

# Novel Parametric Workflow for Simulating UHI Effects on Building Energy Performance: A Case Study of Seven US Cities

local climate zones (LCZs) - classification system for categorizing different urban/suburban areas based on surface cover char., morphology, and land use; helps better understand microclimates within cities

## ABSTRACT

canopy heat island - phenomenon where urban areas experience higher temps. than rural surroundings

gap of local temp. (TMY not specific enough) → using LCZ classification and meteorological weather data

model simulates UHI intensity over a year

investigated canopy heat island on energy consumption of diff. buildings

**FINDINGS**: annual LCZ1 highest temp. variation  
LCZ6 lowest max UHI intensity

results emphasize imp. of accounting for UHI impact in building design

LCZ10 also high in UHI, 3rd after LCZs 1 and 2

Built types	Definition	Land cover types	Definition
1. Compact high-rise	Dense mix of tall buildings to tens of stories. Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved. Concrete, steel, stone, and glass construction materials.	A. Dense trees	Heavily wooded landscape of deciduous and/or evergreen trees. Land cover mostly pervious (low plants). Zone function is natural forest, tree cultivation, or urban park.
2. Compact midrise	Dense mix of midrise buildings (3-9 stories). Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved. Stone, brick, tile, and concrete construction materials.	B. Scattered trees	Lightly wooded landscape of deciduous and/or evergreen trees. Land cover mostly pervious (low plants). Zone function is natural forest, tree cultivation, or urban park.
3. Compact low-rise	Dense mix of low-rise buildings (1-3 stories). Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved. Stone, brick, tile, and concrete construction materials.	C. Bush, scrub	Open arrangement of bushes, shrubs, and short, woody trees. Land cover mostly pervious (bare soil or sand). Zone function is natural scrubland or agriculture.
4. Open high-rise	Open arrangement of tall buildings to tens of stories. Abundance of pervious land cover (low plants, scattered trees). Concrete, steel, stone, and glass construction materials.	D. Low plants	Featureless landscape of grass or herbaceous plants/crops. Few or no trees. Zone function is natural grassland, agriculture, or urban park.
5. Open midrise	Open arrangement of midrise buildings (3-9 stories). Abundance of pervious land cover (low plants, scattered trees). Concrete, steel, stone, and glass construction materials.	E. Bare rock or paved	Featureless landscape of rock or paved cover. Few or no trees or plants. Zone function is natural desert (rock) or urban transportation.
6. Open low-rise	Open arrangement of low-rise buildings (1-3 stories). Abundance of pervious land cover (low plants, scattered trees). Wood, brick, stone, tile, and concrete construction materials.	F. Bare soil or sand	Featureless landscape of soil or sand cover. Few or no trees or plants. Zone function is natural desert or agriculture.
7. Lightweight low-rise	Dense mix of single-story buildings. Few or no trees. Land cover mostly hard-packed. Lightweight construction materials (e.g., wood, thatch, corrugated metal).	G. Water	Large, open water bodies such as seas and lakes, or small bodies such as rivers, reservoirs, and lagoons.
8. Large low-rise	Open arrangement of large low-rise buildings (1-3 stories). Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved. Steel, concrete, metal, and stone construction materials.	<b>VARIABLE LAND COVER PROPERTIES</b>	
9. Sparsely built	Sparse arrangement of small or medium-sized buildings in a natural setting. Abundance of pervious land cover (low plants, scattered trees).	b. bare trees	Leafless deciduous trees (e.g., winter). Increased sky view factor. Reduced albedo.
10. Heavy industry	Low-rise and midrise industrial structures (towers, tanks, stacks). Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved or hard-packed. Metal, steel and concrete construction materials.	s. snow cover	Snow cover >10 cm in depth. Low admittance. High albedo.
		d. dry ground	Parched soil. Low admittance. Large Bowen ratio. Increased albedo.
		w. wet ground	Waterlogged soil. High admittance. Small Bowen ratio. Reduced albedo.

## DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

> energy consumption in urban areas w/ ↑ urbanization and ↓ green spaces

decr. in heating loads, incr. in cooling loads  
supports building electrification!

limitations:

need to conduct research in cities worldwide,  
| esp. developing countries w/ rapid development  
| diverse climate conditions, urban forms, cultural  
| practices

UHI impacts more than just energy consumption,  
look at: indoor air quality, thermal comfort, etc

need comparison with real-world data

## METHODOLOGY