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Testing landscape, climate and lithology impact on carbon, major and trace elements of the Lena River and its tributaries during a spring flood period

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Abstract: Transport of carbon, major and trace element by rivers in permafrost-affected regions is one of the key factor of circumpolar aquatic ecosystem response to climate warming and permafrost thaw. While seasonal and annual export fluxes (yields) of carbon (C) and inorganic solutes are fairly well known for all large Arctic rivers, spatial variations in elementary concentration along the river length and among its tributaries remain poorly understood. Moreover, the landscape factors controlling riverine element concentration in permafrost-affected regions are still poorly constrained. This is especially true for the largest river of Eastern Siberia, the Lena River, which drains through continuous permafrost zones with highly variable lithology and vegetation. Here we present the results of C, major and trace element measurements over a 2600-km transect of the Lena River main stem (upper and middle reaches) including its 30 tributaries, conducted at the peak of the spring flood. There were two main group of solutes in the main stem depending on their spatial pattern: *i*) elements that decreased their concentrations downstream, from SW to NE (Cl, SO₄, DIC, Li, B, Na, Mg, K, Ca, As, Sr, Mo, Sb, Ba and U), which probably reflected a decrease in the proportion of carbonate rocks in the watershed and the degree of groundwater feeding, and *ii*) elements that increased their concentrations downstream (Al, Ti, Cr, Fe, Ga, Rb, Y, Zr, Nb, Cs, REEs, Hf and Th), which was tentatively linked to an increase in organic C stock in soils, larch forest coverage and enhanced mobilization of lithogenic elements from silicate soil minerals.

Based on landscape parameters of Lena tributaries, we tested the impact of major environmental factors on major and trace element spatial pattern. Among all the variables, the proportion of sporadic permafrost on the watershed strongly controlled concentrations of soluble highly mobile elements (Cl, B, DIC, Li, Na, K, Mg, Ca, Sr, Mo, As and U). Another important factor of element concentration control in the Lena River tributaries was the coverage of watershed by light (B, Cl, Na, K, U) and deciduous (Fe, Ni, Zn, Ge, Rb, Zr, La, Th) needle-leaf forest (pine and larch). The latter, however, could also reflect the DOC-enhanced transport of low-soluble trace elements in the NW part of the basin. This part of the basin is dominated by silicate rocks and continuous permafrost, as compared to carbonate rock-dominated and groundwater-affected SW part of the Lena River basin.

Overall, the impact of rock lithology and permafrost on major and trace solutes of the Lena River basin during the peak of spring flood was mostly detected at the scale of the main stem. Such an impact for tributaries was much less pronounced, because of the dominance of surface flow and lower hydrological connectivity with deep groundwater in the latter. Future changes in the river water chemistry linked to climate warming and permafrost thaw at the scale of the whole river basin are likely to be linked to changes in spatial pattern of dominant vegetation, rather than to the permafrost regime. We argue that comparable studies of large, permafrost-impacted rivers during most contrasting seasons, including winter baseflow, should allow efficient prediction of future changes in riverine 'inorganic' hydrochemistry induced by permafrost thaw.

Keywords: river, hydrochemistry, permafrost, forest, landscape, lithology, carbonate rocks, trace element, major element

1. Introduction

The climate warming, permafrost thaw, change of hydrological connectivity and northward shift of tree line currently observed in northern Eurasia and throughout the Arctic and subarctic regions [1,2] are anticipated to result in massive carbon (C), nutrients, major and trace elements mobilization from permafrost soils and groundwaters to the rivers and further to the Arctic Ocean [3-5]. Large Arctic rivers are the main players of element delivery from the land to the ocean, which becomes especially important during climate warming and permafrost thaw because such rivers integrate large areas of essentially pristine permafrost and forested regions. As a result, assessment of lateral riverine export fluxes of organic and inorganic solutes in permafrost-affected regions is needed for constraining adequate models of ecosystem functioning under various climate change scenario [6].

The Lena River of Central and Eastern Siberia is located almost entirely within a permafrost zone, exhibits the highest seasonal variation in water flow, and demonstrates annual discharge increase over past decades [7-15]. Among all the solutes transported by the Lena River water, organic carbon received most attention [16-22] although some information on general hydrochemistry is also available [23-30]. Most recently, novel isotopic approaches were applied for nutrients [31] and trace metals such as Li [32] and Fe [33]. However, the majority of these studies were performed during summer-autumn baseflow or the end of spring flood (July - September) whereas the peak of spring flood, when the main part of annual riverine transport of solutes in high latitude occurs [34-37], has not been sufficiently studied. The exception is regular (monthly to weekly) monitoring of the Lena River terminal gauging station at Kysyr, performed by the Russian Hydrological Survey and within the PARTNERS/ ARCTIC GRO projects [35, 38]. Furthermore, in contrast to this extensive research on carbon and major element transport by the Lena River main stem, its tributaries remain very poorly known. Thus, no detailed hydrochemical studies at the peak of spring flood were performed and the understanding of various contrasting tributaries of the Lena River remains quite poor. Taken together, our knowledge of environmental factors controlling the major and trace element concentration in the Lena River basin during most crucial hydrological period of the year remains quite limited and thus deserves special attention. In particular, distinguishing the role of groundwater feeding and surface influx (vegetation, organic topsoil and mineral soil leaching) to the river remains one of the main challenges in understanding the mechanisms of solute flux formation in high latitude rivers. Here we suggest to use a landscape approach to unravel the role of different environmental factors for the Lena River basin, taking the advantage of recent progress in GIS-based mapping of Siberian territory [39, 40]. We anticipate that this information should allow, for the first time, testing the impact of main physio-geographical factors (vegetation, soil, lithology, climate and permafrost coverage) on spatial pattern of major and minor solutes at the scale of a large Siberian river.

Based on the bulk of information acquired by previous chemical and isotopic work on major and trace elements in boreal and permafrost-affected rivers [41-47], we hypothesize that during spring flood, the impact of lithology (which is reflected via deep subsoil waters and groundwater feeding) will be quite low and the river water chemical composition will be dominated by surficial flow originated from water leaching of organic topsoil and vegetation litter. In order to test this hypothesis, we sampled the main stem of the Lena River and its 30 representative tributaries at the peak of the springflood and we analyzed dissolved (< 0.45 μ m) major and trace components of the riverwater. We aimed at identifying environmental factors controlling element transport in the Lena River basin in order to use this knowledge for foreseeing future changes in elemental export from the land to the Arctic Ocean.

2. Study Site, Materials and Methods

2.1. The Lena River and its tributaries

The sampled Lena River main stem and its 20 tributaries are located along a 2400 km latitudinal transect from SW to NE and include watersheds of distinct sizes, geomorphology, permafrost extent, lithology, climate and vegetation (**Fig. 1, S1; Table S1**). The total watershed area of the rivers sampled in this work is about 1.66 million km², representing 66% of the entire Lena River basin. Permafrost is mostly continuous except some patches of discontinuous and sporadic in the southern and south-western parts of the Lena basin [48]. The mean annual air temperatures (MAAT) along the transect range from -5 °C in the southern part of the Lena basin to -9 °C in the central part of the basin. For the studied part of the main stem, the MAAT is -8.76±2.95 °C, whereas the range of MAAT for the tributaries is from -4.7 to -15.9 °C. The mean annual precipitation ranges from 350-500 mm y-1 in the southern and south-western part of the basin to 200-250 mm y-1 in the central and northern parts [49]. The mean precipitation of the studied Lena River basin and its 20 tributaries is 418 ±77 mm y-1. The lithology of the Siberian Platform which is drained by the Lena River is highly diverse and includes Archean and Proterozoic

crystalline and metamorphic rocks, late Proterozoic, Cambrian and Ordovician dolostones and limestones, volcanic rocks of Permo-Triassic age and essentially terrigenous silicate sedimentary rocks of the Phanerozoic. Further description of the Lena River basin landscapes, vegetation and lithology can be found in numerous works [18,20,23-25,30,50].

The peak of annual discharge depends on the latitude and occurs in May in the south (Ust-Kut) and in June in the middle and low reaches of the Lena River (Yakutsk, Kysyr). From May 29 to June 17, 2016, we moved downstream the Lena River with an average speed of 30 km h⁻¹ [51]. As such, we followed the progression of spring and moved from the south-west (Zhigalovo) to the north-east (Yakutsk) thus collecting the river water at approximately the same stage of maximal discharge. Note that route sampling is a common way to assess river water chemistry in extreme environments [23,52], and generally, a single sampling during high flow season provides the best agreement with time-series estimates [53]. Regular stops each 80-100 km at the middle of the river allowed sampling for major hydrochemical parameters of the main stem. We also moved 500-1500 m upstream of selected tributaries where we sampled the tributary for river hydrochemistry.

In addition to 20 tributaries of the main stem, in May 29-31, 2016, we sampled 10 rivers belonging to the Lena River watershed (mostly middle part and upper reaches of Aldan). For this, we used road transportation and we moved at least 500 m upstream each river where it crossed the bridge for grab water sample 2 m offshore.

2.2. Hydrochemical measurements

The water temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, and electric conductivity in the main stem and tributaries were measured directly in the field using Hanna and WTW portable instruments. The water was sampled in pre-cleaned polypropylene bottle from 20-30 cm depth in the middle of the river and immediately filtered through disposable single-use sterile Sartorius filter units (0.45 µm pore size). The first 50 mL of filtrate was discarded. Filtered river waters were processed using the analytical approaches employed by the GET Laboratory (Toulouse) to analyze DOM-rich waters from boreal and permafrost-bearing settings [54,55]. The major anion concentrations (Cl⁻ and SO₄²⁻) were analyzed by ion chromatography (Dionex 2000i), with an uncertainty of 2%. The DOC and Dissolved Inorganic Carbon (DIC) were determined by a Shimadzu TOC-VSCN Analyzer with an uncertainty of 3% and a detection limit of 0.1 mg/L. The major and trace elements were measured by quadrupole ICP-MS (7500ce, Agilent Technologies). Indium and rhenium were used as internal standards. The international geostandard SLRS-5 (Riverine Water Reference Material for Trace Metals, certified by the National Research Council of Canada) was used to check the validity and reproducibility of analyses. Good agreement existed between our replicated measurements of SLRS-5 and the certified values (relative difference < 15%).

2.3. Landscape parameters of the Lena River basin and data treatment

The physio-geographical characteristics of the 20 Lena tributaries and other 10 rivers of the Lena River basin sampled in this study and the two points of the Lena main stem (upstream and downstream r. Aldan Table S1 of the Supplement) were determined by digitalizing available soil, vegetation, lithological, and geocryological maps. The landscape parameters were typified using TerraNorte Database of Land Cover of Russia ([39], http://terranorte.iki.rssi.ru). This included various type of forest (evergreen, deciduous, needleleaf/broadleaf), grassland, tundra, wetlands, water bodies and urban area. The climate and permafrost parameters of watershed were obtained from CRU grids data (1950-2016) and NCSCD data, respectively, whereas the biomass and soil organic carbon content was obtained from BIOMASAR2 and NCSCD databases. The lithological composition of bedrocks was taken from State Geological Map of Russia with a resolution of 1:1,000,000 (VSEGEI, 2020, http://www.geolkarta.ru/). To test the effect of carbonate rocks on dissolved C parameters, we distinguished acidic crystalline, terrigenous silicate rocks (generally Archean, early Proterozoic and Cainozoic age) and dolostones and limestones of upper Proterozoic, Cambrian and Ordovician age.

The Pearson rank order correlation coefficient (Rs) (p <0.05) was used to determine the relationship between each major and trace element concentrations and climatic, lithological and landscape parameters of the Lena River tributaries. Further statistical treatment of element concentration drivers in river waters included a Principal Component Analysis which allowed to test the effect of various environmental factors of the watershed on behavior of riverine solutes in both the Lena River main stem and its tributaries.

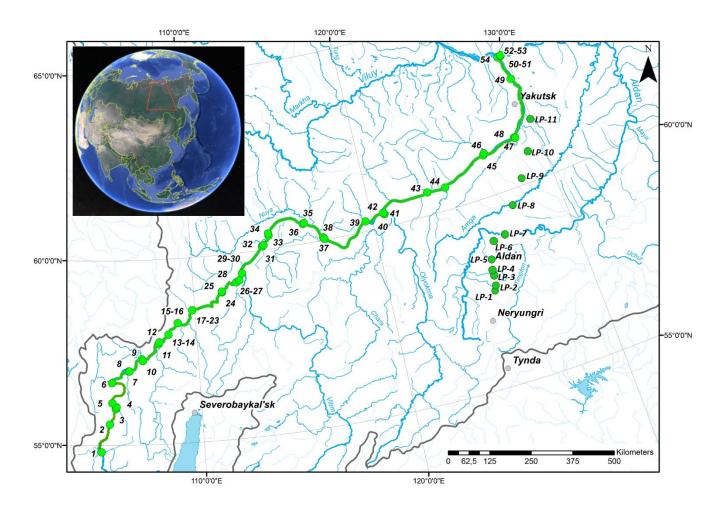


Fig 1. Map of the studied part of the Lena River basin with sampling points of the main stem and tributaries.

3. Results

3.1. Element concentration in the main stem of the Lena River

All measured hydrochemical parameters of the Lena River and tributaries are available from the Mendeley database repository [56]. The concentrations of major and trace elements in the main steam averaged over 2600 km distance are listed in **Table 1**. For a number of elements, the greatest changes occurred between first 0-800 (±200) km (upstream of Kirenga / Chaika) and the remaining 800 - 2600 km downstream to the Aldan River. These two parts of the river transect reflect sizable change in the lithology of rocks, landscape and climate and distinguish upper reaches and the middle course of the Lena River.

According to element behavior along the Lena River main stem, from Zhigalovo to Aldan (2600 km downstream), three groups of solutes could be distinguished: i) Cl, SO₄, DIC, Li, B, Na, Mg, K, Ca, As, Sr, Mo, Sb, Ba and U, decreasing the concentration from SW to NE (**Fig. 2**); ii) Al, Ti, Cr, Fe, Ga, Rb, Y, Zr, Nb, Cs, REEs, Ce, Hf, Th, increasing their concentration from SW to NE (**Fig. 3**); and finally iii) DOC, Si, P, V, Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Ge, Cd, Hf and Pb, which did not exhibit any statistically significant dependence (r < 0.3, p < 0.05) on the river distance (**Fig. 4**). The Mann-Whitney test demonstrated significant (p < 0.001) difference in most element concentration between the SW part of the Lena main stem (upper reaches, 0-800 km) and its middle course (800 km - Aldan River), as listed in **Table S2** of the Supplement. The exceptions are DOC, P, Cr, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Ge, Y, Zr, Cd, heavy REE, Hf and Pb which did not show statistically significant differences.

Table 1. Major and trace element concentration (average \pm s.d.) in the Lena River main stem. The distances are on the river, starting from Zhigalovo (the Lena River headwaters).

	Upper reaches 0 - 804 km	Middle course 804 - 2600 km
T _{air} , °C	21.9±1.3	19.6±0.65
T _{water} , °C	11.9±0.4	9.6±0.3
O ₂ , mg L ⁻¹	6.1±0.1	6.3±0.05
рН	8.0±0.1	7.640.03
S.C., µS cm ⁻¹	226±17	99.7±5.9
Depth, m	3.8±0.554	7.5±0.63
CI mg L ⁻¹	13.7±0.89	9.2±1.1
SO₄ mg L ⁻¹	17.9±2.0	6.42±0.36
DOC, mg L ⁻¹	11.0±1.0	9.36±0.34
DIC, mg L ⁻¹	15.3±1.8	5.3±0.19
Li, μg L ⁻¹	2.87±0.32	1.08±0.07
B, μg L ⁻¹	8.9±0.93	3.2±0.39
Na, μg L ⁻¹	10400±595	6770±738
Mg, μg L ⁻¹	7203±858	2331±109
Al, μg L ⁻¹	69.3±8.6	117±5.8
Si, µg L ⁻¹	1970±40	1804±18.5
P, μg L ⁻¹	11.6±2.2	6.38±0.43
K, μg L ⁻¹	651±46	483±8.6
Ca, µg L ⁻¹	24800±3090	8440±264
Ti, μg L ⁻¹	7.95±0.97	10.2±0.67
V, μg L ⁻¹	1.17±0.10	0.689±0.06
Cr, μg L ⁻¹	0.33±0.075	0.45±0.05
Mn, μg L ⁻¹	8.54±1.2	4.79±0.23
Fe, μg L ⁻¹	80.0±7.6	85.7±3.8
Co, μg L ⁻¹	0.059±0.004	0.058±0.003
Ni, μg L ⁻¹	0.41±0.08	0.54±0.05
Cu, µg L ⁻¹	1.2±0.13	1.1±0.05
Zn, μg L ⁻¹	3.38±0.36	4.6±0.5
Ga, μg L ⁻¹	0.012±0.0016	0.0164±0.0009
Ge, µg L ⁻¹	0.0073±0.0005	0.0076±0.0003
As, μg L ⁻¹	0.338±0.03	0.171±0.005
Rb, μg L ⁻¹	0.35±0.058	0.66±0.019
Sr, μg L ⁻¹	254±39	66.8±3.6
Υ, μg L ⁻¹	0.372±0.038	0.422±0.005
Zr, μg L ⁻¹	0.189±0.02	0.167±0.007
Nb, μg L ⁻¹	0.022±0.003	0.038±0.0026
Mo, μg L ⁻¹	0.416±0.02	0.251±0.018
Cd, μg L ⁻¹	0.0093±0.0008	0.0099±0.001
Sb, µg L ⁻¹	0.0242±0.0014	0.0155±0.0007
Cs, µg L ⁻¹	0.0019±0.0003	0.003±0.0003
Ba, µg L ⁻¹	33.68±3.906	10.29±0.488
La, µg L ⁻¹	0.402±0.085	1.02±0.07

Table 1, continued.

Ce. ua L ⁻¹	0.39±0.07	1.02±0.04

Pr, μg L ⁻¹	0.09±0.02	0.17±0.003
Nd, μg L ⁻¹	0.36±0.06	0.629±0.01
Sm, µg L ⁻¹	0.0867±0.01	0.119±0.002
Eu, μg L ⁻¹	0.018±0.002	0.019±0.0004
Gd, µg L ⁻¹	0.0763±0.0099	0.105±0.0012
Tb, μg L ⁻¹	0.0115±0.0014	0.014±0.00016
Dy, μg L ⁻¹	0.0662±0.0075	0.0785±0.001
Ho, μg L ⁻¹	0.0127±0.0014	0.0146±0.00023
Er, μg L ⁻¹	0.0361±0.0041	0.0414±0.00049
Tm, μg L ⁻¹	0.00474±0.00056	0.00575±0.0001
Yb, μg L ⁻¹	0.0312±0.0035	0.0374±0.00063
Lu, µg L ⁻¹	0.00446±0.00049	0.00537±0.00010
Hf, μg L ⁻¹	0.0326±0.0047	0.0259±0.0009
Pb, μg L ⁻¹	0.065±0.011	0.0807±0.0066
Th, μg L ⁻¹	0.0243±0.004	0.059±0.0043
U, μg L ⁻¹	0.310±0.02	0.256±0.004

A linear (Pearson) pairwise correlation between solutes in the main stem demonstrated three potential interlinked carriers and sources of dissolved elements in the river water (**Table S3** of the Supplement). First, this is DOC, which positively correlated with Li, B, Mg, P, K, Ca, V, Ni, Cu, As, Zr, Sb, Ba, Hf and U. The second potential carrier and source tracer is Fe which correlated with largest number of trace elements (Si, P, Ti, V, Mn, Co, Ga, Y, Zr, Nb, Cs, REEs, Hf and Th). Only a few elements were significantly (p < 0.05) linked to both DOC and Fe (P, V, Zr, Hf). Aluminium most strongly correlated with Ti, Ga, Rb, Y, Nb, Cs, all REE, and Th.

3.2. Dissolved elementary composition of tributaries of the Lena basin: Impact of permafrost, climate, vegetation, soil and landscape on major and trace element concentration

The Lena River tributaries exhibited strong variability of dissolved elementary composition, independent on river size and its location within the main river basin. A Pearson correlation of solutes in the tributaries demonstrated three groups of elements depending on their link to potential carriers (or common source) in the river water (**Table S3** of the Supplement). Similar to the main stem, DOC positively correlated (R_{Pearson} > 0.5) with Si, P, K, V, Cr, Ni, Cu, As, Y, Zr, Sb, HREE, Hf, Th. Dissolved Fe strongly correlated with Si, P, Ti, Cr, Co, Ni, Cu, Ge, As, Rb, Y, Zr, Cd, Sb, La, heavy REE, Hf and Th, but preferentially (higher than DOC) correlated with P, Ti, Cr, Ni, Ge, Th. Finally, Al most strongly correlated with Ti, Cr, Ga, Nb, Cs, REE, (from Ce to Er) and Th. Alike for the main stem, a number of elements were significantly (p < 0.05) linked to both DOC and Fe (Si, P, Ti, Cr, Cu, As, Y, Zr, Sb, HREE, and Th).

To test the impact of physio-geographical parameters on the hydrochemistry of the Lena River tributaries, a correlation matrix of element concentration with climate, permafrost, vegetation coverage and lithology was constructed (Table S4). These correlations allowed to reveal several environmental factors that are likely to control elemental composition of various rivers of the Lena Basin. The first important factor was the vegetation, namely the coverage of watershed by light (Li, B, Cl, SO₄, Na, V, Sr, U) and decidious (Si, Ni, Ge, Zr, Hf, Th) needle-leaf forest and the broadleaf forest (DOC, Cl, SO₄, Li, Na, Si, Ca, Ti, V, Co, Ge, Sr, Cd, some heavy REE (Er, Yb), Hf and U) as illustrated in Fig. 5. The humid grassland coverage of the watershed increased the concentrations of low-mobile elements such as Al, Ga, light REE, and also relatively labile Cs, Ba, Pb, U. Among other environmental variables, the proportion of sporadic permafrost strongly controlled the concentration of soluble highly mobile elements such as Cl, B, Na, Sr, Mo, and U, whereas the presence of carbonate rocks of the watershed provided elevated concentration of DIC, Mo, Ba and U (Fig. 6). It is important to note that other potentially important landscape factors of the river watershed (riparian vegetation, tundra, water bodies, peatlands, recent burns, proportion of peatland and bogs, tundra coverage, total aboveground phytomass, OC stock in the upper 0-100 cm of soil, mean annual temperature and precipitation) did not significantly impacted major and trace element concentration in the Lena River tributaries (Table S4).

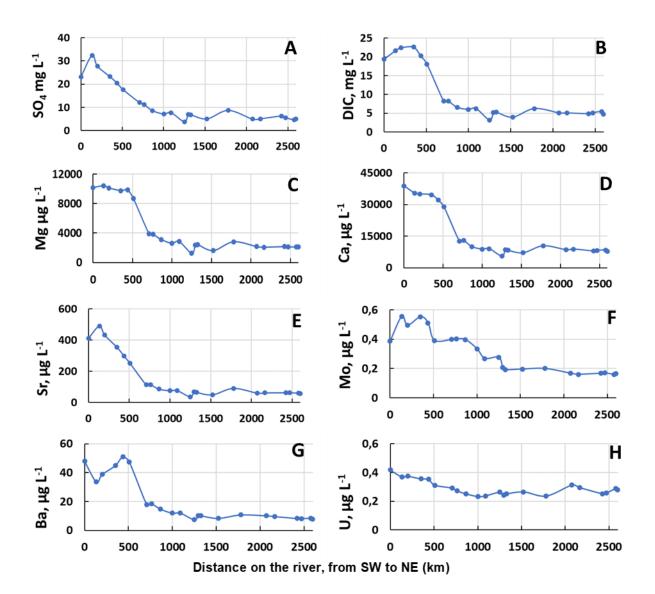


Figure 2. Examples of elements decreasing their concentration in the main stem of the Lena River from SW to NE: SO4 (A), DIC (B), Mg (C), Ca (D), Sr (E), Mo (F) Ba (G) and U (H) The distance is km of river from Zhigalovo (0 km, upper reaches) to the Aldan River (~2600 km)

The relationships between river water chemistry and landscape parameters of the watersheds were further examined using a multi-parametric statistics. The PCA demonstrated the presence of two factors capable to explain only 32 % of total variability in element concentration and landscape parameters of the watersheds (Fig. S2). The first factor was positively linked to broadleaf forest and humid grassland coverage of the watershed and included Al, Fe, Ti, Cr, Ni, Ga, Y, Zr, Nb, Zr, REEs, Hf and Th. In the 2nd factor, the presence of light needle-leaf, mixed forest, percentage of sporadic permafrost coverage and carbonate rock on the watershed controlled the distribution of mobile elements such as Li, B, Si, Na, Mg, Ca, K, V, Sr, Ba, Mo, As, Sb and U.

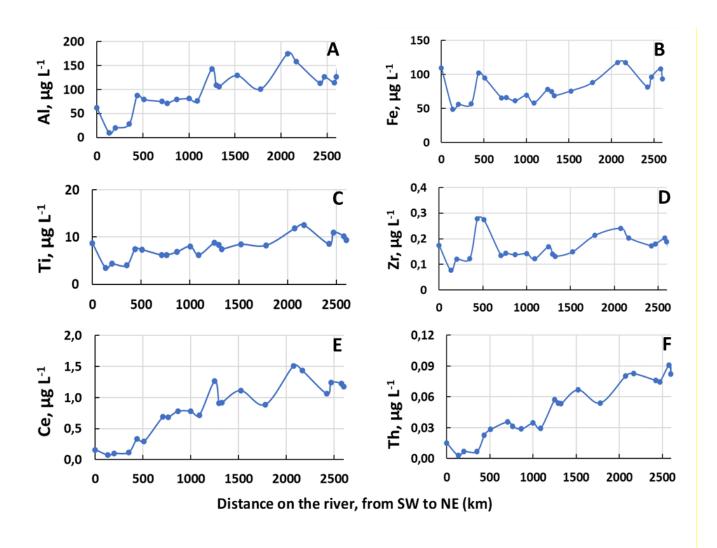


Figure 3. Examples of elements increasing their concentration in the main stem of the Lena River from SW to NE: Al (A), Fe (B), Ti (C), Zr (D), Ce (E) and Th (F). The distance is km of river from Zhigalovo (0 km, upper reaches) to the Aldan River (2600 km)

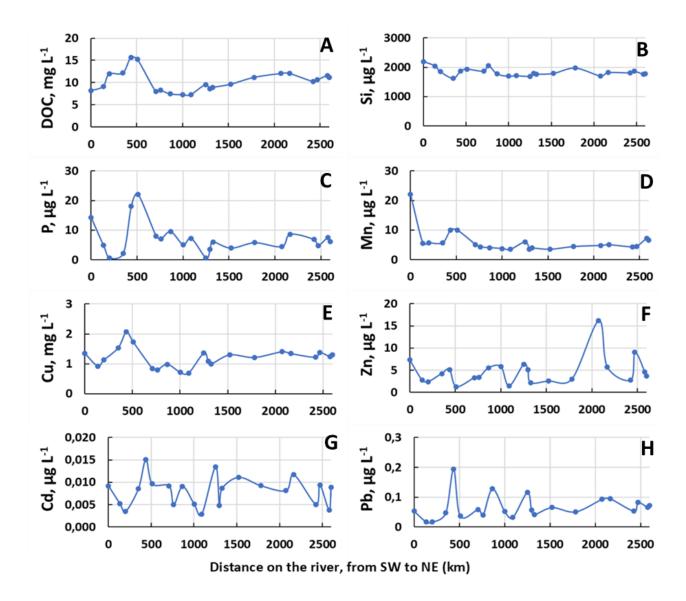


Figure 4. Examples of elements not exhibiting any concentration trend in the main stem of the Lena River from SW to NE: DOC (A), Si (B), P (C), Mn (D), Cu (E), Zn (F), Cd (G) and Pb (H). The distance is km of river from Zhigalovo (0 km, upper reaches) to the Aldan River (2600 km).

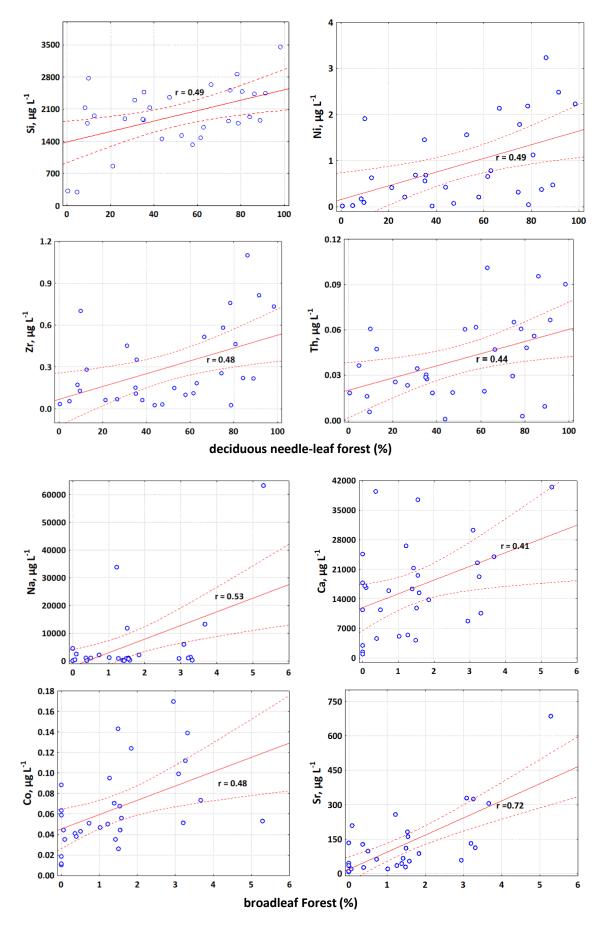


Figure 5. Significant (p < 0.05) positive control of landscape parameters – percentage of deciduous needle-leaf forest (Si, Ni, Zr, Th) and broadleaf forest (Na, Ca, Co, Sr) on element concentration in the Lena River tributaries.

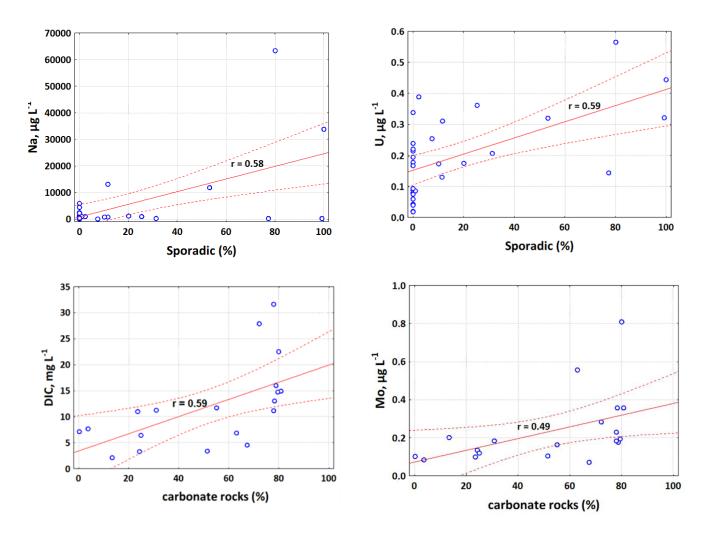


Figure 6. Significant (p < 0.05) positive control of permafrost distribution – percentage of sporadic permafrost coverage (Na and U) and lithology of rocks - percentage of carbonate rocks (DIC, Mo) on element concentration in the Lena River tributaries.

4. Discussion

4.1. Comparison with other data on element concentration in the Lena River and its tributaries

For the Lena River main stem, there are several occasional measurements of the major river solutes in the middle course obtained during summer baseflow. During spring flood in June, we observed generally lower concentrations of Si (less than a factor of 2) compared to July-August period [27], and also lower (less than x 2) concentrations of Ca, Mg, Sr, SO₄ but comparable concentrations of Na and Cl to those reported in the Yakutks-Kyusur region [29]. The Kyusur gauging state average Ba concentration 18 µg L-¹, [57]) is comparable with our data for the Lena main stem in the Yakutsk region. However, in general, the regular monitoring of the Lena River hydrochemistry at its terminal gauging station of Kyusur by Russian Hydrological Survey [58], and more recently, via PARTNERS and ARCTIC GRO projects [35, 38] cannot be directly compared with our most northern sampling point (Yakutsk and the vicinity of the Aldan River) because there are substantial changes in the Lena River flow and landscape context over its last 800 km, from Yakutsk to the Lena delta. The most recent and complete data set on the upper and middle course of the Lena River, southwest of Aldan, is provided by works of group of Porcelli and Andersson [31-33]. There was full consistency in Li, Na, K, Si, Al and Fe dissolved concentrations measured in this study in June and reported by these authors in July-August (range of 0.5-2, 10 to 1000, 500 to 900, 1700 to 2300, 70 to 140, and 50 to 130 µg L-¹, respectively). Overall, this comparison demonstrates rather stable concentrations over large spatial and temporal range, with maximal variability of a factor of 2 to 3. Such a

similarity of hydrochemical composition of the main strem during quite contrasting seasons (spring flood and summer baseflow) is noteworthy, given the 5-fold variation in the discharge.

For the Lena river tributaries, the most comprehensive data set on major ions, Si and Sr was acquired in July-August of 1991-1996 by Huh and Edmond's group [23-25]. The following rivers could be quantitatively compared with those sampled in this work: Buotama (No 18), Tuolba (No 16), Siniaya (No 17), Olekma (No 14), Chuya (No 7), Orlinga (No 1), Tayura (No 3), Nuya (No 11), Vitim (No 8), Bolshoi Patom (No 12), Bolshoi Nimnyr (LP 3), and Amga (LP 8). For most of these rivers, the concentrations of Ca, Mg, and DIC were a factor of 3 to 15 lower during spring food compared to summer baseflow. The concentrations of Na, Cl and SO4 were typically 3 to 10 times lower, especially in the upper reaches (SW part) of the Lena basin, where the underground waters can bear the signature of Cambrian and Ordovician salt deposits. These waters are mostly pronounced in summer baseflow and only partially during spring flood; for example, Ichera, exhibiting 10 times higher NaCl concentration compared to other rivers (see database [56]). The impact of salty springs on the river water chemistry in SW part of the Lena basin (the Northern Baikal region) is fairly well known [59,60]. Noteworthy rather similar (< 30% difference) concentration of K in all rivers sampled during spring flood (this study) and summer baseflow [23-25], despite significant dilution, expected during high flow. A likely cause could be K leaching from terrestrial vegetation and silicate river suspended matter; both are the highest during spring flood as it is known from other permafrost Siberian rivers [42,61,62]. Another interesting observation is much higher (a factor of 3 to 20) Si concentrations during spring flood compared to summer baseflow. This is observed for a number of small rivers in the upper reaches of the Lena basin (Nuya, Tayura, Bolshaya Tira, Siniya and Buotama). It may reflect an uptake of this essential nutrient by diatomous periphyton growing in clearwater rivers which drain crystalline rocks of the Siberian Platform. Such an uptake during summer baseflow is known for many Arctic settings [41,63,64].

4.2. Possible carries of trace elements in the Lena River basin based on elementary correlations and PCA

In boreal and permafrost-affected aquatic environments, the most important colloidal carriers of trace elements are dissolved organic matter (DOM) and Fe/Al hydroxides stabilized by DOM, as follows from ex-situ and in-situ fractionation results [54,61,65-68]. Based on correlations between element concentration in both the main stem and Lena's tributaries (Table S3), three main group of trace solutes were distinguished. First, these correlations revealed possible control of organic matter on transport of V, Ni, Cu, As and heavy REE. Note that strong complexation of DOM with divalent transition metals, notably Cu and Ni and HREE is fairly well known [54,69 and references therein]. The second major carrier of trace metals in boreal waters is high molecular weight Fe oxy-(hydr)oxide colloids stabilized by organic matter. By virtue of their dual organic and mineral nature, these colloids are responsible for transport of the largest number of elements such as P, Cr, Ni, Zn, Ge, Sb, Y, Zr, La, Hf. Finally, Al-rich colloids and subcolloidal particles likely controlled typically lithogenic trace elements (Ti, Cr, Ga, Nb, Cs, REE, Th) and could be produced during riverine DOM leaching of alumosilicate river suspended matter (i.e., ref. 62). Intensive mobilization of lithogenic elements via desorption from alumosilicate material of the river suspended matter into soluble (< 0.45 µm) form is consistent with strong correlations of these elements with Al, in both main stem and the tributaries (**Table S3**).

The PCA generally confirmed the presence of the group of low-soluble elements (Al, trivalent and tetravalent trace elements, Nb), affected by the first factor, and the group of labile elements - alkalis, alkaline earth metals (Li, Na, Mg, K, Ca, Sr), anions or neutral molecules (B, Cl, SO₄, Si, V, Mo, As, Sb) and uranyl ions, controlled by the second factor (**Fig. S2** of the Supplement). The 1st factor was presumably linked to organic and organo-ferric colloids which usually carry low-mobile elements originated from silicate minerals. The 2nd factor reflected migration of elements in truly dissolved (ionic or molecular) forms, not linked to any chemical carrier and originated from water - carbonate rock interaction in deep underground reservoirs.

4.3. Landscape factors controlling spatial pattern of elementary composition of riverwater in the Lena basin (main stem and tributaries)

A decrease in concentrations of major and minor soluble highly mobile elements such as alkali and alkaline-earth metals, Cl, SO₄, B, Mo, As, Sb and U between the upper reaches of the Lena River (first 0-800 km of the transect) and the middle course of the main stem (2nd part, 800 km - Aldan) may reflect a decrease of connectivity between the river water and the deep underground waters located within carbonate rocks and affected by salt deposits in the SW part of the Lena Basin compared to its NE part. Sporadic and isolated permafrost, frequently occurring in the SW part of the basin, facilitates the exchange between groundwater reservoirs and surface waters.

In contrast, in the rest of the Lena Basin, essentially continuous permafrost prevents any impact of underground waters on river water chemistry, especially during high flood period sampled in this work.

Another group of elements whose concentration systematically evolved over the river transect is lithogenic low-soluble elements (essentially trivalent and tetravalent hydrolysates). The concentration of these elements increased from the SW to the NE. From the one hand, this may reflect a change in dominant rocks: from carbonates and evaporates in the upper reaches of the Lena River basin to metamorphic and igneous silicates and Phanerozoic (silicate) sedimentary rocks in the middle course of the river. From the other hand, there is a general increase in soil OC stock from the SW to the NE part of the Lena River as follows from GIS assessment of the Lena basin parameters. We hypothesize that a coupled 'source' (abundance of silicate rocks) and 'transport' (organic colloids, stabilizing insoluble TE in solution) limitation mechanisms are responsible for elevated concentrations of lithogenic insoluble elements in the NE part of the Lena River main stem relative to its SW part.

The impact of environmental factors on major and trace element spatial pattern was further tested based on GIS-based landscape parameters of the Lena River tributaries. The proportion of sporadic and isolated permafrost strongly controlled concentrations of soluble highly mobile elements (Cl, B, DIC, Na, K, Mg, Ca, Mo, Ba and U). At the same time, the proportion of carbonate rocks at the watershed (per se) impacted only very limited number of elements (Mg and Mo). A lack of direct impact of the rock lithology is consistent with low connectivity of deep groundwaters to the rivers during high flow spring flood period. Another reason could be rather small size (relative to the Lena River main stem) of studied rivers and streams so that the link of the river hyporheic zone with underground reservoirs, especially under permafrost conditions, is not pronounced.

Another important landscape parameter controlling surficial and shallow subsurface flux to the river, as it is known from adjacent permafrost territories covered by larch forest [42, 70], is ground vegetation. Specifically, an important factor of element concentration control in the Lena River tributaries was the coverage of river watershed by light (Cl, SO₄, Na, Li, B, V, Sr, U) and deciduous (Si, Ni, Ge, Zr, Hf, Th) needle-leaf forest (dominance of *Pinus sylvestris* and *Larix*, respectively). The first group of elements my reflect their intense recycling with pine, which grow on carbonate-rich rocks of the SW part of the basin. In contrast, Si (and presumably Ge) are known to be concentrated by larch^{41,70} and can be massively leached from their needles during the spring. A part of 2nd group of elements (usually low mobile tetravalent hydrolysates) could be affected by the DOC-mediated transport in the NW part of the basin. The NW part is dominated by silicate rocks and continuous permafrost, compared to carbonate rock-dominated and groundwater-affected SW part of the Lena basin. Enhanced mobility of Zr, Hf and Th in forested soils developed on silicate rocks is known in various boreal settings [69, 70].

The PCA generally confirmed the linear correlations between the landscape parameters and the solute concentrations, although the explanation capacity of the two potential factors was rather low, 21 and 11% of overall variability. This could be linked to relatively weak landscape control on elementary composition in the river water during spring high flow season. Furthermore, the response of hydrochemistry of small rivers of the Lena basin to key environmental parameters of the watersheds such as permafrost coverage and underground rock lithology was less pronounced than that of the main stem. A likely reason for this is weaker connectivity of small rivers with deep underground and subsurface waters during studied period of high-flow spring flood. In contrast, given that the main input to small and medium size rivers in permafrost regions occurs via surface and shallow subsurface flow in June, essentially through plant litter and topsoil [42], the vegetation of the watershed exhibited discernable control on elementary composition of riverwaters.

Summarizing the analysis of spatial pattern of solutes in the Lena River basin, we conclude that the working hypothesis of this study, on the low impact of rock lithology on elementary composition of the river water during spring flood, is verified only in the case of Lena tributaries. The hydrochemistry of the main stem of Lena clearly reflected the control of carbonate rocks and the impact of groundwater via isolated / sporadic permafrost in the southwestern part, contrasting with a lack of groundwater connection and dominance of silicate rocks in the northeastern part. However, another important factor increasing mobility of low soluble trivalent and tetravalent trace metals from SW to NE is dissolved organic carbon which in turn depends on soil organic pool and the presence of various forests. At the same time, we do not exclude that the resolution of our GIS mapping resolution and spatial sampling are not sufficiently fine so they cannot catch fine-scale landscape patches that are known to drive solute generation in small Arctic rivers (i.e., ref. 71).

Within a climate warming and permafrost thaw scenario, the main source of elements during spring flood will remain the surface flow given that for the majority of the Lena River basin the permafrost is continuous and unlikely to become isolated or sporadic. This strongly contrasts the scenario of permafrost thaw in other Siberian regions such as the Western Siberia Lowland (i.e., ref. [55,72,73]. The change in dominant forest species and the

forestation of tundra [74,75] rather than an increase in active layer depth will therefore determine the overall pattern of river water chemistry during high water flow. At the same time, the response of the Lena River main stem to the thawing of permafrost (leading to enrichment of the river water in soluble, highly mobile elements) might be more significant than that of its tributaries and other small rivers of the basin. The main reason is that the hydrological connectivity between river water and shallow subsurface or deep underground water is sizably higher in a large river compared to small tributaries. In this regard, comparable studies of large, permafrost-impacted rivers of Eastern Siberia during most contrasting seasons, including notably winter baseflow, when the connection of the groundwater with surface waters is at its maximum, should allow efficient prediction of future changes in riverine 'inorganic' hydrochemistry induced by changes in the permafrost regime.

5. Conclusions

A snap-shot study of major and trace element concentration in the Lena River basin during the peak of spring flood revealed specific group of solutes according to their spatial pattern over the river main stem and tributaries and allowed to establish the link to certain landscape parameters. We demonstrate a systematic decrease of labile major and trace anion, alkali and alkaline-earth metal concentration downstream the main stem of the Lena River, linked to change of dominant rocks from carbonate to silicate and northward decreasing influence of the groundwater. In contrast, DOC and a number of low-soluble elements and trivalent and tetravalent trace metals complexed with organo-mineral colloids exhibited an increase in concentration from the SW to the NE part of the river. We tentatively link this to an increase in soil organic carbon stock and silicate rocks in the Lena River watershed in this direction. In contrast to the main stem, the chemical composition of the tributaries was only partially controlled by soils, rock lithology and permafrost. In particular, the type of permafrost distribution impacted mostly labile elements, whereas the role of carbonate rocks in the watersheds of the Lena River tributaries has not been explicitly pronounced. Furthermore, the watershed coverage by needle-leaf, broadleaf forest and humid grassland exhibited positive correlation with concentration of labile elements (Cl, SO4, Li, B, Na, Si, Ca, V, Sr, U) but also some low-soluble traces (Al, Ga, REEE, Nb, Zr, Hf, Th). In accord with previous observations in permafrost-affected forested regions of Siberia, we believe that, during high flow period of the spring flood, the main control on river water chemistry is exerted by surface flow. The latter often occurs over still frozen ground and thus primarily depends on the type of forest. As such, within the climate warming scenario, future changes in dominant ground vegetation and greening of tundra will mostly impact the river water chemistry, whereas the thawing of continuous permafrost and increase in the active layer depth might have a subordinate influence.

Supplementary Materials: The following are available online at www.mdpi.com/xxx/s1, Figure S1: Correlation between elementary fluxes and watershed area for permafrost-free and permafrost-affected regions; Figure S2: Partial contribution of spring, summer and autumn 2016 to overall open-water period export of anions and trace elements by WSL rivers; Figure S3: Yields of DOC (A), DIC (B), Ca (C), Mg (D), K (E), Si (F), P_{tot} (G) and Fe (H) during May-August 2015 in 33 WSL rivers across the latitudinal gradient. Table S1: Spearman correlation coefficients (p < 0.05) between element export flux (yield) and watershed area.

Author Contributions: SV and OP designed the study and wrote the paper; YK performed sampling of 10 tributaries and mapping; SV and OP performed sampling, analysis and their interpretation; MK provided landscape estimation of the Lena River tributaries. Each co-author have seen and approved the final paper and contributed to writing the manuscript.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

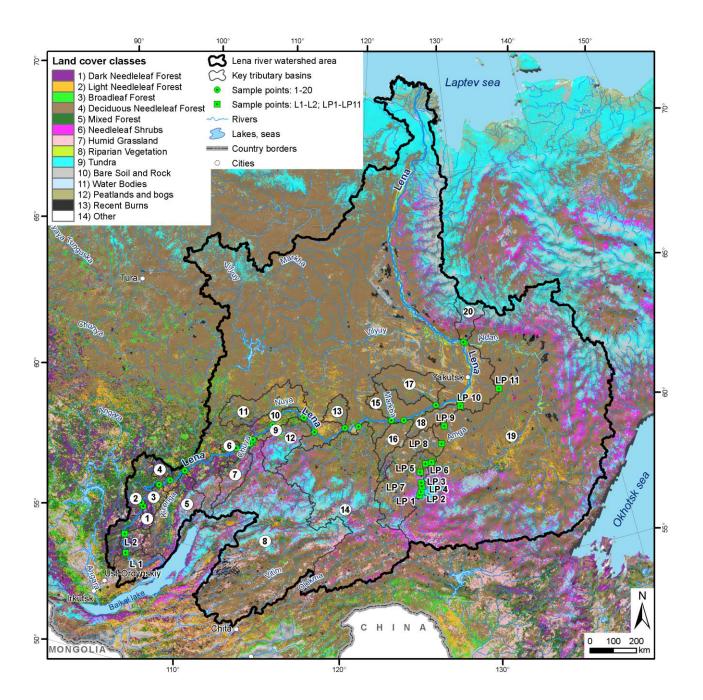


Figure S1. Landscape map of the Lena River and tributaries (RLC based). The identification of tributaries (numbers in circles) is provided in Table S1.

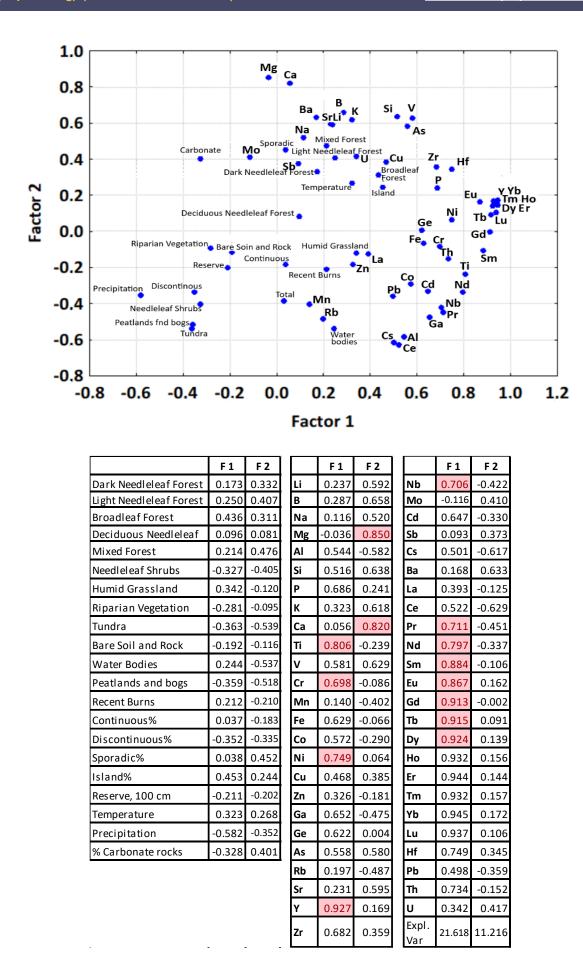


Figure S2. Results of PCA treatment of the Lena River tributaries chemical composition, including landscape parameters. Significant (p < 0.05) connections are highlighted.

Table S1. Physico-geographical parameters of the studied Lena River tributaries. For samples No 1-20, the numbers in parentheses indicate the distance on the river from Zhigalovo (0 km).

	Watershed			Area,	Average	annual	temperatu	ıre, °C		Average recipitati		1
ID	Name, km	Lat, °N	Long, °E	Km²	Mean	STD	Min	Max	Mean	STD	Min	Max
1	Orlinga (208)	56.031	105.881	3650	-5.81	0.24	-6.3	-5.1	409	5	396	421
2	Nizhnaya Kytyma (228)	56.145	105.680	985	-4.68	0.34	-5.1	-3.9	392	4	381	398
3	Tayura (416)	56.997	106.545	5726	-5.34	0.22	-6.0	-5.0	395	5	387	406
4	Bolshaya Tira (529)	57.270	107.222	5127	-5.47	0.21	-5.8	-4.7	390	3	380	396
5	Kirenga (579)	57.761	108.087	46669	-5.62	1.01	-8.7	-4.3	398	12	377	437
6	Chaika (1025)	59.011	111.476	2524	-5.65	0.05	-5.8	-5.5	402	4	394	413
7	Chuya (1110)	59.265	112.458	18332	-6.84	0.62	-8.4	-5.5	426	10	400	446
8	Vitim (1132)	59.443	112.637	234219	-7.5	1.75	-12.3	-2.3	417	27	342	465
9	Yukte (1265)	60.126	113.966	564	-7.17	0.17	-7.5	-6.8	414	3	409	419
10	Kenek (1312)	60.423	114.301	1050	-6.84	0.07	-7.0	-6.7	400	2	395	404
11	Nuya (1331)	60.547	116.319	38207	-7.45	0.38	-8.3	-6.3	389	18	339	417
12	Bolshoi Patom (1670)	60.031	117.263	26816	-8.6	0.69	-10.0	-6.9	427	29	352	463
13	Biryuk (1712)	60.268	119.619	9819	-7.22	0.14	-7.5	-6.7	322	7	307	338
14	Olekma (1750)	60.343	120.696	209378	-7.73	1.26	-12.3	-5.7	426	48	334	575
15	Markha (1948)	60.606	123.255	8823	-8.37	0.38	-9.0	-7.6	342	11	319	375
16	Tuolba (2008)	60.600	124.257	15880	-7.49	0.38	-8.4	-6.2	406	15	378	444
17	Sinyaa (2118)	61.142	126.854	30875	-9.08	0.22	-9.8	-8.5	324	10	306	354
18	Buotama (2170)	61.245	128.770	12539	-8.85	0.43	-9.5	-7.4	382	26	317	435
19	Aldan (2381)	63.406	129.714	717203	-10.5	3.06	-20.8	-6.0	445	98	273	671
20	Tumara (2635)	63.465	129.593	14051	-15.9	2.29	-19.1	-11.0	325	21	277	356
L1	Lena 1			20848.7	-3.81	0.76	-5.83	-2.10	415	18.1	381	473
L 2	Lena 2*			30234.9	-4.06	0.81	-6.15	-2.10	413	15.9	381	473
LP 1	Medvedevka	57.7056	125.2803	11.8	-8.77	0.03	-8.80	-8.73	597	0.3	596	597
LP 2	Vasilievka	57.8308	125.3897	48.6	-8.79	0.06	-8.90	-8.68	597	0.5	596	598
LP 3	Bolshoi Nimnyr	58.0397	125.4847	1849.7	-8.38	0.33	-8.93	-7.42	588	6.6	570	598
LP 4	Yukhtochka	58.1886	125.4361	32.9	-7.92	0.07	-8.06	-7.78	587	0.4	586	587
LP 5	Orto-Sala	58.5869	125.3831	69.8	-6.86	0.16	-7.13	-6.56	567	2.9	561	572
LP 6	Yakokit	58.9014	125.8267	3.6	-6.40	0.02	-6.42	-6.38	526	0.2	525	526
LP 7	Aldan**	58.9569	126.2800	49593.4	-7.32	0.82	-9.48	-6.00	523	36.5	436	598
LP 8	Amga	59.6483	127.1158	21907.2	-7.23	0.57	-8.97	-6.08	452	18.5	407	502
LP 9	Ulu	60.3133	127.4283	821.8	-9.15	0.04	-9.22	-9.05	388	6.8	375	404
LP 10	Lutenge	61.0344	128.8156	82.2	-9.31	0.06	-9.44	-9.21	336	3.3	330	342
LP 11	Mende	61.4761	129.3453	6.2	-10.6	0.01	-10.6	-10.6	305	0.2	305	305
	Lena above Aldan			1661606	-8.76	2.95	-21	-2.1	418	77	267	671
	Lena below Aldan			825793	-11.6	2.96	-22	-6.3	311	29	197	400
	The drainage area of the Lena			2487399	-9.7	3.24	-22	-2.1	383	83	197	671

^{*}Including watershed L1 ; ** including watersheds LP1-LP6.

Table S2. Mann-Whitney test of the difference in element concentration in the upper (0-800 km) and middle (800 km - 2600 km) course of the Lena River main stem. Significant differences are in red.

	U	Z	p-level
рН	35.0	3.3684	0.0008
S.C.	10.0	4.2887	0.0000
CI	42.0	3.1107	0.0019
SO ₄	26.0	3.6997	0.0002
DOC	97.0	1.0860	0.2775
DIC	21.0	3.8837	0.0001
Li	20.0	3.9205	0.0001
В	23.0	3.8101	0.0001
Na	32.0	3.4788	0.0005
Mg	22.0	3.8469	0.0003
Al	41.0	-3.1475	0.0016
Si	49.0	2.8530	0.0043
P	81.0	1.6750	0.0939
K	63.0	2.3376	0.0339
Ca	24.0	3.7733	0.0194
Ti	64.0	-2.3008	0.0002
V	52.0	2.7425	0.0214
-			0.4505
Cr Mn	106.0 40.0	-0.7547 3.1843	0.4505
Fe	104.0 109.0	-0.8283 0.6442	0.4075
Co			0.5194
Ni	93.0	-1.2332	0.2175
Cu	112.0	0.5338	0.5935
Zn	105.0	-0.7915	0.4287
Ga	73.0	-1.9695	0.0489
Ge	113.0	-0.4970	0.6192
As	24.0	3.7733	0.0002
Rb	35.0	-3.3684	0.0008
Sr	26.0	3.6997	0.0002
Υ	126.0	-0.0184	0.9853
Zr	125.0	0.0552	0.9560
Nb	43.5	-3.0554	0.0022
Mo	33.0	3.4420	0.0006
Cd	105.0	0.7915	0.4287
Sb	28.0	3.6260	0.0003
Cs	56.0	-2.5953	0.0095
Ba	23.0	3.8101	0.0001
La	32.0	-3.4788	0.0005
Ce	10.0	-4.2887	0.0000
Pr	44.0	-3.0370	0.0024
Nd	41.0	-3.1475	0.0016
Gd	79.0	-1.7486	0.0804
Tb	93.5	-1.2148	0.2244
Dy	104.0	-0.8283	0.4075
Yb	109.0	-0.6442	0.5194
Lu	103.0	-0.8651	0.3870
Hf	111.0	0.5706	0.5683
Pb	81.0	-1.6750	0.0939
Th	26.0	-3.6997	0.0002
U	47.0	2.9266	0.0034

Table S3. Pearson correlation coefficients (p < 0.05) of major and trace elements with three main potential carriers - DOC, Fe and Al in the main stem of the Lena River and its tributaries. Significant correlations are in red font.

		Lena Rive	r		Tributaries	}
	DOC	Al	Fe	DOC	Al	Fe
Li	0.37	-0.63	-0.10	0.40	-0.52	0.07
В	0.46	-0.52	-0.03	0.46	-0.29	0.03
Na	-0.02	-0.37	-0.10	0.13	-0.33	-0.13
Mg	0.43	-0.65	-0.11	0.31	-0.49	-0.08
Si	0.12	-0.06	0.35	0.84	-0.14	0.63
Р	0.47	0.13	0.50	0.76	0.04	0.81
K	0.74	-0.38	0.11	0.47	-0.18	0.19
Ca	0.43	-0.63	-0.08	0.39	-0.62	0.04
Ti	-0.15	0.77	0.86	0.47	0.69	0.57
٧	0.42	-0.18	0.35	0.67	-0.07	0.45
Cr	0.11	0.16	-0.10	0.51	0.57	0.6
Mn	0.16	-0.01	0.49	0.04	0.04	0.23
Со	0.34	0.54	0.72	0.31	0.43	0.52
Ni	0.44	0.29	0.05	8.0	0.12	0.87
Cu	0.80	0.00	0.20	0.75	0.25	0.69
Zn	0.01	0.19	0.11	0.24	0	0.45
Ga	-0.15	0.84	0.81	-0.03	0.81	0.14
Ge	-0.21	-0.15	-0.35	0.61	-0.05	0.72
As	0.62	-0.50	0.07	0.72	-0.18	0.66
Rb	-0.58	0.71	0.23	0.29	0.33	0.61
Sr	0.31	-0.67	-0.16	0.38	-0.47	0.16
Υ	0.03	0.58	0.39	0.53	0.46	0.5
Zr	0.72	0.40	0.64	0.95	-0.03	0.91
Nb	-0.38	0.71	0.66	0.2	0.84	0.4
Мо	-0.01	-0.60	-0.28	-0.07	-0.11	-0.2
Cd	-0.11	0.02	-0.07	0.34	0.39	0.56
Sb	0.46	-0.47	-0.06	0.69	-0.19	0.71
Cs	-0.26	0.72	0.79	-0.02	0.55	0.32
Ва	0.54	-0.54	0.01	0.28	0.08	0.1
La	-0.39	0.28	-0.05	0.41	0.11	0.64
Се	-0.14	0.84	0.41	-0.22	0.74	-0.04
Pr	-0.31	0.77	0.32	-0.1	0.71	0.08
Nd	-0.23	0.79	0.36	0	0.71	0.14
Sm	-0.03	0.70	0.36	0.18	0.65	0.25
Gd	-0.06	0.75	0.42	0.29	0.6	0.32
Tb	0.02	0.65	0.41	0.37	0.54	0.37
Dy	0.00	0.61	0.39	0.45	0.52	0.42
Но	-0.06	0.55	0.35	0.52	0.49	0.5
Er	-0.03	0.56	0.34	0.58	0.48	0.57
Yb	-0.11	0.65	0.42	0.69	0.38	0.68
Lu	-0.20	0.51	0.25	0.65	0.43	0.69
Hf	0.50	0.34	0.59	0.95	0.05	0.89
Pb	-0.10	0.24	0.15	0.07	0.42	0.35
Th	0.15	0.78	0.53	0.64	0.66	0.74
U	0.45	-0.36	0.11	0.03	0.19	-0.19

Table S4. Pearson correlation matrix of landscape parameters and river water chemistry. Significant correlations (p < 0.5, N=30) are shown in red text and positive correlations are highlighted in pink.

	Dark	Light		Deciduous						Bare Soil				
	Needleleaf	Needleleaf	Broadleaf	Needleleaf	Mixed	Needleleaf	Humid	Riparian		and	Water	Peatlands	Recent	Soil OC,
	Forest	Forest	Forest	Forest	Forest	Shrubs	Grassland	Vegetation	Tundra	Rock	Bodies	and bogs	Burns	100 cm
DOC	-0.23	0.16	0.36	0.41	-0.06	-0.65	-0.44	-0.21	-0.56	-0.26	-0.31	-0.07	-0.39	0.06
DIC	0.03	0.16	0.32	0.13	0.26	-0.63	-0.39	0.16	-0.57	-0.27	-0.51	-0.58	-0.29	0.19
Cl	0.04	0.56	0.53	-0.13	0.31	-0.20	-0.08	-0.11	-0.15	-0.21	-0.11	-0.22	-0.10	-0.32
SO ₄	0.02	0.42	0.54	0.00	0.17	-0.15	-0.11	0.31	-0.20	-0.12	0.00	-0.11	-0.07	-0.22
Li	0.03	0.51	0.58	0.17	0.13	-0.38	-0.11	0.13	-0.34	-0.11	-0.14	-0.27	-0.08	-0.11
В	0.08	0.83	0.33	0.04	0.18	-0.40	-0.06	-0.08	-0.34	-0.14	-0.17	-0.43	0.00	-0.17
Na	0.03	0.54	0.53	-0.10	0.30	-0.21	-0.09	-0.10	-0.17	-0.20	-0.11	-0.22	-0.11	-0.31
Mg	0.21	0.27	0.30	0.30	0.22	-0.41	-0.10	0.05	-0.55	-0.01	-0.34	-0.52	-0.24	0.03
Al	0.07	-0.01	0.10	-0.29	0.10	-0.03	0.39	-0.20	0.23	-0.25	0.39	0.08	0.28	-0.23
Si	0.10	0.26	0.40	0.49	0.23	-0.22	-0.02	-0.14	-0.81	0.02	-0.15	-0.56	-0.13	-0.03
P	0.10	0.20	0.32	0.15	0.13	-0.40	0.06	-0.17	-0.23	-0.29	-0.09	-0.20	0.12	-0.13
K	0.28	0.32	0.12	0.06	0.30	-0.18	0.10	-0.08	-0.40	-0.41	-0.16	-0.34	-0.03	-0.27
Са	0.31	0.33	0.41	0.27	0.14	-0.43	0.00	0.12	-0.55	-0.07	-0.28	-0.50	-0.17	0.02
Ti	0.04	0.22	0.42	-0.07	0.11	-0.20	0.27	-0.27	-0.02	-0.33	0.26	-0.07	0.18	-0.23
V	0.19	0.37	0.36	0.15	0.34	-0.56	0.09	-0.21	-0.43	-0.16	-0.20	-0.48	0.07	-0.12
Cr	0.27	0.27	0.34	0.03	0.14	-0.20	0.33	0.13	-0.34	-0.19	0.33	-0.21	0.13	-0.24
Mn	-0.04	0.02	0.06	-0.29	-0.20	-0.06	0.15	0.21	0.51	-0.24	0.32	0.08	0.19	-0.02
Fe	-0.16	0.00	0.25	0.29	-0.14	-0.26	-0.13	-0.14	-0.05	-0.21	0.04	-0.07	-0.09	0.14
Со	-0.18	-0.06	0.48	0.07	0.15	-0.18	0.09	-0.15	0.01	-0.18	0.32	-0.16	0.06	-0.19
Ni	-0.20	0.04	0.33	0.50	-0.18	-0.31	-0.10	-0.07	-0.31	0.11	0.16	-0.17	-0.12	0.16
Cu	0.09	-0.01	0.19	0.22	0.22	-0.18	0.06	-0.29	-0.38	-0.12	-0.06	-0.30	-0.09	0.03
Zn	-0.16	-0.01	0.30	0.32	-0.18	-0.18	-0.02	0.17	-0.11	-0.12	0.25	-0.08	-0.02	0.02
Ga	0.02	0.16	0.28	-0.01	-0.05	0.03	0.45	0.00	-0.09	-0.20	0.53	-0.03	0.39	-0.13
Ge	-0.12	0.12	0.39	0.38	-0.10	-0.28	-0.03	0.05	-0.28	-0.10	0.17	-0.05	-0.03	0.02
As	0.21	0.15	0.31	0.33	0.17	-0.49	-0.02	-0.12	-0.50	-0.09	-0.24	-0.44	-0.10	-0.06

	Dark Needleleaf Forest	Light Needleleaf Forest	Broadleaf Forest	Deciduous Needleleaf Forest	Mixed Forest	Needleleaf Shrubs	Humid Grassland	Riparian Vegetation	Tundra	Bare Soil and Rock	Water Bodies	Peatlands and bogs	Recent Burns	Soil OC, 100 cm
Rb	-0.36	-0.25	0.16	0.19	-0.14	0.17	-0.11	-0.22	0.15	-0.24	0.22	0.17	-0.13	-0.08
Sr	0.02	0.37	0.72	0.14	0.24	-0.33	-0.15	0.10	-0.31	-0.24	-0.11	-0.27	-0.18	-0.23
Υ	0.31	0.30	0.34	-0.04	0.33	-0.29	0.30	-0.35	-0.37	-0.15	0.05	-0.37	0.17	-0.24
Zr	-0.10	0.18	0.32	0.48	-0.04	-0.49	-0.17	-0.14	-0.39	0.07	-0.11	-0.32	-0.22	0.13
Nb	-0.09	-0.07	0.12	0.06	-0.09	-0.16	0.27	-0.27	0.08	-0.12	0.36	-0.07	0.12	0.05
Мо	0.17	-0.02	0.31	-0.15	0.65	0.23	0.03	-0.18	-0.32	-0.35	-0.15	-0.16	-0.12	-0.38
Cd	-0.02	0.06	0.39	0.10	-0.06	-0.16	0.33	-0.20	-0.10	-0.18	0.49	-0.09	0.30	-0.21
Sb	-0.14	-0.24	0.05	0.35	0.16	-0.16	-0.20	-0.10	-0.28	0.07	-0.09	-0.14	-0.26	0.06
Cs	-0.06	-0.01	0.15	-0.06	-0.10	0.09	0.37	-0.13	0.12	-0.26	0.50	0.09	0.36	-0.23
Ва	0.73	0.16	0.10	-0.25	0.61	-0.37	0.38	-0.15	-0.41	-0.35	-0.29	-0.41	0.12	-0.50
La	-0.14	-0.06	0.32	0.32	-0.15	-0.15	-0.08	-0.06	-0.13	-0.11	0.09	-0.03	-0.12	-0.03
Ce	-0.12	-0.03	0.14	-0.01	-0.09	0.16	0.37	-0.23	0.04	-0.04	0.53	0.00	0.32	-0.04
Pr	0.01	0.04	0.23	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.40	-0.30	-0.13	-0.02	0.44	-0.12	0.27	-0.09
Nd	0.08	0.11	0.26	-0.02	0.10	-0.01	0.39	-0.31	-0.18	-0.05	0.37	-0.17	0.26	-0.14
Sm	0.28	0.22	0.32	-0.11	0.27	-0.11	0.43	-0.31	-0.28	-0.15	0.24	-0.27	0.27	-0.25
Eu	0.43	0.28	0.30	-0.19	0.43	-0.28	0.41	-0.32	-0.32	-0.23	0.08	-0.38	0.22	-0.35
Gd	0.28	0.25	0.33	-0.10	0.31	-0.18	0.39	-0.35	-0.30	-0.16	0.16	-0.32	0.25	-0.26
Tb	0.31	0.28	0.34	-0.10	0.37	-0.22	0.34	-0.34	-0.34	-0.17	0.11	-0.35	0.20	-0.29
Dy	0.35	0.33	0.33	-0.11	0.37	-0.28	0.36	-0.33	-0.35	-0.20	0.08	-0.38	0.24	-0.30
Er	0.30	0.28	0.36	0.01	0.30	-0.33	0.32	-0.34	-0.39	-0.12	0.08	-0.39	0.19	-0.21
Yb	0.19	0.30	0.41	0.09	0.25	-0.36	0.20	-0.33	-0.39	-0.10	0.06	-0.37	0.09	-0.19
Hf	-0.03	0.25	0.36	0.39	0.03	-0.50	-0.09	-0.18	-0.40	0.01	-0.09	-0.33	-0.15	0.04
Pb	0.06	0.04	0.31	0.05	0.03	-0.09	0.48	-0.07	-0.16	-0.20	0.49	-0.15	0.43	-0.18
Th	-0.25	-0.06	0.15	0.44	-0.14	-0.26	-0.02	-0.29	-0.21	0.08	0.16	-0.21	-0.08	0.21
U	0.40	0.46	0.43	-0.20	0.53	-0.11	0.41	-0.26	-0.42	-0.42	0.05	-0.48	0.18	-0.45

1 **Table S4, continued.**

	Continuous	Discontinuous	Sporadic PF,			% Carbonate
	PF, %	PF, %	%	MAAT	Precipitation	rocks
DOC	0.07	-0.05	-0.19	-0.06	-0.83	-0.28
DIC	-0.09	-0.36	0.21	0.13	-0.25	0.59
Cl	-0.30	-0.11	0.59	0.25	-0.13	0.15
SO4	-0.06	-0.18	0.30	-0.07	-0.40	-0.11
Li	-0.01	-0.25	0.25	-0.01	-0.51	-0.07
В	-0.17	-0.24	0.40	0.20	-0.36	0.12
Na	-0.27	-0.14	0.58	0.22	-0.18	0.11
Mg	0.01	-0.30	0.20	0.20	-0.35	0.38
Al	-0.17	0.08	-0.10	0.28	0.06	-0.33
Si	0.29	-0.59	0.15	0.16	-0.70	0.01
Р	0.01	-0.20	0.02	0.14	-0.51	-0.34
K	-0.08	-0.34	0.26	0.06	-0.36	-0.05
Ca	0.03	-0.26	0.21	0.14	-0.52	0.18
Ti	-0.12	-0.05	0.01	0.28	-0.25	-0.39
V	0.00	-0.47	0.30	0.24	-0.57	-0.10
Cr	0.03	-0.26	-0.04	0.18	-0.52	-0.33
Mn	-0.09	0.25	-0.12	-0.18	0.02	-0.21
Fe	0.12	-0.01	-0.24	0.00	-0.36	-0.43
Со	0.01	-0.11	0.08	0.04	-0.23	-0.22
Ni	0.38	-0.29	-0.29	-0.15	-0.66	-0.51
Cu	0.18	-0.41	0.07	0.15	-0.37	-0.14
Zn	0.13	-0.03	-0.10	-0.04	-0.28	-0.29
Ga	0.09	-0.13	-0.05	0.09	-0.27	-0.46
Ge	0.28	-0.29	-0.03	-0.10	-0.56	-0.53
As	0.09	-0.33	0.04	0.09	-0.66	-0.12
Rb	0.02	0.20	-0.08	0.03	0.23	-0.16
Sr	-0.11	-0.18	0.35	0.08	-0.42	-0.04
Y	-0.07	-0.35	0.06	0.41	-0.52	-0.12
Zr	0.29	-0.36	-0.14	-0.01	-0.67	-0.33
Nb	0.14	-0.09	-0.21	0.16	-0.23	-0.53
Мо	-0.22	-0.29	0.55	0.41	0.20	0.42
Cd	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.18	-0.26	-0.33
Sb	0.24	-0.34	0.07	-0.11	-0.22	-0.16
Cs	-0.03	0.07	-0.01	0.07	0.00	-0.32
Ва	-0.44	-0.13	0.32	0.45	-0.16	0.32
La	0.10	0.02	-0.12	-0.03	-0.27	-0.29
Се	0.10	-0.04	-0.09	0.15	-0.02	-0.26
Pr	0.09	-0.17	-0.05	0.26	-0.22	-0.24
Nd	0.05	-0.22	-0.03	0.30	-0.29	-0.20

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Sm	-0.06	-0.29	0.04	0.41	-0.39	-0.12
Eu	-0.19	-0.31	0.09	0.45	-0.42	-0.03
Gd	-0.08	-0.32	0.06	0.41	-0.43	-0.12
Tb	-0.10	-0.35	0.09	0.42	-0.46	-0.09
Dy	-0.12	-0.34	0.10	0.43	-0.49	-0.10
Но	-0.08	-0.35	0.06	0.40	-0.52	-0.13
Er	-0.03	-0.35	0.04	0.41	-0.55	-0.16
Yb	0.00	-0.35	0.05	0.34	-0.59	-0.21
Lu	0.10	-0.41	0.00	0.30	-0.60	-0.27
Hf	0.20	-0.35	-0.09	0.07	-0.67	-0.31
Pb	0.04	-0.12	0.12	0.16	-0.26	-0.36
Th	0.39	-0.29	-0.29	0.02	-0.43	-0.48
U	-0.33	-0.28	0.60	0.58	-0.12	0.26