

Integrated Solutions for Water Scarcity – Artificial Aquifers

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Contents

- 1. Challenges of water resources in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- 2. Integrated solutions for water scarcity: Artificial recharge
- 3. Conclusion





1. Challenges of water resources in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Arid climate conditions



Low precipitation (103mm/year)

High PET (2.43 m/year in Jaddah)



High cost of desalination

Groundwater

depletion



Exp: Ras Al-Khair desalination plant (SR15.67 billion)





High drawdown Exp: Manjour aquifer

Cone of depression





❖ Sediment

transport

for dams

Artificial recharge is suggested as an adequate solution for water sustainability.





Artificial recharge is the practice of increasing the amount of water that enters an aquifer through human-controlled.

> Rainwater



Treated wastewater



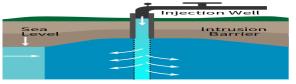
Desalinated water



> Infiltration devices



Injection devices





Suitable areas and techniques for artificial recharge.

Assessment of the effectiveness of the artificial recharge.



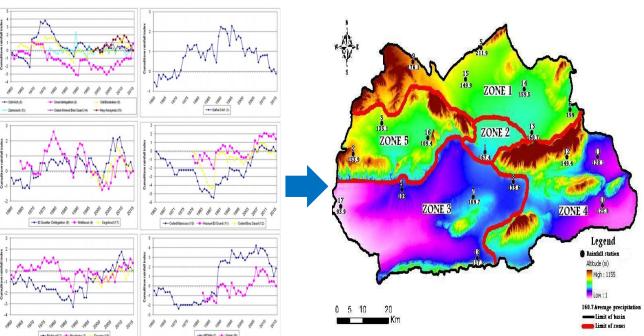


Meteorological Data Analysis

Principal Component Analysis. Spatial analysis of

REGR factor score 2 for analysis 1

Cumulative Rainfall Index.



Spatial variation of rainfall under an arid climate. Case Gafsa region, Tunisia (Melki et al., 2018).

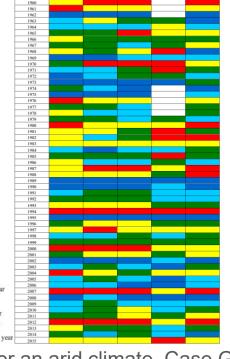


rainfall variation.



Meteorological Data Analysis

- Scales (yearly, monthly and daily scale).
- Statistical tests (Standard Deviation Index, Deciles distribution, Frequency...).
- Characteristics of temporal variation (class of the year, frequency, duration, severity and extension).



Daily rainfall mm/day	Frequency %				
	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5
0.1-5	46.4	75.8	55.2	40.1	55.5
5-10	21.6	12.2	21.7	27.6	20.3
10-15	12.7	5.7	8.8	13.5	11.4
15-20	7.6	2.8	6.1	5.5	4.4
20-25	4.0	1.2	2.9	4.4	3.3
25-30	2.4	0.9	1.7	2.6	1.8
30–35	1.9	0.5	1.0	2.3	1.1
35-40	1.1	0.2	0.9	0.7	0.6
40-45	0.6	0.1	0.3	1.2	0.9
45-50	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.2
> 50	1.6	0.5	1.1	1.6	0.5

Temporal variability of rainfall under an arid climate. Case Gafsa region, Tunisia (Melki et al., 2018).



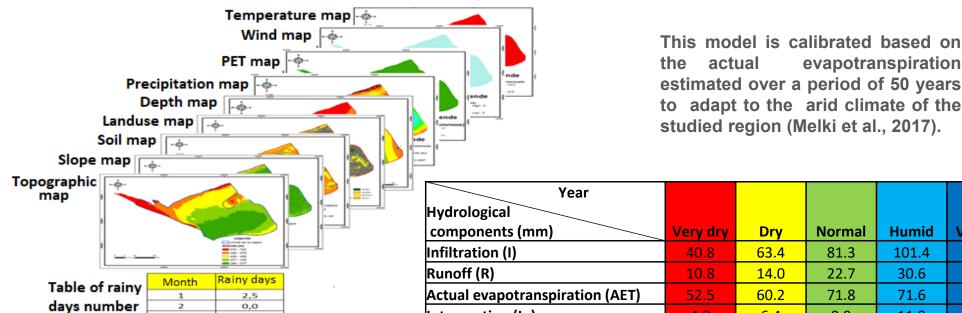
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Estimation of hydrological components By WetSpass-M model

Hydrological study

(Water and Energy Transfer between Soil, Plant and Atmosphere under quasi-Steady State)



Normal Very humid Humid 81.3 101.4 141.4

22.7 30.6 80.1 71.8 71.6 107.9 Interception (In) 4.9 6.4 9.9 11.9 16.9

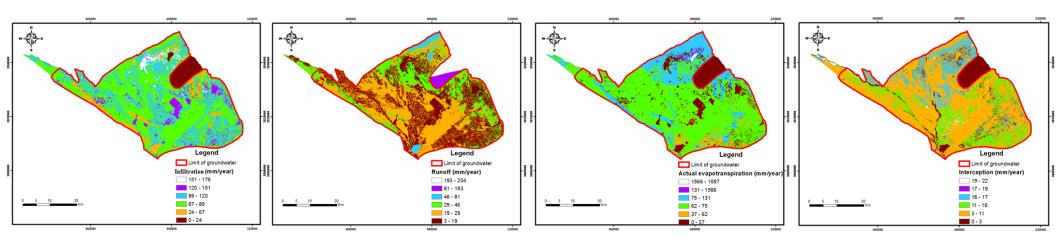
Rates of the different hydrological components in Northern Gafsa Aquifer, Tunisia (Melki et al., 2019).



= In (5%) + R (15.4 %) +AET(36.8 %) +I (42.8%)



Hydrological study



Spatial distribution of the different hydrological components under an arid climate. Case Northern Gafsa Aquifer, Tunisia (Melki et al., 2017).





Hydrological study

- ➤ Discharge Keeper is an optical flow measurement for natural water streams, irrigation and wastewater channels.
- > Key Features :
- Camera-based measurement system for acquisition of the surface velocity profile and the water level for direct calculation of the discharge.
- Non-intrusive measurement method using only one sensor (camera).





Example of recorded data by Discharge Keeper in Wadi Naqab UAE (03/01/2022).





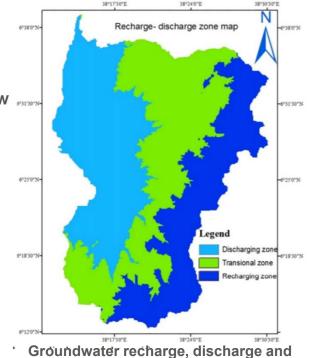
Hydrogeological Study

Recharge, Discharge zone and flow Direction.

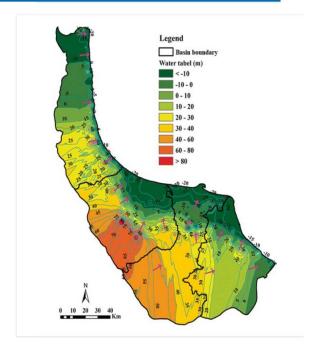
Over exploitation zones.

Groundwater quality.

Sea intrusion zones.







Piezometric map showing direction of groundwater flow.(Mohamed Javad et al.,2018).





Geophysical Applications

Seismoelectric (SE)

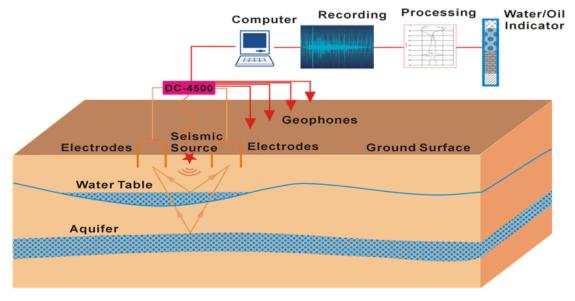
Principle:

New technology based on the seismoelectric effect to measure the electric potential signal at ground surface with a seismic source for detecting subsurface water properties.

Benefits:

- Rock porosity.
- Permeability.
- Fluid contents and their saturation.

DC-4500 Field & House Workflow





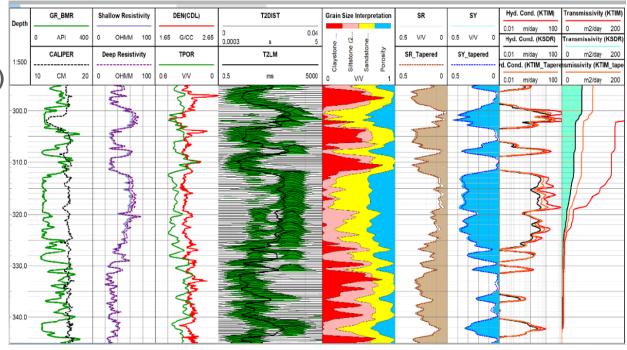


Geophysical Applications

Borehole Magnetic Resonance (BMR)

BMR Benefits:

- Lithology identification.
- Identify the storage properties:
 - 1. Porosity.
 - 2. Specific storage.
 - 3. Specific yield and specific retention.
- Flow properties:
 - 1. Transmissivity.
 - 2. Hydraulic conductivity.



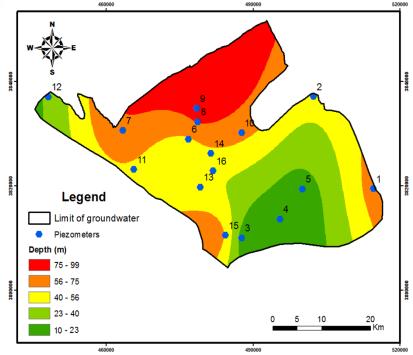
Borehole data obtained from the well logging.





Monitoring System

Selection of representative monitoring wells.



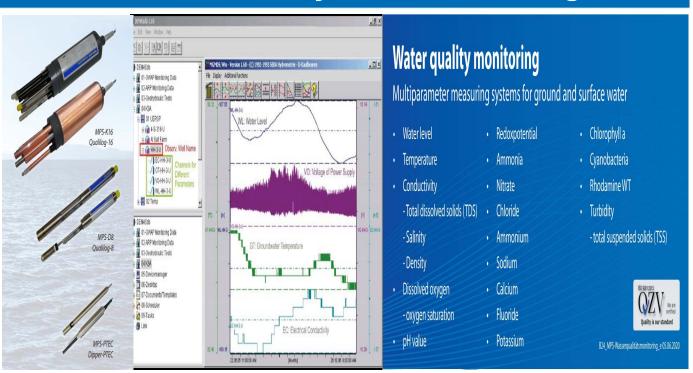
Observation wells distribution in Northern Gafsa Aquifer.





Monitoring System

☐ Installation of multiparameter sensors.



Examples of sensors output.





3- Conclusion

- Worldwide demand for freshwater.
- Artificial recharge = water sustainability.
- ➤ Integration of several studies and applications = effective artificial recharge.

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THANK YOU



















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