### **RESEARCH**



# **Prediction of reservoir evaporation considering water temperature and using ANFIS hybridized with metaheuristic algorithms**

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### **Abstract**

Accurately estimating evaporation is essential for water managers to formulate efective rules and policies. The complexity arising from intricate interactions within the soil-atmosphere system makes evaporation a challenging parameter to predict. In the past decade, Machine Learning techniques rooted in soft computing have emerged as potent tools for addressing the intricacies and non-linearities in hydrology. Surprisingly, there has been no prior research exploring the impact of reservoir water temperature on evaporation modeling. Consequently, this study aimed to employ a hybridized Adaptive Neuro-Fuzzy Inference System (ANFIS) integrated with four optimization algorithms: Genetic Algorithm (GA), Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), Harris Hawks Optimization (HHO), and Salp Swarm Algorithm (SSA). The focus was on modeling the monthly evaporation of the Boukourdane Dam in Algeria for the period of September 1996 to August 2016 and examining how the reservoir's water temperature infuences model performance based on four performance indicators, Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), Mean Absolute Error (MAE), scatter index (SI) and Correlation Coefficient (R). The findings underscored the signifcance of incorporating the water temperature parameter. Among the models, ANFIS-HHO demonstrated the highest accuracy with MAE, RMSE and R values of 1.28, 1.21 mm and 0.92, respectively during test period. Moreover, results revealing a notable impact of reservoir water temperature on evaporation forecasting and the addition of this parameter provide an increase in R and decrease in RMSE about 4.54% and 17.98% respectively.

**Keywords** Evaporation prediction · Water temperature · Machine learning · Hybrid adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference system · Meta-heuristic algorithms

# **Introduction**

Evaporation is the process of converting water from a liquid state to a vapor state (Feng et al. [2020;](#page-17-0) Singh et al. [2021](#page-19-0); Moayedi et al. [2021\)](#page-18-0), and it is a key component of the water budget for reservoirs (Duan and Bastiaanssen [2017](#page-17-1); Moazenzadeh et al. [2018](#page-18-1); Friedrich et al. [2018;](#page-17-2) Allawi et al.

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[2019;](#page-17-3) Seif and Soroush [2020](#page-19-1)). Furthermore, evaporation plays an important role in reservoir management because it directly affects their storage efficiency (Piri et al. [2016a,](#page-18-2) [b](#page-18-3); Althoff et al. [2019](#page-19-2); Zhao and Gao 2019). Therefore, it is imperative to consider the volume of water lost through evaporation when designing and operating reservoirs (Khosravi et al. [2019](#page-18-4); Yaseen et al. [2020](#page-19-3); Eshetu et al. [2023](#page-17-5)). In addition, providing an accurate estimation of evaporation is crucial for water managers to develop efective key rules and policies.

Evaporation is considered the most challenging parameter to estimate due to complex interactions between the components of the soil-atmosphere system (Wang et al. [2007](#page-19-4); Rezaie-Balf et al. [2019;](#page-18-5) Shabani et al. [2020](#page-19-5); Dong et al. [2021\)](#page-17-6). The estimation of evaporation can be categorized into two main approaches. In the frst one, i.e., the direct method, evaporation is measured directly using instruments such as the pan. However, this method has its drawbacks: operational difculties (inaccessibility in some regions), limitations in instrument devices (a limited number of stations), and high installation and maintenance costs (Seif and Soroush [2020](#page-19-1); Shabani et al. [2020](#page-19-5); Abed et al. [2021\)](#page-17-7). The second approach is the indirect method, where evaporation is estimated through empirical equations based on meteorological variables such as air temperature, relative humidity, solar radiation, wind speed, and rainfall (Singh et al. [2021](#page-19-0); Ahmadi et al. [2021;](#page-17-8) Mohamadi et al. [2020](#page-18-6); Tikhamarine et al. [2019](#page-19-6)). However, also this method has limitations mainly based on climate variation and data availability (Seif and Soroush [2020](#page-19-1); Soroush et al. [2020](#page-19-7); Malik et al. [2020](#page-18-7); Dong et al. [2021](#page-17-6)).

In the last decade, Machine Learning (ML) techniques based on soft computing have been considered powerful tools to address the complexity and non-linearity in hydrology, in particular in the evaporation modeling problem (Deo et al. [2016;](#page-17-9) Ghorbani et al. [2018](#page-17-10); Rezaie-Balf et al. [2019](#page-18-5); Adnan et al. [2021a](#page-17-11), [b,](#page-17-12) [2022a;](#page-17-13) Cappelli et al. [2023;](#page-17-14) Sahoo et al. [2023;](#page-18-8) Mohammadi [2023](#page-18-9) and Eshetu et al. [2023\)](#page-17-5). These techniques, including Multilayer Perceptron (MLP), Support Vector Machines (SVM), Extreme Learning Machine (ELM), and Adaptive Neuro-Fuzzy Interface System (ANFIS), have shown their capability to develop reliable and robust intelligent predictive models of evaporation (Wang et al. [2017;](#page-19-8) Ghorbani et al. [2018](#page-17-10); Tikhamarine et al. [2019](#page-19-6); Wu et al. [2019;](#page-19-9) Shabani et al. [2020](#page-19-5); Yaseen et al. [2020\)](#page-19-3).

ANFIS is one of the powerful ML models adopted for implementing evaporation prediction. Based on the combination of Artifcial Neural Networks (ANN) and fuzzy systems (FS), ANFIS has the advantage of including all factors not involved in an ideal model while eliminating certain factors considered in physically based models (Hundecha et al. [2001](#page-18-10); Samanataray and Sahoo [2021](#page-19-10)). The capacity of ANFIS to learn and classify the input-target data is promising (Yaseen et al. [2017;](#page-19-11) Jasmine et al. [2022](#page-18-11); Haznedar and Kilinc [2022](#page-17-15); Adnan et al. [2022b\)](#page-17-16). From the literature, many researchers have employed ANFIS in the modeling of evaporation (Kisi and Ozturk [2007](#page-18-12); Shiri et al. [2011](#page-19-12); Kisi et al. [2014;](#page-18-13) Keshtegar et al. [2018](#page-18-14); Malik et al. [2017](#page-18-15); Wang et al. [2017](#page-19-8); Eray et al. [2018](#page-17-17); Maroufpoor et al. [2018;](#page-18-16) Sanikhani et al. [2018](#page-19-13)). However, the drawback of ANFIS to get trapped in a local minimum during the training phase has a high probability (Mohamadi et al. [2020](#page-18-6); Ghose et al. [2022](#page-17-18); Haznedar and Kilinc [2022](#page-17-15); Adnan et al. [2022a](#page-17-13)). Moreover, determining the best weights for membership functions has limitations (Khosravia et al. [2019](#page-18-4); Dehghani et al. [2019](#page-17-19) and Nou et al. [2020](#page-18-17)). Therefore, combining ANFIS with evolutionary and nature-inspired algorithms solves this weakness, enhances the model's performance, avoid the over parameterisation (Parsaie et al. [2019\)](#page-18-18) and fnds optimum parameters such as bias values, weight connections, linear and nonlinear parameters (Chen et al. [2017;](#page-17-20) Niu et al. [2019;](#page-18-19) Mosavi et al. [2018](#page-18-20); Alizamir et al. [2020](#page-17-21); Moghaddas et al. [2021](#page-18-21); Riahi-Madvar et al. [2021;](#page-18-22) Pham et al. [2023\)](#page-18-23).

The hybridization of ANFIS with various optimization algorithms has been employed in many research studies in the feld of hydrological modeling, such as precipitation (Azad et al. [2019;](#page-17-22) Calp [2019;](#page-17-23) Phama et al. [2020;](#page-18-24) Chaudhury et al. [2022](#page-17-24)), food prediction (Bui et al. [2018](#page-17-25); Zhou et al. [2019](#page-19-14); Sahoo et al. [2021;](#page-18-25) Tabbussum and Dar [2021;](#page-19-15) Ghose et al. [2022\)](#page-17-18), and streamfow forecasting (Yaseen et al. [2017](#page-19-11); Mohamadi et al. [2020;](#page-18-6) Riahi-Madvar et al. [2021](#page-18-22); Samanataray and Sahoo [2021](#page-19-10); Haznedar and Kilinc [2022](#page-17-15); Adnan et al. [2022a\)](#page-17-13).

To enhance the accuracy of evaporation prediction, numerous bio-inspired evolutionary algorithms are employed. Piri et al. ([2016a](#page-18-2), [b](#page-18-3)) used the Cuckoo Algorithm (CA) to train both ANFIS and ANN for predicting daily pan evaporation in Iran. Zounemat-Kermani et al. [\(2019\)](#page-19-16) integrated fve metaheuristic algorithms with the ANFIS model in evaporation modeling. They reported that the Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) and Genetic Algorithm (GA) were better at estimating evaporation compared to the Artifcial Bee Colony (ABC), Firefy Algorithm (FA), and Continuous Ant Colony Optimization (CACO). Mohamadi et al. [\(2020](#page-18-6)) used Shark Algorithm (SA) and Firefy Algorithms (FFAs) to train ANFIS, Multilayer Perceptron (MLP) models, and Radial Basis Function (RBF) models for the prediction of monthly evaporation. They found that ANFIS-FFA provided more accuracy compared to the other hybrid models. Azar et al. ([2021\)](#page-17-26) hybridized ANFIS with the Harris Hawks Optimization (HHO) algorithm and demonstrated its superior performance in evaporation modeling compared to Least Square-Support Vector Regression (LS-SVR) and ANFIS models. Seif et al. ([2022](#page-19-17)) hybridized ANFIS with four meta-heuristic algorithms: Seagull Optimization Algorithm (SOA), Crow Search Algorithm (CA), Firefy Algorithm (FA), and PSO. They used them as inputs for employing ensemble Copula-based Bayesian Model Averaging (CBMA). Additionally, this technique yielded the highest prediction accuracy. Adnan et al. [\(2022a](#page-17-13), [b\)](#page-17-16) combined ANFIS with Whale Optimization Algorithm (WOA) for predicting pan evaporation at three stations located in China. They found that the ANFIS-WOA models outperformed the Harris Hawks Optimization (HHO) and PSO algorithms. Jasmine et al. ([2022\)](#page-18-11) used the Firefy Algorithm (FFA) to train ANFIS for evaporation modeling in Arizona State, USA. They found that the ANFIS-PSO and ANFIS models were slightly better than ANFIS-FFA and ANFIS-GA. Kayhomayoon et al. [\(2022\)](#page-18-26) investigated the effect of climate change on evaporation and optimized ANFIS using the Arithmetic Optimization Algorithm (AOA) and HHO. They concluded that this hybridization had more efficiency in predicting the amount of evaporation in other reservoirs.

The temperature of water in the reservoir infuences considerably the evaporation. Reservoir characteristics such as area, depth, water quality, water temperature and water circulation, can afect the rate of evaporation (Terzi [2013](#page-19-18) and Al Domany, [2017](#page-17-27)). Knapp et al. ([1984](#page-18-27)) reported that the evaporation rate is infuenced by water temperature. Therefore, in the higher water temperature, more molecules close to the liquid surface tend to escape to the layers of air, just above this surface (Cosandey and Robinson [2012\)](#page-17-28). Thus, the process of evaporation has a positive correlation with air temperature and water temperature; in other words, in the case of higher temperature of air and water, a greater amount of the vaporized water is formed (Friedrich et al. [2018](#page-17-2)). By adding the parameter of the water temperature with those of the air temperature, sunny hours, and air pressure, Keskin and Terzi ([2006\)](#page-18-28) estimated in their study of daily evaporation modeling, on the Egirdir lake in western Turkey, that the best structure of the model were obtained based on these four input data. In addition, compared to the other models, which were based only on wind speed and relative humidity.

Despite its direct efect in the evaporation process, up to now, no research has investigated the infuence of the reservoir's water temperature in evaporation modelling. Hence, the main objective of this study was to use a hybridized ANFIS with four optimization algorithms including: Genetic Algorithm (GA), particle swarm optimization (PSO), Harris Hawks Optimization (HHO) and Salp Swarm Algorithm (SSA), in modeling the monthly evaporation of the Boukourdane Dam in Algeria and to investigate how the reservoir's water temperature affects the performance of the models.

# **Materials and methods**

### **The study area and the available data**

The Boukourdane dam is selected as case study. The study area is situated in the north of Algeria (latitude 36° 31' N, longitude  $2^{\circ}$  18' E, and altitude 119.5 m). The reservoir storage and regulated volume of the Boukourdane dam are 105 and 50 MCM, respectively. The localization of the Boukourdane dam is shown in Fig. [1.](#page-2-0)

The observed values of monthly meteorological data collected from the National Agency of dams (ANBT) in Algiers, for the period from September 1996 to August 2016, include Maximum temperature (Tmax, °C), Minimum temperature (Tmin, °C), Relative humidity (RH, %), Wind speed (W, km/h), Maximum temperature of water (Twmax, °C) and Minimum temperature of water



<span id="page-2-0"></span>**Fig. 1** Localization of case study

(Twmin, °C). Such variables were considered as input in the modelling processes, whereas the target variable was the Evaporation (Ev, mm/day). Figure [2](#page-3-0) shows the variation of the observed monthly evaporation in the Boukourdane dam.

The statistical parameters of training and testing data for the both meteorological data are presented in the Table [1.](#page-3-1) The used data is divided into two different sets. The training dataset from September 1996 to August 2012 and the testing dataset from September 2012 to August 2016.

# **The investigated methodologies**

## **Adaptive Neural‑Fuzzy Inference System (ANFIS)**

The approach of ANFIS consists on the hybridization of an adaptive ANN with a Fuzzy Inference System (FIS). Introduced by Jang ([1993\)](#page-18-29), the performances of the ANFIS are widely proved in many studies to solve nonlinear problems. By training the current input-output data, the mechanism of ANFIS provides the optimal parameters of the Membership Function (MFs).





<span id="page-3-0"></span>**Fig. 2** Time series of observed

evaporation



#### <span id="page-3-1"></span>**Table 1** Statistical properties of investigated variables

The architecture of the ANFIS, as shown in Fig. [3,](#page-4-0) consists of five layers. In layer 1, which is called fuzzification, the inputs in each node j are transformed to a fuzzy membership function by an activation function μ (triangular, trapezoidal, sigmoidal, Gaussian, etc.), according Eqs. [1](#page-4-1) and [2.](#page-4-2)

$$
Q_j^1 = \mu_{\text{Aj}}(x) \text{ for } j = 1, 2
$$
 (1)

$$
Q_j^1 = \mu_{Bj - 2}(y) \text{ for } j = 3, 4
$$
 (2)

where x, y are the inputs,  $Q_j^1$  is the membership function and Aj and Bj are the membership values of  $\mu$ . For this study, Gaussian membership function, given in Eq. [3](#page-4-3) has been utilized,

$$
\mu(x) = \exp\left[-\left(\frac{(x-c_j)^2}{2\sigma_j^2}\right)\right]
$$
\n(3)

Cj and σj, which are the mean Gaussian curve and the standard deviation, are considered as the premise parameters of the membership functions.

The weights  $w_k$  for the membership functions is calculated in layer 2 by the Eq. [4](#page-4-4) and the fring strength of the rules are provided

$$
Q_k^2 = w_k = \mu_{Aj}(x) \times \mu_{Bj}(y)
$$
 for  $k = 1, ..., 4$  and  $j = 1, 2$  (4)

The layer 3 normalizes the firing strengths using Eq. [5.](#page-4-5)

$$
Q_j^3 = \overline{w}_j = \frac{w_j}{\sum_{k=1}^4 w_k} \text{ for } j = 1, ..., 4
$$
 (5)

In layer 4, which is called defuzzifcation layer, the output for each node j are evaluated by Eq. [6,](#page-4-6) and the consequent parameters (p, q and r) of the fring strengths f are calculated.

<span id="page-4-6"></span>
$$
Q_j^4 = \overline{w}_j f_j = \overline{w}_j (p_j x + q_j y + r_j) \text{ for } j = 1, ..., 4
$$
 (6)

<span id="page-4-1"></span>The last layer calculate (using Eq. [7\)](#page-4-7) the over-all output in a single node by assuming up all the incoming signals.

<span id="page-4-7"></span><span id="page-4-2"></span>
$$
Q_j^5 = \sum \overline{w}_j \, f_j \frac{\sum_{j=1}^4 w_j f_j}{\sum_{j=1}^4 w_j} \tag{7}
$$

### **Genetic Algorithm (GA)**

<span id="page-4-5"></span><span id="page-4-4"></span><span id="page-4-3"></span>Invented by John Holland [\(1975](#page-18-30)), GA is basically inspired by the mechanisms of natural selection and genetic phenomena. The renewal of populations is essentially due to the best individuals of the species. This mechanism starts from an initial population of coded points and uses three operators (crossing, mutation for the exploration of the space with potential solutions and selection) evolves the population towards the optima of the problem. The decision to terminate the genetic algorithm's execution is based on a number of criteria that depends on the problem types. The most frequently criteria used are: the convergence of the adaptation mean of a population, the time available for the execution of a single GA, and the maximum number of generations or the maximum number of evaluation functions in GA test. The arbitrary generation of a population chain could scan a limited space of the solution domain, thus making it possible to increase the probability of detecting the optimal



<span id="page-4-0"></span>**Fig. 3** Architecture of ANFIS model

solution and losing the neighborhood of the optimum during the search. For this reason, the execution of GA must be repeated several times with diferent sets of random starting points, to ensure a greater probability that the optimal solution is detected.

#### **Particle swarm optimization (PSO)**

Developed by Kennedy and Eberhart [\(1995](#page-18-31)), the algorithm of PSO is inspired from the nature social behavior and dynamic movements with communications of insects, birds and fsh to combine self-experiences with social experiences. The optimal solution is obtained according the best position encountered by a particle and that of its neighbors, and a predefned ftness function measure the performance of each particle, which quantifes the performance of the optimization problem.

The update equation is:

$$
v_i^{t+1} = w.v_i^t + c_1r_1.(pbest - X_i^t) - c_2r_2.(g_{best} - X_i^t)
$$
 (8)

$$
X_i^{t+1} = X_i^t + V_i^{t+1}
$$
\n(9)

where, t: the current iteration, i: ith solution, $x_i^t$ ; the position of ith solution in t th iteration,  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ : acceleration coefficients and  $r_1$ : random value,  $r_2$ : random value, *pbest* : the best solution that ith particle obtained so far and  $g_{best}$ : the best position of the total swarm and  $V_i^{t+1}$ : the velocity of ith solution in t th iteration.

#### **Harris Hawks Optimization (HHO)**

Developed by Heidari et al. [\(2019\)](#page-17-29), HHO is a novel algorithm based on swarm intelligence. Widely applied these recent years to solve complex nonlinear optimization problems, the mechanism of HHO mimics the hawk's action searching their prey. HHO has two principal phases that are exploration and exploitation.

In the exploration phase, a set initial population of Harris hawks  $\{X1, X2, \ldots, Xn\}$  is created randomly to track and detect the prey (rabbit) within the feasible space. According to the Eq. [10](#page-5-0), both hawks and prey have the same chance q.

$$
x(t+1) = \begin{cases} x_{rand}(t) - r_1[x_{rand}(t) - 2r_2x(t)] \text{ if } q \ge 0.5\\ x_{rabbit}(t) - x_a(t) - r_3(UB - LB) \text{ if } q < 0.5 \end{cases} \tag{10}
$$

where  $X(t)$  and  $X(t+1)$  are the position of the Harris Hawk at the iteration t and t+1 respectively.  $X_{rand}$  is a randomly selected Harris Hawk among all available individuals,  $X_{\text{rability}}(t)$  is the position of the prey, q,  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ,  $r_3$  and  $r_4$  are random values varying between (0 and 1) and LB and UB are the lower and upper bands, respectively. Eq. [11](#page-5-1) gives the mean position  $X<sub>m</sub>$  (t) of the total number N of the Harris Hawk.

<span id="page-5-1"></span>
$$
x_a(t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{1}^{N} x_i(t)
$$
\n(11)

During the hunt process, the escaping energy E of the prey decreases, and the transition from the exploration to the exploitation phase can be expressed by Eq. [12](#page-5-2).

<span id="page-5-2"></span>
$$
E = 2E_0(1 - t/T)
$$
 (12)

where  $E_0$  is the initial energy of the prey, ranged between -1 and 1, and T is the maximum iteration

Exploitation is the second phase, which has the objective to improve the predefned solution that locally found. The attacked prey was surprised and tried to escape. Depending to the hawks' chasing behavior, four scenarios can occur:

**Soft Besiege** In the Soft Besiege case, the prey has energy, i.e.  $|E| > 0.5$  and  $r > 0.5$ , the soft Besiege can be occur following the Eq. [13.](#page-5-3)

<span id="page-5-3"></span>
$$
x(t + 1) = \Delta x(t) - E[Jx_{prey}(t) - 2x(t)]
$$
\n(13)

where  $\Delta x$  represents the difference separating Hawk's current and the prey position in the t iteration and J is the prey random jump in the escaping process, given by Eq. [14](#page-5-4).

<span id="page-5-4"></span>
$$
J = 2(1 - r_5) \tag{14}
$$

where  $r_5$  is a number ranged randomly between 0 and 1.

**Hard Besiege** When the prey is tired, i.e. it energy decrease.  $|E|$  < 0.5, their position becomes:

$$
x(t+1) = x_{\text{prey}}(t) - E_n[\Delta x(t)] \tag{15}
$$

**Soft Besiege with Progressive Rapid Dive** This case has the condition that the prey has the energy to escape ( $|E|$  < 0.5). The formulation of the Soft Besiege with Progressive Rapid Dive is given by:

$$
Y = x_{\text{prey}}(t) - E[Jx_{\text{prey}}(t) - x(t)]
$$
  
\n
$$
Z = Y + S \times LF(D)
$$
\n(16)

where S is a random vector, LF is levy fight function with D is dimension.

<span id="page-5-0"></span>As consequence, the position of the hawks is updated following the Eq. [17.](#page-5-5)

<span id="page-5-5"></span>
$$
x(t+1) = \begin{cases} Y f(Y) < f(y(t)) \\ Z f(Z) < f(y(t)) \end{cases} \tag{17}
$$

**Hard Besiege with Progressive Rapid Dive:** In the last case, the prey did not have chance to escape, due to its low energy,  $|E|$  < 0 and  $r$  < 0. The distance of the hawk and prey decrease and the stage of Hard besiege with progressive rapid dive occur as it follows:

$$
x(t+1) = x(t+1) = \begin{cases} Y f(Y) < f(y(t)) \\ Z f(Z) < f(y(t)) \end{cases} \tag{18}
$$

#### **Salp swarm Algorithm (SSA)**

Salp swarm Algorithm (SSA) is a novel nature-inspired algorithm developed by Mirjalili ([2017](#page-18-32)). SSA mimics the salps behavior's during navigation and searching for food sources in the seas and oceans. In the mechanism of SSA, a set of initial population is created randomly and divided into two groups that are leader and followers. Leader salps are located at the top of the salp chain and lead the swarm towards the food location F (which considered as target). The rest of salps follow the leader during the aggregate phase.

The position of the salp leader  $x_j^1$  is updated by Eq. [19](#page-6-0).

$$
x_j^1 = \begin{cases} f_j + c_1((ub_j - lb_j)c_2 + lb_j) C_3 \ge 0\\ f_j - c_1((ub_j - lb_j)c_2 + lb_j) C_3 < 0 \end{cases}
$$
(19)

Fj represents the best food solution in the jth dimension; ubj and lbj represent the upper and lower bounds in the

<span id="page-6-3"></span>

jth dimension respectively,  $c_2$  and  $c_3$  are random numbers ranged between 0 and 1.  $c_1$  is a parameter that varied with the following expression (Eq. [20](#page-6-1)):

$$
c_1 = 2e^{-\left(\frac{4t}{T}\right)^2}
$$
 (20)

where t and T represent the current iteration and maximum number of iterations respectively.

<span id="page-6-2"></span><span id="page-6-1"></span>Finally, the position of the followers  $x_j^i$  is updated by Eq. [21.](#page-6-2)

$$
x_j^i = \frac{1}{2}(x_j^i + x_j^{i-1})
$$
\n(21)

where  $i \geq 2$  and xji represent the position of the ith follower at the jth dimension.

The steps of the SSA are listed in Fig. [4](#page-6-3).

### **Hybridization of the ANFIS**

<span id="page-6-0"></span>The main objective of the present study is to provide a model for Boukourdane dam evaporation forecasting with a high efficiency and accuracy. For this, four metaheuristic algorithms (GA, PSO, HHO and SSA) were utilized to train the ANFIS and optimize the both parameters: premise and con-sequent, given in the Eqs. [3](#page-4-3) and [6](#page-4-6) respectively. The flowchart of the hybrid ANFIS with the four metaheuristic algorithms optimization is shown in Fig. [5](#page-7-0).





<span id="page-7-0"></span>**Fig. 5** Flowchart of the hybrid ANFIS and the proposed algorithms optimization

The key steps of the ANFIS hybridization procedure are described as in the following: we start by classifcation of the inputs and output data into two parts, training and testing sets. In this study: maximal and minimal air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and water temperature are selected as inputs variables, whereas the evaporation is selected as the single output. Secondly, we generate the initial fuzzy inference system (FIS) by the fuzzy c-mean (FCM) clustering approach to extract a set of initial rules and determinate the number of the membership function MF. The next step is the optimization of FIS parameters by diferent heuristic algorithms and training the ANFIS structure using the optimized parameters as it follows: (I)- Generate initial population for an algorithm optimization. (II)-Evaluate the optimal parameters of the algorithm by minimizing the objective function (OF). In this study, the Root Mean Square Error (RMSE) given in Eq. [22](#page-7-1), is considered as OF. (III) Take the optimal parameters of the heuristic algorithm to form ANFIS structure. (IV) Run the algorithm till meeting the stop condition (i.e. maximum number of iterations) to obtain the optimal structure of ANFIS. If not, the algorithm returns to (II). The fourth step was carried out on the training of the best ANFIS with all algorithms optimization to generate the output data for train and test period. Finally, the statistical indexes such as RMSE, MAE, SI and R (expressed in Eqs. [22](#page-7-1), [23](#page-7-2), [24](#page-7-3) and [25](#page-7-4), respectively) was calculated based on the output data, to compare the performance of the hybridization.

Root Mean Square Error (RMSE):

<span id="page-7-1"></span>
$$
RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (Y_{0i} - \widehat{Y}_{ci})^2}{N}}
$$
 (22)

Mean Absolute Error (MAE):

<span id="page-7-2"></span>
$$
MAE = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (Y_{0i} - Y_{ci})/N
$$
 (23)

Scatter Index (SI):

<span id="page-7-3"></span>
$$
SI = \frac{RMSE}{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} Y_{oi}} \tag{24}
$$

According to Li et al.  $(2013)$  $(2013)$  $(2013)$ , the model accuracy was characterized as following: SI<0.1 (excellent), 0.10<SI<0.20 (good), 0.20<SI<0.30 (fair) and SI>0.30 (poor).

Correlation Coefficient (R):

<span id="page-7-4"></span>
$$
R = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\hat{Y}_{Ci} - \overline{Y_{oi}}\right) \left(Y_{ci} - \overline{Y_{oi}}\right)}{\sqrt{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(Y - \overline{Y_{ci}}\right)^{2}\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(Y_{ci} - \overline{Y_{oi}}\right)^{2}\right)}} \quad (-1 < 1)
$$
\n(25)

where, Where Yc and Yo are calculated and observed values of evaporation and N is the quantity of data.

Also, radar charts and Taylor diagram radar charts were plotted to compare the prediction performance for all combination inputs. In particular, the Taylor diagram chart is a visual tool that provides comprehensive evaluation of the predicted evaporation results using three (criteria (standard deviation (SD), correlation (R) and RMSE) in a single diagram. The observed evaporation is plotted along the horizontal axis (based on the standard deviation) and model performance for such algorithm is spotted from the graph, more being closer to the reference point, more the model has the best accurate prediction.

Finally, we employed the Discrepancy Ratio (DR), that is a statistic indicator proposed by White et al. ([1973](#page-19-19)), expressed by Eq. [26](#page-8-0), to perform the sensitivity analysis of the evaporation models performance.

$$
DR = \log \frac{Y_{pi}}{Y_{oi}} \tag{26}
$$

where,  $Y_{pi}$  and  $Y_{oi}$  are the predicted and observed evapora-tion respectively. According to Eq. [26](#page-8-0), if  $DR = 0$ , the predicted value is identical to the measured value. Otherwise, If the DR is larger than 0, the predicted value is overestimated, and if the DR is smaller than 0, it is underestimated. To avoid utilization of negative or zero observed values, Developed Discrepancy Ratio (DDR) was proposed, as given in Eq. [27](#page-8-1):

$$
DDR = \left(\frac{Predicted \ value}{Observed \ value}\right) - 1\tag{27}
$$

### **Results**

In this study, four metaheuristic algorithms (GA, PSO, HHO and SSA) were utilized to train ANFIS for forecasting the monthly evaporation of the Boukourdane dam in Algeria. In order to examinate the efect of the reservoir's water temperature, two scenarios were considered. In the frst one ''scenario I'', the temperature of the water in the reservoir  $T_{\text{wmax}}$  and  $T_{\text{wmin}}$  are added as input with the meteorological variables including: maximal and minimal air temperature, relative humidity and wind speed. While, in ''scenario II'', the reservoir's water temperature is neglected. The inputs and output data utilized in this study were divided into two parts, training (80%) and testing (20%) sets. Moreover, four models were proposed for each scenario.

Table [2](#page-8-2) resumes these models (M1, M2, M3 and M4 for each scenario) based on the combination of the variables' inputs, while optimal algorithms parameters are listed in Table [3](#page-8-3).

Table [4](#page-9-0) reports the overall performance of the four hybridized algorithms in terms of the RMSE, MAE, SI and

<span id="page-8-3"></span><span id="page-8-0"></span>

<span id="page-8-1"></span>



<span id="page-8-2"></span>**Table 2** Input combination for

<span id="page-9-0"></span>**Table 4** Results of the models' performance for the frst scenario



Bold entries shows the minimum values of MAE, RMSE and SI and the maximum values of R² for each model

<span id="page-9-1"></span>**Table 5** Results of the models' performance for the second scenario



Bold entries shows the minimum values of MAE, RMSE and SI and the maximum values of  $R<sup>2</sup>$  for each model

R, for the frst scenario during the training and testing stages, while Table [5](#page-9-1) reports the same information for the second scenario.

For the frst scenario (Table [4\)](#page-9-0), the results indicate that M1, which including all variables input, gave more accuracy of evaporation prediction than other models. The results show that among the algorithm applied, ANFIS-HHO model provided the best results in estimating the evaporation with an RMSE, MAE and R equal to 0.85 mm 1.09 and 0.88 respectively in the training, while in test period, RMSE, MAE and R are equal to 0.89 mm 0.73 and 0.92 respectively. Moreover, and according to Table [4,](#page-9-0) it can been seen a decrease in the accuracy for both M2 and M3, where in the training period, RMSE, MAE and R are equal to 0.98 mm

<span id="page-10-0"></span>

0.92 and 0.89 respectively, obtained by ANFIS-PSO for M2 while for M3, ANFIS-HHO models gives RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.08 mm 0.91 and 0.89 respectively. In the test period. RMSE, MAE and R are equal to 1.21 mm 1.28 and 0.87 respectively obtained by ANFIS-GA for M2 while for M3, ANFIS-HHO models gives RMSE, MAE and

<span id="page-10-1"></span>



R corresponding to 1.22 mm, 1.11 and 0.87 respectively. In addition, the lowest performance in the evaporation prediction is recorded for M4, where ANFIS-PSO model provided the best accuracy with an RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.21 mm, 1.42 and 0.86 respectively in the training period, while in the test period, ANFIS-HHO provided the best accuracy with an RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.22 mm, 1.05 and 0.85 respectively.

Finally, results of Table [4](#page-9-0) indicate that among the all algorithms, ANFIS-HHO hybridization gives a good accuracy, where the value of SI is equal to 0.19 for the M1 model in the training period, and for the other algorithms the accuracy was fair. While in the test period, the accuracy was fair for the all algorithms. In addition, we can notice that the accuracy for M2, M3 and M4 models was fair in the training period, while in the test period, the accuracy was poor for these models.

For the second scenario (Table [5\)](#page-9-1), similar results were found and the best accuracy of the evaporation prediction was obtained for the M1 model. The results indicate that among the algorithm applied, ANFIS-PSO model provided the best results with an RMSE and R corresponding to 1.03 mm and 0.89 respectively in the training period, while in the test period; they are corresponding to 1.05 mm and 0.89 respectively. In addition, according to Table [5](#page-9-1), we can observe a decrease in the accuracy of the evaporation for the M2, M3 and M4 model. ANFIS-PSO model provided the best accuracy with an RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.09 mm, 1.21 and 0.88 respectively in the training period for M2 model, while in the test period; ANFIS-GA provided the best accuracy with an RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.24 mm, 1.89 and 0.85 respectively. For the M3 model, ANFIS-GA model provided the best accuracy with an RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.15 mm, 1.32 and 0.87 respectively in the training period, while in the test period; ANFIS- PSO provided the best accuracy with an RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.29 mm, 1.11 and 0.84 respectively. In addition, M4 had the worst performance in the evaporation prediction. From table [5](#page-9-1), the results indicate that ANFIS-PSO model provided the best accuracy with an RMSE. MAE and R corresponding to 1.25 mm 1.57 and 0.83 respectively in the training period, while in the test period. ANFIS-HHO provided an RMSE, MAE and R corresponding to 1.32 mm, 1.07 and 0.83 respectively.

Finally, the values of SI presented in Table [5](#page-9-1) indicate that, for all algorithms, the accuracy was fair in the



<span id="page-11-0"></span>**Fig. 8** Scatterplots of observed and predicted evaporation for the best input combination in the test period – scenario I

training period for all models, while in the test period, except for the ANFIS-PSO hybridization where the accuracy was fair in M1 model, we notice that for the all models, the accuracy was poor.

The performance of the best models in the test period is presented on radar charts in Fig. [6](#page-10-0) for the frst scenario and in Fig. [7](#page-10-1) for the second scenario. It is clear from Figs. [6](#page-10-0) and [7](#page-10-1) that radar plot illustrate graphically the results given in Tables [4](#page-9-0) and [5](#page-9-1) for the scenario I and scenario II respectively.

Figures [8](#page-11-0) and [9](#page-12-0) show the scatterplots of observed and predicted evaporation provided by the best hybrid algorithm in the test period for both scenario I and scenario II.

According to the results in Fig. [8](#page-11-0) (scenario I), it can be seen that M1 model (including all input variables) had the least scattered predictions, followed by M2. M3 and M4. Furthermore, the hybridization ANFIS-HHO for M1 model provided the closest linear ft to the diagonal line compared to other models. The results in Fig. [9](#page-12-0) were similar to those in Fig. [6,](#page-10-0) and the convergent tendency of 1:1 line was signifcantly spotted for M1 model compared to other models.

Figures [10](#page-13-0) and [11](#page-14-0) show the best predicted evaporation along the observed during the test period for both scenario I and scenario II. As displayed in Fig. [10,](#page-13-0) the predicted evaporation provided by M1 overlaps more with that observed compared to the other models. Similarly, with Scenario I, the predicted values of the evaporation for the M1 model in scenario II (Fig. [11\)](#page-14-0) were much closer to the observed values in the time variation.

Concerning the model testing, Figs. [12](#page-15-0) shows the results of the Taylor diagram analysis for the evaporation prediction in the test period, for both scenario I and scenario II, respectively.

As seen from the Fig. [12](#page-15-0)a, the results showed that ANFIS-HHO model performs better than the other models for the evaporation forecasting with considering water temperature inputs (frst scenario), by providing higher SD and correlation coefficient  $(R$  superior to  $0.9$ ) and lower RMSE. In addition, among the other hybrid ANFIS models, the results provided by ANFIS-HHO were closer to the observed point. For the second scenario (where the water temperature is neglected). Figure [12](#page-15-0)b shows that the ANFIS-GA model had the greatest correlation coefficient and SD and the least RMSE, which indicates higher accuracy of this model. Moreover, the results found by ANFIS-GA are nearer to the observed one in comparison with the other hybrid ANFIS models.

Finally, concerning the Developed discrepancy ratio statistic (DDR), Table [6](#page-15-1) presents the statistical indices of the DDR values in test period for the best model.

According to Table [6,](#page-15-1) results indicate that the lower value of the variance in scenario I (equal to 0.0789) is provided by ANFIS-HHO, while in scenario II, the lower value of the variance (equal to 0.0580) is provided by ANFIS-GA.



<span id="page-12-0"></span>**Fig. 9** Scatterplots of observed and predicted evaporation for the best input combination in the test period – scenario II

<span id="page-13-0"></span>**Fig. 10** Predicted evaporation for the Scenario I in the: **a**) M1. **b**) M2. **c**) M3 and **d**) M4



The value of DDR for all algorithms in scenario I and scenario II are presented in Fig. [13](#page-16-0).

# **Discussion**

In this study, the reservoir's water temperature  $(T_W)$  influence on the evaporation prediction was investigated. Combining four heuristic algorithms (GA, PSO, HHO and SSA) with ANFIS, the comparison between scenario I (with  $T_W$ ) and scenario II (without  $T_w$ ) (see Tables [4](#page-9-0) and [5\)](#page-9-1) show an increase in R about 4.54, 2.35, 3.57 and 2.41% corresponding to M1, M2, M3 and M4 respectively. In addition, we noticed a decreasing in RMSE about 17.98, 5.74, 3.57 and 8.19% corresponding to M1, M2, M3 and M4 respectively. This demonstrates the effect of the  $T_W$  parameter on the prediction performance.

On the other hand, it can be concluded that the number of variables input afect the prediction performance. It was found that decreasing the number of inputs from M1 model, with all variables input, to M4 model with only two inputs, passing by M2 and M3 models, with three variables input,

<span id="page-14-0"></span>**Fig. 11** Predicted evaporation for the Scenario II in the: **a)** M1**. b)** M2. **c)** M3 **and d)** M4



both for the scenario I and scenario II, reduces the prediction accuracy. The results resumed in Table [4](#page-9-0) (scenario I) show a decrease of about 5.43% of R for M2 and M3 models, and 8.23% for M4 model respectively, compared to M1 model and also an increase of RMSE of about 35.95% for M2 and M3 models, and 37.08% for M4 model respectively, compared to M1 model. Similarly, results in Table [5](#page-9-1) (scenario II) show a decrease of about 4.94% of R for M2 and M3 models, and 7.22% for M4 model respectively, compared to M1 model and also an increase of RMSE of about 22.86% for M2 and M3 models, and 20.45% for M4 model respectively, compared to M1 model. This demonstrates that the evaporation prediction is more accurate when using more input parameters. Same results are noticed in the researches of Wang et al. [\(2017](#page-19-8)), Ghorbani et al. [\(2018](#page-17-10)), Moazenzadeh et al. ([2018\)](#page-18-1), Khosravia et al. [\(2019](#page-18-4)), Shabani et al. [\(2020](#page-19-5)), Abed et al. ([2021\)](#page-17-7), and Adnan et al. ([2022a](#page-17-13), [b](#page-17-16)).

As been reported previously, the application of ML has been shown as a powerful tool for evaporation modeling. As well as, training ANFIS using heuristic algorithms optimization algorithms provides better performances and enhance the prediction accuracy. The fndings of this research report that during the test period, ANFIS-HHO proved the best accuracy in three models (M1. M3 and M4) for the scenario I and two models (M3 and M4) for the scenario II. Followed by ANFIS-GA, which proved two best models (M2 for both scenario I and II) and fnally ANFIS-PSO, which proved one best model (M1 for the scenario II). This emphasizes the superiority of ANFIS-HHO model compared to the others models. The fndings of this study were also in <span id="page-15-0"></span>**Fig. 12** Taylor's diagram for the predicted evaporation in the test period using hybrided ANFIS techniques for the: **a)** Scenario I and **b)** Scenario II



<span id="page-15-1"></span>**Table 6** Statistical indices of the DDR values in test period for the best model



close agreement with the study performed by Azar et al. [\(2021](#page-17-26)) which found that hybridized ANFIS with HHO algorithm had superior performance in evaporation modeling at the Doroudzan dam in the central of Iran compared to ANFIS and LS-SVR (least square-support vector regression) models. Also, Kayhomayoon et al. [\(2022\)](#page-18-26) concluded that hybridization of ANFIS with HHO had more efficiency in predicting the amount of evaporation at the Mahabad dam in the Northwestern of Iran compared to ANFIS and ANFIS-AOA (Arithmetic Optimization Algorithm) algorithms. Moreover. Adnan et al. ([2022a](#page-17-13), [b](#page-17-16)) trained ANFIS with several algorithms optimization and found that the ANFIS-HHO and ANFIS-WOA (Whale Optimization Algorithm WOA) models (with an  $R^2 > 0.81$  and RMSE < 1.04 mm) outperformed the ANFIS and ANFIS-PSO algorithms in

<span id="page-16-0"></span>



forecasting the pan evaporation at three stations located in China. Finally, the results of Khosravia et al. ([2019](#page-18-4)) reported that the ANFIS-GA model performance was superior in the evaporation prediction at two meteorological stations in Iraq compared to ANFIS. ANFIS-ICA (Imperialistic competitive algorithm) and ANFIS-DE (Diferential evolution algorithm) models.

Based on the SI indicator, our results reveal that the accuracy of the models was fair during the test period, for the all algorithms applied, when considering the reservoir water temperature, and was poor in the case where this parameter has neglected. As recommendation to overcome this gap, other technical was proposed in order to enhance the evaporation prediction accuracy. In this point, we can suggest the application in the future studies, the proposed methods: Gene Expression Programming (GEP), Least Squares Support Vector Regression (LSSVR) or the Long- Short Term Memory (LSTM).

# **Conclusions**

Accurate prediction of evaporation is one of the key problems in reservoir management. The knowledge of the efect of the reservoir's water temperature on evaporation is important in deriving the best reservoir operating rules. Therefore, in this study, we have investigated the influence of the reservoir's water temperature  $(T_w)$  on the evaporation prediction. Four heuristic algorithms namely

GA, PSO, HHO and SSA were combined with ANFIS to derive the best model for evaporation forecasting of the Boukourdane Dam in Algeria. The results revealed that the addition of  $T_w$  parameter affect the evaporation forecasting performance with an increase in R and a decrease in RMSE about 4.54% and 17.98% respectively. Comparing the models' performance, the results indicated that the performance of the ANFIS-HHO model in the test period with  $RMSE = 0.89$  mm.  $MAE = 0.73$  and  $R = 0.92$  demonstrated best performance with more accuracy in comparison to ANFIS-GA. ANFIS-PSO and ANFIS-SSA models. The fndings illustrated that the number of variables input afect the prediction performance. Decreasing the number of inputs reduces the prediction accuracy. Finally, among the models. ANFIS-HHO demonstrated the highest accuracy, followed closely by ANFIS-GA.

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### **Declarations**

**Consent for publication** Not applicable.

**Competing interests** The authors declare no competing interests.

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