

# Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in PM 2.5 and PM10 From Industrial Area of Odisha, India: Sources, Atmospheric Transport and Health Risk Assessment

**Susmita Ekka**

central pollution control board

**Sanjat Kumar Sahu**

Sambalpur University

**Sanjeev Dwivedi**

IIT Bhubaneswar: Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar

**Sanjenbam Nirmala Khuman**

SRM Institute of Science and Technology

**Shirsendu Das**

Scientific Research Laboratory, Santoshpur, Kolkata

**Paromita Chakraborty** (✉ [paromita.c@res.srmuniv.ac.in](mailto:paromita.c@res.srmuniv.ac.in))

SRM Research Institute <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4192-0992>

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## Research Article

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# Abstract

In this study we aim to assess 16 priority PAHs enlisted by the US Environmental Protection Agency in PM 2.5 and PM 10 for the first time from industrial areas of Odisha State in India. During 2017–2018, bimonthly sampling of PM 10 and PM 2.5 were carried out for 24 hours by respirable dust sampler and PM 2.5 sampler respectively, in the industrial and mining areas of Jharsuguda ( $n = 2$ ) and Angul ( $n = 4$ ) during the pre-monsoon, monsoon and post monsoonal seasons. Highest average concentration of  $\sum$  16 PAHs in PM 2.5 was observed during post monsoon (170 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) followed by pre-monsoon (17–89 ng/m<sup>3</sup>; avg, 48 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) and monsoonal season (2–40 ng/m<sup>3</sup>; avg, 16 ng/m<sup>3</sup>), respectively. Similar trend of  $\sum$  16 PAHs levels in PM 10 was seen with higher levels during post monsoon (116–471 ng/m<sup>3</sup>; avg, 286 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) followed by pre-monsoon (avg, 81 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) and monsoon seasons (27 ng/m<sup>3</sup>). Diagnostic ratios BaA/(BaA + Chry), Phe/(Phe + Ant) and Flt/(Flt + Pyr) and principal component analysis (PCA) suggest diesel, gasoline and coal combustion are the major contributors for atmospheric PAHs pollution in Odisha. Back trajectories analysis revealed that PAHs concentration was affected majorly by air masses originating from the northwest direction traversing through central India. Toxic equivalents (TEQs) ranged between 0.24 to 94.13 ng TEQ/m<sup>3</sup>. In our study incremental lifetime cancer risk (ILCR) ranged between  $10^{-5}$  and  $10^{-3}$  representing potential cancer risk.

## 1. Introduction

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are of major concern due to their carcinogenicity, genotoxicity and ubiquitous nature. PAHs can be majorly formed during incomplete combustion (pyrolysis) or high temperature pyrolytic processes of organic materials and combustion of fossil fuels (Chen et al., 2007). They are pervasive environmental pollutants that are characterized by their hazardous carcinogenic and mutagenic potential (Carreras et al., 2013; McGrath et al., 2007). PAHs have received increased attention in recent years due to their diverse sources and their ubiquitous presence in all the environmental components (air, soil, and water) not only in developing but also in developed countries. The primary sources of PAHs are of anthropogenic origin viz., motor vehicle exhaust, petroleum refineries, heating in power plants, combustion of refuse, deposition from sewage, oil/gasoline spills, tobacco smoke, barbecue smoke and coke production (Christensen and Bzdusek, 2005; Moon et al., 2006). The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) published a list of 16 priority PAHs in 1995. This list was expanded in 2008 to 28 priority compounds that present a serious hazard for human health (Ravindra et al., 2008). Benzo(a)pyrene (5-ring PAH) is the most commonly measured PAHs and is used as an indicator of carcinogenic hazard in polluted environments. Moreover PAHs with a larger number of aromatic rings are mostly bound to particulate matter associated with urban emissions (Possanzini et al., 2004). With the rapid social and economic development over the past several decades, air pollution due to PAHs has been both serious and widespread in India. The highest concentrations of atmospheric PAHs can be found in urban environments due to increasing vehicular traffic, coal combustion for power generation and low dispersion of the atmospheric pollutants (Caricchia et al., 1999).

$\text{PM}_{10}$  and  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  are 25 to 100 times thinner than a human hair and can travel into the respiratory tract, penetrate deep into the lungs and even into the blood stream and cause severe health damage. Research shows that every  $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  increase in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ , increases all-cause mortality between 3–26 %, chances of childhood asthma by 16 %, chances of lung cancer by 36% and heart attacks by 44 % (Airveda, 2017).

The state of Odisha has a tropical climate, characterized by high temperature and humidity, medium to high rainfall and mild winters. Serious air pollution in the industrial areas of Odisha over the past decade has attracted much attention. In India, studies were mainly carried out in large cities but no detailed study has been reported from Odisha despite the fact that the city is surrounded by multifarious industries of small, medium and large scales along with several coal mines. Hence, in the year 2017–2018 we took the first attempt to monitor atmospheric PAHs in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  in the industrial cities in the state of Odisha and the major objectives of this study were to (i) monitor 16 USEPA enlisted priority PAHs in two major industrial areas of Odisha viz., Angul and Jharsuguda during, summer or pre-monsoon (March - May), monsoon (June - September) and winter or post-monsoon (October - January) (ii) identify the probable sources by applying principal component analysis (PCA) and diagnostic ratios, (iii) identify the origin of air mass by Hybrid Single Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT) Model's back-trajectory analysis (iv) assess the potential health risk posed by particulate-bound PAHs using USEPA health risk assessment model.

## 2. Materials And Methods

### 2.1 Study Site

Angul district is surrounded by Cuttack & Dhenkanal on the east, Sambalpur & Deogarh on the west, Sundargarh & Keonjhar on the north and Phulbani on the south. Covering an area of 6232 sq.km, Angul District is located at Latitude  $20.50^\circ$  north and  $85.00^\circ$  east Longitude. Agriculture occupies a vital place in the economy of Angul district. However, in the last decade there is a tremendous growth in industrial sector. Jharsuguda is one of the most industrially developed districts of Odisha. The district is surrounded by Sundargarh district in the North, Sambalpur district in the East, Bargarh district in the South and Chhattisgarh state in the West. Jharsuguda district is covering total area of 2,081 sq kms. The district is rich in minerals like coals, quartzite and fire clay. Besides deposits of limestone & granite, white sand stone and laterite stone are also found in several places of Jharsuguda district that add to economy of the district. The district lies at  $21.82^\circ$  north latitude and  $84.1^\circ$  east longitude. Details of sampling locations are given in supporting information (SI) Table S1 alongwith the detailed site descriptions.

### 2.2 Sample collection

During all the seasons from March 2017 to January 2018 i.e., summer or pre-monsoon (March - May), monsoon (June - September) and winter or post – monsoon (October - January), twice in each season  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  sampling were conducted at Angul (from four substations) and Jharsuguda (from two substations), in the state of Odisha, India (Fig. 1). A total of 36  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  samples and 108  $\text{PM}_{10}$  samples

were collected during this sampling campaign. From Angul-Talcher, 24 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and 72 PM<sub>10</sub> samples were collected (for six times 3 samples were collected from each location of 4 sub-stations). From Jharsuguda, 12 PM<sub>2.5</sub> and 36 PM<sub>10</sub> samples (twice 3 samples were collected from each location of 2 substations) were collected. Details of sampling locations are given in Table S1 of supporting information (SI). The PM<sub>2.5</sub> samples were collected using fine dust sampler (Envirotech APM – 550) which operated at a flow rate of 16.67 L/min for 24 h to collect particle bound PAHs in PTFE Filter paper. PM<sub>10</sub> sampler (Envirotech, APM 460 NL, India) was used with a flow of 0.9–1.1 L/min to collect particle bound PAHs in 20.3 x 25.4 cm glass fiber filter (EPM 2000). Each sample for PM 10 was collected in three shifts (8 Hourly basis) in 24 h to avoid pressure drop due to loading of particulate matter on filter paper. After 24 hours (h), the samples were taken and wrapped with aluminum foil and stored in desiccators. The sample filters were stabilized in a temperature and humidity-controlled incubator before and after collection at 25 ± 1°C and 52 ± 1 % relative humidity for 24 h.. All the filters were weighed using an electronic microbalance (Sartorius T-114) before analysis. Filter papers wrapped in aluminium foils and stored at -20°C prior to analysis. Filter papers were desiccated for 24 h before taking initial weight prior to the sampling. In the same manner final weight for filter papers were taken after sample collection.

## 2.3 Sample extraction and clean up

Exposed filter paper was cut into small pieces in a 250 mL beaker. Ultrasonic extraction was conducted using 100 mL of toluene and was repeated for three times. The extracted samples were then filtered using Whatman filter paper and were pooled together. The pooled extracts were reduced to ~1mL using rotary evaporator with water bath (temp below 40 °C).

Clean-up was performed using silica gel column having length of 200 mm and inner diameter (ID) of 0.5 cm. Slurry of 3g deactivated silica gel (60–100 mesh size) in cyclohexane was poured into the column. Conditioning was performed using toluene followed by cyclohexane. Samples were passed drop-wise and eluted using cyclohexane. Further, 30 mL of cyclohexane were added to the column to elute all organics of interest. Pooled samples were reduced to 1 mL and store in a dark and cool place.

## 2.4 Instrumental analysis

Sixteen priority PAHs were analysed using Agilent 7820A gas chromatograph coupled with Agilent 19091, J-413, 325 °C capillary column (30 m × 0.32 mm × 0.25µm). 2 µL of each sample was injected in split-less mode. High purity 99.999% nitrogen was used as the carrier gas, with a flow rate of 1 mL/min. The temperature of the injector and transfer lines were 250 °C and 300 °C respectively. The initial oven temperature was set at 120 °C for 2 min, increased to 300 °C at a rate of 7 °C/min and then maintained for 10 min. The concentrations of 16 PAHs were quantified according to their elution orders as follows; naphthalene (Nap, m/z 128), acenaphthylene (Acy, m/z 152), acenaphthene (Ace, m/z 154), fluorene (Flu, m/z 166), phenanthrene (Phe, m/z 178), anthracene (Ant, m/z 178), fluoranthene (Flt, m/z 202), pyrene (Pyr, m/z 202), benzo(a)anthracene (BaA, m/z 228), chrysene (Chry, m/z 228), benzo (b) fluoranthene (BbF, m/z 252), benzo(k)fluoranthene (BkF, m/z 252), benzo(a)pyrene (BaP, m/z 252), indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene (InP, m/z 276), dibenzo(a,h)anthracene (DBA, m/z 278), benzo(ghi)perylene (BghP, m/z 276).

## **2.5 Quality assurance and control**

The analytical method was based on the USEPA Method TO-13. Field blanks, filter blanks and solvent blanks were analyzed by the same procedure as the samples and it was ensured that there were no significant background interferences. The quantifications were performed using the internal standard method. For quality control check SRM urban dust No 1649a was used to check recovery. Recovery % was between 75–130 % and is presented in details in SI Table S2.

## **2.6. Atmospheric Transport Model**

HYbrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT) is an atmospheric model developed by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Air Resource Laboratory, which has proven as a powerful tool for researchers to simulate the transport of particles in the atmosphere and provide information on where air-parcels originate from (Draxler et al., 1999; Hegarty et al., 2013; Maurer et al., 2018). HYSPLIT has the ability for a hybrid calculation approach and uses both Lagrangian (moving frame of reference for diffusion and advection) and Eulerian (fixed model grid for calculation of air concentration) methods (Stein et al., 2015)

## **2.6. Statistical analysis**

All statistical analyses were performed using IBM-SPSS Statistics software (version 22). All the tests of significance were performed using analysis of variance (ANOVA) and t-test.

## **2.7 Risk assessment**

### **2.7.1 Toxic equivalents**

Toxic equivalents (TEQs) of the PAHs were calculated using toxicity equivalent factors (TEF) of all PAHs. The following equation was used to calculate the toxicity as done in earlier studies (Chen and Chen, 2011; Li et al., 2015; Nasher et al., 2013; Peters et al., 1999)

$$\text{Total TEQ} = \sum C_i \times TEF_i$$

where,  $C_i$  = concentration of individual PAH fraction,  $TEF_i$  = toxicity factor relative, which represents the ratio of the toxicity of a PAH congener to that of B(a)P.

The TEF of all the individual PAHs are given in SI Table S3 (Cincinelli et al., 2007; EPA, 1993).

### **2.7.2 Cancer Risk Assessment**

Incremental lifetime cancer risk (ILCR) exposure to carcinogenic PAHs (BaA, Chry, BkF, BbF, BaP, Ind, and DbA) were estimated by using the lifetime average daily dose (LADD) and the cancer slope factor (CSF).

The LADD is the intake quantity of a known pollutant with a potential to cause adverse health effects when absorbed into the body over a period of time (Jamhari et al., 2014). In this study, the LADD and the ILCR were computed for infants (0– 1 year), children (2–5 years), children (6–12 years), and adults (19–75 years). The LADDs through the inhalation ( $LADD_{inh}$ ), ingestion ( $LADD_{ing}$ ), and dermal ( $LADD_{derm}$ ) pathways were estimated using

$$LADD_{inh} = [C \times InhR \times ET \times EF \times ED \times CF] / [BW \times AT]$$

$$LADD_{ing} = [C \times IngR \times ET \times EF \times ED \times CF] / [BW \times AT]$$

$$LADD_{derm} = [Cx SA \times AF \times ABS \times ET \times EF \times ED \times CF] / [BW \times AT]$$

$$ILCR = LADD \times CSF$$

where C = concentration of PAHs ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); ED = exposure duration (days); BW = body weight of the exposed group (kg); AT = averaging time (days), ET = exposure time (h/day); IngR = ingestion rate ( $\text{mg}/\text{day}$ ); InhR = inhalation rate ( $\text{m}^3/\text{day}$ ); SA = surface area of the skin exposed to pollutants ( $\text{cm}^2$ ); AF = skin adherence factor ( $\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2/\text{day}$ ); ABS = dermal absorption factor; EF = exposure frequency (days/year); CSF = cancer slope factor ( $\text{mg}^{-1} \text{ kg day}$ ) and CF = unit conversion factor ( $C = 10^{-6}$ ). The values of these parameters are taken from a previous study (Morakinyo et al., 2019b).

### 3. Results And Discussion

#### 3.1 Levels and comparison with other studies

##### **PM<sub>2.5</sub>**

The overall range of  $\sum_{16}$  PAHs in PM<sub>2.5</sub> during pre-monsoon, monsoon and post-monsoon were 17–89  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , 2–40  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$  and 74–282  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$  respectively. The mean concentration of total carcinogenic PAHs in Jharsuguda and Angul was 52  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$  and 40  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$  respectively. The mean concentration of  $\sum_{16}$ PAHs in Jharsuguda (102  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ) was two folds higher than Angul (66  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ) (Table 1). In both sites, the overall trend of PAHs pollution was observed as post monsoon > pre monsoon > monsoon (SI Table S4 and S5). Concentration of  $\sum_{16}$ PAHs in Odisha during post monsoon was 3 folds higher than pre monsoon and 10 folds higher than monsoon. PM<sub>2.5</sub> bound PAHs were significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ) between three seasons (SI Table S8 ). Furthermore, significant difference of individual PAHs between different seasons were observed in all the stations ( $p < 0.05$ ).The overall mean concentration for all the seasons for  $\sum_{16}$ PAHs in PM<sub>2.5</sub> in industrial regions of Odisha was slightly lower than Zhengzhou (111  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ) (Wang et al., 2014). Mean  $\sum_{16}$ PAHs concentrations in industrial sites of Odisha were comparable with Beijing (244  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ) (Wang et al., 2008), Nanjing (125  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ) (Wang et al., 2007), Xian (140  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ) (Bandowe et al., 2014) in China, New Delhi in India (105  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ), (Sarkar and Khillare, 2013), Zonguldak in

Turkey (94 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Akyüz and Çabuk, 2009) but higher than Atlanta in USA (3 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Li et al.2009), Norway (8.60 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) and United Kingdom (11.20 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Eeftens et al., 2012) and Madrid in Spain (15 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Barrado et al., 2013) (Table S6).

Table 1  
Concentration of PAHs in the two industrial region in Orissa, India

Concentration in ng m <sup>-3</sup>	JHARSUGUDA				ANGUL			
	PM 2.5		PM 10		PM 2.5		PM 10	
	RANGE	Avg ± SD	RANGE	Avg ± SD	RANGE	Avg ± SD	RANGE	Avg ± SD
Naphthalene	nd - 92	24 ± 33	nd - 153	40 ± 54	nd - 41	6 ± 9	nd - 68	10 ± 14
2 Rings	nd - 92	24 ± 33	nd - 153	40 ± 54	nd - 41	6 ± 9	nd - 68	10 ± 14
Acenaphthylene	nd - 20	6 ± 7	nd - 35	9 ± 13	nd - 20	3 ± 6	nd - 33	6 ± 9
Acenaphthene	nd - 18	4 ± 5	nd - 32	7 ± 9	nd - 10	1 ± 2	nd - 17	2 ± 4
Fluorene	nd - 7	3 ± 2	1-11	5 ± 4	nd - 64	6 ± 14	nd - 104	11 ± 23
Phenanthrene	nd - 8	3 ± 3	1-14	4 ± 5	nd - 27	3 ± 6	nd - 43	4 ± 10
Anthracene	nd - 2	1 ± 1	nd - 4	1 ± 1	nd - 4	1 ± 1	nd - 6	2 ± 2
3 Rings	1-49	16 ± 16	2-86	27 ± 28	nd - 98	14 ± 24	nd - 158	24 ± 40
Fluoranthene	nd - 7	3 ± 3	nd - 13	6 ± 5	nd - 20	2 ± 4	nd - 33	4 ± 7
Pyrene	nd - 3	1 ± 1	nd - 5	2 ± 2	nd - 4	1 ± 1	nd - 8	1 ± 2
Benzo(a)anthracene	nd - 24	6 ± 9	nd - 41	11 ± 15	nd - 13	3 ± 3	nd - 21	4 ± 5
Chrysene	nd - 69	17 ± 23	nd - 114	29 ± 36	nd - 36	9 ± 10	nd - 59	15 ± 16
4 Rings	nd - 100	27 ± 31	nd - 170	47 ± 53	nd - 53	15 ± 16	nd - 88	25 ± 26
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	nd - 15	5 ± 5	nd - 53	10 ± 15	nd - 40	13 ± 11	nd - 66	21 ± 18
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	nd - 19	4 ± 7	nd - 32	7 ± 12	nd	-	nd	-
Benzo(a)pyrene	1-38	15 ± 10	2-63	27 ± 17	nd - 35	13 ± 11	nd - 59	22 ± 18

Concentration in ng m <sup>-3</sup>	JHARSUGUDA				ANGUL			
	PM 2.5		PM 10		PM 2.5		PM 10	
	RANGE	Avg ± SD	RANGE	Avg ± SD	RANGE	Avg ± SD	RANGE	Avg ± SD
5 Rings	1–57	24 ± 18	3–129	44 ± 36	nd -64	26 ± 21	nd -106	43 ± 35
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	nd - 7	2 ± 2	nd - 12	3 ± 4	nd -13	2 ± 3	nd -21	3 ± 4
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	nd - 12	2 ± 4	nd - 19	4 ± 6	nd -2	0 ± 1	nd -3	1 ± 1
Benzo(ghi) Perylene	nd - 23	7 ± 8	nd - 39	12 ± 14	nd -6	2 ± 2	nd -11	4 ± 3
6 Rings	nd - 36	11 ± 13	nd - 62	19 ± 22	nd -16	4 ± 4	1-26	7 ± 6
$\sum_{16}$ PAHs	2–282	102 ± 101	6–479	176 ± 172	2 -234	66 ± 66	3 -387	109 ± 108
Carcenogenic PAHs	1–133	52 ± 44	3–229	90 ± 77	1 -108	40 ± 34	1 -180	66 ± 55

## PM<sub>10</sub>

Overall range of  $\sum_{16}$  PAHs in PM<sub>10</sub> during pre-monsoon, monsoon and post-monsoon were 34–145 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, 3–65 ng/m<sup>3</sup> and 116–479 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. Similar to the trend of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, the mean concentrations of total and carcinogenic PAHs were highest during post monsoon season. The mean concentration of  $\sum_{16}$  PAHs for all the seasons in Jharsuguda (176 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) was higher than Angul site (109 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Table S4 and S5). PAHs pollution was observed in the order post monsoon > pre monsoon > monsoon which is in line with the observation in PM<sub>2.5</sub>. PM<sub>10</sub> bound PAHs were significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ) between three seasons (SI Table S9). Furthermore, significant difference of individual PAHs between different seasons were observed in all the stations ( $p < 0.05$ ). Higher PAHs level in the post-monsoonal season can be reasoned with lower temperature, photochemical composition and radiation thereby reducing the evaporation from particulate to the vapour phase and stronger photochemical composition of PAHs (Feng et al., 2005; Odabasi et al., 1999). However, lower concentrations of PAHs during monsoon can be associated with washing out effect for particulates (Karar and Gupta, 2006).

The mean concentration of total PAHs in PM<sub>10</sub> (131 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) was higher than Agra (43 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Masih et al., 2010), Visakhapatnam (57 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Kulkarni et al., 2014) but lower than Kanpur (616 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Singh et al., 2015), Tiruchirapalli (259 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Mohanraj et al., 2011) and Amritsar (154 ng/m<sup>3</sup>) (Kaur et al., 2013)

in India. The mean concentration of total PAHs were higher than urban Malaysia ( $6 \text{ ng/m}^3$ ) (Omar et al., 2002) and Xiamen in China ( $15 \text{ ng/m}^3$ ) (Hong et al., 2007) (Table S7).

## 3.2. Seasonality and back trajectory analysis

HYSPLIT back trajectories analysis were performed over both Angul and Jharsuguda (Fig. 2). The air mass five days back trajectories for each hour (00 to 23 Z) at height of 500 m above ground level (AGL) of 144 trajectories (6 Days x 24 hours = 144 trajectories) were clustered into 3 clusters. Each site had different 6 day samples and the Reanalysis data resolution was  $2.5^\circ \times 2.5^\circ$ , for Angul, single plot was made for 4 locations. Radiosonde data over Bhubaneswar from University of Wyoming (Department of Atmospheric Science, University of Wyoming, <http://weather.uwyo.edu/upperair/sounding.html>) was used for the 6 days corresponding to sample collection dates.

Figure 2a shows the three major clusters at Angul site. The three cluster types were studied as per direction, location traced and seasons. About 50 % of the trajectories ( $n = 72$ ) were during the 22nd March 2017 and winter time (23rd November 2017 and 15th January 2018) originating from the North-West location from a landmass which was a major dust source. Cluster 1 was traversing through the industrial locations of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh for 4 days and settling down at 500 m height from 2000 m. Air masses in Cluster 1 constituted more than 85 % of total and carcinogenic PAHs in both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. Cluster 2 (mainly during monsoon season) which was 33 % of total trajectories traversed through the south Indian states, Karnataka and Telangana and were below 500 m Above Ground Level (AGL) and finally crossed throughout Odisha in the last 2 days before reaching Angul. This cluster had more impact from south-west monsoon seasonal winds. Cluster 3 (17 %) arrived from the Bay of Bengal via Indian Ocean during the pre- monsoon on dated 24th May and originated from Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea. Interestingly, Cluster 2 and 3 together constituted less than 10 % of the total PAHs and carcinogenic PAHs in both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. Thus, this cluster was affected mostly by localized emission sources from 12 hours journey over Odisha. This hypothesis has been further supported by wind rose showing the exact wind direction (Fig. 2b). Between 4 to 9 % frequency of high-speed wind were coming between North-West and North. Winds with a speed of 10–15 m/s were coming from the South and South-West directions. Figure 2c shows Cluster 1, which contributed about one third of total back trajectories that came from Arabian Sea via Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh during the winter season and traversed from west and from a height below 500 m AGL.

Over Jharsuguda, wind rose showed 10 m/s to  $> 15 \text{ m/s}$  winds (with 1.6–6.4 % frequency) from the west (Fig. 2d). Over Jharsuguda, most of the trajectories (Cluster 2) arose from the industrial regions of Indo-Gangetic plain and we suspect the possibility of long range atmospheric transport from such emission regions. Thus, this cluster can be associated with a mixer of long-range transport and local pollution sources mainly from vehicular and industrial sources. Cluster 2 (50 %) was traversing during specific dates (21st March, 21st November, 21st December) during winter and pre-monsoon seasons of 2017 originating from north and North-West along the Indo - Gangetic plain (Fig. 2e). These months constituted nearly 80 to 85 % of total PAHs and carcinogenic PAHs in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. It originated from the Arabian

Sea and crossed over the states, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh for 3 days before ending in this sampling site. Wind rose indicates high wind speed coming from North and North-West directions (Fig. 2b). In 2017, on 26th May, the 3rd cluster (17 %) originating from south and south-west i.e. the Bay of Bengal and can be used to track local sources pollution especially from vehicles and local industries. The maximum transfer of PAHs air parcel was observed during the winter season (November, December) followed by pre-monsoon (March) over both Angul and Jharsuguda sites. This winter season atmospheric transport might be caused by western disturbance, which brings the pollutant from industrial areas of Indo-Gangetic plains to the study area.

### 3.3. Source apportionment

PAHs can be classified by the number of aromatic rings such as two rings (Nap), three rings (Acy, Ace, Flu, Phe, Ant), four rings (Flt, Pyr, BaA, Chry), five rings (BbF, BkF, BaP, DBA) and six rings (InP, BghiP) and this was used to construct the distribution pattern of the PAHs. Some studies have reported that the low molecular weight PAHs (LMW, 2–3 ring) mainly exist in the coarse part of the PM (Tan et al., 2011). In this study, both the high molecular weight PAHs (HMW, 4–6 rings) and LMW PAHs mainly existed in the fine particles. During all the seasons 5 ring PAHs was dominant in all the locations (Table S10 & S11). LMW/HMW ratios of PAHs were in the range of 0.13–0.33, 0.02–0.76, and 0.24–0.9 during summer, monsoon and post monsoonal seasons respectively. Box-whisker plots representing ring wise distribution of PAHs in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  among the three seasons in the two major industrial regions of Odisha are shown in Fig. 3.

PAHs viz. Flu, Pyr, Chry, BbF, BkF, BaA, BaP, InP and BghiP were classified as combustion derived PAHs ( $_{\text{COM}}\text{PAHs}$ ). The  $\sum_{\text{COM}}\text{PAHs}$  contributed between 54 to 97 % of the  $\sum_{16}\text{PAHs}$  in  $\text{PM}_{10}$  and 14 to 100 % in  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  respectively. There was a clear difference in post-monsoonal samples from the other seasons and some deviations in each sampling site. In monsoon and post- monsoon season, combustion derived PAHs constituted more than half of the  $\sum_{16}\text{PAHs}$ . Ratio of  $_{\text{COM}}\text{PAH}/\sum_{16}\text{PAH}$  ratios were determined for non-catalyst (0.4) and catalyst equipped (0.5) automobiles and for heavy-duty diesel trucks (0.3) (Rogge et al., 1993). In this study the values of  $_{\text{COM}}\text{PAH}/\sum_{16}\text{PAH}$  varied between 0.74–0.85, 0.53–0.97 and 0.52–0.79 during pre-monsoon, monsoon post-monsoonal seasons. Ratio of 0.5 might be from catalyst equipped automobiles mainly observed in winter season, however, the ratios in other seasons varying between 0.74 to 0.97 might indicate a complex source. Seven carcinogenic PAHs ( $\sum_{7\text{carc}}\text{PAHs}$ ) are another important category for monitoring pollutants in the atmosphere to assess the carcinogenic potential of PAHs to humans. Mean concentration of  $\sum_{7\text{carc}}\text{PAHs}$  followed the trend as: post-monsoon > pre-monsoon > monsoon in both  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$  and  $\text{PM}_{10}$  across industrial regions of Jharsuguda (Table S4) and Angul (Table S5).

PAHs have been used as tracers to distinguish between diverse sources (Lodovici et al., 2003; Vasconcellos et al., 2003). For the source apportionment, various diagnostic ratios were combined with principal component analysis to arrive at a suitable source type for a specific group of PAHs. Diagnostic ratios of PAHs are usually an effective way to identify sources because they exhibit the characteristics of

specific sources, but they should be used carefully because some of them are variable in different ambient conditions due to the reactivity of some PAH species, such as the photolytic decomposition of BaP (Feng et al., 2005; Odabasi et al., 1999). Diagnostic ratio of Flt/(Flt + pyr) (Yunker et al., 2002), BbF/BkF(Agarwal et al., 2009), BaA/(BaA + Chry)(Ping et al., 2007), BaA/Chry (Wang et al., 2010), BaP/BgP (Wang et al., 2007) and  $\sum_{7\text{carc}}\text{PAHs} / \sum_{16}\text{PAHs}$  (Zhang et al., 2006) were used in this study to understand the specific source type.

PC-1: First component represented 52 % of the total variance and was strongly weighted with LMW-PAHs, such as Nap, Ace and Acy and HMW-PAHs viz. BaA, Chry, BkF, DBA and BgP with best fit > 0.7. Ace, Chry, BgP(SI Table 16) are reported to be sourced mainly from traffic exhausts emission in India (Cheng et al., 2013). BaA/(BaA + Chry) ratio has been used to evaluate the contribution of vehicular emissions. Across all the seasons in both the sites, the mean ratio was observed less than 0.3 indicating catalyst equipped vehicles (Gogou et al., 1996) as the main vehicular emission source. Nap and Acy might have resulted from the coal combustion emission. Likewise, BaP and Ace might have resulted from coal and gasoline emission. This component can therefore represent PAHs sources mainly from vehicular emission.

PC-2: With 17 % variance, this component was mainly loaded with Flu, Ant, Phe, BbF and BaP. HMW PAHs like four to five rings can be significantly emitted from light vehicles and Fluoranthene is an indicator for heavy-duty diesel combustion (Marr et al., 1999). Pyr, BaA, Chry and Fl are markers for coal combustion (Tavakoly Sany et al., 2014) and BaP for biomass burning (Belis et al., 2011). Flu, Phe, Flt, and Ant could be from diesel-powered vehicle emissions. Phe/(Phe + Ant) ratio has been used to identify the importance of petrogenic hydrocarbons in relation to emission from biomass burning. Mean value of Phe/(Phe + Ant) ratio in both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> in Jharsuguda and Angul across all the seasons were greater than 0.1 indicating petrogenic sources (Table S12 and S13). Mean Flt/(Flt + Pyr) ratio in all the sites across all the seasons were greater than 0.5 indicating diesel combustion as a major source type. This component can therefore represent mixed source types due to biomass combustion and petrogenic emission.

PC-3: With 7 % variance, this component was weighted only with InP. Mean value for the ratio of InP/(InP + BgP) was 0.5 in both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> in Angul during all the seasons. However in Jharsuguda the values for this ratio during pre -monsoon was > 0.7 in both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> but in other seasons the ratio was < 0.3. The ratio between 0.37–0.70 indicate diesel emissions (Kavouras et al., 1999),(Alves et al., 2017; Pio et al., 2001) and > 0.5 indicates coal, wood combustion (Gogou et al., 1996; Pio et al., 2001).

### 3.3 Intra-site variation

At different sampling sites in Angul, In PM<sub>10</sub>,  $\sum_{16}$  PAHs during pre-monsoon followed the trend: A1(Nalco Township) > A3(TTPS) > A4(MCL) > A2(Hakimpada). During monsoon the trend was as: A1 > A2 > A3 > A4 and during post-monsoon it was A1 > A4 > A3 > A2 in Angul. Similar trend was observed for  $\sum_{16}$  PAHs in PM<sub>2.5</sub> across all the seasons. This results strongly suggested that site A1 was the most polluted area and this may be due to the impact of vehicular emission of highway and the township near Nalco Smelter and its captive power plant and proximity to Talcher Thermal power plant and coal mine area. It is to be

noted that this location is impacted by heavy vehicles and coal mining of Mahanadi coal field and Hakimpada (small industrial area) is the commercial area comprising of small-scale industries and office areas. But in post monsoon A1 (Nalco township) was found to be the most polluted area followed by MCL, coal mining area, TTPS township near Talcher Thermal power plant area and Hakimpada. Two-way ANOVA among compounds and sites during all the seasons showed significant difference both with respect to compounds and sites ( $p < 0.05$ ). Two-way ANOVA among compounds and seasons at Hakimpada, Angul showed significant difference both with respect to compounds and seasons ( $p < 0.05$ ).

At two different sampling sites in Jharsuguda,  $\sum_{16}$  PAHs in PM<sub>10</sub> during pre-monsoonal season followed the trend Cox colony (B1) > TRL Colony (B2). Higher concentration of PAHs in Cox colony may be due to vehicular emission from the nearby Highways and emissions from the surrounding industrial region. In monsoon the trend was same i.e., Cox colony (B1) > TRL Colony (B2), may be due to vehicular emission and industrial emissions and during post-monsoon the trend was like TRL Colony (B2) > Cox Colony (B1) may be due to mining activities in winter season by the local mines at close proximity of the study area.

Two way ANOVA among sixteen PAH compounds across all the seasons at Cox colony showed significant difference with respect to compounds ( $p < 0.05$ ) and with respect to seasons ( $p > 0.05$ ). Two-way ANOVA among compounds and across all the seasons at Belpahar showed significant difference with respect to compounds ( $p < 0.05$ ), and significant difference with respect to seasons ( $p < 0.05$ ). Higher concentration was observed during post-monsoon than the pre-monsoon and monsoonal seasons and might be possibly related to the lower temperature, weaker radiation strength and more emission sources (Karar and Gupta, 2006; Valavanidis et al., 2006).

## 3.4 Risk assessment

### 3.4.1 TEQs

Toxic equivalency factors (TEFs) of the individual PAHs have been popularly used to calculate their carcinogenic potential or Benzo(a) pyrene equivalence (BEQ). Comparing the  $\sum_{7\text{carc}}$ PAHs weight and TEFs, low and higher molecular weight PAHs (BaP, DBa, BaA, BbF, BkF, Ind, Chry and Ant) were the main carcinogenic components of the 16 priority PAHs. The concentration of those components were quite low and their ratios were 0–30 %, suggesting the relatively lower human exposure health risk in Angul when comparing with other cities like 69.4 % of San Paulo city (Bourotte et al., 2005), 51.0 % at Las Condes during spring, 54.6 % at Providencia and 56.3 % at Las Condes (del Rosario Sienra et al., 2005).

The potential toxicity of the contaminated air samples was evaluated using the toxic BaP equivalent quotient (TEQ) for seven carcinogenic PAHs. Viz., BaP, BaA, Chrysene, BbF, BkF, DBA and InP. Range of TEQs for total PAHs and carcinogenic PAHs in Jharsuguda (Table S14) and Angul (Table S15) for different seasons. Figure 4 shows distribution of total PAHs and carcinogenic PAHs for different seasons.

### 3.4.2 Inhalation Risk

The estimated LADD values of carcinogenic PAHs in PM2.5 and PM 10 for different age groups are presented in the Fig. 5. It can be observed from the figure that during the post monsoon season ILCR was higher in both PM 2.5 and PM 10 (Fig. 5) across all age groups. Across different seasons and age groups, ILCR values for daily inhalation and ingestion exposure to PAHs were higher than the values for daily exposure through dermal contact. This observation was in line with earlier study in South Africa (Morakinyo et al., 2019a). The risk was highest in children in the age group of 2–4 years. Due to the higher concentration of PM<sub>10</sub>, the ILCR were higher compared with PM<sub>2.5</sub>. In our study ILCR ranged between 10<sup>-5</sup> and 10<sup>-3</sup> representing potential cancer risk to significant cancer risk (Wang et al., 2011)

## Conclusion

In this study, PAHs concentration at two industrial sites of Odisha were measured in three seasons viz., pre-monsoon, monsoon and post-monsoonal seasons during the year 2017-18. Highest mean concentration of total and carcinogenic PAH was observed in winter season at Angul and Jharsuguda in Odisha. Five ring structured PAH percentage was dominant in all the seasons and in all the locations. Mean concentration of  $\sum_{16}$ PAHs in Jharsuguda was higher than Angul. The qualitative source apportionment presented here indicates that, PC1 represented 52 % of the total variance and was strongly weighted with LMW-PAHs, such as NaP, Ace and Acy and HMW-PAHs viz. BaA, Chry, BkF, DBA and BgP. This component represents PAH source from vehicular emission, coal and gasoline emission. PC 2 represented 17 % variance and was mainly loaded with Flu, Ant, Phe, BbF and BaP. HMW PAHs like four to five rings presumably resulted from the emission of light vehicles and Fluoranthene is also an indicator of heavy-duty diesel combustion. So, this component represents PAH source from heavy duty diesel combustion, coal combustion and biomass burning. The potential toxicity of the contaminated air sample was evaluated using the toxic BaP equivalent quotient (TEQ) was higher for Jharsuguda over Angul. During the post monsoon season ILCR was high in both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> across all age groups. The risk was highest in children in the age group of 2–4 years. In our study ILCR for both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> ranged between 10<sup>-5</sup> and 10<sup>-3</sup> representing potential cancer risk to significant cancer risk.

## Declarations

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### Ethics approval and consent to participate

Not Applicable

## **Consent for publication**

Not Applicable

## **Availability of data and materials**

The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

## **Competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests

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Not Applicable

## **Author's contribution**

Susmita Ekka: Sampling, analysis, data compilation and manuscript writing

Sanjat Kumar Sahu: Data interpretation, graphics and manuscript writing, overall planning and guidance

Sanjeev Dwivedi: HYSPILT Modelling

Sanjenbam Nirmala Khuman: Data interpretation and editing

Shirsendu Das: Experimental analysis and editing

Paromita Chakraborty: Data and manuscript review and editing, overall planning and guidance

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## Figures

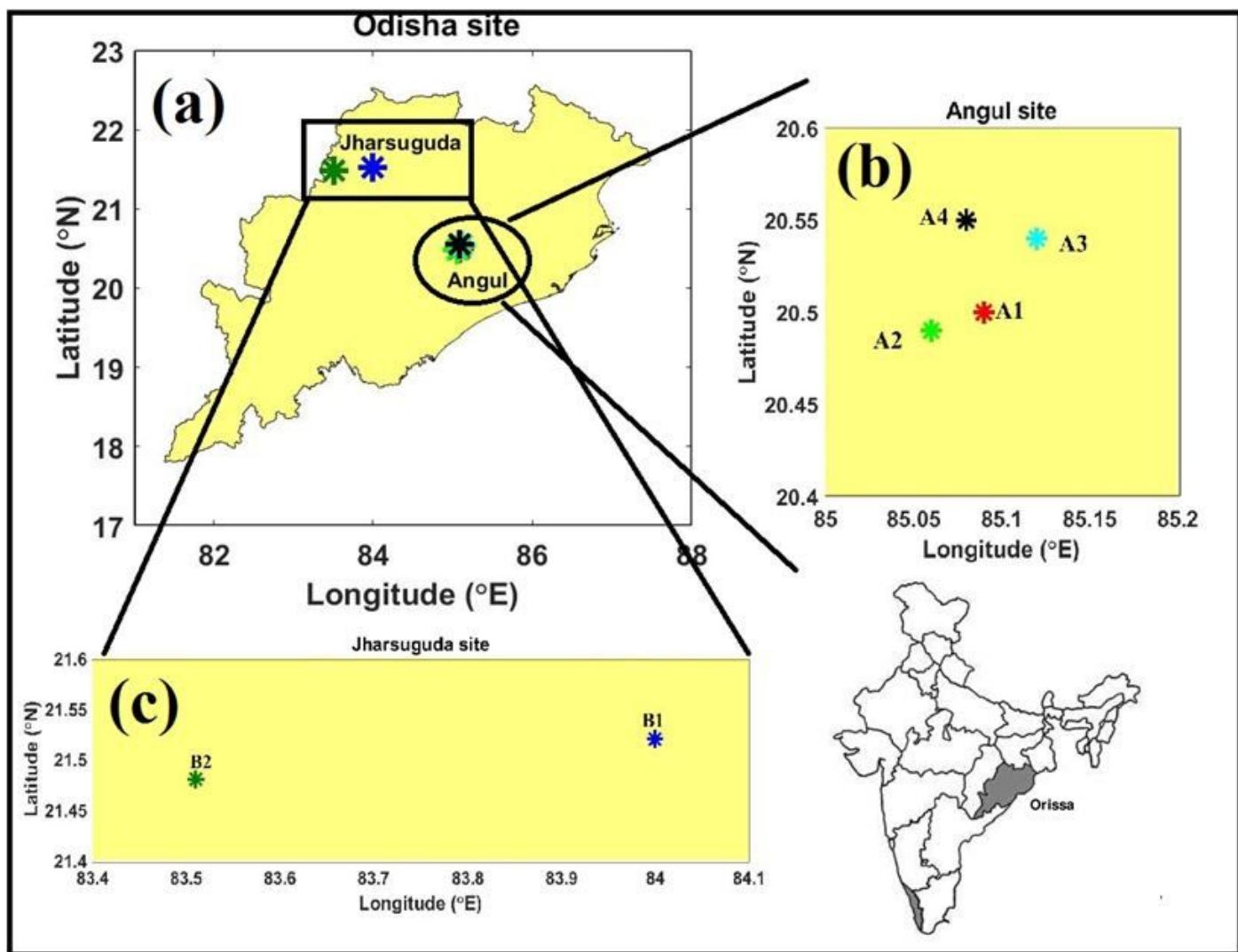
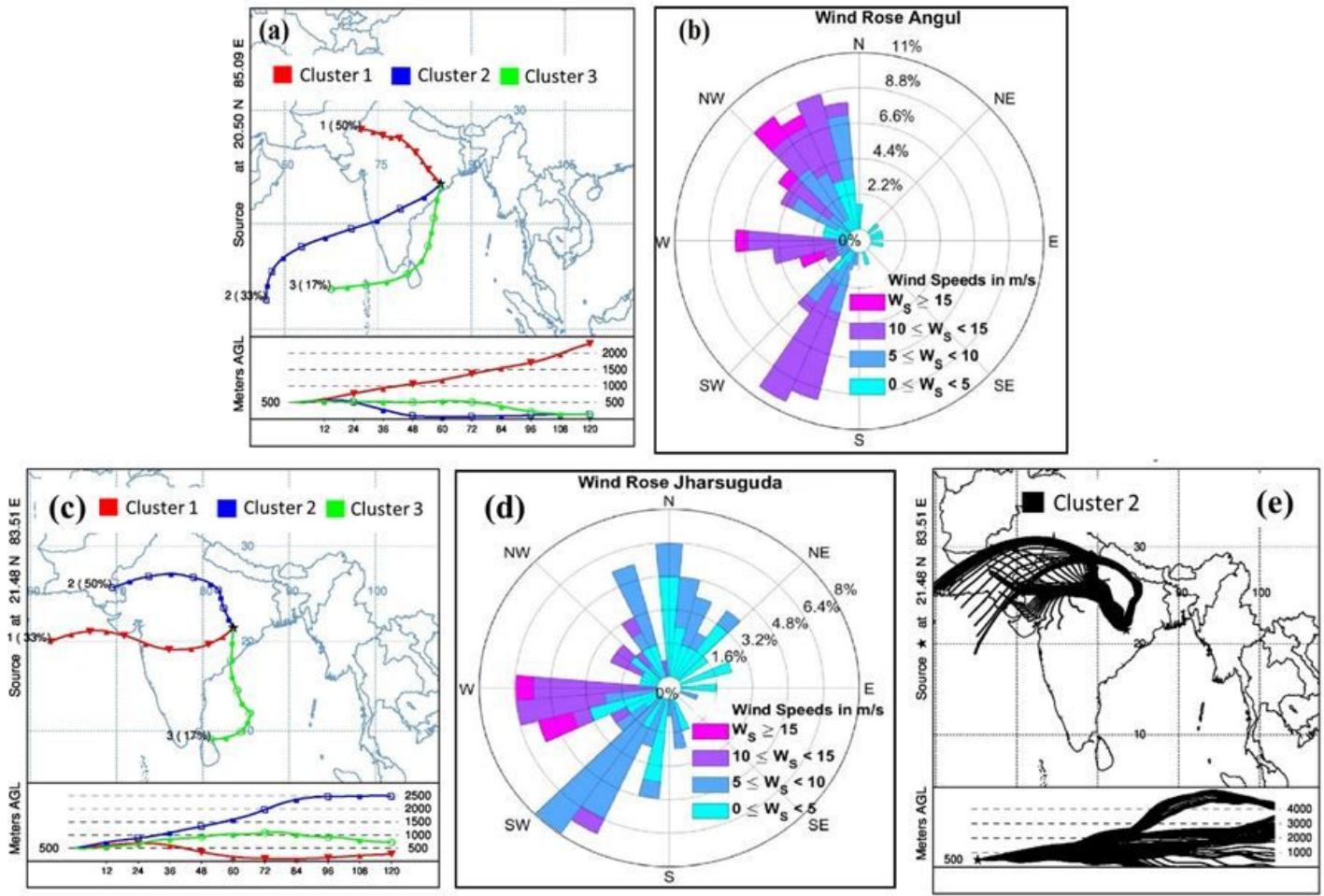


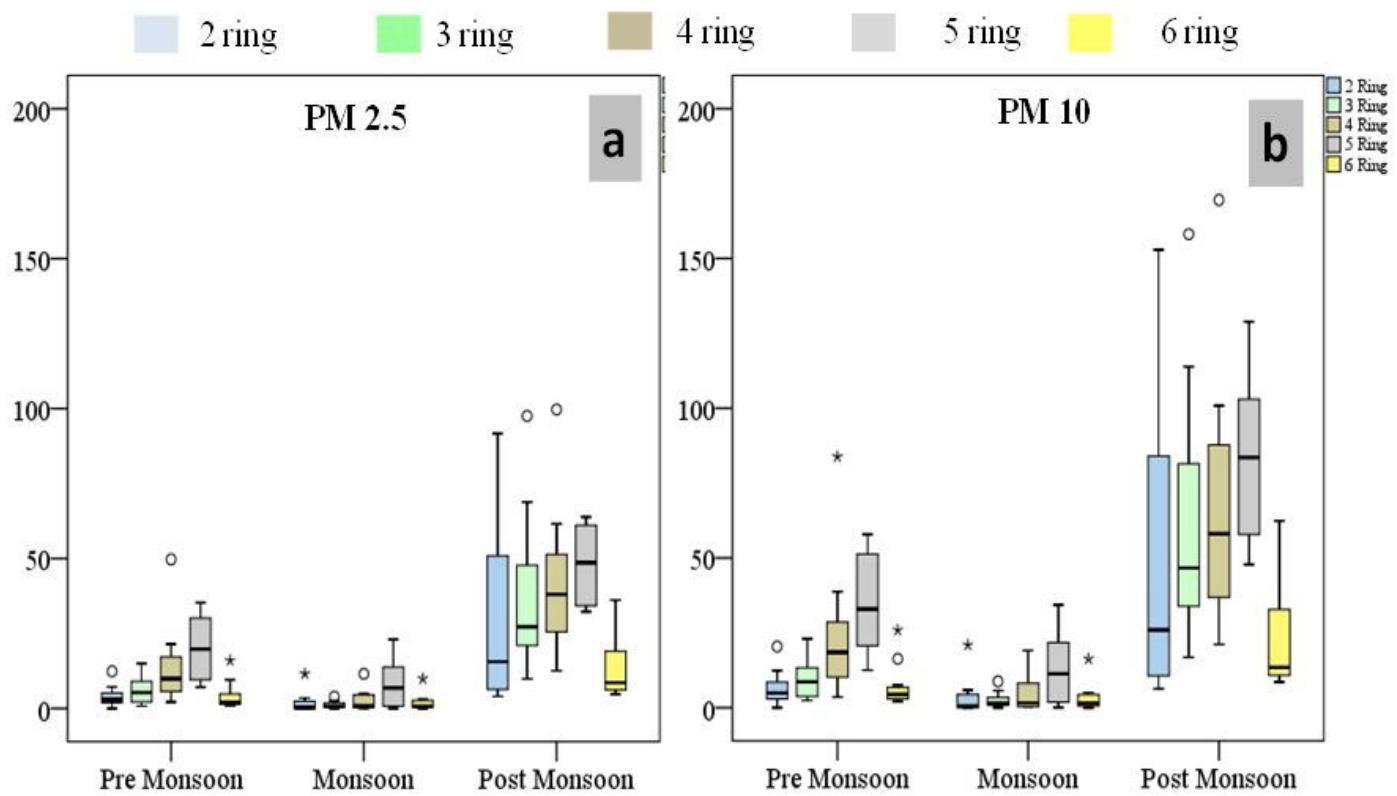
Figure 1

Sampling locations in Orissa Note: The designations employed and the presentation of the material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of Research Square concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. This map has been provided by the authors.



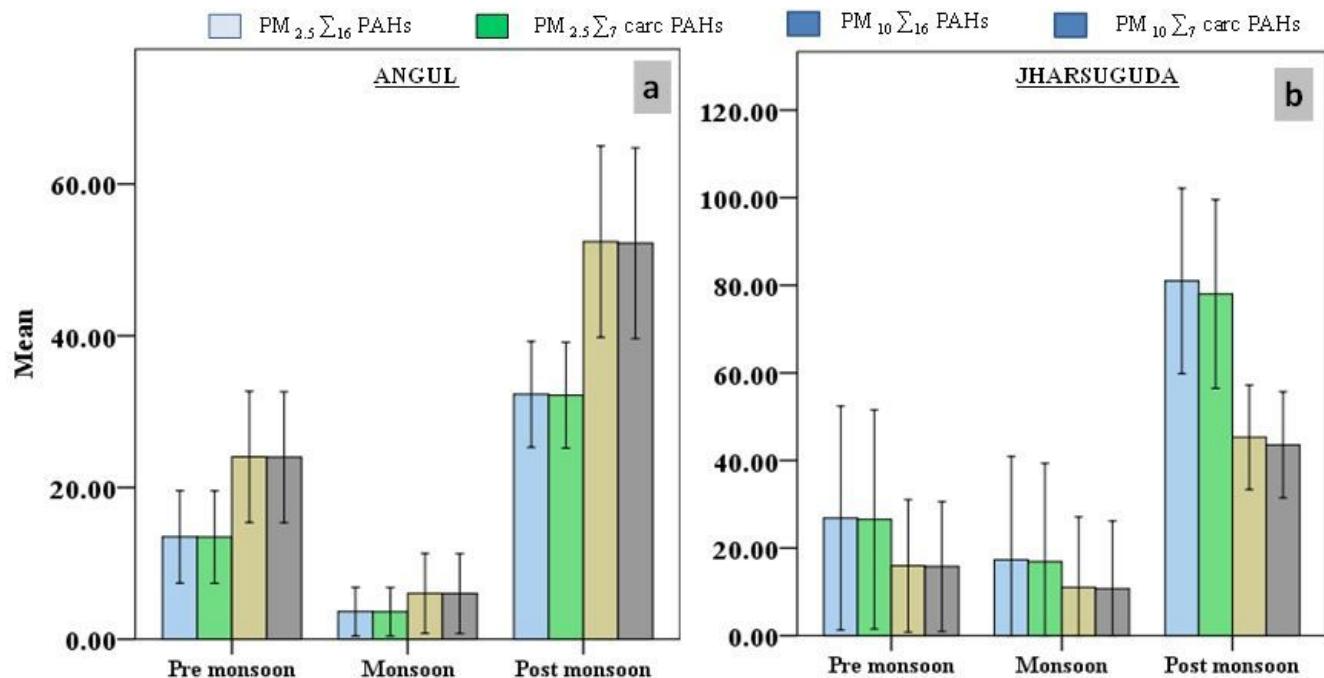
**Figure 2**

(a) Cluster means at 500 m Above Ground Level (AGL) from 144 five days back trajectories (6 Days x 24 hours = 144) using HYSPLIT model over the Angul site (85.09°E and 20.50°N), (b) Wind Rose using the Radiosonde data (below 4 km) from University of Wyoming upper air data over Bhubaneswar (85.83°E and 20.25°N) for the corresponding days and frequency label defines frequency in each direction; (c) Cluster means at 500 m AGL from 144 five days back trajectories (6 Days x 24 hours = 144) using HYSPLIT model over the Jharsuguda site (83.51°E and 20.48°N), (d) Wind Rose using the Radiosonde data (below 4 km) from university of Wyoming upper air data over Bhubaneswar (85.83°E and 20.25°N) for the corresponding days and frequency label defines frequency in each direction; (e) Cluster 2 almost 50 % over Jharsuguda showing 72 trajectories crossing over Indo – Gangetic Plain. Note: The designations employed and the presentation of the material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of Research Square concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. This map has been provided by the authors.



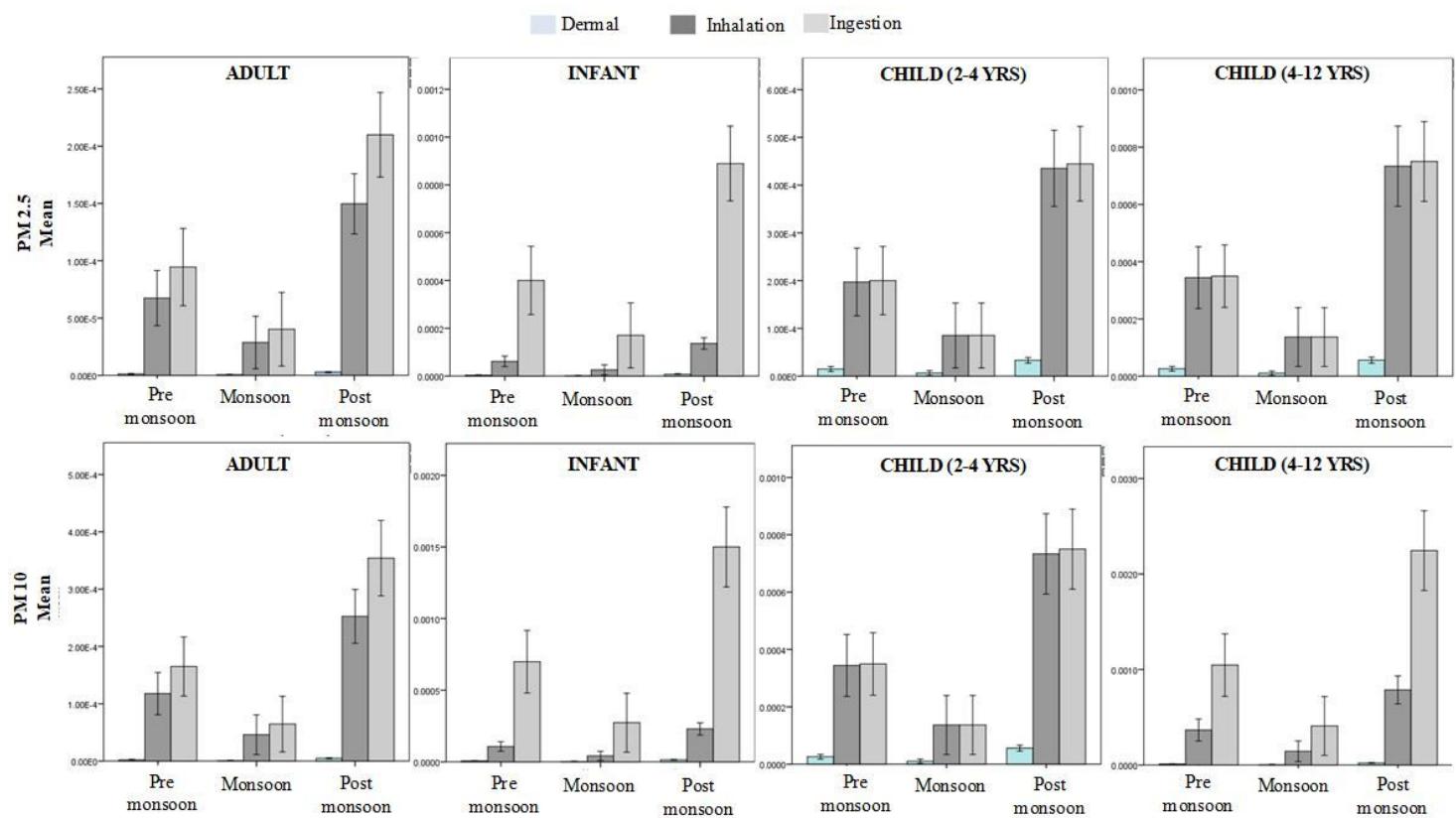
**Figure 3**

Box whisker plots showing the ring wise distribution of PAHs during different seasons in (a) PM 2.5 and (b) PM 10 at Angul and Jharsuguda in Orissa



**Figure 4**

Error plots showing distribution of total PAHs and carcinogenic PAHs in PM 2.5 and PM 10 at (a) Angul and (b) Jharsuguda in Orissa



**Figure 5**

ILCR for carcinogenic PAHs

## Supplementary Files

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- [SupportingInformation25012021PC.doc](#)