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Geochemical studies in water bodies of Western Paraguay

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Minor and trace elements composition of bottom sediments from water bodies in Western Paraguay have been investigated by XRF techniques to determine their correlation as well as provenance. The analysis of complex spectra was performed by the AXIL software and the quantitative analysis by the QAES software. Analysed trace elements were refractories Rb, Ba, Nb, La, Ce, Sr, Nd, Zr, Y and other HFSE as Cr, Ni, Cu, together with Zn. Minor elements were Ti, Mn, Fe which are often to the above refractories related. According to their normalized spidergrams two set of sediments can be differentiated. Those from Pilcomayo and Verde Rivers as well as from km 165 Wetland show LREE enrichment, negative Nb and Ti anomalies and no spike at Zr. On the other hand, sediments from Confuso, Jehe, Negro, and Montelindo Rivers have spidergrams very alike, with strong negative anomaly at Nb, Nd and Ti whereas a positive at Zr. Further, in the former there is a strong correlation of Fe versus refractories; such a correlation does not exist in the latter.

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