

Assessment of water quality for drinking purposes using correlation study and water quality index.

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ABSTRACT

The water from bore well, deep well and tap were collected from different locations of Chandrapur city and nearby villages of the city. They were analyzed for physicochemical parameters to ascertain water quality for drinking use. The analysis report showed that some water parameters comply with drinking water standards. The correlation study was carried out to find out closeness between water quality parameters. The correlation study indicated that most of pair of water parameters significantly inter correlated to one another. The few parameters showed poor or insignificant correlation. The water quality index was calculated using weighted arithmetic index method. The range of water quality index clearly signifies poor quality and requires treatment before use.

Keywords: Physicochemical analysis, correlation coefficient, water quality, water quality index.

INTRODUCTION

Water is most essential natural resource required for all kind of living being on the earth for their survival.[1] It is the used for industrial, agricultural, drinking and other domestic utility.[2] The quality of water is depends on presence of physical, chemical and biological constituents in water. The release of undesirable content into water reservoir due to natural process like weathering of rock, industrialization, urbanization and anthropogenic activities degrades water quality and consequently affects life.[3-5]

The supply of potable water to every citizen by water supplying agencies is big issue and requires continuous monitoring of water quality. In the present work, an attempt has been made to evaluate and improve water quality by physicochemical analysis, correlation study and water quality index.

Study area

The Chandrapur city is located at 19.57° N latitude and 70.18°E longitudinal in the eastern Maharashtra and situated at 189.9 meter above from main sea level. The area of the city region is about 70.02 KM².

METHODOLOGY

We have collected five water samples from viz. Tukum, ST Wokshop, Major Gate, Nandori, Khairgaon and assigned as S₁, S₂, S₃, S₄ and S₅ site sample respectively in the month of March 2019. The water was sampled in well cleaned pre-dried polythene bottles with necessary precautions. The temperature was recorded immediately and air tight with lid and brought into laboratory for chemical analysis. They were analyzed for water parameters like color, odor, taste, turbidity, PH, EC, TDS, TH, alkalinity, chloride, fluoride, nitrate, calcium, magnesium and iron using standard methods and results were related with standards given by USPH, BIS, WHO and ICMR.[6-10]

Statistical analysis: The results of chemical analysis were subjected to statistical analysis and inter correlated using Microsoft Excel. The correlation coefficient (r) between dependent and independent parameter was determined and correlation matrix diagram is constructed. The literature study reveals that several researchers founds correlation between dependent and independent water parameters and subsequently estimates drinking water quality.[11-13] In correlation study, correlation range from 0.8 to 1.0 and -0.8 to -1.0 is termed as strong, from 0.5-0.8 and -0.5 to -0.8 as a moderate and weak when correlation range is 0.0 to +0.5 and -0.0 to -0.5.[14] The positive and negative sign indicates significant and non-significant correlation respectively.

Water quality Index (WQI): Determination of water quality index is effective mathematical tools to ascertain water quality.[15-16] The weight arithmetic index method was used to evaluate suitability of water quality for drinking purpose in present work. The water parameters viz. turbidity, PH, EC, total dissolved solids, total hardness, alkalinity, chloride, fluoride, nitrate, calcium, magnesium and iron were selected to calculate water quality index. Determination of WQI was summarized as follows. Firstly unit weight (w_i) was assigned to water quality parameters on the basis of power of influencing water quality **Table 1**. In second step, relative weight (W_i) of each parameters **Table 1** was calculated by following expression.

$$W_i = w_i / \sum_{i=1}^{n=12} w_i$$

Where=W_i is relative weight, w_i is unit weight of each parameter and n is number of selected parameters. In next step, quality rating of each parameter was calculated by dividing its concentration by its permissible limit and result multiplied by 100 according to formula as shown below.

$$Q_i = (C_i - I_i / S_i - I_i) * 100$$

Where=Q_i is water quality rating, C_i is concentration corresponding to ith parameter, I_i is ideal value of ith parameter in mg/l (ideal value of PH is 7 and all other parameters was zero), S_i is standard value for ith parameter in mg/l.

The water quality sub-index (S_{li}) was calculated for each parameter by multiplying its relative weight (W_i) with its water quality rating (Q_i) using expression S_{li}=W_i*Q_i where S_{li} is sub-index value for ith parameter. Finally water quality index was determined by adding sub-indices of all parameters using following expression.

$$WQI = \sum_{i=1}^{n=12} S_{li}$$

The computed WQI were categorized into five classes for drinking.[17-18] The range for WQI for drinking use is given in **Table 2**

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The sixteen water quality parameters were determined for water samples in present study and results were assembled in **Table 3**. All the water samples were colorless and acceptable odor and taste. Their temperature was fairly constant. The turbidity of all water samples are lies in the desirable limit. The PH of water is important parameter to know extent of hydrogen ion concentration in water. The PH of water

samples under study lies in acceptable range given by BIS. The electrical conductivity of water determines soluble ionic concentration in water. In the present work EC lies in safer desirable range except S₄ site. The TDS of water samples lies in permissible limit except S₄ water. The alkalinity of S₄ and S₅ site sample lies above prescribed standard limit. The chloride, fluoride, nitrate, TH, Ca, Fe and Mg of all water samples lie in the desirable limit.

Table 1: Unit weight and relative weight determination

W/P	STD	Unit Weight (wi)	Relative weight (Wi)
Turb.	5	2	0.054
PH	7	4	0.108
EC	800	4	0.108
TDS	500	4	0.108
Alk.	200	2	0.054
Cl	250	2	0.054
F	1	4	0.108
NO ₃	45	5	0.135
TH	300	2	0.054
Ca	75	2	0.054
Mg	30	2	0.054
Fe	0.3	4	0.108
		Sum of wi=37	Sum of Wi= 0.999

Table 3: Physicochemical and statistical analysis of water samples

Sample	S ₁	S ₂	S ₃	S ₄	S ₅	Mean	Range	WHO	USPH	BIS
Source	BW	TW	BW	BW	DW	--	--	--	--	--
Temp.	22.5	22.5	22.5	22.5	22.5	--	--	--	--	--
Color	CL	CL	CL	CL	CL	--	--	--	--	--
Odor	AG	AG	AG	AG	AG	--	--	--	--	--
Taste	AG	AG	AG	AG	AG	--	--	--	--	--
Turb.	0.50	0.30	0.17	0.40	0.80	0.349	0.7	--	--	5-10
PH	8.4	7.3	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.21	1.5	6.5-9.2	6-8.5	6.5-8.5
EC	722	715	949	3512	938	1654	2797	300	300	800
TDS	469	465	617	2283	610	1075	1818	500-1500	500	500-2000
Alk.	192	76	286	370	180	270.6	428	--	--	200
Cl	22	75	25	380	59	131.5	358	200-600	250	250-1000
F	0.33	0.02	0.66	0.21	0.19	0.291	0.78	1-1.5	--	1-1.5
NO ₃	23.14	42.97	8.75	46.55	28.62	28.85	45.56	40-50		45
TH	216	142	400	456	32	359.7	510	100-500	500	300-600
Ca	24	34	29	128	73	62.77	105	75-200	100	75-200
Mg	47	26	90	80	38	70.11	104	30-150	30	30-100
Fe	0.13	0.11	0.02	0.13	0.03	0.081	0.11	0.3	1.0	0.3-1

All water parameters were expressed in mg/l except Turbidity and EC which were expressed in NTU and S/cm respectively. Abbreviations: BW, TW, and DW indicates Bore Well, Tap water and Dip well Water, CL=colorless, AG=Agreeable, Turb.=Turbidity

Table 2: Classification of water quality

Water quality index	Rating of water quality
0-25	Excellent
26-50	Good
51-75	Poor
76-100	Very poor
Above 100	Unfit for drinking

Table 4: Correlation coefficient among water quality parameters

	Turb.	PH	EC	Alk.	TDS	Cl	F	NO ₃	TH	Ca	Mg	Fe
Turb	1.000											
PH	0.211	1.000										
EC	-0.065	0.456	1.000									
Alk.	-0.185	0.815	0.786	1.000								
TDS	-0.065	0.456	1.000	0.786	1.000							
Cl	-0.045	0.298	0.982	0.656	0.982	1.000						
F	-0.408	0.568	-0.116	0.508	-0.116	-0.290	1.000					
NO ₃	0.161	-0.344	0.554	-0.079	0.554	0.699	-0.876	1.000				
TH	-0.324	0.699	0.750	0.976	0.750	0.624	0.555	-0.113	1.000			
Ca	0.281	0.387	0.915	0.632	0.915	0.920	-0.304	0.622	0.585	1.000		
Mg	-0.493	0.674	0.530	0.904	0.530	0.380	0.769	-0.371	0.949	0.300	1.000	
Fe	-0.094	-0.065	0.388	-0.008	0.388	0.474	-0.521	0.662	-0.122	0.217	-0.215	1.0

Light red fill indicates strong correlation
 Light green fill indicates moderate correlation

Table 5: Determination of water quality rating (Qi) of different parameters at respective sites

Sample	Turb.	PH	EC	Alk.	TDS	Cl	F	NO ₃	TH	Ca	Mg	Fe
S ₁	10	93.3	90.2	96	93.8	8.8	33	51.4	72	32	156.7	43.3
S ₂	6	20	89.37	38	93	30	2	95.48	47.33	45.33	86.77	36.66
S ₃	3.4	86.6	118.6	143	123.4	10	66	19.44	133.3	38.66	300	6.66
S ₄	8	100	439	185	456.5	152	21	103.4	152	170.7	266.7	43.3
S ₅	16	80	117.2	90	122	23.6	19	63.6	10.66	97.3	126.6	10

In the present study, the substantial relationship between two parameters had been derived with the help of correlation coefficient. The correlation coefficient (r) among different physicochemical parameters of water were calculated and presented in matrix **Table 4**. From matrix table, it is observed that EC had strong significant correlation with TDS (1.000), Cl (0.982), and Ca (0.915), moderate correlation with Alk. (0.786), NO₃ (0.554), TH (0.750) and Mg (0.530). This showed that with increase and decrease of EC value; TDS, Cl, Ca, Alk., NO₃, TH and Mg also exhibits decrease or increase in their value. The turbidity showed non-significant correlation with EC, Alk, TDS, chloride, fluoride, total hardness, magnesium and iron indicated that turbidity is independent on EC, Alk, TDS, chloride, fluoride, total hardness, magnesium and iron. The PH is strongly correlated alkalinity (0.815) and moderately correlated

with fluoride (0.568), TH (0.699), and Mg (0.674). The alkalinity showed strong correlation with TH (0.976) and Mg (0.904) whereas moderate correlation with TDS (0.786), Cl (0.656), F (0.508), and Ca (0.632). The TDS showed significant correlation with Cl (0.982) and Ca (0.915), moderate correlation with NO₃ (0.554), TH (0.750) and Mg (0.530). The Cl founds strong correlation with Ca (0.920) and moderate correlation with NO₃ (0.699) and TH (0.624). It reveals that Cl is present in water in the form of CaCl₂ and CaNO₃. The F showed moderate relation with TH (0.555) and Mg (0.769). The NO₃ showed moderate correlation with Ca (0.622) and Fe (0.662). The TH showed strong relation with Mg (0.949) and moderate relation with Ca (0.585). It suggested that TH of water samples is mainly due to presence of Mg and Ca ions. Other pair of parameters was either insignificant or poorly correlated presented in table 2.

Table 5 and **6** showed water quality rating (Qi), WiQi, Water quality index and quality of water at respective sampling sites. The WQI at site S4 showed heavy pollution may be due to anthropogenic activities and found to be unfit for drinking use. The WQI at site S₁, S₂ and S₅ was 65.28, 52.48 and 65.74 respectively indicated poor quality for drinking use whereas WQI of S₃ indicated very poor water quality for drinking use.

CONCLUSION

The quality of water in the Chandrapur city and nearby areas has been analyzed. On the basis of analytical finding most of water parameter at all sites lies beyond desirable limit. The correlation study reveals significant inter correlation between several dependant and independent parameters. The WQI of water at respective site showed poor quality of water. It can be concluded that water quality was not too good and require pre-treatment before use.

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