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Hazard Quotients, Hazard Indexes, and Cancer Risks of Toxic Metals in PM₁₀ during Firework Displays

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40 **ABSTRACT**

41
42 Bonfire night is a worldwide phenomenon given to numerous annual celebrations characterised by
43 bonfires and fireworks. Since Thailand has no national ambient air quality standards for metal
44 particulates, it is important to investigate the impacts of particulate injections on elevations of air
45 pollutants and ecological health impacts resulting from firework displays. In this investigation, Pb
46 and Ba were considered potential firework tracers because their concentrations were significantly
47 higher during the episode and lower than/comparable with minimum detection limits during other
48 periods, indicating that their elevated concentrations were principally due to pyrotechnic displays.
49 Pb/Ca, Pb/Al, Pb/Mg, and Pb/Cu can be used to pin-point emissions from firework displays. Air
50 mass backward trajectories (72 h) from the Hybrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory
51 (HYSPLIT) model indicated that areas east and north-east of the study site were the main sources
52 for the air transportation. Although the combined risk associated with levels of Pb, Cr, Co, Ni, Zn,
53 As, Cd, V, and Mn was far below the standards mentioned in international guidelines, the lifetime
54 cancer risks associated with As and Cr levels exceeded US-EPA guidelines, and may expose
55 inhabitants of surrounding areas of Bangkok to elevated cancer risk.

56
57 Keywords: Firework displays, Toxic metals, Principal component analysis, Risk assessment,
58 Hazard quotient, Hazard index

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61 **Highlights**

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- 63 • Pyrotechnics emit PM₁₀-bound heavy metals that degrade ambient air quality
- 64 • Pb/Ca, Pb/Al, Pb/Mg, and Pb/Cu ratios can pinpoint emissions from firework displays
- 65 • Pb and Ba are possible tracers, with elevated concentrations during firework displays
- 66 • PM₁₀ metals in ambient air are mainly crustal emissions regardless of firework events
- 67 • Limited combined risk associated with Pb, Cr, Co, Ni, Zn, As, Cd, V, and Mn levels
- 68 • As and Cr levels exceed US-EPA guidelines for lifetime cancer risk

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72 **INTRODUCTION**

73
74 Over the last few decades there has been increasing interest in the adverse public health impacts of
75 exposure to ambient toxic chemicals, principally in relation to carcinogenicity and mutagenicity
76 (Pongpiachan, 2013a,b; Pongpiachan et al., 2013, 2015a,b, 2017a,b,c,d). Another central concern of
77 ambient air quality studies is the chemical compositions of particulate metals. It is important to note
78 that most toxic metals are preferentially present in finer aerosols, since they have lower densities
79 and greater surface area per unit of volume and organic matter content (Charlesworth et al., 2003;
80 Madrid et al., 2008; Yatkin and Bayram, 2008a,b). Recent studies underline the adverse health
81 effects of exposure to particulate metals (Fang et al., 2013; Kong et al., 2011; Lu et al., 2014; Wu et
82 al., 2015). To the best of our knowledge, there are very few publications on PM₁₀-bound heavy
83 metals in Southeast Asian countries, which have a combined population of 651 million.
84 Consequently, it seems profitable to monitor the levels of such metals in ambient air. Such data
85 would be essential for public administrative bodies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency
86 (EPA) or Pollution Control Department (PCD), for preparing amendments or revisions to air quality
87 standards, as well as establishing baseline data for atmospheric research communities.

88

89 Previous studies have highlighted traffic emissions (Christoforidis and Stamatis, 2009; Duong and
90 Lee, 2011; Johansson et al., 2009; Ndiokwere, 1984), solid waste incinerators (Jianguo et al., 2004;
91 Zhang et al., 2008), thermal power plants (Meij and te Winkel, 2007; Reddy et al., 2005; Sushil and
92 Batra, 2006), industrial boilers (Dahl et al., 2009; Yoo et al., 2002), open burning of e-waste and
93 municipal solid waste (Fujimori et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2017), and forest fires (Betha et al., 2013;
94 Breulmann et al., 2002) as major sources of heavy metals in ambient air. Despite the large number
95 of published studies on the emission sources of selected metals in particulate matter, their
96 behaviours in tropical regions remain unclear, especially in Southeast Asian countries, where few
97 databases of particulate metals have been published and made publicly accessible.

98 During the past few years, several studies have examined the enhanced levels of toxic pollutants in
99 ambient air during firework displays (Camilleri and Vella, 2010; Pongpiachan et al., 2017a; Seidel
100 and Birnbaum, 2015). The literature also highlights the impacts of firework displays as one of the
101 main contributors of specific metal particulates in ambient air (Feng et al., 2016; Tsai et al., 2012;
102 Wang et al., 2007). Despite several investigations highlighting the importance of traffic emissions
103 as a source of chemical pollutants in Bangkok (Pongpiachan, 2013b; Pongpiachan et al., 2013,
104 2015a, 2017b), there is no research on the effects of the “Loy Krathong Festival” (LKF) on the
105 increase of selected metals in ambient air. It is a tradition for Thai people to float Krathongs (i.e.,
106 floating baskets) on a river, to pay respect to the spirit of the Thai river goddess or Phra Mae
107 Kongkha. People generally launch elaborate fireworks on the evening of the full moon in the 12th
108 month of the traditional Thai lunar calendar. In Northern Thailand, LKF is locally acknowledged as
109 “Yi Peng”, which is one of the most memorable Lanna festivals throughout the year, combined with
110 Khomloi (i.e., Lanna-style sky lanterns) and firework displays. Hence, it is evident that more field
111 research is required to elucidate the influences of firework displays on selected metal profiles. The
112 main goals of this study are to: (i) compare selected metal profiles before and after firework
113 displays; (ii) investigate the influences of firework displays on the behaviours of selected PM₁₀-
114 bound metals; and (iii) calculate hazard quotients, hazard indexes, and cancer risks associated with
115 toxic metals in PM₁₀ before and after the bonfire night episodes in the centre of Bangkok
116 Metropolitan.

117

118 2. MATERIALS & METHODS

119

120 2.1. Air quality observation sites

121 This study examined the impacts of fireworks displays on ambient air quality in Bangkok according
122 to the mass concentrations of PM₁₀ and their chemical characteristics, including selected metals.
123 Data on ambient air quality were collected from four Pollution Control Department (PCD) Air

124 Quality Observatory Sites, namely MBK (MBKOS), Ramkamhaeng (RKOS), Land Development
125 Department (LDDOS) and Victory Monument Observatory Site (VMOS), which were carefully
126 chosen for the assessment of selected metals in PM₁₀. The positions of the four air quality
127 monitoring sites in relation to a public firework display platform are illustrated in Fig. 1. Intensive
128 monitoring campaigns were performed consecutively, before and after the bonfire night event
129 during LKF, Father's Day (5th of December), and New Year's Eve celebrations from 2012 to 2013,
130 forming a database of 62 individual PM₁₀ samples (50 collected before, and 12 after the firework
131 display).

132 High-volume air samplers (TE-6001; Graseby-Anderson) were used to obtain unmanned 24 h
133 samples for PM₁₀ at the four sampling sites, yielding volumes of approximately 1,632 m³ for each
134 24 h sample. PM₁₀ were collected on 20×25 cm Whatman glass fibre filters (GFFs) at a flow rate of
135 approximately 1.133 m³ min⁻¹ (i.e., 40 cfm): Sample air flow rate was calibrated for standard
136 temperature and pressure conditions. A more comprehensive explanation of the air sampling
137 method was given in "Compendium Method IO - 2.2. Sampling of Ambient Air for PM₁₀ using an
138 Andersen Dichotomous Sampler" (Winberry et al., 1988).

139

140 *2.2. Chemical analysis of selected metals*

141 Chemical preparations, coupled with analytical instrument optimisation, were comprehensively
142 described in earlier reports (Iijima et al., 2009, 2010). In summary, PM₁₀ filters were positioned in
143 PTFE vessels and digested in a mixture of 2 mL hydrofluoric acid (50% atomic absorption
144 spectrometry grade; Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.), 3 mL nitric acid (60% electronic laboratory grade;
145 Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.), and 1 mL hydrogen peroxide (30% atomic absorption spectrometry
146 grade; Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.) in a microwave digestion system (Multiwave; Anton Parr, GmbH).
147 The microwave oven was operated at 700 W for 10 min, and 1000 W for a further 10 min.
148 Hydrofluoric acid was evaporated by heating the sample solutions at 200 °C on a hot plate. The
149 digested solutions were further diluted with 0.1 mol L⁻¹ nitric acid (prepared from 60% nitric acid)

150 was the added to obtain a 50 mL sample. The concentrations of 31 selected metals (Li, Be, Na, Mg,
151 Al, K, Ca, Sc, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, As, Se, Rb, Sr, Y, Zr, Mo, Cd, Sn, Sb, Cs, Ba, Tl, Pb,
152 and Bi) were determined by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (Agilent 7500cx;
153 Agilent Technologies, Inc.). All the chemical analytical processes were verified using Standard
154 Reference Material (SRM) 1648 (i.e., urban particulate matter) provided by the US National
155 Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The analytical results showed good agreement with
156 the certified or reference values. The instrumental detection limits of the 31 selected metals are
157 displayed in Table S1 (see Supplementary Material).

158

159 *2.3. Health risk assessment of selected metals*

160 Concentration and time are frequently used to depict exposure, where amount/mass characterises
161 dose, and the time parameter allows calculation of the dose rate. In order to evaluate the health
162 threats associated with PM₁₀, the average exposure to selected metals by inhalation (D_{inh}) for both
163 children and adults, based on individual's body weight during a given period, is computed using Eq.
164 (1) (Feng et al., 2016; Granero and Domingo, 2012; Kong et al., 2012;):

165

$$D_{inh} = \frac{C \times InhR \times EF \times ED}{BW \times AT}$$

167

Equation (1)

168 Where D_{inh} is exposure by respiratory inhalation (mg kg⁻¹ day⁻¹); $InhR$ is inhalation rate (7.6 and 20
169 m³ day⁻¹ for children ($InhR_{child}$) and adults ($InhR_{adult}$), respectively); EF is exposure frequency (day
170 year⁻¹); ED is exposure duration (6 years for children (ED_{child}), 24 years for adults (ED_{adult}),
171 respectively); BW is average body weight (15 kg for children (BW_{child}), 70 kg for adults (BW_{adult}));
172 AT is the averaging time (for non-cancer toxic risks, AT (days)=ED×365; for cancer risks, AT
173 (days)=70×365); C is exposure-point concentration, which is calculated by the upper limit of the
174 95% confidence interval for the mean (mg m⁻³). In this study, the lifetime average daily dose

175 (*LADD*) of selected metals through inhalation is employed for evaluating health risk, as described
 176 in Eq. (2).

$$177 \quad LADD = \frac{C \times EF}{AT} = \left(\frac{InhR_{child} \times ED_{child}}{BW_{child}} + \frac{InhR_{adult} \times ED_{adult}}{BW_{adult}} \right)$$

178 **Equation (2)**

179 It is also important to introduce the concept of a hazard quotient. Theoretically, a hazard quotient
 180 (*HQ*) is the ratio of the potential exposure to a selected metal, relative to the level at which no
 181 adverse effects are expected. After D_{inh} is computed, *HQ* can be obtained using Eqs. (3) and (4):

182

$$183 \quad HQ = \frac{D_{inh}}{RfD}$$

184 **Equation (3)**

$$185 \quad HI = \sum HQ_i$$

186 **Equation (4)**

187

188 RfD is the reference dose ($\text{mg kg}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$). Hazard Index (*HI*) is calculated by summing the
 189 individual *HQs* to assess the total health risks of all selected target metals. RfD values from Feng et
 190 al. (2016) were used for Pb (3.52×10^{-3}), Cr (2.86×10^{-5}), Co (5.71×10^{-6}), Ni (2.06×10^{-2}), Zn
 191 (3.01×10^{-1}), As (3.01×10^{-4}), Cd (1×10^{-3}), V (7×10^{-3}), and Mn (1.4×10^{-5}). If the calculated *HQ*
 192 is <1 , then no adverse health effects are expected because of exposure. Conversely, if *HQ* is >1 ,
 193 then negative health impacts are possible.

194

195 Cancer risk (R_t) is computed using Eqs. (5) and (6):

196

$$197 \quad R = LADD \times SF_a$$

198 **Equation (5)**

$$199 \quad R_t = \sum R$$

200

Equation (6)

201 Where SF_a is a slope factor ($\text{mg kg}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$). The SF_a values used for Cr, Co, Ni, As, and Cd are 42,
202 9.8, 0.84, 15.1, and 6.4, respectively (Feng et al., 2016).

203

204 *2.4. Enrichment factors of selected metals*

205 During the past few decades, enrichment factor (EF) has been comprehensively adopted to evaluate
206 the influences of vehicular exhausts, industrial releases, and mining coupled with ore processing, on
207 atmospheric metals (Li et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2015). Despite some
208 uncertainties regarding the selection criteria for the reference elements, Al, Fe, and Si are regularly
209 employed for EF computations (López et al., 2005). In this investigation, Fe was selected as a
210 reference element, presuming the subtle influences of contaminated Fe and the upper continental
211 crustal composition provided by Rudnick (2003). The EF of an element E in a PM_{10} sample can be
212 explained as

213

$$EF = \frac{(E/R)_{\text{Air}}}{(E/R)_{\text{crust}}}$$

214

Equation (7)

215 Where R is a reference element. In the case of EF values close to one, the crust can be considered
216 as the main contributor. Additionally, SPSS (version 13) was adopted for Pearson correlation
217 analysis (SLRA) and t -tests.

218

219 *2.5. Estimation of mineral matter in PM_{10}*

220 The evaluation of mineral matter (MIN) in PM_{10} was conducted using the common oxides of Ti, Al,
221 Mn, Mg, Ca, Na, K, and Fe, which were summed (represented as MIN) and then subsequently
222 computed using Eq. (8) (Feng et al., 2016; Kong et al., 2015; Terzi et al., 2010).

223 $\text{MIN} = 1.89 \times \text{Al} + 1.59 \times \text{Mn} + 1.67 \times \text{Mg} + 1.95 \times \text{Ca} + 1.35 \times \text{Na} + 1.21 \times \text{K} + 1.43 \times \text{Fe}$

224

Equation (8)

225

226 It is important to note that trace elements (*TE*) is the sum of all other metals except the above
227 elements in MIN, as shown in Eq. (9).

228
$$TE = Li + Be + Sc + V + Cr + Co + Ni + Cu + Zn + As + Se + Rb + Sr + Y + Zr + Mo + Cd$$

229
$$+ Sn + Sb + Cs + Ba + Tl + Pb + Bi - MIN$$

230 **Equation (9)**

231 For Ca, a factor of 1.95 is adopted herein because of the presence of CaO and CaCO₃.

232

233 *2.6. Back trajectory analysis*

234 Backward trajectories, starting from each receptor site, were calculated using the HYSPLIT_4
235 (Hybrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory) Model with GDAS (Global Data
236 Analysis System) one-degree gridded meteorological dataset (Draxler and Hess, 1998). The 72-
237 hour backward trajectories with 6 h temporal resolutions were computed at starting time of 02:00
238 UTC (local time in Thailand is UTC + 7 hours) on each sampling day. Since back trajectories are
239 sensitive to differences in starting height (Draxler, 2003), the trajectories were tested starting from
240 multiple heights of 1000 m, 1500 m, and 2000 m above sea level to confirm the uncertainty due to
241 the inadequate spatial and/or temporal resolution of the input data.

242

243 **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

244 Table 1 shows the statistical descriptions of selected PM₁₀-bound metals, as well as the *t*-test
245 analysis during the FDP and NDP, as mentioned previously in section 2.1. The arithmetic means of
246 the 31 selected metal particulate contents ranged from 0.061±0.0086 ng m⁻³ (Be) to 2,096±548 ng
247 m⁻³ (Ca) for FDP, and from 0.062±0.017 ng m⁻³ to 2,794±929 ng m⁻³ (Ca) for NDP (see Table 1).
248 Of the 31 selected metals, although seven (Al, Ca, Sc, Cr, Y, Ba, and Pb) showed significant
249 variations (*p* < 0.05) in mean concentrations between FDP and NDP (see Table 1), only two of those
250 (Ba and Pb) represented significant increases. These findings were in good agreement with previous
251 studies highlighting that Ba and Pb can be considered as firework tracers (Kumar et al., 2016; Tsai
252 et al., 2012; Vecchi et al., 2008). The fact that some earlier studies highlight Sr (Kumar et al., 2016;

253 Vecchi et al., 2008), Mg and K (Kumar et al., 2016; Tsai et al., 2012), and K, Ba, Sr, Cd, S, and P
254 (Kumar et al., 2016) as firework tracers may simply reflect the complexity of metal salts generally
255 employed to generate colours in firework displays, which include SrCO_3 (red), CaCl_2 (orange),
256 NaNO_3 (yellow), BaCl_2 (green), copper CuCl_2 (blue), and a mixture of metal salts including Sr and
257 Cu (purple colour).

258

259 It is well known that selected metals can be categorised into two clusters: crustal metals (including
260 Al, Ca, Fe, Mg, K, and Na), which could be principally attributed to high loading of crustal dust;
261 and anthropogenic metals (such as Zn, As, Pb, V, Ti, Cr, Mn, Ni, Sr, Cu, Li, Cd, and Co), which
262 originate from human activities (e.g., traffic exhaust, industrial emissions, burning of fossil fuels)
263 (Pan et al., 2015). In this study, the atmospheric concentrations of crustal metals (i.e., the sum of
264 Al, Ca, Fe, Mg, K, and Na) were $6,582 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ for FDP and $7,438 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ for NDP. Interestingly, the
265 particulate contents of anthropogenic metals (i.e., the sum of Zn, As, Pb, V, Ti, Cr, Mn, Ni, Sr, Cu,
266 Li, Cd, and Co) were 510 ng m^{-3} for FDP and 468 ng m^{-3} for NDP. Since the anthropogenic metals
267 were slightly higher in FDP, it seems rational to interpret particle injections triggered by firework
268 displays as a main contributor to atmospheric concentrations of anthropogenic metals during the
269 LKF period. These findings are also in good agreement with the finding that the *TE* concentration
270 (see Eq. (9)) detected in FDP (i.e., 581 ng m^{-3}) was slightly higher than in NDP (i.e., 526 ng m^{-3}).

271

272 As illustrated in Fig. 2, two near-identical patterns (represented as percentage contributions) of
273 particulate selected metals were detected during the FDP and NDP episodes, both of which
274 followed the sequence: $\text{Ca} > \text{Na} > \text{K} > \text{Fe} > \text{Al} > \text{Mg} > \text{Zn} > \text{Cu} > \text{Pb}$. The similar decreasing sequence of
275 selected metals between the two episodes highlights the relatively homogeneous distribution of the
276 31 target compounds throughout the ambient air of Bangkok during the observation periods. Since
277 previous studies report that vehicle exhaust is the main emission source of air pollutants in
278 Bangkok (Pongpiachan, 2013b; Pongpiachan and Iijima, 2016; Pongpiachan et al., 2013, 2015a,

279 2017a), it appears rational to interpret the identical distribution patterns of the selected metal
280 compositions between the two episodes as resulting from the effects of road traffic emissions
281 rapidly overwhelming other potential contributors during the sampling period. Further evaluations
282 of particulate metal injections triggered by firework displays were conducted by applying the
283 concept of diagnostic binary ratios, which will be described in section 3.1.

284

285 *3.1. Diagnostic binary ratios of selected metals*

286 Although the application of diagnostic binary ratios is frequently criticised as a reliable tool for
287 identifying the emission sources of air pollutants (Galarneau et al., 2008), this technique has still
288 been widely used in numerous studies tracing particulate metals in ambient air during the past few
289 years (Font et al., 2015; Hieu and Lee, 2010; Weckwerth, 2001). A simple binary ratio of two or
290 three selected metals is sensitive to physicochemical transformations, and emission source strengths
291 that can occur in the ambient air commonly involve metal contributions from numerous sources;
292 consequently, a comprehensive consideration of several metal ratios can provide a broader picture
293 for potential source identification. In this study, Ba and Pb were the only two metals that showed
294 significantly higher concentrations during the firework display episodes. It is also worth mentioning
295 that Ca, Na, K, Fe, Al, Mg, Zn, and Cu were the eight most abundant metals observed in both
296 episodes. For these reasons, 16 pairs of selected metals were selected as potential tracers for
297 firework emissions (see Table 2). The 16 metal ratios fell within the ranges 0.033–0.56 and
298 0.017–0.35 for FDP and NDP, respectively. As illustrated in Fig. 3, emissions of Li–Cs showed
299 strong correlation ($R=0.92$, $n=50$, $p<0.0001$) followed by Li–Tl ($R=0.92$, $n=50$, $p<0.0001$), Al–Y
300 ($R=0.93$, $n=50$, $p<0.0001$), V–Ni ($R=0.91$, $n=50$, $p<0.0001$), Mn–Cs ($R=0.97$, $n=50$, $p<0.0001$),
301 Mn–Tl ($R=0.90$, $n=50$, $p<0.0001$), and Cu–Mo ($R=0.92$, $n=50$, $p<0.0001$). Consequently, Li/Cs,
302 Li/Tl, Al/Y, V/Ni, Mn/Cs, and Mn/Tl were tested to evaluate their potential as firework tracers.
303 Unfortunately, the FDP/NDP ratios of these six metal ratios were ≈ 1 and therefore inappropriate as
304 firework tracers. Interestingly, only four metal ratios observed in FDP (i.e., Pb/Ca, Pb/Al, Pb/Mg,

305 and Pb/Cu) were approximately two times higher than in NDP. Additionally, eight metal ratios
306 (Ba/Ca, Ba/Na, Ba/K, Ba/Fe, Ba/Al, Ba/Mg, Ba/Zn, and Ba/Cu) had ratios <1.6 . Since Se and Cd
307 were the two metals with the largest enrichment factors (Fig. 4), a binary ratio of Se/Cd was also
308 computed in both sampling campaigns. Regrettably, the FDP/NDP ratio of Se/Cd was close to one
309 (i.e., 0.8), indicating its unsuitability for characterising firework displays.

310

311 3.2. Enrichment factors of selected metals

312 As shown in Fig. 4, the logarithmic *EFs* of the 31 selected metals in PM_{10} detected at both
313 monitoring campaigns from November 2012 to December 2013 followed the sequence:
314 $\text{Se} > \text{Sb} > \text{Cd} > \text{Bi} > \text{Cu} > \text{Sn} > \text{Pb} > \text{Mo} > \text{Zn} > \text{As} > \text{Tl} > \text{Ba} > \text{Ni} > \text{V} > \text{Rb} > \text{Ca} > \text{Cs} > \text{K} > \text{Na} > \text{Zr} > \text{Mn} > \text{Li} > \text{Be} > \text{Sr} > \text{Co}$
315 $> \text{Cr} > \text{Fe} > \text{Y} > \text{Sc} > \text{Mg} > \text{Al}$. These findings can be categorised into four groups as an arbitrary scale,
316 based on earlier reports (Karageorgis et al., 2009; Pongpiachan and Iijima, 2016). Firstly, Se, Sb,
317 and Cd were excessively enriched (i.e., $3 < \text{Log}(EF) < 4$). Secondly, Bi, Cu, Sn, Pb, Mo, and Zn were
318 highly enriched (i.e., $2 < \text{Log}(EF) < 3$). Thirdly, As and Tl were substantially enriched (i.e.,
319 $1 < \text{Log}(EF) < 2$). Fourthly, Ba, Ni, V, Rb, Ca, Cs, K, Na, Zr, Mn, Li, Be, Sr, Co, Cr, Fe, Y, Sc, Mg,
320 and Al were not enriched (i.e., $\text{Log}(EF) < 1$). It is important to note that almost 35% of $\text{Log}(EF)$
321 were <1 ; only 10% were >3 ; and 55% were <1 . It is well known that numerous phenomena, such as
322 vehicular exhaust, construction dust, crustal sources, industrial emissions, burning of agricultural
323 waste, re-suspension of road dust, and sea salt aerosols, can greatly alter the $\text{Log}(EF)$ values.

324

325 Since the $\text{Log}(EF)$ values of five metals (Co, Cr, Y, Sc, and Mg) approached zero (i.e., *EF* values
326 close to one) in both sampling periods, the crust is concluded to be the major source. Although
327 previous studies highlighted Mg as a firework tracer (Kumar et al., 2016; Tsai et al., 2012), the
328 present findings suggest that Mg might not be a good indicator of firework displays. The extremely
329 high $\text{Log}(EF)$ values of Se, Sb, and Cd are explained in terms of vehicular emissions, and are in
330 reasonably good accordance with previous studies (Lough et al., 2005; Almeida et al., 2006;

331 Crawford et al., 2007; Pongpiachan and Iijima, 2016). Additionally, the extremely low Log(EF)
332 values observed for Al (i.e., FDP: -0.59; NDP: -0.54) observed here are consistent with earlier
333 studies (Pongpiachan and Iijima, 2016; Wu et al., 1994). Terrestrial soil releases of particulate Al
334 are the most reasonable interpretation of these exceedingly low Log(EF) values detected in both
335 sampling episodes.

336

337 The back trajectory analysis reveals prevailing easterly and north-easterly surface winds during the
338 observation period (see Figs. S1–S5). It is obvious that the majority of the prevailing winds passed
339 over potential anthropogenic emission sources (i.e., the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) in
340 Cambodia) before reaching the study site. Although total employment in all of Cambodia's SEZs is
341 currently approximately 68,000, this represents just under 1% of total employment and 3.7% of
342 total secondary industry employment in Cambodia (Warr and Menon, 2016). Transport statistics
343 (http://apps.dlt.go.th/statistics_web/brochure/cumcar12.pdf) show 7,523,381 vehicles registered in
344 Bangkok as of 31 December 2012. The total number of vehicles in Bangkok is almost double that
345 for the whole of Cambodia, which was calculated as 338,791 (i.e., population \times number of vehicles
346 per capita: $(16,132,910 \times 21) / 1,000$) ([http://www.nationmaster.com/country-
347 info/stats/Transport/Road/Motor-vehicles-per-1000-people](http://www.nationmaster.com/country-info/stats/Transport/Road/Motor-vehicles-per-1000-people)).

348 Hence, it appears reasonable to assume that the easterly winds were comparatively less influenced
349 by anthropogenic emissions. These findings were consistent with the relatively low Log(EF) values
350 observed in the present study, highlighting that crustal emissions dominated the ambient air quality
351 of Bangkok during the observation period.

352

353 *3.3. Hazard quotients, hazard indexes, and cancer risks of selected metals*

354 Statistics for $D_{inh\text{-}children}$, $D_{inh\text{-}adults}$, $HQ_{children}$, HQ_{adult} , and $LADD$ are shown in Table 3, including
355 during both monitoring campaigns. As clearly displayed in Table 3, the risk levels of Pb, Cr, Co,
356 Ni, Zn, As, Cd, V, and Mn through the inhalation exposure system in both FDP and NDP were in

357 the range of 3.52×10^{-7} ~ 6.75×10^{-3} and 1.99×10^{-7} ~ 3.80×10^{-3} for children and adults, respectively.

358 Both values were much lower than the acceptance risk of 1. It should be noted that the sequence of

359 risk levels for the non-carcinogenic heavy metals was Mn>Cr>Co>As>Pb>Cd>V>Zn>Ni, which

360 differ from those for PM_{2.5} in Xinxiang (Zn>Pb>As>V>Cr>Mn>Ni>Cd>Co) reported by Feng et al.

361 (2016). This discrepancy might be explained by some differences in particle size distributions

362 (Marcazzan et al., 2001; Samara and Voutsas, 2005; Wang et al., 2013) and emission source

363 characteristics between Bangkok and Xinxiang. It is worth mentioning that the sum of the risk

364 levels (*HI*) for the nine heavy metals were 7.28×10^{-3} and 4.10×10^{-3} for children and adults,

365 respectively. These are clearly less than 0.1 and much less than 1; moreover, they are 33 and 32

366 times lower than the risk levels reported for Xinxiang for children and adults, respectively. Since

367 the *HQ*_{children} values were almost double the *HQ*_{adult} values for both monitoring periods, it appears

368 reasonable to mention that children are more vulnerable than adults to the noncancerous effects of

369 these nine non-carcinogenic heavy metals (Yang et al., 2014). This can be attributed to their

370 mouthing behaviours, whereby children's hand-to-mouth activities represent a major pathway of

371 chemical exposure (Pongpiachan, 2016; Pongpiachan et al., 2017a).

372

373 The *LADD* of Pb, Cr, Co, Ni, Zn, As, Cd, V, and Mn, and the cancer risk (*R*_t) (see Eq. 6) associated

374 with As, Cd, Cr, Ni, and Co exposure via respiration, are also displayed in Table 3. The sequence of

375 *R* values (see Eq. 5) during the FDP was As>Cr>Cd>Co>Ni, which differs from those observed in

376 Xinxiang (i.e., As>Cd>Cr>Ni>Co) by Feng et al. (2016). It is important to note that the

377 carcinogenic risks associated with As, Cd, Cr, Ni, and Co were all $>10^{-6}$; in particular, As and Cr

378 were 180 and 145 times greater than internationally accepted precautionary or threshold values for

379 cancer risk (Feng et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2007). Additionally, the carcinogenic risks for Ni (FDP:

380 5.94×10^{-6} ; NDP: 4.51×10^{-6}) and Co (FDP: 6.51×10^{-6} ; NDP: 6.55×10^{-6}) were slightly higher than the

381 accepted value of 10^{-6} . Overall, the lifetime cancer risks of particulate As, Cd, Cr, Ni, and Co

382 noticeably surpass the US-EPA guidelines, and it seems rational to conclude that these may expose

383 neighbouring residents in Bangkok to enhanced risk of cancer.

384

385 **4. CONCLUSIONS**

386 The atmospheric concentrations, hazard quotients, hazard indexes, and cancer risks of 31 selected
387 metals present in PM_{10} were investigated during firework display and non-display periods in
388 Bangkok. Only Ba and Pb were significantly higher during the firework display periods. These
389 results were consistent with earlier findings indicating that these two metals can be acknowledged
390 as firework tracers. Since the Pb/Ca, Pb/Al, Pb/Mg, and Pb/Cu ratios were approximately two times
391 higher during the firework display period, it appears reasonable to apply these four diagnostic
392 binary ratios as potential firework tracers, particularly in the case of Bangkok. Enrichment factors
393 highlighted the importance of crustal emissions as a main contributor of particulate metals in
394 ambient air of Bangkok regardless of firework events. No significant differences in risk levels were
395 observed for Pb, Cr, Co, Ni, Zn, As, Cd, V, or Mn during firework episodes. Although *HI* values
396 observed in both sampling campaigns were much lower than international guidelines, the
397 carcinogenic risks associated with As, Cd, Cr, Ni, and Co all exceeded the acceptable level of 10^{-6} ,
398 raising public health concerns over increased cancer risk among surrounding residents in Bangkok.

399

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667 Table 1. Statistical description of concentrations of 31 selected metals (ng m⁻³) in PM₁₀ during FDP
668 and NDP
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	FDP		T-Test (p<0.05)
	Conc. [ng m ⁻³]	NDP	
Li	0.852 (0.425~1.26)	0.844 (0.280~1.63)	NS*
Be	0.0614 (0.0444~0.0766)	0.0624 (0.0300~0.100)	NS
Na	1,374 (198~2,855)	1,339 (77.6~3,006)	NS
Mg	263 (26.5~492)	330 (109~641)	NS
Al	722 (N.D. ~1,028)	883 (237~1,768)	S**
K	1,206 (741~1,969)	1,094 (199~2,542)	NS
Ca	2,096 (1,219~2,977)	2,794 (973~5,274)	S
Sc	0.160 (0.0751~0.210)	0.196 (0.0800~0.360)	S
V	5.97 (3.20~12.1)	4.67 (1.38~11.15)	NS
Cr	2.03 (0.600~7.05)	3.58 (0.220~27.10)	S
Mn	39.6 (20.2~64.0)	41.1 (12.2~93.6)	NS
Fe	922 (569~1,167)	997 (380~1,446)	NS
Co	0.391 (0.212~0.546)	0.393 (0.140~0.690)	NS
Ni	4.16 (2.18~7.30)	3.16 (0.670~6.59)	NS
Cu	133 (85.8~264)	163 (45.9~410)	NS
Zn	233 (123~411)	189 (35.4~496)	NS
As	7.00 (2.35~13.3)	6.32 (0.950~22.4)	NS
Se	3.52 (0.916~6.12)	3.24 (0.590~10.4)	NS
Rb	5.09 (2.57~8.22)	4.99 (1.27~11.0)	NS
Sr	8.05 (3.44~20.7)	7.04 (2.63~13.7)	NS
Y	0.347 (N.D. ~0.506)	0.465 (0.220~0.870)	S
Zr	7.95 (5.55~11.8)	8.54 (3.64~12.5)	NS
Mo	4.11 (0.757~15.1)	5.15 (0.0300~17.6)	NS
Cd	1.80 (0.289~3.26)	1.40 (0.260~3.89)	NS
Sn	9.55 (4.62~20.6)	8.85 (2.26~17.5)	NS
Sb	10.1 (5.33~15.2)	9.43 (3.01~28.8)	NS
Cs	0.239 (0.0347~0.458)	0.237 (N.D. ~0.710)	NS
Ba	68.1 (38.3~106)	57.0 (19.5~95.6)	S
Tl	0.334 (0.0357~0.798)	0.295 (0.0400~1.19)	NS
Pb	74.7 (29.2~145)	47.2 (7.96~119)	S
Bi	1.82 (0.449~4.63)	1.83 (0.310~6.89)	NS

670 *NS: Non-significant

671 **S: Significant

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Table 2. Mean ratios of selected metals representative of FDP and NDP

Diagnostic Binary Ratios	FDP	NDP	FDP/NDP
Pb/Ca	0.036	0.017	2.1
Pb/Na	0.054	0.035	1.5
Pb/K	0.062	0.043	1.4
Pb/Fe	0.081	0.047	1.7
Pb/Al	0.10	0.053	1.9
Pb/Mg	0.28	0.14	2.0
Pb/Zn	0.32	0.25	1.3
Pb/Cu	0.56	0.29	1.9
Ba/Ca	0.033	0.020	1.6
Ba/Na	0.050	0.043	1.2
Ba/K	0.057	0.052	1.1
Ba/Fe	0.074	0.057	1.3
Ba/Al	0.094	0.065	1.5
Ba/Mg	0.26	0.17	1.5
Ba/Zn	0.29	0.30	1.0
Ba/Cu	0.51	0.35	1.5
Li/Cs	3.6	3.56	1.00
Li/Tl	2.6	2.86	0.89
Al/Y	2077	1897	1.09
V/Ni	1.4	1.5	0.97
Mn/Cs	165	173	0.96
Mn/Tl	119	139	0.85
Cu/Mo	32	32	1.03
Cu/Sb	13	17	0.8
Cd/Cu	0.014	0.0086	1.6
Cd/Pb	0.024	0.030	0.8
Se/Cd	2.0	2.3	0.8

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Table 3. Hazard quotients, hazard indexes, and cancer risks for selected metals present in PM₁₀ in Bangkok

Elements	FDP				NDP				FDP		NDP		FDP		NDP	
	$D_{inh\text{-}children}$	$D_{inh\text{-}adults}$	$HQ_{children}$	HQ_{adult}	$D_{inh\text{-}children}$	$D_{inh\text{-}adults}$	$HQ_{children}$	HQ_{adult}	R_f	$LADD$	$LADD$	SF_a	R	R		
Pb	1.72E-07	9.67E-08	4.87E-05	2.75E-05	1.08E-07	6.12E-08	3.08E-05	1.74E-05	3.52E-03	1.27E-04	8.03E-05					
Cr	4.65E-09	2.62E-09	1.63E-04	9.17E-05	8.22E-09	4.63E-09	2.87E-04	1.62E-04	2.86E-05	3.44E-06	6.08E-06	42	1.45E-04	2.56E-04		
Co	8.97E-10	5.06E-10	1.57E-04	8.86E-05	9.03E-10	5.09E-10	1.58E-04	8.92E-05	5.71E-06	6.65E-07	6.69E-07	9.8	6.51E-06	6.55E-06		
Ni	9.56E-09	5.39E-09	4.64E-07	2.62E-07	7.26E-09	4.09E-09	3.52E-07	1.99E-07	2.06E-02	7.08E-06	5.37E-06	0.84	5.94E-06	4.51E-06		
Zn	5.34E-07	3.01E-07	1.77E-06	1.00E-06	4.34E-07	2.45E-07	1.44E-06	8.14E-07	3.01E-01	3.95E-04	3.22E-04					
As	1.61E-08	9.07E-09	5.34E-05	3.01E-05	1.45E-08	8.19E-09	4.82E-05	2.72E-05	3.01E-04	1.19E-05	1.07E-05	15.1	1.80E-04	1.62E-04		
Cd	4.13E-09	2.33E-09	4.13E-06	2.33E-06	3.21E-09	1.81E-09	3.21E-06	1.81E-06	1.00E-03	3.06E-06	2.38E-06	6.4	1.96E-05	1.52E-05		
V	1.37E-08	7.73E-09	1.96E-06	1.10E-06	1.07E-08	6.04E-09	1.53E-06	8.63E-07	7.00E-03	1.02E-05	7.94E-06					
Mn	9.09E-08	5.12E-08	6.49E-03	3.66E-03	9.44E-08	5.33E-08	6.75E-03	3.80E-03	1.40E-05	6.73E-05	6.99E-05					
Σ	8.46E-07	4.77E-07	6.92E-03	3.90E-03	6.82E-07	3.85E-07	7.28E-03	4.10E-03		6.26E-04	5.05E-04		3.57E-04	4.44E-04		

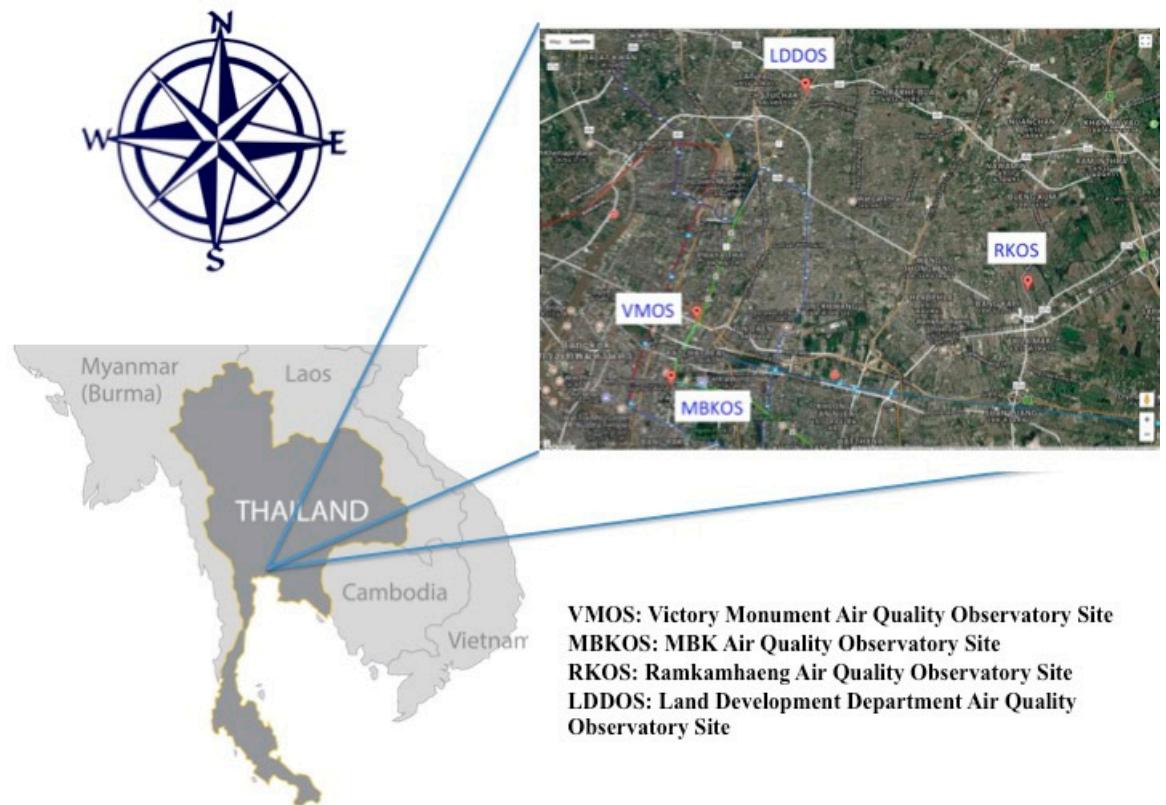


Fig. 1. Locations of four PCD air quality observation sites, Bangkok

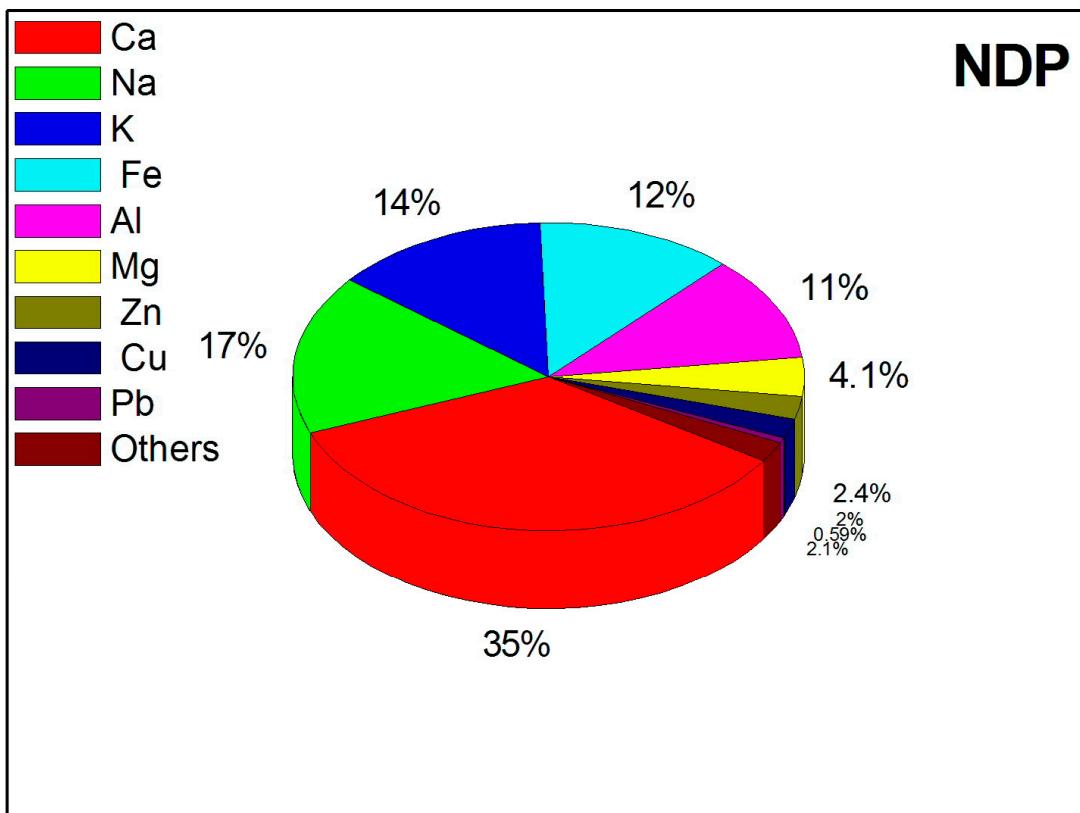
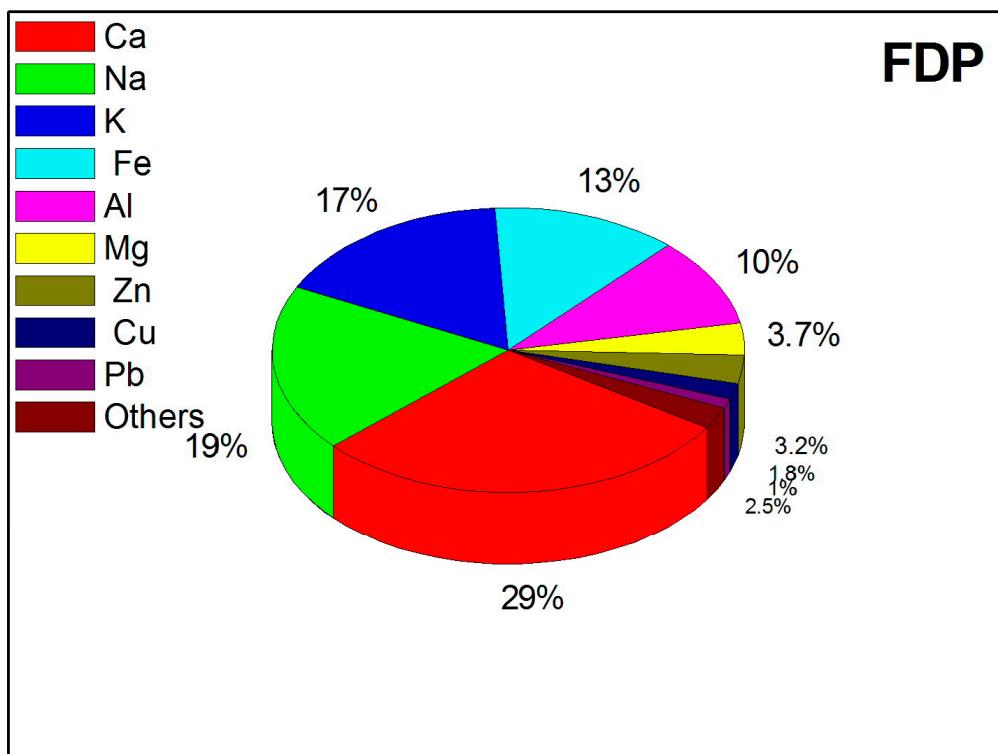


Fig. 2. Percentage contributions of selected metals collected during FDP and NDP

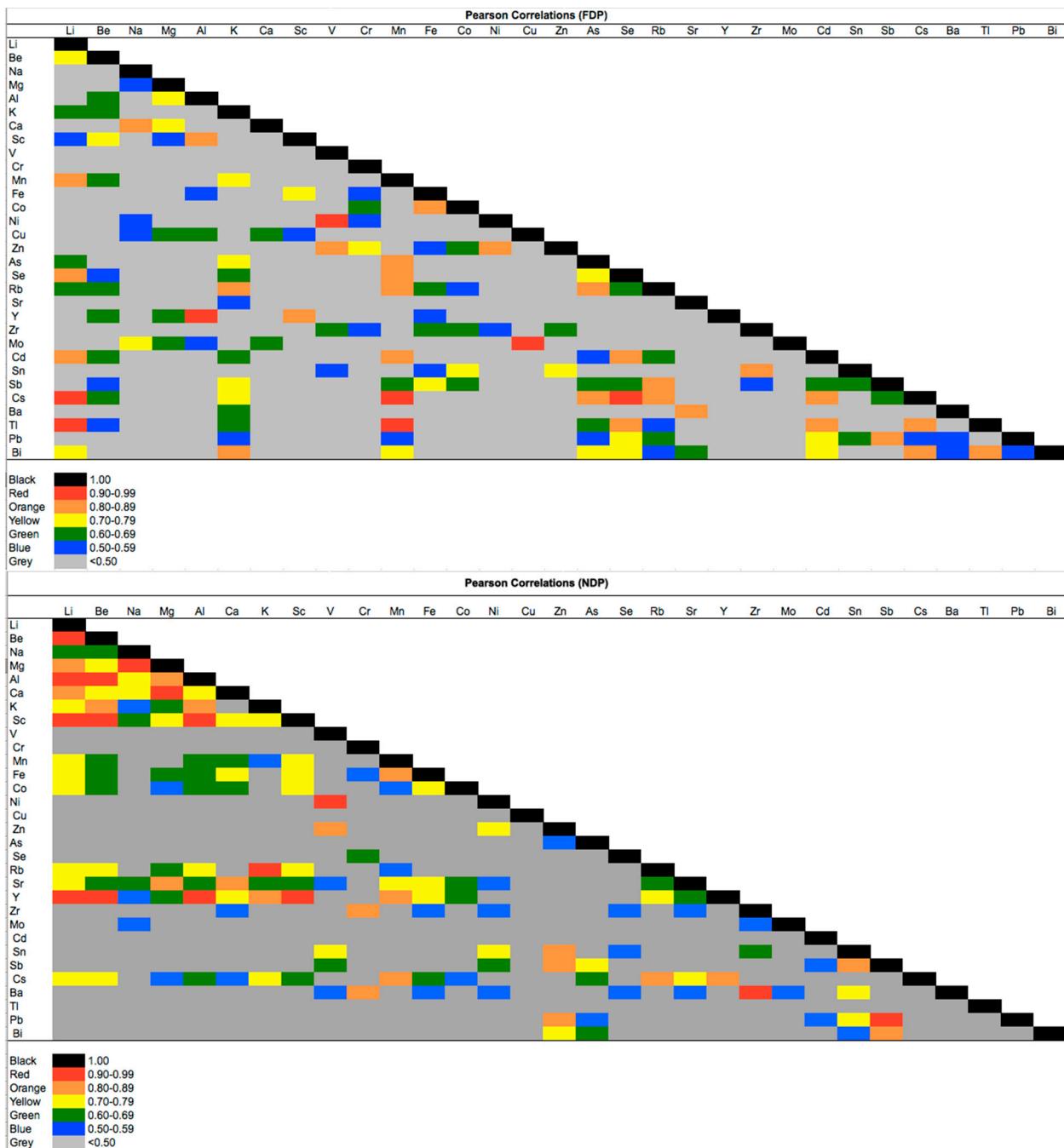


Fig. 3. Pearson correlation analysis of 31 selected metals collected during FDP and NDP

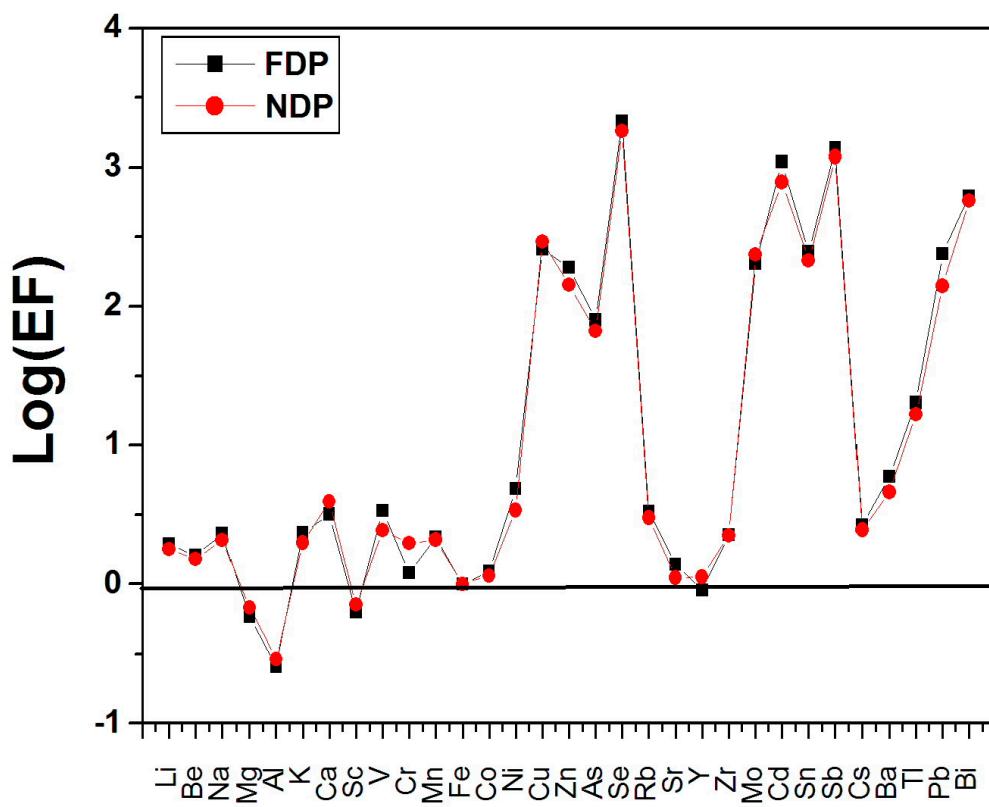


Fig. 4. Logarithms of enrichment factors for 31 selected metals collected during FDP and NDP

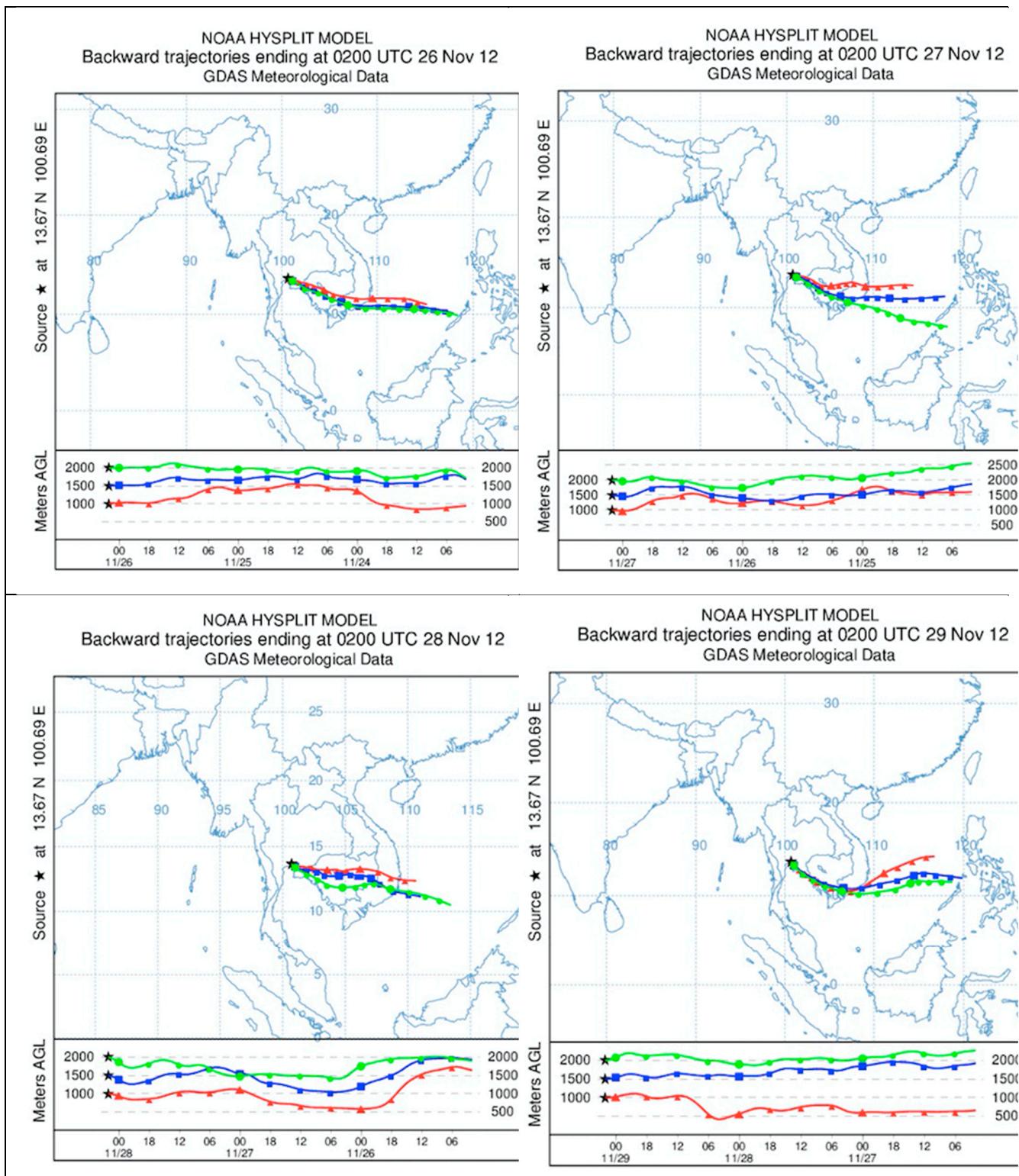


Fig. S1. Back-trajectory analysis from 26 Nov 2012 to 29 Nov 2012

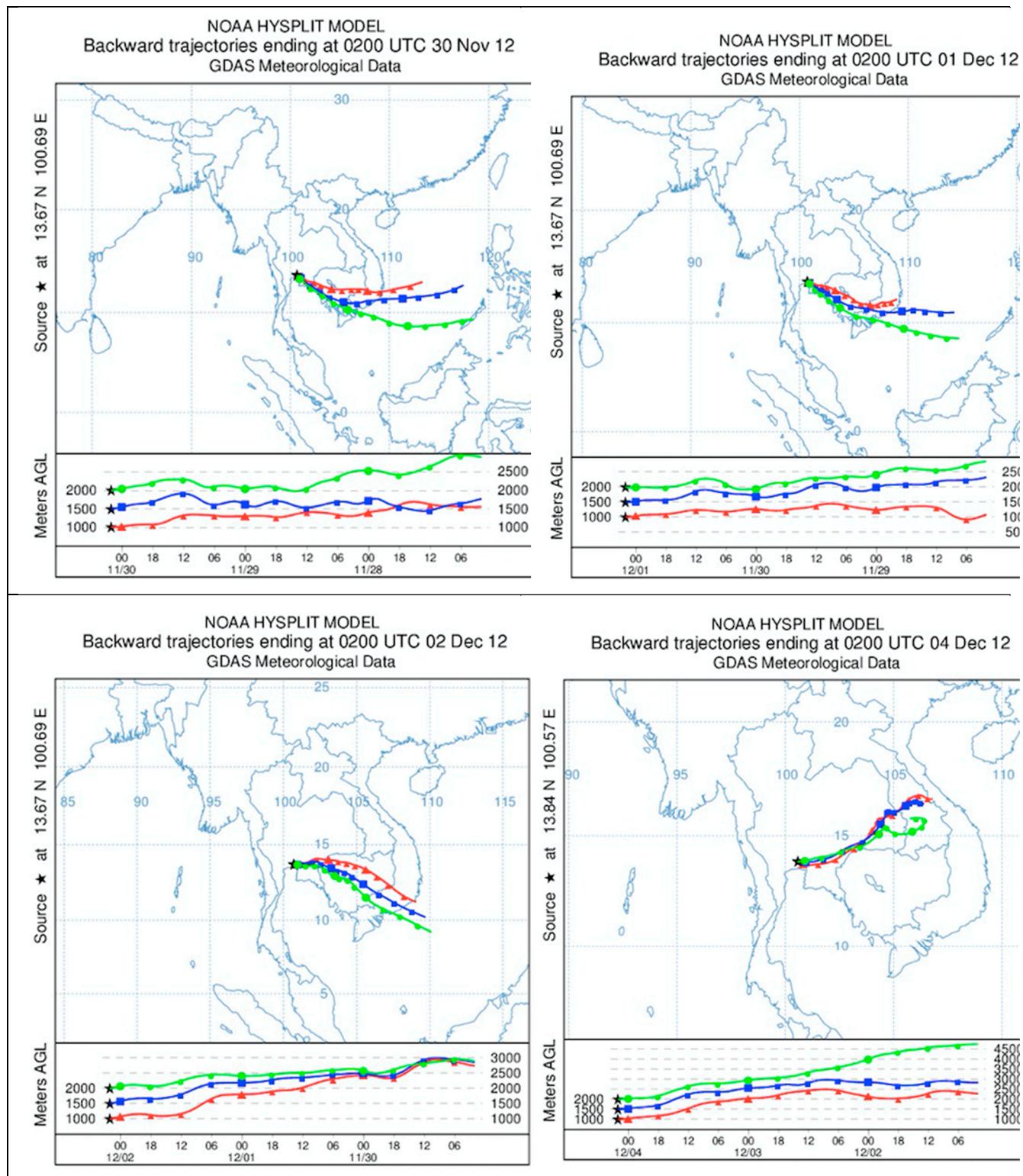


Fig. S2. Back-trajectory analysis from 30 Nov 2012 to 4 Dec 2012

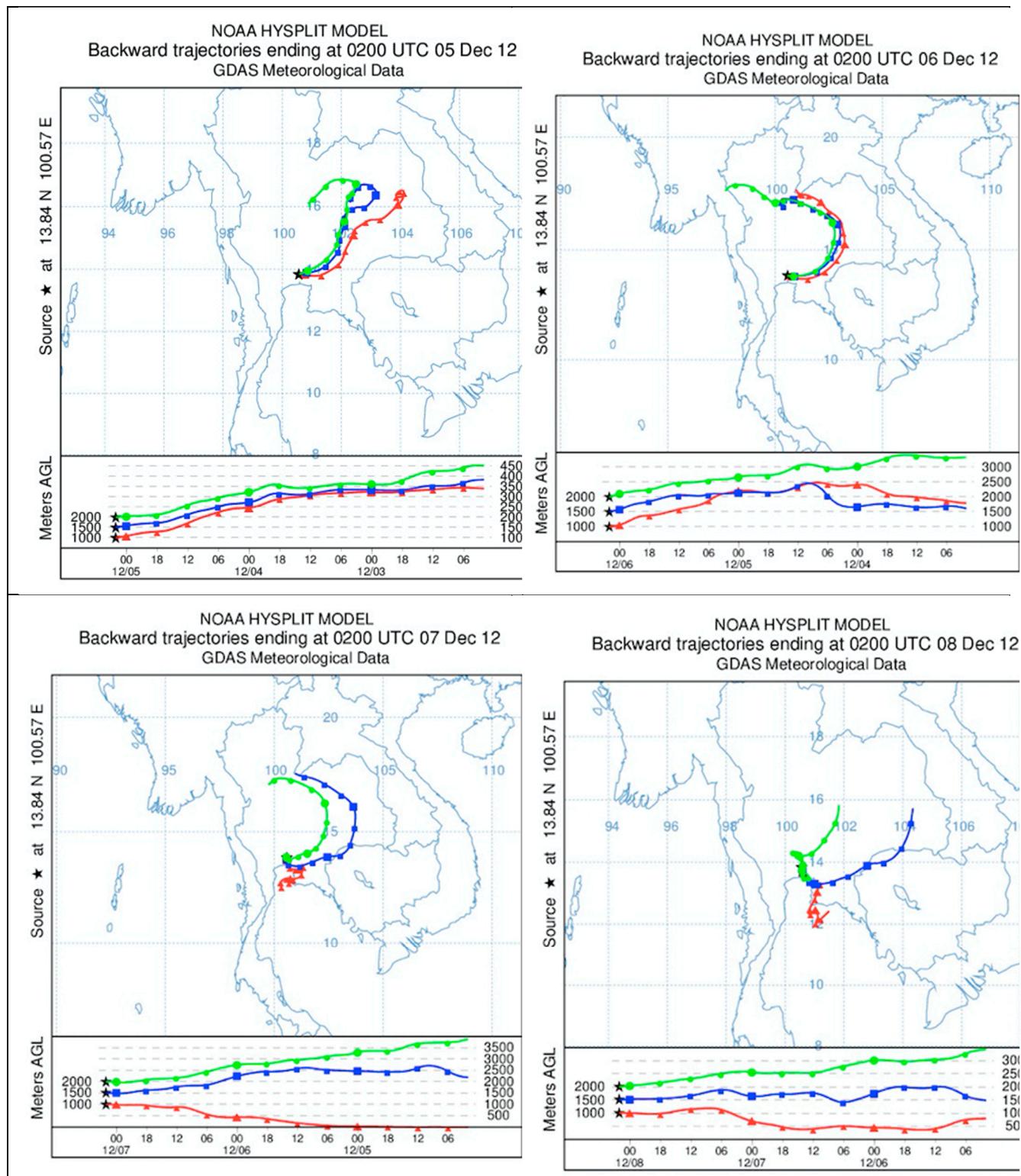


Fig. S3. Back-trajectory analysis from 5 Dec 2012 to 8 Dec 2012

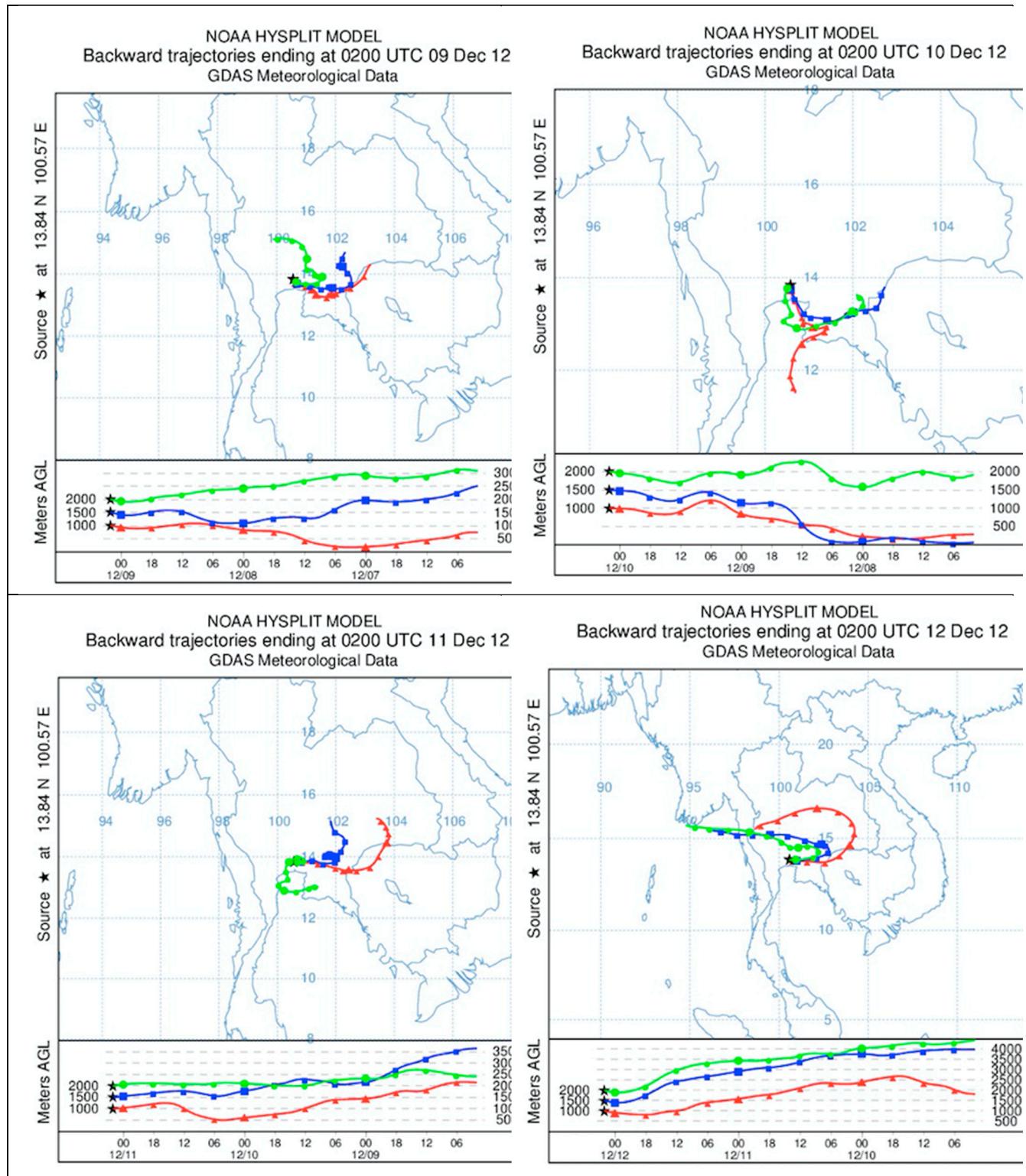


Fig. S4. Back-trajectory analysis from 9 Dec 2012 to 12 Dec 2012

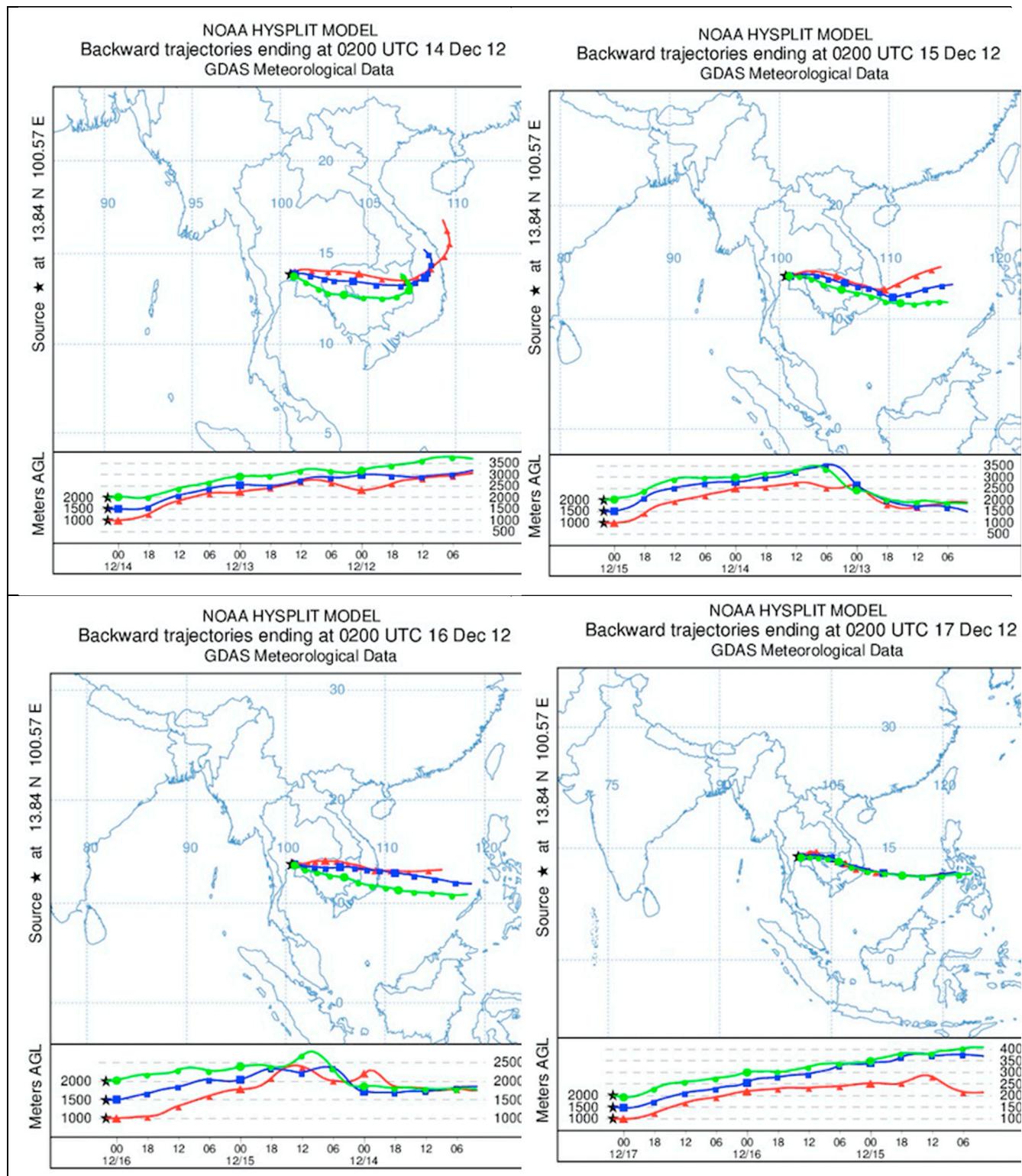


Fig. S5. Back-trajectory analysis from 14 Dec 2012 to 17 Dec 2012

Table S1. Analytical performance obtained by ICP-MS.

Element	Analytical Mode ^a	Mass/Charge	Detection Limit ^b	Unit	Standard Solution
Li	NG	7	4.72	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Be	NG	9	2.70	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Na	H ₂	23	1.30	µg L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Mg	He	24	0.427	µg L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Al	He	27	0.117	µg L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
K	H ₂	39	1.02	µg L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Ca	H ₂	40	0.601	µg L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Sc	He	45	1.35	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-1
V	He	51	0.927	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Cr	He	53	5.28	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Mn	He	55	9.11	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Fe	He	56	73.9	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Co	He	59	0.937	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Ni	He	60	10.6	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Cu	He	63	15.0	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Zn	He	66	40.0	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
As	He	75	2.66	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Se	H ₂	78	11.5	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Rb	He	85	4.13	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Sr	He	88	1.96	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Y	He	89	2.50	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-1
Zr	He	90	0.171	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-8
Mo	He	95	1.75	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-8
Cd	He	111	2.25	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Sn	He	118	1.53	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-7
Sb	He	121	0.494	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-7
Cs	He	133	0.922	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Ba	He	137	2.13	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Tl	He	205	0.657	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Pb	He	208	1.44	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331
Bi	He	209	10.5	ng L ⁻¹	XSTC-331

^a Determination was performed under three different analytical modes. NG = non-gas mode, which was performed without collision/reaction cell system.

^b Values were defined as three times the standard deviation of ten calibration blank analyses. H₂ = reaction mode using hydrogen gas. He = collision mode using helium gas.