

**Table S3 Hydrologic modeling of modern and paleo-lake systems, Sahelo-Sudanian end-member**

Lake systems	Paleolake Darfur	Paleolake Fezzan	Paleolake Chad	reference
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measured physical parameters	symbol	units				
lake area	A <sub>w</sub>	km <sup>2</sup>	32288	126500	344724	(1)
land area	A <sub>L</sub>	km <sup>2</sup>	91912	203000	1185802	(1)
lake area ratio	a <sub>w</sub>	-	0.260	0.384	0.225	(1)
land area ratio	a <sub>b</sub>	-	0.74	0.62	0.77	
lake highstand elevation	masl	m	573	521	325	
pressure	P	kPa	94.78	95.37	97.59	

### Lake Victoria end-member

#### Radiation

fractional cloud cover	c	-	0.42	0.42	0.42	
clear sky radiation (with clouds)	R <sub>sw</sub>	MJ m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>	23.00	23.00	23.00	(3)
surface albedo	α	-	0.07	0.07	0.07	(4)
net shortwave absorbed at surface	R <sub>sw</sub> (1-α)	MJ m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>	21.39	21.39	21.39	
surface emissivity	ε	-	0.96	0.96	0.96	(5)
net longwave emitted from surface	R <sub>LW</sub>	MJ m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>	4.4	4.4	4.4	(6)
net radiation at surface	R <sub>n</sub> =R <sub>sw</sub> (1-α)-R <sub>LW</sub>	MJ m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>	17.0	17.0	17.0	

#### assumed physical parameters

surface air temperature	T	°C	22.3	22.3	22.3	(2)
surface water temperature	T	°C	25.4	25.4	25.4	(2)
wind speed assumed	U	m sec <sup>-1</sup>	1.95	1.95	1.95	(2)

#### Priestly-Taylor

slope of sat vapor curve	Δ	kPa °C <sup>-1</sup>	0.16	0.16	0.16	(7)
T-P constant	α (P-T)	-	1.26	1.26	1.26	(7)
psychometric constant	γ	kPa °C <sup>-1</sup>	0.06	0.06	0.06	(7)
latent heat of vaporization	λ	MJ kg <sup>-1</sup>	2.45	2.45	2.45	(7)
evaporation rate	E	mm yr <sup>-1</sup>	2290	2286	2271	(7)

### **Penman combination**

sat. vapor pressure	$e_s$	kPa	2.69	2.69	2.69	(7)
vapor pressure measured	$e_a$	kPa	2.00	2.00	2.00	(7)
wind speed	$U$	$m sec^{-1}$	1.95	1.95	1.95	(7)
psychometric constant	$\gamma$	$kPa ^\circ C^{-1}$	0.07	0.07	0.07	(7)
evaporation due to wind	$E_a$	$mm day^{-1}$	0.37	0.37	0.37	(7)
slope of saturation vs T de/dT	$\Delta$	$kPa ^\circ C^{-1}$	0.16	0.16	0.16	(7)
Evaporation rate	$E$	$mm day^{-1}$	4.97	4.97	4.93	(7)
Evaporation rate	$E$	$mm yr^{-1}$	1816	1813	1801	(7)

## **Results**

lake area ratio observed	$a_w$ observed		0.260	0.384	0.225		
lake area ratio calculated	$a_w$ calculated		0.258	0.383	0.223	w:	2.53
calculated evapotranspiration	$E_b$	$mm yr^{-1}$	1123	1210	1081		
calculated run-off coefficient	$k$		0.14	0.16	0.13		
<b>iterated Precipitation</b>	<b>P</b>	<b><math>mm yr^{-1}</math></b>	<b>1300</b>	<b>1440</b>	<b>1240</b>	iterated P	

### **References**

- (1) DEM this study
- (2) Yin & Nicholson (1998)
- (3) Ba et al. (2001)
- (4) Abtew&Malesse (2013)
- (5) Sellars (1965)
- (6) Budyko (1974)
- (7) Supplemental text