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# Evaluation of atmospheric mercury in a mountainous area in Japan

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The aim of this study is to evaluate concentrations of atmospheric mercury by using monitoring data from Mt. Ibuki in Japan. Air was sampled continuously from 17 April to 17 December 2009. Gaseous mercury concentrations fluctuated between 0.77 $ngm^{-3}$ to 9.81 $ngm^{-3}$ with mean of 2.06 $ngm^{-3}$, which is significantly higher than global background. We used a back-trajectory calculation to determine the likely source of the Hg. The air mass we measured came from China whenever gaseous mercury concentration was very high level.
Our observations suggest that Hg concentrations rise in Japan when air masses are transported by wind from China to Japan.