

Interactive comment on “Spatial–temporal variations, sources, and transport of airborne inhalable metals (PM₁₀) in urban and rural areas of northern China” by X. S. Luo et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This manuscript shows a one year dataset of airborne inhalable metals in PM₁₀ at seven cities in northern China, the source and long-range transport were also investigated. The manuscript presents valuable results and is well interpreted, although there are still some needs to be modified, I therefore recommend this manuscript for acceptance by ACP after modifications.

Comments: 1. There is only one sample each month in this study, so the limitation of temporal variation analysis should be mentioned in this manuscript's conclusion. 2. Dust storm was emphasized as an important factor impacting the analysis result, but it is not clear to show if any dust event was captured in the dataset and what is detailed

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difference between dust sample and normal samples. 3. The meteorological condition is quite important for analyzing these results, especially in hazy season of China (winter). Particularly there is only one sample each month, so the meteorological condition of the sampling should be discussed with more details in the manuscript. 4. In Fig 6, why Pb isotopic ratio of Wuwei is so special? 5. In References section, the second and fourth papers are same. 6. Page 10, line 336, one “from” should be removed.

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