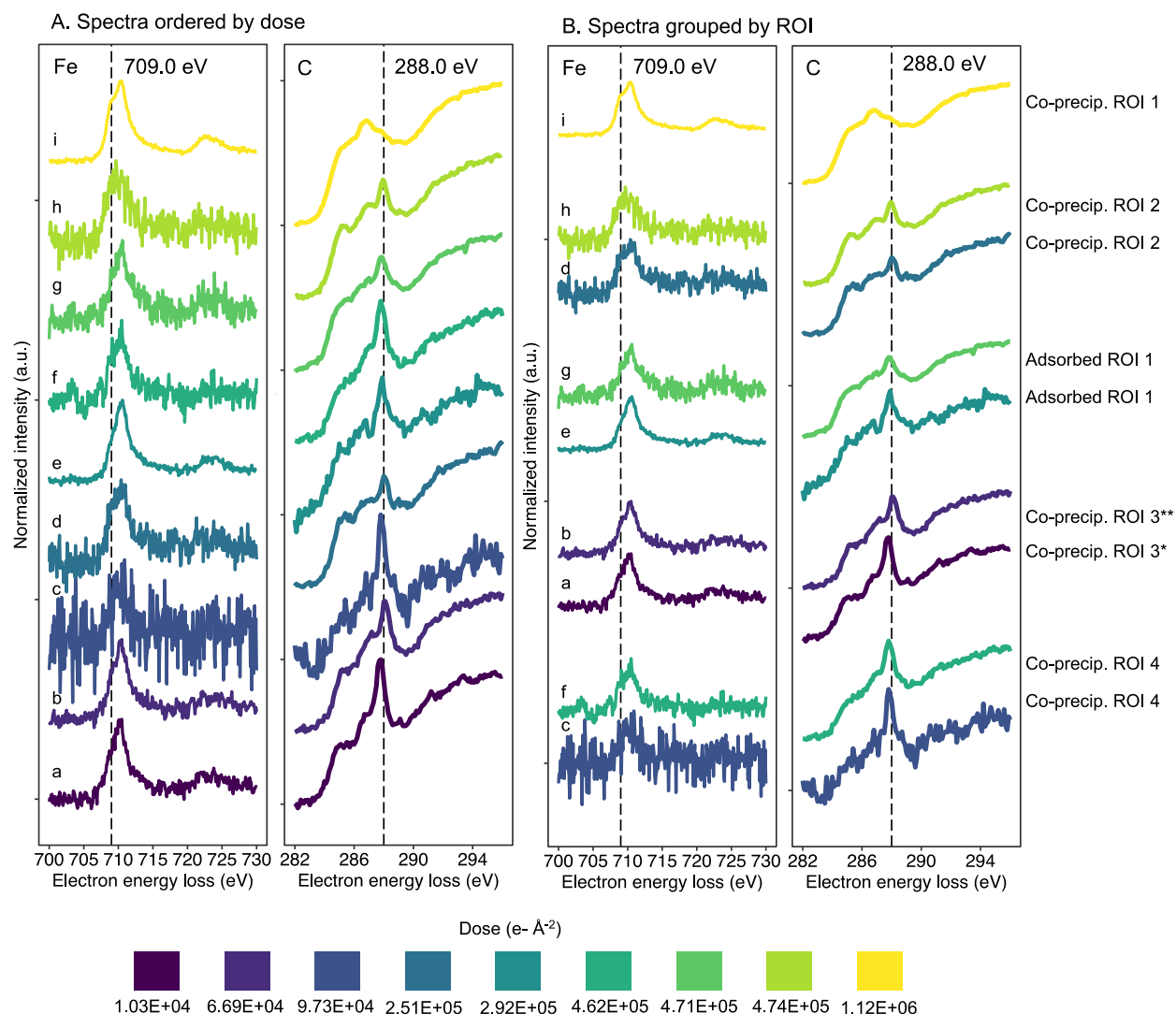
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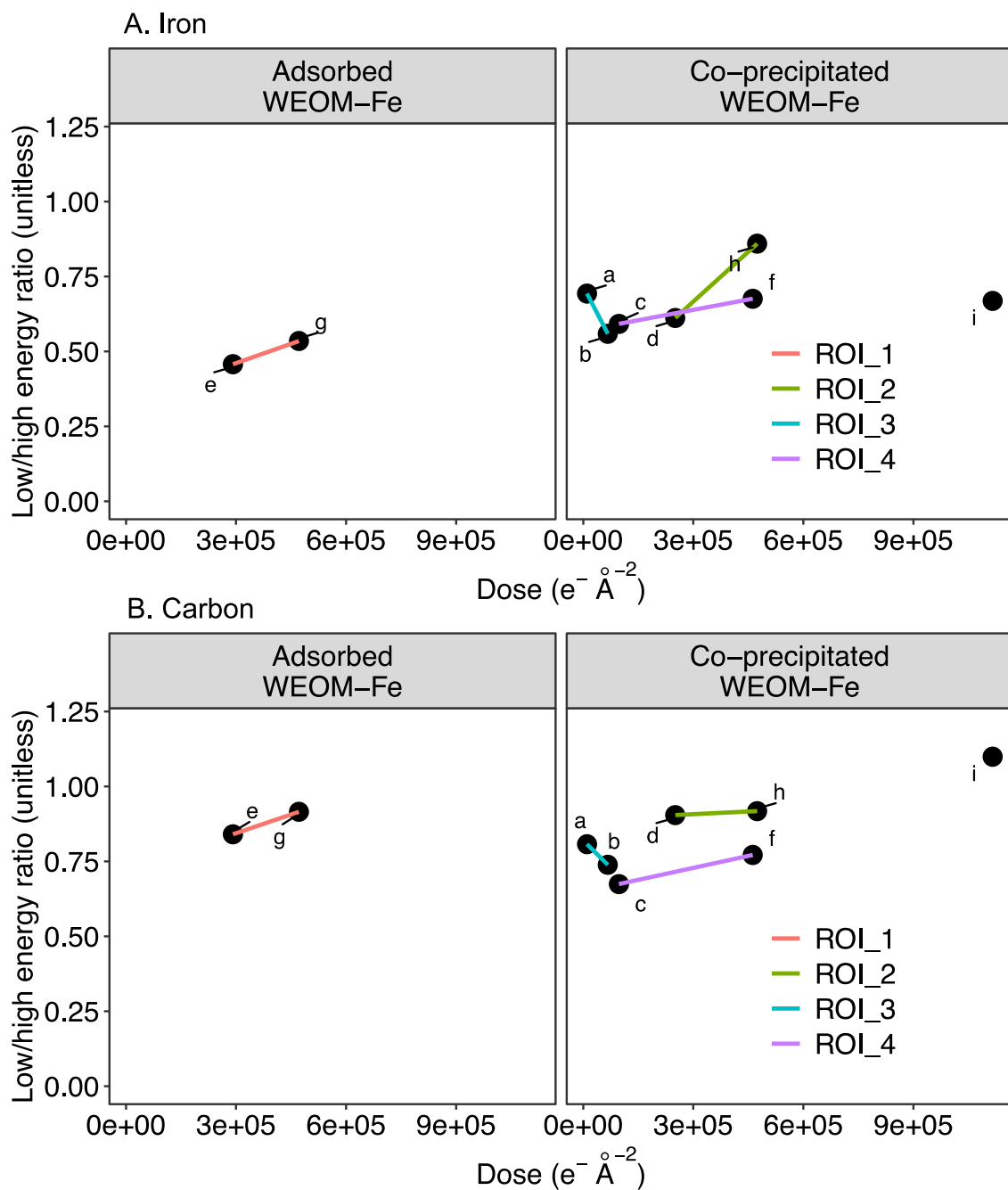
202 **A3. Supplementary Figures**



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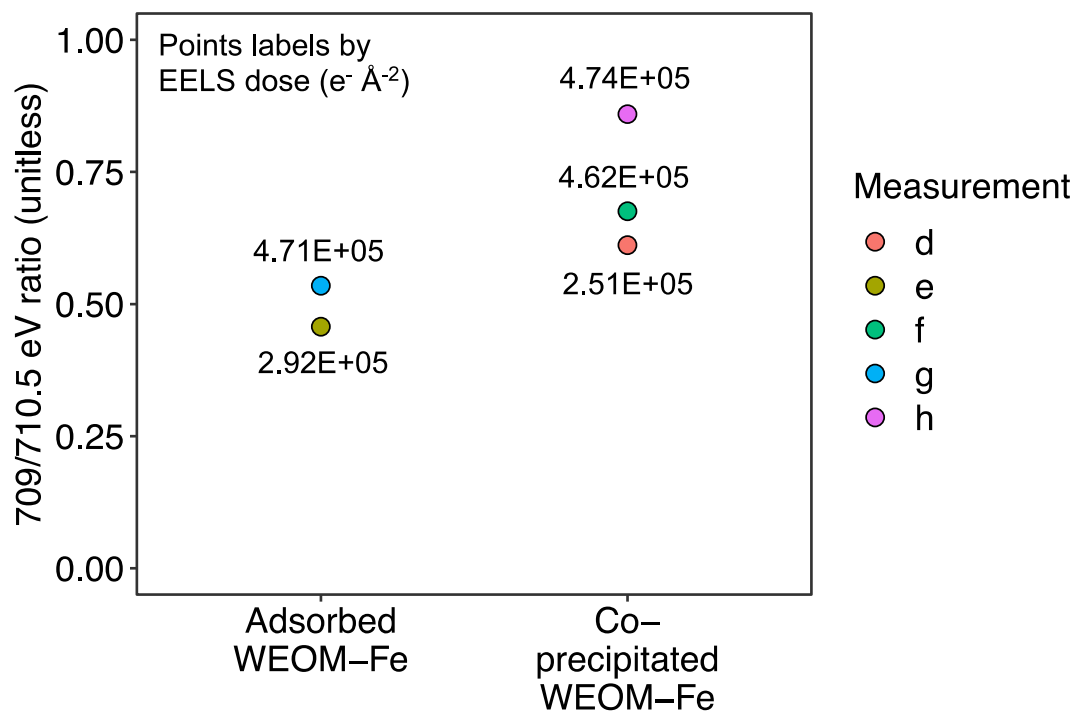
204 **Supplementary Fig. A3.1.** Iron (Fe) and carbon (C) electron energy loss spectra sorted  
 205 by dose (**A**) or grouped by proximal regions of interest (ROI) within each sample (**B**).  
 206 Low-dose measurements (spectra “a” and “b”) were conducted on co-precipitated  
 207 water-extractable organic matter (WEOM)-iron (Fe) samples with increasing dose via  
 208 increasing exposure time on the same sample area (\* = 10 and \*\* = 70 s) (Possinger et  
 209 al., 2020b). Spectra “a” through “i” correspond to measurement parameters described in  
 210 Supplementary Table A4.4.

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214 **Supplementary Fig. A3.2.** Change in ratio of lower-energy to higher-energy area under  
215 the curve (AUC) for (A) iron (Fe) L<sub>3</sub>-edge and (B) carbon (C) K-edge average electron  
216 energy loss spectra. Lines connect measurements within the same region of interest  
217 (ROI). Corresponding spectra are shown in Supplementary Fig. A3.1. Spectra “a”  
218 through “i” correspond to measurement parameters described in Supplementary Table  
219 A4.4.  
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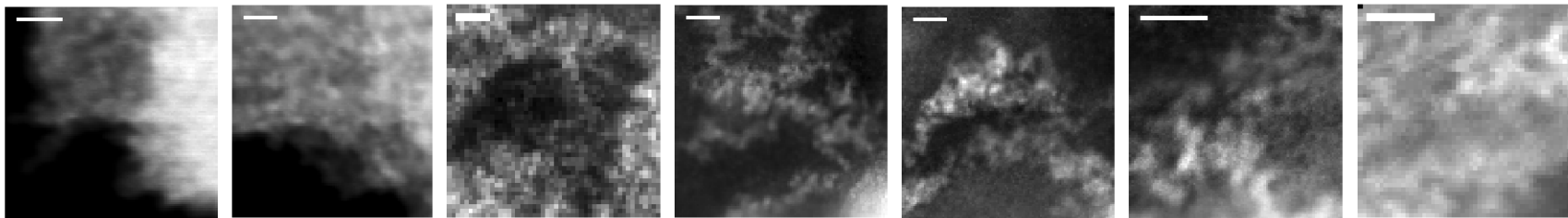
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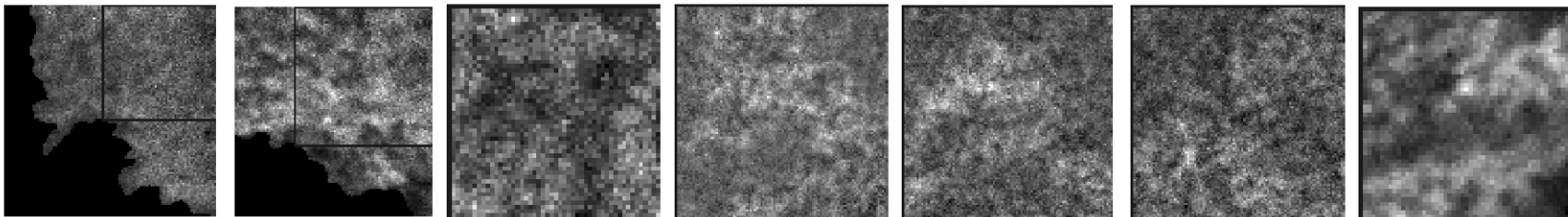
225 **Supplementary Fig. A3.3.** Relative change in ratio of lower-energy (~709 eV) to  
226 higher-energy (~710.5 eV) signal in the iron (Fe)  $L_3$ -edge between adsorbed and co-  
227 precipitated water extractable organic matter (WEOM)-Fe sample measurements at  
228 similar electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) dose. Spectra “d” through “h”  
229 correspond to measurement parameters described in Supplementary Table A4.4.

Adsorbed WEOM-Fe

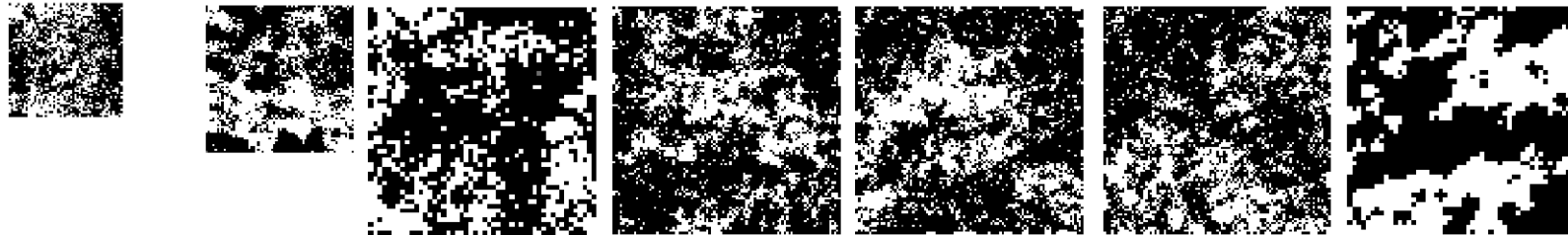
A. Original ADF image



B. Iron (Fe) integrated area (vacuum filtered) with square region for Fe spatial analysis



C. Binary Fe images (used for spatial statistics)



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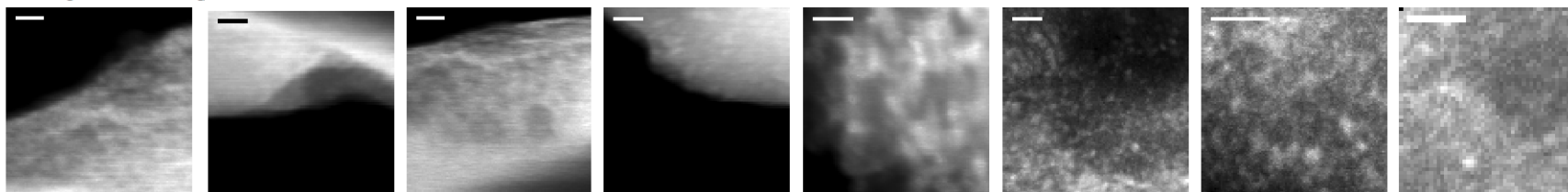
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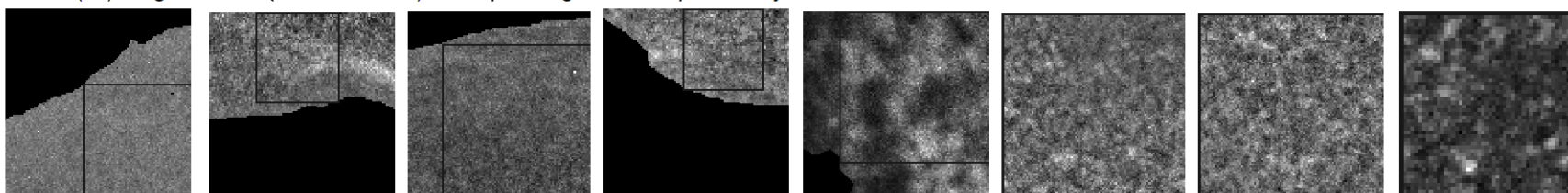
**Supplementary Fig. A3.4.** Image filtering and processing for iron (Fe) spatial statistics on adsorbed water-extractable organic matter (WEOM)-Fe images. **A.** Original annular dark field (ADF) scanning transmission electron microscopy (STEM) image. All scale bars = 10 nm. **B.** Integrated area of Fe L<sub>2,3</sub>-edge with manual filter applied to remove vacuum area in image, if appropriate. Boxes show square region used for subsequent Fe spatial statistics, converted into binary images (shown in **C**). Lower-case letters correspond to measurements described in Supplementary Table A4.4.

Co-precipitated WEOM-Fe

A. Original ADF image



B. Iron (Fe) integrated area (vacuum filtered) with square region for Fe spatial analysis



C. Binary Fe images (used for spatial statistics)



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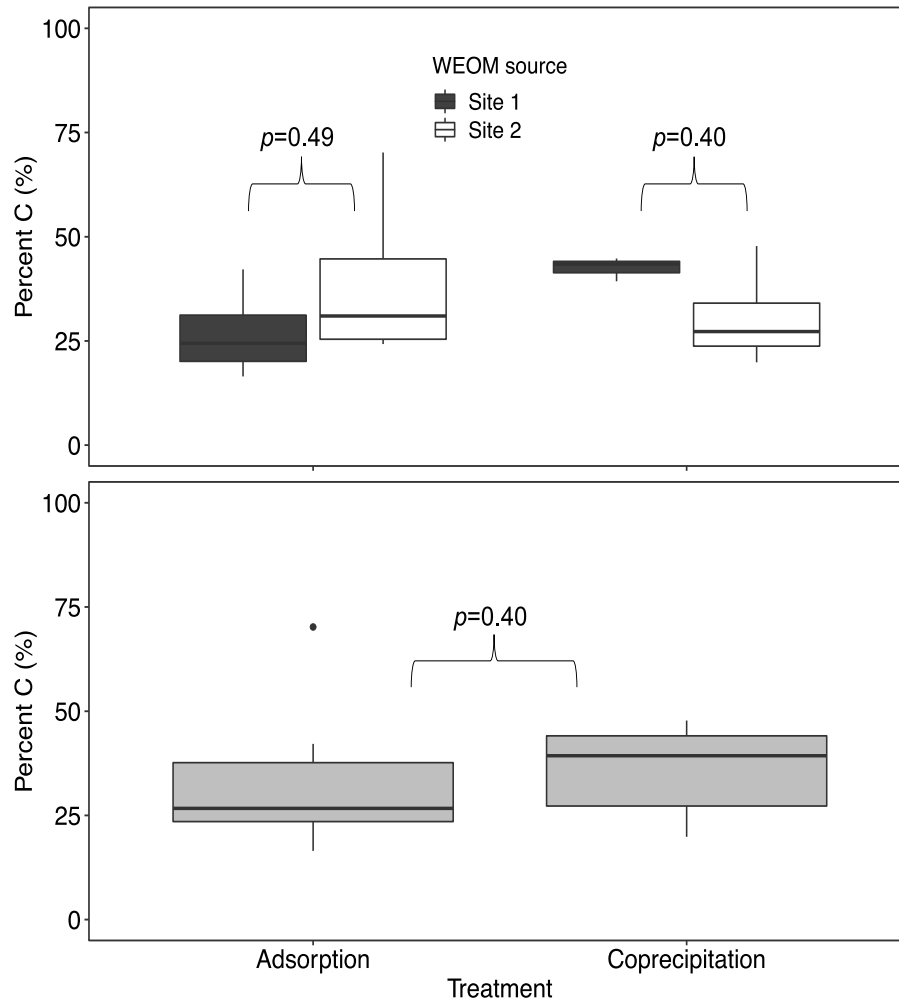
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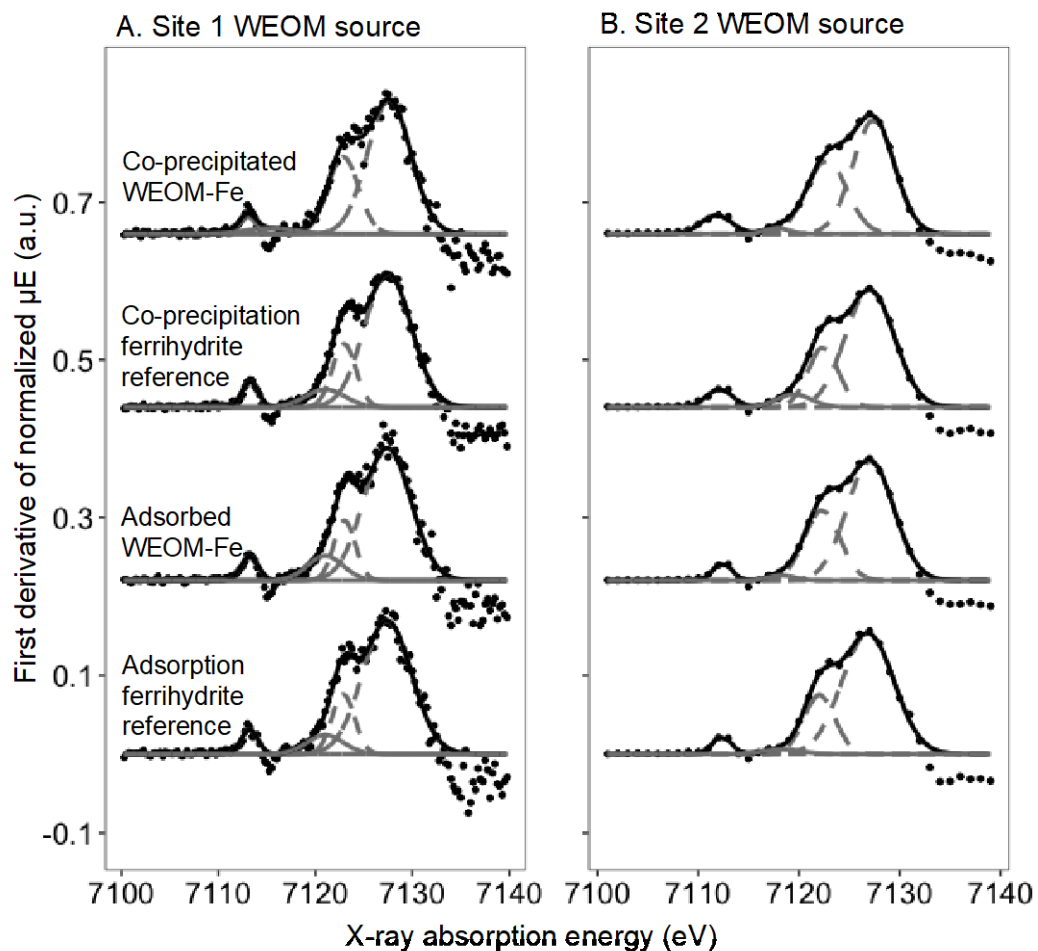
**Supplementary Fig. A3.5.** Image filtering and processing for iron (Fe) spatial statistics on co-precipitated water-extractable organic matter (WEOM)-Fe images. **A.** Original annular dark field (ADF) scanning transmission electron microscopy (STEM) image. All scale bars = 10 nm. **B.** Integrated area of Fe L<sub>2,3</sub>-edge with manual filter applied to remove vacuum area in image, if appropriate. Boxes show square region used for subsequent Fe spatial statistics, converted into binary images (shown in **C**). Lower-case letters correspond to measurements described in Supplementary Table A4.4.



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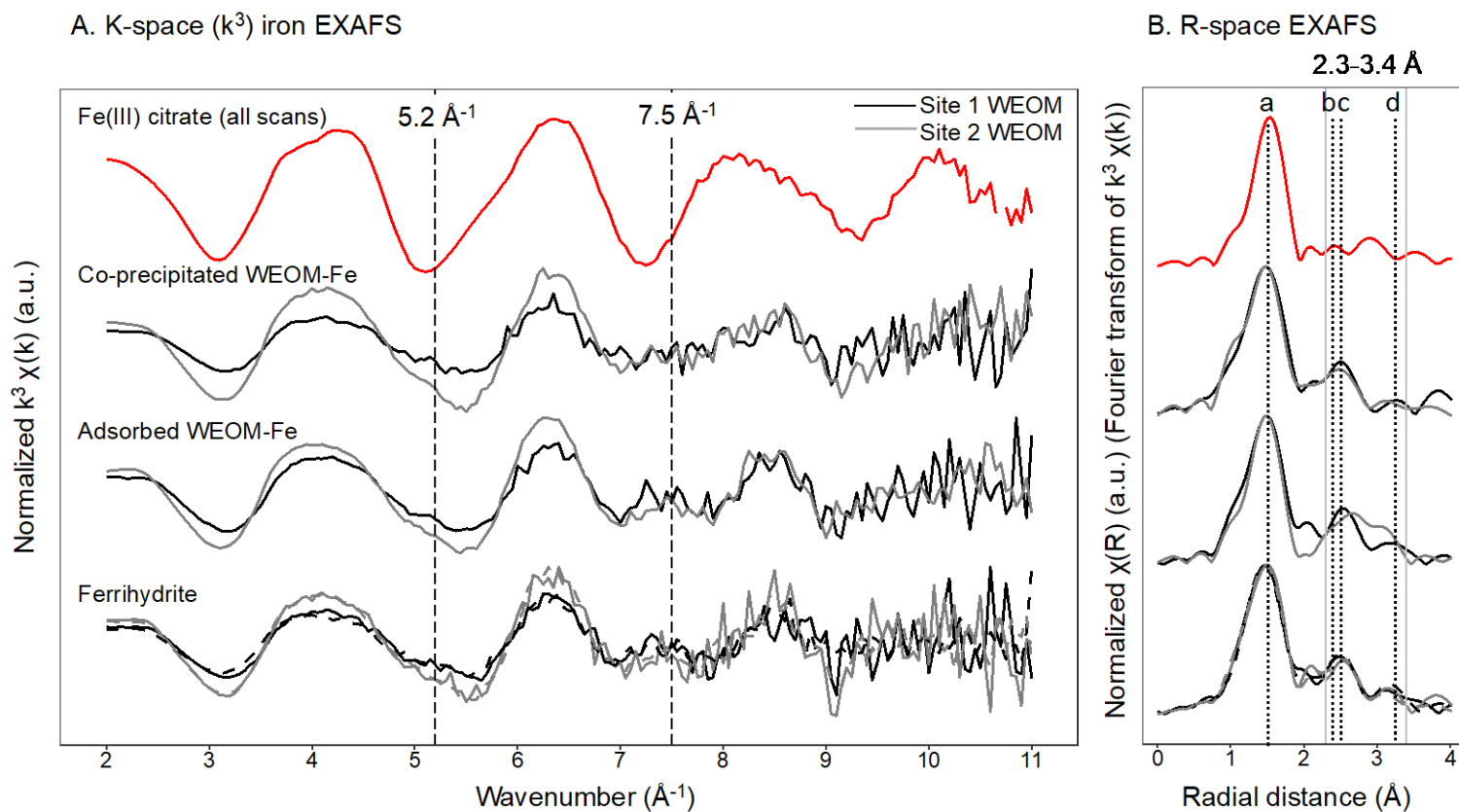
**Supplementary Fig. A3.6.** Total carbon (C) (%) for co-precipitate and adsorption samples at 10:1 C:Fe ratio, prepared with water-extractable organic matter (WEOM) derived from Site 1 and Site 2. No significant differences (at  $\alpha = 0.1$ ) between Site 1 and Site 2 WEOM were detected (Wilcoxon Rank Sum  $p > 0.4$ ). Pooled by WEOM source, the median carbon content was higher for co-precipitation but the difference was not significant (Wilcoxon Rank-Sum  $p=0.40$ ) due to variation in adsorption C content. Lower and upper edges of boxes show first and third quartiles (25th and 75th percentiles) and lower and upper whiskers show the smallest and largest value no further than  $1.5 \times$  interquartile range (IQR) of the box edges. Individual points beyond whiskers are considered outliers.



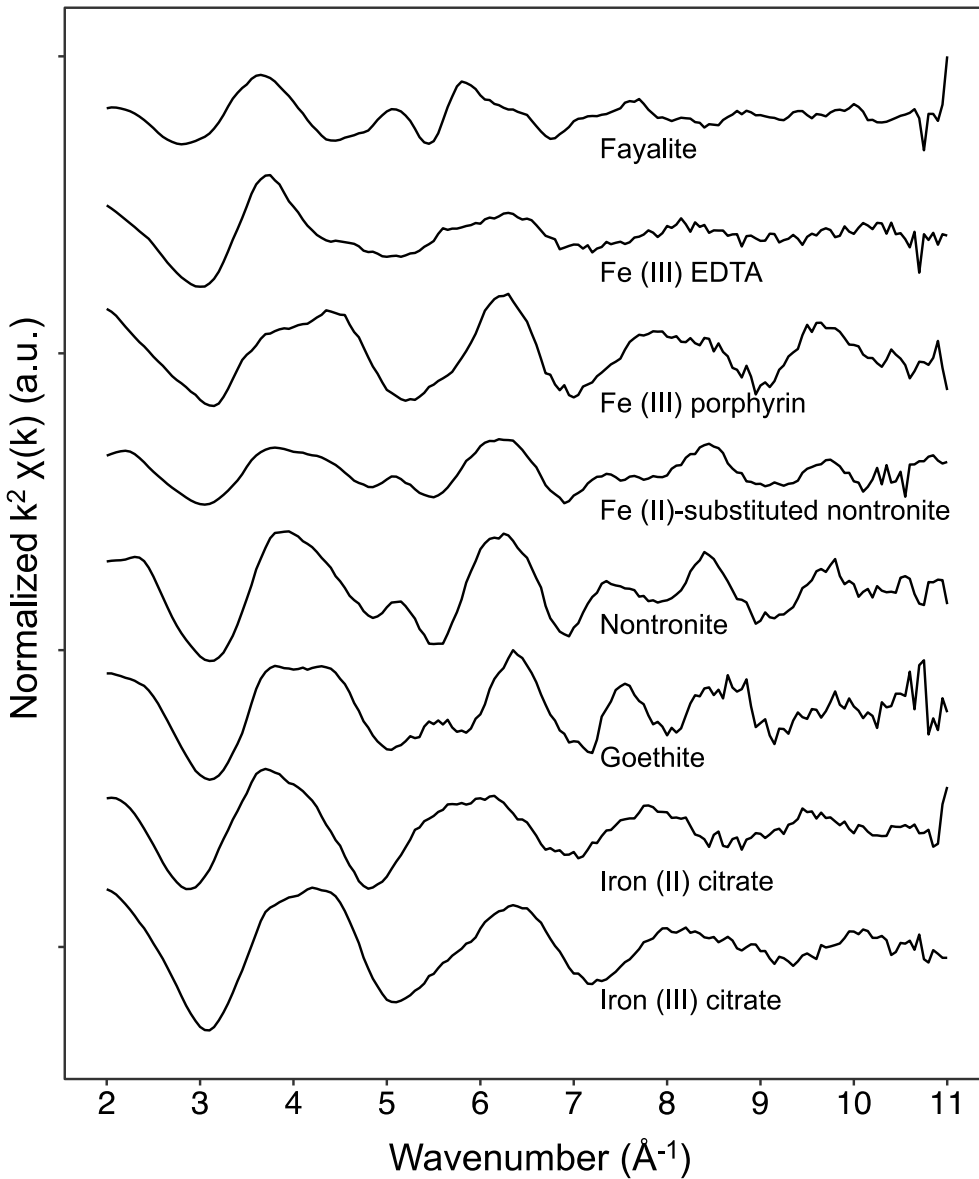


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**Supplementary Fig. A3.7.** Iron (Fe) K-edge X-ray absorption near-edge structure (XANES) Gaussian fit results to determine relative contribution of the peak/shoulder ~7117-7120 eV associated with increasing Fe(II) content. The Gaussian function associated with this feature is shown as a solid grey line. Raw data are shown as points, other Gaussian functions in dashed grey, and the combined model fit in black (all spline curves).

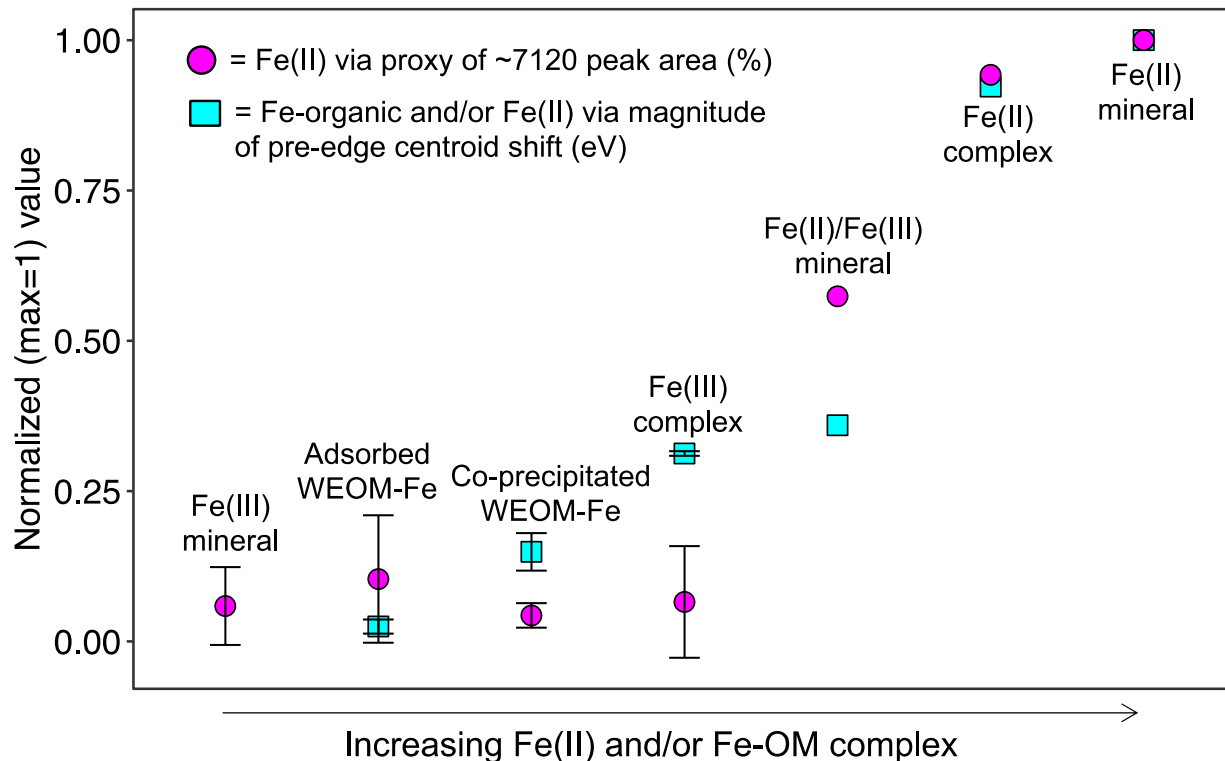


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 271 **Supplementary Fig. A3.8.** Iron (Fe) K-edge extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS) for co-precipitated and  
 272 adsorbed WEOM-Fe. Reference ferrihydrite for adsorbed and co-precipitated samples is shown with solid and dotted  
 273 lines, respectively. Adsorbed and co-precipitated samples generally follow the oscillation pattern of associated ferrihydrite  
 274 reference materials. **A.** Normalized (max = 1) K-space ( $k^3$ -weighted) EXAFS, showing features at wavenumber  $\sim 5.2$  and  
 275  $7.5 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  that are lost with increased C bonding in Fe (III) citrate (red line), corresponding to decreased high-shell  
 276 backscatter signal (Chen et al., 2014). **B.** Inverse Fourier-transform (R-space) of  $k^3$ -weighted oscillations. Letters a-d  
 277 correspond to Fe bonding environments assigned as follows: a = Fe-O, b = Fe-organic, and c and d = Fe-Fe (Chen et al.,  
 278 2016). The shaded region (2.3-3.4  $\text{\AA}$ ) represents general high-shell backscatter (features at wavenumber 5.2 and 7.5  $\text{\AA}^{-1}$   
 279 in **A**), lacking appreciable differences between co-precipitated and adsorbed WEOM-Fe and associated ferrihydrite  
 280 standards. Additional standards are shown in Supplementary Fig. A3.9.



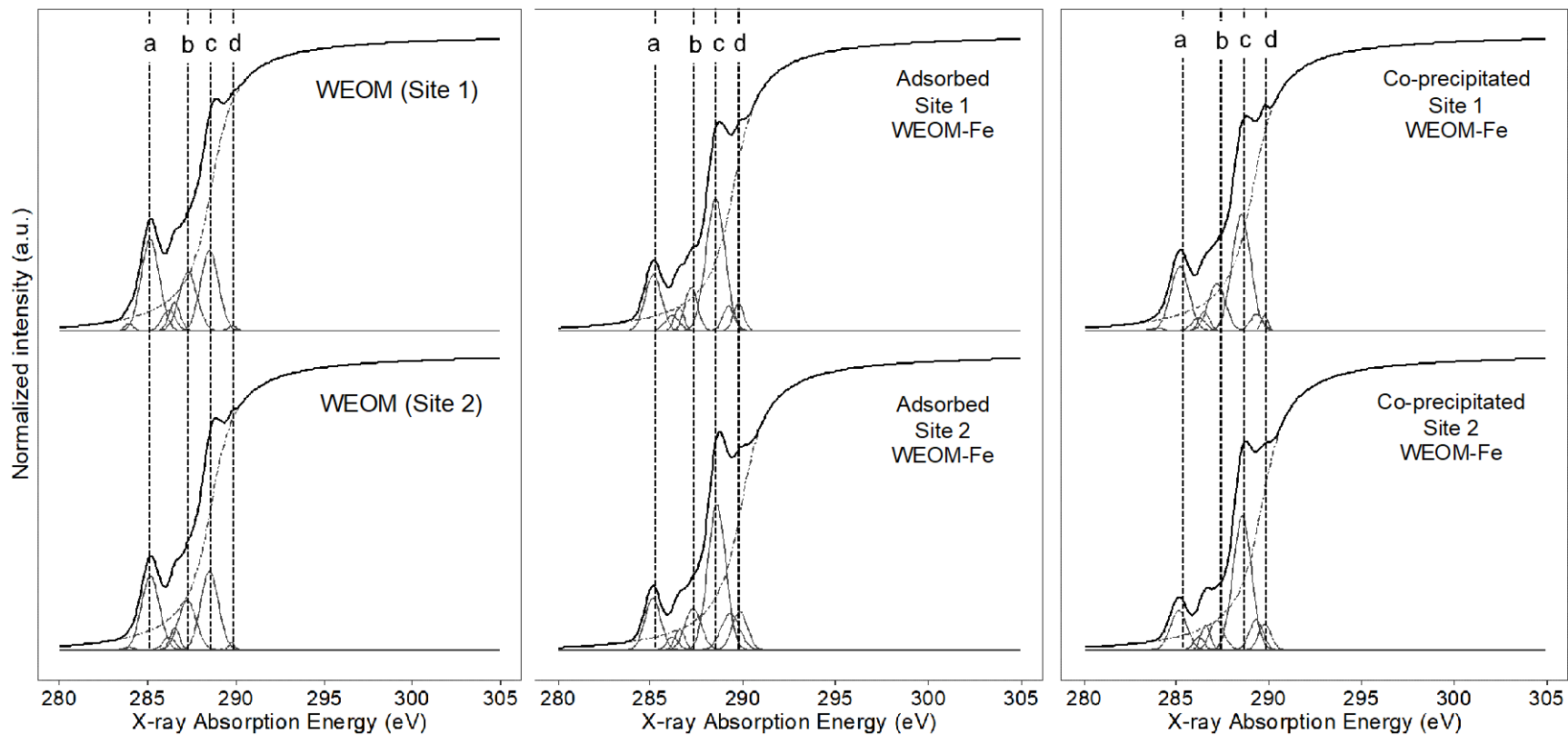
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282 **Supplementary Fig. A3.9.** Normalized (max = 1) K-space ( $k^2$ -weighted) iron K-edge  
 283 extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS) of standard reference materials. Iron  
 284 (III) citrate, goethite, and nontronite are merged EXAFS spectra from two measured  
 285 samples. The remaining spectra are derived from one measured sample.



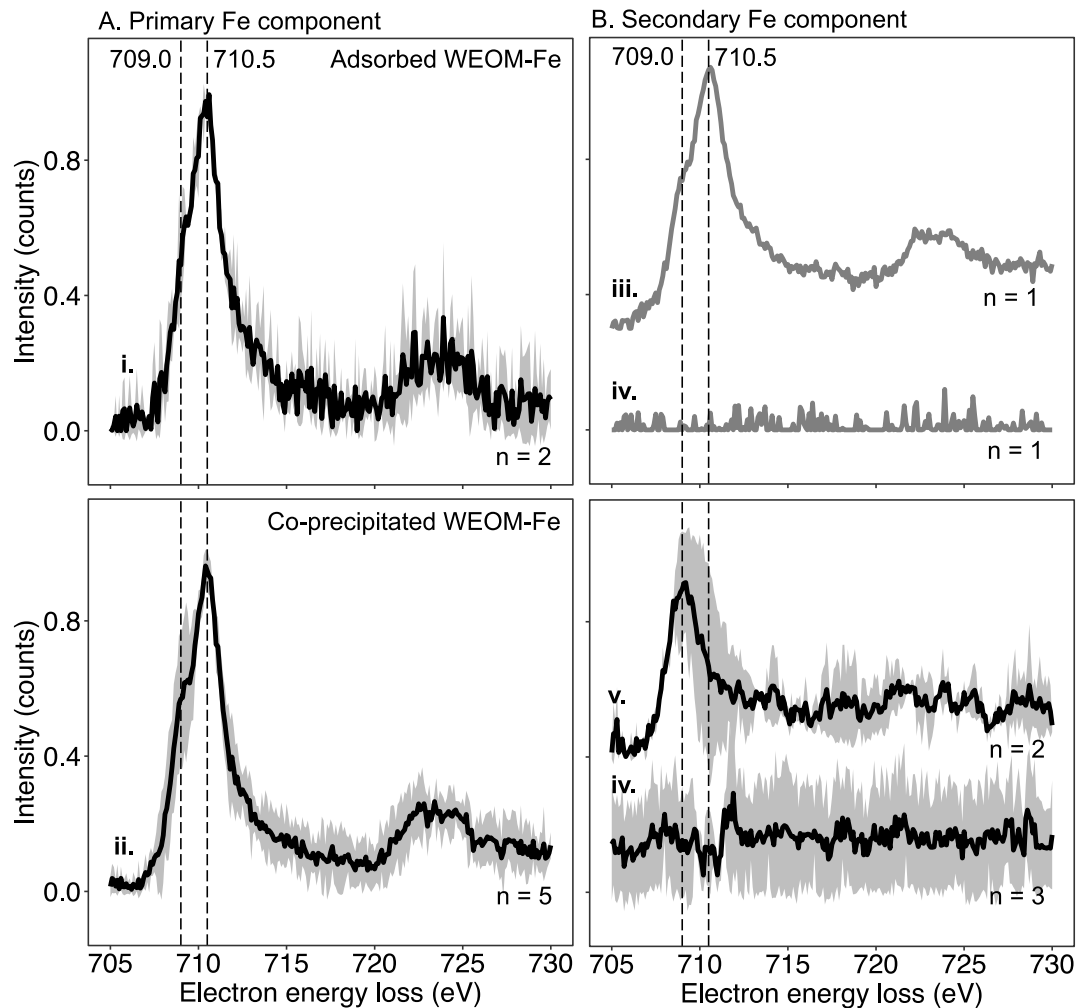
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**Supplementary Fig. A3.10.** Visualization of combined changes in iron (Fe) K-edge X-ray absorption near edge structure (XANES), showing changes in ~7117-7120 eV peak area (% of Gaussian model) and centroid position for standard compounds and adsorbed vs. co-precipitated water-extractable organic matter (WEOM)-Fe materials normalized to 1. For Fe(II)/Fe(III) mineral, Fe(II) complex, and Fe(II) mineral points, values are for Fe(II)-substituted nontronite, iron (II) citrate, and fayalite, respectively. The average of two materials is shown for Fe(III) mineral (goethite and ferrihydrite), adsorbed and co-precipitated WEOM-Fe (Site 1 and Site 2 WEOM), and Fe(III) complex (iron (III) citrate and iron (III) EDTA) points (standard spectra are included in Inagaki et al. 2020). For the magnitude (absolute value) of the pre-edge centroid shift, the values for adsorption and co-precipitation were determined relative to the associated ferrihydrite reference, while the standard material shift was determined relative to the average of Fe(III) mineral positions (goethite and ferrihydrite).



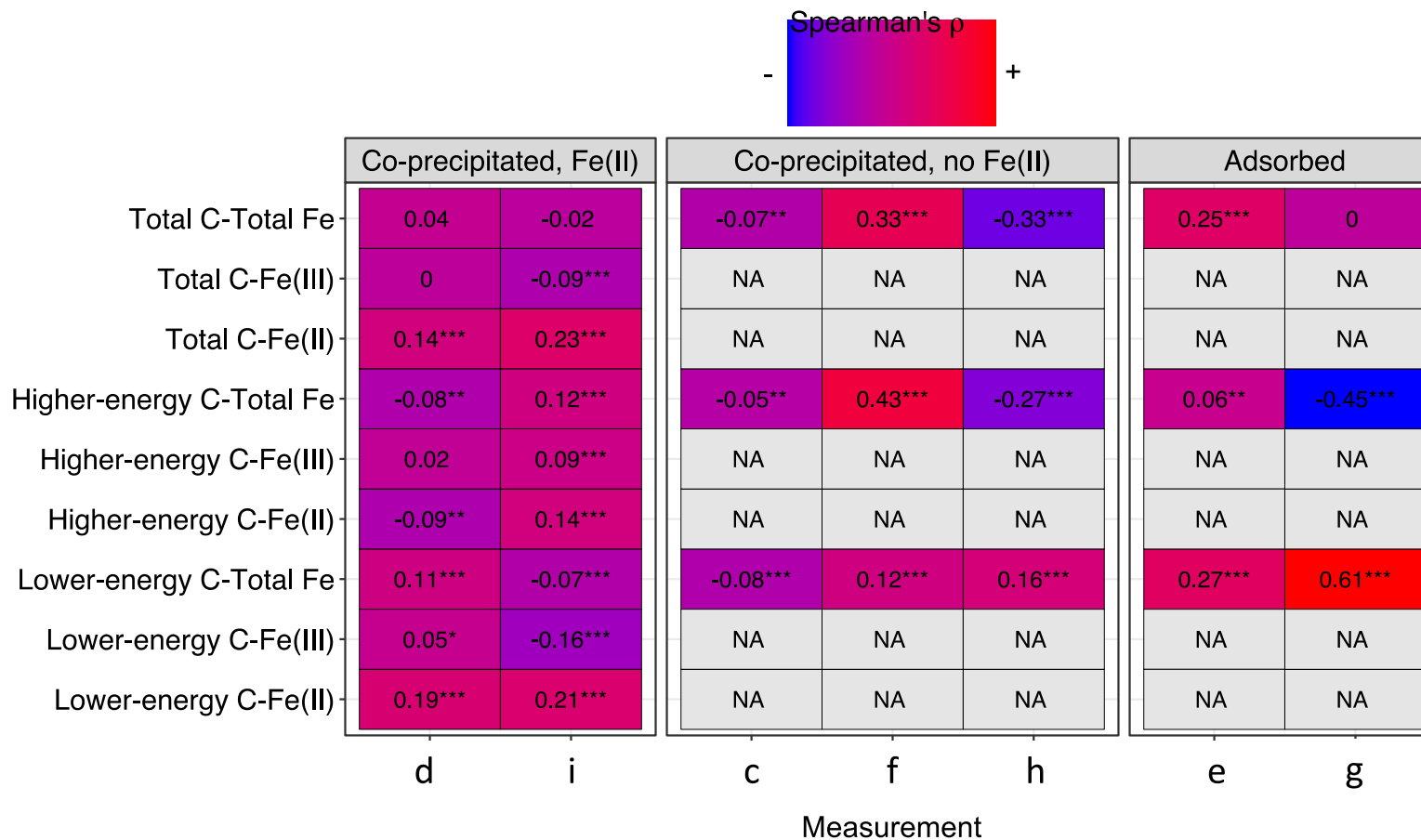
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304 **Supplementary Fig. A3.11.** Gaussian and arctangent functions for deconvolution model of carbon (C) K-edge X-ray  
 305 absorption near edge structure (XANES) for source water-extractable organic matter (WEOM) and adsorbed and co-  
 306 precipitated WEOM-ferrihydrite complexes. Lines a, b, c, and d indicate spectral features at ~285.0, 287.5, 288.7, and  
 307 289.0 eV, corresponding to aromatic, aliphatic, carboxylic, and O-alkyl/carbonyl C functional groups, respectively.



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309 **Supplementary Fig. A3.12.** Iron (Fe)  $L_{2,3}$ -edge electron energy loss spectroscopy  
 310 (EELS) multivariate curve resolution (MCR) outputs for water-extractable organic matter  
 311 (WEOM) either co-precipitated with or adsorbed to Fe. Spectra are grouped by similar  
 312 spectral features within sample types, and if  $n > 1$  for each group, the average spectrum  
 313 is shown (black line) with standard deviation (grey shaded region). **A.** All EELS  
 314 measurements contained an Fe component with a primary  $L_3$  edge position at  $\sim 710.5$   
 315 eV, associated with oxidized Fe(III). For co-precipitated WEOM-Fe ( $n = 5$  EELS  
 316 measurements) (ii.), a shoulder at lower energy ( $\sim 709.0$  eV) associated with increased  
 317 Fe(II) was detected relative to adsorbed WEOM-Fe ( $n = 2$  EELS measurements) (i.). **B.**  
 318 For adsorbed WEOM-Fe, either no secondary component (iv.) or an Fe(III) component  
 319 associated with thicker sample area (iii.) were detected (both  $n = 1$  EELS  
 320 measurements). For co-precipitated WEOM-Fe, either no secondary component (iv.) or  
 321 an Fe(II) component with prominent shift to  $\sim 709.0$  eV were detected (v.).



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323 **Supplementary Fig. A3.13.** Spatial correlations (Spearman's  $\rho$  estimates) among carbon (C) and iron (Fe) electron  
 324 energy loss spectroscopy components identified with multivariate curve resolution for adsorbed and co-precipitated water-  
 325 extractable organic matter (WEOM)-Fe samples. For adsorbed and a subset of co-precipitated WEOM-Fe samples, no  
 326 meaningful reduced Fe(II) component was detected (Supplementary Fig. A3.11), so only spatial correlations between C  
 327 forms (non-oxidized, oxidized, and total C) and total Fe are shown. Lower-case letters correspond to individual  
 328 measurements (defined in Supplementary Table A4.4). \*, \*\*, and \*\*\* symbols indicate Spearman Rank Test  $p < 0.1$ , 0.05,  
 329 and 0.001, respectively.

330 **A4. Supplementary Tables**

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332 **Supplementary Table A4.1.** Carbon (C) K-edge X-ray absorption near-edge structure (XANES) deconvolution model  
333 parameters, modified from Heymann et al. (2011).

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Description	Function in model	Bond(s)	Transition	Center (eV)	Center range (+/- eV)	Height (a.u.)	FWHM (eV)	FWHM range (eV)	Inflection	Vertical position (a.u.)
Arctangent Edge step	Atan	NA (total C)	NA (total C)	290.00	Floating	1 (fixed)	NA	NA	0.335 (fixed)	0.5 (fixed)
Aromatic Quinone	G1	C=O	1 s-pi*	283.75	0.2*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA	NA
Aromatic	G2	C=C	1 s-pi*	285.20	0.2*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA	NA
Aromatic	G3	C=O	1 s-pi*	286.00	0.2*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA	NA
Aromatic w/substituent	G4	C=C-OH C=O R-(C=O)-R'	1 s-pi*	286.70	0.2*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA	NA
Alkyl	G5	C-H	1s-pi*	287.30	0.2*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA	NA
Carboxylic	G6	R-COOH COO C=O	1s-3p/sigma*	288.70	0.2*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA NA NA	NA NA NA
O-alkyl	G7	C-OH	1s-pi*	289.35	0.1*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA	NA
O-alkyl /carbonyl	G8	COO-	1s-pi*	289.85	0.1*sin(~0)	√~0.4	0.4	0.2*sin(~0)	NA	NA

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342 **Supplementary Table A4.2.** Carbon K-edge X-ray absorption near-edge structure  
 343 (XANES) deconvolution results for water-extractable matter (WEOM) samples derived  
 344 from Site 1 and Site 2 organic (Oa) horizons, and for WEOM-ferrihydrate adsorption and  
 345 co-precipitation solids prepared at a 10:1 C/Fe ratio.  
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	Site 2 source WEOM ( $R^2 = 0.994$ )					Site 1 source WEOM ( $R^2 = 0.994$ )				
Gaussian	Center (eV)	Height (a.u.)	Area (a.u.)	FWHM (eV)	Proportion (%)	Center (eV)	Height (a.u.)	Area (a.u.)	FWHM (eV)	Proportion (%)
G1	283.95	0.01	0.01	0.61	0.64	283.95	0.02	0.02	0.59	1.33
G2	285.16	0.26	0.33	1.2	32.91	285.14	0.32	0.40	1.20	34.07
G3	286.20	0.05	0.04	0.78	3.77	286.20	0.07	0.07	0.92	5.86
G4	286.54	0.08	0.05	0.61	5.16	286.52	0.10	0.08	0.72	6.43
G5	287.24	0.17	0.22	1.19	21.87	287.29	0.20	0.26	1.19	21.63
G6	288.50	0.27	0.34	1.17	34.47	288.51	0.28	0.35	1.19	29.69
G7	289.17	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.07	289.48	0.00	0.00	0.69	0.06
G8	289.76	0.03	0.01	0.41	1.12	289.78	0.02	0.01	0.56	0.93
	Co-precipitate (Site 2 WEOM) ( $R^2 = 0.997$ )					Co-precipitate (Site 1 WEOM) ( $R^2 = 0.996$ )				
G1	283.63	0.00	0.00	0.83	0.00	283.95	0.01	0.01	0.78	0.71
G2	285.12	0.14	0.15	1.06	14.15	285.18	0.22	0.27	1.16	24.03
G3	286.20	0.05	0.03	0.66	3.02	286.20	0.05	0.04	0.89	3.85
G4	286.58	0.09	0.05	0.59	5.00	286.50	0.07	0.05	0.66	4.10
G5	287.18	0.10	0.10	0.90	9.02	287.18	0.16	0.19	1.09	16.65
G6	288.55	0.46	0.57	1.16	52.79	288.50	0.40	0.50	1.18	44.27
G7	289.30	0.11	0.10	0.85	8.97	289.32	0.06	0.05	0.79	4.29
G8	289.77	0.09	0.08	0.79	7.06	289.75	0.06	0.02	0.40	2.10
	Adsorption complex (Site 2 WEOM) ( $R^2 = 0.997$ )					Adsorption complex (Site 1 WEOM) ( $R^2 = 0.996$ )				
G1	283.95	0.00	0.00	0.47	0.03	283.95	0.00	0.00	0.48	0.04
G2	285.12	0.18	0.19	0.98	14.13	285.15	0.19	0.21	1.02	18.39
G3	286.19	0.05	0.04	0.73	2.63	286.18	0.05	0.05	0.89	4.29
G4	286.58	0.07	0.05	0.62	3.61	286.54	0.08	0.05	0.59	4.39
G5	287.30	0.14	0.16	1.04	11.91	287.19	0.15	0.13	0.79	11.02
G6	288.57	0.50	0.61	1.14	45.48	288.50	0.46	0.58	1.20	50.64
G7	289.31	0.13	0.16	1.18	11.91	289.19	0.09	0.06	0.70	5.58
G8	289.81	0.13	0.14	0.97	10.29	289.75	0.10	0.06	0.64	5.65

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351 **Supplementary Table A4.3.** Summary of carbon K-edge X-ray absorption near-edge  
 352 structure (XANES) deconvolution results for standard C compounds. Major XANES  
 353 features associated with the dominant functional groups for the standard materials are  
 354 noted with (\*).  
 355

Standard	Gaussian	Center (eV)	Height (a.u.)	Area (a.u.)	FWHM (eV)	Proportion (%)
Salicylic acid 2-Hydroxybenzoic acid C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Fit R <sup>2</sup> = 0.990	G1	283.63	0.00	0.00	0.83	0.00
	G2	285.12	0.14	0.15	1.06	14.15*
	G3	286.20	0.05	0.03	0.66	3.02
	G4	286.58	0.09	0.05	0.59	5.00
	G5	287.18	0.10	0.10	0.90	9.02
	G6	288.55	0.46	0.57	1.16	52.79*
	G7	289.30	0.11	0.10	0.85	8.97
	G8	289.77	0.09	0.08	0.79	7.06
Citric acid 2-hydroxypropane-1,2,3- tricarboxylic acid C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Fit R <sup>2</sup> = 0.996	G1	283.71	0.00	0.00	1.16	0.00
	G2	285.11	0.02	0.01	0.41	0.73
	G3	286.15	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.18
	G4	286.77	0.13	0.06	0.43	4.66
	G5	287.41	0.17	0.14	0.78	11.27
	G6	288.60	0.63	0.63	0.94	49.34*
	G7	289.17	0.28	0.26	0.89	20.67*
	G8	289.95	0.18	0.17	0.89	13.15*
Sucrose (2R,3R,4S,5S,6R)-2- [(2S,3S,4S,5R)-3,4- dihydroxy-2,5- bis(hydroxymethyl)oxolan- 2-yl]oxy-6- (hydroxymethyl)oxane- 3,4,5-triol C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub> Fit R <sup>2</sup> = 0.994	G1	283.60	0.00	0.00	0.73	0.00
	G2	285.15	0.02	0.01	0.41	1.23
	G3	286.09	0.02	0.02	0.68	2.32
	G4	286.64	0.05	0.02	0.41	3.09
	G5	287.20	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.05
	G6	288.81	0.33	0.23	0.66	33.16
	G7	289.24	0.30	0.22	0.70	31.69*
	G8	289.85	0.24	0.20	0.78	28.46*

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359 **Supplementary Table A4.4.** Acquisition parameters for electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) measurements of co-  
 360 precipitated and adsorbed water-extractable organic matter (WEOM)-iron samples. MCR = multivariate curve resolution. \*  
 361 = from Possinger et al. (2020b).  
 362

Measurement	EELS data type	WEOM source	Treatment	Instrument conditions	Magnification (Mx)	EELS acquisition time (s)	Current (nA)	Dose (e <sup>-</sup> Å <sup>-2</sup> )
a*	FOV scan	Site 2	Co-precipitated	Cryo	0.64	0.01	0.16	1.03E+04
b*	FOV scan	Site 2	Co-precipitated	Cryo	0.64	0.01	0.16	6.69E+04
c	Map	Site 2	Co-precipitated	Cryo	1.30	0.01	0.025	9.73E+04
d	Map	Site 2	Co-precipitated	Cryo	1.30	0.01	0.075	2.51E+05
e	Map	Site 2	Adsorbed	Cryo	1.80	0.01	0.042	2.92E+05
f	Map	Site 2	Co-precipitated	Cryo	1.30	0.05	0.025	4.62E+05
g	Map	Site 2	Adsorbed	Cryo	1.30	0.01	0.130	4.71E+05
h	Map	Site 2	Co-precipitated	Cryo	1.30	0.01	0.125	4.74E+05
i	Map	Site 2	Co-precipitated	Cryo	1.80	0.01	0.160	1.12E+06
j	Map	Site 1	Adsorbed	Not cryo	2.55	0.001	0.025	1.37E+04
k	Map	Site 1	Co-precipitated	Not cryo	1.30	0.005	0.025	5.20E+04
l	Map	Site 1	Adsorbed	Not cryo	2.55	0.001	0.025	5.20E+04
m	Map	Site 1	Adsorbed	Not cryo	1.30	0.001	0.025	5.20E+04
n	Map	Site 1	Co-precipitated	Not cryo	1.30	0.001	0.025	1.99E+05
o	Map	Site 1	Adsorbed	Not cryo	1.30	0.001	0.025	2.01E+05
p	Map	Site 1	Co-precipitated	Not cryo	2.55	0.200	0.025	1.62E+06
q	Map	Site 1	Adsorbed	Not cryo	2.55	0.200	0.025	2.20E+06

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364 **Supplementary Table A4.5.** Comparison of carbon (C) K-edge and iron (Fe) L<sub>2,3</sub>-edge electron energy loss spectral  
 365 region areas between compositionally similar regions in a co-precipitated sample (i.e., with detected reduced Fe(II) and  
 366 similar C-Fe(II) spatial relationships). Area under the curve estimates are for aromatic C (284.5-285.5 eV), substituted  
 367 aromatic C (286.0-287.0 eV), aliphatic C (287.0-287.5 eV), carboxylic C (287.8-289.0 eV), reduced Fe(II) (707.0-709.75  
 368 eV) and oxidized Fe(III) (709.75-712.5 eV) spectral regions.  
 369

Measurement	Dose (e <sup>-</sup> Å <sup>-2</sup> )	Estimated area under the curve					
		Carboxylic	Aromatic	Subst. aromatic	Alkyl	Fe(II)	Fe(III)
d	2.51E+05	0.032	0.017	0.023	0.012	0.157	0.258
i	1.12E+06	0.031	0.021	0.029	0.014	0.195	0.292
Difference (%)		4.05	20.98	26.33	17.86	23.82	13.26

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