

# Water Quality Modeling and Regression Analysis of Vembanad Lake and its Primary Inflows

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**Abstract:** Water quality modeling involves the prediction of water pollution using mathematical simulation techniques. A typical water quality model consists of a collection of formulations representing physical mechanisms that determine position and momentum of pollutants in a water body. Modeling can be used to assess and predict future water quality situations resulting from different management strategies. Surface water quality models can be useful tools to simulate and predict the levels, distributions, and risks of chemical pollutants in a given water body. Water quality modeling using Artificial Neural Network (ANN) is a computational method animated by the studies of the brain and nervous system. Our project aims to predict the accuracy of water quality models of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows by performing regression analysis. And it also aims to develop a relationship between water quality parameter and water quality index of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows.

**Keywords:** ANN, Regression, Water quality

## I. INTRODUCTION

Water quality study is a diverse area of activity that generally involves developing mathematical and logic-based representations of real world relationships between different variables that is the spatial and temporal relationships between water quality pollutants, stream hydrology, plant life and other chemical components. Surface water quality modeling is useful to simulate and predict the levels, distributions, and risks of chemical pollutants in a given water body. Surface water quality modeling results from surface water quality models under different pollution scenarios, which are very important components of environmental impact assessment and can provide a basis and technique for environmental management agencies to make right decisions.

Modeling can be used to assess and predict future water quality situations resulting from different management strategies. Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) have seen an explosion of interest over the last two decades and have been

successfully applied in all fields of chemistry and particularly in analytical chemistry. ANNs are capable of gradual learning over time and modeling extremely

complex functions. ANNs are often applied for prediction, clustering, classification, modelling of a property, process control, procedural optimization and/or regression of the obtained data.

Regression analysis is one of the most frequently used tools in market research. In its simplest form, regression analysis allows market researchers to analyze relationships between one independent and one dependent variable. The key benefits of using regression analysis are that it can indicate if independent variables have a significant relationship with a dependent variable, Indicate the relative strength of different independent variables effects on dependent variable, Make predictions.

## II. OBJECTIVE

- To predict the accuracy of water quality models of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows
- To develop a relationship between water quality index of Vembanad lake and primary inflows
- To develop a relationship between water quality parameters and water quality index of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows.

## III. METHODOLOGY

### 3.1. Study Area Identification

Vembanad Lake is the longest lake in India as well as the largest lake in the state of Kerala. The Vembanad Lake spanning between latitudes 9° 28' and 10°10' N and longitudes 76° 13' and 76° 31' E is the biggest among the 30 backwaters in the State. This has an area of about 22750 km<sup>2</sup> spread in to three districts, viz., Ernakulam in the north, Kottayam in the east and Alappuzha (Alleppey) in the south. The western side is bordered by a narrow belt of land separating the lake from the Lakshadweep Sea. It extends to a length of 96.5 km from Azhikode in the north to Alappuzha town in the south. The lake north of Aroor is situated in the erstwhile Cochin State, and is generally referred to as the Cochin backwaters. The lake is fed by 10 rivers flowing into it including the six major rivers of central

Kerala namely the Achenkovil, Manimala, Meenachil, river, Muvattupuzha river, Pamba and Periyar. Table 1 and fig 2 shows

the detailed study locations. Vembanad Lake and its incoming rivers is shown on fig 1.

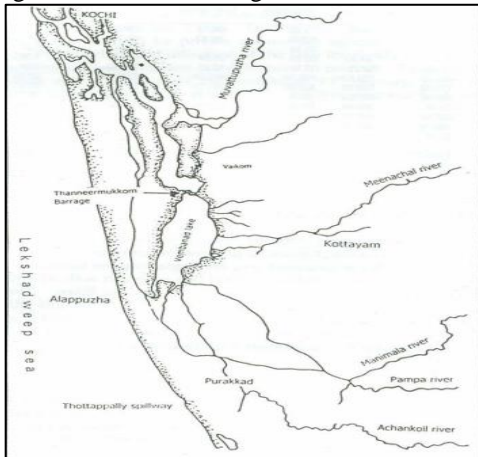


Fig 1 Map of Vembanad Lake indicating incoming rivers

Table 1 Sample Locations in detail

No	Location	District	Latitude and Longitude
R1	Vembanad Lake	Kottayam	9.5968° N, 76.3985° E
S1	Manimala River	Pathanamthitta	9.4949° N, 76.7466° E
S2	Pamba River	Alappuzha	9.3707° N, 76.4115° E
S3	Achenovil River	Alappuzha	9.2814° N, 76.5199° E
S4	Meenachil River	Kottayam	9.6821° N, 76.6080° E
S5	Periyar River	Kottayam	10.0669° N, 76.2990° E
S6	Muvattupuzha River	Ernakulam-Kottayam	9.8038° N, 76.4556° E

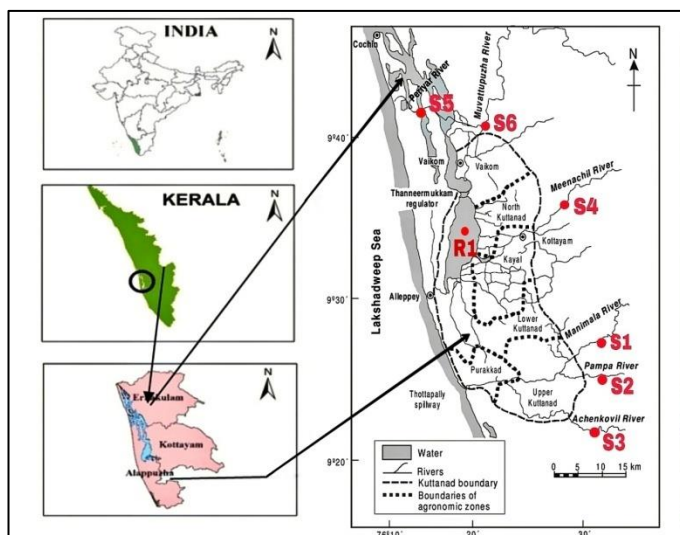


Figure 2 Detail sample locations

### 3.2 Water Quality Index Calculation

Water quality data of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows are collected from the year 2007 to 2019 from water quality database, which is hosted by central pollution control board, sponsored by Ministry of Environment,

Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India. The data includes temperature, pH, total coliform, fecal coliform, electrical conductivity, nitrate and dissolved oxygen.

Water quality index of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows are calculated by weighted arithmetic method based on the data collected from CPCB from the year 2007 to 2019. Weighted arithmetic water quality index method classified the water quality according to the degree of purity by using the most commonly measured water quality variables. The method has been widely used by the various scientists and the calculation of WQI was made by using the following equation:[8]

$$WQI = \frac{\sum QiWi}{\sum Wi}$$

The quality rating scale (Qi) for each parameter is calculated by using this expression:

$$Qi = 100 \left[ \frac{Vi - Vo}{Si - Vo} \right]$$

Where,

Vi is estimated concentration of ith parameter in the analysed water, Vo is the ideal value of this parameter in pure water,

Vo = 0 (except pH =7.0 and DO = 14.6 mg/l), Si is recommended standard value of ith parameter

The unit weight (Wi) for each water quality parameter is calculated by using the following formula:

$$Wi = K / Si$$

Where,

K = proportionality constant and can also be calculated by using the following equation;

$$K = \frac{1}{\sum (1/Si)}$$

Table 2 Water quality rating as per weighted arithmetic method [6]

WQI Value	Rating of Water Quality	Grading
0-25	Excellent water quality	A
26-50	Good water quality	B
51-75	Poor water quality	C
76-100	Very Poor water quality	D
Above 100	Unsuitable for drinking purpose	E

Where, wi = Average weight of parameter, Wi= Relative weight of parameter

### 3.3 Regression Analysis

The relationship between water quality parameters of the selected areas and also water quality index of each location is found out by using regression analysis. Similarly the relationship between water quality index of Vembanad Lake and water quality parameters of primary inflows are also determined. For finding out the relationship between them, the seven parameters (temperature, pH, fecal

coliform, total coliform, electrical conductivity, dissolved oxygen, nitrate) are given as independent variable and water quality index is given as a dependent variable. In the same way, in case of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows, water quality of index of Vembanad Lake is given as dependent variable and that of primary inflows is given as independent variable.[9]

**Stepwise Multiple Regression**

- Main Regression analysis window

Select the path. Analyze - Regression - Linear. This brings us to the Linear Regression main dialog window. From the variables list panel, we click over esteem to the Dependent panel and negafect, posafect, neoopen, neoextra, neoneuro, and tanx to the Independent(s) panel. The Method drop-down menu contains the set of step methods that IBM SPSS can run. The only one you may not recognize is Remove, which allows a set of variables to be removed from the model together. Choose Stepwise as the Method from the drop-down menu shown in fig 3

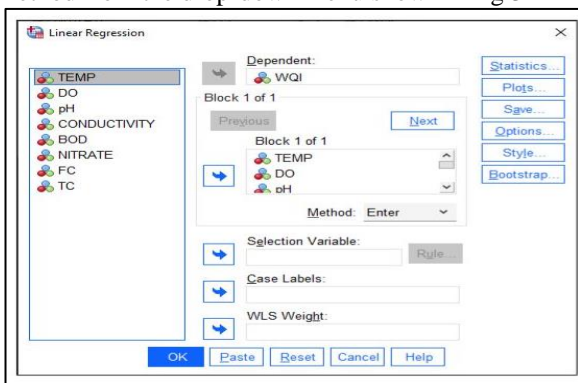


Figure 3 Linear Regression toolbox

- Statistical Window

Selecting the Statistics pushbutton brings us to the Linear Regression: Statistics window. Clicking Continue shown in fig 4 returns us to the main dialog box

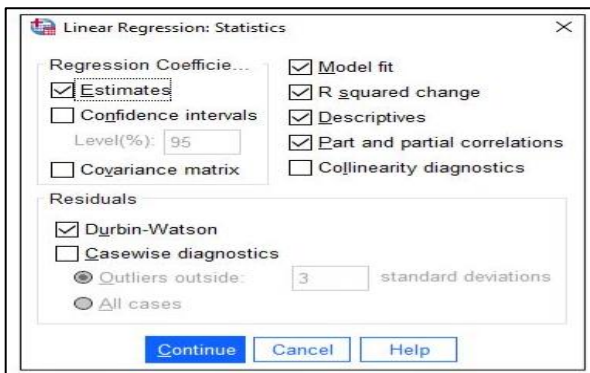


Figure 4 Linear Regression Statistics toolbox

- Options Window

Selecting the Options pushbutton brings us to the Linear Regression: Options dialog window displayed. The top panel is now applicable as we are using the stepwise method. To avoid looping variables continually in and out

of the model, it is appropriate to set different “significance” levels for entry and exit. Earning entry to the model is set at an alpha level of .05 (e.g., a variable with a probability of .07 will not be entered) and is the more stringent of the two settings. But to be removed, a variable must have an associated probability of greater than 0.10 (e.g., a variable with an associated probability of 0.12 will be removed but one with an associated probability of .07 will remain in the model). In essence, it is more difficult to get in than be removed. This is a good thing and allows the stepwise procedure to function. Click Continue shown in fig 5 to return to the main dialog window, and click OK to perform the analysis.

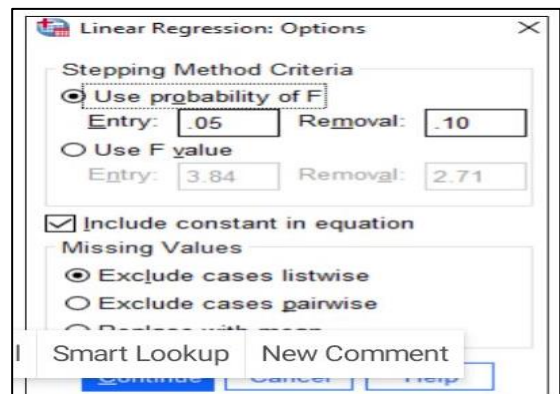


Figure 5 Linear regression option toolbar

- Stepwise Multiple Regression Output

The four ANOVAs that are reported correspond to four models, but don't let the terminology confuse us. The stepwise procedure adds only one variable at a time to the model as the model is “slowly” built. At the third step and beyond, it is also possible to remove a variable from the model (although that did not happen in our example). In the terminology used by IBM SPSS, each step results in a model as shown in fig 6 and 7 and each successive step modifies the older model and replaces it with a newer one. Each model is tested for statistical significance

Variables Entered/Removed <sup>a</sup>			
Model	Variables Entered	Variables Removed	Method
1	TC, NITRATE, BOD, TEMP, pH, CONDUCTIVIT <sup>b</sup>		Enter

a. Dependent Variable: WQI  
 b. All requested variables entered.

Model Summary <sup>b</sup>						
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics	
					R Square Change	F Change
1	1.000 <sup>a</sup>	1.000	.999	.873	1.000	1132.127

Figure 6 Model Summary from spss software

Of primary interest are the R Square and Adjusted R Square values, which are 1.000 and 0.999, respectively. We learn from these that the weighted combination of the predictor variables explained approximately 100% of the variance of self-esteem. The loss of so little strength in computing the Adjusted R Square value is primarily due to

our relatively large sample size combined with a relatively small set of predictors.

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	6905.296	8	863.162	1132.127	<.001 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	3.050	4	.762		
	Total	6908.345	12			

a. Dependent Variable: WQI  
 b. Predictors: (Constant), TC, NITRATE, BOD, TEMP, pH, CONDUCTIVITY, FC, DO

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	11.767	19.461		.605	.578
	TEMP	.210	.431	.013	.489	.651
	DO	-.427	3.272	-.004	-.131	.902
	pH	.002	.000	.964	41.742	<.001
	CONDUCTIVITY	.344	.472	.017	.729	.507
	BOD	-.004	1.181	.000	-.004	.997
	NITRATE	.003	.002	.053	2.176	.095
	FC	.000	.001	.004	.129	.904
	TC	-.255	.675	-.008	-.378	.724

Figure 7 Regression analysis graph from spss software

The Part column under Correlations lists the semi partial correlations for each predictor once the model is finalized; squaring these values informs us of the percentage of variance each predictor uniquely explains the Y intercept of the raw score model is labeled as the Constant.

### 3.4 Water Quality modeling using ANN

Methodology is presented in fig 8 indicates the application of ANN to predict the WQI.

Neural Networks Models were developed for the prediction of yearly values of the water quality index of Vembanad Lake and its primary inflows. The yearly data of eight water quality parameters (pH, temperature, electrical conductivity, fecal coliform, total coliform, dissolved oxygen, nitrate), for the time period 2007-2019 were selected for this analysis. For neural network models construction, yearly data is randomly divided into three subsets:[7]

- Training set (70%)
- Validation set (15%)
- Testing sets (15%)

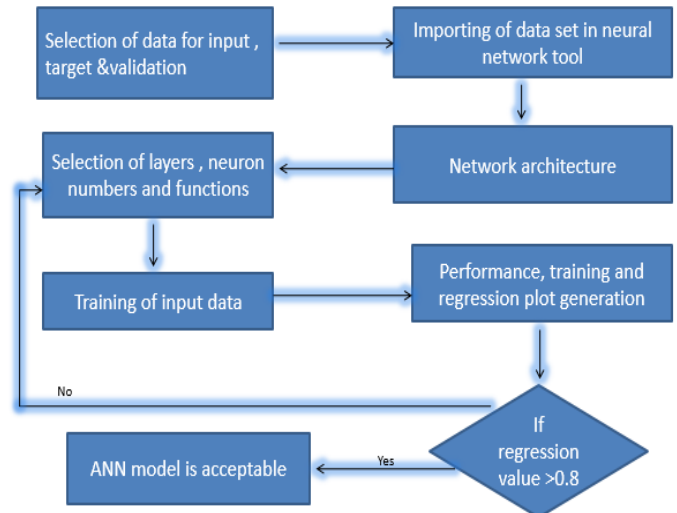


Figure 8 Methodology to apply ANN for WQI

## IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Water quality index calculation

Table 3 Water quality index obtained by weighted arithmetic method

R1	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6
36.7176	18.21033	15.46975	15.63129	19.69942	99.68636	19.61599
38.01353	16.45819	15.69065	15.06953	19.12023	82.00058	18.87025
68.29896	15.66233	15.57375	15.13549	18.77823	99.7592	20.54199
52.24924	16.15315	14.43715	16.36644	19.3139	72.53967	19.13748
41.07018	15.8124	16.04989	17.1381	19.60445	28.31019	19.47201
35.19976	18.31769	15.31296	16.98954	20.12748	72.20715	19.9782
81.41917	19.31575	38.25003	16.67375	19.4407	70.37289	20.26992
31.76944	19.83104	17.47774	16.41354	19.33083	37.00498	19.93627
21.61569	17.9745	16.9646	16.4945	18.41306	33.81349	19.37381
52.44743	19.10108	17.15611	16.39896	18.28225	23.48196	20.13355
48.88603	17.22243	18.5609	16.34722	18.35047	33.33221	20.91062
12.43333	18.66035	18.07632	18.12901	17.64696	37.90133	18.16792
99.75618	18.22315	17.6326	17.52392	18.26643	25.84948	17.70027

Using weighted arithmetic method, water quality index was calculated for vembanad lake and its primary inflows with the data from 2007 to 2019

### 4.2 Regression analysis output

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics	
					R Square Change	F Change
1	1.000 <sup>a</sup>	1.000	.999	.873	1.000	1132.127

Figure 9 Model summary of vembanad lake from spss software

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	11.767	19.461		.605	.578
	TEMP	.210	.431	.013	.489	.651
	DO	-.427	3.272	-.004	-.131	.902
	pH	.002	.000	.964	41.742	<.001
	CONDUCTIVITY	.344	.472	.017	.729	.507
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	NITRATE	.003	.002	.053	2.176	.095
	FC	.000	.001	.004	.129	.904
	TC	-.255	.675	-.008	-.378	.724

Figure 10 Coefficients obtained from spss software for vembnad lake

Fig 9 and 10 shows the output from spss software for regression analysis. Similarly, the outputs of the primary inflows of Vembnad lake can be obtained.

### 4.3 Relationship between Water Quality Index

$$Y = 0.586Y_1 - 0.147Y_2 - 6.283Y_3 - 5.040Y_4 + 2.452Y_5 - 7.235Y_6 + 331.628$$

Where,

Y-WQI of Vembnad Lake

Y<sub>1</sub>-WQI of Meenachil Y<sub>2</sub>-WQI of Periyar

Y<sub>3</sub>- WQI of Muvattupuzha

Y<sub>4</sub>-WQI of Manimala

Y<sub>5</sub>-WQI of Pambha

Y<sub>6</sub>-WQI of Achankovil

### 4.4 Water quality modeling using Artificial Neural Network

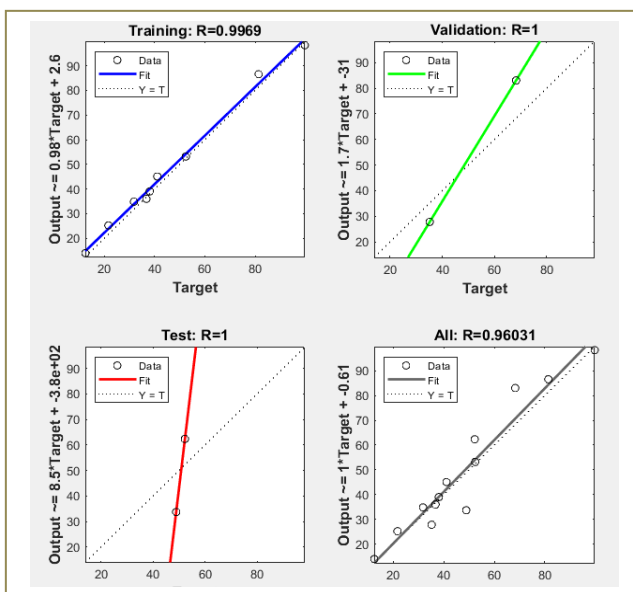


Figure 11 Regression graph from matlab

Figure 11 shows the output from matlab for predicting water quality model accuracy. Similarly, the Regression

graphs of the primary inflows of Vembnad lake can be obtained.

### V CONCLUSION

Regression analysis is a set of statistical processes for estimating the relationships between a dependent variable and one or more independent variables. This project deals with two cases of establishing relationship between water quality parameters of Vembnad Lake and its primary inflows. The project also concluded how the quality of water in the primary inflows of Vembnad Lake affects the quality of the water in the lake. This also established a relationship between water quality index of Vembnad Lake and its primary inflows thereby understanding the contribution of pollution of primary inflows into the Vembnad Lake.

In this project, Neural Networks Models were developed for the prediction of yearly values of the water quality index of Vembnad Lake and its primary inflows. The yearly data of eight water quality parameters (pH, temperature, electrical conductivity, fecal coliform, total coliform, dissolved oxygen, nitrate), for the time period 2007-2019 were selected for this analysis. For neural network models construction, yearly data is randomly divided into three subsets: training set (70%), validation and testing sets (each is 15 %), were used. The results, for the training and the test data sets distinctly prove the ability of the Neural Network models to predict yearly values of water quality index, at the monitoring station by using the yearly values of the other existing water quality parameters which are inserted as inputs into the optimized Neural Network models. Since the ability of ANN (Artificial Neural Network) model to predict water quality index depends on regression value, this project conclude that, the best models to predict water quality index will be of Vembnad Lake (R=1), Manimala (R=1), Achankovil (R=0.92), Meenachil (R=1), and Periyar (R=1) and the other two i.e. Muvattupuzha (R=0.3) and Pambha (R=0.4) are poor models to predict WQI. Hence, the Neural Network models can be used for the prediction of water quality parameters.

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