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Relationships Between the Hydrochemical Characteristics, Phytoplankton Chlorophyll and Phaeophytin in the Southwest Coast of India

JEAN JOSE J^{1*}, LIPTON A P¹, UDAYAKUMAR P², RAJESH B R³,
LINCY ALEX⁴ AND CHANDRAN A.⁵

The relationship between the hydrochemical characteristics and phytoplankton chlorophyll in coastal pollution monitoring surveys, establishes a basis for understanding the trophic state of coastal waters in accordance with nutrient enrichment routing to progress in capture fishery. On the other hand, the zooplankton (including ichthyoplankton) grazing and its abundance can be understood from the quantification of detrital chlorophyll/phaeophytin. A collection of datasets for three years seasonal sampling (January 2008 to 2011) along Cochin and Mangalore (Southwest coast of India) was analyzed to find out the relationship between hydrochemical factors, chlorophyll *a* and phaeophytin contents. Principal component analysis (PCA) was used to analyze these ecological parameters interrelationship. In both the sampling sites, the nutrient factors statistically predict that nitrite is influenced by the concentration of chlorophyll *a* and its significant positive correlation to phaeophytin indicates the strength of micro zooplankton grazing. We infer that micro zooplankton grazing is an important factor in keeping a balanced coastal ecosystem at Cochin and Mangalore. The nutrient factors are totally utilized by the phytoplankton community. The PCA study confirms about assimilation of the dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) in the form of NH_4^+ formed by the zooplankton excreta (detrital chlorophyll/phaeophytin) in Mangalore coastal waters.

Key words: *Chlorophyll, Phaeophytin, trophic state, hydrochemical characteristics, Arabian Sea*

Introduction

Variation in environmental factors caused by atmospheric forcing has led to fundamental differences in the pelagic marine ecosystem in terms of production¹⁻². The west coast of India (Arabian Sea) is a region of intense upwelling associated with southwest monsoon (May to September) whereas the east coast experiences only a weak upwelling associated with the northeast monsoon (October to January), resulting in marked differences in hydrographic regimes, productivity patterns and

qualitative and quantitative composition of fisheries³. Productivity reasons explicated by the researchers concentrated in this region include the inflow of a network of rivers, backwaters, rocky shores and the intense upwelling associated with southwest monsoon influenced upon the improved nutrient composition⁴. Naturally occurring seasonal nutrient enrichment in the waters along the west coast resulted by the upwelling during the southwest monsoon period trigger high primary production and the stock of phytoplankton in terms of Chlorophyll *a*⁵.

¹ Marine Biotechnology Laboratory, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Vizhinjam - 695 521, Kerala, India.

² Marine Biology and Chemistry Laboratory, Chemical Sciences Division, Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram-695 031, Kerala, India.

³ Marine Biology Laboratory, Department of Zoology, Fatima Mata National College, Kollam - 691 001, Kerala, India.

⁴ Department of Zoology, St. Gregorios College, Kottarakkara - 691 531, Kerala, India

⁵ Department of Fisheries Biology and Aquaculture, University College of Applied Life Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University Regional Centre, Pathanamthitta-689 645, Kerala, India.

* Corresponding author: jeanlincy@gmail.com (J. Jean Jose); Fax: +91 471-2442280; Tel: +91 9447696739

Assessment of Groundwater Quality Using WQI for Selected Rural Area of Kopergaon, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra (India)

V.V. SASANE* AND V.M. PATIL **

Water Quality Index (WQI) has been calculated for different sources in pre monsoon and post-monsoon period (March 2012- September 2012) including dug wells, bore wells, hand pumps and production wells at Murshatpur, Chandgavhan and Hingani villages of Kopergaon Taluka, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra. Ground water was sampled at 16 locations for physiochemical analysis. For calculating the WQI, the following 10 parameters were considered: temperature, pH, alkalinity, dissolved oxygen, TDS, total hardness, Calcium, Magnesium, Chloride, Fluoride. WQI in pre-monsoon and post-monsoon ranged from 226.88 to 799.15 and 173.31 to 365.82 respectively. Water quality improved in post monsoon period. High values of Alkalinity, TDS, Hardness, Calcium and Magnesium were found in groundwater. Moreover, low cost herbs treatment can bring the groundwater parameters, such as Alkalinity, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Hardness, Chloride, Calcium and Magnesium within permissible limits which make water potable for small community area.

Key words: *Groundwater quality, Water Quality Index, parameters*

Introduction

Groundwater is the major source of water for drinking, agricultural, and industrial activities. The people are depending upon groundwater resources for survival. Human health is threatened by the most of the agricultural activities¹. Rapid industrialization especially in developing countries like, India, has affected the availability and quality of groundwater due to over exploitation and improper disposal of waste in urban areas. Groundwater consists of about 20% of the world resources of fresh water and widely used for various purposes. Only about 1% of all of fresh water is available from rivers, ponds, lakes². Use of groundwater for various purposes mainly depends upon its intrinsic quality of water, hence it is prime important to know the quality of water resources in the region. The physico-chemical contaminants that adversely affect the quality of groundwater are likely to arise from a variety of sources, including land application of agricultural chemicals and organic wastes, infiltration of irrigation water, septic tanks, and infiltration of effluent from sewage treatment plants, pits, lagoons and ponds used for storage.

According to WHO, about 80% of all the diseases in human beings are caused by water. The major problem with groundwater is that once contaminated, it is difficult to restore its quality. Hence, there is need and concern for protection and management of groundwater quality. National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) information system developed a water quality index calculator for assessing the water quality⁹. WQI is defined as a rating reflecting the composite influence of different water quality parameters. WQI is calculated from the point of view of the suitability of groundwater for human consumption¹⁰.

The objective of the present work is to discuss the suitability of groundwater for human consumption based on computed water quality index values and to use low cost material for treatment to bring groundwater parameters, like Alkalinity, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Hardness, Chloride content, Calcium and Magnesium within permissible limits which make water potable for small community area.

In Kopergaon Taluka, most of the groundwater sources are contaminated due to intensive irrigation

Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, SRES College of Engineering, Kopergaon, P.O. Shingnapur, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, India-423 603; e-mail: sasane.vrushali81@rediffmail.com

*Post Graduate Corresponding author Student, SRES College of Engineering, Kopergaon, P.O. Shingnapur, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, India-423 603; e-mail: vipatill1@gmail.com

Corresponding author

Microcystin Ecotypes of the Genus *Microcystis* Identified from Lake Ambazari at Nagpur (M.S.), India

LALITA N. SANGOLKAR**, KOMAL Y. KALAWAPAUDI** AND SNEHAL A. KHEDKAR*

Early prediction of harmful algal blooms and toxic cyanobacteria is a worldwide thrust area as they pose a serious threat to health of humans, domestic animals and livestock. Toxic and non-toxic strains of cyanobacteria do not show any predictable morphological difference which makes characterisation of toxic species difficult. In view of this, present study aims at early prediction of toxic cyanobacteria in water resource, Lake Ambazari at Nagpur, known for occurrence of toxic cyanobacterial blooms (TCBs), using molecular tools. This was the first attempt towards gene-based detection of potential toxic cyanobacteria in water resources of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. Molecular analysis of the Phycocyanine Intergenic Spacer (PC-IGS) and 16S rRNA region using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) detected cyanobacteria and *Microcystis* in studied lake water. Further analysis of plankton biomass using PCR primers for *mcy* genes identified shoreline distribution of MC synthetase genes, *mcyB* and *mcyE*, in 80% of the studied sites. *Microcystis aeruginosa* was revealed as dominant organism by microscopic examination of the water samples. The present investigation yielded a stepwise screening method for detection of toxic cyanobacteria where extraction of DNA by chloroform- isoamyl alcohol (CI) method using glassbead was found to be efficient and cost-effective among other DNA extraction methods.

Key words: Lake Ambazari, toxic cyanobacteria, *Microcystis*, PCR, *mcy* genes, DNA extraction method

1. Introduction

The occurrence of toxic cyanobacterial blooms have been a serious problem worldwide due to the fatalities caused by their toxins to livestock, pets, wild animals, aquatic animals, birds and humans. Microcystins (MCs), the most common cyanobacterial toxin¹ with a cyclic heptapeptide structure, are a group of extremely hepatotoxic compounds produced by the species of freshwater cyanobacterial genera *Microcystis*, *Anabaena*, *Oscillatoria*, *Nostoc*, *Hapalosiphon*, *Anabaenopsis* etc.^{2,3}. More than 80 MC variants have been identified which are distinguished by cyclic peptide sequences, degree of methylation, and toxicity^{4,5}. As a potent tumor promoter, MCs possess high hepatotoxicity due to their inhibition of serine-threonine protein phosphatases 1 and 2A as a

result of interaction of amino acid Adda with catalytic site of the enzyme⁶ which can cause acute and chronic effects, including death of humans and animals due to hepatocyte necrosis and haemorrhage⁷. Many of the water bodies with cyanobacterial blooms occur are used as raw water resources for various uses including drinking water. Thus, there is a need to predict the formation of toxic blooms to prevent their adverse impacts.

Microcystins are synthesised non-ribosomally via thiotemplate mechanism, by a multienzyme complex, called microcystin synthetase (MCS) consisting of non-ribosomal peptide synthetase (NRPS), polyketide synthases (PKS) and tailoring enzymes^{8,9}. The *Microcystis* genes (*mcy*) coding for MCS, are organised in a cluster of two

* Environmental Impact & Risk Assessment Division, CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), Nehru Marg, Nagpur-440 020, India

** Mumbai Zonal Laboratory, CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), 89/B, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai-440 018 (India)

*Corresponding author: e-mail: ln_sangolkar@neeri.res.in

Heavy Metals Under-Reporting in Water Environment Importance of Method Selection

KRISHNA D. LADWANI, KIRAN D. LADWANI AND DILIP S. RAMTEKE*

Owing to low-cost labour availability, the manufacturing sectors are moving from developed to less developed countries. Often, the less developed nations are less equipped (as well as aware) for reliable monitoring frameworks. Generally, the standard methods by US EPA are followed for monitoring heavy metal pollution in water environment. Since, the heavy metal determination is method dependent, accuracy and applicability of heavy metal detection were evaluated, which can improve the effectiveness of water management strategies. US EPA methods 3015A and 3005A were evaluated for their ability to detect heavy metals from aqueous phase. The detection was carried out using Flame Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (FAAS) and Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectroscopy (ICP-AES). The heavy metal recovery using different methods was significantly ($P < 0.05$) different. Recovery of certain heavy metals (Pb, Mn, Cr, and Zn) was significantly low with some standard method. In view of the development of technological solutions for heavy metal pollution mitigation (for water environment), the results of this study offer valuable insights for designing the monitoring studies that can ensure correct determination of heavy metals. The consequences of under-reporting of heavy metals (such as Pb, Mn, Cr and Zn) are discussed in view of their toxicity potential and ecological and other risks.

Key words: *Heavy metals, pollution, recovery, toxicity, risk*

Introduction

Due to its toxic properties, presence of heavy metals in water (above certain limits) is a serious global health concern for humans¹ as well as aquatic animals.²⁻⁴ The bioavailability and subsequent toxicity of heavy metals are dependent upon the geochemical partitioning of the metals to sediment components⁵ (referred to as metal speciation)^{6,7}. Therefore, adequate and accurate knowledge of heavy metal concentration in water environment (occurring naturally and those added through anthropogenic activities) has enormous importance for delineating effective heavy metal pollution mitigation policies.⁸⁻¹⁰ In view of the currently available technologies for heavy metal detection, often, the validity and reliability of the results is questionable (especially for environmental samples such as water, soil and sediment). The importance of valid and reliable estimates of heavy metals is important, especially in the context of demotechnic growth of humans, which is responsible for immense contribution of heavy metal to different environmental compartments.^{11,12} Although different types of industrial

effluents (cause of pollution) contain heavy metals (heavy metal's) qualitative and quantitative distribution is often distinctly different (T). However, the methods used for heavy metal determination are often same and do not account the environmental and other conditions prevailing at the sampling sites.

Current heavy metal detection techniques for heavy metals as a group and are often in laboratory based (with respect to use of chemical equipments). It is obvious that the conditions at various areas are primarily responsible for qualitative and quantitative variation of heavy metal in the concerned environment. Furthermore, the most hurdles in accurate detection of heavy metals are (inadequate) digestion and substandard reagents. Also, the detection and quantification (especially at low levels) of heavy metals require highly sensitive instrumental techniques.¹⁴ Conventionally, heavy metal concentration in aqueous samples has been estimated by numerous techniques; notable amongst them are Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS), IC

Environmental Impact and Risk Assessment Division, CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), Nehru Marg, Nagpur- 440 020; krishna_ladwani@yahoo.com, kiran_naut@yahoo.com
*Corresponding author: ds_ramteke@neeri.res.in

Particulate Pollution in Coal Mining Area of Jharia Coalfield

BHAWNA DUBEY*, ASIM KUMAR PAL** AND GURDEEP SINGH***

Coal is the main source of energy in India. Among all coal mining area, Jharia Coalfield (JCF) occupies an important place in India's industrial and energy scenario by virtue of being the only storehouse of prime coking coal and important source of coal for the thermal power generation and is also referred as coal capital of India. The present study was conducted during 2008-2009 to assess the sources of particulate matter in coal mining area. This region covers several coal mining/industrial areas, residential, commercial and mixed use areas. In the present study, assessment of particulate pollution in coal mining area was done by trace metal analysis using EPM 2000 filter paper followed by acid digestion, extraction and analysis through Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS). The annual average suspended particulate matter (SPM) and respirable particulate matter (PM_{10}) concentrations varied from 425-738 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and 170-339 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ respectively. This was followed by source profile study. The two approaches were adopted including principal factor analysis (Varimax rotated analysis) and Enrichment factor analysis to identify sources. The major sources of particulate matter were mainly from resuspended soil dust and earth crust, emissions from automobile exhaust, coal mining and associated activities, fugitive emissions, industries and oil combustion, etc.

Key words: *Particulate pollution, coal mining, Jharia*

Introduction

Jharia Coalfield is a coal mining, industrial and commercial area in the state of Jharkhand, Eastern India. Among all the developmental activities, coal mining is one of the core industries in India and plays a positive role in the economic development of the country¹. Most major mining activities contribute directly or indirectly air pollution²⁻³. Mining of coal opened new avenues for other related industries like thermal power plants, cement industries, refractories, brick kilns, steel and forging industries, coal briquettes, coke plants etc. Rate of population growth increased with the migration of people into this area in anticipation of employment and economic gains. This influx of population in turn caused various changes in the study area. Moreover, as industrial development and energy use grow, air pollution levels begin to rise rapidly. The particulate matter (PM) is an important criteria air pollutant. It comprises among

variety of substances, inorganic and organic (containing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon or neutral sulphates and nitrates, fine soil dust of lead and other toxic trace heavy metals, and other fibres. PM_{10} ($\leq 10 \mu\text{m}$ in diameter) however, penetrate deep into the lungs; significant health risks⁴⁻⁶. Particulates in a emitted chiefly by human activities. The sources are fuel combustion, motor vehicle and industrial processes and open burning of. Besides, opencast mining operations involving heavy earth moving machinery for extraction transporting coal release substantial quantities of particulate and gaseous pollutants directly into atmosphere. Particulate matter (SPM and PM_{10}) has several environmental effects and plays a significant role in modifying or changing climate, hydrological cycles, chemistry of the atmosphere, biogeochemical cycles, visibility reduction, affecting radiation

*SRF, Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, Jharkhand-826 004 (India)

** Professor & Head, Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad-826 004 (India)

*** Professor, Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, Jharkhand-826 004 (India)

*Corresponding author: email: bdubey03@gmail.com

Fischer-Tropsch Using Carbon Dioxide An Environment-friendly Approach

GANESH R. KALE* AND SONALI A. BORKHADE

Development of environment-friendly technologies such as CO_2 conversion to value added products is a growing area. The time and efforts spent for the development of new technology can be reduced by comparing it with an analogous already commercialised technology and evaluating it to fit the existing set-up. This study encourages the environmental technologist to look for such alternatives. This study focuses on the first step to commercialise CO_2 hydrogenation in the existing Fischer Tropsch plants by a comparison of CO and CO_2 hydrogenation reactions for alkane and alcohol production using the basic thermodynamic aspects such as Gibbs free energy of reactions, feasibility temperatures, feed mole ratios and reaction enthalpy. This basic study suggests that the thermodynamics of CO_2 hydrogenation is similar to the CO hydrogenation and it can be evaluated in detail for catalyst development and commercialization in the existing Fischer Tropsch plants.

Key words: *Fischer-Tropsch, CO_2 utilization, liquid fuels, thermodynamic limits, CO_2 hydrogenation*

Introduction

Environment-friendly technologies focus on reducing environmental pollution and emerging widely over the world. The most dangerous environmental pollutant is CO_2 . CO_2 emissions from industries are mainly blamed for climate change and global warming phenomenon. Hence development of environment friendly technologies to reduce CO_2 emissions as well as enhance CO_2 utilization (CO_2 conversion to useful products) are emerging areas for global research. Many new emerging processes like chemical looping combustion (CLC) can produce a pure CO_2 stream for sequestration. But CO_2 sequestration by compressing pure CO_2 into earth's crust is not a very safe alternative according to some researchers although Riemer et al. have suggested that storage of CO_2 in deep aquifers, oceans or in exhausted oil and gas fields would be relatively inexpensive¹. Alternatively, the idea of CO_2 utilization is picking up at a very brisk rate. Some of the important CO_2 utilization studies using photocatalytic route²⁻⁵ and electrocatalytic route⁶⁻⁹ have been reported in literature. Some researchers have used biochemical route to convert CO_2 to useful products¹⁰⁻¹². Catalytic processes have also been used for CO_2 conversion to value added products¹³⁻¹⁸. Research studies of CO_2 utilization using ionic liquids¹⁹, reaction with other chemicals²⁰, non-thermal plasmas²¹ and micro reduction techniques²² have also been reported.

Direct conversion of CO_2 by hydrogenation to value added products is more beneficial strategy for CO_2 utilization. Some important CO_2 hydrogenation studies have been summarized below:

1.1 CO_2 hydrogenation

Arakawa et al. have presented a review of recent research work in catalytic hydrogenation of CO_2 to various kinds of valuable chemicals and fuels²³. Arakawa et al. have studied the selective catalytic CO_2 hydrogenation over promoted copper catalyst to produce methanol of 79% selectivity at 7 MPa and 250°C²⁴. Toyir et al. have used gallium-promoted copper-based catalysts for CO_2 hydrogenation to produce methanol with 99% selectivity²⁵. Raudaskoski et al. have studied the CO_2 hydrogenation to methanol over copper-based zirconia-containing catalysts²⁶. Nam et al. experimentally studied the catalytic hydrogenation of CO_2 into hydrocarbons ($\text{C}_2 - \text{C}_4$ alkenes) over zinc promoted iron catalysts²⁷. Sakurai et al. have experimentally studied the CO_2 and CO hydrogenation over gold supported titanium, iron and zinc oxides between 150 – 400°C and found that methanol was produced more readily from CO_2 than from CO²⁸. Takeishi et al. have compared the CO_2 and CO hydrogenation on Raney ruthenium catalysts under 1.1 and 2.1 MPa pressure in an autoclave in presence of water at 353 and 433K²⁹. Kusama et al. have

Traffic Noise Prediction Model for Aurangabad City

K. B. PATANGE*, A. R. KHAN** AND S. H. BEHERE***

The traffic noise models developed by various researchers were used first to calculate L_{Acq} from the collected traffic data and observed $L_{Acq, h}$ values were used to find other parameters describing related statistics. It is observed that these models do not properly represent the noise conditions studied. A model is developed based upon the present work which gives better correlation between observed $L_{Acq, h}$ and calculated $L_{Acq, h}$ values for city traffic. These studies were carried out in the Aurangabad City of Maharashtra (India).

Key words: Noise modeling, L_{Acq} , traffic noise

Introduction

Noise is an unwanted sound that produces a displeasing effect and interferes with human communication, comfort and health. Now-a-days noise is becoming a major health hazard in the world. There are several countries in the world, where freedom to create noise has been strictly controlled. However, in India, the menace of noise is growing day by day due to population explosion, rapid industrialization and urbanization.

Of all kinds of noise, traffic noise is known to contribute the maximum. Transport noise is an increasingly prominent feature of the urban environment. The vehicle speed and traffic flow intensity influence the noise level greatly. One truck, which goes 90 km per hour, makes the same noise as 28 cars going at the same speed¹. Parida et al² have suggested that traffic related noise accounts for nearly two-third of the total noise pollution in a metropolitan city. In India, the number of vehicles is growing at an annual rate of more than 7% per annum². A traffic noise prediction method is an important tool to assess the effects of noise mitigation measures. A number of noise prediction models have been developed which can predict noise levels at a receptor point. The control of traffic noise of motor vehicles has become a matter of major concern. To ensure a high quality environment, methods for prediction of the noise emission of motor vehicles are necessary for controlling, planning new dwellings in the vicinity of existing roads, approval of noise activities and treating complaints etc.

In order to reduce traffic noise of motor vehicles, it is necessary to know the functional

relationship between noise emission and measurement parameters of traffic. Several models have been developed from fundamental variables such as traffic flow, speed of vehicles and percentage of vehicles etc. But these models are not applicable to the city studied. In the present study, efforts are made to develop a statistical model for city, details are discussed. The objective of this study is to develop a road traffic noise prediction model from traffic volume and conditions of transportation in the city.

Materials and methods

In this study, Data Logger Sound Level Meter Center 322 was used which is supplied by CENTER TECHNOLOGY, TAIWAN. This unit conforms to IEC651 type2, ANSI S1.4 Type2 for sound level measurement. It uses RS232 interface to perform bi-directional communication with PC. The resolution of the meter is 0.1dB. The instrument used during measurement of sound level was Brand New from Center Technology Corporation, Taiwan and duly calibrated at the Central Control Research Centre, Palghat (India) and the study was carried out in one go.

In the present study, the noise measurements were carried out at 24 different locations in Aurangabad city (Latitude - 19°53' N and Longitude - 75°23' E) during peak hours (9 to 1pm and 4 to 7pm). These measurements were carried out at a distance of 5m from the edge of road. All locations selected were on main roads with buildings far away to affect the measurements. The sound level meter was placed 1.2 m above the ground. The monitoring was done for 3-4 times during successive days at each location and the equivalent

* Department of Physics, Deogiri College, Aurangabad-431 005, Maharashtra, India

**Maulana Azad College, Aurangabad, India

*** Department of Physics, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, India

*Corresponding author: e-mail: patange123@yahoo.co.in

Use of Optimization Technique for Optimal Scheduling of Booster Chlorination in Drinking Water Distribution Systems

ROOPALI V. GOYAL** AND H. M. PATEL**

Chlorine concentration is an important parameter used to assess the quality of water supplied by a distribution network. In contrast to conventional methods that apply disinfectant only at the treatment works or source, booster disinfection reapplies disinfectant at strategic locations within the distribution system to compensate for the losses that occur as it decays over time. Booster disinfection strategy can reduce the mass of disinfectant required to maintain a detectable residual at points of consumption in the distribution system, which may lead to reduced formation of disinfectant by products such as Trihalomethanes also. The aim of present study is to formulate an optimization model using Linear Programming in Excel by coupling the results of residual chlorine obtained using EPANET software for selection of location of Booster chlorination stations as well as to optimize the Chlorine mass rate injections for the steady state flow conditions. Results from application of the formulated model suggest that schedule minimizes the total dose required to satisfy residual constraints of 0.2 mg/L (IS 10500-1991) at all the locations within distribution network as compared to conventional chlorination in which chlorine is applied at source only. The use of optimization method to select the scheduling of Booster stations can be used as the decision making tool for the water supply authority for the selection of location and number of booster station along with the application of chlorine mass rate to maintain the residual chlorine as 0.2 mg/L at all the locations in Drinking Water Distribution system.

Key words: *Drinking water distribution system, Booster chlorination, optimization model, linear programming*

Introduction

To control the pathogenic microorganisms in drinking water distribution systems generally disinfectant is added at the supply source commonly known as conventional method. Since disinfectants are reactive, the residence time of water in the distribution network can deplete the disinfectant residual at the edges of the distribution network and in storage reservoirs. Therefore, the source concentration must be large enough to maintain adequate disinfectant residuals throughout the distribution system, which may cause taste and odour complaints by consumers receiving the higher disinfectant concentrations. Additionally, disinfectants, such as chlorine and chloramines, have also been shown to be potential carcinogens at various concentrations¹. Thus, the quality

of water supplied by a distribution network is usually assessed by evaluating residual chlorine concentrations, if they are maintained between lower and upper bounds, to ensure good disinfecting properties and avoid poor tasting water. The booster chlorination strategy allows the water utilities to meet disinfection goals by providing proper balance between minimum and maximum concentration of chlorine.

The determination of chlorine concentration throughout a pipe network under steady or unsteady hydraulic and water quality conditions is of particular interest. Determination of the best disinfection strategy is also a critical step in water distribution network management. Chlorine concentration simulation using EPANET³ are currently available and enable prediction of chlorine distribution in a network.

*Research Scholar, The M.S. University of Baroda, Vadodara and Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering Department, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Technology Vasad, Dist. - Anand, Gujarat, e-mail: rvgoyal23@yahoo.co.in

**Head and Professor, Civil Engineering Department, Faculty of Technology & Engineering, The M.S. University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat, India; e-mail: haresh_patel@yahoo.com

*Corresponding author

Research on Promoting Potential of Public Behavior in Sorting Collection of Municipal Solid Waste: A Case of Kunming in China

HAIBIN CHEN*, SHA LI AND HAOLAN ZHANG

Relying on the current status of implementation and development trend of sorting collection of municipal solid waste (simply called MSW below) in China, we analyzed the significance of the research on promoting potential of public behavior in sorting collection of MSW. Take Kunming as a case example, we proposed an evaluation index of promoting potential in sorting collection of MSW. And we forecast that there will be huge promoting potential of public behavior in sorting collection of MSW in Kunming by using the *Fuzzy probability method* in Fuzzy Synthetic Evaluation Model, with on-site investigation and analysis of the results of opinion polls.

Key words: *Promoting potential in sorting collection of MSW, public behavior, Fuzzy probability method*

1. Introduction

Government explicitly proposed that they would make the MSW harmless treatment rate of 80% or more in 2015, (Twelfth Five-Year Plan of National Economic and Social Development) published in March 16, 2011, which also regarded the "source reduction" as an important measure for the disposal problem of MSW, and the effective way to solve the "source reduction" is that sorting collection of MSW. Premier Wen Jiabao chaired a State Council executive meeting to plan to further strengthen the disposal work of MSW in March 2011. Moreover, in April 19, 2011, State Council approved "An Notice about furthering strengthen the disposal work suggestions of MSW" (Guo Fa [2011] No. 9) from the Department of Housing and Urban Construction, which explicitly proposed that each province (or region) should form one or more model cities for good separation of MSW, and half cities which have regions should preliminary achieve the collection and transportation of kitchen waste in 2015. The introduction of this series policy indicates that sorting collection of MSW will be a policy concerning people's livelihood, publicizing in large-scale across the country.

2. Basic concepts and significance of the research

Promoting potential in sorting collection of MSW or simply called "MSW sorting" means the promotion level of effective MSW sorting, by the means of formulating reasonable mode of sorting, public

education and technical guidance, based on the public attitudes and awareness levels of MSW. In addition, this MSW mainly refers to the residential areas, enterprises and business districts which haven't been classified. Promoting potential in sorting collection of MSW includes three aspects: technology, management and behavior.

Sorting collection of MSW haven't been publicized comprehensively in China, and the results of some pilot cities are not good. From the perspective of promoting potential, promotion of technology and management only involves a small number of people, while promotion of behavior refers to all people, which is the most difficult to control. This paper analyzes the promoting potential of behavior in sorting collection of MSW, taking Kunming as an example.

We should remove the obstacles in the process of promotion by comprehensive analyzing the factors of MSW sorting, trying to know the problem and participation in the process of promotion and the public attitude to MSW sorting, then take incentives and publicities for different groups. A critical factor in promotion that public participation in MSW sorting is valid or not. Therefore, only by taking the subjective views of the public clearly can we take appropriate measures to ensure promotion of MSW sorting smooth and effective.

Health Risk Assessment of Pesticide Residues via Dietary Intake of Market Vegetables from Nagpur District, India

M. CHAVAN^{1*}, J. L. TARAR² AND N. THACKER³

The study was carried out to assess the health risk of pesticide residues via dietary intake of vegetables collected from the agro-based market of Nagpur District, Maharashtra. The analysis was carried out as per the standard method of ICAR followed by Gas Chromatographic technique with electron capture detector (GC-ECD). It was used to identify organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) (e.g. aldrin, HCH, endosulphan, endosulphan sulfate, DDT, DDE, DDD, dicofol), in common vegetables of Nagpur district (cauliflower, brinjal, chili, carrot). Pesticide residues were compared with MRL established by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Codex Alimentarius Commission. It was found that pesticide residues detected in all vegetable samples were within the prescribed limits, whereas the highest health indices were found for aldrin (1.540), endosulphan (2.190) and dicofol (3.657) in brinjal, alone. Therefore, the main health risk may be posed by these recorded compounds, while the remaining pesticide residues present no risk in the other vegetables analyzed.

Key words: *Vegetables, health risk, pesticide residues, Nagpur district*

Introduction

Fruits and vegetables are important components of the human diet since they provide essential nutrients that are required for most of the reactions occurring in the body. A high intake of fruits and vegetables (five or more servings per day) has been encouraged not only to prevent consequences due to vitamin deficiency but also to reduce the incidence of major diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular diseases and obesity¹.

Food is required for survival but its contamination by chemical toxicants is a worldwide public health concern. Contamination may occur through environmental pollution of the air, water and soil, such as the case with toxic metals, PCBs and dioxins, or through the intentional use of various chemicals, such as pesticides, animal rugs and other agrochemicals. The presence of pesticide residues is

a concern for consumers because of their toxic such as interfering with the reproductive system, foetal development as well as their capacity to cancer and asthma¹. Some of the pesticides are persistent and therefore remain in the body after long term exposure.

Pesticides fate after application to fruit and vegetables

After pesticides are applied to the crop, they may interact with the plant surfaces, be exposed to the environmental factors such as wind and sun, and may be washed off during rainfall. The pesticides may be absorbed by the plant surface (waxy cuticle and root surfaces) and enter the plant transport system (systemic) or stay on the surface of the crop (contact). While still on the surface of the crop, the pesticide can undergo volatilization, photo-

^{1, 3} CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), Nehru Road, Nagpur - 440 020, India
² Institute of Science, Nagpur - 440 001, India.
^{*} Corresponding author: 84, Old Subhedar Lay Out (Extn.), Nagpur.- 440 024 (e-mail:mrinmayichavan@gmail.com)