

LOW-COST SENSORS AS A SUPPORT TOOL TO MONITOR SOIL-PLANT HEAT EXCHANGES IN MEDITERRANEAN VINEYARDS

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BACKGROUND and AIMS:

In vineyards, row distribution and canopy geometry favor a high sunlight exposure of vines and soil. As a result, soil contribution to vineyards energy balance is very considerable (Costa et al., 2018; 2019; Kool et al., 2021). This is particularly marked for extreme dry and warm conditions of Mediterranean regions during ripening. The “cooling effect” of irrigation on soil and vines is known but the impact of irrigation on heat convection from soil to the canopy, and to the cluster zone, remains less characterized. The use of low-cost sensors (e.g. low cost infrared thermal cameras) offer new opportunities to monitor and support decision in viticulture. However, they must be tested and validated under field conditions. Here we present preliminary results of low-cost thermal cameras to characterize soil-canopy vertical thermal profiles in Portuguese vineyards.

MATERIAL and METHODS:

A study was carried in an irrigated vineyard, in Herdade do Esporão (HE) (Alentejo, south Portugal), and in a non irrigated vineyard in Quinta da Almoíña (QA), INIAV, Dois Portos (Lisbon region). Soil at HE has a sandy to silty-clay texture while QA's soil has a loam texture. We used two thermal cameras (FLIR One, 80x60 pixels and FLIR C5, 160x120pixels, 8-14 μm, FLIR systems, USA, ε=0.96) (Fig.1) to monitor canopy temperature (T_c) and soil surface temperature (T_s). Air temperature (T_{air}) and wind speed (U) were measured 0.3 m above soil and 1.0 m above the canopy with two thermohygrometers (CS215-PWS, Campbell Scientific, Logan USA) and two ultrasonic anemometers (Windsonic GILL instruments, UK) (Fig.2), respectively, connected to a datalogger (CR1000, Campbell Scientific, Inc.) (Fig.3). IR images were taken along rows on the sunlit side of canopies. Images were analysed with Flir Tools software, using square ROIs (3000 pixels).

RESULTS:

Flir One measurements discriminated differences between T_c and T_s under Alentejo conditions as well between irrigated and non irrigated vines (data not shown). Data from Flir C5 show that irrigation decreased T_s and T_c at cluster zone by 6 °C and 1.9 °C, respectively. Moreover, the daylight time cumulative effect showed less 80 °C and less 24.4 °C between the wet and dry soil surfaces, and the related reference T_{air} above canopy.

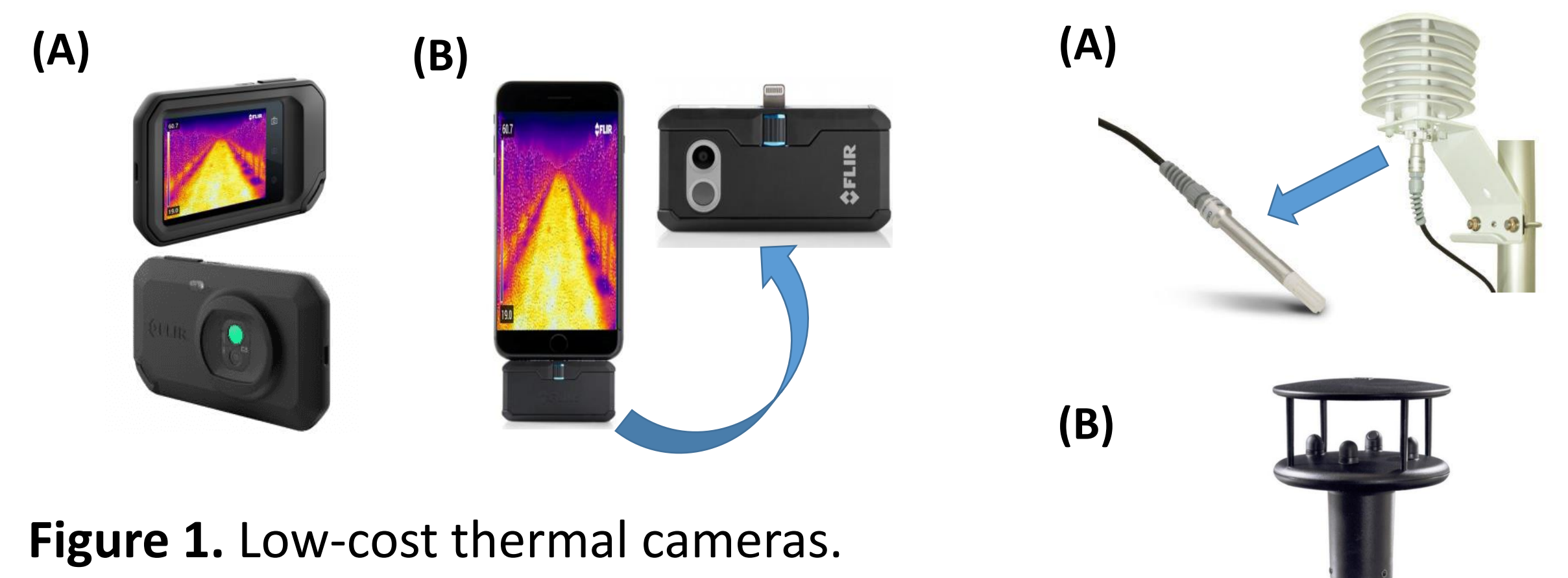
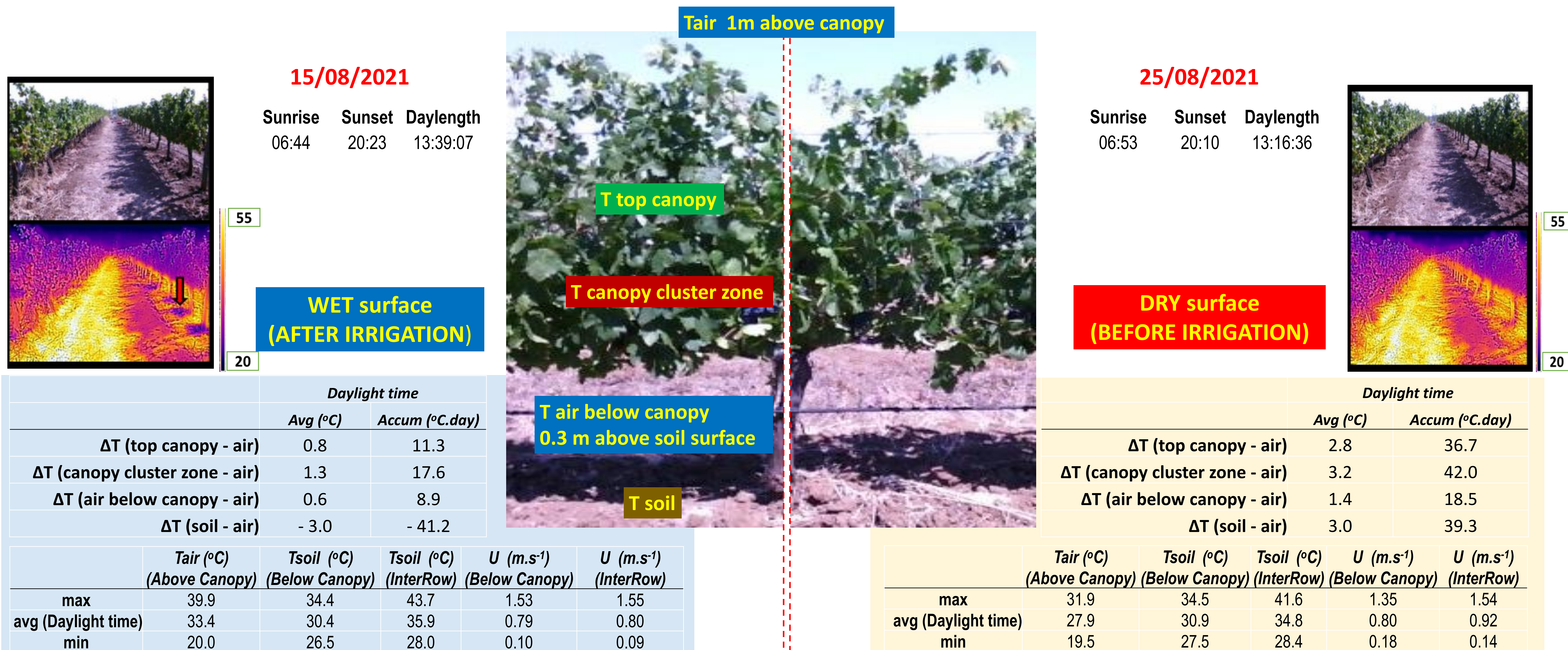


Figure 1. Low-cost thermal cameras. (A) FLIR One, 80x60 pixels, 8-14 μm, (B) FLIR C5, 160x120pixels, 8-14 μm

Figure 2. Air temperature and wind speed sensors. (A) Campbell CS215-PWS thermohygrometer, (B) GILL Windsonic ultrasonic anemometer.



Figure 3. Campbell CR1000 datalogger.



CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE:

The use of low-cost thermal cameras and thermohygrometers can detect vertical T differences/gradients in vines in response to wet and dry soil conditions. These thermal parameters can be relevant for DSS applications for vineyard management. Future development and data validation is needed to incorporate thermal data in real time DSS.

REFERENCES:

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