Heat and carbon fluxes over a large Mediterranean reservoir

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Summary



- Alqueva reservoir
- Heat and CO₂ fluxes
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- Satellite Remote sensing over Alqueva
- Final Remarks
- References

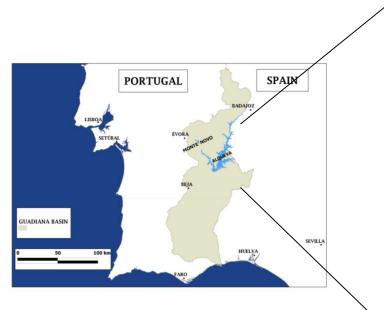




Alqueva reservoir



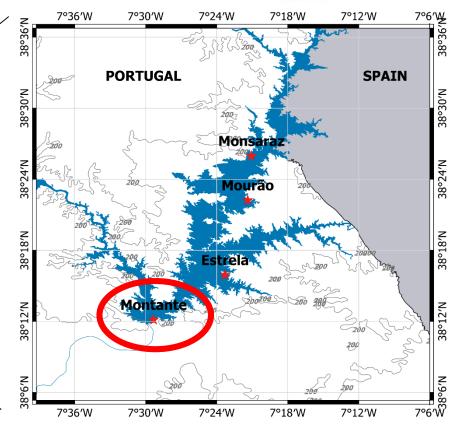
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Alentejo Region:

Köppen classification: Csa Annual precipitation: 571,8 mm Number of days above 30°C: 77.1





Surface area of 250 km² Average depth of 16.6 m (92m max) Age: since 2002 Mesotrophic Monomictic

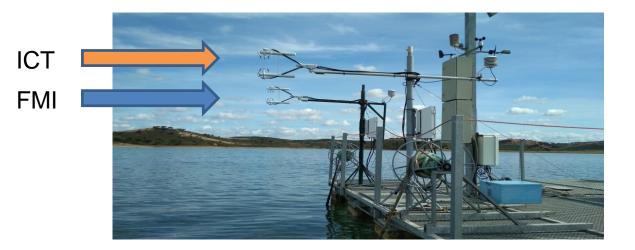






Intercomparison campaign in Alqueva





During the period 12-10-2018 to 25-10-2018 it was possible to obtain precise estimates of random instrument uncertainty (ϵ_F), since both instruments were in the same area and footprint.

Shevnina et al., 2022







Intercomparison campaign in Alqueva

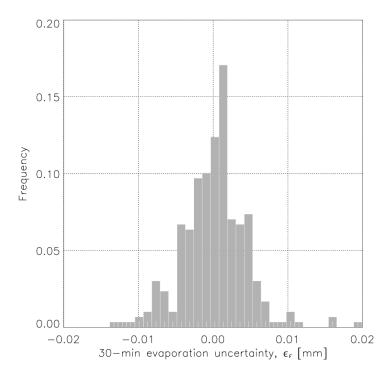


Figure – Frequency distribution of the 30minute evaporation random instrument uncertainty (ε_F) during the intercomparison campaign that took place in Alqueva reservoir, southeast of Portugal.



Uncertainty: $\varepsilon_F = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (E_{ICT} - E_{FMI})$

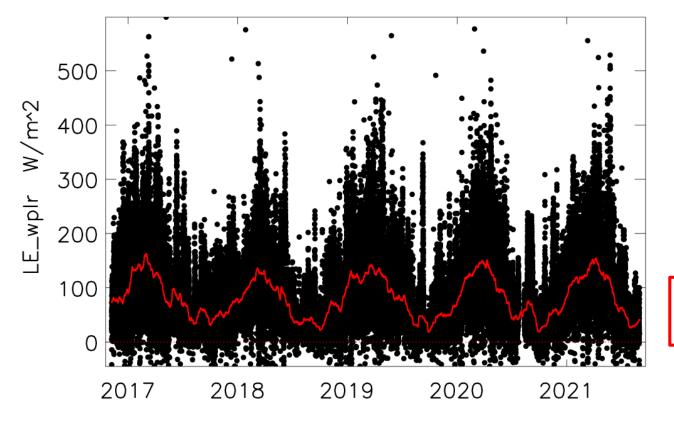
This frequency distribution presents a similar distribution shape as the study from Dragoni et al. (2007). The random instrument uncertainty in 30-minute evaporation, estimated as the standard deviation of the evaporation random instrument uncertainty (ϵ_F), is 4.324x10⁻³ mm. Thus, in relative terms, the intercomparison campaign allows to obtain an estimate of the random instrument error of 7.0%.

Shevnina et al., 2022



Latent heat flux (2017-2022)





Average: 83,30 W m⁻²

Moving average of the 30-minutes data

Latent Heat Flux

$$F_{LE} = L_v w' \rho_w'$$
 [W m

/ m⁻²]

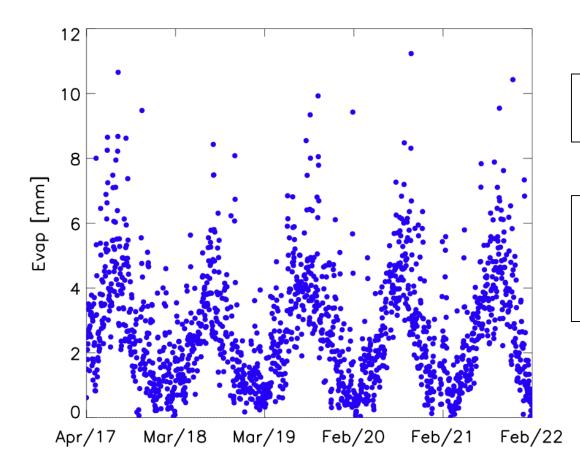
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Potes et al., 2025, in prep



Daily Evaporation [mm]





Daily values from the period 2017-2022.

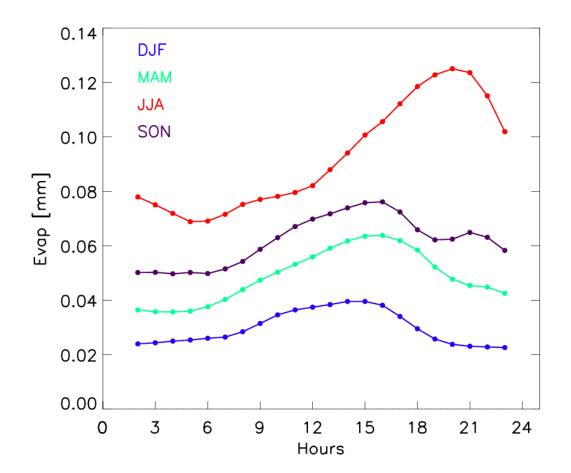
Summer presents values up to 11 mm/day while winter mainly around 1 mm/day.











Summer values are higher in late afternoon (explained by sea and lake breeze) while winter in daytime driven by solar radiation.

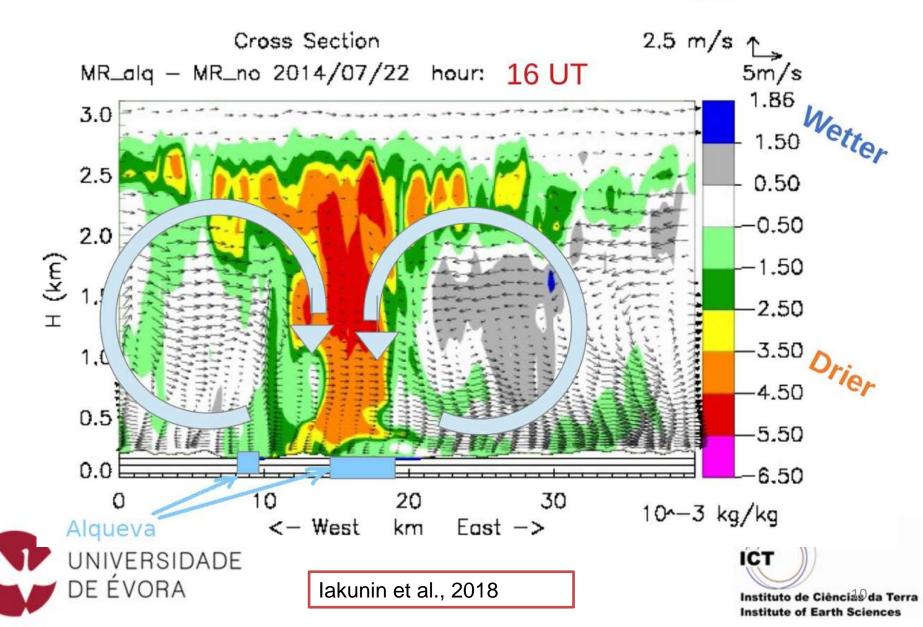




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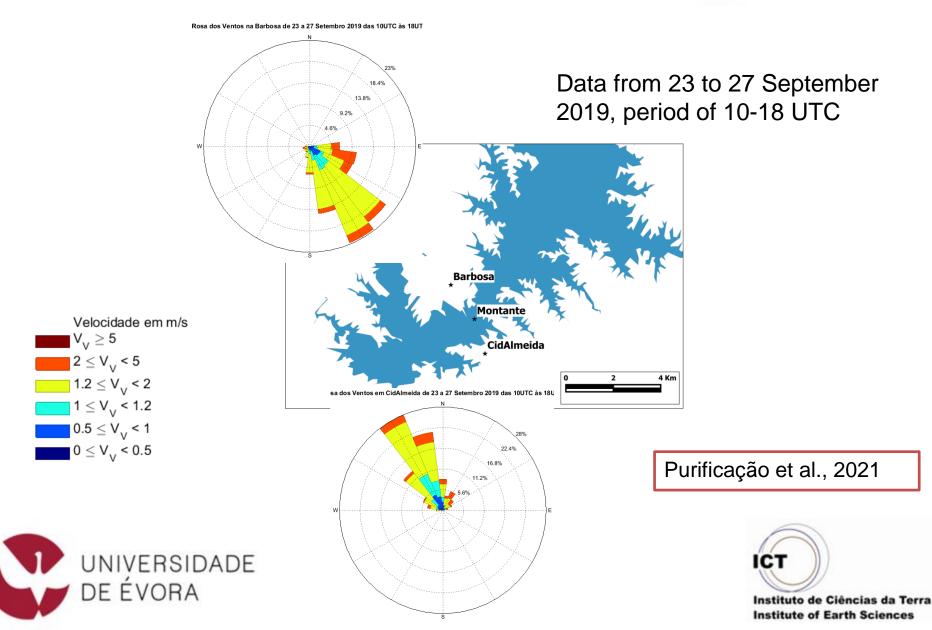
Lake breeze (MesoNH model)





Lake breeze (in situ observations)







Hydrometeorological dataset (2018–2023)

Table 1

Summary of meteorological data collected at the Alqueva reservoir stations. The table presents the measured variables, units, stations where measurements are taken, data frequency, and the type of statistics applied.

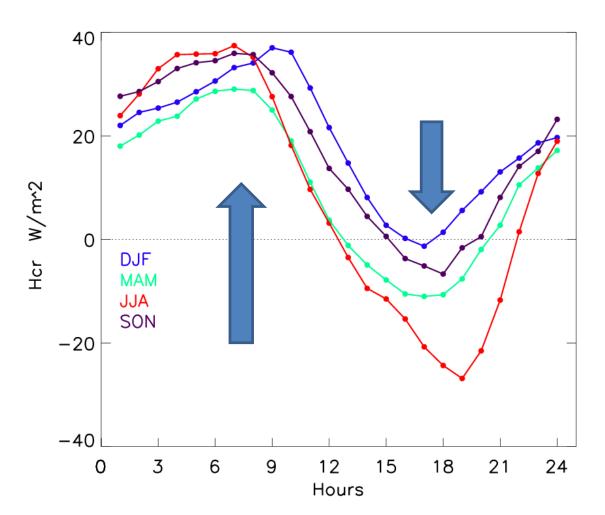
Variable name (Unit)	Applicable Stations	Data Frequency	Statistic Type	
Air temperature (°C)	Both Stations	Hourly, Daily	Hourly Average, Daily Max/Min	
Relative humidity (%)	Both Stations. Montante after December 2020	Hourly, Daily	Hourly Average, Daily Max/Min	
Upward/downward solar radiation (W/m ²)	Both Stations	Hourly	Average	
Atmospheric Pressure (hPa)	Both Stations	Hourly	Average	
Wind intensity (m/s)	Both Stations	Hourly	Average	
Maximum wind gust (m/s)	Both Stations	Hourly	Maximum	
Wind direction (degrees)	CidAlmeida	Hourly	Average	
Precipitation (mm)	CidAlmeida	Hourly	Accumulated	
Soil temperature (°C)	CidAlmeida	Hourly	Average	
Surface water temperature (°C)	Montante	Hourly	Average	



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Seasonal hourly sensible heat flux



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- Nighthime is always positive because lake is hotter than atmosphere.
- Summer has a higher negative values in the afternoon because of hotter atmosphere heating the water.
- Winter presents positive values except at 17 UTC when air temperature can exceed water.



H and LE Fluxes comparison with FLake and LAKE 2.0

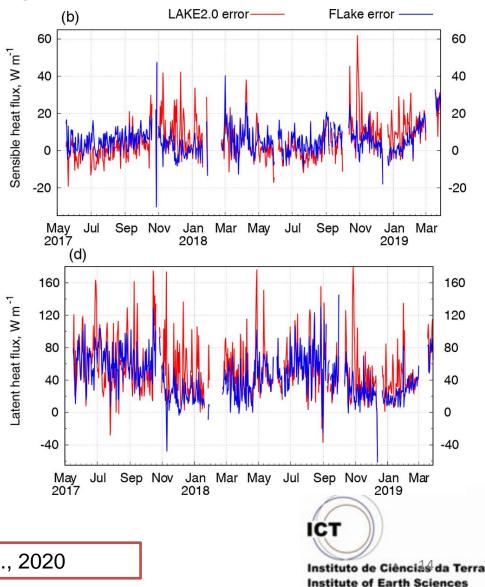


 Table 3. Sensible and latent heat flux errors and correlation coefficients.

	Sensible heat		Latent heat	
	LAKE 2.0	FLake	LAKE 2.0	FLake
Mean error, Wm ⁻²	5.51	5.36	52.93	43.46
MAE, Wm^{-2}	8.38	6.85	53.40	44.02
Correlation coefficient	0.88	0.87	0.92	0.92

Sensible heat flux is well represented by the models

Latent heat is overestimate by both models with higher error for LAKE 2.0

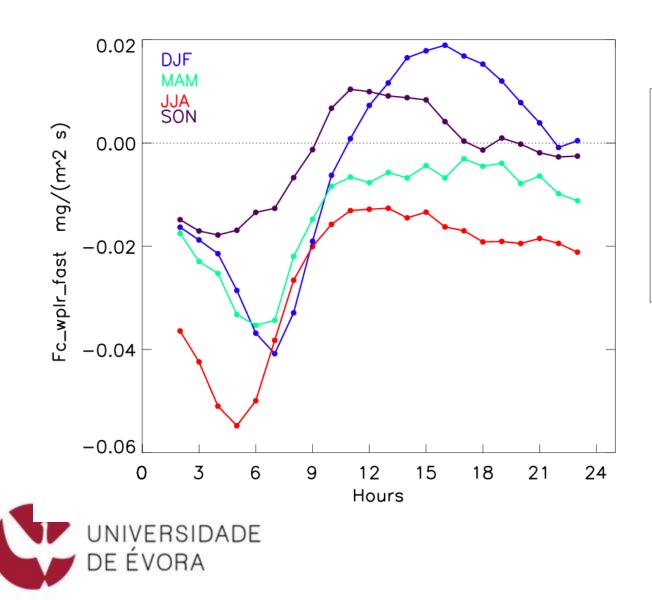




lakunin et al., 2020

Seasonal Hourly CO₂ Fluxes



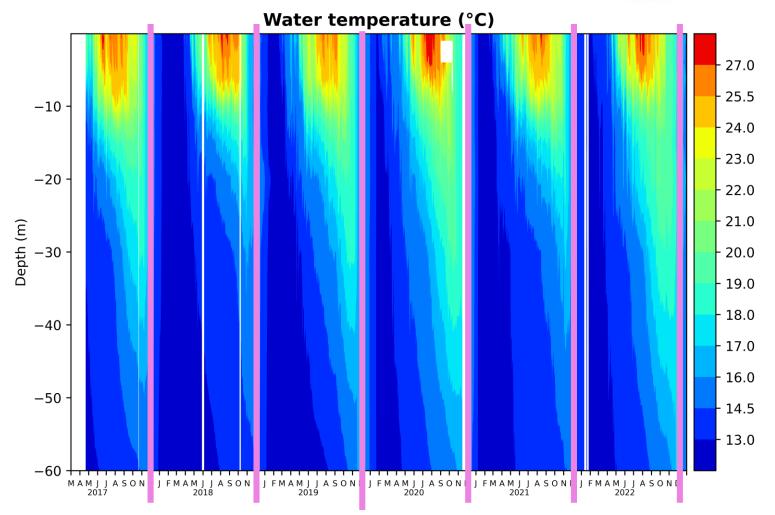


Negative CO₂ flux is recorded in Summer and Spring. Oscillation between positive and negative flux is recorded in Winter and Autumn.



Water temperature profile (2017-2022)

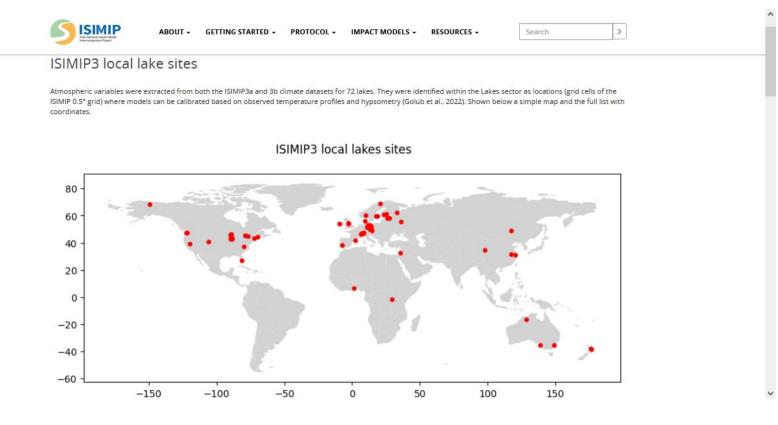




The reservoir is stratified during the Spring, Summer and beginning of Autumn. During the Autumn the overturn process starts and is concluded in December where the lake is fully mixed (pink bars). In Spring the cycle restarts.

The Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP)



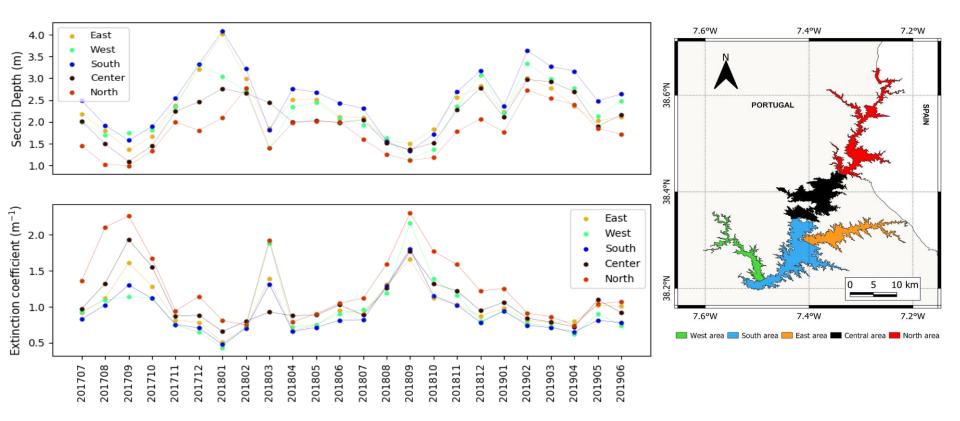






Satellite remote sensing (2017-2019)





Data from MSI – Sentinel 2 from five areas of Alqueva reservoir over the period July 2017 to June 2019.

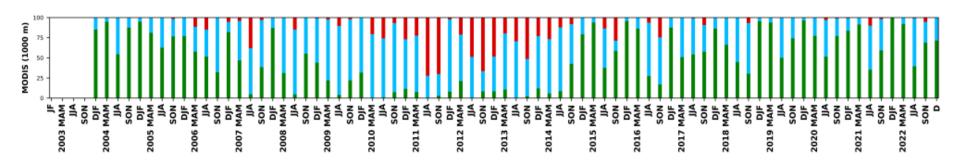


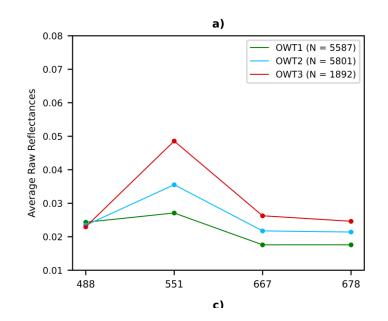
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Satellite remote sensing (2003-2022)







Optical Water Type (OWT) analysis using MODIS for the period 2003 to 2022. Each OWT represents a group of similar optical characteristics and similar reflectance spectra. The K-means approach

was used for clustering. The OWT's are a qualitative analysis nevertheless very useful for warning systems.

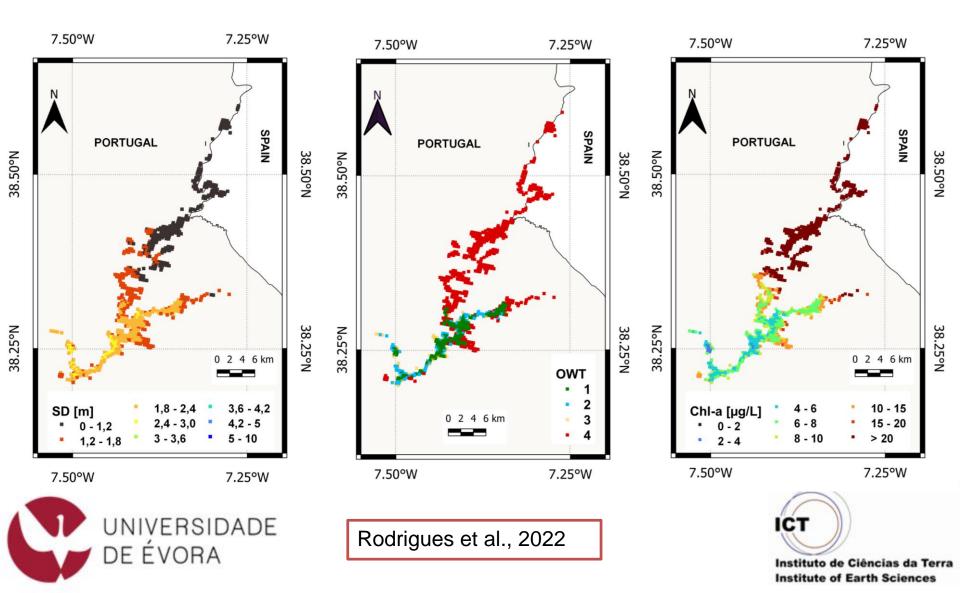


Rodrigues et al., 2024, in revision



Satellite remote sensing bloom case of September 2017





Final Remarks



- Eddy Covariance technique it is a valuable tool for heat and mass flux calculations however, it is very expensive.
- Alqueva reservoir has high evaporation rates. The sensible heat fluxes is positive in average. CO₂ fluxes are driven by the water stratification.
- Satellite remote sensing allows a fully coverage of the Alqueva reservoir for different water quality parameters, with different spatial resolution and with daily revisiting time (or quasi-daily depending on the satellite used).







Thank you!

Questions/Comments?





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