

## **Supplementary Materials to**

# **Investigating the Impact of Large Lakes on Local Precipitation: Case Study of Lake Urmia, Iran**

**Hossein Mousavi<sup>1</sup>, Amir Hossein Dehghanipour<sup>2,\*</sup>, Carla S.S. Ferreira<sup>3,4</sup> and Zahra Kalantari<sup>5,6</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Amirkabir University of Technology, Tehran 15875-4413, Iran; hoseinmousavi@aut.ac.ir

<sup>2</sup> Water Management Group, WSP in the Netherlands, Tramsingel 2, 4814 AB Breda, The Netherlands

<sup>3</sup> Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, Applied Research Institute, Rua da Misericórdia, Lagar dos Cortiços—S. Martinho do Bispo, 3045-093 Coimbra, Portugal; carla.ferreira@ipc.pt

<sup>4</sup> Research Centre for Natural Resources, Environment and Society (CERNAS), Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, Bencanta, 3045-601 Coimbra, Portugal

<sup>5</sup> Department of Sustainable Development, Environmental Science and Engineering (SEED), KTH Royal Institute of Technology, 11428 Stockholm, Sweden; zahrak@kth.se

<sup>6</sup> Department of Overland Communication Ways, Foundations and Cadastral Survey, Politehnica University of Timișoara, Ioan Cirea 1A, 300224 Timișoara, Romania

\* Correspondence: amir.dehghanipour@wsp.com

## **1. Introduction**

The supplementary materials comprise additional Tables (Table S1 to S6) and Figures (Fig. S1 to S4). Table S1 provides a concise overview of the geographical locations of synoptic stations utilized in this study. Table S2 displays the average monthly and annual actual evapotranspiration from October 2013 to September 2015, categorized by different land covers in the Lake Urmia basin, Iran. Table S3 presents summary statistics (mean, median, and standard deviation) for seasonal and annual climate variables in synoptic stations, such as precipitation, relative humidity, vapor pressure, and dewpoint temperature during the entire study period (1986-2017) and its sub-periods (1986-1995, 1996-2017). Additionally, Table S3 highlights the percentage changes in these metrics from 1986-1995 to 1996-2017. Table S4 employs comparative analysis of meteorological parameters between Saqez and Sarab stations using statistical indicators, P-values, and T-statistics. Table S5 exhibits correlation coefficient matrix illustrating the relationships between climate variables and Urmia Lake water level. Table S6 employs comparative analysis of meteorological parameters before and after the identified change point in 1995 using statistical indicators, P-Values, and T-Statistics. Fig. S1 present distributed annual average actual evapotranspiration for the Lake Urmia basin, respectively. Fig. S2 offers a schematic representation of the violin plot along with its accompanying details. Fig. S3 and Fig. S4 illustrate the violin plots depicting seasonal climate variables for Saqez and Sarab stations during both pre- and post-1995 periods, respectively.

Table S1: Geographical location of synoptic stations utilized in this study

Station	Latitude (°)	Longitude (°)	Distance from the lake center (km)	Elevation (m a.s.l.)
Saqez	36.22	46.31	185	1523
Sarab	37.93	47.53	195	1650

Table S2: Monthly average and annual actual evapotranspiration (AET) from October 2013 to September 2015 for various land covers in the Lake Urmia basin (Data source: Urmia Lake Research Programme, <https://abopa.ir/en/ulrp5/> (accessed on October 1, 2023))

Land Cover		Area		Area Contribution		Actual evapotranspiration (MCM)													AET Contribution	
		(km <sup>2</sup> )	(%)			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual		
Agricultural activity	Irrigated wheat and barley	1484.04	2.89	15426.26	30.00	25.04	20.20	15.53	50.23	83.11	100.00	95.43	75.92	53.70	38.87	12.20	7.94	578.17	5110.33	30.69
	Irrigated summer crops	1320.36	2.57			26.81	18.94	15.83	43.55	81.12	136.55	167.54	158.14	108.52	55.65	17.59	8.93	839.17		
	Orchard	2781.13	5.41			51.51	39.55	44.64	99.48	187.53	279.03	316.58	295.63	203.05	109.48	36.74	20.43	1683.64		
	Rainfed agriculture	6650.92	12.93			88.67	94.61	87.36	156.36	228.09	186.80	181.83	126.43	96.05	107.79	37.90	39.51	1431.39		
	Fallow	3189.81	6.20			41.65	45.86	39.92	59.85	82.43	60.89	71.47	48.57	39.26	50.60	17.79	19.68	577.95		
Lake Urmia	Barren land	3377.76	6.57	7060.46	13.74	64.66	63.37	77.25	91.12	87.69	58.57	74.94	65.92	44.35	74.47	36.91	41.41	780.65	3868.07	23.23
	Water Body	1915.67	3.73			84.88	132.00	228.69	322.01	366.01	340.32	257.19	151.02	94.48	136.11	82.96	64.49	2260.18		
	Salt land	1767.03	3.44			43.38	60.28	85.72	118.01	109.81	84.67	83.74	66.74	57.95	59.03	28.76	29.14	827.24		
Others	Rangeland	28123.12	54.69	28934.35	56.27	260.93	413.70	645.26	949.17	1208.16	939.22	866.22	713.65	540.28	451.51	160.06	155.38	7303.53	7674.43	100
	Built-up	811.23	1.58			17.90	21.13	31.36	30.56	32.42	33.82	47.50	47.22	42.57	33.37	19.85	13.20	370.90		
Total	Lake Urmia Land Cover	51421.07	100	51421.07	100	705.43	909.64	1271.56	1920.34	2466.37	2219.87	2162.44	1749.24	1280.21	1116.88	450.76	400.11	16652.82	16652.82	100

**Table S3: Summary statistics (mean, median, and standard deviation) for precipitation, relative humidity, vapor pressure, and dewpoint temperature during the entire study period (1986-2017) and its sub-periods (1986-1995, 1996-2017), also highlights percentage changes in these metrics from 1986-1995 to 1996-2017**

Period	Variable	Station	Precipitation (mm)			Humidity (%)			Vapor Pressure (mBar)			Dewpoint Temperature (°C)			
			Mean	Median	SD	Mean	Median	SD	Mean	Median	SD	Mean	Median	SD	
Entire Study Timeframe	1986-2017	Spring	Saqez	121.43	119.15	52.7	52.93	53.91	7.01	7.85	7.83	0.89	2.92	2.92	1.59
			Sarab	100.48	88.17	43.55	56.27	57.43	5.34	7.52	7.52	0.68	2.11	2.18	1.33
		Summer	Saqez	9.41	7.15	9.82	32.29	30.77	4.87	8.7	8.49	0.98	4.19	3.97	1.58
			Sarab	28.71	25.35	16.62	51.17	51.05	3.62	10.75	10.88	0.53	7.48	7.69	0.85
		Autumn	Saqez	137.91	133.55	79.78	57.44	58.04	6.21	5.98	5.92	0.57	-1.13	-1.1	1.42
			Sarab	60.23	64.75	29.02	63.8	63.15	5.38	5.73	5.71	0.46	-1.81	-1.66	1.26
		Winter	Saqez	171.2	176.35	64.84	71.94	72.15	3.38	4.46	4.46	0.53	-5.25	-5.28	1.96
			Sarab	45.19	42.38	17.13	70.29	71.8	6.44	3.73	3.69	0.36	-7.49	-7.35	1.45
	Normal Lake Condition	Spring	Saqez	136.51	119.15	63.56	52.91	50.34	9.3	8.28	7.78	1.08	3.62	2.77	1.83
			Sarab	94.28	76.68	41.74	57.17	58.58	7.2	7.83	7.63	0.92	2.62	2.35	1.81
		Summer	Saqez	5.06	2.6	7.71	35.07	35.559	6.53	9.502	10.12	1.14	5.4	6.36	1.76
			Sarab	26.28	21.15	20.28	52.23	52.74	4.23	11.14	11.15	0.36	8.08	8.07	0.51
		Autumn	Saqez	173.05	149.1	108	57.63	57.36	5.97	6.11	6.22	0.59	-0.82	-0.38	1.35
			Sarab	58.77	69.4	30.84	62.85	61.32	4.99	5.77	5.77	0.44	-1.71	-1.55	1.16
		Winter	Saqez	190.33	195.15	79.85	72.46	73.73	3.57	4.36	4.26	0.71	-5.6	-5.79	2.66
			Sarab	44.79	47.78	18.75	69.4	72.05	9.63	3.59	3.53	0.37	-8.03	-8.21	1.56
	Water Level Reduction	Spring	Saqez	114.58	116.2	45.3	52.95	54.32	5.66	7.66	7.86	0.71	2.6	3.04	1.35
			Sarab	103.3	90.59	44.07	55.85	56.76	4.17	7.38	7.41	0.49	1.87	1.86	0.97
		Summer	Saqez	11.39	9.75	10.03	31.03	30.61	3.17	8.33	8.38	0.61	3.65	3.8	1.12
			Sarab	29.82	27.84	14.53	50.7	50.78	3.19	10.58	10.63	0.5	7.2	7.43	0.83
		Autumn	Saqez	121.94	128.9	56.06	57.35	58.04	6.32	5.91	5.83	0.55	-1.27	-1.29	1.42
			Sarab	60.89	62.13	28.13	64.23	63.55	5.49	5.71	5.71	0.48	-1.85	-1.68	1.31
		Winter	Saqez	162.51	160.2	54.55	71.71	71.61	3.26	4.502	4.51	0.41	-5.1	-5.22	1.51
			Sarab	45.36	42.16	16.33	70.7	71.65	4.21	3.81	3.87	0.34	-7.23	-7	1.32
(Post1995 - Pre1995) * 100 / Pre1995	Percent changes (%)	Spring	Saqez	-16.06	-2.48	-28.73	0.08	7.91	-39.14	-7.49	1.03	-34.26	-28.18	9.75	-26.23
			Sarab	9.57	18.14	5.58	-2.31	-3.11	-42.08	-5.75	-2.88	-46.74	-28.63	-20.85	-46.41
		Summer	Saqez	125.10	275	30.09	-11.52	-13.92	-51.45	-12.33	-17.19	-46.49	-32.41	-40.25	-36.36
			Sarab	13.47	31.63	-28.35	-2.93	-3.72	-24.59	-5.03	-4.66	38.89	-10.89	-7.93	62.75
		Autumn	Saqez	-29.53	-13.55	-48.09	-0.49	1.19	5.86	-3.27	-6.27	-6.78	54.88	239.47	5.19
			Sarab	3.61	-10.48	-8.79	2.20	3.64	10.02	-1.04	-1.04	9.09	8.19	8.39	12.93
		Winter	Saqez	-14.62	-17.91	-31.68	-1.04	-2.88	-8.68	3.26	5.87	-42.25	-8.93	-9.84	-43.23
			Sarab	1.27	-11.76	-12.91	1.87	-0.56	-56.28	6.13	9.63	-8.11	-9.96	-14.74	-15.38

Table S4: Comparative analysis of meteorological parameters between Saqez and Sarab stations using statistical indicators, P-values, and T-statistics

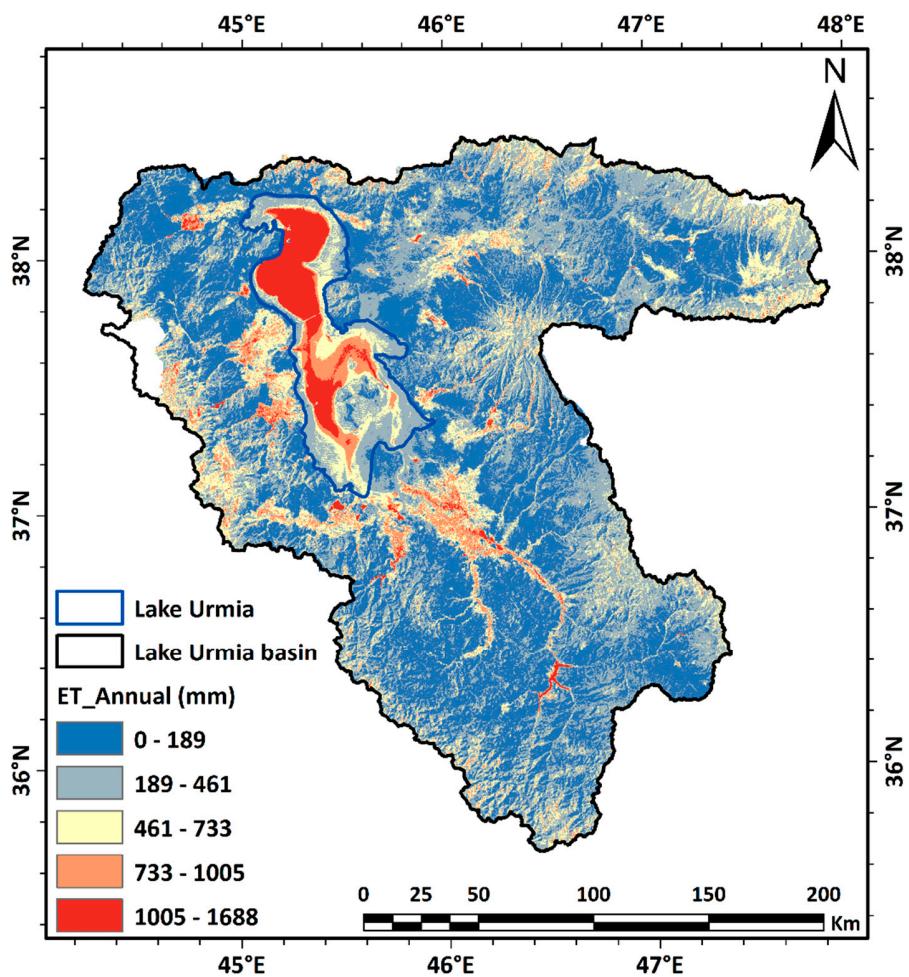
Period	Variable	Station	Precipitation (mm)			Humidity (%)			Vapor Pressure (mBar)			Dewpoint Temperature (°C)		
			Season	T-Statistic	P-Value	Significance Difference	T-Statistic	P-Value	Significance Difference	T-Statistic	P-Value	Significance Difference	T-Statistic	P-Value
Entire Study Timeframe	Spring	Saqez	1.706219	0.092972	No	-2.103337	0.0395	Yes	1.631673	0.107818	No	2.176709	0.033319	Yes
		Sarab	-5.565553	5.95 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>	Yes	-17.30485	2.03 × 10 <sup>-25</sup>	Yes	-10.2334	6.07 × 10 <sup>-15</sup>	Yes	-10.1542	8.23 × 10 <sup>-15</sup>	Yes
	Summer	Saqez	5.094555	3.52 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	Yes	-4.30965	5.95 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	Yes	1.866507	0.066701	No	1.977606	0.052423	No
		Sarab	10.46129	2.54 × 10 <sup>-15</sup>	Yes	1.260456	0.21223	No	6.223878	4.64 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>	Yes	5.090623	3.57 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	Yes
Normal Lake Condition	Autumn	Saqez	1.665846	0.113051	No	-1.087808	0.29103	No	0.940677	0.359324	No	1.163121	0.259969	No
		Sarab	-2.93458	0.008858	Yes	-6.602086	3.36 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	Yes	-4.0987	0.000674	Yes	-4.37369	0.000366	Yes
	Winter	Saqez	3.052667	0.006852	Yes	-2.010628	0.05959	No	1.412758	0.174785	No	1.507469	0.149041	No
		Sarab	5.323307	4.64 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	Yes	0.891435	0.38446	No	2.903087	0.009482	Yes	2.358687	0.029847	Yes
Water Level Reduction	Spring	Saqez	0.8179	0.418031	No	-1.891045	0.06553	No	1.47182	0.148523	No	2.003667	0.051585	No
		Sarab	-4.78182	2.15 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	Yes	-20.0181	4.24 × 10 <sup>-15</sup>	Yes	-12.8728	3.60 × 10 <sup>-16</sup>	Yes	-11.6054	1.10 × 10 <sup>-14</sup>	Yes
	Summer	Saqez	4.460561	6.01 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	Yes	-3.767079	0.00051	Yes	1.270876	0.210767	No	1.361646	0.18057	No
		Sarab	9.426258	6.35 × 10 <sup>-12</sup>	Yes	0.867961	0.39035	No	5.897001	5.59 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>	Yes	4.880801	1.57 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	Yes

**Table S5: Correlation coefficient matrix illustrating the relationships between climate variables and Urmia Lake water level. Green indicates a positive correlation, while red signifies a lack of correlation. (Abbreviations explained: ULWL - Urmia Lake Water Level, DEW - Dewpoint Temperature, P - Precipitation, HU - Humidity, VP - Vapor Pressure, and Rainy Day - Number of Rainy Days)**

Saqez Station							Sarab Station						
	ULWL	DEW	P	HU	VP	Rainy Days	ULWL	DEW	P	HU	VP	Rainy Days	
Spring	ULWL	1	0.12	0.26	0.10	0.16	0.01	1	0.20	0.10	0.18	0.22	0.03
	DEW	0.12	1	0.49	0.55	0.99	0.41	0.20	1	0.19	0.68	0.98	0.07
	P	0.26	0.49	1	0.84	0.49	0.80	0.10	0.19	1	0.66	0.19	0.70
	HU	0.10	0.55	0.84	1	0.54	0.84	0.18	0.68	0.66	1	0.64	0.54
	VP	0.16	0.99	0.49	0.54	1	0.39	0.22	0.98	0.19	0.64	1	0.09
	Rainy Days	0.01	0.41	0.80	0.84	0.39	1	0.03	0.07	0.70	0.54	0.09	1
Summer	ULWL	1	0.35	-0.10	0.38	0.40	-0.02	1	0.50	0.14	0.35	0.43	-0.25
	DEW	0.35	1	0.01	0.84	0.99	-0.01	0.50	1	0.19	0.55	0.89	0.16
	P	-0.10	0.01	1	0.00	-0.01	0.78	0.14	0.19	1	0.05	0.13	0.53
	HU	0.38	0.84	0.00	1	0.85	0.02	0.35	0.55	0.05	1	0.45	0.13
	VP	0.40	0.99	-0.01	0.85	1	-0.05	0.43	0.89	0.13	0.45	1	0.04
	Rainy Days	-0.02	-0.01	0.78	0.02	-0.05	1	-0.25	0.16	0.53	0.13	0.04	1
Autumn	ULWL	1	0.07	-0.04	-0.09	0.03	-0.10	1	0.10	-0.21	-0.14	0.01	-0.29
	DEW	0.07	1	0.53	0.75	0.98	0.61	0.10	1	0.40	0.43	0.97	0.45
	P	-0.04	0.53	1	0.73	0.57	0.67	-0.21	0.40	1	0.72	0.47	0.77
	HU	-0.09	0.75	0.73	1	0.76	0.78	-0.14	0.43	0.72	1	0.45	0.70
	VP	0.03	0.98	0.57	0.76	1	0.64	0.01	0.97	0.47	0.45	1	0.50
	Rainy Days	-0.10	0.61	0.67	0.78	0.64	1	-0.29	0.45	0.77	0.70	0.50	1
Winter	ULWL	1	-0.17	0.42	0.29	-0.20	0.12	1	-0.26	0.23	0.05	-0.27	-0.02
	DEW	-0.17	1	-0.18	-0.43	0.99	-0.36	-0.26	1	0.26	0.00	0.98	0.09
	P	0.42	-0.18	1	0.46	-0.19	0.78	0.23	0.26	1	0.40	0.32	0.59
	HU	0.29	-0.43	0.46	1	-0.43	0.39	0.05	0.00	0.40	0	0.08	0.47
	VP	-0.20	0.99	-0.19	-0.43	1	-0.36	-0.27	0.98	0.32	0.08	1	0.12
	Rainy Days	0.12	-0.36	0.78	0.39	-0.36	1	-0.02	0.09	0.59	0.47	0.12	1
Yearly	ULWL	1	0.12	0.30	0.22	0.22	0.02	1	0.20	0.08	0.13	0.28	-0.23
	DEW	0.12	1	0.30	0.43	0.96	0.03	0.20	1	0.36	0.23	0.89	0.07
	P	0.30	0.30	1	0.71	0.32	0.66	0.08	0.36	1	0.54	0.19	0.67
	HU	0.22	0.43	0.71	1	0.51	0.57	0.13	0.23	0.54	1	0.15	0.43
	VP	0.22	0.96	0.32	0.51	1	0.02	0.28	0.89	0.19	0.15	1	-0.05
	Rainy Days	0.02	0.03	0.66	0.57	0.02	1	-0.23	0.07	0.67	0.43	-0.05	1

**Table S6: Comparative analysis of meteorological parameters before and after the identified change point in 1995 using statistical indicators, P-Values, and T-Statistics. (Abbreviations explained: ULWL - Urmia Lake Water Level, DEW - Dewpoint Temperature, P - Precipitation, HU - Humidity, VP - Vapor Pressure, and Rainy Day - Number of Rainy Days)**

		<i>Saqez Station</i>			<i>Sarab Station</i>		
		T-Statistic	P-Value	Significance Trend	T-Statistic	P-Value	Significance Trend
Spring	<b>ULWL</b>	5.581	0.000	Yes	5.581	0.000	Yes
	<b>DEW</b>	1.499	0.157	No	1.169	0.267	No
	<b>P</b>	0.938	0.365	No	-0.533	0.601	No
	<b>HU</b>	-0.012	0.991	No	0.515	0.616	No
	<b>VP</b>	1.571	0.141	No	1.383	0.194	No
	<b>Rainy Day</b>	-0.517	0.611	No	0.003	0.998	No
Summer	<b>ULWL</b>	5.581	0.000	Yes	5.581	0.000	Yes
	<b>DEW</b>	2.753	0.017	Yes	3.517	0.002	Yes
	<b>P</b>	-1.876	0.074	No	-0.473	0.644	No
	<b>HU</b>	1.768	0.105	No	0.961	0.354	No
	<b>VP</b>	2.879	0.015	Yes	3.459	0.002	Yes
	<b>Rainy Days</b>	-1.866	0.079	No	-1.726	0.097	No
Autumn	<b>ULWL</b>	5.581	0.000	Yes	5.581	0.000	Yes
	<b>DEW</b>	0.829	0.418	No	0.275	0.786	No
	<b>P</b>	1.344	0.206	No	-0.177	0.862	No
	<b>HU</b>	0.115	0.909	No	-0.675	0.508	No
	<b>VP</b>	0.857	0.404	No	0.303	0.766	No
	<b>Rainy Days</b>	0.373	0.713	No	0.003	0.998	No
Winter	<b>ULWL</b>	5.581	0.000	Yes	5.581	0.000	Yes
	<b>DEW</b>	-0.535	0.603	No	-1.339	0.201	No
	<b>P</b>	0.954	0.358	No	-0.080	0.938	No
	<b>HU</b>	0.539	0.597	No	-0.388	0.706	No
	<b>VP</b>	-0.528	0.608	No	-1.485	0.157	No
	<b>Rainy Days</b>	0.405	0.693	No	0.132	0.897	No
Yearly	<b>ULWL</b>	5.581	0.000	Yes	5.581	0.000	Yes
	<b>DEW</b>	1.374	0.198	No	1.176	0.254	No
	<b>P</b>	1.678	0.121	No	-0.688	0.501	No
	<b>HU</b>	0.763	0.461	No	0.022	0.983	No
	<b>VP</b>	1.965	0.076	No	2.217	0.042	Yes
	<b>Rainy Days</b>	-0.076	0.941	No	-0.314	0.759	No



**Figure S1:** Annual average actual evapotranspiration (mm) for the years 2013-2015 (Data source: Urmia Lake Research Programme, <https://abopa.ir/en/uLRP5/> (accessed on October 1, 2023)).

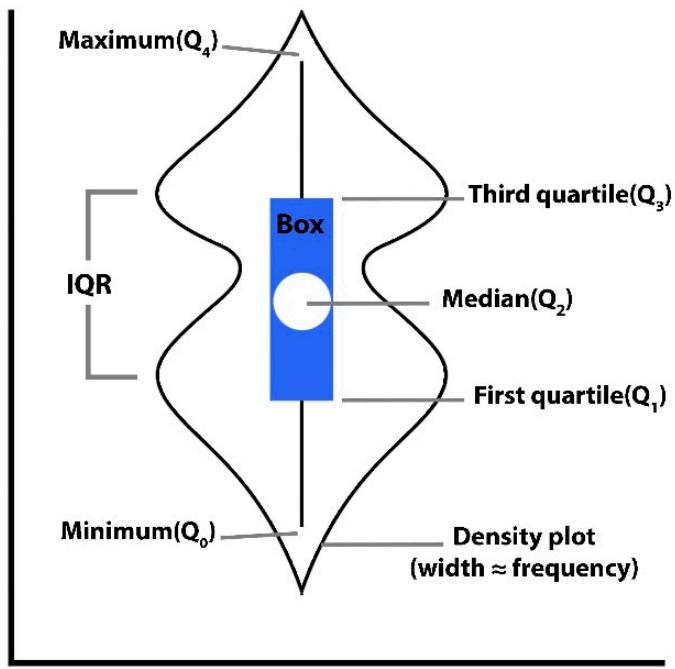
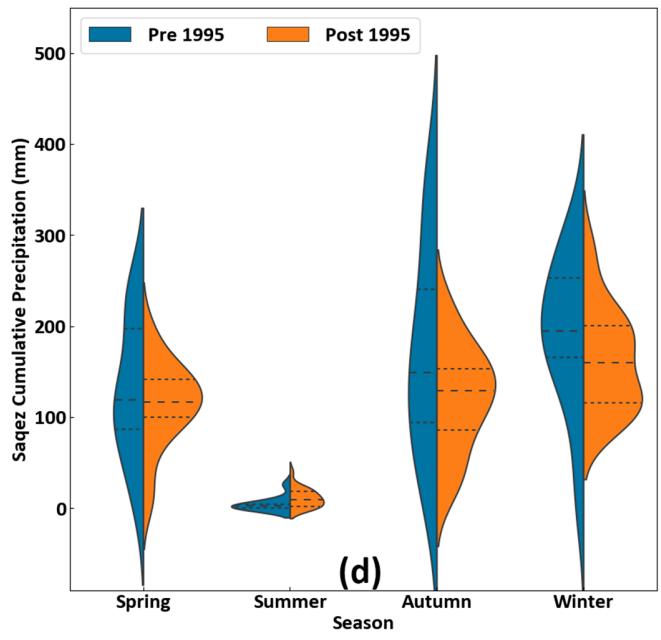
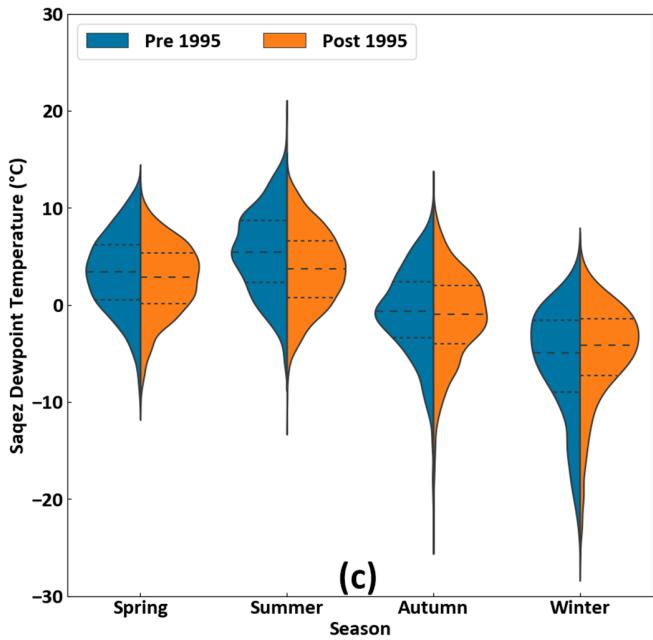
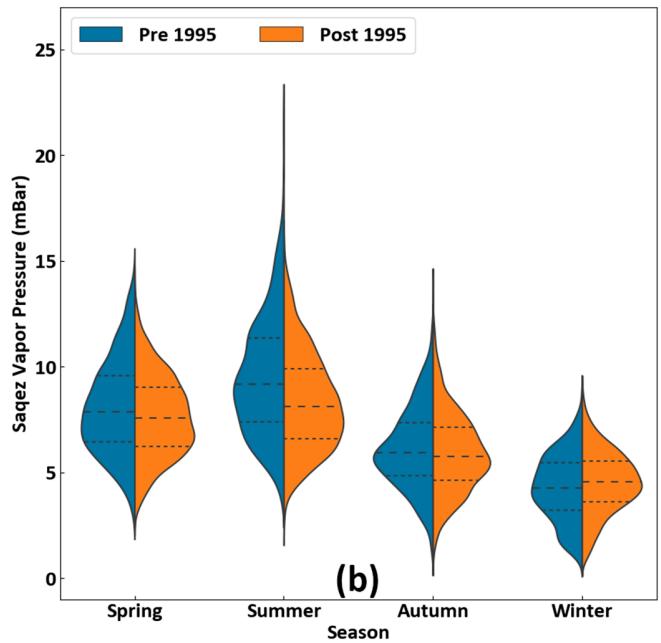
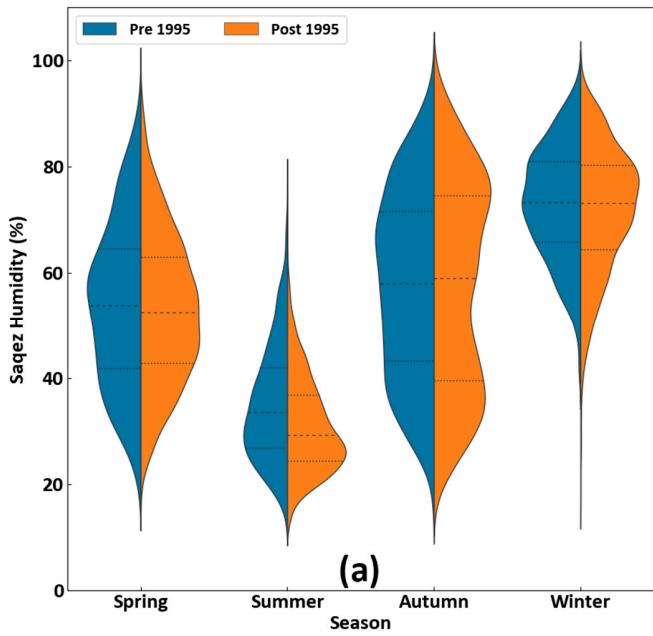
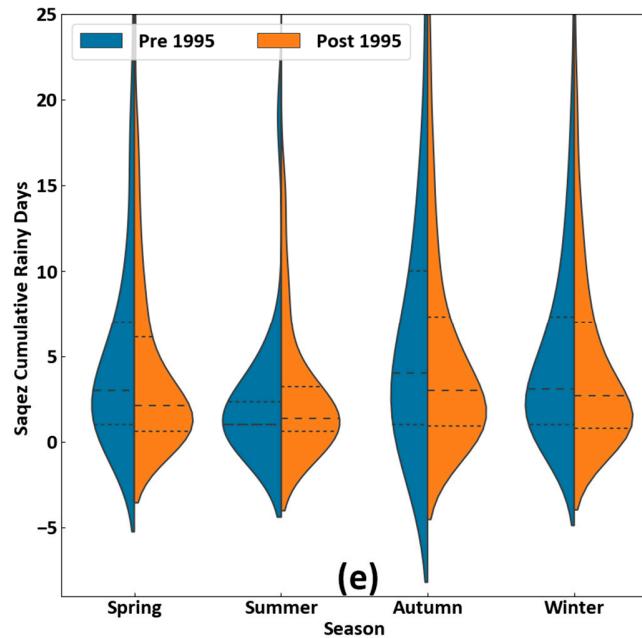
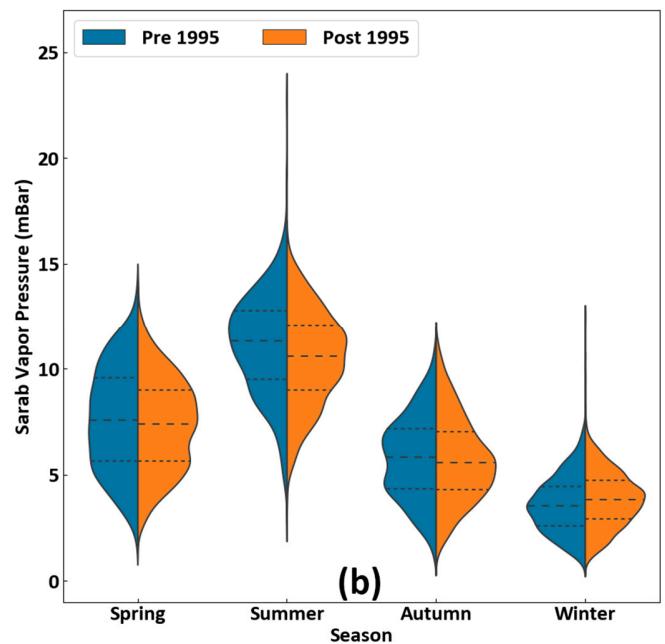
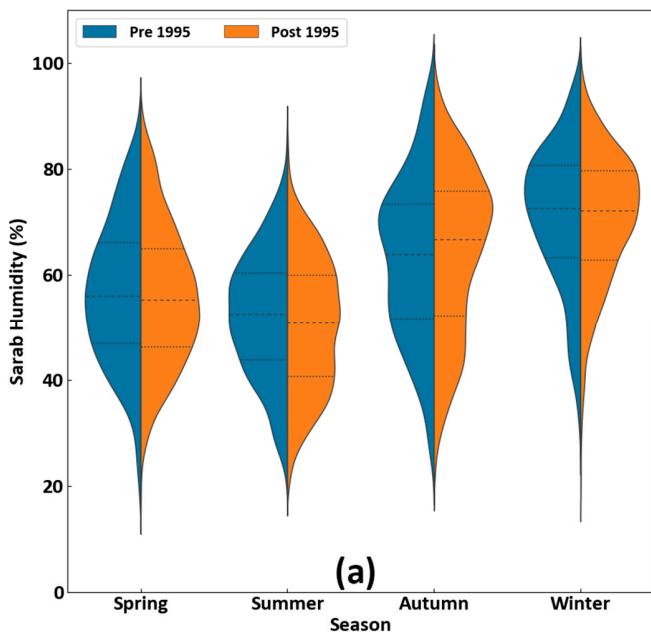


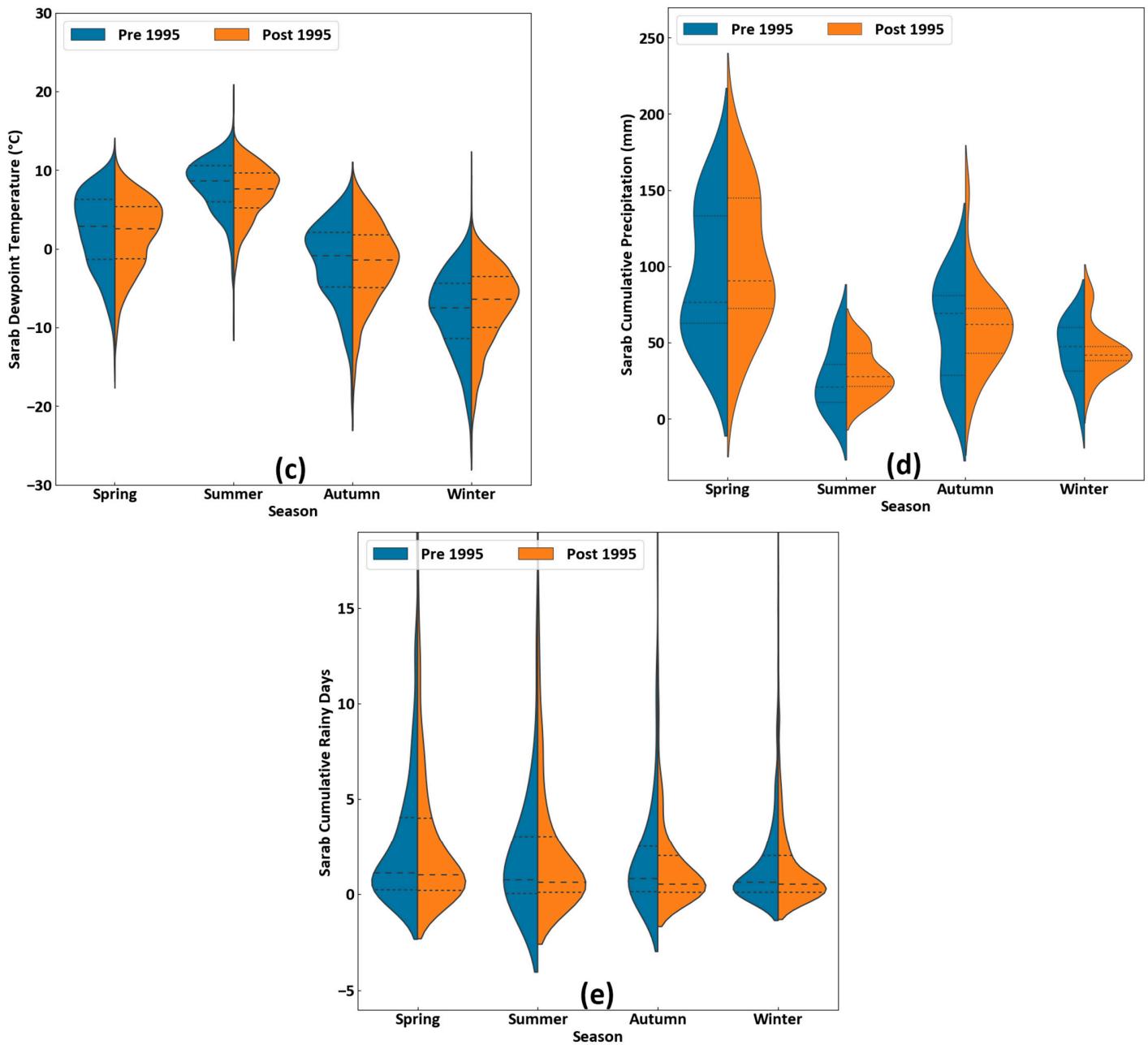
Figure S2: Illustration depicting the violin plot along with its relevant details.





**Figure S3:** Violin plots illustrating seasonal variations in (a) seasonal average relative humidity, (b) seasonal average vapor pressure, (c) seasonal average dewpoint temperature, (d) cumulative precipitation, and (e) cumulative rainy days at the Saqez synoptic station, contrasting the periods before and after 1995.





**Figure S4:** Violin plots illustrating seasonal variations in (a) seasonal average relative humidity, (b) seasonal average vapor pressure, (c) seasonal average dewpoint temperature, (d) cumulative precipitation, and (e) cumulative rainy days at the Sarab synoptic station, contrasting the periods before and after 1995.