

# Some Trace Elements in Zilfi Streets Dust

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**Abstract** Dust has frequently been used as a material for monitoring trace elements pollution. The wind may take the trace elements to the farms. Zilfi Province is Located on Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia approximately 260 km North. And we know that there are many farms around Zilfi Province. So in this study the concentrations of some trace elements (Co, V, Ni, Cu and K), in streets dust in major streets and inner ones in Hai Elsdeeg and Smnan at Zilfi Province have been studied for comparison, using Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometer (ICP-MS) ELAN 9000 (Perkin Elmer Sciex Instrumento, Concord, Ontario, Canada), after sieving and digestion using HNO<sub>3</sub>, HCL and HF. Concentrations of most elements have been found less than allowed concentrations in literature, but Vanadium was a little less than the maximum concentrations allowed. The concentrations of Ni, and Cu, are high nearby car repair workshop and also at main streets especially in Hai Elsdeeg compared to Hai Smnan.

**Keywords** Street Dust, Trace Elements, Inductively Coupled Plasma, Zilfi, Saudi Arabia

## 1. Introduction

Zilfi Province is Located on Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia approximately 260 km North. Dust has frequently been used as a material for monitoring trace elements pollution. In some instances dust may present significant pollution source when rain falls and washes the road surfaces and storms so causes increased metals input to rivers and sewage[1]. Young children have been identified as the group that is at highest risk. Also vegetables and fruits may be contaminated with superficial of dust[2]. The major source of trace elements for human is the food of plant and animal origin. Drinking water covers a few percent of the elements needed. Breathing and using dirty hands are other sources[3]. The damage that results from inhalation of elements is much more serve than that produced by swallowing. For these reasons; the study will measure the concentrations of some trace elements in streets dust in major streets and inner ones from Hai Elsdeeg and Smnan at Zilfi Province for comparison, using Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometer (ICP-MS). The wind may take the trace elements to the farms. And we know that there are many farms around Zilfi Province.

There are four main sources of trace elements in the street dust which are road traffic, industrial activity, weathered material and specific intermittent episode[4]. Elements identified as originating from automobiles are Pb, Cd, Cu, Zn, Fe, Cr and Ni. The morphology and chemical

composition of heavy metal particles embedded in tire dust and traffic-related materials have been characterized[5]. Simultaneous elemental analysis in dust of the city of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia by (ICP-MS)[6], also this technique have been used in microwave digestion method of soil samples for toxic elements analysis[7]. The concentrations of 23 chemical elements have been determined using energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence (EDXRF)[8]. The elemental concentrations of heavy metal pollutants that may be present in street dust samples in Mubi, Adamawa state, Nigeria, were measured[9]. A few heavy metal contaminations related studies in several cities from China over the past 10 years were reviewed[10]. The concentrations of Fe, Cu, Cd, Pb, Zn and Ni in the dusts were determined by atomic absorption spectrophotometer in Amman, Jordan[11], and in (Turkey)[12]. Soil samples from different roads in Jeddah city were collected and analyzed for their elemental composition[13].

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Instrumentation

The analytical determination of Co, V, Ni, Cu and K was carried out by ICP-MS (Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometer): ELAN 9000 (Perkin Elmer Sciex Instrumento, Concord, Ontario, Canada). The Table(1) highlights the operating conditions of the instruments used in this study.

### 2.2. Reagents

Nitric acid (69% v/v), super purity grade from Romil, England. Hydrochloric acid (37% v/v) and hydrofluoric

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acid (40% v/v) were suprapure from Merck Germany .High purity water obtained from Millipore Milli-Q water purification system was used throughout the work .

### 2.3. Calibration

The ICP-MS calibration was carried out by external calibration with the blank solution and three working standard solutions (20, 40 and 60 ppm), starting from 1000mg/l single standard solutions for ICP-MS (A ristar grade, BDH laboratory supplies, England for the elements: Co, V, Ni, Cu and K) .

**Table 1.** Conditions of ELAN 9000 ICP-MS

RF power	1250 W
Nebulizer gas flow	0.92 L/min
Lens Voltage	9.25 V
Analog Stage Voltage	-1762.5 V
Pulse Stage Voltage	1050 V
Number of Replicates	3
Reading / Replicates	20
Scan Mode	Peak Hopping
Dwell Time	40 ms
Integration	1200ms

### 2.4. Sample Collection and Preparation

The area of study (Hai Elsdeeg and Smnan in Zilfi Province, was surveyed during October 2011 collecting (14) samples from different streets by gently sweeping along the edge of the road, then they were transferred to plastics bags, and sieved through 200 mm sieve. Samples were prepared by accurately weighing a round 200 mg of dust samples into a dry and clean Teflon digestion beaker ,6 ml of HNO<sub>3</sub>, 2 ml HCl and 2 ml HF were added to the Teflon beaker. Samples were digested on the hot plate at 120-150°C for approximately 40 minutes .The resulting digest was not clear ,so it was filtered through whatman filtered paper no.42.The filtered digest was transferred to a 50 ml plastic volumetric flask and made up to mark using deionized water .A blank digest was carried out in the same way .

## 3. Results and Discussion

All calibration graphs are linear in the selected range of each element . The square of the correlation ( $r^2$ ) ranges from 0.9985-0.99999 for most of the elements in this investigation .Good precision values were obtained .The results have been reviewed in tables (2-7) and figures (1-6) . Street dust shows considerable metallic contamination deposits of vehicle–derived metals and to reduction of metal deposited on the road surface. The concentrations of individual trace elements in street dust correlate with traffic density. Distance from the roads, urban and suburban differences and the mode of traffic density.

The concentrations of most elements have been found less than allowable concentrations in literature. Vanadium was a little less than the maximum Concentrations allowed

in the samples (10 and 13). These high levels of As and V may be due to human activities.

The high concentrations of Ni and Cu are found in the crossroads, nearby car repair workshop and also at the intersection of roads or area on main streets. Throughout the literature, the source of Cu in the street dust was due to corrosion of metallic parts of cars derived from engine wear, thrust bearing, brushing, bearing metals and brake dust. Higher amounts of Cu, and K were found in Hai Elsdeeg compared to Hai Smnan which have the maximum value of V only.

A further study can be made of the causes of increased concentration of arsenic allowable limits for large toxic for this element. These items can also be measured in the rest of the revival of the study of Zulfı parts .As the concentrations of trace elements are very important for plant growth, so an study can be done in the future to see some trace elements concentrations In the territory of some farms in Zilfy or other places in Saudi Arabia.

**Table 2.** Co concentration in Dust Samples ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ ) = (mg/kg) = (ppm)

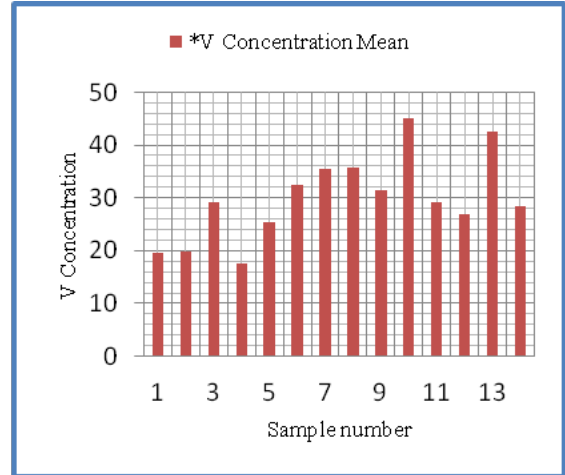
Dust sample number	*Co Concentration Mean $\pm$ **SD	***%RSD
1	0.95 $\pm$ 0.007	0.7
2	0.96 $\pm$ 0.001	1.5
3	0.92 $\pm$ 0.005	0.5
4	0.64 $\pm$ 0.006	1
5	1.21 $\pm$ 0.03	2.5
6	1.39 $\pm$ 0.02	1.5
7	1.65 $\pm$ 0.005	1
8	1.09 $\pm$ 0.005	0.5
9	0.94 $\pm$ 0.004	0.3
10	1.49 $\pm$ 0.015	0.6
11	0.82 $\pm$ 0.19	1.3
12	0.09 $\pm$ 0.009	1
13	1.03 $\pm$ 0.01	1.2
14	0.96 $\pm$ 0.08	0.9

**Table 3.** V concentration in Dust Samples ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ ) = (mg/kg) = (ppm)

Dust sample number	*V Concentration Mean $\pm$ **SD	***%RSD
1	19.63 $\pm$ 0.8	4.2
2	19.84 $\pm$ 0.22	1.2
3	29.22 $\pm$ 0.1	0.3
4	17.64 $\pm$ 0.22	1.2
5	25.31 $\pm$ 0.1	0.4
6	32.4 $\pm$ 0.1	0.3
7	35.48 $\pm$ 0.15	0.4
8	35.74 $\pm$ 0.25	0.8
9	31.45 $\pm$ 0.18	0.6
10	45 $\pm$ 0.08	0.2
11	29.2 $\pm$ 0.02	0.6
12	26.9 $\pm$ 0.07	0.3
13	42.6 $\pm$ 0.004	0.1
14	28.5 $\pm$ 0.55	2

**Table 4.** Ni concentration in Dust Samples ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ ) = ( $\text{mg/kg}$ ) = ( $\text{ppm}$ )

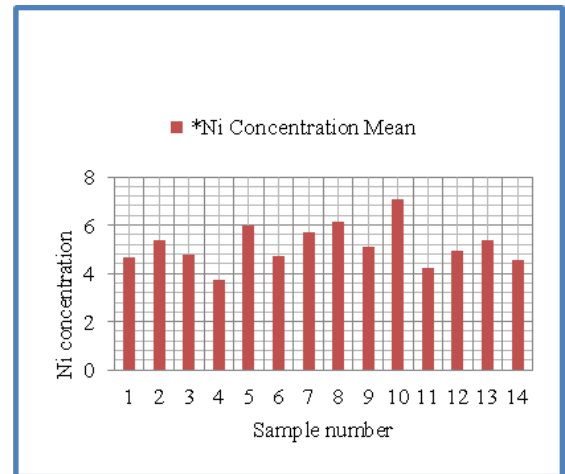
Dust sample number	*Ni Concentration Mean $\pm$ **SD	***%RSD
1	4.67 $\pm$ 0.03	0.6
2	5.36 $\pm$ 0.1	1.9
3	4.76 $\pm$ 0.03	0.5
4	3.73 $\pm$ 0.05	1.3
5	6 $\pm$ 0.04	0.7
6	4.74 $\pm$ 0.11	2.2
7	5.7 $\pm$ 0.1	1.8
8	6.13 $\pm$ 0.08	1.3
9	5.08 $\pm$ 0.08	1.6
10	7.1 $\pm$ 0.06	0.9
11	4.24 $\pm$ 0.02	0.5
12	4.93 $\pm$ 0.03	0.5
13	5.37 $\pm$ 0.05	0.9
14	4.53 $\pm$ 0.04	0.8



**Figure 2.** V Concentration in Dust Sample ( $\text{mg/kg}$ )

**Table 5.** Cu concentration in Dust Samples ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ ) = ( $\text{mg/Kg}$ ) = ( $\text{ppm}$ )

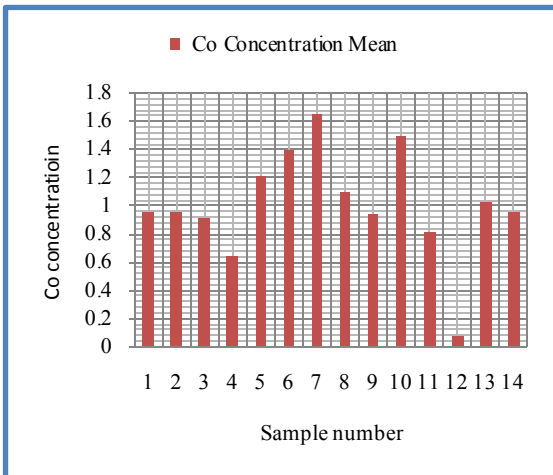
Dust sample number	*K Concentration Mean $\pm$ **SD	***%RSD
1	141 $\pm$ 1.6	1.1
2	193 $\pm$ 2.03	1.1
3	163 $\pm$ 1.63	1
4	135 $\pm$ 2.6	1.9
5	172 $\pm$ 3.2	1.9
6	384 $\pm$ 7.1	1.8
7	167 $\pm$ 0.6	0.4
8	188 $\pm$ 1.4	0.7
9	228 $\pm$ 1.3	0.6
10	174 $\pm$ 1	0.5
11	130 $\pm$ 1.5	1.2
12	138 $\pm$ 1.9	1.4
13	155 $\pm$ 2.7	1.8
14	162 $\pm$ 0.41	0.3



**Figure 3.** Ni Concentration in Dust Sample ( $\text{mg/kg}$ )

**Table 6.** K concentration in Dust Samples ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ ) = ( $\text{mg/kg}$ ) = ( $\text{ppm}$ )

Dust sample number	*Cu Concentration Mean $\pm$ **SD	***%RSD
1	16.45 $\pm$ 0.13	0.8
2	33.1 $\pm$ 0.52	1.6
3	7.2 $\pm$ 0.03	0.5
4	6.3 $\pm$ 0.07	1.2
5	4.3 $\pm$ 0.26	0.6
6	7.1 $\pm$ 0.12	1.6
7	3.3 $\pm$ 0.02	0.6
8	2.9 $\pm$ 0.01	0.5
9	14.8 $\pm$ 0.11	0.7
10	5.42 $\pm$ 0.03	0.5
11	6.56 $\pm$ 0.04	0.6
12	15.71 $\pm$ 0.17	1.1
13	3.45 $\pm$ 0.02	0.5
14	7.71 $\pm$ 0.01	0.1

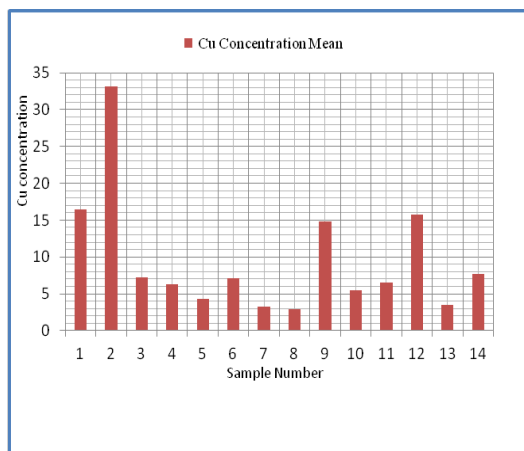
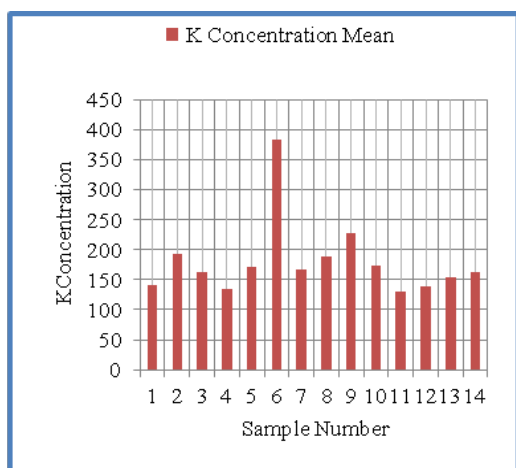
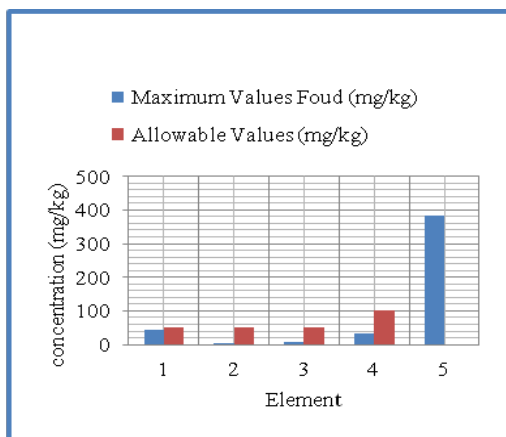


**Figure 1.** Co Concentration in Dust Sample ( $\text{mg/kg}$ )

Concentration Mean of 3 replicates. \*\* Standard Deviation. \*\*\*Percentage Relative Standard Deviation

**Table 7.** Comparison between the Maximum Concentrations Found in the Dust Samples and the Maximum Levels Ruled by literature

Dust sample number	Maximum Values Found (mg/kg)	Allowable Values(mg/kg)
6	K(384)	No Data
2	Cu(33.1)	Cu(100)
7	Co(1.65)	Co(50)
10	V(45),Ni(7.1)	V(50),Ni(50)

**Figure 4.** Cu Concentration in Dust Sample (mg/kg)**Figure 5.** K Concentration in Dust Sample (mg/kg)**Figure 6.** Comparison between the maximum concentrations found in the Dust Samples and the Maximum Levels Ruled by Literature

## 4. Conclusions

Concentrations of most elements have been found less than allowable concentrations in literature, but arsenic is found in concentrations higher than the limit allowed specially in the samples (1, 2, 3 and 10). The high concentrations of Zn, Cd, Pb, and Cr, are found in the crossroads, nearby car repair workshop and also at the Intersection of roads or area on main streets which lies in Hai Elsdeeg, i.e. Hai Elsdeeg was found to be more contaminated compared to Hai Sman.

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