



## ORIGINAL RESEARCH

# EFFLUENTS COMPOSITION: A FUNCTION OF INDUSTRY TYPES IN SOUTHWESTERN NIGERIA

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#### Abstract:

**Introduction:** The rapid growth of industry types has resulted in increased discharge of effluents into water bodies.

**Aim:** The study aimed at establishing a pattern in effluent load according to industry types in Lagos metropolis.

**Materials and Methods:** The industry types studied were pharmaceuticals, textiles, paints, foods and beverages, basic metals, and conglomerates. Effluent samples were collected bimonthly over a period of 20 months. Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), pH, alkalinity, total hardness, sulphate, phosphate, nitrate, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) and heavy metals were determined in the effluents according to APHA methods.

**Results:** Physicochemical characteristics (mg/L) of effluents from textile and pharmaceutical industries were  $1160 \pm 890$  and  $630 \pm 260$  for TDS,  $316 \pm 280$  and  $230 \pm 97$  for alkalinity,  $60 \pm 32$  and  $53 \pm 44$  for total hardness,  $156 \pm 73$  and  $34 \pm 36$  for sulphate,  $1.0 \pm 0.3$  and  $0.7 \pm 0.6$  for phosphate,  $60.0 \pm 40.0$  and  $75 \pm 45$  for nitrate,  $1.8 \pm 1.7$  and  $1.3 \pm 1.2$  for DO,  $209 \pm 72$  and  $150 \pm 96$  for BOD,  $343 \pm 130$  and  $245 \pm 140$  for COD,  $0.7 \pm 0.3$  and  $0.5 \pm 0.2$  for Zn,  $1.5 \pm 1.0$  and  $0.3 \pm 1.1$  for Cu,  $2.5 \pm 0.3$ ,  $0.03 \pm 0.03$  for Cr and corresponding pH was  $10.6 \pm 1.1$  and  $5.5 \pm 1.2$  respectively. Effluents from other industry types had lower levels of TDS, alkalinity, phosphate.

**Conclusion:** The results showed textile and pharmaceutical industries having higher pollution load in pH, BOD and COD.

**Keywords:** Industrial Effluent; Industry types; Textile; Pharmaceutical; Heavy Metals; Lagos.

All co-authors agree to have their names listed as authors.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The increase in industrial activities has resulted to environmental pollution which is one of the most significant problems of the millenniums. Pollution of water, air, and soil is strictly related to human activities such as industry, agriculture, burning of fossil fuels, mining and metallurgical processes and their waste disposal [1]. Industries that use significant large amount of water in their processes include chemical manufacturers, textile, pharmaceutical, steel plants, metal processors etc. It is noteworthy that the effluents and most of by products from these industries create a serious pollution to the water bodies and soil bodies [2].

Partially or untreated industrial effluents may contain high levels of pollutants which released to the water body systems cause increase in Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), Total Dissolved Solids, Total Suspended Solids, toxic metals such as Cd, Cr, Ni and Pb, and faecal coliform, and hence make such water unsuitable for drinking, irrigation, and aquatic life support. Industrial waste water impact include high BOD from biodegradable waste such as those from human sewage, pulp and paper industries, slaughter houses, tanneries and chemical industry [3,4]. The effluent contains various inorganic and organic substances in different concentrations which may affect the growth and germination of crop plants. Recently, it has become clear that pharmaceuticals released into environment are an important group of environmental pollutants [5]. Pharmaceuticals are of environmental concern owing to their specific biological effects not only to the target patients, but also on the general aquatic biota. Relative to the low biodegradability, they accumulate to detectable levels and in biologically active amounts [6]. Textile industry wastewaters are one of the principal sources of pollution in the world. In particular, the release of coloured effluents into the environment is undesirable, not only due to their colour, but also because many synthetic dyes and their breakdown products are toxic and mutagenic [7, 8]. Dyes are usually the first contaminant recognized in industrial textile wastewater [9]. Effluents from food and beverages industries contributed significant pollution load [10]. The identified pollutants in the effluents were organic loads, suspended solids, phosphate, nitrate and chloride which led to significant pollution.

The increasing demand on water arising from the fast growth of industries has put pressure on the limited water resources. While most people in urban cities of the developing countries have access to piped water, several others still rely on borehole and river water for domestic use. Most of the rivers in the urban areas of the developing world are the endpoints of effluents discharged from the industries. Industrial effluents, if not treated and properly controlled can pollute groundwater [11]. Therefore, boreholes and rivers generally have poor quality water in affected areas.

Since people use untreated waters from these sources, the result is continuous outbreaks of diseases such as cholera, bilharzia, diarrhoea and others [12].

Lagos is the most populated city in Nigeria and the second largest in Africa. Lagos lies between longitude  $2^{\circ}42'E$  and  $3^{\circ}42'E$  and Latitude  $6^{\circ}23'N$  and  $6^{\circ}41'N$ , which is approximately 1,000 sq. km in size with a coastline of about 180 km [13]. About 22% of the total landmass is made up of a network of creeks, rivers and lagoons [14]. The soils are mostly hydroomorphic, clayey and sandy. It contains over 70% of Nigeria's manufacturing industries [15] with the highest level of estimated emission of 8000 tons of hazardous wastes per year. There are about 2000 industries in Lagos metropolis with industrial units such as chemical industries, metal industries, oil refineries, petrochemicals, tanneries, pharmaceuticals, textiles, etc of which many discharge their effluents into Shasa and Odo Iya Alaro streams in the densely populated and heavily industrialized Ikeja suburb [16]. Due to the vast location of industries in Lagos metropolis, there is need to analyse various types of industries in order to identify which class has the highest load of pollutants.

## 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

### 2.1 Sample Collection

Effluent samples were collected from different industry types namely pharmaceuticals, textiles, paints, foods and beverages, basic metals, and conglomerates around Lagos metropolis between the month of November, 2006 to May, 2008. Effluent samples were collected bimonthly over a period of 20 months. Polyethylene containers for effluents samples were washed with detergent and rinsed with water. The containers were soaked in 2M nitric acid overnight and then washed with distilled water prior to sampling. Winkler bottles for dissolved oxygen were also cleaned as described for the polythene containers. From each industry type, effluent samples were collected in acid washed polythene container for physicochemical parameters while sample for heavy metals was sampled into prewashed acid polythene container and preserved with concentrated nitric acid. Sample for Dissolved Oxygen (DO) was collected with a Winkler's bottle and preserved with Manganese oxide / sodium iodide azide reagent.

### 2.2 Sample Analysis

The collected samples were analyzed for pH, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), alkalinity, total hardness, sulphate, phosphate, nitrate, DO, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) and heavy metals were determined in the effluents according to [17].

### 2.3 Quality Control

The accuracy of the BOD and COD determination was checked using standard mixture of glucose and glutamic acid and potassium hydrogen phthalate respectively. Theoretically, the BOD should be approximately 220 mg/L



theoretical value of 220 mg/L BOD, indicating goodaccuracy. The average value of  $494 \pm 34$  mg/L CODobtained from the control check represented a 98.8%recovery, andagoodaccuracy.

The analytical results are expressed as mean  $\pm$ SD. One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used toanalyze the results at significant level of  $p<0.05$  (SPSSversion19). Multivariate analysis of the data was done with the aid of (PAST, version 1.38).Also the results obtained was compared with standards limits.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the physicochemical parameters and heavy metals are represented in Table 1 and 2 respectively.

#### 3.1 Textile Industry

The parameters of concern in textile Industry are pH, colour, TDS, BOD, COD and Cr. pH values ranged within 9.2-

12.6 with mean being  $10.6 \pm 1.1$  That is, these effluents were mostly alkaline in nature, and did not meet required guidelines of 6.0-

9.0. Similarly, alkaline pH values for textile effluents have been noted by other researchers [18-21]. The alkaline nature of the effluent was a result of the use of sodium hydroxide during one of the process of manufacturing textile materials. High pH inhibits the growth of aquatic macrophytes by impairing iron (Fe) and phosphorus uptake [22]. Cu ( $1.45 \pm 0.93$ ) mg/L and Cr

( $2.54 \pm 0.26$  mg/L) values are higher than the standard limits [23,24]. The high levels of Cu and Cr in textile effluents could be related to the various pigments and additives used in the manufacturing of textile materials.

#### 3.2 Pharmaceutical Industry

The parameters of concern in pharmaceutical Industry are TDS, BOD and COD values, which may be in the tens of hundreds of milligrams per litre. Effluents of pharmaceutical industries had pH range of 4.1-9.2 with mean of  $6.8 \pm 1.4$  (Table 1). The NO<sup>-</sup> levels ( $78 \pm 45$  mg/L) are not within the standard limit of 20 mg/L

[24]. The DO values were low ( $1.3 \pm 1.2$  mg/. The BOD ( $150 \pm 9$  6 mg/L) and COD ( $245 \pm 140$  mg/L) values exceeded the standard limits of 30 mg/L and 80 mg/L [23]; and 50 mg/L and 250 mg/L [24] (Table 1). The release of effluents with high levels of BOD and COD into rivers or stream water will have adverse effects on aquatic life due to depleted oxygen level in water. The high levels of BOD and COD could be attributed to the organic nature of the raw materials used in the industry. The TDS and BOD levels were higher than the work reported [25,26]. Levels of heavy metals (Pb, Cd, Zn, Cu, Cr and Ni) were within the standard limits [23, 24]. However, levels of Pb, Cd, and Cr were lower than the levels reported [25, 27] but the Cu levels (0.26 mg/L) in this study are higher than (0.15 mg/L and 0.22 mg/L) for the work carried out [25,27]. The levels of the metals were lower than similar work carried out on heavy metals concentrations in some pharmaceutical industrial effluents [28-30]

The parameters of concern in paint Industry are pH, TDS, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>, NO<sup>-</sup>, BOD, COD and Cr. The pH

#### 3.3 Paint Industry

The levels of  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  were lower while  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  was higher than reported work [10]. The DO values were low ( $1.9 \pm 1.3$  mg/L). BOD and COD values were about five times and four times respectively higher than the standard limit [23]. The DO value is far below the recommended minimum of 5.0 mg/L for aquatic life and could encourage septic condition in the water bodies. This

3

values were  $8.5 \pm 1.8$  which ranged between 6.5-11.0. The pH was mostly basic; this could be due to the use of ammonia solution as buffer in water based paints. The values of TDS are high ( $1610 \pm 180$  mg/L) but still within the standard limits of 2000 mg/L. The  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  ( $577 \pm 51$ ) mg/L and  $\text{NO}_3^-$  ( $67 \pm 37$  mg/L) values are not within the limit [23] of 500 mg/L and 20 mg/L respectively.

The  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{NO}_3^-$  levels were higher compared with [31] work. The DO values were low ( $1.3 \pm 1.7$  mg/L), while BOD and COD values exceeded the standard limits [23, 24]. The BOD and COD values were similar to the results [31] but the COD values obtained are lower compared with [20, 31] works. The presence of organic compounds such as nitro cellulose used as thickener, alkyd resins and acrylic/styrene copolymer used as dispersants and binders could be the cause of high content of biodegradable organic matter, which impacts the BOD. The availability of oxidizable organic compounds such as pigments and additives could be responsible for the impact on COD.

The metal values are lower than the standards (Table 2) though Zn values were higher than World Bank (1995) [24] standard. The levels of metals obtained were higher compared with the work reported [32]. Similar work reported by [20, 29, 31-33] gave a higher level of the metals analysed. The discharge of effluents with high levels of Zn to nearby water bodies, though unusual in that it has low toxicity to man, but relatively high toxicity to fish [34].

### 3.4 Basic Metal Industry

The parameters of concern in Basic Metal Industry are pH, TDS,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , and metals (Zn, Cu, Cr and Ni). The pH values ranged within 5.9-12.8 with mean being  $8.4 \pm 2.0$ , the effluents were mostly basic. The BOD and COD values exceeded the limits. The  $\text{NO}_3^-$  levels ( $60 \pm 32$  mg/L) are not within the FEPA (1991) [23] of 20 mg/L. The values of metals analysed are below the [23] limit though Zn and Cu values were higher than [24] limit. The levels of Pb, Cd, Cr and Ni were lower than work reported [35]. The levels of Cu ( $0.55 \pm 0.65$  mg/L) are higher compared with values obtained by [35]

### 3.5 Foods & Beverages Industry

The parameters of concern in Foods & Beverages Industry are pH, TDS,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , BOD, COD and Zn. The pH values ranged between 3.3 - 5.4 with mean being  $4.0 \pm 0.9$ . The effluents were generally acidic. The observed mean pH of the effluent ( $4.0 \pm 0.9$ ) was much lower than pH 6.0, 8.0 and 8.3 reported for effluents from NASCO, Cadbury Plc in Nigeria [36] and Dairy industry [37].  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  were below the standard limits [23, 24].

condition is detrimental to aquatic life. Pb, Cd, Cu, Cr and Ni values were below the limits. However, Zn levels were about two times higher than the World Bank limit [24]. The release of effluents with high level of Zn into water bodies will have effect on the aquatic life [32].

### 3.6 Conglomerate Industry

pH values ranged within 5.0-7.1 with mean being  $6.0 \pm 0.7$ . The pH values are slightly acidic. The acidic nature of the effluent could be attributed to the nature of the raw material used for the manufacturing of the various products, which includes range of soaps, cosmetic products, pharmaceutical, etc. The pH values are similar to work done [38]. The DO values  $0.85 \pm 0.7$  mg/L are low, which suggested that the industry was releasing some organic substances that were high oxygen-demanding wastes [3], thus cannot support aquatic life. The BOD values are five times and three times higher than the standard limits [23, 24] while COD values are three times higher than standard limit [24]. Pb, Cd, Zn, Cu, Cr and Ni values were below the standard limits [23, 24]. The levels of metals were lower compared to the works done [38, 39]. However, continuous discharge of effluent with low level of metal will pose a great danger to the receiving water bodies, its inhabitants (fishes and other aquatic organisms) as well as those who make use of the water for direct domestic purposes.

Analysis of variance ( $p=0.05$ ) shows significant difference among the types of industries for pH, conductivity, TDS, alkalinity, Ca, total hardness, sulphate, nitrate, dissolved oxygen, Pb, Cd, Zn, Cu, Cr and Ni indicating constituent concentration varied spatially and temporally. Level of Mg, phosphate, chloride, biochemical oxygen demand and chemical oxygen demand did not show significant difference among the types of industries.

### 3.7 Multivariate Analysis for Heavy Metals in Types of Industry

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was used to categorize the various types of industries according to the similarities in the heavy metal levels. PCA of heavy metal for six effluents types indicated that the first two components (PC1 and PC2) accounted for 97.5%

of the total variation (Table 3). A plot of the first two components showed four different groups characterized by their metal concentrations.

Cluster 1 was characterized by food & beverage types of effluent with the highest Zn concentrations, cluster 2 by pharmaceuticals, and conglomerate types of effluents with least metal (Pb, Cd, Cu, Cr and Ni) concentrations, cluster 3 by Paint and Basic Metal types of effluents with highest Ni and Cd concentrations and finally cluster 4 with Textile type of effluents with the highest metal (Pb, Cu and Cr) concentrations. From the PCA biplot (Figure 1.), textile types of effluents stand to contribute Pb, Cu and Cr to the environmental media. Cluster formed by the PCA were confirmed by the cluster analysis dendrogram in (Figure 2.), where four different clusters were noticed.

Cluster 1 dominated by food & beverage types of effluent; cluster 2 by pharmaceuticals, and conglomerate types of effluents having similar metal concentrations; cluster 3 by paint and basic metal effluents having very similar metal concentrations and finally cluster 4 with textile effluents.

Generally, textile effluents have the highest load of the metal studied while the foods & beverage effluent had the least concentrations of the metal studied except Zn concentrations. The order of the metal concentrations in the types of effluents studied is textile > paint and basic metal > pharmaceuticals, and conglomerate > foods & beverages.

**Table1. Physicochemical characteristics of effluents from different classes of industries.**

Effluent types/ Parameters	pH	TDS	Alkalinity	Total Hardness	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	DO	BOD	COD
Textile	10.6 ±1.1	1160 ±890	316 ±270	40 ±32	156 ±73	0.99 ±0.29	60 ±32	1.8 ±1.7	209 ±72	343 ±130
Pharmaceuticals	6.8 ±1.4	633 ±260	233 ±97	53 ±44	34 ±36	0.65 ±0.57	78 ±45	1.3 ±1.2	150 ±96	245 ±140
Paint	8.5 ±1.8	1610 ±180	216 ±120	60 ±33	577 ±51	0.90 ±0.13	67 ±37	1.3 ±1.7	221 ±130	367 ±150
Basicmetals	8.4 ±2.0	532 ±280	220 ±240	70 ±38	71±5 3	1.09±0.8 0	61±50	2.7±1.5	194±81 20	330±1
Food&beverage	4.0 ±0.9	477 ±150	94±35	**	172± 19	0.57±0.2 1	15.9±2. 5	1.9±1.3	147±75	269±1 40
Conglomerate	6.0 ±0.7	385 ±60	128 ±56	71 ±32	10.3 ±8.2	0.97 ±0.49	106 ±23	0.85 ±0.74	136 ±120	246 ±180
FEPA(1991)	6.0- 9.0	2000	NA	NA	500	5	20	NA	30	80
WorldBank (1995)	6.0- 9.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	250

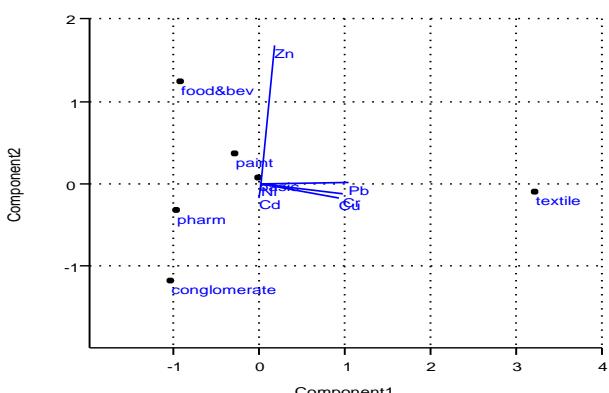
\*All units in mg/L except pH with no unit  
NA—not available; \*\*not determined,

**Table2. Levels of heavy metal (mg/L) characteristics\* of effluents from different classes of industries**

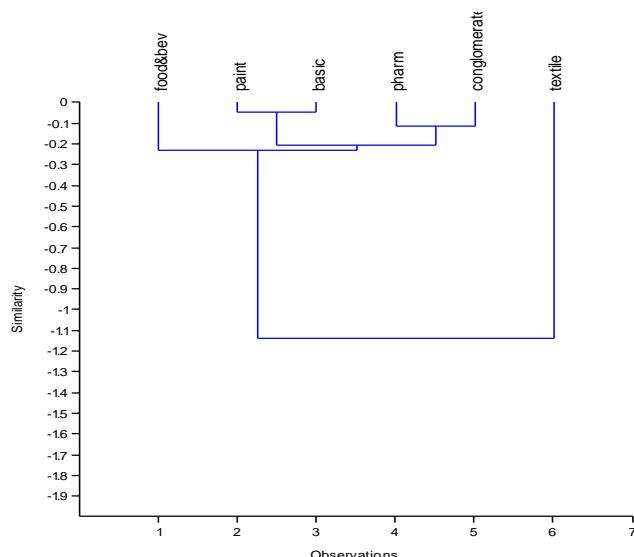
<b>Effluent types/Parameters</b>	<b>Pb</b>	<b>Cd</b>	<b>Zn</b>	<b>Cu</b>	<b>Cr</b>	<b>Ni</b>
Textile	0.28±0.09	0.01±0.00	0.67±0.29	1.45±0.93	2.54±0.26	0.06±0.04
Pharmaceuticals	0.053±0.042	0.012±0.013	0.48±0.20	0.048±0.033	0.030±0.024	0.043±0.021
Paint	0.08±0.12	0.007±0.003	0.69±0.14	0.48±0.08	0.02±0.00	0.04±0.00
Basicmetals	0.11±0.08	0.009±0.004	0.62±0.24	0.55±0.65	0.09±0.10	0.06±0.04
Food&beverage	0.04±0.02	0.003±0.002	0.92±0.16	0.02±0.02	0.01±0.00	0.04±0.04
Conglomerate	0.03±0.03	0.04±0.12	0.25±0.10	0.22±0.10	0.01±0.00	0.05±0.04
FEPA(1991)	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0
World Bank(1995)	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.5

**Table 3: Principal component analysis of data of industrial effluent metal concentration**

	Eigen Values	Percentage variance	Cumulative percentage
PC1	1.30625	93.894	93.894
PC2	0.0499	3.5867	97.481
PC3	0.03482	2.5031	99.9841
PC4	0.00019	0.01342	99.9838
PC5	3.52E-05	0.00253	99.9975
PC6	-4.04E-16	-2.90E-14	-



**Fig.1. Principal component biplot of data on effluents metals concentrations.**



**Fig.2. Cluster analysis dendrogram of effluent types for six metal concentrations**

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Most of the effluents analyzed from the various effluent types in Lagos, Nigeria had high levels of nitrate, Chemical Oxygen Demand and Biochemical Oxygen Demand, which is indicative of a high level of gross organic pollution, and likelihood to cause eutrophication of receiving water bodies. Chromium and copper were also problematic in textile effluents. In most cases, the characteristics of the effluents did not meet the required limiting guidelines of the regulatory agency in Nigeria. However, the textile and pharmaceutical industrial sector tended to discharge the most polluted effluents.

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