

# Estimation of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux index in the San Andrés Island using fuzzy logic

INGENIERÍA AMBIENTAL

## Estimación del índice de flujo de CO<sub>2</sub> en la isla de San Andrés mediante lógica difusa

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### Abstract

When applying fuzzy inference systems through the software to Spatial data processing for decision making (GeoFis) to a coral complex database of the island of San Andres, a CO<sub>2</sub> flux index was estimated that allows us to know the effect of the flux on the sea and the influence of the variables involved. It was found that six of the studied areas had a state of acidification of the sea due to CO<sub>2</sub>, while all other areas had a slight incorporation of the gas. Likewise, it was evident that variables that have a significant influence on the incorporation of CO<sub>2</sub> into the marine environment are the sea surface temperature and the chemical nature of this gas, according to the component analysis. Therefore, the fuzzy methods for the determination of acidification of coral ecosystems, allows establishing an approachment effects from the gradual incorporation of CO<sub>2</sub> that would have into the marine environment, in addition to providing excellent advantages in terms of its determination based on satellite information.

**Keywords:** Acidification, CO<sub>2</sub> flux, Fuzzy logic, GeoFIS.

### Resumen

Al aplicar sistemas de inferencia difusos a través del software de procesamiento de datos espaciales para la toma de decisiones (GeoFis) en una base de datos de complejo coralino de la isla de San Andrés se estimó un índice de flujo de CO<sub>2</sub> que permite conocer el efecto del flujo sobre mar y la influencia de las variables involucradas. Se encontró que seis de las zonas estudiadas tenían un estado de acidificación del mar por cuenta del CO<sub>2</sub>, mientras todas las demás zonas tenían una leve incorporación del gas. Así mismo, se pudo evidenciar que las variables que poseen influencia

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significativa sobre la incorporación de CO<sub>2</sub> al medio marino son la temperatura superficial del mar y la naturaleza química de este gas, según el análisis de componentes. Por lo cual, los métodos difusos para la determinación de acidificación de los ecosistemas coralinos, permite establecer una aproximación a los efectos de la incorporación gradual de CO<sub>2</sub> que tendría en el medio marino, además de brindar excelentes ventajas en cuanto a su determinación a partir de información satelital.

**Palabras clave:** Acidificación, Flujo de CO<sub>2</sub>, GeoFIS, Lógica difusa.

## 1. Introduction

Anthropogenic activities generate atmospheric emissions that increase as the population grows, these cause notable effects attributed especially to CO<sub>2</sub>, which is derived from the burning of fossil fuels. Among the most relevant effects are global warming, climate change and damage to the biosphere, which are key issues today, since it causes multiple negative impacts according to Claesson & Nycander <sup>(1)</sup>, Lefevre <sup>(2)</sup>, and Koçak, Ulucak, & Ulucak <sup>(3)</sup>.

Among the characteristics that make CO<sub>2</sub> creditor the most representative of the greenhouse gases that accelerate global warming, are long periods of permanence in the atmosphere for up to centuries, where about 46% of total emissions remain in the atmosphere, the high capacity to retain heat, in short, the large amounts emitted by human activities on a daily basis <sup>(4-5)</sup>. Thus, it has been shown that the adverse effects of this compound come to suffer from marine ecosystems <sup>(6-7)</sup>.

In effect, the oceans receive high amounts of CO<sub>2</sub>, of approximately 30% of the total emitted <sup>(4)</sup>, this is possible due to the relationship between the water surface and the atmosphere where there is an exchange of gases <sup>(8)</sup>. Therefore, consequences are generated in the marine environment due to the acidification of the oceans, particularly in coral reefs, which are vulnerable to these changes, which causes the availability of the necessary minerals that make up their skeletons (aragonite) and that carbonate ions are decreased, which produces a reduction in

their calcification, which can cause the net loss of these strategic ecosystems, along with their ecosystem services <sup>(9-10)</sup>.

In this sense, in Colombia there is little scientific knowledge about the effects of climate change on its marine and coastal areas, which makes it impossible to structure national policies for the conservation of marine ecosystems, so it is necessary to establish indices that allow to know the state of the country's maritime sector.

Therefore, this article aims to establish a CO<sub>2</sub> flux index for the coral complex system of San Andrés Islas using inference systems through the GeoFIS tool, that is, this place is part of a conservation area, the largest declared Seafluxer Biosphere Reserve, where the diversity of marine ecosystems stands out, among the most important being coral reefs <sup>(11)</sup>.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1. Place of study

San Andrés islands is an archipelago that belongs to Colombia located in the southwest of the Caribbean (12-16 degrees latitude N. and 78-82 degrees latitude W.), declared by UNESCO as a Biosphere Reserve in 2001 under the administration of the Corporation for the Sustainable Development of San Andrés, Vieja Providencia and Santa Catalina, CORALINA <sup>(12)</sup>. In particular, the island of San Andrés is the largest with approximately 25 km<sup>2</sup> of emerging area, located about 290 km off the coast of Nicaragua (Central America) and 480 km off the

coast of Cartagena (Colombia) <sup>(13)</sup>, is characterized by being one of the main tourist attractions in the country, which has a wide diversity of marine fish and important ecosystems such as coral reefs, prairie beds, sandy coasts and mangroves <sup>(12-14)</sup>. The study area is shown in Figure 1.

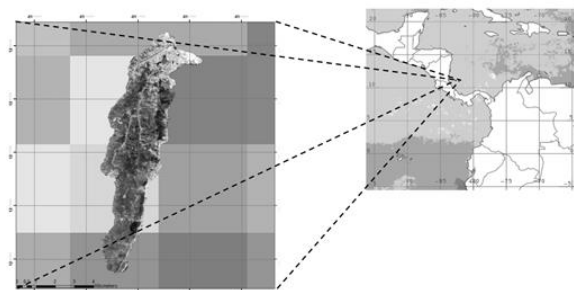


Figure 1: San Andrés Island

## 2.2. Estimation of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux index

The determination of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux index requires defining the dependency functions that describe the behavior of each of the input variables in the fuzzy model, which can be obtained through specialized scientific literature, which helps to establish each variable, the function of relevance and function parameters.

Once the database is normalized, two files are created in comma-separated values (.csv) format for the aggregate variables of the transfer constant *k* or also CO<sub>2</sub> flow constant (made up of wind speed and sea surface temperature) and the partial pressure differential ( $\Delta P$ ) of CO<sub>2</sub> both in seawater and in the atmosphere.

For which, a partition is generated at 75% of the data for *k* and  $\Delta P$ , a FIS without rules is generated and finally the performance of each sample is estimated. In this way determine the FIS rules to proceed to induce the rules through supervised learning type OLS. This procedure was repeated with each of the learning files, where it established the performance of each one by

comparing the indices *pi*, RMSE, MAE, coverage and maximum error.

Subsequently, the normalized database is loaded again to GeoFIS, with the corresponding coordinate system for Colombia (WGS 84 zone 18N), and then proceed to perform a data merge, where the membership functions that describe the behavior are defined. of each of the input variables in the fuzzy model.

On the other hand, for the determination of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux index, the Weighted Arithmetic Mean (WAM) operator is used, by means of the induced weights of the autonomous learning of the database, in this way to obtain the fusion of data for the calculation of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux indicator.

## 2.3. Performance criteria considered

- Coverage ratio: Data rows are labeled as active or inactive for a given rule base. A row is active if its maximum match degree in all rules is greater than a defined threshold.

Following this definition, a coverage index value is calculated, which is a quality index complementary to classical precision.

- Performance indices: Next, the error rate only considers the number of active elements defined above. For regression cases, the performance index available in FisPro (Fuzzy Inference System Professional) is based on the root mean square error (RMSE), Eq. 1:

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{A} \sum_{i=1}^A (\hat{y}_i - y_i)^2} \quad (1)$$

Where ( $\hat{y}_1$ ) is the inferred value (Eq. 2).

$$MAE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{A} \sum_{i=1}^A |\hat{y}_i - y_i|} \quad (2)$$

Linguistic Variable and Fuzzy Partitioning: Variable partitioning is the first step in FIS design. The conditions necessary for fuzzy partitions to be interpretable. The main points are distinction, a justifiable number of fuzzy sets, normalization, overlap and sufficient coverage: each data point,  $x$ , should belong significantly ( $\mu(x) >$  at least one fuzzy set is called the coverage level).

In this way, the linguistic rules can be interpreted as overlaps between functions, as shown in Figure 2:

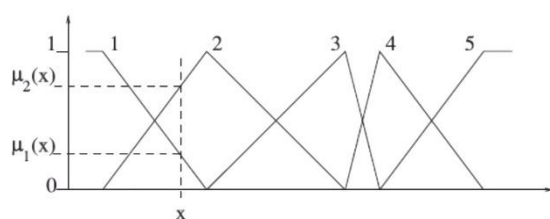


Figure 2. Overlapping functions. Adapted from Guillaume & Charnomordic<sup>(15)</sup>.

Induction of rules: FIS learning involves adjusting many parameters, so in this case it is feasible to consider only single output systems in the present study. Whatever its complexity and origin (fuzzy grouping, statistical methods, machine learning or ad hoc data-based designed specifically for fast learning of fuzzy rules). Once the input fuzzy partitions have been defined, we proceed to generate the complete set of rules corresponding to all combinations of fuzzy sets. For this case, due to the nature of the phenomenon and the available data, the Orthogonal Least Squares (OLS) method was used, which is a prototype-based learning method.

## 2.4. Data analysis

From three CO<sub>2</sub> flux scenarios, developed from a comparison of the fuzzy indicator with the linear

method of estimating CO<sub>2</sub> flux, the results of each indicator can be placed within a range that allows us to know the effect of the flux, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. CO<sub>2</sub> flux indicator ranges

Rank	Flux effects	References
0.0 – 0.3	Sea acidification due to CO <sub>2</sub> .	(16-18)
0.3 – 0.6	Slight incorporation of CO <sub>2</sub> into the sea.	(18-20)
0.6 – 1.0	CO <sub>2</sub> flux equilibrium	(18,21,22)

## 2.5. Limiting factors

The principal component analysis is carried out with the purpose of establishing the variables or limiting factors of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux phenomenon. This procedure is executed through the Primer V6 software, available at <https://www.primer-e.com/>, which produces a graph showing the components that determine the behavior of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux.

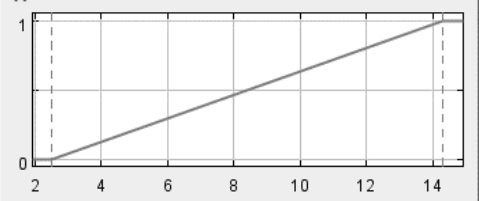
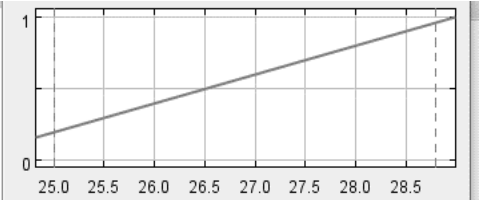
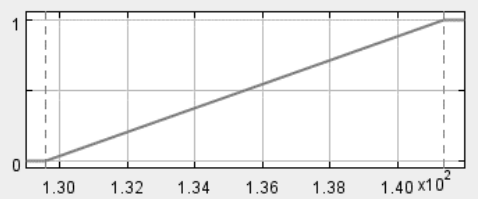
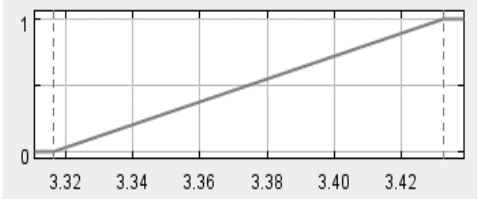
## 3. Results and Discussion

The relevance functions of the input variables in the fuzzy model and their characteristics are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 summarizes the conceptual considerations regarding the relevance function and function parameters of each input variable included in the calculation of CO<sub>2</sub> flux.

Taking into account the information shown in Tables 3 and 4 about the performance and coverage indices for the data of  $k$  and  $\Delta P$ , it was determined that the FIS (Fuzzy Inference System) rules to use correspond to sample 8 (simple 8) and sample 9 (simple 9) for each of these aggregate variables.

Table 2. Membership functions for calculating the CO<sub>2</sub> flux index

Input variable	Membership function	Function parameters	References
Wind speed		Semi trapezoidal sup. Bottom help: 2.5 lower Kernel:14.3	(23-25)
Sea Surface Temperature		Semi trapezoidal sup. Bottom help: 24 lower Kernel:29	(24,26)
CO <sub>2</sub> Partial Pressure		Semi trapezoidal sup. Bottom help: 141.38 lower Kernel: 129.56	(17,19)
CO <sub>2</sub> Partial Pressure		Semi trapezoidal sup. Bottom help: 343.26 lower Kernel:331.64	(18,25,27)

**Table 3.** Performance and coverage indices for the induction of OLS rules for *k*

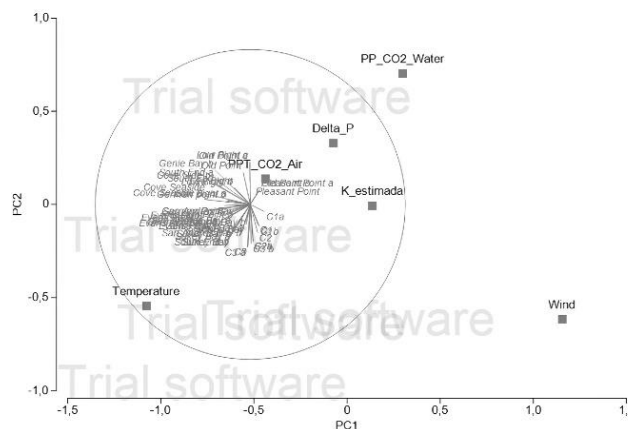
	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6	Sample 7	Sample 8	Sample 9
<b>Pi</b>	0.009	0.006	0.007	0.007	0.008	0.005	0,005	0.008	0.007
<b>RMSE</b>	0.05	0.034	0.034	0.038	0.042	0.027	0,029	0.046	0.039
<b>MAE</b>	0.036	0.027	0.029	0.031	0.035	0.02	0,023	0.038	0.031
<b>Coverage</b>	93	84	81	87	84	84	87	100	90
<b>Maximum error</b>	0.147	0.097	0.058	0.089	-0.0106	0.052	0,068	0.105	-0.11

**Table 4.** Performance and coverage indices for the induction of OLS rules for  $\Delta P$

	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6	Sample 7	Sample 8	Sample 9
<b>Pi</b>	0.006	0.004	0.002	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.004
<b>RMSE</b>	0.031	0.022	0.011	0.019	0.019	0.019	0.024	0.014	0.02
<b>MAE</b>	0.02387	0.017	0.009	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.02	0.012	0.015
<b>Coverage</b>	87	93	90	93	87	90	93	90	90
<b>Maximum error</b>	-0.101	0.069	0.033	0.058	0.042	0.039	-0.045	0.034	0.066

Thus, the normalized database is loaded with the information again to GeoFIS, for the fusion of the data and subsequent use of the Weighted Arithmetic Mean (WAM) operator, obtaining the data of the fusion of data for the calculation of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux indicator shown. in Table 5. bThus, the normalized database is loaded with the information again to GeoFIS, for the fusion of the data and subsequent use of the Weighted Arithmetic Mean (WAM) operator, obtaining the data of the fusion of data for the calculation of the CO<sub>2</sub> flux indicator shown. in Table 5.

From the analysis presented as a similarity matrix in Table 6, the principal components analysis is performed, the result of which is shown in Figure 3. According to the vector distribution of the variables that make up the CO<sub>2</sub> flux phenomenon in the different study areas on the San Andrés Island, it can be inferred that the CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure and the wind speed do not condition the flux behavior in the marine environment, at least for the areas and at the time of study.



**Figure 3.** Principal component analysis for the CO<sub>2</sub> flux indicator on San Andrés Island. Source from: Author, 2020

On the other hand, the CO<sub>2</sub> transfer coefficient, closely related to the sea surface temperature and the chemical nature of this gas, have a significant influence on the incorporation of this gas into the marine environment, these two variables being the flux limiting factors. CO<sub>2</sub> for this case study.

Table 5. Data fusion for the CO<sub>2</sub> flux indicator

Station	Flux_CO2 Index	K estimated	Temperature	Wind	Delta_P	PP_CO2_Water	PPT_CO2_Air
C1	0.49	0.4935	0.54	0.8571	0.4898	0.4248	0.7304
C1a	0.47	0.4319	0.4	0.8357	0.4983	0.516	0.7168
C1b	0.5	0.5205	0.54	0.8786	0.4851	0.4248	0.7036
C2	0.45	0.4638	0.6	0.8214	0.4373	0.3876	0.4948
C2a	0.44	0.4581	0.7	0.8214	0.425	0.3272	0.4948
C2b	0.44	0.4581	0.7	0.8214	0.425	0.3272	0.4948
C3	0.4	0.3891	0.78	0.7857	0.4155	0.2808	0.4948
C3 a	0.4	0.3777	0.8	0.7857	0.4155	0.2808	0.4948
C3 b	0.43	0.4486	0.7	0.7857	0.4155	0.2808	0.4948
Cove Seaside	0.42	0.3691	0.74	0.0714	0.4607	0.304	0.6904
Cove Seaside a	0.43	0.384	0.8	0.0714	0.455	0.2696	0.6768
Cove Side b	0.42	0.3342	0.6	0.0714	0.4765	0.3876	0.7036
Evans Point	0.43	0.3935	0.88	0.1071	0.4515	0.2252	0.6904
Evans Point a	0.45	0.4521	0.96	0.1071	0.4445	0.1824	0.6768
Evans Point b	0.43	0.4013	0.9	0.1071	0.4519	0.2144	0.7036
Evans Point c	0.32	0.363	0.8	0.1786	0.2979	0.2696	0.2992
Genie Bay	0.32	0.3518	0.74	0.1786	0.293	0.304	0.286
Genie Bay a	0.32	0.363	0.8	0.1786	0.2979	0.2696	0.2992
Genie Bay b	0.39	0.2897	0.5	0.3557	0.4612	0.4504	0.534
German Point	0.31	0.3402	0.66	0.1429	0.2975	0.3512	0.2992
German Point a	0.33	0.3687	0.8	0.1429	0.3034	0.2696	0.312
German point b	0.3	0.3123	0.6	0.1429	0.2936	0.3876	0.2992
Low Bight	0.34	0.1783	0.46	0.2143	0.4438	0.4764	0.4816
Low Bight a	0.37	0.2805	0.6	0.2143	0.4305	0.3876	0.4868
Low Bight b	0.33	0.1783	0.46	0.2143	0.4348	0.4764	0.4712
Low Bight c	0.33	0.1337	0.2	0.2143	0.4653	0.6552	0.4816
Old Point	0.35	0.1783	0.3	0.2143	0.4622	0.584	0.4868
Old Point a	0.33	0.1337	0.2	0.2143	0.4561	0.6552	0.4712
Old Point b	0.26	0.1373	0.28	0.4286	0.3483	0.5984	0.338
Pleasant Point	0.24	0.0874	0.36	0.4286	0.3351	0.5428	0.3432
Pleasant Point a	0.26	0.1373	0.28	0.4286	0.3442	0.598	0.3328
Pleasant Point b	0.28	0.2646	0.6	0.25	0.2936	0.3876	0.2992
San Andres Bay	0.27	0.2295	0.56	0.25	0.3009	0.4124	0.312

San Andres Bay a	0.29	0.3043	0.66	0.25	0.288	0.3512	0.286
San Andres Bay b	0.27	0.217	0.66	0.4643	0.2975	0.3512	0.2992
Sound Bay	0.22	0.154	0.6	0.4643	0.2681	0.3876	0.2656
Sound Bay a	0.24	0.154	0.6	0.4643	0.2976	0.3876	0.3044
Sound Bay b	0.22	0.091	0.54	0.4643	0.2996	0.4248	0.312
South End	0.4	0.3342	0.6	0.0714	0.447	0.3876	0.5212
South End a	0.4	0.3254	0.56	0.0571	0.4543	0.4124	0.534
South End b	0.44	0.432	0.86	0.5	0.4527	0.236	0.6904
Sukey Bay	0.44	0.432	0.86	0.5	0.4527	0.236	0.6904
Sukey Bay a	0.42	0.36	0.8	0.5	0.4581	0.2696	0.7036
Sukey Bay b	0.4	0.312	0.76	0.5	0.4584	0.2924	0.6824

**Table 6.** Triangular matrix of similarity according to the Euclidean distance.

	Samples					
	K_estimated	Temperature	Wind	Delta_P	PP_CO2_Water	PPT_CO2_Air
K_estimada						
Temperature	1.6515					
Wind	1.5543	2.2521				
Delta_P	0.88599	1.3934	1.5708			
PP_CO2_Water	1.3359	1.8632	1.6119	0.74628		
PPT_CO2_Air	1.1797	1.1839	1.8198	0.58104	1.2248	

#### 4. Conclusions

The application of fuzzy methods to determine the acidification of coral ecosystems allows establishing an approximation of the effects that the gradual incorporation of CO<sub>2</sub> would have into the marine environment, in addition to offering excellent advantages in terms of its determination based on reliable satellite information and easy access.

#### 5. Funding Statement

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