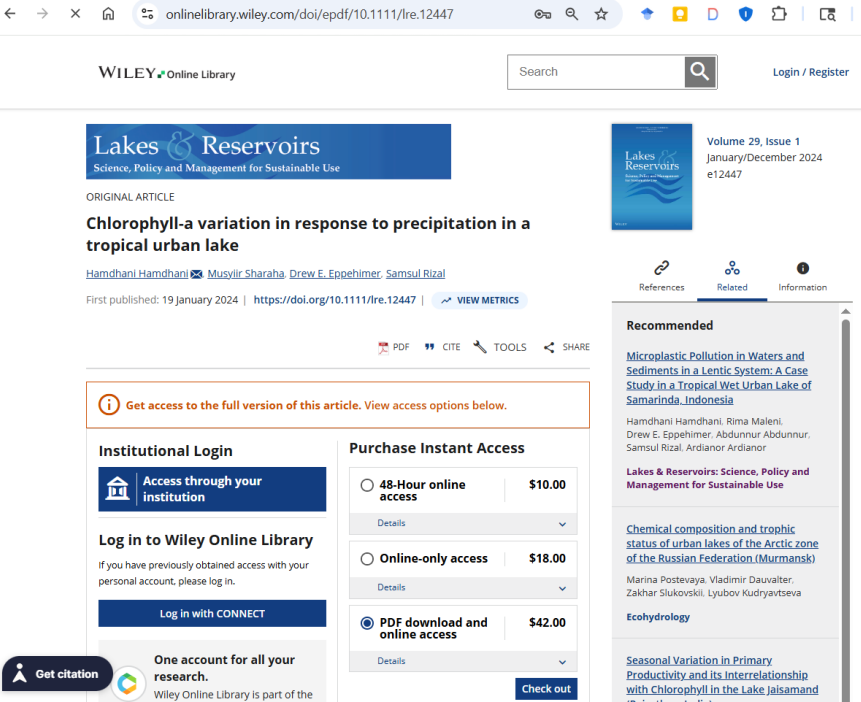


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a.	Email konfirmasi 5/3/26, 9:46 PM Universitas Mulawarman Mail - Manuscript submitted to Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use  Hamdhani Hamdhani <hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id> Manuscript submitted to Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use 1 message Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use <no-reply@atyponrex.com> To: Hamdhani Hamdhani <hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id> Sat, May 13, 2023 at 12:24 AM Dear Hamdhani Hamdhani, Your manuscript entitled "Chlorophyll-a variation in response to precipitation in a tropical urban lake" has been successfully submitted online and is being delivered to the Editorial Office of <i>Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use</i> for consideration. You will receive a follow-up email with further instructions from our electronic editorial office platform, ScholarOne Manuscripts, typically within one business day. That message will confirm that the Editorial Office has received your submission and will provide your Manuscript ID. Thank you for submitting your manuscript to <i>Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use</i> Sincerely, The Editorial Staff at Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use By submitting a manuscript to or reviewing for this publication, your name, email address, and affiliation, and other contact details the publication might require, will be used for the regular operations of the publication, including, when necessary, sharing with the publisher (Wiley) and partners for production and publication. The publication and the publisher recognize the importance of protecting the personal information collected from users in the operation of these services and have practices in place to ensure that steps are taken to maintain the security, integrity, and privacy of the personal data collected and processed. You can learn more by reading our data protection policy. In case you don't want to be contacted by this publication again, please send an email to lakes@wiley.com. https://mail.google.com/mail/u/3/?ik=35ace941da&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f:1765706213493295751&simpl=msg-f:1765706213493295751 1/1		

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Abstract

With increasing urbanization, urban lakes are becoming more common and serve as important flood control infrastructure, recreational uses, as well as habitat for a variety of biota. However, given their construction, function, and location, urban lakes are susceptible to disturbances including stormwater runoff from metropolitan catchment areas. For example, nutrient loading from stormwater runoff can cause eutrophication. Chlorophyll-a concentration is an important water quality parameter because it can be used to assess water quality and determine trophic state. Chlorophyll-a is known to be impacted by a number of environmental factors including precipitation and associated runoff. Previous studies indicate that the relationship between precipitation and chlorophyll-a is complex and often site-specific. In this study, we examined the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation in an urban, tropical lake located in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. Chlorophyll-a, precipitation, and several basic water quality parameters were sampled at five stations during the 2022 rainy season. The data indicate that chlorophyll-a concentrations are negatively correlated with recent precipitation ($r^2=0.71$, $p<0.05$). This relationship is likely a result of dilution from increased lake volume. Although urban runoff is expected to increase nutrient loading, our monitoring indicates that dilution can mediate this process. Our findings suggest that timing matters when monitoring water quality in tropical, urban lakes. Sampling immediately following heavy precipitation and stormwater runoff can lead to an underestimation of normal chlorophyll-a concentrations. Further studies are necessary to better understand these urban aquatic ecosystems to continue to improve future management efforts.

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The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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c. Cover Letter

May 12, 2023

Dear *Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use* editors:

Please consider the attached manuscript, “***Chlorophyll-a variation in response to precipitation in a tropical urban lake***”, for publication as an original article in an upcoming issue of *Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use*. The research described within was conducted as part of my research work at the Mulawarman University-Indonesia in collaboration with a scientist from the University of Arizona-USA.

Chlorophyll-a concentration is an important water quality parameter because it can be used to assess water quality and determine trophic state. Chlorophyll-a is known to be impacted by a number of environmental factors including precipitation and associated runoff. Previous studies indicate that the relationship between precipitation and chlorophyll-a is complex and often site-specific. We examined the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation in an urban, tropical lake located in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. Our findings suggest that timing matters when monitoring water quality in tropical, urban lakes. Sampling immediately following heavy precipitation and stormwater runoff can lead to an underestimation of normal chlorophyll-a concentrations.

We hope this study will expand our understanding on the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation in urban tropical lake worldwide.

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1	Chlorophyll-a variation in response to precipitation in a tropical urban lake	
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Abstract

With increasing urbanization, urban lakes are becoming more common and serve as important flood control infrastructure, recreational uses, as well as habitat for a variety of biota. However, given their construction, function, and location, urban lakes are susceptible to disturbances including stormwater runoff from metropolitan catchment areas. For example, nutrient loading from stormwater runoff can cause eutrophication. Chlorophyll-a concentration is an important water quality parameter because it can be used to assess water quality and determine trophic state. Chlorophyll-a is known to be impacted by a number of environmental factors including precipitation and associated runoff. Previous studies indicate that the relationship between precipitation and chlorophyll-a is complex and often site-specific. In this study, we examined the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation in an urban, tropical lake located in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. Chlorophyll-a, precipitation, and several basic water quality parameters were sampled at five stations during the 2022 rainy season. The data indicate that chlorophyll-a concentrations are negatively correlated with recent precipitation ($r^2=0.71$, $p<0.05$). This relationship is likely a result of dilution from increased lake volume. Although urban runoff is expected to increase nutrient loading, our monitoring indicates that dilution can mediate this process. Our findings suggest that timing matters when monitoring water quality in tropical, urban lakes. Sampling immediately following heavy precipitation and stormwater runoff can lead to an underestimation of normal chlorophyll-a concentrations. Further studies are necessary to better understand these urban aquatic ecosystems to continue to improve future management efforts.

Keywords: chlorophyll-a, precipitation, lake, lentic, Samarinda, Kalimantan, Indonesia

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64 stormwater runoff typically originates from impervious surfaces and often comes into
 65 contact with human organic waste, it can collect larger amount of nutrients than runoff in
 66 less developed areas (Miller et al., 2014). Because they function as retention rather than
 67 flow conveyance, urban lakes are typically more sensitive to nitrogen and phosphorus
 68 loading from stormwater runoff than rivers or streams (Kakade et al., 2021). Therefore,
 69 water quality changes resulting from this nutrient loading can be a concern for managers,
 70 especially when the urban lake is used for recreation or water storage for consumptive use.
 71 Increases in urban development can result in nutrient loading that promotes rapid algal
 72 growth, destabilizes ecological balance, and impairs lake water quality (Qin et al., 2013;
 73 Alprol et al., 2021), which could not only exceed thresholds for aquatic biota but might also
 74 exceed health standards for humans.

75 Phytoplankton, also known as microalgae, are similar to terrestrial plants in that
 76 they contain chlorophyll-a as an essential photosynthetic pigment and require sunlight and
 77 carbon dioxide in order to live and grow. The excessive growth of phytoplankton due to
 78 nutrient enrichment can lead to eutrophication, which is the condition of imbalanced
 79 primary and secondary productivity and a faster rate of succession from natural to higher
 80 seral stage (Khan and Ansari, 2005). Eutrophication can lead to harmful algal blooms, dead
 81 zones, and fish kills (Wurtsbaugh et al., 2019). The concentration of chlorophyll-a in water
 82 helps quantify phytoplankton levels, which can be used as an indicator to assess trophic
 83 status and water quality (Devercelli and Peruchet, 2008; Cunha et al., 2013).

84 In recent years, many studies observed the spatial and temporal distribution of
 85 chlorophyll-a and its relation with multiple environmental factors (Filazzola et al., 2020).
 86 Precipitation was predicted as an important environmental factor that affects chlorophyll-a

concentration in lake water, among other environmental factors such as nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations, geographic location, and water temperature (Filazzola et al., 2020; Huang et al., 2022) However, little is known how precipitation (within a short temporal period) affects phytoplankton dynamics. Previously published studies typically report the relationship between phytoplankton concentrations and precipitation at monthly or annual scales (Wu et al., 2021; Huang et al., 2022), thus the finer temporal resolution often important to managers is not well understood. Furthermore, these studies typically use data generated from earth system modeling rather than on-the-ground measurements, limiting applicability to smaller, more dynamic bodies of water such as urban lakes.

In this study, our objective was to identify the fine-scale temporal relationship between chlorophyll-a concentration and precipitation based on *in situ* measurements in a tropical, urban lake. Two competing predictions were tested: precipitation and subsequent stormwater runoff 1) increase chlorophyll-a concentration through nutrient addition, or 2) decrease chlorophyll-a concentration through dilution.

Methodology

Site Description

Samarinda is the capital city of East Kalimantan Province, which is the wealthiest province in Indonesia due to revenue from oil and gas production. With a 2020 population density of 1,147 people/km² (BPS Kota Samarinda, 2020), Samarinda is highly urbanized and is the most developed part of the province. This increasing urbanization combined with other factors such as topography, climate, soil type, and limited runoff/drainage infrastructure, this city routinely suffers from flooding in lowland areas (Suryadi, 2020). One flood control measure implemented by city managers and administrators was the

110 construction of urban lakes to catch and store stormwater runoff. Constructed in 2004, Air
 111 Hitam Lake has been used for both flood control as well as for recreation, is known to have
 112 occasional water quality issues (Hamdhani et al., 2023), and is the subject of our study.
 113 This urban lake has a total area of 60,500 m² and an estimated volume of 120,000 m³ with a
 114 perimeter of 1,203 m. The surrounding area of the lake consists of a mixture of residential
 115 and commercial buildings. Surrounding the lake are a concrete road, pedestrian walkway,
 116 and on most sides a 10-15m wide, vegetation buffer zone with grasses and trees. The
 117 maximum depth of the lake varies between 2-3 m in the middle, but is approximately 1 m
 118 deep near the perimeter. The city regularly dredges the lake to maintain storage capacity for
 119 flood control. This lake has no outlet, but there are two concrete inlets that convey runoff
 120 from the city, however, this inflow volume is unmeasured. Human organic waste from
 121 untreated sewage systems can also drain into the lake. Sewage inputs are unknown, but are
 122 assumed to vary in relation to precipitation and runoff.

123 *Data collection*

124 Chlorophyll-a concentration was measured *in situ* through the *in vivo* chlorophyll
 125 method using a fluorometer (FluoroSense™). This method has been tested effective for
 126 rapid chlorophyll-a monitoring (Hamdhani et al., 2021). This *in situ* application reduces
 127 potential chlorophyll-a concentration changes associated with the required time to transport
 128 and prepare the sample when using traditional extraction methods (Hamdhani et al., 2021).

129 Using the calibrated fluorometer, chlorophyll-a measurements were taken at five
 130 stations in the Air Hitam Lake (Fig. 1). At each station, surface water samples were
 131 collected from the top 20cm of the lake using a 1L container. Measurements were taken
 132 using the fluorometer in the sample container following protocols documented in

Hamdhani et al. (2021). Lake sampling occurred from October to December 2022 during the rainy season. Two measurements were taken per month. Due to potential diurnal variation in measured chlorophyll-a concentrations, sampling occurred consistently from 4:00 to 5:00pm in the afternoon. Precipitation was recorded using an electronic tipping bucket (Model WH0531) that was placed near the Air Hitam Lake, following standard rain-gauge installation protocols (Brooks et al., 1997). Concurrent with chlorophyll-a and precipitation measurements, several basic water quality parameters were also quantified: turbidity (SPER Scientific turbidity meter model 860040), dissolved oxygen (DO) (Apera Instruments AI480 DO850 probe), water temperature, pH, electric conductivity (EC), and total dissolved solids (TDS) (Apera Instruments SX823-B multiprobe). Phosphate was measured by collecting 750 ml water from each station, and transported immediately to the Water Quality Laboratory of the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science, Mulawarman University. Ascorbic acid method using a spectrophotometer (US-EPA., 1978) was applied to quantify phosphate (PO_4) concentration.

Data analysis

We measured the chlorophyll-a concentration and examine the relationship with total precipitation within the four days prior to sampling. The four-day precipitation accumulation was chosen based on two months of pre-monitoring using an installed meter scale for measuring lake depth. The result indicated that 5 or more days following precipitation, the water surface level of Air Hitam Lake returned to its normal surface level. Therefore, the 4-day period encompasses a stronger relationship with runoff. To test our hypotheses, we used linear regression analysis using statistical program R (version 3.5.1: R Core Team, 2019) to determine the trend and significance of precipitation (independent

variable) in affecting chlorophyll-a concentration (dependent variable). Because turbidity and nutrient (phosphate) concentrations also impact chlorophyll-a levels, we also ran regressions with those as well.

Results and discussion

Basic water quality

Our water quality data presented in Table 1 showed that pH was high, ranging from 8.80-9.76, showing slightly alkaline conditions throughout our study period. This pH level is most likely impacted by the discharge of domestic wastewater which generally contains surfactant found in detergents or cleaning products (Bajpai 2007; Siyal et al., 2020). In Samarinda City, the discharged domestic wastewater into the city drainage system was untreated, consequently ending up in the nearby water bodies including the Air Hitam Lake. A similar tendency of high pH has been reported in urban water bodies receiving significant concentrations of domestic wastewater (Ustaoğlu et al., 2017; Al-Ani et al., 2022). The pH level in the lake was slightly above the optimal range of 6.5 to 8.5 to support sensitive aquatic life as suggested by the US-EPA (2013). However, lower pH values indicating acidity are typically more detrimental to aquatic biota than high pH values like those found in Air Hitam Lake. Zang et al. (2011) reported that the relationship between pH and chlorophyll-a was complex and sometimes inconclusive, in certain conditions such as at high chlorophyll-a concentration ($>10\mu\text{g/L}$), the correlation between the two was significantly positive.

Measured dissolved oxygen levels fluctuated widely between 3.79 to 16.63 mg/L. Persistent cloudy weather that occurred in the beginning of the study (including when the first two samples were taken) could be responsible for relatively low dissolved oxygen

179 levels in the beginning compared to later samples. The weather on the other sampling days
 180 was relatively sunny, likely increasing photosynthesis rates and subsequent dissolved
 181 oxygen. Dissolved oxygen concentrations below 3 mg/L are of concern for most aquatic
 182 organisms (US-EPA, 2022). Photosynthetic activities by microalgae led to the production
 183 of large amounts of oxygen causing an increase in dissolved oxygen in the water. Under
 184 non-aquaculture waters with a chlorophyll-a concentration greater than 10 µg/L, Zang et al.
 185 (2011) reported a significant positive correlation between chlorophyll-a and dissolved
 186 oxygen. In our studied lake, we found that the average concentration of dissolved oxygen
 187 was mostly high; this might have resulted from corresponding photosynthetic activities,
 188 indicated by high chlorophyll-a concentrations. Although we did not sample at night, we
 189 expect that this algal driven dissolved oxygen levels would decrease dramatically when
 190 photosynthesis stopped and respiration began.

191 Water temperature ranged between 29.2 and 32.7°C, indicating that the lake water
 192 should be capable support tropical, aquatic organisms, including microalgae. Singh and
 193 Singh (2015) observed that 20 to 30°C is the optimum temperature for general microalgae
 194 species growth. In a temperate lake, Elliott et al. (2006) reported that elevated temperature
 195 contributed to the increase of phytoplankton biomass, however, nutrient loading was
 196 identified as the most prominent factor. Lake surface water temperature can be influenced
 197 by precipitation rate. Yang et al. (2021) reported that rate of precipitation was positively
 198 correlated with surface water temperature in an urban lake that drained majority impervious
 199 surfaces.

200 Total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity tolerance limits are usually not
 201 given for fish and other aquatic organisms, although they can be used as a water pollution

indicator (Das et al., 2006; Pal et al., 2015). The values of our total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity measurements were typically lower than values reported in other urban tropical lakes (Sri Lanka: Weerasinghe and Handapangoda, 2019) but were very similar to those reported in Malaysia (Hossain and Mahmud, 2019).

Turbidity ranged between 29.1 and 79.3 NTU. The relationship between turbidity and chlorophyll-a concentration is complex. Decreased water clarity can limit sunlight penetration, which can result in photosynthesis limitations. Consequently, when microalgae are unable to carry out photosynthesis, chlorophyll-a concentrations can decrease (Irigoien and Castel, 1997). However, the concentration of chlorophyll-a in a lake can also impact turbidity. When the eutrophication level is high, this algal growth can contribute to increased turbidity, which can result in reduced water clarity (measured by secchi disk) (Gulati and Van Donk, 2002). It is important to understand that other factors can also influence the concentration of chlorophyll-a in water, such as nutrient availability and water temperature (Carrick et al., 1994). Therefore, while there may be a correlation between turbidity and chlorophyll-a, it is not always direct or consistent. The specific threshold for acceptable turbidity levels can vary depending on the intended use of the water body, such as drinking water, recreational activities, or aquatic biota habitat. In general, lower levels of turbidity are typically preferred as they indicate clearer and cleaner water. In Indonesia, there are no national turbidity limits for water quality, but turbidity is regulated in other countries, for example, Australia, Canada, and USA (Collins et al., 2011). Several published studies suggest that considering allowable increases of turbidity in clearwater systems for fish and wildlife, no more than 25 NTU above natural in streams and no more than 5 NTU

224 above natural in lakes (Lloyd, 1987; Collins et al., 2011). Turbidity levels in Air Hitam
225 Lake were consistently higher than these levels.

226 Anthropogenic driven nutrient enrichment of lakes has profound impacts on
227 phytoplankton blooms. In a hypereutrophic lake in Turkey (Çelik, 2006) reported that
228 chlorophyll-a showed significant positive correlations with phosphate concentrations during
229 rainy seasons. Similarly, in a Swedish lake warming period, there was a concurrent increase
230 in both phosphate and chlorophyll-a levels (Pettersson et al., 2003). Phosphate
231 concentration in Air Hitam Lake ranged between 0.052 and 0.246 mg/L. According to
232 Indonesia water quality monitoring regulation (PP RI No. 2/2021), concentration of 0.1
233 mg/L phosphate is the upper threshold to conduct aquaculture in lentic system.

234 Chlorophyll-a is one of the essential component in determining lake trophic status.
235 The trophic state of aquatic ecosystems provides crucial information, as it indicates the
236 relative health of the water body including the impact of human activity on water quality
237 and the ecological processes of water bodies, including lakes, and reservoirs. Trophic state
238 indices are useful in understanding phytoplankton development, which are indicated by
239 chlorophyll-a concentration and are typically governed by the availability of nutrients and
240 light (Carlson, 1977). Moreover, Mehner et al. (2005) reported that level of chlorophyll-a
241 concentration is an important factor to determine fish community composition, in addition
242 to maximum and mean depth and volume of German lakes. In tropical regions, a
243 concentration of 10.1 µg/L and above indicates that lake or reservoir is in eutrophic state
244 (Cunha et al., 2013). In our sampling of Air Hitam Lake, the chlorophyll-a concentration
245 ranged between 18.6 and 116.67 µg/L indicating that it was consistently eutrophic.

246 *Chlorophyll-a response*

247 According to the result, chlorophyll-a in the water showed a significant negative
 248 correlation with the total precipitation ($r^2=0.71$, $p=0.035$) (Fig. 3A), meaning that the
 249 increase in the total precipitation resulted in a chlorophyll-a concentration decrease. We
 250 posit that mechanism at play here is dilution. This result is in line with the relationship
 251 between chlorophyll-a and precipitation reported by Jeong et al. (2011), who observed that
 252 summer rainfall had suppressed the high concentration of chlorophyll-a in a regulated river.
 253 However, Huang et al. (2022) reported the opposite in Chinese lakes: chlorophyll-a
 254 concentration in water was positively correlated with monthly precipitation. Positive
 255 relationships between precipitation and chlorophyll-a are assumed to be driven by the
 256 scouring effect of runoff, which transports nutrients from soils (mainly phosphorus) to
 257 lakes (Carpenter et al., 1998; Ekholm et al., 2012). In fact, mineral iron in the soil may also
 258 play an indirect effect on chlorophyll-a concentration by regulating nutrient contents such
 259 as phosphorus in the lake water (Tang et al., 2019). Interestingly, we observed that
 260 increases in total precipitation resulted in lower phosphate concentration (Fig. 2). This
 261 relationship between total precipitation and phosphate concentration helps explain why
 262 chlorophyll-a concentration responded negatively toward total precipitation (Fig. 3A) as
 263 phosphate concentration is typically positively correlated with chlorophyll-a production as
 264 seen in this study (Fig. 3C), although the regression was not significant ($r^2=0.59$, $p=0.072$).
 265 Tang et al. (2019) reported that intense rainfall can decrease the time water stays in a
 266 particular water body and increase water movement, which can lead to a decrease in the
 267 concentration of phosphorus in the water.

268 In the area surrounding Air Hitam Lake, there are no specific activities, other than
 269 wastewater discharge, that potentially contribute to the addition of high nutrient contents in

runoff (i.e. no industrial activities, urban agriculture, city slaughterhouse, etc.). Direct stormwater runoff to the lake potentially discharge larger amounts of nutrients from soils and eventually could elevate algae growth (Huang et al., 2022). Our result suggests that inflows from the inlets and direct stormwater runoff post four-day precipitation carried too little nutrients to increase the chlorophyll-a concentration in that time period. Municipal infrastructure in Samarinda City is not fully developed, and many stretches of drainage systems, for runoff and sewage, are not lined. As a result, infiltration rates are expected to be higher compared to concrete lined or piped conveyance systems. Consequently, under normal conditions, very little if any sewage discharges into Air Hitam Lake. However, during rainy periods, we observed that sewage inflows into the lake typically increased with heavy runoff. Despite increases in sewage input, we did not observe predictable, corresponding changes in measured nutrient concentrations (Fig. 2). Similar to chlorophyll-a concentrations, we suspect this was also due to dilution.

Turbidity can create a shadowing effect that can reduce photosynthesis and retard algal growth as well as chlorophyll-a concentration (Wang, 1974; Park and Kang, 2006), so we also tested the relationship between turbidity and chlorophyll-a concentration (Table 1 and Fig. 3B). Interestingly, it resulted a positive correlation between the two variables ($r=0.79$, $p=0.063$), however, the correlation was not significant. Using an identical probe, Hamdhani et al. (2021) observe similar positive trend between turbidity and chlorophyll-a concentration. Moreover, Fig. 2 shows that the accumulated rainfall had a negative trend toward turbidity, indicating that stormwater runoff carried relatively little soil (silt) particles. In this case, the precipitation runoff increased the water dilution and likely suppressing turbidity levels, similar to phosphate and chlorophyll-a concentration.

Overall, precipitation was the only significant predictor for chlorophyll-a (Table 2). The dilution from precipitation runoff likely plays an important role in Air Hitam Lake and other tropical, urban lakes, demonstrating that variations in chlorophyll-a concentration were likely affected more by dilution than by other factors. For example, the highest average of chlorophyll-a, turbidity, and phosphate levels were observed when there was zero accumulated precipitation (Figure 2). The roles of precipitation to improve water quality by diluting substance concentration in lentic systems have also been reported in other studies (Moses et al., 2011; Wu et al., 2017; Han and Bu, 2023). Finally, our findings indicate that in tropical, urban lakes, intense precipitation and resulting stormwater runoff can moderate eutrophication. This knowledge also can help managers appropriately time water quality measurements to better reflect the conditions of tropical, urban lakes.

Conclusion

In this study, the short-term relation between chlorophyll-a and the total precipitation was investigated. In the tropical urban constructed lake, we found that recent, total precipitation resulted in a significant negative correlation with the concentration of the chlorophyll-a. Our investigation indicated that although runoff increases connectivity between sewage discharge and Air Hitam Lake, the resulting nutrient loading and silt loading was relatively small. Furthermore, our findings suggest that total precipitation elevated lake water dilution, thus decreasing chlorophyll-a concentration.

Our data indicates that monitoring of chlorophyll-a in urban lakes following recent precipitation and runoff likely underestimates the normal chlorophyll-a concentration present in the system. This underestimation has implications for managers who monitor lakes for eutrophication in accordance with ecological and recreational goals and

316 guidelines. Although the trends observed in Air Hitam Lake appear to mirror those from
 317 other tropical urban lakes, additional research can help fine tune our understanding of these
 318 relationships. Additional research should examine other environmental factors under a
 319 variety of conditions such as longer-term scenarios that might encompass any delayed
 320 effects from runoff as well as different lake sizes and types of lake construction.

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325 **References**

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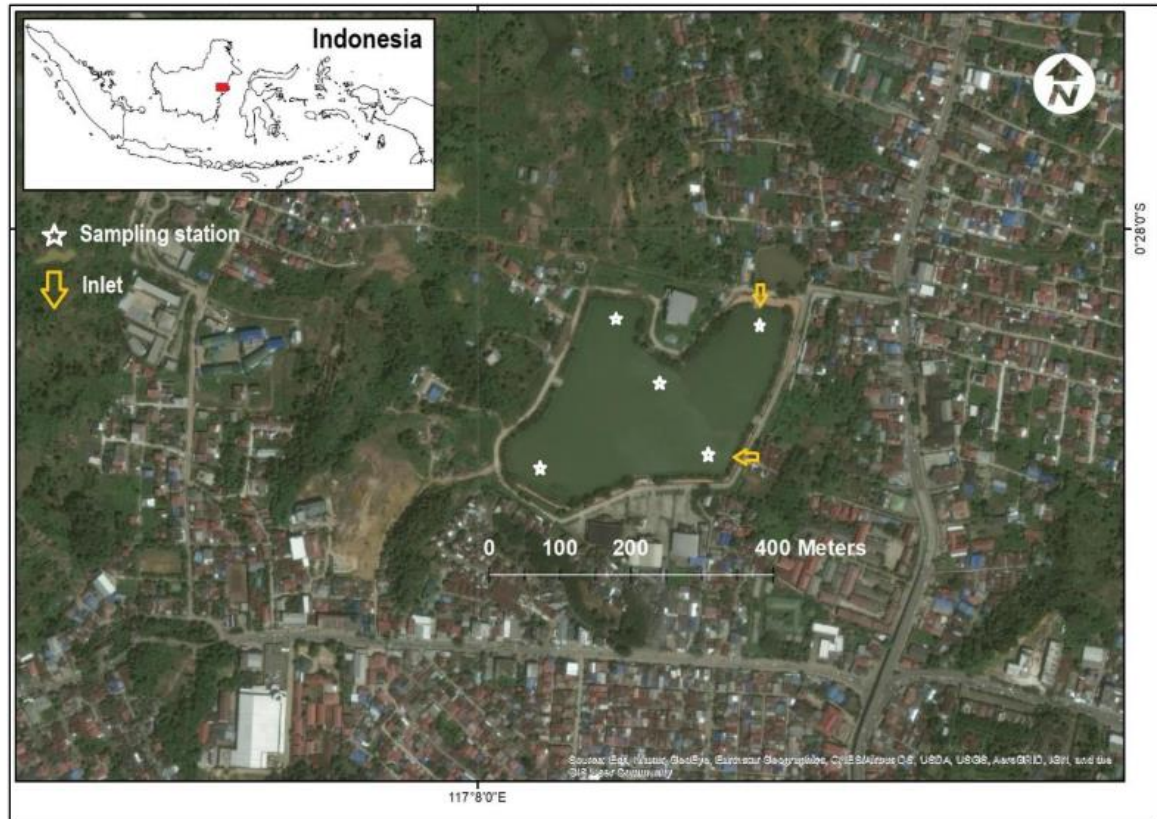
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 484

Table 1 Water quality data from Air Hitam Lake from sampling on October 24, 2022 to December 12, 2022. Mean, maximum, and minimum values are reported.

Parameters		Date					
		24-Oct	31-Oct	7-Nov	21-Nov	5-Dec	12-Dec
pH	Mean	9.05	9.30	9.31	9.17	9.57	9.62
	Min	8.80	9.26	9.04	8.90	9.15	9.45
	Max	9.34	9.39	9.47	9.40	9.76	9.75
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Mean	4.41	5.53	10.85	10.03	11.80	13.48
	Min	3.79	4.85	8.90	9.36	9.61	11.20
	Max	5.00	6.35	12.63	11.44	13.10	16.63
Temperature (°C)	Mean	30.3	30.8	29.5	31.1	30.6	30.1
	Min	29.3	30.3	29.2	29.6	30.0	30.0
	Max	31.5	31.3	29.8	32.7	31.1	30.3
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	Mean	146.00	159.40	172.20	151.00	173.80	180.60
	Min	145	158	171	146	172	179
	Max	147	161	173	158	176	182
Conductivity (µS/cm)	Mean	292.20	318.80	345.00	301.80	347.80	362.00
	Min	290	317	341	291	343	359
	Max	295	322	347	315	351	365
Turbidity (NTU)	Mean	40.00	53.08	65.19	33.24	42.61	38.39
	Min	34.70	43.78	53.00	29.10	33.90	36.70
	Max	44.58	70.66	79.30	37.40	54.60	40.23
Phosphate (mg/L)	Mean	0.069	0.073	0.166	0.075	0.125	0.205
	Min	0.052	0.059	0.137	0.052	0.106	0.070
	Max	0.085	0.091	0.246	0.096	0.155	0.670
Chlorophyll-a (µg/L)	Mean	27.31	41.60	57.39	19.80	44.36	45.00
	Min	23.33	23.33	26.30	18.60	33.60	36.60
	Max	31.60	62.33	116.67	21.60	56.60	55.60
Total 4-day Precipitation (mm)		16.80	5.70	0.30	11.70	0.90	7.40

Table 2 Summary of linear regression for total 4-day precipitation (mm), turbidity (NTU), and phosphate (mg/L) predictors with chlorophyll-a concentration in Air Hitam Lake. Results include beta estimates (Estimates), confidence interval (CI), R^2 , adjusted R^2 , and p-value. Bold indicates significant p-values with $\alpha < 0.05$

Predictors	Estimates	CI	R^2	R^2 adjusted	p-value
(Intercept)	52.02	37.37 – 66.68	0.709	0.636	0.001
Precipitation	-1.79	-3.39 – -0.20			0.035
(Intercept)	-2.12	-48.24 – 44.00	0.621	0.526	0.905
Turbidity	0.91	-0.08 – 1.90			0.063
(Intercept)	12.57	-19.89 – 45.04	0.595	0.493	0.343
Phosphate	269.88	-39.51 – 579.27			0.073

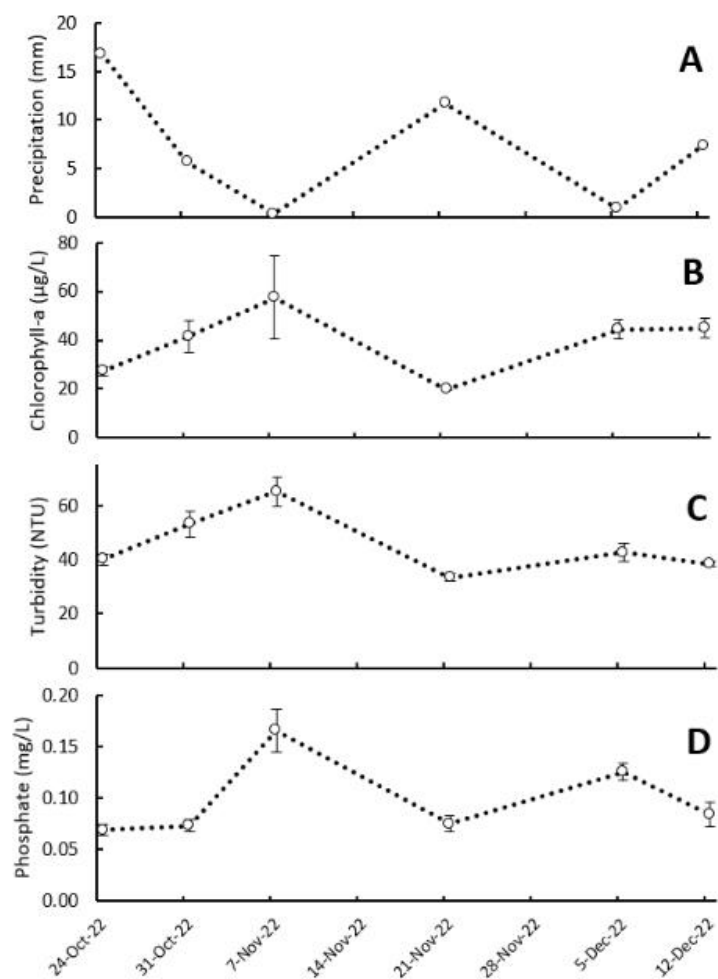


495

496 **Figure 1** Map showing Air Hitam Lake study site in Samarinda City, Indonesia with five

497 sampling stations denotes by white stars and two inlets denoted by yellow arrows.

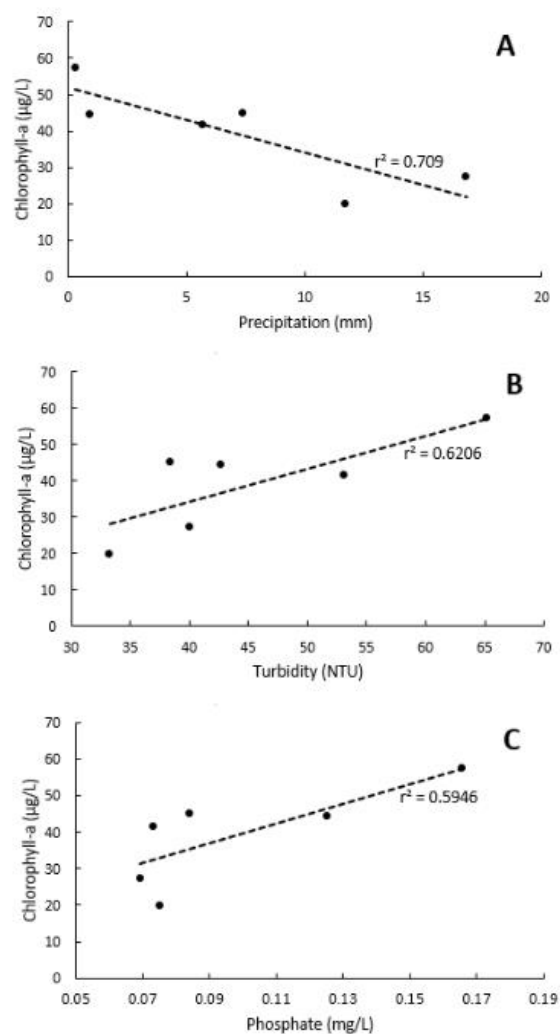
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499

500 **Figure 2** Plots illustrating A) 4-day total precipitation (mm) and B) average chlorophyll-a
 501 concentration ($\mu\text{g/L}$), C) turbidity (NTU), and D) phosphate concentration (mg/L) from five
 502 stations at Air Hitam Lake. Error bars indicate the Standard Error.

503



504

505 **Figure 3** Scatter plots showing the relationship between Air Hitam Lake mean chlorophyll-

506 a concentration (µg/L) with A) 4-day total precipitation (mm), B) mean turbidity (NTU),

507 and C) mean phosphate concentration (µg/L). Dashed black line denotes the line of best fit.

508

2	Notifikasi Revisi 1	11 Agustus 2023	a) Email konfirmasi dan korespondensi dengan co-author b) Laman Revisi 1 di akun jurnal
a.	5/3/26, 10:40 PM Universitas Mulawarman Mail - Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use - Decision on Manuscript...  Hamdhani Hamdhani <hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id> Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use - Decision on Manuscript ID LRE-23-024 9 messages LRE EO Temp <onbehalf@manuscriptcentral.com> Reply-To: lre.eo@wiley.com To: hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id Cc: lre.eo@wiley.com Sat, Aug 12, 2023 at 11:03 AM 11-Aug-2023 Dear Dr. Hamdhani: Manuscript ID: # LRE-23-024 Title: "Chlorophyll-a variation in response to precipitation in a tropical urban lake" Thank you for submitting your manuscript to Lakes and Reservoirs: Research and Management. Your paper has been assessed by the editor and reviewed independently. After careful deliberation, it has been concluded that your manuscript is not suitable in its present form for publication in the Journal. Among the review comments was that lake water quality depends on many other factors, other than precipitation alone, and that the Introduction needs better justification as to why precipitation might lead to changes in algal biomass, and why urban lakes might respond differently to precipitation than other lakes. It also was questioned whether or not the study lake was representative of many tropical urban lakes. Focusing on six sampling events within a single two-month period also was questioned, suggesting the sampling timing may not be representative of a temporally dynamic system. The need to take dilution effects related to precipitation events, and how they might influence both nutrient and phytoplankton concentrations requires further discussion. Additional review comments are provided below. Please substantially revise your manuscript to appropriately address the review comments. You can then submit the revised manuscript for further publication consideration. If you choose to do so, please also clearly indicate how you addressed each review comment (e.g., different font style or color). Wiley Editing Services Available to All Authors Should you be interested, Wiley Editing Services offers expert help with manuscript, language, and format editing, along with other article preparation services. You can learn more about this service option at www.wileyauthors.com/eoo/preparation. You can also check out Wiley's collection of free article preparation resources for general guidance about writing and preparing your manuscript at www.wileyauthors.com/eoo/prepresources. For your reference, the comments of the reviewer(s) are included at the end of this email. Yours sincerely, Prof. Walter Rast (Editor-in-Chief) Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author: Reviewer: 1 Comments to the Author General comments This study analyzed the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation for a tropical urban lake in Indonesia. Precipitation is certainly one factor affecting lake water quality, but the connection is somewhat indirect and depends on many other factors (nutrient availability in the lake, nutrient concentration of runoff, etc.). The introduction makes the case that we don't have a good understanding of this relationship, especially for small urban lakes, but it could do a better job explaining why precipitation might lead to changes in algal biomass, and why urban lakes might respond differently to https://mail.google.com/mail/u/3/?ik=35ace941da&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f:1773990765074456609&simpl=msg-f:17739907650744566... 1/5		

precipitation than other lakes.

Moreover, the authors should provide justification for using this lake as a case study. Is it likely to be representative of many tropical urban lakes? Or is it likely that each lake would have unique relationships between precipitation and chlorophyll?

The data presented here are from 6 sampling events within a 2-month period in 2022. As such, it is difficult to tease apart any general relationships for this lake from, for example, normal seasonal trends. The conclusion that timing of sampling matters seems trivial in a temporally dynamic system.

Specific comments:

Line 30: Is it worth listing these "basic water quality parameters"?

Lines 45-54: This connection between urban stream syndrome and urban lakes needs to be better developed. Explain how changes in hydrology and geomorphology of urban streams might affect water quality in urban lakes. Also, in many cities streams have been buried and are part of the stormwater infrastructure, which may drain directly into urban lakes. So whether or not an urban lake is fed by surficial streams may be an important factor in processing incoming nutrients.

Line 65: Explain why runoff on impervious surfaces results in water coming into contact with human organic waste. This would probably vary across different cities, depending on wastewater infrastructure.

Lines 98-100: I like that the authors present alternative hypotheses, but these are not really competing—both could certainly be true, albeit at slightly different timescales.

Line 119: No outlet—is evaporation sufficient to prevent overflow? Or is the lake designed for infiltration/groundwater recharge?

Lines 148-153: The four-day rainfall window is based on hydrology (lake levels being elevated for up to four days following rain events), but it doesn't take into account temporal dynamics of phytoplankton growth. I wonder how that effects the analysis.

Lines 156-158: Turbidity could affect algal growth if due to sediment inputs, for example, but phytoplankton may also account for much of the turbidity.

Line 176: It would be good to also report DO as % saturation.

Line 221: "published"

Lines 247-250: You could take this analysis one step further. How much did chlorophyll concentrations decrease on average? Does the amount of dilution (relative increase in lake water volume) fully account for this decrease?

Line 254: Monthly precipitation is a very different temporal resolution, and probably is not a good comparison.

Line 260: If untreated sewage is entering the lake with stormwater runoff, that phosphorus would be primarily in organic form and would require time to mineralize and lead to increased dissolved PO₄.

Reviewer: 2

Comments to the Author

Major suggestions:

Interesting study, some comments below.

The main finding of this study is that precipitation more than nutrients influence the variation of chlorophyll-a concentrations in Air Hitam Lake. It is likely that this phenomenon may or may not be observed in other urban water bodies. Importantly, maximum levels of nutrients can be set during periods of low rainfall. Therefore, the abstract and manuscript can be finished with a recommendation to take into account dilution effects when studying and managing aquatic ecosystems at the areas with abundant precipitation, not only further studies.

Table 2 demonstrates high enough correlation between chl-a and phosphate concentrations. This relationship was not statistically sufficient because of the low number of the observations as mean values from 5 sampling stations were used. But if the observations from each station would be used this relation will be statistically sufficient. Precipitation influences concentrations of both phosphate and chl-a in the same way (Table 1). Thus decrease of nutrient concentration by dilution can be a reason for phytoplankton (chl-a) decreased abundance too.

Line 199. It can be added that in this study weak relation is observed between precipitation amounts and temperature.

Minor.

Line 65. larger amounts of nutrients

Line 101. Replace "Methodology" with "Methods and materials".

Page 23, Move "Conductivity" from the line 31 to line 29.

Hamdhani Hamdhani <hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id>

Sun, Aug 13, 2023 at 11:10 PM

To: Drew Eppehimer <deppehimer@gmail.com>, "Eppehimer, Drew Elliot - (deppehimer)" <deppehimer@arizona.edu>

Hi Drew,

Finally we have got a response from the Journal of Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use.

The good news, it is not rejected, so we have a chance to revise it. I am very excited about this.

Can we have a brief zoom meeting today or tomorrow, or the time that works for you?

This time, morning Tucson time (6am-9am) is good for me.

Please let me know ;-)

The attached file is the initial submitted version.

Thank you,

[Quoted text hidden]



Hamdhani et al 2023-Manuscript.docx

646K

Drew Eppehimer <deppehimer@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 14, 2023 at 3:28 AM

To: Hamdhani Hamdhani <hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id>

Great news!

hmmmm let me look over all this

maybe tomorrow Monday Aug14th at 8:30am arizona time?

[Quoted text hidden]

Hamdhani Hamdhani <hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id>

Mon, Aug 14, 2023 at 2:31 PM

To: Drew Eppehimer <deppehimer@gmail.com>

Sounds good, talk to you then.

Thank you Drew

FPIK UNMUL is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: FPIK UNMUL"s Ruang Rapat Pribadi

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3/5

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Abstract

With increasing urbanization, urban lakes are becoming more common and serve as important flood control infrastructure, recreational uses, as well as habitat for a variety of biota. However, given their construction, function, and location, urban lakes are susceptible to disturbances including stormwater runoff from metropolitan catchment areas. For example, nutrient loading from stormwater runoff can cause eutrophication. Chlorophyll-a concentration is an important water quality parameter because it is used to assess water quality and determine trophic state. Chlorophyll-a is known to be impacted by a number of environmental factors including precipitation and associated runoff. Previous studies indicate that the relationship between precipitation and chlorophyll-a is complex and often site-specific. In this study, we examined the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation in an urban, tropical lake located in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. From October through December 2022, chlorophyll-a, turbidity, phosphate (PO₄), pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, total dissolved solids, and conductivity were measured at five stations in Air Hitam Lake, and precipitation was measured adjacent to the lake. These data indicated that chlorophyll-a concentrations were negatively correlated with recent precipitation ($r^2=0.71$, $p<0.05$). This relationship was likely a result of dilution from increased lake volume. Although urban runoff is expected to increase nutrient loading, our monitoring indicated that dilution can mediate this process in the short-term. Our findings suggest that timing matters when monitoring water quality in tropical, urban lakes. Sampling immediately following heavy precipitation and stormwater runoff can lead to an underestimation of normal chlorophyll-a concentrations due to dilution. As a result, dilution effects should be examined when studying and managing urban lentic ecosystems with strong precipitation dynamics. Further studies are necessary to better

understand these urban aquatic ecosystems to continue to improve future management efforts.

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Keywords

water pollution; lentic; Samarinda; Kalimantan; Indonesia

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a.	Manuskrip hasil Revisi 1 1 1 Chlorophyll-a variation in response to precipitation in a tropical urban lake 2 3 Hamdhani Hamdhani^{1*}, Musyjiir Sharaha¹, Drew E. Eppehimer², Samsul Rizal³ 4 5 ¹Department of Aquatic Resources Management, Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science - 6 Mulawarman University, Samarinda, Indonesia 7 ²School of Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, 8 United States 9 ³Department of Aquaculture, Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science - Mulawarman 10 University, Samarinda, Indonesia 11 12 *Corresponding author: hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id (H. Hamdhani) 13 14 Present Address: Gedung Fakultas Perikanan dan Ilmu Kelautan-Universitas Mulawarman, 15 Jl. Gunung Tabur, Kampus Gunung Kuhua, Samarinda 75242, Kalimantan Timur - 16 Indonesia 17		

Abstract

With increasing urbanization, urban lakes are becoming more common and serve as important flood control infrastructure, recreational uses, as well as habitat for a variety of biota. However, given their construction, function, and location, urban lakes are susceptible to disturbances including stormwater runoff from metropolitan catchment areas. For example, nutrient loading from stormwater runoff can cause eutrophication. Chlorophyll-a concentration is an important water quality parameter because it can be used to assess water quality and determine trophic state. Chlorophyll-a is known to be impacted by a number of environmental factors including precipitation and associated runoff. Previous studies indicate that the relationship between precipitation and chlorophyll-a is complex and often site-specific. In this study, we examined the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation in an urban, tropical lake located in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. Chlorophyll-a, precipitation, and several basic water quality parameters were sampled at five stations during the 2022 rainy season. From October through December 2022, chlorophyll-a, turbidity, phosphate (PO₄), pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, total dissolved solids, and conductivity were measured at five stations in Air Hitam Lake, and precipitation was measured adjacent to the lake. The These data indicate that chlorophyll-a concentrations are negatively correlated with recent precipitation ($r^2=0.71$, $p<0.05$). This relationship is likely a result of dilution from increased lake volume. Although urban runoff is expected to increase nutrient loading, our monitoring indicates that dilution can mediate this process. Our findings suggest that timing matters when monitoring water quality in tropical, urban lakes. Sampling immediately following heavy precipitation and stormwater runoff can lead to an underestimation of normal chlorophyll-a concentrations due to

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44 [normal chlorophyll-a concentrations.](#) Further studies are necessary to better understand
45 these urban aquatic ecosystems to continue to improve future management efforts.
46 **Keywords:** chlorophyll-a, precipitation, lake, lentic, Samarinda, Kalimantan, Indonesia

47 **Introduction**

48 The world is becoming increasingly urbanized resulting in a myriad of effects on
49 ecosystems (Elmqvist et al., 2013). Concomitant with increases in urbanization are
50 increases in the abundance of urban water bodies (Strokal et al., 2021). Urban water bodies,
51 both lentic and lotic, are characterized by higher influence from anthropogenic activities
52 and as a result have altered ecosystems that may require different monitoring standards than
53 natural systems (Schueler dan Simpson, 2001; Naselli-Flores, 2008). Consistent patterns of
54 alterations that occur in urbanized streams/rivers have been identified by Walsh et al.
55 (2005) and defined as the “urban stream syndrome”, whose characteristics include a
56 flashier hydrograph, altered channel morphology and stability, and elevated concentrations
57 of nutrients and contaminations. [A multitude of sources within urban watersheds, including](#)
58 [municipal wastewater discharges, malfunctioning septic systems, and sewage overflows,](#)
59 [contribute to secondary nutrient loading in urban streams \(Naselli-Flores, 2008\).](#) These
60 urban stream syndrome characteristics have frequently been documented in temperate
61 regions but are also likely to occur in tropical regions and in different types of water bodies,
62 including lakes (Yule et al., 2015; Lee et al., 2019).

63 Compared to lakes in subtropical and temperate regions, lakes in tropical areas are
64 characterized by high and frequent precipitation, which subsequently increases the intensity
65 of runoff entering the lakes (Alemu et al., 2020). This addition of water volume from
66 precipitation runoff can also increase the dilution of various dissolved substances in the
67 lake (Moses et al., 2015). In tropical regions, elevated solar radiation also plays a
68 significant in lake dynamics. The air temperature in tropical regions relatively remains high
69 throughout the year and affects the lake's surface water temperature and evaporation rate
70 (Talling, 2001; Alemu et al., 2020; de Farias Mesquita et al., 2020). In an African natural
71 non-urban tropical lake, Rooney et al. (2018) reported that on days with precipitation, the
72 lake water volume increased rapidly, and the surface water temperature of the lake
73 decreased. However, Yang et al. (2021) reported that rate of precipitation was positively
74 correlated with surface water temperature in an urban lake that drained majority impervious
75 surfaces. These results show that urban lakes can have different temperature and
76 precipitation responses than natural lakes. Water temperature is an important factor in
77 various metabolic processes in water bodies, including photosynthesis occurring in aquatic
78 plants, algae, and various types of bacteria in the water (Lewis, 2010).

79 Urban lakes differ from natural lakes in a number of ways. For example, they are
80 usually smaller and shallower, and the majority are man-made, also known as constructed
81 lakes (Schueler dan Simpson, 2001). As constructed lakes, their water bodies tend to have
82 geometric shapes and often function as flood control infrastructure, water storage, and/or
83 for recreational uses (Naselli-Flores, 2008). These constructed lakes often have
84 area/drainage area of at least 10:1, meaning that the catchment area strongly influences the
85 lake (Schueler dan Simpson, 2001). The rainfall-discharge variation in the catchment area

86 drives water quality dynamics in corresponding water bodies (Jakeman and Hornberger,
87 1993), and this relationship is more pronounced in urban lentic systems. Because urban
88 stormwater runoff typically originates from impervious surfaces and often comes into
89 contact with human organic waste, it can collect larger amount of nutrients than runoff in
90 less developed areas (Miller et al., 2014). The situation varies among different cities
91 worldwide, as it is largely contingent upon the presence of stormwater and wastewater
92 infrastructure. A significant number of urban areas globally suffer from inadequate or
93 absence of wastewater infrastructure (Hamdhani et al., 2020). Even developed cities face
94 problems associated with increased nutrient loading. For example, in an urban lake in
95 London, United Kingdom, Birch and McCaskie (1999) found that inputs from River
96 Thames increased phosphates resulting in eutrophication. Across the globe, from
97 developing to fully developed nations, urbanization has resulted in large scale watershed
98 changes to both rivers and lakes (Schueler dan Simpson, 2001). Because they often
99 function as retention rather than flow conveyance, urban lakes are typically more sensitive
100 to nitrogen and phosphorus loading from stormwater runoff than rivers or streams (Kakade
101 et al., 2021). Therefore, water quality changes resulting from this nutrient loading can be a
102 concern for managers, especially when the urban lake is used for recreation or water
103 storage for consumptive use. Increases in urban development can result in nutrient loading
104 that promotes rapid algal growth, destabilizes ecological balance, and impairs lake water
105 quality (Qin et al., 2013; Alprol et al., 2021), which could not only exceed thresholds for
106 aquatic biota but might also exceed health standards for humans.

107 Phytoplankton, also known as microalgae, are similar to terrestrial plants in that

109 carbon dioxide in order to live and grow. The excessive growth of phytoplankton due to
110 nutrient enrichment can lead to eutrophication, which is the condition of imbalanced
111 primary and secondary productivity and a faster rate of succession from natural to higher
112 seral stage (Khan and Ansari, 2005). Eutrophication can lead to harmful algal blooms, dead
113 zones, and fish kills (Wurtsbaugh et al., 2019). The concentration of chlorophyll-a in water
114 helps quantify phytoplankton levels, which can be used as an indicator to assess trophic
115 status and water quality (Devercelli and Peruchet, 2008; Cunha et al., 2013).

116 In recent years, many studies observed the spatial and temporal distribution of
117 chlorophyll-a and its relation with multiple environmental factors (Filazzola et al., 2020).
118 Precipitation was predicted as an important environmental factor that affects chlorophyll-a
119 concentration in lake water, among other environmental factors such as nitrogen and
120 phosphorus concentrations, geographic location, and water temperature (Filazzola et al.,
121 2020; Huang et al., 2022). Precipitation potentially can influence the concentration of
122 chlorophyll-a in water through dilution mechanisms that cause a decrease in chlorophyll-a
123 and nutrient concentrations (Moses et al., 2015), and conversely, it can also increase
124 chlorophyll-a concentrations through increased nutrient loading from runoff (Silva et al.,
125 2019). Therefore, we assume that urban lakes can respond very differently to precipitation
126 depending on context. This depends on the characteristics of the urban lake, such as its size,
127 water source, catchment area, and the pollution level in this area.

128 However, little is known how precipitation (within a short temporal period) affects
129 phytoplankton dynamics. Previously published studies typically report the relationship
130 between phytoplankton concentrations and precipitation at monthly or annual scales
131 (Tonetta et al., 2017; Wu et al., 2021; Huang et al., 2022), thus the finer temporal resolution

often important to managers is not well understood. Furthermore, these studies typically use data generated from earth system modeling rather than on-the-ground measurements, limiting applicability to smaller, more dynamic bodies of water such as urban lakes.

In this study, our objective was to identify the fine-scale temporal relationship between chlorophyll-a concentration and precipitation based on *in situ* measurements in a tropical, urban lake. Air Hitam Lake, a man-made, urban lake located in Samarinda City, East Kalimantan, Indonesia, was chosen as a case study as it is relatively small and shallow, is fed primarily by stormwater runoff, and is located in the middle of the city, which is representative of many urban lakes in tropical regions. Two ~~competing~~ predictions were tested: precipitation and subsequent stormwater runoff 1) increase chlorophyll-a concentration through nutrient addition, or 2) decrease chlorophyll-a concentration through dilution.

Methods and materials~~Methodology~~

Site Description

Samarinda is the capital city of East Kalimantan Province, which is the wealthiest province in Indonesia due to revenue from oil and gas production. With a 2020 population density of 1,147 people/km² (BPS Kota Samarinda, 2020), Samarinda is highly urbanized and is the most developed part of the province. This increasing urbanization combined with other factors such as topography, climate, soil type, and limited runoff/drainage infrastructure, this city routinely suffers from flooding in lowland areas (~~Suryadi~~, 2020). One flood control measure implemented by city managers and administrators was the construction of urban lakes to catch and store stormwater runoff. Constructed in 2004, Air Hitam Lake has been used for both flood control as well as for recreation, is known to have

occasional water quality issues (Hamdhani et al., 2023), and is the subject of our study. This urban lake has a total area of 60,500 m² and an estimated volume of 120,000 m³ with a perimeter of 1,203 m. The surrounding area of the lake consists of a mixture of ~~residential~~ and commercial buildings. Surrounding the lake are a concrete road, pedestrian walkway, and on most sides a 10-15m wide, vegetation buffer zone with grasses and trees. The maximum depth of the lake varies between 2-3 m in the middle, but is approximately 1 m deep near the perimeter. The city regularly dredges the lake to maintain storage capacity for flood control. This lake has no outlet, but there are two concrete inlets that convey runoff from the city, however, this inflow volume is unmeasured. Human organic waste from untreated sewage systems can also drain into the lake. Sewage inputs are unknown, but are assumed to vary in relation to precipitation and runoff.

Data collection

Chlorophyll-a concentration was measured *in situ* through the *in vivo* chlorophyll method using a fluorometer (FluoroSense™). This method has been tested effective for rapid chlorophyll-a monitoring (Hamdhani et al., 2021). This *in situ* application reduces potential chlorophyll-a concentration changes associated with the required time to transport and prepare the sample when using traditional extraction methods (Hamdhani et al., 2021).

Using the calibrated fluorometer, chlorophyll-a measurements were taken at five stations in the Air Hitam Lake (Fig. 1). At each station, surface water samples were collected from the top 20cm of the lake using a 1L container. Measurements were taken using the fluorometer in the sample container following protocols documented in Hamdhani et al. (2021). [Lake sampling occurred from October to December 2022 during the period technically considered the “wet season”; however, Kalimantan/Borneo Island](#)

178 does not have a pronounced wet/dry season as is characteristic in the rest of the Indonesia
 179 archipelago (Cleary, 2011). As a result, this characteristic allowed our limited (3-month)
 180 sampling period to be representative of the year-round tropical climate conditions. Lake
 181 sampling occurred from October to December 2022 during the rainy season. Two
 182 measurements were taken per month. Due to potential diurnal variation in measured
 183 chlorophyll-a concentrations, sampling occurred consistently from 4:00 to 5:00pm in the
 184 afternoon. Precipitation was recorded using an electronic tipping bucket (Model WH0531)
 185 that was placed near the Air Hitam Lake, following standard rain-gauge installation
 186 protocols (Brooks et al., 1997). Concurrent with chlorophyll-a and precipitation
 187 measurements, several basic water quality parameters were also quantified: turbidity (SPER
 188 Scientific turbidity meter model 860040), dissolved oxygen (DO) (Apera Instruments
 189 AI480 DO850 probe), water temperature, pH, electric conductivity (EC), and total
 190 dissolved solids (TDS) (Apera Instruments SX823-B multiprobe). Phosphate was measured
 191 by collecting 750 ml water from each station, and transported immediately to the Water
 192 Quality Laboratory of the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science, Mulawarman
 193 University. Ascorbic acid method using a spectrophotometer (US-EPA., 1978) was applied
 194 to quantify phosphate (PO_4) concentration.

195 *Data analysis*

196 We measured the chlorophyll-a concentration and examine the relationship with
 197 total precipitation within the four days prior to sampling. The four-day precipitation
 198 accumulation was chosen based on two months of pre-monitoring using an installed meter
 199 scale for measuring lake depth. The result indicated that 5 or more days following
 200 precipitation, the water surface level of Air Hitam Lake returned to its normal surface level.

201 Therefore, the 4-day period encompasses a stronger relationship with runoff. To test our
202 hypotheses, we used linear regression analysis using statistical program R (version 3.5.1: R
203 Core Team, 2019) to determine the trend and significance of precipitation (independent
204 variable) in affecting chlorophyll-a concentration (dependent variable). Because turbidity
205 and nutrient (phosphate) concentrations also impact chlorophyll-a levels [and vice versa](#), we
206 also ran regressions with those as well.

207 **Results and discussion**

208 *Basic water quality*

209 Our water quality data presented in Table 1 showed that pH was high, ranging from
210 8.80-9.76, showing slightly alkaline conditions throughout our study period. This pH level
211 is most likely impacted by the discharge of domestic wastewater which generally contains
212 surfactant found in detergents or cleaning products (Bajpai 2007; Sival et al., 2020). In
213 Samarinda City, the discharged domestic wastewater into the city drainage system was
214 untreated, consequently ending up in the nearby water bodies including the Air Hitam
215 Lake. A similar tendency of high pH has been reported in urban water bodies receiving
216 significant concentrations of domestic wastewater (Ustaoglu et al., 2017; Al-Ani et al.,
217 2022). The pH level in the lake was slightly above the optimal range of 6.5 to 8.5 to support
218 sensitive aquatic life as suggested by the US-EPA (2013). However, lower pH values
219 indicating acidity are typically more detrimental to aquatic biota than high pH values like
220 those found in Air Hitam Lake. Zang et al. (2011) reported that the relationship between
221 pH and chlorophyll-a was complex and sometimes inconclusive, in certain conditions such
222 as at high chlorophyll-a concentration ($>10\mu\text{g/L}$), the correlation between the two was
223 significantly positive.

224 Measured dissolved oxygen levels fluctuated widely between 3.79 to 16.63 mg/L.
 225 Persistent cloudy weather that occurred in the beginning of the study (including when the
 226 first two samples were taken) could be responsible for relatively low dissolved oxygen
 227 levels in the beginning compared to later samples. The weather on the other sampling days
 228 was relatively sunny, likely increasing photosynthesis rates and subsequent dissolved
 229 oxygen. Dissolved oxygen concentrations below 3 mg/L are of concern for most aquatic
 230 organisms (US-EPA, 2022). Photosynthetic activities by microalgae led to the production
 231 of large amounts of oxygen causing an increase in dissolved oxygen in the water. Under
 232 non-aquaculture waters with a chlorophyll-a concentration greater than 10 µg/L, Zang et al.
 233 (2011) reported a significant positive correlation between chlorophyll-a and dissolved
 234 oxygen. In our studied lake, we found that the average concentration of dissolved oxygen
 235 was mostly high; this might have resulted from corresponding photosynthetic activities,
 236 indicated by high chlorophyll-a concentrations. Although we did not sample at night, we
 237 expect that this algal driven dissolved oxygen levels would decrease dramatically when
 238 photosynthesis stopped and respiration began.

239 Water temperature ranged between 29.2 and 32.7°C, indicating that the lake water
 240 should be capable support tropical, aquatic organisms, including microalgae. Singh and
 241 Singh (2015) observed that 20 to 30°C is the optimum temperature for general microalgae
 242 species growth. In a temperate lake, Elliott et al. (2006) reported that elevated temperature
 243 contributed to the increase of phytoplankton biomass, however, nutrient loading was
 244 identified as the most prominent factor. Lake surface water temperature can be influenced
 245 by precipitation rate. Yang et al. (2021) reported that rate of precipitation was positively
 246 correlated with surface water temperature in an urban lake that drained majority impervious

247	surfaces. <u>However, in contrast our surface water temperature was not significantly</u>	Hamdhani Hamdhani Formatted: Not Highlight
248	<u>correlated with the rate of precipitation ($R^2 = 0.14$, $P\text{-value} = 0.47$).</u>	
249	Total dissolved solids and electrical conductivity tolerance limits are usually not	
250	given for fish and other aquatic organisms, although they can be used as a water pollution	
251	indicator (Das et al., 2006; Pal et al., 2015). The values of our total dissolved solids and	
252	electrical conductivity measurements were typically lower than values reported in other	
253	urban tropical lakes (Sri Lanka: Weerasinghe and Handapangoda, 2019) but were very	
254	similar to those reported in Malaysia (Hossain and Mahmud, 2019).	
255	Turbidity ranged between 29.1 and 79.3 NTU. The relationship between turbidity	
256	and chlorophyll-a concentration is complex. Decreased water clarity can limit sunlight	
257	penetration, which can result in photosynthesis limitations. Consequently, when microalgae	
258	are unable to carry out photosynthesis, chlorophyll-a concentrations can decrease (Irigoien	
259	and Castel, 1997). However, the concentration of chlorophyll-a in a lake can also impact	
260	turbidity. When the eutrophication level is high, this algal growth can contribute to	
261	increased turbidity, which can result in reduced water clarity (measured by secchi disk)	
262	(Gulati and Van Donk, 2002). It is important to understand that other factors can also	
263	influence the concentration of chlorophyll-a in water, such as nutrient availability and water	
264	temperature (Carrick et al., 1994). Therefore, while there may be a correlation between	
265	turbidity and chlorophyll-a, it is not always direct or consistent. The specific threshold for	
266	acceptable turbidity levels can vary depending on the intended use of the water body, such	
267	as drinking water, recreational activities, or aquatic biota habitat. In general, lower levels of	
268	turbidity are typically preferred as they indicate clearer and cleaner water. In Indonesia,	
269	there are no national turbidity limits for water quality, but turbidity is regulated in other	

270 countries, for example, Australia, Canada, and USA (Collins et al., 2011). Several
271 published studies suggest that considering allowable increases of turbidity in clearwater
272 systems for fish and wildlife, no more than 25 NTU above natural in streams and no more
273 than 5 NTU above natural in lakes (Lloyd, 1987; Collins et al., 2011). However, the
274 baseline of turbidity for lakes in Samarinda City is not available. Turbidity levels in Air
275 Hitam Lake were consistently higher than these levels.

276 Anthropogenic driven nutrient enrichment of lakes has profound impacts on
277 phytoplankton blooms. In a hypereutrophic lake in Turkey (Celik, 2006) reported that
278 chlorophyll-a showed significant positive correlations with phosphate concentrations during
279 rainy seasons. Similarly, in a Swedish lake warming period, there was a concurrent increase
280 in both phosphate and chlorophyll-a levels (Pettersson et al., 2003). Phosphate
281 concentration in Air Hitam Lake ranged between 0.052 and 0.246 mg/L. According to
282 Indonesia water quality monitoring regulation (PP RI No. 2/2021), concentration of 0.1
283 mg/L phosphate is the upper threshold to conduct aquaculture in lentic system.

284 Chlorophyll-a is one of the essential component in determining lake trophic status.
285 The trophic state of aquatic ecosystems provides crucial information, as it indicates the
286 relative health of the water body including the impact of human activity on water quality
287 and the ecological processes of water bodies, including lakes, and reservoirs. Trophic state
288 indices are useful in understanding phytoplankton development, which are indicated by
289 chlorophyll-a concentration and are typically governed by the availability of nutrients and
290 light (Carlson, 1977). Moreover, Mehner et al. (2005) reported that level of chlorophyll-a
291 concentration is an important factor to determine fish community composition, in addition
292 to maximum and mean depth and volume of German lakes. In tropical regions, a

293	concentration of 10.1 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and above indicates that lake or reservoir is in eutrophic state	Hamdhani Hamdhani Formatted: Not Highlight
294	(Cunha et al., 2013). In our sampling of Air Hitam Lake, the chlorophyll-a concentration	
295	ranged between 18.6 and 116.67 $\mu\text{g/L}$ indicating that it was consistently eutrophic.	
296	<i>Chlorophyll-a response</i>	
297	According to the result, chlorophyll-a in the water showed a significant negative	
298	correlation with the total precipitation ($r^2=0.71$, $p=0.035$) (Fig. 3A), <u>meaning that total</u>	
299	<u>precipitation of one mm resulted in an average chlorophyll-a concentration decrease of 1.8</u>	
300	<u>$\mu\text{g/L}$ meaning that the increase in the total precipitation resulted in a chlorophyll-a</u>	
301	<u>concentration decrease</u> . We posit that mechanism at play here is dilution. This result is in	
302	line with the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation reported by Jeong et al.	
303	(2011), who observed that summer rainfall had suppressed the high concentration of	
304	chlorophyll-a in a regulated river. However, Huang et al. (2022) reported the opposite in	
305	Chinese lakes: chlorophyll-a concentration in water was positively correlated with monthly	
306	precipitation. Positive relationships between precipitation and chlorophyll-a are assumed to	
307	be driven by the scouring effect of runoff, which transports nutrients from soils (mainly	
308	phosphorus) to lakes (Carpenter et al., 1998; Ekholm et al., 2012). In fact, mineral iron in	
309	the soil may also play an indirect effect on chlorophyll-a concentration by regulating	
310	nutrient contents such as phosphorus in the lake water (Tang et al., 2019). Interestingly, we	
311	observed that increases in total precipitation resulted in lower phosphate concentration (Fig.	
312	2). This relationship between total precipitation and phosphate concentration helps explain	
313	why chlorophyll-a concentration responded negatively toward total precipitation (Fig. 3A)	
314	as phosphate concentration is typically positively correlated with chlorophyll-a production	
315	as seen in this study (Fig. 3C), although the regression was not significant ($r^2=0.59$,	

	316 $p=0.072$). Phosphorus is sourced from both inorganic phosphates released from soil 317 particles in lakes due to stormwater runoff and organic phosphates from untreated sewage, 318 also influenced by precipitation. Inorganic phosphate-solubilizing bacteria play a key role 319 by secreting organic acids like lactic acid, glycine, oxalic acid, and citric acid, which act as 320 chelating agents, converting less soluble phosphate cations into more soluble forms (Ternan 321 et al., 1998). Organic phosphorus undergoes a process called mineralization, facilitated by 322 extracellular phosphatases produced by bacteria that specialize in breaking down organic 323 phosphates (Ternan et al., 1998). These enzymes release bioavailable phosphates from 324 organic sediments, thereby contributing to the acceleration of lake eutrophication (Zhou et 325 al., 2008; Song et al., 2009). Tang et al. (2019) reported that intense rainfall can decrease 326 the time water stays in a particular water body and increase water movement, which can 327 lead to a decrease in the concentration of phosphorus in the water. 328 In the area surrounding Air Hitam Lake, there are no specific activities, other than 329 wastewater discharge, that potentially contribute to the addition of high nutrient contents in 330 runoff (i.e. no industrial activities, urban agriculture, city slaughterhouse, etc.). Direct 331 stormwater runoff to the lake potentially discharge larger amounts of nutrients from soils 332 and eventually could elevate algae growth (Huang et al., 2022). Our result suggests that 333 inflows from the inlets and direct stormwater runoff post four-day precipitation carried too 334 little nutrients to increase the chlorophyll-a concentration in that time period. Municipal 335 infrastructure in Samarinda City is not fully developed, and many stretches of drainage 336 systems, for runoff and sewage, are not lined. As a result, infiltration rates are expected to 337 be higher compared to concrete lined or piped conveyance systems. Consequently, under 338 normal conditions, very little if any sewage discharges into Air Hitam Lake. However,	Hamdhani Hamdhani Formatted: Not Highlight
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339 during rainy periods, we observed that sewage inflows into the lake typically increased with
340 heavy runoff. Despite increases in sewage input, we did not observe predictable,
341 corresponding changes in measured nutrient concentrations (Fig. 2). Similar to chlorophyll-
342 a concentrations, we suspect this was also due to dilution.

343 Turbidity can create a shadowing effect that can reduce photosynthesis and retard
344 algal growth as well as chlorophyll-a concentration (Wang, 1974; Park and Kang, 2006), so
345 we also tested the relationship between turbidity and chlorophyll-a concentration (Table 1
346 and Fig. 3B). Interestingly, it resulted a positive correlation between the two variables
347 ($r=0.79$, $p=0.063$), however, the correlation was not significant. Using an identical probe,
348 Hamdhani et al. (2021) observe similar positive trend between turbidity and chlorophyll-a
349 concentration. Moreover, Fig. 2 shows that the accumulated rainfall had a negative trend
350 toward turbidity, indicating that stormwater runoff carried relatively little soil (silt)
351 particles. In this case, the precipitation runoff increased the water dilution and likely
352 suppressing turbidity levels, similar to phosphate and chlorophyll-a concentration.

353 Overall, precipitation was the only significant predictor for chlorophyll-a (Table 2).
354 The dilution from precipitation runoff likely plays an important role in Air Hitam Lake and
355 other tropical, urban lakes, demonstrating that variations in chlorophyll-a concentration
356 were likely affected more by dilution than by other factors. For example, the highest
357 average of chlorophyll-a, turbidity, and phosphate levels were observed when there was
358 zero accumulated precipitation (Figure 2). The roles of precipitation to improve water
359 quality by diluting substance concentration in lentic systems have also been reported in
360 other studies (Moses et al., 2011; Wu et al., 2017; Han and Bu, 2023). Finally, our findings
361 indicate that in tropical, urban lakes, intense precipitation and resulting stormwater runoff

362 can moderate eutrophication. This knowledge also can help managers appropriately time
363 water quality measurements to better reflect the conditions of tropical, urban lakes.

364 **Conclusion**

365 In this study, the short-term relation between chlorophyll-a and the total
366 precipitation was investigated. In the tropical urban constructed lake, we found that recent,
367 total precipitation resulted in a significant negative correlation with the concentration of the
368 chlorophyll-a. Our investigation indicated that although runoff increases connectivity
369 between sewage discharge and Air Hitam Lake, the resulting nutrient loading and silt
370 loading was relatively small. Furthermore, our findings suggest that total precipitation
371 elevated lake water dilution, thus decreasing chlorophyll-a concentration.

372 Our data indicates that monitoring of chlorophyll-a in urban lakes following recent
373 precipitation and runoff likely underestimates the normal chlorophyll-a concentration
374 present in the system. This underestimation has implications for managers who monitor
375 lakes for eutrophication in accordance with ecological and recreational goals and

376 guidelines. When examining and overseeing urban, lentic ecosystems in regions with ample
377 rainfall, it is essential to consider the impact of dilution factors. Although the trends
378 observed in Air Hitam Lake appear to mirror those from other tropical urban lakes,
379 additional research can help fine tune our understanding of these relationships. Additional
380 research should examine other environmental factors under a variety of conditions such as
381 longer-term scenarios that might encompass any delayed effects from runoff as well as
382 different lake sizes and types of lake construction.

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Table 1 Water quality data from Air Hitam Lake from sampling on October 24, 2022 to December 12, 2022. Mean, maximum, and minimum values are reported.

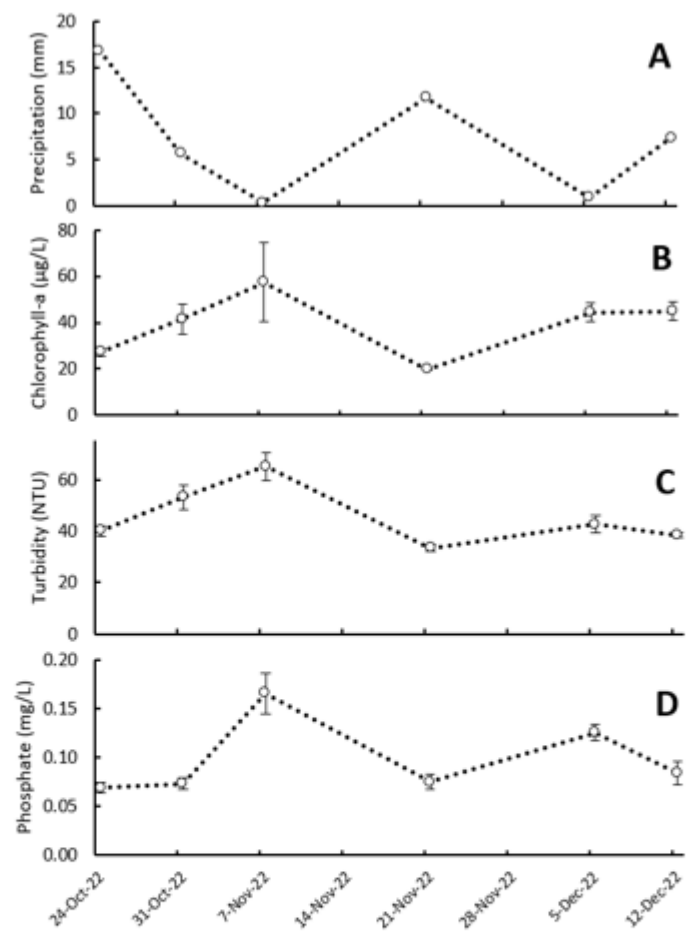
Parameters		Date					
		24-Oct	31-Oct	7-Nov	21-Nov	5-Dec	12-Dec
pH	Mean	9.05	9.30	9.31	9.17	9.57	9.62
	Min	8.80	9.26	9.04	8.90	9.15	9.45
	Max	9.34	9.39	9.47	9.40	9.76	9.75
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Mean	4.41	5.53	10.85	10.03	11.80	13.48
	Min	3.79	4.85	8.90	9.36	9.61	11.20
	Max	5.00	6.35	12.63	11.44	13.10	16.63
Temperature (°C)	Mean	30.3	30.8	29.5	31.1	30.6	30.1
	Min	29.3	30.3	29.2	29.6	30.0	30.0
	Max	31.5	31.3	29.8	32.7	31.1	30.3
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	Mean	146.00	159.40	172.20	151.00	173.80	180.60
	Min	145	158	171	146	172	179
	Max	147	161	173	158	176	182
Conductivity (µS/cm)	Mean	292.20	318.80	345.00	301.80	347.80	362.00
	Min	290	317	341	291	343	359
	Max	295	322	347	315	351	365
Turbidity (NTU)	Mean	40.00	53.08	65.19	33.24	42.61	38.39
	Min	34.70	43.78	53.00	29.10	33.90	36.70
	Max	44.58	70.66	79.30	37.40	54.60	40.23
Phosphate (mg/L)	Mean	0.069	0.073	0.166	0.075	0.125	0.205
	Min	0.052	0.059	0.137	0.052	0.106	0.070
	Max	0.085	0.091	0.246	0.096	0.155	0.670
Chlorophyll-a (µg/L)	Mean	27.31	41.60	57.39	19.80	44.36	45.00
	Min	23.33	23.33	26.30	18.60	33.60	36.60
	Max	31.60	62.33	116.67	21.60	56.60	55.60
Total 4-day Precipitation (mm)		16.80	5.70	0.30	11.70	0.90	7.40

Table 2 Summary of linear regression for total 4-day precipitation (mm), turbidity (NTU), and phosphate (mg/L) predictors with chlorophyll-a concentration in Air Hitam Lake. Results include beta estimates (Estimates), confidence interval (CI), R^2 , adjusted R^2 , and p-value. Bold indicates significant p-values with $\alpha < 0.05$

Predictors	Estimates	CI	R^2	R^2 adjusted	p-value
(Intercept)	52.02	37.37 – 66.68	0.709	0.636	0.001
Precipitation	-1.79	-3.39 – -0.20			0.035
(Intercept)	-2.12	-48.24 – 44.00	0.621	0.526	0.905
Turbidity	0.91	-0.08 – 1.90			0.063
(Intercept)	12.57	-19.89 – 45.04	0.595	0.493	0.343
Phosphate	269.88	-39.51 – 579.27			0.073



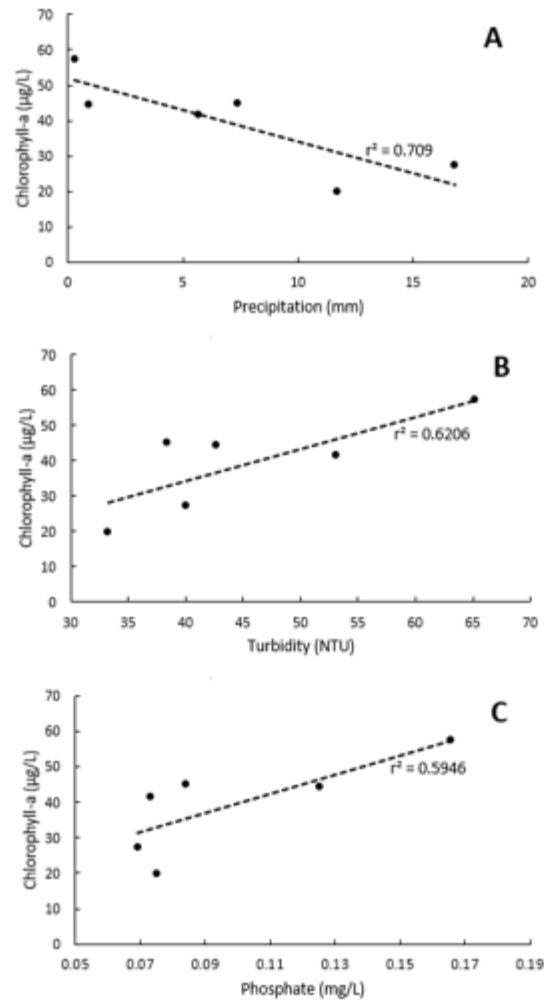
598
 599 **Figure 1** Map showing Air Hitam Lake study site in Samarinda City, Indonesia with five
 600 sampling stations denotes by white stars and two inlets denoted by yellow arrows.
 601



602

603 **Figure 2** Plots illustrating A) 4-day total precipitation (mm) and B) average chlorophyll-a
 604 concentration (µg/L), C) turbidity (NTU), and D) phosphate concentration (mg/L) from five
 605 stations at Air Hitam Lake. Error bars indicate the Standard Error.

606



607

608 **Figure 3** Scatter plots showing the relationship between Air Hitam Lake mean chlorophyll-
 609 a concentration (µg/L) with A) 4-day total precipitation (mm), B) mean turbidity (NTU),
 610 and C) mean phosphate concentration (µg/L). Dashed black line denotes the line of best fit.

611

c. **Respon kepada reviewer**

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

Reviewer: 1

Comments to the Author

General comments

This study analyzed the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation for a tropical urban lake in Indonesia. Precipitation is certainly one factor affecting lake water quality, but the connection is somewhat indirect and depends on many other factors (nutrient availability in the lake, nutrient concentration of runoff, etc.). The introduction makes the case that we don't have a good understanding of this relationship, especially for small urban lakes, but it could do a better job explaining why precipitation might lead to changes in algal biomass, and why urban lakes might respond differently to precipitation than other lakes.

H: Yes, we agree. These are the main findings and significance to our research, so it should be better supported. We have added more context and citations to justify relationship between precipitation and algal biomass and also why urban lake response might be site-specific in the Introduction section.

Moreover, the authors should provide justification for using this lake as a case study. Is it likely to be representative of many tropical urban lakes? Or is it likely that each lake would have unique relationships between precipitation and chlorophyll?

H: We have added a justification statement for using this lake as a case study (Line 134-137). We also have added clarification that this, like most research, is site specific. While the dilution effect we see in our study may hold true in other tropical urban lakes, an important covariate is nutrient additions from stormwater runoff. This will vary immensely from site to site depending on infrastructure.

The data presented here are from 6 sampling events within a 2-month period in 2022. As such, it is difficult to tease apart any general relationships for this lake from, for example, normal seasonal trends. The conclusion that timing of sampling matters seems trivial in a temporally dynamic system.

H: We have further clarified by added a citation mentioning that the tropical climate with wet and dry season characteristic is much less pronounced in Kalimantan/Borneo Island, so our October to December 2022 sampling is sufficient to represent the year-round climate condition (Line 174-178).

Specific comments:

Line 30: Is it worth listing these "basic water quality parameters"?

H: Yes, we have now listed all water quality parameters that we measured (Line 30-32).

Lines 45-54: This connection between urban stream syndrome and urban lakes needs to be better developed. Explain how changes in hydrology and geomorphology of urban streams might affect water quality in urban lakes. Also, in many cities streams have been buried and are part of the stormwater infrastructure, which may drain directly into urban lakes. So whether or not an urban lake is fed by surficial streams may be an important factor in processing incoming nutrients.

H: We agree this is an important concept as it highlights the importance of our work. So, we have added more detail regarding this connection between urban stream syndrome and urban lakes in the introduction.

Line 65: Explain why runoff on impervious surfaces results in water coming into contact with human organic waste. This would probably vary across different cities, depending on wastewater infrastructure.

H: More explanation has been added to clarify runoff process (Line 84-95).

Lines 98-100: I like that the authors present alternative hypotheses, but these are not really competing—both could certainly be true, albeit at slightly different timescales.

H: We have clarified that these predictions are for short-term responses not long-term responses. We also conducted an analyses with a longer 1 week total precipitation with chl-a and found that it was not significant. So, we will continue to use our shorter 4 day precipitation window as our metric.

Line 119: No outlet—is evaporation sufficient to prevent overflow? Or is the lake designed for infiltration/groundwater recharge?

H: Good question. Yes, the lake is designed for infiltrations so evaporation combined with infiltration/groundwater recharge sufficient to prevent overflow during the vast majority of rain events.

Lines 148-153: The four-day rainfall window is based on hydrology (lake levels being elevated for up to four days following rain events), but it doesn't take into account temporal dynamics of phytoplankton growth. I wonder how that effects the analysis.

H: It is a great question. We also ran the same regression for one-week total precipitation rather than 4 day, but the correlation with the chlorophyll-a is not significant (p-value: 0.11). There are certainly long-term dynamics at play in this and other lakes, but these were outside the scope of our study. We chose to focus on short-term responses to precipitation because of 1) this is the timeframe in which managers conduct water quality analyses and 2) there is a relative lack of published studies on short term precipitation responses in urban systems.

Lines 156-158: Turbidity could affect algal growth if due to sediment inputs, for example, but phytoplankton may also account for much of the turbidity.

H: Correct. We have now modified the sentence to accommodate this relationship (line 199).

	Line 176: It would be good to also report DO as % saturation. H: We agree that % saturation is a good metric. But unfortunately, we do not have this data available. Line 221: “published” H: Good catch. It has been corrected as suggested. Lines 247-250: You could take this analysis one step further. How much did chlorophyll concentrations decrease on average? Does the amount of dilution (relative increase in lake water volume) fully account for this decrease? H: Thank you for suggesting this point. Now, we have added the rate of chlorophyll-a decrease, resulted from the last four-day precipitation increase (Line 296-299). Unfortunately, we do not have discharge gages on the inflow into Air Hitam Lake, nor do we have measurements of infiltration rates, so we are unable to quantify the amount or rate of dilution occurring with stormwater runoff. Line 254: Monthly precipitation is a very different temporal resolution, and probably is not a good comparison. H: We certainly agree. However, we are unable to find any published studies with finer temporal resolution that can be used for comparison with our study. Accumulated monthly precipitation was the best option. Line 260: If untreated sewage is entering the lake with stormwater runoff, that phosphorus would be primarily in organic form and would require time to mineralize and lead to increased dissolved PO₄. H: Thank you for pointing this concern. We have added more clarification statements related to phosphorus cycle (Line 314-323). <u>Reviewer: 2</u> Comments to the Author Major suggestions: Interesting study, some comments below. The main finding of this study is that precipitation more than nutrients influence the variation of chlorophyll-a concentrations in Air Hitam Lake. It is likely that this phenomenon may or may not be observed in other urban water bodies. Importantly, maximum levels of nutrients can be set during periods of low rainfall. Therefore, the abstract and manuscript can be finished with a recommendation to take into account dilution effects when studying and managing aquatic ecosystems at the areas with abundant precipitation, not only further studies.

H: Yes, this is an important point that should be highlighted in our manuscript. We have included the recommendation to take into account the dilution effects in the abstract (Line 39-41) and conclusion (Line 374-375).

Table 2 demonstrates high enough correlation between chl-a and phosphate concentrations. This relationship was not statistically sufficient because of the low number of the observations as mean values from 5 sampling stations were used. But if the observations from each station would be used this relation will be statistically sufficient. Precipitation influences concentrations of both phosphate and chl-a in the same way (Table 1). Thus decrease of nutrient concentration by dilution can be a reason for phytoplankton (chl-a) decreased abundance too.

H: Our goal is to obtain an average of the lake's conditions, so from the five sampling stations, which were relatively close in proximity: approximately 200 meters away from each other. We chose to take mean values because this mirrors water quality sampling protocols used by managers.

Line 199. It can be added that in this study weak relation is observed between precipitation amounts and temperature.

H: We have added on R^2 and P -value for precipitation and water temperature (Line 247-248).

Minor.

Line 65. larger amounts of nutrients

H: It has been changed as suggested

Line 101. Replace "Methodology" with "Methods and materials".

H: It has been changed as suggested

Page 23, Move "Conductivity" from the line 31 to line 29.

H: It has been moved as suggested

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Yours sincerely,
Prof. Walter Rast

Editor-in-Chief, Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author:

Reviewer: 1

Comments to the Author

The manuscript has been revised in accordance with previous revision and needs minor corrections only.

Line 97 Change "fully developed nations" on "most developed countries"

Line 174 It needs a space "20cm"

Line 183 It needs a space "5:00pm"

Line 248 Change "P-value" on p

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Chlorophyll-a variation in response to precipitation in a tropical urban lake

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Hamdhani et al 2023-Tracked changes-red font.docx	Main Document - Tracked Changes	649 KB	Revision 2
Reponse to reviewer 1 - Nov 17.docx	Author Response	12.1 KB	Revision 2

Abstract

With increasing urbanization, urban lakes are becoming more common and serve as important flood control infrastructure, recreational uses, as well as habitat for a variety of biota. However, given their construction, function, and location, urban lakes are susceptible to disturbances including stormwater runoff from metropolitan catchment areas. For example, nutrient loading from stormwater runoff can cause eutrophication. Chlorophyll-a concentration is an important water quality parameter because it is used to assess water quality and determine trophic state. Chlorophyll-a is known to be impacted by a number of environmental factors including precipitation and associated runoff. Previous studies indicate that the relationship between precipitation and chlorophyll-a is complex and often site-specific. In this study, we examined the relationship between chlorophyll-a and precipitation in an urban, tropical lake located in East Kalimantan Province, Indonesia. From October through December 2022, chlorophyll-a, turbidity, phosphate (PO_4), pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, total dissolved solids, and conductivity were measured at five stations in Air Hitam Lake, and precipitation was measured adjacent to the lake. These data indicated that chlorophyll-a concentrations were negatively correlated with recent precipitation ($r^2=0.71$, $p<0.05$). This relationship was likely a result of dilution from increased lake volume. Although urban runoff is expected to increase nutrient loading, our monitoring indicated that dilution can mediate this process in the short-term. Our findings suggest that timing matters when monitoring water quality in tropical, urban lakes. Sampling immediately following heavy precipitation and stormwater runoff can lead to an underestimation of normal chlorophyll-a concentrations due to dilution. As a result, dilution effects should be examined when studying and managing urban lentic ecosystems with strong precipitation dynamics. Further studies are necessary to better

understand these urban aquatic ecosystems to continue to improve future management efforts.

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3. Department of Aquaculture, Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science - Mulawarman University, Samarinda, Indonesia

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Universitas Mulawarman
SAMARINDA, Indonesia

Additional Information

Is your data available?

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

Funders

No funding was received for this manuscript

Keywords

water pollution; lentic; Samarinda; Kalimantan; Borneo

Is this submission for a special issue?

No, this is not for a special issue

History

Accepted On

22 December 2023 by Editorial Office

5	Hasil Revisi 2	17 November 2023	Respon kepada reviewer
	Respon kepada reviewer Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author: Reviewer: 1 Comments to the Author The manuscript has been revised in accordance with previous revision and needs minor corrections only. Line 97 Change “fully developed nations” on “most developed countries” H: It has been changed as suggested (line 94) Line 174 It needs a space “20cm” H: A space was added (line 172) Line 183 It needs a space “5:00pm” H: A space was added (line 180) Line 248 Change “P-value” on p H: Good catch. It has been corrected as suggested (line 248)		

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Hamdhani Hamdhani <hamdhani@fpik.unmul.ac.id>

Fri, Dec 22, 2023 at 12:17 PM

To: Drew Eppehimer <deppehimer@gmail.com>

Hi Drew,

Finally accepted in a Wiley Journal ;-)

Thank you so much for your help in making the manuscript ready.

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Drew Eppehimer <deppehimer@gmail.com>

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WOOOHOOOOO!!!!!!

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Decision letter (Revision 2)

Chlorophyll-a variation in response to precipitation in a tropical urban lake

Subject Lakes & Reservoirs: Science, Policy and Management for Sustainable Use - Decision on Manuscript ID LRE-23-024.R2

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