Remote sensing-based Water Hyacinth monitoring using the novel Aquatic Macrophyte Index (AMI)

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Shades of water



Figure 1. The diversity of watercolors (Stevens et al. 2022).



1. Remote Sensing sensor options







Figure 2. Absorption and scattering processes in the atmosphere and hydrosphere (Dörnhöfer & Oppelt, 2016).



Active Remote Sensing

• Radar (Backscatter)



Figure 3. Sentinel-1 C-SAR band on the electromagnetic spectrum (NASA 2024).

Passive Remote Sensing • Multispectral Visible & Infrared (Reflectance) in 12 spectral bands



Figure 4. Sentinel-2 MSI bands on the electromagnetic spectrum (FU Berlin 2024).



Passive Remote Sensing

 Hyperspectral Visible & Infrared (Reflectance) in 246 spectral bands

VNIR:	8.1 +/- 1 nm
SWIR:	12.5 +/- 1.5 nm



Figure 5. Sentinel-2 MSI & EnMAP bands on the electromagnetic spectrum (DLR et al. 2022).



Passive Remote Sensing

 Multispectral Visible & Infrared (Reflectance) in 12 spectral bands



Figure 4. Sentinel-2 MSI bands on the electromagnetic spectrum (FU Berlin 2024).



Optically active water components



Figure 2. Absorption and scattering processes in the atmosphere and hydrosphere (Dörnhöfer & Oppelt, 2016).

Optically active water components



Figure 2. Absorption and scattering processes in the atmosphere and hydrosphere (Dörnhöfer & Oppelt, 2016).

2. Detection of aquatic macrophytes and phytoplankton



Active Remote Sensing

• Radar (Backscatter)



Figure 8. Lake Chivero backscatter captured by Sentinel-1 C-SAR (2021-06-05 16:23 GMT).



• Visible & Infrared (Reflectance)



Figure 9. Lake Chivero multispectral reflectance captured by Sentinel-2 MSI (2021-06-05 08:15 GMT).



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Active Remote Sensing

• Radar (Backscatter)



Figure 10. Thematic map of aquatic macrophyte and water based on Sentinel-1 C-SAR (2021-06-05 16:23 GMT)



• Visible & Infrared (Reflectance)



Figure 11. Thematic map of aquatic macrophyte and water based on Sentinel-2 MSI (2021-06-05 08:15 GMT)



Aquatic Macrophyte Index (AMI)

$$AMI = \rho_{SWIR1} - \left(\rho_{Green} + (\rho_{SWIR2} - \rho_{Green}) \times \left(\frac{\lambda_{SWIR1} - \lambda_{Green}}{\lambda_{SWIR2} - \lambda_{Green}}\right)\right)$$



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Figure 12. Spectral signatures captured at Lake Chivero by Sentinel-2 MSI (2017-08-25). Where yellow vertical bars | indicate the spectral bands of interest for the AMI computation. Orange dashed lines --- illustrate the interpolation between the Green and SWIR2 band. AM = Aquatic Macrophyte, PHY = Phytoplankton, H2O = Water (Münch et al. in preparation).

AMI & FAI application at Lake Chivero in June 2023



Figure 13. AMI & FAI based classification Sentinel-2 (2023-06-05).



AMI & FAI application at Lake Chivero in June 2023

Figure 13. AMI & FAI based classification Sentinel-2 (2023-06-05).

Figure 14. AMI & FAI based classification Sentinel-2 (2023-06-10). Figure 15. AMI & FAI based classification Sentinel-2 (2023-06-15) Figure 16. AMI & FAI based classification Sentinel-2 (2023-06-20)

Figure 17. AMI & FAI based classification Sentinel-2 (2023-06-25) Figure 18. AMI & FAI based classification Sentinel-2 (2023-06-30)





3. Field surveillance





Uncrewed Aerial Vehicle (UAV)

DJI Mavic 3M





Figure 22. DJI Mavic 3M (DJI 2025).

Spectral bands: 5 MP Multispectral Camera





Figure 23. DJI Mavic 3M sensors (DJI 2025).

Spectroradiometer

TriOS RAMSES

- 256 spectral channels
- Spectral range: 320 950 nm



Figure 19. TriOS RAMSES ARC VIS (TriOS Mess- und Datentechnik GmbH 2025)

ASD FieldSpec

- VIS (3 nm), IR (10 nm)
- Spectral range: 350 2500 nm



Figure 20. ASD FieldSpec 3 (ASD Inc. 2010).





Figure 3. Sentinel-2 MSI bands on the electromagnetic spectrum (FU Berlin 2024).

Fluorometer

bbe moldaenke FluoroProbe

Measurands:



Figure 21. Biological biophysical engineering (bbe) moldaenke FluoroProbe (bbe moldaenke GmbH 2025). total chlorophyll [µg chl-a/l] concentration of green algae [µg chl-a/l] concentration of cyanobacteria [µg chl-a/l] concentration of diatoms/brown algae [µg chl-a/l] concentration of cryptophytes [µg chl-a/l] fingerprints of classes/species, also user-defined (e.g. Planktothrix rubescens) [µg chl-a/l] yellow substances (CDOM) depth temperature (optional) transmission (optional)



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