

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

72 **1. Introduction**

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

84 Since the 1990s, several international campaigns have been performed in Africa. Some
85 of them were mainly focused on the particles or aerosols, such as DECAFE (Lacaux et al.,
86 1995), EXPRESSO (Delmas et al. 1999; Ruellan et al., 1999), SAFARI-1992 (Lindesay et al.,
87 1996), SAFARI-2000 (Swap et al., 2002), AMMA (Léon et al., 2009; Liousse et al., 2010;
88 Marticorena et al., 2010) and INDAAF (Ouafo-Leumbe et al., 2017). In fact, Africa has the
89 largest production of mineral dust particles from the Sahara Desert and unpaved road surfaces
90 (Laurent et al., 2008; Marticorena et al., 2010; Reeves et al., 2010), and carbonaceous
91 aerosols originated from wild fires (mainly savannah fires) (Capes et al., 2008; Gaudichet et
92 al., 1995) among the world. Therefore, these campaigns were more biased toward the natural
93 sources of aerosols in Africa. In previous literature, the major contributions to the aerosol
94 chemistry in northern Benin in dry season were dust (26-59%), primary organic matters (POC,
95 30-59%), elemental carbon (EC, 5-9%) and water soluble inorganic ions (3-5%) (Ouafo-
96 Leumbe et al., 2017). Liousse et al. (2014) showed that the increase of relative importance of
97 particulate emissions from domestic fires and fossil fuel combustions in Africa. Uncertainty
98 has been raised by the residents who live in urban areas as they do concern on the health
99 impact from air quality. However, the works on PE to PM_{2.5} emitted from the typical
100 anthropogenic sources in the emerging cities in Africa are still scarce.

101 The main anthropogenic emission sources of PM_{2.5} in sWA include domestic wood
102 burning, fossil fuel combustion, unregulated traffic and industries, waste burning and road
103 dust. An ongoing project in Dynamics-Aerosol-Chemistry-Cloud Interactions in West Africa
104 (Africa-DACCIWA) aims to quantify the influences of anthropogenic and natural emissions
105 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., Fullerton, CA, USA) at a flow rate of 10 liter per minute (lpm). The PEM PM_{2.5}
195 sampling head worn in the breathing zone of participants in this study. PM_{2.5} were collected
196 on 37 mm pre-baked quartz filters (800°C, 3 hours, QM/A®, Whatman Inc., UK). A total of
197 72 PE samples, including 24 samples (12 pairs of diurnal samples, the same as thereafter) for
198 women at DF, 24 (12 pairs) for students at WB and 24 (12 pairs) for drivers at MT, were
199 collected in this study. Moreover, 12 PE PM_{2.5} field blanks (one field blank for each
200 participant in one season collected on the second day of the three consecutive sampling days)
201 were obtained as well.

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

208 placed in Petri dishes, sealed with parafilm and stored in a freezer at -20°C to prevent loss of
209 mass through volatilization prior to analysis. Blank values from blank filter samples were
210 used to account for any artifacts caused by gas absorption and subtract the background PM_{2.5}
211 and chemical compositions concentrations in this area.

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

218 219 2.3. PM_{2.5} gravimetric and chemical analysis

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

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

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

242 USA), which is equipped with an AS11-HC anion column and a CS12 cation column for
243 separation. Details of the IC measurement method are described in Bahino et al. (2018) and
244 Cachier et al. (2005).

245 One element of Fe (representing earth's crust emission) and ten heavy metals (i.e., V, Cr,
246 Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Sb, Ba and Pb) in PE PM_{2.5} samples were determined by Energy
247 Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence (ED-XRF) spectrometry (the PANalytical Epsilon 5 ED-XRF
248 analyzer, Netherlands) with a quarter of filter. The relative errors for all measured elements
249 were < 6% between the NIST Standard Reference Material (SRM) 2783 and our ED-XRF
250 results, which is well within the required range of error, demonstrating the accuracy of
251 method. Replicate analysis of one quartz-fiber filter sample (five times) yielded an analytical
252 precision between 5.2-13.9%. Details of the ED-XRF measurements are shown in Brouwer
253 (2003) and Xu et al. (2012).

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

265 *2.4. Health risk assessment model*

266 A number of heavy metals and toxic organic species are associated with negative PE
267 health effects (Škrbic et al., 2016; Val et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2017a; Xu et al., 2018a). In
268 this study, four heavy metals (Mn, Ni, Zn and Pb) and all measured PAHs and PAEs species
269 in PE PM_{2.5} were selected to determine the PE inhalation health risks (Xu et al., 2018a). The
270 heavy metals non-carcinogenic risks and toxic organics carcinogenic risks of PM_{2.5} via
271 inhalation were calculated according to the U.S. EPA health risk assessment model (USEPA,
272 2004, 2011). The average daily exposure dose (D) via inhalation was estimated to assess the
273 risk by the equations (1) as follows:

$$274 \quad D = (C \times R \times EF \times ED \times cf) / (BW \times AT) \quad (1)$$

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

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

$$278 \quad \text{HQ} = D / \text{RfD} \quad (2)$$

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

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

$$286 \quad \text{ILCR} = D \times \text{CSF} \quad (3)$$

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

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

$$292 \quad \Sigma[\text{BaP}]_{\text{eq}} = \Sigma (C_i \times \text{TEF}_i) \quad (4)$$

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

297 298 2.5. Questionnaire and time-activity diary

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

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

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

321

322 **3. Results and discussion**

323 *3.1. Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} and its chemical compositions*

324 *3.1.1. PE PM_{2.5} mass concentration*

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

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

344 occurrence of increased levels of rainfall in wet season in sWA (Table 1), which causes the
345 large reduction of road dust exposed to drivers and limits the garbage spontaneous
346 combustion significantly around students. Moreover, large scale transport of mineral dust and
347 combustion aerosols emitted by savannah wild fires contribute significantly to the aerosol
348 load during the dry season (Djossou et al., 2018), which is more important at WB and MT
349 than at DF (women worked in the crowded community environment).

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

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

376 The average PE $PM_{2.5}$ levels are compared to the weekly ambient $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations
377 (Djossou et al., 2018) in the same area during similar sampling period. The average PE $PM_{2.5}$

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

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

401 *3.1.2. PE $PM_{2.5}$ chemical compositions*

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

412 three different PE groups, representing that EC was less affected by human activities related
413 to combustion sources in this study.

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

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

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

446 29.3%) of total quantified ions, following by Cl^- , SO_4^{2-} and K^+ for women at DF, Na^+ , SO_4^{2-}
447 and Cl^- for students at WB, and SO_4^{2-} , Na^+ and NO_3^- for drivers at MT. The profiles thus
448 indicate that the particle resuspension by personal activities was the main contributor to the
449 PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ in sWA (Chen et al., 2017; Xu et al., 2015). The diurnal variations on composition
450 of Ca^{2+} to total ions (i.e., daytime=30.6% and nighttime=22.8%) also illustrate this
451 conclusion. Moreover, SO_4^{2-} forms primarily through atmospheric oxidation of SO_2 emitted
452 mainly from coal and diesel combustions (Seinfeld and Pandis, 2006; Xu et al., 2016b). As
453 the second most enriched ion, the average proportion of SO_4^{2-} was 17.7%, which implies that
454 purification of raw coal and diesel (Wang et al., 2013) should be applied in this area for
455 lowering sulfur emissions and therefore decreasing PE to SO_4^{2-} in $\text{PM}_{2.5}$. The SO_4^{2-} exposure
456 levels for the drivers were 33% and 40% higher than the women and students respectively,
457 indirect indicating that the emission of SO_2 might be higher in Cotonou or the participants are
458 exposed to higher SO_2 or SO_4^{2-} from the diesel vehicle emissions.

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

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

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

490

491 3.2. Mass balance of personal exposure to PM_{2.5}

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

$$502 \quad \text{OM} = 1.4 \times \text{OC} \quad (5)$$

503 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
504 DF, students at WB and drivers at MT, respectively. The results show that there are distinct
505 sources for PE OC for women at DF. According to the information gathering from the
506 questionnaires, the combustion sources, such as roasting meat/peanuts and burning wood, are
507 the major contributors to PE OC for women in this study.

508 In addition, Fe has been widely used to estimate the upper limit of GM (Taylor and
509 McLennan, 1985). Fe constitutes ~4.0% in dust of the earth's crust (Cao et al., 2005b; Hao et
510 al., 2007; Kabata-Pendias and Mukherjee, 2007; Sun et al., 2014; Wu et al., 2012; Xu et al.,
511 2016b). The amount of GM is calculated by equation (6):

$$512 \quad \text{GM} = (1 / 4.0\%) \times \text{Fe} \quad (6)$$

513 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

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

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

543

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

545 Organic fingerprint markers can be used to indicate specific emission sources and
546 further characterize the pollutions impacted on different populations. The average PE
547 concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ -bound PAHs, PAEs and hopanes were 54.8 ± 20.3 , 986.8 ± 82.2 and

548 27.9±1.0 ng m⁻³, respectively, representing high organic pollutions in sWA region (Table 5).
549 Dissimilar with the trend on PM_{2.5} masses (students > women > drivers), the PE to target
550 organic compounds for different groups were varied, with a descending order of women >
551 students > drivers for PAHs, students > women > drivers for PAEs, and drivers > women >
552 students for hopanes (Table 5 and Figure 6).

553 4.1. PAHs

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

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

582 drivers at MT, the average D/N ratio in dry and wet seasons were 0.8 and 0.3, respectively.
583 The higher PE Σ PAHs concentrations at night and lower D/N ratios for drivers may be
584 explained by the potential combustion sources for PAHs close to the participants (e.g.,
585 sources nearby the drivers' homes) in Cotonou, Benin especially in wet season. This can be
586 deduced by the combustion marker of BaP which was the highest PAH species at night in wet
587 season, even though the drivers exposed to the traffic emissions during the night working
588 time (18:30 to 21:00 UTC). Further studies are thus required to confirm the findings and
589 figure out the reasons.

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

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

616 This represents that more favorable meteorological conditions (i.e., higher light intensity) and
617 more physical activities (i.e., time extending for particulate re-suspension) at daytime are
618 more conducive to the aging of PM_{2.5} and its bounded PAHs. Moreover, IcdP/(BghiP+IcdP)
619 of <0.2, 0.2-0.5 and >0.5 were used to identify petrogenic, petroleum combustion and a mix
620 of grass, wood, and coal combustions, respectively (Yunker et al., 2002). The relatively low
621 ratio for drivers at MT (0.34) demonstrates that the PAHs were mainly produced from motor
622 vehicles, while grass, wood and coal combustions were more dominant for women at DF
623 (0.52) and students at WB (0.52) (Figure 7). IcdP/(IcdP+BghiP) ratio did not show significant
624 seasonal variation.

625

626 4.2. Phthalate esters (PAEs)

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

646 The average concentrations of the ΣPAEs for women at DF, students at WB and drivers
647 at MT were comparable in dry season. However, the average concentrations were
648 927.2±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
649 the ΣPAEs in dry season (Figure 6B). A significant increase in PE ΣPAEs for student at WB

650 can be attributed to the enhanced PAEs emission in the daytime with high RH
651 ($3173.6 \pm 1028.3 \text{ ng m}^{-3}$), consistent with the findings on PE $\text{PM}_{2.5}$. Dry and wet seasons had
652 similar PAEs profiles with different diurnal variations (Figure 6B). The average D/N ratios of
653 the ΣPAEs in dry season demonstrate constant concentrations, with an average of 1.0, 1.0 and
654 1.3, respectively, for women, students and drivers, while much larger variations of 1.1, 4.6
655 and 0.7 were found for wet season. Noticeably different diurnal D/N ratios for students at
656 WB is interrelated with the human activities (specially the emissions from plastic materials)
657 and the subdued waste combustion led by meteorological conditions (i.e., more precipitation
658 at night in wet season), which had been mentioned in Section 3.1.1.

659

660 4.3. Hopanes

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

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

683 Even though these organic groups are not major fractions in PE PM_{2.5}, their fingerprints
684 can more accurately illustrate the contributions of air pollution sources to PM_{2.5}. PAHs, PAEs
685 and hopanes are source markers for the combustion activities, plastics emissions and fossil
686 fuel emissions (e.g., from gasoline vehicles), respectively, well matching to the potential air
687 pollution sources impacted on the PE PM_{2.5} for participants in this study. Our results not only
688 indicate that the PM_{2.5} respiratory exposure can be strongly contributed from the
689 environmental pollution sources and individual activities, but also prove reliable application
690 of organic tracers on characterization of personal exposure study.

691

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

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

711 As shown in Table 6, the ILCRs of PAHs were all exceed the international acceptable
712 level of 1×10^{-6} either in dry or wet season. Meanwhile, the ILCRs of PAEs were all below
713 1×10^{-6} , well within the safety limit of cancer risk. For all target participants, higher cancer
714 risks of PE PM_{2.5}-bound PAHs and PAEs were found in wet season. The seasonal variations
715 such as increase of RH could lead raise of PE cancer risks to toxic organics in PM_{2.5}. In dry
716 season, the average ILCR values of PAHs for women and drivers were comparable, both ~50%

717 lower than those for students, implying the high toxicity originated from the waste burning
718 and high sensitivity to juveniles. In wet season, PAHs exhibited the highest ILCR for women
719 at DF, 2.5 and 2.7 times of those for students and drivers, respectively. The domestic wood
720 burning and meat grilling can trigger nearly ten times the safety limit for PAHs. The cancer
721 risks of PAEs showed the similar trend in dry and wet seasons (Yang et al., 2011), with the
722 descending order of students > women > drivers. The carcinogenic risks of PAEs for the
723 drivers was the lowest, much lower (45% and 76% for dry and wet seasons) than those for
724 students who live close to waste incineration. In a word, the ILCRs of PAHs exceeded the
725 threshold value of 1×10^{-6} for all the participants, indicating that the carcinogenic PAHs are a
726 threat to the individual's health and subsequently alerting a need of effective emission control
727 in sWA. Even though PAEs had low carcinogenic risks, the effects from waste burning to
728 students should not be ignored and proper control measures for both PM_{2.5}-bound heavy
729 metals and toxic organic must be established.

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

736

737 **6. Conclusions**

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

750

751 **Author Contributions**

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

757

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769

770 **Additional Information**

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

773

774 **Competing financial interests**

775 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

776

777 **References**

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1096

1097 **Figure Caption:**

1098 **Figure 1.** Location of the sampling sites (white square) within the cities. A: Domestic Fires

1099 (DF) site at the Yopougon-Lubafrique market in Abidjan; B: Waste Burning (WB) site at the

1100 landfill of Akeoudo in Abidjan; and C: Motorcycle Traffic (MT) site at Dantokpa area in

1101 Cotonou.

1102 **Figure 2.** Pictures showing the sampling sites and corresponding participants: (a) women at

1103 DF; (b) students at WB; (c) drivers at MT.

1104 **Figure 3.** Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} mass concentrations of woman at DF, student at WB

1105 and driver at MT in dry season (January) and wet season (July) of 2016 in sWA area.

1106 **Figure 4.** Variations of OC/EC ratios in personal exposure to PM_{2.5} samples for women at

1107 DF, students at WB and drivers at MT (The box plots indicate the average concentration and

1108 the min, 1st, 25th, 50th, 75th, 99th and max percentiles).

1109 **Figure 5.** Personal exposure to PM_{2.5} mass concentration closures for women at DF, students

1110 at WB and drivers at MT in different sampling seasons.

1111 **Figure 6.** Distributions of A: PAHs; B: PAEs; and C: hopanes in PM_{2.5} personal exposure

1112 samples for women at DF, students at WB and drivers at MT in dry and wet seasons of 2016.

1113 **Figure 7.** Correlations between PAHs diagnostic ratios (average ratio points of each type

1114 participant indicate day and night value respectively).

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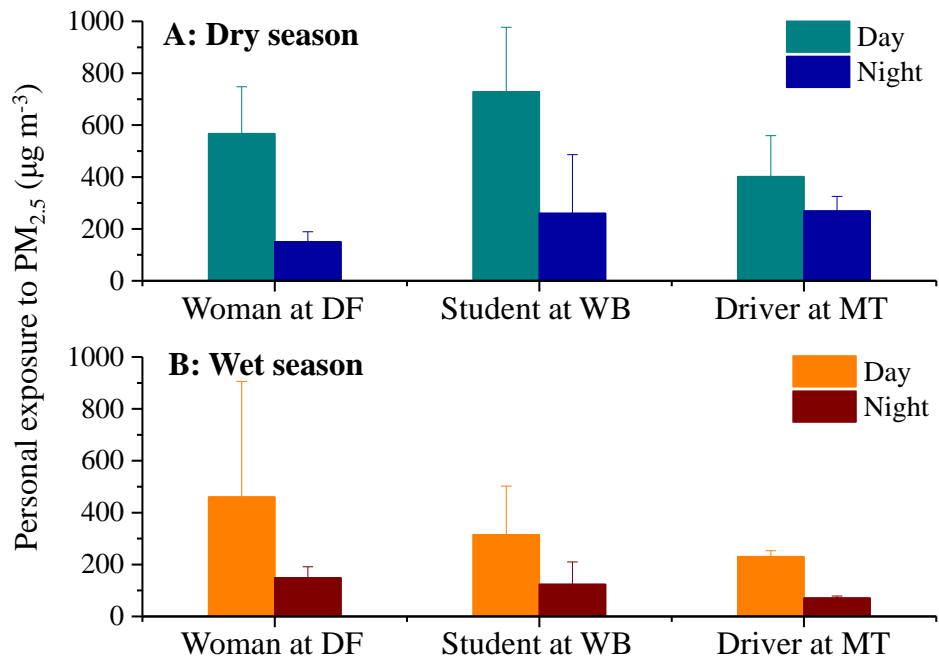
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Figure 1.



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Figure 2.

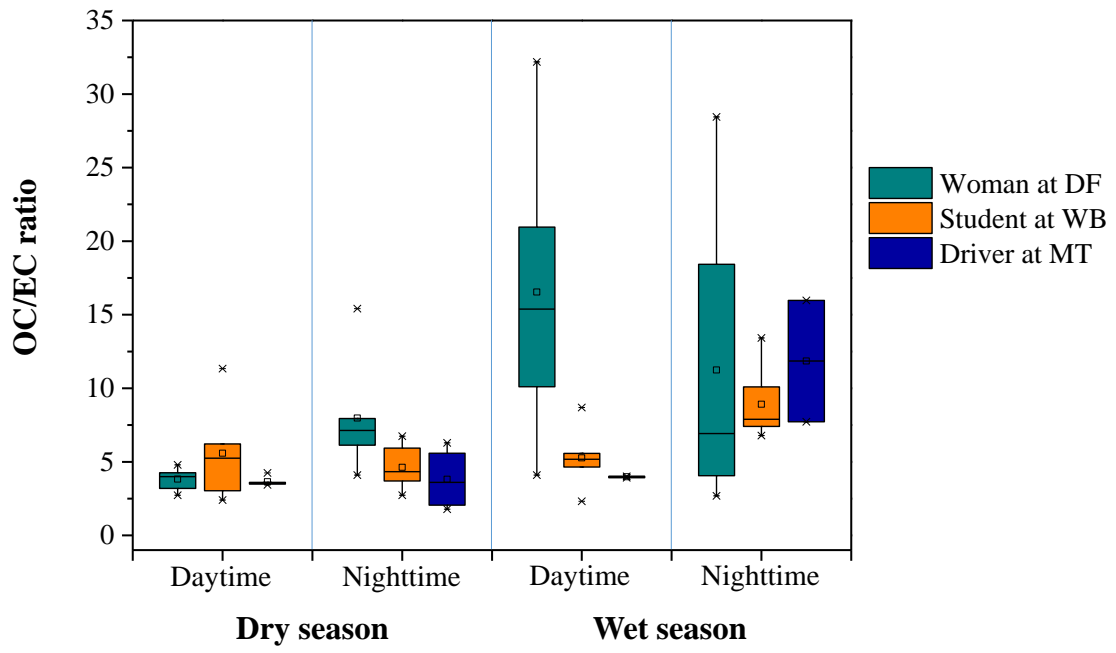


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Figure 3.

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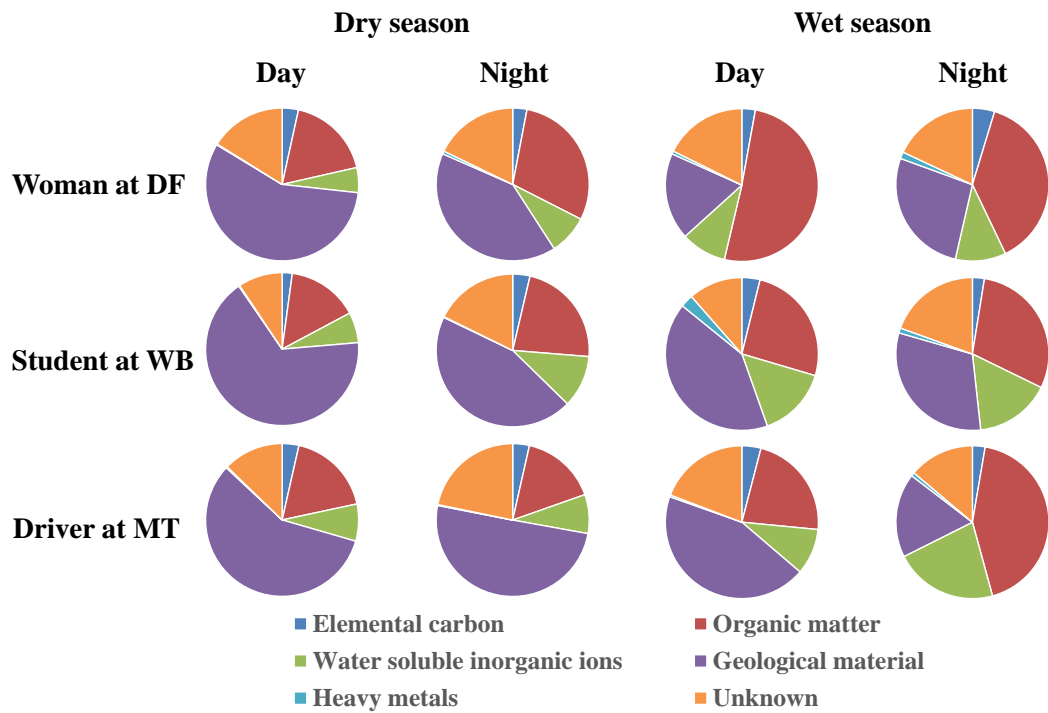


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Figure 4.

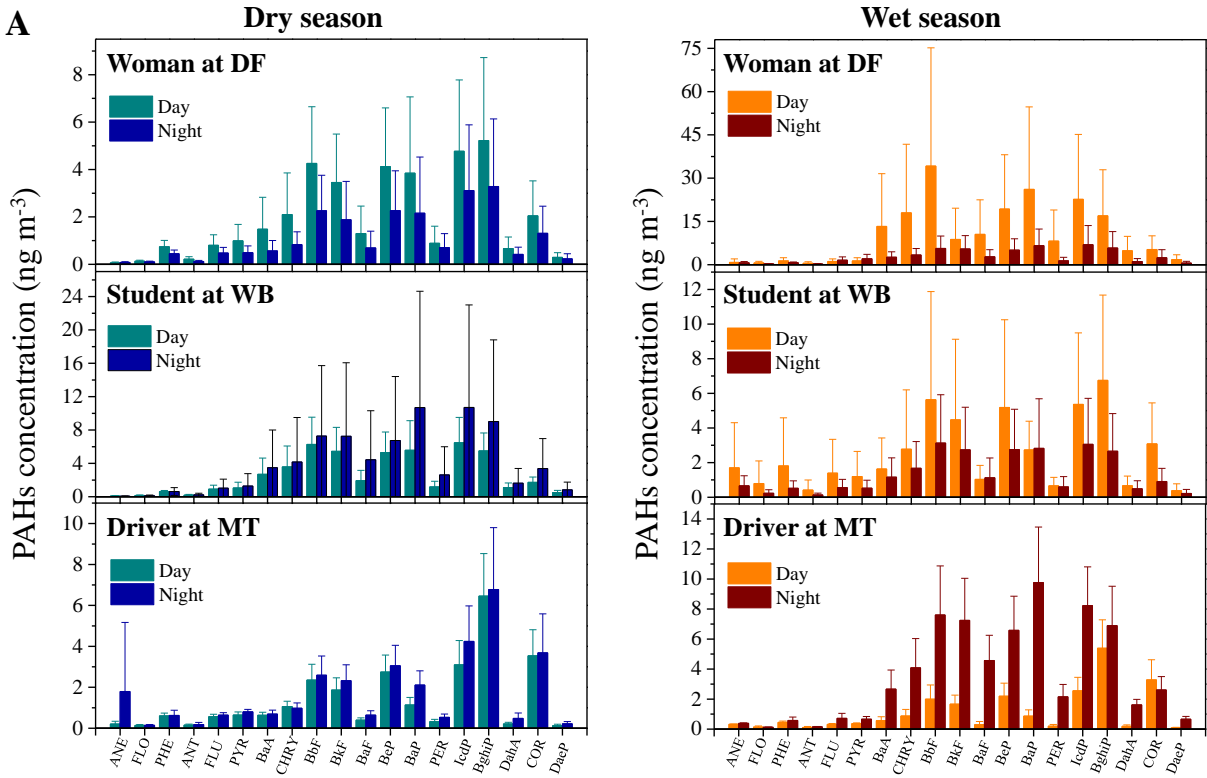
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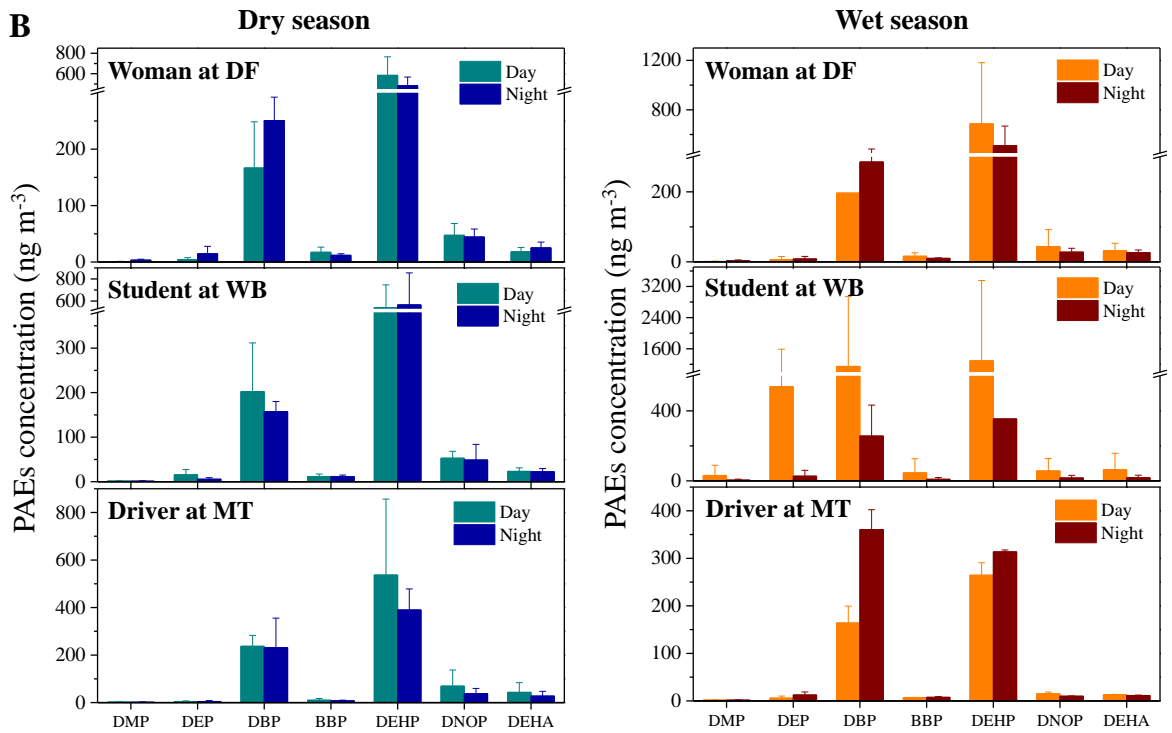
Figure 5.

A



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B



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C

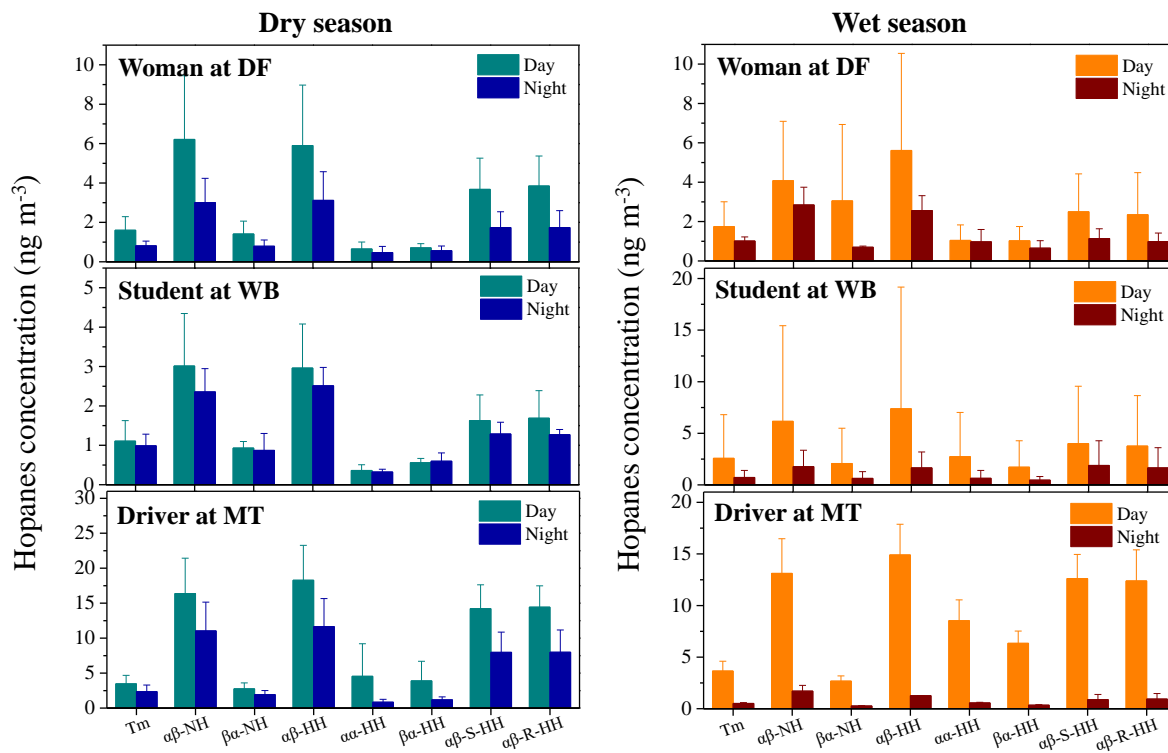
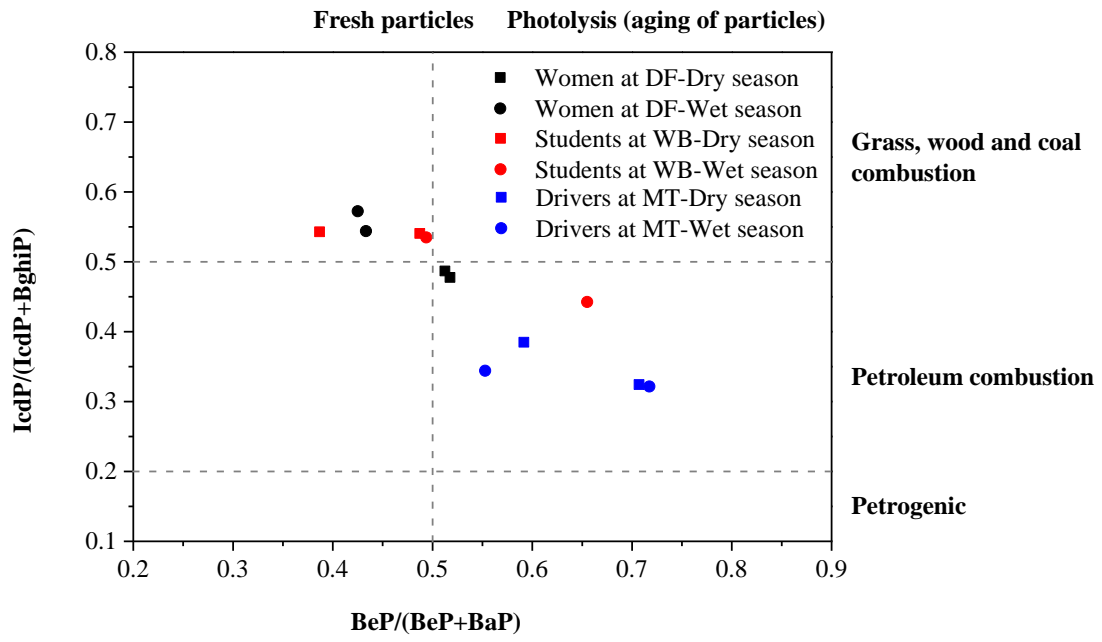


Figure 6.

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1138 **Figure 7.**

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1140 **Table 1** Meteorological parameters of the studied two cities during the dry (December 2015
1141 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

1142

1143 **Table 2** Definitions and recommended values of the parameters in equations (1-4) in this
 1144 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)

1145 a: Measured in this study.

1146

1147 **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
1148 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

1149 **Table 4** Statistical analysis (arithmetic mean±standard deviation) of personal exposure to PM_{2.5} mass concentrations and the chemical
 1150 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