

Article

# Temporal and Spatial Distribution Characteristics of Atmospheric Particulate Matter ( $PM_{10}$ and $PM_{2.5}$ ) in Changchun and Analysis of Its Influencing Factors

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Abstract: With Changchun's economic development, atmospheric particulate pollution has become a significant challenge in Changchun. The spatiotemporal patterns of particulate matter emissions are an inherent characteristic for particulate matter emissions. By using hourly PM (particulate matter) mass concentration measured at 10 atmospheric automatic monitoring stations and meteorological parameters, the spatiotemporal distribution characteristics of particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and its relationship with meteorological parameters of Changchun have been analyzed. Pollution pathways and source distribution were investigated using HYSPLIT (Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory) model and cluster analysis. Results indicated that the quarterly average PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> mass concentrations in Changchun were higher in the first quarter and the fourth quarter. PM concentrations observed in all seasons generally exhibited two peaks, at 07:00–10:00 and 21:00-23:00, with the exception of PM<sub>10</sub> in spring. PM pollution was concentrated mainly in the central, northern, and western areas of Changchun in most seasons, mainly due to anthropogenic activities and soil dust transported outside the region. PM concentrations were negatively correlated with relative humidity and temperature. PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were negatively correlated with wind speed, while  $PM_{10}$  concentrations were positively correlated with wind speed. The results of backward trajectory clustered showed that the northwest airflow had the greatest impact on PM of Changchun, except summer.

**Keywords:** PM<sub>2.5</sub>; PM<sub>10</sub>; spatial and temporal characteristics; meteorological parameters; backward trajectory

### 1. Introduction

Recently, substantial growth in China's energy consumption and the rapid economic development have led to a series of heavy air pollution episodes—particularly those caused by atmospheric PM (particulate matter) [1–3]. The primary atmospheric pollutants in more than 70% of the national key detection cities were  $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$  [4]. PM pollution affects urban and regional air quality [5–7] and visibility [8–10], and even plays an important role in global climate change [11–13]. PM at high concentrations can significantly increase the incidence of human respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and mortality [14–16]. Because of the harm of PM pollution, people have drawn significant attention to it in recent years [17,18]. Many efforts have been made to investigate the physical [19–21], chemical [22–24] and optical properties [25,26] of atmospheric PM as well as its relationship with meteorological parameters [27–29], which are important for understanding the variation and formation in aerosols.

Changchun City is considered a natural geographical center of Northeast China and the hinterland of the Northeast Plain. It has vast farmlands with an area of  $2.36 \times 10^5$  ha around the city. Changchun



is also an industrial city that has the largest number of automobile manufacturers in China. As a typical northeastern city, it has a long heating period in winter. These factors lead to the significant atmospheric PM pollution in Changchun in recent years and the incidence of haze is increasing. The annual average of PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration in 2017 was 47  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>, which was 34.3% higher than the national secondary standard of ambient air quality (35  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>) and the annual average of PM<sub>10</sub> was 81  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>, which was 15.71% higher than the national secondary air quality standard (70  $\mu$ g m<sup>-3</sup>). The above results indicate that the pollution of particulate matter in Changchun is very serious and needs to be taken seriously. In the past, the researches on the particulate matter of Changchun were mainly focused on the composition analysis [30] and the source apportionment [31] of particulate matter pollution in Changchun and its influencing factors. In this study, we investigated the temporal variation and spatial distribution of PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> average concentrations in Changchun as well as the effects of meteorological parameters on atmospheric particles and use the Hysplit model to determine the main source of particulate matter in Changchun.

#### 2. Materials and Methods

#### 2.1. Sampling Sites and Data

Changchun is located in the mid-latitude zone of the Northern Hemisphere, the hinterland of the Northeast Plain of China (Figure 1a). A total of 10 air quality monitoring stations were located in different districts of Changchun (Figure 1b). Nine of the 10 sites are located in the built-up area of Changchun: Daishan Park (DP), High-Tech Zone Management Committee (HZMC), Economic Development Zone Environment Sanitary Administration (EESA), Jingyue Park (JYP), Bus Factory Hospital (BFH), Labour Park (LP), Children's Park (CP), Institute of Posts and Telecommunications (IPT), Junzilan Park (JZP), and one clean control station named Shuaiwanzi (SWZ), which is located in the Shuangyang district of Changchun. Table 1 shows the details of the above sampling stations.



**Figure 1.** (**a**) Geographical position of Changchun, and (**b**) locations of air quality monitoring stations and meteorological station in Changchun.

Name	Environmental Air Quality Functional Area	Major Source of Pollution (Area)	Wind Direction	
Children's Park (CP)	П	Urban and rural	Upwind	
Bus Factory Hospital (BFH)	Π	Industrial discharge	Upwind	
Institute of Posts and Telecommunications (IPT)	П	Densely populated	Upwind	
Labour Park (LP)	П	Densely populated	Downwind	
High-Tech Zone Management Committee (HZMC)	П	Urban and rural	Upwind	
Daishan Park (DP)	П	Industrial discharge	Upwind	
Jingyue Park (JYP)	Ι	Natural reserve	Side wind	
Economic Development Zone Environment Sanitary Administration (EESA)	П	Densely populated	Downwind	
Junzilan Park (JZP)	Π	Vehicle emission	Downwind	
Shuaiwanzi (SWZ)	I	Background	Side wind	

**Table 1.** Nature of air quality monitoring stations in Changchun.

The hourly PM concentrations for all 10 sites in 2017 were from 10 atmospheric environment automatic monitoring stations in Changchun. The hourly meteorological parameters in 2017, including wind speed, direction, temperature and relative humidity, were obtained from the Dafangshan Airport (DFSA) meteorological station (43.90 N, 125.20 E) in Changchun (Figure 1b), which was obtained from the website (http://www.wunderground.com). The percentages of valid data for PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub> and meteorological parameters are 98.59%, 98.47% and 100%, respectively. Daily and monthly averaged PM concentrations and meteorological parameters were calculated from their hourly data, which were then used to characterize their properties based on statistical analyses.

#### 2.2. HYSPLIT Model and Backward Trajectory

The HYSPLIT (Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory) model developed by the National Center for Marine Atmospheric Research (NOAA) is a specialized model for calculating and analyzing the transport and diffusion trajectories of atmospheric pollutants [32,33]. The HYSPLIT model is widely used in the field of atmospheric science to analyze the transport and diffusion of air pollutants [34,35]. In order to study the PM transmission characteristics of Changchun, this study simulates one backward trajectory per hour and the simulation starting height is 100 m a.g.l. [36], which can not only represent the flow of the near-surface wind, reflecting the regional flow characteristics of the airflow, but also reduce the influence of near-surface friction. The vertical motion method used for the model is the default "model vertical velocity" which will use the vertical velocity field from the meteorological data. The backward time scale is 48 h [37] to cover the life cycle of secondary pollutants.

#### 2.3. Trajectory Clustering Analysis

In order to analyze the transport path of atmospheric particulate matter in Changchun, the SCA (Stepwise Cluster Analysis) algorithm is adopted in this study to cluster the backward trajectories.

In the calculation process of SCA, the spatial similarity between backward trajectories on the same spatial location at different time is taken as the clustering criterion. All backward trajectory groups are merged. The merged results are iteratively grouped and merged again, and finally a small number of representative cluster trajectories are obtained. All backward trajectory groups are merged, and the combined results are iteratively grouped and merged again. Finally, a small number of representative cluster trajectories are obtained.

The specific calculation formula of SCA is:

$$\mathbf{D} = \sqrt{\sum_{j=0}^{t} d_j^2},\tag{1}$$

$$SPVAR = \sum_{i=1}^{x} \sum_{j=0}^{t} d_{ij}^{2},$$
(2)

$$TSV = \sum SPVAR,$$
(3)

where, *i*: backward trajectory number, I = 1, ..., 8760; *j*: stop point number; *t*: trajectory transmission time; D: the distance between any two backward trajectories;  $d_{ij}$ : the spatial distance from the *j*-th stop point in the *i*-th backward trajectory to the corresponding stop point of the average trajectory;  $d_j$ : the spatial distance between the *j*-th stop points of the two trajectories; x: the number of trajectories in the cluster; SPVAR: space variation of each group of trajectories; TSV: total space variation

The calculating principle is as follows: it is assumed that the data of any two groups in N groups are merged into one group, and the average trajectory of each two initial trajectories is obtained according to the latitude and longitude of each stop point in the two group of trajectories. In this case, the spatial dissimilarity between each group of original trajectories to the average trajectories is calculated, and the two groups of trajectories with the least dissimilarity are selected to be combined into one. Repeat the calculation and merge, and finally several average trajectories with significant features and representativeness are obtained.

#### 3. Result and Discussion

#### 3.1. Temporal Characteristics of Atmospheric PM in Changchun

#### 3.1.1. Quarterly and Monthly Variations in PM Mass Concentrations

Figure 2 shows the daily and monthly variation in  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  mass concentrations and the monthly ratio of  $PM_{2.5}$  to  $PM_{10}$  ( $PM_{2.5}/PM_{10}$ ) averaged from 10 stations of Changchun in 2017. As shown in Figure 2a, PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations showed similar change over time. Daily mean PM<sub>2.5</sub> and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations were normally below 200 and 300 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, respectively. Three distinct peaks in daily PM concentrations were observed during the study period. The first peak occurred in January, and the maximum daily mean concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  were 284 and 302 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, respectively. There were 16 days under good air quality in January, which was mainly caused by meteorological condition and coal heating in winter. During the period of exceeding the standard, there were eight days with quiet wind and the average wind speed was 2.18 m s<sup>-1</sup>, and lower wind speed was not conducive to the diffusion of PM. The average temperature in January was -13.5 °C, which was relatively low, so there was a large demand for coal-fired heating. According to the research results of our research group, coal combustion is the primary pollution source of  $PM_{2,5}$  in winter of Changchun, with a contribution rate of 23.94%. The second peak with higher  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in May was due to dust activities with the ratio of PM<sub>2.5</sub>/PM<sub>10</sub> suddenly decreasing to less than 30%. Since May 4, Changchun has experienced sand-dust weather for several days and a  $PM_{10}$  concentration that exceeded 800 µg m<sup>-3</sup> on May 6. This dust storm originated from Inner Mongolia Plateau, which was widely reported on the Internet (http://jl.sina.com.cn/news/m/2017-05-09/detail-ifyeycfp9380012.shtml). The third peak with  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations exceeding 200 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, was caused by the straw burning, which is a traditional agricultural activity and normally occurs in October or November in the widespread agricultural regions of northeast China. The total amount of straw resources in Jilin Province is relatively large, and the straw resources in the central region such as Changchun account for about 63% of the total. The amount of straw resources collected in Jilin Province is about 40 million tons, and the amount of straw resources burned by farmers accounts for about 20% of the total collection.

- PM<sub>2.5</sub> ----- PM<sub>10</sub>

(a)-

800

600





**Figure 2.** Temporal variations in (**a**) daily and (**b**) monthly mean  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  mass concentrations, and (**c**)  $PM_{2.5}/PM_{10}$  monthly averages in Changchun in 2017.

Monthly averaged  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations in Changchun during 2017 ranged from 17.24 to 90.40 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, while  $PM_{10}$  varied between 36.85 and 111.14 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, and both showed a typical V-shaped pattern with a peak observed in January and October and trough observed in August, as shown as Figure 2b. A V-shaped distribution was also found for monthly  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in Sichuan Basin, with peak and trough values occurring in January and September [38].

In Changchun, the highest  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were observed in in the first quarter (71 µg m<sup>-3</sup>), followed by the fourth quarter (63 µg m<sup>-3</sup>), the second quarter ( 34 µg m<sup>-3</sup>), and the third quarter (19 µg m<sup>-3</sup>);  $PM_{10}$  exhibited the same trend: the first quarter (96 µg m<sup>-3</sup>) > the fourth quarter (94 µg m<sup>-3</sup>) > the second quarter (87 µg m<sup>-3</sup>) > the third quarter (46 µg m<sup>-3</sup>). Table 2 summarizes the quarterly and annual average concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  observed over different large cities in China. The results show that the quarterly and annual PM concentrations in Changchun are much higher than those in other cities except Beijing, demonstrating the severity of PM pollution in Changchun, particularly in the first quarter and the fourth quarter.

Site		1	2	3	4	Annual
	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	71	34	19	63	47
Changchun	$PM_{10}$	96	87	46	94	81
-	PM <sub>2.5</sub> /PM <sub>10</sub>	0.74	0.39	0.41	0.67	0.58
	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	34	22	19	38	28
Shenzhen	$PM_{10}$	50	36	31	61	45
	PM <sub>2.5</sub> /PM <sub>10</sub>	0.68	0.61	0.61	0.62	0.62
	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	38	24	19	27	27
Xiamen	$PM_{10}$	61	45	33	53	48
	PM <sub>2.5</sub> /PM <sub>10</sub>	0.62	0.53	0.58	0.51	0.56
	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	83	52	49	49	58
Beijing	$PM_{10}$	100	103	76	68	87
	$PM_{2.5}/PM_{10}$	0.83	0.50	0.64	0.72	0.67
	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	46	38	30	40	39
Shanghai	$PM_{10}$	57	58	48	62	56
	$PM_{2.5}/PM_{10}$	0.81	0.66	0.63	0.65	0.70
	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	46	29	26	41	35
Guangzhou	$PM_{10}$	68	51	43	61	56
	$PM_{25}/PM_{10}$	0.68	0.57	0.60	0.67	0.63

Table 2. Quarterly and annual variations in concentrations and ratios of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  in major cities ( $\mu g m^{-3}$ ).

From Table 2, we can see the  $PM_{2.5}/PM_{10}$  ratios were relatively high during the first quarter and the fourth quarter, with the maximum value of 0.81 occurring in January, corresponding to the residential heating period. The value was at the medium level compared with the cities in the Table 2 (Shenzhen: 0.71, Xiamen :0.68, Beijing: 0.90, Shanghai: 0.90, Guangzhou: 0.71). In residential heating period, the burning of fossil fuels produced a large number of precursors, and the proportion of  $PM_{2.5}$ increased significantly. The  $PM_{2.5}/PM_{10}$  ratios were relatively small in the second quarter, with the minimum value of 0.27 occurring in May (Figure 2c). The value was very low compared with the cities in the Table 2 (Shenzhen: 0.55, Xiamen: 0.50, Beijing: 0.46, Shanghai: 0.51, Guangzhou: 0.51). In the second quarter, frequent dust weather and strong winds resulted in the frequent release of coarse particles and the increased proportion of  $PM_{10}$  in the atmospheric.

#### 3.1.2. Diurnal Variation in PM Concentrations

According to the seasonal division rules of climate-temperature method, the whole year is divided into four seasons: spring (April 15–June 14), summer (June 15–August 24), autumn (August 25–October 24), winter (January–April 14, October 25–December 31).

Figure 3 shows the diurnal variation in  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations of Changchun and the  $PM_{2.5}$  profiles exhibited two peaks in all seasons. The first peak occurred in the period 07:00–09:00 Chinese Standard Time (CST), which was caused by the enhanced anthropogenic activity during rush hour and stability of the atmosphere [39]. After the peak, the concentration dropped until around 16:00 CST. The minimum of  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations in a day was found at 16:00 CST because the high wind speed and boundary layer height lead to better dispersion and dilution [40]. After 16:00 CST, the arrival of the evening rush hour and the prevailing barbecue at summer night, the frequent straw burning in autumn evening and the night coal heating in winter, caused the  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were still relatively high from night to early morning, which was most likely caused by cargo transportation across cities. According to the results of the target source apportionment of  $PM_{2.5}$  in the atmosphere of Changchun, with a contribution rate of 20.96%. Emission factors of heavy-duty vehicles are six times than those from light-duty vehicles and these vehicles are allowed only during nighttime [41].



**Figure 3.** Diurnal variation in PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations in Changchun.

The pattern of diurnal variation in  $PM_{10}$  concentration was similar to  $PM_{2.5}$ , as shown in Figure 4, which shows a bimodal pattern except spring. The first peak occurred in 08:00–10:00 CST and the secondary peak occurred in 21:00–23:00 CST. The minimum of  $PM_{10}$  concentration in a day was found in 13:00–15:00 CST because the strong thermal turbulence within the boundary layer in the afternoon favored the emission and vertical transport of dust particles [42]. In spring,  $PM_{10}$  concentrations remained high for most of the day. Sandstorm activity is more frequent in spring of Changchun, which increases the soil dust concentration. With the influence of inversion weather in spring, pollutants gather in the near-surface layer, which results in  $PM_{10}$  concentration increasing.



Figure 4. Diurnal variation in PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations in Changchun.

#### 3.2. Spatial Distribution of PM Mass Concentrations

The spatial distribution of the  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations in four seasons of Changchun was obtained by the Kriging interpolation method. Although inadequate site interpolation may lead to inaccurate values, this information could still represent the PM mass concentrations spatial distribution of the city as a whole. The results are shown in Figures 5 and 6. The concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  in Changchun were both high in winter, but generally low in summer. PM concentrations were higher in the north and west. There was an obvious boundary of high and low PM mass concentrations values between urban (mainly located inside the fourth ring road) and suburban areas. In all seasons except autumn, the  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations in the central urban area were higher than that in most surrounding areas. This was most likely due to the high contribution from vehicles and more population in the central urban area, combined with the density of high-rise buildings, which result in slower wind speeds and hinder the dispersion of air pollutants. However, the  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were higher in the suburbs but lower in the central urban area in autumn, which was related to the open burning of crop residues in the suburbs of Changchun in autumn.

The concentrations of  $PM_{10}$  in Changchun were higher in the northwest but lower in the southeast, which was related to land use types. The southeast area of Changchun has a high forest coverage rate, which reduces the soil dust concentration. With urban development, the area for land construction in suburban areas has had an obvious increase during recent years. Many construction sites in the northern suburban generate the construction dust and increase the concentration of PM by strong winds. In addition, the results of the backward trajectory indicate that the northeastern region of Inner Mongolia is considered as the main source of  $PM_{10}$  pollution in Changchun. A lot of coarse sand/dust particles can be transported to the northwest of Changchun by the northwesterly flows, resulting in high  $PM_{10}$  concentration in the northwest region, especially in spring.

The distribution of PM in Changchun basically showed higher concentrations in the west and north. The Kuancheng district is located in the north of Changchun and the Luyuan district is located in the west of Changchun. The Luyuan district and Kuancheng district are the two districts with the largest annual coal consumption in the main urban area of Changchun, with 4,483,731.00 and 2,711,861.00 tons, respectively. Particulate matter formed by coal combustion has a great influence on PM concentration of Changchun. Meanwhile, there was a region in the southeast of Changchun where



PM concentrations were very low in the whole year. This is because the area is close to Jingyuetan scenic spot, which has high vegetation coverage, low traffic volume and no pollution sources nearby.

Figure 5. Spatial distribution of seasonal average concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$ .



Figure 6. Spatial distribution of seasonal average concentrations of  $PM_{10}$ .

#### 3.3. Relationship between PM Concentrations and Some Meteorological Parameters

PM mass concentration is closely related to meteorological parameters, which will affect the diffusion, deposition and dilution of PM. Figure 7 showed the daily mean changes of wind speed, temperature and relative humidity during the study period. The daily mean wind speed was  $3.46 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . The daily mean temperature ranged from -13.50 °C (January) to 24.74 °C (July) (Figure 7b) and the daily mean values of relative humidity varied from 16% to 89% (Figure 7c). To understand the parameters affecting PM, we calculated the spearman correlation between the average daily concentration of PM and meteorological parameters, as shown in Figure 8 and Table 3.



Figure 7. Temporal variations in daily mean (**a**) wind speed, (**b**) temperature, (**c**) relative humidity during 2017 in Changchun.

Table 3 showed that PM concentrations were negatively correlated with relative humidity. Particulate matter easily absorbs moisture and settles when relative humidity is high, and there are precipitation events on most days of high relative humidity. The rainfall scouring process significantly reduced the mass concentration of particulate matter [43]. There was a negative relationship between PM concentrations and temperature. High temperatures may lead to the efficient vertical dispersion of pollutants, which results in an inverse relationship between temperature and PM concentrations [44]. PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were negatively correlated with wind speed but PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations were positively correlated with the increase of wind speed, the horizontal dispersion ability of pollutants increases, which reduces the mass concentration of PM<sub>2.5</sub> [45]. PM<sub>10</sub> is mainly

distributed near the ground because of its large particle size. Strong winds are more likely to cause secondary road dust from the ground surface [46].



**Figure 8.** The relationship between  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations and meteorological conditions (**a**) temperature, (**b**) temperature, (**c**) relative humidity, (**d**) relative humidity, (**e**) wind speed and the relationship between  $PM_{10}$  concentrations and meteorological conditions, (**f**) wind speed.

 $\label{eq:table3} \textbf{Table 3.} Correlation coefficients between daily PM_{10} and PM_{2.5} concentrations and meteorological parameters.$ 

	Ta	RH	U
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	-0.434 **	-0.019	-0.165 **
PM <sub>10</sub>	-0.207 **	-0.251 **	0.130 *

Note: Ta = temperature; RH = relative humidity; U = wind speed. \* means significance of p < 0.05, the \*\* means significance of p < 0.01.

#### 3.4. Backward Trajectory Clustering Analysis

The backward trajectories of Changchun in 2017 were clustered according to seasons and the trajectories of each season were clustered into eight categories, as shown in Figure 9. Based on the backward track clustering results, the length of each track and the corresponding  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations (Table 4) were calculated to analyze the influence of each track on the PM of four seasons in Changchun.

It can be seen from Table 4 that the northwest direction trajectories have the largest proportion in spring, autumn and winter, accounting for 56.96%, 72.2% and 76.7%, respectively, and the southwest direction trajectories have the largest proportion, accounting for 58.33% in summer. The polluted airflows of  $PM_{10}$  in spring, autumn and winter were mainly affected by cold and high pressure in Mongolia, passing through the northeast region of Inner Mongolia (Xing'anmeng, Tongliao). The above areas are close to deserts and rich in dust aerosols, which are transmitted to Changchun by northwest airflow. The polluted airflows of PM<sub>10</sub> in summer and the polluted airflow of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in spring and summer were southwest trajectories passing through east Shandong province, Liaoning province, and southwest Jilin province, which belonged to long-distance transportation. The wind speed was relatively high, which was easy to cause dust on the ground, resulting in increasing the concentration of coarse particles. Moreover, the above areas are densely populated, industrially developed and have more man-made pollution sources. The polluted airflows of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in autumn and winter were southwest trajectories passing through northeast Inner Mongolia and Jilin province. Agriculture in these areas is more developed and a large amount of crop residues will be left after the autumn harvest period around October. Normally, farmers burn the crop residues directly outdoors. Meanwhile, the above areas are cold in winter, using coal burning for heating. Fine particles formed by coal heating and burning of crop residues were transported to Changchun by northwest airflow.



Figure 9. Backward trajectories clustering of Changchun in 2017.

Season	Cluster No.	Direction	Areas of Pathways	Percentage of Total Trajectory (%)	Trajectory Length (km)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (μg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$PM_{10} \ (\mu g \ m^{-3})$
spring	1	SW	eastern Shandong, Bohai, Liaoning, southwestern Jilin	18.10	776.88	35.15	100.55
	2	NW	eastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, southwestern Jilin	10.31	1004.05	22.22	68.17
	3	NW	southern Russia, northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, western Jilin	9.63	1794.19	26.87	113.89
	4	NW	southern Russia, northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	2.05	2641.10	29.34	124.56
	5	NW	southeastern Russia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	9.02	1512.81	33.61	207.05
	6	NW	northeastern Inner Mongolia, southwestern Heilongjiang, northwestern Jilin	13.93	818.13	23.89	59.33
	7	NW	eastern Inner Mongolia, central and northern Liaoning, southwestern Jilin	12.02	348.60	28.63	71.75
	8	NE	southwestern Heilongjiang, northern Jilin	24.93	388.64	22.51	52.07
summer	1	SW	Yellow Sea, Liaoning southwestern Jilin	14.91	823.15	26.93	53.90
	2	SW	eastern Shandong, Bohai Liaoning, southwest Jilin	10.50	845.66	34.60	64.29
	3	NW	eastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, western Jilin	2.99	1094.92	22.29	44.06
	4	SW	northwestern north Korea, eastern Liaoning, southwestern Jilin	32.92	391.55	20.75	46.01
	5	E	southeastern Russia, southeastern Heilongjiang, eastern Jilin	8.86	525.83	16.14	43.55
	6	NE	southeastern Russia, southeastern Heilongjiang, eastern Jilin	2.41	1106.42	14.18	36.61
	7	NE	Southwestern Heilongjiang, northern Jilin	13.09	374.02	16.17	43.84
	8	NW	northwestern Jilin	14.32	116.46	20.03	50.83

# Table 4. Results of back-trajectory clustering with eight clusters.

# Table 4. Cont.

Season	Cluster No.	Direction	Areas of Pathways	Percentage of Total Trajectory (%)	Trajectory Length (km)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> (μg m <sup>-3</sup> )	PM <sub>10</sub> (μg m <sup>-3</sup> )
autumn	1	NW	southern Russia, northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, western Jilin	5.87	1624.84	13.06	36.07
	2	NW	southern Russia, northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, western Jilin	10.11	2088.90	16.37	45.28
	3	NW	southern Russia, eastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	9.70	1656.88	16.90	57.40
	4	NW	northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, western Jilin	9.43	1196.62	44.11	74.95
	5	NW	eastern Inner Mongolia, northern Liaoning, western Jilin	10.79	441.66	61.06	98.06
	6	SW	north-central Liaoning, western Jilin	27.80	452.12	37.04	67.40
	7	NW	northeastern Inner Mongolia, western Heilongjiang northwestern Jilin	16.26	805.60	38.12	67.08
	8	NW	northeastern Inner Mongolia, Heilongjiang, northwestern Jilin	10.04	761.16	40.83	74.57
	1	SW	north Central Liaoning, Jilin	18.90	502.35	82.75	115.95
	2	NW	northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northern Liaoning, western Jilin	13.42	975.38	66.20	93.83
	3	NW	southwestern Heilongjiang, northwestern Jilin	23.26	339.38	89.35	114.67
winter	4	NW	southern Russia, northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	13.20	1516.93	45.18	74.89
	5	NW	Northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	11.68	870.74	72.60	98.37
	6	NW	southern Russia, northeastern Mongolia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	5.38	2123.29	25.37	65.69
	7	NW	southeastern Russia, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	9.76	1349.27	50.12	78.67
	8	NE	southeastern Russia, northwestern Heilongjiang, northeastern Inner Mongolia, northwestern Jilin	4.41	1522.04	35.02	54.83

#### 4. Conclusions

Based on hourly PM concentrations from 10 automatic atmospheric monitoring stations, this paper analyzed the temporal and spatial distribution characteristics of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  mass concentrations of Changchun in 2017, as well as their relationships with meteorological parameters. Meanwhile, pollution pathways and source distribution were analyzed using the HYSPLIT model and cluster analysis.

The monthly averaged mass concentrations of  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  of Changchun in 2017 ranged from 17.24 to 90.40 µg m<sup>-3</sup> and 36.85 to 111.14 µg m<sup>-3</sup>, respectively. The PM concentrations were observed largest in the first quarter, followed by the fourth quarter, the second quarter, and the third quarter, which was most likely caused by coal heating in the first and fourth quarters and the frequent sandstorm activity in the second quarter.

The distribution of PM in Changchun essentially showed higher concentrations in the west and north because of the coal combustion. In all seasons except autumn, the  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations in the central urban area were high due to the high contribution from vehicles and a higher population in the central urban area. The  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were high in the suburbs in autumn, which was related to the open burning of crop residues. The concentrations of  $PM_{10}$  were high in the northwest but low in the southeast, which was related to land types and anthropogenic activity. The forest coverage rate in the southeast of Changchun is high and many construction sites in the northern suburban generate the construction dust. PM concentration has two peaks at 07:00–10:00 CST and 21:00–23:00 CST because of the influence of morning and evening rush hour and meteorological conditions in all seasons, except for  $PM_{10}$  in spring.

Observed  $PM_{2.5}$  and  $PM_{10}$  concentrations showed clear negative relationships with temperature and relative humidity.  $PM_{2.5}$  concentrations were negatively correlated with wind speed, while  $PM_{10}$  concentrations were positively correlated with wind speed.

The backward trajectories results showed that the northwest direction trajectories had the largest proportion in spring, autumn and winter and the southwest direction trajectories had the largest proportion in summer. The polluted airflows of  $PM_{10}$  in spring, autumn and winter and airflows of  $PM_{2.5}$  in autumn and winter mainly passed through the northeast region of Inner Mongolia and Jilin province. The polluted airflows of  $PM_{10}$  in summer and the polluted airflow of  $PM_{2.5}$  in spring and summer mainly passed through east Shandong province, Liaoning province and southwest Jilin province.

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