The Study on the Potential Eco-Environment Evaluation Based on GIS in Longzhong Loess Plateau

Xiuying Zhang¹, Tongguang Shi², Chuanyan Zhao¹ and Zhaodong Feng¹

¹National Laboratory of Western China's Environmental Systems, Lanzhou University, 730000, P. R. China ²Department of Earth Spatial Information, Shandong Institute of Architecture and Engineering, Jinan 250014, P. R. China

Abstract

This paper evaluates the potential eco-environment of Longzhong Loess Plateau by using the principal component analysis with GIS software Arc/info. Firstly, found the Digital Environmental Model (DEM) which consists of seven influential factors to the potential eco-environment of the study area; secondly, perform principal component analysis to the second class indexes to obtain the first class indexes—terrain indexes, soil indexes, and eco-climate indexes; get the potential eco-environment index in the same way. There are many methods that could be used to evaluate eco-environment, such as AHP (The Analytic Hierarchy Process), but most of them are subjective. The principal component analysis not only extracts a fewer factors from many influential factors, but also provides the weights of the principal components to avoid the subjectivity of the experts.