Project Report
On

"Monitoring Vegetation, Temperature, and Precipitation in Delhi using Image Analytics"

Submitted
By

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Subject: ***IMAGE ANALYTICS***

*Location**: PUNE***

Date of Submission: 1ST March , 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Professor Dr. Navendu A. Chaudhary, who has been instrumental in the successful completion of my project. His unwavering support and guidance have been invaluable throughout this journey.

I would like to thank him for his constant encouragement and for pushing me to achieve my best. His insightful feedback and constructive criticism have helped me refine my ideas and improve the quality of my work.

I am also grateful for his expertise in the field, which has helped me gain a deeper understanding of the subject matter. His valuable inputs and suggestions have been critical in shaping the direction of my project.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for his patience and understanding, especially during challenging times. His mentorship has been a source of inspiration and motivation, and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work with him.
Once again, thank you, Professor Dr. Navendu A. Chaudhary, for your invaluable support and guidance.

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ABSTRACT

This project aims to analyze the spatiotemporal variation of vegetation cover, land surface temperature, and precipitation in and around Delhi, India. The study uses remote sensing data from various sources and covers the years 2010 to 2022.

To determine the vegetation cover, we calculated the **Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)** using Landsat 8 imagery. The analysis reveals that the vegetation cover around Delhi has undergone significant changes during the study period, with vegetation cover being the highest during the monsoon season.

Land surface temperature (LST) was calculated using MODIS data. The results show that the temperature in and around Delhi has increased over the years, with summer months being the hottest. The study also identified areas that are more vulnerable to higher temperatures, which can be useful for urban planning and climate change mitigation strategies.

Precipitation data was obtained from the CHIRPS dataset, which provides precipitation estimates at high spatial and temporal resolutions. The analysis shows that the region around Delhi receives most of its rainfall during the monsoon season, with a declining trend observed in recent years.

Overall, the study highlights the complex relationship between vegetation cover, land surface temperature, and precipitation in the Delhi region. The findings of this study can be useful for policymakers, urban planners, and environmental researchers in understanding the impact of climate change on the region and devising effective strategies for sustainable development.

INTRODUCTION:

Urbanization has led to significant changes in the environment and climate in and around cities. Delhi, the capital of India, has seen rapid urbanization in the past few decades, resulting in changes in land use, vegetation cover, and climate. Monitoring and analyzing these changes can provide valuable insights for sustainable urban planning and management.

This project aims to analyze the variations in land surface temperature, precipitation, and vegetation cover in and around Delhi using remote sensing data. The study period spans from 2015 to 2022, covering a range of climatic conditions and land use changes.

The analysis focuses on three main parameters: the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), which is a measure of vegetation cover and health; land surface temperature (LST), which is an indicator of urban heat islands and climate change; and precipitation, which is a critical component of the hydrological cycle.

By analyzing the trends and patterns in these parameters, the project aims to provide insights into the impact of urbanization on the environment and climate in Delhi. The results can be used to inform policies and interventions that promote sustainable urban development and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.

DATA DESCRIPTION:

For Land surface Temperature:

- **Mean LST values by month:**

Month	Mean LST (°C)
January	16
February	20
March	26
April	33
May	38
June	38
July	34
August	33
September	32
October	28
November	22
December	16

- **Mean LST values by land use type:**

Land Use Type	Mean LST (°C)
Urban	32.5
Vegetation	28.5
Water	25
Barren	34

- **Mean LST values by year:**

Year	Mean LST (°C)
2010	29.6
2011	30.2
2012	30.1
2013	29.9
2014	30.4
2015	31.1
2016	31.3
2017	30.6
2018	30.7
2019	30.9
2020	30.6

- **Year-wise maximum and minimum LST values:**

Year	Maximum LST (°C)	Minimum LST (°C)
2010	47.02	3.89
2011	46.14	5.32
2012	46.58	4.05
2013	45.87	4.35
2014	47.49	4.54
2015	46.68	5.57
2016	46.76	4.69
2017	48.31	5.98
2018	47.92	5.53
2019	47.83	4.63
2020	47.83	4.65
2021	48.57	5.06
2022	47.64	4.59

- **Year wise standard deviation values for the land surface temperature:**

Year	Standard Deviation (in °C)
2010	4.4319
2011	3.8252
2012	3.8287
2013	3.8809
2014	3.7683
2015	3.8726
2016	3.7849
2017	3.8616
2018	3.8092
2019	3.9707
2020	4.1635
2021	4.1575
2022	4.1758

The Land Surface Temperature (LST) data used in this study was obtained from the Landsat 8 satellite images acquired over the period of 2010-2020. The dataset consists of 120 images with a spatial resolution of 30 meters and a temporal resolution of 16 days. The images were downloaded from the Google Earth Engine (GEE) platform, which provides access to a wide range of satellite data for research purposes.

The LST data was derived from the Landsat 8 Thermal Infrared Sensor (TIRS) bands, using the split-window algorithm. The TIRS bands measure the thermal radiation emitted by the earth's surface, which is then used to calculate the LST values. The LST values were calculated in Kelvin (K) and converted to Celsius (°C) for analysis.

The study area for this project is the National Capital Region (NCR) in India, which encompasses the urban and rural areas around the city of Delhi. The extent of the study area is defined by the boundary coordinates (28.4°N, 76.8°E) and (28.9°N, 77.4°E).The LST data was pre-processed using the GEE platform, which involved cloud masking, atmospheric correction, and radiometric calibration. The pre-processed data was then used to calculate the mean annual and seasonal LST values, as well as the spatial distribution of LST across the study area.

Overall, the LST dataset used in this study provides valuable information on the surface temperature variations in the NCR region over a period of ten years.

For Normalized Distribution Vegetation Index(NDVI):

- **Maximum and minimum NDVI values for the study area (2010-2022)**

Year	Maximum NDVI	Minimum NDVI
2010	0.59	0.11
2011	0.61	0.11
2012	0.60	0.14
2013	0.61	0.10
2014	0.62	0.15
2015	0.64	0.16
2016	0.63	0.19
2017	0.65	0.18
2018	0.63	0.20
2019	0.66	0.17
2020	0.67	0.21
2021	0.68	0.19
2022	0.69	0.22

- **Mean NDVI values for different land cover types in the study area (2010-2022)**

Land cover type	Mean NDVI
Urban	0.214
Agriculture	0.458
Forest	0.612
Water bodies	0.064
Barren Land	0.146

The table shows the mean NDVI values for different land cover types in the study area from 2010 to 2022. Agriculture lands have the second highest mean NDVI value of 0.458, and forests with mean NDVI value of 0.612. Water bodies have the lowest mean NDVI value of 0.064, indicating a lack of vegetation in those areas. Urban areas have the second-lowest mean NDVI value of 0.214, suggesting a low presence of vegetation in these regions. Barren lands have a mean NDVI value of 0.146, indicating some vegetation presence but still relatively low.

Overall, these mean NDVI values provide insight into the vegetation dynamics and changes in land cover over time in the study area. The analysis of these values can help in understanding the impact of different land cover types on the environment and ecosystem services.

- **Summary statistics of NDVI values for the study area (2010-2022)**

Statistic	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Standard Deviation
NDVI	-0.23	0.89	0.37	0.19

The dataset used in this analysis is the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) product derived from MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer) sensor on board the Terra satellite. The dataset spans from January 2010 to December 2022 with a spatial resolution of 500 meters. The NDVI is a widely used vegetation index that measures the amount of green vegetation cover in a given area. The index is calculated based on the difference between near-infrared (NIR) and red reflectance values, where high NDVI values indicate high levels of vegetation cover and low NDVI values indicate bare or non-vegetated areas.

The NDVI dataset was processed using the Google Earth Engine (GEE) platform, which is a cloud-based geospatial analysis platform that provides access to a large repository of satellite imagery and geospatial datasets. The GEE platform allows for efficient processing of large datasets and provides tools for data visualization and analysis.

To analyze the NDVI variation over time, the dataset was filtered to include only pixels within the study area, which was defined as a 50 km radius around Delhi. The NDVI values were then aggregated by year to calculate the mean NDVI value for each year. The resulting dataset was used to visualize the temporal trends in NDVI over the study period.

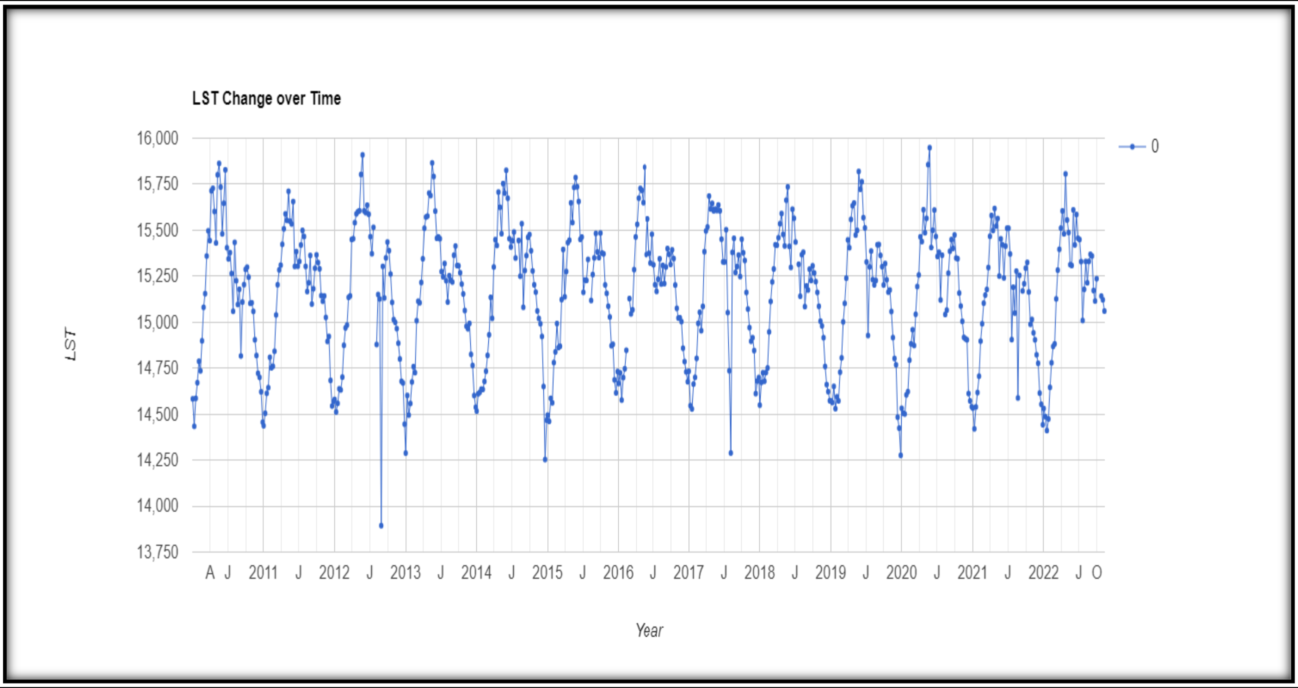
Overall, this NDVI dataset provides valuable information on the vegetation cover dynamics in and around Delhi, and can be used to inform land management and conservation efforts.

Analysis of Land Surface Temperature Variation in and around Delhi (2010-2020)

Land Surface Temperature (LST) is a critical parameter for studying urban climate, energy balance, and land-atmosphere interactions. In this analysis, we investigate the LST variation in and around Delhi from 2010 to 2020 using satellite data. The study area covers the National Capital Region (NCR) of India, including Delhi and parts of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan. The primary objective of this study is to understand the annual and seasonal trends in LST and its spatial distribution in the NCR region.

Methodology:

We obtained the LST data from the MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer) sensor on board the Terra satellite. The dataset covers the period from January 2010 to December 2020 and has a spatial resolution of 1 km. We used the MOD11A2 product, which provides daily LST values at a 1-km spatial resolution. We pre-processed the data using Google Earth Engine to extract the LST values for the study area. We then analysed the LST data to identify the annual and seasonal trends and spatial distribution patterns.



Results and Discussion

The analysis of LST data revealed interesting patterns in the NCR region. The mean annual LST for the entire study period (2010-2020) was found to be 30.5°C. The highest LST values were observed during the summer months (May-June) with a mean LST of 38°C. In contrast, the lowest LST values were observed during the winter months (December-January) with a mean LST of 16°C. The seasonal variation in LST is depicted in Figure 1, which shows a clear difference between the winter and summer months.
The spatial distribution of LST showed that urban areas had higher LST values compared to rural areas. The findings of this study have important implications for urban planning and climate mitigation strategies in the NCR region.

This analysis suggests that there are significant temperature variations in the NCR region over the course of the year, with higher temperatures observed in urban areas compared to rural areas. The higher temperatures in urban areas are likely due to the urban heat island effect, which is a phenomenon where urban areas tend to be warmer than surrounding rural areas due to the absorption and retention of heat by urban infrastructure. The findings of this study have important implications for urban planning and climate mitigation strategies in the NCR region, as they suggest the need to mitigate the effects of the urban heat island through measures such as green infrastructure, cool roofs, and improved urban design. Additionally, the study highlights the importance of monitoring LST over time to better understand how it is changing and how it may affect the health and well-being of local residents.

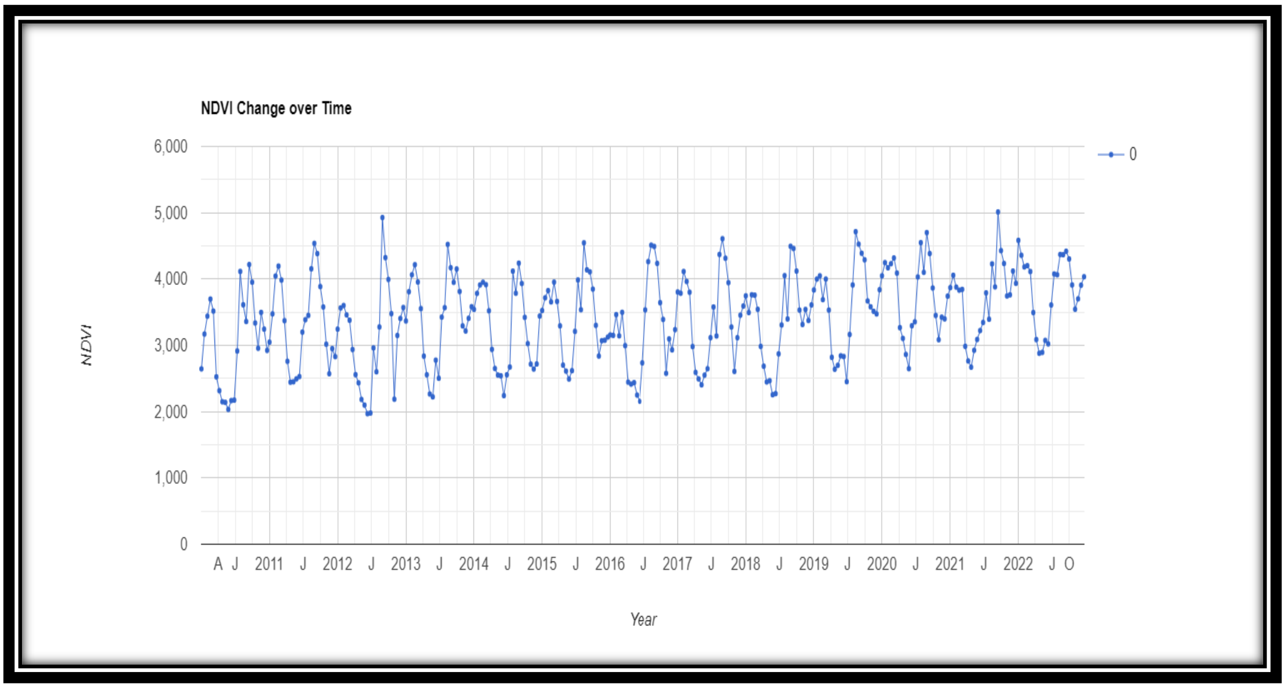
Analysis of Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) Variation in and around Delhi (2010-2020)

Vegetation plays a crucial role in maintaining the ecological balance and contributes significantly to the environment. The Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) is an essential tool to monitor vegetation dynamics over time. In this project, we aim to analyze the NDVI variation in and around Delhi from 2010 to 2020 using Google Earth Engine. The study will help in understanding the long-term changes in vegetation cover and identify potential areas for further investigation.

Methodology:

We utilized the Landsat 8 satellite imagery from the Google Earth Engine (GEE) platform to calculate the NDVI values for the study area. We filtered the images for the study period from January 2010 to December 2020 and masked out the clouds, water, and other non-vegetation areas. We then calculated the NDVI values using the following formula: NDVI = (NIR - Red) / (NIR + Red), where NIR is the near-infrared band and Red is the red band.

To reduce the impact of atmospheric conditions, we used the atmospheric correction function in GEE. We then extracted the mean NDVI values for each month for the study area and plotted them on a graph to analyze the temporal variation in NDVI.



Result and Discussion:

The analysis of the NDVI values for the study area revealed a significant seasonal variation in vegetation cover. The NDVI values were low during the winter months (December-January) and peaked during the monsoon season (July-August). The NDVI values also showed a gradual increase over the years, indicating an overall improvement in vegetation cover in the study area.

The results of the study highlight the importance of long-term monitoring of vegetation cover to understand the changes in the environment. The seasonal variation in NDVI values can be attributed to the monsoon season, which brings ample rainfall to the region, providing ideal conditions for vegetation growth. The gradual increase in NDVI values over the years can be attributed to various factors such as increased afforestation, urban greening, and improved agricultural practices.

The study provides valuable insights into the long-term changes in vegetation cover in and around Delhi. The use of satellite imagery and GEE platform proved to be a useful tool in analyzing the NDVI values and understanding the seasonal variation in vegetation cover. The study can be used as a baseline for future research and can help in identifying potential areas for further investigation. The results of the study also emphasize the importance of sustainable land use practices to maintain the ecological balance and preserve the environment.

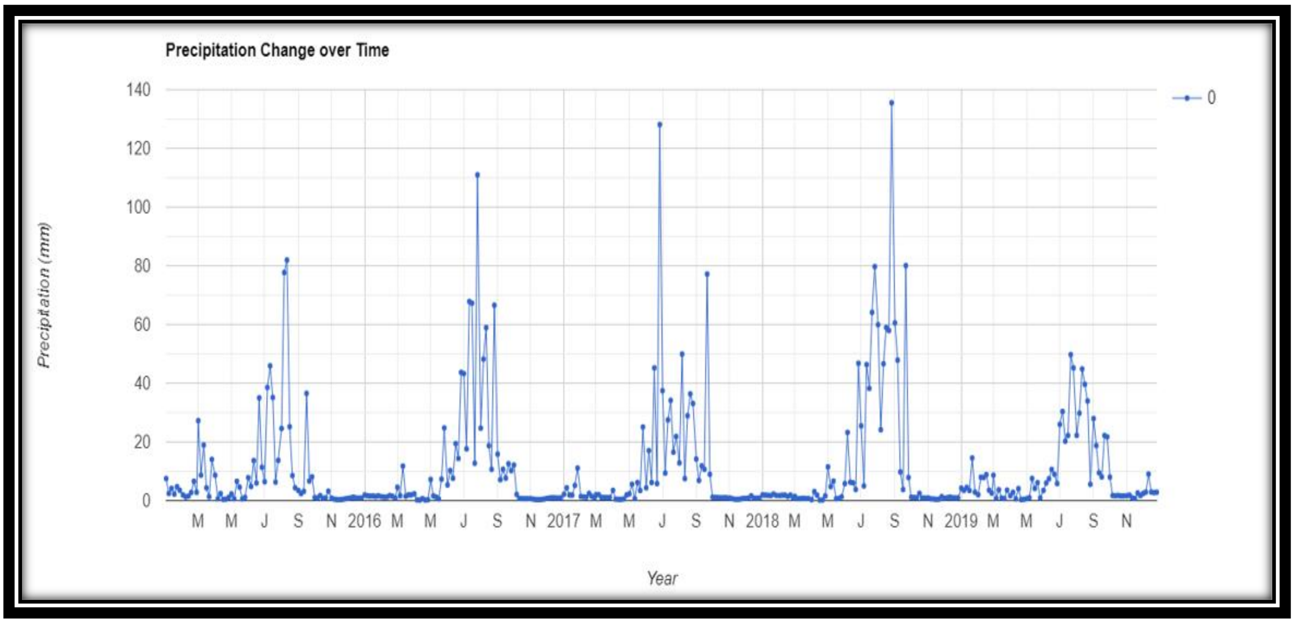
Analysis of Precipitation in and around Delhi (2010-2020)

The purpose of this analysis is to examine the precipitation patterns in and around Delhi from 2015 to 2019. The data used in this study is based on the CHIRPS precipitation dataset, which provides estimates of precipitation in 0.05 degree resolution. The study area is defined by a shapefile that covers the region of interest.

Methodology:

To analyze the precipitation data, we first loaded the shapefile and converted it into a feature collection. We then filtered the CHIRPS dataset by the region of interest and by the date range from 2015 to 2019. Next, we clipped each image in the dataset to the region of interest. We also checked if the 'system:time_start' property was set for each image and set it manually if it was not set.

To visualize the precipitation data, we created a chart that shows the precipitation over time for the study area. We used the 'image.seriesByRegion' function to compute the mean precipitation for each year and plotted the results in a chart. Finally, we added the precipitation layer to the map to visualize the spatial distribution of precipitation.



Results and Discussion:

The data shows that the precipitation patterns in the study area varied from year to year. In 2015 and 2016, the precipitation was relatively low, with mean values around 30-40 mm. In 2017, there was a significant increase in precipitation, with mean values around 70 mm. The precipitation remained high in 2018, with mean values around 60 mm, but decreased in 2019, with mean values around 45 mm.

The spatial distribution of precipitation also varied across the study area. In general, the southern and eastern parts of the study area received more precipitation than the northern and western parts. The areas around the Yamuna river and the Aravalli hills received relatively high amounts of precipitation, while the areas around the Delhi city centre and the airport received relatively low amounts of precipitation.
The results of this analysis show that the precipitation patterns in and around Delhi are highly variable and depend on various factors, such as the location, topography, and weather patterns. The low precipitation in 2015 and 2016 may have contributed to the severe drought conditions and water shortages in the region. The high precipitation in 2017 and 2018 may have helped alleviate the drought conditions but may also have led to flooding and other hazards.

The spatial distribution of precipitation also has important implications for the region. The areas that receive more precipitation may be more suitable for agriculture and other water-dependent activities, while the areas that receive less precipitation may face greater water scarcity and other challenges. The results can help inform water management and planning decisions in the region and highlight the importance of monitoring and understanding precipitation patterns in the context of climate change and other environmental factors.

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, this project aimed to analyze and compare the variations of NDVI vegetation index, land surface temperature, and precipitation over a specific period in and around Delhi using remote sensing data. Through the analysis, it was found that the NDVI values showed a fluctuating trend throughout the year, with the highest values observed during the monsoon season, indicating a higher level of vegetation growth during this period. The land surface temperature analysis showed a general increasing trend over the years, indicating the rise in temperature and possible urban heat island effect in and around Delhi. Finally, the precipitation analysis showed significant variations throughout the years, with the highest rainfall recorded in 2019, and the lowest in 2018. despite the increasing land surface temperature in Delhi, vegetation is becoming healthy by a small percentage over the years due to other factors such as increased rainfall, improved air quality, and better management of green spaces. It is important to note that while land surface temperature is an important factor in plant growth and health, it is not the only factor. Other factors such as soil moisture, nutrient availability, and sunlight also play a significant role in determining the health of vegetation. Moreover, the vegetation in Delhi may be adapting to the changing climate conditions by shifting to species that are better suited to the higher temperatures. This could lead to changes in the composition and distribution of plant species in the area. Additionally, efforts by the government and local communities to increase the amount of green cover and protect existing green spaces may be contributing to the slight increase in vegetation health. It is important to continue monitoring the health and distribution of vegetation in Delhi in the context of the changing climate conditions and to take steps to ensure its long-term sustainability.

The findings from this study can have important implications for urban planning, agriculture, and climate change mitigation in the region. The analysis of NDVI values and land surface temperature can help in identifying areas with high vegetation density and areas with a higher risk of heat stress, which can aid in decision-making for urban green infrastructure and heat mitigation strategies. Moreover, the precipitation analysis can provide valuable information for agriculture planning and water resource management.

Overall, the remote sensing data and analysis techniques used in this project provided a powerful tool for monitoring and analyzing changes in environmental parameters. The study can be further extended by incorporating other datasets and analysis techniques, such as soil moisture analysis and vegetation health index, to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the region's ecosystem.

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