

1 **Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} emitted from typical anthropogenic sources in**
2 **southern West Africa (sWA): Chemical characteristics and associated**
3 **health risks**

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28 **Abstract**

29 Urbanization is an issue strongly emerging in southern West African (sWA). There is a
30 lack of full understanding on chemical compositions and personal exposure (PE) levels to
31 fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and its health risks related to various anthropogenic sources in
32 this region. In this study, PE PM_{2.5} was for the first time studied in dry (January) and wet
33 (July) seasons of 2016 to characterize the contributions of Domestic Fires (DF) to women and
34 Waste Burning (WB) to students in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, and Motorcycle Traffic (MT) to
35 drivers in Cotonou, Benin.

36 The average PE PM_{2.5} mass concentrations were 331.7±190.7, 356.9±71.9 and
37 242.8±67.6 µg m⁻³ at DF, WB and MT for the women, students and drivers, which were 2.4,
38 10.3 and 6.4 times of the ambient PM_{2.5} concentrations, respectively. Elevated PE PM_{2.5}
39 levels in dry season were found at DF (358.8±100.5 µg m⁻³), WB (494.3±15.8 µg m⁻³) and
40 MT (335.1±72.1 µg m⁻³), on average 15% higher than that at DF and 55% higher at both WB
41 and MT in wet season. The seasonal variations were attributed to emission sources,
42 meteorological factors and personal activities. In addition, the results show that geological
43 material (35.8%, 46.0% and 42.4%) and organic matter (34.1%, 23.3% and 24.9%) were the
44 major components of PE PM_{2.5} at DF, WB and MT sites. It is worth noting that the
45 contribution of heavy metals was higher at WB (1.0%) than at DF (0.7%) and MT (0.4%),
46 strongly influenced by the waste burning emission. This results in the highest non-cancer
47 risks on heavy metal for students, 5.1 and 4.8 times the values for women and drivers,
48 respectively.

49 By conducting organic speciation, fingerprints were used to access the exposure and
50 identify the source contributions from typical local anthropogenic sources. The women
51 exposure concentration to particulate polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) at DF
52 (77.4±47.9 ng m⁻³) was 1.6 and 2.1 times, respectively, of that for students at WB (49.9±30.7
53 ng m⁻³) and for drivers at MT (37.0±7.4 ng m⁻³). This can be associated with the higher
54 contributions from solid fuels burning and meat grilling activities to women, resulting in 5
55 times exceed the cancer risk safety threshold (1×10⁻⁶). Phthalate esters (PAEs), commonly
56 used as plasticizers in products, were in high levels in the student exposure PM_{2.5} samples
57 (1380.4±335.2 ng m⁻³) owing to obvious waste burning activities nearby. The drivers'
58 exposures to fossil fuel combustions markers of hopanes in PE PM_{2.5} at MT (50.9±7.9 ng m⁻³)
59 was 3.0-3.3 times of those for women at DF (17.1±6.4 ng m⁻³) and students at WB (15.6±6.1
60 ng m⁻³).

61 Overall, the current study shows that wood combustion, waste burning, fugitive dust and

62 motor vehicle emissions were the dominated sources for the PE PM_{2.5} and mainly contributed
63 to its toxicities. The exposure to heavy metals of Pb and Mn had high non-cancer risks to
64 students at WB, while severe cancer risk of PAHs was found for women at DF via inhalation
65 The result of this study provides original data, initial perspective of PM_{2.5} personal exposure,
66 and health risk assessment in the developing areas. The information encourages the
67 governments to improve the air quality and living standard of residents in this region.

68
69 **Keywords:** personal exposure to PM_{2.5}; domestic fires; waste burning; motorcycle traffic;
70 southern West Africa

71

1. Introduction

The southern West Africa (sWA) region is experiencing an economic upturn. Anthropogenic emissions of air pollutants have been increasing since the last few years, leading to poor air quality to the areas (IMF, 2017; Norman et al., 2007). Fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5} with equivalent aerodynamic diameters $\leq 2.5 \mu\text{m}$) is one of the major concerns from international organizations and publics because of its high health impacts by personal exposures (Bruce et al., 2000; Chen et al., 2013; Owili et al., 2017). Owili et al. (2017) found that four types of ambient PM_{2.5}, including mineral dust, anthropogenic pollutant, biomass burning and mixture aerosols are significantly associated with under-five and maternal mortality in Africa. However, studies on PM_{2.5}, especially direct personal exposure (PE) tests to PM_{2.5} (non-stationary sampling) and its health assessment, are very limited in these low gross domestic product (GDP) countries.

Since the 1990s, several international campaigns have been performed in Africa. Some of them were mainly focused on the particles or aerosols, such as DECAFE (Lacaux et al., 1995), EXPRESSO (Delmas et al. 1999; Ruellan et al., 1999), SAFARI-1992 (Lindesay et al., 1996), SAFARI-2000 (Swap et al., 2002), AMMA (Léon et al., 2009; Liousse et al., 2010; Marticorena et al., 2010) and INDAAF (Ouafo-Leumbe et al., 2017). In fact, Africa has the largest production of mineral dust particles from the Sahara Desert and unpaved road surfaces (Laurent et al., 2008; Marticorena et al., 2010; Reeves et al., 2010), and carbonaceous aerosols originated from wild fires (mainly savannah fires) (Capes et al., 2008; Gaudichet et al., 1995) among the world. Therefore, these campaigns were more biased toward the natural sources of aerosols in Africa. In previous literature, the major contributions to the aerosol chemistry in northern Benin in dry season were dust (26-59%), primary organic matters (POC, 30-59%), elemental carbon (EC, 5-9%) and water soluble inorganic ions (3-5%) (Ouafo-Leumbe et al., 2017). Liousse et al. (2014) showed that the increase of relative importance of particulate emissions from domestic fires and fossil fuel combustions in Africa. Uncertainty has been raised by the residents who live in urban areas as they do concern on the health impact from air quality. However, the works on PE to PM_{2.5} emitted from the typical anthropogenic sources in the emerging cities in Africa are still scarce.

The main anthropogenic emission sources of PM_{2.5} in sWA include domestic wood burning, fossil fuel combustion, unregulated traffic and industries, waste burning and road dust. An ongoing project in Dynamics-Aerosol-Chemistry-Cloud Interactions in West Africa (Africa-DACCIWA) aims to quantify the influences of anthropogenic and natural emissions on the atmospheric pollutant composition over southern West Africa and to assess their

106 impacts on human health, ecosystem and agricultural productivity. The information will be
107 gathered and discussed with policy-makers, scientists, operational centers, students and
108 general publics. The current work in the framework of the Work Package 2 “Air Pollution and
109 Health” of DACCIWA tends to link emission sources, air pollution and health impacts over
110 representative differentiated urban sources: domestic fires and waste burning in Abidjan
111 (Ivory Coast) and two-wheel vehicle emission in Cotonou (Benin) for different groups of
112 populations.

113 Smoking meat (e.g., fish and pork) by biomass fuels (wood) is an important diet pattern
114 for residents of coastal countries in sWA area. Many female workers are engaged in roasting
115 activities without any personal health protection. They are directly exposed to the high PM_{2.5}
116 emissions from wood burning and smoking meat, which could cause serious health issues.
117 Besides, urbanization leads explosive population growth and rural depopulation in sWA,
118 generating a huge amount of urban domestic wastes. The biggest landfill in Abidjan involved
119 in this study receives more than 1,000,000 t waste per year (Adjiri et al., 2015). Without any
120 processing capacity and appropriate treatment method, a large amount of air pollutants was
121 thus emitted from the combustion and stacking of waste. Such phenomenon damages the
122 living environment and harm the residents’ health (especially for children) in Abidjan (UNEP,
123 2015). Moreover, in most low-GDP countries, motorbike taxi is a major mode of local
124 transportation (Assamoi and Liousse, 2010). In Benin, motorbike taxi drivers (mainly male)
125 represented ~2.5% of the total population in 2002 (Lawin et al., 2016). Due to long working
126 hours daily, the drivers are exposed to traffic-related PM_{2.5} emissions over years.

127 Major chemical components in PM_{2.5} like OC, EC, and ions not only have strong impact
128 on PM_{2.5} physicochemical characteristics, but also cause health risks. Typical trace toxic
129 chemicals, such as heavy metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), in PM_{2.5}
130 have various health damages to humans (Cao et al., 2012; WHO, 1998; Xu et al., 2015). For
131 instance, Pb is a neuro-developmental metal which affects children health and mental
132 development (USEPA, 2006; Xu et al., 2017). Several PAHs are teratogenic and carcinogenic
133 for humans (Tang et al., 2008). Up to now, only few studies have investigated chemical
134 compositions of PE PM_{2.5} samples, and little is known regarding the sources and health risks
135 in sWA region. This poses a challenge on formulation of strategies to mitigate PM_{2.5} pollution
136 and its health effects in this area.

137 Therefore, our study relies on the portable device sampling PM_{2.5} PE samples in sWA
138 area in 2016. Study objectives include 1) to characterize the PE to PM_{2.5} from different
139 typical local anthropogenic sources by chemical component and PM_{2.5} mass balance analysis;

140 2) to identify potential pollution sources to different exposed populations from fingerprint of
141 organic markers; and 3) to evaluate the PE to PM_{2.5} health risks by the United States
142 Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) health risk assessment model. This information
143 offers scientific understanding of the PE to PM_{2.5} in sWA and arouses the government's
144 attention to protect residents' health from various anthropogenic sources.

145 **2. Materials and methods**

146 *2.1. Site description and participants selection*

147 PE to PM_{2.5} (hereafter defined as PE PM_{2.5}) filter samples were collected using portative
148 devices in unique source-dominated environments for different target groups of humans,
149 including Domestic Fires (DF) for women and Waste Burning (WB) for students in Abidjan,
150 Côte d'Ivoire, and Motorcycle Traffic (MT) for drivers in Cotonou, Benin (Figure 1). Abidjan
151 (5°20' N, 4°1' W) is the economic capital of Côte d'Ivoire with 6.5 million inhabitants in
152 2016. It is characterized by a high level of industrialization and urbanization in sWA area.
153 Cotonou (6°21' N, 2°26' W) is the largest city and economic center of Benin, with about 1.5
154 million inhabitants in 2016. Both the cities experience a tropical wet and dry mixed climate,
155 with relatively constant ambient temperatures (in a range of 24-30°C) and an average of
156 relative humidity (RH) >80% throughout a year.

157 DF site in Abidjan is located in the market of Yopougon-Lubafrique (5°19.7' N, 4°6.4'
158 W) where is a large courtyard with about 25 fireplaces (Figure 2). The major fuel used is
159 essentially hevea wood, which is a kind of local rubber trees. Several female adult workers
160 were employed for grilling meat and/or roasting peanuts from 06:00 to 15:00 UTC (working
161 time) in the working day. In this study, we selected two healthy, non-smoking female
162 workers (an average age of 32.5 years old) to conduct personal exposure to PM_{2.5} from
163 domestic fire and related sources such as grilling (Figure 2). WB site in Abidjan is near the
164 public landfill of Akouédo (5°21.2' N, 3°56.3' W), which has received all the wastes
165 collected from Abidjan for the past 50 years (Figure 2). We selected two healthy and non-
166 smoking primary school students (an average age of 11 years old) who live and study next to
167 WB site (within 100 m straight-line distance) to determine the personal exposure features to
168 PM_{2.5} from waste burning (spontaneous combustion at high ambient temperatures and
169 irregular combustion by the landfill workers) emissions at landfill and other daily sources.
170 Lastly, MT site in Cotonou is located in the Dantokpa area (6°22.1' N, 2°25.9' E), one of the
171 biggest markets in western Africa (Figure 2). It is largely dominated by a mass of emissions
172 from motorcycle traffic (two-wheel vehicle powered by petrol, also named zemidjan in local
173

174 language) and a small quantity of other motor vehicles. We chose two healthy and non-
175 smoking male motorcycle drivers (an average age of 50 years old) to survey PM_{2.5} personal
176 exposure from motorcycle emission and related sources (such as road dust).

177 Two women (woman A and B) involved in this study at DF were both in charge of
178 cooking at home by charcoal and butane gas as fuel (Figure S1abc) and daily household
179 cleaning. One student participator (student A, boy, 8 years old) at WB did not involve in
180 cooking activities at home [cooking energy is charcoal and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)]
181 (Figure S1ac), but another student (student B, girl, 14 years old) is usually responsible for
182 household cooking with burning solid fuels (wood) (Figure S1d). Two motorcycle drivers
183 (driver A and B) at MT work for a local motorcycle operation company whose working time
184 is usually from 06:30 to 10:30, 12:00 to 17:00 and 18:30 to 21:00 UTC. They drove on road
185 almost all the working time and returned home for meals. They did not participate any
186 cooking at home (energy source for cooking is charcoal) (Figure S1a).

187 188 *2.2. Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} samples collection and QA/QC*

189 Twelve-hour time integrated (daytime: 07:30 to 19:30 UTC; nighttime: 19:30 to 07:30
190 on the next day UTC) PE PM_{2.5} samples were collected in two major southwestern African
191 cities (Figure 1) during dry season (from January 6th to 11th) and wet season (from July 5th to
192 10th) in 2016. PE PM_{2.5} sampling was conducted for three consecutive days synchronously
193 using the PEM (Personal Environmental Monitor) sampling devices with SKC pump (SKC
194 Inc., USA) at a flow rate of 10 liter per minute (lpm). The PEM PM_{2.5} sampling head worn in
195 the breathing zone of participants in this study. PM_{2.5} were collected on 37 mm pre-baked
196 quartz filters (800°C, 3 hours, QM/A®, Whatman Inc., UK). A total of 72 PE samples,
197 including 24 samples (12 pairs of diurnal samples, the same as thereafter) for women at DF,
198 24 (12 pairs) for students at WB and 24 (12 pairs) for drivers at MT, were collected in this
199 study. Moreover, 12 PE PM_{2.5} field blanks (one field blank for each participant in one season
200 collected on the second day of the three consecutive sampling days) were obtained as well.

201 In order to verify the comparability of PE samples and data caused by not identical
202 sampling devices, 10 pairs of PM_{2.5} samples were synchronously collected by two sets of
203 actual PEMs with SKC pumps. The comparison results show a significant correlation
204 between the PM_{2.5} mass concentrations obtained from two sampling devices
205 ($y=0.986x+0.189$, $R^2=0.974$, $P<0.0001$). Identical membrane type (quartz fiber) and
206 analytical treatments were applied in this study. After sampling, the filter samples were
207 placed in Petri dishes, sealed with parafilm and stored in a freezer at -20°C to prevent loss of

208 mass through volatilization prior to analysis. Blank values from blank filter samples were
209 used to account for any artifacts caused by gas absorption and subtract the background PM_{2.5}
210 and chemical compositions concentrations in this area.

211 The meteorological observations during the dry (December 2015 to March 2016) and
212 wet (April to July 2016) seasons at the sampling sites were shown in Table 1. The
213 meteorological data were retrieved from the NOAA Global Surface Summary of the Day I
214 (GSOD) at the airports of each cities, namely Felix Houphouet Boigny Airport (Abidjan) and
215 Cardinal Bernadin Gantin International Airport (Benin). The daily average air temperature,
216 wind speed and rainfall accumulation are summarized in Table 1 as well.

217

218 2.3. PM_{2.5} gravimetric and chemical analysis

219 PE PM_{2.5} filter samples were analyzed gravimetrically for mass concentrations with a
220 high-precision electronic microbalance (Sartorius MC21S, Germany) at Laboratoire
221 d'Aérologie (Toulouse, France) before and after sampling in the weighing room after
222 equilibration at 20-23°C and RH of 35-45% for at least 24 hour. The absolute errors between
223 replicate weights were less than 0.015 mg for blank filters and 0.020 mg for sampled filters.

224 Total carbon (TC) was determined on 0.5 cm² punch-out of the filters by a carbon
225 analyzer (Ströhlein Coulomat 702C, Germany) at the Observatoire Midi-Pyrenees (OMP,
226 Toulouse, France). The quartz filter samples were subjected to a thermal pretreatment step
227 (kept at 60°C for 20 mins) in order to remove the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and
228 eliminate water vapor. Subsequently, the filters were combusted at 1200°C under O₂ and
229 detected as CO₂ in the carbon analyzer. EC was obtained using a two-step thermal method:
230 step 1 consisted in a pre-combustion at 340°C under O₂ for 2 h in order to remove OC; step 2
231 consisted in the oxidation of the remaining EC at 1200 °C under O₂. The difference (TC-EC)
232 yielded OC concentration (Benchrif et al., 2018; Cachier et al., 2005).

233 To extract the water-soluble inorganic ions from the quartz filters, a quarter of the filter
234 was placed in a separate 15 mL vials containing 10 mL distilled-deionized water (18.2 MΩ
235 resistivity). The vials were placed in an ultrasonic water bath and shaken with a mechanical
236 shaker for 45 min (15 min × 3 times) to extract the ions. The extracts were filtered through
237 0.45 μm pore size microporous membranes. After that, three anions (Cl⁻, NO₃⁻ and SO₄²⁻) and
238 five cations (Na⁺, NH₄⁺, K⁺, Mg²⁺ and Ca²⁺) in aqueous extracts of the filters were
239 determined by an ion chromatograph (IC) analyzer (Dionex-600, Dionex, Sunnyvale, CA,
240 USA), which is equipped with an AS11-HC anion column and a CS12 cation column for
241 separation. Details of the IC measurement method are described in Bahino et al. (2018) and

242 Cachier et al. (2005).

243 One element of Fe (representing earth's crust emission) and ten heavy metals (i.e., V, Cr,
244 Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Sb, Ba and Pb) in PE PM_{2.5} samples were determined by Energy
245 Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence (ED-XRF) spectrometry (the PANalytical Epsilon 5 ED-XRF
246 analyzer, Netherlands) with a quarter of filter. The relative errors for all measured elements
247 were < 6% between the NIST Standard Reference Material (SRM) 2783 and our ED-XRF
248 results, which is well within the required range of error, demonstrating the accuracy of
249 method. Replicate analysis of one quartz-fiber filter sample (five times) yielded an analytical
250 precision between 5.2-13.9%. Details of the ED-XRF measurements are shown in Brouwer
251 (2003) and Xu et al. (2012).

252 Aliquot punches (0.1-1.0 cm²) from the quartz filters were used to quantify organic
253 compounds, including PAHs, phthalate esters (PAEs) and hopanes (details of target organic
254 species and their abbreviations shown in Table 5) by an in-injection port thermal desorption-
255 gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (TD-GC/MS) method. The approach has the
256 advantages of shorter sample preparation time (< 1 min), minimizing of contaminations from
257 solvent impurities, and higher sensitivity, compared with the traditional solvent extraction-
258 GC/MS method. The detail analytical procedures have been reported in previous publications
259 (Ho and Yu, 2004; Ho et al., 2008, 2011; Xu et al., 2013, 2016a). The results of the blank
260 analyses showed only trace contamination levels (<5.0%) of PE PM_{2.5} samples
261 concentrations.

262

263 2.4. Health risk assessment model

264 A number of heavy metals and toxic organic species are associated with negative PE
265 health effects (Škrbic et al., 2016; Val et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2017a; Xu et al., 2018a). In
266 this study, four heavy metals (Mn, Ni, Zn and Pb) and all measured PAHs and PAEs species
267 in PE PM_{2.5} were selected to determine the PE inhalation health risks (Xu et al., 2018a). The
268 heavy metals non-carcinogenic risks and toxic organics carcinogenic risks of PM_{2.5} via
269 inhalation were calculated according to the U.S. EPA health risk assessment model (USEPA,
270 2004, 2011). The average daily exposure dose (D) via inhalation was estimated to assess the
271 risk by the equations (1) as follows:

$$272 \quad D = (C \times R \times EF \times ED \times cf) / (BW \times AT) \quad (1)$$

273 the definitions and recommended values of parameters are shown in Table 2.

274 A hazard quotient (HQ) for non-cancer risk of heavy metals in PE PM_{2.5} samples can be
275 obtained from equation (2):

276
$$HQ = D / RfD \quad (2)$$

277 the threshold value of RfD indicates whether there is an adverse health effect during a certain
278 period. Hazard index (HI) can be obtained by summing up the individual HQ to estimate the
279 total non-cancer risks. If the $HI < 1$, then non-carcinogenic effect is impossible; $HI \geq 1$,
280 adverse health effect might likely appear (Hu et al., 2012).

281 The incremental lifetime cancer risk (ILCR) of PAHs and PAEs in PE $PM_{2.5}$ samples can
282 be calculated by multiplying the cancer slope factor (CSF) of PAHs and PAEs with D as
283 equation (3):

284
$$ILCR = D \times CSF \quad (3)$$

285 for cancer risk, the value of 1×10^{-6} is an internationally accepted as the precautionary or
286 threshold value above which the risk is unacceptable (Jedrychowski et al., 2015).

287 It is worth noting that, among the nineteen PAHs, BaP has been used as an indicator of
288 PAHs carcinogenicity (Wang et al., 2006). The carcinogenic health risk of PAH species can
289 be assessed by $[BaP]_{eq}$ instead (Yassaa et al., 2001) by equation (4):

290
$$\Sigma[BaP]_{eq} = \Sigma (C_i \times TEF_i) \quad (4)$$

291 Additionally, the carcinogenic risk for PAEs was assessed by DEHP, which is identified
292 as a possible carcinogen to humans by the International Agency for Research on Cancer
293 (IARC) (IARC, 1982; Li et al., 2016). The definitions and recommended values of the
294 parameters in equations (2-4) are also shown in Table 2 and 3.

295 2.5. Questionnaire and time-activity diary

297 Questionnaire (Supporting information (SI) A-C) and time-activity diary (SI D) were
298 collected from each participant during the sampling period, respectively, to fully grasp the
299 basic information, potential personal exposure sources and activities of participants. In the
300 questionnaire, personal information, family status, dermatological, asthma symptoms,
301 medical history, current health status and so on were first asked from each participant.
302 Besides, the questions for women include: (1) living habits and environment (past and current
303 living conditions, general living habits, cooking habits and domestic fuel type/usage); (2)
304 work environment and travel habits (workplace, work nature, working hour and daily travel
305 mode/time); and (3) affected by the burning of domestic solid fuels and roasting meat. The
306 questions for students include: (1) living habits and environment (past and current living
307 conditions, general living habits, participation in household duties, family cooking habits and
308 domestic fuel type/usage, distance from home to WB site); (2) school environment and travel
309 habits (school location and related environment and daily travel mode/time); and (3) affected

310 by the burning of waste and household air pollution sources. The questions for drivers include:
311 (1) living habits and environment (past and current living environments, general living habits,
312 participation in household duties, family cooking habits and domestic fuel type/usage); (2)
313 working environment and travel habits (motorcycle power type, driving conditions, working
314 hours and daily travel mode/time); and (3) affected by the motorcycle emission and
315 household air pollution sources.

316 The time-activity diaries requested the participants to mark on half an hour basis
317 (sleeping time excluded) to assess each microenvironment time spending and detailed
318 activities.

319

320 **3. Results and discussion**

321 *3.1. Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} and its chemical compositions*

322 *3.1.1. PE PM_{2.5} mass concentration*

323 The average PE PM_{2.5} mass concentrations were 331.7±190.7, 356.9±71.9 and
324 242.8±67.6 µg m⁻³ for women at Domestic Fires (DF), students at Waste Burning (WB) and
325 drivers at Motorcycle Traffic (MT), respectively, in this study. Among the three types of
326 subjects, the average concentrations of PE PM_{2.5} for women and students were quite similar,
327 ~40% higher than that of the drivers. PE PM_{2.5} ranged from 106.2 µg m⁻³ (nighttime in dry
328 season, January 7th) to 1164.7 µg m⁻³ (daytime in wet season, July 5th) for women at DF; from
329 37.8 µg m⁻³ (nighttime in wet season, July 8th) to 1137.0 µg m⁻³ (daytime in dry season,
330 January 11th) for students at WB; and from 65.0 µg m⁻³ (nighttime in wet season, July 11th) to
331 648.5 µg m⁻³ (daytime in dry season, January 15th) for drivers at MT. The ranges and standard
332 deviations of PE PM_{2.5} concentrations were extremely large, especially for women, because
333 the direct combustion sources were close to the participants. The variations of physical
334 activities and intensities of air pollution sources potentially lead to a drastic fluctuation for PE
335 PM_{2.5}.

336 The average mass concentrations of PE PM_{2.5} were 358.8±100.5, 494.3±15.8 and
337 335.1±72.1 µg m⁻³ in dry season (January), and 304.6±284.5, 219.5±71.3 and 150.6±10.4 µg
338 m⁻³ in wet season (July) for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT, respectively
339 (Table 4). Compared to dry season, the reduction rate of PE PM_{2.5} for women at DF in wet
340 season was approximately 15%, while the sharp reductions by more than 50% were observed
341 for students and drivers. PE PM_{2.5} concentrations reducing could be attributed to the
342 occurrence of increased levels of rainfall in wet season in sWA (Table 1), which causes the
343 large reduction of road dust exposed to drivers and limits the garbage spontaneous

344 combustion significantly around students. Moreover, large scale transport of mineral dust and
345 combustion aerosols emitted by savannah wild fires contribute significantly to the aerosol
346 load during the dry season (Djossou et al., 2018), which is more important at WB and MT
347 than at DF (women worked in the crowded community environment).

348 The PE $PM_{2.5}$ mass concentrations in the daytime were much higher than those at
349 nighttime in dry or wet seasons (Table 4 and Figure 3). The 12-hour averaged PE $PM_{2.5}$
350 concentrations showed day/night (D/N) ratios of 3.4 (3.8 in dry season and 3.1 in wet season,
351 the same sequence thereafter), 2.7 (2.8 and 2.5) and 2.4 (1.5 and 3.3) for women at DF,
352 students at WB and drivers at MT, respectively. Intensive human activities during the
353 daytime, such as solid fuel combustion, waste combustion or motor vehicle emission
354 influenced the different group subjects, elevating the exposure levels of $PM_{2.5}$. In the same
355 case, lower PE $PM_{2.5}$ for students at WB in the nighttime can be explained by the fact that the
356 participants usually spend most of their time indoors with limited physical activity, leading to
357 stay away and/or shelter from obvious emission sources (e.g., waste combustion) outdoors.
358 Moreover, large fluctuations of D/N ratios for drivers were observed, with lower average in
359 dry season but higher in wet season. Wet season high D/N ratios attribute to the increase in
360 precipitation in Cotonou (Table 1), especially during nighttime (Sealy et al., 2003). This leads
361 the lower PE $PM_{2.5}$ for drivers at night after aerosol scavenging. Shorter driving time in wet
362 season is another explanation for the phenomenon, because of unfavorable weather
363 occasionally (e.g., rain and storm).

364 The 5-h $PM_{2.5}$ average personal exposure concentration was $1574 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (± 287 , $n = 3$)
365 for open wood fires in households in the Njombe district of Tanzania (Titcombe and Simcik,
366 2011), and was comparable to the highest 12-h exposure level to $PM_{2.5}$ for women at DF site
367 in this study ($1164.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, daytime in wet season, July 5th), and was 4.7 times of the daily
368 average PE $PM_{2.5}$ concentration in dry and wet seasons ($331.7 \pm 190.7 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). Student (10-17
369 years old) $PM_{2.5}$ exposures ranged from less than $10 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ to more than $150 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ (mean
370 $56 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) in four neighborhoods in Accra, Ghana (Arku et al., 2014), much lower than that
371 for students at WB site ($356.9 \pm 71.9 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$). It can be seen that the high exposure of students
372 in this study is likely to be related to the waste burning emissions, while there was no obvious
373 strong $PM_{2.5}$ emission source in the study of Arku et al. (2014).

374 The average PE $PM_{2.5}$ levels are compared to the weekly ambient $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations
375 (Djossou et al., 2018) in the same area during similar sampling period. The average PE $PM_{2.5}$
376 were 3.0 and 2.0 times of the ambient values at DF, and 6.1 and 8.8 times at MT in dry and
377 wet seasons, respectively. The highest PE $PM_{2.5}$ to ambient (A) (PE/A) ratios were found at

378 WB, i.e., 10.3 in dry and 10.5 in wet seasons. Such large PE/A ratios are probably due to the
379 impact of waste combustion affected the respiratory exposure of residents, especially on
380 children; on the other hand, high PE/A ratios can be attributed to the fact that WB site is
381 located in the lowest living quality region of Abidjan, where the simplest stove and non-
382 qualified wood as fuel used in house (Figure S1d). These lead to an extremely high PE $PM_{2.5}$
383 indoors during the cooking time (especially for student B who was in charge of cooking,
384 recorded in the activity logging and questionnaire). Meanwhile, the ambient $PM_{2.5}$ sampling
385 equipment at WB was neither fixed very close to nor located at the downwind direction of the
386 landfill (Djossou et al., 2018) that cause the differences between the ambient and PE $PM_{2.5}$
387 concentrations.

388 Moreover, the daytime PE and ambient $PM_{2.5}$ mass concentrations on the same sampling
389 dates were also compared. The average women daytime PE $PM_{2.5}$ were 3.7 and 1.2 times of
390 the ambient $PM_{2.5}$ at DF in dry and wet seasons, respectively, consistent with the finding
391 from the weekly comparison mentioned above. However, for the students at WB and drivers
392 at MT, the PE/A ratios were both much lower than those compared with the weekly ambient
393 $PM_{2.5}$, with averages of 5.1 and 7.0 for the students at WB and 1.9 and 3.3 for the drivers at
394 MT in dry and wet seasons, respectively. The PE/A ratios for students had the highest values,
395 which is consistent with the results found earlier. The PE/A ratios all above 1.0 and large
396 variability of $PM_{2.5}$ between PE and ambient concentrations imply that fix-point sampling is
397 likely to underestimate the PE $PM_{2.5}$ and consequent human health hazards. The results
398 further confirm the importance of portative PE $PM_{2.5}$ sampling for health risk assessment.

399 *3.1.2. PE $PM_{2.5}$ chemical compositions*

400 Table 4 summarizes the average PE $PM_{2.5}$ chemical compositions, including carbon
401 fractions (OC and EC), water-soluble inorganic ions and target heavy metals. TC was the
402 highest composition in PE $PM_{2.5}$, accounting for $24.4\pm 4.5\%$, $16.6\pm 2.0\%$ and $17.8\pm 4.9\%$ of
403 PE $PM_{2.5}$ for women, students and drivers, respectively. High OC values suggest the strong
404 contribution of combustion sources to PE $PM_{2.5}$ in sWA (Djossou et al., 2018; Ouafu-Leumbe
405 et al., 2017). The average OC concentration ($83.2 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) and composition (24.4%) in
406 women PE $PM_{2.5}$ samples were the highest among the three types of PE participants, due to
407 their direct contact with the ignition, and close to the solid fuel (wood in this study) burning
408 and meat roasting at the workplace and also their own residential units. However, the EC
409 concentrations ($8.4\text{-}10.5 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) and compositions (3.0-3.5%) were very similar among the
410 three different PE groups, representing that EC was less affected by human activities related
411 to combustion sources in this study.

412 The OC to EC ratio (OC/EC) has been used to determine emission and transformation
413 characteristics of carbonaceous aerosols (Cao et al., 2008). The OC/EC averaged 9.9 ± 5.3 for
414 women at DF, 6.1 ± 0.7 for students at WB, and 5.8 ± 2.7 for drivers at MT. Previous studies
415 (Cachier et al., 1989; Cao et al., 2005a; Cao et al., 2008; Li et al., 2009; Tian et al., 2017;
416 Watson et al., 2001) summarized that average OC/EC characterizes 1.1 as motor vehicle
417 exhaust, 2.7 as coal combustion and 9.0 as biomass burning from their source samples (i.e.,
418 fresh emissions/plumes). In present study, the OC/EC suggests that biomass burning was the
419 main contributor to PE carbonaceous aerosols for women at DF, while the mixed emissions of
420 biomass and coal burning or/and motor vehicle exhaust were dominant for students at WB
421 and drivers at MT. The OC/EC was mostly higher in wet season than dry season, ascribed to
422 the fact that the higher RH in wet season favors the formation of secondary organic carbon
423 (SOC) (Huang et al., 2014). The daytime OC/EC for drivers' PE samples were relatively low
424 (an average of 3.7) and constant between wet and dry seasons, promising that motor vehicle
425 exhaust was the most dominant and stable pollution source in their working environment. PE
426 of women displays the higher (an average of 13.9) and more scattered OC/EC than those
427 collected from students and drivers in wet season (Figure 4). This was induced by particularly
428 high and dramatic changes in individual exposure to obvious carbonaceous aerosol sources
429 (e.g., wood burning and grilling).

430 With the data shown in Djossou et al. (2018), the PE OC/EC for the participants were
431 1.2 and 2.5 times of the ambient OC/EC in dry and wet seasons at DF, 1.7 and 2.8 times at
432 WB, and 1.1 and 2.0 times at MT. Such higher OC/EC values in PE samples can be resulted
433 from specific individual's activities and potentially contamination at microenvironments
434 (Crist et al., 2008; Meng et al., 2009). In addition, the influences of precipitation and other
435 meteorological factors on OC/EC in ambient samples were less than those on PE samples (i.e.,
436 dry season OC/EC was more comparable between the ambient and PE samples).

437 The average concentrations of total quantified water-soluble inorganic ions were
438 23.6 ± 12.8 , 35.5 ± 18.3 and $22.7 \pm 5.0 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at
439 MT, accounting for $8.5 \pm 1.0\%$, $12.1 \pm 2.7\%$ and $11.9 \pm 0.4\%$ of PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ masses, respectively.
440 Dissimilar with the compositions in heavy polluted cities in China (SO_4^{2-} , NO_3^- and NH_4^+
441 were the most abundant ions in ambient or PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, accounting for 50-90% of quantified
442 ions and ~30% of $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ masses) (Xu et al., 2016b, 2018b; Zhang et al., 2013), Ca^{2+} , a marker
443 of fugitive dust, was the most abundant ion, accounting for ~28% (in a range from 25.3% to
444 29.3%) of total quantified ions, following by Cl^- , SO_4^{2-} and K^+ for women at DF, Na^+ , SO_4^{2-}
445 and Cl^- for students at WB, and SO_4^{2-} , Na^+ and NO_3^- for drivers at MT. The profiles thus

446 indicate that the particle resuspension by personal activities was the main contributor to the
447 PE $PM_{2.5}$ in sWA (Chen et al., 2017; Xu et al., 2015). The diurnal variations on composition
448 of Ca^{2+} to total ions (i.e., daytime=30.6% and nighttime=22.8%) also illustrate this
449 conclusion. Moreover, SO_4^{2-} forms primarily through atmospheric oxidation of SO_2 emitted
450 mainly from coal and diesel combustions (Seinfeld and Pandis, 2006; Xu et al., 2016b). As
451 the second most enriched ion, the average proportion of SO_4^{2-} was 17.7%, which implies that
452 purification of raw coal and diesel (Wang et al., 2013) should be applied in this area for
453 lowering sulfur emissions and therefore decreasing PE to SO_4^{2-} in $PM_{2.5}$. The SO_4^{2-} exposure
454 levels for the drivers were 33% and 40% higher than the women and students respectively,
455 indirect indicating that the emission of SO_2 might be higher in Cotonou or the participants are
456 exposed to higher SO_2 or SO_4^{2-} from the diesel vehicle emissions.

457 Generally, Na^+ and Cl^- ranked the third and fourth abundant ions in the PE samples. The
458 sampling sites in sWA cities in this study are all close to the sea and were affected by sea salt
459 particles. It is also worth noting that biomass burning marker- K^+ (Kang et al., 2004; Zhang et
460 al., 2014b) displayed a high absolute average concentration of $3.4 \mu g m^{-3}$ and composition of
461 14.5% in women' PE $PM_{2.5}$ samples, confirming their distinct exposure from biomass
462 burning during the roasting at the workplace. To the best knowledge, NO_3^- derives from NO_x
463 emitted mainly from motor vehicle exhaust (especially gasoline vehicle), industry and power
464 plants (Seinfeld and Pandis, 2006; Xu et al., 2016b). Additional consideration includes that
465 the industry is not well-developed in this area (i.e., much less industry in Cotonou than
466 Abidjan) and thus is not the main contributor to $PM_{2.5}$ (Ouafo-Leumbe et al., 2017). In
467 comparison with the findings from the other two sites, motor vehicle emission obviously
468 contributed to drivers' PE concentrations, consistent with the conclusion for SO_4^{2-} as
469 discussed above.

470 The concentrations of 10 targeted heavy metals, including V, Cr, Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Sb,
471 Ba and Pb, are also shown in Table 4. The total concentrations were 1.4 ± 0.3 , 3.9 ± 6.5 and
472 $0.8 \pm 0.2 \mu g m^{-3}$ for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT, accounting for $0.7 \pm 0.4\%$,
473 $1.0 \pm 1.2\%$ and $0.4 \pm 0.1\%$ of the PE $PM_{2.5}$, respectively. The PE heavy metal for the students
474 was 1.8 and 3.9 times of those for the women and drivers, mainly due to the emissions from
475 garbage combustion at landfill (Wang et al., 2017b). The D/N ratios ranged from 0.8 to 2.1
476 for women and drivers but averaged 4.0 and 7.0 in dry and wet seasons respectively for
477 students. This can be explained by two reasons: The first is that there were intense physical
478 activities from the students and strong disturbances from landfill workers. Another reason is
479 spontaneous combustion of waste occurring frequently during the day due to less

480 precipitation and higher ambient temperature in the daytime. Ba, Zn and Mn were found to be
481 the dominant heavy metals, accounting of ~73% of total quantified elemental concentration
482 in all samples. Ba took up a decisive advantage over other elements, having a contribution
483 of >50% for students. It is usually added in rubber and plastic products to improve acid and
484 alkali resistance. Such products were main fractions of the garbage at landfill in this area
485 (Feng et al., 2006). Zn and Mn ranked the first and second personal exposure elements for
486 drivers at MT which are mainly derived from the motor oil additive, tyre wear and brake pads
487 worn (Zhao and Hopke, 2006).

488

489 3.2. Mass balance of personal exposure to PM_{2.5}

490 Calculation of mass balance of the PE PM_{2.5} is an effective method to figure out the
491 principal components in PM_{2.5} and distinguish the pollution sources (Gokhale et al., 2008).
492 PE PM_{2.5} mass in this study can be classified into six parts: organic matter (OM), EC, water-
493 soluble inorganic ions, geological material (GM), heavy metals and unresolved fraction
494 (Figure 5). The first five main resolved fractions can explain 78.3% to 90.6% of total PE
495 PM_{2.5} mass concentrations in this study. Unresolved fraction may include water and other
496 undetected substances. For OM, since there is no full organic composition profiles for the PE
497 PM_{2.5}, a conversion factor 1.4 (1.4 corrects the organic carbon mass for other constituent
498 associated with the organic carbon molecule) is generally used (Turpin and Lim, 2001) to
499 quantify OM by the equation (5):

$$500 \quad \text{OM} = 1.4 \times \text{OC} \quad (5)$$

501 OM accounted for 34.1±6.3%, 23.3±2.8% and 24.9±6.9% of the PE PM_{2.5} mass for women at
502 DF, students at WB and drivers at MT, respectively. The results show that there are distinct
503 sources for PE OC for women at DF. According to the information gathering from the
504 questionnaires, the combustion sources, such as roasting meat/peanuts and burning wood, are
505 the major contributors to PE OC for women in this study.

506 In addition, Fe has been widely used to estimate the upper limit of GM (Taylor and
507 McLennan, 1985). Fe constitutes ~4.0% in dust of the earth's crust (Cao et al., 2005b; Hao et
508 al., 2007; Kabata-Pendias and Mukherjee, 2007; Sun et al., 2014; Wu et al., 2012; Xu et al.,
509 2016b). The amount of GM is calculated by equation (6):

$$510 \quad \text{GM} = (1/4.0\%) \times \text{Fe} \quad (6)$$

511 It is found that GM contributed 35.8±2.1%, 46.0±3.7% and 42.4±4.7% of PE PM_{2.5} mass
512 concentrations for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT, respectively. Fugitive
513 dusts, including road dust resuspension from disturbance of motor vehicles and human

514 activities, construction dust from uncovered construction sites, and the dusts generated from
515 burning, could be the dominant sources to PE $PM_{2.5}$ in this study. OM and GM showed the
516 similar proportions (34.1% and 35.8%, respectively) of PE $PM_{2.5}$ mass for women at DF. The
517 fractions of GM in PE samples for students and drivers were approximately 10% and 7%
518 higher than that for women. Therefore, the fugitive dust was the most important source for
519 PE $PM_{2.5}$ in this less developed area, shown by nearly 50% contribution for students and
520 drivers, attributable to human physical activities and a large amount of covered land. It is
521 surprising to note that the secondary formed ions (i.e., SO_4^{2-} , NO_3^- and NH_4^+) and the total
522 quantified water-soluble inorganic ions were in exceedingly low proportions to PE $PM_{2.5}$ for
523 all groups. This reconfirms the limited contribution to PE $PM_{2.5}$ from secondary ionic
524 formation again.

525 In Figure 5, evident diurnal distinguishes can be observed on the two major chemical
526 compositions of OM and GM. GM exhibited the lower proportion at nighttime (35.3%) than
527 daytime (47.5%), suggesting its close relationship with human activities. Higher GM was
528 found for all groups in dry season because of the harmattan haze introduced mineral dusts
529 and the lack of precipitation increasing road dust resuspension. Moreover, OM showed the
530 equal or lower proportions in the daytime (25.0%) than nighttime (30.0%), relative to the
531 meteorological parameters (i.e., factor affected the formation of secondary organic
532 carbonaceous aerosol) and diurnal changes of combustion sources around subjects. An
533 exception is that OM proportion of women PE $PM_{2.5}$ at daytime (50.8%) was much higher
534 than nighttime (38.2%) in wet season, due to the influences from the damp wood burning at
535 the working time. Burning biomass fuel with high moisture often results in low combustion
536 efficiency, long smoldering period and high air pollutant emissions (Grandesso et al., 2011;
537 Shen et al., 2012, 2013). The emission factor of OC usually increases with the fuel moisture
538 content (Chen et al., 2010; Keita et al., 2018). Therefore, burning the damp wood led to
539 higher OC emission than dry wood, in-line with the observation for women PE results in this
540 study.

541

542 *4. Organic species fingerprint of personal exposure to $PM_{2.5}$*

543 Organic fingerprint markers can be used to indicate specific emission sources and
544 further characterize the pollutions impacted on different populations. The average PE
545 concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ -bound PAHs, PAEs and hopanes were 54.8 ± 20.3 , 986.8 ± 82.2 and
546 27.9 ± 1.0 ng m^{-3} , respectively, representing high organic pollutions in sWA region (Table 5).
547 Dissimilar with the trend on $PM_{2.5}$ masses (students > women > drivers), the PE to target

548 organic compounds for different groups were varied, with a descending order of women >
549 students > drivers for PAHs, students > women > drivers for PAEs, and drivers > women >
550 students for hopanes (Table 5 and Figure 6).

551 4.1. PAHs

552 Benzo[b]fluoranthene (BbF) was the most abundant PAH for women at DF, followed by
553 benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) and indeno[1,2,3-cd]pyrene (IcdP). The average concentration of BbF
554 (a marker of low temperature combustion, such as wood burning) was $11.6 \pm 19.2 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$,
555 accounting for approximately 15.0% of the Σ PAHs for women (Wang et al., 2006) (Table 5).
556 The most abundant PAH species for students at WB and drivers at MT were IcdP ($6.4 \pm 4.5 \text{ ng}$
557 m^{-3}) and benzo[ghi]perylene (BghiP) ($6.4 \pm 0.5 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$), respectively, indicating the
558 contributions from the waste incineration and/or high temperature combustion of fuel (e.g.,
559 gasoline vehicle emission) (Baek et al., 1991; Wang et al., 2006). The average Σ PAHs of
560 women at DF ($125.4 \pm 54.8 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) and drivers at MT ($44.6 \pm 10.8 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) in wet season were
561 326% and 52% higher than those in dry season (29.4 ± 5.6 and $29.4 \pm 4.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ respectively),
562 while Σ PAHs in wet season ($36.8 \pm 15.7 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) was 42% lower than that dry season
563 ($62.9 \pm 45.0 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) for students at WB. The dramatic increase in PE to PAHs for women is
564 mainly due to raise of moisture content in the wood used for grilling meat in wet season,
565 promoting more PAHs emission from wood combustion processes (Shen et al., 2013). The
566 restraint of waste combustion in wet season is the main factor for the lower of PE to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ -
567 bound PAHs at landfill, in accordance with seasonal pattern on PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ mass. Fanou et al.
568 (2006) measured the PE PAHs concentrations in Cotonou and found that the PAHs level
569 associated with particles ranged from 76.21 to 103.23 ng m^{-3} for 35 taxi-moto drivers in
570 March 2001. Our values for drivers at MT site was 50-64% lower than their values,
571 suggesting that the exposure to PAHs for the motorbike drivers in this region has been
572 improved.

573 In Figure 6A, PE PAHs showed fluctuating diurnal variations for the three kinds of
574 subjects. For the women at DF, the daytime concentrations in wet and dry seasons were both
575 higher than those at nighttime due to the intensive roasting meat and burning wood during
576 working hours. For the students at WB, PE PAHs at night were higher in dry season but
577 lower in wet season. Both the PAH profiles were featured with high combustion markers of
578 BbF and benzo[e]pyrene (BeP), and high gasoline vehicle emission markers of
579 dibenzo[a,h]anthracene (DahA) and BghiP (Baek et al., 1991; Wang et al., 2006). For the
580 drivers at MT, the average D/N ratio in dry and wet seasons were 0.8 and 0.3, respectively.
581 The higher PE Σ PAHs concentrations at night and lower D/N ratios for drivers may be

582 explained by the potential combustion sources for PAHs close to the participants (e.g.,
583 sources nearby the drivers' homes) in Cotonou, Benin especially in wet season. This can be
584 deduced by the combustion marker of BaP which was the highest PAH species at night in wet
585 season, even though the drivers exposed to the traffic emissions during the night working
586 time (18:30 to 21:00 UTC). Further studies are thus required to confirm the findings and
587 figure out the reasons.

588 In the study of Titcombe and Simcik (2011), the authors found that the 5-h average total
589 PAH personal exposure concentration was 5040 ng m^{-3} (± 909 , $n = 3$) for open wood fires in
590 households in the Njombe district of Tanzania, which was much higher (~65 times) than the
591 women exposure PAHs at DF site in the current research. The highest 12-h exposure PAHs
592 for women at DF site in this study was 469.7 ng m^{-3} (daytime in wet season, July 6th),
593 approximately one-tenth of the PAHs concentration from open wood fires in Tanzania
594 mentioned above. The large PE PAH concentrations difference between these two studies
595 may be influenced by many factors such as wood type, combustion state, stove structure and
596 sampling time.

597 Diagnostic ratios of PAHs have been widely used in source identification (Tobiszewski
598 and Namiesnik, 2012; Yunker et al., 2002). In our study, the average values of
599 $\text{BeP}/(\text{BeP}+\text{BaP})$ and $\text{IcdP}/(\text{IcdP}+\text{BghiP})$ were 0.47 and 0.52 for women at DF, 0.51 and 0.52
600 for students at WB, and 0.64 and 0.34 for drivers at MT, respectively (Figure 7), indicating
601 the unique impacts on the PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ from different atmospheric pollution sources. The
602 average $\text{BeP}/(\text{BeP}+\text{BaP})$ ratios ranged from 0.47 to 0.64, comparable with those reported in
603 Chinese megacities of Guangzhou (0.41-0.72) and Xi'an (0.59-0.73) (Li et al., 2005; Xu et al.,
604 2018c), but lower than the value measured in Shanghai (>0.70) (Feng et al., 2006). This
605 implies the low oxidability of the PAHs in the less-developed cities in sWA. PAHs in drivers'
606 PE samples were more prone to aging (i.e., the average ratio was 1.3-1.4 times of those for
607 women and students) because of their re-suspension onto road dusts (i.e., longer residence
608 lifetime) and longer outdoor activity time (i.e., exposure to more sunlight). Fine and ultra-fine
609 particles-bound PAHs are emitted in high-temperature combustion from motor vehicular
610 engine which are more easily photochemically oxidized in the atmosphere (Baek et al., 1991;
611 Lima et al., 2005). The differences of $\text{BeP}/(\text{BeP}+\text{BaP})$ ratios between dry and wet seasons
612 were not obvious, without general pattern. However, the ratio exhibited a significant day-
613 night variation, with an average of 0.59 and 0.49 in the daytime and nighttime, respectively.
614 This represents that more favorable meteorological conditions (i.e., higher light intensity) and
615 more physical activities (i.e., time extending for particulate re-suspension) at daytime are

616 more conducive to the aging of PM_{2.5} and its bounded PAHs. Moreover, IcdP/(BghiP+IcdP)
617 of < 0.2, 0.2-0.5 and > 0.5 were used to identify petrogenic, petroleum combustion and a mix
618 of grass, wood, and coal combustions, respectively (Yunker et al., 2002). The relatively low
619 ratio for drivers at MT (0.34) demonstrates that the PAHs were mainly produced from motor
620 vehicles, while grass, wood and coal combustions were more dominant for women at DF
621 (0.52) and students at WB (0.52) (Figure 7). IcdP/(IcdP+BghiP) ratio did not show significant
622 seasonal variation.

623

624 4.2. Phthalate esters (PAEs)

625 Phthalate esters are widely used as plasticizers in materials and can be released into the
626 air from the matrix evaporation and combustion (Gu et al., 2010; Wang et al., 2017a). The PE
627 levels of PAEs could be mainly attributed to the usage of the household products, painting
628 material, plastic waste incineration and municipal sewage release (Zhang et al., 2014a). The
629 total concentrations of six phthalate esters (the first six species of PAEs in Table 5) and one
630 plasticizer (bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, DEHA) (abbreviated as ΣPAEs for the total seven
631 species) were 882.0±193.3, 1380.4±335.2 and 698.1±192.4 ng m⁻³, respectively, for women
632 at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT (Table 5). Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) was
633 the most dominant PAE species, followed by di-n-butyl phthalate (DBP) for all the three
634 groups of participants. DEHP is mainly used as a plasticizer for manufacture of polyvinyl
635 chloride (PVC); and together with DBP, they are the most widely used PAEs globally (Meng
636 et al., 2014). The average DEHP and DBP concentrations were 543.6 and 304.6 ng m⁻³,
637 accounting for approximately 55.1% and 30.9% of the ΣPAEs, respectively (Figure 6B). The
638 elevated ΣPAEs for students can be ascribed to the combustion of plastic products at landfill
639 nearby. Our results are similar to the previous studies conducted in Xi'an and Tianjin, China
640 (Kong et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2017a). The ΣPAEs ranged from 376.6 to 1074 ng m⁻³
641 outdoors, and from 469.2 to 1537 ng m⁻³ in classrooms (Wang et al., 2017a), where DEHP
642 and DBP were also the most abundant PAEs with a sum of composition of 68% and 73% of
643 the ΣPAEs outdoor and indoor, respectively.

644 The average concentrations of the ΣPAEs for women at DF, students at WB and drivers
645 at MT were comparable in dry season. However, the average concentrations were
646 927.2±154.9, 1929.8±340.4 and 594.6±16.6 ng m⁻³ in wet season, 1.1, 2.3 and 0.7 times of
647 the ΣPAEs in dry season (Figure 6B). A significant increase in PE ΣPAEs for student at WB
648 can be attributed to the enhanced PAEs emission in the daytime with high RH
649 (3173.6±1028.3 ng m⁻³), consistent with the findings on PE PM_{2.5}. Dry and wet seasons had

650 similar PAEs profiles with different diurnal variations (Figure 6B). The average D/N ratios of
651 the Σ PAEs in dry season demonstrate constant concentrations, with an average of 1.0, 1.0 and
652 1.3, respectively, for women, students and drivers, while much larger variations of 1.1, 4.6
653 and 0.7 were found for wet season. Noticeably different diurnal D/N ratios for students at
654 WB is interrelated with the human activities (specially the emissions from plastic materials)
655 and the subdued waste combustion led by meteorological conditions (i.e., more precipitation
656 at night in wet season), which had been mentioned in Section 3.1.1.

657

658 4.3. Hopanes

659 Hopanes are markers for fossil fuels (e.g., petroleum) combustion (Simoneit, 1999;
660 Wang et al., 2009). The average PE to the sum of eight quantified hopanes (Σ hopanes) for the
661 drivers was $50.9 \pm 7.9 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$, 2.0 and 2.3 times higher than the women ($17.1 \pm 6.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$) and
662 students ($15.6 \pm 6.1 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$), respectively (Table 5). The results indicate an extremely high
663 personal respiratory exposure contribution from the motor vehicle emissions (e.g., gasoline
664 combustion) for the drivers. It is important to note that number of automobiles is rapidly
665 increasing in sWA cities, further exacerbating the air pollution and consequence health issues.
666 The Σ hopanes showed unobvious seasonal variations for three types of PE participants. The
667 Σ hopane in dry season were 0.9, 1.8 and 0.7 times of those in wet season. Even though the
668 Σ hopane varied among three sites, their profiles on individual species were similar. $17\alpha(\text{H})-$
669 $21\beta(\text{H}),30\text{-norhopane}$ ($\alpha\beta\text{-NH}$) and $17\alpha(\text{H})-21\beta(\text{H})\text{-hopane}$ ($\alpha\beta\text{-HH}$) were two most abundant
670 hopanes in all PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ samples, with the average concentrations of 6.0 and 6.5 ng m^{-3} and
671 the compositions of 21.4% and 23.3% of the Σ hopanes, respectively (Table 5 and Figure 6C).

672 Compared with D/N ratios of Σ PAHs and Σ PAEs, Σ hopanes exhibited a more stable
673 diurnal trend, higher in the daytime due to heavier traffic emissions. For women at DF, D/N
674 ratio was both 2.0 in dry and wet seasons, with Σ hopanes of 24.0 ± 11.1 and $12.2 \pm 5.0 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$
675 for daytime and nighttime in dry season, and 21.4 ± 17.5 and $10.9 \pm 3.6 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ in wet season.
676 The D/N ratio of Σ hopane for drivers at MT had the highest value of 11.5, with 78.0 ± 19.1
677 and $44.9 \pm 16.4 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$ for daytime and nighttime in dry season, and 74.2 ± 16.3 and $6.5 \pm 1.7 \text{ ng}$
678 m^{-3} in wet season. It is notable that the daytime concentrations for drivers were comparable
679 between the two seasons, while the nighttime hopanes in wet season were mostly washed
680 away by rainfall, resulting in a very large decline in its concentrations.

681 Even though these organic groups are not major fractions in PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, their fingerprints
682 can more accurately illustrate the contributions of air pollution sources to $\text{PM}_{2.5}$. PAHs, PAEs
683 and hopanes are source markers for the combustion activities, plastics emissions and fossil

684 fuel emissions (e.g., from gasoline vehicles), respectively, well matching to the potential air
685 pollution sources impacted on the PE PM_{2.5} for participants in this study. Our results not only
686 indicate that the PM_{2.5} respiratory exposure can be strongly contributed from the
687 environmental pollution sources and individual activities, but also prove reliable application
688 of organic tracers on characterization of personal exposure study.

689

690 *5. Health risk assessment of personal exposure to PM_{2.5}*

691 Non-cancer risks of four heavy metals (i.e., Mn, Ni, Zn and Pb) and cancer risks of
692 PAHs and PAEs via inhalation exposure way for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at
693 MT are shown in Table 6. In general, the non-carcinogenic risks of Mn and Pb were relatively
694 higher than those of Ni and Zn, but still well below the international threshold value of 1.0.
695 Among those four metals, Hazard Quotient (HQ) of Pb in wet season for students at WB was
696 the highest (2.95×10^{-2}), which suggests that Pb non-carcinogenic risk to children is more
697 severe in that area compared with other participants and metals. There was no consistent
698 difference on the risks between dry and wet seasons, except Ni which showed much greater
699 value in wet than dry season for both participants. Counting the total of four toxic heavy
700 metals, Hazard Index (HI) for participants are also shown in Table 6. The dry/wet season
701 ratios of HI were 0.9, 0.5 and 2.3 for women, students and drivers, respectively, suggesting
702 that the non-cancer risk of PE to metals in PM_{2.5} for drivers was significantly higher in dry
703 than wet seasons, owing to a mass of fugitive dust on the road at low RH. Moreover, the
704 average HI levels were 8.06×10^{-3} , 4.13×10^{-2} and 8.68×10^{-3} for the women, students and
705 drivers, respectively. The highest non-cancer health risks of the heavy metals in PE PM_{2.5} for
706 students were 5.1 and 4.8 times of those for women and drivers. Overall, Mn, Zn, Ni, Pb and
707 HI were all below the safety limit for the populations involved in this study, representing
708 negligible non-cancer risks of heavy metals in PE PM_{2.5} in sWA region.

709 As shown in Table 6, the ILCRs of PAHs were all exceed the international acceptable
710 level of 1×10^{-6} either in dry or wet season. Meanwhile, the ILCRs of PAEs were all below
711 1×10^{-6} , well within the safety limit of cancer risk. For all target participants, higher cancer
712 risks of PE PM_{2.5}-bound PAHs and PAEs were found in wet season. The seasonal variations
713 such as increase of RH could lead raise of PE cancer risks to toxic organics in PM_{2.5}. In dry
714 season, the average ILCR values of PAHs for women and drivers were comparable, both ~50%
715 lower than those for students, implying the high toxicity originated from the waste burning
716 and high sensitivity to juveniles. In wet season, PAHs exhibited the highest ILCR for women
717 at DF, 2.5 and 2.7 times of those for students and drivers, respectively. The domestic wood

718 burning and meat grilling can trigger nearly ten times the safety limit for PAHs. The cancer
719 risks of PAEs showed the similar trend in dry and wet seasons (Yang et al., 2011), with the
720 descending order of students > women > drivers. The carcinogenic risks of PAEs for the
721 drivers was the lowest, much lower (45% and 76% for dry and wet seasons) than those for
722 students who live close to waste incineration. In a word, the ILCRs of PAHs exceeded the
723 threshold value of 1×10^{-6} for all the participants, indicating that the carcinogenic PAHs are a
724 threat to the individual's health and subsequently alerting a need of effective emission control
725 in sWA. Even though PAEs had low carcinogenic risks, the effects from waste burning to
726 students should not be ignored and proper control measures for both PM_{2.5}-bound heavy
727 metals and toxic organic must be established.

728 In addition, it should be noted that both non-cancer and cancer risks could be potentially
729 underestimated since many toxic chemical components were not involved in this study. Based
730 on the current, there are a variety of emission sources impacted on the different degrees of
731 impacts on the population groups in sWA region. Attention should be paid on health risks for
732 chemicals via inhalation way, especially Pb and Mn for students at WB site as well as PAHs
733 for women at DF in wet season.

734

735 **6. Conclusions**

736 This work can be regarded as a first attempt for the assessment of personal exposure to
737 particulate matter originating from main sources of combustion aerosols in representative
738 cities of southern West Africa. We targeted in this study different groups of people exposed
739 to domestic fires, traffic and waste burning. Even though there are few drawbacks such as
740 relatively short sampling period and limited number of participants, our findings provide a
741 new insight on the health risk due to PM_{2.5} exposure in areas with scarce observations.
742 Developing countries of southern West Africa are facing a great challenge regarding air
743 pollution mitigation strategy and more investigations on personal exposure and related
744 potential health effects by cohort method will be considered in the future. In the short terms,
745 developing and implementing appropriate preventive and control measures on anthropogenic
746 combustion sources downtown such improving waste treatment equipment at landfill or
747 efficient smoking equipment for domestic use, are appropriate.

748

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760

761 **Author Contributions**

762 H.X. and C.L. conceived and designed the study. H.X., J.-F.L., C.L. and B.G.
763 contributed to the literature search, data analysis/interpretation and manuscript writing. J.-F.L.,
764 C.L., B.G., V.Y., A.A., K.H., S.H., Z.S. and J.C. contributed to manuscript revision. H.X., J.-
765 F.L., E.G., J.A and L.L. conducted the particulate samples collection and chemical
766 experiments, analyzed the experimental data.

767

768 **Additional Information**

769 Fig. S1 and SI A-D accompany this manuscript can be found in Supplementary
770 Information.

771

772 **Competing financial interests**

773 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

774

775 **References**

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1094

1095 **Figure Caption:**

1096 **Figure 1.** Location of the sampling sites (white square) within the cities. A: Domestic Fires

1097 (DF) site at the Yopougon-Lubafrique market in Abidjan; B: Waste Burning (WB) site at the

1098 landfill of Akeoudo in Abidjan; and C: Motorcycle Traffic (MT) site at Dantokpa area in

1099 Cotonou.

1100 **Figure 2.** Pictures showing the sampling sites and corresponding participants: (a) women at

1101 DF; (b) students at WB; (c) drivers at MT.

1102 **Figure 3.** Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} mass concentrations of woman at DF, student at WB

1103 and driver at MT in dry season (January) and wet season (July) of 2016 in sWA area.

1104 **Figure 4.** Variations of OC/EC ratios in personal exposure to PM_{2.5} samples for women at

1105 DF, students at WB and drivers at MT (The box plots indicate the average concentration and

1106 the min, 1st, 25th, 50th, 75th, 99th and max percentiles).

1107 **Figure 5.** Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} mass concentration closures for women at DF, students

1108 at WB and drivers at MT in different sampling seasons.

1109 **Figure 6.** Distributions of A: PAHs; B: PAEs; and C: hopanes in PM_{2.5} personal exposure

1110 samples for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT in dry and wet seasons of 2016.

1111 **Figure 7.** Correlations between PAHs diagnostic ratios (average ratio points of each type

1112 participant indicate day and night value respectively).

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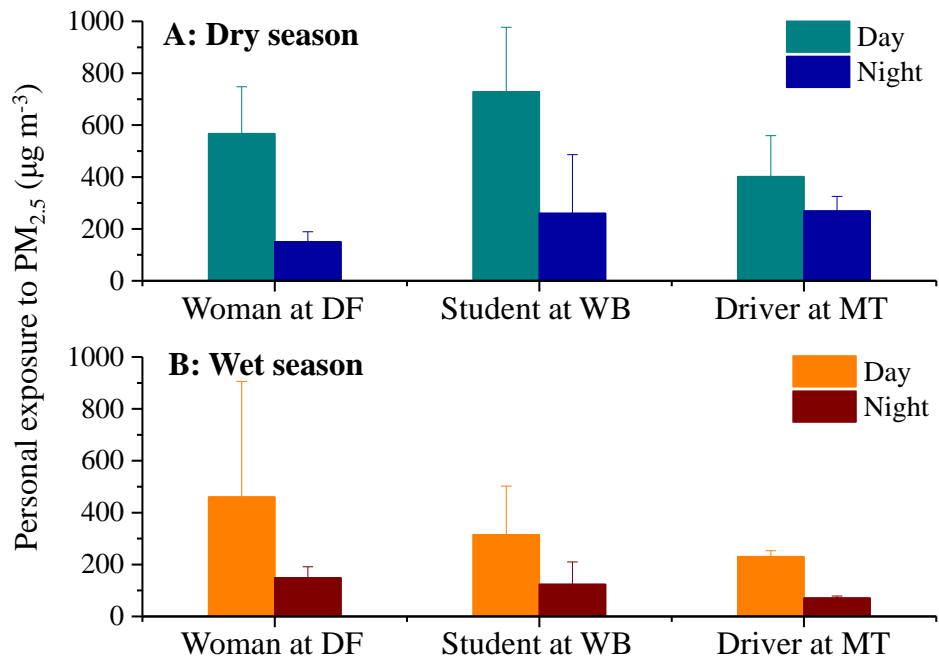
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Figure 1.



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Figure 2.

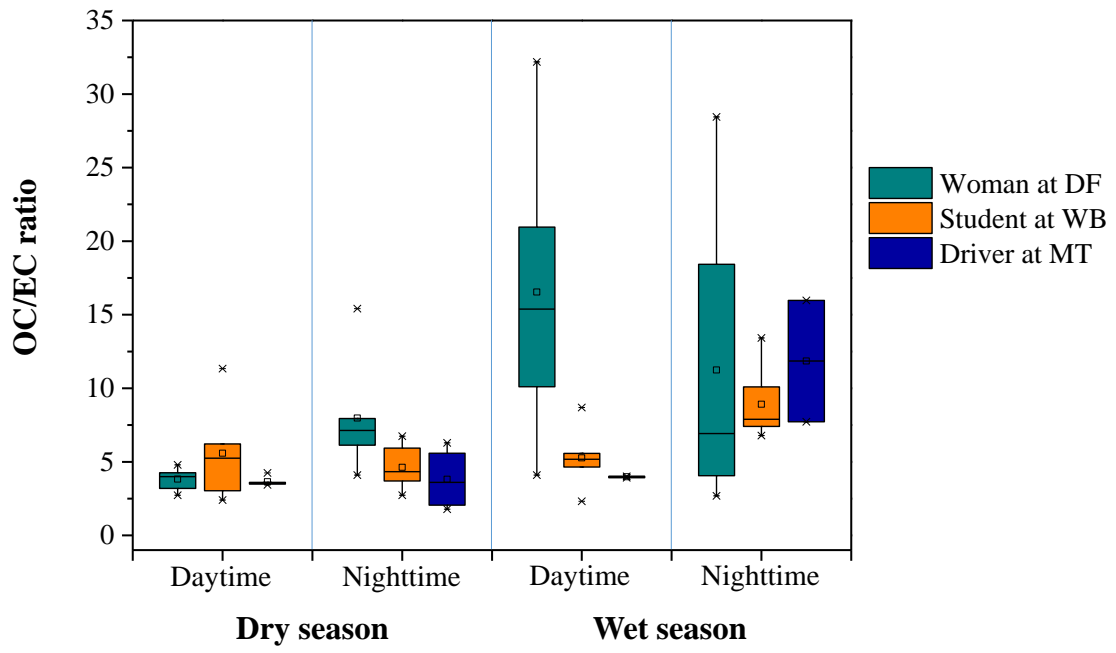


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Figure 3.

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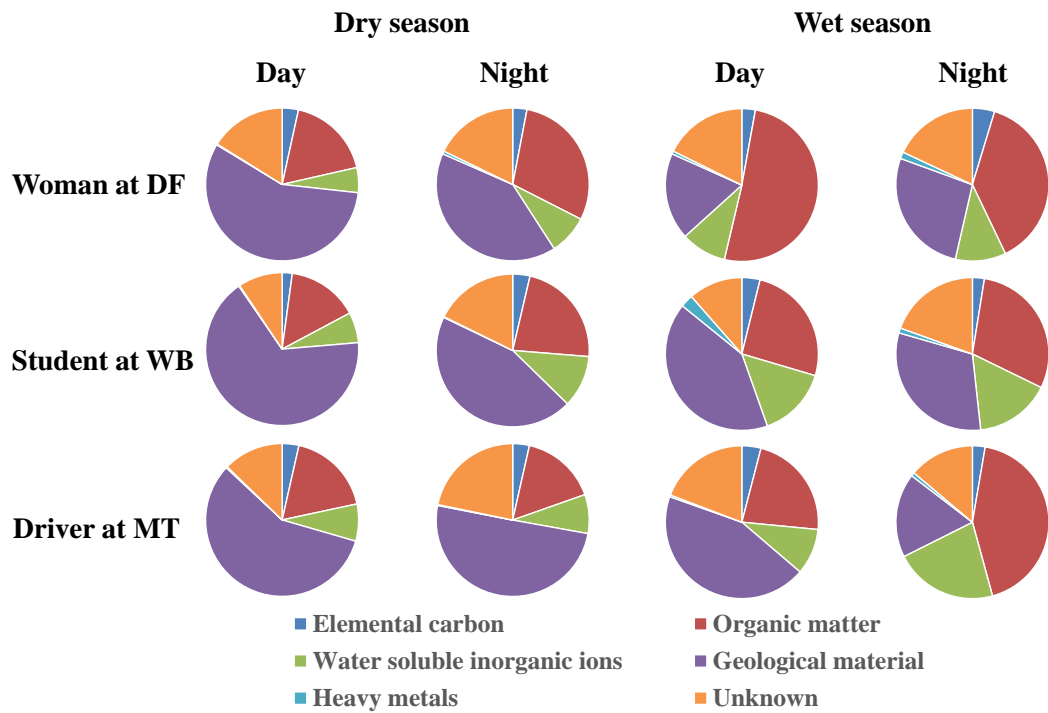


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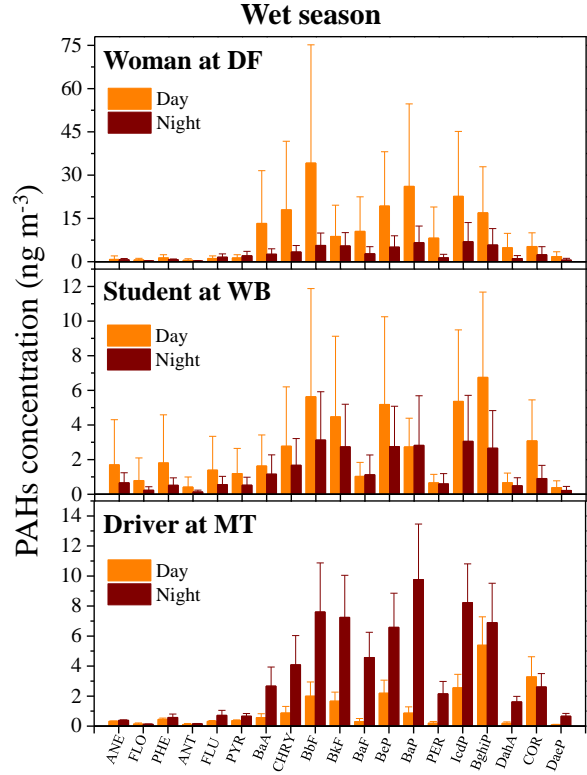
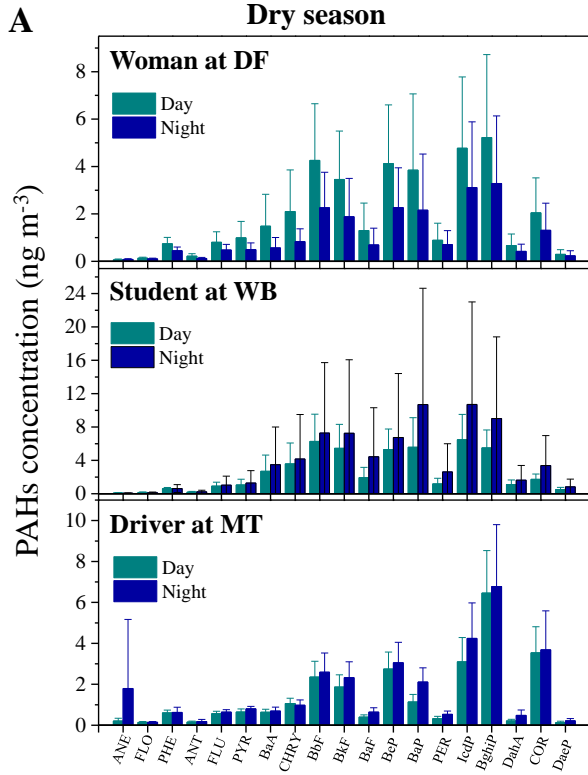
Figure 4.

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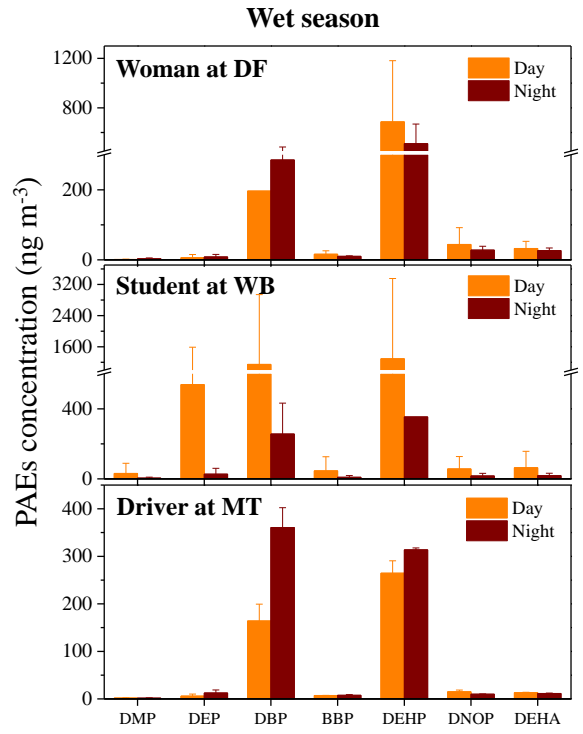
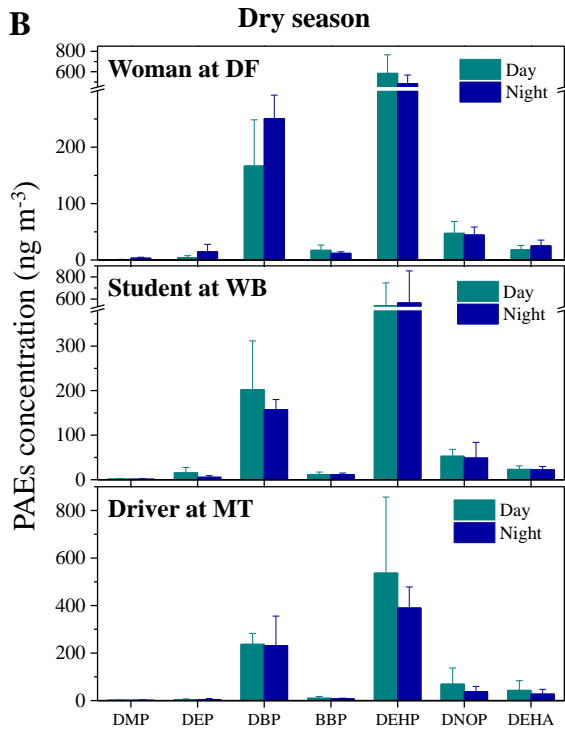


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Figure 5.



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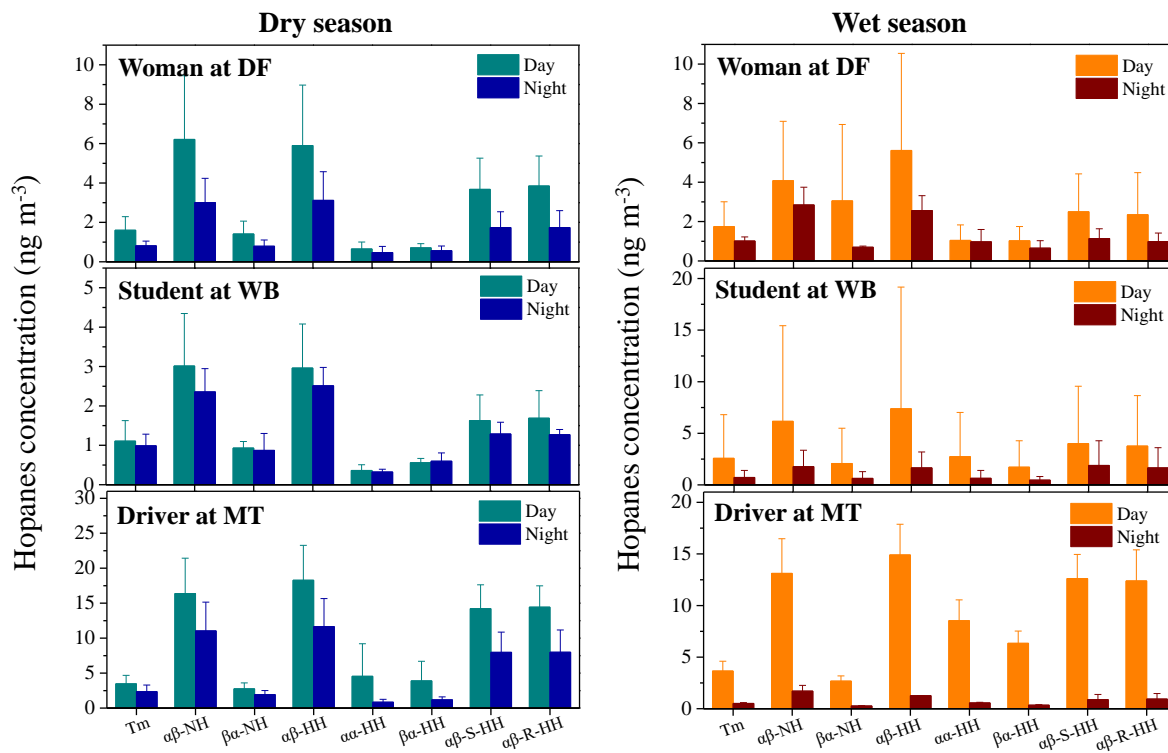
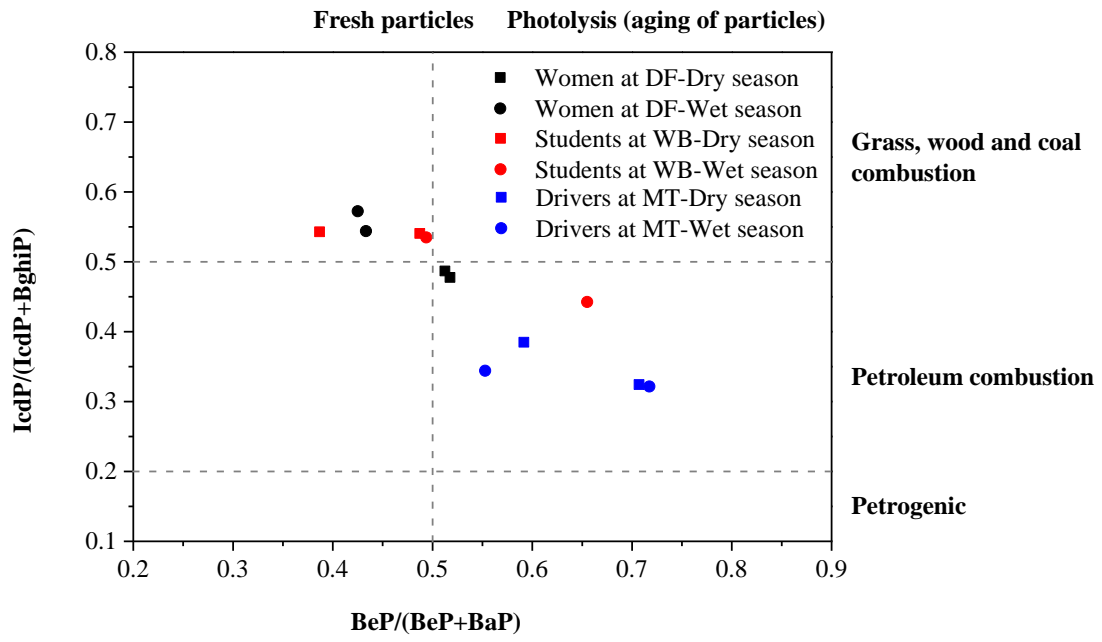


Figure 6.

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1136 **Figure 7.**

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1138 **Table 1** Meteorological parameters of the studied two cities during the dry (December 2015
1139 to March 2016) and wet (April to July 2016) seasons.

	Season	Abidjan	Cotonou
Mean daily air temperature (°C)	Dry	28.0	28.3
	Wet	27.5	27.7
Total rainfall (mm)	Dry	268	92
	Wet	626	558
Mean wind speed (m s ⁻¹)	Dry	3.0	3.0
	Wet	3.4	4.3

1140

1141 **Table 2** Definitions and recommended values of the parameters in equations (1-4) in this
 1142 study.

Parameter	Definition (unit)	Value used in this study (reference)
D	average daily exposure dose ($\text{mg kg}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$)	/
C	heavy metals concentrations in equations (ng m^{-3})	/
R	inhalation rate, air volume a child inhaled each day ($\text{m}^3 \text{ day}^{-1}$)	16.0 for women and drivers; 15.2 for students (USEPA, 2011)
EF	exposure frequency (day year^{-1})	130 for women and drivers (half working days); 182 for students (half year)
ED	exposure duration (year)	30 for women and drivers (working years); 15 for students (before going to high school)
BW	body weight (kg)	62.5 for women ^a ; 37.5 for students ^a ; 85.0 for drivers ^a
AT	averaging time (day)	30 or 15×365 (non-cancer); 70×365 (cancer)
<i>cf</i>	conversion factor (kg mg^{-1})	10^{-6}
HQ	hazard quotient	/
RfD	reference dose, estimated as the maximum permissible risk on human by daily exposure ($\text{mg kg}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$)	Table 3
HI	hazard index	/
ILCR	incremental lifetime cancer risk (ILCR)	/
CSF	cancer slope factor ($\text{mg kg}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$) ⁻¹	Table 3
[BaP] _{eq}	equivalent BaP toxicity concentration (ng m^{-3})	/
C _i	individual PAH species concentration (ng m^{-3}) (i means target PAH species)	/
TEF _i	toxicity equivalency factor of each target PAH compound (i means target PAH species)	(Nisbet and Lagoy, 1992)

1143 a: Measured in this study.

1144

1145 **Table 3** Reference dose (RfD) ($\text{mg kg}^{-1} \text{day}^{-1}$) and cancer slope factor (CSF) ($\text{mg kg}^{-1} \text{day}^{-1}$)⁻¹
 1146 via inhalation exposure way used in this study.

	RfD	CSF	Reference
Mn	1.8×10^{-3}	/	Liu et al., 2015
Ni	5.4×10^{-3}	/	Zhou et al., 2014; Liu et al., 2015
Zn	3.0×10^{-1}	/	Zhou et al., 2014
Pb	3.5×10^{-3}	/	Zhou et al., 2014; Hu et al., 2012
BaP	/	3.140	USEPA, 2011
DEHP	/	0.014	USEPA, 1997; Wang et al., 2017a

1147 **Table 4** Statistical analysis (arithmetic mean±standard deviation) of personal exposure to PM_{2.5} mass concentrations and the chemical
 1148 compositions (units: µg m⁻³) during the sampling period in sWA region.

	Dry season						Wet season					
	Women at DF		Students at WB		Drivers at MT		Women at DF		Students at WB		Drivers at MT	
	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime	Daytime	Nighttime
PE PM_{2.5}	567.0±180.6	150.6±38.5	728.5±248.5	260±226.1	401.3±158.0	269.0±56.1	460.5±445.2	148.6±42.9	315.2±186.9	123.7±86.1	230.4±22.8	70.7±8.1
OC	72.4±24.6	31±5.0	85.0±57.4	40.9±34.4	49.5±12.5	31.8±14.2	189.3±197.8	40.1±9.3	65.2±65.2	28.5±26.8	37.0±3.5	22.2±10.6
EC	19.5±7.3	4.7±2.2	15.0±4.7	8.6±5.7	13.6±3.6	9.0±2.3	11.5±10.8	6.3±3.7	12.3±11.4	3.6±3.6	9.3±0.8	1.9±0.0
Total carbon	91.9±31.1	35.7±6.8	100.0±60.1	49.5±39.5	63.1±16.0	40.8±13.6	200.8±207.1	46.3±7.2	77.4±76.2	32.1±30.3	46.3±4.2	24.1±10.6
Cl⁻	4.4±1.3	1.6±0.6	6.5±3.6	6.4±9.4	2.4±0.8	2.2±0.6	8.6±8.4	1.9±1.0	4.6±5.4	1.9±0.7	3.1±0.2	2.3±0.2
NO₃⁻	2.7±0.7	2.2±1.4	5.5±1.3	3.0±0.7	3.7±1.3	2.7±0.5	2.2±0.8	1.6±0.7	5.0±6.0	1.8±1.3	1.6±0.2	1.2±0.1
SO₄²⁻	4.0±1.1	1.8±0.6	7.5±2.5	3.6±0.9	7.5±2.5	5.3±0.6	6.8±5.2	2.3±0.8	6.4±5.9	2.3±0.4	5.2±0.3	3.2±0.5
Na⁺	2.9±0.4	1.6±0.3	4.1±1.1	1.9±0.8	3.3±1.1	2.4±0.3	4.2±2.2	4.4±1.7	16.2±17.3	3.3±3.1	3.6±0.2	2.6±0.1
NH₄⁺	0.6±0.2	0.4±0.5	1.4±0.4	3.0±4.1	1.1±0.2	0.9±0.2	0.6±0.5	0.1±0.0	0.6±0.2	0.4±0.3	0.7±0.0	0.1±0.0
K⁺	3.2±0.6	1.7±0.6	5.8±4.0	2.2±0.8	1.9±0.4	2.1±0.9	7.6±8.0	1.3±0.8	3.3±4.4	1.3±0.6	1.1±0.0	3.6±1.5
Mg²⁺	0.6±0.2	0.2±0.1	0.8±0.3	0.3±0.2	0.4±0.2	0.3±0.1	1.1±1.2	0.3±0.1	1.0±0.9	0.3±0.2	0.3±0.0	0.2±0.0
Ca²⁺	11.0±3.2	3.1±0.9	14.9±4.5	4.9±3.2	10.6±5.5	6.0±1.2	6.6±4.3	3.2±0.8	17.3±13.9	4.5±3.8	6.8±0.3	2.3±0.1
Total ions	29.3±6.6	12.5±3.7	46.6±15.4	25.2±18.8	30.9±11.9	21.9±3.2	37.6±29.5	15.1±2.2	54.4±50.0	15.8±8.8	22.3±1.0	15.5±1.9
Fe	14.61±5.25	2.64±0.36	21.17±4.64	4.85±3.30	10.99±6.50	5.90±0.37	3.37±3.34	1.87±0.96	5.07±1.74	1.76±1.24	4.56±0.64	0.57±0.05
V	0.04±0.02	0.00±0.00	0.07±0.02	0.02±0.01	0.03±0.02	0.01±0.01	0.01±0.01	0.00±0.00	0.03±0.03	0.01±0.01	0.01±0.00	0.01±0.00
Cr	0.04±0.02	0.01±0.00	0.06±0.02	0.01±0.01	0.03±0.03	0.01±0.01	0.05±0.02	0.06±0.03	0.31±0.35	0.04±0.05	0.03±0.00	0.03±0.00
Mn	0.18±0.06	0.04±0.03	0.29±0.08	0.07±0.04	0.35±0.12	0.21±0.11	0.14±0.16	0.04±0.00	0.37±0.36	0.06±0.06	0.17±0.02	0.04±0.00
Co	0.05±0.02	0.01±0.01	0.09±0.02	0.01±0.01	0.05±0.03	0.02±0.02	0.02±0.02	0.02±0.02	0.04±0.05	0.02±0.02	0.02±0.01	0.01±0.00
Ni	0.02±0.01	0.00±0.00	0.02±0.01	0.01±0.01	0.02±0.01	0.01±0.01	0.02±0.02	0.03±0.02	0.12±0.14	0.02±0.03	0.02±0.00	0.01±0.00
Cu	0.04±0.01	0.02±0.01	0.14±0.03	0.02±0.01	0.05±0.03	0.03±0.01	0.13±0.07	0.13±0.07	0.67±0.81	0.10±0.09	0.07±0.02	0.06±0.01
Zn	0.40±0.22	0.55±0.73	0.49±0.19	0.15±0.12	0.33±0.16	0.19±0.07	0.51±0.32	0.32±0.17	1.41±1.55	0.26±0.27	0.29±0.04	0.12±0.00

Sb	0.02±0.01	0.05±0.02	0.02±0.02	0.00±0.00	0.02±0.04	0.01±0.01	0.12±0.08	0.21±0.18	1.16±1.38	0.22±0.29	0.07±0.04	0.08±0.09
Ba	0.19±0.09	0.16±0.12	0.25±0.11	0.07±0.09	0.22±0.18	0.05±0.07	0.47±0.39	1.02±0.60	6.80±8.30	0.84±1.41	0.18±0.18	0.14±0.01
Pb	0.07±0.03	0.07±0.07	0.17±0.07	0.04±0.03	0.07±0.05	0.02±0.03	0.14±0.02	0.09±0.03	0.92±1.01	0.13±0.18	0.05±0.02	0.03±0.01
Heavy metals	1.05±0.28	0.91±0.80	1.59±0.51	0.40±0.31	1.16±0.66	0.56±0.28	1.62±0.65	1.93±1.10	11.80±13.91	1.69±2.38	0.90±0.26	0.53±0.09

Table 5 Mass concentrations of PE PM_{2.5}-bound PAHs, PAEs and hopanes species for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT (ng m⁻³).

Specific species (abbreviation)	Women at DF		Students at WB		Drivers at MT	
	Average	Stdev*	Average	Stdev*	Average	Stdev*
acenaphthene (ACE)	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.7	1.7
fluorene (FLO)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.0
phenanthrene (PHE)	0.8	0.4	0.9	1.2	0.6	0.1
anthracene (ANT)	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
fluoranthene (FLU)	1.0	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.1
pyrene (PYR)	1.2	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.1
benzo[a]anthracene (BaA)	4.5	8.5	2.2	1.5	1.1	0.5
chrysene (CHR)	6.1	11.2	3.0	1.6	1.8	0.8
benzo[b]fluoranthene (BbF)	11.6	19.2	5.6	2.7	3.6	1.2
benzo[k]fluoranthene (BkF)	4.9	4.2	5.0	2.9	3.3	1.1
benzo[a]fluoranthene (BaF)	3.8	5.3	2.1	2.4	1.5	0.8
benzo[e]pyrene (BeP)	7.7	8.1	5.0	2.5	3.6	0.7
benzo[a]pyrene (BaP)	9.7	12.5	5.5	5.7	3.5	1.6
perylene (PER)	2.8	5.0	1.3	1.4	0.8	0.4
indeno[1,2,3-cd]pyrene (IcdP)	9.4	9.3	6.4	4.5	4.5	0.7
benzo[ghi]perylene (BghiP)	7.8	6.1	6.0	3.6	6.4	0.5
dibenzo[a,h]anthracene (DahA)	1.8	2.2	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.1
coronene (COR)	2.8	1.6	2.3	1.4	3.3	0.4
dibenzo[a,e]pyrene (DaeP)	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.1
ΣPAHs	77.4	47.9	49.9	30.7	37.0	7.4
dimethyl phthalate (DMP)	2.2	1.0	9.6	27.9	1.9	0.5
diethyl phthalate (DEP)	8.3	4.1	146.5	517.0	6.8	1.4
di-n-butyl phthalate (DBP)	224.8	90.6	440.7	848.4	248.2	42.1
benzyl butyl phthalate (BBP)	13.8	4.3	19.7	37.3	8.1	2.9
bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP)	566.4	181.4	688.0	899.1	376.3	144.5
di-n-octyl phthalate (DNOP)	40.9	16.9	43.8	26.2	33.0	31.0
bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate (DEHA)	25.6	6.0	32.0	41.8	23.8	19.0
ΣPAEs	882.0	193.3	1380.4	335.2	698.1	192.4
17α(H)-22,29,30-trisnorhopane (Tm)	1.3	0.5	1.3	1.9	2.5	0.5
17α(H)-21β(H),30-norhopane (αβ-NH)	4.0	1.2	3.3	4.1	10.6	1.9
17β(H)-21α(H),30-norhopane (βα-NH)	1.5	1.8	1.1	1.5	1.9	0.3
17α(H)-21β(H)-hopane (αβ-HH)	4.3	1.9	3.6	5.4	11.5	2.2
17α(H)-21α(H)-hopane (αα-HH)	0.8	0.2	1.0	2.0	3.6	2.1
17β(H)-21α(H)-hopane (βα-HH)	0.7	0.2	0.8	1.2	2.9	1.2
17α(H)-21β(H),(22S)-homohopane (αβ-S-HH)	2.3	0.7	2.2	2.4	8.9	1.3
17α(H)-21β(H),(22R)-homohopane (αβ-R-HH)	2.2	0.8	2.1	2.1	8.9	1.3
Σhopanes	17.1	6.4	15.6	6.1	50.9	7.9

*: standard deviation

Table 6 Non-cancer risks of heavy metals and cancer risks of PAHs and PAEs via inhalation exposure way in PE PM_{2.5} of women at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT in dry and wet seasons.

	Dry season			Wet season		
	Women	Students	Drivers	Women	Students	Drivers
Non-cancer risk						
Mn	5.71E-03	2.02E-02	1.09E-02	4.83E-03	2.31E-02	4.26E-03
Ni	1.44E-04	5.60E-04	1.77E-04	4.49E-04	2.59E-03	2.00E-04
Zn	1.45E-04	2.15E-04	6.16E-05	1.24E-04	5.45E-04	5.05E-05
Pb	1.75E-03	5.98E-03	9.33E-04	2.97E-03	2.95E-02	7.75E-04
HI	7.74E-03	2.70E-02	1.21E-02	8.37E-03	5.57E-02	5.29E-03
Cancer risk (ILCR)						
PAHs ([BaP] _{eq})	3.13E-06	6.43E-06	3.22E-06	9.33E-06	3.68E-06	3.42E-06
PAEs (DEHP)	2.92E-07	3.36E-07	1.86E-07	3.15E-07	4.86E-07	1.16E-07