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RESEARCH ARTICLE



Residues of organochlorine pesticides in surface water of a megacity in central China: seasonal-spatial distribution and fate in Wuhan

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Abstract Surface water quality closely correlating with human health suffered increasing organochlorine pesticide (OCP) pollution due to the intensive anthropogenic activities in megacities. In the present study, 112 water samples collected from 14 lakes and 11 drinking water source sites in Wuhan were detected for the residues of OCPs in November 2013 and July 2014, respectively. The Σ OCPs ranged from 5.61 to 13.62 ng L^{-1} in summer with the maximum value in Yezhi Lake and 3.18 to 7.73 ng L^{-1} in winter with the highest concentration in Yandong Lake. Except dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethanes (DDTs), OCP concentrations in summer were significantly higher than those in winter mostly due to the nonpoint source pollution including land runoff in summer. Source apportionment of hexachlorocyclohexanes (HCHs) and DDTs revealed the historical use of technical HCH and lindane and the new input of DDT, respectively. The spatial distribution of OCPs was not uniform in the surface water of Wuhan because of the significant influence of land development and fishery. The risk assessments showed the heptachlor, and heptachlor epoxide in most sampling sites exceeded the

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threshold set by the European Union, indicating the possible adverse effects for aquatic lives. Negligible non-carcinogenic risks for drinking and bathing as well as carcinogenic risks for bathing were found in the surface water. However, the total carcinogenic risks of all OCPs ($\sum Rs$) caused by drinking in summer were higher than the safe level of 10^{-7} in all sampling sites. It was implied that the surface water in Wuhan was not safe for directly drinking without effective purification.

Keywords Organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) · Lakes · Drinking water sources · Seasonal variation · Non-point source pollution · Risk assessment

Introduction

Notorious for the environmental persistence, bioaccumulation in fatty tissues, long-range transport capacity, and toxicity for organisms, organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) such as hexachlorocyclohexanes (HCHs) and dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethanes (DDTs) have been prohibited successively worldwide since the 1970s (Cui et al. 2015; Huang et al. 2013; Oliveira et al. 2016). But until then, the production of HCHs and DDTs came to 14,800,000 and 2,000,000 t, respectively, for the usage of pest control and public health campaigns (Li et al. 2012). In China, large amounts of OCPs have been used and manufactured in order to obtain high yield for sustaining overpopulation. The ban of HCHs and DDTs whose respective consumption accumulated to 4,900,000 and 400,000 t occurred in 1983 (Li et al. 2014). But there is acceptable usethe production of DDT as intermediate continues in small scale due to the manufacture demand of dicofol which is mainly applied in apple and cotton cultivation (Die et al. 2015; Liu et al. 2015a, b; Zhang et al. 2002). Lindane (almost pure γ -HCH) was not weeded out until 2014 with

the specific exemption of medical application for the control of human head lice and scabies (Standing Committee of the National People's Congress 2013). Vast OCP residues were left, and high levels have been detected in various environmental compartments especially the aquatic environment (Zhi et al. 2015; Liu et al. 2013; Yang et al. 2014; Zhao et al. 2010). Surface water is vulnerable to the OCP contamination. Over decades of forbidden use of OCPs and significant advances in controlling point-source pollution mostly triggered by the centralized employment of OCPs in farming, the non-point source pollution such as land runoff was dominated in surface water (Calhoun 2005). And other than that, the atmospheric transportation of OCPs from other regions contributes more or less for the surface water contamination.

Proverbially, the water resources in China are insufficient, while the shortage has been even serious as a consequence of water pollution brought by rapid economic growth and urbanization in recent decades (Hu and Cheng 2013). It is surveyed that more than two thirds of Chinese cities suffer inadequate water supply (Zhang et al. 2014). And particularly, the megacity whose population in the central urban area is 5,000,000–10,000,000 is experiencing much severer water deterioration and shortages (State Council of the People's Republic of China 2014). The toxic pollutants such as OCPs in surface water have been well documented nationwide and pose a tremendous challenge for the urban water conservation.

OCPs in megacities originated from many sources. They were frequently applied around the residential and commercial areas for pest elimination and intensively used in landscaping projects and golf course management in the 1970s, but the application amount was hard to estimated (LeVeen and Willey 1983). Additionally, the urban expansion and land development boom brought about serious losses of arable land and accelerated the release of OCP residues in soil (Juhasz et al. 2016). Along with the special use of OCPs at present, the historical use of OCPs mentioned above from the nonpoint source runoff appears to be the main contributor of OCP contamination in the surface water of megacities nowadays.

Wuhan as the largest city in Central China covers an area of 8494 km² and has a population of almost eight million in the urban area. According to the newest notice about adjustment of city size classification issued by the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Wuhan is classified into the category of megacity (Wuhan Bureau of Statistics 2014). Since Wuhan underwent rapid urbanization after the policy of reform and opening up in the 1980s, the surface water has been increasingly exposed to toxic pollutants especially OCPs. The farmland in Wuhan used to be the main operation place of OCPs has been shrunk at an average rate of 0.18% each year since the 1990s as a result of occupation by urban construction (Yan 2005). And the occupied arable land tended to be the new source of OCPs during the land development, which

enhanced the exposure risk of surface water to OCPs. Against this background, few studies referred to the OCP pollution of surface water. An early OCP investigation performed by Tang et al. was in 2005 while the samples were limited to 30 covering the Yangtze River and six lakes (Tang et al. 2008). And yet, the surface water quality of Wuhan exacerbated sharply in the recent one decade. One of the most striking examples was the East Lake. Yang et al. who monitored the OCP concentrations of surface water in the East Lake in 2013 proved that the DDTs and HCHs might induce carcinogenic risks for human consumption (Yang et al. 2014). Therefore, more comprehensive and renewed research is imperative for understanding the current status of OCP contamination in the surface water of Wuhan.

In this study, we analyzed 112 surface water samples collected from 14 lakes and 11 drinking water source sites of Wuhan in winter 2013 and summer 2014 to (1) obtain data of the levels of target OCPs in the sampling area, (2) observe the spatial distribution, (3) reveal the seasonal variation trends of OCPs, (4) trace the possible sources of OCPs for the purpose of future effective environmental management, and (5) assess the potential risk of OCPs in surface water.

Materials and methods

Study area

Owing to abundant water resources, Wuhan was known as the "city of hundreds of lakes" and "river city." All 166 floodplain lakes characterized with low depth were star-studded in the city, and 40 of them were in the urban area (Lv et al. 2011; Wuhan Water Authority 2015). The Yangtze River and its largest tributary the Hanjiang River intersected in the middle of the city, dividing it into three towns (Fig. 1). The major climatic characteristic was humid subtropical monsoon with an average atmospheric temperature of 16.9 °C. The wet season between June and September has the most frequent rainfall whose amount was almost tenfold of that in the dry season (October-January) (Wuhan Bureau of Statistics 2014, 2015). The surface water area we chose in the present study covered 14 major lakes, mostly circled by Wuhan Ring Expressway, and 11 major drinking water source sites located on Yangtze River and Hanjiang River. More details of the sampling area were listed in Table 1.

Sample collection, extraction, and analysis

Overall, 112 surface water samples were collected from 11 drinking water source sites and 14 lakes in November 2013 (dry season) and July 2014 (wet season), respectively. The sampling sites in lakes were equally distributed due to the flat lakebeds. The sample collection in drinking water source sites

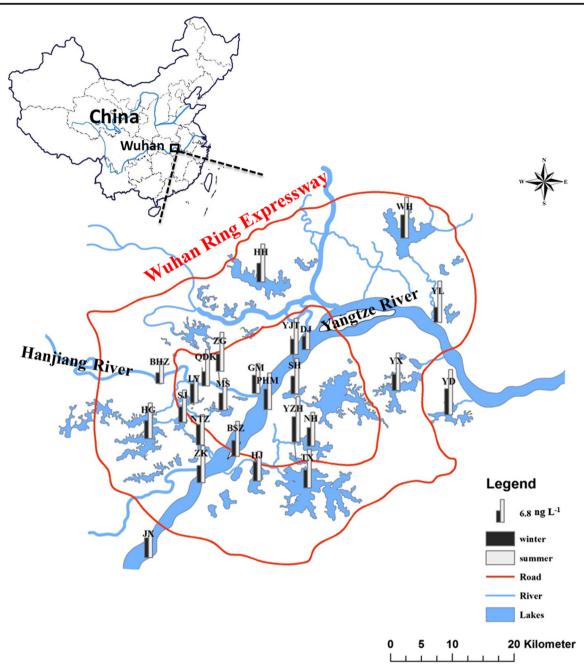


Fig. 1 Mean concentrations and spatial distribution of ∑OCPs in the surface water of Wuhan

was carried out in the range of 100 m near waterworks inlets. Three subsamples from each site were combined. Precleaned hard glass bottles were applied for the storage of water under the condition of 4 °C in a refrigerating chamber. All extraction was accomplished in 3 days.

All the organic solvents employed in sample extraction and analysis were of HPLC grade (Fisher Scientific, USA). Sixteen target OCPs were purchased from AccuStandard Co. (New Haven, CT, USA). In addition to the HCHs and DDTs (including α -HCH, β -HCH, γ -HCH, δ -HCH, p,p'-DDE, p,p'-DDD, and p,p'-DDT) heavily produced and used in China, other OCPs such as heptachlor, aldrin, heptachlor epoxide, endrin aldehyde, endrin, α -endosulfan, β -endosulfan, endosulfan sulfate, and methoxychlor which have been found to be extensively distributed in the sediment and fishes in the lakes of Wuhan were also investigated in the present study (Cui et al. 2015; Tang et al. 2008; Yang et al. 2014; Yun et al. 2014). The OCPs were extracted by solid phase extraction (SPE) method established by Yang et al. (2015). And the brief procedures with minor modifications were elucidated as follows: dichloromethane (5 mL), methanol (5 mL), and water (5 mL) were used to pretreat the BondEluent C18 500 mg cartridges (Agilent, USA) successively. One liter of water sample blended with 100 mL isopropyl alcohol was loaded

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Lakes						Drinking water sources sites				
Location code	Full name	п	Administrative district	Lake area ^a (km ²)	Mean depth ^a (m)	Location code	Full name	п	Administrative district	
YX	Yanxi Lake	10	Hongshan	14.23	1.9	BSZ	Baishazhou	1	Hongshan	
YD	Yandong Lake	9	Hongshan, Jiangxia	9.11	1.2	GM	Guomian	1	Hanyang	
SH	Shahu Lake	3	Wuchang	3.08	_	PHM	Pinghumen	1	Wuchang	
NH	Nanhu Lake	6	Hongshan	7.67	_	YJT	Yujiatou	1	Hongshan	
YZH	Yezhi Lake	3	Hongshan	1.62	_	DJ	Dijiao	1	Jiangan	
TX	Tangxun Lake	15	Jiangxia,Hongshan	47.62	2.32	QDK	Qinduankou	1	Hanyang	
HJ	Huangjia Lake	3	Hongshan	8.12	_	ZG	Zongguan	1	Qiaokou	
MS	Moshui Lake	5	Hanyang	3.64	_	BHZ	Baihezui	1	Dongxihu	
LY	Longyang Lake	3	Hanyang	1.68	_	JX	Jiangxia	1	Jiangxia	
NTZ	Nantaizi Lake	4	Hanyang, Caidian	3.57	1.7	YL	Yangluo	1	Xinzhou	
SJ	Sanjiao Lake	3	Caidian	2.39	2.6	ZK	Zhuankou	1	Caidiant	
HG	Houguan Lake	16	Caidian	34	1.14					
WH	Wuhu Lake	12	Xinzhou, Huangpi	27.8	2.13					
HH	Houhu Lake	9	Huangpi	16.1	1.14					

Table 1The information of sampling sites

n number of sampling sites

^a Cited from records of lakes in Wuhan (Wuhan Water Authority 2015)

on the cartridge at an appropriate speed. After that, the cartridges were dried under vacuum for 2 h. Dichloromethane (15 mL) was adopted for eluting the chemicals. Finally, the eluate was dried under a gentle stream of high-purity nitrogen. And residues were redissolved by 100 μ L of n-hexane for gas chromatographic (GC) analysis.

The extracted samples were analyzed on an Agilent 7890A gas chromatograph equipped with an electron capture detector (GC-ECD) (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA). An HP-5 capillary column (30 m \times 0.25 mm i.d. \times 0.25- μ m film thickness, Agilent) was used for the separation of the analytes. The chromatographic conditions referred to the previous research by Yun et al. (2014).

Quality assurance and quality control

Rigorous quality control procedures were implemented for all analysis. During analysis, calibration of instruments with standards was carried out every day. Solvent blanks, matrix blanks, and standard solutions were tested every ten samples throughout the whole procedure to check the status of the instrument and cross-contamination. Each sample was analyzed in triplicate. High, medium, and low levels (1, 5, 10 ng L⁻¹) of spiked water samples were analyzed prior to and during the experiment. Mean recoveries ranged from 88 to 105%. The method detection limits (MDLs) were defined by the concentrations of analytes whose signal-to-noise (S/N) ratios were three and ranged from 0.05 to 0.15 ng L⁻¹. Those samples with concentrations detected less than MDLs were treated as not detected (n.d.). All the reported concentrations were not recovery corrected.

Human health risk assessment

Health risk assessment was used to estimate the possible influence of contaminates for human beings over a specified period (Huang et al. 2014). Individuals could be exposed to OCPs in the surface water through several ways, mainly including drinking and bathing. The carcinogenic and noncarcinogenic risk assessment model recommended by the USEPA was adopted in the present study (USEPA 1989). The calculation formulas of carcinogenic risk (R) and noncarcinogenic risk (HI) were listed as follows:

$$R = SF \times E$$
 Risk < 0.01 (1)

 $R = 1 - \exp(-SF \times E) \qquad Risk \ge 0.01 \tag{2}$

$$HI = E/R_{FD}$$
(3)

$$E_{drinking} = C_B \times \frac{IR_w \times EF \times ED}{BW \times AT}$$
(4)

 $E_{dermal} = 2 \times 10^{-3} \times k \times C_B \times \sqrt{6 \times t \times TE/\pi}$

$$\times \frac{A_{\rm sd} \times \rm EF \times FE \times ED}{\rm BW \times AT \times f} \tag{5}$$

In Eq. ((1)), SF is the slope factor (mg kg⁻¹ day⁻¹(body weight))⁻¹. The SF values of α -HCH, β -HCH, γ -HCH, Σ HCH, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, p,p'-DDT, p,p'-DDE, p,p'-DDD, and Σ DDT were 6.3, 1.8, 1.3, 0.35, 4.5,

9.1, 0.34, 0.34, 0.24, and 0.35, respectively. In Eq. (3), R_{FD} is the oral reference dose (mg kg⁻¹ day⁻¹ (body weight)). The $R_{\rm FD}$ values of α -HCH, β -HCH, γ -HCH, Σ HCH, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, p,p'-DDT, Σ DDT, α -endosulfan, and β endosulfan were 0.0005, 0.0002, 0.0003, 0.0003, 0.0005, 0.000013, 0.0005, 0.0005, 0.006, and 0.006, respectively. In Eqs. ((1)), ((2)), and (3), E is the exposure dose (mg kg⁻¹ day⁻¹). In Eqs. (4) and (5), C_B is the pollutant concentration (mg L^{-1}), IR_w is the water intake rate (2 L day⁻¹), EF is the exposure frequency (365 days year⁻¹), ED is the exposure duration (30 years), BW is the body weight (the mean value of 60 kg for Chinese), AT is the average exposure time (365 days \times 70 years was employed in R value calculation and 365 days × 30 years was employed in HI value calculation), k is the skin permeability parameter (0.001 cm h^{-1}), t is the lag time for each pollutant inside the body (1 h), TE is the bathing time (0.4 h), A_{sd} is the surface area of the body (16,600 cm²), FE is the bathing frequency (0.3 times day⁻¹), and f is the intestinal absorption ratio (1).

However, the exposure of human was not only to one kind of pollutant. Two or more pollutants inside the body might induce additive and/or interactive effects, and the risk addition should be applied in such situation. The calculation formulas were listed as follows:

$$\sum \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}_1 + \mathbf{R}_2 \dots \mathbf{R}_n \tag{6}$$

$$\sum HI = HI_1 + HI_2 \dots HI_n \tag{7}$$

As suggested by USEPA, the acceptable carcinogenic risk of OCPs was between 10^{-7} and 10^{-4} . The maximum limit value of HI was 1.0 (USEPA 1989). So the water was considered to be safe for drinking and bathing unless the Rs and HIs were below 10^{-7} and 1.0, respectively.

Data analysis

Data analysis was conducted by SPSS 19 (IBM, USA). Seasonal variations of OCP levels were revealed by independent-samples t test (two tails). Spatial distribution of OCPs in surface water was illustrated by ArcGIS 10.2 software package (ESRI, USA).

Results and discussion

Levels of OCPs in surface water of Wuhan

Among the 16 target OCPs, HCHs, heptachlor, aldrin, and endosulfan sulfate were frequently detected in all samples in both summer and winter. The detailed concentrations of OCPs were shown in Table S2-1 and 2-2. The Σ OCP concentrations of surface water ranged from 5.61 to 13.62 ng L⁻¹ in summer and 3.18 to 7.73 ng L⁻¹ in winter (Table 2). The Σ OCP concentrations from 14 lakes were slightly higher than those of drinking water source sites in both summer and winter. The highest Σ OCP concentrations in the lakes were found at YZH (13.62 ng L⁻¹) in summer and YD (7.73 ng L⁻¹) in winter, respectively. For drinking water source sites, YL (12.32 ng L⁻¹) in summer and PHM (6.16 ng L⁻¹) in winter presented the highest Σ OCPs, respectively. The Σ HCHs of surface water was almost twofold of Σ DDTs in summer while the Σ DDTs in winter was five times higher than Σ HCHs. This inverse trend might be interpreted by the different sources of HCHs and DDTs in summer and winter.

The OCP levels in the surface water of Wuhan were compared with analogous studies regarding other locations (Table S1). Tang et al. and Yang et al. investigating smaller scales of the surface water in Wuhan compared to our study indicated similar levels of OCPs in the Yangtze River catchment and nearly twofold OCP contents in the East Lake of those in the present study (Tang et al. 2008; Yang et al. 2014). Except Honghu Lake and natural water along the Yangtze River, more OCPs were detected in a number of rivers and lakes in China than in the surface water of Wuhan (Table S1). The Σ OCPs of 132.4 ng L⁻¹ in Chaohu Lake was about ten times higher than those in the surface water of Wuhan, and the Σ OCPs of Honghu Lake and natural water along the Yangtze River were almost half of those in the present study (Liu et al. 2011; Liu et al. 2013; Yuan et al. 2013). By comparison with OCP levels of surface water in other developing countries including Nigeria, India, and Ghana, the Σ OCPs in the present study were one or two orders of magnitudes lower (Agarwal et al. 2015; Ibigbami et al. 2015; Kuranchie et al. 2012). In general, the comparisons suggested that the OCP pollution in the surface water of Wuhan was at a relatively low level.

Compositions and sources of OCPs in the surface water of Wuhan

Obviously, the HCHs and DDTs were dominant among the OCPs, which was constant with the massive amount of usage in history. But the congeners' pattern of HCHs and DDTs varied significantly among the sampling lakes.

The dominant isomers of HCHs were β - and γ -HCH (32 and 29%) in winter and β - and δ -HCH (26 and 36%) in summer. The dominance of β -HCH in both seasons has been found in many other studies (Dai et al. 2011; Hu et al. 2014; Huang et al. 2014; Liu et al. 2011; Liu et al. 2013; Yun et al. 2014). Primarily due to the equatorial bonds of β -HCH between H, C, and Cl at all six positions, the molecular structure is denser and resistant to environmental degradation (Walker et al. 1999). Technical HCH (containing 60–70% α -HCH, 5– 12% β -HCH, 10–15% γ -HCH, and 6–10% δ -HCH) and lindane (almost pure γ -HCH) were two typical HCH products ever used or still in use. The ratio of α/γ -HCH was a common

	Summer				Winter			
	ΣHCHs	Σddts	Dother OCPs	Σocps	ΣHCHs	ΣDDTs	\sum other OCPs	Σocps
Lakes								
HJ	3.59 (2.84-4.06)	$1.85\ (0.01 - 3.16)$	3.42 (2.6-4.16)	8.85 (7.01–10.7)	0.54 (0.41–0.66)	3.31 (2.69–3.85)	1.94 (1.65–2.25)	5.79 (5.27–6.2)
HZY	5.84 (5.22–6.89)	2.63 (2.39–3.05)	5.15 (4.24–6.46)	13.62 (11.91–15.73)	0.39 (0.26-0.52)	5.44 (3.4–7.48)	1.82 (1.41–2.24)	7.65 (5.07–10.24)
SH	3.42 (3.3–3.54)	2.41 (2.37–2.45)	4.73 (3.54–5.93)	10.56 (9.21–11.92)	0.66 (0.45–1.01)	2.70 (2.33–3.17)	1.87 (1.35–2.3)	5.23 (4.99–5.64)
SJ	3.90 (3.29-4.51)	2.51 (2.39–2.63)	3.24 (2.41–4.08)	9.65 (8.33–10.97)	0.44 (0.43–0.45)	2.71 (2.47–2.96)	1.46 (1.13–1.79)	4.61 (4.51-4.71)
ХХ	4.91 (2.48–8.04)	1.96 (0.03–2.67)	4.32 (2.3–5.91)	11.19 (7.09–14.37)	0.47 (0.29–0.84)	2.67 (2.3–3.07)	1.73 (0.78-4.11)	4.87 (3.6–7.26)
XT	4.67 (2.71–6.21)	2.11 (0.01–2.95)	4.74 (3.14–6.7)	11.52 (6.78–13.86)	0.65 (0.43–1.62)	3.36 (2.8–3.85)	1.38 (0.56–2.22)	5.38 (4.19–6.31)
YD	5.93 (2.93–9.8)	2.40 (0.41–3.01)	5.15 (2.19–9.65)	13.48 (6.01–21)	0.76 (0.6–0.94)	4.31 (4.03-4.76)	2.65 (1.31–6.47)	7.73 (6.31–11.45)
NTZ	3.25 (2.2-4.35)	2.34 (2.31–2.36)	3.57 (1.5-4.91)	9.16 (6.01–11.48)	0.77 (0.67–0.94)	2.55 (2.41–2.78)	2.82 (2.29–3.6)	6.14 (5.43–7.32)
MS	4.00 (2.77–5.85)	2.02 (0.31–2.7)	3.41 (1.64-4.57)	9.43 (7.11–11.29)	0.69 (0.23–1.47)	2.46 (1.75–3.77)	1.95 (1.17–2.35)	5.09 (3.87–6.54)
HN	3.92 (2.1–6.24)	2.49 (2.33–2.72)	3.72 (1.02-5.67)	10.12 (5.45–14.47)	0.54 (0.32–1)	2.78 (2.25–3.42)	2.19 (1.28–3.38)	5.52 (4.26–7.29)
LY	3.04 (1.58–3.87)	2.35 (2.33–2.36)	2.70 (1.1–3.87)	8.10 (5.01–10.1)	0.61 (0.48 - 0.8)	3.39 (2.54-4.5)	1.70 (1.47–2.09)	5.70 (5.08–6.58)
MH	5.50 (2.11–9.02)	2.39 (0.01–3.74)	4.29 (1.87–5.32)	12.19 (6.39–16.94)	0.62(0.4-0.9)	3.74 (2.56–5.68)	2.48 (1.47–3.98)	6.84 (5.18–8.4)
HH	4.52 (1.72–10.92)	2.46 (2.3–3.01)	4.39 (3.09–5.57)	11.37 (7.31–17.7)	0.53 (0.15-0.79)	2.90 (2.14–3.5)	2.15 (0.63-6.13)	5.59 (2.92–9.4)
HG	4.30 (2.5–5.9)	2.35 (0.39–3.04)	4.09 (2.15–5.31)	10.75 (5.03–13.33)	0.71 (0.19–2.42)	2.81 (2.36-4.26)	1.93 (0.85-4.19)	5.46 (3.51–8.64)
Mean	4.34 (3.04–5.93)	2.31 (1.85–2.63)	4.07 (2.70–5.15)	10.71 (8.10–13.62)	0.60 (0.39–0.77)	3.22 (2.46–5.44)	2.01 (1.38–2.82)	5.83 (4.61–7.73)
Water sources								
BSZ	4.02	1.95	4.49	10.45	0.26	3.16	1.31	4.73
PHM	4.13	2.47	4.29	10.89	0.58	4.02	1.56	6.16
QDK	4.34	0.31	6.26	10.91	0.21	3.54	0.52	4.27
GM	2.69	1.70	4.47	8.87	0.29	3.26	1.81	5.36
DJ	2.16	2.28	1.16	5.61	0.31	2.67	1.03	4.01
YЛ	3.68	2.70	4.42	10.80	0.45	2.61	1.48	4.54
ZG	4.30	2.40	4.90	11.60	0.38	3.62	1.13	5.13
BHZ	3.62	0.37	2.48	6.47	0.39	1.80	0.99	3.18
ZK	4.40	1.63	4.95	10.99	0.49	2.74	1.88	5.11
JX	3.49	0.03	4.13	7.66	0.36	2.44	3.02	5.82
ΥL	5.60	2.36	4.36	12.32	0.26	3.09	1.16	4.51
Mean	3.86 (2.16–5.60)	1.66 (0.03–2.70)	4.17 (1.16–6.26)	9.69 (5.61–12.32)	0.36 (0.21-0.49)	2.99 (1.80-4.02)	1.45 (0.52–3.02)	4.80 (3.18–6.16)
Means of surface water	4.13 (2.16–5.93)	2.02 (0.03–2.70)	4.11 (1.16-6.26)	10.26 (5.61–13.62)	0.49 (0.21–0.77)	3.12 (1.80–5.44)	1.76 (0.52–3.02)	5.38 (3.18–7.73)

Table 2Levels of Σ HCHs, Σ DDTs, Σ other OCPs, and Σ OCPs (ng L^{-1}) in the surface water of Wuhan

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indicator for determining the sources of HCHs (Kutz et al. 1991). With the ratio less than 1, the use of lindane might be the source. While the ratio was between 3 and 7, HCHs might originate from the input of technical HCH (Jiang et al. 2009). In the present study, the values of α/γ -HCH in winter varied from 0.20 to 2.29 except the undetected α -HCH in the QDK site. And in summer, the ratios of α/γ -HCH were in the range of 0.87 to 2.49 with the exceptions of undetected γ -HCH in the DJ site and an ultra-high value of 79.82 in SH lake. As suggested in Fig. 2, the HCHs in most sites might derive from the historical use of technical HCH and lindane, which was in accordance with some previous studies in the surface water of Wuhan (Tang et al. 2008; Yang et al. 2014). Significant higher values of α/γ -HCH were observed in summer than in winter (p < 0.05). Early research by Newland et al. revealed that γ -HCH could be converted into α - and δ -HCH by microorganism (Newland et al. 1969). The more active microorganism in summer might result in more γ -HCH degradation to α -HCH. In addition, photoisomerization of γ -HCH to α -HCH was another possible reason for the higher values of α/γ -HCH in summer (Walker et al. 1999).

Technical DDTs containing 80% p,p'-DDT was once applied universally in China. p,p'-DDT and its metabolites including p,p'-DDD and p,p'-DDE were all detected in the majority of water samples. The ratios of (DDD + DDE)/ Σ DDTs ranged from 0.0081 to 0.13 in winter with the undetected p,p'-DDD and p,p'-DDE in the QDK site. In summer, the ratios of (DDD + DDE)/ Σ DDTs were in the range of 0.0039–0.26 except the undetected p,p'-DDD and p,p'-DDE in the DJ site and p,p'-DDT in QDK, BHZ, and JX sites. The ratios less than 1 implied the new input of p,p'-DDT in the study area. It has been reported that dicofol contained relatively low DDT residues (<0.1%), but sometimes the improper production technology led to 20% DDTs in some dicofol products (Bosch et al. 2015; Qiu et al. 2005). And the technical DDT was also required in malaria

control and mosquito repellency as well as the manufacture of antifouling paint for fishing ships (Cui et al. 2015; Liu et al. 2009). Therefore, even after the DDTs were strictly banned in 1983, the DDT application for dicofol production and public health campaigns as well as boat paint might be the current sources of DDTs in the surface water of Wuhan.

Seasonal variation of OCPs in surface water of Wuhan

Figure 3 illustrated the Σ OCPs of surface water in summer and winter. By the independent-samples t test, the differences of the total concentrations of OCPs in winter and summer were significant (p < 0.05). It has been widely reported that the non-point source pollution of OCPs including runoff from farmland and the developing land which used to be a farmland was dominated in surface water (Kuranchie et al. 2012; Liu et al. 2015a, b; Wang et al. 2012; Yuan et al. 2013; Yun et al. 2014). The most frequent rainfall accounting for about 70% of the annual precipitation in Wuhan was during June and September. Furthermore, the studied area was mostly lowlying and paved inadequate municipal drainage pipeline. The riparian areas around most lakes and rivers were impermeable and lack of vegetative filter strips. Consequently, the lakes and rivers probably became the main water body receiving the overland runoff, which was supposed to result in the elevated OCP concentrations in summer.

Although the input of overland runoff principally controlled the seasonal variation of OCPs, there were some differences between HCHs and DDTs. In summer, the Σ HCHs and Σ DDTs were 4.13 and 2.02 ng L⁻¹, respectively. But by contrast, the separate levels of Σ HCHs and Σ DDTs were 0.49 and 3.12 ng L⁻¹ in winter. The inverse seasonal fluctuation between HCHs and DDTs might be the results of their different physical and chemical properties. On one side, DDTs with

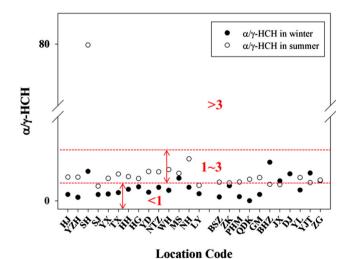


Fig. 2 Source apportionment of HCHs in the surface water of Wuhan

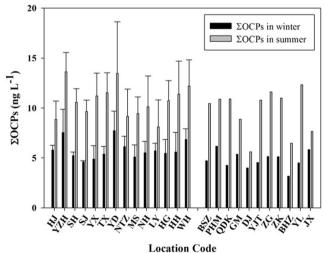


Fig. 3 Seasonal variation of **SOCPs** in the surface water of Wuhan

nearly twofold octanol-water partition coefficients of HCHs tend to more easily portion into organic phase and combine with particulate matter in water (Hale et al. 2010; Shen and Wania 2005). And the water turbulence caused by rainstorm, human recreation, shipping, and fishing occurred more frequently in summer than in winter. Hence, it appeared that the DDTs in water were less in summer than in winter. On the other side, Henry's law constants of DDTs are higher than those of HCHs, which means DDTs are more likely to evaporate into the air (Suntio et al. 1988). Even if there was some input of DDTs in overland runoff, the loss of combination with particulate matter and evaporation into the air might be more than the input.

Spatial distribution of OCPs in surface water of Wuhan

As shown in Table 2, the OCP levels in lakes were slightly higher than those in the drinking water source sites, partly because the rivers were much more fluid than the lakes, which was beneficial for the dilution of pollutant concentration (Zhou et al. 2006). For another, the anthropogenic activities around the drinking water source sites probably causing water pollution were severely restricted.

Among the lakes, YZH and YD showed fairly high OCP levels in both seasons (Fig. 1). YZH located in the Hongshan District with the population density of 3077 persons km⁻² was affected by intensive anthropogenic activities (Table 1). And unlike many other lakes, YZH was not connected with other lakes or the Yangtze River, so the OCPs in YZH were at a state of low fluidity and easy to accumulate (Wuhan Water Authority 2015). Especially in summer, the input of land runoff evidently enhanced the OCP levels in YZH. As to YD, it was situated at the area near Wuhan Ring Expressway which used to be a farming area and underwent development later. The OCP residues in soils could be released by land development and entered into the lake by surface runoff. Furthermore, YD was also

Table 3 Health risk assessment of OCPs in 14 Lakes of Wuhan

	Lakes									
	Drinking				Bathing					
	Winter		Summer		Winter		Summer			
	Mean	Maximum	Mean	Maximum	Mean	Maximum	Mean	Maximum		
Carcinogenic										
α-HCH	1.02E-08	2.25E-08	8.38E-08	1.28E-07	4.42E-11	9.79E-11	3.64E-10	5.56E-10		
β-НСН	4.84E-09	6.69E-09	3.07E-08	4.86E-08	2.10E-11	2.91E-11	1.34E-10	2.12E-10		
γ-HCH	3.24E-09	4.65E-09	1.09E-08	1.56E-08	1.41E-11	2.02E-11	4.73E-11	6.79E-11		
∑HCHs	3.00E-09	3.85E-09	2.17E-08	2.97E-08	1.30E-11	1.68E-11	9.45E-11	1.29E-10		
Heptachlor	1.46E-10	3.40E-10	2.85E-10	8.27E-10	6.34E-13	1.48E-12	1.24E-12	3.59E-12		
Heptachlor epoxide	2.16E-10	5.49E-10	2.75E-10	9.27E-10	9.38E-13	2.39E-12	1.19E-12	4.03E-12		
<i>p,p'</i> -DDE	1.52E-08	2.60E-08	1.05E-08	1.18E-08	6.62E-11	1.13E-10	4.58E-11	5.14E-11		
<i>p,p</i> '-DDD	1.61E-08	2.72E-08	1.15E-08	1.32E-08	7.02E-11	1.18E-10	5.02E-11	5.72E-11		
<i>p,p</i> '-DDT	4.41E-08	9.20E-08	7.66E-08	8.56E-08	1.92E-10	4.00E-10	3.33E-10	3.72E-10		
∑DDTs	1.95E-09	5.21E-09	1.85E-08	5.21E-08	8.49E-12	2.26E-11	8.04E-11	2.26E-10		
$\sum R$	9.90E-08	1.63E-07	2.65E-07	3.25E-07	4.30E-10	7.09E-10	1.15E-09	1.41E-09		
Non-carcinogenic										
α-НСН	7.52E-06	1.67E-05	6.19E-05	9.46E-05	3.28E-08	7.26E-08	2.70E-07	4.12E-07		
β-НСН	3.13E-05	4.33E-05	1.99E-04	3.15E-04	1.36E-07	1.89E-07	8.65E-07	1.37E-06		
ү-НСН	1.93E-05	2.78E-05	6.49E-05	9.32E-05	8.43E-08	1.21E-07	2.83E-07	4.06E-07		
∑HCHs	6.64E-05	8.55E-05	4.82E-04	6.58E-04	2.90E-07	3.72E-07	2.10E-06	2.87E-06		
Heptachlor	2.09E-04	3.56E-04	1.44E-04	1.62E-04	9.09E-07	1.55E-06	6.29E-07	7.05E-07		
Heptachlor epoxide	2.15E-04	3.62E-04	1.54E-04	1.75E-04	9.35E-07	1.58E-06	6.69E-07	7.63E-07		
<i>p,p</i> '-DDT	4.56E-05	9.52E-05	7.93E-05	8.86E-05	1.99E-07	4.15E-07	3.45E-07	3.86E-07		
∑DDTs	3.84E-05	1.02E-04	3.64E-04	1.02E-03	1.67E-07	4.46E-07	1.59E-06	4.46E-06		
α -Endosulfan	3.73E-07	8.33E-07	6.58E-07	1.67E-06	1.62E-09	3.63E-09	2.87E-09	7.26E-09		
β-Endosulfan	1.23E-07	3.33E-07	9.99E-07	2.22E-06	5.35E-10	1.45E-09	4.35E-09	9.67E-09		
∑HI	6.32E-04	8.96E-04	1.55E-03	2.61E-03	2.76E-06	3.91E-06	6.76E-06	1.14E-05		

an important aquaculture base in Wuhan. The DDTs in antifouling paint for fishing ships were also a noteworthy contributor for the OCP pollution in YD (Wu et al. 2016).

For drinking water source sites, relative high OCP concentrations were detected in YL and PHM in both seasons. As recorded in Table 1, YL was in the Xinzhou District which was a traditional agriculture production area of Wuhan. The consumption of pesticide in Xinzhou was much more than any other district in the present and the past, which consequently gave rise to the high OCP levels in YL (Wuhan Bureau of Statistics 2014). PHM was in the central urban area of Wuhan, and no large-scale farming activities occurred here historically or currently. The most possible source of OCPs in PHM was the transportation of pollutants by river flow from the upper reach.

Risk assessment

Owing to the early recognition of OCPs' toxicity for human and aquatic organisms, different environmental protection departments issued quality standards of surface water in which some OCP concentrations were regulated. In the quality standard from the China State Environmental Protection Administration (MEP P.R. China 2002), the standard limits of DDTs, lindane, and heptachlor epoxide were 1000, 2000, and 20 ng L^{-1} , respectively, which were far higher than the concentrations detected in the present study. The national recommended aquatic life criteria made by the US EPA set the freshwater criterion maximum concentrations of aldrin, α -endosulfan, ß-endosulfan, endrin, lindane, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, and 4,4'-DDT for 3000, 220, 220, 86, 950, 520, 520, and 1100 ng L^{-1} , respectively (USEPA 2009). The corresponding levels in the surface water of Wuhan were about three to five orders of magnitudes lower. Compared with the maximum allowable concentration (MAC) in environmental quality standards issued by the European Union $(10, 40, 0.3 \text{ ng L}^{-1}$ for endosulfan, HCH, heptachlor and heptachlor epoxide, respectively), heptachlor and heptachlor epoxide in all sampling sites except BSZ and DJ in winter

 Table 4
 Health risk assessment of OCPs in 11 drinking water source sites of Wuhan

	Drinking water source sites								
	Drinking				Bathing				
	Winter		Summer		Winter		Summer		
	Mean	Maximum	Mean	Maximum	Mean	Maximum	Mean	Maximum	
Carcinogenic									
α-HCH	7.04E-09	1.53E-08	7.98E-08	1.05E-07	3.06E-11	6.66E-11	3.47E-10	4.58E-10	
β-НСН	2.95E-09	6.18E-09	2.39E-08	4.32E-08	1.28E-11	2.69E-11	1.04E-10	1.88E-10	
γ-HCH	1.88E-09	3.90E-09	1.33E-08	1.67E-08	8.16E-12	1.70E-11	5.79E-11	7.28E-11	
∑HCHs	1.81E-09	2.90E-09	1.93E-08	2.80E-08	7.87E-12	1.26E-11	8.39E-11	1.22E-10	
Heptachlor	1.86E-10	6.81E-10	4.86E-10	1.46E-09	8.07E-13	2.96E-12	2.11E-12	6.34E-12	
Heptachlor epoxide	1.87E-10	4.80E-10	2.46E-10	1.20E-09	8.14E-13	2.09E-12	1.07E-12	5.22E-12	
<i>p,p'</i> -DDE	1.41E-08	1.89E-08	7.20E-09	1.18E-08	6.14E-11	8.20E-11	3.13E-11	5.12E-11	
<i>p,p'</i> -DDD	1.50E-08	2.01E-08	8.28E-09	1.35E-08	6.52E-11	8.75E-11	3.60E-11	5.88E-11	
<i>p,p'</i> -DDT	3.67E-08	8.30E-08	6.93E-08	8.30E-08	1.59E-10	3.61E-10	3.01E-10	3.61E-10	
∑DDTs	8.28E-10	5.21E-09	3.67E-09	2.60E-08	3.60E-12	2.26E-11	1.59E-11	1.13E-10	
∑R	8.07E-08	1.26E-07	2.25E-07	2.90E-07	3.51E-10	5.48E-10	9.80E-10	1.26E-09	
Non-carcinogenic									
α-НСН	5.21E-06	1.13E-05	5.90E-05	7.79E-05	2.27E-08	4.93E-08	2.57E-07	3.40E-07	
β-НСН	1.91E-05	4.00E-05	1.55E-04	2.80E-04	8.31E-08	1.74E-07	6.74E-07	1.22E-06	
γ-HCH	1.12E-05	2.33E-05	7.95E-05	9.99E-05	4.88E-08	1.02E-07	3.46E-07	4.35E-07	
∑HCHs	4.02E-05	6.44E-05	4.28E-04	6.22E-04	1.75E-07	2.81E-07	1.87E-06	2.71E-06	
Heptachlor	1.93E-04	2.58E-04	9.86E-05	1.61E-04	8.43E-07	1.13E-06	4.30E-07	7.02E-07	
Heptachlor epoxide	1.99E-04	2.68E-04	1.10E-04	1.80E-04	8.69E-07	1.17E-06	4.80E-07	7.84E-07	
<i>p,p</i> ′-DDT	3.80E-05	8.59E-05	7.17E-05	8.59E-05	1.65E-07	3.74E-07	3.12E-07	3.74E-07	
∑DDTs	1.63E-05	1.02E-04	7.22E-05	5.12E-04	7.10E-08	4.46E-07	3.15E-07	2.23E-06	
α -Endosulfan	2.37E-07	7.22E-07	5.65E-07	1.72E-06	1.03E-09	3.14E-09	2.46E-09	7.50E-09	
β-Endosulfan	1.26E-07	3.33E-07	4.89E-07	2.05E-06	5.50E-10	1.45E-09	2.13E-09	8.95E-09	
∑HI	5.23E-04	6.93E-04	1.08E-03	2.02E-03	2.28E-06	3.02E-06	4.68E-06	8.81E-06	

exceeded the threshold, indicating the possible adverse effects for aquatic lives (European Union 2013). Take the juvenile zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) as an example, the fishes' growth and gill morphology might be affected by heptachlor (Campagna et al. 2007).

In regard to the human health risk, the carcinogenic and noncarcinogenic risk assessments of drinking and bathing were conducted in the present study. By the way, although the lakes in Wuhan were no longer used for drinking water supply, what we found in the field investigation was that some residents around the lakes got used to drinking the lake water. And bathing near the drinking water source sites often occurred in summer. Therefore, human health risks by the two exposure routes were both assessed in lakes and drinking water source sites. As listed in Tables 3 and 4, Σ HIs in all sampling sites were three to six orders of magnitudes lower than the threshold 1.0, implying the ignorable non-carcinogenic risks by drinking and bathing. However, the carcinogenic risks caused by drinking could not be neglected. The ΣRs in summer were more than 10^{-7} in all sampling sites and with the mean values of 2.65E-07 and 2.25E-07 in lakes and drinking water source sites, respectively. For individual pollutant, α -HCH in summer posed the highest carcinogenic risk among the target OCPs, with the Rs of YZH, TX, YD, WH, and YL higher than 10^{-7} (Table S4-1). In winter, the carcinogenic risks were much lower. The mean values of Σ Rs were 9.90E–08 and 8.07E–08 in lakes and drinking water source sites, respectively. But the ΣRs of YZH, SH, HG, YD, WH, ZK, and JX were above 10^{-7} , indicating the unnegligible risk (Table S3-1). The carcinogenic risks for bathing in both seasons were much lower than 10^{-7} in all sampling sites (Table S3-1 and 4-1). Therefore, the surface water in Wuhan was not safe for directly drinking because of the non-negligible carcinogenic risks. Effective purification actions for removing the OCPs in surface water were urgently required before drinking. But bathing in the surface water was safe since the carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic risks were both lower than the thresholds.

Conclusions

The present work reported the systemic data on the contamination status of OCPs in the surface water of Wuhan. A wide occurrence of OCPs has been observed in 14 lakes and 11 drinking water source sites. Compared with other rivers and lakes worldwide, OCP pollution in the surface water of Wuhan was at a relatively low level. Due to the non-point source pollution mainly including land runoff, higher \sum OCP concentrations in summer than in winter were detected, while the different physical and chemical properties of HCHs and DDTs resulted in the inverse seasonal variation trend between them. The source apportionment of HCHs and DDTs showed the historical use of technical HCH as well as lindane and the new input of p.p'-DDT, respectively. Drinking water source sites were less contaminated by OCPs compared with lakes. Anthropogenic activities including land development and fishery were the main factors affecting the spatial distribution of OCPs. The heptachlor and heptachlor epoxide in most sampling sites exceeded the threshold set by the European Union, indicating the possible adverse effects for aquatic lives. The total carcinogenic risks of all target OCPs in all sampling sites implied that the surface water in Wuhan was not safe for drinking without purification but suitable for bathing. Noncarcinogenic risks for drinking and bathing could be neglected.

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