

An Assessment of Assimilative Capacity, the Current Industrial Air Pollution Load and Supportive Carrying Capacity in the Chakan Region

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Abstract

Oxygen is the most fundamental and significant component of life on earth, even before the traditional "food, clothes, and shelter" needs. Due to numerous contaminants, the amount of oxygen in the air is decreasing and occasionally exceeds the assimilative capacity limit of the air, resulting in a variety of physical issues for living things as well as other environmental issues and physiological activities. A complete proof approach must be devised to solve this issue. The severity of the air pollution in Delhi has reached a point where anxiety has given way to panic. The national capital has experienced a significant reduction in temperature during the winter season, but regrettably, air pollution levels in the city are still rising. Both the Delhi University and the nearby city of Noida have "extremely poor" levels of suspended particles in the air. Strong local winds aid in the removal of particles, whereas moisture retains contaminants close to the surface. In the near future, the same situation might occur anywhere in the nation. Metro areas and other rapidly growing urban centers are more at risk. The situation may stay the same intensity level or it may get more or less severe, which makes things unpredictable. It is vital that techniques be developed and a solution be found to deal with this problem.

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Introduction:

The degradation of the natural environment is mostly brought on by ever-increasing pollution levels. The regulatory authorities' permitted limitations permit the emission of restricted air pollutants into the environment. The ever-increasing pollutant load in an ambient, however, is a severe worry because an ambient has a fixed limit. Emitting air pollutants within pollution limits without sufficient dilution also contributes to overall environmental damage. If there are several criteria, both qualitative and quantitative in form, multiple decision makers, uncertainty and risk, and ambiguity surrounding the decision-making, the problem is said to be complicated and tough.

On the potential combined air pollution load from point, area, and line sources, little research has been documented. In order to consider its impact on an ambient at the moment of ultimate emission, it is necessary to look into this component of the Air Pollution Load Potential. By taking into account the combined effects of all the criteria, the supporting carrying capacity of the air pollution load in the area has not yet been reported. In an effort to determine the region's supportive bearing capacity of air pollution load based on assimilative capacity and an existing air pollution load, a fuzzy model using a fuzzy rule-based system (FRBS) has been attempted. Studies of this nature may be relevant to matters of policy formulation. The carrying capacity of a region is described as "the maximum industrialization a region can sustain at the maximum rate of resource consumption and waste discharge that can be sustained indefinitely in a defined region without progressively impairing the bio-productivity and ecological integrity of the region" (Subramaniam, 1998) in the wake of ever-increasing industrialization. As a result, the supporting capacity and assimilative capacity are traded off to determine carrying capacity (Singal, 2009). The highest amount of air pollution load that can be released without going against the best designated use of the air resource in the planning region is known as the carrying capacity of ambient. Dilution, dispersion, and deposition are the phenomena that control the carrying capacity of ambient. The following are part of the operational framework for estimating any region's carrying capacity (NEERI, 2001):

Estimates of the following:

- a. Existing Pollution Load;
- b. Assimilative Capacity; and
- c. Supportive Capacity

The carrying capacity of Chakan MIDC within the framework of SPM has been assessed in the current study.

Methodology:

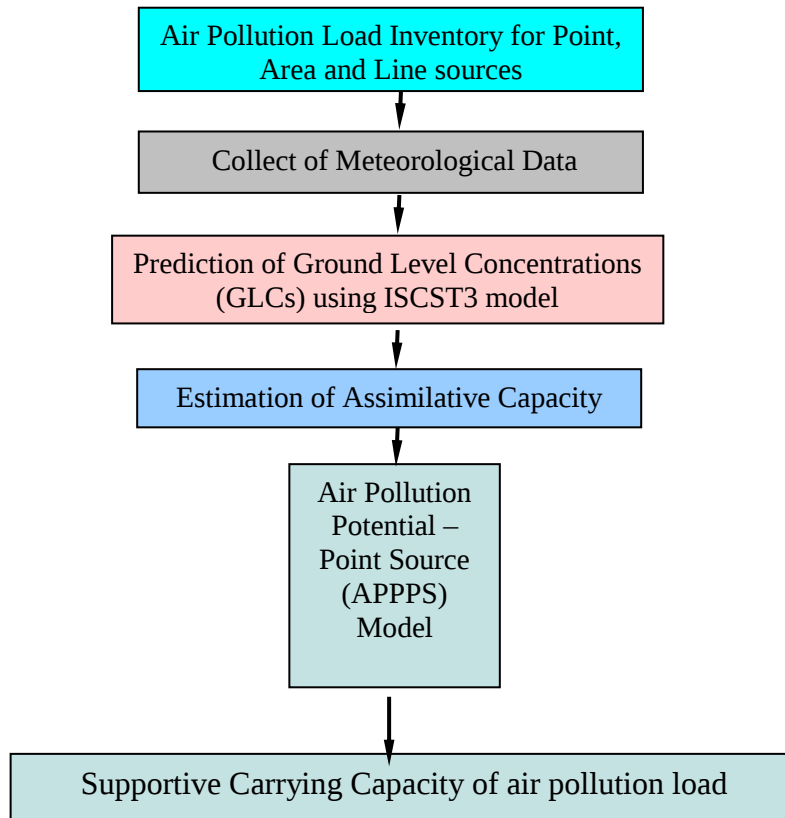
1. Choose a study area
2. Developing an inventory of the air pollution load from all point, area, and line sources, as well as quantifying the load.
3. Compilation of meteorological information
4. GLCs are predicted using the Gaussian Plume equation.
5. Estimation of the region's assimilative capacity based on the NAAQS.
6. Estimation of the region's "supportive load," or "supportive carrying capacity," based on the "assimilative capacity" and the "existing pollution load."

The study highlights air pollution potential due to point, area & line sources and supportive carrying capacity of air pollution load in the region based on assimilative capacity and an existing air pollution load. In the present research, Air Pollution Potential –Point Source (APPPS) model, Air Pollution Potential – Area Source (APPAS) model, Air Pollution Potential – Line Source (APPLS) model, Combined Air Pollution Potential –Point, Area and Line Source (CAPP-PALS) model and Status of Supportive Carrying Capacity of air pollution load (SCCAPL) model will be developed using Fuzzy Rule Based System approach.

The model approach has been explained as under.

Figure 1 Portrays an overview of Fuzzy Decision Framework for an Air Pollution Potential and Supportive Carrying Capacity of Air Pollution Load which is self-explanatory.

The Supportive Carrying Capacity of air pollution load based on air pollution load potential of the sources and assimilative capacity can be approached using Fuzzy Rule Based System approach.



Study Area: Chakan is a census-designated place in Pune, Maharashtra, India. Agriculture still plays a significant role, but the town's industrial growth is rapidly urbanizing the region.



Chakan MIDC Map

A Special Economic Zone (SEZ) supported by the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation is now located at Chakan (MIDC). In the 17.1 square kilometer Chakan region, there are 204 large-scale industries, 68 medium-scale industries, and 228 small-scale industries.

Air pollution load inventory for point sources and quantification of air pollution load:

The inventory should be a "Comprehensive, Accurate and Current Accounting of Pollutant Discharges and Associated Data from Sources within the Inventory Area over a Specific Time Period," as per US-EPA-1981. We can quickly and thoroughly assess the industrial pollution load present in a location using pollutant inventories.

The total SPM load in the study area from the industrial, domestic and vehicular sources is given in the following table:

Sr. No.	Sector	SPM Load (Kg/day)
1	Industrial	2446.304

Industrial sector is the major contributor to the total air pollution load in the study area with 76% of air pollution contribution

Industrial Air Pollution load:

The following industrial sectors' primary sources of SPM emissions are:

- Flue Gases: Fuel combustion for required power and heating.
- Dust and gases from industrial processes and material handling are fugitive emissions.

As previously noted, there are more than 500 industries (LSI, MSI, and SSI) in Chakan MIDC. Source characteristics data are obtained from MPCB through Consent grants of each industry under the "Air Act 1974" in order to estimate SPM air pollutant load. The following information was gathered: stack height (m), diameter (m), stack exit gas velocity (m/sec), stack gas temperature (deg C), pollutant categories, and emission limit (mg/Nm³). Total SPM load from the industrial sector is calculated to be 24.46 kg/day using the aforementioned criteria.

Air Quality Modelling:

Model is developed for prediction of GLC (Ground Level Concentrations) due to combined Effect of distributed Point, Area and Line Sources of emissions. The models consider the effect of region-specific meteorological conditions and emission loads on dispersion and diffusion and dilution of the air mass.

For the present study, prediction of GLCs of SPM was carried out using Gaussian Plume model. And meteorological data collected from Indian Meteorological Department Pune (IMD Pune).

Gaussian Plume equation is given by:

$$X(x,y,z)=\frac{Q}{2\pi\sigma_y\sigma_z}\text{Exp}\left(-\frac{y^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right)\left[\text{Exp}-\frac{(z-H)^2}{2\sigma_z^2}+\text{Exp}-\frac{(z+H)^2}{2\sigma_z^2}\right]$$

Where,

$X(x,y,z)$ = Concentration of pollutant at the point (x,y,z) in space g/m³

Q = Source strength ie pollutant emission rate, g/sec

U = horizontal wind speed at the source level (at stack height) m/sec

$H = h + \Delta h$, where, h = Physical height of the stack in (m)

Δh = Plume rise in (m)

H = Effective stack height (m)

Assumptions:

1. The concentrations of the plume in the horizontal crosswind and vertical directions have standard deviations of y and z , respectively, and the plume has a Gaussian distribution in both of these planes.
2. The wind speed at the source level, or the point where dispersion begins, determines the mean speed that affects the plume, which is u .
3. Pollutants are continuously and uniformly emitted at a rate of Q g/sec.
4. Pollutant diffusion in the "x" direction is much less than that in the cross-wind direction. If the emission is continuous and the wind speed is more than 1 m/sec, this is true.
5. At the earth's surface, the plume is completely reflected, meaning that there is no deposition or reaction of contaminants there. Additionally, the contaminants are passive and inert, preventing atmospheric chemical reactions and gravity fallout.
6. Since the variables regulating the pollutant's diffusion are constant in both space and time, steady-state criteria apply.

The ground beneath the plume is level.

SPM Assimilative Capacity Estimation:

Based on the updated technique, the assimilative capacity of Chakan MIDC is evaluated for the current study region. 292.41 km² x 0.150 km of airshed volume was taken into account. The survey was conducted during the entire year.

The assimilative capacity of the region is defined as the discharge emission load at which the maximum allowed concentration (i.e., NAAQ) was attained. In India, NAAQS have been established in accordance with land use, especially under the industrial, mixed-use (residential/commercial, rural), and sensitive area categories (CPCB, 1994).

Since the majority of the stacks in the area were found to be higher than 30 to 80 m in height, the permitted emission load (i.e. assimilative load) for the aforementioned airshed was determined based on the maximum allowable concentration (i.e. NAAQS). The following table provides a summary of the region's assimilative emission load and maximum permissible concentration.

SPM Supportive Carrying Capacity Estimation:

The amount of supportive carrying capacity of the region is determined by the difference between the maximum permitted concentration for a certain area and the current average ambient concentration in that location. Positive values indicate that there is room for further load, while negative values indicate that there is already too much weight in the area. Negative values mean that there will definitely be more air pollution in the area. Instead, the region need the installation of the strictest mitigation and control measures.

The model mentioned above was used to estimate the current average ambient concentration in the area. The maximum estimated GLC from the Gaussian Plume model for SPM is 69.59 g/m³, and the 24-hourly averaged NAAQS for SPM is 200 g/m³, therefore this gives us the possible increase

of 20 g/m³. The region's maximum allowable load or supportive load was computed for this available increment. The calculated SPM supportive capacity is shown in the following table:

Parameter	NAAQS (µg/m ³)	Max GLC from Gaussian Plume Model (µg/m ³)	Assimilative load (Kg/day)	Max Supportive Incremental Concentration (µg/m ³)	Supportive Load (Kg/day)
Dust	200	69.5	8772.3	130.41	5719.97
Gas	80	64.87	3508.92	15.134	663.79

Pollution Intensity

Additionally, the amount of pollution load intensity in kg/sq.km of area was computed. Its definition is the amount of pollution in the study zone per unit area. As a result, the pollution intensity will increase as the pollutant load increases. In terms of industrial, vehicular, and home pollutions, pollution load has been estimated. It has been presented in the following table:

Sources of SPM Emissions	Pollution Load (Kg/day)	Pollution Intensity (Kg/km ²)	Assimilative Intensity (Kg/km ²)
Industrial	244630.400	14305.871	20

Conclusion:

From the research conclusions would be as follows:

1. Air pollution load due to industries and increasing industrial development comes out to 244630 kg/day against area of the given study region.
2. Assimilative intensity for the study region comes out to be 20 kg/km². This shows marginal assimilative capacity for further pollution. And industrial development if planned in future needs to consider this and stringent rules and regulations need to be implemented to maintain environmental status
3. Above obtained values of various pollution parameters need to be considered for decision making of future industrial development and setting up of new industries.

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