



GDR Groupement
de recherche

MAGIS

Méthodes et Applications
pour la Géomatique et l'Information Spatiale

Sd BUT
Science des
données

Université
Bretagne Sud
ubs:



Identifying urban profiles with regard to overheating factors

Application to French municipalities

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SAGEO 2025
Spatial Analysis and Geomatics

SCIENTIFIC CONTEXT

- Urban territories are increasingly exposed to overheating processes [Masson, 2000].
 - ➡ Threats on populations [Huang et al., 2023]
- Classifying territories with respect to their sensitivity to overheating is a critical issue [Wang et al., 2020].
- Still, very few classifications with regards to overheating factors.

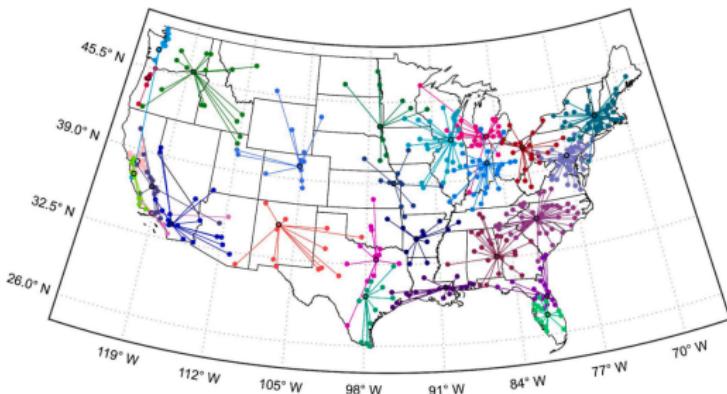


Figure 1: Urban clustering based on geographical distance and 8-day composite daytime LST during a heat wave (July 12–19, 2006).

Aim of this work: propose a classification of French municipalities on the basis of urban overheating indicators

Method:

- Identify overheating factors → define indicators of overheating based on geographic data
- Factorial Analysis of Mixed Data (FAMD) for analysing the indicators combined with k-means for the clustering
- Compare the clusters compared with Urban Heat Island (UHI) model outputs.

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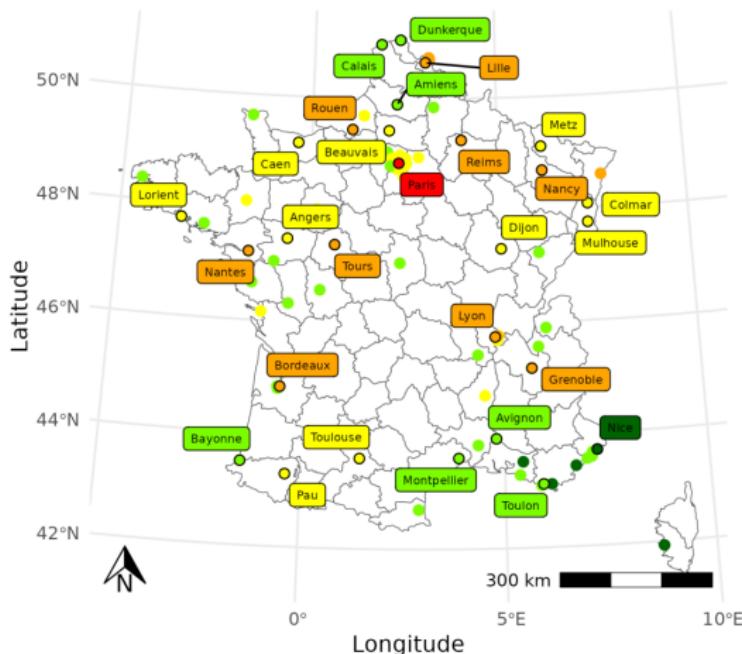
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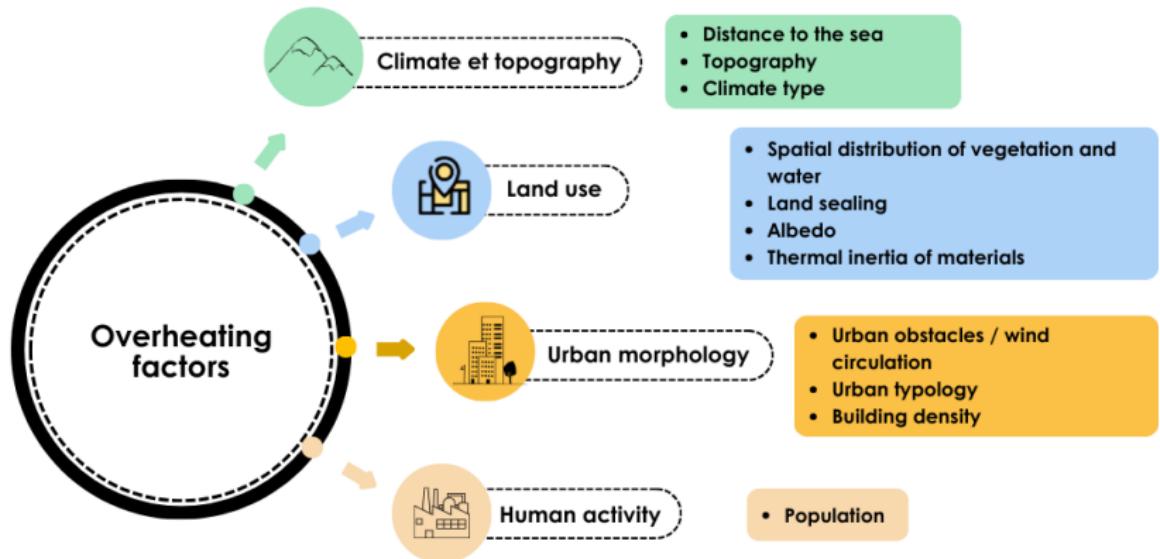
+ additional datasets

CITY SAMPLE

- Municipalities of more than 50 000 inhabitants
 - ➡ 130 municipalities (1 individual = 1 municipality)
- UHI model outputs from TEB/SURFEX model (MaPuce project)
 - ➡ 42 urban areas



URBAN OVERHEATING FACTORS AND INDICATOR DEFINITION



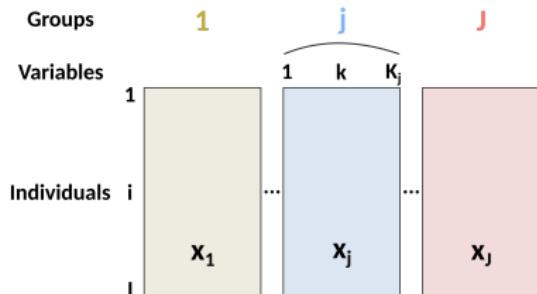
URBAN OVERHEATING FACTORS AND INDICATOR DEFINITION

► 13 indicators describing overheating factors

Table 1: Variables used in the factorial analysis of mixed data

Class of factor	Variables	Data source (resolution)	Variable type
<i>Climate and topography</i>	Distance of the municipality centroid to the sea	NaturalEarth (1:10e6)	Positive continuous
	Climate type (based on Köppen classification)	kgc package (0.05°)	Categorical
	Topographic Rugosity Index (TRI)	SRTM (30m)	Positive continuous
<i>Land use</i>	Proportion of impervious surface	Geoclimate	Proportion
	Mean distance between closest vegetation areas	Geoclimate	Positive continuous
	Proportion of vegetation	Geoclimate	Proportion
<i>Urban morphology</i>	Number of urban patches	Geoclimate	Counts
	Mean surface of the urban patches	Geoclimate	Positive continuous
	Proportion of high buildings	Geoclimate	Proportion
	Proportion of mid-rise buildings	Geoclimate	Proportion
	Proportion of compact buildings	Geoclimate	Proportion
	Proportion of non-compact buildings	Geoclimate	Proportion
<i>Human activity</i>	Population in the municipality	INSEE (commune)	Counts

MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS



Quantitative or qualitative groups of data

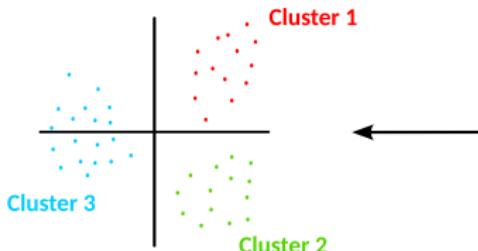
Factorial Analysis of Mixed Data

1/ Compute the first eigen-value for each group of variable

2/ Perform PCA on the weighted table

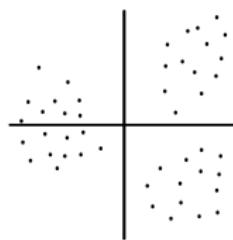
$$\left[\frac{X_1}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}}; \dots; \frac{X_j}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}}; \dots; \frac{X_J}{\sqrt{\lambda_1}} \right]$$

K-means clustering

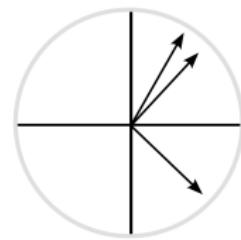


Project variables and individuals in their respective reduced-dimensional spaces

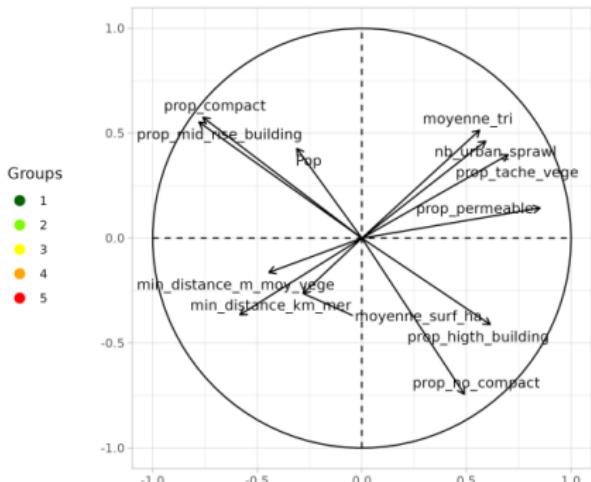
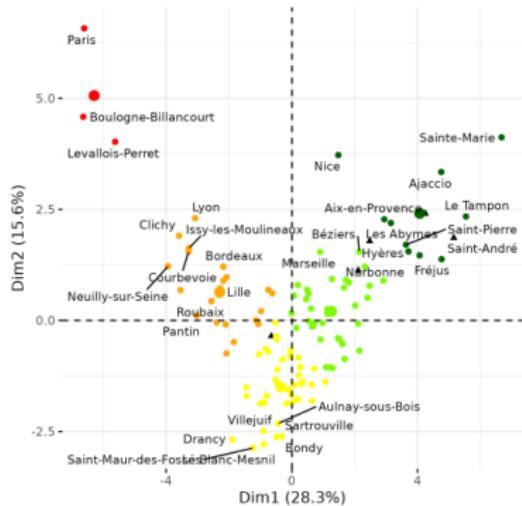
Projection of individuals



Projection of variables



RESULTS



Structuring variables :

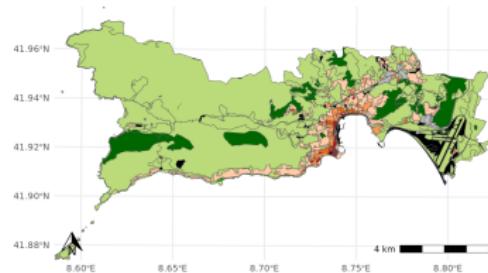
- Green cities, numerous urban patches, varied topography.
- Density and height of the building.
- Non-compact Local Climate Zone (LCZ).

First dimension: vegetalized municipalities versus non-vegetalized municipalities.

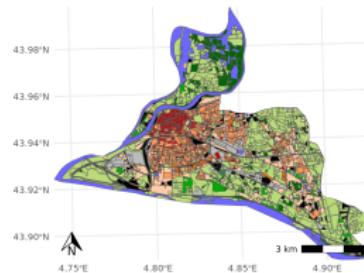
Second dimension: cities with many (resp. low) non-compact LCZ.

RESULTS

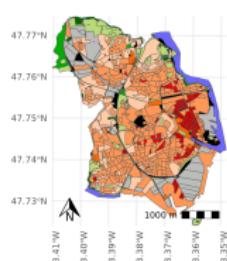
Cluster 1
Ajaccio



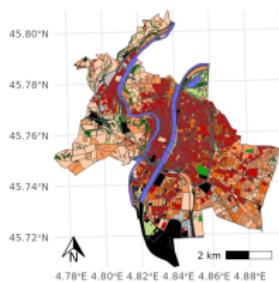
Cluster 2
Avignon



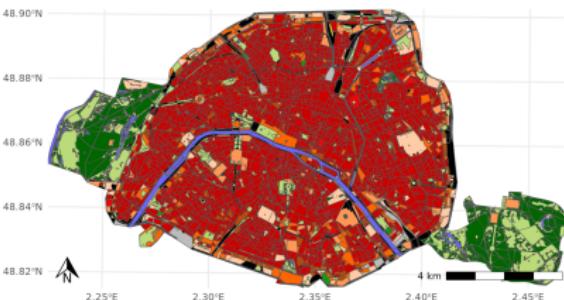
Cluster 3
Lorient



Cluster 4
Lyon



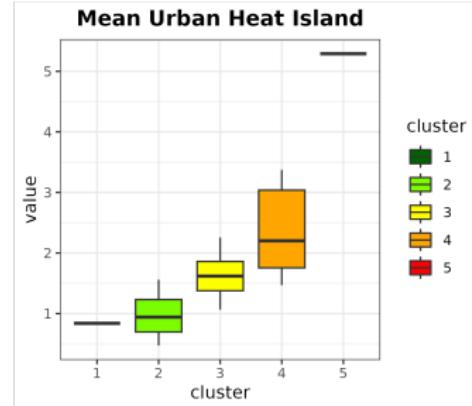
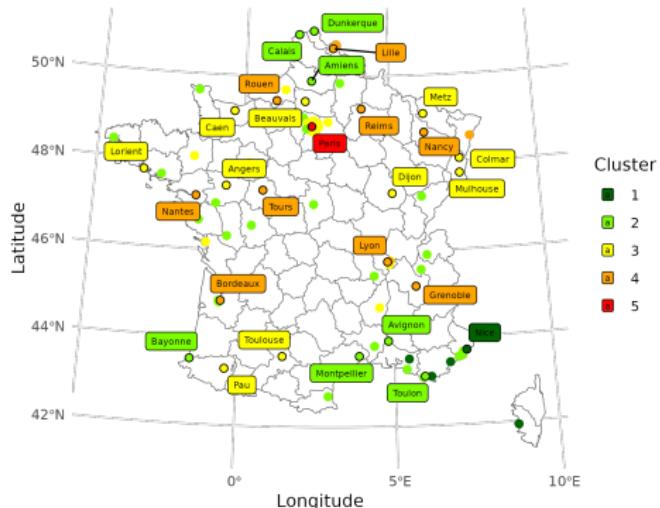
Cluster 5
Paris



LCZ

- LCZ 1: Compact high-rise
- LCZ 2: Compact mid-rise
- LCZ 3: Compact low-rise
- LCZ 4: Open high-rise
- LCZ 5: Open mid-rise
- LCZ 6: Open low-rise
- LCZ 7: Lightweight low-rise
- LCZ 8: Large low-rise
- LCZ 9: Sparsely built
- LCZ 10: Heavy industry
- LCZ A: Dense tress
- LCZ B: Scattered trees
- LCZ C: Bush, Scrub
- LCZ D: Low plants
- LCZ E: Bare rock or Paved
- LCZ F: Bare soil or Sand
- LCZ G: Water

RESULTS



- Cluster 1: coastal or mountainous, high permeability, several urban patches.
- Cluster 2: widespread municipality, extensive vegetation cover, small distance between vegetation patches.
- Cluster 3: single urban sprawl, low permeability, non-compact LCZ.
- Cluster 4: dense, some permeability areas related to some natural spaces.
- Cluster 5: very dense, many urban barriers, minimal permeability.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Main points:

- **Very few classifications** of cities based on their sensitivity to overheating.
- Here, **classification based on 130 French municipalities** using 13 indicators related to climate, land use, morphology, and human activity.
- Factorial Analysis of Mixed Data (FAMD) \times k-means clustering \rightarrow **5 urban profiles** with differing levels of vegetation, density, and permeability.
- These clusters show **strong relation with UHI model outputs**.

Limits and perspectives:

- Extend to other countries/continents
- Look at a finer scale to the inner structure of the city
- Adapt the methodology to better account for heterogeneous data types
 \rightarrow probabilistic PCA



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Thank you for your attention!

Happy to take questions? 😊

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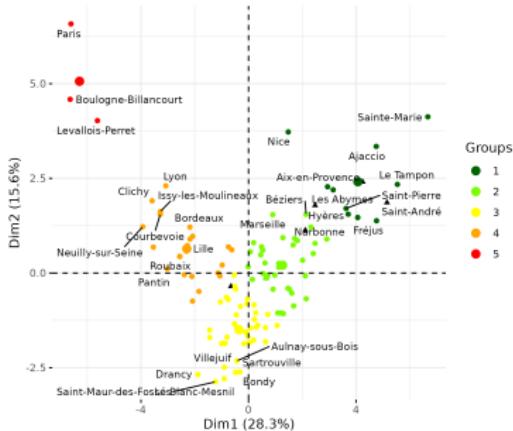
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REFERENCES I

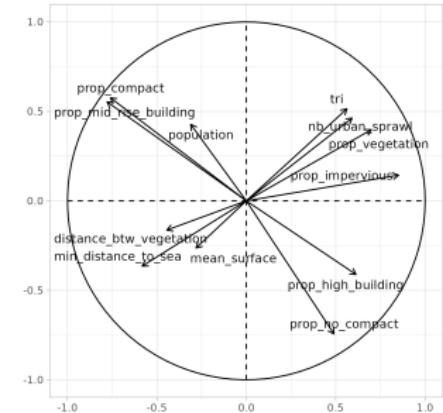
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-  Masson, V. (2000).
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Boundary-layer meteorology, 94:357–397.
-  Wang, C., Wang, Z.-H., and Li, Q. (2020).
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Sustainable Cities and Society, 63:102481.

APPENDICES

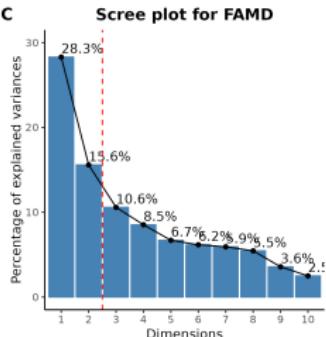
A



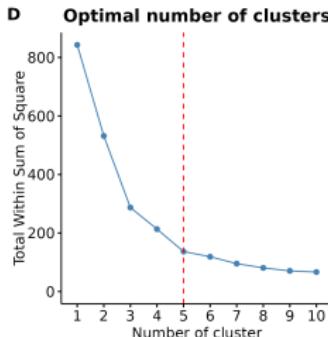
B



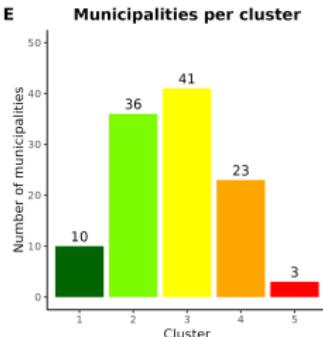
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D



E



APPENDICES

