

CHANGES OF PETROLEUM HYDROCARBON IN JIAOZHOU BAY 1984-1988

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Abstract. Petroleum hydrocarbon (PHC) pollution in marine bays has been one of the critical environmental issues in many countries and regions. Jiaozhou Bay is a semi-closed bay in the fast-growing region in eastern China and has been contaminated by a variety of pollutants after the 1980s. Using investigation data in this bay during 1981-1988, this paper analyzed the temporal, spatial and seasonal changes of PHC. Results showed that PHC contents in surface waters during 1984-1988 were 0.01-0.16 mgL⁻¹, 0.025-0.124 mgL⁻¹, 0.005-0.122 mgL⁻¹, 0.014-0.091 mgL⁻¹ and 0.005-0.178 mgL⁻¹, respectively. The pollution level of PHC during 1984-1988 was moderate and was changing with seasons due to the variations of source input. Low values of PHC contents during 1984-1988 were all closed to 0.005 mgL⁻¹, and this value could be considered as the ‘background’ value of PHC. High values of PHC contents in spring during this period tended to be stable, yet in summer and autumn during this period tended to be increasing. Stream discharge was the major source of PHC, and marine traffic and marine itself were also responsible. The source strengths were still slight/moderate in according to Chinese Sea Water Quality Standard (GB 3097-1997). Stream discharge was one of the major sources of PHC in every year, and the source strengths were increasing along with time. PHC in this bay was mainly input from rainfall runoff. Marine traffic had been one of the important sources since the 1980s, indicated that the oil leaking from marine traffic should be paid attention to. Marine current was also one of the important sources, and the source strengths could be as high as 0.122 mgL⁻¹. Rainfall runoff was the major force of various pollutants to the marine bay, the source input of PHC was also in order of summer > spring > autumn > winter. This was the major reason to explain the seasonal variations of PHC contents in Jiaozhou Bay. The background value of PHC in the marine bay was 0.005 mgL⁻¹, and the increase of PHC contents in the ocean could be calculated as 0.122-0.005 = 0.117 mgL⁻¹. This was the results of the storage of PHC in the ocean. The control and management of anthropogenic source input of PHC in the marine bay were necessary. The outcome of this paper is to identify the major sources, to define the annual change trend and the spatial-seasonal variations, to assess the storage of PHC in the marine bay, and to provide a basis for environmental management decision-making.

Keywords: *spatial, seasonal, annual, pollution, source*

Introduction

Along with the rapid development of industry, agriculture and traffic, a great deal of waste gas, water and residue are generated and discharged to air, soil and water environment (Yang et al., 2002, 2013a). The problem of marine pollution is tending to be more and more serious since the ocean is the “sink” of pollutants (Yang and Miao, 2010; Yang and Gao, 2010). PHC is widely used in industry, agriculture and traffic (Yang et al., 2014). By means of stream discharge, atmospheric deposition and oil spilling, many marine bays have been polluted by PHC and have caused serious environmental problems (Yang et al., 2014, 2015a). Identifying the major anthropogenic sources, the annual change trend and the spatial-seasonal variations is essential to marine environmental protection.

Jiaozhou Bay is a semi-closed bay located in the south of Shandong Peninsula in eastern China and is surrounded by cities of Jiaozhou, Jiaonan and Qingdao in the north, west and east, respectively. This bay has been contaminated after the 1980s, and previous studies showed that this bay has been polluted by various pollutants including Pb (Yang et al., 2008a, 2011a), Hg (Yang et al., 2008b, 2013b), HCH (Yang et al., 2011b, 2015b, 2015c), Cu (Yang et al., 2015d, 2015e). Using investigation data of the bay during 1981-1988, this paper analyzed the temporal, spatial and seasonal changes of PHC. The aim of this paper is to provide a basis for environmental management decision-making.

Materials and methods

Study area

Jiaozhou Bay (120°04'-120°23' E, 35°55'-36°18' N) is in the south of Shandong Province, eastern China (Fig. 1). It is a semi-closed bay with the total area, average water depth and bay mouth width of 446 km², 7 m and 3 km, respectively. There are more than ten inflow rivers such as Haibo River, Licun River, Dagu River, and Loushan River etc., most of which have seasonal features (Yang et al., 2005, 2004).

Data collection

Data on PHC contents in Jiaozhou Bay were provided by North China Sea Environmental Monitoring Center. The investigation was conducted in July, August and October 1984 (Fig. 1), April, July and October 1985 (Fig. 1), April, July and October 1986 (Fig. 1), May, July and November 1987 (Fig. 1), and April, July and October 1988 (Fig. 2). Surface water samples were collected and measured by the National Specification for Marine Monitoring (China's State Oceanic Administration, 1991).

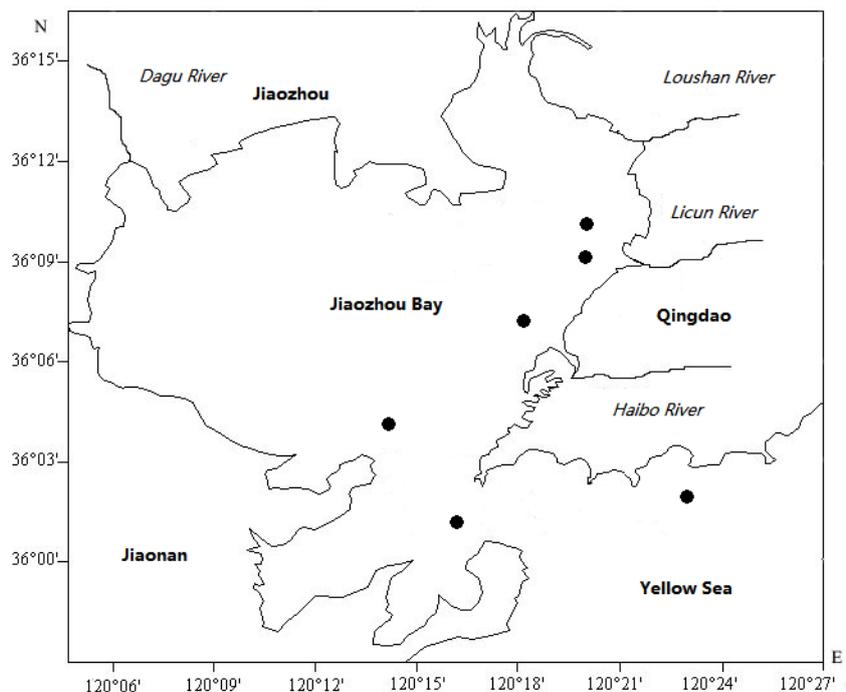


Figure 1. Geographic location of Jiaozhou Bay and monitoring sites in 1984-1987

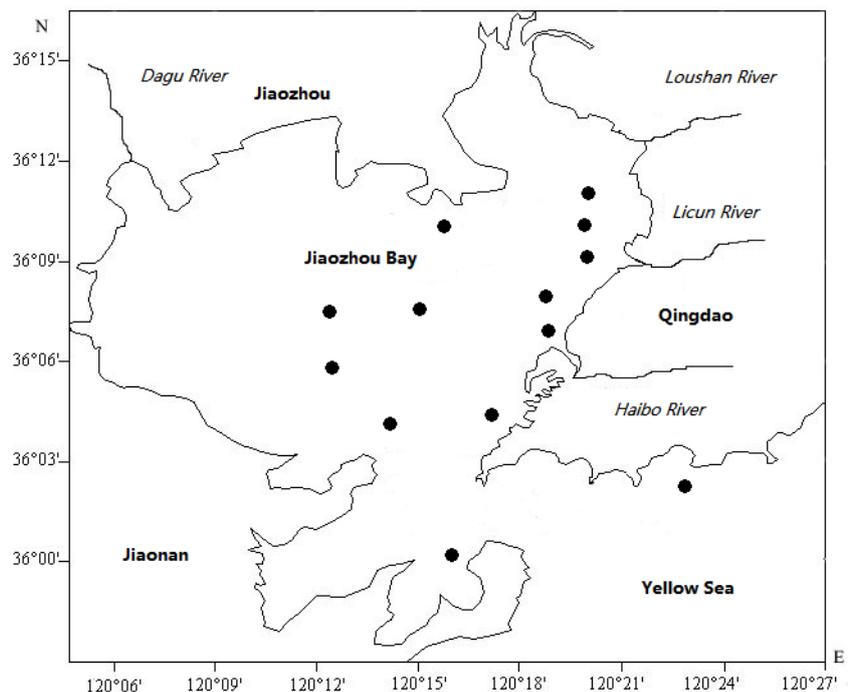


Figure 2. Geographic location of Jiaozhou Bay and monitoring sites in 1984-1987

Results and discussion

Annual changes of PHC

PHC contents in surface waters during 1984-1988 were 0.01-0.16 mgL⁻¹, 0.025-0.124 mgL⁻¹, 0.005-0.122 mgL⁻¹, 0.014-0.091 mgL⁻¹ and 0.005-0.178 mgL⁻¹, respectively. In the guidelines for PHC in Chinese Sea Water Quality Standard (GB 3097-1997), there are 4 classes of water quality: Class I (and II), III and IV (Table 1). PHC contents in surface waters in July, August and October 1984 were 0.050-0.060 mgL⁻¹, 0.090-0.160 mgL⁻¹ and 0.010-0.050 mgL⁻¹, and were Class I (and II), Class III and Class I (and II), respectively. PHC contents in surface waters in April, July and October 1985 were 0.025-0.064 mgL⁻¹, 0.059-0.124 mgL⁻¹ and 0.010-0.121 mgL⁻¹, belonged to Class I (and II), Class III and Class I (and II), respectively. PHC contents in surface waters in April, July and October 1986 were 0.005-0.066 mgL⁻¹, 0.022-0.122 mgL⁻¹ and 0.005-0.017 mgL⁻¹, belonged to Class I to III, Class I to III and Class I (and II), respectively. PHC contents in surface waters in May, July and November 1987 were 0.014-0.060 mgL⁻¹, 0.016-0.066 mgL⁻¹ and 0.030-0.091 mgL⁻¹, all ranging from Class I to III. PHC contents in surface waters in April, July and October 1988 were 0.014-0.064 mgL⁻¹, 0.005-0.178 mgL⁻¹ and 0.022-0.169 mgL⁻¹, all ranging from Class I to III. In general, the pollution level of PHC during 1984-1988 was moderate (Table 2) and was changing with seasons due to the seasonal variations of source input.

Table 1. Guidelines for PHC in Chinese Sea Water Quality Standard (GB 3097-1997)

Class	I (and II)	III	IV
Guideline	0.05	0.30	0.50

Table 2. Water quality of PHC in different seasons in Jiaozhou Bay 1984-1988

Year	Spring	Summer	Autumn
1984	-	I, II, III	I, II, III
1985	I, II, III	I, II, III	I, II, III
1986	I, II, III	I, II, III	I, II
1987	I, II, III	I, II, III	I, II, III
1988	I, II, III	I, II, III	I, II, III

Temporal changes of PHC

In the area of study, April, May and June belong to spring, July, August and September belong to summer, and October, November and December belong to autumn. During 1984-1988, PHC contents in spring, summer and autumn were 0.005-0.066 mgL⁻¹, 0.005-0.178 mgL⁻¹ and 0.005-0.169 mgL⁻¹, respectively. According to the high values, PHC contents in different seasons were in order of summer > autumn > spring. The high values of PHC contents in different seasons during 1984-1988 were showed in *Figure 3*. It could be seen that high values of PHC contents in spring during this period tended to be stable, yet in summer and autumn during this period tended to be increasing. In general, high values of PHC contents during 1984-1988 tended to be increasing. The seasonal changes of PHC contents indicated that the source inputs of PHC in this bay were relative high in summer and autumn yet was relatively low in spring. The reason was that summer and autumn were the wet seasons and a lot of PHC was discharged to Jiaozhou Bay via rainfall-runoff. Meanwhile, the atmospheric deposition of PHC to Jiaozhou Bay was increasing in the wet seasons. In according to the temporal changes of PHC contents in different seasons, it could be found that the pollution levels of PHC tended to be more and more serious along with time. It should be noticed that the low values of PHC contents during 1984-1988 were all closed to 0.005 mgL⁻¹, and this value could be considered as the ‘background’ value of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay. PHC contents in surface waters were directly impacted by source inputs and these trends indicated that the anthropogenic input of PHC was increasing along with the rapid development of industry around this bay, and the source control of PHC was essential to improve the water quality.

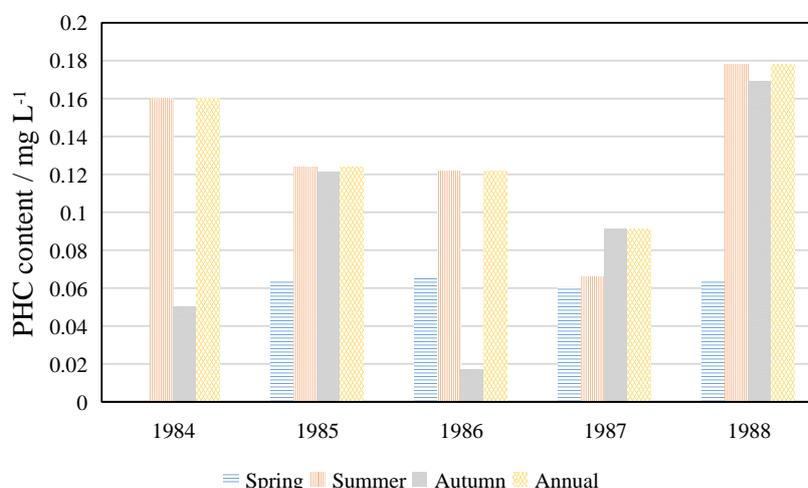


Figure 3. High values of PHC contents in different seasons in Jiaozhou Bay 1984-1988

Horizontal distributions of PHC

The contents of PHC in surface waters are mainly impacted by the source input, and the high-value regions are the key evidence to identify the sources. In July, August and October 1984, the high-value regions of PHC contents were in the estuary of the Haibo River (0.060 mgL^{-1}), the estuary of the Loushan River (0.160 mgL^{-1}) and the estuary of the Loushan River (0.050 mgL^{-1}), respectively. In April, July and October 1985, the high-value regions of PHC contents were in the estuary of the Licun River (0.064 mgL^{-1}), the estuary of the Haibo River (0.124 mgL^{-1}) and the estuary of the Licun River (0.121 mgL^{-1}), respectively. In April, July and October 1986, the high-value regions of PHC contents were in the estuary of the Loushan River (0.066 mgL^{-1}), open waters (0.122 mgL^{-1}) and the estuary of the Licun River (0.017 mgL^{-1}), respectively. In May, July and November 1987, the high-value regions of PHC contents were in the southwest coast (0.060 mgL^{-1}), the estuary of the Loushan River (0.066 mgL^{-1}) and the southwest coast (0.091 mgL^{-1}), respectively. In April, July and October 1988, the high-value regions of PHC contents were in the estuary of the Licun River (0.064 mgL^{-1}), the estuary of the Haibo River (0.178 mgL^{-1}) and the estuary of the Haibo River (0.169 mgL^{-1}), respectively.

Sources of PHC

In general, the horizontal distributions of PHC in surface waters are mainly impacted by the source input, and PHC contents are always decreasing along the way from the high-value regions towards areas far away. In July 1984, PHC contents were decreasing from the estuary of Haibo River in the northeast of the bay to the south of the bay (Fig. 4), indicating that stream discharge was one of the major sources. In April 1985, PHC contents were decreasing from the estuary of Licun River in the northeast of the bay to the south of the bay (Fig. 5), indicating that stream discharge was one of the major sources.

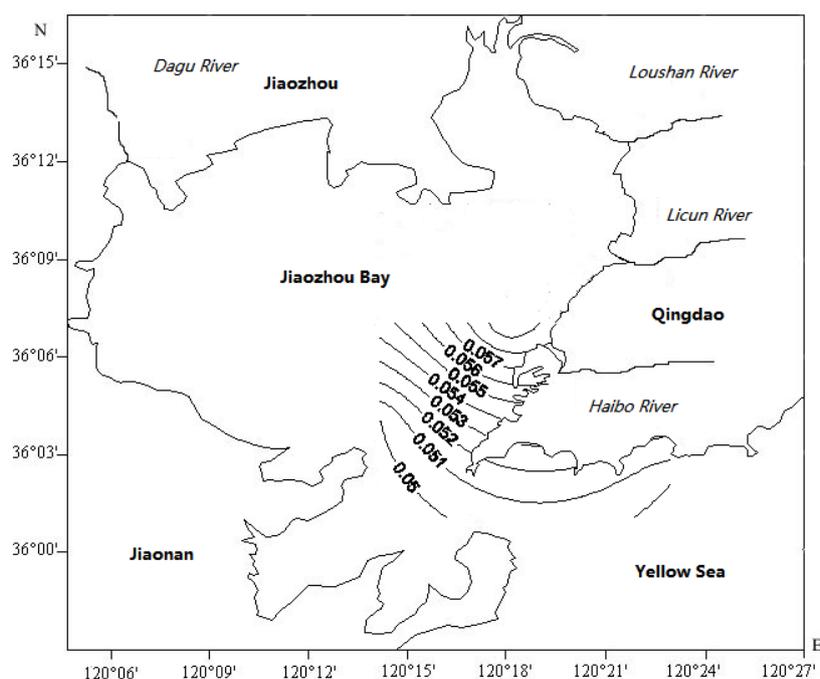


Figure 4. Horizontal distribution of PHC in surface waters in Jiaozhou Bay in July 1984/ mgL^{-1}

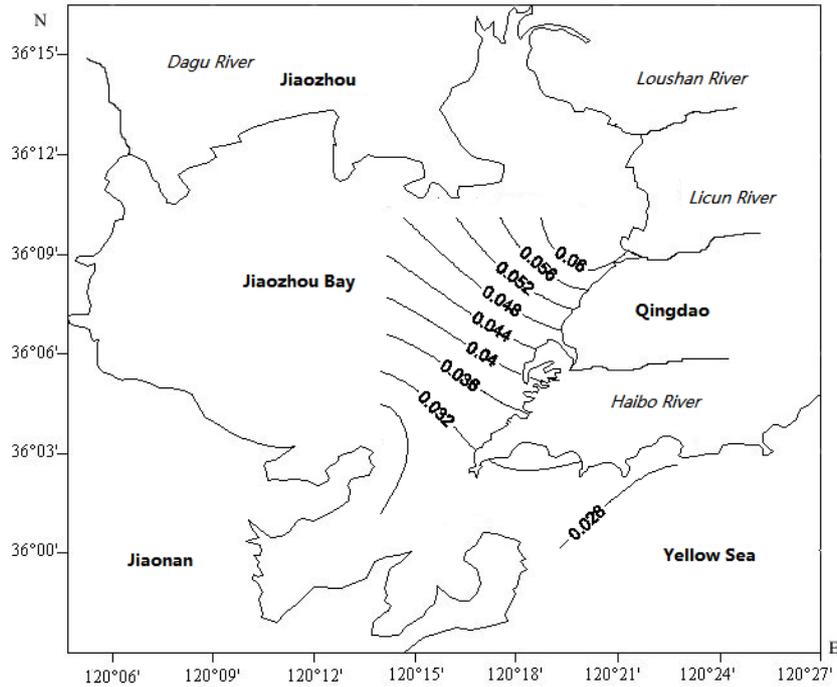


Figure 5. Horizontal distribution of PHC in surface waters in Jiaozhou Bay in April 1985/ mgL^{-1}

In July 1986, PHC contents were decreasing from the open waters to the inside of the bay (Fig. 6), indicating that marine current was one of the major sources. In November 1987, PHC contents were decreasing from the southwest coast where there was an important harbour to the northeast of the bay (Fig. 7), indicating that marine traffic was one of the major sources.

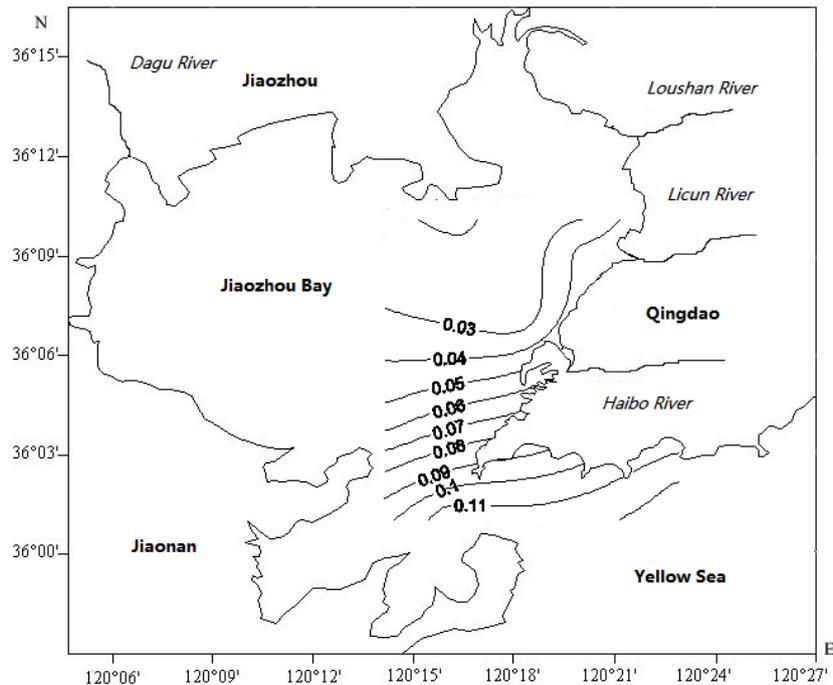


Figure 6. Horizontal distribution of PHC in surface waters in Jiaozhou Bay in July 1986/ mgL^{-1}

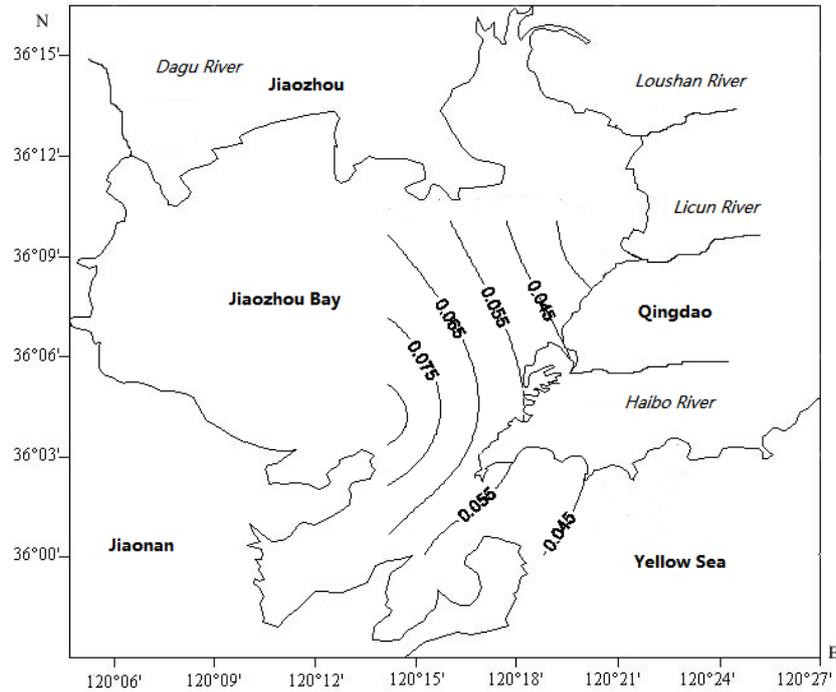


Figure 7. Horizontal distribution of PHC in surface waters in Jiaozhou Bay in November 1987/ mg L^{-1}

In July 1988, PHC contents were decreasing from the estuary of Haibo River to the center of the bay (Fig. 8), indicating that stream discharge was one of the major sources. In general, stream discharge was the major source of PHC, and marine traffic and the sea itself were also responsible (Table 3).

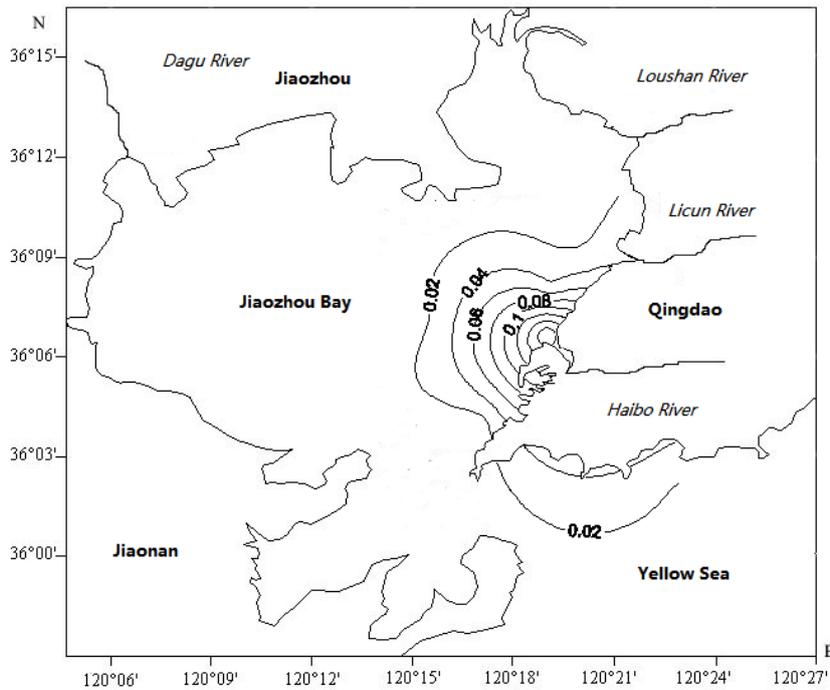


Figure 8. Horizontal distribution of PHC in surface waters in Jiaozhou Bay in July 1988/ mg L^{-1}

Table 3. Sources and source strengths of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay 1984-1988

Year	Month	Source	Source strength
1984	July	Haibo River	0.060
	August	Loushan River	0.160
	October	Loushan River	0.050
1985	April	Licun River	0.064
	July	Haibo River	0.124
	October	Licun River	0.121
1986	April	Loushan River	0.066
	July	Marine current	0.122
	October	Licun River	0.017
1987	May	Marine traffic	0.060
	July	Loushan River	0.066
	November	Marine traffic	0.091
1988	April	Licun River	0.064
	July	Haibo River	0.178
	October	Haibo River	0.169

Changes of PHC's sources

In 1984, the major source of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay was stream discharge, whose source strength was 0.05-0.16 mgL⁻¹. In 1985, the major source of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay was stream discharge, whose source strength was 0.064-0.124 mgL⁻¹. In 1986, the major sources of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay were stream discharge and marine current, whose source strength was 0.017-0.066 mgL⁻¹ and 0.122 mgL⁻¹, respectively. In 1987, the major sources of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay were stream discharge and marine traffic, whose source strength was 0.066 mg L⁻¹ and 0.060-0.091 mg-L⁻¹, respectively. In 1988, the major source of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay was stream discharge, whose source strength was 0.064-0.178 mgL⁻¹. In general, there were three sources of PHC, i.e., stream discharge, marine current and marine, and the source strength was still slight/moderate in according to Chinese Sea Water Quality Standard (GB 3097-1997) (Table 4). For annual changes, stream discharge was one of the major sources of PHC in every year, and the source strengths were increasing along with time. Hence, it could be concluded that PHC in this bay was mainly input from rainfall runoff. However, marine traffic had been one of the important sources since the 1980s, indicating that oil leaking from marine traffic should be paid attention to. Furthermore, the marine current was also one of the important sources, and the source strengths could be as high as 0.122 mg L⁻¹ during the 1980s. This indicated the ocean had been strongly impacted by anthropogenic source input of PHC. Once the ocean was polluted, the remediation of water quality would be a task and long-term work. As a whole, source control should be promoted.

Table 4. Pollution levels of PHC's sources in Jiaozhou Bay 1984-1988

Source	Stream discharge			Marine current	Marine traffic
	Loushan River	Licun River	Haibo River		
Source strength	0.050-0.160	0.017-0.121	0.060-0.178	0.122	0.060-0.091
Pollution level	Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate	Slight

During the period of study, the seasonal variation of precipitation was very significant (Fig. 9). The maximum and minimum amount of precipitation occurred in summer and winter, respectively. For monthly variations, the amount of precipitation was the lowest in in January (11.8 mm), and was increasing to a relatively high value in April (33.4 mm), and was reaching the maximum amount in August (150.3 mm), and then was decreasing to a relatively low in November (23.4), and finally was reaching the minimum in January in January again. In general, the periods of precipitation were in order of summer > spring > autumn > winter, resulting in a river discharge which was also in order of summer > spring > autumn > winter. Since rainfall runoff was the major force of various pollutants to the marine bay, the source input of PHC was also in order of summer > spring > autumn > winter. This was the major reason for the seasonal variations of PHC contents in Jiaozhou Bay.

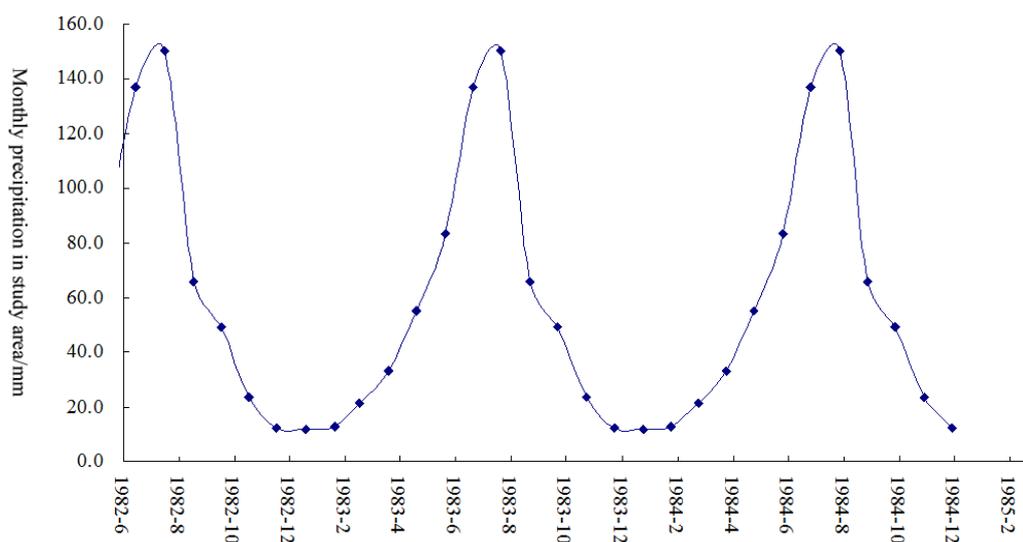


Figure 9. Monthly precipitation in study area/mm

Storage of PHC

In general, precipitation determined the river discharge, river discharge determined the source input of PHC, resulting in the seasonal variations of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay waters. By means of the continuous source input of PHC from river discharged, and the continuous accumulation of PHC in waters, a great deal of PHC was stored in Jiaozhou Bay, resulting in the increasing trend of PHC contents in waters. However, in 1987, PHC contents in waters were mainly impacted bay source input of marine traffic, resulting in different seasonal distribution patterns. In case of little source input, the background value of PHC in this bay was 0.005 mgL^{-1} , while in case of source input from marine current, the high-value was 0.122 mgL^{-1} . In consideration that the background value of PHC was 0.005 mgL^{-1} and the background value of PHC in marine was mgL^{-1} , the increase of PHC contents in the ocean could be calculated as $0.122 - 0.005 = 0.117 \text{ mgL}^{-1}$. This was the results of the storage of PHC in the ocean. Furthermore, a block diagram model was provided to demonstrate that PHC contents in marine waters were increasing continuously by means of continuous source input (Fig. 10). Hence, the control and management of anthropogenic source input of PHC in the marine bay were necessary.

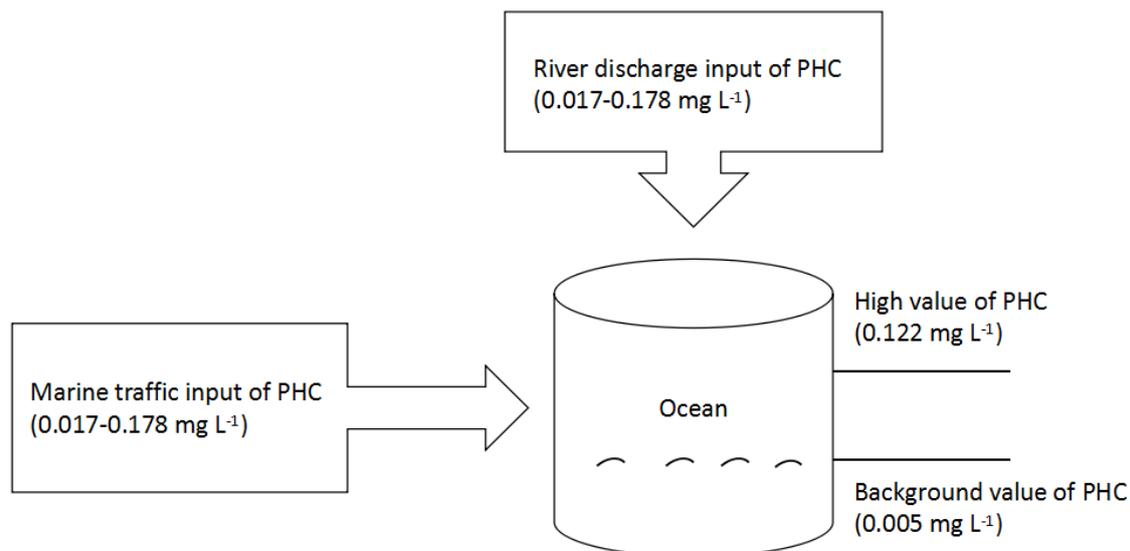


Figure 10. Block diagram model for the influence of PHC input on marine PHC content

Conclusion

PHC during 1984-1988 was 0.01-0.16 mgL⁻¹, 0.025-0.124 mgL⁻¹, 0.005-0.122 mgL⁻¹, 0.014-0.091 mgL⁻¹ and 0.005-0.178 mgL⁻¹, respectively. The pollution level of PHC during 1984-1988 was moderate and was changing with seasons due to the seasonal variations of source input. Low values of PHC contents during 1984-1988 were all closed to 0.005 mgL⁻¹, and these values could be considered as the 'background' values of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay. High values of PHC contents in spring during this period tends to be stable, yet in summer and autumn during this period were tending to be increasing. The pollution levels of PHC tends to be more and more serious along with time, and the source control of PHC is essential to improve the water quality.

The sources of PHC in Jiaozhou Bay during 1984-1988 were identified. Stream discharge was the major source of PHC, and marine traffic and marine were also responsible. The source strengths were still slight/moderate in according to Chinese Sea Water Quality Standard (GB 3097-1997). Stream discharge was one of the major sources of PHC in every year, and the source strengths were increasing along with time. PHC in this bay was mainly input from rainfall runoff. Marine traffic had been one of the important sources since the 1980s, indicated that oil leaking from marine traffic should be paid attention to. Marine current was also one of the important sources, and the source strengths could be as high as 0.122 mgL⁻¹ during the 1980s. Source control should be promoted.

Rainfall runoff was the major force of various pollutants to the marine bay, the source input of PHC was also in order of summer > spring > autumn > winter. This was the major reason for the seasonal variations of PHC contents in Jiaozhou Bay. The background value of PHC was 0.005 mgL⁻¹ and that in marine was mgL⁻¹, the increase of PHC contents in the ocean could be calculated as 0.122-0.005 = 0.117 mgL⁻¹. This was the results of the storage of PHC in the ocean. Furthermore, a block diagram model was provided to demonstrate that PHC contents in marine waters were increasing continuously by means of continuous source input. Hence, the control and management of anthropogenic source input of PHC in the marine were necessary.

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