

## “Characterization of Tire Wear Particles and the Occurrence of Tire Wear Compounds (6PPD-Q, DPG, 2-OHBT)”

# Introduction

“Roadside soils act as a sink for tire wear particles, co-transporting compounds (6PPD-Q, DPG, 2-OHBT) and enhancing their persistence.”

- Tire wear particles (TWP) are a major source of microplastic pollution.
- Primary entry pathways are surface runoff and wind transport.

# Introduction

“Roadside soils act as a sink for tire wear particles, co-transporting compounds (6PPD-Q, DPG, 2-OHBT) and enhancing their persistence.”

- Tire wear particles (TWP) are a major source of microplastic pollution.
- Primary entry pathways are surface runoff and wind transport.

Tire Manufacturing	Transformation product
N-(1,3-dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine (6PPD)	6PPD-quinone
N,N'-diphenylguanidine (DPG)	-
Benzothiazole (BT)	2-hydroxybenzothiazole (2-OHBT)

# Introduction

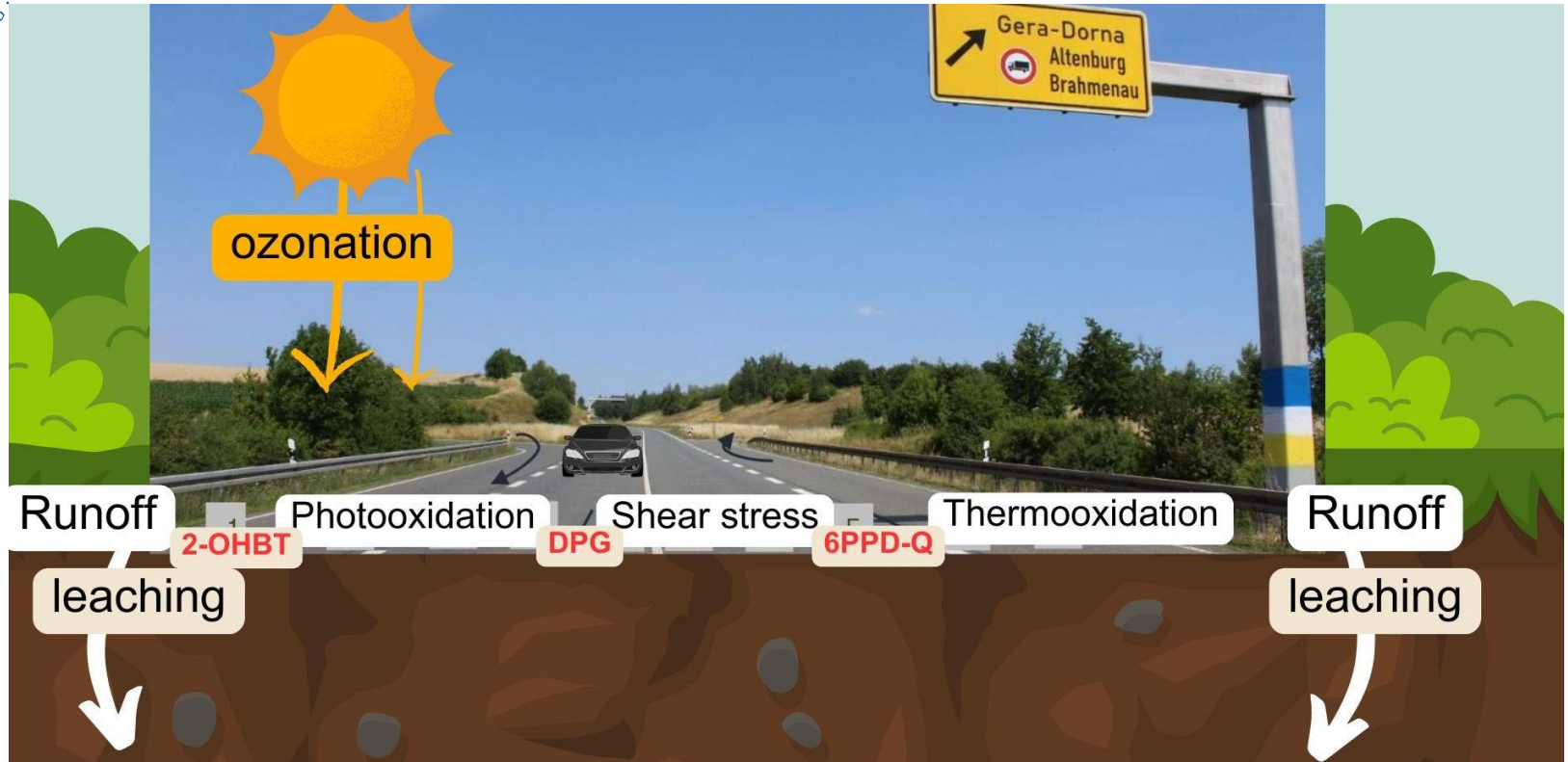


Fig. 1: Environmental pathways and transformation processes of TWPs and associated chemicals.

# Introduction

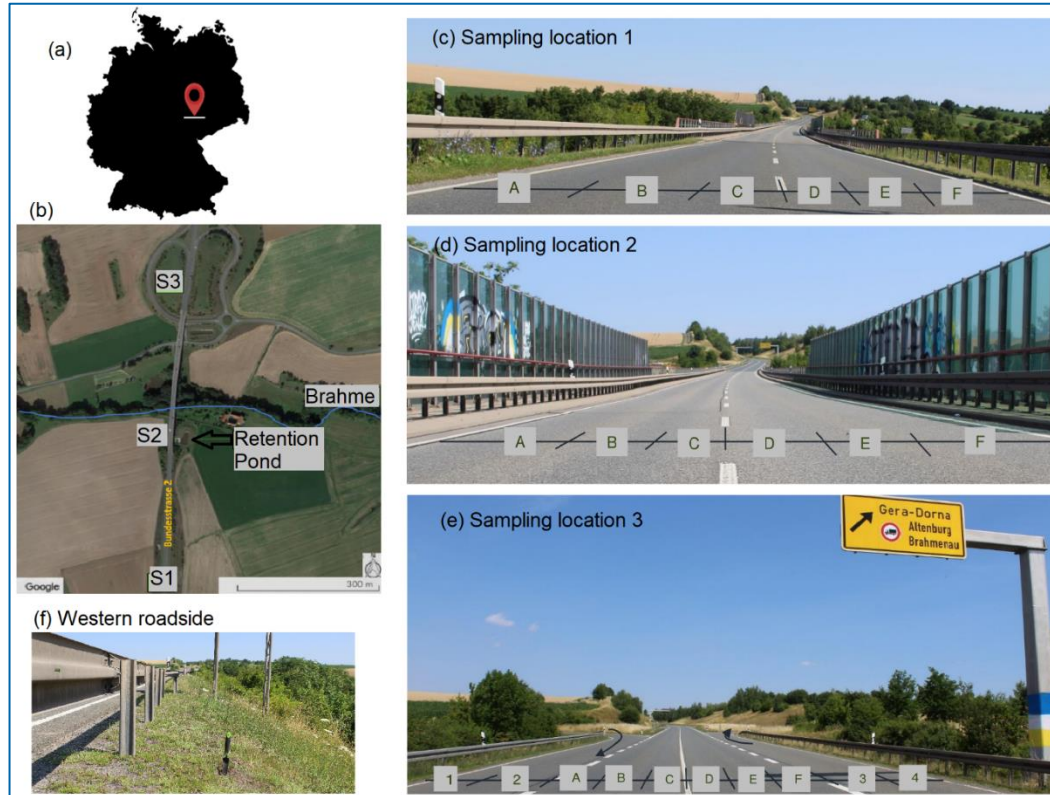
“Roadside soils act as a sink for tire wear particles, co-transporting compounds (6PPD-Q, DPG, 2-OHBT) and enhancing their persistence.”

- Tire wear particles (TWP) are a major source of microplastic pollution.
- Primary entry pathways are surface runoff and wind transport.

## Objective:

- Quantify the occurrence of 6PPD-Q, DPG, and 2-OHBT in road dust and roadside soils.
- Characterise individual TWPs in terms of morphology and chemical composition.

# Study Area



- Gera
- Bundesstrasse 2
- 1.5 km off A4 (Direction Zeitz)
- 2.2 ° slope
- 400 m between each sampling point
- No speed limit

Fig. 2: Sampling locations.

# Research Study

## 1. Sampling

Each sampling site approximately 2.4 m<sup>2</sup>.



Fig. 3: Sampling with a vacuum system and a broom.

## 2. Sample preparation and Analysis

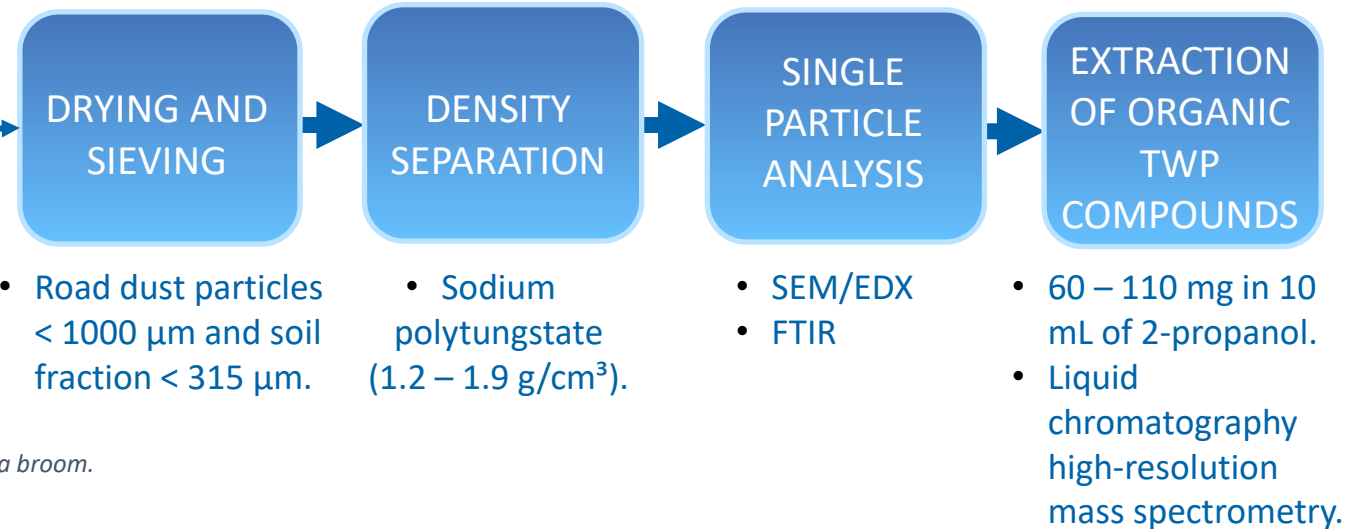
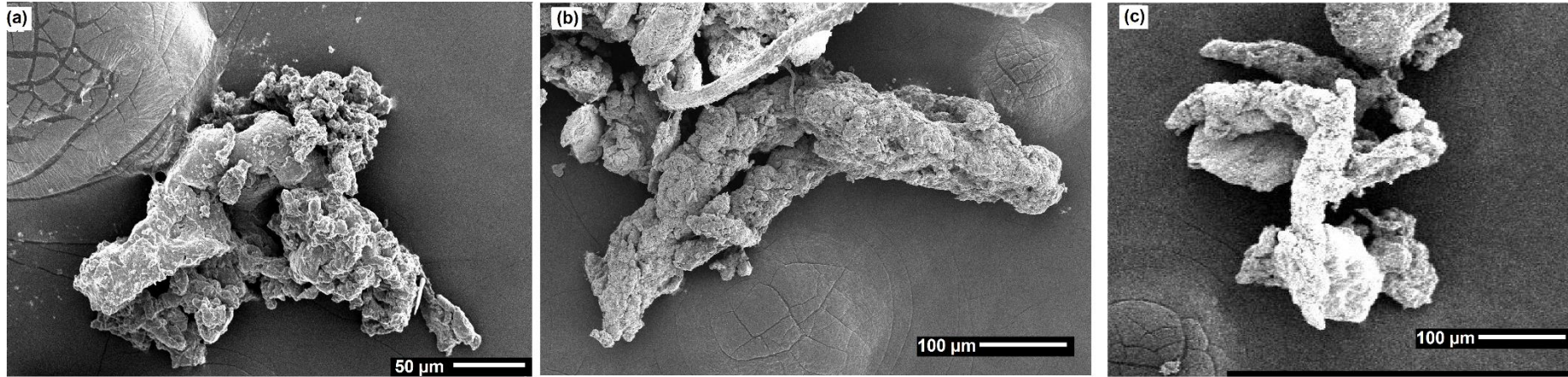


Fig. 4: Workflow for quantifying tire and road wear particles generated on the road.



# Characterisation of TWP



## TWP1: Cryogenically milled

Aspect ratio: 1.38

Moderate elongation.

## TWP2: Road surface sample

Aspect ratio: 1.37

Minimal post-formation  
weathering.

## TWP3: Roadside soil sample

Aspect Ratio: 1.25

Weathered particles;  
considerable rounding.

*Fig. 5: Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) images of the morphological structure of tire wear particles.*



# Elemental Composition of TWP

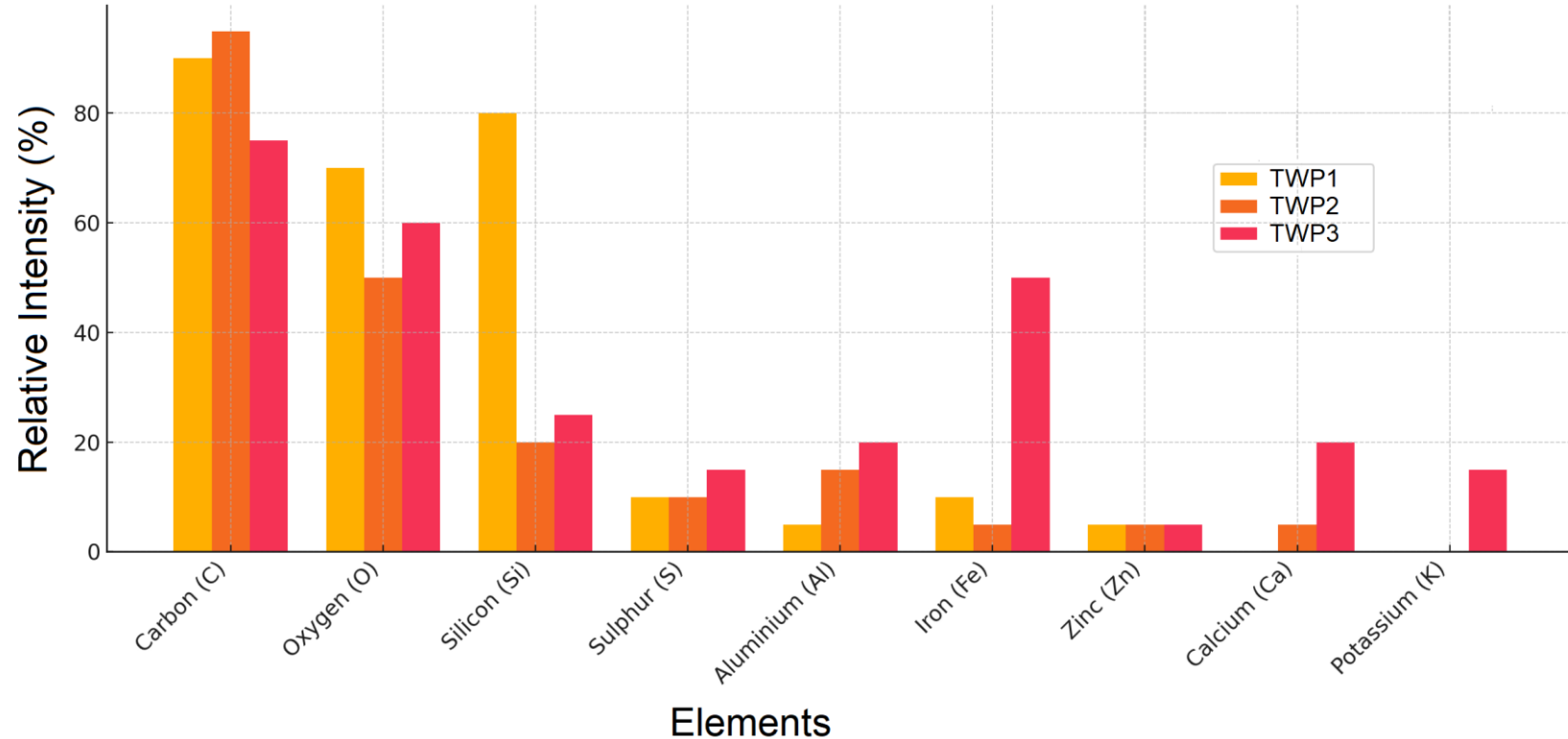
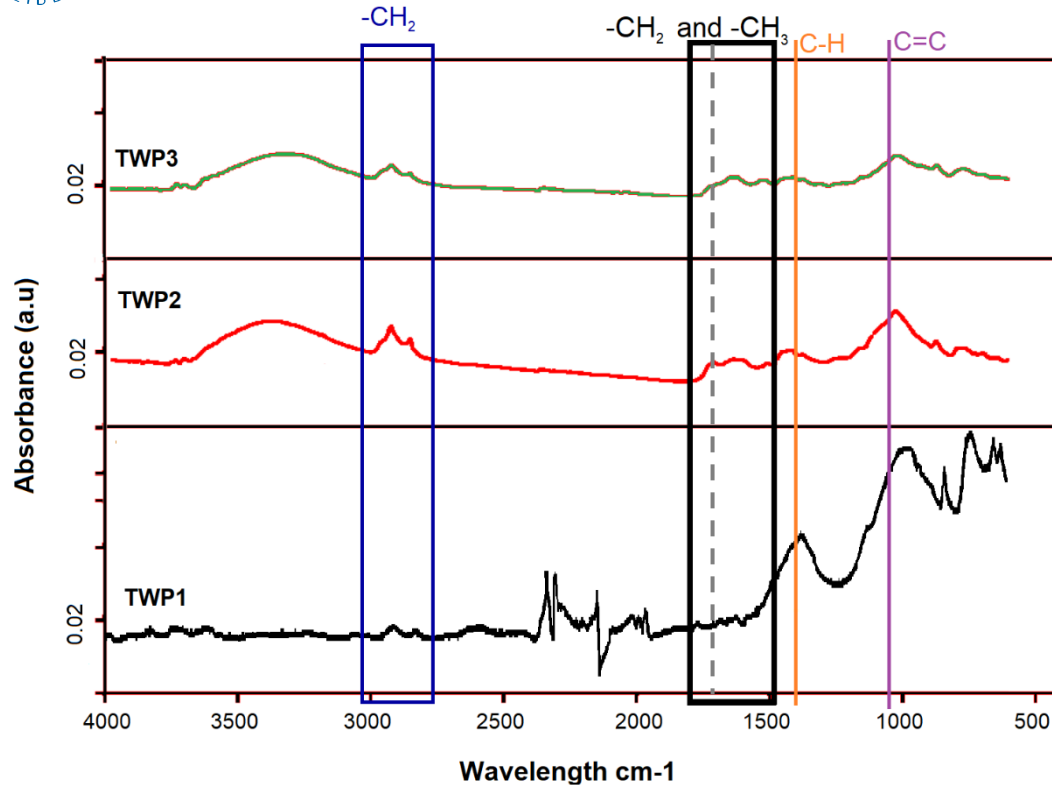


Fig. 6: Elemental composition of TWP samples analysed by energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX).

# FTIR (Fourier Transform Infrared) Spectra of TWP



**TWP3:** Reduction in peak intensity suggests lower polymer content due to environmental exposure.

**TWP2:** Retains more of its original tire polymer characteristics.

**TWP1:** Spectrum represents unaltered tire wear particles with minimal environmental influence.

Fig. 7: Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectra of tire wear particles.

# 6PPD-Q, DPG, and 2-OHBT concentrations at Sampling Location 1

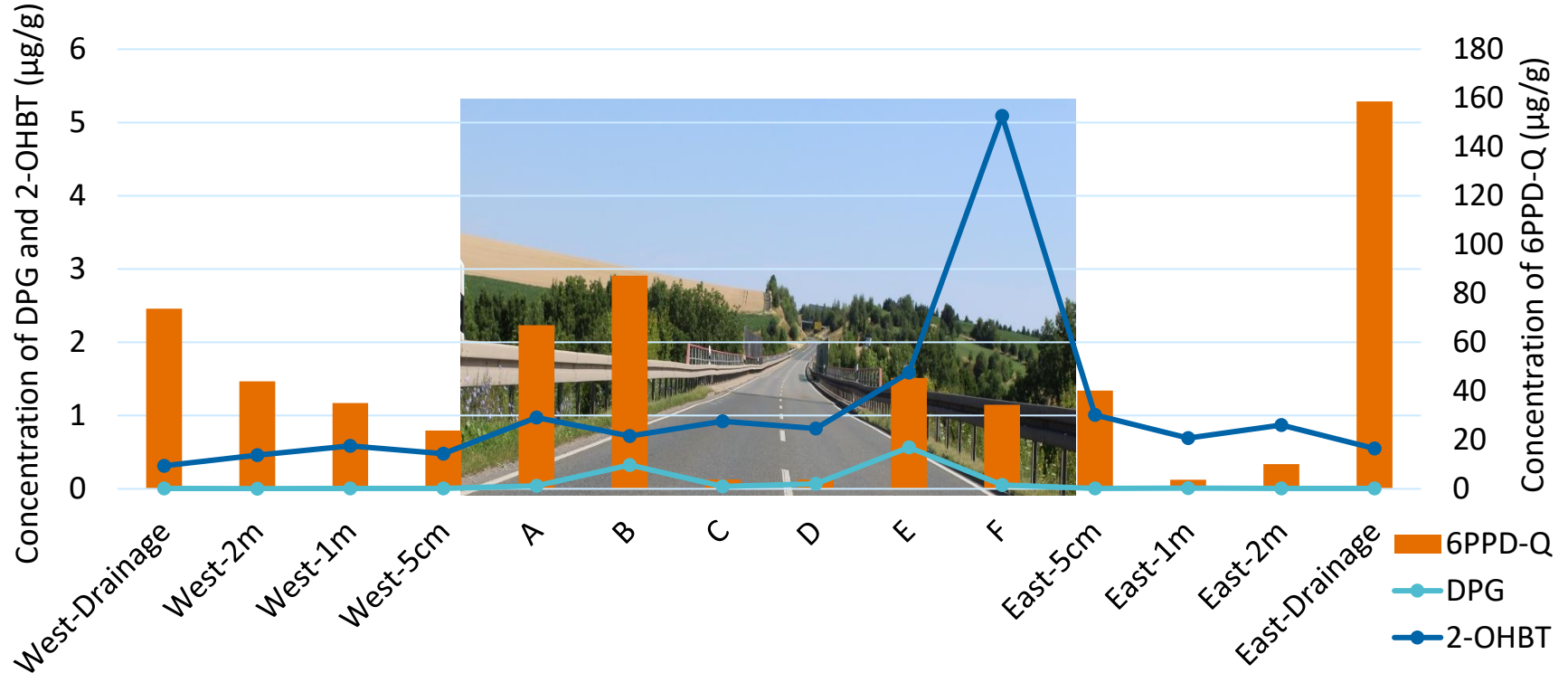


Fig. 8: Concentration of 6PPD-Q, DPG, and 2-OHBT at Sampling Location 1 from the drainage ditch in the west of the road, the road surface, to the drainage ditch in the east.

# 6PPD-Q, DPG, and 2-OHBT concentrations at Sampling Location 2

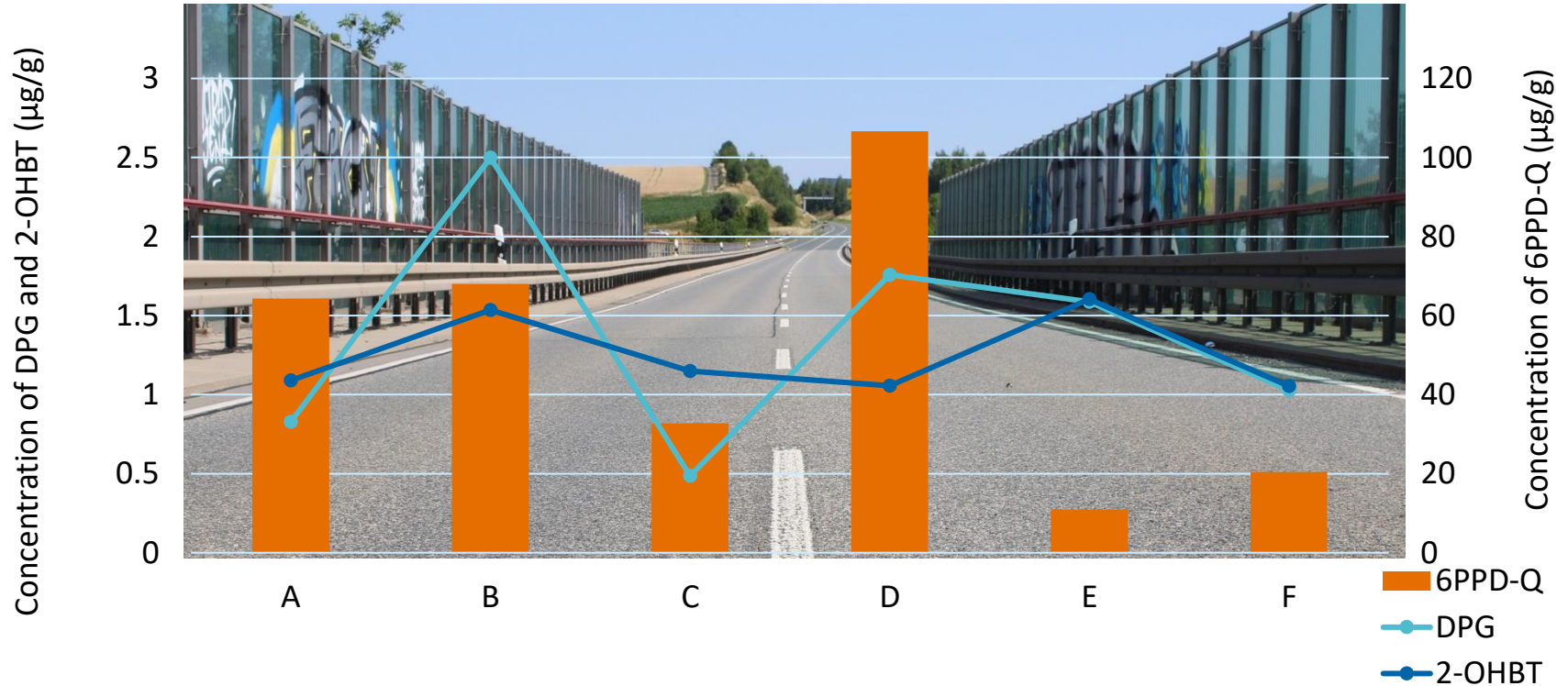


Fig. 9: Concentration of 6PPD-Q, DPG, and 2-OHBT at various sampled points within two lanes at Sampling Location 2 on a bridge with a 4 m high sound barrier and no adjacent roadsides.

# 6PPD-Q, DPG, and 2-OHBT concentrations at Sampling Location 3

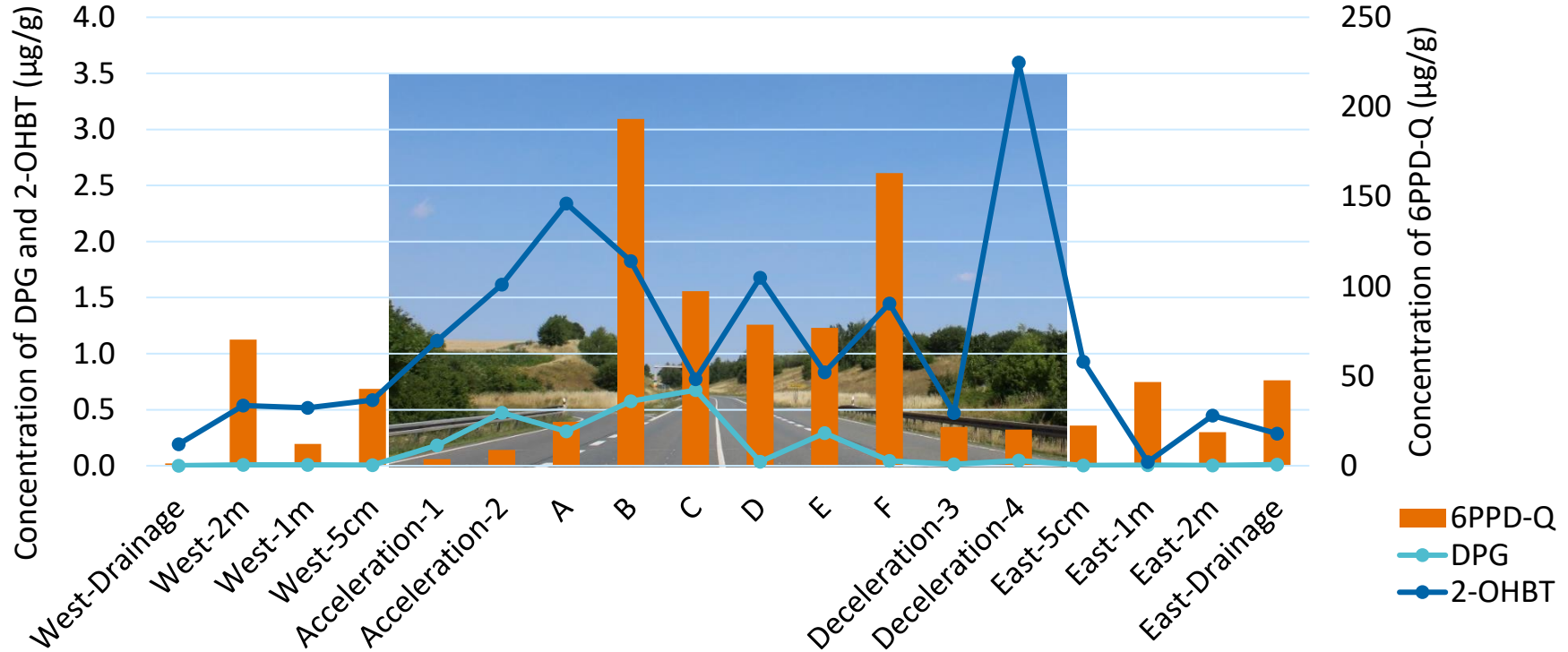


Fig. 10: Concentration of 6PPD-Q, DPG, and 2-OHBT at Sampling Location 3 from the drainage ditch in the west of the road, the acceleration lane, the road surface, the deceleration lane, to the drainage ditch in the east.



# Outcome

- TWPs exhibit diverse morphologies and chemical compositions, influenced by abrasion during environmental transport and interaction with the soil.
- 6PPD-Q concentration higher due to its strong adsorption to TWP and organic-rich soils.
- DPG and its easy leachability is an indicator of contamination hotspots and the pathways of TWP.
- Occurrence of 2-OHBT confirms the presence of TWP in road dust and soils given its susceptibility to leach.



**Faith Chebet Tumwet**

Tel.: (+49) 3731393309

E-Mail: [Faith\\_Chebet.Tumwet@hszg.de](mailto:Faith_Chebet.Tumwet@hszg.de)

Institute of Hydrogeology / Hydrochemistry  
TU Bergakademie Freiberg  
09599 Freiberg

*Funded by:*



Europäische Union

Europa fördert Sachsen.



Europäischer Sozialfonds



Diese Maßnahme wird mitfinanziert  
durch Steuermittel auf der Grundlage des  
vom Sächsischen Landtag beschlossenen  
Haushaltes.

# References

- Abbasi, Sajjad, Behnam Keshavarzi, Farid Moore, and Mohammad Reza Mahmoudi. 2018. "Fractionation, source identification and risk assessment of potentially toxic elements in street dust of the most important center for petrochemical products, Asaluyeh County, Iran." *Environmental Earth Sciences* 77: 673. doi:10.1007/s12665-018-7854-z.
- Abbasi, Sajjad, Behnam Keshavarzi, Farid Moore, Andrew Turner, Frank J. Kelly, Ana Oliete Dominguez, and Neemat Jaafarzadeh. 2019. "Distribution and potential health impacts of microplastics and microrubbers in air and street dusts from Asaluyeh County, Iran." *Environmental Pollution* 244: 153-164. doi:10.1016/j.envpol.2018.10.039.
- Adachi, Kouji, and Yoshiaki Tainosho. 2004. "Characterization of heavy metal particles embedded in tire dust." *Environment International* 30 (8): 1009-1017. doi:10.1016/j.envint.2004.04.004.
- Amato, Fulvio, Flemming R. Cassee, Hugo A. C. Denier van der Gon, Robert Gehrig, Mats Gustafsson, Wolfgang Hafner, Roy M. Harrison, et al. 2014. "Urban air quality: The challenge of traffic non-exhaust emissions." *Journal of Hazardous Materials* 275: 31-36. doi:10.1016/j.jhazmat.2014.04.053.
- Baensch-Baltruschat, Beate, Birgit Kocher, Christian Kochleus, Friederike Stock, and Georg Reifferscheid. 2021. "Tyre and road wear particles - A calculation of generation, transport and release to water and soil with special regard to German roads." *Science of The Total Environment* 752: 141939. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.141939.
- Baensch-Baltruschat, Beate, Birgit Kocher, Friederike Stock, and Georg Reifferscheid. 2020. "Tyre and road wear particles (TRWP) - A review of generation, properties, emissions, human health risk, ecotoxicity, and fate in the environment." *Science of The Total Environment* 733: 137823. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.137823.
- Besseling, Ellen, Joris T. K. Quik, Muzhi Sun, and Albert A. Koelmans. 2017. "Fate of nano- and microplastic in freshwater systems: A modeling study." *Environmental Pollution* 220 (Part A): 540-548. doi:10.1016/j.envpol.2016.10.001.
- Boucher, Julien, Guillaume Billard, Eleonora Simeone, and Joao Sousa. 2020. *The marine plastic footprint*. Edited by Amy Sweeting. Switzerland: IUCN, Gland, Switzerland. doi:10.2305/IUCN.CH.2020.01.en.
- Chae, Eunji, Uiyeong Jung, and Sung-Seen Choi. 2021. "Quantification of tire tread wear particles in microparticles produced on the road using oleamide as a novel marker." *Environmental Pollution* 288: 117811. doi:10.1016/j.envpol.2021.117811.
- Dehghani, Sharareh, Farid Moore, and Razegheh Akhbarizadeh. 2017. "Microplastic pollution in deposited urban dust, Tehran metropolis, Iran." *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 24: 20360-20371. doi:10.1007/s11356-017-9674-1.
- Eisentraut, Paul, Erik Dümichen, Aki Sebastian Ruhl, Martin Jekel, Mirko Albrecht, Michael Gehde, and Ulrike Braun. 2018. "Two Birds with One Stone—Fast and Simultaneous Analysis of Microplastics: Microparticles Derived from Thermoplastics and Tire Wear." *Environmental Science & Technology* 5 (10): 608-613. doi:10.1021/acs.estlett.8b00446.
- ETRT. (2023). Retrieved November 1, 2023, from European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation: <https://www.etrto.org/home>
- Goßmann, Isabel, Maurits Halbach, and Barbara M. Scholz-Böttcher. 2021. "Car and truck tire wear particles in complex environmental samples – A quantitative comparison with "traditional" microplastic polymer mass loads." *Science of The Total Environment* 773: 145667. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.145667.
- Grigoratos, Theodoros, and Giorgio Martini. 2015. "Brake wear particle emissions: a review." *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 22: 2491-2504. doi:10.1007/s11356-014-3696-8.

# References

- Halle, Louise L., Annemette Palmqvist, Kristoffer Kampmann, and Farhan R. Khan. 2020. "Ecotoxicology of micronized tire rubber: Past, present and future considerations." *Science of The Total Environment* 706: 135694. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.135694.
- Huber, Maximilian, Antje Welker, and Brigitte Helmreich. 2016. "Critical review of heavy metal pollution of traffic area runoff: Occurrence, influencing factors, and partitioning." *Science of the Total Environment* 541: 895-919. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2015.09.033.
- Hwang, Hyun-Min, Matthew J. Fiala, Dongjoo Park, and Terry L. Wade. 2016. "Review of pollutants in urban road dust and stormwater runoff: part 1. Heavy metals released from vehicles." *International Journal of Urban Sciences* 20 (3): 334-360. doi:10.1080/12265934.2016.1193041.
- Klößner, Philipp, Bettina Seiwert, Steffen Weyrauch, Beate I. Escher, Thorsten Reemtsma, and Stephan Wagner. 2021. "Comprehensive characterization of tire and road wear particles in highway tunnel road dust by use of size and density fractionation." *Chemosphere* 279: 130530. doi:10.1016/j.chemosphere.2021.130530.
- Klößner, Philipp, Thorsten Reemtsma, Paul Eisentraut, Ulrike Braun, and Aki Sebastian Ruhl. 2019. "Tire and road wear particles in road environment – Quantification and assessment of particle dynamics by Zn determination after density separation." *Chemosphere* 222: 714-721. doi:10.1016/j.chemosphere.2019.01.176.
- Knight, Lydia J., Florence N. F. Parker-Jurd, Maya Al-Sid-Cheikh, and Richard C. Thompson. 2020. "Tyre wear particles: an abundant yet widely unreported microplastic?" *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 27: 18345-18354. doi:10.1007/s11356-020-08187-4.
- Kole, Pieter Jan, Ansje J. Löhr, Frank G. A. J. Van Belleghem, and Ad M. J. Ragas. 2017. "Wear and Tear of Tyres: A Stealthy Source of Microplastics in the Environment." *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 14 (10): 1265. doi:10.3390/ijerph14101265.
- Kreider, Marisa L., Julie M. Panko, Britt L. McAtee, Leonard I. Sweet, and Brent L. Finley. 2010. "Physical and chemical characterization of tire-related particles: Comparison of particles generated using different methodologies." *Science of The Total Environment* 408 (3): 652-659. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2009.10.016.
- Lee, S., J. Kwak, H. Him, and J. Lee. 2013. "Properties of roadway particles from interaction between the tire and road pavement." *International Journal of Automotive Technology* volume 14: 163-173. doi:10.1007/s12239-013-0018-y.
- Müller, Alexandra, Heléne Österlund, Jiri Marsalek, and Maria Viklander. 2022. "Exploiting urban roadside snowbanks as passive samplers of organic micropollutants and metals generated by traffic." *Environmental Pollution* 308: 119723. doi:10.1016/j.envpol.2022.119723.
- Müller, Axel, Birgit Kocher, Korinna Altmann, and Ulrike Braun. 2022. "Determination of tire wear markers in soil samples and their distribution in a roadside soil." *Chemosphere* 294: 133653. doi:10.1016/j.chemosphere.2022.133653.
- Panko, Julie M., Jennifer Chu, Marisa L. Kreider, and Ken M. Unice. 2013. "Measurement of airborne concentrations of tire and road wear particles in urban and rural areas of France, Japan, and the United States." *Atmospheric Environment* 72: 192-199. doi:10.1016/j.atmosenv.2013.01.040.
- Rauert, Cassandra, Elisabeth S. Rødland, Elvis D. Okoffo, Malcolm J. Reid, Sondre Meland, and Kevin V. Thomas. 2021. "Challenges with Quantifying Tire Road Wear Particles: Recognizing the Need for Further Refinement of the ISO Technical Specification." *Environmental Science & Technology Letters* 8 (3): 231-236. doi:10.1021/acs.estlett.0c00949.
- Rochman, Chelsea M., Cole Brookson, Jacqueline Bikker, Natasha Djuric, Arielle Earn, Kennedy Bucci, Samantha Athey, et al. 2019. "Rethinking microplastics as a diverse contaminant suite." *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 38 (4): 703-711. doi:10.1002/etc.4371.

# References

- Rødland, Elisabeth S., Lene S. Heier, Ole Christian Lind, and Sondre Meland. 2023. "High levels of tire wear particles in soils along low traffic roads." *Science of The Total Environment* 903: 166470. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.166470.
- Rødland, Elisabeth S., Saer Samanipour, Cassandra Rauert, Elvis D. Okoffo, Malcom J. Reid, Lene S. Heier, Ole Christian Lind, Kevin V. Thomas, and Sondre Meland. 2022. "A novel method for the quantification of tire and polymer-modified bitumen particles in environmental samples by pyrolysis gas chromatography mass spectroscopy." *Journal of Hazardous Materials* 423 (Part A): 127092. doi:10.1016/j.jhazmat.2021.127092.
- Sager, Manfred. 2020. "Urban Soils and Road Dust—Civilization Effects and Metal Pollution—A Review." *Environments* 7 (11): 98. doi:10.3390/environments7110098.
- Sommer, Frank, Volker Dietze, Anja Baum, Jan Sauer, Stefan Gilge, Christoph Maschowski, and Reto Gieré. 2018. "Tire abrasion as a major source of microplastics in the environment." *Aerosol and Air Quality Research* 18 (8): 2014-2028. doi:10.4209/aaqr.2018.03.0099.
- Stevenson, Keri, Bethan Stallwood, and Adam G. Hart. 2008. "Tire Rubber Recycling and Bioremediation: A Review." *Bioremediation Journal* 12 (1): 1-11. doi:10.1080/10889860701866263.
- Unice, K. M., M. P. Weeber, M. M. Abramson, R. C. D. Reid, J. A. G. van Gils, A. A. Markus, A. D. Vethaak, and J. M. Panko. 2019. "Characterizing export of land-based microplastics to the estuary - Part I: Application of integrated geospatial microplastic transport models to assess tire and road wear particles in the Seine watershed." *Science of The Total Environment* 646: 1639-1649. doi:10.1016/j.scitotenv.2018.07.368.
- Wagner, Stephan, Philipp Klöckner, and Thorsten Reemtsma. 2022. "Aging of tire and road wear particles in terrestrial and freshwater environments – A review on processes, testing, analysis and impact." *Chemosphere* 288: 132467. doi:10.1016/j.chemosphere.2021.132467.
- Wagner, Stephan, Thorsten Hüffer, Philipp Klöckner, Maren Wehrhahn, Thilo Hofmann, and Thorsten Reemtsma. 2018. "Tire wear particles in the aquatic environment - A review on generation, analysis, occurrence, fate and effects." *Water Research* 139: 83-100. doi:10.1016/j.watres.2018.03.051.
- Werkenthin, Moritz, Björn Kluge, and Gerd Wessolek. 2014. "Metals in European roadside soils and soil solution – A review." *Environmental Pollution* 189: 98-110. doi:10.1016/j.envpol.2014.02.025.
- Wik, Anna, and Göran Dave. 2009. "Occurrence and effects of tire wear particles in the environment – A critical review and an initial risk assessment." *Environmental Pollution* 157 (1): 1-11. doi:10.1016/j.envpol.2008.09.028.
- Xiao, Shuolin, Yuanfeng Cui, Janice Brahney, Natalie M. Mahowald, and Qi Li. 2023. "Long-distance atmospheric transport of microplastic fibres influenced by their shapes." *Nature Geoscience* 16: 863-870. doi:10.1038/s41561-023-01264-6.
- Yukioka, Satoru, Shuhei Tanaka, Yoshiki Nabetani, Yuji Suzuki, Taishi Ushijima, Shigeo Fujii, Hideshige Takada, Quang Van Tran, and Sangeeta Singh. 2020. "Occurrence and characteristics of microplastics in surface road dust in Kusatsu (Japan), Da Nang (Vietnam), and Kathmandu (Nepal)." *Environmental Pollution* 256: 113447. doi:10.1016/j.envpol.2019.113447.
- Zehetner, Franz, Ulrike Rosenfellner, Axel Mentler, and Martin H. Gerzabek. 2009. "Distribution of Road Salt Residues, Heavy Metals and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons across a Highway-Forest Interface." *Water, Air, and Soil Pollution* 198: 125-132. doi:10.1007/s11270-008-9831-8.