

# Immigration of Foreign Nationals in the Philippines

Las Johansen B. Caluza

Leyte Normal University,  
Tacloban City, Philippines

## Abstract

Foreign immigrant inflows were studied to find out the hidden dimensions attributed to the migration of foreign nationals to the Philippines. This exploratory study used fractal statistics for determining high and low contributors of foreign immigrants in the Philippines through data sets that were picked up from the cloud computing and interpreted qualitatively. Based on the results, it was found out that the countries that belong to the extreme low contribution of foreign immigrants have no cultural ties and have high currency value compared to those in the top extreme high countries as a basis for finding the hidden dimension. Lastly, the hidden dimensions were used to set inputs to sociology, cultural drift, and population dynamics.

**Keywords:** Migration, fractal statistics, Sociology, cultural Drift, population dynamics

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## Introduction

Human migration, from a Latin word migration, means the human physical movement from one place to another, whether in individual, small group or large group historically causing significant conflict with the indigenous population and their displacement or cultural assimilations (Human Migration, 2013). An article in the National Geographic (2013) on The Human Journey: Migration Routes recalled that humans first ventured out Africa sometime in 60,000 years ago and have changed from country to country, place to place, building Empires to another, from Europe to the Middle East and in Asia leaving behind its agricultural lands and properties to look for a better living condition. But why did humans migrate? Furthermore, humanity, described to be Vikings, only passed on their families for some reasons like weather conditions and accessibility of food (Small, 2009). The more recent story of human migration is due to armed conflict and wars, for instance, the case of Syrian refugees and migration. According to World Vision (2015), an estimated 12 million Syrians have been forced from their homes by fighting, and half were children. About 7.6 million were displaced and fled to

nearby countries as their home country is not safe to live anymore. On the other hand, obtaining a more hopeful future, secured family income, occupation, and lifestyle is now the grounds for human migration according to Migration News Australia (2014).

In the Philippines, it was reiterated that foreign subjects which have occupied or are anticipated to live for at least a year from their arrival, except members of diplomatic delegations and non-Filipino members of international establishments, were eligible for enumeration in 2010 Philippine Census of Population (2012). With this current status, migrants from other countries migrated the Philippines. The Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA) reported a 4.2 percent of the total person/movers of 2.9 million people/movers of foreign immigrants in the state. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) reported that the number of inflows of foreign immigrants in the Philippines is about 148,150 against 101.6 million Filipinos as of the current census conducted by the PSA (Torres, 2015) which is 0.15% of the entire population.

Regarding this number of migrants, we studied the factors attributed to these international migration inflows of foreign

nationals in the Philippines. These factors were the hidden dimensions of the countries regarding its commonality and knowledge value in understanding the phenomenon (Padua, 2015). In achieving these factors, it is necessary to find out its fractality causing these migrants to reside, for business, and education in the Philippines and use this information as an input to population dynamics, sociology, and cultural drift.

### Framework

The framework below where the data sets taken from the cloud (Internet) specifically from Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development statistics extracts from their websites' datasets available and were processed through fractal statistics to generate and or determine the factors attributed to international migration in the Philippines.

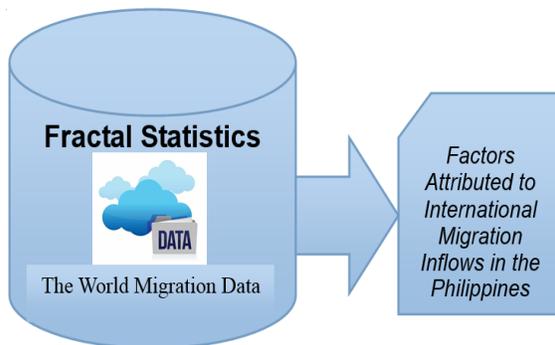


Figure 1: *Conceptual Framework on International Migration Inflows of Foreign Population in the Philippines*

### Methodology

The researcher employed descriptive and narrative research design. Data set collected from the cloud was analyzed quantitatively, and the generated output was interpreted qualitatively using reports, published articles, and scientific research outputs as its support to clarify the hidden dimension. Furthermore, fractal statistics was utilized by determining if the data collected were fractal, exponential

value, and the fractal dimension.

### Results and Discussion

The data shown in Table 1 were the distributed international migrants to the Philippines in the year 2013. To prove the fractality of the said migration data set, it was plotted using histogram as shown in Figure 2. However, based on the generated graph, it shows that the chart was in exponential distribution. Using the fundamental theorem of fractality, "X is fractal if and only if it has an exponential distribution with rate parameter" (Padua, 2015), there were factors attributed to migration inflows which have a fractal distribution. Hence, the data was computed to its fractal values (as shown in Table 1) denoted by XFractal. An asterisk (\*) means in the table that the data has no value generated. After which, the histogram of the XFractal was generated as shown in Figure 3. To determine the percentage of the factors attributed to the inflows of migration of foreign nationals, the fractal dimension was computed with the value of 1.16529. It means that there was sixteen percent (16%) of the total international migration of foreign nationals that were small contributors about migration to the Philippines, and eighty-four percent (84%) big contributors about inflows of international migration of foreign nationals.

Of the 26 total number of foreign migrant nationals, the countries that were big contributors to migrant inflows were US, Canada, Japan and Australia. In history, these countries have strong cultural ties with the Philippines way back Word War II. Anent to this, there are four million US Citizens of Philippine Ancestry in the United States, and more than 250,000 U.S. citizens in the Philippines, including a large presence of United States Veterans. An estimated 650,000 U.S. Citizens visit the Philippines each year. Many people-to-people programs exist between the United States and the Philippines (State.Gov, 2015). The same

Table 1: *International Migration Inflows of foreign population by nationality*

Country	Migration Data	XFractal
Australia	12.785	*
Austria	0.288	3.22E+12
Belgium	0.557	*
Canada	32.745	*
*Chile	0.044	81.4509
Czech Republic	0.086	5431.66
Finland	0.29	3.93E+12
France	0.875	*
Germany	4.724	*
Hungary	0.048	121.51
Iceland	0.052	181.272
Italy	9.893	*
Japan	15.412	*
Korea	9.858	*
*Luxembourg	0.018	6.04965
*Mexico	0.038	44.7012
Netherlands	0.869	*
New Zealand	3.268	*
Norway	2.49	*
Poland	0.172	29502900
*Slovenia	0.005	1.64872
Spain	2.461	*
Sweden	0.662	*
Switzerland	0.411	7.07E+17
United Kingdom	2	*
United States	57.327	*

reasons are observed in Canada, Japan, and Australia. Aside from its economic ties, bilateral agreements between the Philippines and these countries exist. Also their cultures are easily adapted to the Filipino cultures, as being ranked 19th as a culturally diversified country in Asia and the world. (Fearon, 2003).

Another factor attributed to foreign migration to the Philippines was the high value of their currency and is associated with retirement, low cost of living and investments about these countries being economically progressive. Famous for our lively culture, cordiality, English-speaking people, natural resources, and tropical climate, retirees can expect the good life in the Philippines at an affordable cost. According to the Philippine

Retirement Authority, there are now 27,000 foreign retirees from 107 countries who have chosen, and lived in the Philippines (Retire in the Philippines, 2014).

On the other hand, the top lowest countries about smallest emigrate contributors in the Philippines were Slovenia, Luxembourg, Mexico, and Chile. These countries have no direct and or indirect cultural ties with the Filipinos except Mexico wherein it was reported in an article regarding its relationships way back 1500s to 1800s. According to an article found in Primerang Bituin: Philippines-Mexico Relations at the Dawn of the Pacific Rim Century (2006), the earliest and longest Pacific Rim relationships were that of Manila, Philippines, Acapulco, and Mexico. Moreover, it was sustained by the Manila Galleon Trade between 1565 and 1815. With these there was a profound cultural exchange which occurred between the Mexico and the Philippines. However, before and after World War II, there was no significant report about cultural ties between the two nations except that of economic relations. Lastly, two of these four countries have a low value of the currency (Chile and Mexico) versus that of the Philippine Peso. Luxembourg use and adopt Euro as their currency in 1999, still their country's transactions could be in Euros or Belgian franc (Oanda, nd). Finally, Slovenia's currency adopted the Euro in 2007. However, their currency before its adaptation was Tolar with a value of 1 SIT is equal to Php +-0.202358 (XE Currency Converter, 2015). Hence, these were speculated reasons why they were the least contributor about migration inflows of foreign nationals in the Philippines.

The implications of cultural ties and currency value of these emigrate to the Philippines could significantly affect sociologically, cultural drift, and population dynamics. Factors such as colonial mentality and social strata are some of those implications about sociology. Colonial mentality means to refer to a form of

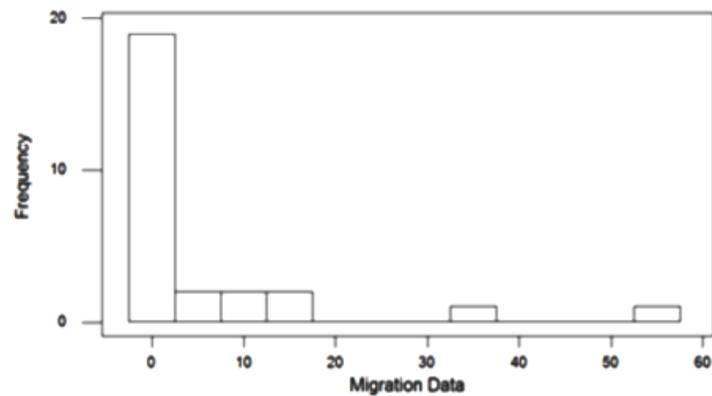


Figure 2: *Histogram of Migration Inflows of foreign population by nationality*

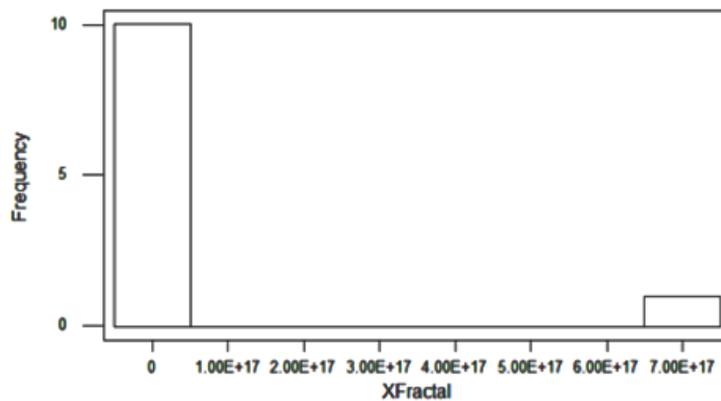


Figure 3: *Histogram of Migration Inflows of foreign Nationals in Fractal*

internalized oppression among Filipinos and Filipino Americans (2006). However, the colonial mentality which the researcher would like to emphasize are the perceived non-verbal change of an individual (e.g. love and patronizing westernized products or brand, movie preferences (English), having a nose lift and bust lift, fashion style and even passing the Reproductive Health Bill also known "RH Bill" and the like). Moreover, social stratum is very evident in the society especially in rural areas, like most two-storey buildings or a well-off family linked with a Filipino married to a foreigner whom it supports even up to the next degree of the family. Social gatherings like in malls and restaurant, a Filipino Male or Female with a foreigner accompanied by their Filipino family members in the dining and even in shopping. As a

result, population dynamics and cultural drift are happening. An article mentioned density dependent population in their study "Human Population Dynamics (Duncan, Duncan & Scott, 2001). Moreover, on "density dependence" or population dynamics, according to Guckenheimer J, Oster G, & Ipaktchi A (1977), population dynamics is an ubiquitous theme in population ecology. As such, human population dynamics is a field that tracks factors related to changes in population, that an increase of the human population can impact the quality of natural resources like biodiversity, air, land, and water (learner.org, nd). Lastly, cultural transformation due to western culture influence will happen due to this foreign migration inflow.

## Conclusion

Foreign nationals coming from countries with strong cultural ties and have higher currency value have a greater chance to be emigrating in the Philippines.

## Recommendation

It is highly recommended to conduct further study on the effects or any factors attributed to sociology, population dynamics, and cultural drift. Simulation is also suggested to formulate a predictive analysis on the extent of effects of foreign migration as to sociology, population dynamics, and cultural drift.

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