

AN ASSESSMENT OF MULTIELEMENTAL COMPOSITION IN STREAM SEDIMENTS OF KUPA RIVER DRAINAGE BASIN, CROATIA FOR EVALUATING SEDIMENT QUALITY GUIDELINES

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SUMMARY

Levels and sources of 8 major and 45 trace elements in stream sediments of a non-mountain drainage basin of Kupa River, which is of supra-regional interest, is presented for the first time. It is a significant water resource for Croatia, Slovenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, but in its great part under mines from the war (1991-1995), and therefore difficult to sample.

Concentration of elements was determined in fine fraction ($<63 \mu\text{m}$) by ICP-MS. The drainage basin was delineated in such a way that each basin segment corresponded to the area upstream and upslope of each sampling site. Selected examples for Ca and Ba distributions are presented.

Cluster analysis of Q-modality, applied on a geochemical data set, was used to disaggregate it into three more homogenous subsets. Cluster 1 was interpreted as a region with significant anthropogenic Ba anomaly. Cluster 2 represents a part of the Supradinaric belt with ophiolites. Sedimentary formation was under the influence of mafic and ultramafic lavas, but also neutral and acid volcanism. Cluster 3 represents a part of the Dinaric carbonate platform, on which shallow water carbonate sedimentation occurred. The geochemistry of stream sediments belonging to the largest cluster 3 has been used to identify background geochemical signatures, related to geology of the mining-free area.

Assessment of sediment contamination with toxic elements was performed in comparison with existing criteria for sediment quality. Toxic effects are possible with respect to Ba, Mn, Ni, Pb, Zn, and P, on some locations. Two Ba anomalies were found. One is significant and of anthropogenic origin in the western part of the basin, whereas that in the eastern part of the basin is of natural origin. Concentrations of Ba can be followed far downstream in Kupa River. Therefore, Ba can be suggested as a suitable parameter to study sediment transport in the studied region.

KEYWORDS: stream sediments, mineral composition, chemical composition, anomalies' determination, cluster analysis, Kupa River drainage basin.

INTRODUCTION

There is an increasing interest in major and trace element geochemistry of stream sediments with numerous applications. Some of them will be mentioned.

The chemical composition of stream sediments can provide information on the presence of mineral deposits. Bonham-Carter and Goodfellow [1], Palinkaš and Šinkovec [2], and Palinkaš [3] have used stream sediment geochemistry of some selected Paleozoic regions in Croatia as an indicator of global tectonic events.

Borovec [4] has mapped a series of elements determined in stream sediments of Elbe River, and has used cluster analysis to find sources of contamination. Moon [5] has developed a quantitative relation between point source, soil geochemical anomalies, and their response in stream sediments. According to him, plots of productivity (area $\times$ concentration) provide an additional tool to detect areas of known metal enrichment in those of detailed sampling and upstream dilution. Oever [6] created a geochemical atlas from stream sediment geochemical data, and has established natural background values. He used a two-clusters model.

Rubio et al. [7] have examined pollution of the Ria de Vigo (NW Spain). Geo-accumulation indexes and enrichment factors have been calculated to assess whether the concentrations observed represent background or contaminated levels. They have found the maximum grade of pollution near Vigo harbor, as a consequence of anthropogenic activity. The same authors [8] critically evaluated the use of cluster analysis to distinguish contaminated and non-contaminated sediments. They have concluded that cluster analysis information can be used as a provenance indicator, but not to conclude with certainty about contamination status of sediments. It was studied how mining can modify stream sediment geochemistry by Ridgway et al. [9] and Avila et al. [10].

The geochemical data from the Soča River drainage basin performed on fraction $<63\ \mu\text{m}$ [11] were interpreted as a result of physical and chemical weathering of the pollution source. Sarkar et al. [12] have used geochemical data obtained on sediments of Hugli River (India), which can be used as a baseline, against which future anthropogenic effects may be assessed.

The aim of the present work

The aim of the work is to present geochemistry, mineralogy and contamination status in stream sediments of the Kupa River drainage basin, with respect to toxic elements, as a complementary study to organic pollutants determined in the same basin [13]. A complete picture about the current state of the important water resources of interest for Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina will be obtained from sediment data. The locations will be highlighted, where certain toxic elements should be measured in aqueous phase within the monitoring program of Croatian Waters.

STUDY AREA

Study area of the Kupa River drainage basin with numbers of sampling locations, where elements have been measured, is presented in Fig. 1. Kupa River is 296 km long, from its source under Risnjak Mountain in Gorski Kotar, till its inflow to Sava River in Sisak. Kupa River drainage basin covers 10,052 km². Most of its part is situated in Croatia, and minor parts are in Slovenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Main tributaries flowing from south are Kupica, Dobra, Mrežnica, Korana, Glina and Petrinjčica. Tributaries flowing from north are Čabranka, Lahinja and Kupčina rivers.

Hydrogeological characteristics of Kupa River drainage basin were described in detail by Ivković et al. [14], Biondić et al. [15], have been recently summarized by Frančišković-Bilinski et al. [13], and will not be repeated here. Geological characteristics of the drainage basin will be briefly mentioned.

Kupa River springs in National Park Risnjak (Croatia) at the contact of Jurassic limestones with hornfels, dolomites and limestones from Tertiary and Permian clastic rocks. At Osilnica, Kupa has confluence with Čabranka River, which most of its course flows through argyllschists, sandstones, and partly conglomerates of Permian age. Above those rocks follow red Raibel clastites, and at the top are dolomites. Čabranka River source is at the contact of Triassic and Jurassic, where gray-layered limestones prevail. At Tršće in Gorski Kotar (Croatia), there are registered mineralogical occurrences of cinnabarite in Permian conglomerates, in upper layers of Raibel clastites and in upper Triassic dolomites, near fault areas. During the ore formation, a small amount of Hg was brought, so the degree of mineralization is low. At Ozalj, further downstream, Kupa River flows through unbound clastites and

limestones from lower Pliocene, and then enters Holocene sediments, through which it flows till its inflow into Sava River at Sisak.

In the vicinity of Karlovac, the three biggest tributaries (Dobra, Mrežnica and Korana) flow into Kupa River. Dobra springs from the contact of Permian clastites with dolomites, limestones and clastites from middle till upper Triassic, through which it flows till Vrbovsko. From Vrbovsko to Ogulin, where it sinks, Dobra flows through Jurassic rocks, mostly limestones and dolomites. In its middle and lower course, Dobra flows mostly through limestones and clastites from Carbonian-Perm. Mrežnica and Korana flow mostly through Cretaceous limestones and dolomites. Radonja (tributary of Korana) springs from Petrova Gora and flows through Carboniferous rocks, mostly clastites.

From the area north from Kupa River, at the part of Kupa flow between Karlovac and Sisak, Kupčina River, which drains the Žumberak Mountains flows into Kupa. In this area, Triassic rocks are most abundant (mostly dolomites, limestones, clastites and marls, but also some Jurassic limestones and dolomites), while on southern slopes of Žumberak Mountains some younger unbound sediments and clastites from Pliocene and Quaternary are also present.

In the lowest course of Kupa River, the inflowing river Glina with its tributaries drains the large and geologically very diverse areas of Banija and Western Bosnia till Cazin. In this region, besides Triassic and Cretaceous limestones and dolomites, also old clastites from Carbon and younger rocks from Miocene, Pliocene and Quaternary are present, together with different metamorphic and magmatic rocks.

Petrinjčica is the last tributary of Kupa River, before its inflow to Sava, flowing through sediments from Eocene, Oligocene, Miocene and Pliocene.

Field determinations performed in aqueous phase by Croatian Waters (name of the Croatian water authorities), include pH, alkalinity, specific conductance, oxygen parameters, nutrients, microbiological parameters, and only six elements (Cu, Zn, Cr, Ni, Pb and Hg). This chemical data of water composition within the Kupa River drainage basin are rather scarce. Up to now, concentrations of elements were below the detection limits of the used methods, mostly giving meaningless values, which were not suitable to be used in any modeling.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sampling and sample preparation

Sampling in the Kupa River drainage basin was performed in all parts of the basin in three countries (Croatia, Slovenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina), during three summer months of 2003, June to August. The detailed description of sampling locations is presented in Table 1, in which information is given for sample number, the name of the river, to which river it flows, as well as its geographic coordinates and altitude.

The great part of this region is still under mines (since the war in 1991-1995), and, therefore, was difficult and dangerous to sample. In order to see the influence of Kupa drainage basin on Sava River (a tributary of Danube River), two sediments of Sava (42, 43) were sampled before and after inflow of Kupa River. Frančišković-Bilinski and Rantitsch [16] have studied the sediments of Sava River in its upper flow.

Sampling of stream sediments was performed further away from the river bank, to avoid contamination from the soil. Samples were air-dried in a shade for several days and then sieved, using three standard sieves (Fritsch, (Germany) with diameters 2000, 500 and 63 μm . Fine fraction (<63 μm), which is easily transported and usually used in environmental studies, was further analyzed.

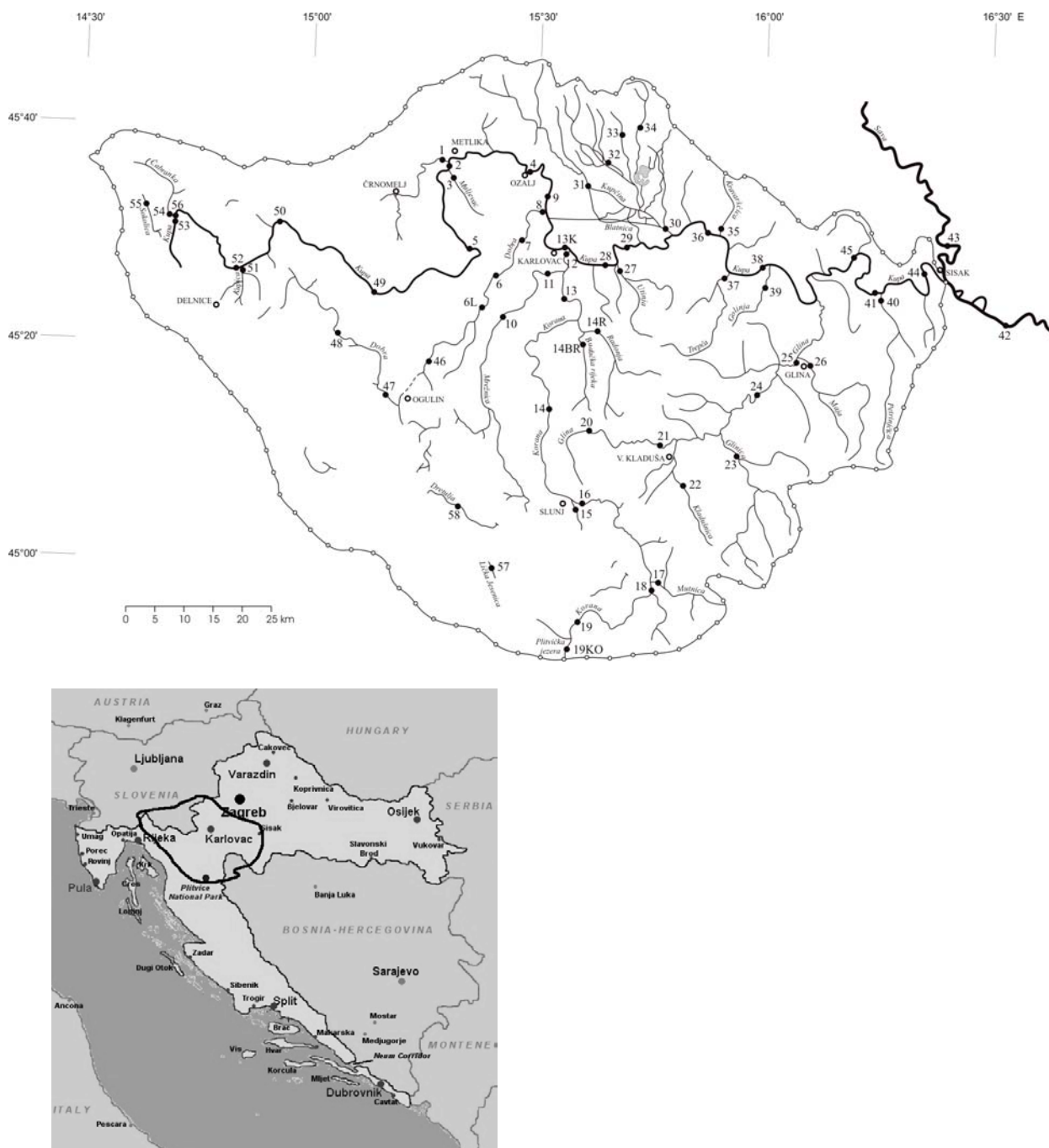


FIGURE 1 - A sketch map of Kupa River drainage basin with numbers of sampling locations, and location map for Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina with position of Kupa River drainage basin.

TABLE 1 - Description of sampling locations in Kupa River drainage basin

Sample No.	Locality	River	Flows into river	Coordinates	m above sea level
1	Primostek (SLO)	Lahinja	Kupa	45°38'51" N 15°17'57" E	136
2	Jurovo (river beach)	Kupa	Sava	45°36'38" N 15°18'40" E	135
3	Brihovo	Muljevac	Kupa	45°35'41" N 15°19'48" E	138
4	Ozalj (under hydropowerplant)	Kupa	Sava	45°36'57" N 15°29'09" E	122
5	Jakovci Netretički	Kupa	Sava	45°26'46" N 15°22'13" E	198
6	Jarče Polje	Dobra	Kupa	45°28'35" N 15°26'23" E	148
6L	Lipa	Dobra	Kupa	45°24'29" N 15°23'34" E	187
7	Donje Stative	Dobra	Kupa	45°30'01" N 15°27'18" E	121
8	Donje Pokupje – Priselci	Dobra	Kupa	45°32'15" N 15°30'50" E	114
9	Levkušje – Zorkovac	Kupa	Sava	45°35'54" N 15°31'40" E	116
10	Zvečaj	Mrežnica	Korana	45°21'57" N 15°27'40" E	191
11	Mała Švarča	Mrežnica	Korana	45°28'16" N 15°31'40" E	116
12	Ušće Korane u Kupu	Korana	Kupa	45°30'32" N 15°34'36" E	111
13	Belajske Poljice	Korana	Kupa	45°24'47" N 15°32'11" E	142
13K	Karlovac – Vodostaj	Kupa	Sava	45°31'28" N 15°33'57" E	111
14	Veljun	Korana	Kupa	45°15'08" N 15°32'47" E	133
14R	Zimić – Okič	Radonja	Korana	45°22'35" N 15°38'52" E	137
14BR	Donji Budački	Budačka Rijeka	Radonja	45°22'21" N 15°36'40" E	113
15	Slunj – Rastoke	Slunjska (Slušnica)	Korana	45°07'14" N 15°35'10" E	210
16	Slunj (river beach)	Korana	Kupa	45°07'15" N 15°35'35" E	205
17	Pjanići (BiH)	Mutnica	Korana	44°58'39" N 15°49'04" E	275
18	Tržačka Raštela (BiH)	Korana	Kupa	44°58'27" N 15°46'59" E	276
19	Autokamp Korana	Korana	Kupa	44°56'19" N 15°38'36" E	395
19KO	Plitvička Jezera	Jezero Kozjak	Korana	44°52'46" N 15°37'04" E	553
20	Kestenovac	Glina	Kupa	45°13'29" N 15°39'32" E	164
21	Maljevac – Gejkovac	Glina	Kupa	45°12'10" N 15°47'39" E	151
22	Barake – Velika Kladuša (BiH)	Kladuška	Glina	45°08'46" N 15°50'26" E	135
23	Glinica (BiH)	Glinica	Glina	45°11'52" N 15°56'47" E	143
24	Hrvatsko Selo	Glina	Kupa	45°17'19" N 15°59'41" E	137
25	Glina	Glina	Kupa	45°20'30" N 16°05'03" E	121
26	Glina – Majske Poljane	Maja	Glina	45°19'44" N 16°06'28" E	122
27	Brežani	Utinja	Kupa	45°28'30" N 15°41'33" E	110
28	Donja Rečica	Kupa	Sava	45°28'51" N 15°39'60" E	122
29	Zamrslje – Gorenjski Kraj	Kupa	Sava	45°30'24" N 15°41'42" E	121
30	Gornje Selo (Donja Kupčina)	Kupčina	Kupa	45°32'01" N 15°47'24" E	117
31	Lazina	Kupčina	Kupa	45°37'14" N 15°36'36" E	116
32	Domagovič	Volavčica	Kupčina	45°34'58" N 15°40'32" E	116
33	D. Desnec – Breznik Plešiv.	Stošinec (Rakovac)	Bukovac	45°41'09" N 15°40'49" E	116
34	Klinča Sela	Okičnica	Crna Mlaka	45°41'37" N 15°42'01" E	120
35	Lijevo Sredičko	Kruparšćica	Kupa	45°32'20" N 15°54'26" E	102
36	Lijevo Sredičko	Kupa	Sava	45°31'49" N 15°53'04" E	100
37	Trepča	Trepča	Kupa	45°27'39" N 15°54'53" E	104
38	Pokupsko (Sunčani Brijeg)	Kupa	Sava	45°29'16" N 16°00'35" E	90
39	Donje Taborište	Golinja	Kupa	45°27'08" N 16°00'13" E	98
40	Petrinja	Petrinjska	Kupa	45°26'05" N 16°16'22" E	101

TABLE 1 - continued

Sample No.	Locality	River	Flows into river	Coordinates	m above sea level
41	Petrinja (river beach)	Kupa	Sava	45°26'41" N 16°16'10" E	91
42	Lukavec Posavski (ferry)	Sava	Dunav	45°24'04" N 16°32'24" E	90
43	Strelečko	Sava	Dunav	45°31'02" N 16°23'60" E	92
44	Sisak (Zibel beach)	Kupa	Sava	45°28'33" N 16°21'35" E	108
45	Letovanić	Kupa	Sava	45°30'15" N 16°12'03" E	108
46	Trošmarija	Dobra	Kupa	45°19'26" N 15°16'38" E	180
47	Ogulin (Puškarić Selo)	Dobra	Kupa	45°16'07" N 15°11'55" E	325
48	Vrbovsko (Kamačnik)	Dobra	Kupa	45°22'03" N 15°04'21" E	368
49	Severin na Kupi	Kupa	Sava	45°25'30" N 15°09'27" E	158
50	Žaga (SLO)	Kupa	Sava	45°31'41" N 14°55'24" E	223
51	Brod na Kupi	Kupica	Kupa	45°27'49" N 14°51'22" E	249
52	Brod na Kupi	Kupa	Sava	45°27'53" N 14°51'22" E	246
53	Hrvatsko	Kupa	Sava	45°31'26" N 14°42'02" E	262
54	Ošilnica – Sela (SLO)	Čabranka	Kupa	45°31'32" N 14°41'31" E	276
55	Tršće – Sokoli	Sokolica	sinks	45°33'32" N 14°37'05" E	768
56	Ošilnica (SLO) (at Čabranka inflow)	Kupa	Sava	45°31'34" N 14°42'04" E	271
57	Lička Jesenica	Lička Jesenica	Slunjsica (sinks)	45°59'35" N 15°26'41" E	477
58	Plaški	Dretulja	Mrežnica (sinks)	45°05'05" N 15°21'59" E	396

Determination of mineralogical composition

Mineralogical composition was determined with an X-ray diffractometer Philips, X-Pert MPD (start position: 82Q: 4.01; end position: 82Q: 62.99; generator settings: 40 kV, 40 mA). Crystalline phases were identified using a Powder Diffraction File [17], and the computer program X'Pert High score 2002, Philips. Semi-quantitative mineralogical composition was determined as described by Boldrin et al. [18].

Determination of elements

Determination of elements was carried out in ACT-LABS commercial laboratory, Ontario, Canada in fraction <63 µm, using ICP-MS (Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectroscopy), with program "Ultratrace 2". The procedure was as follows: 0.5 g of sample is dissolved in aqua regia at 90 °C in a microwave digestion unit. The solution is diluted and analyzed using a Perkin Elmer SCIEX ELAN 6100 ICP-MS instrument. For analysis, the following reference materials were used: USGS GXR-1, GXR-2, GXR-4 and GXR-6, which were analyzed at the beginning and after analyzing each series of samples.

Although this digestion is not total, its use is justified because the international standard methods for determining action limits are based on aqua regia leach [19].

Statistical methods

Program Statistica 6.0 [20] has been used for all statistical calculations in this work. Cluster analysis of Q-modality was applied on the total data set, in order to disaggregate it into more homogenous subsets [21]. Basic sta-

tistical parameters were determined for the subset, which did not contain significant anomalies. Correlation analysis was performed to find mutual dependence of elements.

RESULTS

Mineralogical composition

Semi-quantitative mineralogical composition of sediment fraction <63 µm from the Kupa River drainage basin is presented in Table 2. According to abundance, minerals were divided in four groups: >30%, 10-30%, 5-10%, and <5%. The most abundant minerals (>30%) are quartz, calcite, and dolomite group minerals (dolomite, ankerite and dolomite ferroan). In the amount, 10-30% are minerals from feldspar group (albite, anorthite) and from mica group (muscovite). In concentrations, 5-10% are present besides feldspar plagioclase in some samples, but also different phyllosilicates from mica group and some chlorites. Some inosilicates and nesosilicates, several manganese and iron oxides, and hydroxides were identified as trace minerals (<5%). It should be mentioned that trace minerals present at concentrations <5% are near the detection limit of XRD. They are very probable, not completely certain, and need further investigation.

Geochemical characterization of stream sediments in Kupa River drainage basin

In stream sediments of Kupa River drainage basin, 51 chemical elements were determined. Results are presented in Table 3 for all 61 sampling stations. This database is from

Frančišković-Bilinski [22]. It can be used for present and future statistical calculations. In Fig. 2, distribution of Ca in sediments of the whole Kupa River drainage basin is presented, to illustrate the predominance of carbonates in the middle transect of the basin. In parts of it, tufa is formed, as described by Frančišković-Bilinski et al. [23].

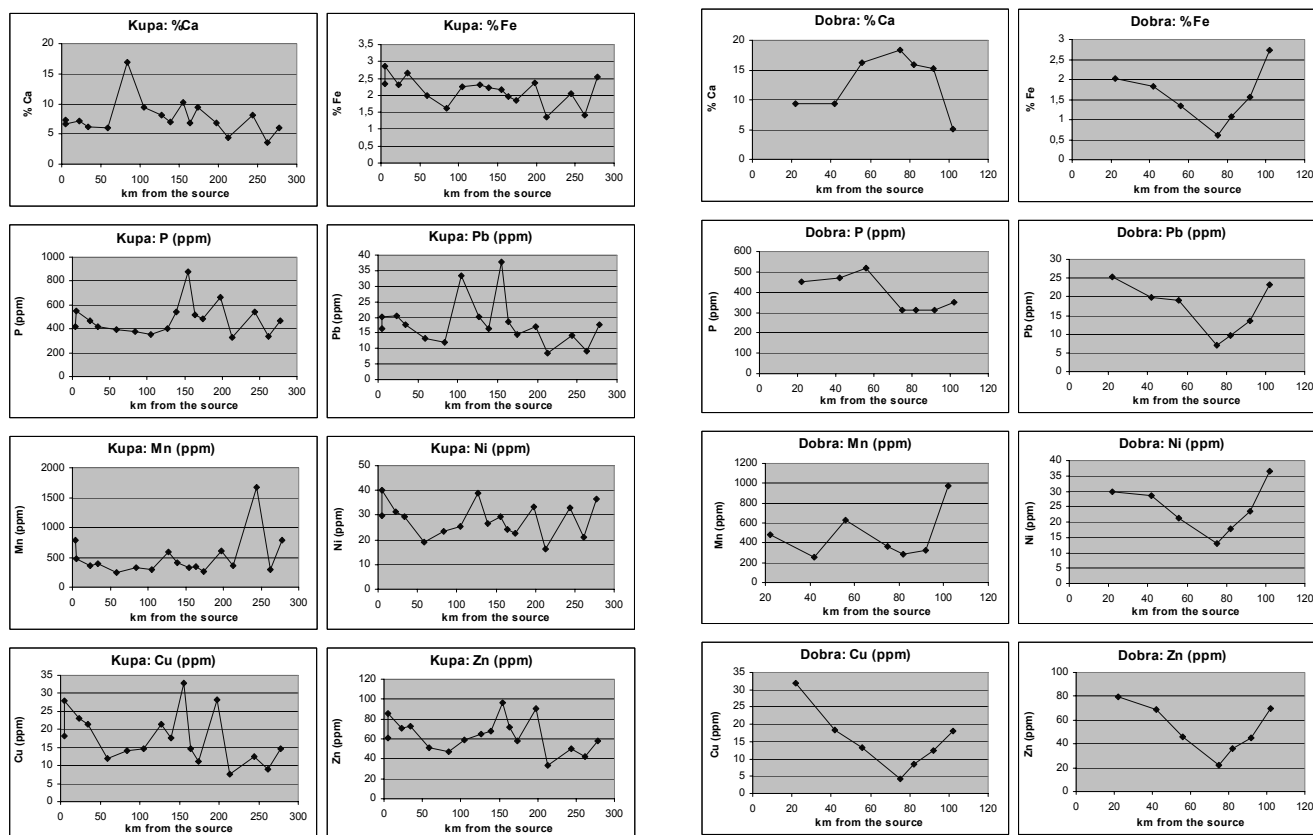
There are significant differences in downstream distribution of elements in various river valleys of the same drainage basin. To illustrate these differences, the downstream distribution of 8 elements is presented in Fig. 3 (a – Kupa River, b – Dobra River, c – Korana River).

Q-modality cluster analysis

On total set of geochemical data, Q-modality cluster analysis was performed. Sampling stations were grouped in 3, 4 and 5 clusters. In Fig. 4, the cluster map for the simplest case with 3 clusters is shown. Cluster 1 has only one sampling location (No. 51) with the largest Ba-anomaly. This sample will distort the multivariate analysis and should be removed in further calculations. The preliminary results describing the origin of anthropogenic Ba-anomaly in the western part of the Kupa River drainage basin were recently reported by Frančišković-Bilinski [24].

TABLE 2 - Mineralogical composition of sediment fraction <63 µm from Kupa River drainage basin, estimated according to Boldrin et al. [18] from X-ray diffraction patterns.

sample	SiO ₂ group	calcite group	dolomite group	feldspar plagioclase	feldspar ortoclase	mica diictah.	mica triictah.	chlorite triictah.	clay minerals	oxide and hydroxide
1	+++	+++	(+)	-	-	(+)	-	-	-	-
2	+++	+++	++	++	-	+	++	+	-	-
3	+++	++	-	+	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)
4	+++	++	-	+	-	+	-	-	(+)	-
5	+++	+++	++	+	-	+	-	(+)	-	-
6	+++	+++	-	++	(+)	-	-	-	-	-
6L	++	+++	(+)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	+++	+++	++	+	(+)	+	-	-	-	-
8	+++	++	(+)	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
9	+++	+++	+	-	-	+	-	(+)	-	-
10	+	+++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	++	+++	-	-	-	-	(+)	-	-	-
12	++	+++	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-	-	-
13	+++	+++	(+)	-	-	-	(+)	-	(+)	-
13K	+++	+++	+	(+)	-	(+)	(+)	-	-	-
14	+++	+++	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-
14R	+++	-	-	+	-	++	-	(+)	-	-
14BR	+++	+	-	+	+	(+)	-	-	-	-
15	+++	+++	++	-	(+)	(+)	-	-	-	-
16	+++	+++	++	(+)	-	+	-	-	-	(+)
17	+++	-	-	++	-	+	-	(+)	(+)	-
18	+++	+++	++	++	-	-	-	-	(+)	(+)
19	++	+++	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19KO	+++	+++	+++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	+++	++	(+)	-	(+)	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
21	+++	++	+++	(+)	-	(+)	-	-	-	(+)
22	+++	-	-	-	(+)	+	-	(+)	-	-
23	+++	+	(+)	-	(+)	++	(+)	(+)	-	-
24	+++	+	(+)	++	(+)	(+)	-	+	(+)	-
25	+++	-	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
26	+++	(+)	-	++	(+)	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)
27	+++	-	-	(+)	(+)	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
28	+++	++	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-	+	-
29	+++	++	++	(+)	-	+	-	-	-	-
30	+++	-	++	(+)	-	(+)	(+)	(+)	-	-
31	+++	+	++	(+)	-	+	-	(+)	-	-
32	+++	+	++	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
33	+++	+	(+)	-	-	(+)	-	-	(+)	+
34	+++	-	(+)	+	+	(+)	(+)	-	-	-
35	+++	(+)	-	(+)	(+)	+	-	(+)	-	-
36	+++	++	-	(+)	-	+	-	-	-	-
37	+++	-	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
38	+++	(+)	+	(+)	(+)	(+)	-	-	(+)	-
39	+++	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
40	+++	++	(+)	++	-	-	(+)	-	-	-
41	+++	+	(+)	(+)	-	-	(+)	-	-	-
42	+++	++	+++	+	-	+	-	(+)	-	-
43	+++	++	+++	-	-	+	-	(+)	-	-
44	+++	+	-	(+)	-	(+)	(+)	(+)	-	-
45	+++	++	+	+	-	(+)	(+)	-	-	-
46	+++	+++	+++	++	-	-	+	-	-	-
47	+++	++	++	(+)	-	+	-	(+)	-	-
48	+++	++	+++	(+)	(+)	+	-	(+)	-	-
49	+++	++	+	(+)	-	(+)	-	(+)	-	-
50	+++	(+)	++	+	(+)	++	-	(+)	-	-
51	+++	++	+	-	-	++	-	+	-	-
52	+++	++	++	(+)	-	++	-	+	-	-
53	+++	++	+	+	-	-	+	(+)	-	-
54	+++	-	++	-	(+)	++	-	+	-	-
55	++	++	+++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	+++	-	++	+	-	++	-	++	-	-
57	(+)	+++	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
58	+++	-	+++	+	-	(+)	-	-	-	-

FIGURE 2 - Distribution of Ca in sediments ($f < 63 \mu\text{m}$) of Kupa River drainage basin.FIGURE 3a - Concentrations of 8 selected elements vs. flow direction in km for $f < 63 \mu\text{m}$ in Kupa River.FIGURE 3b - Concentrations of 8 selected elements vs. flow direction in km for $f < 63 \mu\text{m}$ in Dobra River.

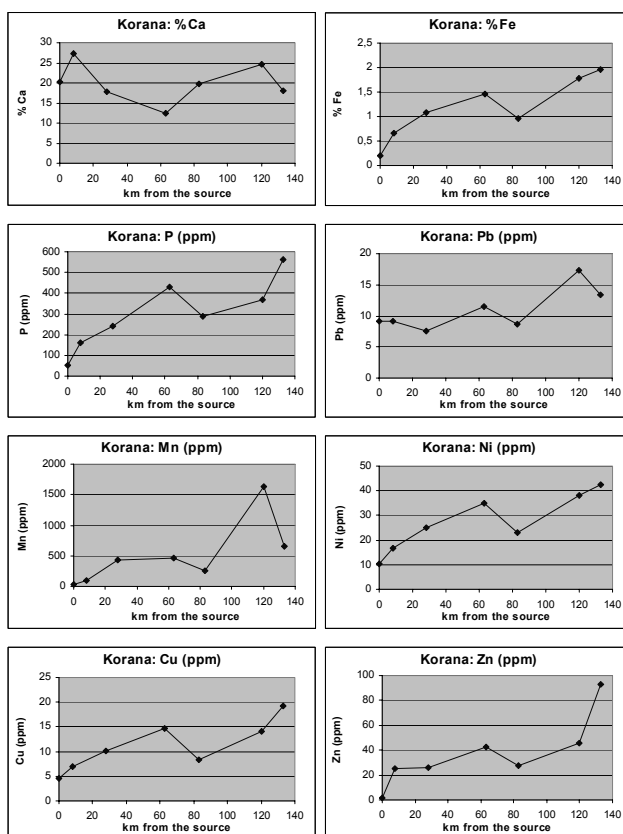


FIGURE 3c - Concentrations of 8 selected elements vs. flow direction in km for $f < 63 \mu\text{m}$ in Korana River.

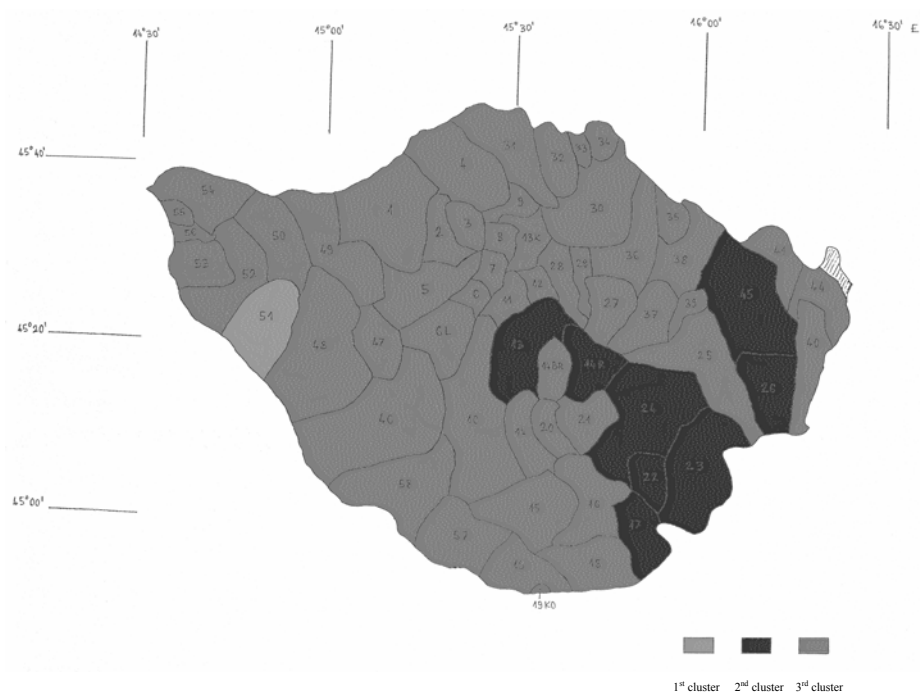


FIGURE 4 - Map with 3 clusters obtained from geochemical data in Kupa River drainage basin.

Cluster 2 has 8 sampling locations, No. 13, 14R, 17, 22, 23, 24, 26 and 45. Total number of locations in cluster 2 is too small to perform further statistical calculations. This region is mostly mined and dangerous to sample. It is under the influence of metallogenic regions of Petrova and Trgovska Gora, studied earlier by several authors [3, 25, 26]. In this region, natural Ba and Mn anomalies were observed.

Cluster 3 has 52 sampling locations, where strong anomalies have not been observed. Therefore, this region was suitable for further statistical analysis of basic statis-

tical parameters, as presented in Table 4. For each element, the values are given for arithmetic mean, geometric mean, median, minimal and maximal concentration, variance (σ^2), standard deviation, skewness and kurtosis. The value for arithmetic mean $\pm$ standard deviation can be considered as baseline value for each element studied in this region.

Shapiro-Wilk-W test of normality showed that within cluster 3 the following 24 elements evidenced normal distribution: P, K, Fe, Li, Sc, Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Ga, As, Se, Rb, Y, Cs, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Gd, Th and Hg.

TABLE 4 - Basic statistical parameters for 51 element in sediments of 52 sampling locations (Cluster 3) from Fig. 4

Element	Mean	Geometr. mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Variance	Std. Dev.	Skewness	Kurtosis
Ca %	10.1350	7.3436	8.6730	0.42300	27.170	48.97	6.9981	0.72633	-0.31384
Na %	0.0149	0.0129	0.0115	0.00700	0.082	0.00	0.0121	4.30651	20.94946
Mg %	1.6078	1.0953	1.1700	0.24800	10.945	3.64	1.9077	3.33467	12.67612
Al %	1.0976	0.9855	1.1080	0.08700	2.689	0.21	0.4606	0.86800	2.71292
P %	0.0404	0.0366	0.0403	0.00520	0.088	0.00	0.0156	0.25056	1.08288
S %	0.0886	0.0775	0.0745	0.02374	0.303	0.00	0.0523	2.06229	5.44018
K %	0.0981	0.0878	0.0890	0.01100	0.220	0.00	0.0430	0.59280	0.30107
Fe %	1.7618	1.5684	1.8460	0.20700	3.296	0.49	0.6965	-0.36154	-0.33478
Li (ppm)	12.9919	11.4017	12.1340	0.93800	23.868	32.10	5.6661	0.08749	-0.69261
Be (ppm)	0.5578		0.6060	-1.00000	1.161	0.10	0.3189	-2.34425	10.46876
Sc (ppm)	1.9497		2.0770	-1.00000	5.017	1.24	1.1134	-0.03874	0.54911
V (ppm)	22.3066	20.8815	22.2925	6.67100	52.856	64.54	8.0340	1.00123	3.23468
Cr (ppm)	22.4081	20.0614	21.7140	2.45600	62.801	98.62	9.9308	1.19763	4.33094
Mn (ppm)	448.6493	370.0779	395.0440	37.04500	991.023	58677.87	242.2352	0.51713	-0.35374
Co (ppm)	8.4501	7.2929	8.4250	0.76600	21.184	15.76	3.9704	0.47558	1.00436
Ni (ppm)	26.4748	25.0068	25.1380	10.27400	57.400	80.54	8.9747	0.74647	1.34201
Cu (ppm)	16.2064	14.3991	14.6810	4.23900	32.902	55.88	7.4756	0.46523	-0.36442
Zn (ppm)	53.3664	47.7970	51.0020	11.83800	101.630	506.66	22.5091	0.10538	-0.53222
Ga (ppm)	3.0029	2.6702	3.0290	0.19700	7.091	1.61	1.2677	0.51462	1.31506
As (ppm)	5.0361		4.8040	-1.00000	12.960	8.00	2.8289	0.46447	0.95692
Se (ppm)	0.6102	0.5552	0.5825	0.11800	1.265	0.07	0.2555	0.68730	0.53352
Rb (ppm)	10.7188	9.6299	10.8230	0.76800	24.327	18.92	4.3492	0.43271	0.99855
Sr (ppm)	61.2855	51.5919	50.8695	14.07000	226.078	1672.44	40.8955	2.29948	6.88068
Y (ppm)	6.9855	6.4912	6.8005	0.98900	13.181	5.64	2.3742	0.25086	1.22620
Zr (ppm)	1.0409	0.9270	0.8590	0.36500	4.049	0.38	0.6145	2.85483	11.22839
Nb (ppm)	0.4726		0.4690	-1.00000	1.221	0.09	0.3040	-1.89558	10.63547
Mo (ppm)	0.8166	0.6614	0.6395	0.27000	3.987	0.42	0.6444	2.74488	10.69901
Cd (ppm)	0.3189		0.3295	-1.00000	1.186	0.08	0.2805	-1.67102	10.88880
Sn (ppm)	0.5230		0.3260	-0.20000	3.608	0.44	0.6639	2.96084	10.16234
Sb (ppm)	0.1790	0.1560	0.1500	0.03300	0.561	0.01	0.0999	1.59843	3.61857
Te (ppm)	0.0357		0.0420	-0.20000	0.093	0.00	0.0422	-3.60930	18.85822
Cs (ppm)	1.0214		0.9895	-0.10000	2.040	0.22	0.4698	0.42469	0.14493
Ba (ppm)	144.1184	84.0571	74.8520	12.32900	1070.000	46512.41	215.6674	3.36857	11.94570
La (ppm)	10.4824	9.2935	9.7685	1.21300	22.198	22.28	4.7206	0.47218	-0.04908
Ce (ppm)	22.5733	19.9942	21.4285	2.99100	47.232	107.27	10.3569	0.48218	-0.30178
Pr (ppm)	2.6519	2.3767	2.4930	0.31200	5.151	1.28	1.1294	0.34006	-0.38214
Nd (ppm)	10.2892	9.2697	9.8220	1.06000	18.889	17.43	4.1743	0.22381	-0.35202
Sm (ppm)	2.2375	2.0353	2.1875	0.21600	3.985	0.68	0.8243	-0.05709	-0.02758
Eu (ppm)	0.3929		0.4300	-1.00000	0.753	0.08	0.2805	-2.90878	12.13853
Gd (ppm)	2.1997	2.0107	2.2080	0.22300	3.678	0.57	0.7521	-0.45022	0.56160
Tb (ppm)	0.2281		0.2830	-1.00000	0.450	0.05	0.2337	-3.48464	15.22077
Dy (ppm)	1.5057	1.3891	1.5230	0.15900	2.456	0.23	0.4838	-0.62557	0.77006
Ho (ppm)	0.2300		0.2765	-1.00000	0.469	0.05	0.2298	-3.62429	16.56166
Er (ppm)	0.6436		0.6745	-1.00000	1.232	0.11	0.3342	-2.40446	10.99600
Yb (ppm)	0.4961		0.5295	-1.00000	1.069	0.10	0.3212	-2.35133	9.36173
Re (ppm)	0.0011		0.0010	-0.00400	0.022	0.00	0.0033	4.94707	30.96605
Au (ppb)	15.5025		15.0539	-0.80000	74.090	170.59	13.0609	1.85310	6.55216
Tl (ppm)	0.1628	0.1498	0.1470	0.03200	0.385	0.00	0.0680	1.14878	1.69453
Pb (ppm)	16.2822	14.7565	16.4380	4.98800	37.734	49.66	7.0467	0.75441	1.04697
Bi (ppm)	0.2683	0.2299	0.2205	0.06600	0.849	0.03	0.1624	1.72664	3.54031
Th (ppm)	2.3516	1.8687	2.2500	0.10400	6.702	1.87	1.3679	0.69119	0.67060
U (ppm)	0.9100	0.8072	0.8135	0.27700	4.258	0.37	0.6088	3.89950	18.63947
Hg (ppb)	86.8511	70.6596	87.0817	13.44265	206.168	2320.26	48.1691	0.25962	-0.65936

Determination of anomalous values

Elements, which show extreme and/or outlier values in particular locations, are listed in Table 5. Anomalous values were obtained using experimental data from Table 3, and two-dimensional scatter box diagrams [20].

TABLE 5 - Elements with extreme and/or outlier values in particular locations.

Element	Extreme sample	Outlier sample
Fe		24
Al		3, 8
Mg	55, 19KO, 58	31, 21
S	39, 30, 21	11, 16, 25, 51
P		13K
Na	13K, 5, 24, 51	37, 11, 12
Sc	24	
V	24	3, 23
Cr	13K	17, 26
Mn	14R	23, 45, 13
Co	17	4
Ni	17, 26	11
Cu		24, 22
Zn		14R, 22
Ga		24, 3
As		44, 56, 13
Se		56, 13K, 11
Rb		3
Sr	40, 33	11
Y		24, 3, 11, 17
Zr	24, 11	11, 23
Nb	23	25, 11
Mo	55	56, 1, 12
Cd	20	1, 13K, 30
Sn	13K, 11, 1, 22, 46	
Sb	11	13K
Cs		51
Ba	51, 50, 49, 5, 9	2, 4, 13K
Au	39	
Tl		22, 3
Pb	14R	13K, 2, 14BR
Bi	13K	6, 46, 51, 57
Th		3
U	11, 12, 55	58

Mutual correlation of elements

At this stage of the work, only simple classical correlation analysis was performed, excluding sample 51 with its large Ba-anomaly. Correlation matrix $n \times n$ ($n=53$) showed mutual relationship among elements. From 8 major elements, Ca, Mg, S and Na did not show significant correlation with any element. P was significantly correlated with Fe (0.68), Cr (0.68), Cu (0.72), Zn (0.84) and Pb (0.65), whereas Fe was with Al (0.83), P (0.68), K (0.68), Li (0.85), Sc (0.79), V (0.67), Cr (0.73), Co (0.79), Cu (0.75), Zn (0.81), Ga (0.89), Rb (0.69), Y (0.75), Cs (0.72), Sm (0.74), Gd (0.86), Dy (0.87) and Th (0.67). Al showed significant correlation with K (0.72), Fe (0.83), Li (0.77), Be (0.63), Sc (0.73), V (0.63), Cr (0.68), Co (0.73), Cu (0.66), Zn (0.75), Ga (0.95), Rb (0.89), Y (0.72), Cs (0.71), La (0.65), Ce (0.66), Pr (0.66), Nd (0.68), Sm (0.74), Gd (0.78), Dy (0.76), Tl (0.71) and Th (0.65), and K with Al (0.72), Fe

(0.68), Li (0.77), Cr (0.66), Cu (0.65), Ga (0.75), Rb (0.81) and Cs (0.80).

DISCUSSION

When cluster analysis of Q-modality was performed on stream sediment geochemistry, the whole drainage basin was divided in three clusters, comprising 1, 8 and 52 locations. **Cluster 1** presents a single location 51. It has a significant Ba-anomaly, and the only Cs outlier in the whole drainage basin. Ba entered the aquatic environment due to uncaredful handling of waste during barite ore processing in Homer, Lokve, Gorski Kotar, (Croatia), what is further studied and described by Frančišković-Bilinski [24]. Other sources of barium, relating to the use of barite in drilling muds [27], as well as in oil and gas wells [28], can be excluded in the region of Gorski Kotar, because there are no such exploitation activities. Cluster 2 with 8 locations is mostly composed of older sediments, under the influence of Petrova Gora, Zrinjska Gora and Trgovska Gora. The ore deposits from these regions were firstly studied by Jurković [25, 29], and later continued by Palinkaš and Šinkovec [2], Palinkaš [3] and Palinkaš and Borojević-Šošarić [30]. Locations 13 and 45 are outside the ancient region, but there is an inflow of Radonja River to Korana River above location 13, and of Glina River to Kupa River above location 45, causing similarity in composition of sediments. The samples within this cluster 2 had different anomalies and/or outliers, shown in parenthesis: 13 (Mn, As); 14R (Mn, Pb, Zn); 24 (Sc, V, Zr, Na, Fe, Cu, Ga, Y); 22 (Sn, Tl, Cu, Zn); 23 (Nb, V, Mn, Zr); 17 (Co, Ni, Cr, Y); 26 (Cr, Ni); 45 (Mn). The largest cluster 3 was composed of 52 locations, and samples within it either showed fewer anomalies, mostly of lower intensity, or anomalies were not present. The most interesting samples were 11 (U, Zr, Sn, Sb, S, Na, Ni, Se, Sr, Y, Zr, Nb); 13K (Na, Sn, Cr, Bi, P, Se, Cd, Sb, Pb); 20 (Cd); 39 (S, Au); 40 (Sr) and 55 (Mg, Mo, U). To explain the meaning of clusters 3 and 2, results of Herak [31] were used. Clusters 3 and 2 represent two different proveniences of sediments. The largest cluster 3 was a part of Dinaric carbonate platform within Adriatic paleodynamic and paleostructural belt, on which shallow water carbonate sedimentation occurred, whereas cluster 2 was a part of Supradinaric belt. In this part of platform, sedimentation was under the influence of penetration of mafic and ultramafic lavas, and also of younger neutral and acid volcanism. It can be assumed that this area belongs to the ophiolitic belt. Ophiolites provide models for processes at mid-ocean ridges.

Geochemical data can be used also for assessment of contamination of sediments with toxic elements. There was no unique "best method". Chemical analysis (Table 3) was used to compare the obtained concentrations of selected toxic elements in comparison with existing criteria for sediment quality [32]. Comparison with other criteria (US NOAA), used by Long et al. [33, 34] was not possible, be-

cause the criteria considering Effect Range-Low (ER-L) and Effect Range-Median (ER-M) were described for marine and estuarine sediments.

It was found that levels of Sb, Cd, Cr, Co, Cu, Fe, Hg, Mo, Se and Ag were relatively low, thus not presenting a danger for environment and human health. Toxic effects could be possible at some locations, with respect to Ni, Pb, Zn, Mn and P. At two locations (17 and 26), the values for Ni were above those causing significant toxic effects. At other locations, Ni did not present any danger. With respect to Pb, Zn and P, there were only a few locations with minimal toxic effects. Concentrations of manganese above the level causing significant toxicity were found in 6 locations: 13, 14R, 17, 23, 24, 45 and 42. There were natural concentrations coming from ore mineralization in Petrova Gora. But toxicity of manganese depends also on valence (II, III, IV or VII) and bioavailability. Therefore, in future investi-

gations, pH, redox potential and concentration of manganese in sediments and water should be measured at the above 6 locations.

The most significant result was the distribution of Ba in sediments (Fig. 5). Anthropogenic Ba-anomaly in Kupica and Kupa rivers was observed in the western part of the drainage basin. There was another smaller Ba-anomaly in Glina River, in the eastern part, which was caused by ore mineralization in Petrova Gora. It can be suggested that Kupa River and Ba, measured in sediments and water, can be used as a future model to study sediment transport processes.

In comparison with the elemental composition of stream sediments of Savinja River [35] and Soča River [11] drainage basins, that of Kupa River was less contaminated, with exception of barium and manganese.

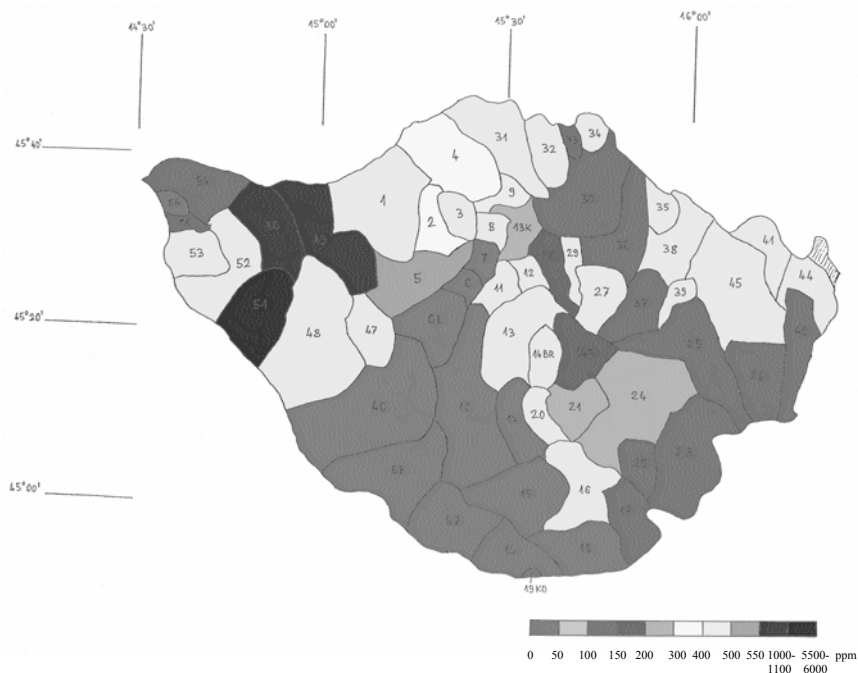


FIGURE 5 - Distribution of Ba in sediments $f < 63 \mu\text{m}$ of Kupa River drainage basin.

CONCLUSIONS

The described mineralogical, geochemical and statistical investigation of stream sediments of the complete Kupa River drainage basin, which is of supra-regional interest, led to the following conclusions:

- Mineralogical analysis has shown that the most abundant minerals are quartz, calcite, and minerals from the dolomite group. Feldspars-plagioclase, mica, chlorite, Mn and Fe oxides and hydroxides are less abundant. It

was possible to determine with certainty a class and a group of minerals. Minor minerals (<5%) are possible, but not proved, due to the limitation of XRD method.

- Geochemical characterization showed different distributions of elements between different river valleys within the same drainage basin, due to different bedrock lithologies.
- Q-modality cluster analysis of geochemical data was used to disaggregate the total data set into more ho-

mogenous subsets. From this result, one can conclude that Q-modality cluster analysis is suitable as pollution and provenance indicator. Cluster 1 showed a region with significant anthropogenic Ba-anomaly. Cluster 2 represented a part of Supradinaric belt with ophiolites. Sedimentation was under the influence of mafic and ultramafic lavas, but also neutral and acid volcanism. Cluster 3 represented a part of Dinaric carbonate platform, on which shallow water carbonate sedimentation occurred. In this largest cluster, without significant anomalies, it was possible to calculate baseline values for 51 elements in the studied region.

- Comparing the concentrations of toxic elements and existing criteria for sediment quality, it was found that the region is relatively uncontaminated. This is an especially important conclusion, because, according to Biondić et al. [15], the karstic aquifers are highly vulnerable and at risk. A most significant contamination was found only with Ba and Mn. There were also a few locations where toxic effects might be possible, due to Ni, Pb, Zn and P.
- With some exceptions, in comparison with Savinja and Soča River drainage basins, the trans-boundary Kupa River drainage basin was less contaminated.
- Experimental data presented for sediments can be combined in the future with solution data, and used in any advanced geo-statistical models.

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