

Application of multivariate statistical techniques for sub soil water quality analysis

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Abstract: Multivariate Statistical method was used for analysis of water quality samples. Ground water quality samples were collected from Pudukkottai District, Tamil Nadu, and South India. The following parameters such as EC, pH, Ca, Mg, Na HCO₃, SO₄, NO₃, KCl, TDS were analyzed and compared with standards. Principal Component Analysis combined with Piper tri-linear diagram, were used for assessment of data. Four principal components were derived, with cumulative variance of 74.3975%. The underlying factor which is responsible for variation in the water quality has been obtained. Piper trilinear diagram shows the graphical representation of water chemistry in the study area. It shows the most of the samples falls under Ca²⁺-Mg²⁺-HCO₃⁻ water type. All the parameters analyzed are under the desirable limit given by BIS standards hence it is suitable for domestic and irrigation purposes.

Keywords: Key Words: Ground Water Quality Analysis, Multivariate Statistical Techniques, Principal Component Analysis, Piper Trilinear Diagram

1 Introduction

Water stored beneath the ground which percolates through rocks and soil is called ground water. When the ground water is stored in rocks then it is called as aquifers, Water percolates freely through these rocks (gravel, sandstone, sand or lime stone). Movement of water between the rocks is free without restrictions, hence there is large amount of connected spaces which makes them permeable. Ground Water plays an important role for the survival of human being; it is a major source for domestic purposes. One third of world's drinking water is contributed by ground water. Quality of ground water is more significant for domestic, agricultural and industrial uses. Contamination of ground water due to infiltration of leechate from landfill sites, usage of fertilizers and pesticides, intrusion of salt water are some of the sources for pollution of ground water [1]. For sustainable domestic, industrial and agriculture usages the quality of water is an important factor. Most of the researchers in India identified the impacts of discharge of toxic substances and Effluent discharge from industries into the river [2]. Water is considered as the precious and fundamental source for life. As the surface water is highly

polluted, which does not meet the standards for drinking, and also availability of surface water is deteriorating nowadays, groundwater is the dependable resource. Ground water quality is a very important problem throughout the globe. There are many factors, involved which cause changes in groundwater quality [3].

For efficient ground water quality management, assessment of water quality parameters and comparing the same with standards is not sufficient for arriving some useful conclusion. Since the Water quality data consists of more variables; some advanced approaches are needed for getting useful information. Statistical analysis of water quality data found as a useful approach for getting the hidden information from the data and without changing the original facts [4]. Data are wealth, A great quantity of data are available, but they are useful only when they are used in systematic way. Such a systematic review and interpretation of the raw data gives huge amount of information. Data set may be complex due to various causes. It may contain many observations and finalizing the variable, which causes the issue, is tough. In many cases data are measured in number of units and on every unit more number of variables are measured. To be aware of a large data set on various dependent variables, the data

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should be summarized. If there is only single variable for under concern, they are characterized by mean, skewness, kurtosis etc. In multivariate data the calculations is simplified by matrix notations [5].

Principal component which is the prime factor for PCA is calculated as follows.

The first principal component Y_1 is calculated using the formula

$$Y_1 = wa_1x_1 + wa_2x_2 + \dots + wa_nx_n \quad (1)$$

(or)

$$Y_1 = w_1^T X \quad (2)$$

Variance of Y_1 can be maximized, by using maximum values of weights. But it can be controlled by having the sum of the squares of weights as equal to 1.

$$w_1^2 + w_2^2 + \dots + w_n^2 = 1 \quad (3)$$

Second Principal component (Y_2) is calculated ensuring it is uncorrelated with the previous principal component.

$$Y_2 = wb_1x_1 + wb_2x_2 + \dots + wb_nx_n. \quad (4)$$

Further calculation continues until n number of principal components arrives and it should be equal to the original number of variables.

Conversion of principal component from original values is equal to

$$Y = PX \quad (5)$$

where P is the row of matrix and it is called as Eigen vectors. Weights forms the elements of Eigen vectors and it also called as loadings of the Eigen vector [6].

Let P is a matrix which transforms X into Y . X is the original data taken, and Y is the re-demonstration of the data set Eq. (5) gives the transformation of the original values, where P gives rotation and a linear stretch which then transforms X into Y . The rows of P , $\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$, which is a set of new vectors and expresses the columns of X . Next step is the change of basis.

$$PX = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 \\ \vdots \\ P_m \end{bmatrix} [x_1 \dots x_n] \quad (6)$$

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 \cdot X_1 & \dots & P_1 \cdot X_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ P_m \cdot X_1 & \dots & P_m \cdot X_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

Let the form of column of y as

$$y_i = \begin{bmatrix} p_1 \cdot x_1 \\ \vdots \\ p_m \cdot x_i \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

Multivariate statistical analysis, such as Factor analysis (FA)/Principal component analysis (PCA), Cluster analysis (CA) Canonical correspondence analysis (CCA),



Fig. 1: Pudukkottai district map.

Discriminate analysis (DA), Redundancy analysis (RDA), combined with graphical representation like Piper tri-linear diagram, Stiff diagram, Maucha diagram act as an important tool in environmental science. Factor Analysis gives the hidden information about the variables. Unclassified data is used in cluster analysis to make observational groups. PCA extracts linear relationships from variable set, it explains the variations in a large data set of correlated variables from smaller set variables [7–11].

In India ground water is a major source for both rural and urban areas. Groundwater occupies a dominant role in agriculture practices in India. Usage of ground water for agriculture has been accounted for last three decades and calculated 70% of India's food production. Ground water proves to be better quality when compared to surface water, and also gives good yield in irrigation. It provides consistent supply of water, and it is a significant one for irrigation. In the country the ground water, which occurs in shallow aquifers which is appropriate for various purposes is mainly of mixed type, calcium bicarbonate type, and other types dominates are sodium chloride type. In this study ground water quality assessment has been carried out in 21 villages of Gandarvakottai taluk, Pudukkottai district, Tamil Nadu, south India, and Multivariate statistical Analysis combined with Piper trilinear diagram has been used for water quality.

2 Study area

Current study was carried out in Pudukkottai district, where the ground water is a major resource for drinking and agriculture. The district lies between $78^\circ 25'$ and $79^\circ 15'$ east longitude and between $9^\circ 50'$ and $10^\circ 40'$ of the north latitude. It has an area of $4,663 \text{ km}^2$ with coastal line of 42 kms. Terrain of Pudukkottai District is of general flatness, inter spread with small rocky hills mostly

Table 1: Statistical analysis of water quality data.

Variables	min	max	Median	Mean	SD
EC	150	1500	490	516.67	340.28
pH	7.0	7.30	7	6.74	1.39
Ca	10	40	20	23.05	9.89
Mg	9	73	21	22.57	15.29
Na	2	161	39	46.19	44.014
K	1	39	1	5.95	10.47
HCO ₃	43	458	98	144.43	103.70
SO ₄	1	41	11	13.62	10.72
Cl	14	230	53	70.38	57.08
NO ₃	1.10	68	19	21.77	18.02
TDS	96	960	275.2	320.15	221.85

**Fig. 2:** Sample location from study area.

in the south western parts of the district, depressions and slopes found in the terrain are useful to construct tanks for irrigation purpose.

Average annual rainfall in the study area is 821mm, it falls under the tropical region the temperature is very high in this region, study area comes under 58 J/9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 58 N/2, 3, 4 and 58 O/1& 2 of Survey of India (SOI) topographic sheets of 1:50,000 scale [12].

3 Materials and methods

Samples were collected from 21 villages in Gandarvakottai taluk of Pudukkottai district, and sampling points were shown in Fig. 2 The ground water samples are collected in 2-litre clean polyethylene bottles, before sampling bottles were cleaned well with distilled water. Standard methods were followed for analysis of water (APHA 1995). The pH was measured by digital pH meter, Total dissolved solids by gravimetric method. Digital conductivity meter was used to measure electrical conductivity (EC). Sodium was measured by flame photometer. The remaining parameters were analyzed by titrimetric methods.

4 Results and discussion

4.1 Water Quality

Statistical analysis of water quality data are shown in Table 1 All the samples taken were under permissible limit as per IS 10500-1991.

4.2 Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

PCA it is a process which gives the linear combination of the original data in order to produce the axes which is

called as Principal components. Principal components are the variables which form the linear arrangement of the accessible variables. These variables are explained to report the hidden data structure, by classifying the highly correlated data in a well organized manner; It is a data reduction method by searching elemental variables which are reproduced in the observed variables. Let the given data matrix has take n variables and N samples, analysis of samples starts with centering on the means of each and every variables.

First step in PCA is finding out the correlation coefficients, it gives the strength between each variable and its relationships with one and another [13, 14]. Correlation coefficient is calculated by Karl Pearson coefficient of correlation method. It is a measure of intensity or degree of linear relationship between two variables, and it is a numerical measure of linear relationship between the two variables. The variables x and y under study are linearly related and each of the variables which is being affected by a large number of independent contributory causes of such a nature to produce a normal distribution.

$$r = \frac{N \sum xy (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{[N \sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][N \sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}} \quad (9)$$

where r is Karl Pearson correlation coefficient, N is the number of samples and x, y are variables.

Correlation Matrix in factor analysis gives the correlation between the ground water variables. From range 0.99 to 1.00 it represents ideal correlation, when correlation coefficient ranges from 0.80 to 0.98 it represents the powerful correlation.

When it ranges from 0.5 to 0.8 it is considered as fair correlation. If the correlation coefficient value is less than 0.5 it gives the weak relationship between the parameters. when the correlation coefficient is negative it represents the negative relationship between the chemical parameters.

Correlation coefficient for each and every sample was calculated and the correlation matrix has been shown in Table 2. Strong correlation between the variables (EC and TDS), (EC and Na), (EC and Mg) was found, high correlation found between TDS and Na, Mg and HCO₃, which shows the relatively more presence of dissolved

Table 2: Correlation matrix.

	EC	pH	Ca	Mg	Na	K	HCO ₃	SO ₄	Cl	NO ₃	TDS
EC	1										
pH	0.090	1									
Ca	0.785	0.048	1								
Mg	0.927	-0.020	0.694	1							
Na	0.926	0.138	0.599	0.774	1						
K	0.154	0.107	0.274	-0.056	0.262	1					
HCO ₃	0.879	-0.024	0.738	0.834	0.804	0.171	1				
SO ₄	0.643	0.102	0.343	0.622	0.615	-0.003	0.311	1			
Cl	0.862	0.163	0.602	0.784	0.816	0.129	0.744	0.529	1		
NO ₃	0.068	0.288	-0.049	0.068	0.031	0.108	-0.183	0.473	0.255	1	
TDS	0.977	0.072	0.717	0.893	0.958	0.128	0.891	0.593	0.822	-0.026	1

Table 3: Rotated Component Matrix.

	Component			
	1	2	3	4
EC	.393	.672	.152	-.203
pH	.664	.077	.569	-.046
Ca	.300	-.095	-.079	.885
Mg	.142	-.272	-.430	-.503
Na	.278	.704	.386	-.246
K	.232	-.793	.201	-.129
HCO ₃	-.007	.693	-.118	.467
SO ₄	.872	.087	-.044	.060
Cl	.909	.049	-.011	.013
NO ₃	.777	-.055	.300	.228
TDS	.098	-.078	.847	-.013

Table 4: Factor Extraction using Principal component Analysis.

Component	Initial eigen values			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	3.460	31.456	31.456	2.869	26.079	26.079
2	2.000	18.181	49.637	2.210	20.091	46.169
3	1.521	13.823	63.460	1.586	14.419	60.588
4	1.203	10.937	74.397	1.519	13.809	74.397
5	.914	8.306	82.703			
6	.704	6.396	89.099			
7	.507	4.613	93.713			
8	.361	3.283	96.996			
9	.196	1.786	98.782			
10	.078	.706	99.488			
11	.056	.512	100.000			

salts when compared with other parameters in the samples.

Second step is Factor extraction, which is done by taking the factors with eigen value greater than 1, eigen value gives the variation of the variables which is related by that particular factor. By using orthogonal transformation it converts observation data into linearly uncorrelated values which is called as principal components. The first component indicates the most variation in the data, than the subsequent components.

In this study four factors were extracted and it is rotated by Varimax with Kaiser Normalization for

achieving rotated component matrix, and it is shown in Table 3 and Table 4. Factor analysis has been carried out by SPSS 16.0 the first factor has the percentage of variance 26.079% with most positive values, and it represents the strong relationship between the other parameters, second factor has the percentage of variation of 20.091. The third factor has the percentage of variance of 14.419, The Fourth factor has the percentage of variance as 13.809 [15]. Cl, Na, TDS, Ca has the highest positive values in the I, II, III, IV components.

Hence the above said parameters are responsible for the variations in the ground water quality. The variation in

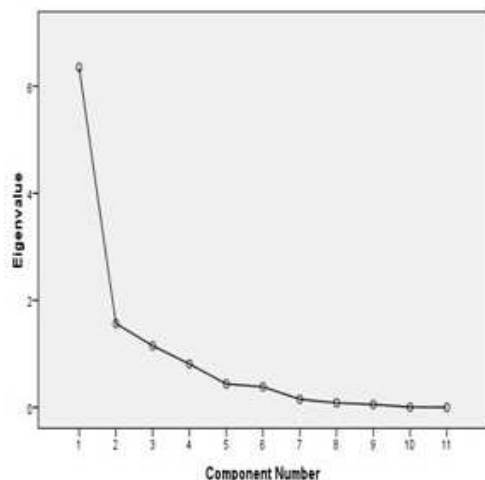


Fig. 3: Scree plot.

parameters has been shown in Scree plot in Fig. 3. From the scree plot it is evident four factors are responsible for slight changes in water quality.

4.3 Piper tri-linear diagram

Piper diagram is a graphical tool which gives the chemistry of water sample. It consists of three parts in which bottom left represents the cations and bottom right represent the anion and the diamond shaped plot represent the combination of both anion and cation. Ground Water data lies at the top of the diamond convey permanent hardness. Data which lies near the left corner and shows that it is of temporary hardness. Water located at the lower corner of the diamond represents alkali carbonates. Water data arranged at right-hand side represents saline water. $Mg^{2+}-HCO_3^-$ type hence it is considered as mixed type water.

Considering the major cations and anions in the water sample, Piper tri-linear diagram was plotted for classifying the water with respect to its anionic and cationic composition [16, 17]. Most of the samples falls in the Ca^{2+} -in their corresponding four component factors. From Piper Tri-linear diagram the water type in the study area has been categorized.

5 Conclusions

Significant information's were derived using Principal component Analysis combining with Piper Tri-linear diagram. According to (PCA), Parameters such as Cl, NaTDS, Ca are responsible for variations in the water quality. These parameter gives the highest positive loadings in their corresponding four component factors. From Piper Tri-linear diagram the water type in the study area has been categorized.

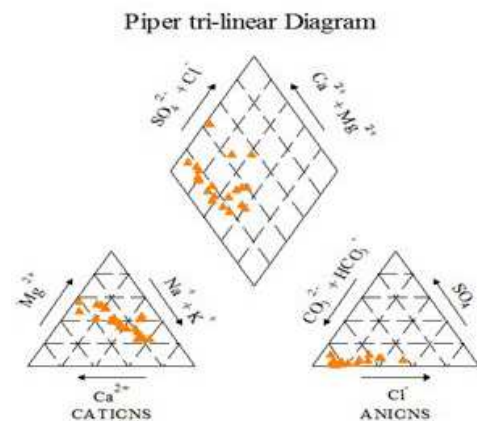


Fig. 4: Piper tri-linear representation of anions and cations.

Ground water samples were analysed using standard methods (APHA). 11 parameters were evaluated from the study area and compared with the standards. Some of the samples are slightly alkaline due to the hard rock interaction in the study area. All the parameters are within the permissible limits, prescribed by the BIS Standards and it is safe for drinking and agricultural activities.

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