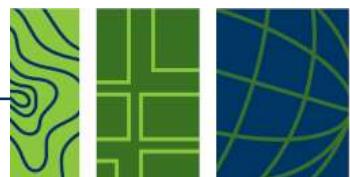


# Introduction to Satellite Remote Sensing (of Urban Climates)

Benjamin Bechtel, Panagiotis  
Sismanidis, Matthias Demuzere,  
Daniel Fenner et al.

Bochum Urban Climate Summer  
School, 26.9.2022

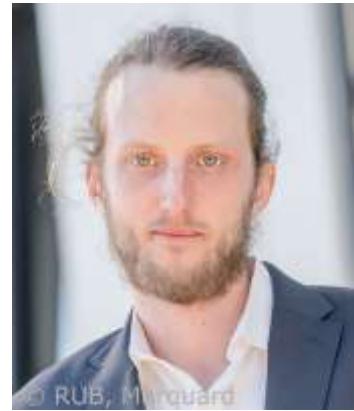


Geographisches  
Institut



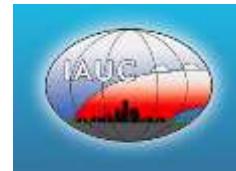
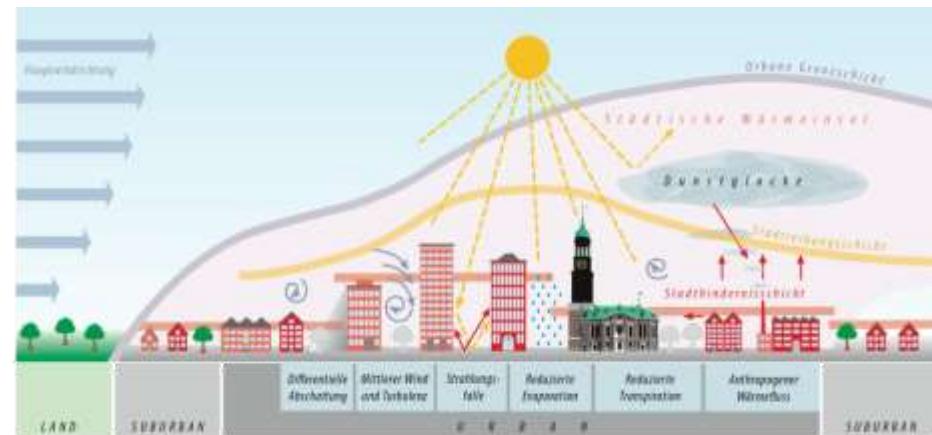
RUBclim

# About me



Geographisches  
Institut

Benjamin.Bechtel@rub.de



# Team Climatology



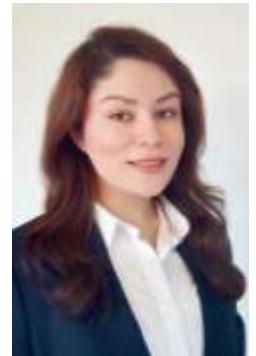
Benjamin Bechtel



Matthias Demuzere



Panagiotis  
Sismanidis



Nooshin  
Nowzamani



Annika Gomell



Caroline Güers



Andreas Pflitsch



Charlotte Hüser



Jonas Kittner



Teresa Mansheim



Lara van der Linden



Selina Mähner



Christian Moede

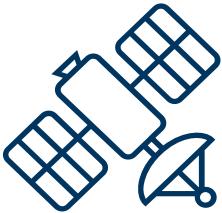


Sebastian Trenk



Jens Steer

# About us – RUB urban climatology



Remote sensing of urban climates

green ?



Characterization of urban structures and modelling



Crowd sourcing and smart city

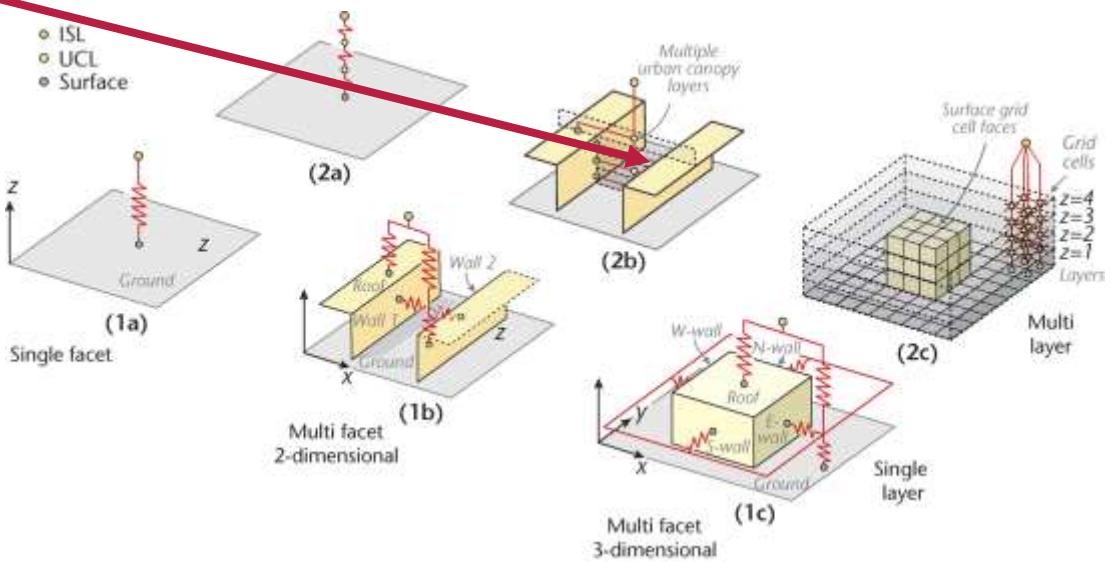
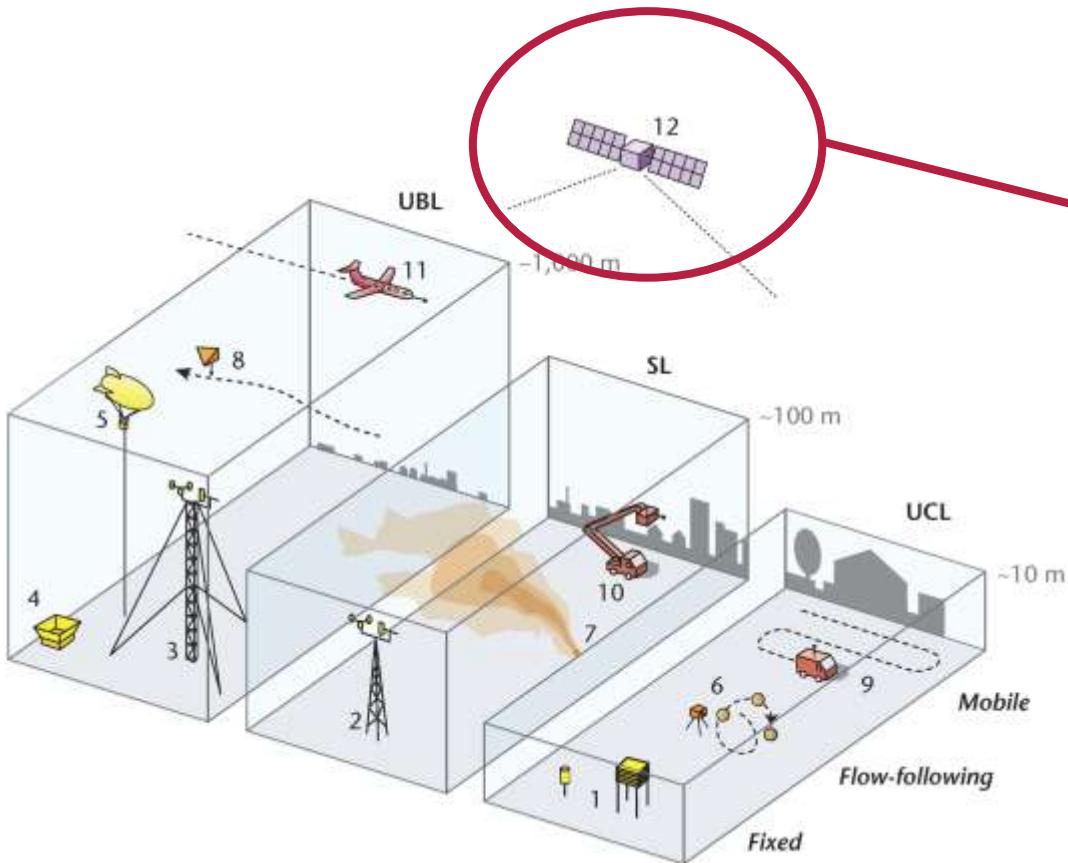
smart



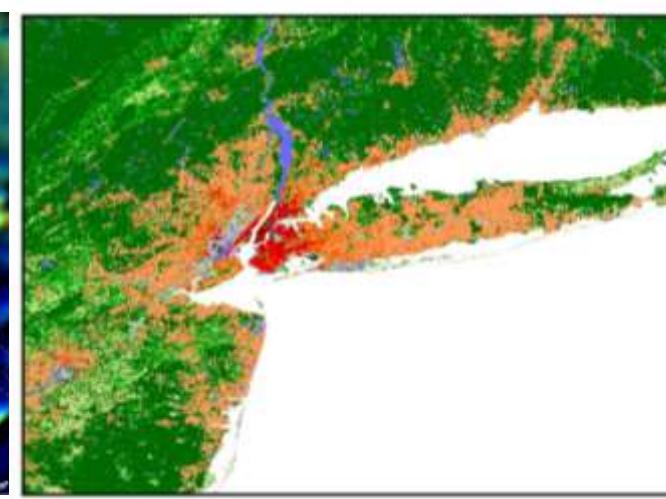
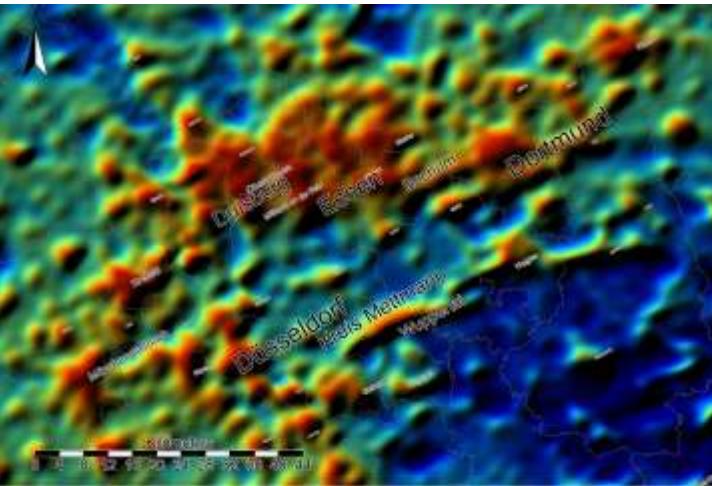
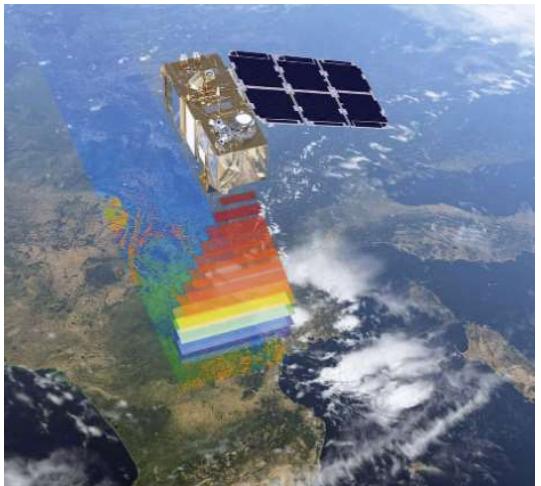
Applied urban climatology and climate adaption

resilient

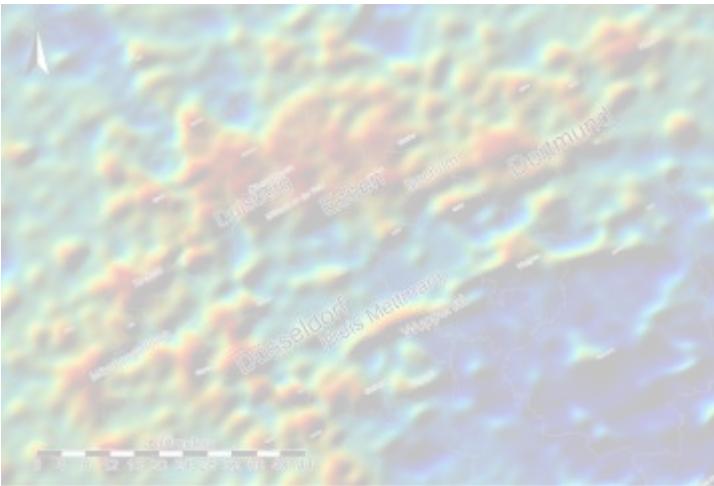
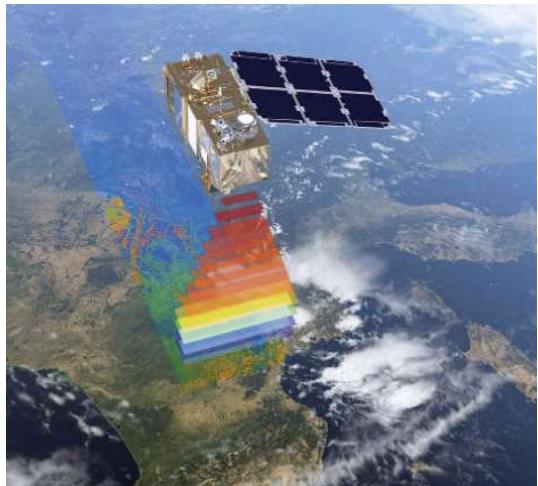
# Methods in Urban Climatology



# outline

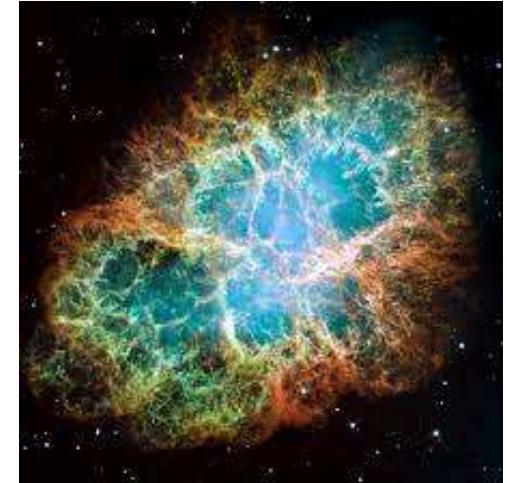
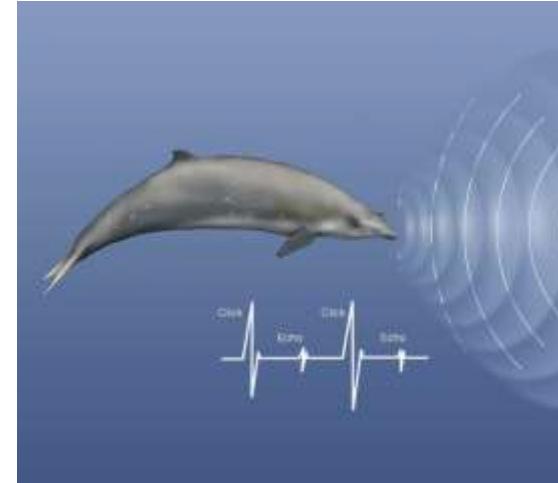
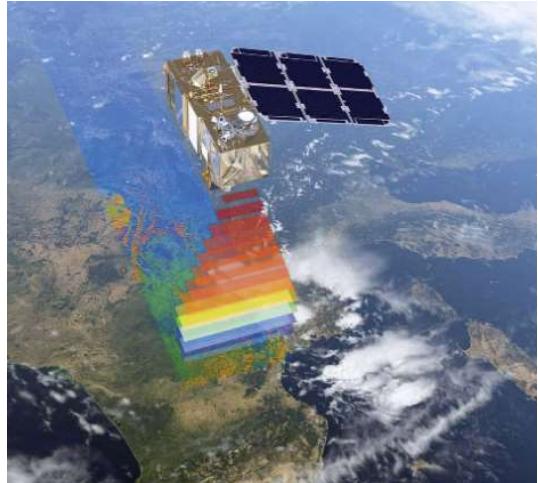


# Remote Sensing Fundamentals



# What is Remote Sensing?

- Remote sensing is defined as the acquisition of information about an object **without** being in physical contact with it.

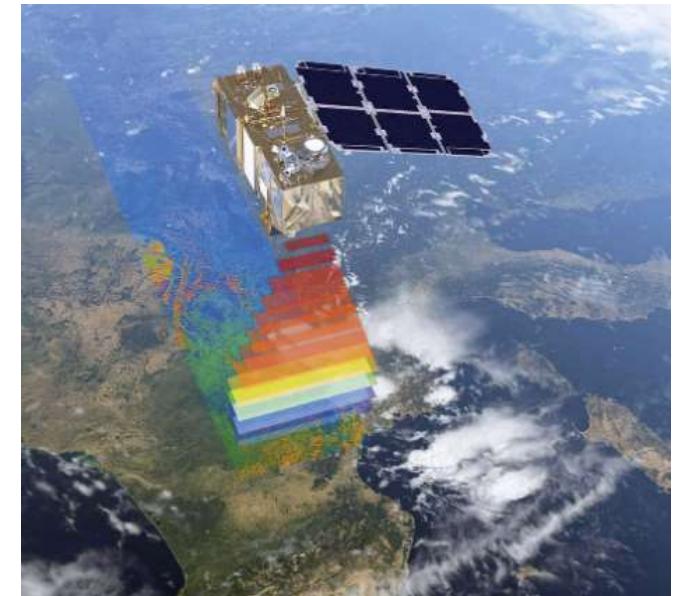


---

# Something more concise?

- Remote sensing is the practice of deriving information about the Earth's land and water surfaces using images acquired from an overhead perspective, using electromagnetic radiation in one or more regions of the electromagnetic spectrum, reflected or emitted from the Earth's surface

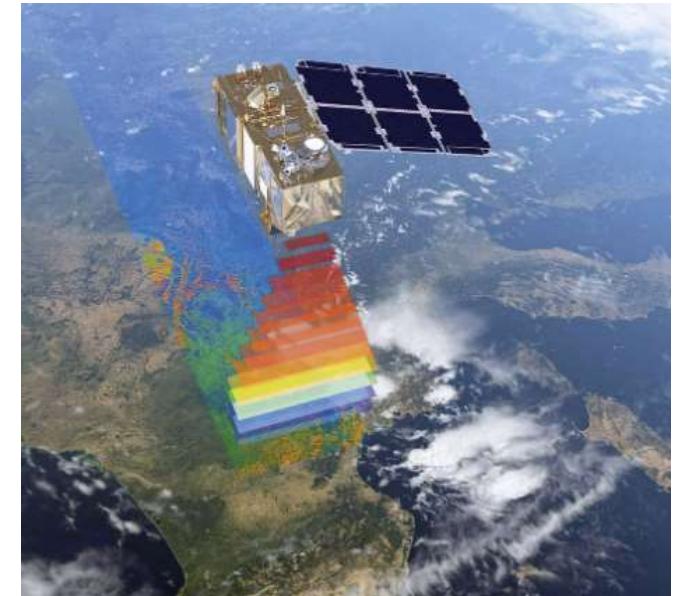
*Campbell & Wynne, 2008*



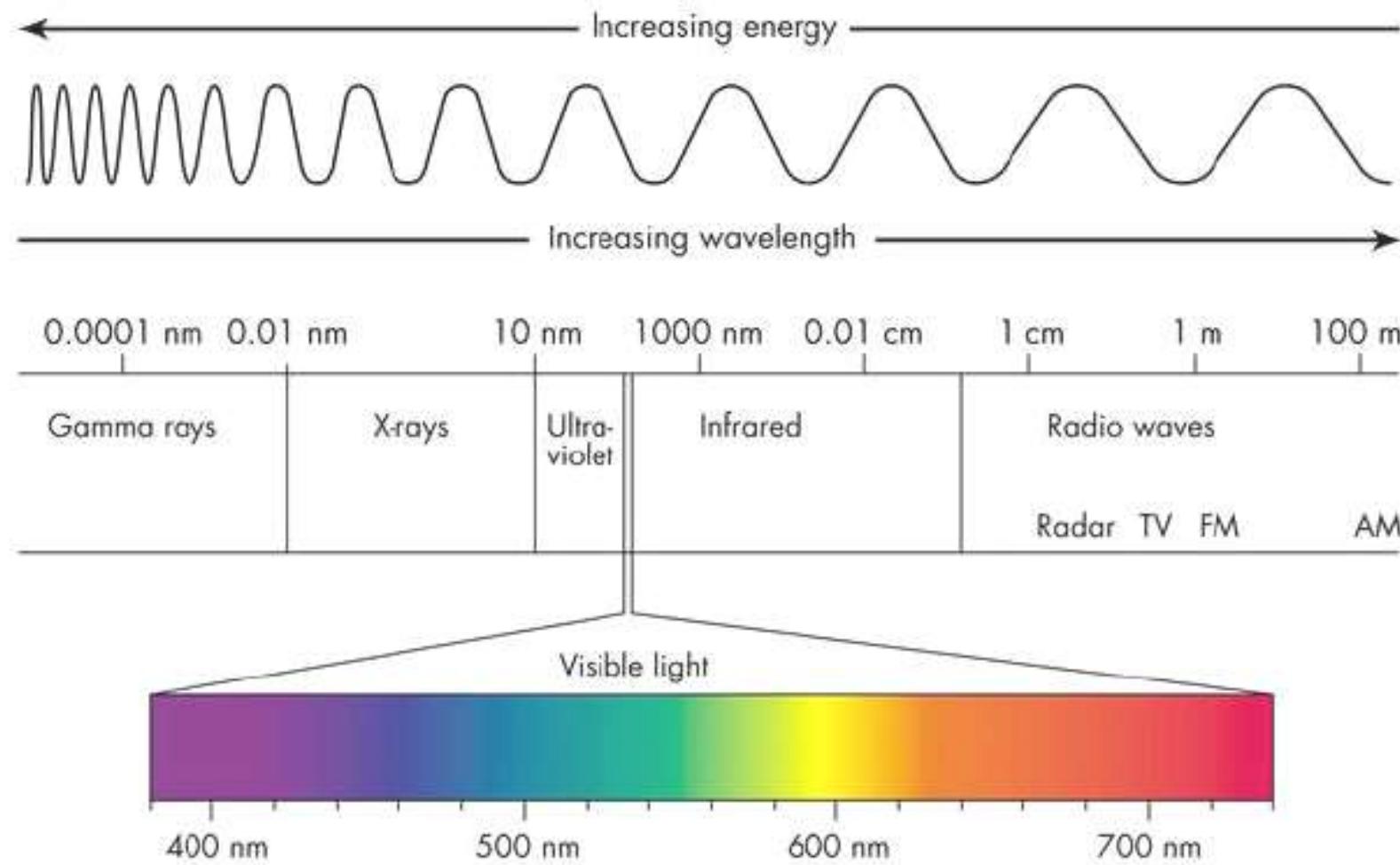
# Something more concise?

- Remote sensing is the practice of **deriving information** about the Earth's land and water surfaces using images acquired from an **overhead perspective**, using **electromagnetic radiation** in one or more regions of the electromagnetic spectrum, reflected or emitted from the Earth's surface.

*Campbell & Wynne, 2008*

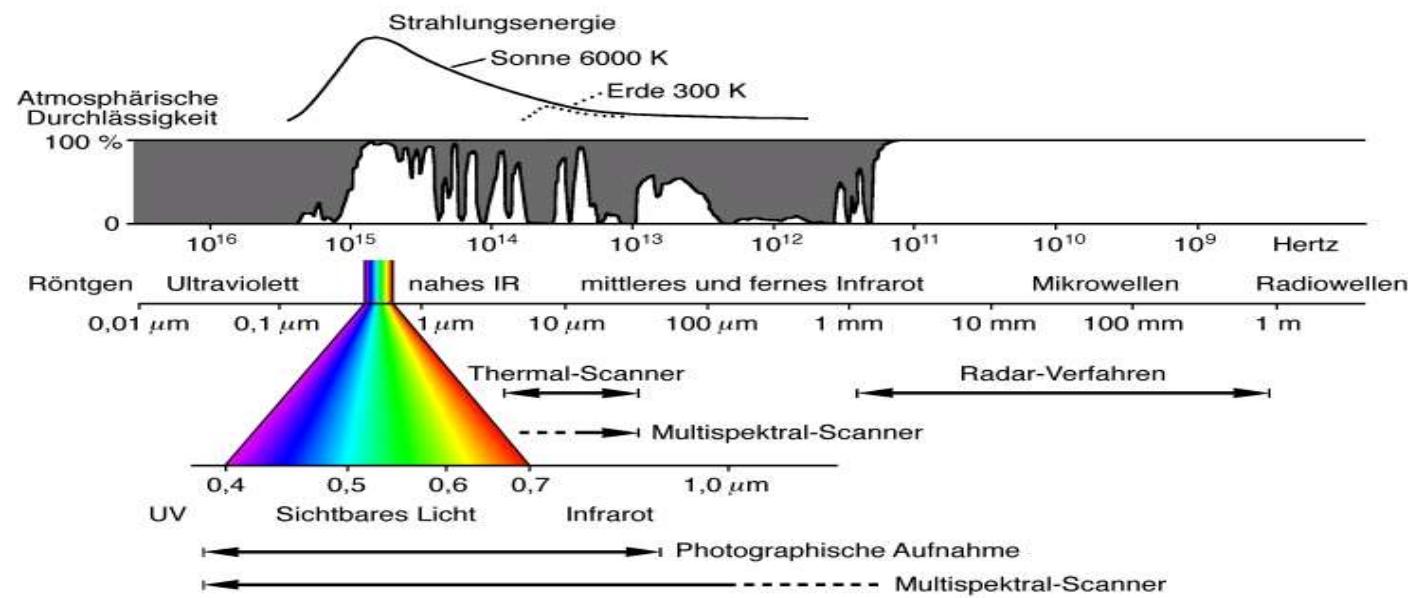


# Elektromagnetic spectrum – world of $\lambda$

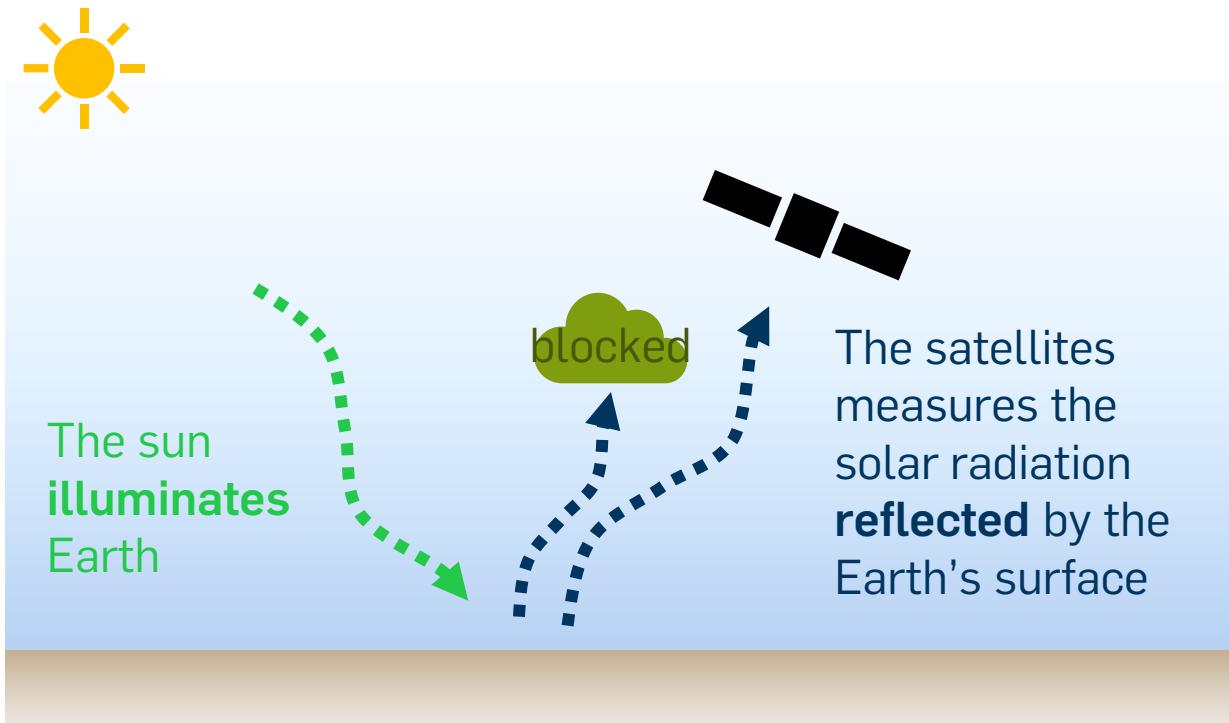


# Basics – Remote Sensing

## EM spectrum and atmospheric windows

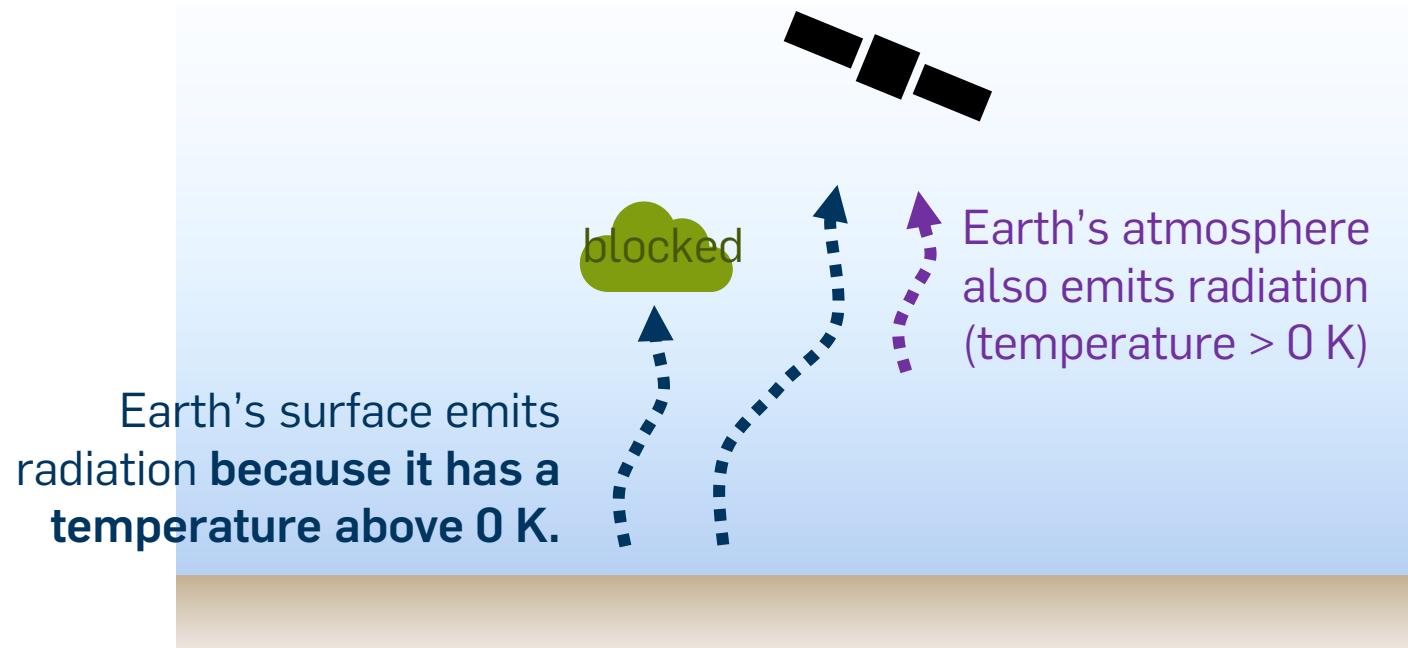


# 1. reflected (Passive Remote Sensing)



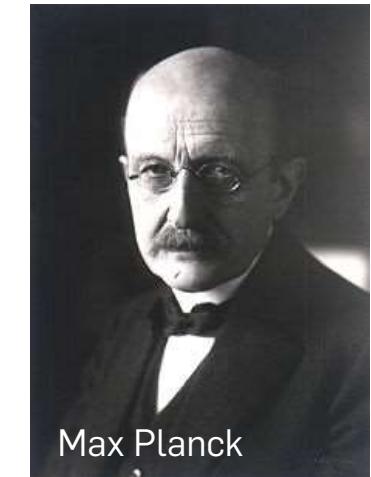
- These are called “passive” sensors because they measure the radiation that is naturally available.
- Solar radiation is available only during the day
- Clouds block the solar radiation.
- Strongly influenced by the atmosphere

## 2. Emitted (Passive Remote Sensing)



- Earth-emitted radiation is available throughout the day.
- Clouds block the emitted radiation (In TIR).
- Strongly influenced by the atmosphere.
- The Earth's surface has a skin temperature that typically ranges from 258 K to 318 K (the climatological mean is 288 K).

# Blackbody Radiation



Max Planck

A blackbody is a hypothetical body that absorbs all the radiation it receives and under thermal equilibrium conditions emits EM radiation with perfect efficiency and with a spectral distribution that obeys Planck's law.

$$B_{\lambda}(T) = \frac{2hc^2}{\lambda^5} \frac{1}{e^{ch/\lambda kT} - 1}$$

where:  $B_{\lambda}(T)$  = blackbody spectral radiance ( $\text{W m}^{-3} \text{ sr}^{-1}$ )

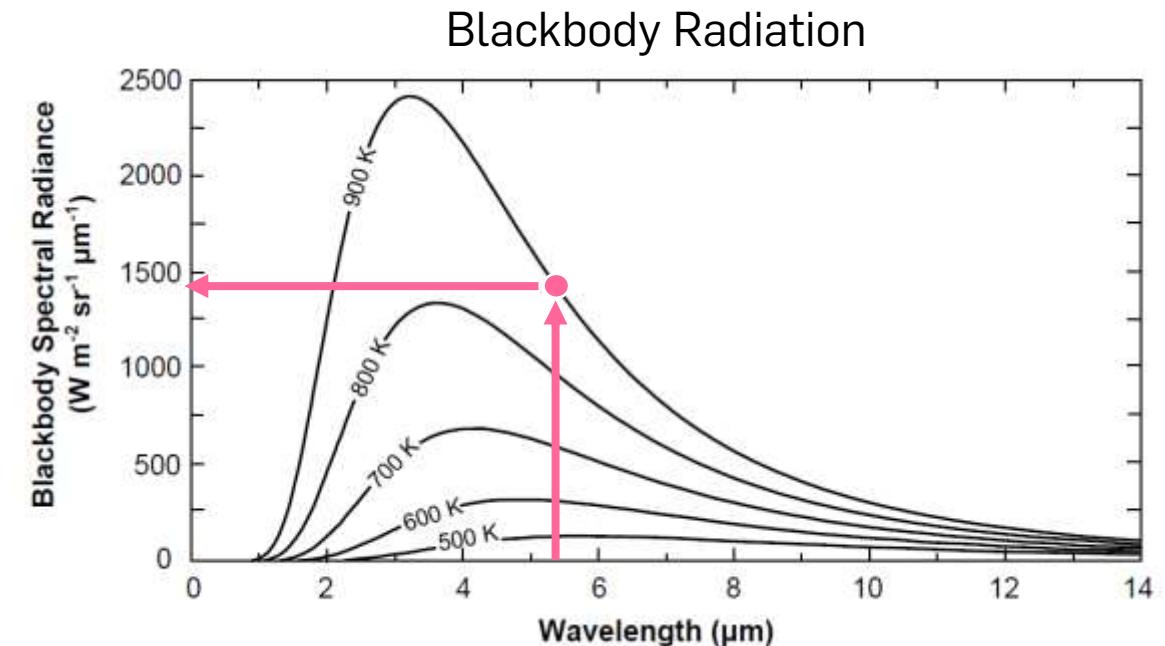
$T$  = thermodynamic temperature (K)

$\lambda$  = wavelength (m)

$h$  = Planck's constant (equal to  $6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ W s}^2$ )

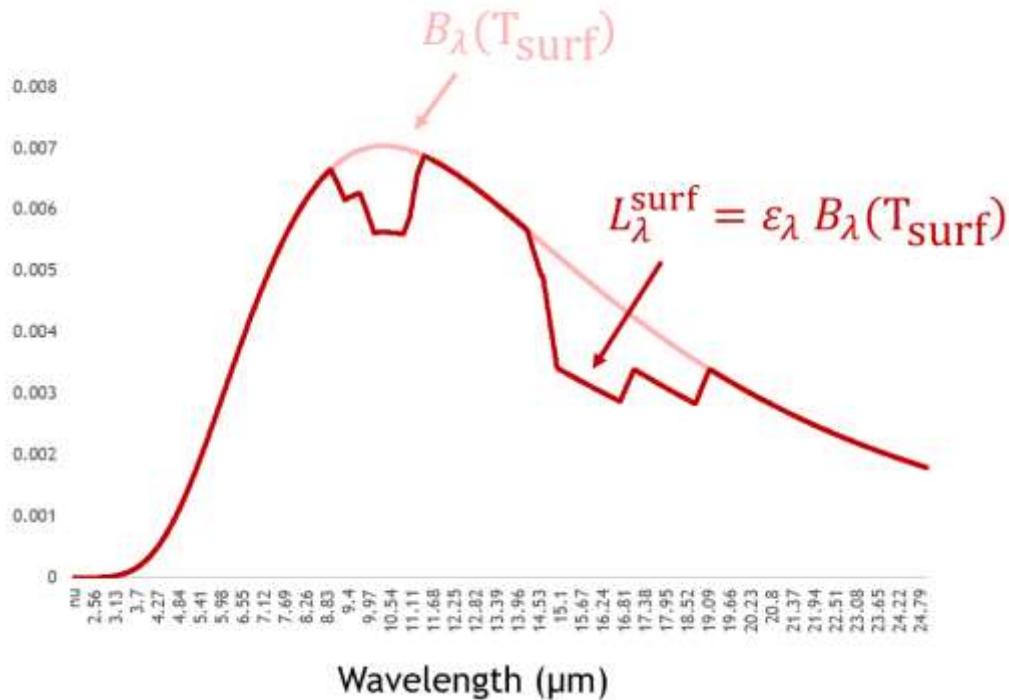
$c$  = velocity of light (equal to  $2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ )

$k$  = Boltzmann's constant (equal to  $1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ W s K}^{-1}$ )





# Spectral Emissivity



- Real physical bodies are not perfect emitters.
- To account for the wavelength-depended emission efficiency we use a factor called spectral emissivity with a range [0, 1].

$$\varepsilon_\lambda = \frac{\text{emitted radiation at } T}{\text{blackbody radiation at } T}$$

- Hence the spectral radiance emitted by a real body with a temperature  $T$  will be:

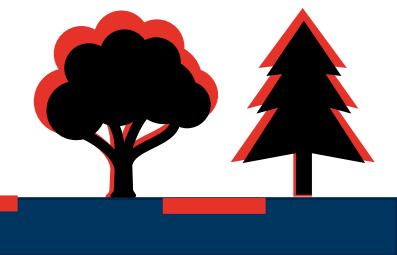
$$L_\lambda(T) = \varepsilon_\lambda B_\lambda(T)$$

# What is Land Surface Temperature (LST)?

**"LST is often referred to as the "skin" temperature, or radiometric temperature, and should not be confused with near surface air temperature, which is the temperature of the air near the surface as routinely measured at meteorological stations and included in daily weather reports. Instead, the LST is a direct measure of how hot or cold the surface of the Earth would feel to the touch. For bare soil surfaces, the LST is the temperature of the top few micrometers of the soil surface, while for dense vegetation it is the temperature of the leaves of the canopy.** For sparse vegetation, it is the ensemble temperature of the canopy, the understory (limbs, branches, etc.), and the soil surface."

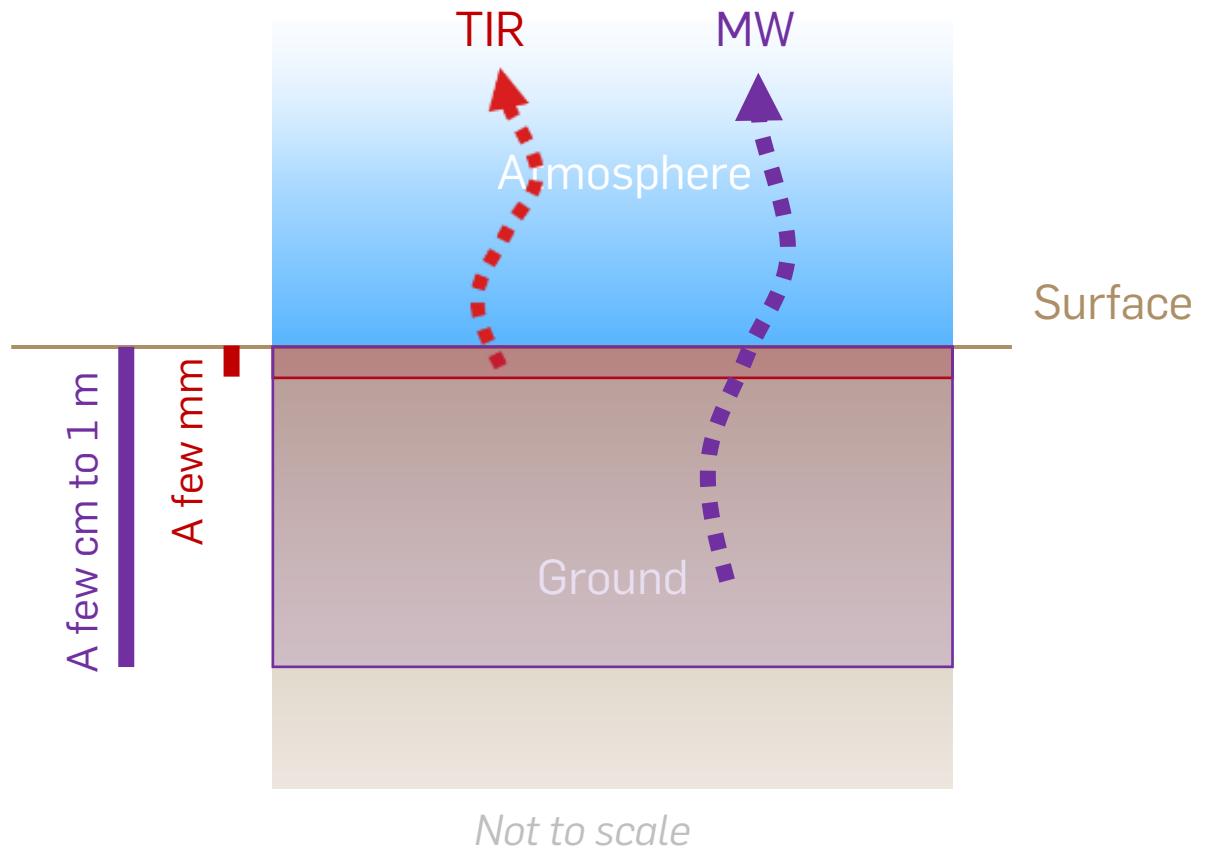


Edited by:  
Glynn C. Hulley and Darren Ghent



# What does “skin” mean?

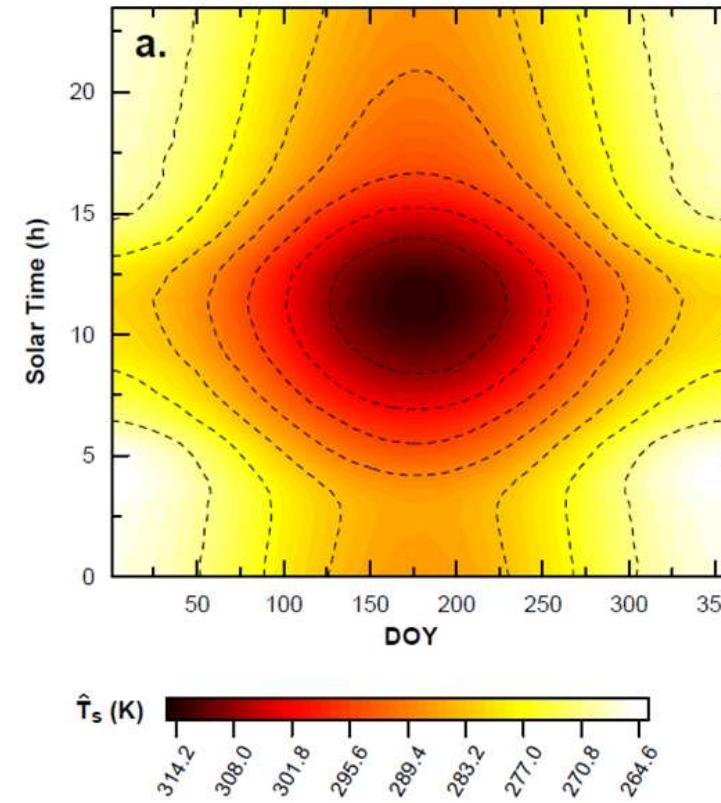
- For TIR wavelengths (8–15  $\mu\text{m}$ ), the radiation we measure is emitted by the first few millimeters.
- MW (0.15-30 cm) LSTs may refer to a skin depth of a few centimeters to a meter depending on the substrate.
- 1 cm = 10,000  $\mu\text{m}$



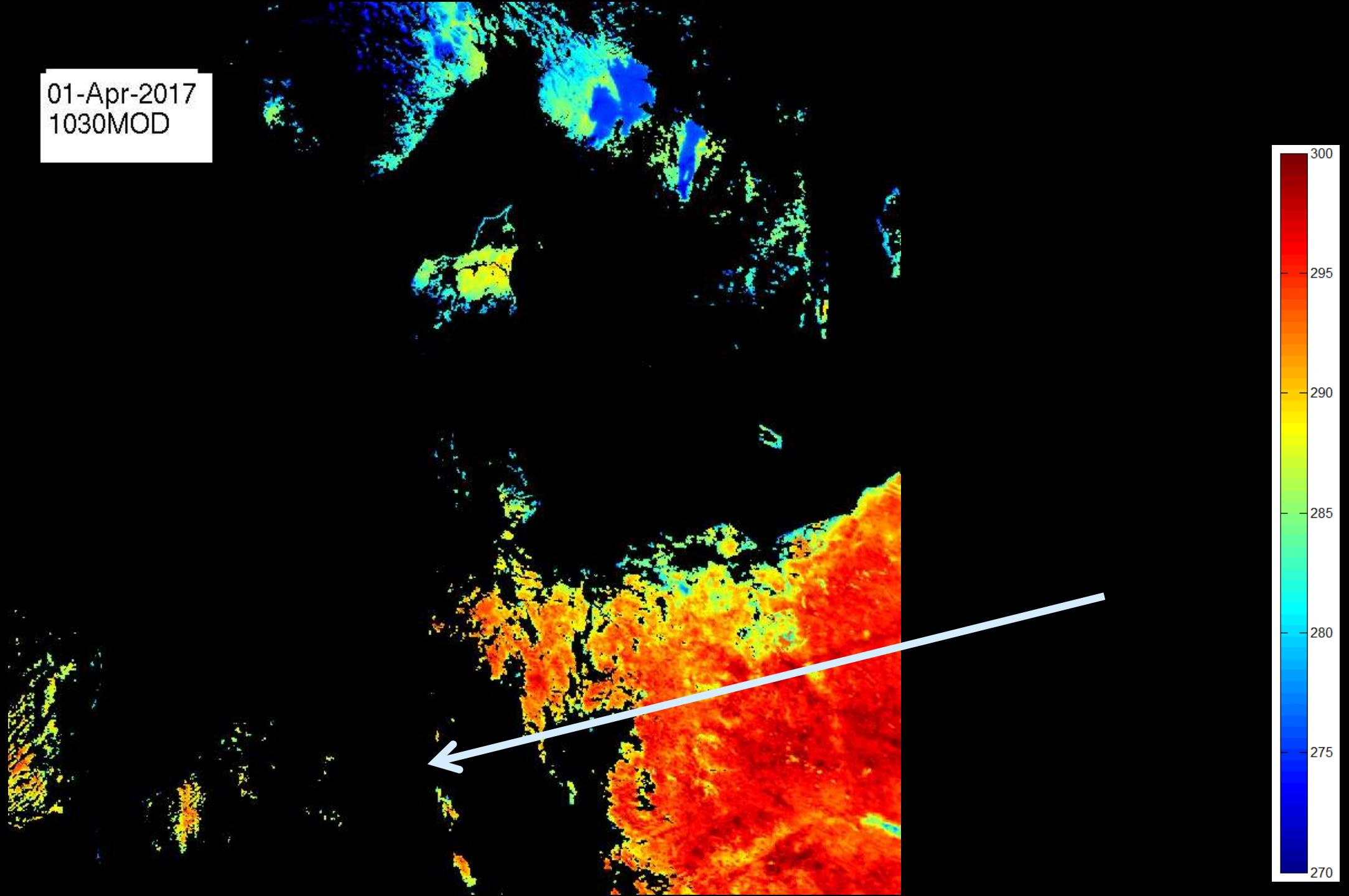
# LST is highly variable



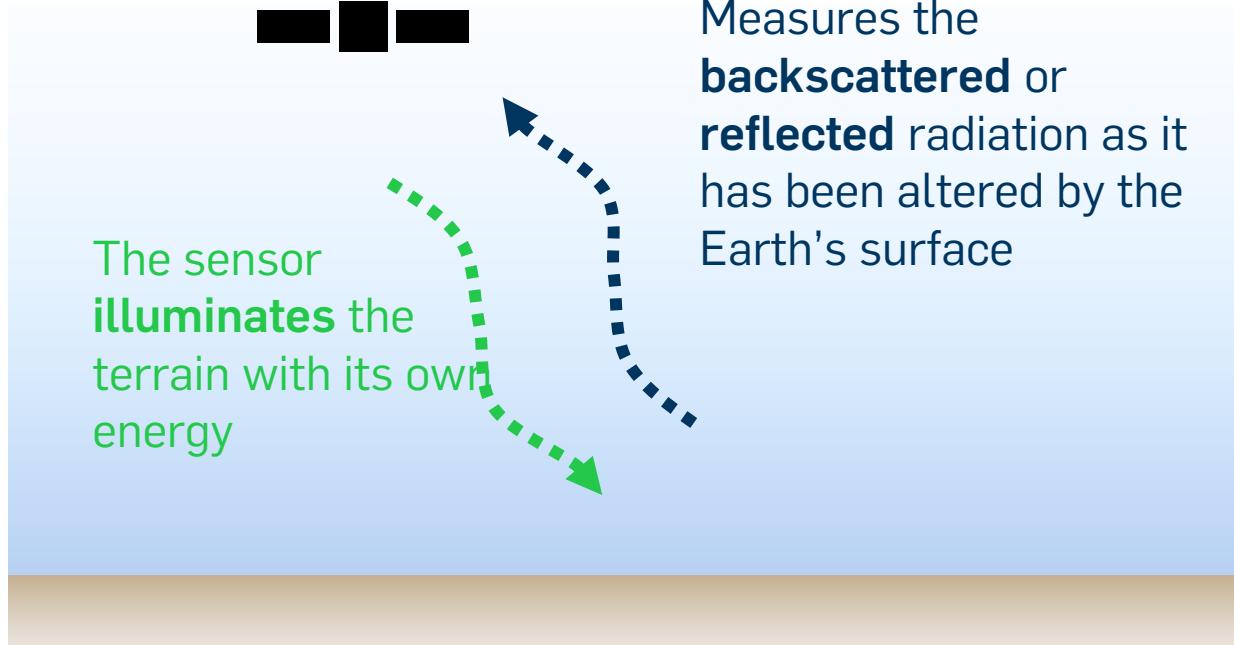
LST Temporal Evolution



01-Apr-2017  
1030MOD

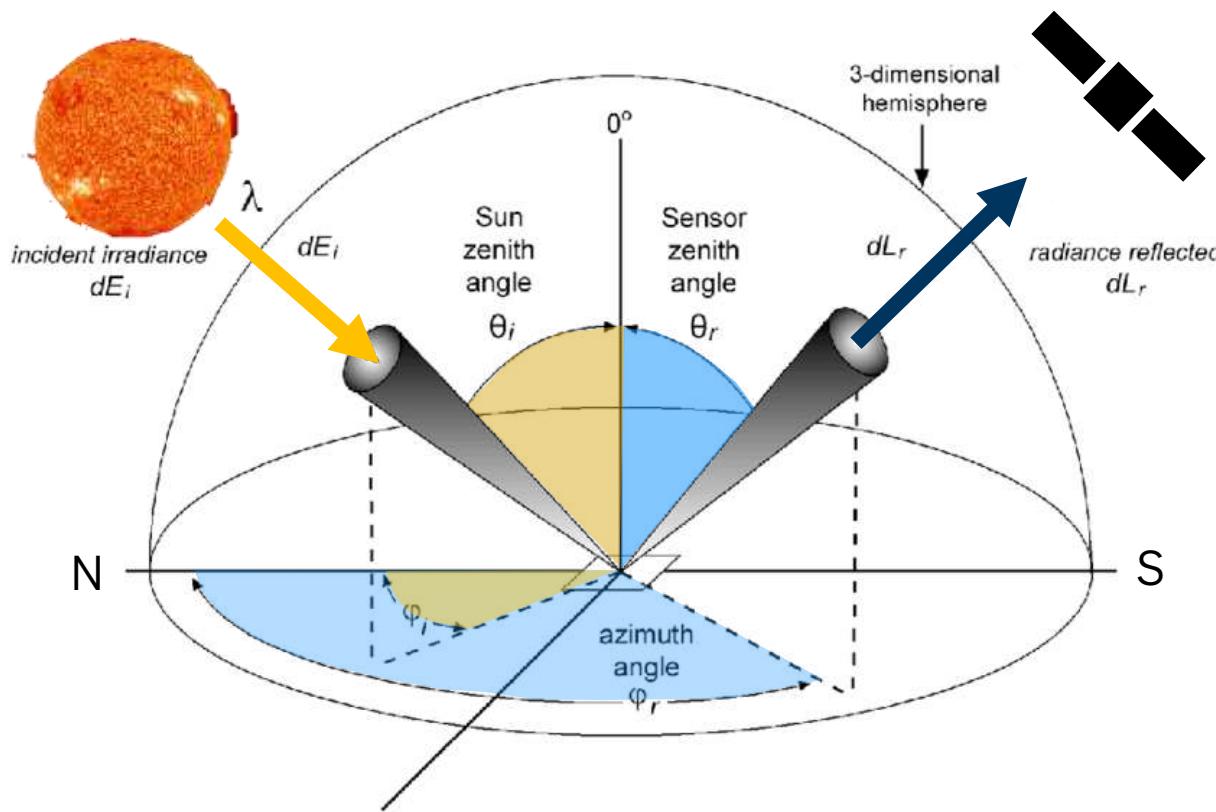


# 3. Active Remote Sensing



- These are called “active” sensors because they use their own energy.
- We select the wavelength that serves our needs the best.
- Independent of day or night or clouds.
- Best represented by imaging radars and lidars.

# Radiance is a Directional Quantity



Reflected VNIR-SWIR radiation

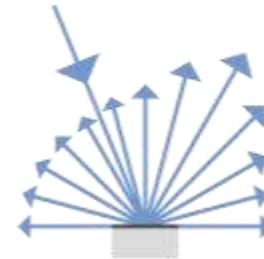
$$L(\varphi_{\text{sun}}, \theta_{\text{sun}}, \varphi_{\text{sat}}, \theta_{\text{sat}})$$

Emitted TIR radiation

$$L(\varphi_{\text{sat}}, \theta_{\text{sat}})$$

Why is this important?

Because the reflectance  
and emission of real  
surfaces is anisotropic

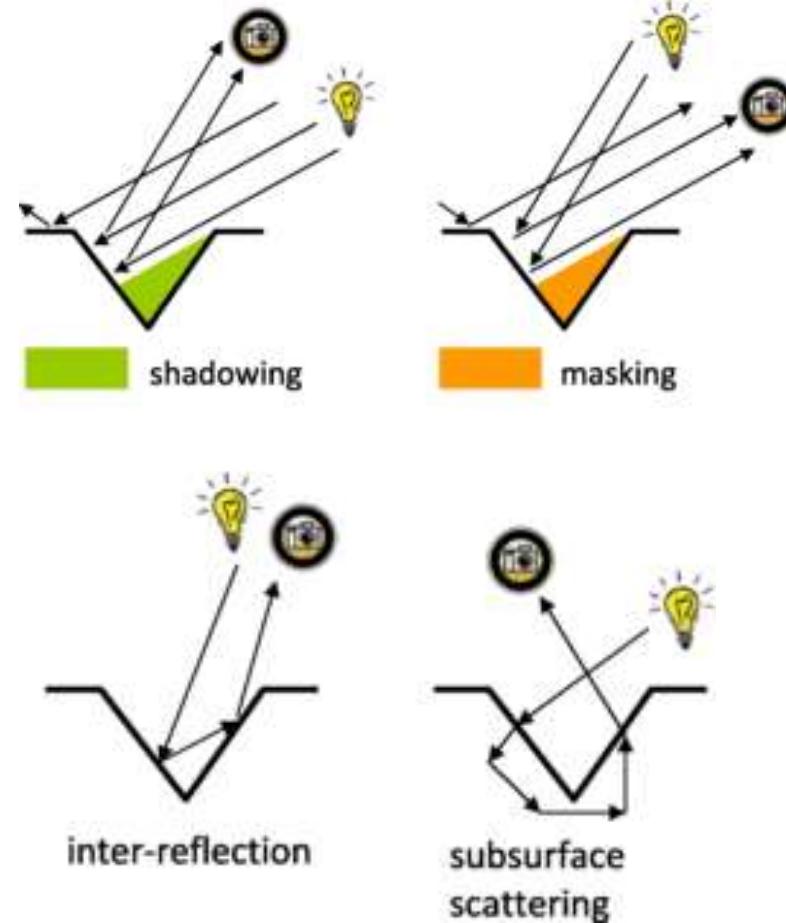
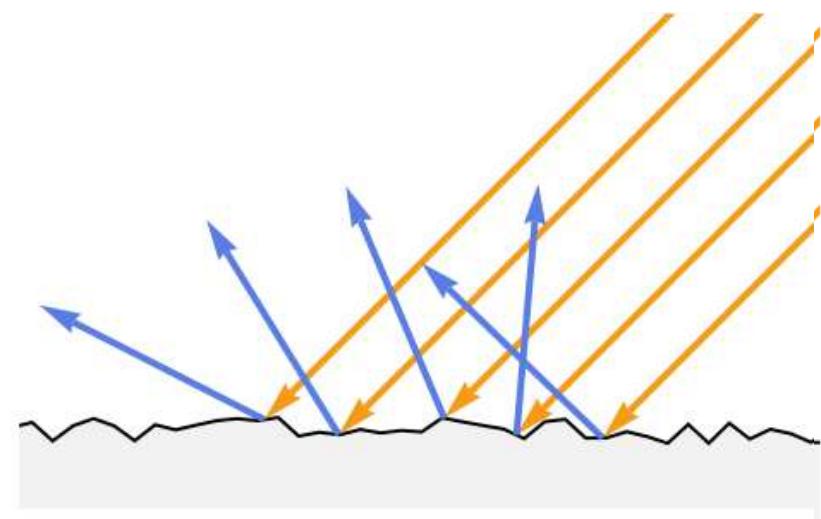


# Example

Same target but here it looks much greener.



# Why this happens?



*Keep in mind that this explanation is NOT complete.*

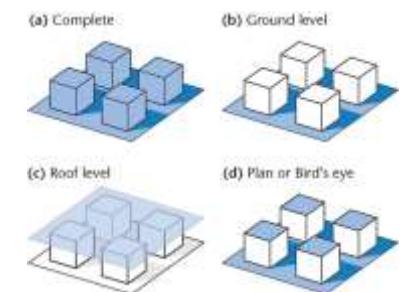
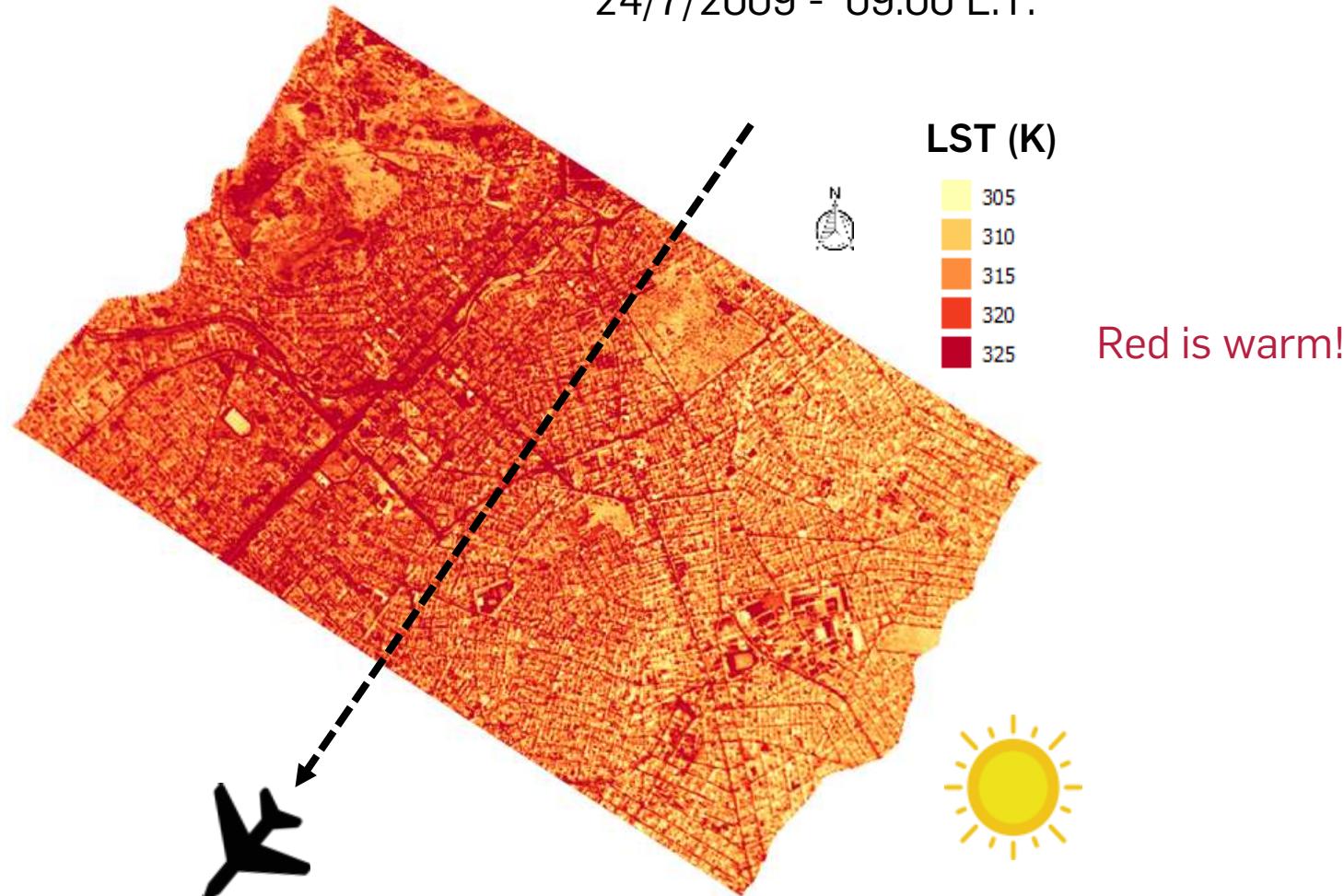
An aerial photograph of a dense, historic town built on a hillside overlooking a body of water. The town is characterized by numerous buildings with terracotta-colored roofs, tightly packed together. In the foreground, the spires and towers of a large cathedral or church are prominent, with one tall, thin tower reaching towards the top of the frame. The town extends along a coastline, with a small pier or breakwater visible where the land meets the water. The lighting suggests it is either sunrise or sunset, casting a warm, golden glow over the entire scene.

Urban Surfaces  
are (likely) the  
most convoluted  
on the planet!

# What is LST over cities ?

Athens, Greece

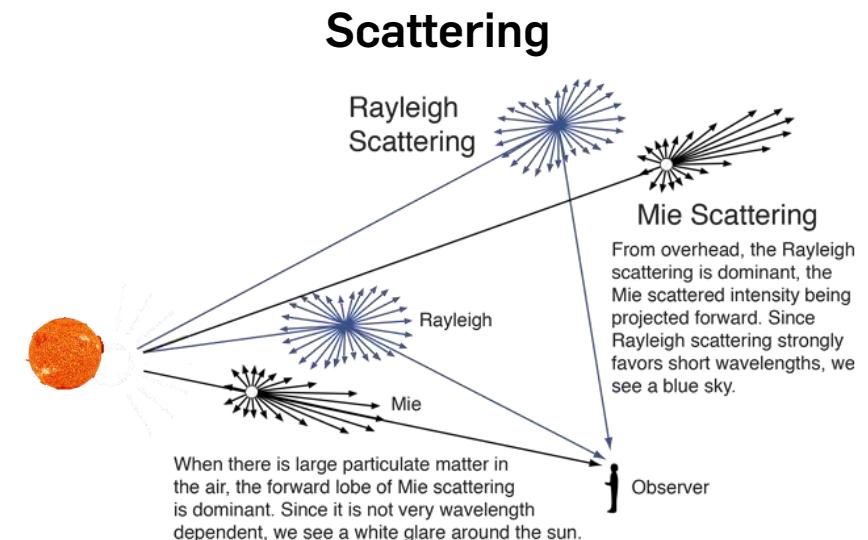
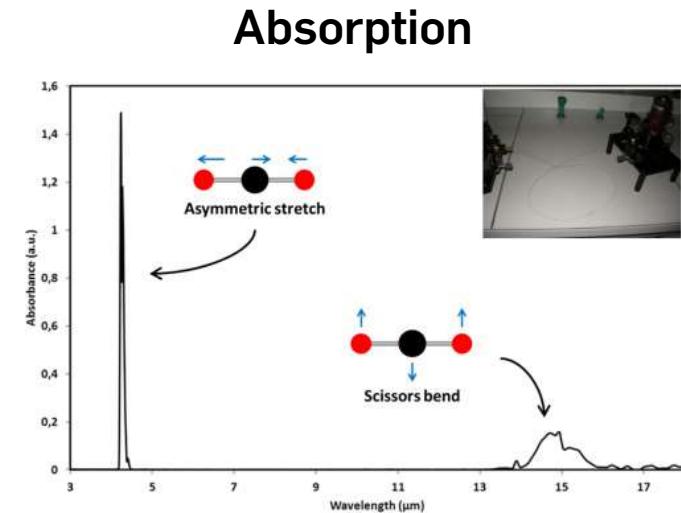
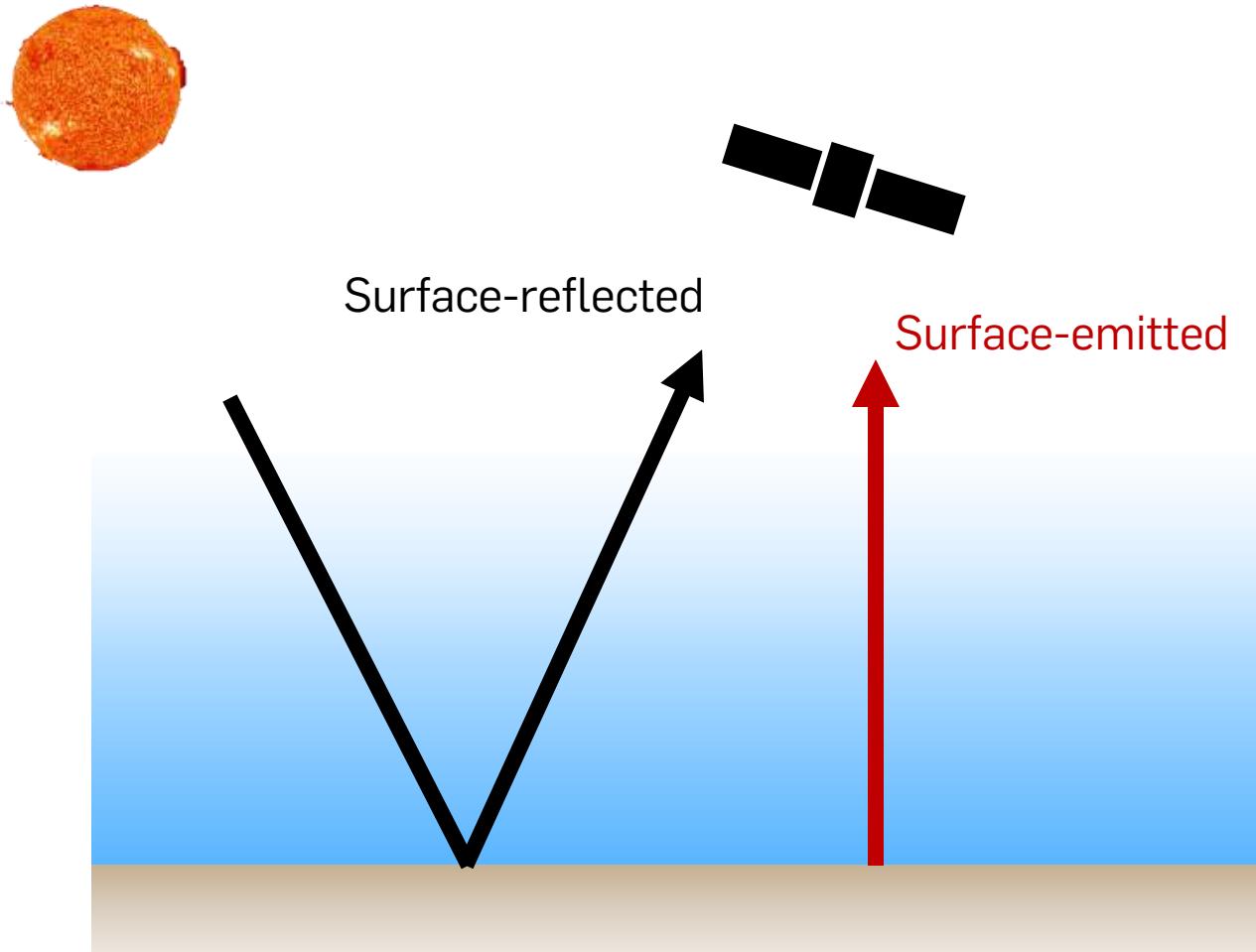
24/7/2009 - 09:00 L.T.

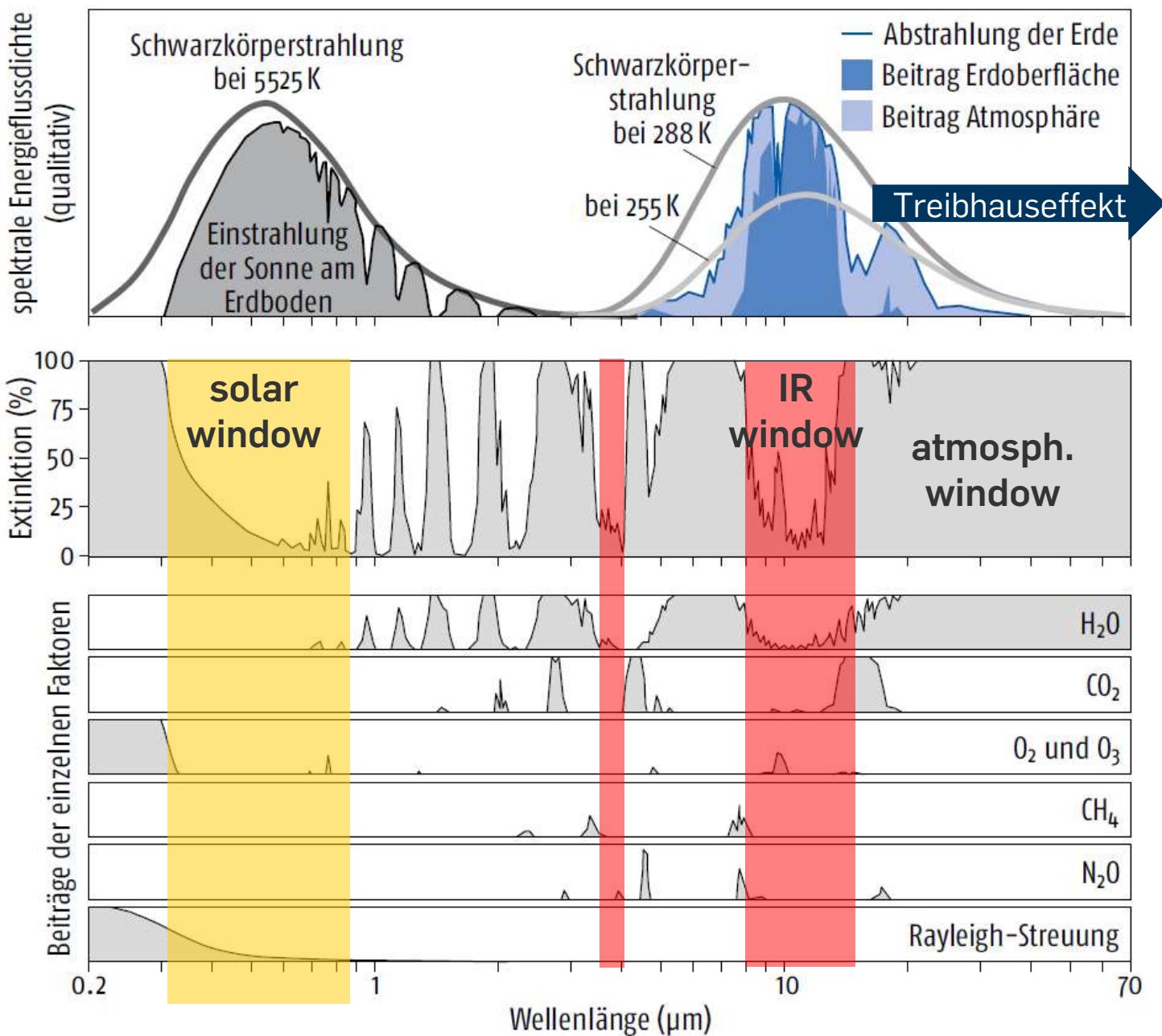


Oke et al. (2017)

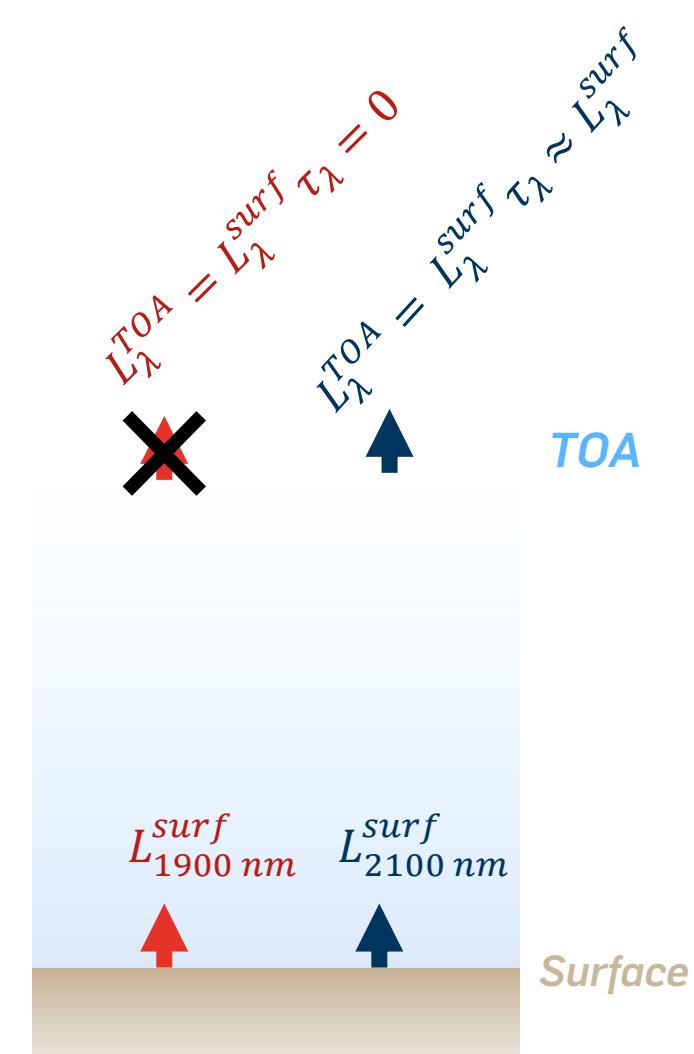
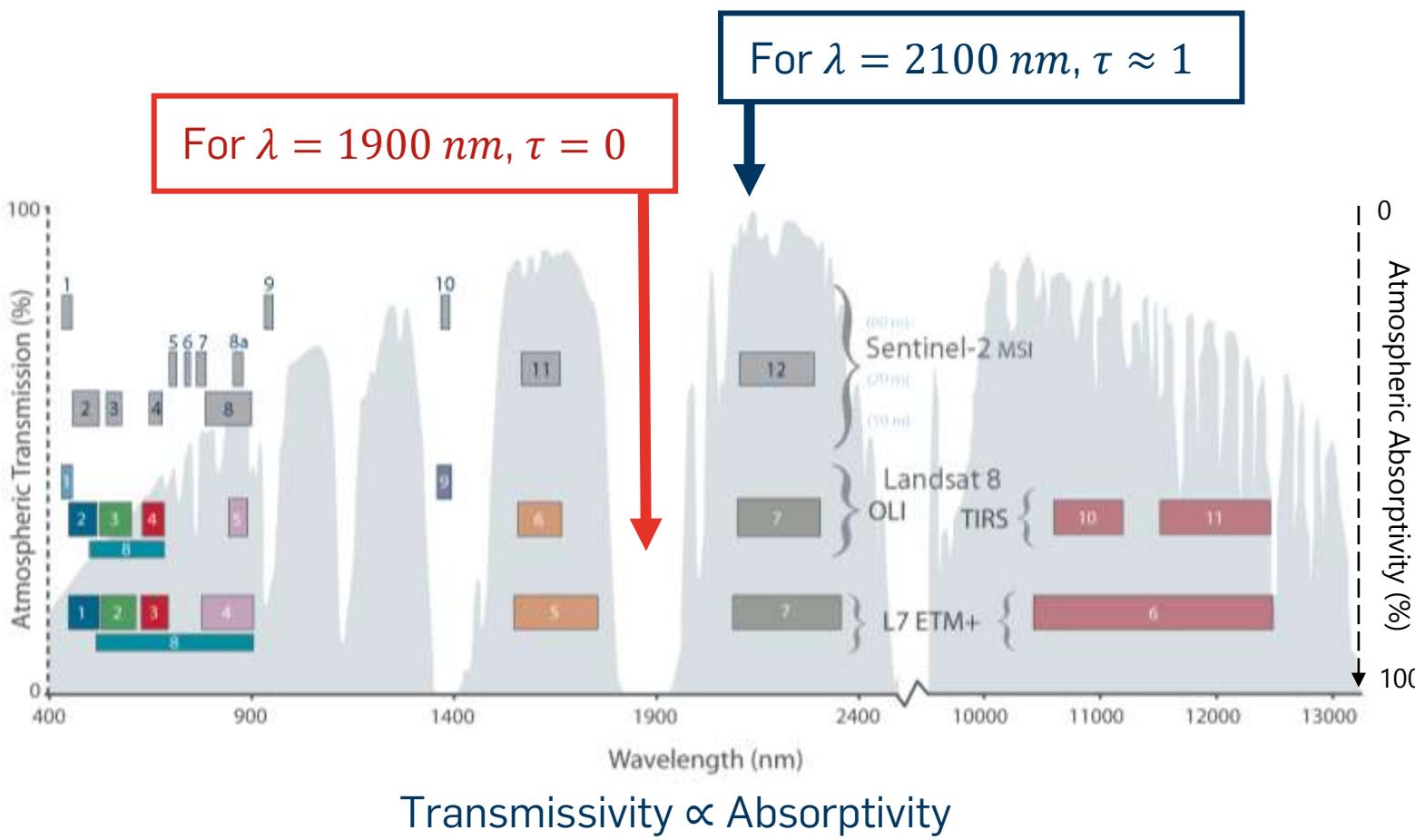
- Data: Thermopolis 2009 (ESA)

# Atmospheric Influence



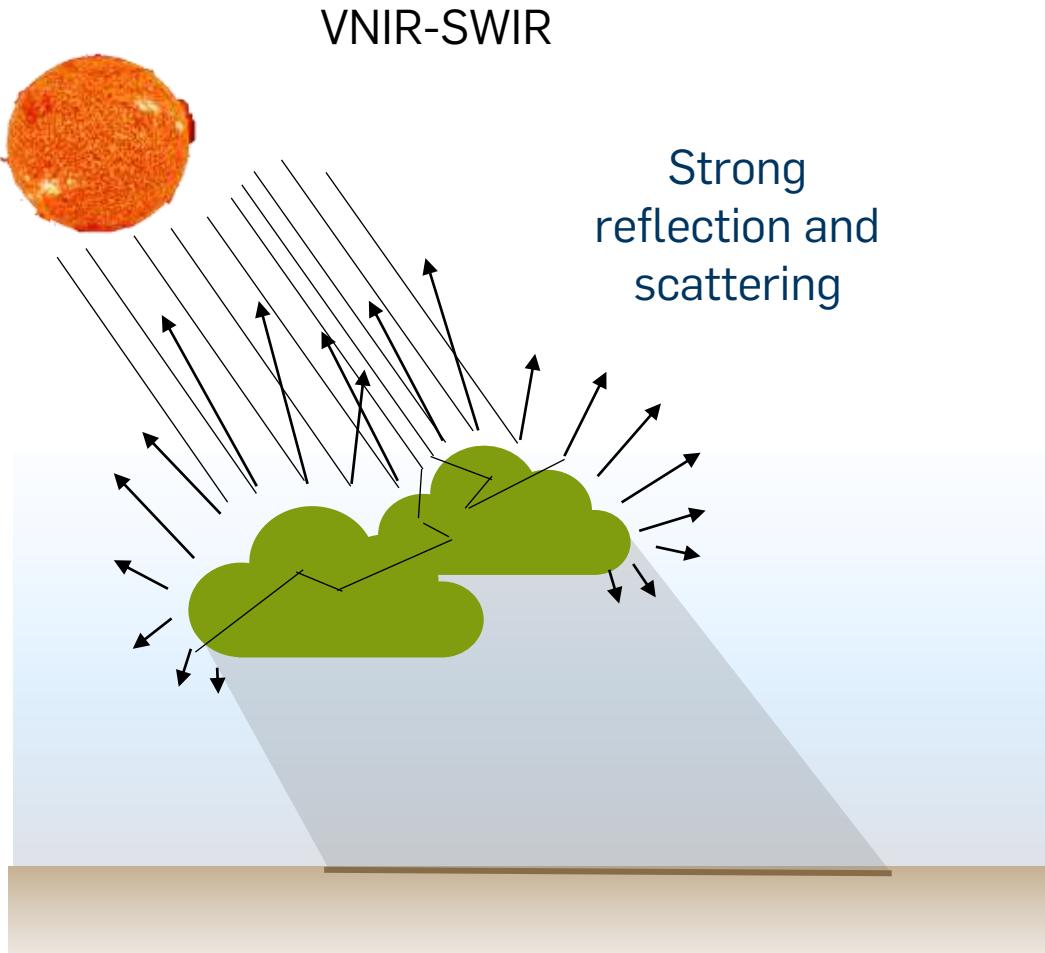


# Atmospheric Windows

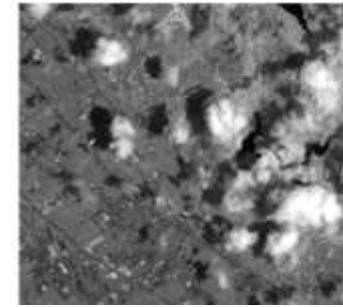


TOA: Top-of-the-Atmosphere

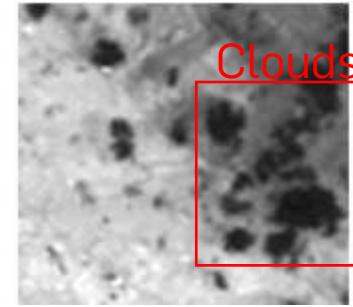
# Clouds



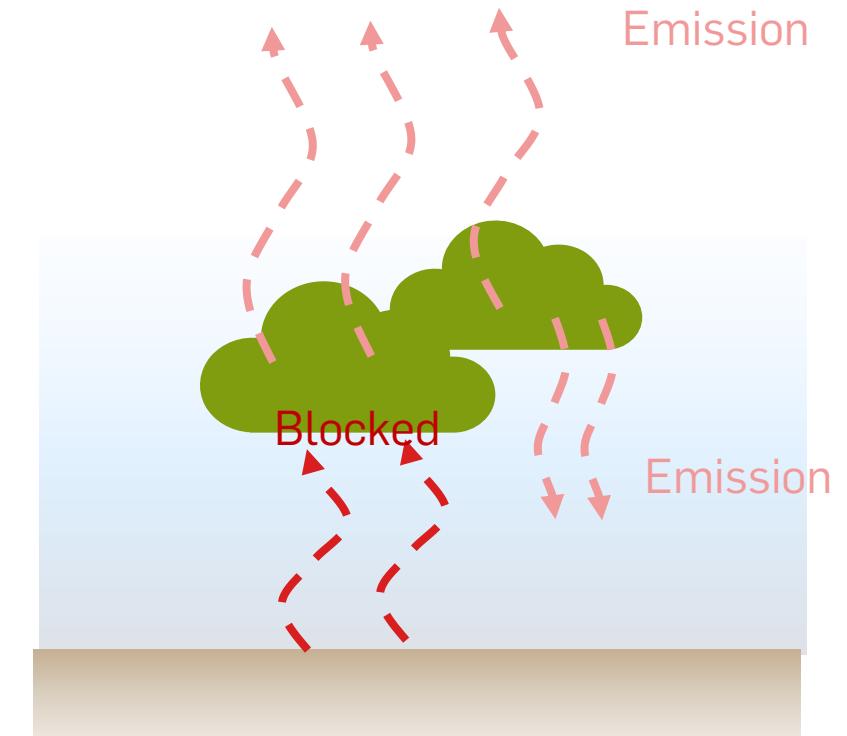
VIS



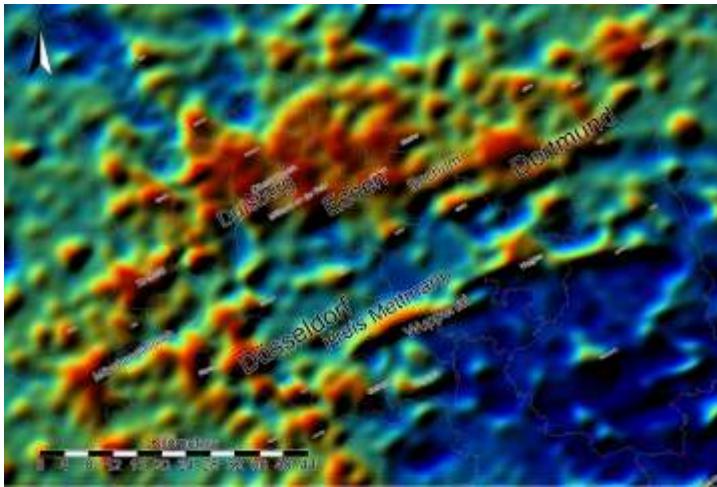
TIR



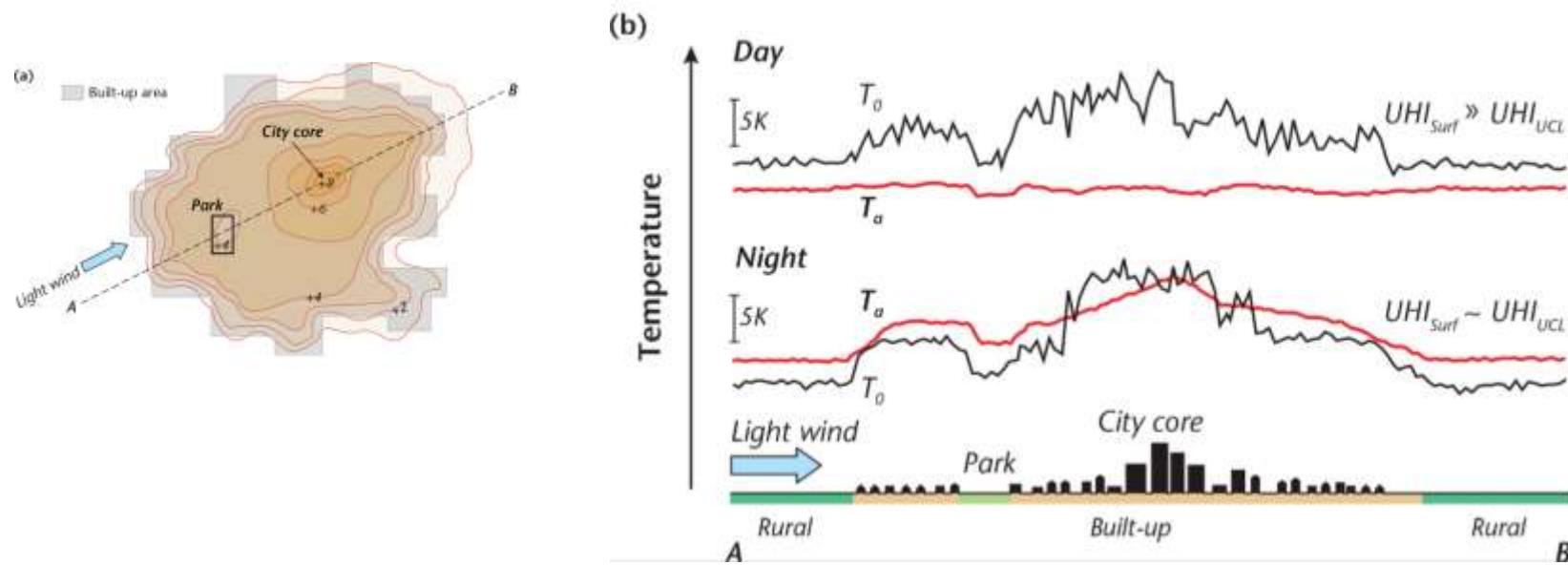
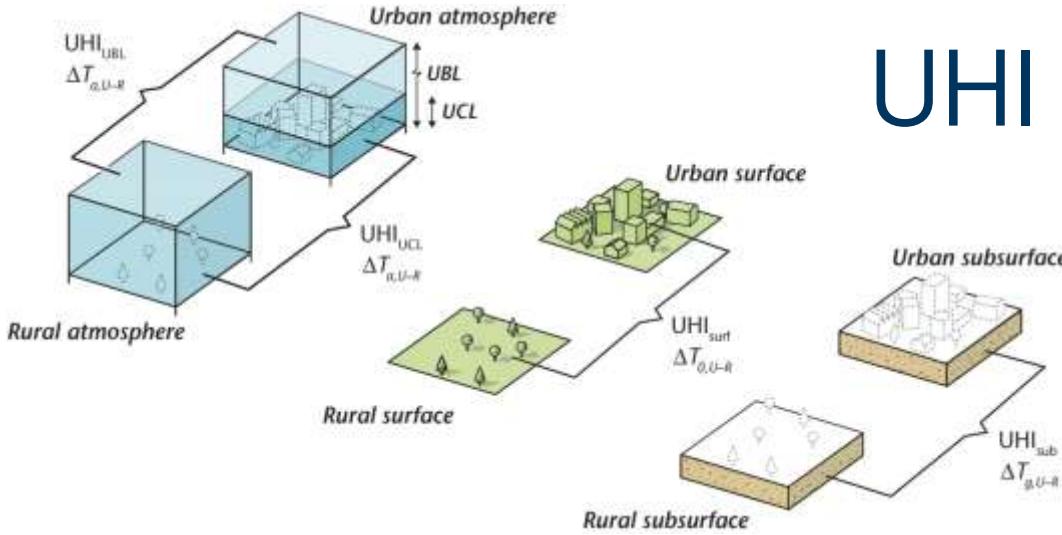
Emission



## 2. Surface Urban Heat Islands



# UHI Types



# There is a problem



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Remote Sensing of Environment 86 (2003) 370–384

---

Remote Sensing  
of  
Environment

---

[www.elsevier.com/locate/rse](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/rse)

## Thermal remote sensing of urban climates

J.A. Voogt<sup>a,\*</sup>, T.R. Oke<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Geography, University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada N6A 5C2

<sup>b</sup>Atmospheric Science Program, Department of Geography, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z2

Received 8 April 2002; received in revised form 20 September 2002; accepted 28 December 2002

---

### Abstract

Thermal remote sensing has been used over urban areas to assess the urban heat island, to perform land cover classifications and as input for models of urban surface-atmosphere exchange. Here, we review the use of thermal remote sensing in the study of urban climates, focusing

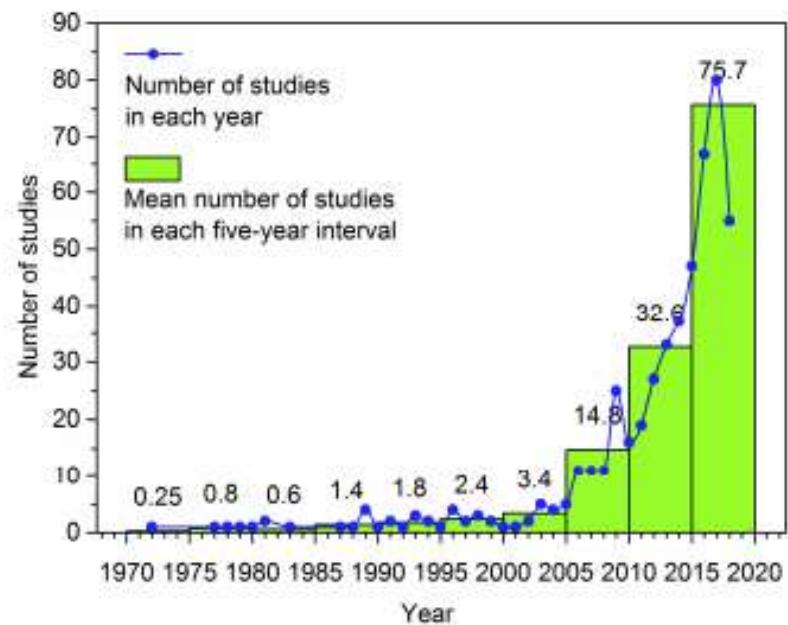
[International Journal of Remote Sensing 10 (1989) 1699]. The review demonstrates that while some progress has been made, the thermal remote sensing of urban areas has been slow to advance beyond qualitative description of thermal patterns and simple correlations. Part of the

surface descriptors. Advances in the application of thermal remote sensing to natural and agricultural surfaces suggest insight into possible methods to advance techniques and capabilities over urban areas. Improvements in the spatial and spectral resolution of current and next-generation satellite-based sensors, in more detailed surface representations of urban surfaces and in the availability of low cost, high resolution portable thermal scanners are expected to allow progress in the application of urban thermal remote sensing to the study of the climate of urban areas.

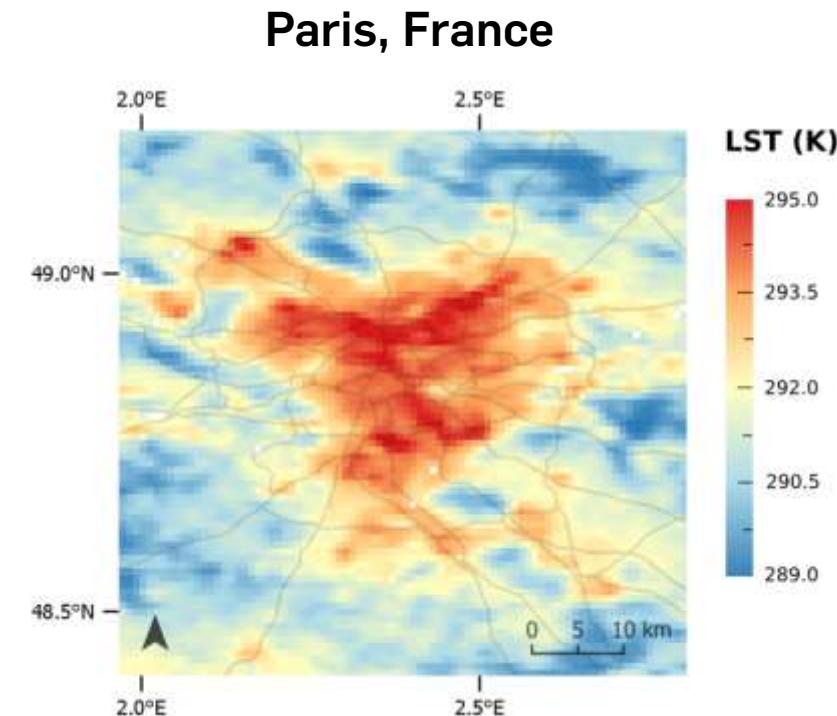
© 2003 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

2003

# Surface Urban Heat Islands Literature



Zhou et al., 2019





*“Over the last few decades, advancements of remote sensing along with spatial science have considerably increased the number and quality of SUHI studies that form the major body of the urban heat island (UHI) literature.”*

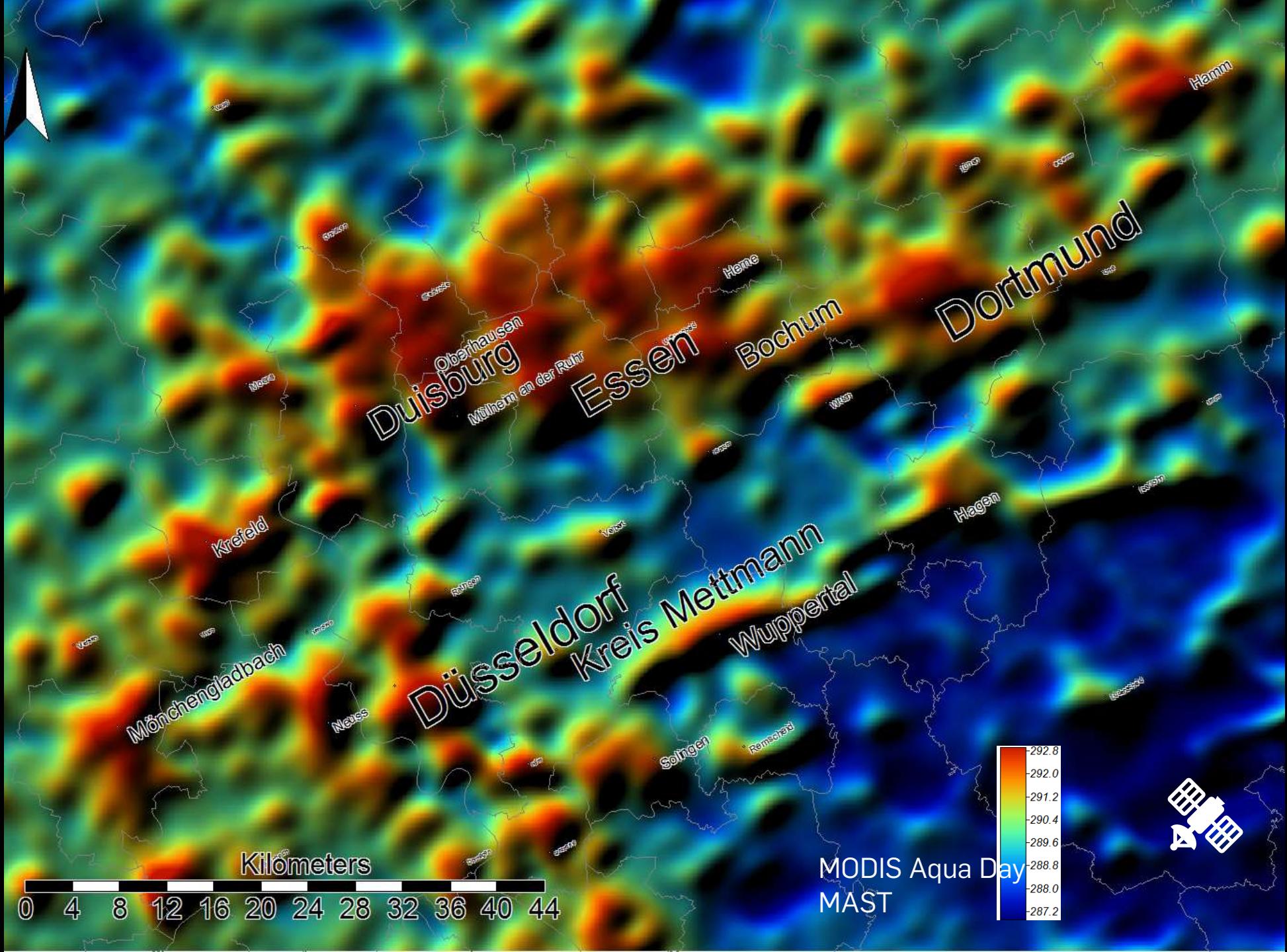
*(Zhou et al. 2019)*



there are relevant misunderstandings between UC und URS communities and cooperation remains behind its potential.



"With the advent of thermal remote sensing satellites, we are able to observe UHIs at large spatial scales and understand their primary causal factors." (Zhu et al. 2019)



# There is a problem



*remote sensing*



*Article*

## Regarding Some Pitfalls in Urban Heat Island Studies Using Remote Sensing Technology

Eberhard Parlow

Department for Environmental Sciences, Meteorology, Climatology and Remote Sensing, University Basel,  
CH-4056 Basel, Switzerland; eberhard.parlow@unibas.ch

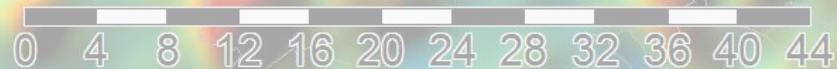
**Abstract:** This paper attempts to illustrate the complexity of thermal infrared (TIR) data analysis for (using the term “surface urban heat island”) could be observed, the literature is full of incorrect conclusions and results using erroneous terminology. This seems to be the result of the ease of such

drawing conclusions for urban planning authorities. It seems that the UHI is easy to measure, easy to explain, easy to find, and easy to illustrate—simply take a TIR-image. Due to this apparent simplicity, many authors seem to jump into UHI studies without fully understanding the nature of the phenomenon as far as time and spatial scales, physical processes, and the numerous methodological pitfalls inherent to UHI studies are concerned. This paper attempts to point out some of the

2021

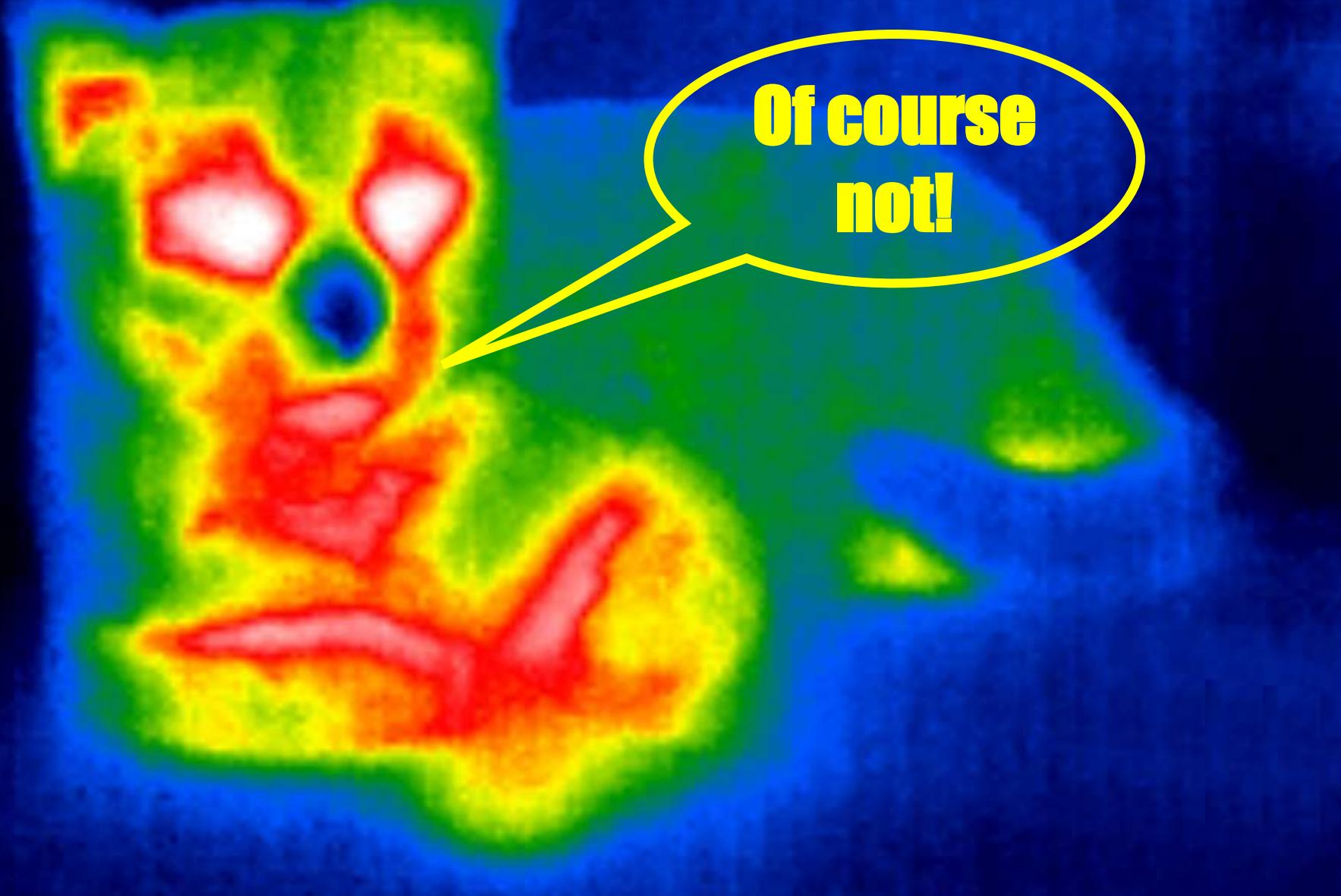
# Urban Heat Island Surface Urban Heat Island !

Got it. Let's mitigate ...



MODIS Aqua Day MAST

Shall we stop the thermal RS stuff then?



Of course  
not!

# Why continue?

The Urban Heat Island: A Guidebook

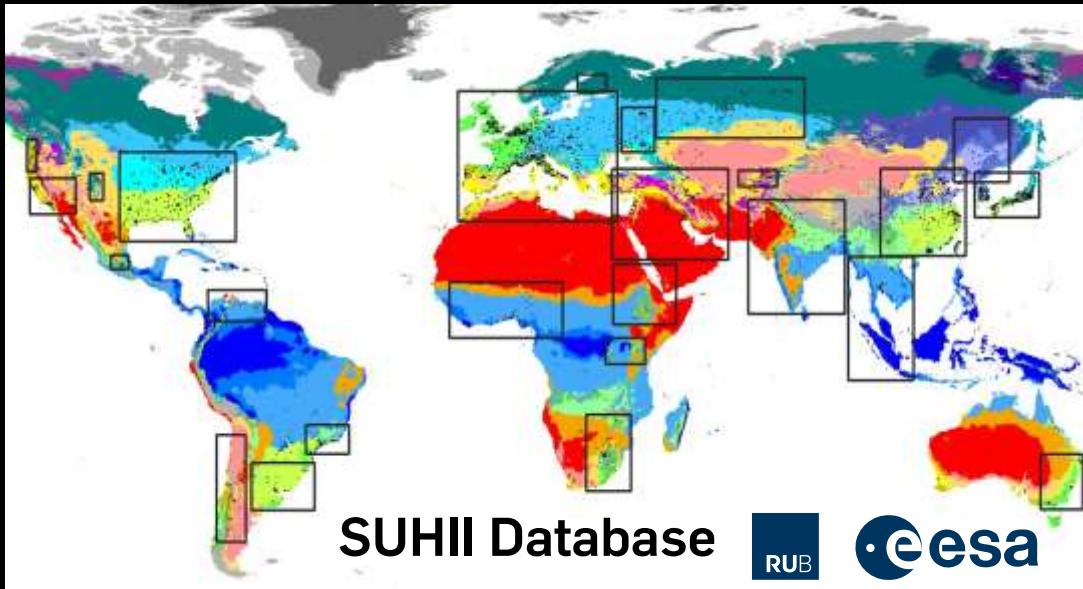
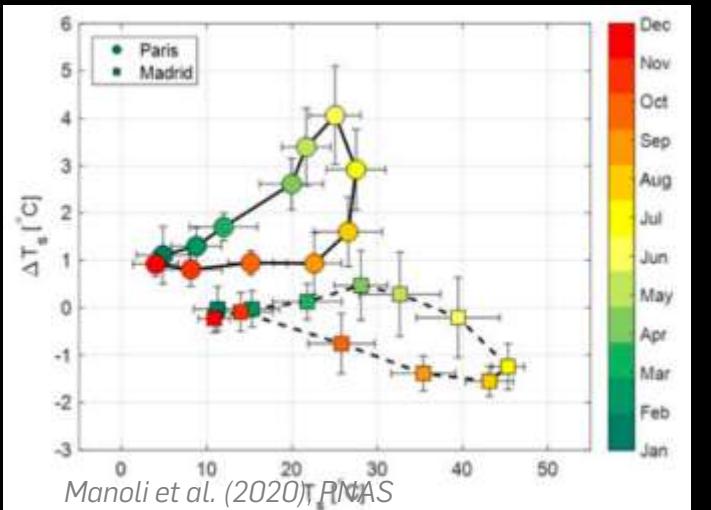
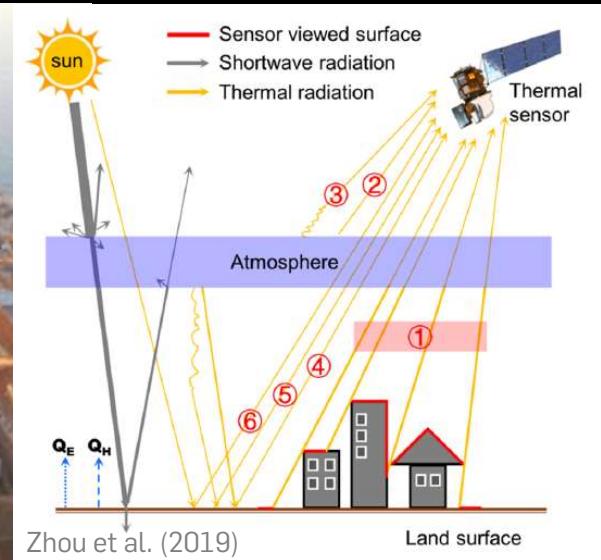
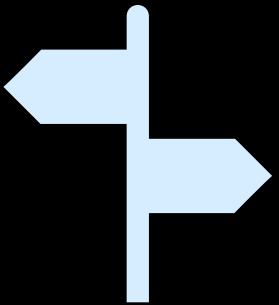


Iain D. Stewart & Gerald Mills

"The near-surface air and **surface temperatures can be regarded as a simple diagnostic tool to identify where and when the urban warming impact is greatest, and to guide planning and design interventions.** Temperature can be described as a 'response' variable that represents the net impact of a series of interacting exchange processes, most of which are difficult to measure."

**"The SUHI is a starting point for understanding all other heat island types"**

"The measurement of UHI patterns in individual cities can provide valuable datasets for other studies, while guiding urban planning and design policies and **filling in gaps in the existing descriptive literature.** These gaps are linked to coverage rather than content (with a few exceptions), as **most studies have been completed for cities of the mid-latitudes with distinct seasonal patterns** that affect heating/cooling needs and vegetative growth."





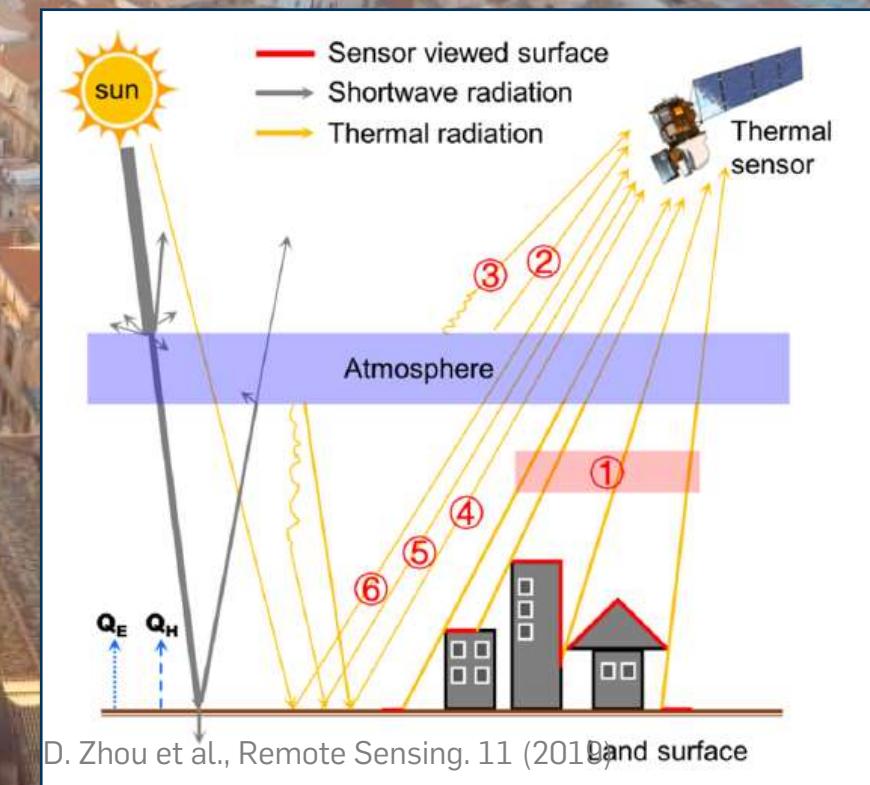
# Directions: Understanding



Classical questions by Roth et al. 1989

- (1) What are the characteristics of the urban surface as viewed by thermal remote sensors?

M. Roth, T. R. Oke, W. J. Emery,  
International Journal of Remote Sensing. 10, 1699–1720 (1989).



# What can be done?



*remote sensing*

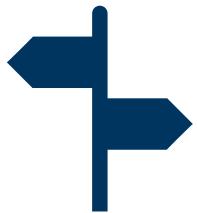


*Article*

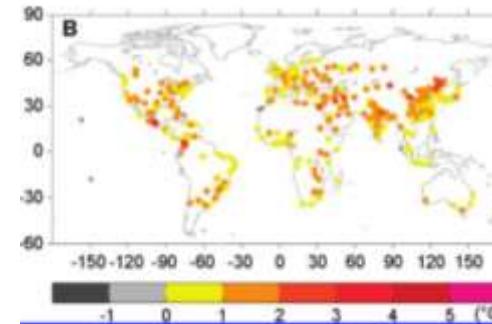
## Regarding Some Pitfalls in Urban Heat Island Studies Using Remote Sensing Technology

to explain, easy to find, and easy to illustrate—simply take a TIR-image. Due to this apparent simplicity, many authors seem to jump into UHI studies without fully understanding the nature of the phenomenon as far as time and spatial scales, physical processes, and the numerous methodological pitfalls inherent to UHI studies are concerned. This paper attempts to point out some of the

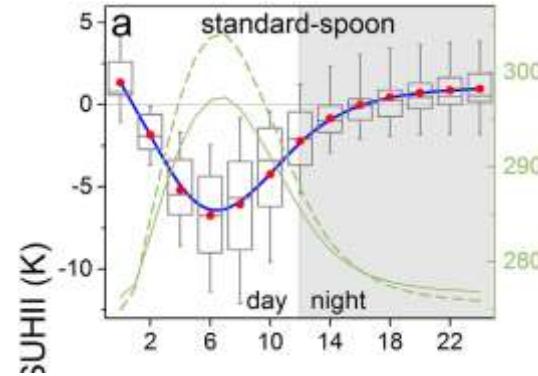
conclusions and results using erroneous terminology. This seems to be the result of the ease of such literature implicitly suggesting that “warm surfaces” result in “high air temperatures”, ultimately drawing conclusions for urban planning authorities. It seems that the UHI is easy to measure, easy to explain, easy to find, and easy to illustrate—simply take a TIR-image. Due to this apparent simplicity, many authors seem to jump into UHI studies without fully understanding the nature of the phenomenon as far as time and spatial scales, physical processes, and the numerous methodological pitfalls inherent to UHI studies are concerned. This paper attempts to point out some of the



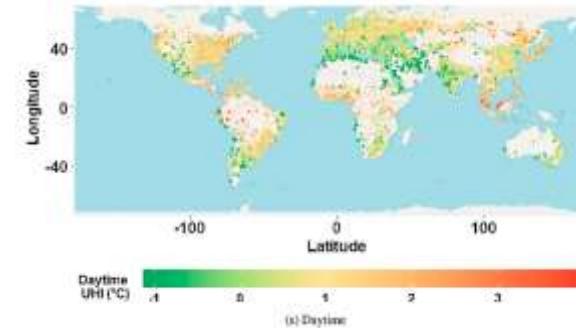
# Large scale variation and temporal dynamics



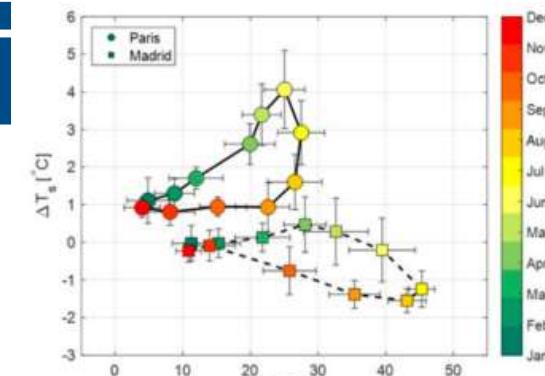
S. Peng et al., Environ. Sci. Technol. 46, 696–703 (2012).



J. Lai et al., Remote Sensing of Environment. 217, 203–220 (2018).



T. Chakraborty, X. Lee, International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation. 74, 269–280 (2019).



Manoli et al. (2020), PNAS

# What else can be done?

**Better data** will lead to **better research**.

- For multi-city SUHI studies there are a lot of variables that you need to control, e.g.:
  - Climate,
  - Elevation,
  - Form & Function,
  - Materials,
  - Distance from the sea,
  - Urban Green
  - etc.
- Facilitating this will help people to focus on analyzing the data instead of collecting data.

Athens, GR



Amsterdam, NL



Phoenix, US



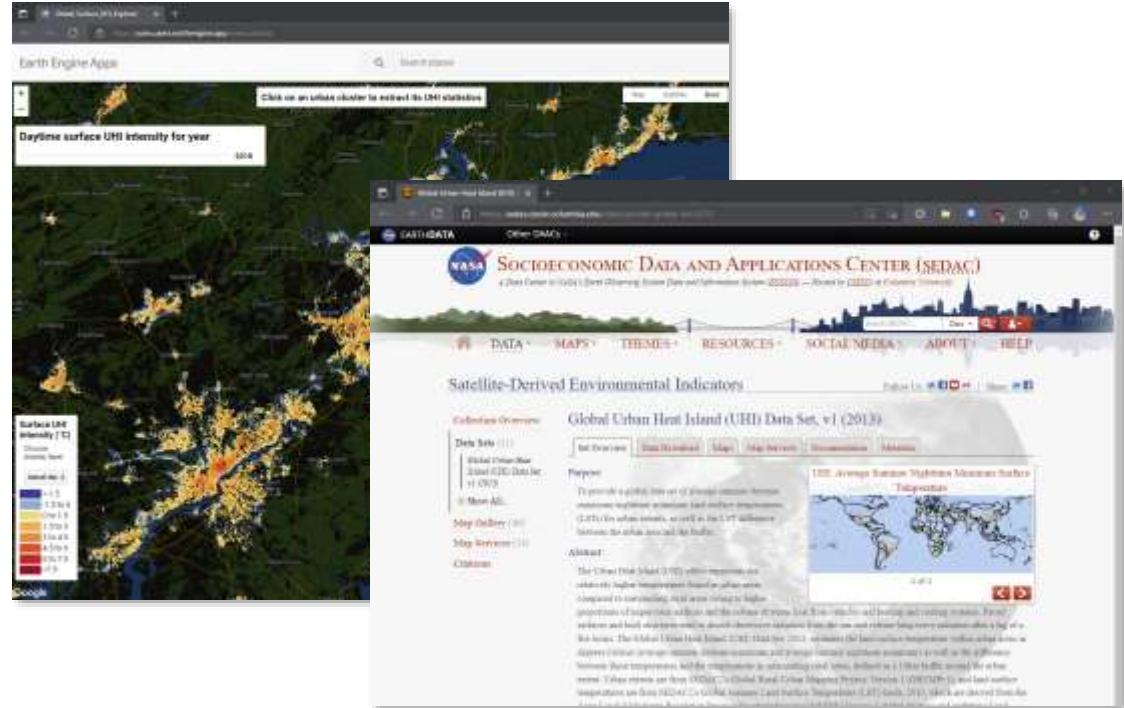
Riyadh, SA



# Our Aim

- Global SUHI Dataset
- Analysis-ready tabular data
- Consistent urban/rural definition
- Long time-series of data (>20 years)
- Daytime / Nighttime data
- Documented Uncertainties
- Ancillary data to facilitate data analysis

## Available Datasets

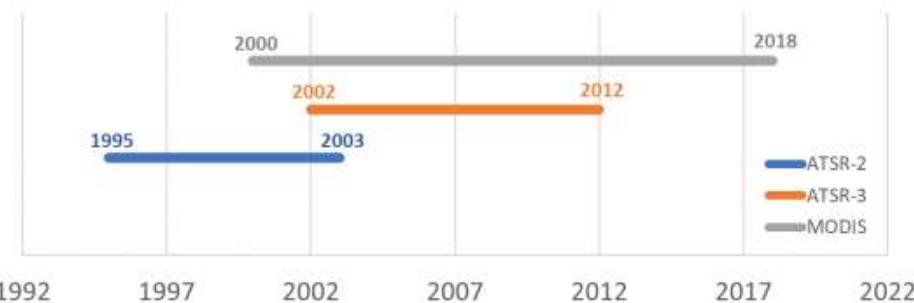


Build upon previous works

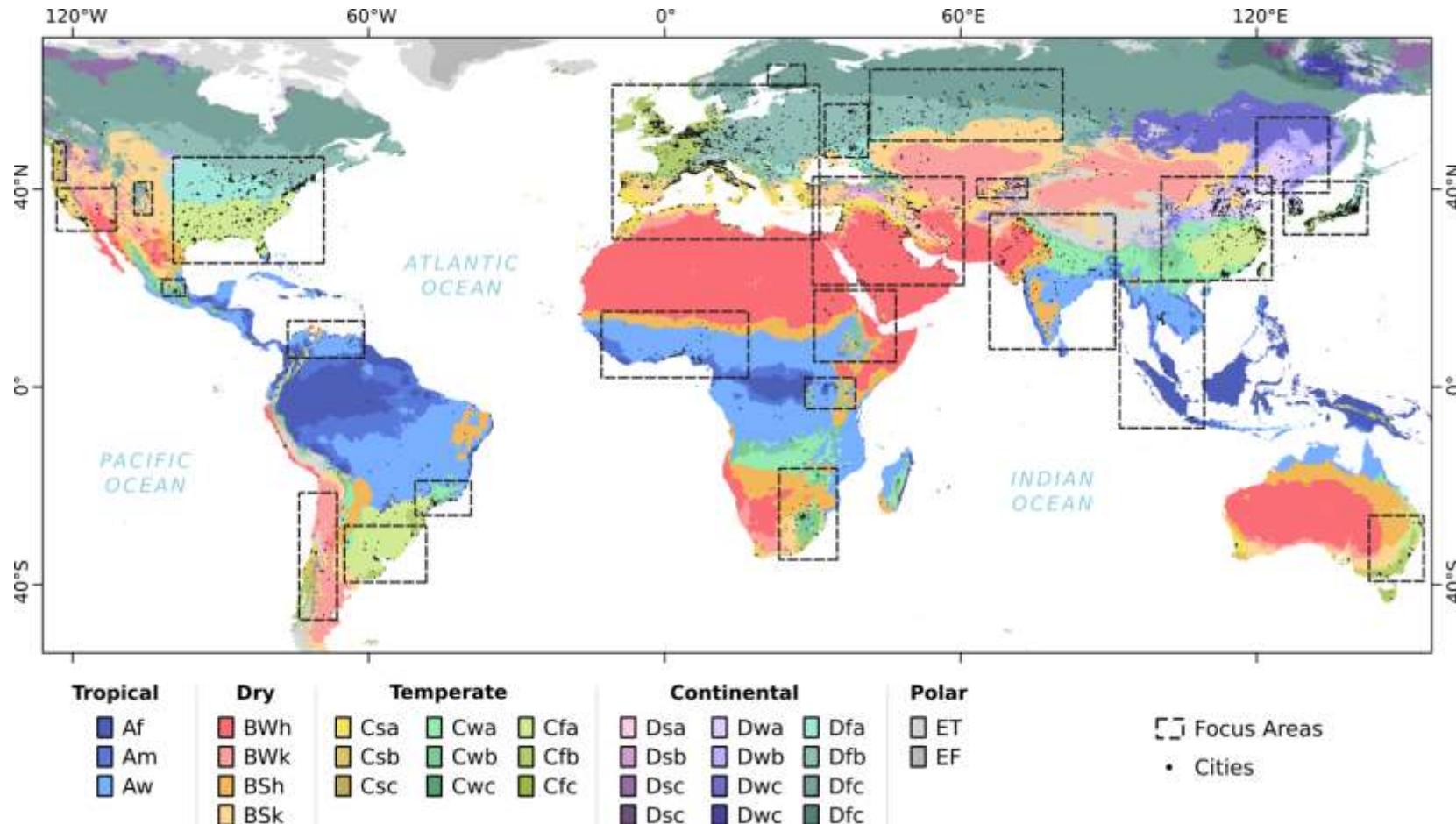
- Keep what works
- Address some of the weaknesses.

# LST\_cci

- The focus of CCI is on climate applications
- Target accuracy and precision is < 1 K
- Consistent LST retrieval algorithm
- Quantification of uncertainties
- 1 km LST data available since 1995



# Global Coverage

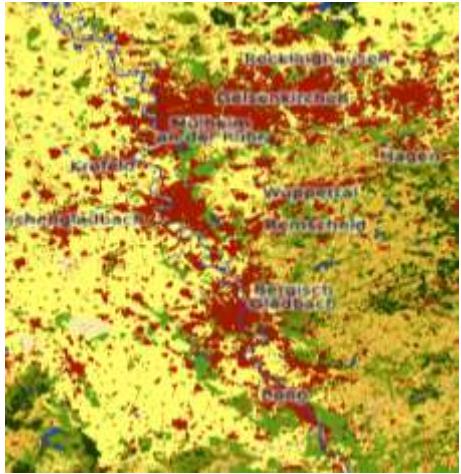


Köppen-Geiger Climate Zones

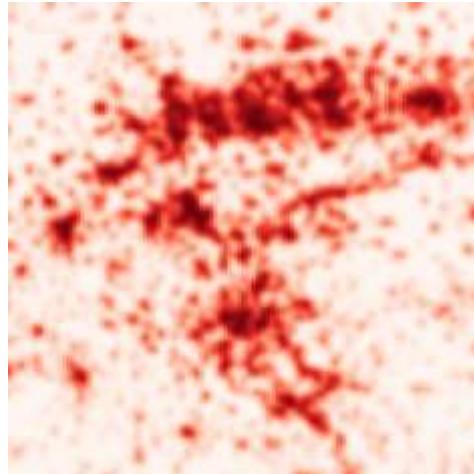
# City Delineation (1/5)

- We use a custom implementation of the **City Clustering Algorithm**.

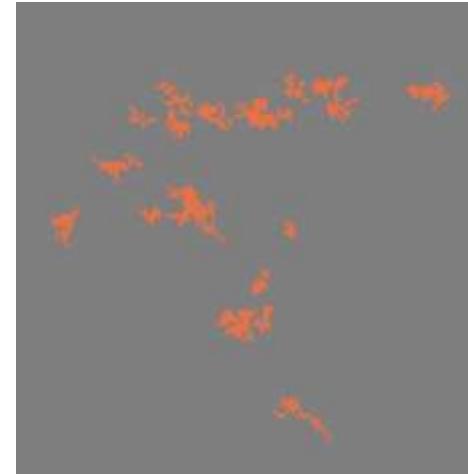
300 m Land Cover



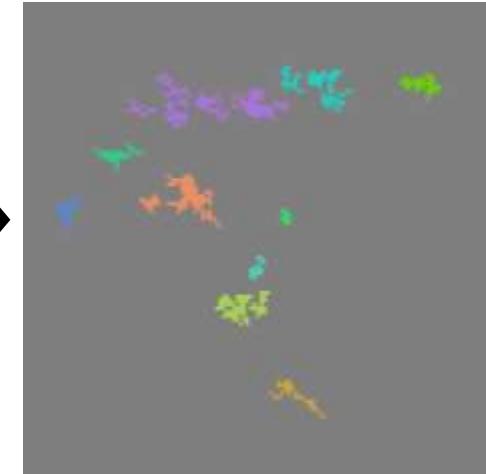
1 km Urban Fraction



Filtered Urban Mask



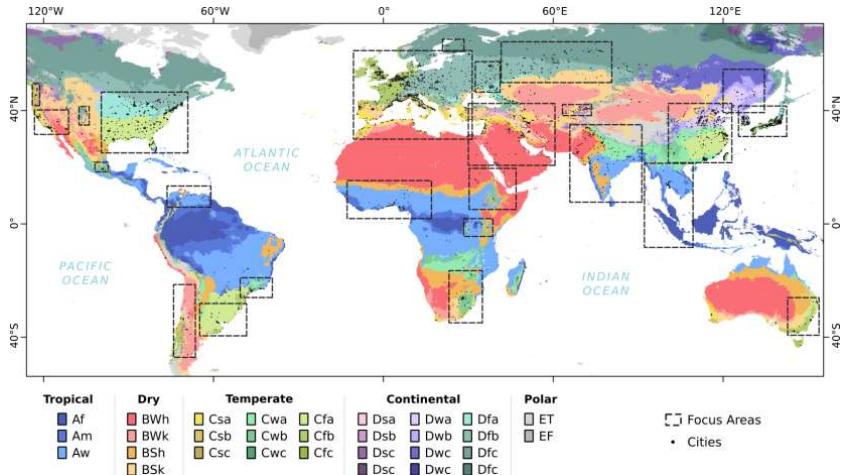
Labelled Urban Clusters



1995 to Today

- Urban Fraction  $>95\%$
- Water fraction  $0\%$
- Distance from coastline  $> \sim 2 \text{ km}$
- 9 or more connected pixels

# City Delineation (5/5)

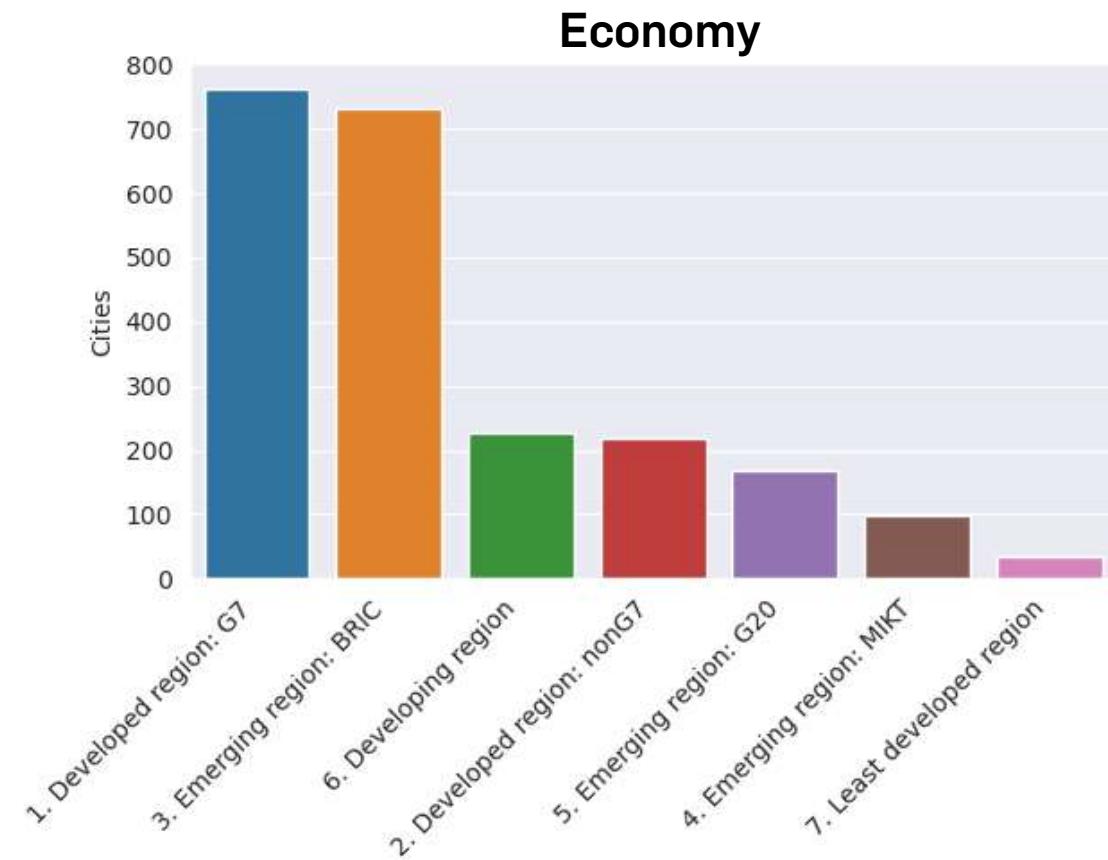
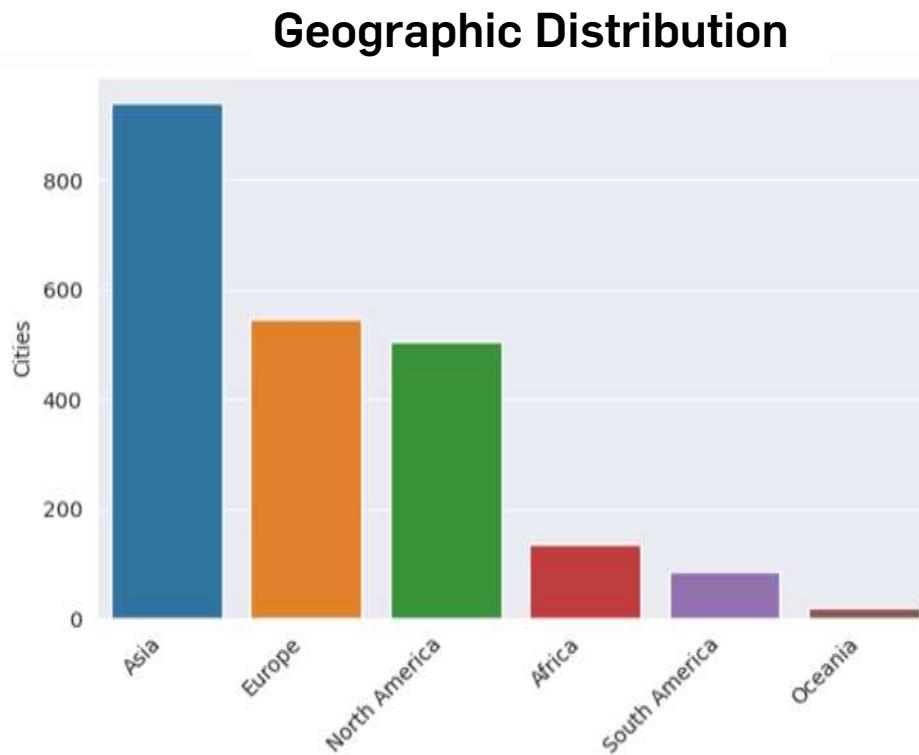


2085 Cities  
in 20 Köppen-Geiger classes



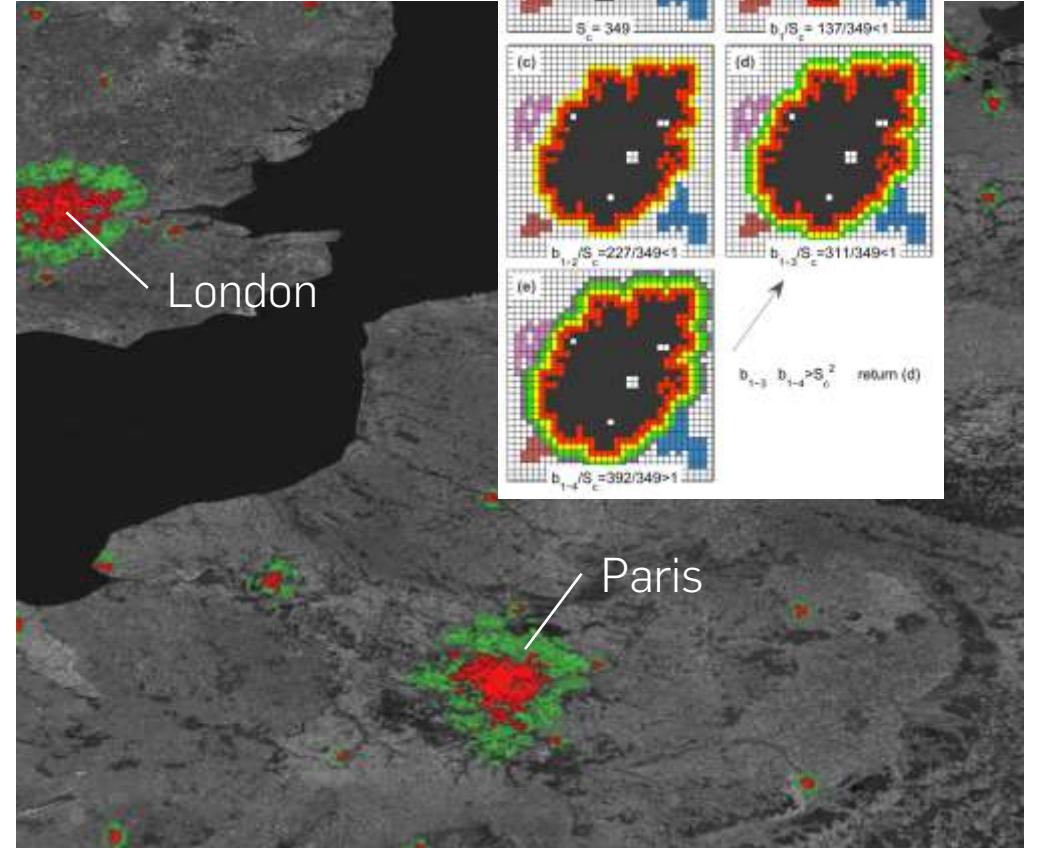
(Only the zones with 10 or more cities are shown here)

# City Delineation (5/5)



# Natural Buffer (1/2)

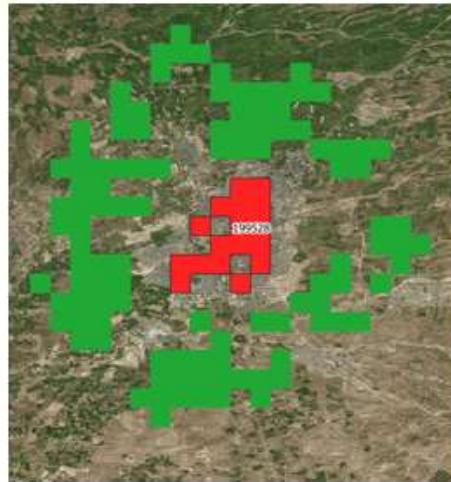
- We iteratively expand a buffer around each city until they have approx. the same city.
- One per city
- Same for all years
- Natural LC fraction is  $\geq 95\%$  for each year.
- Urban & water fractions are 0%.
- The elevation must not differ by more than  $\pm 200$  m from the median elevation of the urban area.
- Maximum width is 30 pixels



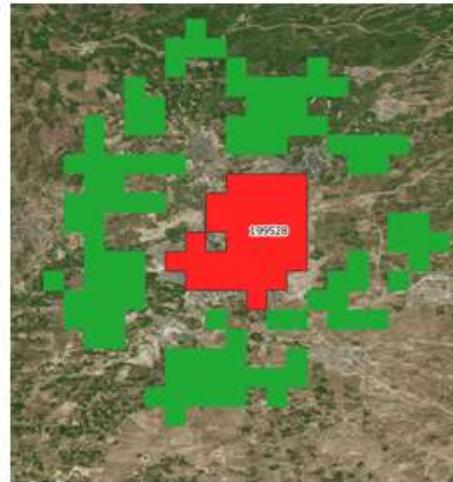
# Natural Buffer (2/3)

The natural buffers are representative for all the years.

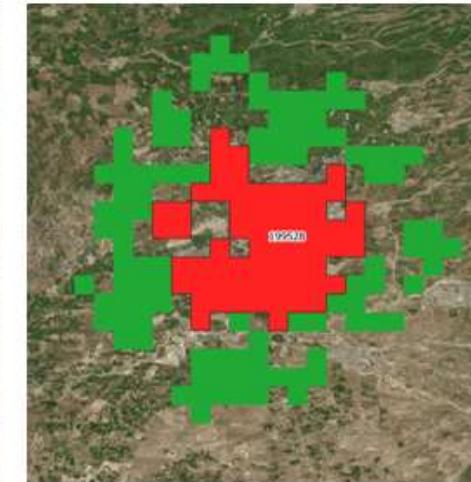
1995



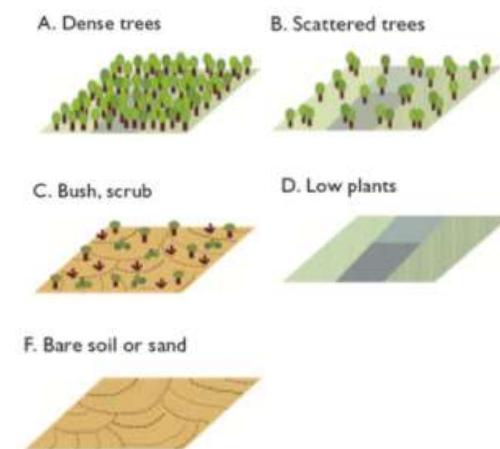
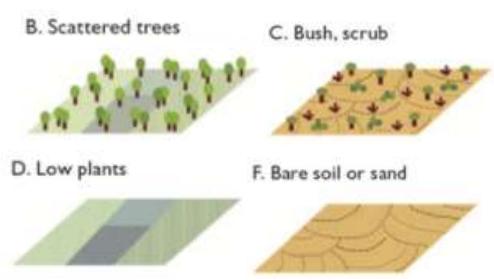
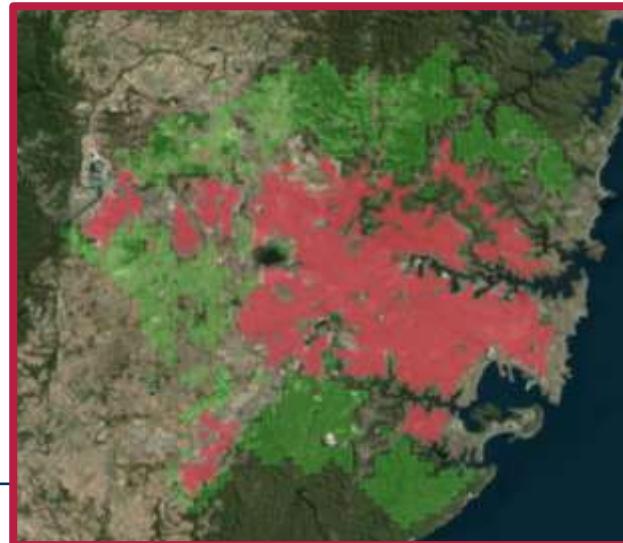
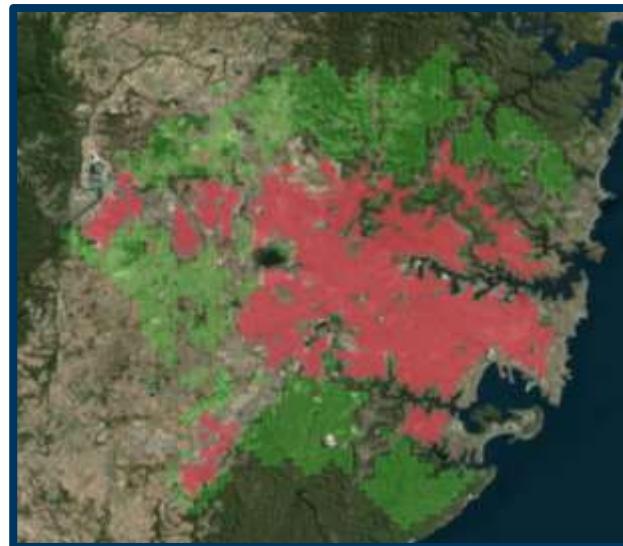
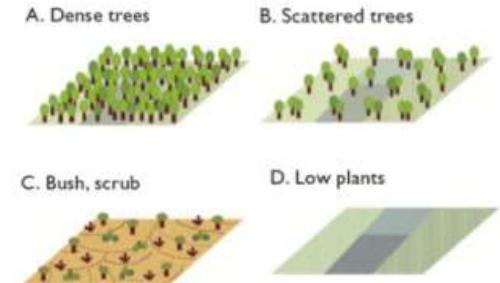
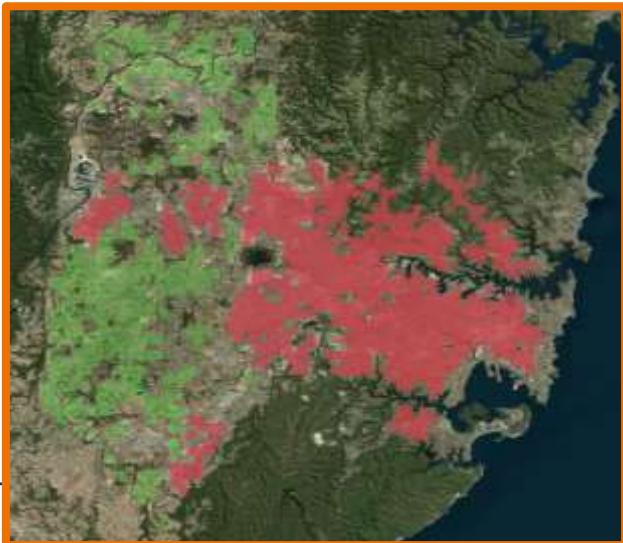
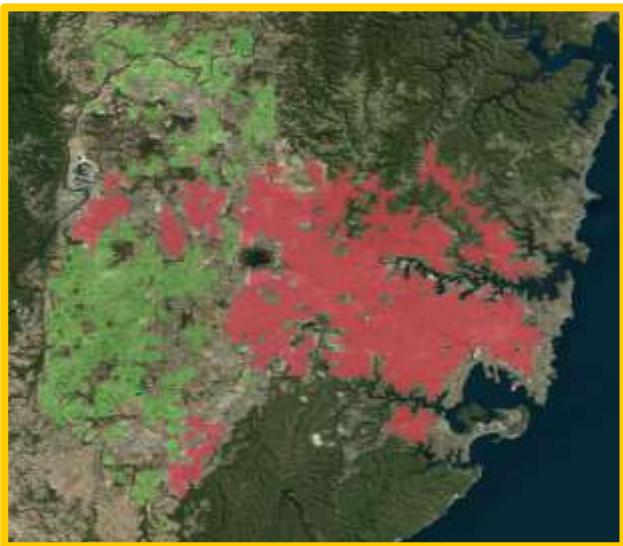
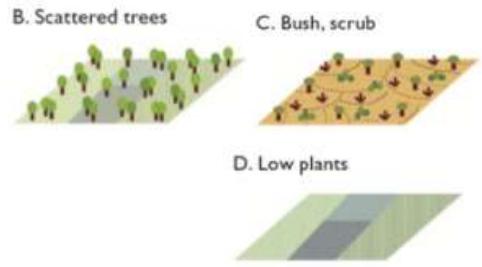
2005



2018

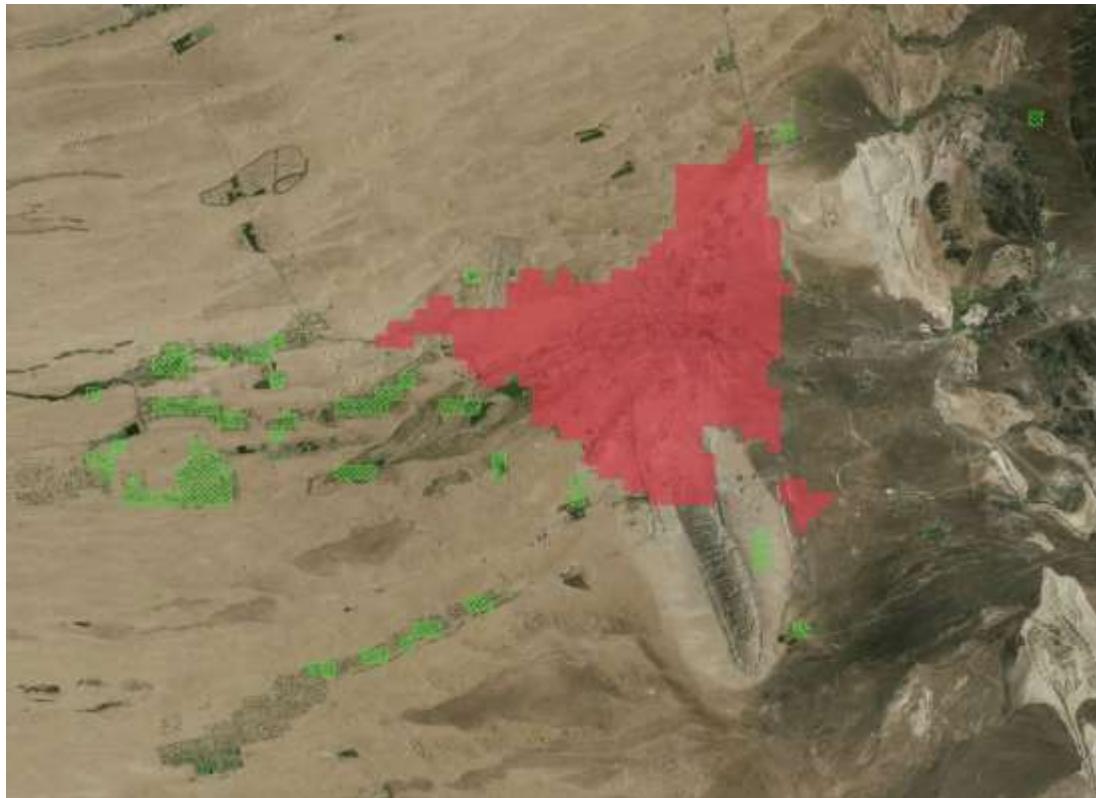


# Natural Buffer (3/3)



# Natural Buffer - Examples

Rural (LCZ B + C + D)

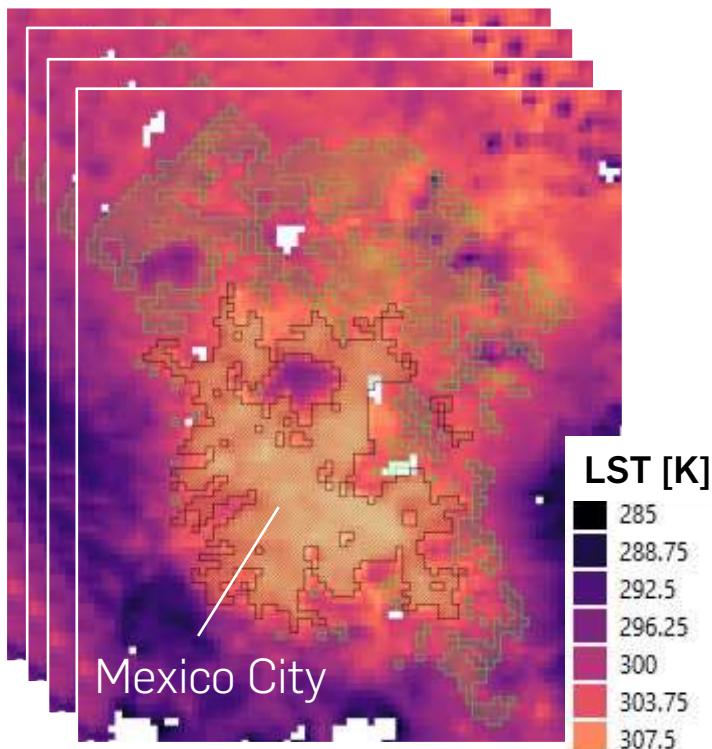


Rural + Bare Soil (LCZ B + C + D + F)



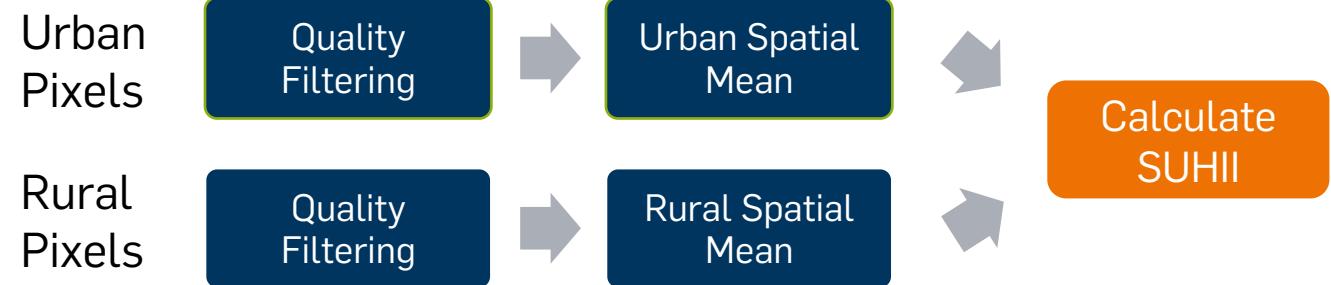
# LST Means & SUHI Intensity

2000-2018 Daily LST  
(Daytime or Nighttime)



For each day:

$$SUHII = \overline{LST}_{\text{urban}} - \overline{LST}_{\text{rural}}$$



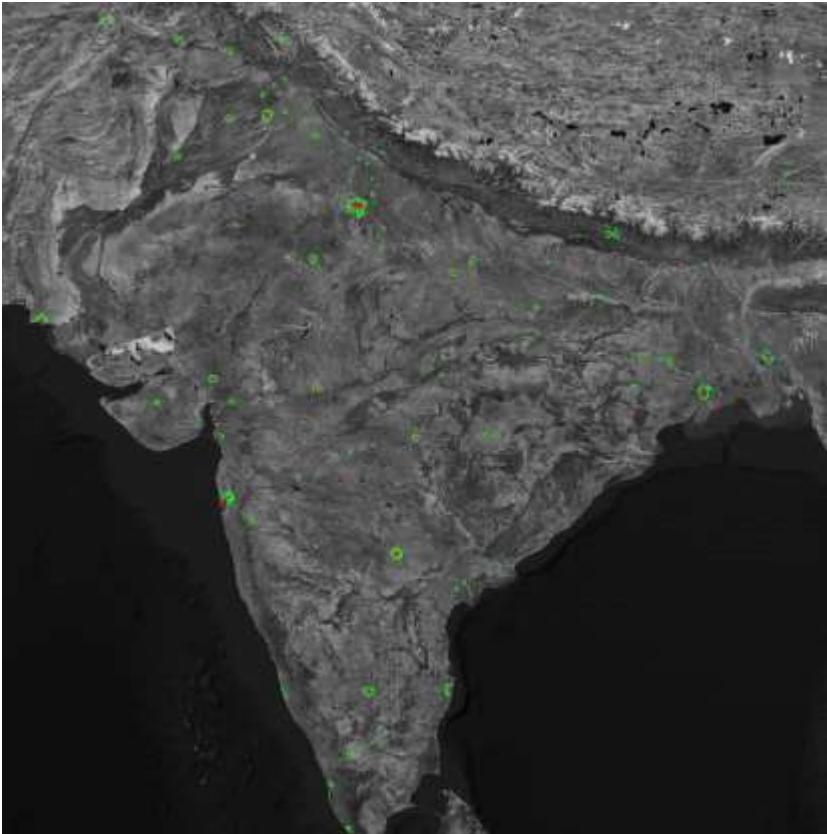
# Outputs (1/2)

	file_id	datetime UTC	lc_class	lst_mean	lst_sem	lst_std	lst_min	lst_max	lst_pct_prc	satbe_median	satbe_range	soltime_median	soltime_range
1	BRA199518	2018-12-30 13:07:12	0	315.8814	0.2468	1.1312	313.15	317.77	100	22.01	0.35	10.1	0.01
2	BRA199518	2018-12-28 13:20:00	0	314.7046	0.129	0.4051	313.49	315.63	61.9	-4.72	0.31	10.3	0
3	BRA199518	2018-12-14 13:07:12	0	320.0141	0.326	1.3442	317.12	321.62	80.95	22	0.36	10.1	0.01
4	BRA199518	2018-12-14 13:07:12	2	312.9933	0.1853	0.321	312.34	313.24	20	22.18	0.45	10.1	0.01
5	BRA199518	2018-12-12 13:20:00	0	319.8812	0.2283	0.9413	317.46	321.37	80.95	-4.75	0.45	10.3	0.01
6	BRA199518	2018-12-10 13:32:48	0	315.6266	0.2886	1.3223	312.72	317.78	100	-29.98	0.33	10.52	0
7	BRA199518	2018-12-10 13:32:48	2	311.048	0.3531	1.3676	309.19	313.26	100	-29.89	0.73	10.52	0
8	BRA199518	2018-12-09 12:56:08	0	305.6176	0.2256	1.0476	307.41	310.9	100	50.01	0.18	9.8	0
9	BRA199518	2018-12-09 12:56:08	2	306.15	0.4843	1.7483	303.6	309.52	66.67	50.04	0.41	9.8	0
10	BRA199518	2018-12-05 13:23:32	0	316.9709	0.2628	0.8711	315.45	318.56	52.38	9.06	0.46	10.22	0.01
11	BRA199518	2018-11-28 13:07:12	0	311.6623	0.3514	1.2666	309.35	314.74	61.9	-21.66	0.29	10.11	0.01
12	BRA199518	2018-11-28 13:07:12	2	309.145	0.1662	0.235	306.91	309.38	13.33	21.33	0.05	10.11	0
13	BRA199518	2018-11-12 13:07:12	0	314.5895	0.1821	0.8144	313.13	315.79	95.24	29.98	0.41	10.1	0.01
14	BRA199518	2018-11-12 13:07:12	2	311.4233	0.2668	0.4621	311.24	312.37	20	21.39	0.46	10.09	0
15	BRA199518	2018-11-09 13:54:44	0	316.3805	0.1930	0.5829	314.61	317.19	95.24	7.55	0.39	10.23	0
16	BRA199518	2018-10-23 13:32:48	0	314.21	0.1558	0.6231	312.58	315.33	76.19	-31.37	0.3	10.33	0.01
17	BRA199518	2018-10-22 12:50:00	0	309.1316	0.209	0.8047	307.03	310.32	90.48	49.34	0.29	9.81	0
18	BRA199518	2018-10-22 12:50:00	2	307.89	0	0	307.89	307.89	6.67	49.11	0	9.81	0
19	BRA199518	2018-10-21 13:45:36	0	306.115	0.251	0.355	305.76	306.47	9.52	-49.06	0.02	10.73	0
20	BRA199518	2018-10-21 13:45:36	2	304.5	0	0	304.5	304.5	6.67	-48.87	0	10.73	0
21	BRA199518	2018-10-20 13:02:56	0	304.4431	0.5266	2.2591	299.53	306.62	61.9	31.81	0.28	10.02	0.01
22	BRA199518	2018-10-20 13:02:56	2	301.7375	0.2468	0.4936	301.24	302.5	26.67	32.12	0.1	10.02	0
23	BRA199518	2018-09-25 13:07:12	0	310.3507	0.1876	0.702	308.70	311.36	66.67	19.99	0.35	10.31	0
24	BRA199518	2018-09-25 13:07:12	2	309.204	0.3305	0.739	308.47	310.56	33.33	20.11	0.58	10.11	0.01
25	BRA199518	2018-09-24 13:29:57	0	308.5747	0.9678	0.4481	307.6	309.18	100	-65.4	0.12	11.04	0.01
26	BRA199518	2018-09-24 13:29:57	2	308.621	0.1565	0.495	307.92	309.18	66.67	-65.345	0.12	11.04	0.01
27	BRA199518	2018-09-23 13:20:00	0	311.0029	0.1997	0.9153	309.18	312.35	100	-6.95	0.49	10.32	0.01
28	BRA199518	2018-09-23 13:20:00	2	309.3587	0.2487	0.9633	305.99	310.57	100	-6.83	0.87	10.32	0.01
29	BRA199518	2018-09-12 13:39:12	0	305.3495	0.1436	0.6092	304.35	306.57	85.71	-41.47	0.27	10.63	0
30	BRA199518	2018-09-12 13:39:12	2	304.0558	0.2445	0.8469	302.78	305.88	60	-41.285	0.58	10.62	0
31	BRA199518	2018-09-09 13:07:12	0	304.0076	0.134	0.6139	302.95	305.09	100	19.86	0.37	10.31	0
32	BRA199518	2018-09-09 13:07:12	2	302.8393	0.3689	1.3802	301.07	305.44	93.33	19.955	0.82	10.11	0
33	BRA199518	2018-08-08 13:29:57	0	300.5965	0.0812	0.363	299.93	301.12	95.24	-65.45	0.07	11.04	0
34	BRA199518	2018-08-08 13:29:57	2	300.1061	0.1823	0.6573	299.39	301.2	86.67	-65.4	0.13	11.04	0.01
35	BRA199518	2018-08-07 13:20:00	0	303.3881	0.1674	0.7672	301.87	304.29	100	-7.1	0.42	10.33	0
36	BRA199518	2018-08-07 13:20:00	2	302.9493	0.2166	0.8517	300.95	304.19	100	-7	0.91	10.33	0.01
37	BRA199518	2018-08-06 13:10:02	0	298.4	0	0	298.4	298.4	4.76	60.31	0	9.61	0
38	BRA199518	2018-08-06 13:10:02	2	297.8467	0.1711	0.2963	297.46	298.18	20	60.41	0.05	9.61	0.01
39	BRA199518	2018-08-05 13:32:48	2	293.402	0	0	293.42	293.42	6.67	-31.5	0	10.52	0
40	BRA199518	2018-08-03 13:45:36	0	308.3433	0.1124	0.4355	307.9	309.58	71.43	-49.38	0.21	10.74	0.01
41	BRA199518	2018-08-03 13:45:36	2	308.4983	0.1411	0.8457	307.76	308.83	40	-48.165	0.22	10.74	0
42	BRA199518	2018-08-02 13:02:56	0	308.1072	0.2125	0.9739	306.11	308.44	100	31.36	0.31	10.03	0.01
43	BRA199518	2018-08-02 13:02:56	2	307.18	0.2454	0.9182	305.83	308.81	93.33	31.44	0.67	10.03	0.01
44	BRA199518	2018-08-01 13:24:58	0	309.338	0.0611	0.2366	308.86	309.68	71.43	-61.03	0.13	10.92	0.01
45	BRA199518	2018-08-01 13:24:58	2	308.4363	0.1124	0.3176	308.95	309.85	53.33	-61.085	0.23	10.925	0.01

- Datetime (UTC)
- LST mean, min, max, std, sem
- % missing pixels
- Median VZA
- Median Local Solar Time

# Outputs (2/2)

The urban and natural polygons as vectors.

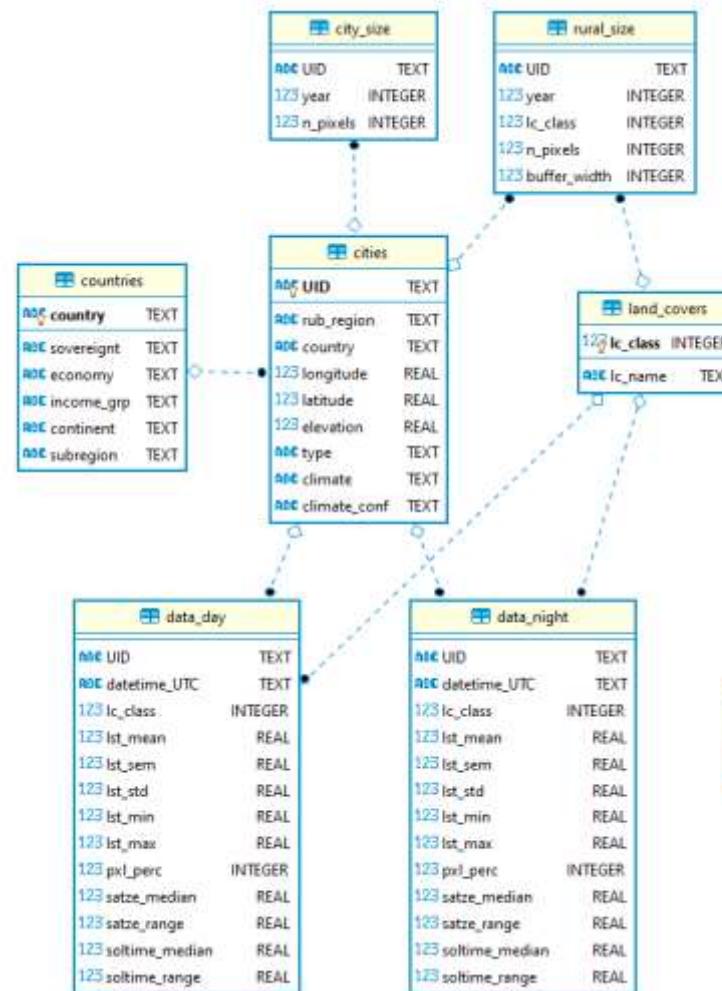


ID	year	lc_class	area	buffer_iters
CHI19950	1,995	1	50.4050616615	4
CHI19951	1,995	2	50.4050616615	4
CHI19951	1,995	3	50.4050616615	4
CHI19951	1,995	4	50.4050616615	4
CHI19952	1,995	1	52.4656549469	4
CHI19952	1,995	2	52.4656549469	4
CHI19952	1,995	3	52.4656549469	4
CHI19952	1,995	4	52.4656549469	4
CHI19953	1,995	1	14.8200509031	4
CHI19953	1,995	2	14.8200509031	4
CHI19953	1,995	3	18.5267232096	4
CHI19953	1,995	4	18.5267232096	4
CHI19955	1,995	1	35.4400293406	5
CHI19955	1,995	2	36.371866115	5
CHI19955	1,995	3	35.4400293406	5
CHI19955	1,995	4	36.371866115	5
CHI19956	1,995	1	28.9139533687	4
CHI19956	1,995	2	28.9139533687	4
CHI19956	1,995	3	28.9139533687	4
CHI19956	1,995	4	28.9139533687	4
CHI19957	1,995	1	110.5782754765	8
CHI19957	1,995	2	118.085795404	7
CHI19957	1,995	3	111.5165267497	8
CHI19957	1,995	4	119.0068308136	7
CHI19958	1,995	1	36.5601307981	4
CHI19958	1,995	2	36.5601307981	4
CHI19958	1,995	3	36.5601307981	4
CHI19958	1,995	4	36.5601307981	4
CHI19959	1,995	1	26.252423563	4
CHI19959	1,995	2	26.252423563	4
CHI19959	1,995	3	30.0007060054	4
CHI19959	1,995	4	30.0007060054	4
CHI199510	1,995	1	31.8892963701	9
CHI199510	1,995	2	33.8776064645	9

- Area
- Median Elevation
- Year of first detection
- Coastal /inland
- Number of buffer expansions

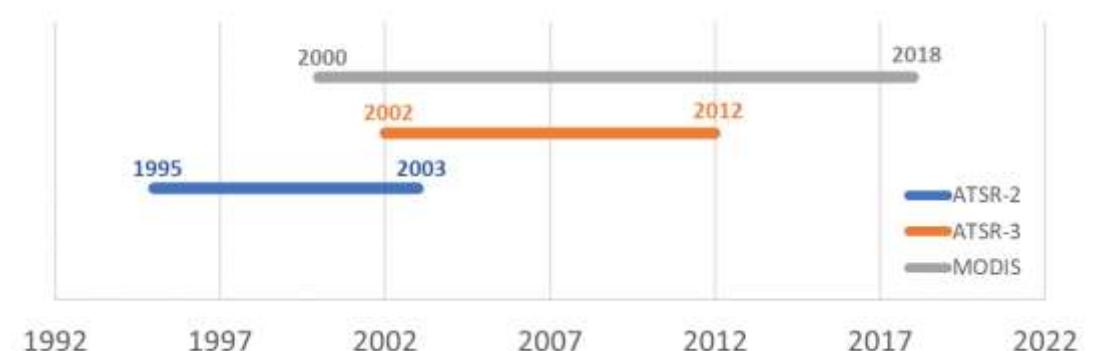
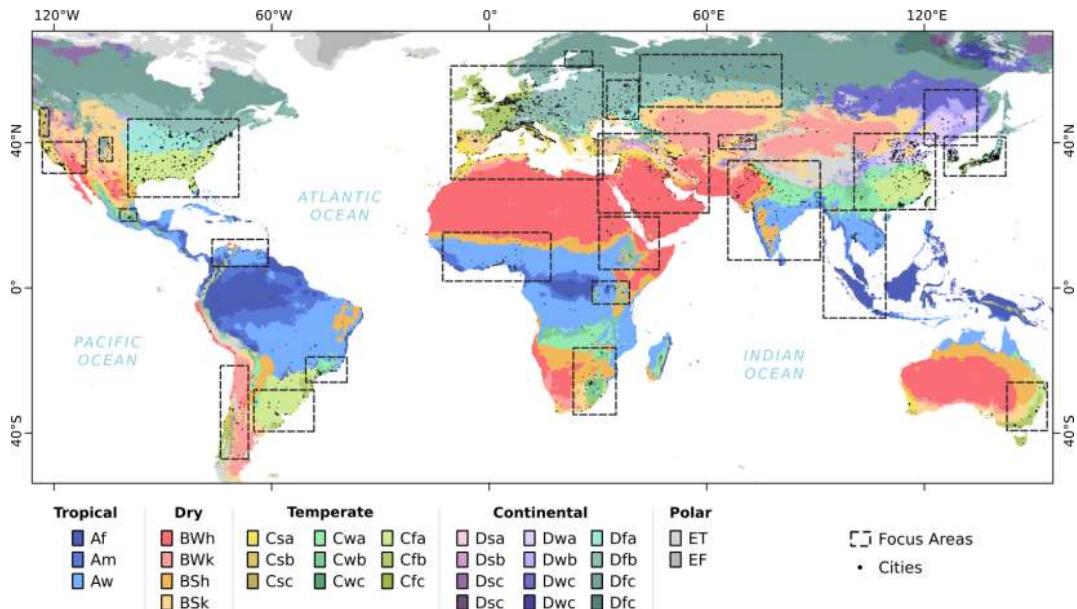
# Analysis-ready Data

- File Format:
  - SQLite is a self-contained, file-based SQL database.
  - Stable, cross-platform, and backwards compatible.
  - Well-supported by both Python and R.
- Ancillary data
  - Timestamp (UTC & Local Solar Time)
  - City properties (area, polygon geometry, Köppen-Geiger climate class, lat/lon, elevation, coastal/inland etc.)
  - Socioeconomic data (country, economy, etc.)
  - The urban and natural polygons (as separate geojson files)

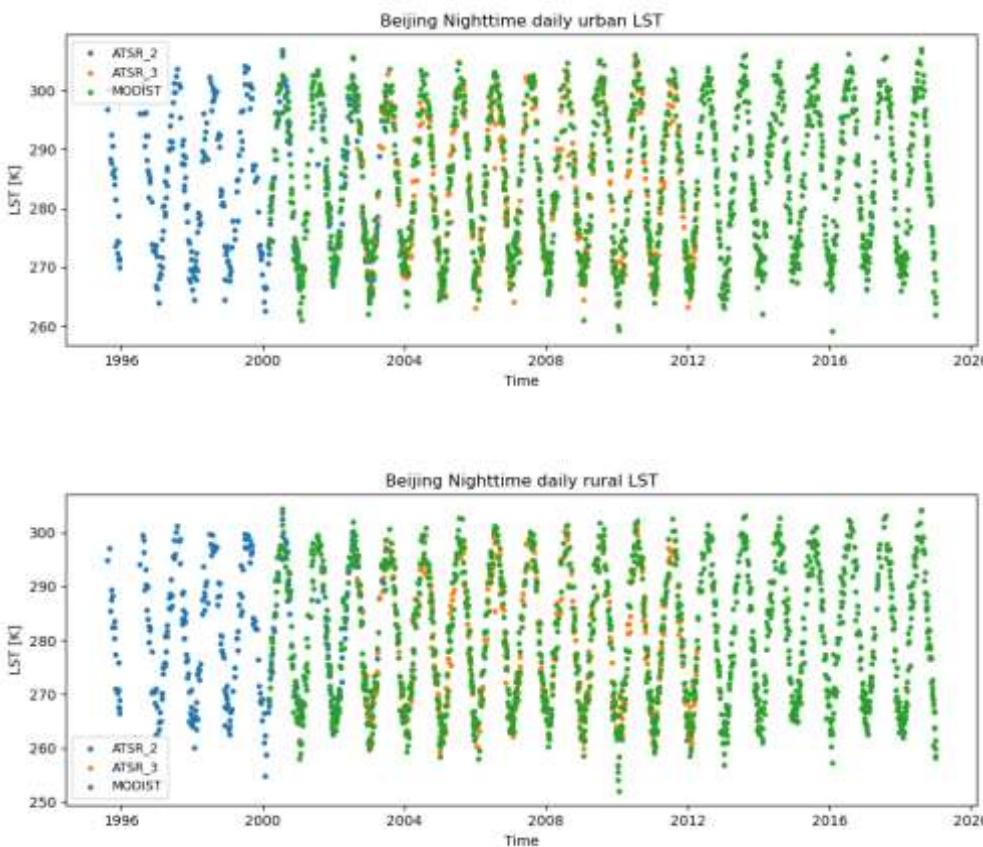


# Wealth of Information

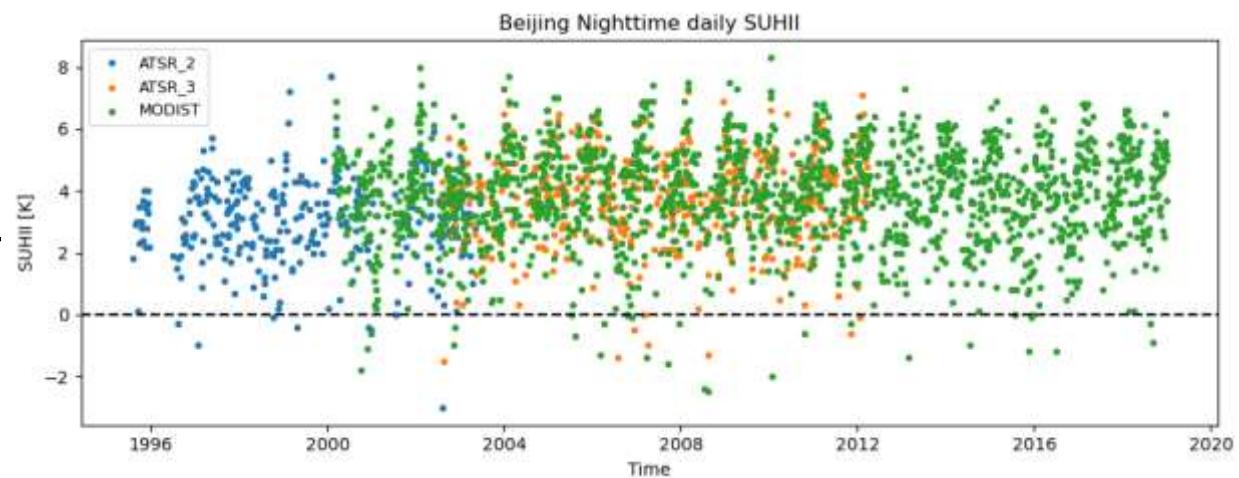
~65 million observations



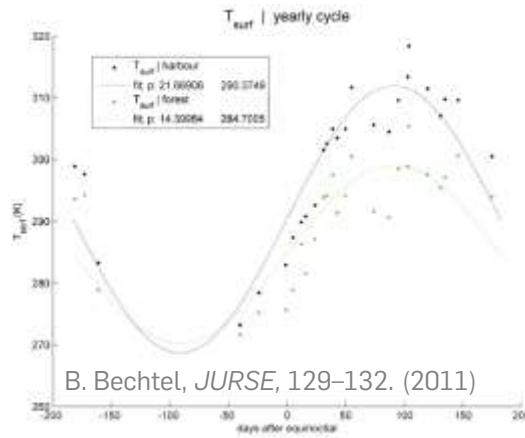
# Example: Beijing, China



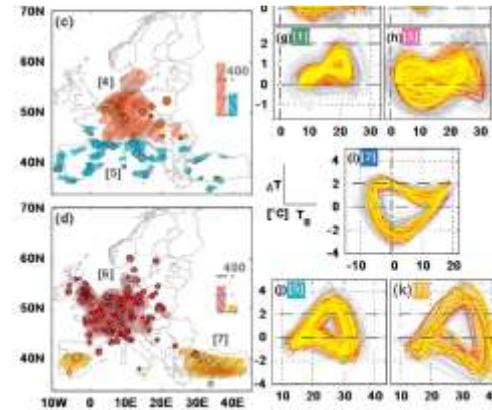
$$SUHII(d) = \bar{LST}_{\text{urban}}(d) - \bar{LST}_{\text{rural}}(d)$$



# Investigating SUHI seasonality

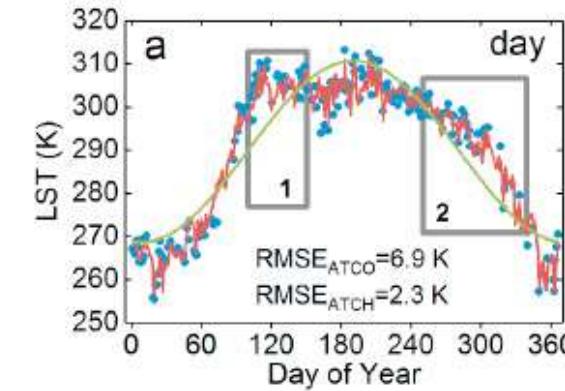


2011



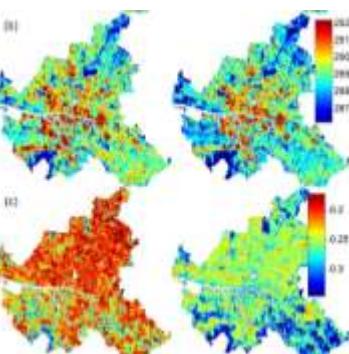
Zhou et al. 2013, GRL

2013

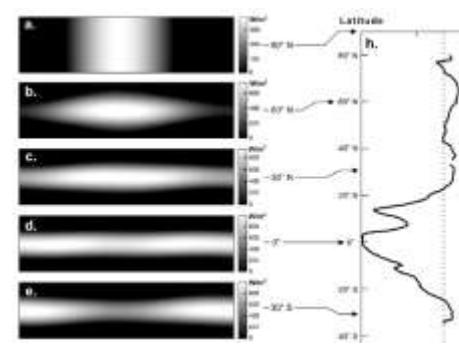


Z. Liu et al., ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. 151, 189–206 (2019).

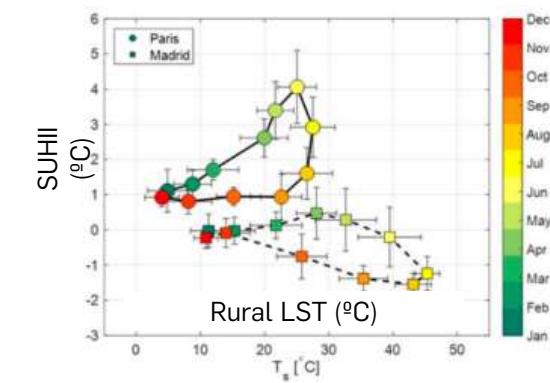
2019



2012



2018



Manoli et al. (2020), PNAS

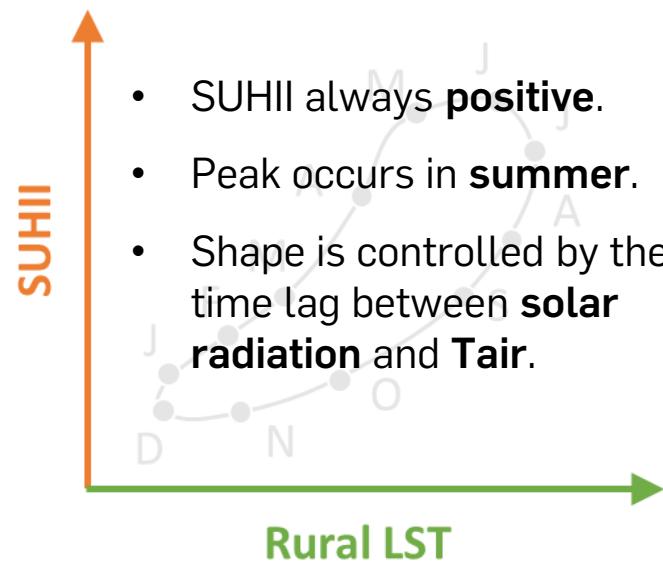
B. Bechtel, Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters, IEEE. 9, 876–880 (2012).

- B. Bechtel, P. Sismanidis, in *Remote Sensing: Time Series Image Processing*, Q. Weng, Ed. (2018).

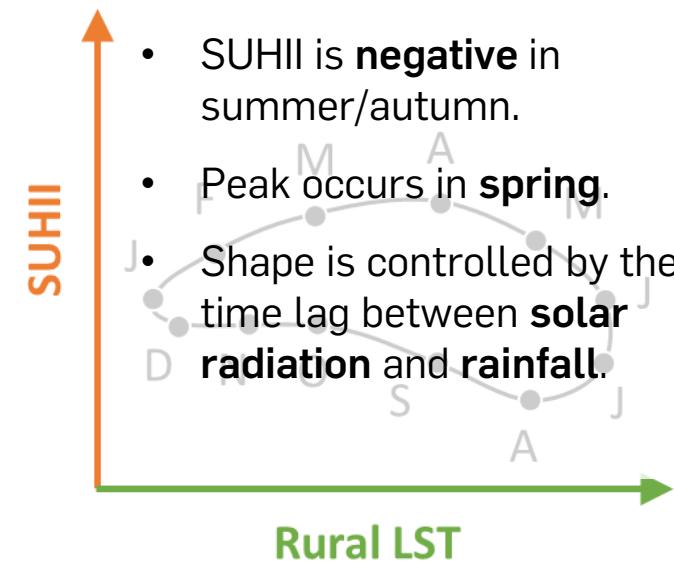
# SUHII Seasonal Hysteresis

- The seasonal variation of SUHII exhibits a rate dependent hysteresis that strongly depends on local climate conditions.

**Wet Climates: Concave-Up Loop**



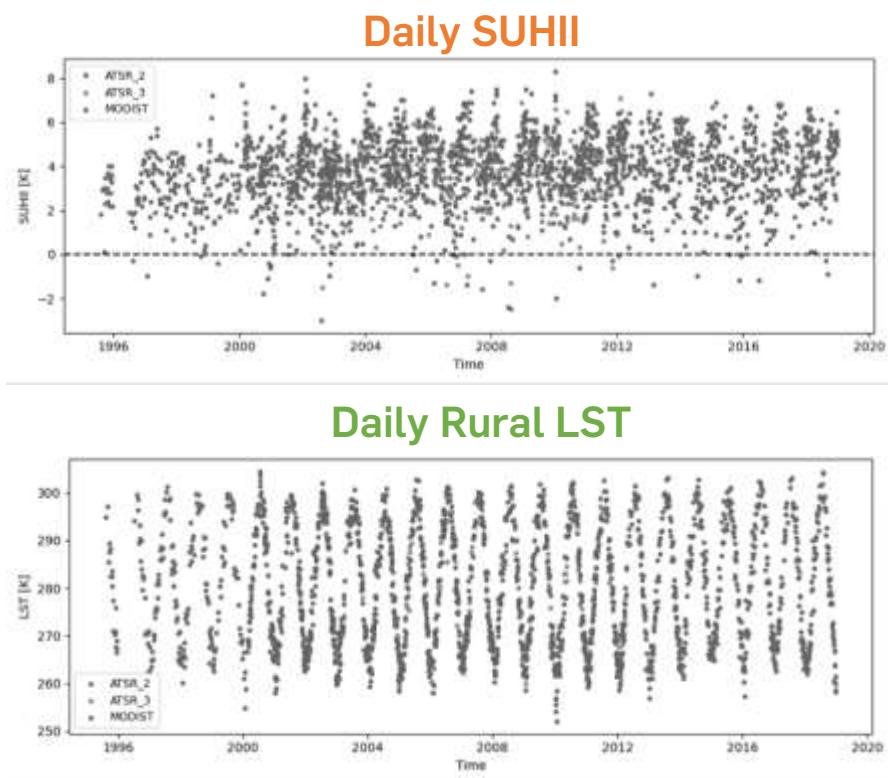
**Dry Climates: Concave-Down Loop**



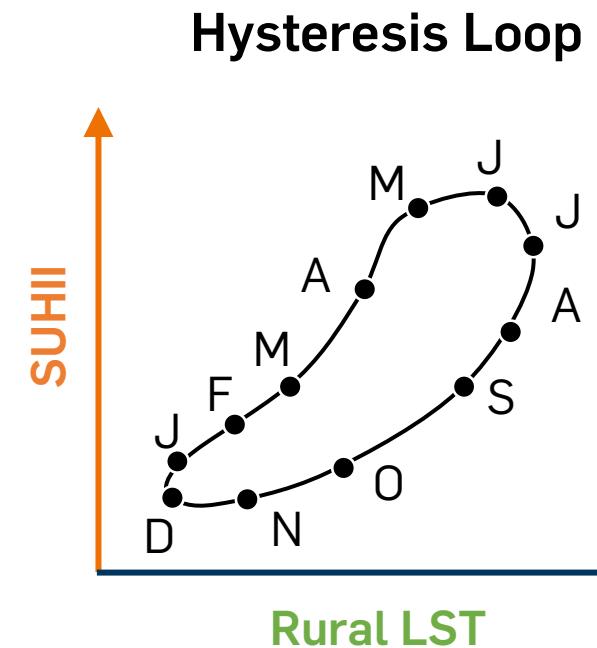
$$\text{SUHII} = \overline{\text{LST}}_{\text{urban}} - \overline{\text{LST}}_{\text{rural}}$$

# Data Analysis

For each City:



Calculate  
Monthly Means  
for all years

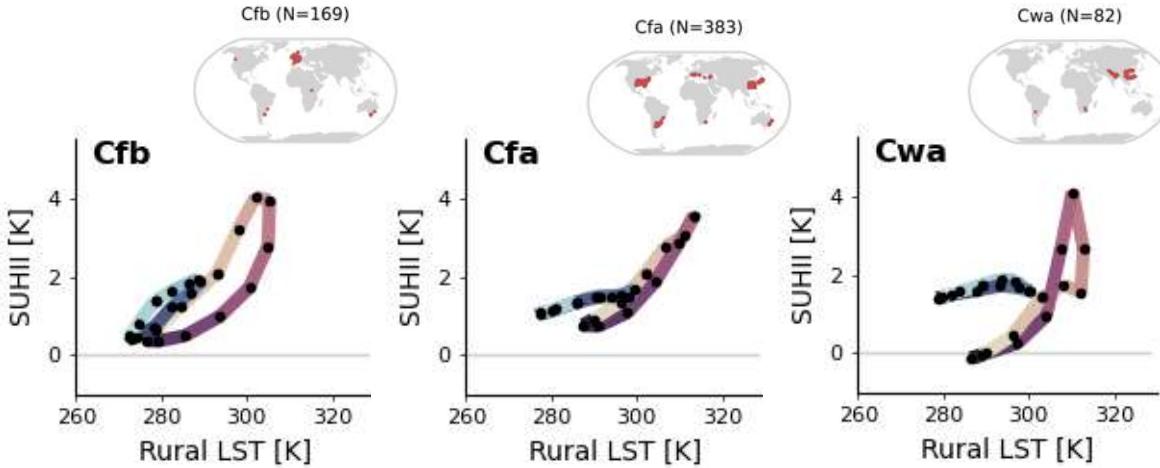


Calculate  
Monthly Means  
for all years

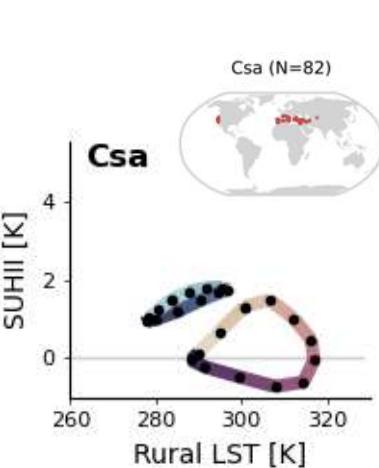
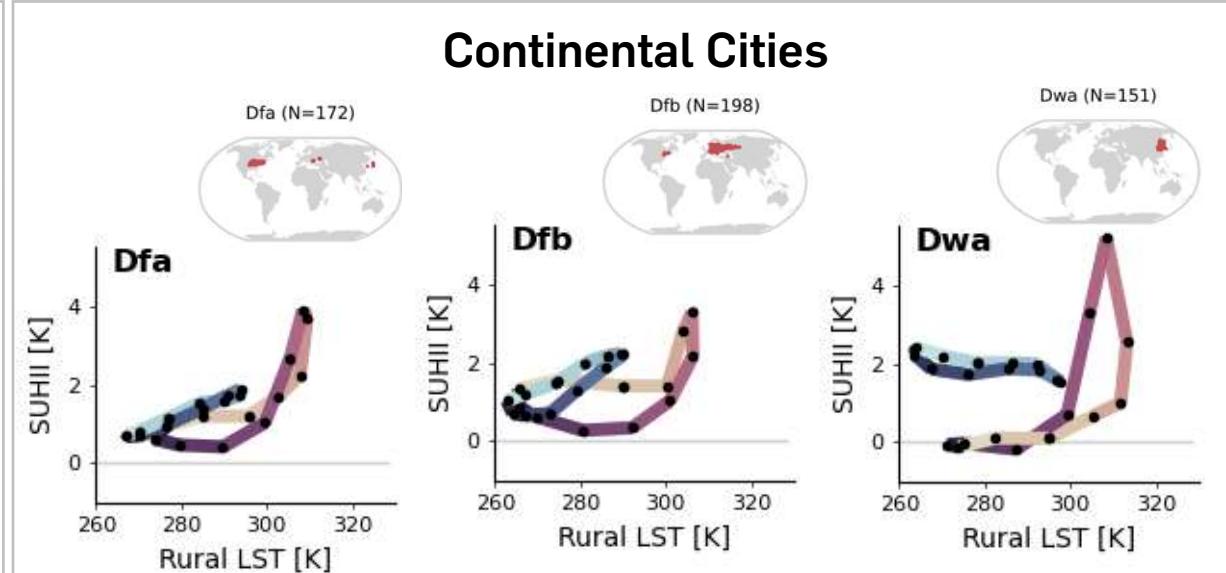
# Results

Spring Equinox (SE)      SE + 12 Months  
Nighttime      Daytime

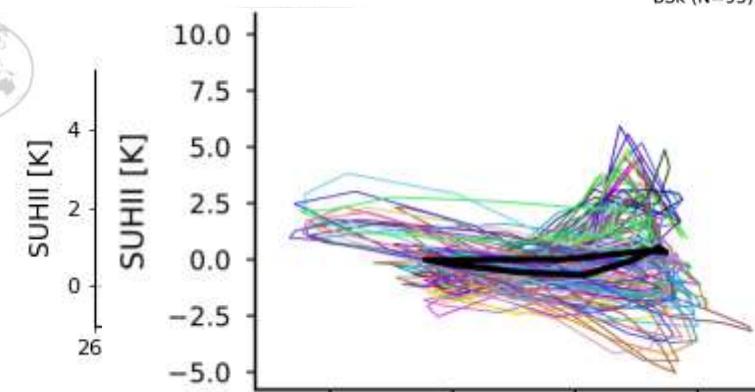
## Temperate Cities



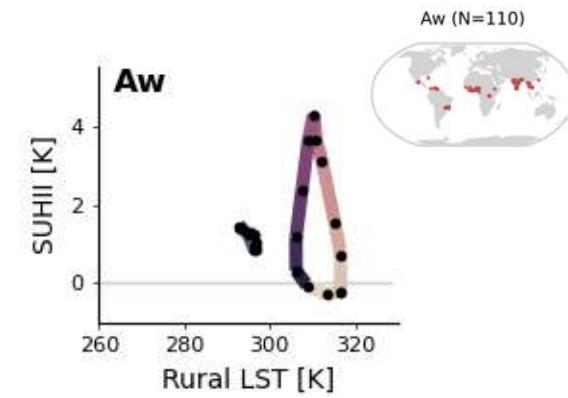
## Continental Cities



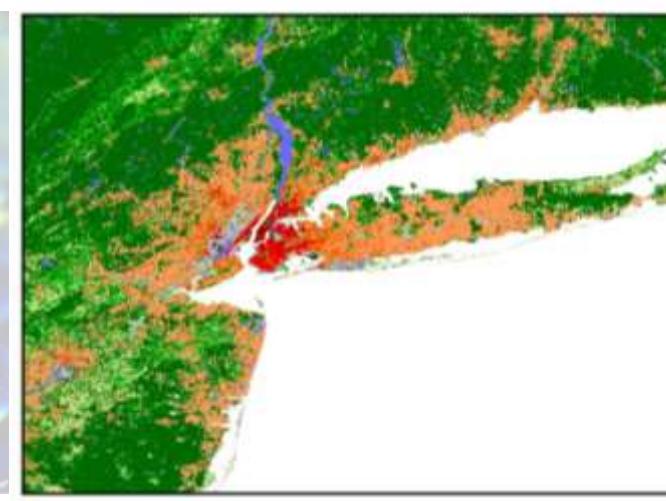
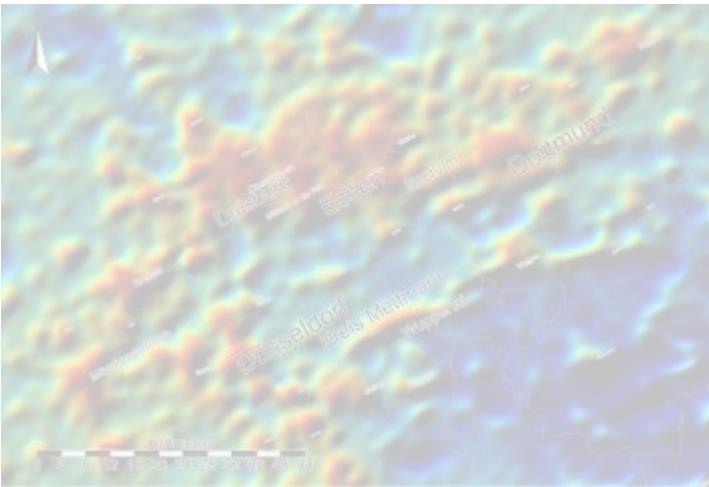
## Dry Cities



## Tropical Cities

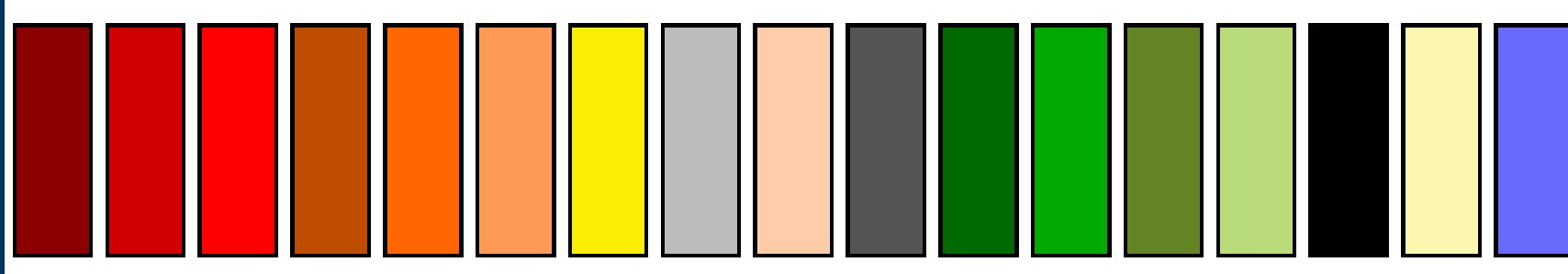


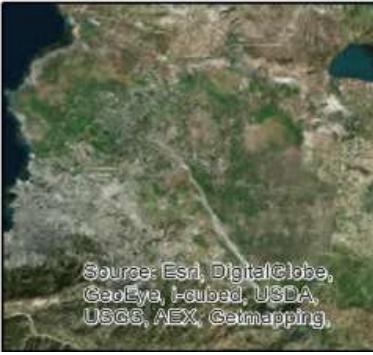
# 3. Urban structure and modelling





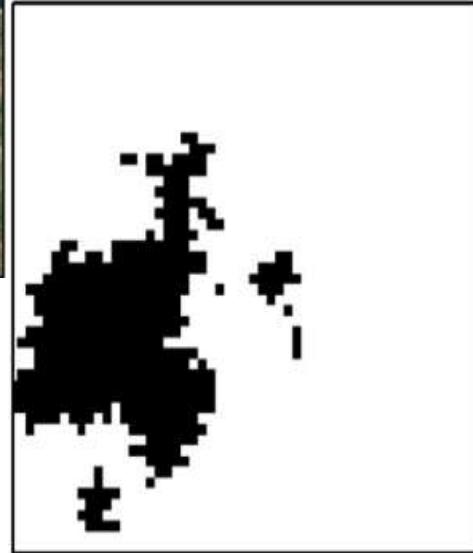
# Intra-urban differences



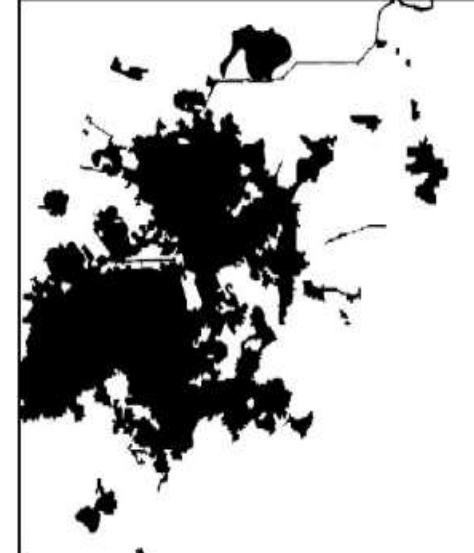


Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe,  
GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA,  
USGS, AEX, Getmapping,

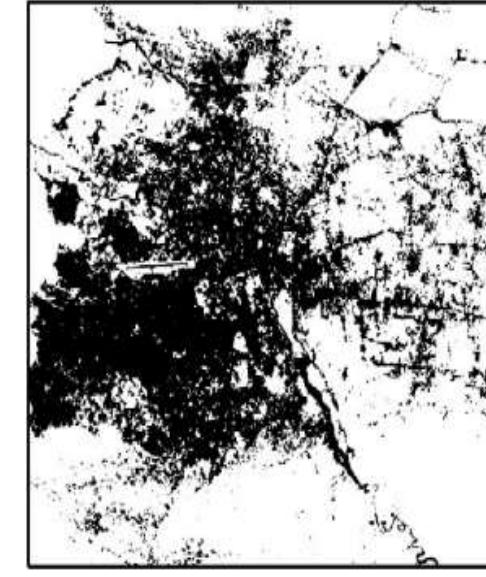
Port-au-prince



MODIS 500



GlobeLand30



GHS-L

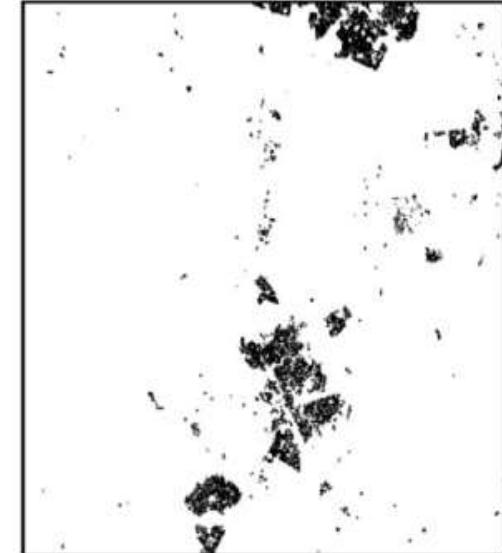
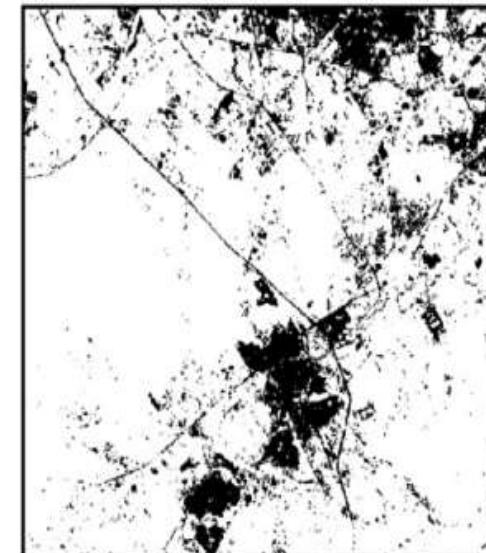
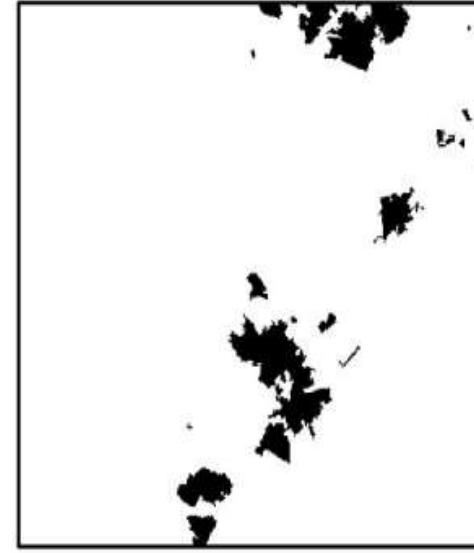
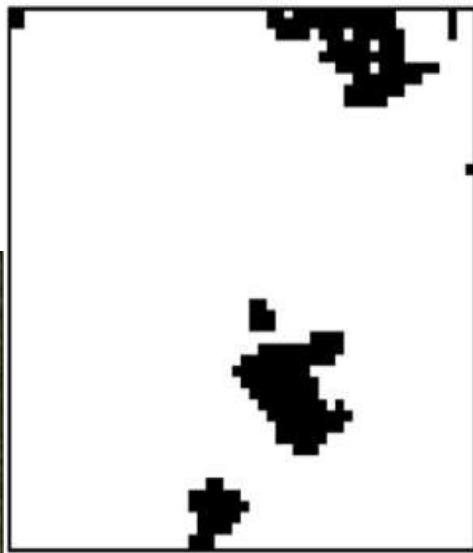


GUF

Johannesburg

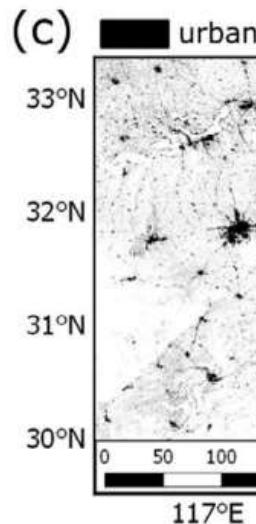
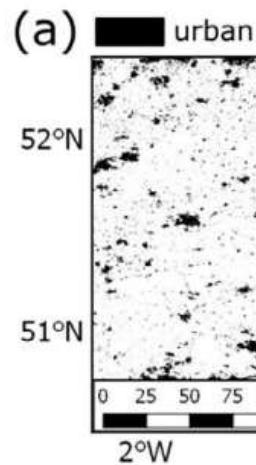


Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe,  
GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA,  
USGS, AEX, Getmapping,

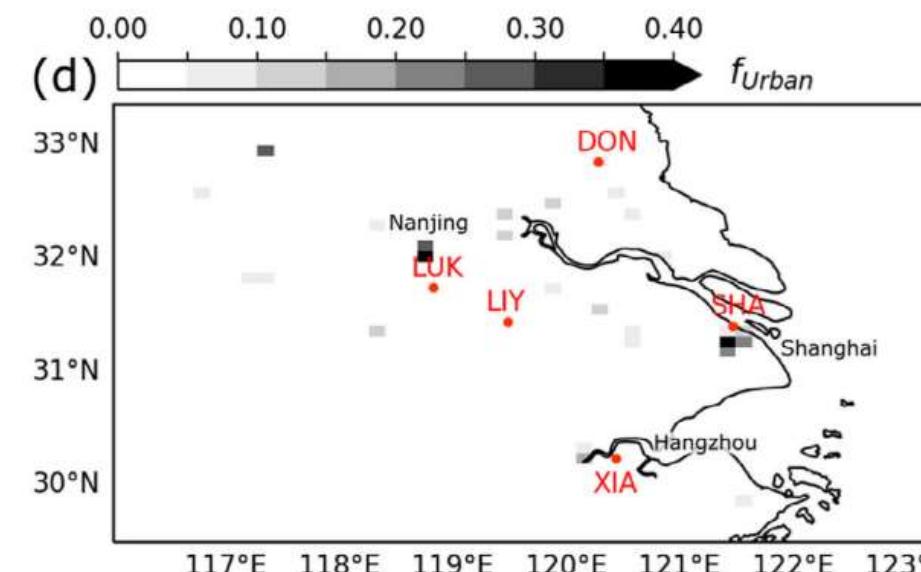
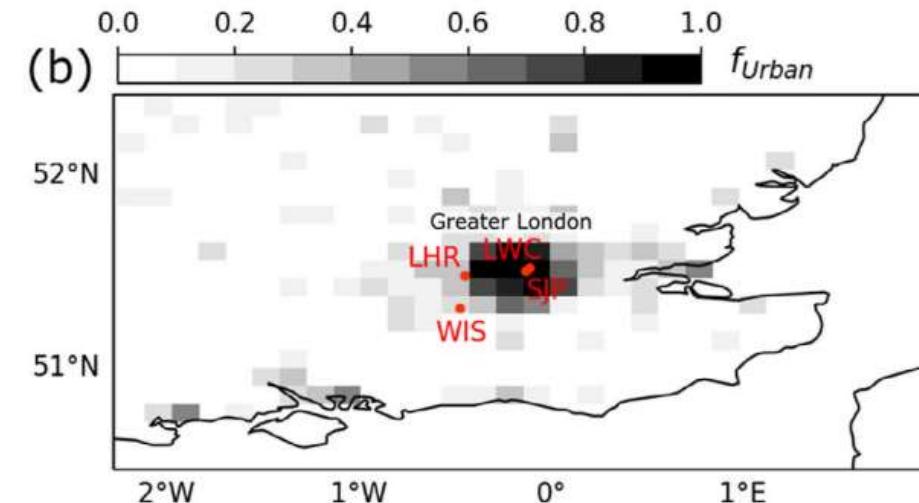


# Context

GUF



HadGEM3-PRIMAVERA  $\sim 0.1^\circ$



Hertwig D, Ng M, Grimmond S,  
Vidale PL, McGuire PC.  
High-resolution global climate  
simulations: Representation of  
cities. Int J Climatol.  
2021;41(5):3266-3285.  
doi:10.1002/joc.7018,

# WUDAPT

An Urban Weather, Climate, and Environmental  
Modeling Infrastructure for the Anthropocene

J. CHING, G. MILLS, B. BECHTEL, L. SEE, J. FEDDEMA, X. WANG, C. REN, O. BROUSSE, A. MARTILLI,  
M. NEOPHYTOU, P. MOZOURIDES, I. STEWART, A. HANNA, E. NG, M. FOLEY, P. ALEXANDER, D. ALIAGA,  
D. NIYOGI, A. SHREEVASTAVA, P. BHALACHANDRAN, V. MASSON, J. HIDALGO, J. FUNG, M. ANDRADE,  
A. BAKLANOV, W. DAI, G. MILCINSKI, M. DEMUZERE, N. BRUNSELL, M. PESARESI, S. MIAO, Q. MU,  
F. CHEN, AND N. THEEUWES



## World Urban Database and Access Portal Tools

WUDAPT is an international community-generated urban canopy information and modeling infrastructure to facilitate urban-focused climate, weather, air quality, and energy-use modeling application studies

Ching et al.  
(2018)

# WUDAPT?

WUDAPT Levels 0, 1 & 2 features and their potential applications.

Product	Level 0	Level 1	Level 2
Coverage	Over 120 cities and regions	Data gathering methods; and testing to refine Level 0 based on crowdsourcing APPS and Building Typology approaches as in MApUCE Landsat + Google Earth + local data & expert evaluation	Any city by using our new 3-D mapping technology, DSC World-view Stereo Data + Terra-SAR data
Data source	Landsat + Google Earth + local data & expert evaluation	Landsat + Google Earth + local data & expert evaluation	2 m
Resolution	100–500 m	100–500 m	GIS shapefiles
Format	kml, tiff	GIS shapefiles	Environment and Energy (building energy cost)
Applications	Environment and Energy (Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) Modeling, Urban heat island) Urban and Regional planning (population density)	Environment and Energy (weather and climate, urban air flows, urban radiation, mean radiant temperature, urban energy consumption, air pollution, CO <sub>2</sub> and GHG emission) Ecology (biodiversity) Urban and Regional planning (master plan, land use plan, green master plan, new town plan)	Building and community design (visibility analysis, building development) Disaster and risk management (Flooding, heatwave) Pedestrian and citizen's mobility (walkability, thermal comfort) Public health (polluted areas)

Local Climate Zone  
maps



Photo credit: NASA Earth Observatory



# LCZ database?

Requires user to send information via email to wudapt core team

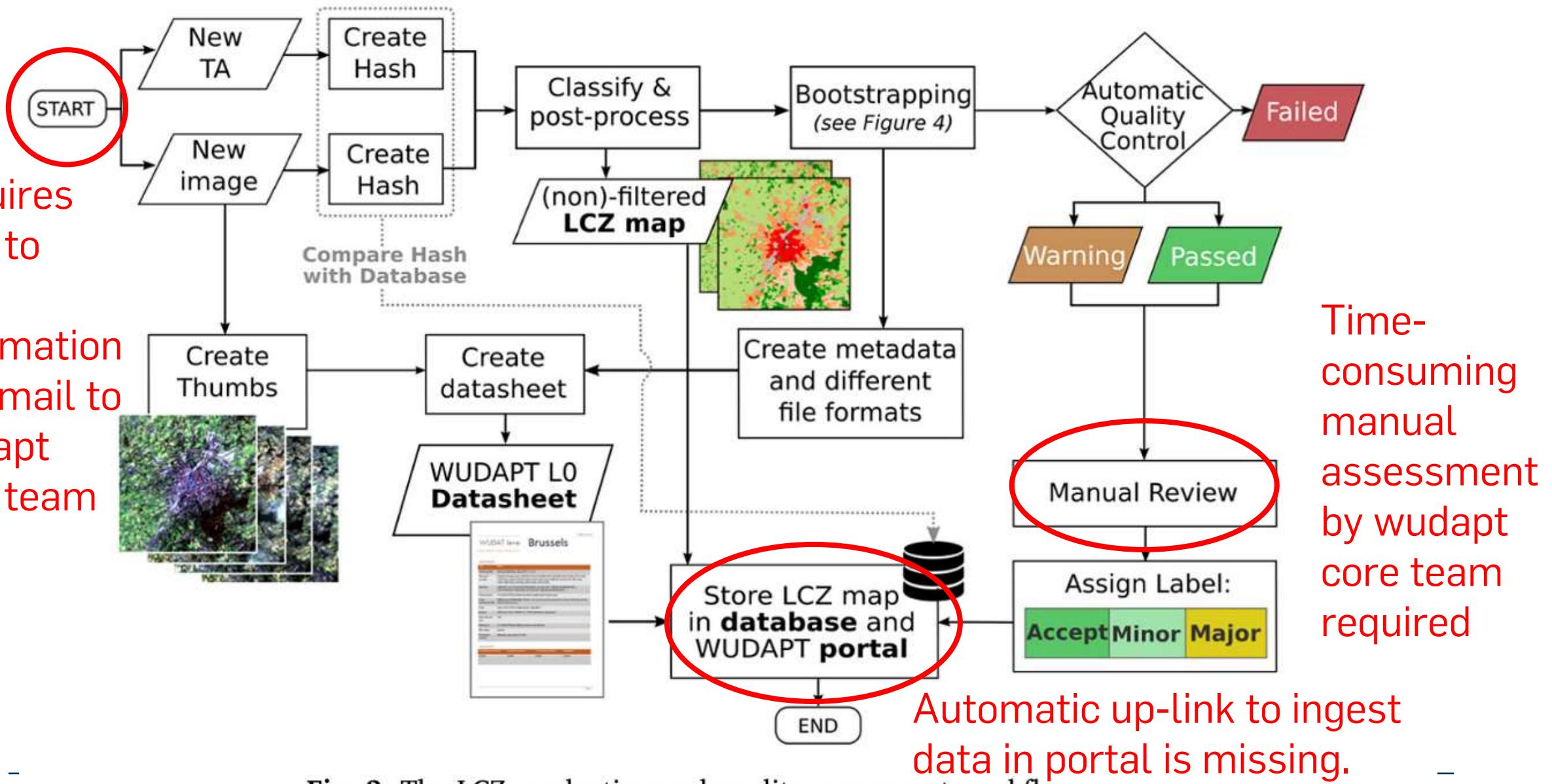
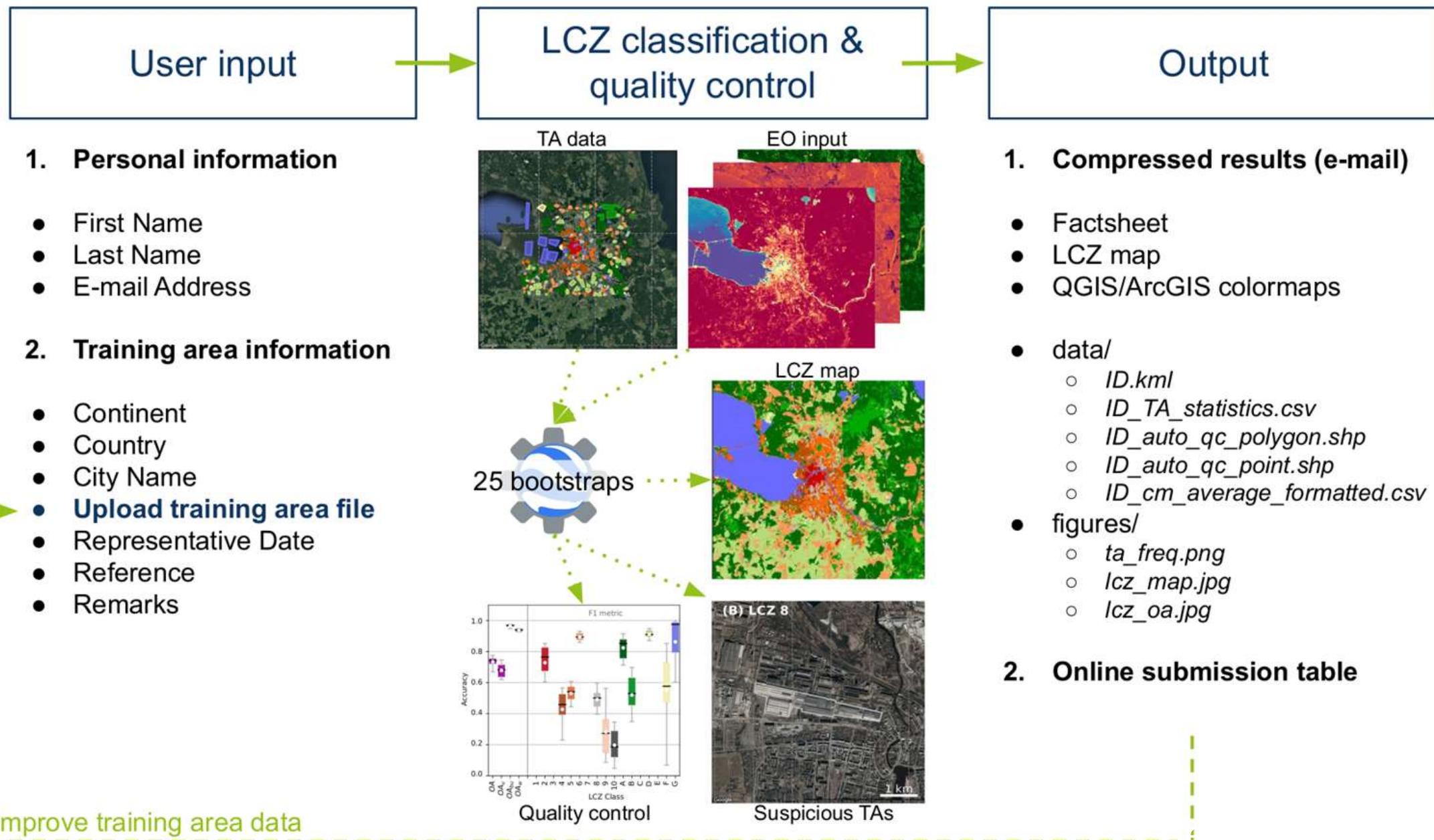


Fig. 2. The LCZ production and quality assessment workflow.

# LCZ Generator

<https://lcz-generator.rub.de/>



# Welcome to the LCZ Generator!

Fast and easy Local Climate Zone mapping

## Getting started:

1. Read [Demuzere et al. \(2021\)](#) it serves as the primary user guide
2. Download the [Training Area Template kml file](#)
3. Create your Training Areas following the [guidelines](#)
4. Once finished, use the [submission form](#) to submit your file.
5. Fill out the fields in the submission form; fields with an asterisk (\*) are required.
  - ▶ Show detailed information
6. Submit the form. If you see a green box appear on the top of the page after clicking the submit button, your submission was successful and will be processed. If a red box appears, there was a problem with your Training Area file. Check out the [FAQ](#) for more information.
7. You will be notified via email once the processing has finished. Depending on the current load of the system it should take ~20 minutes.
8. After you received the email, your submission is also available in the [submission table](#).

[Submit your Training Area](#)

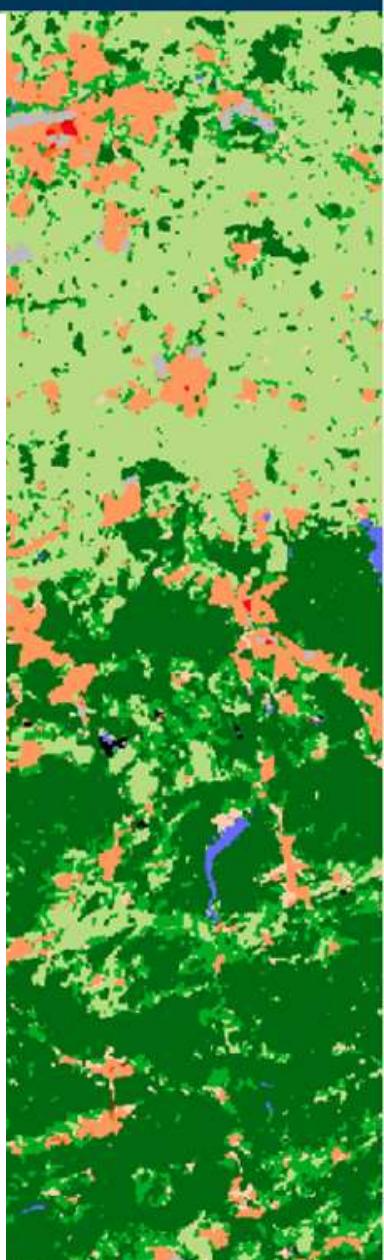
[Show generated LCZ maps](#)

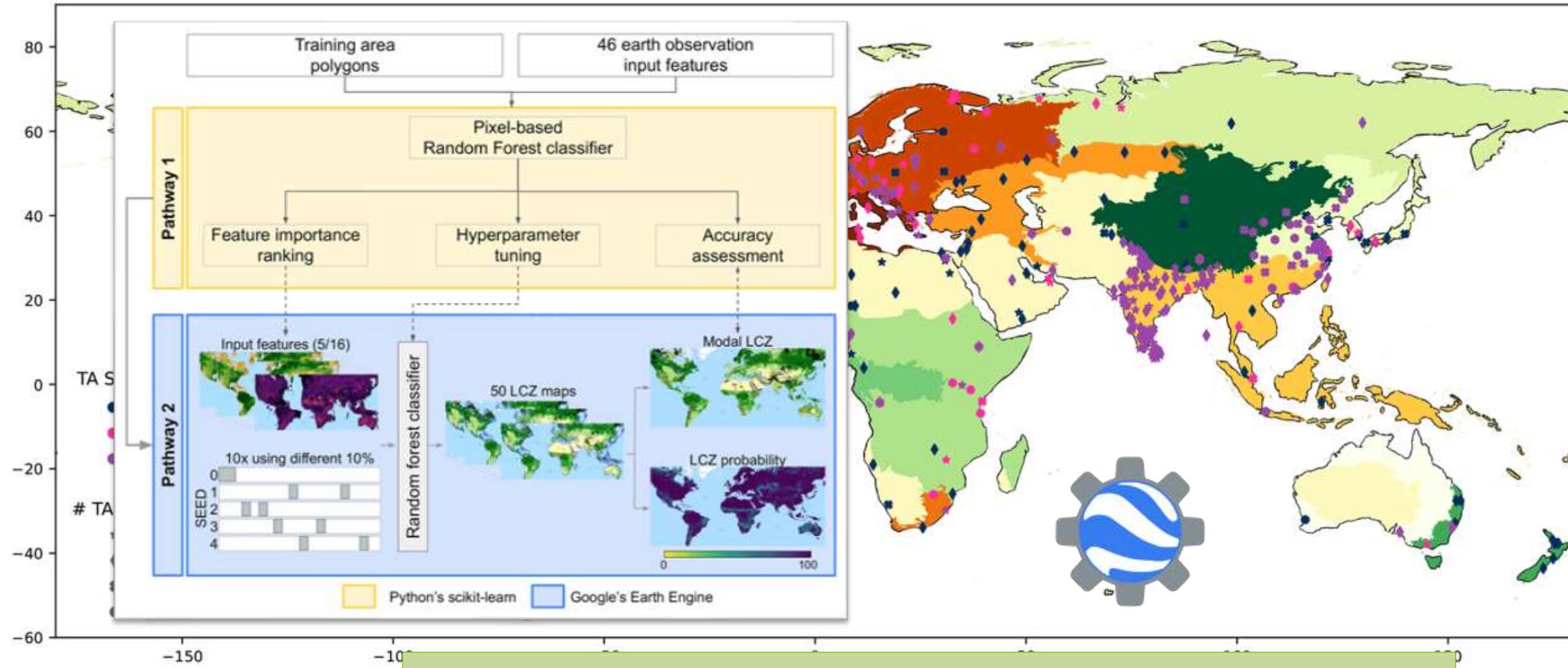
## Please cite the tool using:

Demuzere, M., Kittner, J., Bechtel, B. (2021). LCZ Generator: a web application to create Local Climate Zone maps. *Frontiers in Environmental Science* 9:637455. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2021.637455>

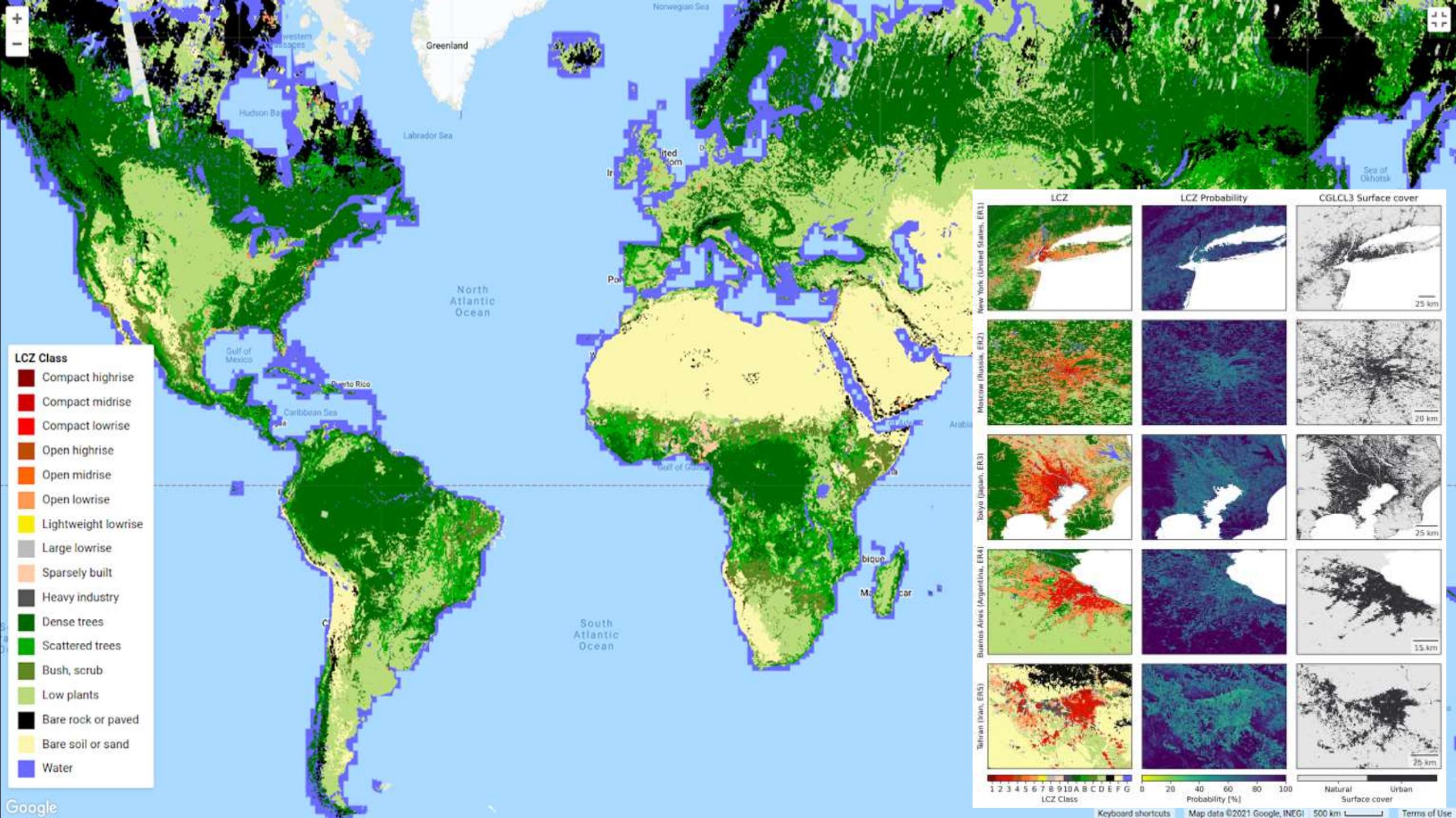


		Download Selected		Show best submissions		Search: <input type="text"/>		
	City	Country	Continent	Date Submitted	Author	Accuracy		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barcelona	Spain, Kingdom of	Europe	2022-06-08 07:26:11	Majdi Hunter-Batal	0.69	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NANJING	China, People's Republic of	Asia	2022-06-08 00:26:51	Yokey Tang	0.81	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Salt Lake City	United States of America	North America	2022-06-07 17:53:05	Natalie White	0.52	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	SÃO PAULO	Brazil, Federative Republic of	South America	2022-06-07 14:42:41	Sara Lopes De Moraes	0.65	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Piatra Neamt	Romania	Europe	2022-06-07 11:58:14	Dragos Butnaru	0.70	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bhubaneswar	India, Republic of	Asia	2022-06-07 11:40:03		0.43	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	São Paulo	Brazil, Federative Republic of	South America	2022-06-07 11:00:13	Sara Lopes De Moraes	0.65	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	nanjing	China, People's Republic of	Asia	2022-06-07 01:53:29	Yokey Tang	0.82	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	São Paulo	Brazil, Federative Republic of	South America	2022-06-06 16:31:53	Sara Lopes De Moraes	0.65	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yazd	Iran, Islamic Republic of	Asia	2022-06-06 15:48:24		0.69	<button>Show Factsheet</button>	



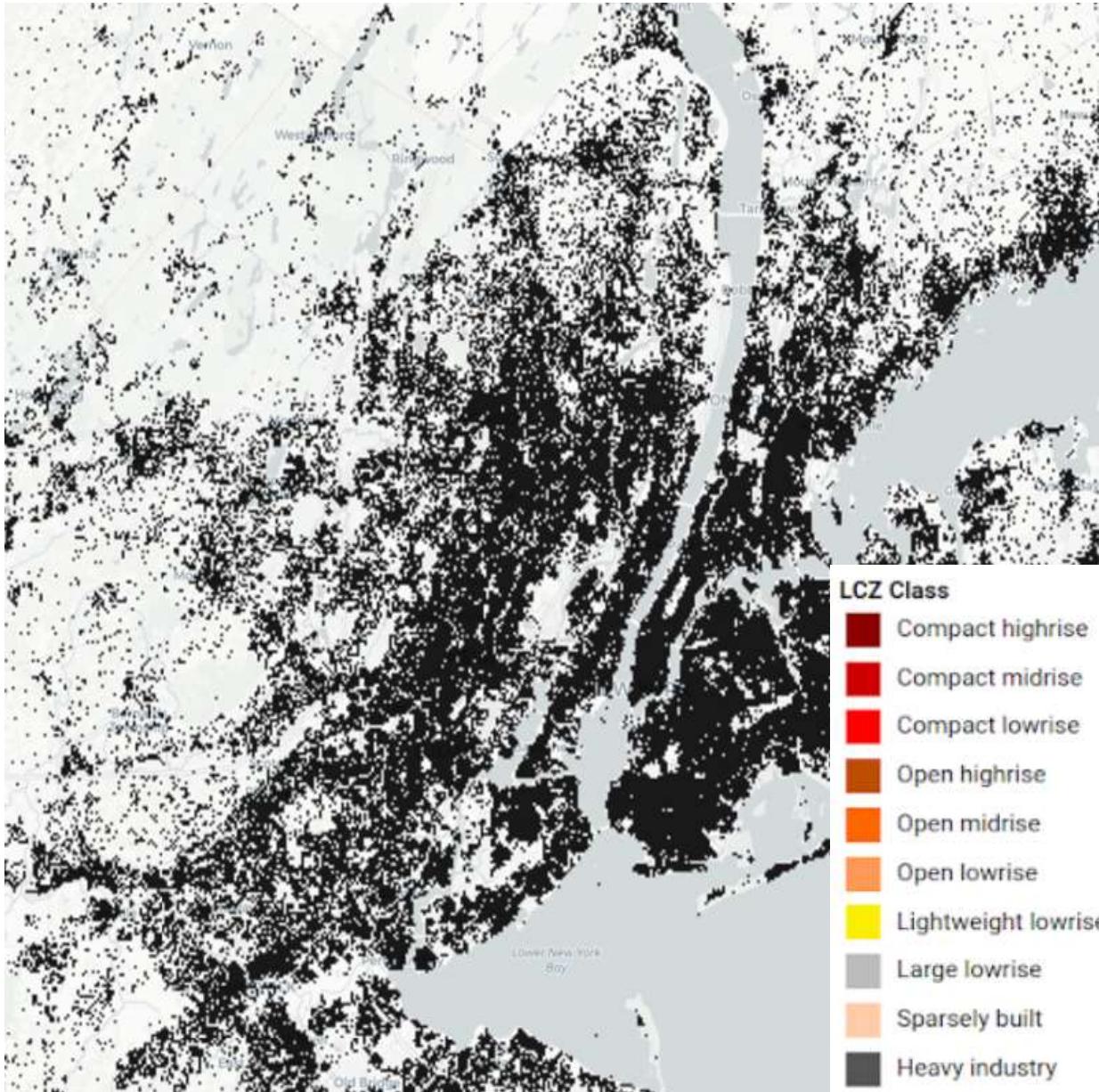


RF in GEE; 2+ million labels (from Archive, RUB and LCZ-Gen, 46 input features (LS8, S1/2, DEM, GLCM from PALSAR, NANTLI) -> timeout

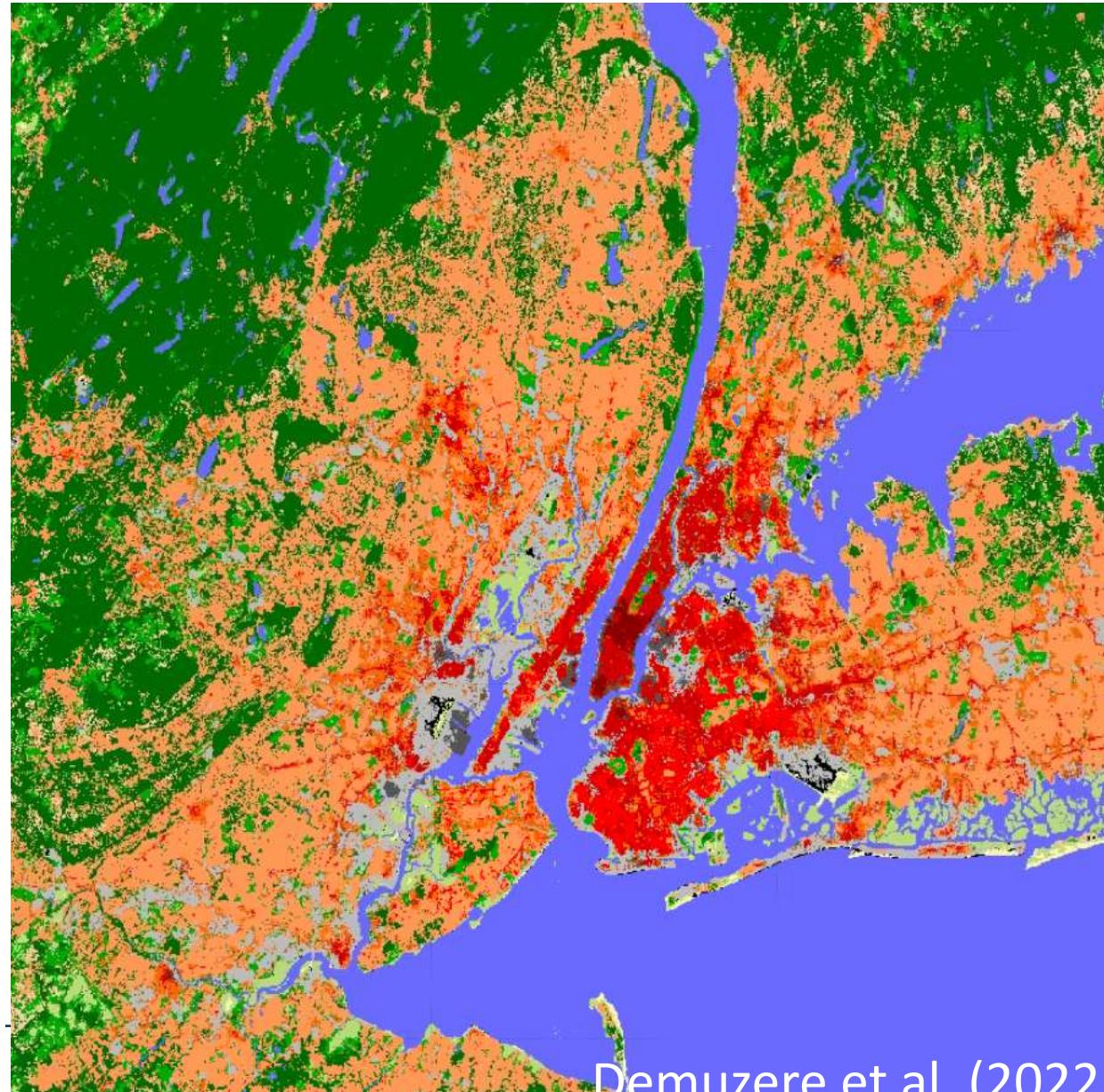


# Global map of LCZs

WSF



LCZ



# LCZ maps ~ climate modelling?

**Table:** LCZ-class specific urban canopy parameter values

LCZ	$\lambda_B$	$\lambda_I$	$\lambda_V$	H	SVF	AHF	IMD
1. Compact high-rise	40–60	40–60	<10	>25	0.2–0.4	50–300	>80
2. Compact midrise	40–70	30–50	<20	10–25	0.3–0.6	<75	>70
3. Compact low-rise	40–70	20–50	<30	3–10	0.2–0.6	<75	>60
4. Open high-rise	20–40	30–40	30–40	>25	0.5–0.7	<50	50–80
5. Open midrise	20–40	30–50	20–40	10–25	0.5–0.8	<25	50–80
6. Open low-rise	20–40	20–50	30–60	3–10	0.6–0.9	<25	40–90
7. Lightweight low-rise	60–90	<20	<30	2–4	0.2–0.5	<35	>60
8. Large low-rise	30–50	40–50	<20	3–10	>0.7	<50	>70
9. Sparsely built	10–20	<20	60–80	3–10	>0.8	<10	10–40
10. Heavy industry	20–30	20–40	40–50	5–15	0.6–0.9	>300	>40
A. Dense trees	<10	<10	>90	3–30	<0.4	0	<20
B. Scattered trees	<10	<10	>90	3–15	0.5–0.8	0	<20
C. Bush, scrub	<10	<10	>90	<2	0.7–0.9	0	<20
D. Low plants	<10	<10	>90	<1	>0.9	0	<20
E. Bare rock or paved	<10	>90	<10	<0.25	>0.9	0	>90
F. Bare soil or sand	<10	<10	>90	<0.25	>0.9	0	<20
G. Water	<10	<10	>90	-	>0.9	0	<20

+ Radiative and thermal properties such as emissivity, albedo, heat capacity, heat conductivity etc ...

# LCZ maps ~ climate modelling?

Table: LCZ-class specific urban canopy parameter values

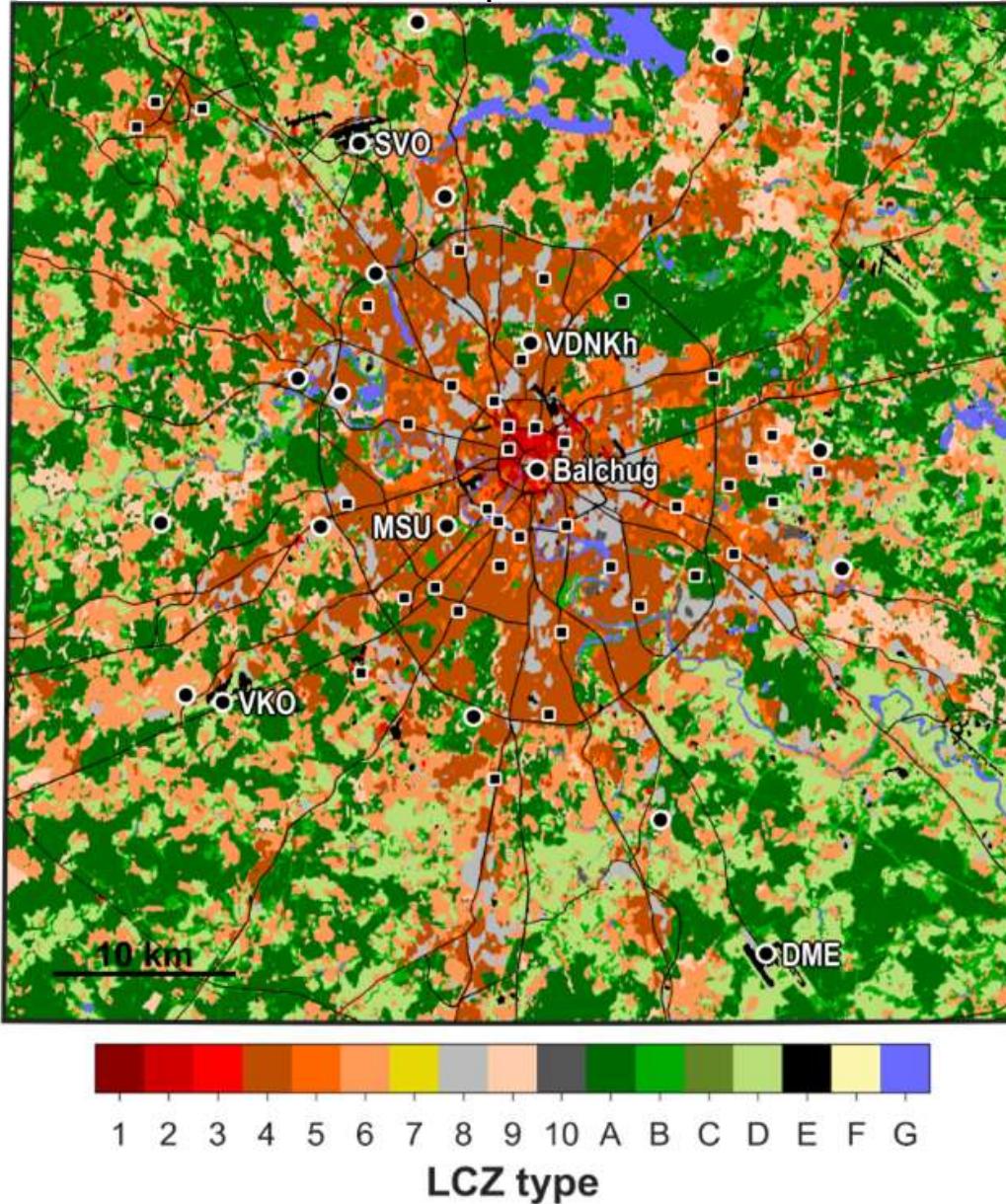
LCZ	$\lambda_B$	$\lambda_I$	$\lambda_V$	H	SVF	AHF	IMD
1. Compact high-rise	40–60	40–60	<10	>25	0.2–0.4	50–300	>80
2. Compact midrise	40–70	30–50	<20	10–25	0.3–0.6	<75	>70
3. Compact low-rise	40–70	20–50	<30	3–10	0.2–0.6	<75	>60
4. Open high-rise	20–40	30–40	30–40	>25	0.5–0.7	<50	50–80
5. Open midrise	20–40	30–50	20–40	10–25	0.5–0.8	<25	50–80
6. Open low-rise	20–40	20–50	30–50	3–10	0.6–0.9	<25	40–90
7. Lightweight low-rise	60–90	<20	<30	2–4	0.2–0.5	<35	>60
8. Large low-rise	30–60	<20	<20	3–10	>0.7	<50	>70
9. Sparsely built	10–20	<20	50–80	3–10	>0.8	<10	10–40
10. Heavy industry	20–30	20–40	40–50	5–15	0.6–0.9	>300	>40
A. Dense trees	<10	<10	>90	3–30	<0.4	0	<20
B. Scattered trees	<10	<10	>90	3–15	0.5–0.8	0	<20
C. Bush, scrub	<10	<10	>90	<2	0.7–0.9	0	<20
D. Low plants	<10	<10	>90	<1	>0.9	0	<20
E. Bare rock or paved	<10	>90	<10	<0.25	>0.9	0	>90
F. Bare soil or sand	<10	<10	>90	<0.25	>0.9	0	<20
G. Water	<10	<10	>90	-	>0.9	0	<20

+ Radiative and thermal properties such as emissivity, albedo, heat capacity, heat conductivity etc ...

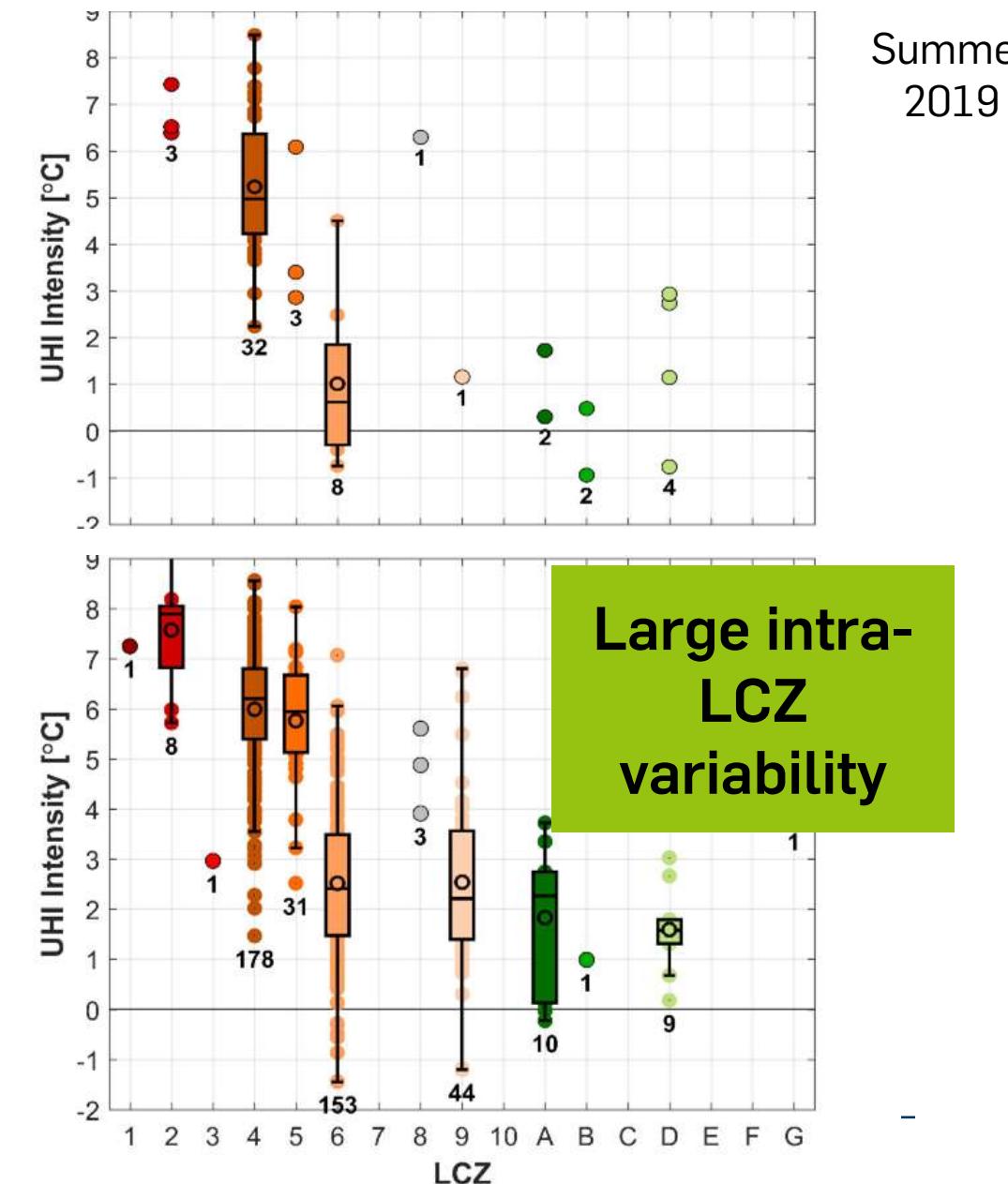
# Applications

Air temperature

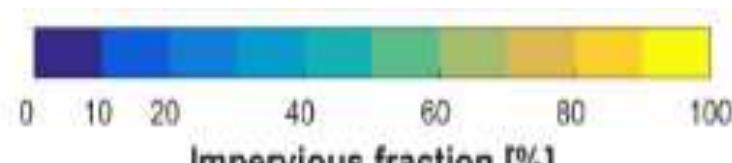
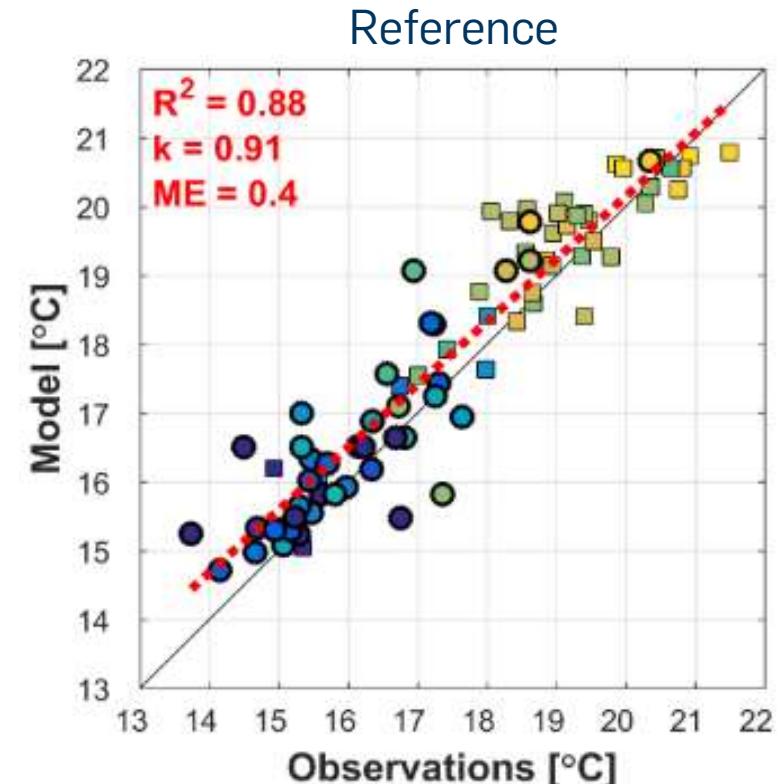
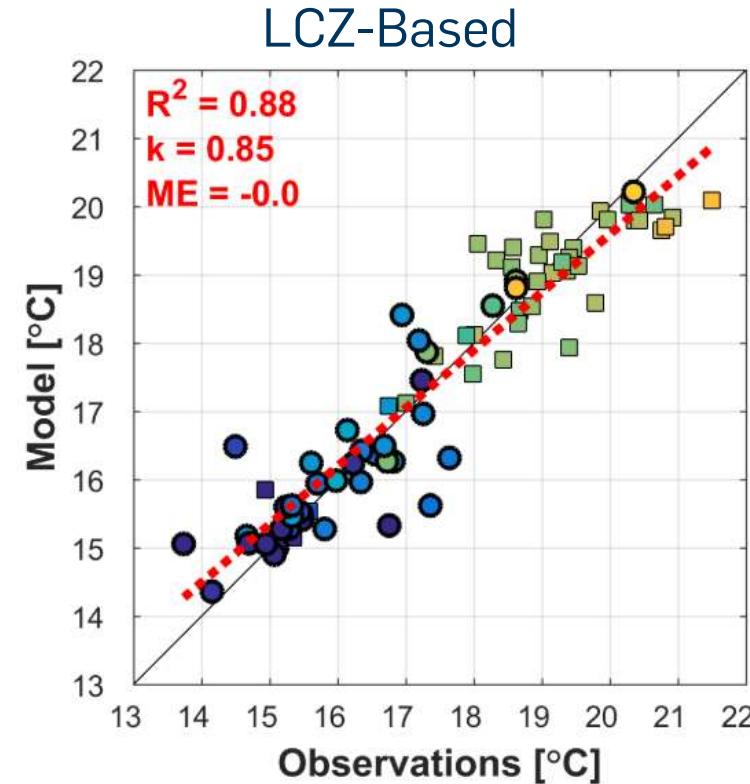
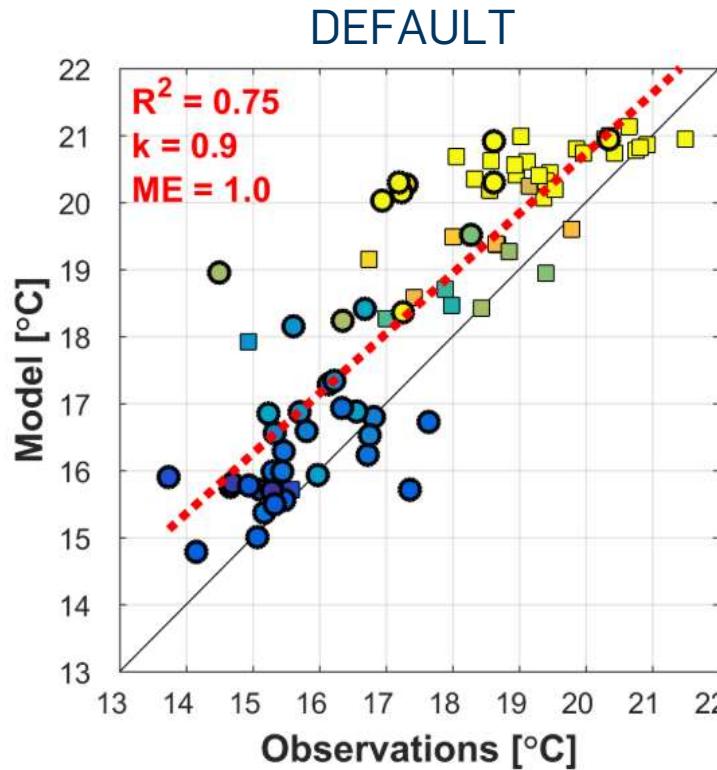
LCZ map Moscow



Reference  
weather  
stations

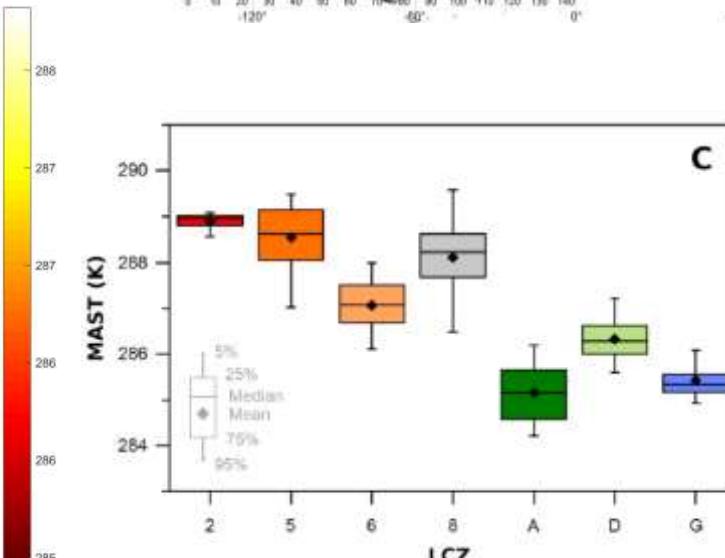
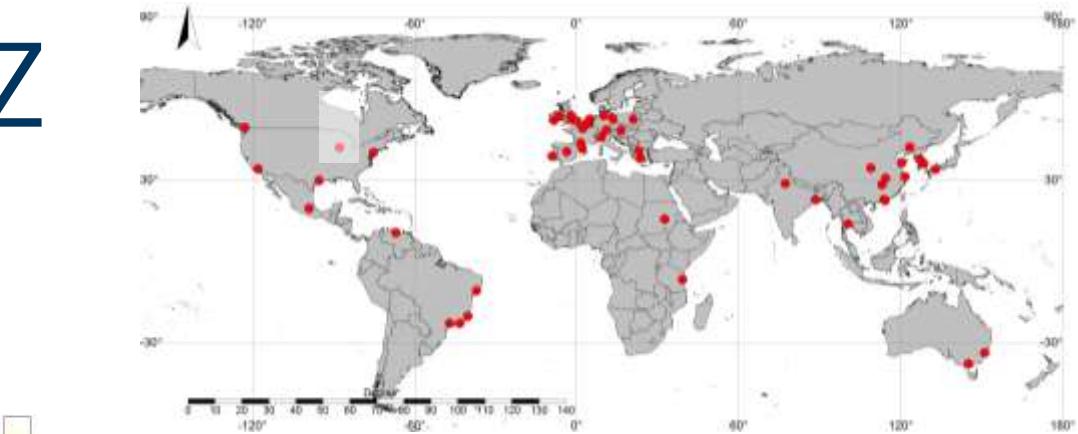
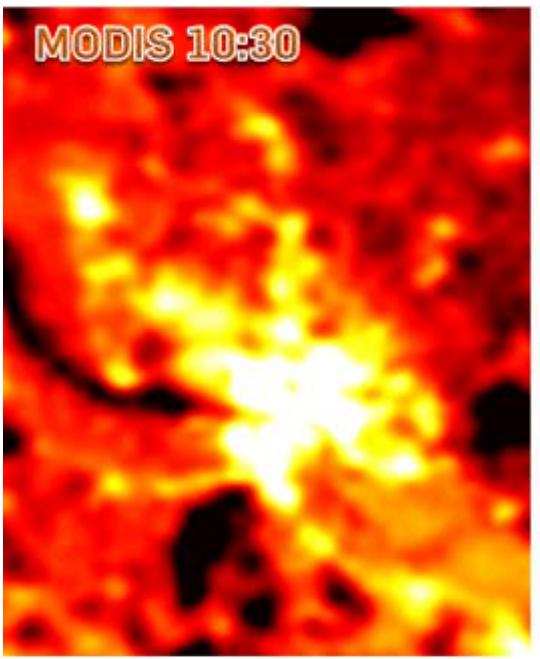
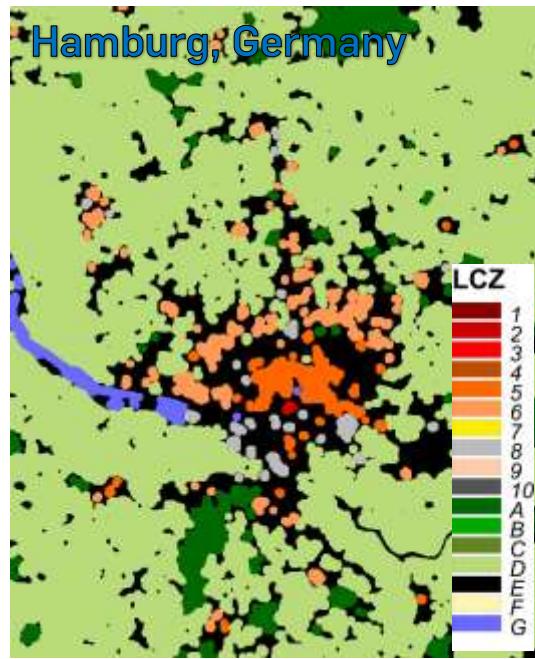


# Evaluation of modelled (COSMO-CLM) nocturnal 2m air temperature averaged for August 2017

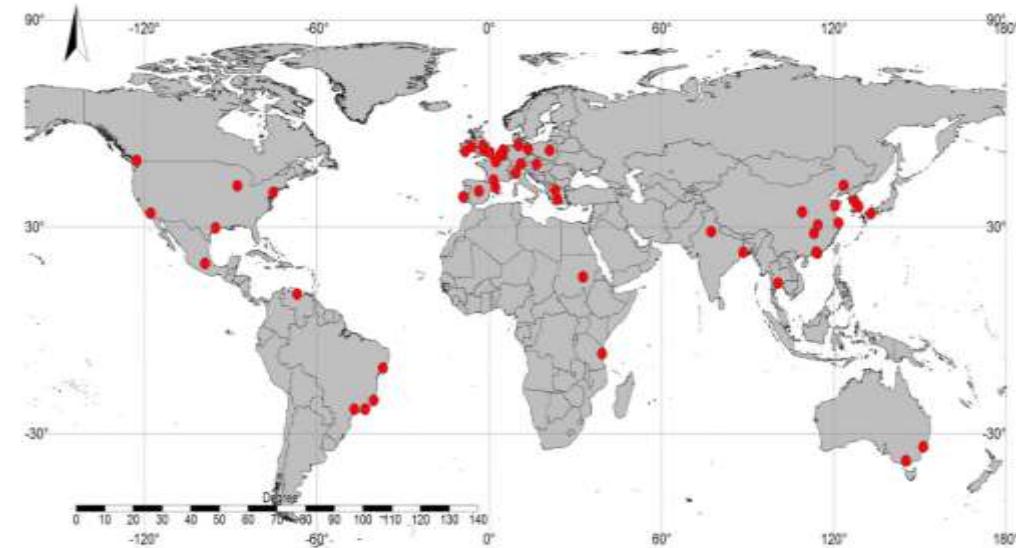


Urban climate modeling

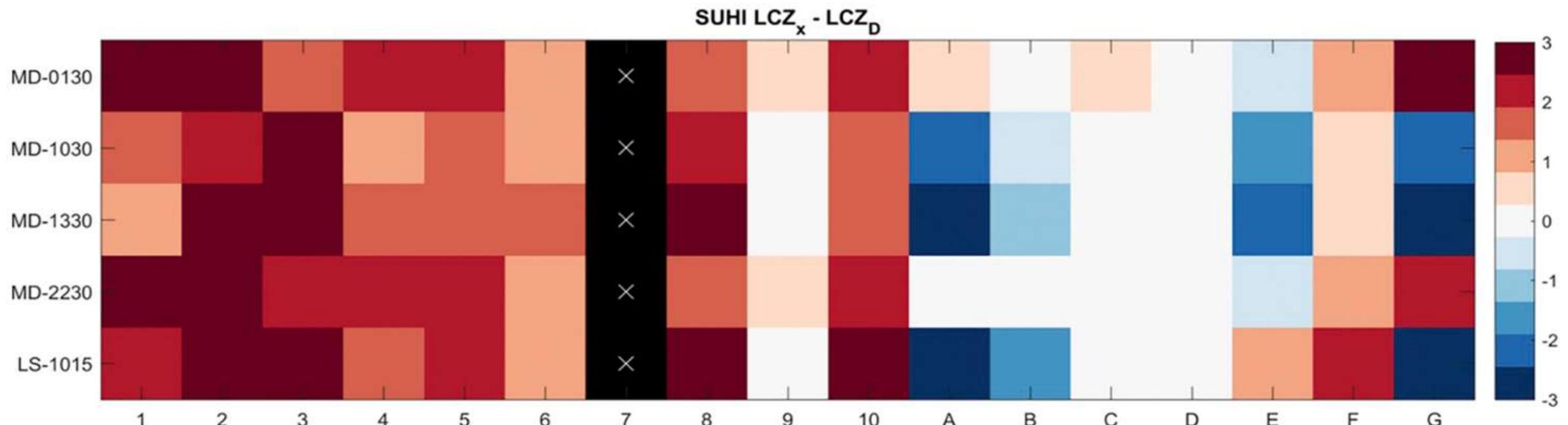
# Intra-Urban SUHII by LCZ



The LCZ approach provides a consistent and comprehensive framework for SUHI analysis.

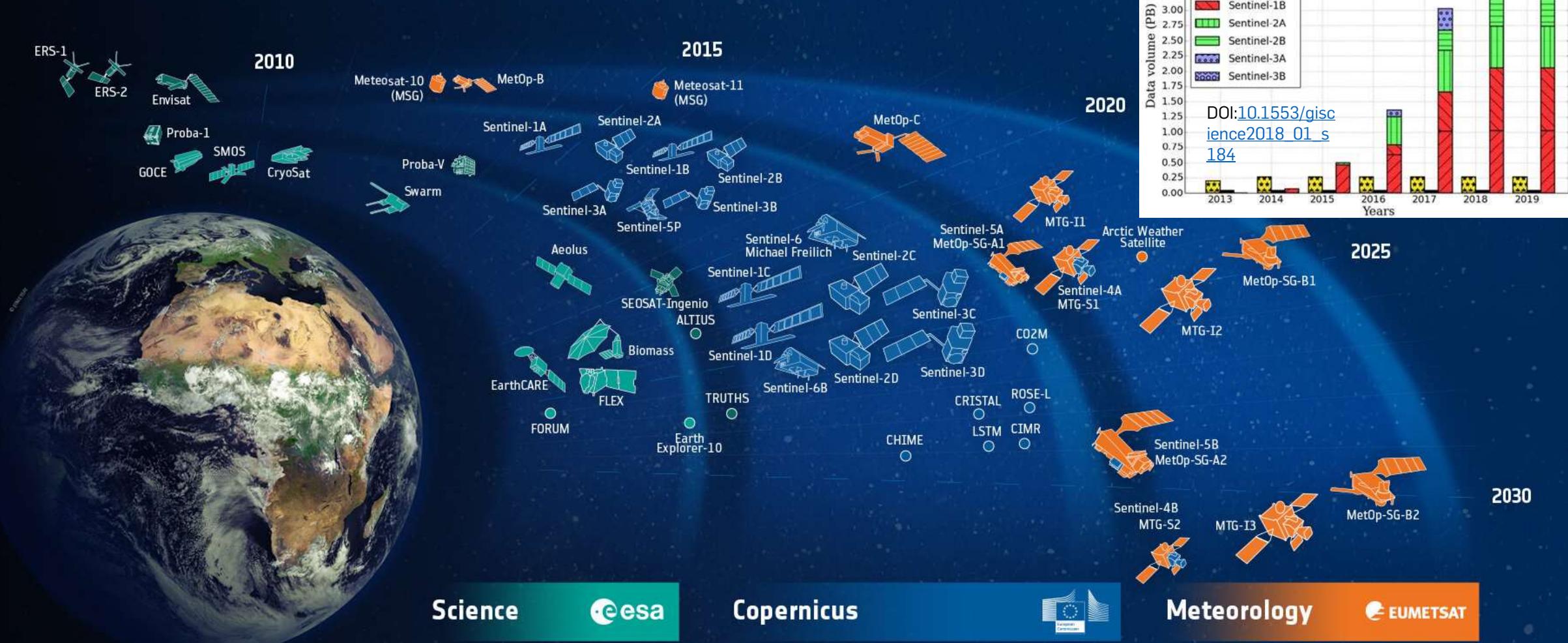


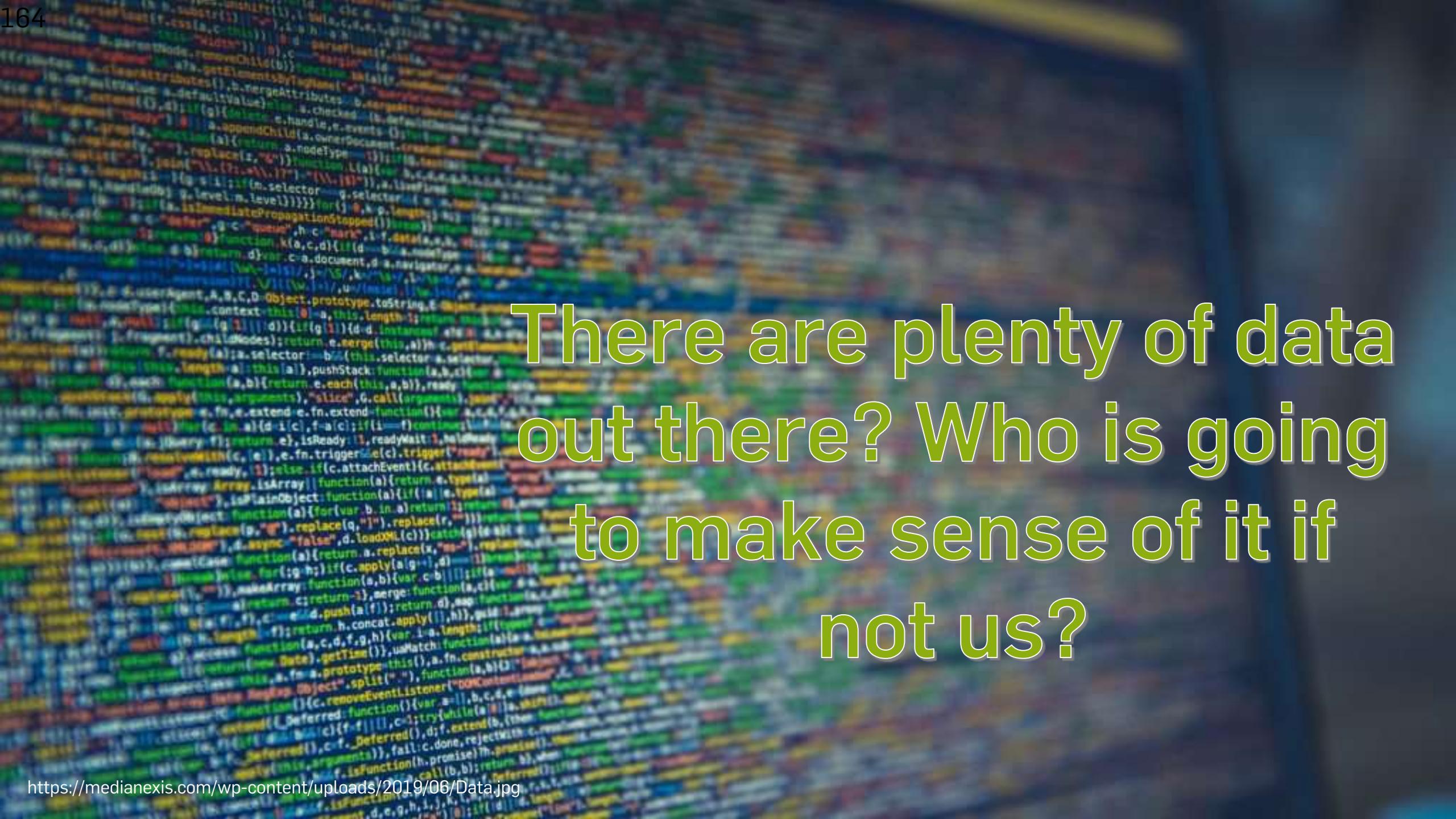
## Surface temperature



**Fig. 11.** Average SUHI intensity in K for all cities and LCZ compared to LCZ D for different acquisition times and sensors. Black with white x (LCZ 7) indicates that the LCZ type is not present in the study.

# ESA-DEVELOPED EARTH OBSERVATION MISSIONS





There are plenty of data  
out there? Who is going  
to make sense of it if  
not us?



innovative

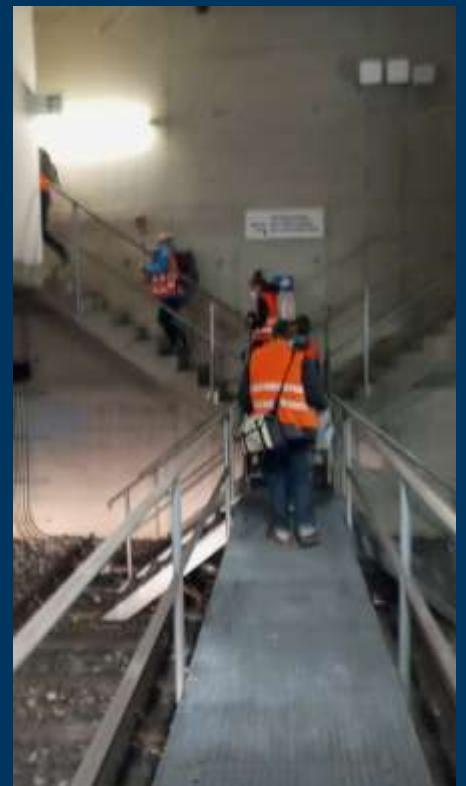


impact

visible

community

international



Thank you!