

EVALUATION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF MULTIPLE WATER QUALITY LOADING INDEX SYSTEMS FOR SAPGYO RIVER

by

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Abstract

To enhance the sustainability of water-quality-management system, the modeling results of simulated pollutants are needed to translate into an understandable single unit water quality index to help the decision-makers for making relevant judgments. QUAL2E model is helpful in translating the results of simulated pollutants into a single water quality rating unit termed as “QUAL2E water quality loading index (QWQLI)”. This approach is adopted to evaluate the performance of National Sanitation Foundation’s Water Quality Index (NSFWQI) and Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment’s Water Quality Index (CCMEWQI) using data set of Sapgyo River. CCMEWQI results are found better, especially for meeting the desired quality objectives. Additionally, a decision-making process has been suggested based on better found QWQLI result to maintain the whole river channel at acceptable water quality standards. The study results imply that further study should be carried out using minimum four variables, each having at least four test samples to compute QWQLI using CCMEWQI approach.

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List of Abbreviations

A	Algae
a_3	Stoichiometric Coefficient
ABM	Algal Biomass
A_1R	Atmospheric Re-aeration
b_1	Ammonia Oxidation Rate
b_2	Nitrite Oxidation Rate
b_3	Nitrogen Hydrolysis Rate
b_4	Phosphorous Hydrolysis Rate
BOD	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
CBOD	Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand
CCME	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
CCMEWQI	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Water Quality Index
Chl-a	Chlorophyll a (Algae)
COD	Carbonaceous Oxygen Demand
D	Mean Stream Depth
DIS-P	Dissolved Phosphorous
DO	Dissolved Oxygen
DO_{sat}	DO Saturation Concentration
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
$f(L, N, P)$	Algal Growth Limitation Factor
$f(nitr)$	Nitrification Limitation Factor
F_{NH4}	Ammonia Preference Factor
GA	Georgia

k_1	Deoxygenation Coefficient
k_2	Re-aeration Coefficient
k_3	BOD Settling Rate
k_4	Sediment Oxygen Demand Ratio
MCDA	Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis
MS	Mississippi
N	Nitrogen
NH_4	Ammonia
NO_2	Nitrite
NO_3	Nitrate
NPS	Non-Point Sources
nse	The Normalized Sum of Excursions
NSFWQI	National Sanitation Foundation's Water Quality Index
O	Oxygen
ORG-N	Organic Nitrogen
ORG-P	Organic Phosphorous
OWQI	Oregon Water Quality Index
P	Phosphorous
PEC	Predicted Environmental Concentration
PNEC	Predicted No-Effect Concentration
QWQLI	QUAL2E Water Quality Loading Index
r	Algal Respiration Rate
RD	Reduced Distance
s_1	Algal Settling Rate
s_2	Benthos Source Rate for Phosphorous

S ₃	Benthos Source Rate for Nitrogen
S ₄	Nitrogen Settling Rate
S ₅	Phosphorous Settling Rate
SA	South Africa
SOD	Sediment Oxygen Demand
SS	Suspended Solids
T-N	Total Nitrogen
T-P	Total Phosphorous
USA	United States of America
USACE	The United States Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
UWQI	Universal Water Quality Index
WQI	Water Quality Index
WTP	Water Treatment Plant

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

Rivers and lakes are major source of surface water for providing drinking water to main cities of the states all over the world. These sources have to meet the desired water quality standards to provide safe drinking water supplies to the urban populace as well as for other water uses. Therefore, water quality of the rivers and lakes is a major concern of the municipalities for not only the public health reasons but also to protect the aquatic lives.

In many parts of the world, particularly in developing regions such as Asia, South America and Africa, the wastewater is routinely discharged directly into the surface water bodies. This is because of the fact that the world's fastest growing cities are mostly located in low income countries which are characterized by poor water infrastructures and wastewater treatment facilities. This scenario is typically associated with high levels of suspended solids (SS), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), nitrite (NO_2), and un-ionized ammonia in receiving waters, resulting in significant ecological impairment. Most fundamentally, in absence of their removal by secondary sewage treatment process, the predicted environmental concentration (PEC) is often exceeds the predicted no-effect concentration (PNEC) (Finnegan et al., 2009). In developed countries, the growing numbers of chemical toxicants entering the environment through non-point sources (NPS) has led to increasing health concerns (Huang and Xia, 2001).

Generally, the urban wastewater of a city is discharged into the river through the point sources, whereas the same river again provides drinking water to the same city and further to the urban areas located at downstream of the river. The cycle of reuse of water from the water bodies for drinking and other uses of water is a continuous process. Therefore, wastewater is required to be treated first before discharging it into the receiving water bodies. The wastewater treatment should be based on

producing an effluent that induced an acceptable level of water quality in the receiving waters. In order to determine the safe treatment level, it is necessary to predict water quality as a function of waste loading. Hence, to evaluate the future condition of the river water in view of actual pollution loading and to provide different management options, water quality models were introduced.

The states are required to develop water quality standards, on a site specific basis, for all of their surface waters. These should:

- (i) Include provisions for restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical and biological integrity of water supplies;
- (ii) Provide, where attainable, water quality for protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and recreation in and on the water (“fishable/swimmable”); and
- (iii) Consider the use and value of waters for public water supplies, propagation of fish and wildlife, recreation, agriculture and industrial purposes, and navigation.

The water quality standards must meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act and water standards regulations. Water quality standards are composed of use-classifications, quality criteria, and an anti-degradation policy (Viessman et al, 2009).

1.2 Background

Degradation of rivers at different levels has increased during the last century. Apart from chemical pollution affecting surface waters, modification of hydro-morphological conditions and reduced flow can also affect biological communities in severe ways. Therefore, aquatic ecosystem requires a good environmental status to promote sustainable use of the water resource in time. In order to maintain an acceptable water quality, the water quality modeling is an ideal approach to simulate physical, chemical, and biological changes in water bodies (James, 1984). It involves the prediction of water pollution using mathematical simulation techniques. It can also be used to predict water quality in terms of the real observed data at a high frequency and over a long period of time. So far, a number of water quality models

have been widely applied to assess water quality. These include QUAL2E (Brown and Barnwell, 1987), WASP5 (Ambrose et al., 1993), CE-QUAL-W2 (Cole and Buchak, 1995), and HEC-5Q (USACE, 1986). However, among the existing water quality models, QUAL2E, that was developed and released by USEPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency) in 1985, is one of the most popular models (Cox, 2003). It is an enhanced steady-state model used mainly to simulate the inflow and water quality of rivers and streams.

Unlike water quantity, which can be expressed in precise terms, water quality is a multi-parameter attribute. The utility of a water quality index (WQI) relies in the aggregation of information about water-quality parameters at different times and in different places and translating this information into a single score that represents the time period and the spatial unit under consideration. In this way, a WQI becomes an easy communication tool for transmitting scientific information from experts to the decision-makers and general public audience.

In general, water quality indices incorporate data from multiple water quality parameters into a mathematical equation that rates the health of a stream with a single number. This number is placed on a relative scale that rates the water quality in categories ranging from very bad to excellent (Iowa Watershed Monitoring and Assessment Program, 2006). There are several water quality indices that have been developed to evaluate water quality in United States and in Canada. All of these indices have eight or more water quality variables (Said et al., 2004).

This study describes the utility of QUAL2E as a modeling package in the evaluation of water quality improvement of a river. A case study of the Sapgyo River of South Korea has been discussed to determine the pollutant loads using QUAL2E software. The data set of the simulated pollutants, that mainly describe the river water quality, has been used to determine the water quality rating in a single unit for use of the decision-makers and general public audience. A single score QUAL2E water quality loading index (QWQLI) has been determined using two different water quality index systems of National Sanitation Foundation's Water Quality Index (NSFWQI) and

Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Water Quality Index (CCMEWQI) to compare the results. Finally, a decision-making process has been suggested on the basis of better found QWQLI result.

1.3 Objectives

The main objectives of the study are:

- (i) To determine the pollutant loadings simulated by QUAL2E model to evaluate the water quality of Sapgyo River;
- (ii) To determine QUAL2E water quality loading index (QWQLI) by applying two different water quality index systems approaches of NSFQI and CCMEWQI using same pollutant data set of the river simulated by QUAL2E model;
- (iii) To discuss and compare the QWQLI results obtained by using NSFQI and CCMEWQI systems approaches to find the better result; and
- (iv) To suggest a decision-making process on the basis of better found QWQLI result.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 General

The changes in the constituent concentrations in a river are due to biological, chemical, biochemical, and physical conversion processes. The historical development of Oxygen, Nitrogen, and Phosphorous models shows step-by-step extensions and increasing complexity as explained below:

- (i) The starting pioneer model was introduced by Streeter and Phelps in 1925 as “Streeter-Phelps Model” describing the increase and following decrease of the oxygen deficit at downstream of a source of organic material (Streeter and Phelps, 1925);
- (ii) The first version as “QUAL-I Model” was developed by F.D. Masch and Associates and the Texas Water Development Board in 1970 using old punch cards technology as its input media;
- (iii) The QUAL-I Model was extended and modified as “QUAL-II Model” by Water Resources Engineers Inc. (now Camp Dresser and McKee) under contract with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1972; and
- (iv) Finally, phosphorus cycling and algae were added and model was upgraded as “Enhanced QUAL-II model” by Brown and Barnwell in 1987, which is generally written in short as QUAL2E Model.

QUAL2E is capable of simulating up to the following 15 water quality constituents in dendritic streams that are well mixed laterally and vertically (Chapra, 2008):

- (i) Dissolved Oxygen (DO)
- (ii) Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)
- (iii) Temperature
- (iv) Algae as Chlorophyll a
- (v) Organic Nitrogen as N
- (vi) Ammonia as N

- (vii) Nitrite as N
- (viii) Nitrate as N
- (ix) Organic Phosphorous as P
- (x) Dissolved Phosphorous as P
- (xi) Coliform Bacteria
- (xii) Arbitrary Non-Conservative Constituents
- (xiii) Conservative Constituent Type I
- (xiv) Conservative Constituent Type II
- (xv) Conservative Constituent Type III

It allows for multiple waste discharges, withdrawals, tributary flows, and incremental inflows and outflows. It is a versatile software package used for regulatory and policy decisions making.

Several versions of the QUAL2E model are available depending on the purpose of the use such as research, regulation, etc. Figure 2.1 shows the schematic description of processes included in QUAL2E model.

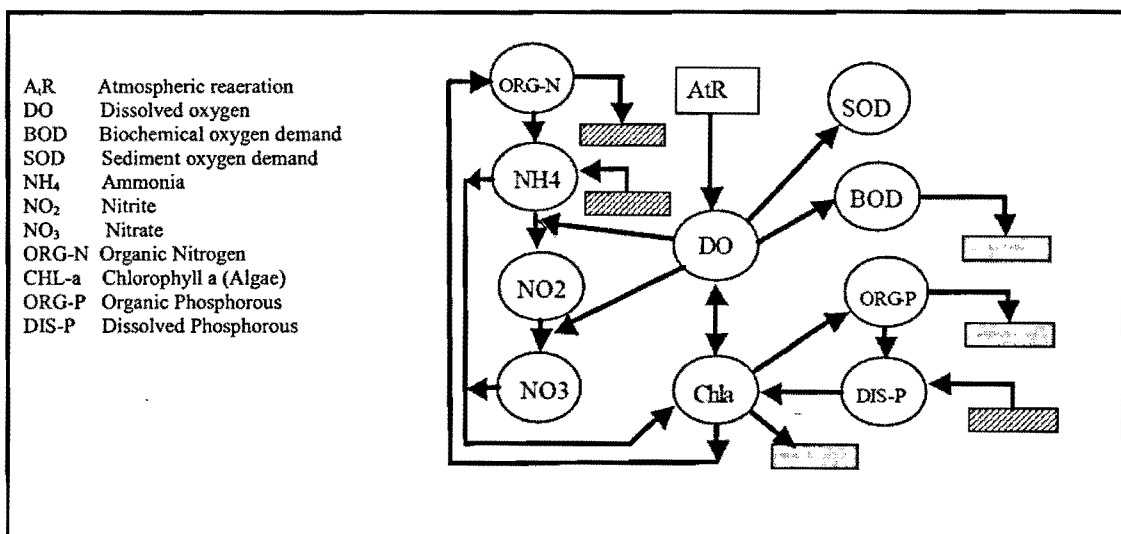


Figure 2.1 Schematic description of the water quality model QUAL2E
Source: Rauch et al., 1998

The QUAL2E model includes degradation of organic material, growth and respiration of algae, nitrification (considering nitrite as an intermediate product), hydrolysis of organic nitrogen and phosphorus, reaeration, sedimentation of algae, organic phosphorus and organic nitrogen, sediment uptake of oxygen, and sediment release of nitrogen and phosphorus. All these processes consider the effect on

oxygen, nitrogen and phosphorus cycles. The process formulations are given in Table 2.1 in matrix notation as introduced by Henze et al., 1987 (Rauch et al., 1998).

Table 2.1 Biochemical and physical processes of the river water quality model QUAL2 in matrix notation

Component	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Process rate
Process	DO	BOD	ABM	ORG-N	NH ₄	NO ₂	NO ₃	ORG-P	DIS-P	[ML ⁻³ T ⁻¹]
1 Reaeration	1									K ₂ .(DO _{sat} -DO)
2 Biodegradation	-1	-1								K ₁ .BOD
3 BOD sedimentation		-1								K ₃ .BOD
4 Sediment DO demand	-1									K ₄ /d
5 Photosynthesis	a ₃		1		0.07. F _{NH4}		-0.07 (1-F _{NH4})		-0.01	μ _{max} .ABM .f(L,N,P)
6 Respiration	-a ₄		-1	0.07				0.01		ρ.ABM
7 Algae sedimentation			-1							σ ₁ /d.ABM
8 Nitrogen Hydrolysis				-1	1					β ₃ .ORG-N
9 Nitrification 1 st step	-3.43				-1	1				β ₁ .NH ₄ .f(nitr)
10 Nitrification 2 nd step	-1.14					-1	1			β ₂ .NO ₂ .f(nitr)
11 N sedimentation				-1						σ ₄ .NH ₄
12 N sediment release					1					σ ₃ /d
13 P hydrolysis								-1	1	β ₄ .ORG-P
14 P sedimentation								-1		σ ₅ .ORG-P
15 P sediment release									1	σ ₂ /d

Source: Rauch et al., 1998

Where,

DO = dissolved oxygen [ML⁻³];
DO_{sat} = DO saturation concentration [ML⁻³];
BOD = biochemical oxygen demand of organic material [ML⁻³];
ABM = algal biomass [ML⁻³];
ORG-N = organic nitrogen [ML⁻³];
NH₄ = ammonia-N [ML⁻³];
NO₂ = nitrite-N [ML⁻³];
NO₃ = nitrate-N [ML⁻³];
ORG-P = organic phosphorus [ML⁻³];
DIS-P = dissolved phosphorus [ML⁻³];
K₁ = deoxygenation coefficient [T⁻¹];
K₂ = reaeration coefficient [T⁻¹];
K₃ = BOD settling rate [T⁻¹];
K₄ = sediment oxygen demand rate [ML⁻²T⁻¹];
d = mean stream depth [L];
μ_{max} = maximum algal growth rate [T⁻¹];
r = algal respiration rate [T⁻¹];
s₁ = algal settling rate [LT⁻¹];
s₂ = benthos source rate for P [ML⁻²T⁻¹];
s₃ = benthos source rate for N [ML⁻²T⁻¹];
s₄ = N settling rate [T⁻¹];
s₅ = P settling rate [T⁻¹];
b₁ = ammonia oxidation rate [T⁻¹];
b₂ = nitrite oxidation rate [T⁻¹];
b₃ = N hydrolysis rate [T⁻¹];
b₄ = P hydrolysis rate [T⁻¹];
a₃ = stoichiometric coefficient gO/gABM [-];
f(L,N,P) = algal growth limitation factor;
f(nitr) = nitrification limitation factor; and
F_{NH4} = ammonia preference factor.

2.2 Review of QUAL2E Mechanism

A mass balance is used to keep track of the water quality constituents and both advective and dispersion modes of transport are considered in mass balance equation which can be written generally as:

$$V \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial (A_c E \frac{\partial c}{\partial x})}{\partial x} dx - \frac{\partial (A_c U c)}{\partial x} dx + V \frac{dc}{dt} + s \quad (2.1)$$

Accumulation

Dispersion
Advection
Kinetics
External sources/sinks

}
 Transport

Where,

- V = volume
- C = constituent concentration
- A_c = element cross-sectional area
- E = longitudinal dispersion coefficient
- X = distance
- U = average velocity
- S = external source (positive) or sinks (negative) of the constituent

The advection specifies the movement of the constituents with water as it flows to downstream. The dispersion relates to the spreading of the constituents that occurs primarily due to shear force. In order to limit the discussion under this project, only two constituents carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD) and dissolved oxygen (DO) have been discussed under the kinetics.

As the software moved to time-sharing systems with rapid evolution of personal computers, a user-friendly interface for entering the input file and viewing the results of QUAL2E simulation has been developed. The present version QUAL2E is currently maintained by the EPA's center for water quality modeling in Athens, Georgia (Chapra, 2008).

2.2.1 Dispersion

In order to compute dispersion as a function of the channel's characteristics, QUAL2E model uses the following relations:

$$E = 3.11 K n U H^{5/6} \quad (2.2)$$

Where, E = longitudinal dispersion coefficient ($m^2 s^{-1}$)
 n = channel's roughness coefficient (dimensionless)
 U = mean velocity (mps)
 H = mean depth (m)
 K = a dispersion parameter (dimensionless)

K is defined as:

$$K = \frac{E}{H U^*} \quad (2.3)$$

Where, U^* = shear velocity (ms^{-1})

Once K is established, it provides a formula to compute dispersion as a function of non-uniform flow conditions. It is in this way that K is used in QUAL2E.

2.2.2 Advection

The assumptions of QUAL2E model are steady and non-uniform flow. Steady flow does not vary temporarily and non-uniform flow implies that it varies spatially. A general representation of the QUAL2E element scheme is shown in Figure 2.2.

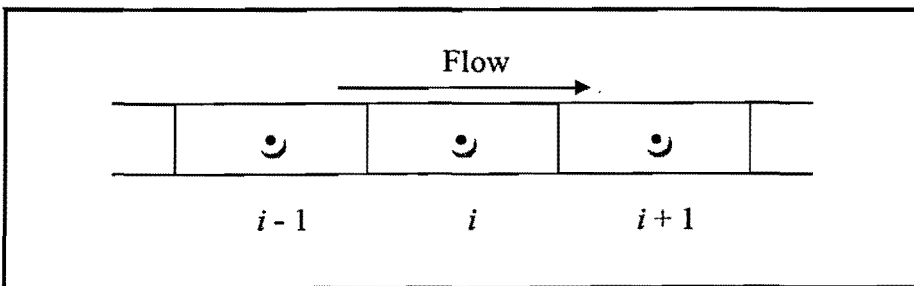


Figure 2.2 QUAL2E elements

Under the steady and non-uniform flow conditions, the flow balance for an element i can be written as:

$$Q_{i-1} \pm Q_{x,i} - Q_i = 0 \quad (2.4)$$

Where, Q_{i-1} = flow from the upstream element
 Q_i = outflow from the element
 $Q_{x,i}$ = lateral flow into (positive) or out of (negative) the element

After establishment of flow balance, it is necessary to determine the other hydrogeometric characteristics for each element, particularly the resulting water velocity, depth, and cross-sectional area. This relationship of other hydrogeometric characteristics can be made by using power equations and manning equation.

Power Equations

The relationship of mean velocity and depth to flow can be written as:

$$U = aQ^b \quad (2.5)$$

$$H = \alpha Q^\beta \quad (2.6)$$

Where, H = mean depth
 U = mean velocity
 Q = discharge

a , b , α and β = empirical constants, to be determined from stage-discharge rating curves.

Once the velocity has been determined, cross-sectional area (A_c) can be calculated by using the following continuity equation:

$$A_c = Q / U \quad (2.7)$$

Manning Equation

Manning equation gives the relation of channel characteristics and flow. In metric units, the manning equation can be written as:

$$Q = \frac{1}{n} [A_c R^{2/3} S_e^{1/2}] \quad (2.8)$$

Where, Q = channel's flow ($\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$)
 n = Manning's roughness coefficient
 A_c = channel's cross-sectional area (m^2)
 R = channel's hydraulic radius (m)
 S_e = slope of the channel's energy grade line (dimensionless).

It is assumed that flow is steady, cross sections are constant, and the energy slope is equal to the channel slope. The QUAL2E model also assumes that the channel has a trapezoidal cross-section as shown in Figure 2.3.

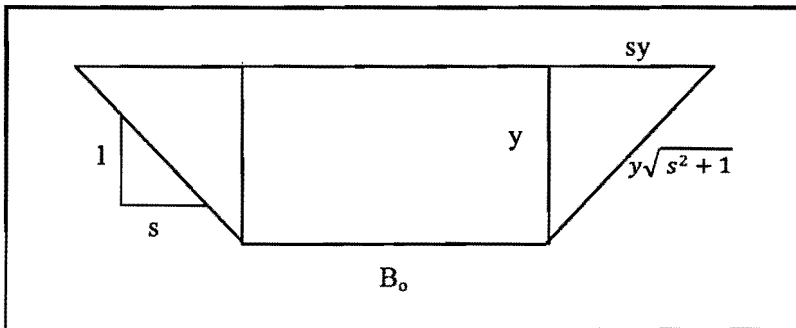


Figure 2.3 Cross-section of a trapezoidal channel showing the parameters needed to uniquely define the geometry

The cross-sectional area and hydraulic radius can be expressed as a function of depth as calculated below:

Let the bottom width of channel = B_o ,

Side slope of the channel = 1 vertical to s horizontal (both side slopes are same)

Depth of water flow in channel = y

Then, each trapezoidal side
 $= \sqrt{y^2 + s^2 y^2}$
 $= y\sqrt{s^2 + 1}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Top width of water surface} &= B_o + 2sy \\
\text{Therefore, cross-sectional area } A_c &= \left[\frac{B_o + (B_o + 2sy)}{2} \right] y \\
&= (B_o + sy)y
\end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

$$\text{Wetted perimeter (P)} = 2(y\sqrt{1 + s^2}) + B_o \tag{2.10}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Channel hydraulic radius (R)} &= \frac{A_c}{P} \\
&= \frac{(B_o + sy)y}{B_o + 2y\sqrt{1 + s^2}}
\end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

Now, if Q is given, the manning equation Eq. (2.8) becomes nonlinear equation that can be numerically solved for depth. With the help of this calculated constant depth along the river, area can be determined to compute velocity.

2.2.3 Kinetics

The kinetics for carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD) and dissolved oxygen (DO) constituents can be represented mathematically by the following equations:

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = -K_1L - K_3L \tag{2.12}$$

$$\text{and} \quad \frac{do}{dt} = K_2(o_s - o) - K_1L - (K_4/H) \tag{2.13}$$

Where,

- L = carbonaceous BOD (mg L^{-1})
- K_1 = BOD decomposition rate (d^{-1})
- K_3 = BOD setting rate (d^{-1})
- o = dissolved oxygen concentration (mg L^{-1})
- K_2 = reaeration rate (d^{-1})
- o_s = dissolved oxygen saturation concentration (mg L^{-1})
- K_4 = sediment oxygen demand ($\text{g m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$)

It is important to note that all the rates (the K's) are corrected for temperature by the following equation:

$$K = K_{20}\theta^{T-20} \quad (2.14)$$

Where,
 K = rate at temperature T
 K_{20} = rate at 20°C
 θ = temperature correction factor

All the rates in Eq. (2.12) and Eq. (2.13) can be entered directly to QUAL2E software.

2.2.4 Eutrophication

QUAL2E Model can be used to simulate both temperature and nutrient/ algae dynamics in the flowing waters.

Temperature

Using the same pattern of mass balance equation (2.1), a heat balance equation can be written as:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial(A_x E \frac{\partial T}{\partial x})}{A_x \partial x} dx - \frac{\partial(A_x U T)}{A_x \partial x} dx + \frac{s}{p C V} \quad (2.15)$$

In this equation, the source term dT/dt is omitted because the internal heat generation or loss (such as viscous dissipation of energy and boundary friction etc.) is negligible. In addition, it is also assumed that the transfer of heat between the bottom sediments and the stream is ignored because it is usually negligible. Therefore, the external sources and sinks of heat are purely dependent on transfer across the air-water interface, which can be presented as:

$$S = \frac{H_{sn} + H_{an}}{\text{net absorbed radiation}} - \frac{(H_{br} + H_c + H_e)}{\text{water-dependent terms}} \quad (2.16)$$

Where,
 H_{sn} = net solar shortwave radiation
 H_{an} = net atmospheric long wave radiation
 H_{br} = long wave back radiation from the water
 H_c = conduction
 H_e = evaporation

Solar radiation is internally calculated on the basis of parameters such as latitude and time of year. This is really a nice feature of the model since it obviates the need for the user to obtain such information independently. Equation (2.16) can be substituted into equation (2.15) to calculate the final heat balance.

Nutrients and Algae

QUAL2E model simulates the kinetics of the nutrients including nitrogen and phosphorus. It also calculates the impact of these nutrients on plant biomass. The addition of these constituents has the following two effects on oxygen:

- (i) Conversion of ammonia to nitrate uses oxygen in the nitrification process; and
- (ii) Nitrogen and phosphorous can induce plant growth.

The resulting photosynthesis and respiration of the plant can add and deplete oxygen from the stream. The QUAL2E kinetics for the nutrient/plant components can be written as provided below:

Algae (A)

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \mu A - \rho A - \frac{\sigma_1}{H} A \quad (2.17)$$

Accumulation Growth Respiration Settling

Organic Nitrogen (N₄)

$$\frac{dN_4}{dt} = \alpha_1 \rho A - 3\beta_3 N_4 - \sigma_4 N_4 \quad (2.18)$$

Accumulation Respiration Hydrolysis Settling

Ammonia Nitrogen (N₁)

$$\frac{dN_1}{dt} = \beta_3 N_4 - \beta_1 N_1 + \frac{\sigma_3}{H} - \alpha_1 \mu A \quad (2.19)$$

Accumulation Hydrolysis Nitrification Sediment Growth

Nitrite Nitrogen (N₂)

$$\frac{dN_2}{dt} = \beta_1 N_1 - \beta_2 N_2 \quad (2.20)$$

Accumulation Nitrification Nitrification

Nitrate Nitrogen (N₃)

$$\frac{dN_3}{dt} = \beta_2 N_2 - (1 - F) \alpha_1 \mu A \quad (2.21)$$

Accumulation Nitrification Growth

Organic Phosphorus (P₁)

$$\frac{dP_1}{dt} = \alpha_2 \rho A - \beta_4 P_1 - \sigma_5 P_1 \quad (2.22)$$

Accumulation Respiration Decay Settling

Inorganic Phosphorus (P₂)

$$\frac{dP_2}{dt} = \beta_4 P_1 + \frac{\sigma_2}{H} - \alpha_2 \mu A \quad (2.23)$$

Accumulation Decay Sediment Growth

Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (L)

$$\frac{dL}{dt} = -K_1 L - K_3 L \quad (2.24)$$

Accumulation Decay Settling

Dissolved Oxygen (DO)

$$\frac{dO}{dt} = K_2 (O_s - O) - K_1 L - \frac{K_4}{H} + (\alpha_3 \mu - \alpha_4 \rho) A - \alpha_5 \beta_1 N_1 - \alpha_6 \beta_2 N_2 \quad (2.25)$$

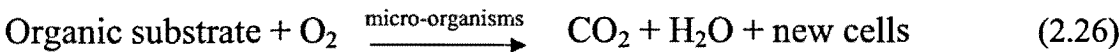
Accumulation Reaeration Decomposition SOD
Growth Respiration Nitrification

It may be noted that the nitrogen, phosphorous, and kinetic constituents can be simulated without computing oxygen and CBOD. However, if they are computed, the oxygen kinetics is modified to account for the effects of nitrification and plant growth/respiration.

2.3 Software Application Process

The QUAL2E model has been employed to determine the profiles of dissolved oxygen (DO), biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), total nitrogen (T-N), and total phosphorous (T-P) parameters which are frequently used to establish water quality along the river extension.

In a natural aquatic medium, the concept of BOD loading is intimately related to DO concentration. BOD is the use of DO in the water body by micro-organisms to decompose the organic substrate and to oxidize the nitrogen and mineral species contained in an effluent. Also, the term BOD can be applied to the substrate itself. The predominant chemical reaction may be generally given as:



The hydraulic coefficients required by the model are determined by regression of the hydraulic parameters: velocity, depth, and flow rate. The longitudinal dispersion coefficient is evaluated based on the physical analysis of each reach. The reaction coefficients are determined from values indicated in literature. The QUAL2E manual defines the ranges of each reaction coefficient as provided in Table 2.2 (Brown and Barnwell, 1987). All coefficients are temperature-dependent. As applied, the model considers only the reaction coefficients corresponding to the DO and BOD.

Table 2.2 QUAL2E reaction coefficients

Coefficient	Definition	Range
k_1 (day ⁻¹)	BOD decay (oxygen demand)	0.02 to 3.4
k_2 (day ⁻¹)	Reaeration	0 to 100
k_3 (day ⁻¹)	BOD decay by sedimentation	-0.36 to 0.36
k_4 (mgO ₂ /ft ² day)	SOD decay (benthic oxygen demand)	Variable

Source: Brown and Barnwell, 1987

The QUAL2E model numerically solves the system of differential equations involving pollutants by finite differences using the input data. The solution takes into account the interaction between the variables, effect of reaeration on BOD decay, influence of the sediment on DO consumption and BOD decay, and the pollutants dilution/concentration effects due to entrance and exit of loads into and from the river. Also, the hydraulic dynamics is considered, especially with regard to longitudinal dispersion, and it is described by a coefficient in the dispersive term of the transport equation.

As shown in Figure 2.4 (a), a river basin consists of the main river and its tributary. The model divides the stream into a network of headworks, reaches and junctions. The most functional network part is the reaches for which input data is provided as physical, chemical and biological parameters and coefficients. Each reach is assumed to have the homogeneous hydrogeometric properties. Each reach is further divided into a number of small computational elements which are also called control volumes as shown in Figure 2.4 (b). The hydrological balance is maintained through flow, heat balance through temperature, and material balance through concentration for these elements.

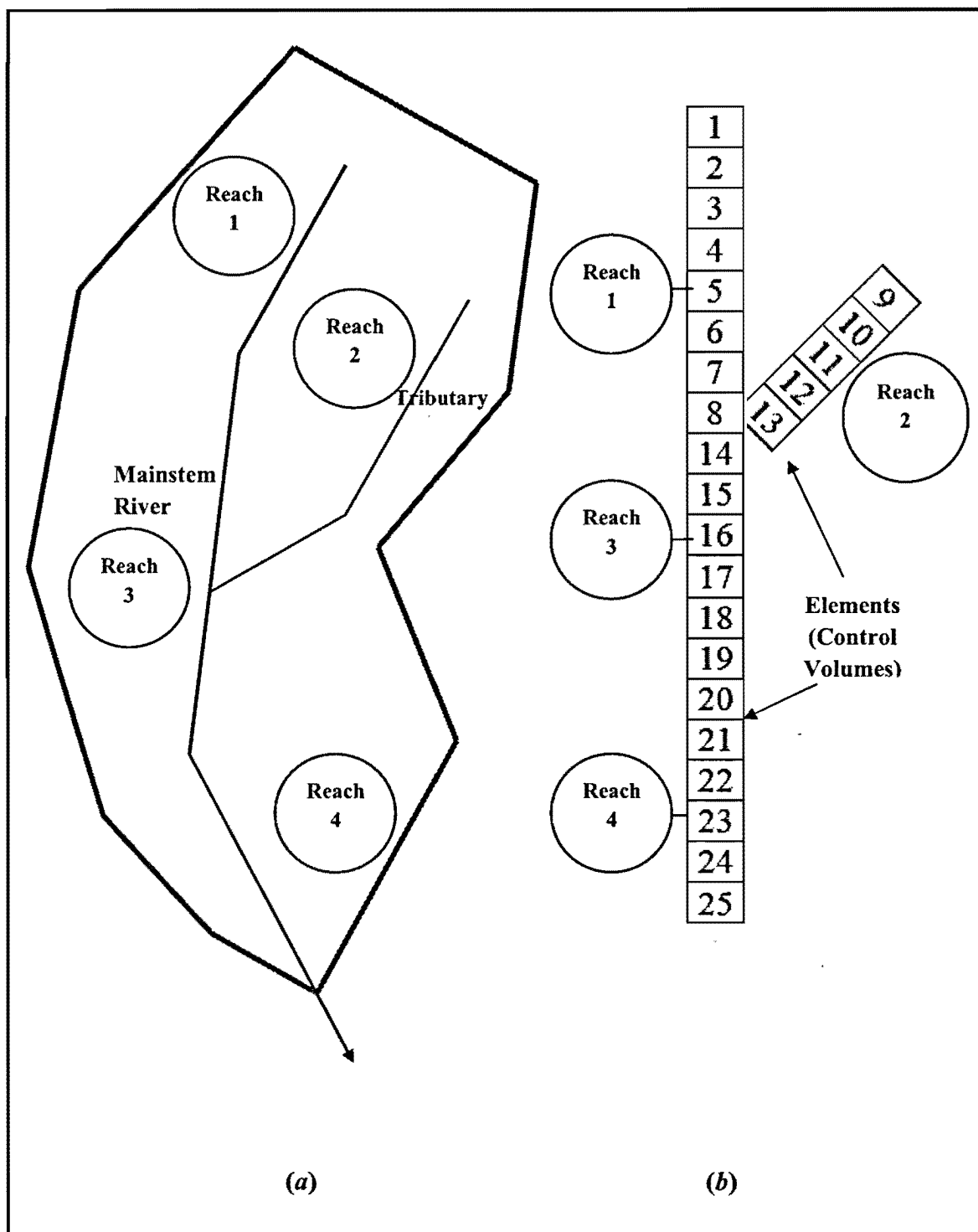


Figure 2.4 (a) River basin, and (b) QUAL2E representation as reaches and elements

The model application process involves the following four steps:

First Step

Develop the spatial segmentation scheme for the river system to be modeled. For segmentation of the river, the system is divided into reaches of constant hydrogeometric characteristics. The name for each reach is given by the users. Generally, either each reach has its already given common name or it is denoted according to its actual reduced distance (RD) falling on the river. The first reach is generally called MS-Head. The abbreviation 'MS' is used to designate that we are simulating a 'Main Stem' of a river with no tributaries modeled explicitly. These reaches are given their serial number starting from head towards end reach. In this way, every reach is assigned its name and serial number.

Second Step

The reaches are further divided into equal length of computational elements which are also called control volumes. Each element must be given its serial number in order from the headwater reach to the most downstream point in the system.

Third Step

Each element is designated with its relevant type. Each element type is given a particular number. The elements are of seven types as given below:

Element Type	Element Type Number
Headwater element	1
Standard element	2
Element just upstream from a junction	3
Junction element	4
Last element in system	5
Input element	6
Withdrawal element	7

In order to clearly understand the process, the above steps can be explained through a general example of a stream. As shown in Figure 2.5 (a), the stream is divided in six reach segments which are presented through their respective reduced distance (RD)

in an order from the headwater reach to the most downstream reach of the system.

The six reaches of the stream are as follows:

1. MS-HEAD
2. MS 100 - MS 80
3. MS 80 - MS 60
4. MS 60 - MS 40
5. MS 40 - MS 20
6. MS 20 - MS 00

The flow direction is from head reach (at 100 Km) towards downstream point at 0 Km. Each reach is assigned its serial number (1 to 6) as given above. Each reach is further divided into equal elements. Every element is denoted by a relevant element type number. In this example, all six reaches are divided into 51 computational elements or control volumes of equal lengths. The reach names, reach number, element number and element type of this example are shown in Figure 2.5 (b). In this example, we used only four types of elements. The first element number 1 and the last element number 51 belong to Type-1 and Type-5 category respectively. Elements number 2 and element number 22 belong to Type-6 category because they both receive point inflows. The remaining elements are the standard elements of Type-2 category.

Fourth Step

Finally, the input data is required to be entered in the software. The input data generally includes headwater characteristics, reaches, point sources, hydraulic data of the reaches, temperature module, water quality data (mean values), water quality data (minimum values), water quality data (maximum values), etc.

Once the system segment is defined and the input data is entered in the software, a data file is to be created to run QUAL2E model for sensitivity analysis and calibration of the model. On successful results of sensitivity analysis and calibration of the model, impact analysis of the desired discharges is conducted.

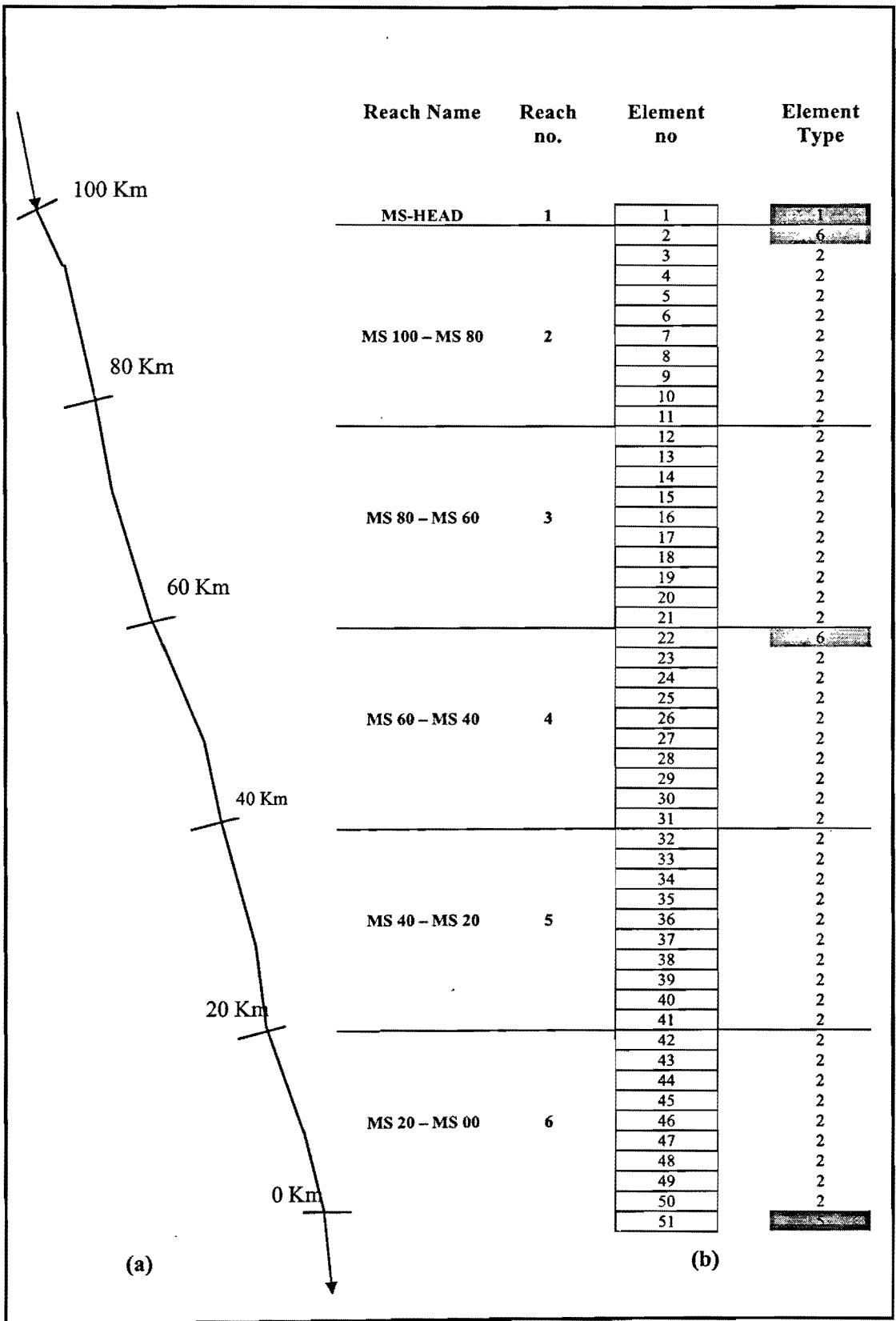


Figure 2.5 (a) A stream receiving pollutant loadings from a point source and tributary
 (b) QUAL2E segmentation scheme conforming to the stream shown in Figure (a)

2.4 QUAL2E Software Applications

The QUAL2E is a one-dimensional mathematical model which is available as free-use software to predict the water quality of a fluvial system. Applications of the QUAL2E to natural systems are found in the works of Van Orden and Uchirin (1993) to Whippany River, USA; Drolc and Koncan (1996) to Sava River, Slovenia; Ghosh and McBean (1998) to Kali River, India, Chaudhury et al. (1998) to Blackstone River, USA; Ciravolo et al. (2000) to Simeto River, Italy; Ning et al. (2001) to Kao-Ping River, Taiwan; Park and Lee (2002) to Nakdong River, South Korea; and Anh et al. (2006) to Nhue River, Vietnam among others. The model is numerically accurate and includes an updated kinetic structure for most conventional pollutants. The input and output data structures are designed in a user friendly format (Palmieri et al., 2006).

Park and Lee (2002) selected the QUAL2E as the best available model for use in the Nakdong River (South Korea) after a review of several water quality models. Although, QUAL2E has various advantages but some limitations of the model were also reported such as the lack of provision for conversion of algal death to BOD. Several modifications were made to overcome these limitations of QUAL2E. These modifications included the addition of new water quality interactions, such as conversion of algal death to BOD, de-nitrification, and DO change caused by fixed plants. In addition, the maximum number of reaches, computational elements, and junctions were extended to be applicable for a large river system.

2.5 Surface Water Quality Indices

The decision of water quality is a branch of multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) which is a set of systematic procedures for analyzing the complex decision problems (Malczewski, 1999). Keeping in view the MCDA for water quality, the water quality index (WQI) can be employed as a tool to translate the predicted water quality based on multiple variables into a single suitable criterion and established background levels of water quality based on the water quality standards for a given aquatic system (Ott, 1978). These water quality standards are easily understandable to the

general audience. Efforts have been made to present more reliable water quality index to simplify the report and to improve the understanding of water quality issues by integrating complex data and to generate a single score that describes water quality status and evaluate water quality trends (Boyacioglu, 2007).

Since emergence of the concept of water quality index, which was first introduced in Germany in 1848, a wide range of WQIs has been developed and applied to classify the quality of water in different regions (Terrado et al., 2010). The first formal water quality index was introduced by Horton in 1965 as 'Horton's Quality Index' (Horton, 1965). Thereafter, a number of water quality indices have been developed for general and specific uses. Examples are NSFQI (Brown et al., 1970), Prati's Implicit Index (Prati et al., 1971), CCMEWQI (CCME, 2001), OWQI (Cude, 2002), and UWQI (Boyacioglu, 2007). However, all of these indices were developed to address the monitored aquatic systems. As such, they are not suitable for application to water that is not monitored, but they are suitable for application to water that can be simulated by water quality modeling (Song and Kim, 2009).

A consolidated list of indices for different water uses is given in Table 2.3. These indices have been broadly classified as physico-chemical indices, biological indices, and hydro-morphological indices. This study relates to physico-chemical indices class. In this study, NSFQI, a widely used index, and Canadian water quality index CCMEWQI have been selected for their comparison to find the better index that can facilitate the decision-making process by translating the complex and obscure modeling result to a simple and intelligible description.

Table 2.3 Classification of water-quality indices (WQIs)

PHYSICOCHEMICAL INDICES	Indices for General water quality	Horton's Index
		National Sanitation Foundations' Water Quality Index (NSFWQI)
		Prati's Implicit Index of Pollution
		McDuffie and Haney's River Pollution Index
		Diniu's Water Quality Index
		British Columbia Water Quality Index
		Oregon Water Quality Index (OWQI)
		Florida Stream Water Quality Index
		Overall Index of Pollution
		Pesce and Wunderlin's Water Quality Index
		Water Quality Index of Central Pollution Control Board
		River Pollution Index
		Universal Water Quality Index (UWQI)
		Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment's Water Quality Index (CCMEWQI)
		Simplified Water Quality Index
		Said et al.'s Water Quality Index
	Indices for Specific water uses	O'Connor Indices: Fish and Wildlife Index and Public Water Supply Index
		Deininger and Landwehr Index for Public Water Supply
		Walski and Parker's Index for Recreation
		Stoner's Index for Dual Uses (PWS and Irrigation)
		Nemerow and Sumitomo's Pollution Index for Three Uses
		Smith's Index for Four Water Uses: 1) General; 2) Regular Public Bathing; 3) Water Supply; and, 4) Fish Spawning
		Viet and Bhargava's Index
		Gekov et al.'s Index
		Haire et al.'s Nutrient Loading Index and Eutrophication Index
		Li's Regional Water Resource Quality Assessment Index
	Indices for Planning	Truett et al.'s Prevalence Duration Intensity Index
		Truett et al.'s National Planning Priorities Index
		Truett et al.'s Priority Action Index
		Dee et al.'s Environmental Evaluation System
		Inhaber's Canadian National Index
		Zoeteman's Pollution Potential Index
	Statistical Approaches	Johansson and Johnson Pollution Index
		Shoji et al.'s Composite Pollution Index
		Joung et al.'s Index of Partial Nutrients (Factor Analysis)
		Joung et al.'s Index of Total Nutrients (Factor Analysis)
		Coughlin et al.'s Principal Component Index (Principal Component Analysis)
		Shin and Lam (Principal Component Analysis)
		Parinet et al.'s (Principal Component Analysis)
		Harkins's Index (Kendall Ranking Approach, 1975) (Non-Parametric Classification)
		Schaeffer and Janardan's Beta Function Index
		Kung et al.'s Fuzzy Clustering
BIOLOGICAL INDICES	Macro-Invertebrates	Biomonitoring Working Party
		Biological Families Index
	Fish	Index of Biological Integrity
		Extended Biological Index (Adapted from Woodiwis (1978) Biological Index)
	Diatoms	Index of Sensitivity to Pollution (CEMAGREF, 1982)
		Biological Index of Diatoms
HYDRO-MORPHOLOGICAL INDICES	Macrophytes	Macrophytes Index
		Index of Macroscopic Aquatic Vegetation
	Connectivity	Fluvial Connectivity Index
	Habitat	Fluvial Habitat Index
		Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index
	Vegetation	Fluvial Vegetation Index
		Bank Vegetation Quality Index

Source: Terrado, 2010

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

3.1 General

Water quality modeling is an ideal approach to simulate physical, chemical and biological changes in aquatic systems. It involves the prediction of water pollution using mathematical techniques. Song and Kim, 2009 have used QUAL2E modeling approach to simulate the pollutant loadings at Sapgyo River, South Korea. The simulated results were used to develop a newly introduced water quality index (WQI) termed as “QUAL2E water quality index (QWQLI)”. Unlike other water quality indices, the QWQLI indexing was specifically used for simulated water quality using QUAL2E to mainly reflect pollutant loading levels.

Under this study, the work of Song and Kim, 2009 has been further elaborated and QWQLIs have been computed for all the elements of Sapgyo River by applying NSFWQI system approach. Additionally, the same pollutant loading results of Sapgyo River simulated by QUAL2E model, have been used to compute the QWQLIs for all the elements of Sapgyo River by applying CCMEWQI system approach. The QWQLI results obtained by applying the two NSFWQI and CCMEWQI systems approaches have been discussed in detail and compared to find the better result. Finally, a decision-making process has been suggested on the basis of better found QWQLI result.

3.2 Study Site

The study site is the main channel of the Sapgyo River in South Korea as shown in Figure 3.1. This is a longest tributary of the Geum River System in the country. The main channel is approximately 31 Km long which flows in North-East direction. The flow rate of the river fluctuates from 120 to 160m³/sec in rainy season. There are number of point sources along the river due to population, industry, livestock, and fisheries. Non-point sources are also exists due to land uses. Hence, point and non-point sources both discharge water pollutants into the river. In 2004, the Ministry of

the Environment, South Korea had observed the average concentrations of the pollutants as given in Table 3.1. It was seriously noticed that the water quality of the river has been declining over the last more than ten years.

Table 3.1 Average concentration of the pollutants observed in 2004

Pollutants	Average Concentration
Dissolved oxygen (DO)	8.100 to 9.600 mg/L
Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)	2.900 to 3.400 mg/L
Carbonaceous oxygen demand (COD)	4.800 to 4.900 mg/L
Total nitrogen (T-N)	1.600 to 1.700 mg/L
Total phosphorous (T-P)	0.029 to 0.034 mg/L

Source: Song and Kim, 2009

3.3 QUAL2E Modeling

The river water quality has been modeled as function of waste-loadings using software of QUAL2E model. As shown in Figure 3.2, the main channel is divided into five reaches which are further subdivided into 31 elements of equal length. The length of each element is 1 Km. The elements are conceptualized with their sequence and assigned flag numbers. The different types of elements and their assigned flag numbers are given in Table 3.2.

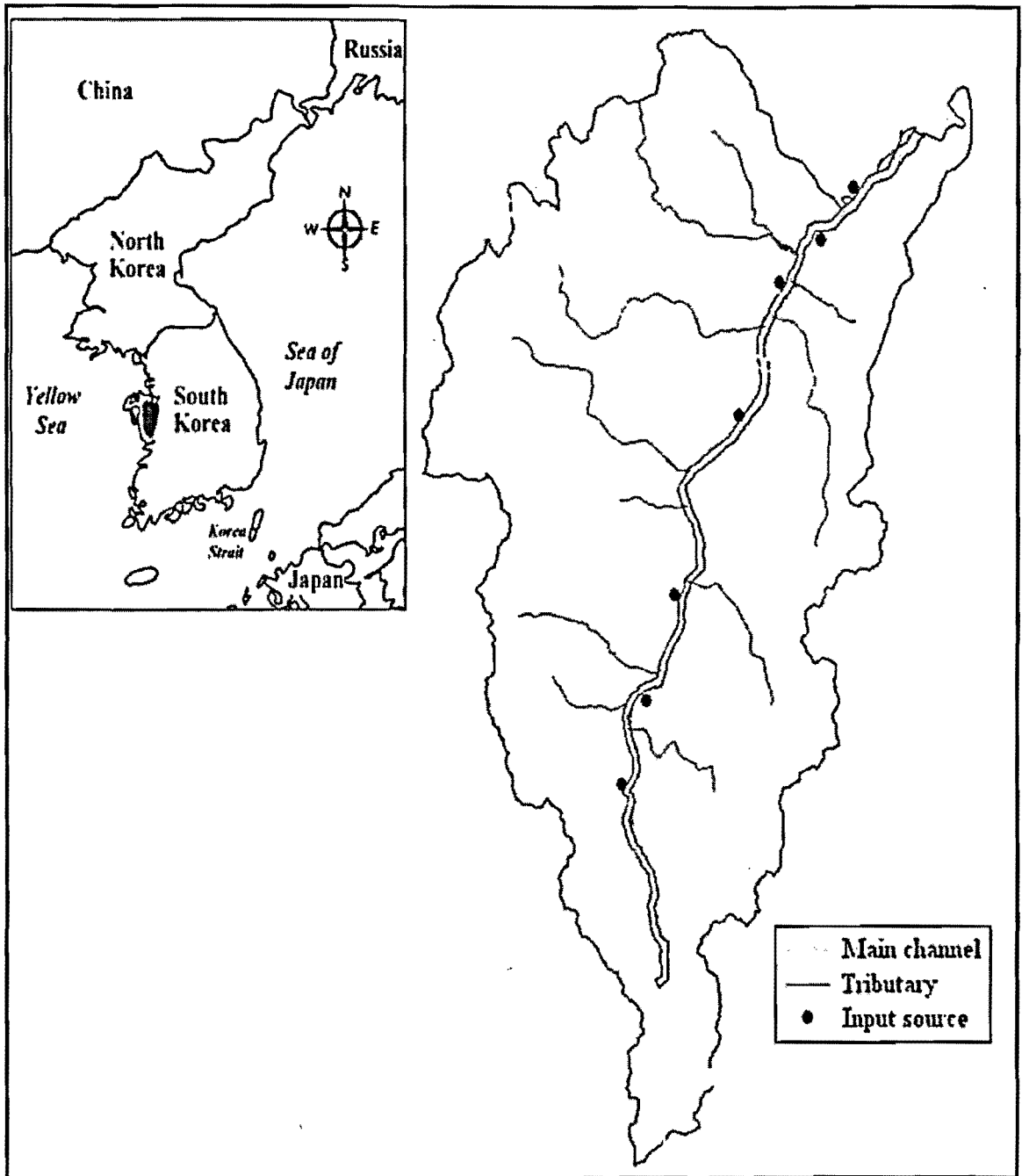


Figure 3.1 Site map - location of River Sapgyo in South Korea
Source: Song and Kim, 2009

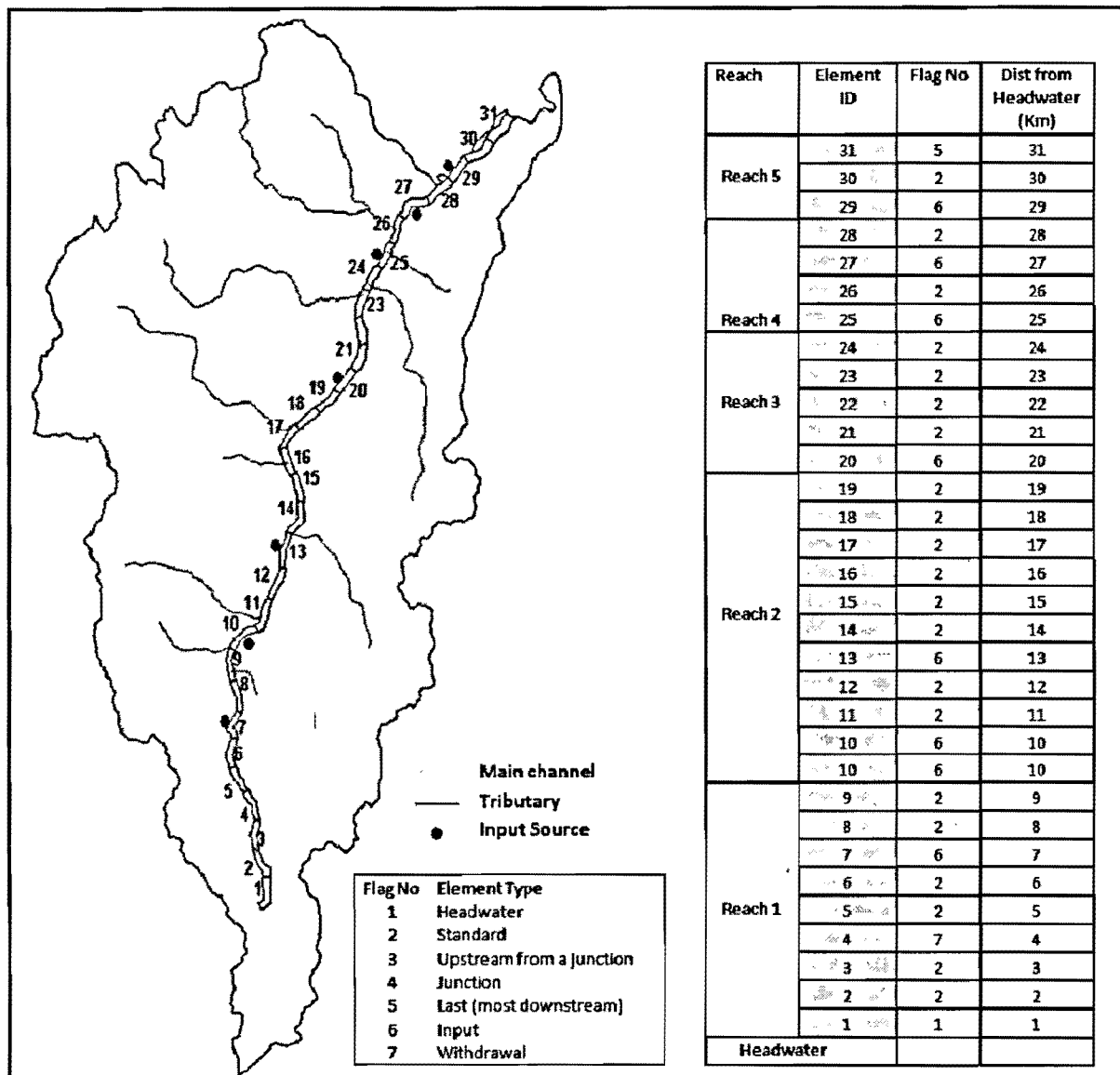


Figure 3.2 QUAL2E representations as reaches and elements of Sapgyo River
Source: Song and Kim, 2009

Table 3.2 Element types and assigned flag numbers

Element Type	Flag Number	Element Number
Headwater element	1	1
Input elements	6	7, 10, 13, 20, 25, 27, and 29
Withdrawal element	7	4
Standard elements	2	2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 to 19, 21 to 24, 26, 28, 30
Last Element in System	5	31

For each input source, the input pollutants have been regarded as the pollutant discharge by the area in which the source is located. The pollutants' load of headwater and input sources along the Sapgyo River before entering into their respective treatment plants is given in Table 3.3. Each source has its own water treatment plant (WTP) through which the pollutants can be mitigated to the desired level. The amount of pollutants, being discharged into the river, is calculated after the treatment through WTP facility. The generated pollutants have been computed to evaluate the water quality scales or water quality indices (WQIs) of the point sources and non-point sources which are generating the pollutants.

Table 3.3 Pollutant's load of headwater and input sources before entering into WTPs

Input Source		Location	Junction Element	Pollutant Loads (mg/L)		
				BOD	T-N	T-P
1	Headwater	Janggok Myeon	1	6.100	2.588	0.103
2	Point Source 1	Hongdong Myeon	7	5.244	8.873	0.465
3	Point Source 2	Hongseong Eup	10	5.244	8.873	0.465
4	Point Source 3	Hongbuk Myeon	13	17.020	28.697	3.880
5	Point Source 4	Sapgyo Eup	20	2.429	9.969	0.205
6	Point Source 5	Oga Myeon	25	1.416	7.351	0.132
7	Point Source 6	Godeok Myeon	27	1.416	7.351	0.132
8	Point Source 7	Sinam Myeon	29	0.780	4.584	0.074

Source: Song and Kim, 2009

The BOD concentration to be measured at downstream from the WTPs can be simulated by the following equation (Liu and Chen, 2009):

$$\text{BOD}_{(t)} = \text{BOD}_{(0)} e^{-k t} \quad (3.1)$$

Where, $\text{BOD}_{(t)}$ = BOD Concentration in mg/L at time t in the water.

$\text{BOD}_{(0)}$ = BOD Concentration in mg/L at initial time in the stream.

t = time in days for the waste traveling from the plant to downstream point of interest.

k = de-oxygenation rate constant per day for BOD degradation (generally assume 0.10/day).

As mentioned in Section 2.1, QUAL2E can simulate 15 constituents. But in case of Sapgyo River, only 10 out of 15 constituents are involved in the modeling process which are listed below:

- (i) Dissolved Oxygen (DO)
- (ii) Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)
- (iii) Temperature
- (iv) Algae as Chlorophyll a
- (v) Organic Nitrogen as N
- (vi) Ammonia (NH_4) as N
- (vii) Nitrite (NO_2) as N
- (viii) Nitrate (NO_3) as N
- (ix) Organic Phosphorous as P
- (x) Dissolved Phosphorous (PO_4) as P

The total amount of four types of nitrogen (organic nitrogen, ammonia, nitrite and nitrate) in water can be indicated as T-N (total nitrogen). Similarly, the total amount of two types of phosphorous (organic phosphorous and dissolved phosphorous) in water can be indicated as T-P (total phosphorous). The modeling result using simulated data is given in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4 QUAL2E modeling result of the Sapgyo River (2004)

ID	Temp. (°C)	DO (mg/L)	BOD (mg/L)	N (mg/L)	NH4-N (mg/L)	NO2-N (mg/L)	NO3-N (mg/L)	T-N (mg/L)	P (mg/L)	PO4-P (mg/L)	T-P (mg/L)	Chl-a (mg/L)
1	11.59	11.15	5.75	0.649	0.315	0.000	1.601	2.565	0.023	0.075	0.098	1.46
2	12.09	10.76	5.42	0.626	0.315	0.000	1.601	2.543	0.019	0.075	0.095	1.47
3	12.51	10.58	5.10	0.604	0.316	0.001	1.601	2.521	0.016	0.075	0.091	1.48
4	12.87	10.47	4.78	0.581	0.316	0.001	1.601	2.499	0.013	0.075	0.088	1.49
5	13.15	10.39	4.50	0.561	0.316	0.001	1.601	2.479	0.011	0.075	0.086	1.50
6	13.39	10.34	4.23	0.541	0.317	0.001	1.603	2.463	0.009	0.075	0.084	1.51
7	14.57	10.77	4.81	1.796	0.872	0.001	4.439	7.108	0.086	0.267	0.353	1.47
8	14.58	10.32	4.59	1.748	0.874	0.001	4.439	7.062	0.075	0.267	0.342	1.49
9	14.59	10.10	4.38	1.702	0.875	0.002	4.439	7.018	0.066	0.267	0.333	1.50
10	14.72	10.34	4.49	1.860	0.942	0.002	4.783	7.586	0.077	0.290	0.367	1.49
11	14.72	10.10	4.30	1.815	0.943	0.002	4.783	7.543	0.068	0.290	0.358	1.50
12	14.72	9.97	4.12	1.771	0.944	0.003	4.783	7.500	0.060	0.290	0.350	1.51
13	14.71	9.90	3.96	1.734	0.948	0.003	4.797	7.482	0.054	0.294	0.347	1.53
14	17.71	9.87	3.80	1.693	0.949	0.003	4.797	7.442	0.047	0.294	0.341	1.54
15	14.71	9.86	3.64	1.652	0.949	0.004	4.797	7.402	0.042	0.294	0.336	1.55
16	14.71	9.85	3.48	1.612	0.950	0.004	4.797	7.364	0.037	0.294	0.331	1.56
17	14.71	9.86	3.34	1.573	0.951	0.005	4.797	7.326	0.033	0.294	0.326	1.57
18	14.70	9.87	3.20	1.535	0.952	0.005	4.797	7.290	0.029	0.294	0.322	1.58
19	14.70	9.88	3.06	1.499	0.953	0.006	4.798	7.255	0.025	0.294	0.319	1.60
20	14.81	10.36	2.81	1.868	1.056	0.004	5.343	8.272	0.034	0.236	0.270	1.55
21	14.79	10.20	2.80	1.769	1.058	0.005	5.343	8.176	0.029	0.236	0.265	1.58
22	14.77	10.14	2.79	1.676	1.060	0.007	5.343	8.086	0.025	0.236	0.261	1.60
23	14.76	10.12	2.79	1.587	1.062	0.008	5.343	8.001	0.022	0.236	0.258	1.63
24	14.75	10.11	2.78	1.504	1.064	0.009	5.343	7.920	0.019	0.236	0.255	1.65
25	14.79	10.63	2.84	1.683	1.035	0.008	5.202	7.928	0.030	0.211	0.241	1.64
26	14.78	10.77	3.03	1.748	1.035	0.009	5.202	7.994	0.036	0.211	0.247	1.65
27	14.81	11.02	2.96	1.835	1.014	0.008	5.104	7.961	0.042	0.194	0.236	1.63
28	14.81	11.10	3.15	1.903	1.015	0.008	5.103	8.029	0.050	0.194	0.244	1.64
29	14.84	11.18	2.85	1.850	0.943	0.007	4.745	7.545	0.046	0.172	0.218	1.62
30	14.83	11.14	2.95	1.916	0.944	0.007	4.745	7.612	0.048	0.172	0.219	1.63
31	14.83	11.10	3.04	1.983	0.945	0.008	4.745	7.680	0.049	0.172	0.221	1.64

Source: Song and Kim, 2009

3.4 Model Calibration

The oxidation and settling rates of BOD and different existing types of nitrogen and phosphorous were calibrated so that these can be validated from the observed data. Algal photosynthesis and sediment oxygen demand (SOD) were also considered due to their direct effect on the dissolved oxygen (DO).

3.5 Model Validation

The modeling results were validated on the two selected monitoring stations located at element number 23 (SR1) and element number 29 (SR2) along the river. At these two stations, the water quality data was monitored during each month for the period from 2000 to 2004. The comparison of the simulated results and respective observed data for BOD, T-Ns and T-Ps is presented in Figures 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 respectively.

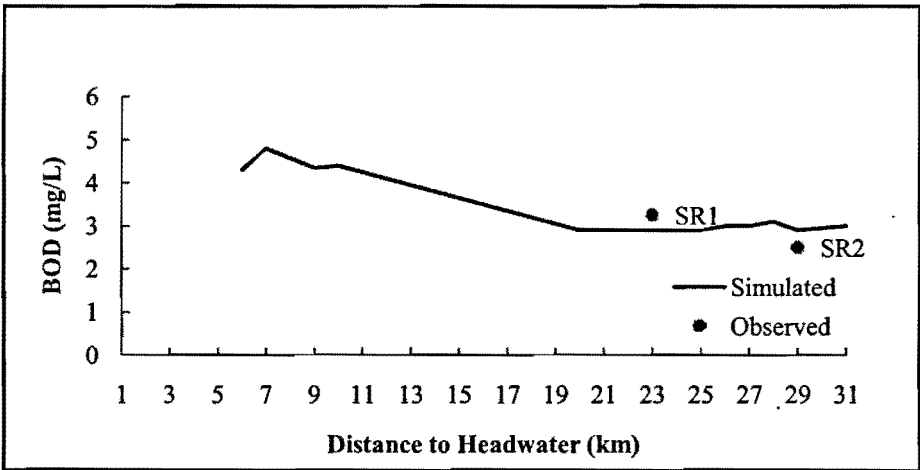


Figure 3.3 Simulated and observed data of BOD

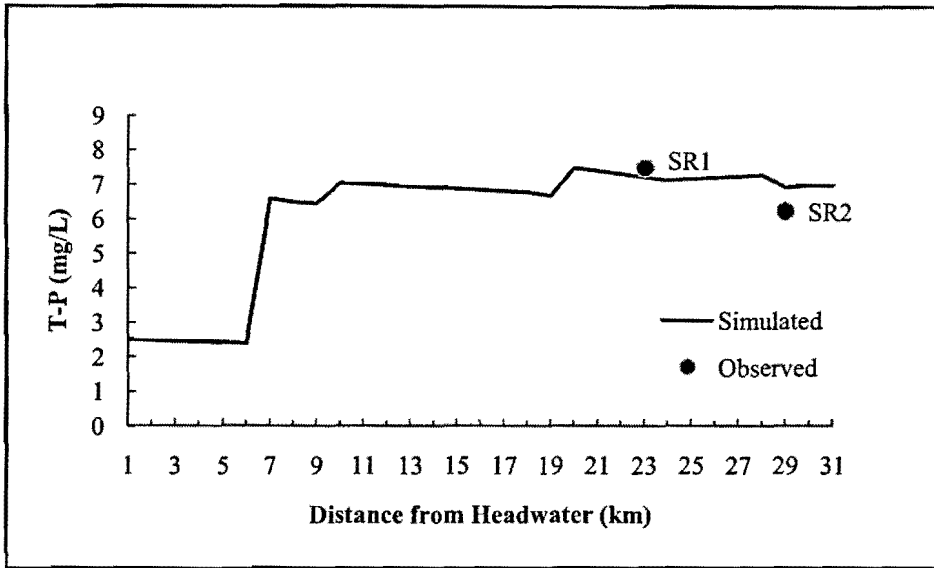


Figure 3.4 Simulated and observed data of T-P

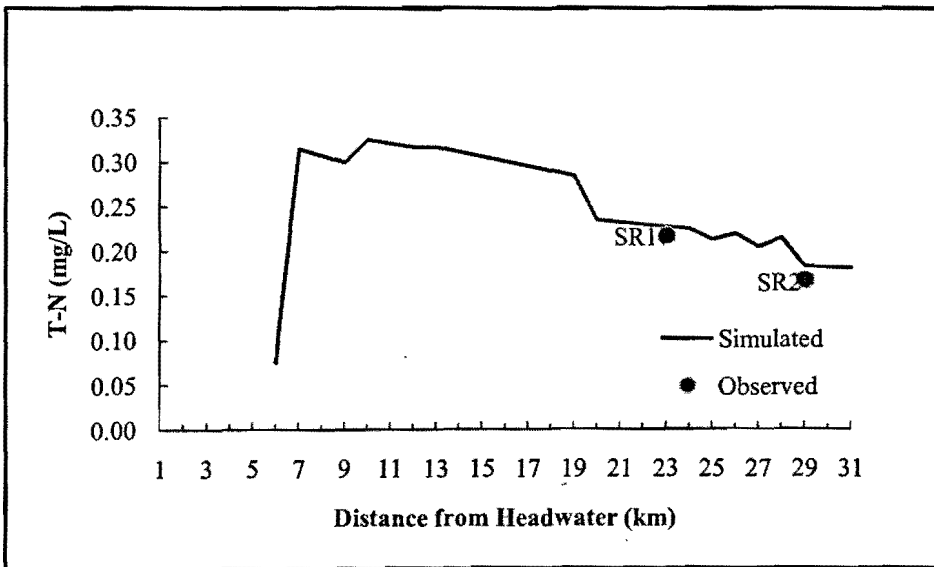


Figure 3.5 Simulated and observed data of T-N

Figures 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 show that the simulation curves rises sharply at element 7, where pollutant source number 1 is located. This shows that the discharged pollutants for this source are causing a steep decline in water quality. Moreover, a slight discrepancy between the simulated and observed values exists at the two selected monitoring stations. As a whole, the modeling result reflects the water quality trend along the main channel.

3.6 Determination of QUAL2E Water Quality Loading Index by Applying NSFQI Approach

QUAL2E water quality loading index (QWQLI) is a newly developed water quality index to provide a simple description of the water quality modeling result from QUAL2E model. QWQLI has specific applicability to water that is not monitored but can be simulated by QUAL2E model (Song and Kim, 2009).

Normally, the development of a WQI includes four steps:

First Step

The relevant water quality variables are selected.

Second Step

A set of sub-index functions is defined to transform each variable to a common scale.

Third Step

Each variable is assigned a weight value to denote its importance to overall water quality.

Fourth Step

All of the sub indices are aggregated by a specific aggregation operator.

These four steps have been further explained in the forthcoming sections:

3.6.1 Variable Selection

There are ten parameters that have been simulated by QUAL2E to represent the water quality of the river. Out of these simulated parameters only BOD, T-N, and T-P have been categorized as the important indicators of oxygen depletion caused by water pollutants. They have a more direct relationship to input pollutants than other indicators. In a sense, these are the major indicative parameters to simplify the description of simulated water quality by QUAL2E and help decision-makers to

design improvement actions on pollutant loads. Therefore, these three parameters have been selected as the variables of QWQLI indexing.

3.6.2 Sub-index Determination

The QWQLI quality rating consists of five classes as excellent, good, medium, bad and very bad. In order to indicate the pollutant loading levels, the descriptors of classes from I to V have been altered to very low, low, medium, high and very high, respectively. The five-class standards of BOD₅, T-N and T-P are listed in Table 3.5

Table 3.5 Five-class standards of BOD, T-N, and T-P and their descriptors for NSFWQI Indexing

Variable	Class I (very low)	Class II (low)	Class III (medium)	Class IV (high)	Class V (very high)
BOD (mg/L)	$0 < X < 1$	$1 \leq X < 3$	$3 \leq X < 6$	$6 \leq X < 8$	$8 \leq X < 10$
T-N (mg/L)	$0 < X < 2$	$2 \leq X < 4$	$4 \leq X < 6$	$6 \leq X < 10$	$10 \leq X < 15$
T-P (mg/L)	$0 < X < 0.1$	$0.1 \leq X < 0.3$	$0.3 \leq X < 0.5$	$0.5 \leq X < 1.0$	$1.0 \leq X < 1.5$

Source: Song and Kim, 2009

Brown et al. (1970) presented the National Sanitation Foundation Water Quality Index (NSFWQI) which is the most widely used index amongst all existing water quality indices. By means of the NSFWQI each class can be represented by a numerical range as given below:

Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V
91 to 100	71 to 90	51 to 70	26 to 50	0 to 25

Sub-indices are value functions to transform the different units and dimensions of water quality variables to a common scale for a multi-criteria analysis. The relation of the value of water quality variable X and its corresponding sub-index Y is given in Table 3.6 for BOD, T-N and T-P. Where, X is the value of water quality variable and Y is its sub-index.

Table 3.6 Sub-index functions for QWQLI indexing

Variable	Range	Sub-index function
BOD	$X = 0$	$Y = 100$
	$0 < X < 1$	$Y = -10X + 100$
	$1 \leq X < 3$	$Y = -10X + 100$
	$3 \leq X < 6$	$Y = -6.7X + 90.1$
	$6 \leq X < 8$	$Y = -12.5X + 125$
	$8 \leq X < 10$	$Y = -12.5X + 125$
	$X \geq 10$	$Y = 0$
T-N	$X = 0$	$Y = 100$
	$0 < X < 2$	$Y = -5X + 100$
	$2 \leq X < 4$	$Y = -10X + 110$
	$4 \leq X < 6$	$Y = -10X + 110$
	$6 \leq X < 10$	$Y = -6.25X + 87.5$
	$10 \leq X < 15$	$Y = -5X + 75$
	$X \geq 15$	$Y = 0$
T-P	$X = 0.0$	$Y = 100$
	$0.0 < X < 0.1$	$Y = -100X + 100$
	$0.1 \leq X < 0.3$	$Y = -100X + 100$
	$0.3 \leq X < 0.5$	$Y = -100X + 100$
	$0.5 \leq X < 1.0$	$Y = 50X \leq 25$
	$1.0 \leq X < 1.5$	$Y = -50X + 75$
	$X \geq 1.5$	$Y = 0$

Source: Song and Kim, 2009

3.6.3 Weight Assignments

The purpose of weight assignments to water quality variables is to denote the importance of each variable to the overall water quality. A larger weight value has greater importance of the variable. In assigning the weight of each variable, the most challenging factor is that the different people may have different opinions. The weight assignment of the NSFQI reflects the opinions of a panel of 142 experts in water quality management (Song and Kim, 2009). Each expert evaluates the importance of every variable based on his opinion. Therefore, the worldwide used NSFQI significance ratings have been followed to assign the weight to water quality variables. According to this rating, the weights of BOD, T-N and T-P have been assigned and further normalized by the following equations:

$$w'_i = \frac{r_{Lowest}}{r_i} \quad (3.2)$$

$$w_i = \frac{w'_i}{\sum_{i=1}^3 w'_i} \quad (3.3)$$

Where, r_{Lowest} = lowest significant rating amongst BOD, T-N and T-P

r_i = Individual significant rating value of BOD, T-N and T-P

w'_i = Individual temporary weight of BOD, T-N and T-P

w_i = Individual final (normalized) weight of BOD, T-N and T-P

3.6.4 Sub-Index Aggregation

Most multi criteria decision problems require aggregation (“andness” or “orness”) of the decision criteria. The sub-index aggregation of a WQI mathematically combines sub-indices to form an overall index value. The aggregation function of QWQLI is a linear sum aggregation function as given in the following equation:

$$QWQLI = \sum_{i=1}^3 w_i I_i \quad (3.4)$$

Where, I_i is the individual actual loading of the pollutants BOD, T-P and T-N.

Therefore, the aggregation function of QWQLI can be written as follows:

$$QWQLI = w_{BOD} I_{BOD} + w_{TN} I_{TN} + w_{TP} I_{TP} \quad (3.5)$$

Where, w_{BOD} = weight value of BOD, I_{BOD} = sub-index of BOD

w_{TN} = weight value of T-N, I_{TN} = sub-index of T-N

w_{TP} = weight value of T-P, I_{TP} = sub-index of T-P

3.6.5 Computation of QWQLI with Application of NSFQI System Approach

The QUAL2E modeling results provided in Table 3.4 have been indexed in Table 3.8 following the procedures explained in sections 3.5.1 to 3.5.4. As shown in Table 3.8, the BOD, T-N, and T-P values of each element have been sub-indexed by applying the concerned function equation as provided in Table 3.6.

The weight assignment has been provided in Table 3.7 using NSFQI significance rating factor for QWQLI indexing.

Table 3.7 Weight assignment for QWQLI indexing

Variable	Significance Rating (r_i)	Temporary Weight (w_i')	Final Weight (w_i)
BOD	2.3	$\frac{2.3}{2.3} = 1.00$	$\frac{1.00}{1.00 + 0.96 + 0.96} = 0.34$
T-N	2.4	$\frac{2.3}{2.4} = 0.96$	$\frac{0.96}{1.00 + 0.96 + 0.96} = 0.33$
T-P	2.4	$\frac{2.3}{2.4} = 0.96$	$\frac{0.96}{1.00 + 0.96 + 0.96} = 0.33$

Thereafter, the QWQLI has been calculated for each element using equation (3.5) and further classified using five-class descriptors.

Table 3.8 Calculations of QWQLI using NSFQI system approach

ID	BOD		T-N		T-P		QWQLI (0.34 Y1 + 0.33 Y2 + 0.33 Y3)	Class	Pollutant Loading Level
	Loading (X) mg/L	Sub- Index Function (Y1)	Loading (X) mg/L	Sub- Index Function (Y2)	Loading (X) mg/L	Sub- Index Function (Y3)			
1	5.75	51.6	2.6	84.4	0.098	90.2	75.2	II	Low
2	5.42	53.8	2.5	84.6	0.095	90.5	76.1	II	Low
3	5.10	55.9	2.5	84.8	0.091	90.9	77.0	II	Low
4	4.78	58.1	2.5	85.0	0.088	91.2	77.9	II	Low
5	4.50	60.0	2.5	85.2	0.086	91.4	78.7	II	Low
6	4.23	61.8	2.5	85.4	0.084	91.6	79.4	II	Low
7	4.81	57.9	7.1	43.1	0.353	64.7	55.3	III	Medium
8	4.59	59.3	7.1	43.4	0.342	65.8	56.3	III	Medium
9	4.38	60.8	7.0	43.6	0.333	66.7	57.1	III	Medium
10	4.49	60.0	7.6	40.1	0.367	63.3	54.6	III	Medium
11	4.30	61.3	7.5	40.4	0.358	64.2	55.4	III	Medium
12	4.12	62.5	7.5	40.6	0.350	65.0	56.2	III	Medium
13	3.96	63.6	7.5	40.7	0.347	65.3	56.7	III	Medium
14	3.80	64.6	7.4	41.0	0.341	65.9	57.3	III	Medium
15	3.64	65.7	7.4	41.2	0.336	66.4	57.9	III	Medium
16	3.48	66.8	7.4	41.5	0.331	66.9	58.5	III	Medium
17	3.34	67.7	7.3	41.7	0.326	67.4	59.1	III	Medium
18	3.20	68.7	7.3	41.9	0.322	67.8	59.6	III	Medium
19	3.06	69.6	7.3	42.2	0.319	68.1	60.1	III	Medium
20	2.81	71.9	8.3	35.8	0.270	73.0	60.4	III	Medium
21	2.80	72.0	8.2	36.4	0.265	73.5	60.8	III	Medium
22	2.79	72.1	8.1	37.0	0.261	73.9	61.1	III	Medium
23	2.79	72.1	8.0	37.5	0.258	74.2	61.4	III	Medium
24	2.78	72.2	7.9	38.0	0.255	74.5	61.7	III	Medium
25	2.84	71.6	7.9	38.0	0.241	75.9	62.0	III	Medium
26	3.03	69.8	8.0	37.5	0.247	75.3	61.0	III	Medium
27	2.96	70.4	8.0	37.7	0.236	76.4	61.7	III	Medium
28	3.15	69.0	8.0	37.3	0.244	75.6	60.8	III	Medium
29	2.85	71.5	7.5	40.3	0.218	78.2	63.5	III	Medium
30	2.95	70.5	7.6	39.9	0.219	78.1	63.0	III	Medium
31	3.04	69.7	7.7	39.5	0.221	77.9	62.5	III	Medium

Note:

Equation, $Y1 = -6.7X + 90.1$, is used for element numbers 1 to 19, 26, 28, and 31.

Equation, $Y1 = -10X + 100$, is used for element numbers 20 to 25, 27, 29, and 30.

Equation, $Y2 = -10X + 110$, is used for element numbers 1 to 6.

Equation, $Y2 = -6.25X + 87.5$, is used for element numbers 7 to 31.

Equation, $Y3 = -100X + 100$, is used for element numbers 1 to 31.

3.7 Determination of QUAL2E Water Quality Loading Index by Applying CCMEWQI Approach

The CCMEWQI system is based on a formula developed by the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, British Columbia, Canada. The index gives water quality rating range from 0 (worst water quality) and 100 (best water quality). This rating range is divided into five descriptive category types and classes as shown in Table 3.9.

Table 3.9 CCMEWQI quality rating range, category type and quality condition

Quality Rating Range (Class)	Category Type	Quality Condition	Condition vs. Natural Level
0 to 44 (V)	Poor	Water quality is almost always threatened and impaired	Conditions usually depart from natural or desirable levels
44.1 to 64 (IV)	Marginal	Water quality is frequently threatened or impaired	Conditions often depart from natural or desirable levels
64.1 to 79 (III)	Fair	Water quality is usually protected but occasionally threatened or impaired	Conditions sometimes depart from natural or desirable levels
79.1 to 94 (II)	Good	Water quality is protected with only a minor degree of threat or impairment	Conditions rarely depart from natural or desirable levels
94.1 to 100 (I)	Excellent	Water quality is protected with a virtual absence of threat or impairment	Conditions very close to natural or pristine levels

Source: Terrado, 2010

The range of categories can be modified for every particular case of study. For calculation of CCMEWQI, the index incorporates three factors F1 (scope), F2 (frequency), and F3 (amplitude).

3.7.1 Determination of Factors F1, F2 and F3

In order to compute the CCMEWQI, the factors F1, F2 and F3 have been explained as under:

F1 (scope)

The scope represents the percentage of variables that do not meet their objectives at least once during the time period under consideration (failed variables), in relation to the total number of variables measured. Accordingly,

$$F1 = \left(\frac{\text{number of failed variables}}{\text{total number of variables}} \right) \times 100 \quad (3.6)$$

F2 (frequency)

Frequency represents the percentage of individual tests that do not meet objectives (failed tests). Accordingly,

$$F2 = \left(\frac{\text{number of failed tests}}{\text{total number of tests}} \right) \times 100 \quad (3.7)$$

F3 (amplitude)

Amplitude represents the amount by which failed test values do not meet their objectives. F3 is calculated in three steps:

First Step

The individual variable concentration may fall in any one of the following (a) or (b) condition.

(a) When the test value must not exceed the objective:

The number of times by which an individual concentration is greater than the objective (when the objective is maximum), the objective is termed as "excursion" and is expressed as follows:

$$\text{excursion}_i = \left(\frac{\text{failed test value}_i}{\text{objective}_j} \right) - 1 \quad (3.8a)$$

(b) When the test value must not fall below the objective:

The number of times by which an individual concentration is less than the objective (when the objective is minimum), the objective is termed as "excursion" and is expressed as follows:

$$\text{excursion}_i = \left(\frac{\text{objective}_j}{\text{failed test value}_i} \right) - 1 \quad (3.8b)$$

Second Step

The collective amount by which individual tests are out of compliance, is calculated by summing the excursions of individual tests from their objectives and dividing the total number of tests (both those are meeting objectives and those are not meeting the objectives). This variable, referred to as the **normalized sum of excursions (nse)**, is calculated as:

$$nse = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \text{excursion}_i}{\text{total number of tests}} \quad (3.9)$$

Third Step

F3 is then calculated by an asymptotic function that scales the normalized sum of excursions (nse) from objectives to yield a range between 0 and 100. Accordingly,

$$F_3 = \left(\frac{nse}{0.01nse + 0.01} \right) \quad (3.10)$$

3.7.2 Determination of CCMEWQI using Factors F1, F2 and F3

Once all the factors are obtained, the index can be calculated by summing the three factors as if they were vectors. The sum of the squares of each factor is, therefore, equal to the square of the index. This approach treats the index as a three-dimensional space defined by each factor along one axis as shown in Figure 3.6.

Hence, with this model, the index changes are in direct proportion to the changes in all three factors. Therefore, CCMEWQI can be computed with the following equation:

$$CCMEWQI = 100 - \left(\frac{\sqrt{F_1^2 + F_2^2 + F_3^2}}{1.732} \right) \quad (3.11)$$

Where, the divisor 1.732 normalizes the result to a range from 0 to 100.

The specific variables, objectives, and time period used in calculating the index are not fixed and, indeed, could vary from region to region, depending on local conditions. It is, therefore, recommended that at a minimum of four variables having sampled at least four times should be used in the calculation. It is also expected that variables and objectives chosen can provide relevant information about a particular site (Terrado et al., 2010).

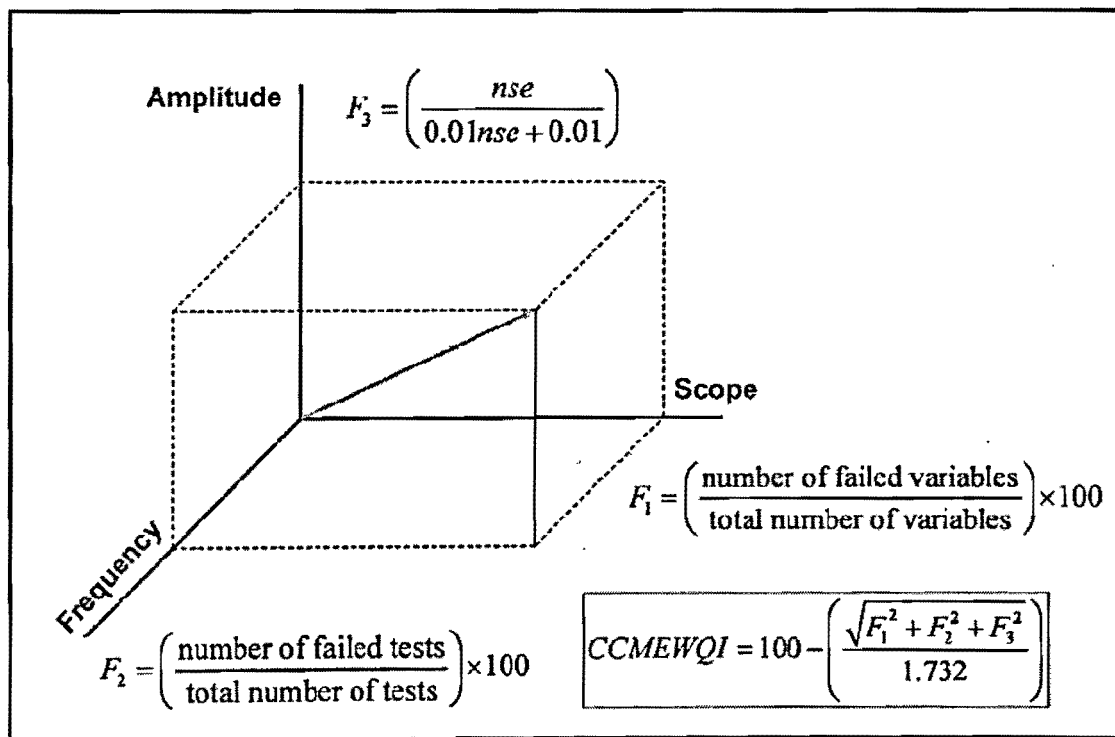


Figure 3.6 Graphical representation of the water-quality index (WQI) calculated in a three-dimensional space by summing three factors (F1, F2, and F3) as vectors

Source: Terrado, 2010

3.7.3 Computation of QWQLI with Application of CCMEWQI System Approach

The characteristic database simulated by QUAL2E as given in Table 3.4, is used to calculate the values of factors F1, F2 and F3. Four variables DO, BOD, T-N and T-P have been selected which are main contributors to the water quality. Thereafter, the maximum and minimum values of data distribution have been selected and established the desired quality objectives. The objectives should lie in between the maximum and minimum values of the variables. Selection of objectives differs depending on the end-use of the water. In case of Sapgyo River, maximum and minimum values of the variables and their respective desired objectives for calculating the water quality index are given in Table 3.10.

Table 3.10 Maximum and minimum values of variables with desired objectives

Selected Variable	Minimum Value	Maximum Value	Objective Value
Dissolved oxygen (DO)	5 mg/L	15 mg/L	≥ 6 mg/L
Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)	3 mg/L	5.75 mg/L	≤ 4.2 mg/L
Total nitrogen (T-N)	2.8 mg/L	5.5 mg/L	≤ 4 mg/L
Total phosphorous (T-P)	0.07 mg/L	0.37 mg/L	≤ 0.3 mg/L

After calculating the values of factors F1, F2 and F3 by following the procedure as described in section 3.6.1, water quality index for Sapgyo River is calculated using Equation 3.11 for each element of the river channel as shown in Table 3.11.

Table 3.11 Calculations of QWQI using CCMEWQI system approach

Element ID	Test Results Pass(0) / Fail(1)				Factor		DO (objective ≥ 6 mg/L)		BOD (objective ≤ 4.2 mg/L)		T-N (objective ≤ 4.0 mg/L)		T-P (objective ≤ 0.30 mg/L)		nse	Factor F3	QWQI	Class (Category)
	DO	BOD	T-N	T-P	F1	F2	Simulate d (mg/L)	Excursion	Simulate d (mg/L)	Excursion	Simulate d (mg/L)	Excursion	Simulate d (mg/L)	Excursion				
1	0	1	0	0	25	25	11.15	0	5.75	0.369	2.565	0	0.098	0	0.092	8.45	79.01	II (Good)
2	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.76	0	5.42	0.290	2.543	0	0.095	0	0.073	6.77	79.22	II (Good)
3	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.58	0	5.10	0.214	2.521	0	0.091	0	0.054	5.08	79.38	II (Good)
4	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.47	0	4.78	0.138	2.499	0	0.088	0	0.035	3.34	79.50	II (Good)
5	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.39	0	4.50	0.071	2.479	0	0.086	0	0.018	1.75	79.56	II (Good)
6	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.34	0	4.23	0.007	2.463	0	0.084	0	0.002	0.18	79.59	II (Good)
7	0	1	1	1	75	75	10.77	0	4.81	0.145	7.108	0.777	0.353	0.177	0.275	21.55	37.51	V (Poor)
8	0	1	1	1	75	75	10.32	0	4.59	0.093	7.062	0.766	0.342	0.140	0.250	19.97	37.68	V (Poor)
9	0	1	1	1	75	75	10.10	0	4.38	0.043	7.018	0.755	0.333	0.110	0.227	18.49	37.84	V (Poor)
10	0	1	1	1	75	75	10.34	0	4.49	0.069	7.586	0.897	0.367	0.223	0.297	22.91	37.35	V (Poor)
11	0	1	1	1	75	75	10.10	0	4.30	0.024	7.543	0.886	0.358	0.193	0.276	21.61	37.50	V (Poor)
12	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.97	0	4.12	0	7.500	0.875	0.350	0.167	0.260	20.66	57.47	IV (Marginal)
13	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.90	0	3.96	0	7.482	0.871	0.347	0.157	0.257	20.43	57.50	IV (Marginal)
14	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.87	0	3.80	0	7.442	0.861	0.341	0.137	0.249	19.95	57.58	IV (Marginal)
15	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.86	0	3.64	0	7.402	0.851	0.336	0.120	0.243	19.53	57.65	IV (Marginal)
16	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.85	0	3.48	0	7.364	0.841	0.331	0.103	0.236	19.10	57.71	IV (Marginal)
17	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.86	0	3.34	0	7.326	0.832	0.326	0.087	0.230	18.67	57.78	IV (Marginal)
18	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.87	0	3.20	0	7.290	0.823	0.322	0.073	0.224	18.30	57.83	IV (Marginal)
19	0	0	1	1	50	50	9.88	0	3.06	0	7.255	0.814	0.319	0.063	0.219	17.98	57.87	IV (Marginal)
20	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.36	0	2.81	0	8.272	1.068	0.270	0	0.267	21.07	76.24	III (Fair)
21	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.20	0	2.80	0	8.176	1.044	0.265	0	0.261	20.70	76.35	III (Fair)
22	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.14	0	2.79	0	8.086	1.022	0.261	0	0.255	20.34	76.45	III (Fair)
23	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.12	0	2.79	0	8.001	1.000	0.258	0	0.250	20.00	76.55	III (Fair)
24	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.11	0	2.78	0	7.920	0.980	0.255	0	0.245	19.68	76.64	III (Fair)
25	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.63	0	2.84	0	7.928	0.982	0.241	0	0.246	19.71	76.63	III (Fair)
26	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.77	0	3.03	0	7.994	0.999	0.247	0	0.250	19.98	76.55	III (Fair)
27	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.02	0	2.96	0	7.961	0.990	0.236	0	0.248	19.84	76.59	III (Fair)
28	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.10	0	3.15	0	8.029	1.007	0.244	0	0.252	20.12	76.51	III (Fair)
29	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.18	0	2.85	0	7.545	0.886	0.218	0	0.222	18.14	77.06	III (Fair)
30	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.14	0	2.95	0	7.612	0.903	0.219	0	0.226	18.42	76.98	III (Fair)
31	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.10	0	3.04	0	7.680	0.920	0.221	0	0.230	18.70	76.91	III (Fair)

3.8 Result Analysis

Viewing the QWQLI indexing result of NSFWQI system approach, the following analysis can be made:

- (i) The simulation results from element 1 to element 6 have been graded as “Class II”. Accordingly, the upper reaches of the main channel has been categorized having a “Low” level of pollutant loading. The simulation results of the remaining reaches have been graded as “Class III” which categorized the reaches having pollutant loadings of “Medium” level.
- (ii) Element 6 has the lowest pollutant load (79.4, Class II) amongst all elements, whereas element 10 has the highest pollutant load (54.5, Class III) amongst all elements of the river.
- (iii) The overall pollutant loads of the main channel may be considered acceptable, as there is no element whose QWQLI is lower than 50. However, T-N of the main channel should be improved, because T-Ns of most elements have been graded as “Class IV” which indicates a “High” loading level.

Similarly, viewing the QWQLI indexing result using CCMEWQI system approach, the following analysis can be made:

- (i) The simulation results from element 1 to 6 have been graded as “Class II”. Accordingly, the upper reaches of the main channel have been rated in “Good” category. This means that the elements have low level of pollutant loadings which is same as analyzed in case of NSFWQI system. The simulation results from elements 7 to 11 have been graded as “Class V (Poor)” which shows that they have high level of pollutant loadings. This is because of discharging the pollutant loadings through the point sources located at the elements 7 and 10. Moreover, the water quality is poorest at element 10 showing water quality index level 37.35 as lowest in the channel.

- (ii) As analyzed in case of NSFQWI system, the element 6 has the lowest pollutant load with maximum water quality index level 79.59 amongst all elements. The simulation results from element 12 to 19 have been graded as “IV (Marginal)” and from elements 20 to 31 have been graded as “III (Fair)”.
- (iii) The overall pollutant load of the main channel may not be considered acceptable because of the poor water quality level from element 7 to 11, which is below 50 of water quality index level. The factor results of T-N and T-P shows that elements 7 to 11 need quality improvements of their pollutant loadings.

A comparison of the two results, obtained by using the NSFQWI and CCMEQWI systems approaches, has been presented for each element in Figure 3.7. In case of NSFQWI, all results have been considered acceptable using 50 as the minimum water quality level. However, in case, we raise the minimum water quality level to 60, the elements 7 to 18 need quality improvement of their pollutant loadings.

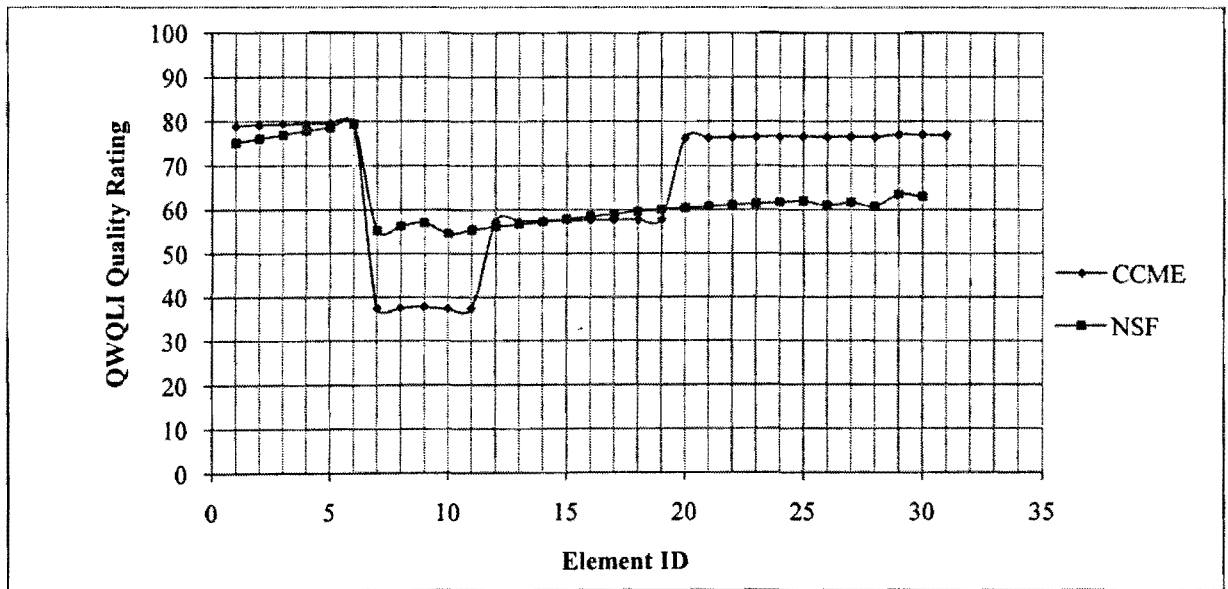


Figure 3.7 Comparison of QWQI results using NSFQWI and CCMEQWI systems approaches

In case of CCMEWQI with 50 as the minimum water quality level, the elements 7 to 11 are needed to be improved. If we further raise the minimum water quality level to 60, then elements 7 to 19 are required to be improved.

The above analysis shows that the use of CCMEWQI system approach provides better improvement of the elements, resulting in a better water quality of the channel. Moreover, a comparison of NSFQI and CCMEWQI systems on the basis of different criteria is provided in Table 3.12 which also shows that the CCMEWQI system is better than NSFQI system (Terrado et al., 2010).

Table 3.12 Comparison of NSFQI and CCMEWQI based on different criteria

S. N.	Criteria	NSFWQI	CCMEWQI
1	Parameters measured using continuous sampling	Bad	Good
2	Adaptability to different uses of water body	Bad	Good
3	Existing guidelines to define objectives	Good	Fair
4	Experience of real applications	Fair	Good
5	Consideration of the amplitude (amount by which the objectives are not met)	Fair	Good
6	Programming difficulty	Fair	Good
7	Tolerance to missing data	Bad	Fair
8	Need of synchronized data	Bad	Good
9	Tolerance to wrong data	Bad	Bad

Note: S.N. is denoted for Serial Numbers.

Source: Terrado, 2010

CHAPTER 4

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

4.1 Finding of Better QWQLI Result

The QUAL2E model is used to simulate the pollutant loadings received after treatment through WTPs prior to discharge them into the river. The QUAL2E model divides the whole river channel into equal elements to treat them as controlled channels. The quality of the constituent loadings of these elements is required to be maintained at the desired river water quality level. For this purpose, the results of two water quality index systems have been compared to select the better one. In this study, NSFWQI and CCMEWQI systems approaches have been used to compute the water quality indices for the same pollutant data simulated by QUAL2E model.

In case of NSFWQI system, the main component is the selection of variables that mainly contribute to the water quality. While using this system approach, it has been observed that the element having lowest water quality should be improved first. Further the system has indicated a particular variable which is required to be improved in that element. For example, Table 3.8 shows that starting from headwater, element 7 is the first poor in water quality and its variable T-N having quality level 43.1 is required to be treated first to improve the water quality level. The weight assignment is an important task that finally differentiates the water quality of all the elements and therefore, it assigns the water quality index level to each element.

In case of CCMEWQI system, it is important to note that the scope factor F1 which shows the percentage of failed variables, is the most significant factor in calculating the index. For this reason, it is important to carefully observe those variables that despite generally fulfilling the quality objectives are failed to meet the desired objectives at various occasions. In this study, the values of F1 and F2 are same for all elements because only one simulation result of QUAL2E is accounted for to calculate the F2 value. However, increased number of simulation tests may give different values of F2. Hence, to get more accurate and realistic results, it is recommended that at a minimum of four

variables having sampled at least four times should be used in the calculation (Terrado, 2010).

The values of F3 depend on the values of established objectives. Over estimation of the index occurs when using the variables whose relevance is doubtful and their objectives are difficult to exceed. This may be in case of temperature and water level. For this reason, these variables are not included in this process. From the data aggregation point of view, if the individual data aggregation level is higher, the quality index level is better. The results of NSFQI has shown that the elements from 7 to 11 have the index rating as 55.3, 56.3, 57.1, 54.6, and 55.4 respectively, whereas the result of CCMEWQI have shown that these elements have their rating as 37.51, 37.68, 37.84, 37.34, and 37.50 respectively. This means that the CCMEWQI has rated these elements at lesser level than that of NSFQI. Accordingly, use of CCME results need more improvement level to maintain the desired river water quality. Furthermore, Table 3.12 also shows that CCMEWQI has better usefulness than NSFQI with consideration of the same criteria.

The above discussion concludes that computation of QUAL2E water quality loading index with application of CCMEWQI system approach provides better control on the water quality. In other words, it can be concluded that maintaining the water quality at the end-use is on safer side by using the CCMEWQI system approach. Therefore, this study has proved that CCMEWQI is the better option to keep the water quality of the channel on safer side.

However many advantages, CCMEWQI has some disadvantages. One of the disadvantages is that this index assigns equal importance to particular variables. During the process of calculation, all variables are given the same weight without any distinction among their potential environmental impact. So this aspect should be improved as much as possible. Moreover, the variables used in calculating the indices are probably described only a limited description of the factors influencing categorization of the water body. Hence, the index score represents a partial diagnostic of the water quality that can be easily biased. It is, therefore, important to take into account that the attained diagnostic of water quality will be valid for a particular set of parameters only, and that using different parameters will probably lead to different results.

To sum up the discussion, it may be concluded that despite having some disadvantages, CCMEWQI is proved to be a useful and better system in comparison to NSFQI to determine the QUAL2E water quality loading index for the Sapgyo River. Finally, the QWQLI results obtained by using CCMEWQI are found better to maintain the river water quality especially for meeting the desired quality objectives on safer side at the end-use.

4.2 Decision-Making Process Based on Better Found QWQLI Result

QUAL2E water quality loading index has a great importance for the decision makers. The QWQLI indexing can provide a simple description of the pollutant loads simulated by QUAL2E model. It can be used to decide whether or not the pollutant loading scenario of an element should be improved based on the improvement requirements by decision makers. However, an appropriate decision-making process regarding pollutant loads must involve detailed solutions of how to mitigate the pollutant loads of "unsatisfactory" elements. Therefore, a decision-making process using pollutant loadings simulated by QUAL2E model supported by a single water quality rating value of QWQLI is designed in this section to make improvement actions for the pollutant loads. It should be kept in mind that QWQLI is a single water quality rating value for each element of the river channel. In this study, the decision-making process is based on the better found QWQLI results obtained by application of CCMEWQI system approach. As shown in Fig. 4.1, the process is a modeling judgment procedure repeated on each element until all of the elements meet the desired improvement requirements. The decision process is divided into two parts:

- (i) "Where to improve"
- (ii) "How to improve"

First Decision - Where to Improve?

After the initial water quality modeling, some elements may be considered as candidates to be improved on the basis of QWQLI indexing. However, the problem arises for determining the element which has the first priority for improvement. For this purpose,

locate the poorest element that is required to be improved first. Accordingly, the first decision involves the following steps:

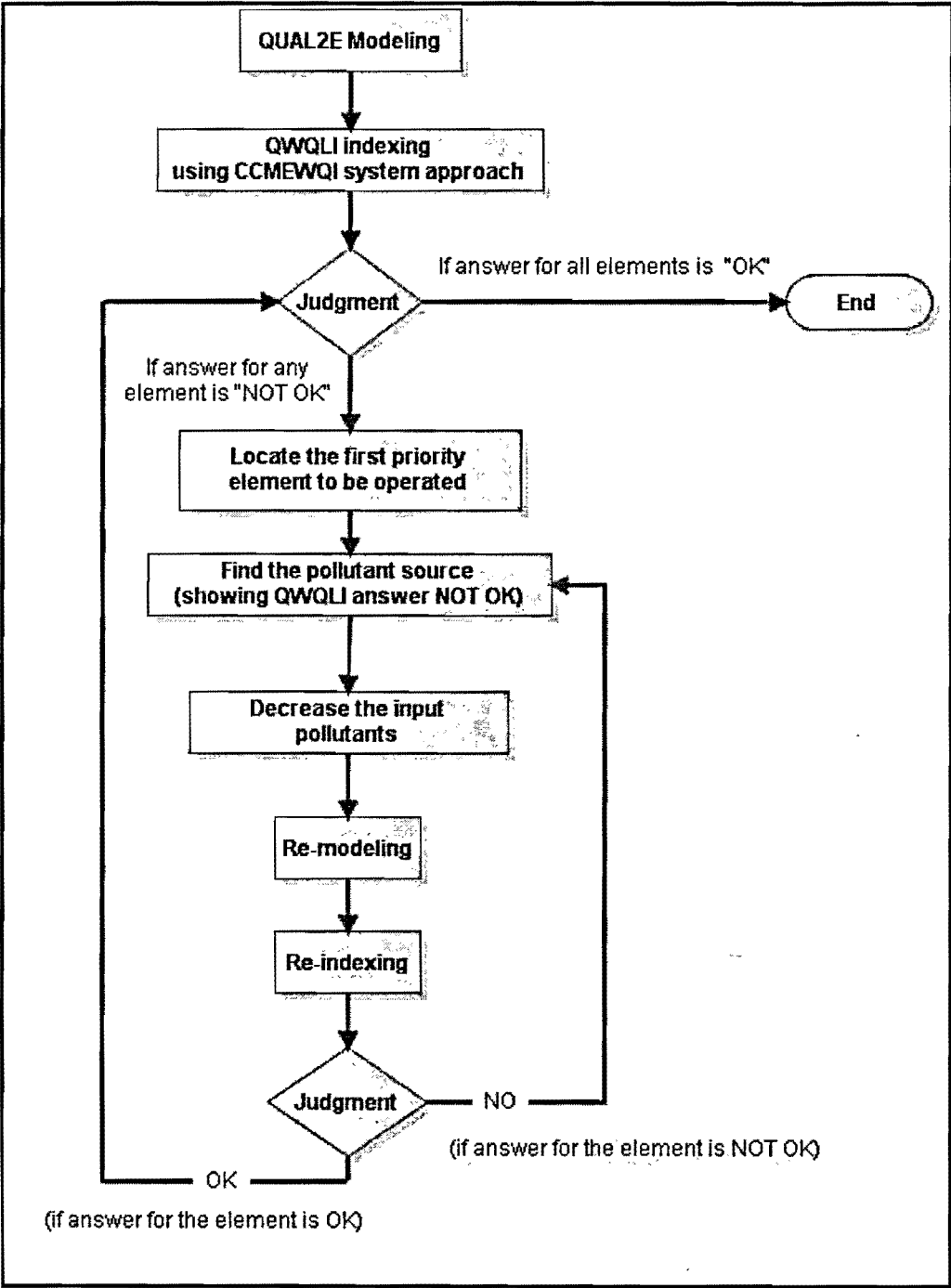


Figure 4.1 Decision-making process based on better found QWQLI result

First Step

First of all, perform the QUAL2E modeling to simulate the pollutant loadings after treating them through WTPs. This is an initial modeling process which is described in Section 3.2. After improvement of the first operating element, the improvement result is the origin of the next improvement.

Second Step

Compute the QWQLI indexing using CCMEWQI system approach to find a single value water quality index for each element of the river channel.

Third Step

Make a judgment of the indexing result. If all elements are "OK", which implies "no element needs to be improved" based on the improvement requirements, the process reaches the end. Otherwise, the process turns to the next step.

Fourth Step

If some elements need improvement, then first define the uppermost candidate element as the operating element. This is because of the fact that water pollutants always flow with water from upper reaches to lower reaches. It is obvious that the uppermost candidate element has the highest priority of improvement.

Fifth Step

After deciding the uppermost candidate for improvement, the process moves to the second decision.

Second Decision - How to Improve?

The second decision is a continuation of the first decision when there is an element to be improved. Through the design of improvement actions, the element can be changed to meet the improvement requirements of desired objectives. This involves the following steps:

First Step

Find the pollutant source of the operating element. All of the headwater and input elements are candidates of this source. Owing to the natural flow direction of water, the sources should be found from the upstream reaches of the element. If more than one source is found, only one source will be selected for a reduction in load. The source should have the greatest impact on the operating element. It is clear that the amount of input pollutants and the flow distance to the element are two major factors. However, because decreases of input pollutants in this study are implemented from upper sources to lower sources, a source that has been improved for its nearer downstream elements can unquestionably meet the improvement requirements of its elements that are farther downstream. Therefore, it is assumed that only the source nearest to the operating element is selected.

Second Step

Decrease the amount of input pollutants BOD, T-N, and T-P of the pollutant source. The decrease will mitigate the pollutant loads of the downstream elements.

Third Step

Re-model the river by QUAL2E for each attempt to decrease the level of input pollutants.

Fourth Step

Re-modeling results will be indexed with the QWQLI rating using CCMEWQI system approach.

Fifth Step

Check the answer of the operating element. If the answer is “OK”, the process proceeds to “sixth step”. Otherwise, the process returns to “second step”.

Sixth Step

In case, the operating element is “OK”, the improvement of the element is finished. The procedure will then switch to the first decision to determine the next operating element.

During this process, decreasing input pollutants is the most important step. Therefore, it is important to design the improvement actions in a feasible and efficient manner.

4.3 Analyzing Decision-Making Process Based on QWQLI Result of Sapgyo River

In this study, the improvement objectives have been assumed as follows:

- (i) For any element, the DO, BOD, T-N, and T-P should meet the conditions of desired objectives as laid down in Table 3.10.
- (ii) After improvement, the QWQLI value of any element should be greater than 79 (Class II) to be graded in “Good” quality.

Based on these improvement goals, the river reaches from element 7 become the candidate elements to be improved, as they have “unsatisfactory” QWQLIs of T-N and T-P. By the process of the first decision, element 7 is defined as the first operating element, as it is the uppermost candidate element. As shown in Table 3.3, the pollutant source of element 7 is “Point Source 1”, which discharges to the Sapgyo River at element 7. By the process of the second decision, the input pollutants from "Point Source 1" are decreased until element 7 is found to be satisfactory. Repeating the process for each candidate element, the pollutant loads of the entire main channel of the Sapgyo River are improved, as shown in Table 4.1. A comparison of QWQLI results of Sapgyo River, obtained before and after improvement has been illustrated in Figure 4.2

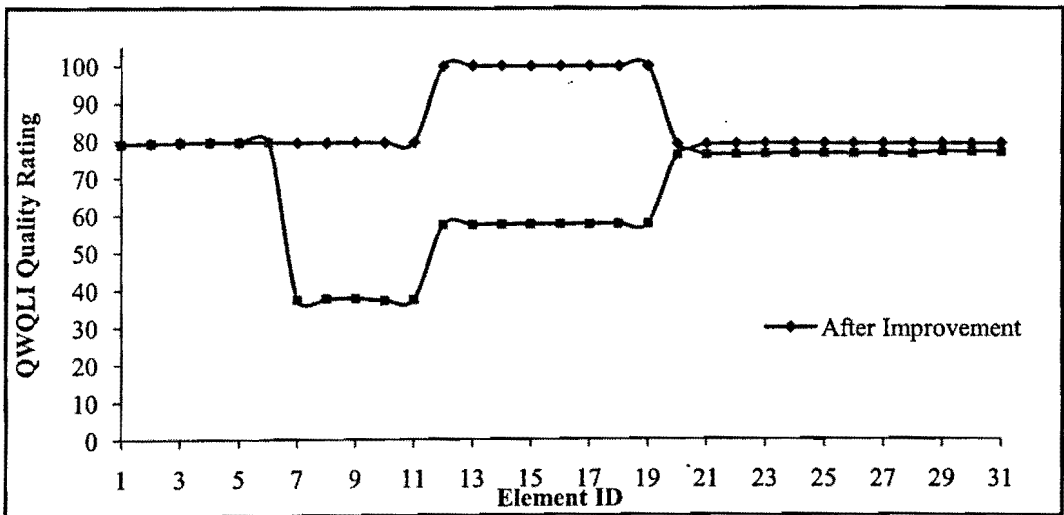


Figure 4.2 Comparison of QWQLI results of Sapgyo River obtained before and after improvement

Table 4.1 Decision-making result of Sapgyo River using CCMEWQI system approach

Element ID	Test Results Pass(0) / Fail(1)				Factor		DO (objective ≥ 6 mg/L)		BOD (objective ≤ 4.2 mg/L)		T-N (objective ≤ 4.0 mg/L)		T-P (objective ≤ 0.30 mg/L)		nse	Factor F3	QWQI	Class (Category)
	DO	BOD	T-N	T-P	F1	F2	Simulated (mg/L)	Excursion	Simulated (mg/L)	Excursion	Simulated (mg/L)	Excursion	Simulated (mg/L)	Excursion				
1	0	1	0	0	25	25	11.15	0	5.75	0.369	2.565	0	0.098	0	0.098	8.45	79.01	II (Good)
2	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.76	0	5.42	0.290	2.543	0	0.095	0	0.095	6.77	79.22	II (Good)
3	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.58	0	5.10	0.214	2.521	0	0.091	0	0.091	5.08	79.38	II (Good)
4	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.47	0	4.78	0.138	2.499	0	0.088	0	0.088	3.34	79.50	II (Good)
5	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.39	0	4.50	0.071	2.479	0	0.086	0	0.086	1.75	79.56	II (Good)
6	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.34	0	4.23	0.007	2.461	0	0.084	0	0.084	0.18	79.59	II (Good)
7	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.77	0	4.81	0.145	3.677	0	0.207	0	0.207	3.50	79.49	II (Good)
8	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.32	0	4.59	0.093	3.631	0	0.196	0	0.196	2.27	79.55	II (Good)
9	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.10	0	4.38	0.043	3.588	0	0.187	0	0.187	1.06	79.58	II (Good)
10	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.34	0	4.49	0.069	3.838	0	0.210	0	0.210	1.70	79.56	II (Good)
11	0	1	0	0	25	25	10.10	0	4.30	0.024	3.794	0	0.201	0	0.201	0.59	79.58	II (Good)
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.97	0	4.12	0.369	3.752	0	0.193	0	0.193	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.90	0	3.96	0.290	3.739	0	0.191	0	0.191	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.87	0	3.80	0.214	3.699	0	0.184	0	0.184	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.86	0	3.64	0	3.659	0	0.179	0	0.179	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
16	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.85	0	3.48	0	3.621	0	0.174	0	0.174	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
17	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.86	0	3.34	0	3.583	0	0.169	0	0.169	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
18	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.87	0	3.20	0	3.546	0	0.166	0	0.166	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
19	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.88	0	3.06	0	3.514	0	0.162	0	0.162	0.00	100.00	I (Excellent)
20	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.36	0	2.81	0	5.382	0	0.176	0	0.176	7.95	79.08	II (Good)
21	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.20	0	2.80	0	5.287	0.346	0.171	0	0.171	7.44	79.14	II (Good)
22	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.14	0	2.79	0	5.197	0.322	0.167	0	0.167	6.96	79.20	II (Good)
23	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.12	0	2.79	0	5.111	0.299	0.164	0	0.164	6.49	79.25	II (Good)
24	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.11	0	2.78	0	5.031	0.278	0.161	0	0.161	6.05	79.29	II (Good)
25	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.63	0	2.84	0	5.196	0.258	0.164	0	0.164	6.96	79.20	II (Good)
26	0	0	1	0	25	25	10.77	0	3.03	0	5.204	0.299	0.170	0	0.170	7.00	79.19	II (Good)
27	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.02	0	2.91	0	5.159	0.301	0.161	0	0.161	6.75	79.22	II (Good)
28	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.10	0	3.09	0	5.228	0.290	0.169	0	0.169	7.13	79.18	II (Good)
29	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.18	0	2.81	0	5.187	0.307	0.155	0	0.155	6.91	79.20	II (Good)
30	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.14	0	2.90	0	5.254	0.297	0.156	0	0.156	7.27	79.16	II (Good)
31	0	0	1	0	25	25	11.10	0	2.99	0	5.322	0.314	0.157	0	0.157	7.63	79.12	II (Good)

According to the decision-making result, BODs of most elements do not have to improve, as the improvement goal is almost satisfied. In contrast, the T-Ns and T-Ps of the river reaches starting from element 7 are largely improved, as shown in Fig. 4.3 and 4.4. The river reaches from element 7 to element 19 show larger improvements than other elements. This goal has been achieved in a diverse manner by decreasing the amounts of input pollutants from pollutant sources. These decreases are quantified by the concentration unit. However, if converted to a mass unit, like kg/day (kilogram per day), the decreases can reflect the reduced quantities of input pollutants more directly. The relationship of these two units can be written as given in the following equation 4.1 (Song, 2008):

$$P_m = 86.4 QP_c \quad (4.1)$$

Where, P_m = amount of pollutants in kg/day
 Q = source flow rate in m^3/s
 P_c = amount of pollutants in mg/L

Therefore, with the help of equation (4.1), the decision makers can readily determine as how many BOD, T-N, and T-P of the elements should be decreased for each pollutant source.

Besides many advantages of QWQLI computed with application of CCMEWQI system approach, some disadvantages are also exists. In this study, a drawback of this index was observed while QWQLI results were simulated after decreasing the pollutant loads. According to these results as shown in Table 4.1, the elements from 12 to 19 achieved QWQLI as 100 which is not realistic. The main reason is that the four pollutants have been used only once in the calculation of factors F1, F2 and F3 and all DO values have already met the desired objective. It is, therefore, recommended that at a minimum of four variables having sampled at least four times should be used in the calculation to get more accurate and realistic results.

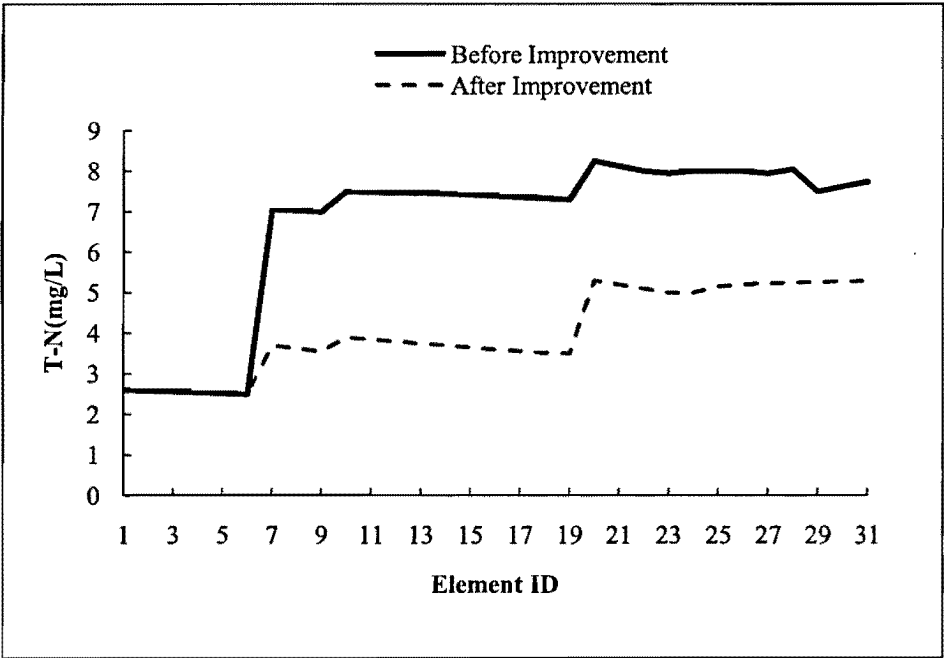


Figure 4.3 Comparison of simulated concentration of T-N before and after improvement

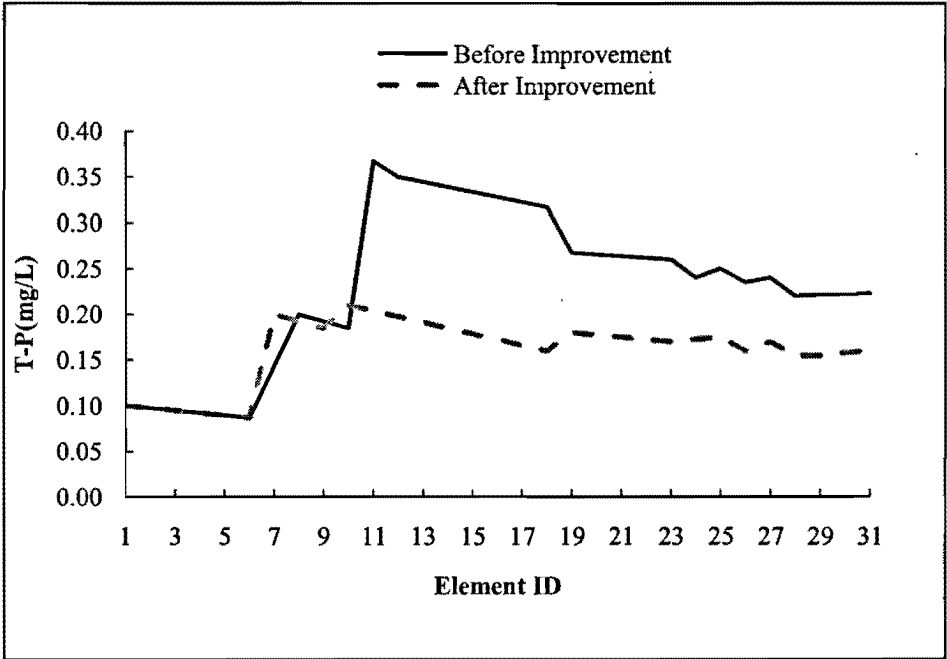


Figure 4.4 Comparison of simulated concentration of T-P before and after improvement

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS

The QUAL2E model is a worldwide popular steady-state model for the evaluation of surface water quality of rivers and streams. This model is a strong tool with a consistent mathematical formulation despite its simplifying assumptions. The adequacy of generated curves to the observed data is a strong proof of model consistency.

The calibration and validation of QUAL2E model was made using field measurements of the Sapgyo River and the results were validated on the two selected monitoring stations located at element numbers 23 (SR1) and 29 (SR2) along the river. The validation of the calibrated parameters with the observed data indicated that good correlation was maintained between the calculated and observed variables. This has supported the reliability of the parameters. The model was used to simulate the pollutant loadings received after treatment through WTPs, prior to discharge them into the river. On the basis of the simulated results, a decision analysis was performed.

The decision analysis of water quality is an important branch of a multi-criteria decision analysis. To enhance the sustainability of water-quality-management system, there is a need to translate the modeling results of simulated pollutants into an understandable single unit which is termed as “water quality index (WQI)” to help the decision-makers for making relevant judgments. The respective decisions are used for water quality improvement.

Under this study, water quality index was determined using QUAL2E model with application of two different system approaches of NSFQI and CCMEWQI. For this purpose, the simulation results of QUAL2E modeling were translated into a water quality index which was termed as “QUAL2E water quality loading index (QWQLI)” to describe the river water quality rating in a single unit for use of the decision-makers and general public audience.

In order to find the better result out of the two different water quality loading index systems (NSFWQI and Canadian water quality index CCMEWQI), the same pollutant data set of Sapgyo River simulated by QUAL2E model was used. The results of QWQLI using NSFWQI system approach has shown that the elements from 7 to 11 have the index rating as 55.3, 56.3, 57.1, 54.6, and 55.4 respectively, whereas the result of QWQLI using CCMEWQI system approach have shown that these elements have their rating as 37.51, 37.68, 37.84, 37.34, and 37.50 respectively. It has proved that use of CCME result needs more improvement in water quality level to maintain the desired river water quality objectives.

A comparison presented by Terrado et al. (2010) also shows that CCMEWQI system has better usefulness than NSFWQI system with consideration of the same criteria. Therefore, QWQLI result computed with application of Canadian water quality index system is proved to be a better system for summarizing and transmitting information to decision-makers.

Using the better found QWQLI, a recurrent modeling-judgment decision-making process for pollutant loads was proposed. Although this QWQLI could not readily reflect the accurate water quality, it has evaluated and classified the simulation results yielded by QUAL2E in a better way. This index is very effective to locate the elements whose pollutant loads should be decreased in the decision-making process.

The output of proposed decision-making process shows that QWQLI has the ability to describe and classify the modeling result by QUAL2E and to help decision makers to design their improvement actions on pollutant loads. Unlike other WQIs that are limited to the monitored water quality, QWQLI is a specific index for water quality that is not popular but has great importance as it can be simulated by modeling of pollutant loads. It can translate the complex and obscure water quality modeling result to a simple and easily understandable description to help the water quality managers.

However, besides many advantages of QWQLI computed by applying the Canadian water quality index system approach, there also exists some disadvantages. A

drawback of this index was observed while QWQLI results were simulated after decreasing the pollutant loads. The result shows that the elements from 12 to 19 have achieved quality rating as 100 which are not realistic.

Therefore, further study should be carried out to include the automatic procedure of locating the elements to be improved and deciding the decreasing sizes of input pollutants by using, at a minimum, four variables having simulated samples at least four times to be used in computation of QWQLI with application of CCMEWQI system approach.

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