1st GloboLakes Scientific Workshop. 10-12 December 2012. University of Stirling

Remote sensing of phytoplankton in Spanish lakes and reservoirs

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Summary

- 1. Overview of Spanish inland waters
- 2. Summary of remote sensing studies
- 3. Bio-optical characteristics
- 4. Usefulness of Spanish dataset for GloboLakes







Glacial lakes

- About 600 (90% in the Pyrenees)
- Small size: average 0.1 km2; max 0.5 km2
- Most between 1500 and 3000 m.a.s.l.
- Oligotrophic (low human pressure)
- > Only exception: Sanabria lake (NW Spain): 4 km²



WETLANDS



Endorheic lakes and freshwater coastal wetlands

- ➢ About 2000
- Varied sizes (up to 15 km² inland 500 km² coastal)
- Most temporary. Often hypersaline (endorheic).
- Varied trophic state (high human pressure)
- ➤ Shallow

RESERVOIRS



Artificial reservoirs





- 1280 "big" reservoirs (dam higher than 15 m)
- 66 bigger than 10 km² (at full capacity)
- Retention times: from days to years (up to 120 "hyperannual")
- Diverse mineralization and catchment's geology
- Climatic gradient
- Varied trophic state (30% oligotrophic; 40% eutrophic)
- Multiple uses (irrigation, hydropower, water supply)
- Increasing human use (including recreational)
- Frequent HABs

Understudied. Monitoring required by WFD

TOTAL



1280 RESERVOIRS

> 10 "pure water pixels" in MERIS imagery



130 RESERVOIRS



First steps: River basin surveys with Landsat-TM



Peña, R. y Serrano, M.L., 1992. Evaluación del estado trófico de los embalses mediante imágenes digitales. Ingeniería Civil, 86, 37-44.



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Validation of C-PC retrieval Algorithms



Nested Semiempirical Band Ratio

Common database of Spanish and Dutch lakes

- 193 sampling points (Spain)
- Evaluation of algorithms:
 - Single Reflectance Ratio
 - Baseline Semiempirical
 - Nested Semiempirical Band Ratio

Ruiz-Verdú, A., Simis S.G.H., de Hoyos, C., Gons, H.J., Peña-Martínez, R. (2008) An evaluation of algorithms for the remote sensing of cyanobacterial biomass. Remote Sensing of Environment 112: 3996-4008



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3. Bio-optical characteristics (2001-07 dataset)

BIO-OPTICAL SAMPLING CAMPAIGNS 2001-2007



STATISTICS OF MAIN WATER QUALITY VARIABLES

	a _{440_CDOM}	[Chl-a]	[PC]	[TSM]	Z_SECCHI
	(m ⁻¹)	(mg m ⁻³)	(mg m ⁻³)	(g m⁻³)	(m)
N	193	204	156	139	221
MIN	0.05	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.1
10 PERCENTILE	0.23	1.4	0.0	0.7	0.3
MEDIAN	0.64	23.2	29.8	2.8	1.7
MEAN	0.67	65.8	102.8	6.9	2.1
90 PERCENTILE	1.09	191.3	199.8	11.1	4.8
MAX	4.80	705.0	1040.0	78.8	11.5

3. Bio-optical characteristics (2001-07 dataset)



3. Bio-optical characteristics (2001-07 dataset)



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4. Concluding remarks (usefulness for GloboLakes)

Usefulness of Spanish dataset for GloboLakes

- Diverse dataset (wide gradient of environmental variables)
- Adequate for phytoplankton studies
 - Reservoir shape and hydrologic / climate regime favour sedimentation in tail and stratification in open waters
 - Semi-arid climate favours low CDOM
 - Eutrophication is widespread: High phytoplankton biomass
 - Phytoplankton dominates RS signal ("pseudo case 1 waters")
- Adequate for cyanobacteria studies (C-PC retrieval)
- Dataset comprising radiometric, pigment and taxonomic data
- 23 MERIS match-up dates (24 for Landsat-TM)
- 9 CHRIS/Proba match-up dates
- Hyperspectral airborne data

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