

Review of: "Probabilistic Assessment of the Heavy Metal Pollution in Debrecen's Topsoil"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The study is very well conducted with detailed methodology. However, if there could be statistical analysis (e.g., Analysis of Variance, ANOVA) to check spatial variation, that would be great. I like the new approach "ArcGIS Pro was used to analyze the spatial distribution of the heavy metals by applying kriging interpolation and stochastic simulation (Gaussian simulation)."

In "Fig. 2. Spatial distribution maps for the heavy metal concentration: expected type estimation," can there be a possibility to show the different metals with different colours? It looks the same???

In "'Fig. 3. Spatial continuity of the heavy metals" : the spatial model is very nice, but is there a way to put all the metals (compile also in one map) to see the spatial trend with various colours?

It is good that you have compared the measured metals with the natural geological background; can you also compare with other soils or sediment guidelines within your region?

In "'Table 3. Pollutant and trace element characteristics in the top soil of Debrecen, you have shown the PCA," is there a possibility to provide graphs of PCA also for a better visualisation?

The work is great, and with minor revisions, should be accepted for publication.