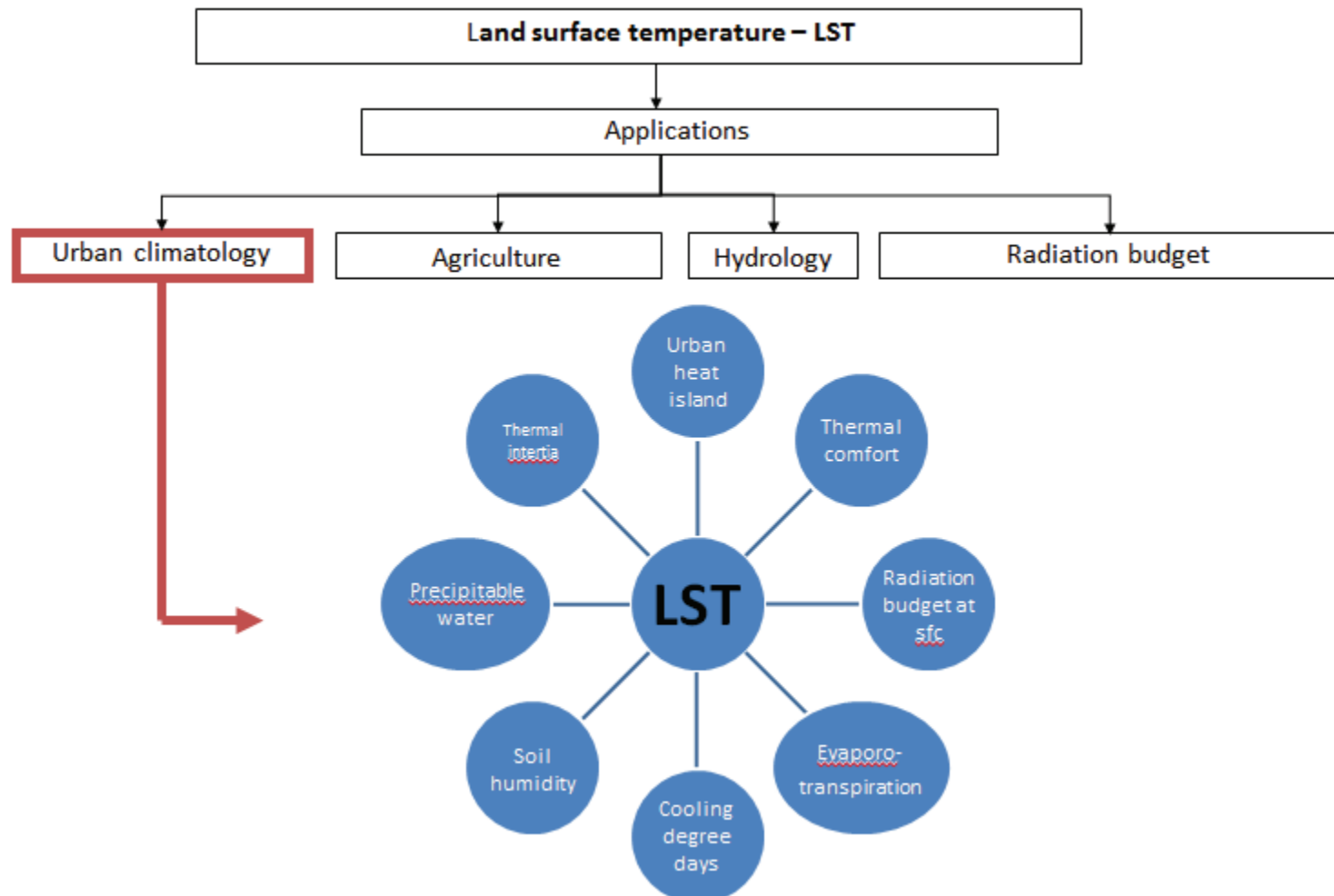


# **ASSESSING THE THERMAL ENVIRONMENT IN URBAN AREAS**

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**Department of Environmental Physics**  
**National and Kapodistrian University of Athens**  
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# Part I: Urban climate



# What is the urban climate?

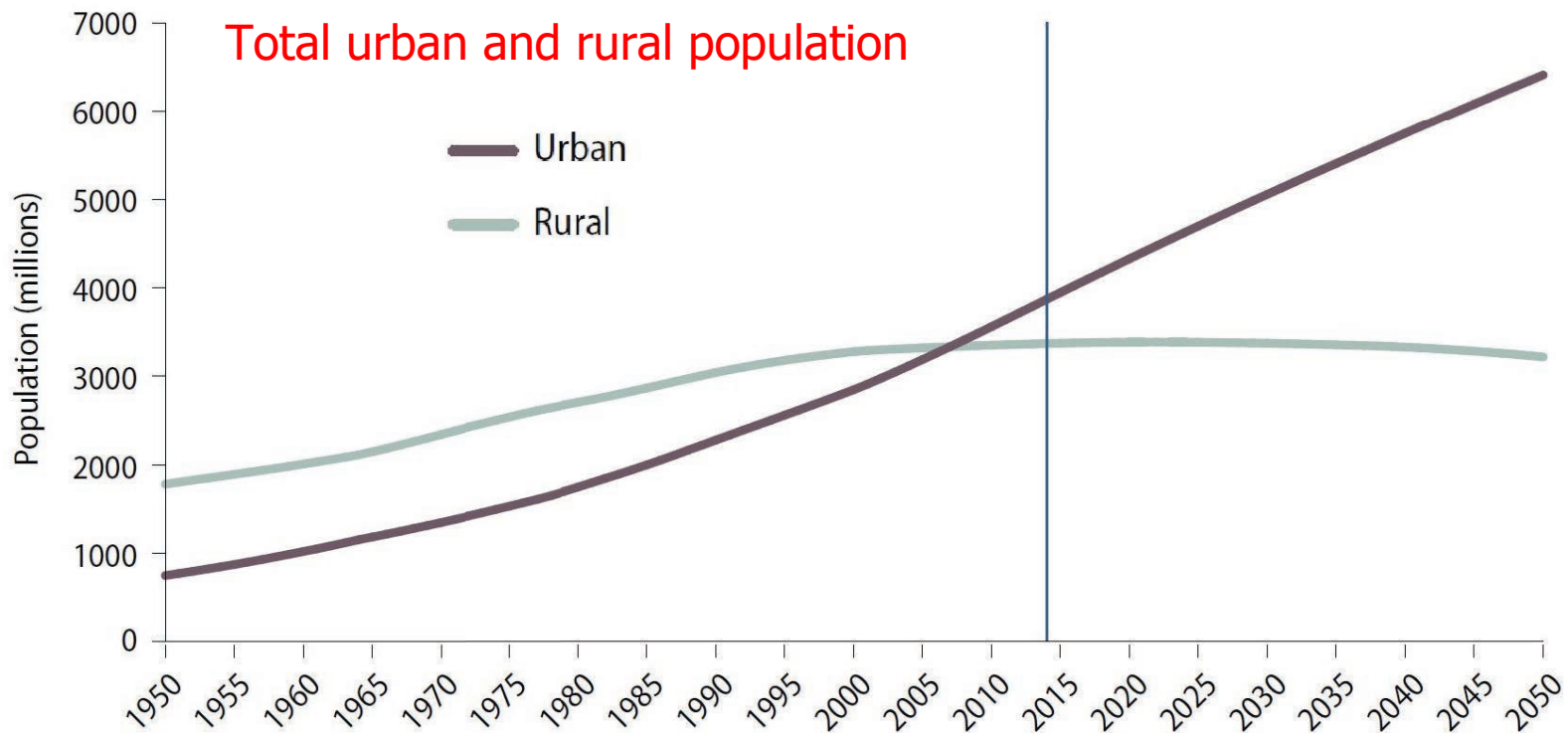


*“Urban climate refers to the climatic conditions that prevail in a large metropolitan area which differ from the climate of its surrounding non-urban areas.”*



## Why dealing with the urban climate?

Urban population is continuously growing worldwide (because of increase in overall population and also because of increasing land use)...



Source: UN World Urbanization Prospects. 2014 Revision, <http://esa.un.org/Unpd/Wup/>

## Some facts

□ Globally, between 1990 and 2025, the number of people who will live in urban areas is expected to double to more than 5 billion people; about 90% of this growth will occur in the developing world. **This means simply, that there is a current addition of 60 million of urban citizens a year, and as mentioned in, ‘is the equivalent of adding another Paris, Beijing or Cairo every other month.**

□ The population living in urban areas will increase by more than 5% in the following 15 years. **By the end of 2015, the world will have 27 mega-cities of which 17 will be in Asia.**

□ Urban settlements are increasing steadily in all continents, with cities continuing to sprawl, causing environmental stresses.

# Why dealing with the urban climate?

We face an important change of the urban climate.

Ambient temperatures increase.

Heat waves are more frequent.

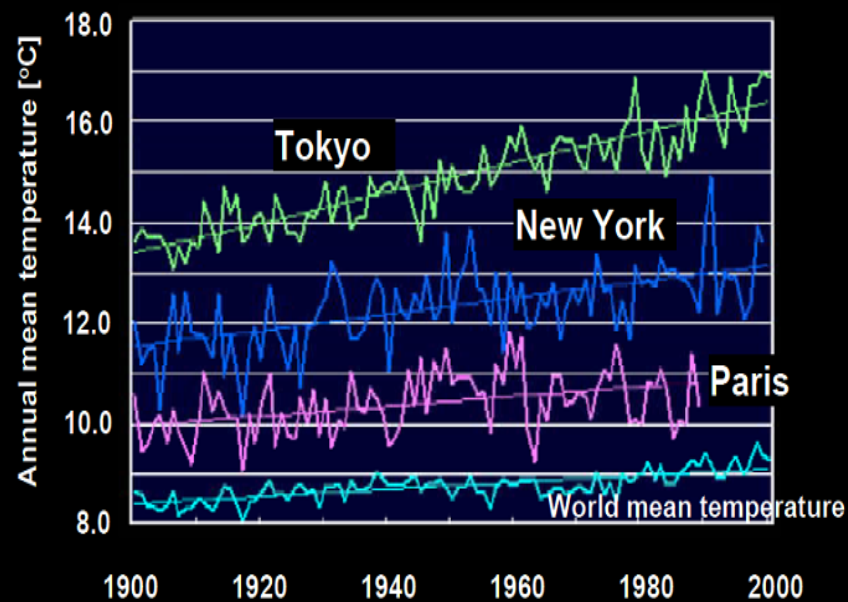
Hot spells have a longer duration.

Poor design and uncontrolled development of urban areas deteriorate the thermal environment in cities.



## Temperature rises in major cities around the world (Murakami)

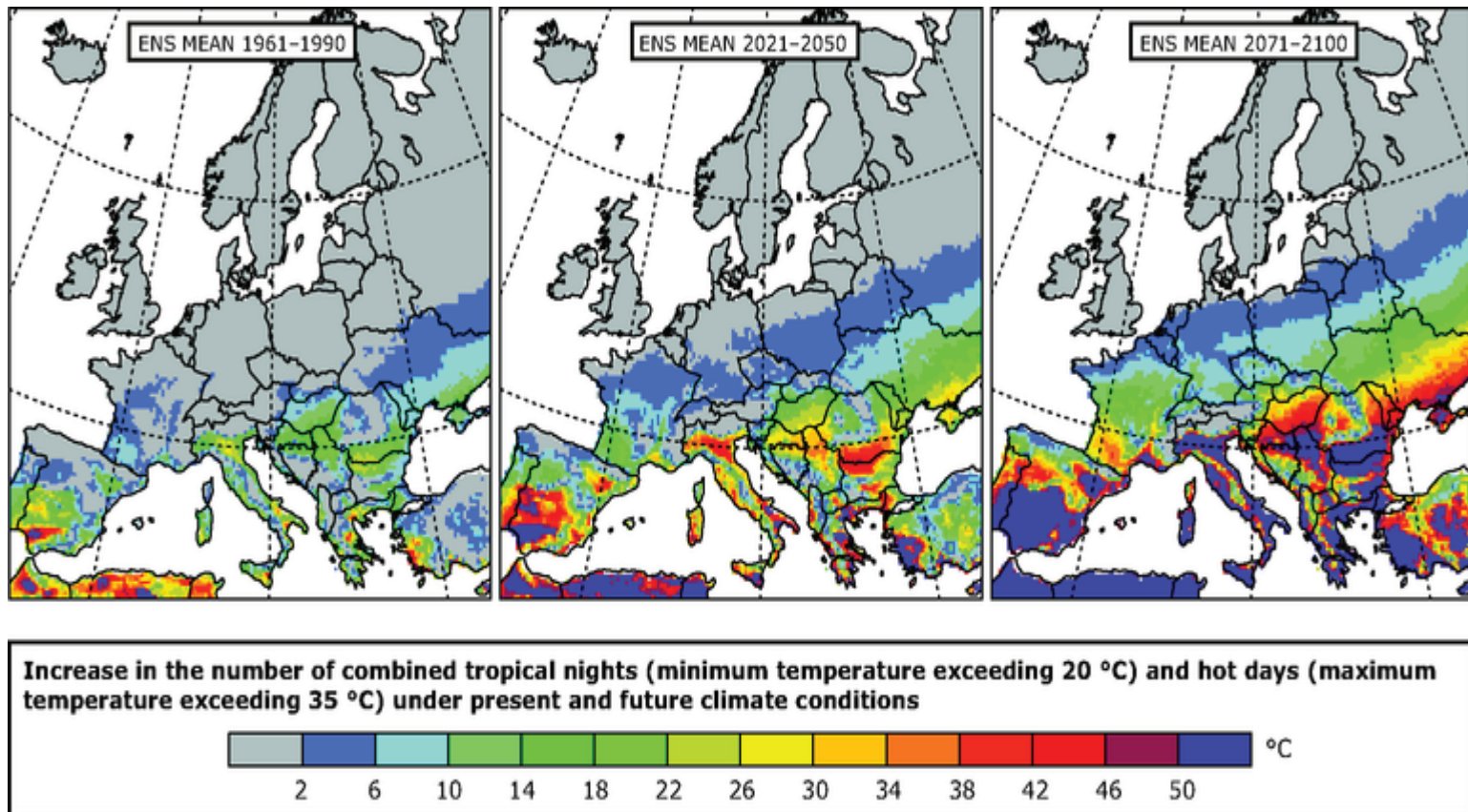
(Source: Japan Meteorological Agency)



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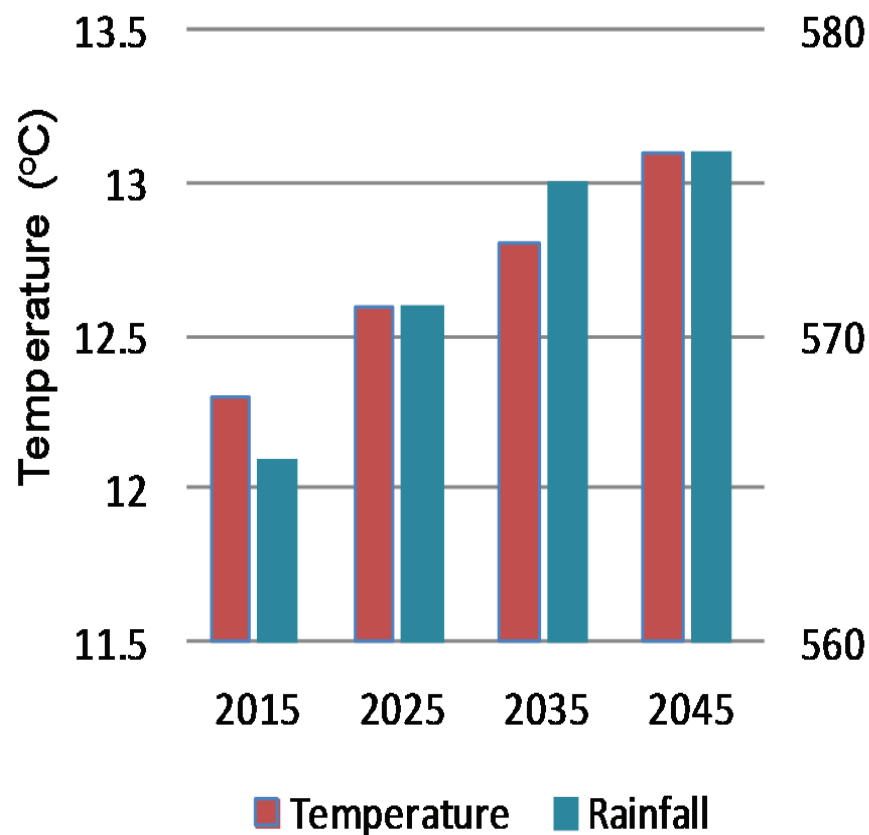
## What next ?



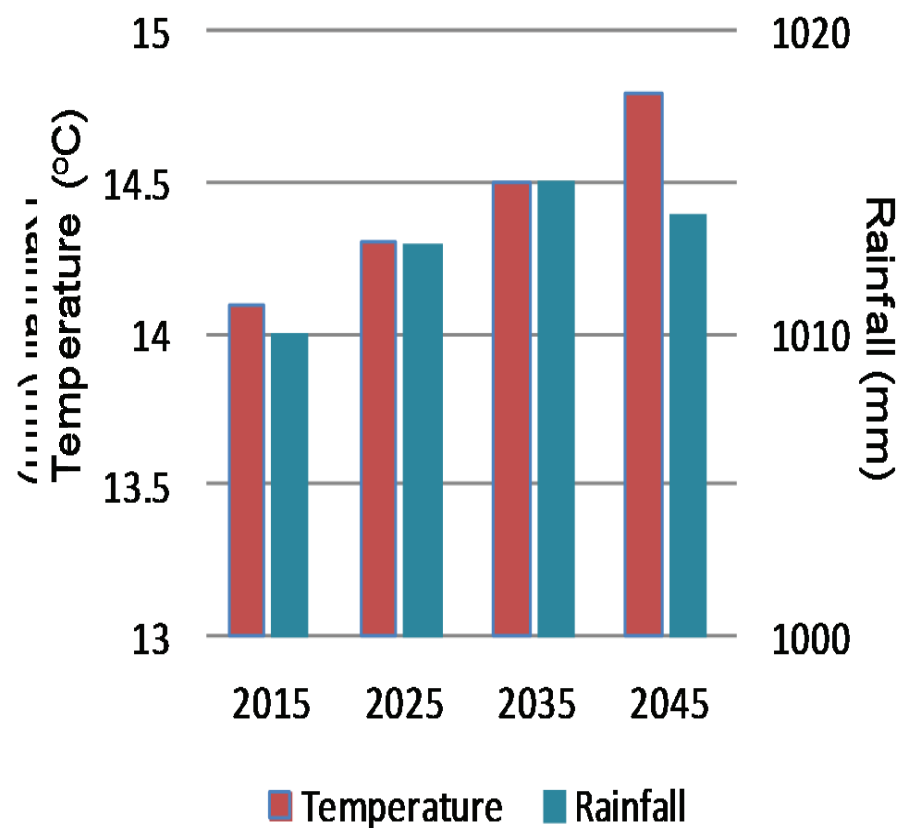
Source: EEA (2015)



## BUDAPEST



## MILAN

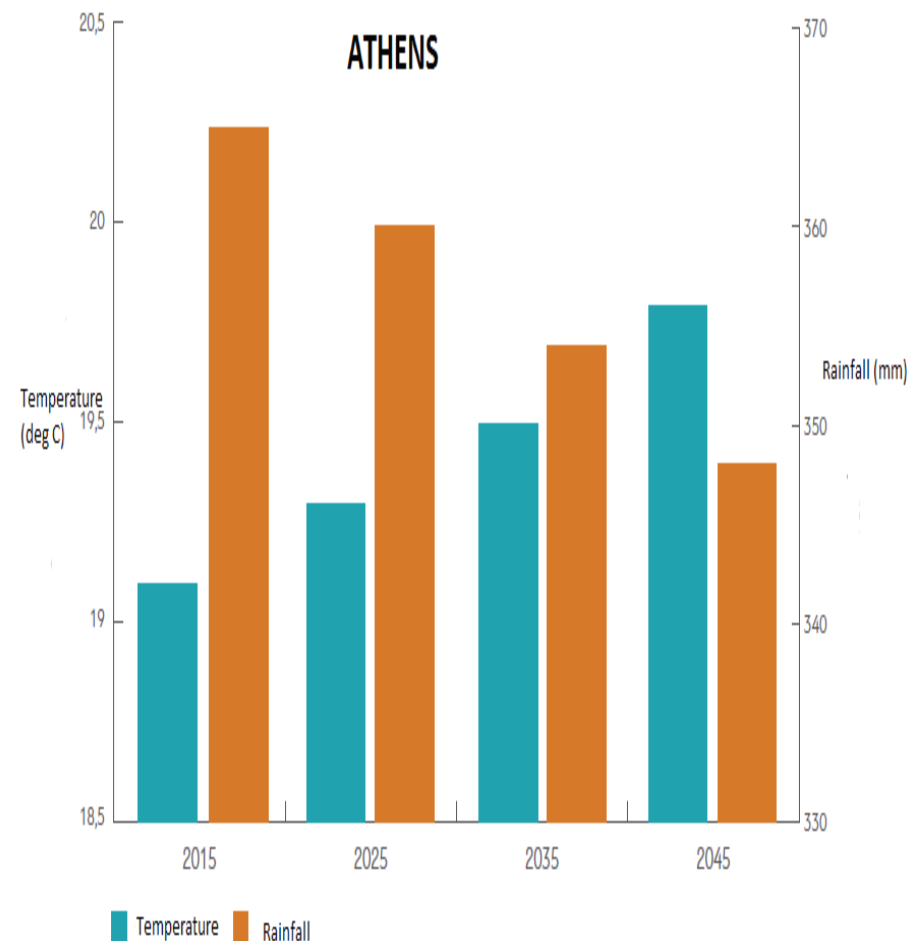
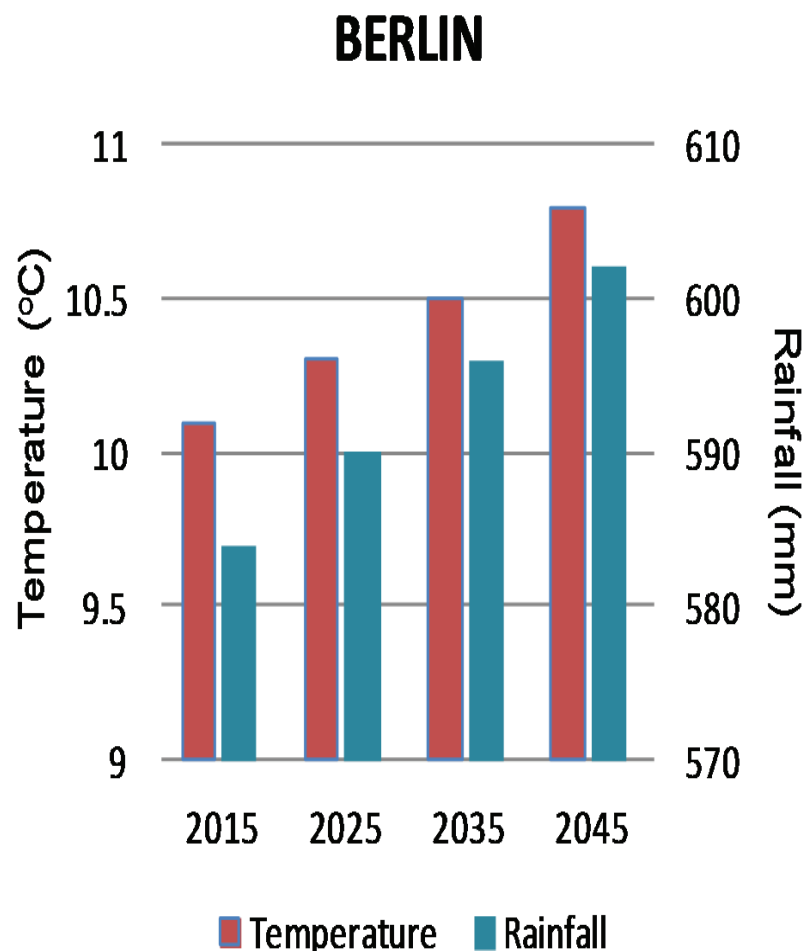


Source: Univ. of Athens, 2017

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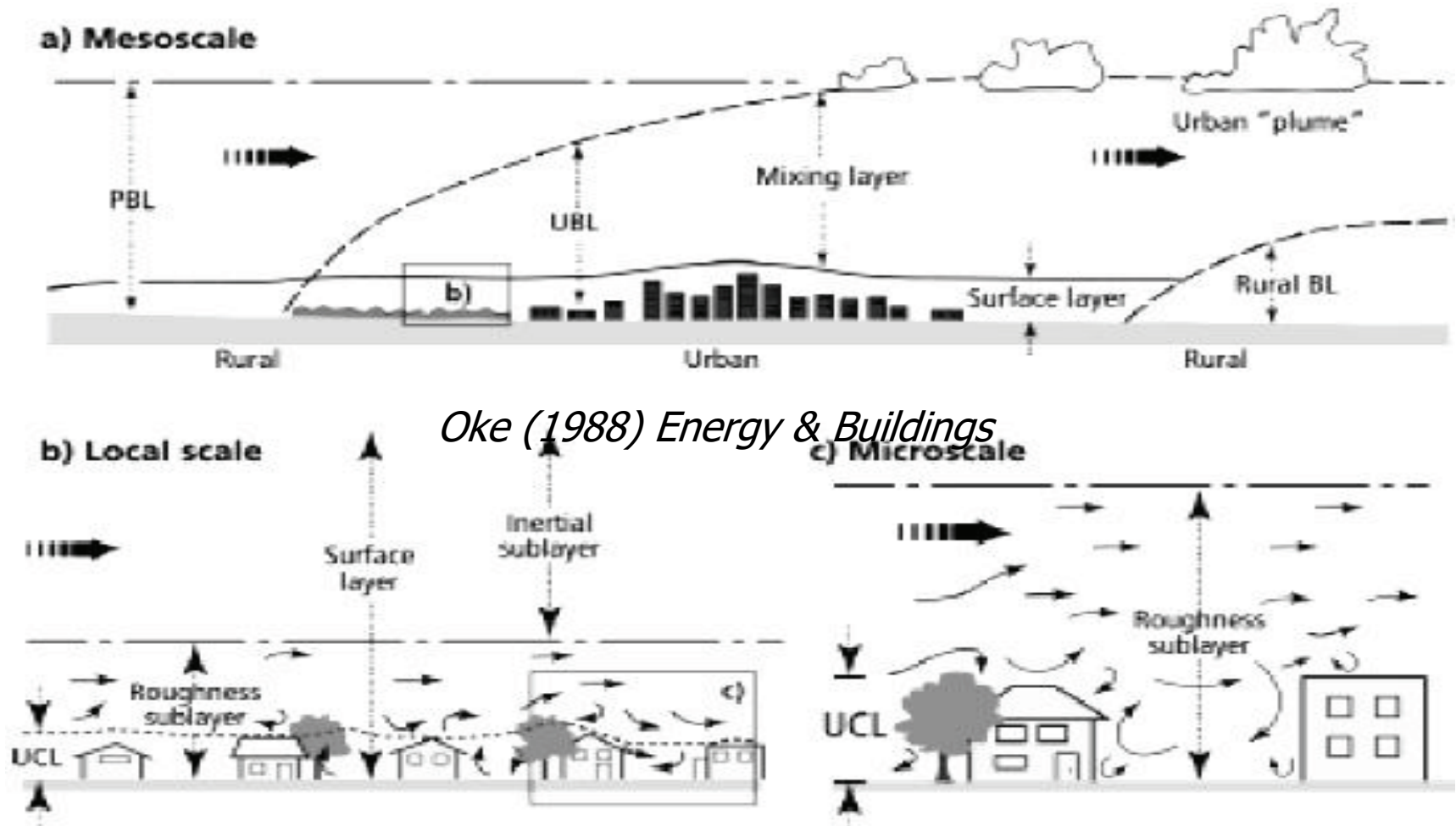
*Source: Univ. of Athens, 2017*

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BL – Boundary Layer  
PBL – Planetary Boundary Layer  
UBL – Urban Boundary Layer  
UCL – Urban Canopy Layer

## What's an urban climate system like?

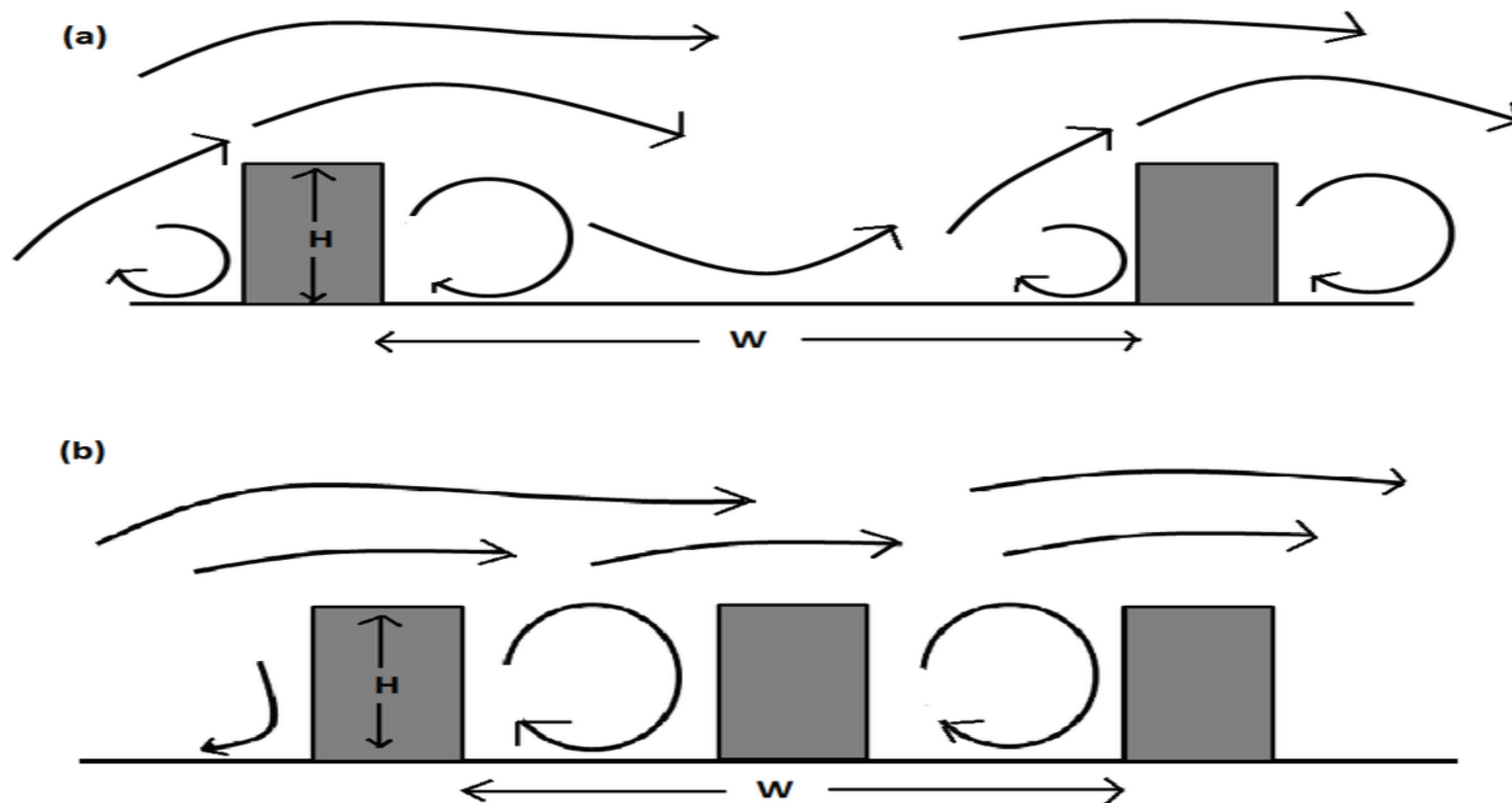


*Oke (1988) Energy & Buildings*

Source: Climatic scales and vertical stratification in urban areas., Oke [1987].

## Wind speed in the urban canopy layer

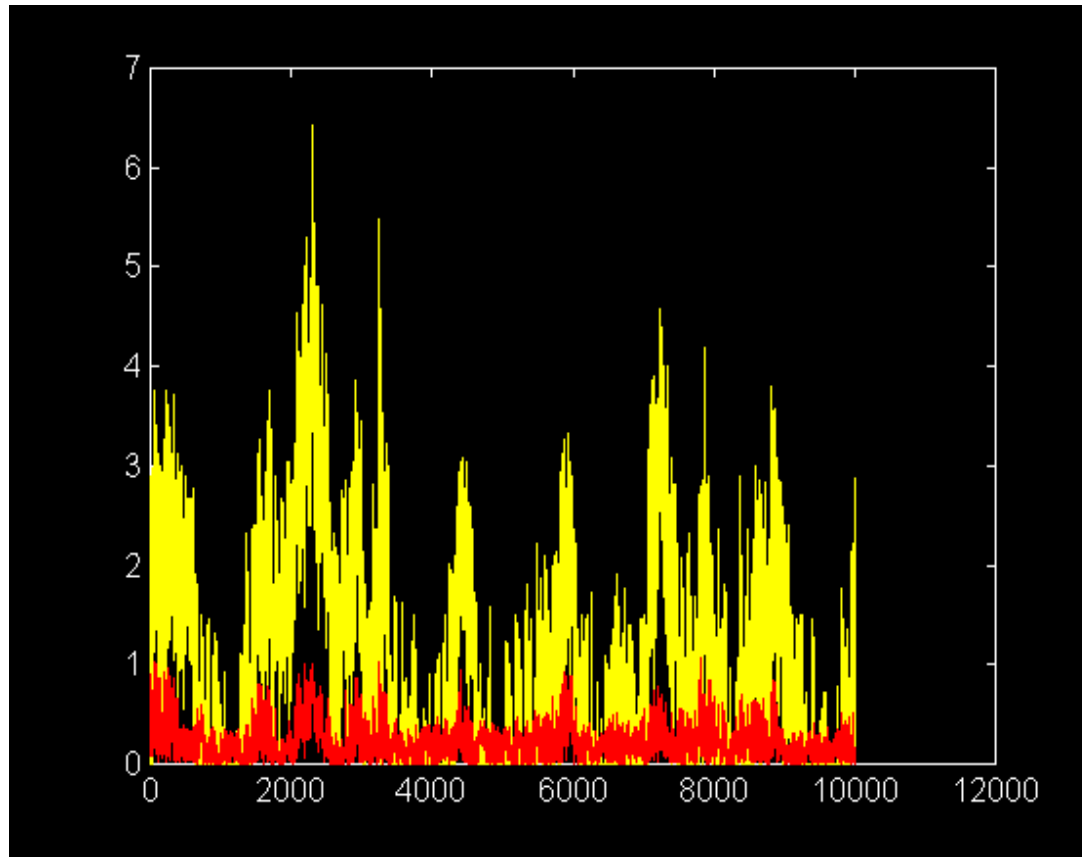
Air temperature increase due to the reduction of wind speed.



*Oke (1988) Energy & Buildings*



## Wind speed measurements (m/sec) for a street with $H/W > 1$ yellow: wind speed at the top of CL; red at the surface



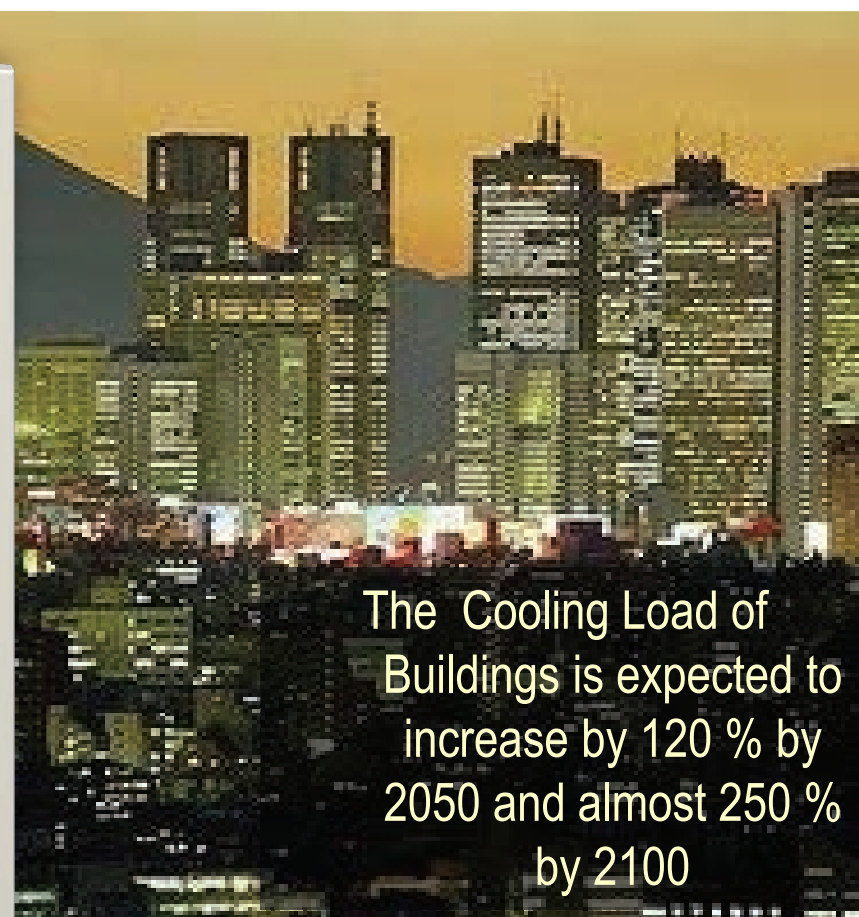
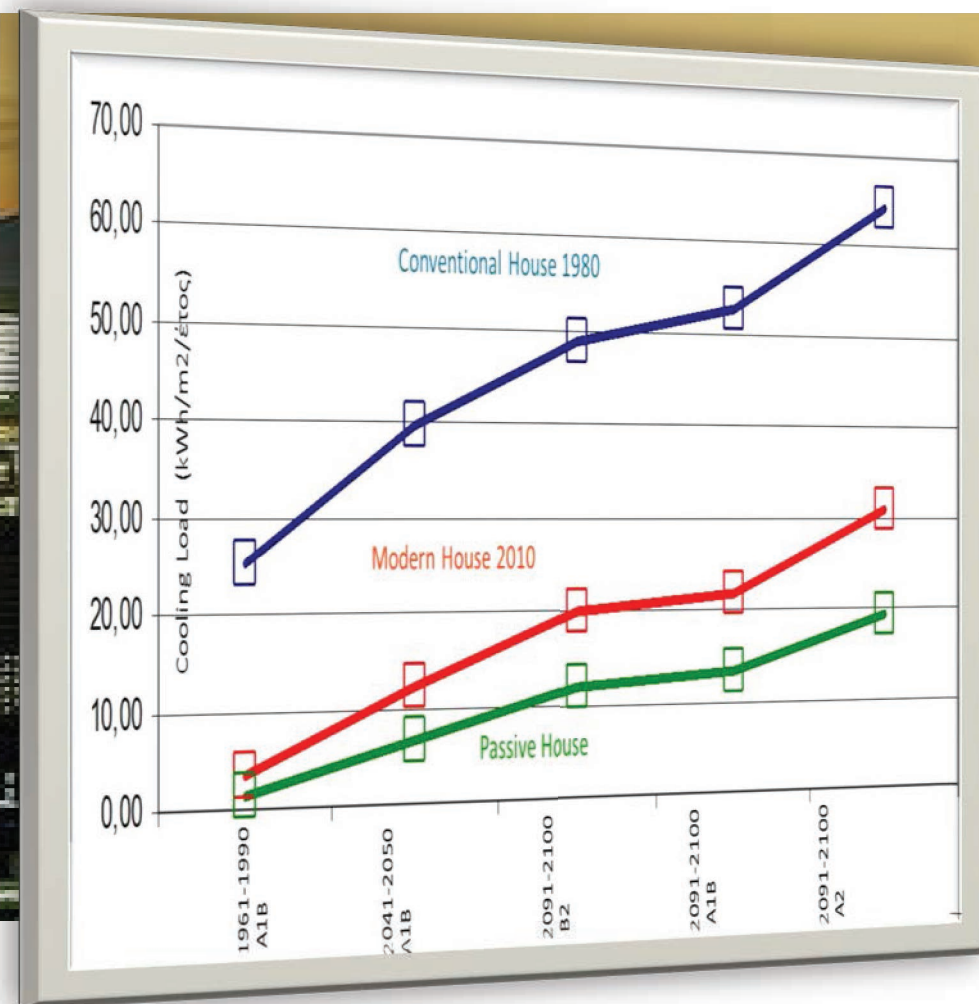
Source: Santamouris (2007)

# Characteristics of the urban climate

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Mean air temperature: | 1-3°C warmer<br>(occasionally up to 12°C) |
| Evaporation:          | 50% less                                  |
| Pollution:            | 10-25% higher concentrations              |
| Cloudiness:           | 5-10% more                                |
| Solar radiation:      | 5-25% less                                |
| Mean wind speed:      | 20–50% of rural wind speed                |
| Turbulence:           | 10–50% greater                            |

Presentation: Urban climate: characteristics & examples, Erik Johansson: Housing Development & Management 2012

## IMPACT OF URBAN CLIMATE CHANGE



Source: Santamouris, 2011



# Part II: The physics of the thermal environment (including UHI)



## \*The Urban Surface Energy Balance

Surface-atmosphere exchanges of heat, mass and momentum can be expressed through the formula:  $Q^* + Q_F = Q_H + Q_E + \Delta Q_s$

where

- $Q^*$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Net all wave (short-wave, i.e. solar, and long-wave, i.e. infrared) radiation
- $Q_F$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Anthropogenic heat flux
- $Q_H$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Turbulent sensible heat flux (energy that heats the air)
- $Q_E$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Turbulent latent heat flux (energy that is used to evaporate water)
- $\Delta Q_s$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Net storage heat flux associated with heating (if positive) or cooling (if negative) of the considered volume

## \*The all-wave radiation balance

The net all wave radiation (solar and sky-surface infrared) can be expressed through the formula:

$$Q^* = Q_S^* + Q_L^* = (Q_{S\downarrow} - Q_{S\uparrow}) + (Q_{L\downarrow} - Q_{L\uparrow}) \text{ [W/m}^2\text{]}$$

where

$Q_{S\downarrow}$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Short-wave ( $\Rightarrow$  solar) incoming radiation

$Q_{S\uparrow}$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Short-wave outgoing radiation

$$Q_{S\uparrow} = SR_{urb} Q_{S\downarrow}$$

$Q_{L\downarrow}$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Long-wave ( $\Rightarrow$  thermal IR) incoming radiation

$$Q_{L\downarrow} = \varepsilon_{sky} \sigma T_{sky}^4$$

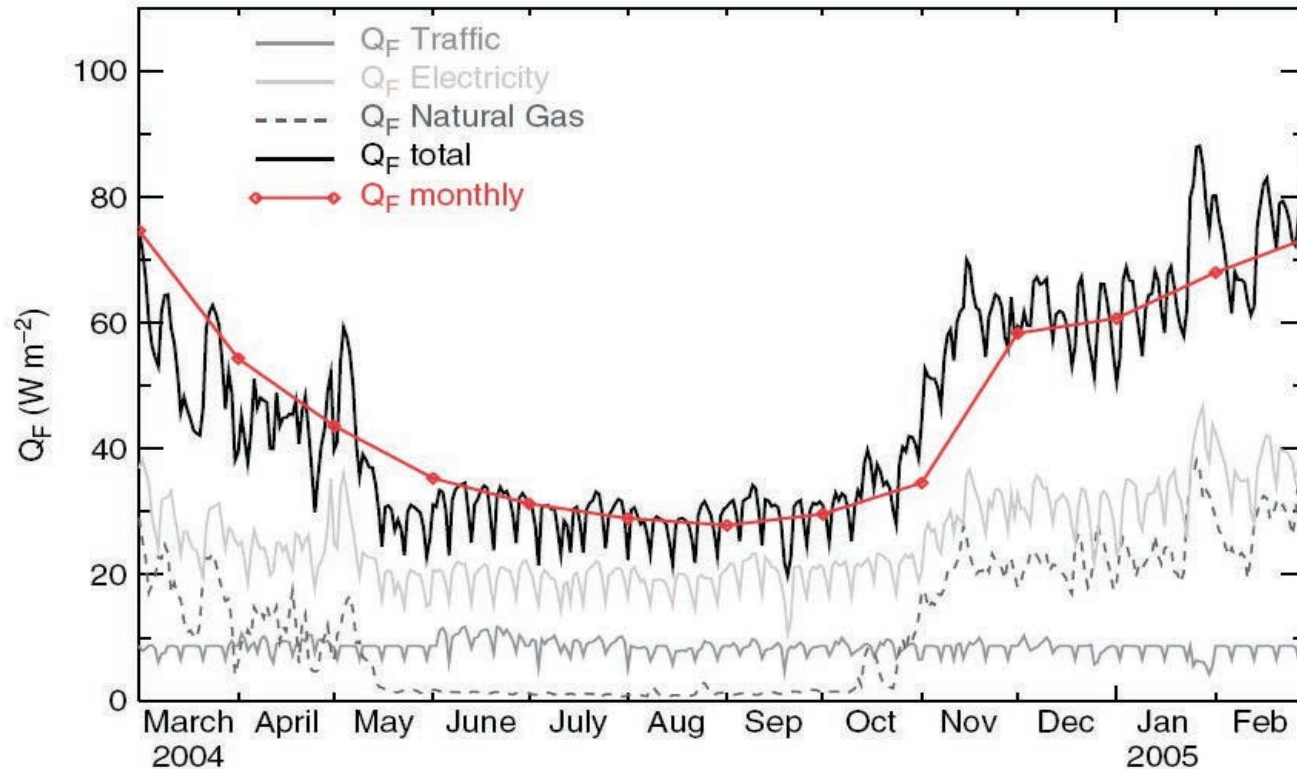
$Q_{L\uparrow}$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>] Long-wave outgoing radiation:

$$Q_{L\uparrow} = (1 - \varepsilon_{urb}) Q_{L\downarrow} + \varepsilon_{urb} \sigma T_{surf}^4$$



# Anthropogenic heat

man-made heat sourced from heat radiation from buildings, vehicles and people



Evolution of mean daily  $Q_F$  according to the various sources. The black line represents the sum of the various terms, computed each day, whereas the diamonds are monthly averages. *Source: Pigeon et al (2007)*

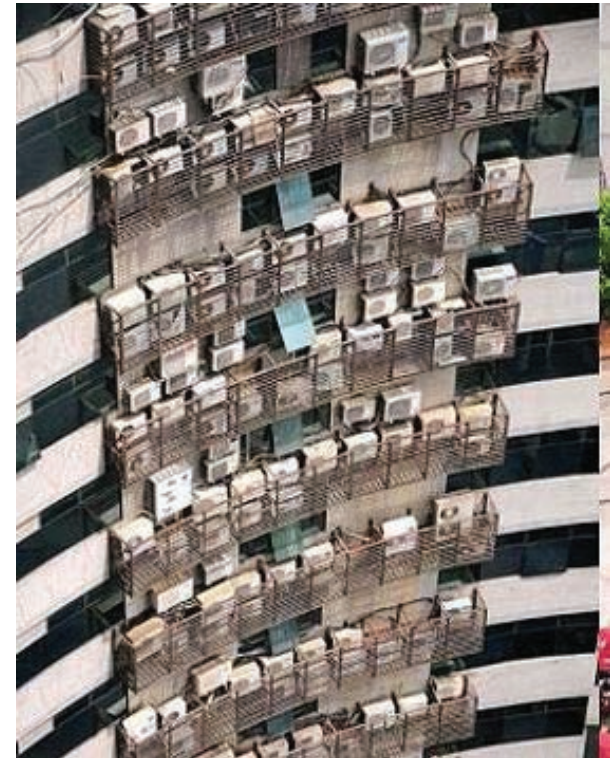
## Anthropogenic heat can be locally huge

Air conditioners increase of urban air temperature by 2-3°C in a reference urban texture.



*Athens, Greece*

*Source Salamanca et al. (2010) Theoretical and Applied Climatology 99: 331–344*



*Fuzhou, China*



# How to calculate anthropogenic heat

Estimates of anthropogenic heat discharge can be calculated by totaling the energy consumptions from the power grid network.

An alternative methodology to estimate the urban anthropogenic heat is to first estimate the net radiation ( $R_n$ ), the sensible heat flux ( $H$ ), the latent heat flux ( $LE$ ), and the ground heat flux ( $G$ ) using satellite images coupled with meteorology data and DEM.

$$R_n + A = G + LE + H$$

$G$  is the ground heat flux: the radiant energy warming/cooling the subsurface of the earth

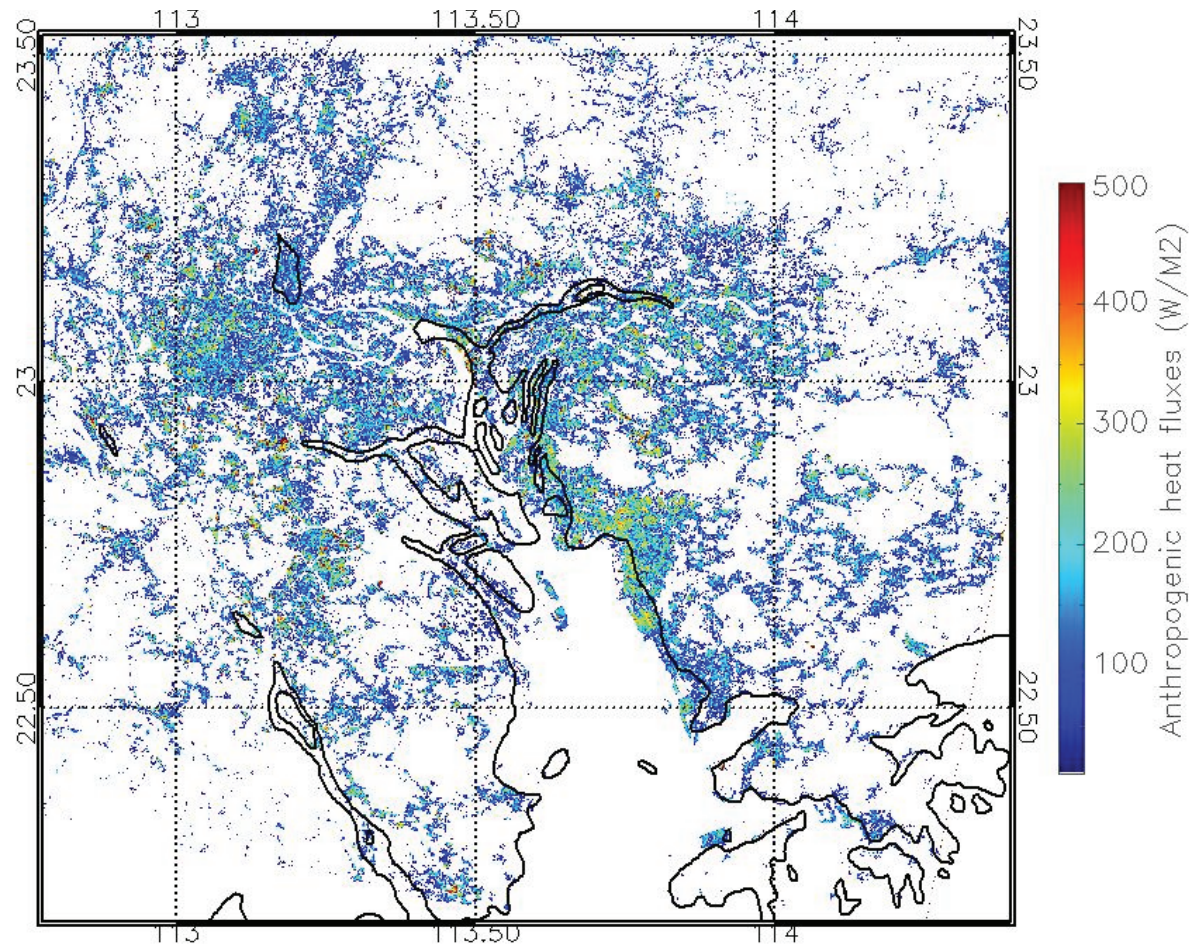
$LE$  is the latent heat: the heat energy of evaporation

$H$  is the sensible heat: the heat energy transferred between the surface and the air, when there is a difference in temperature between them (by conduction)

**The anthropogenic heat discharge is then deemed as the residual of the heat balance equation.**

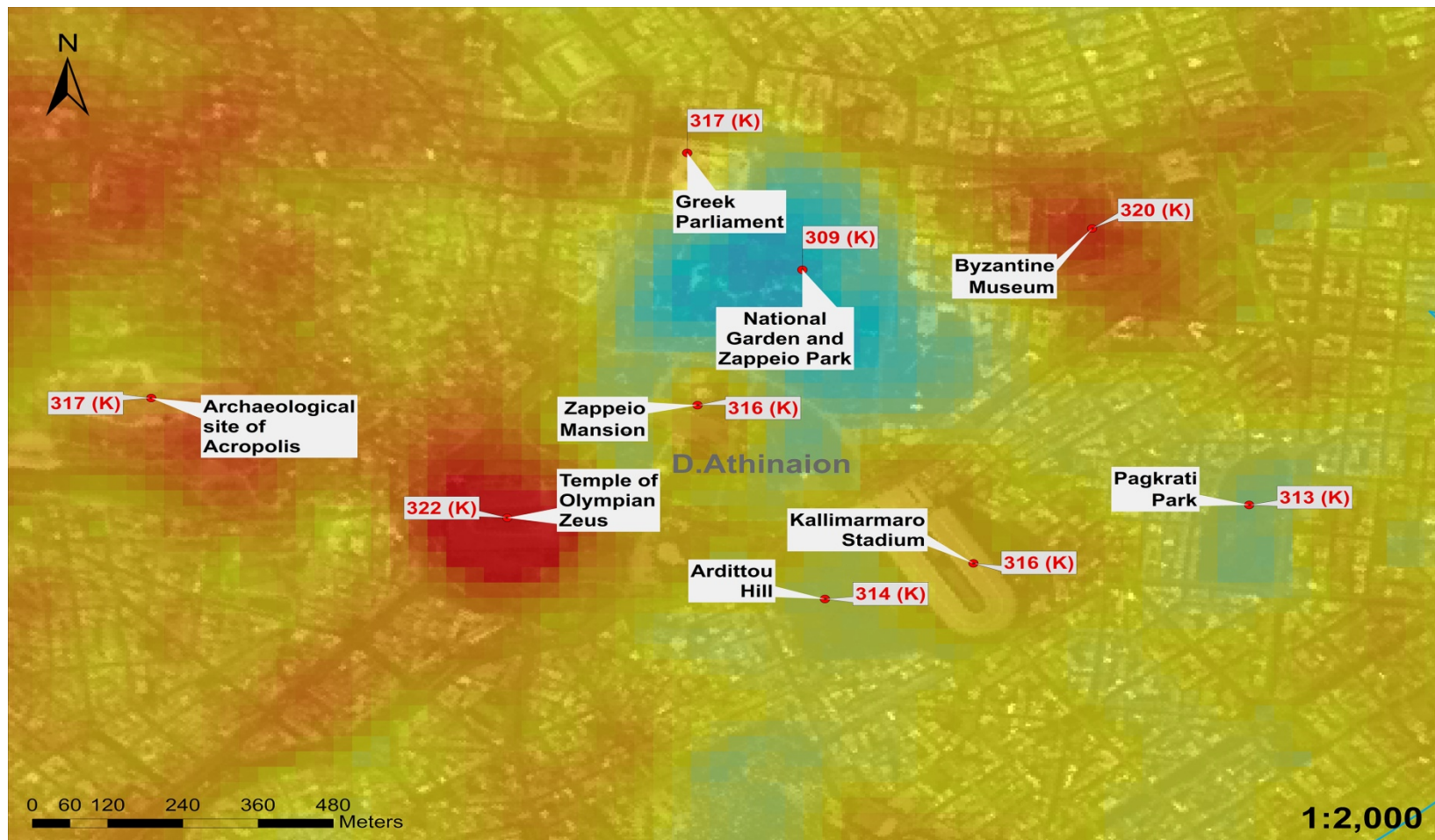


# Example of anthropogenic heat flux as deduced from Landsat image



*Source: Hong Kong Polytechnic, 2013*



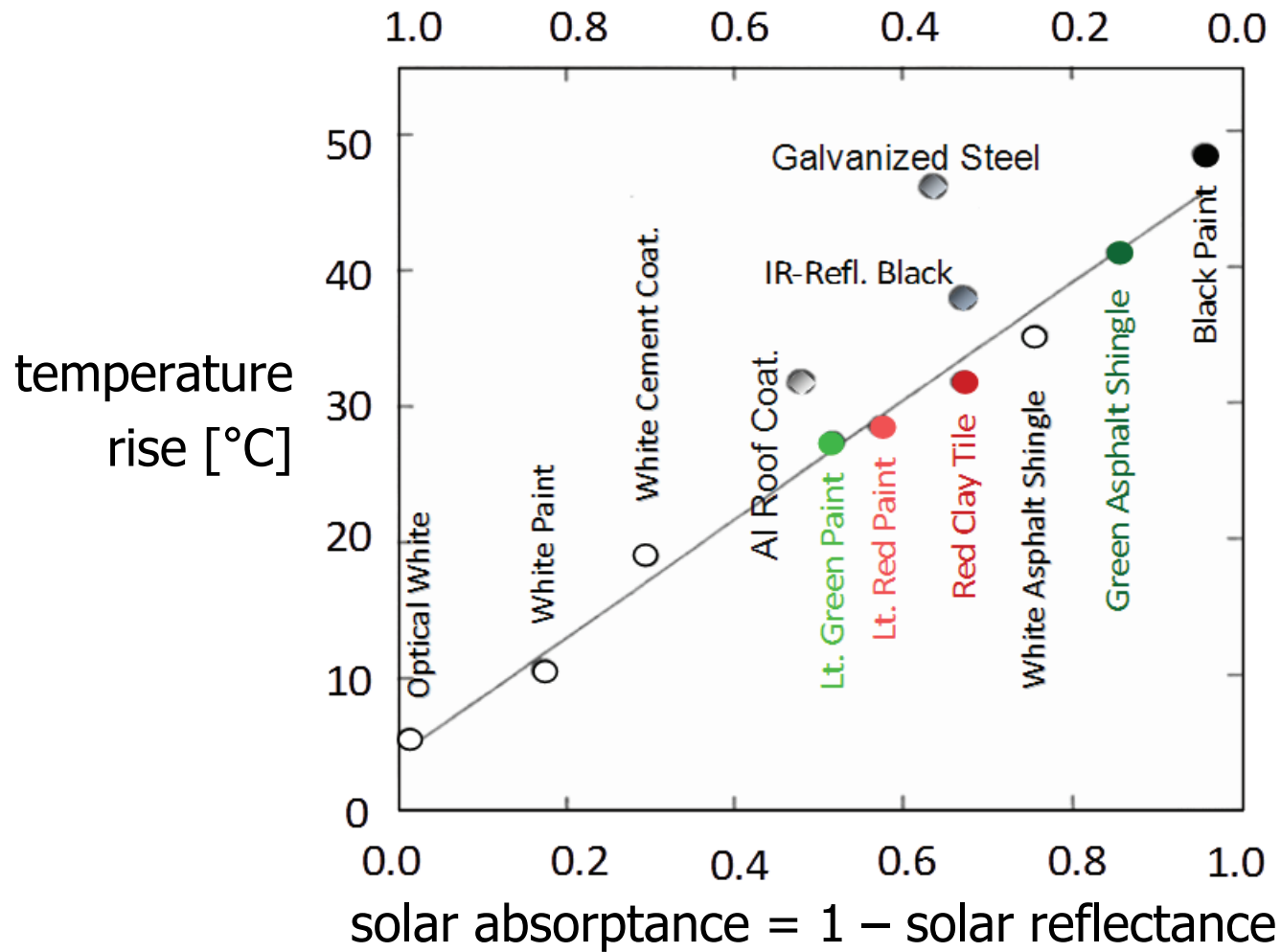


Courtesy. National Observatory of Athens

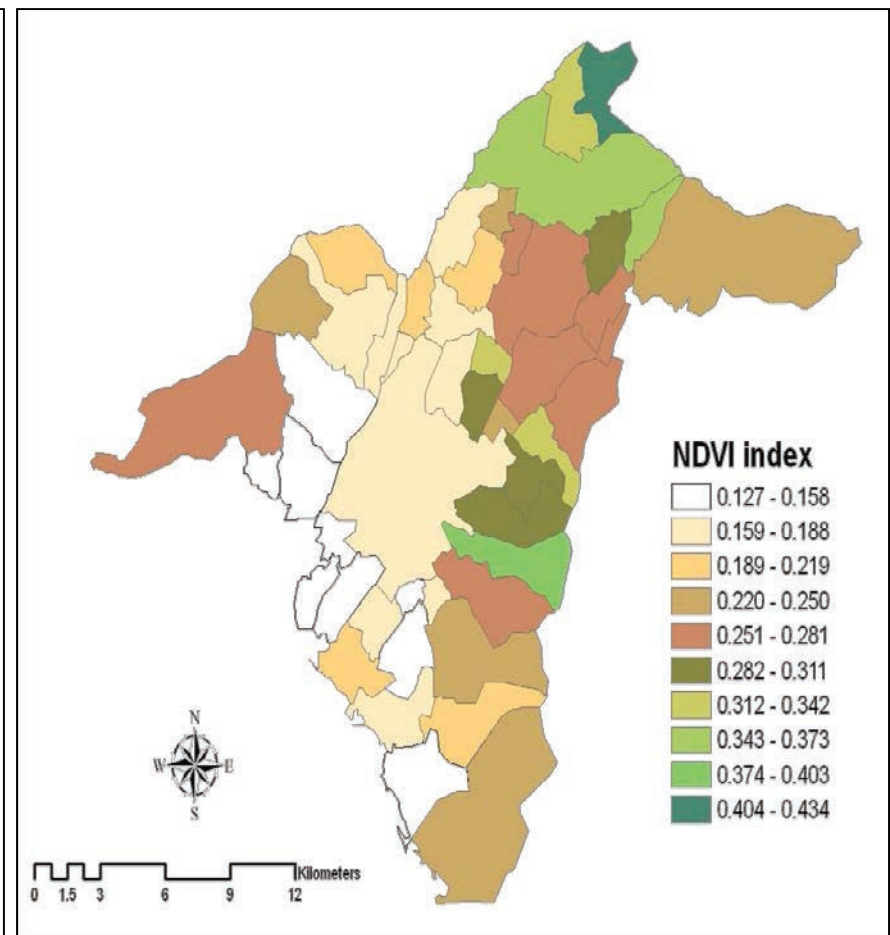
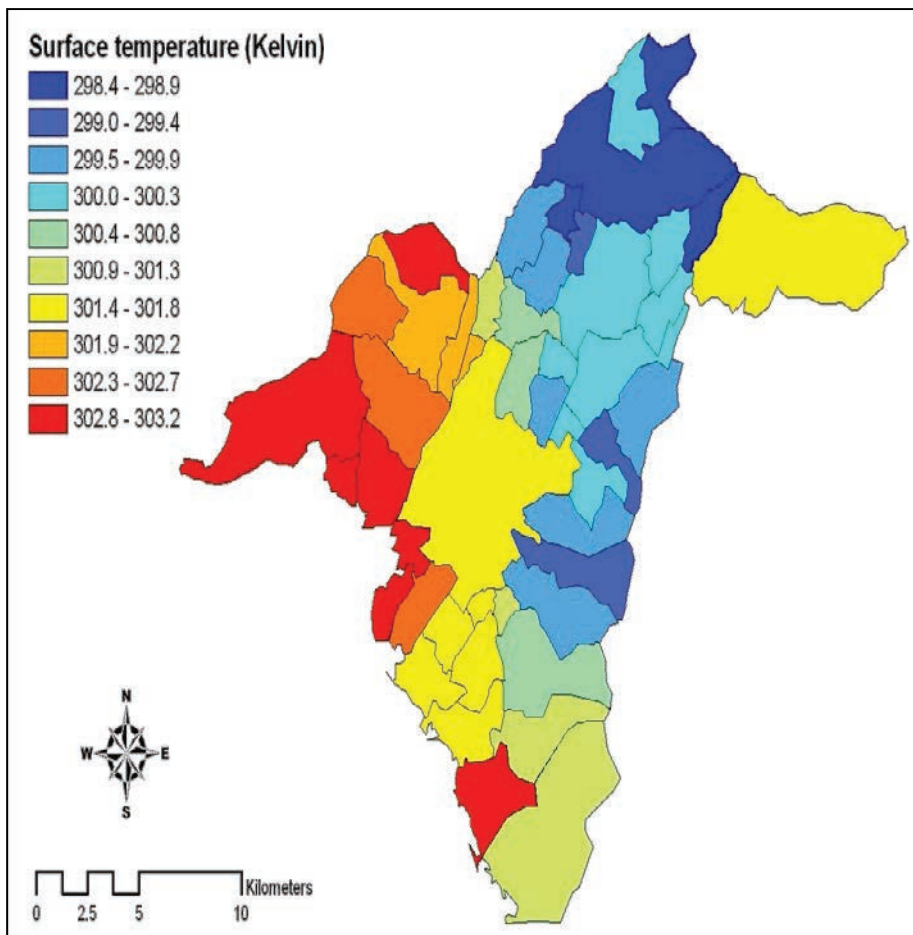
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## Hot surfaces in the urban fabric



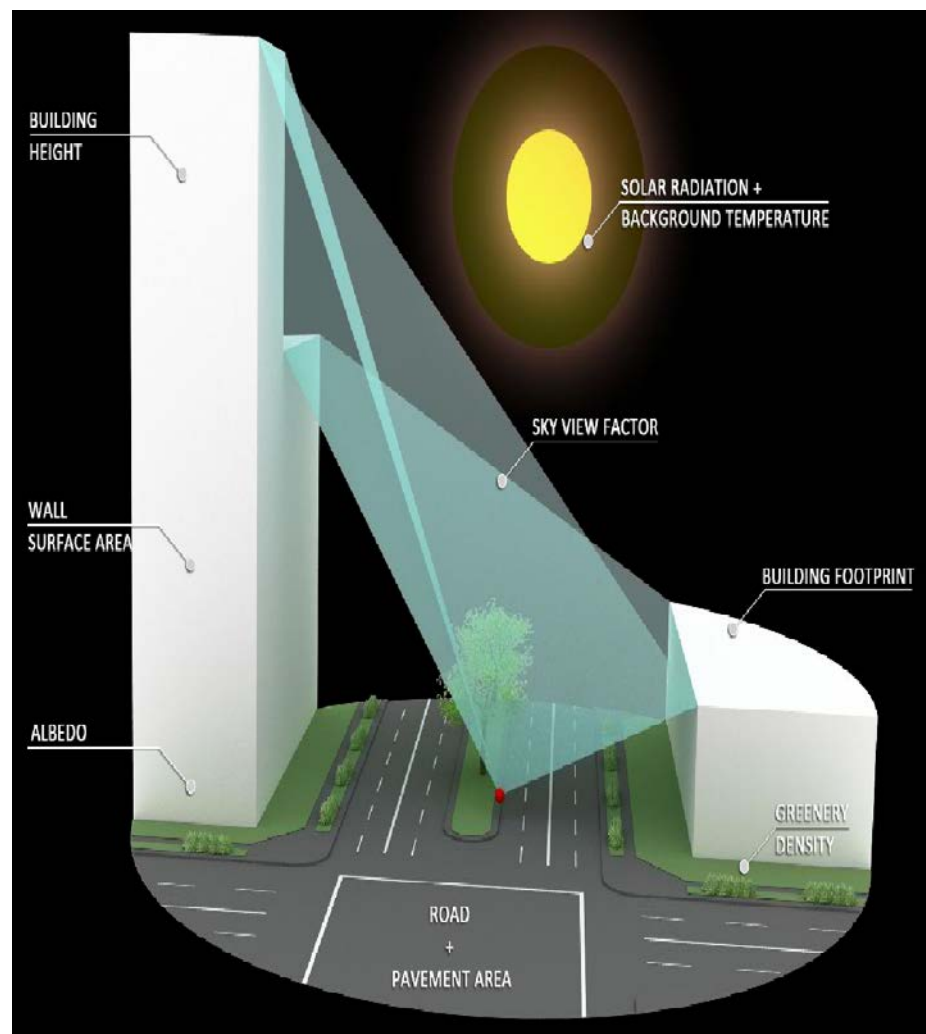
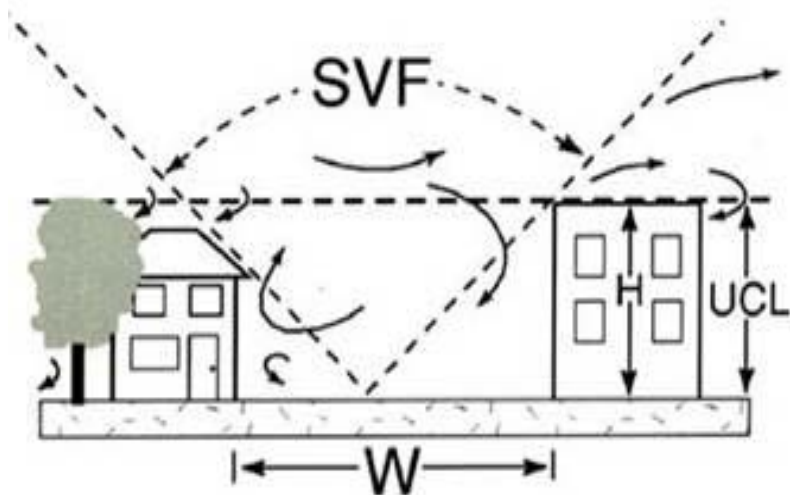




*Source: Cartalis et al., 2016*

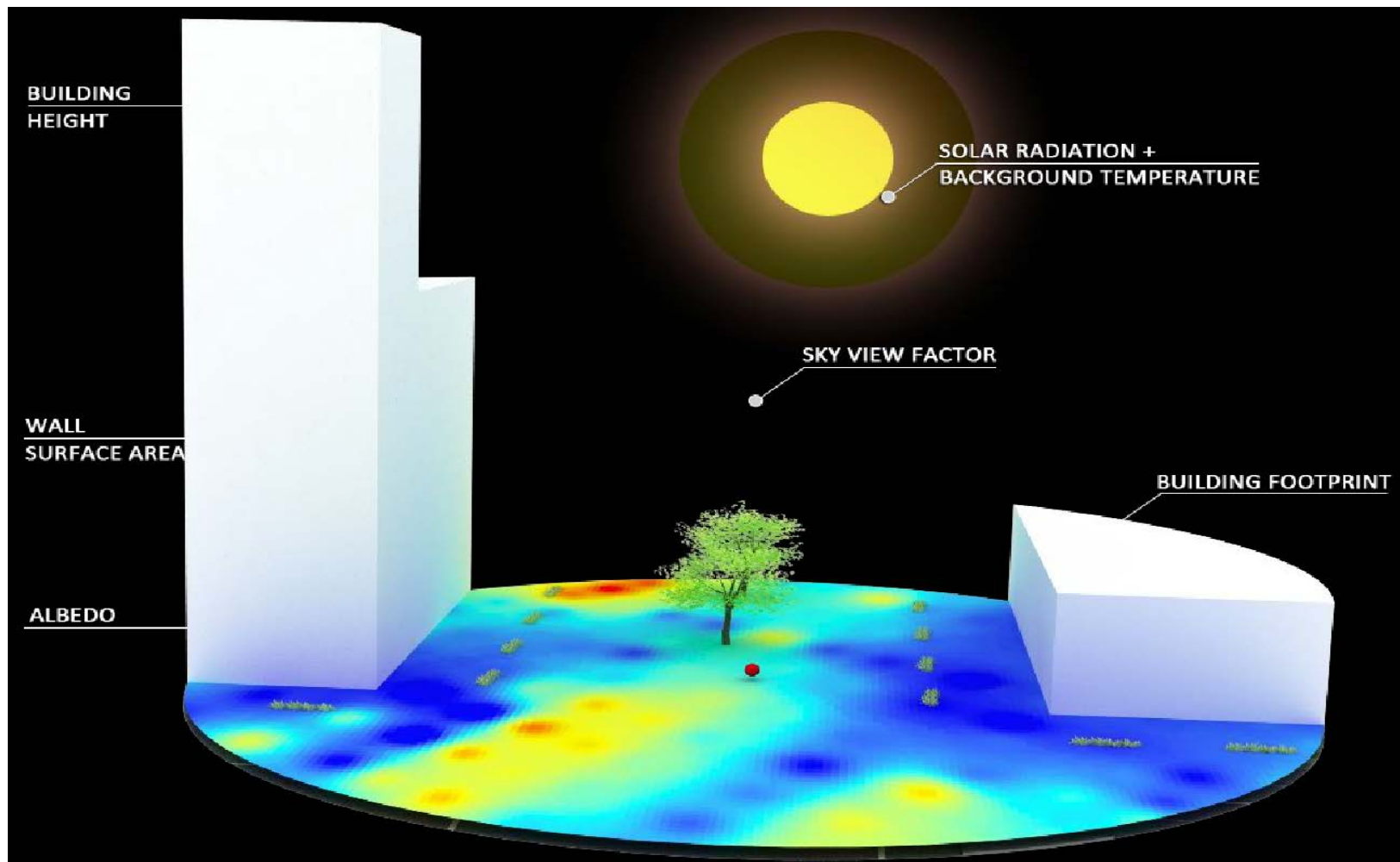
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## **\*Release of turbulent sensible heat**

OK, what's the turbulent sensible heat flux  $Q_H$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>]?

$$Q_H = \rho c_p w' \theta'$$

where

$\rho$  is the air volumic mass, or mass density [kg/m<sup>3</sup>]

$c_p$  is the air heat capacity [J/(kg K)]

$w'$  expresses the turbulent fluctuations of upward wind velocity [m/s]

$\theta'$  expresses the turbulent fluctuations of temperature [°C]

## **\*Release of turbulent sensible heat**

Maybe easier to read as in Masson (2000) the expression for a generic surface:

$$Q_H = \rho c_p (T_{\text{surf}} - T_{\text{can}}) / \text{RES}_{\text{surf}}$$

where  $T_{\text{surf}}$  and  $T_{\text{can}}$  are, respectively, the surface and canyon temperature, and  $\text{RES}_{\text{surf}}$  the surface aerodynamic resistance

$$\text{RES}_{\text{surf}} = (11.8 + 4.2 \cdot (U_{\text{can}}^2 + W_{\text{can}}^2)^{1/2})^{-1}$$

where  $U_{\text{can}}$  and  $W_{\text{can}}$  are the horizontal and vertical wind velocity within the canyon

# Summary of UHI physics

## Causes of the UHI:

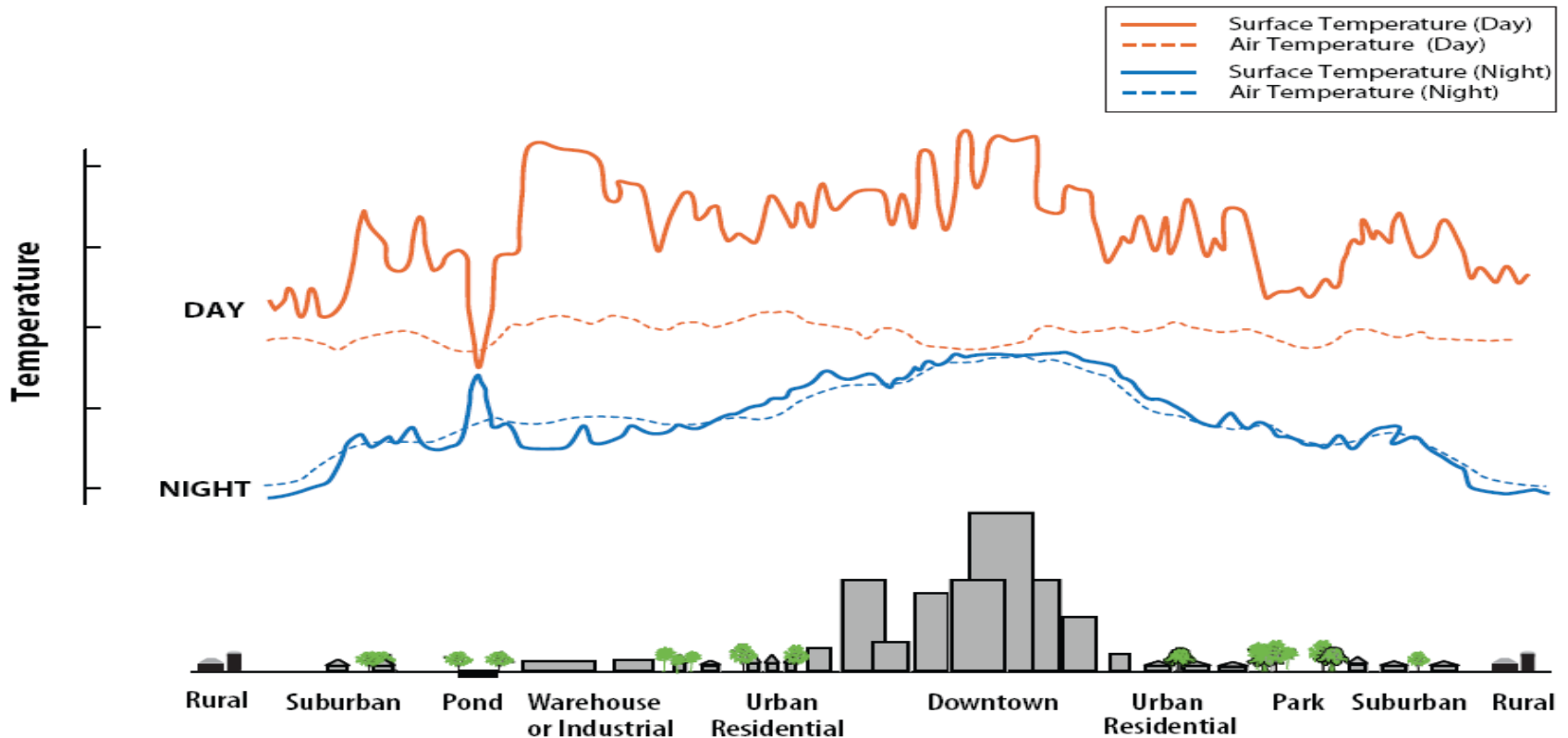
- High absorption of solar radiation by dark man-made materials deployed in the urban fabric → high surface temperatures of dark materials (up to 50°C higher than the air temperature)
- High release of turbulent sensible heat
- Less vegetated surfaces than in a rural area → less evapotranspiration (+ vegetation presents low surface temperatures, close to air temperature if not lacking of water)
- Low sky view factors → reduced radiative cooling
- Wind velocity reduced by urban roughness → air stagnation & reduced convective cooling
- Anthropogenic heat emissions: in average 40-80 W m<sup>-2</sup> in a typical EU city, but in peak conditions air conditioners may cause an increase up to 2-3°C



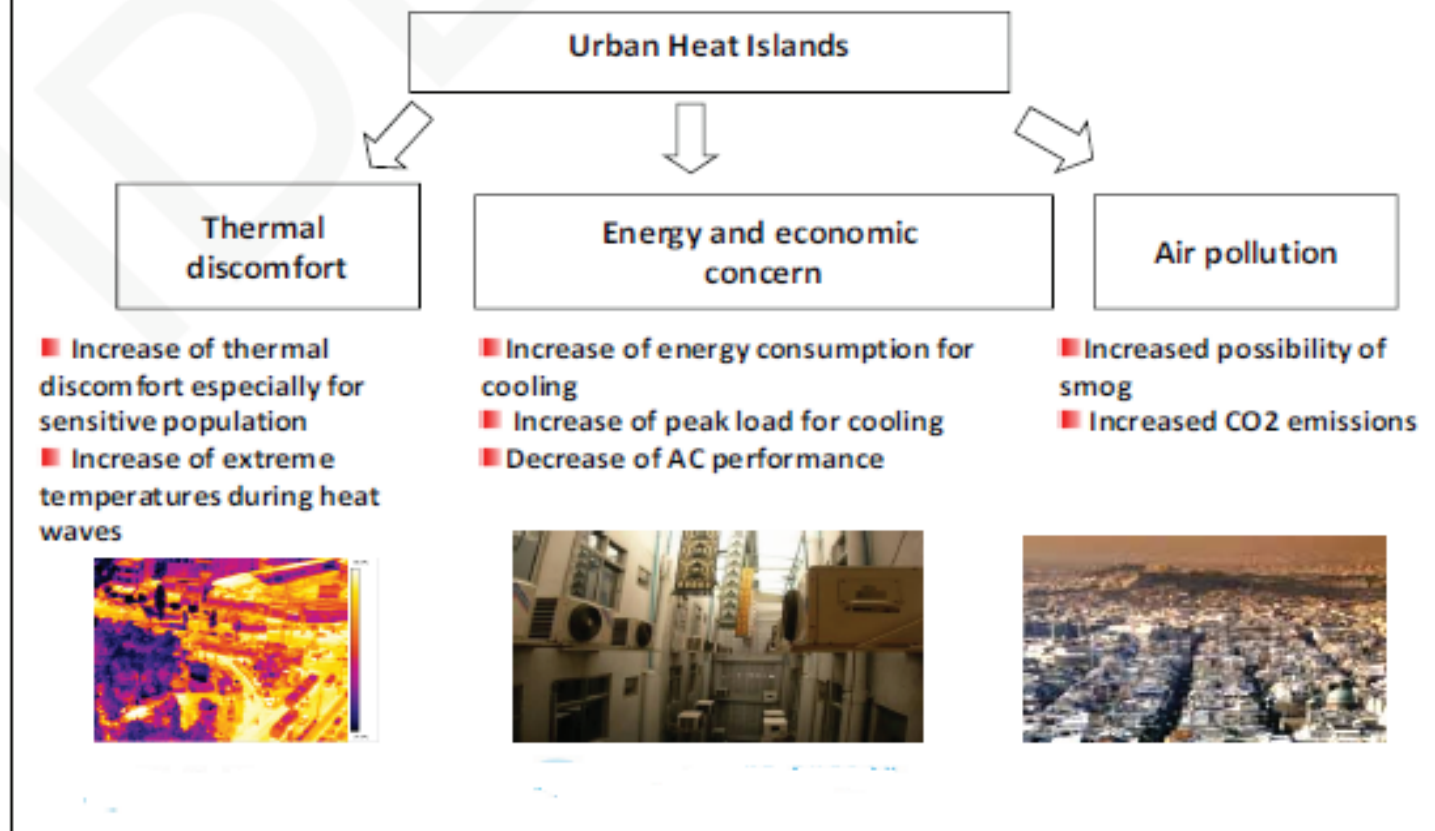
## Part III. What is an Urban Heat Island?

*“An urban heat island (UHI) is the name given to describe the characteristic warmth of both the atmosphere and surfaces in cities (urban areas) compared to their (nonurbanized) surroundings. The heat island is an example of unintentional climate modification when urbanization changes the characteristics of the Earth’s surface and atmosphere.”*

# Cross-section of a typical UHI profile

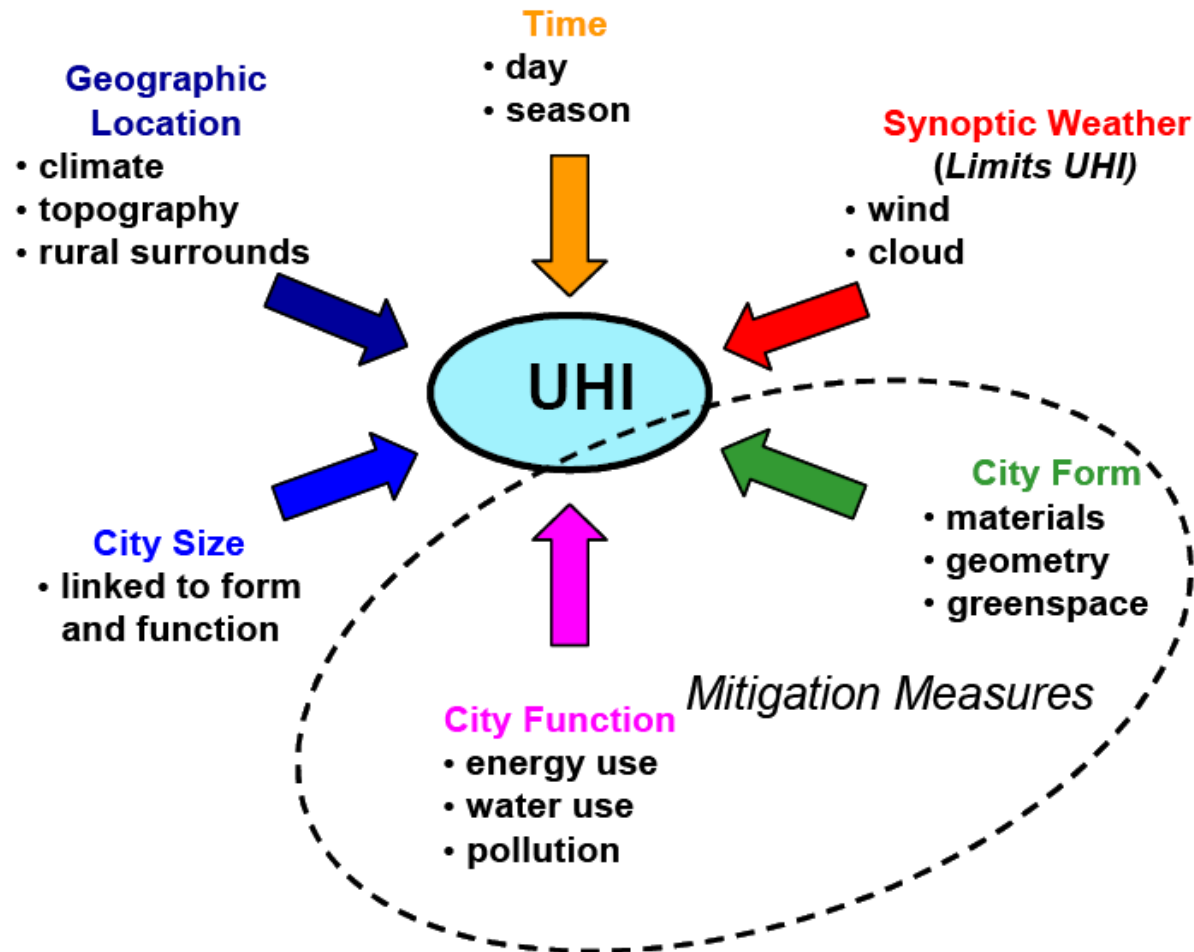


# UHI impacts

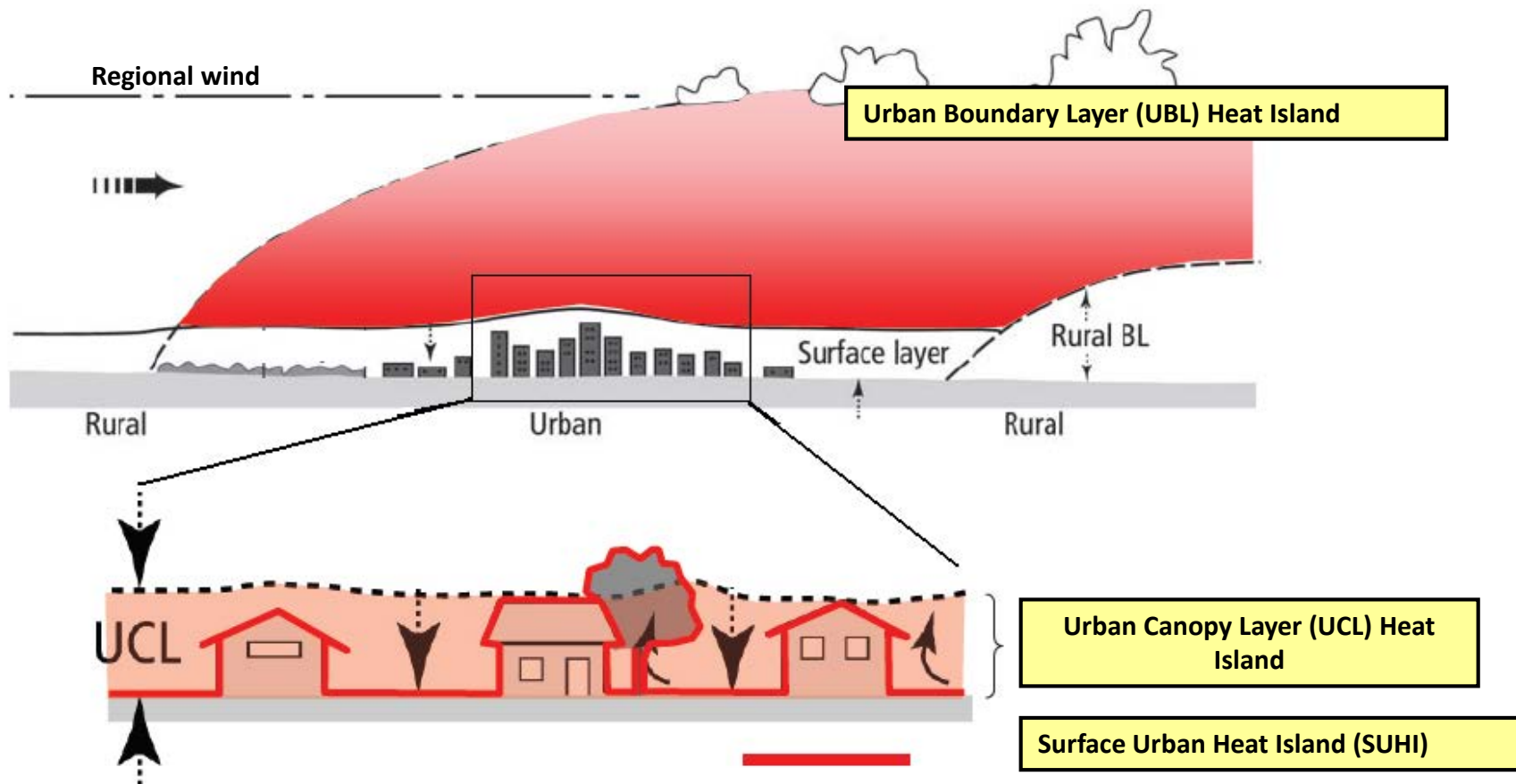




# Factors affecting urban heat island intensity



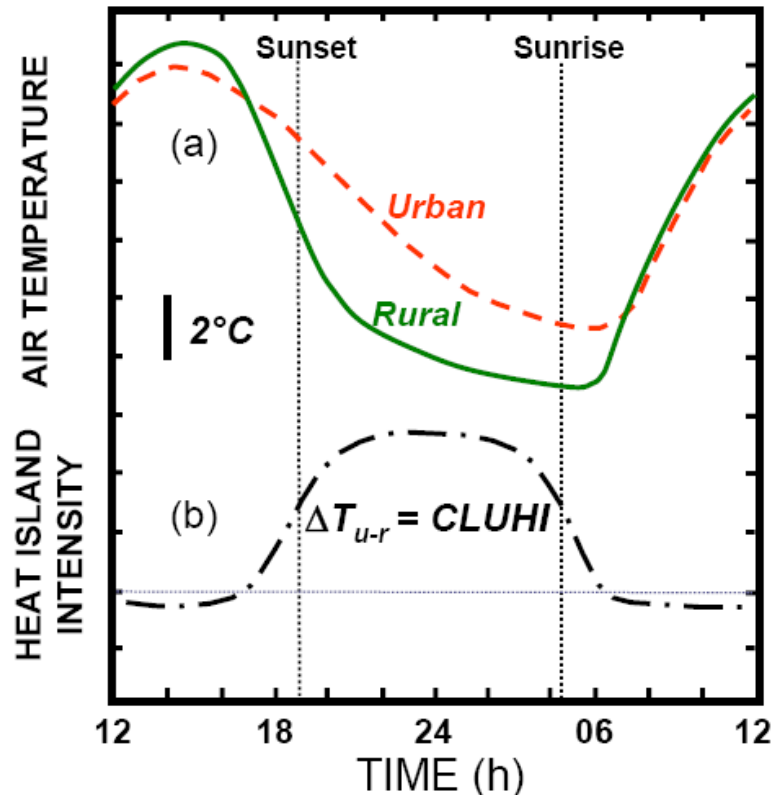
# Urban heat islands: Three main types



# Heat island intensity

= the measure of the strength or magnitude of the heat island

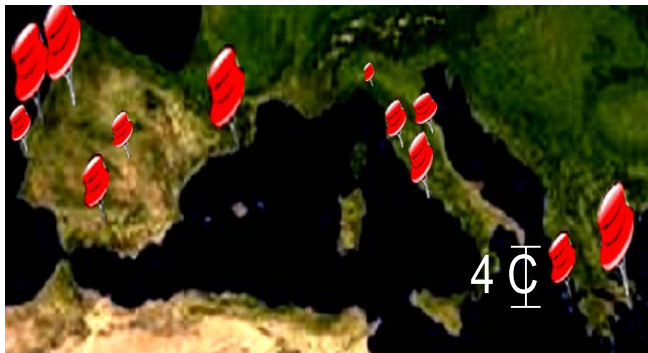
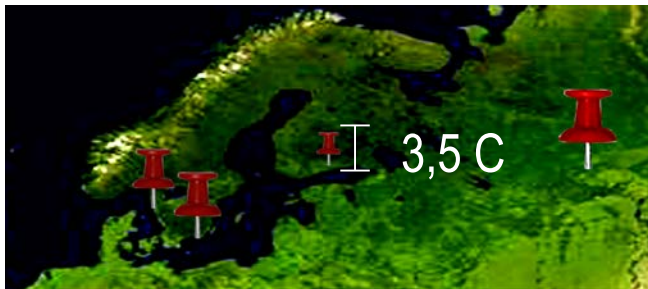
$$\text{UHI} = T_{\text{air,urban}} - T_{\text{air,rural}}$$



- max UHI intensity: 3 to 5 h after sunset
- At night hours, urban atmosphere warmer than rural atmosphere
- weak UHI intensity after sunrise or even negative at midday

Source: Re-drawn from Oke (1987) *Boundary Layer Climates* (in Mills, 2004)



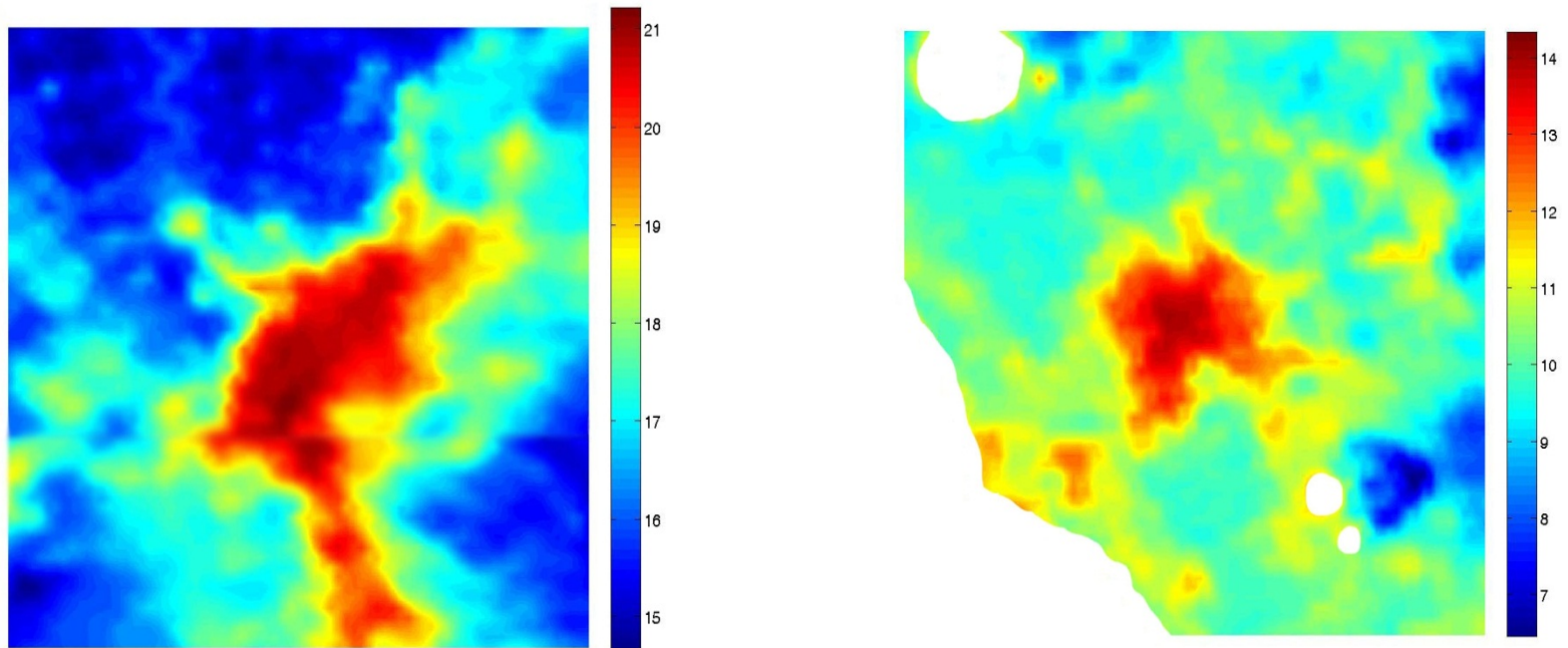


Heat Island is a very well documented phenomenon in Europe present in almost all latitudes.

**The intensity of the phenomenon is quite high exceeding 6-7 Degrees.**

New studies performed the very recent period show that in most areas heat island is intensified.

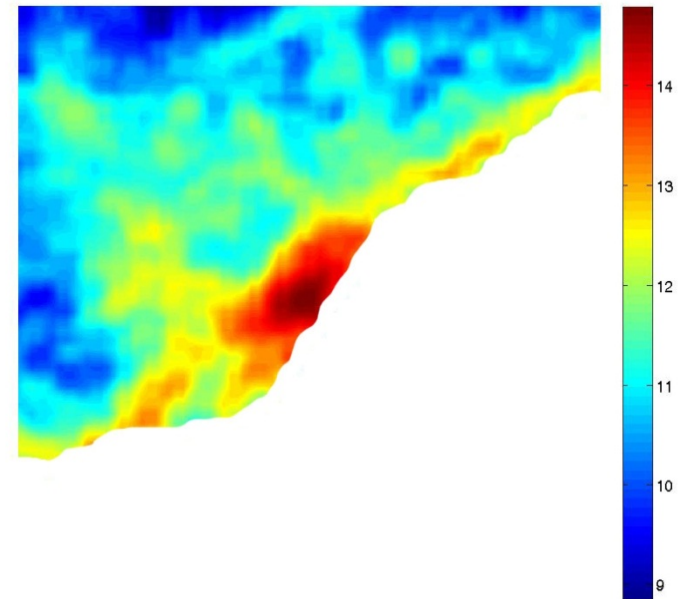
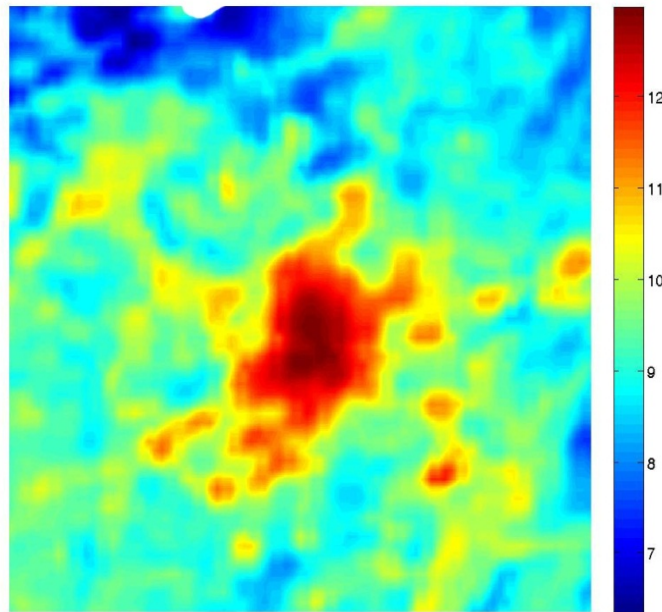
# Surface UHI (SUHI) Cairo (left) - Rome (right)



*Source: Chrysoulakis, 2015*

# SUHI

## Madrid (left) – Barcelona (right)



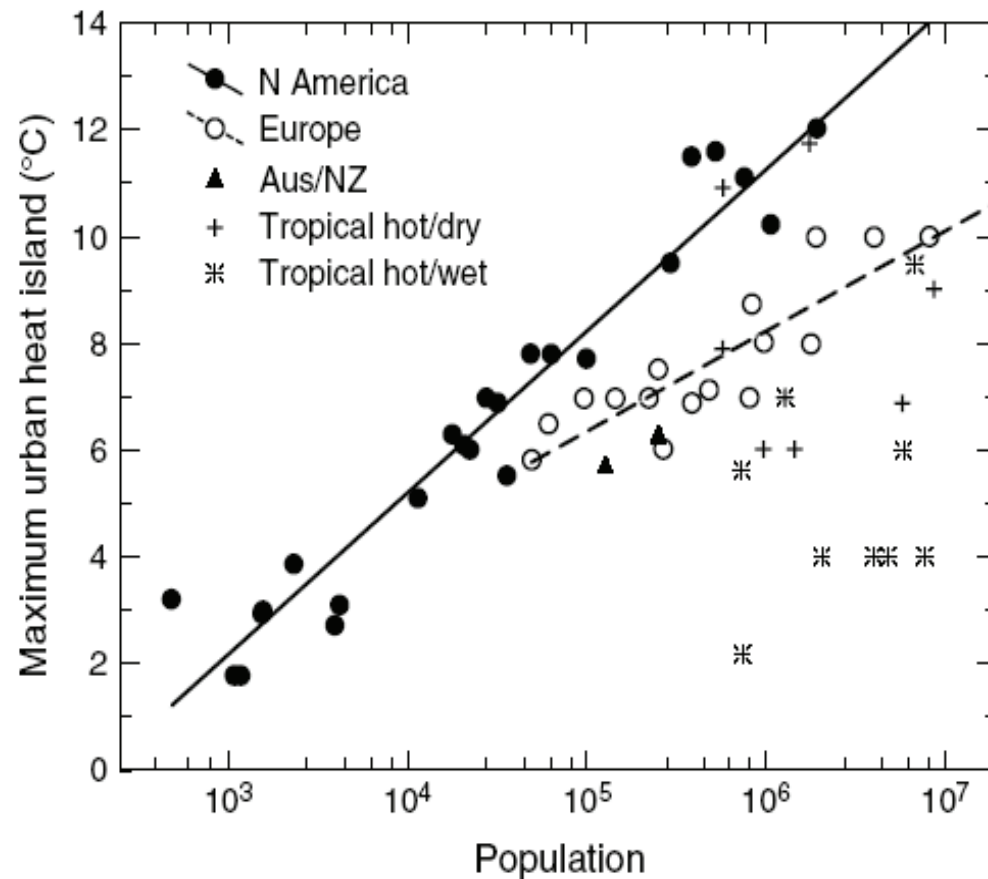
*Source: Chrysoulakis, 2015*



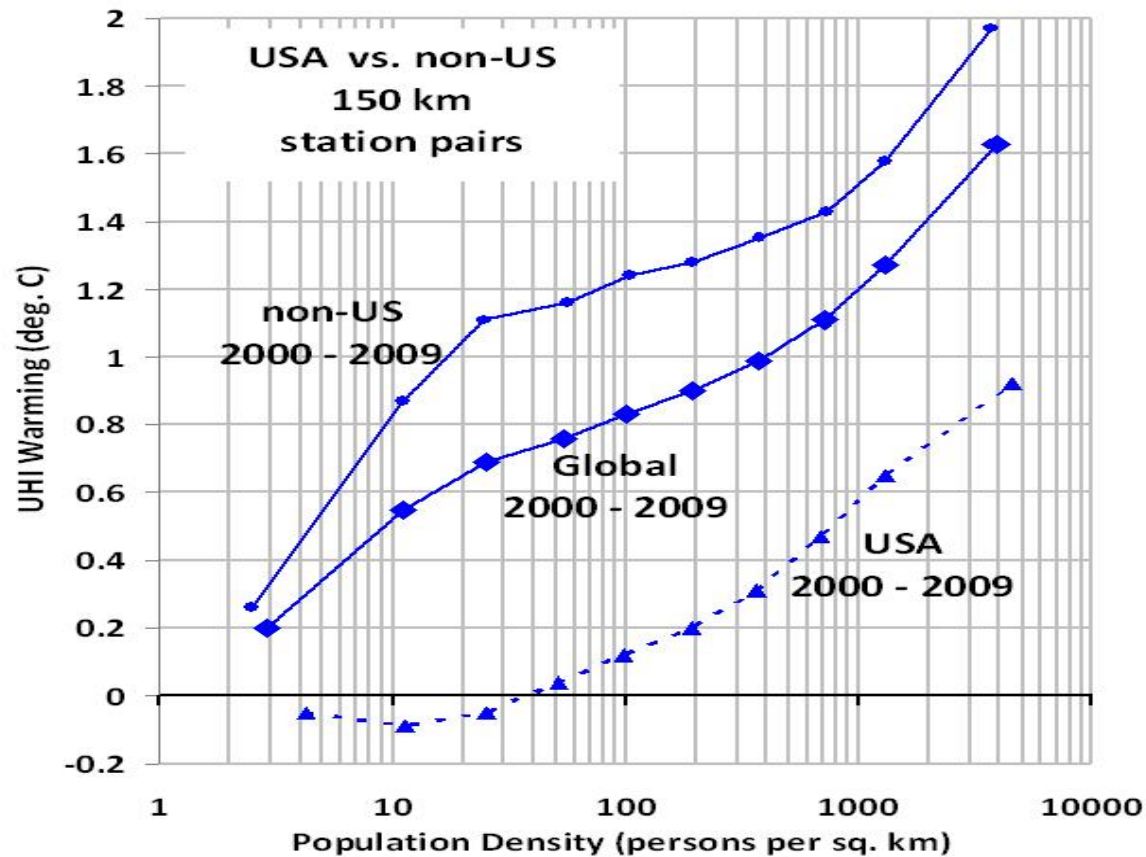
**IMPORTANT**

**Do not interpret changes in land surface temperature or the urban heat island, before assessing the urban expansion and the corresponding land cover over time and space**

# UHI dependence on urban population

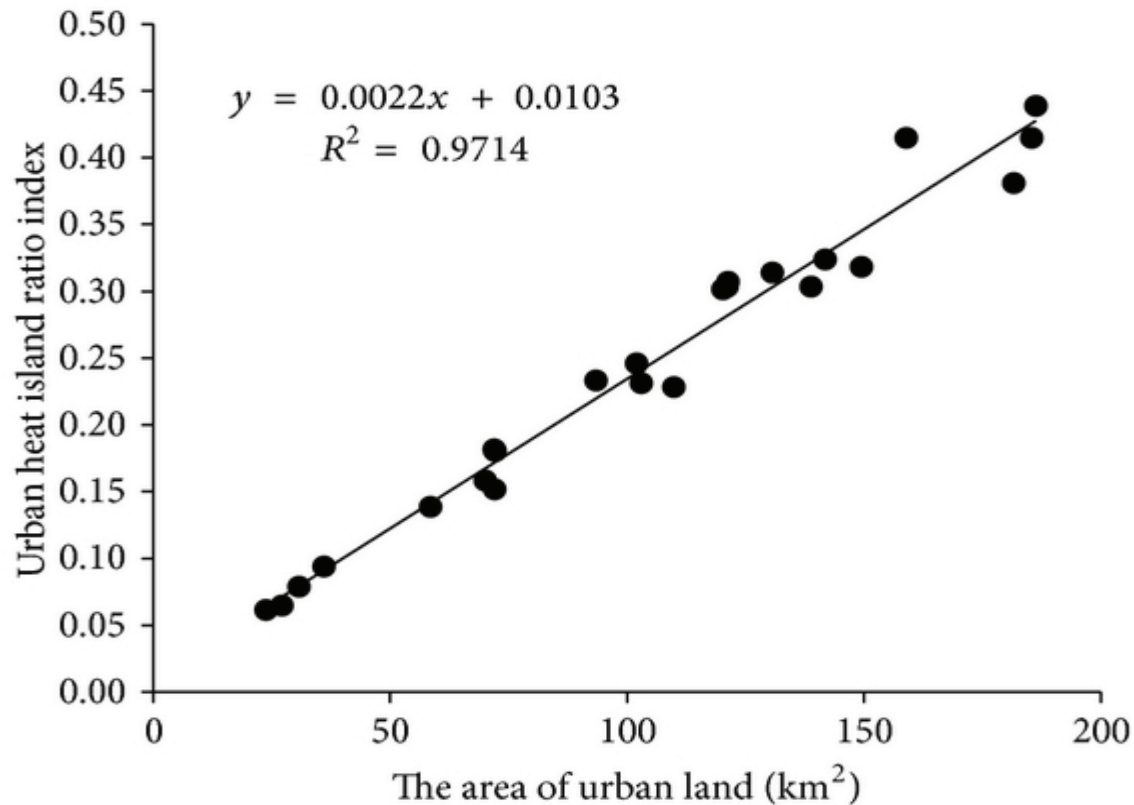


# UHI dependence on urban population density



Source: Spencer: *Global Urban Heat Island Effect Study – An Update*

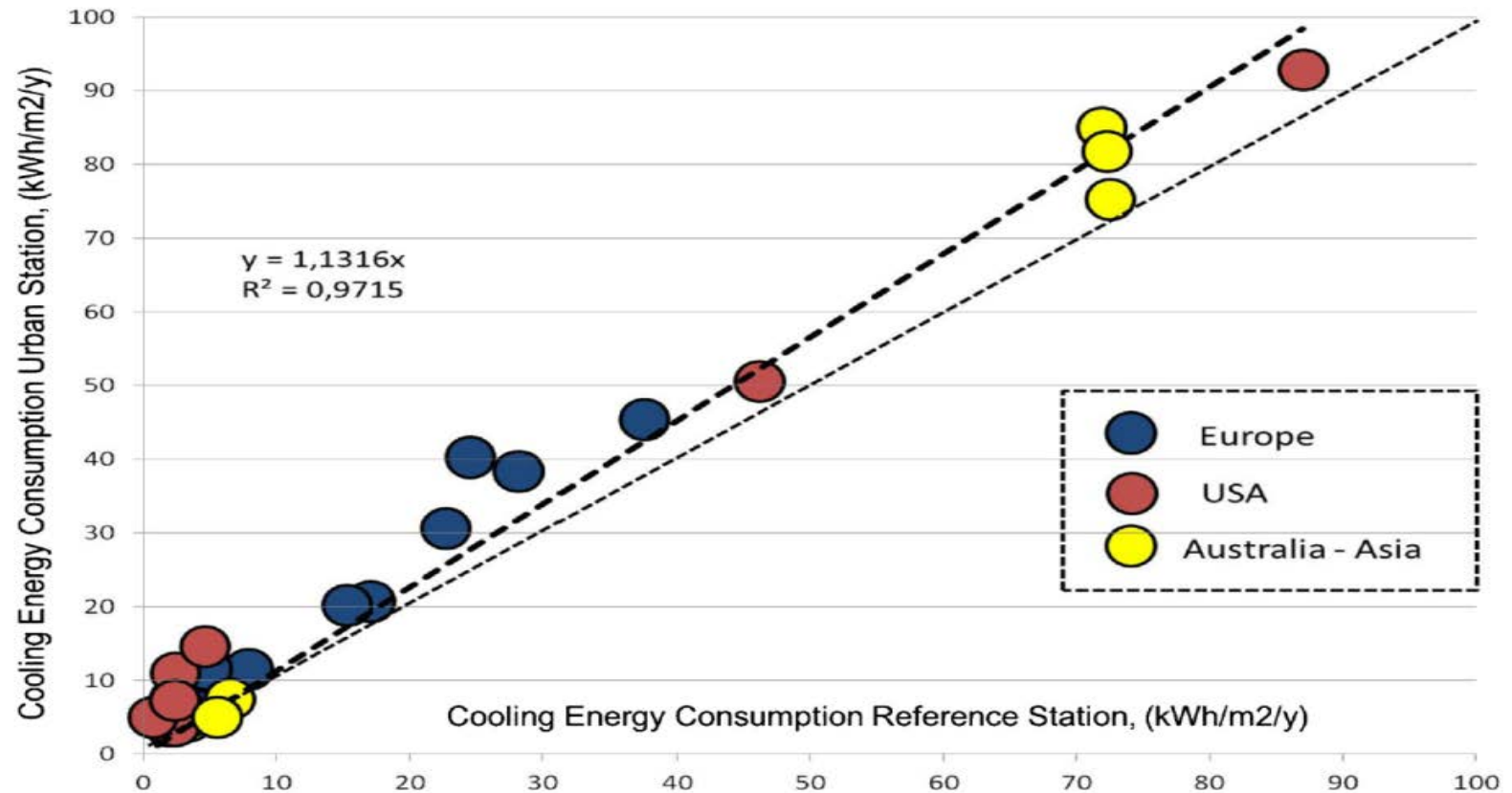




The relationship between urban land area and URI.

*Source: Zhi Qiao, Guangjin Tian, Lixiao Zhang, and Xinliang Xu Influences of Urban Expansion on Urban Heat Island in Beijing during 1989–2010, Advances in Meteorology, Volume 2014 (2014), Article ID 187169, 11 pages*

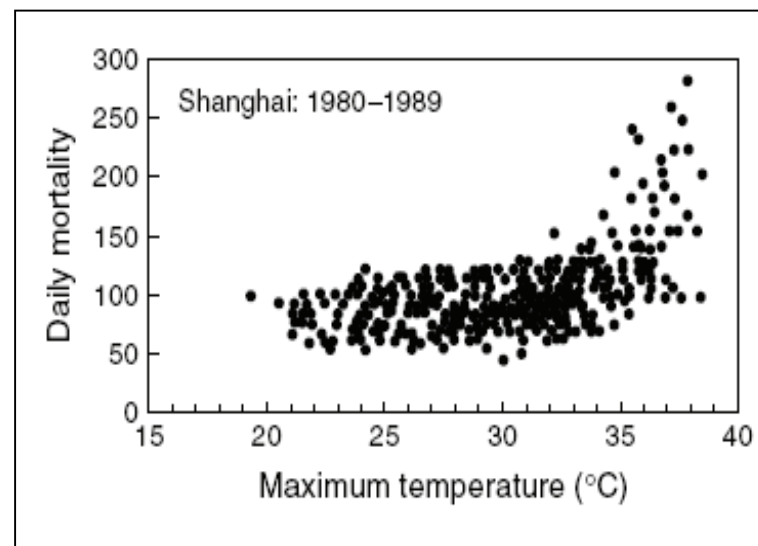
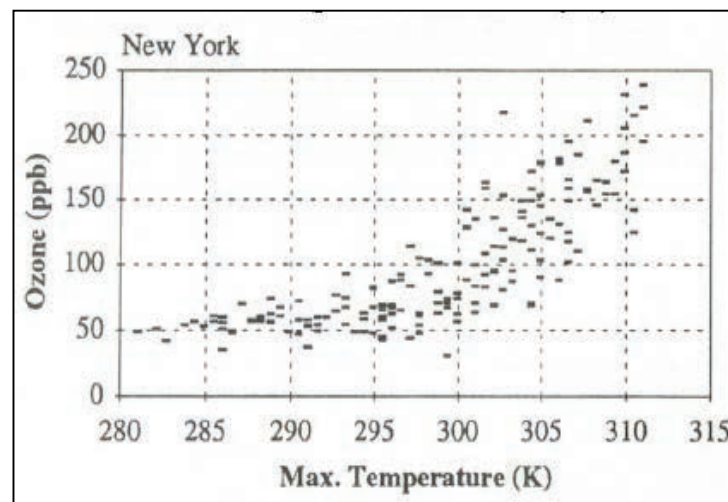
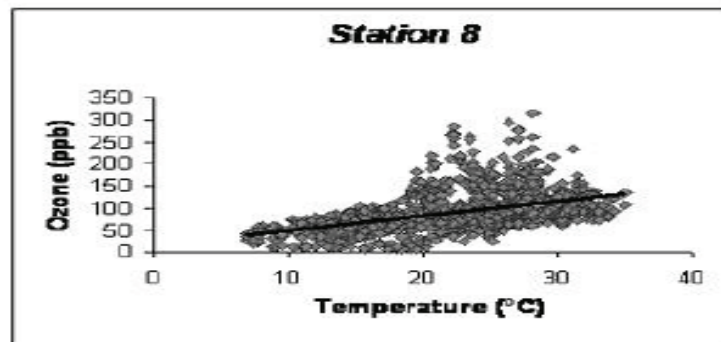
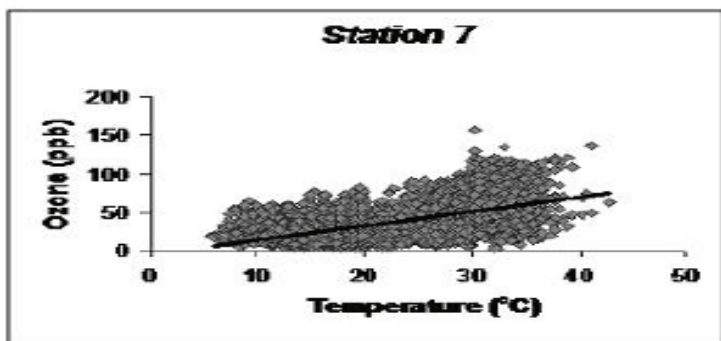
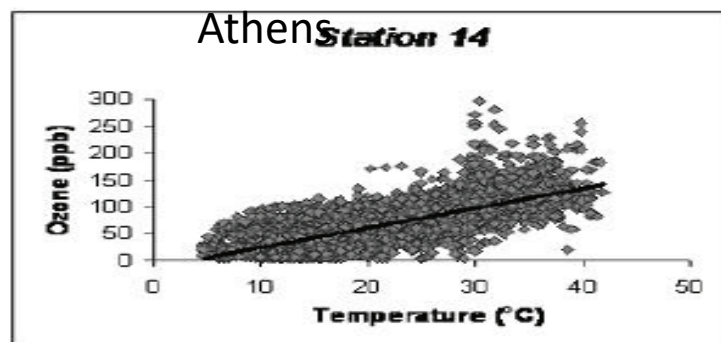
# Cooling energy needs and UHI



On the average the cooling load of typical urban buildings is by 13% higher compared to similar buildings in rural areas, with an increase of cooling load of roughly 20% per each °C more of urban heat island intensity.

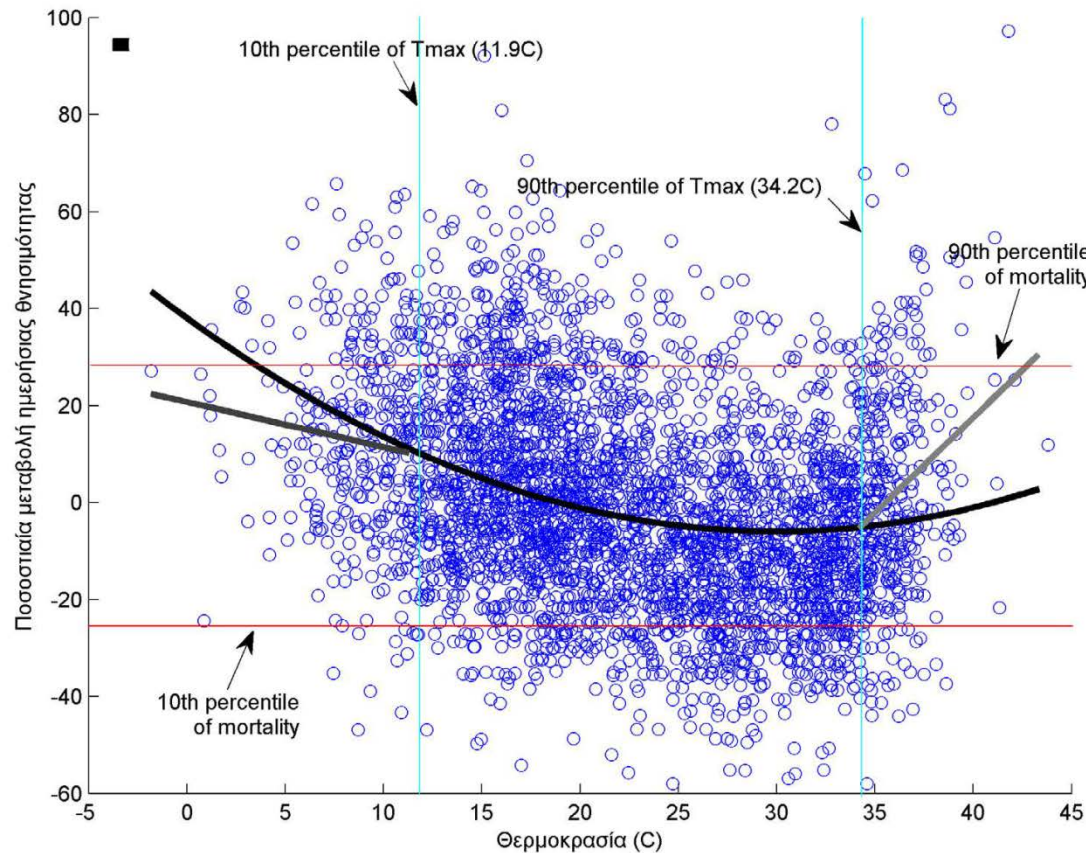
*Santamouris (2014) Energy & Buildings*  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2014.07.022>

## Air pollution vs Temperature





# Increase of daily mortality vs temperature (for Athens)



Source: Santamouris and Cartalis, 2017

# Part IV: Satellite Remote Sensing and SUHI

## Satellite Sensor

```
graph TD; A[Satellite Sensor] --> B[Spatial resolution]; A --> C[Spectral resolution]; A --> D[Temporal resolution]; A --> E[Radiometric resolution]; B --> B1[what size can we resolve]; C --> C1[what wavelengths do we use]; D --> D1[how often do we observe]; E --> E1[degree of detail observed];
```

Spatial resolution

what size can we resolve

Spectral resolution

what wavelengths do we use

Temporal resolution

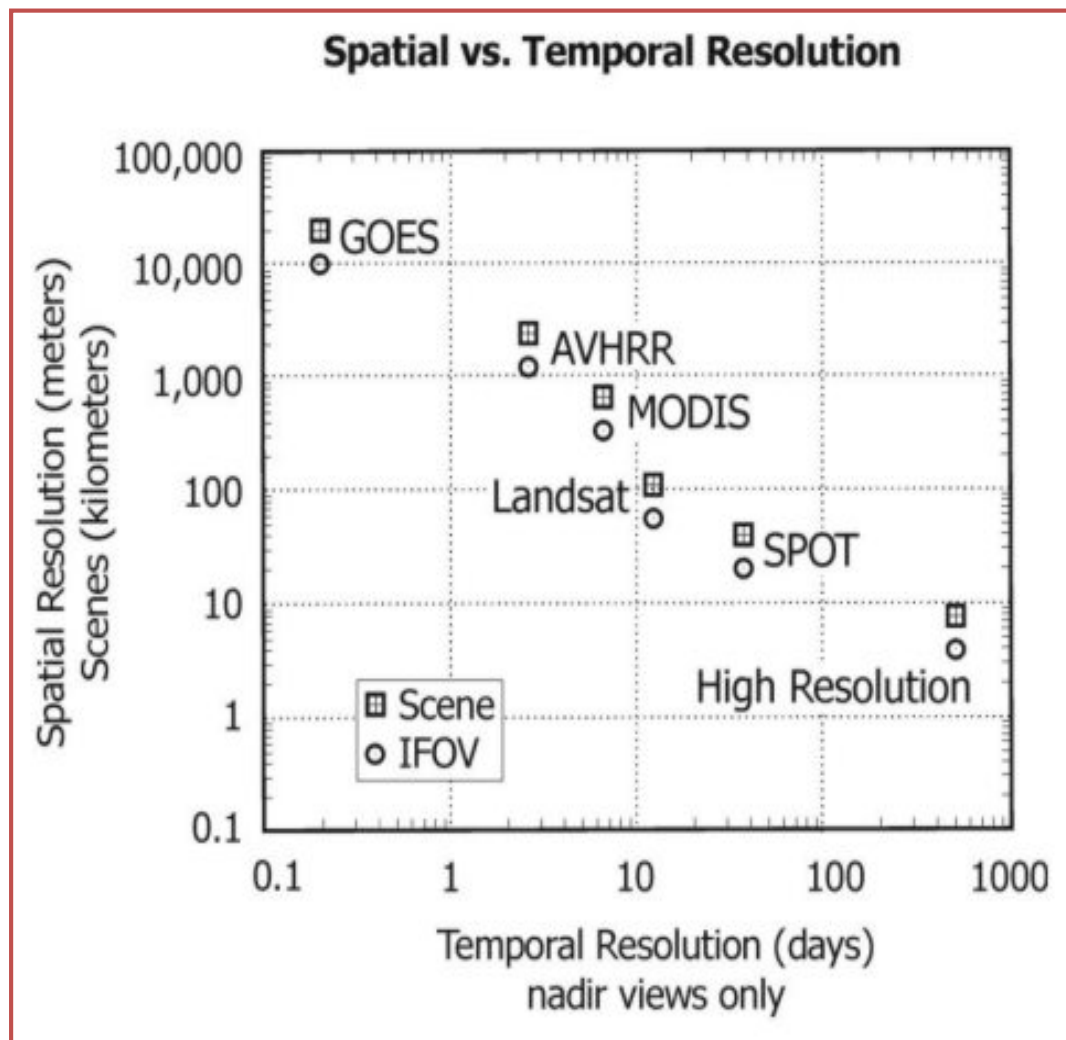
how often do we observe

Radiometric resolution

degree of detail observed



# The critical balance between spatial and temporal resolution



**The Sentinel series will greatly support studies on the thermal environment of cities, both in terms of S-3 which will provide, at a rate of less than two days, thermal data at 1 km x 1m spatial resolution, as well as through S-2 with the latter supporting detailed definition of land use/land cover.**

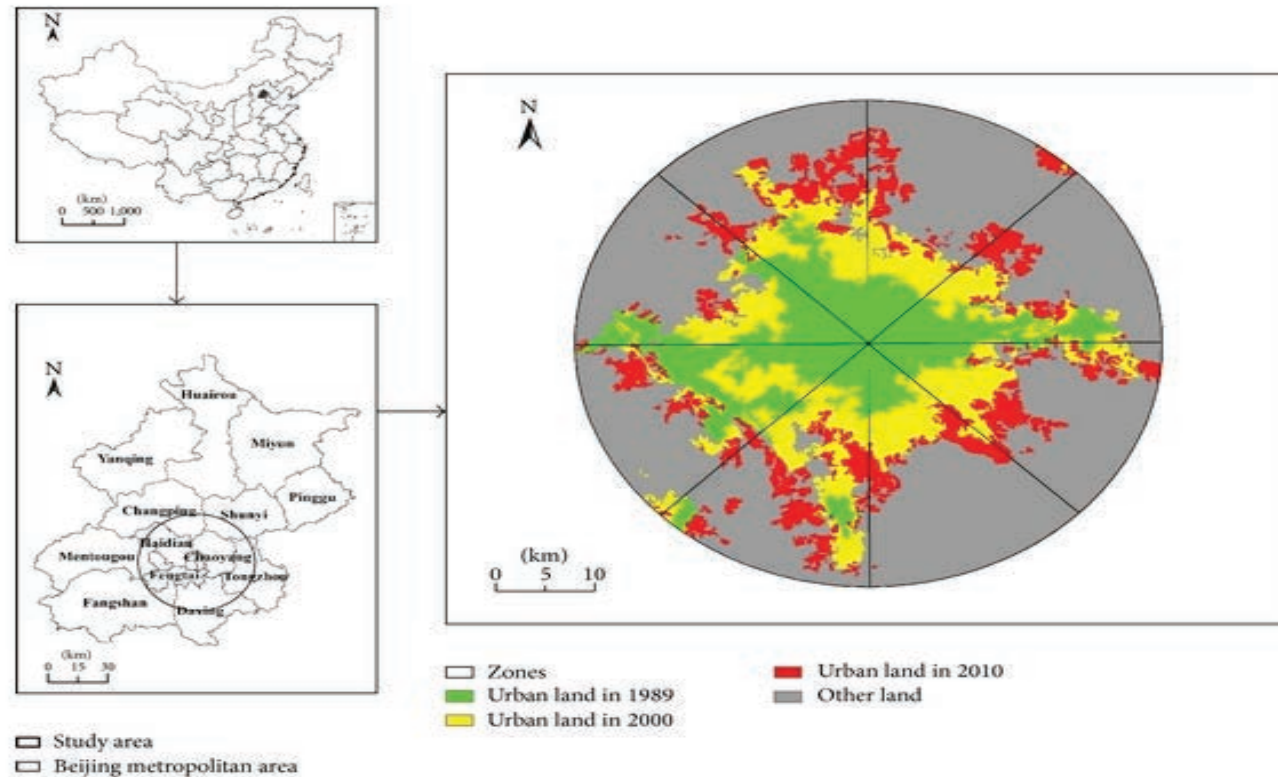
# Part V: Estimating LST



## Step 1. Develop a data base for your city

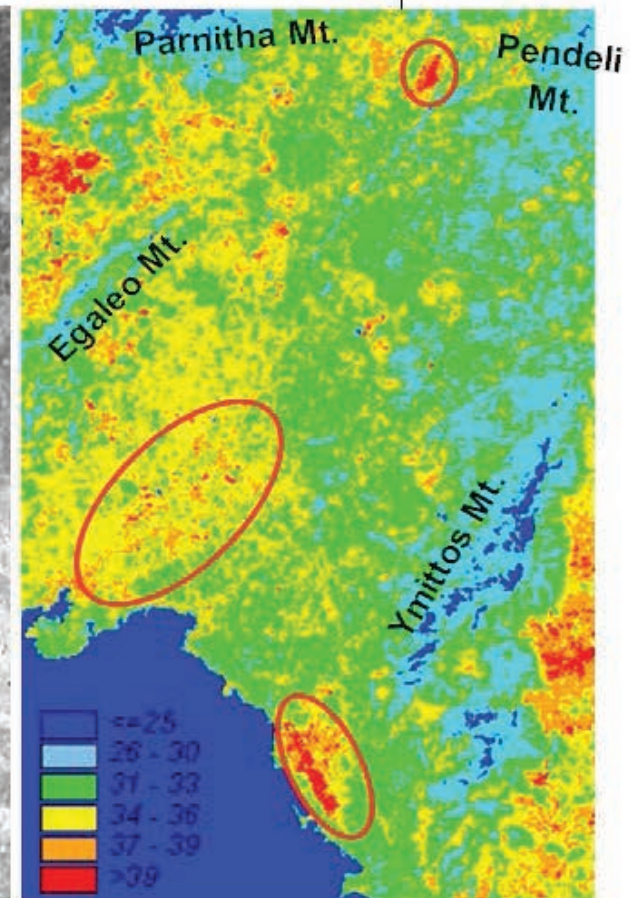
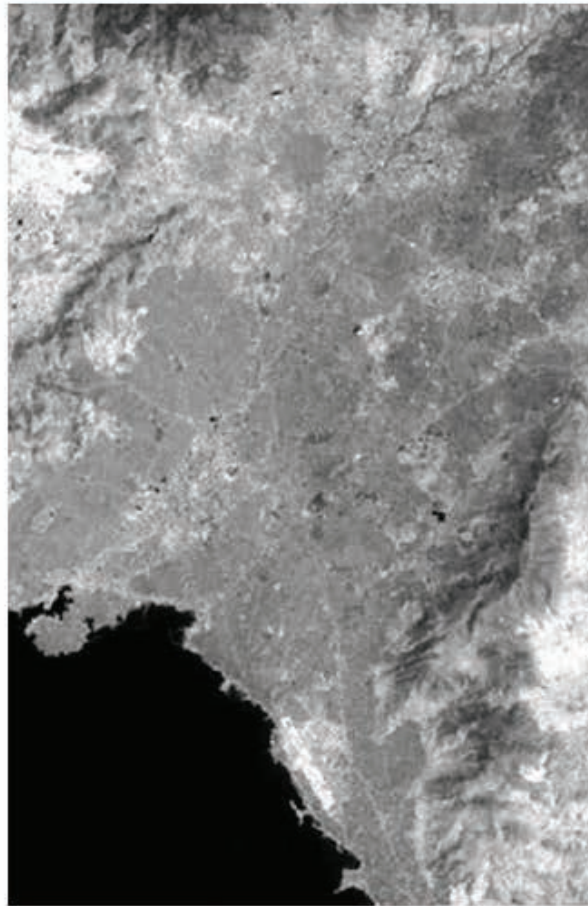
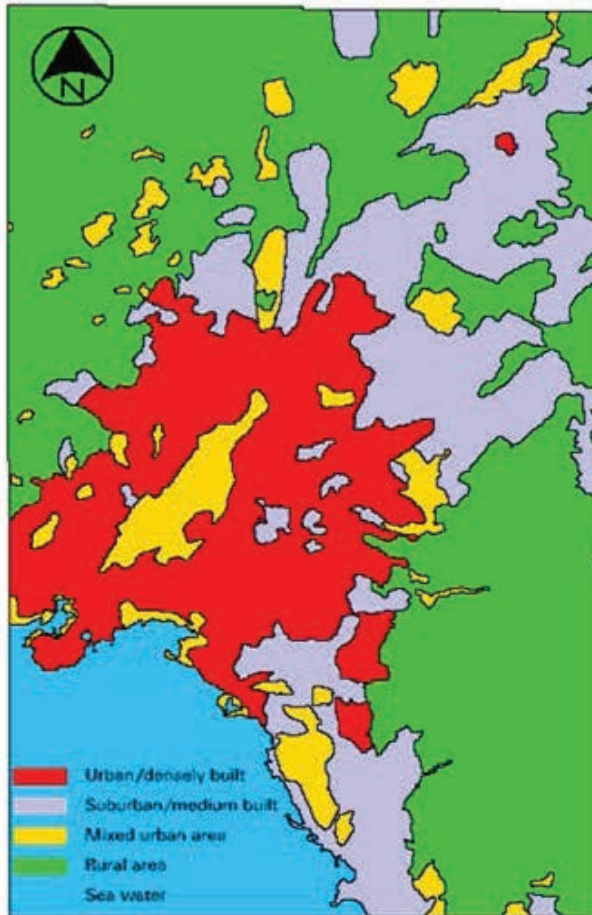
| Climate data for Beijing (normals 1971–2000, extremes 1961–2000)   |                 |                  |                |                 |                 |                 |                  |                  |                 |                 |                |                 | [hide]           |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Month  | Jan             | Feb              | Mar            | Apr             | May             | Jun             | Jul              | Aug              | Sep             | Oct             | Nov            | Dec             | Year             |
| Record high °C (°F)  | 14.3<br>(57.7)  | 19.8<br>(67.6)   | 29.5<br>(85.1) | 33.0<br>(91.4)  | 38.3<br>(100.9) | 42.6<br>(108.7) | 41.9<br>(107.4)  | 38.3<br>(100.9)  | 35.0<br>(95)    | 31.0<br>(87.8)  | 23.3<br>(73.9) | 19.5<br>(67.1)  | 42.6<br>(108.7)  |
| Average high °C (°F)   | 1.8<br>(35.2)   | 5.0<br>(41)      | 11.6<br>(52.9) | 20.3<br>(68.5)  | 26.0<br>(78.8)  | 30.2<br>(86.4)  | 30.9<br>(87.6)   | 29.7<br>(85.5)   | 25.8<br>(78.4)  | 19.1<br>(66.4)  | 10.1<br>(50.2) | 3.7<br>(38.7)   | 17.9<br>(64.1)   |
| Average low °C (°F)  | -8.4<br>(16.9)  | -5.6<br>(21.9)   | 0.4<br>(32.7)  | 7.9<br>(46.2)   | 13.6<br>(56.5)  | 18.8<br>(65.8)  | 22.0<br>(71.6)   | 20.8<br>(69.4)   | 14.8<br>(58.6)  | 7.9<br>(46.2)   | 0.0<br>(32)    | -5.8<br>(21.6)  | 7.2<br>(45.0)    |
| Record low °C (°F)   | -18.3<br>(-0.9) | -27.4<br>(-17.3) | -15<br>(5)     | -3.2<br>(26.2)  | 2.5<br>(36.5)   | 9.8<br>(49.6)   | 15.3<br>(59.5)   | 11.4<br>(52.5)   | 3.7<br>(38.7)   | -3.5<br>(25.7)  | -12.5<br>(9.5) | -18.5<br>(-1.3) | -27.4<br>(-17.3) |
| Precipitation mm (inches)  | 2.7<br>(0.106)  | 4.9<br>(0.193)   | 8.3<br>(0.327) | 21.2<br>(0.835) | 34.2<br>(1.346) | 78.1<br>(3.075) | 185.2<br>(7.291) | 159.7<br>(6.287) | 45.5<br>(1.791) | 21.8<br>(0.858) | 7.4<br>(0.291) | 2.8<br>(0.11)   | 571.8<br>(22.51) |
| Avg. precipitation days (≥ 0.1 mm)   | 1.8             | 2.3              | 3.3            | 4.3             | 5.8             | 9.7             | 13.6             | 12.0             | 7.6             | 5.0             | 3.5            | 1.7             | 70.6             |
| % humidity   | 44              | 44               | 46             | 46              | 53              | 61              | 75               | 77               | 68              | 61              | 57             | 49              | 56.8             |
| Mean monthly sunshine hours  | 194.1           | 194.7            | 231.8          | 251.9           | 283.4           | 261.4           | 212.4            | 220.9            | 232.1           | 222.1           | 185.3          | 180.7           | 2,670.8          |
| Percent possible sunshine  | 65              | 65               | 63             | 64              | 64              | 59              | 47               | 52               | 63              | 64              | 62             | 62              | 60               |
| Source: China Meteorological Administration <sup>[1]</sup> , all-time extreme temperature <sup>[2]</sup> |                 |                  |                |                 |                 |                 |                  |                  |                 |                 |                |                 |                  |

## Step 2. Define Land cover (and its changes)



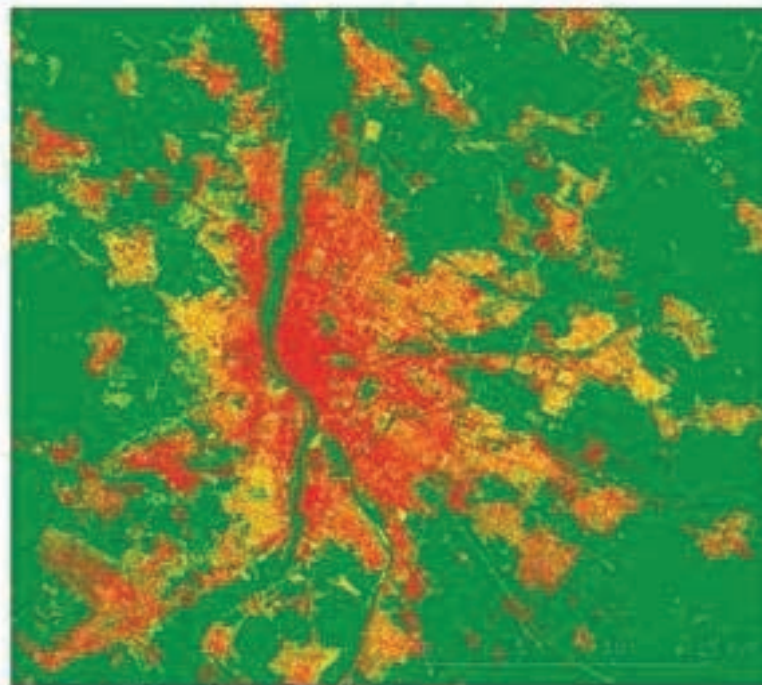
The spatial distribution of urban land in Beijing during 1989–2010.



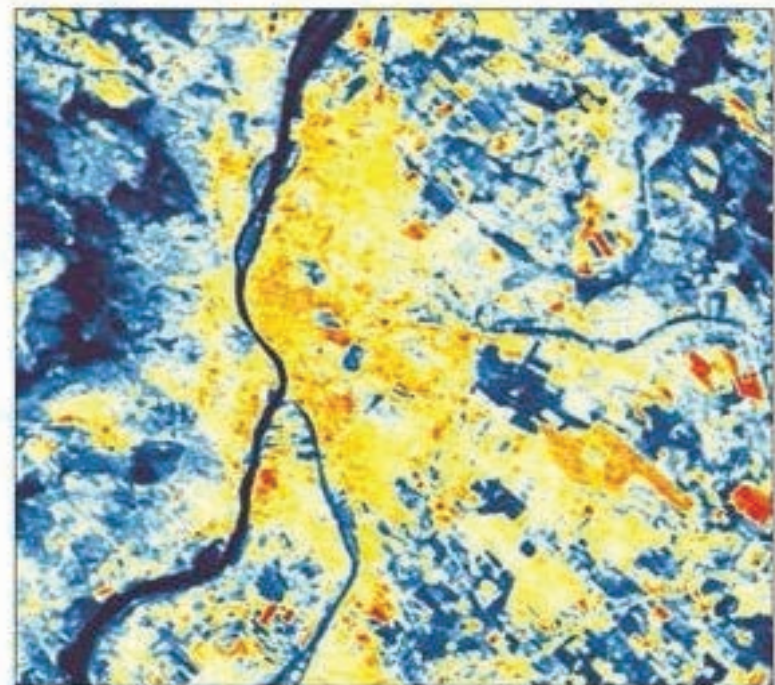
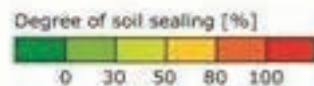


Left to right: Land cover, satellite image in the visible, thermal image





**Degree of soil sealing (impermeability) of Budapest**



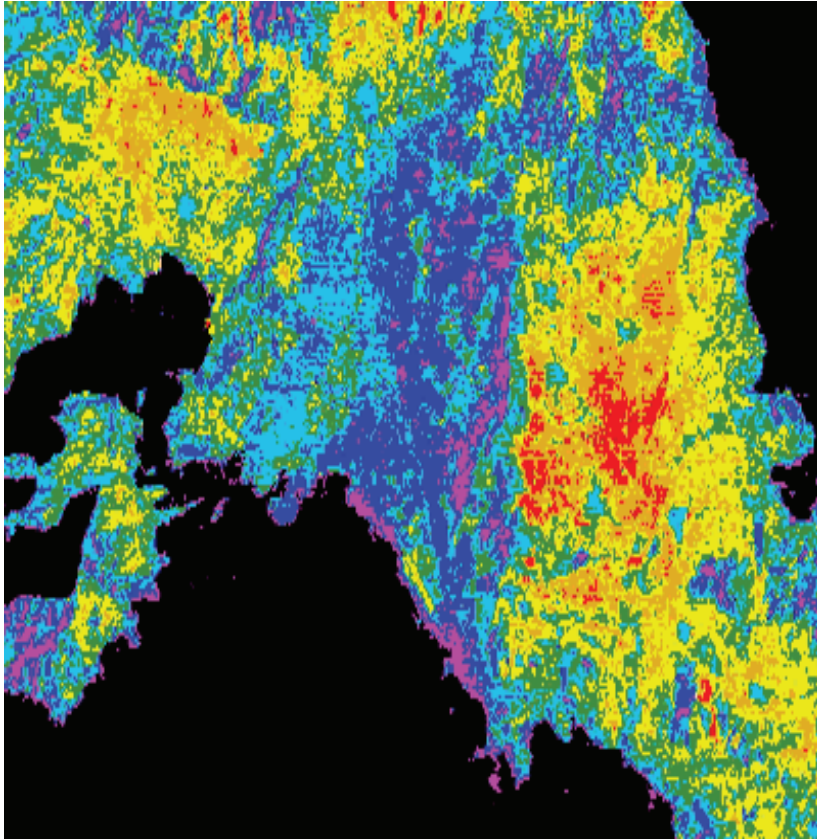
**Surface temperature of Budapest, 1 August 2005, 9.30 CET**



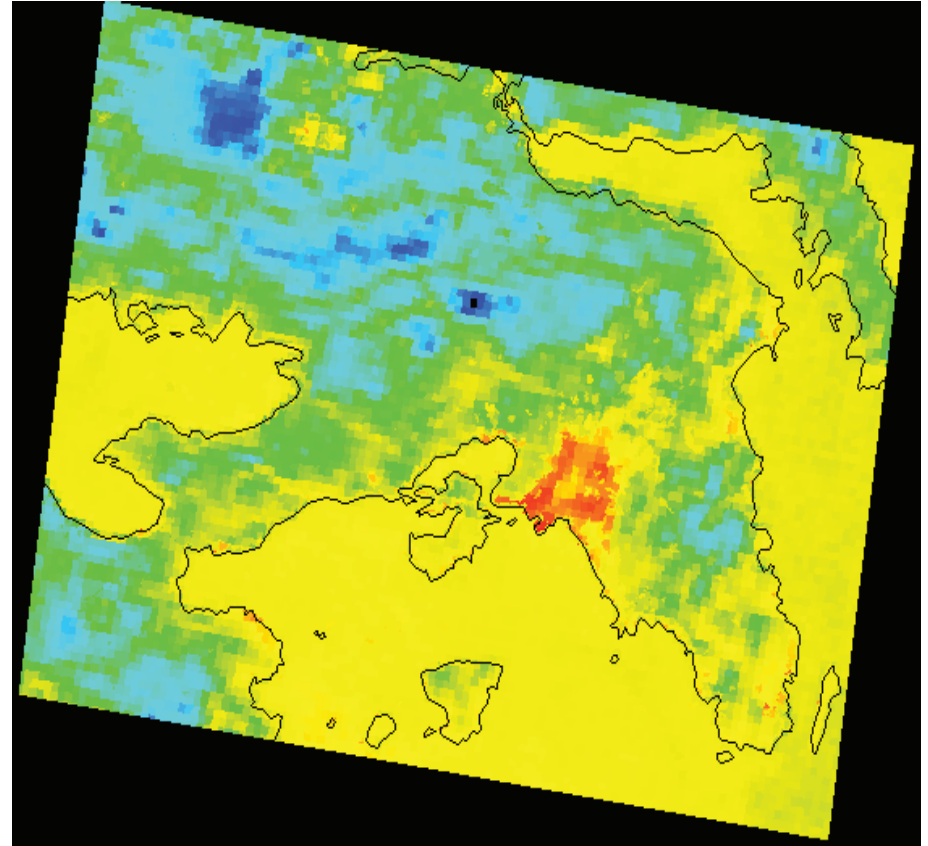
*Source: Gábor, P., Jombach, S. and Ongjerth, R. , 2008*

## Step 3. Choose the appropriate spatial (and temporal) resolution

120m resolution



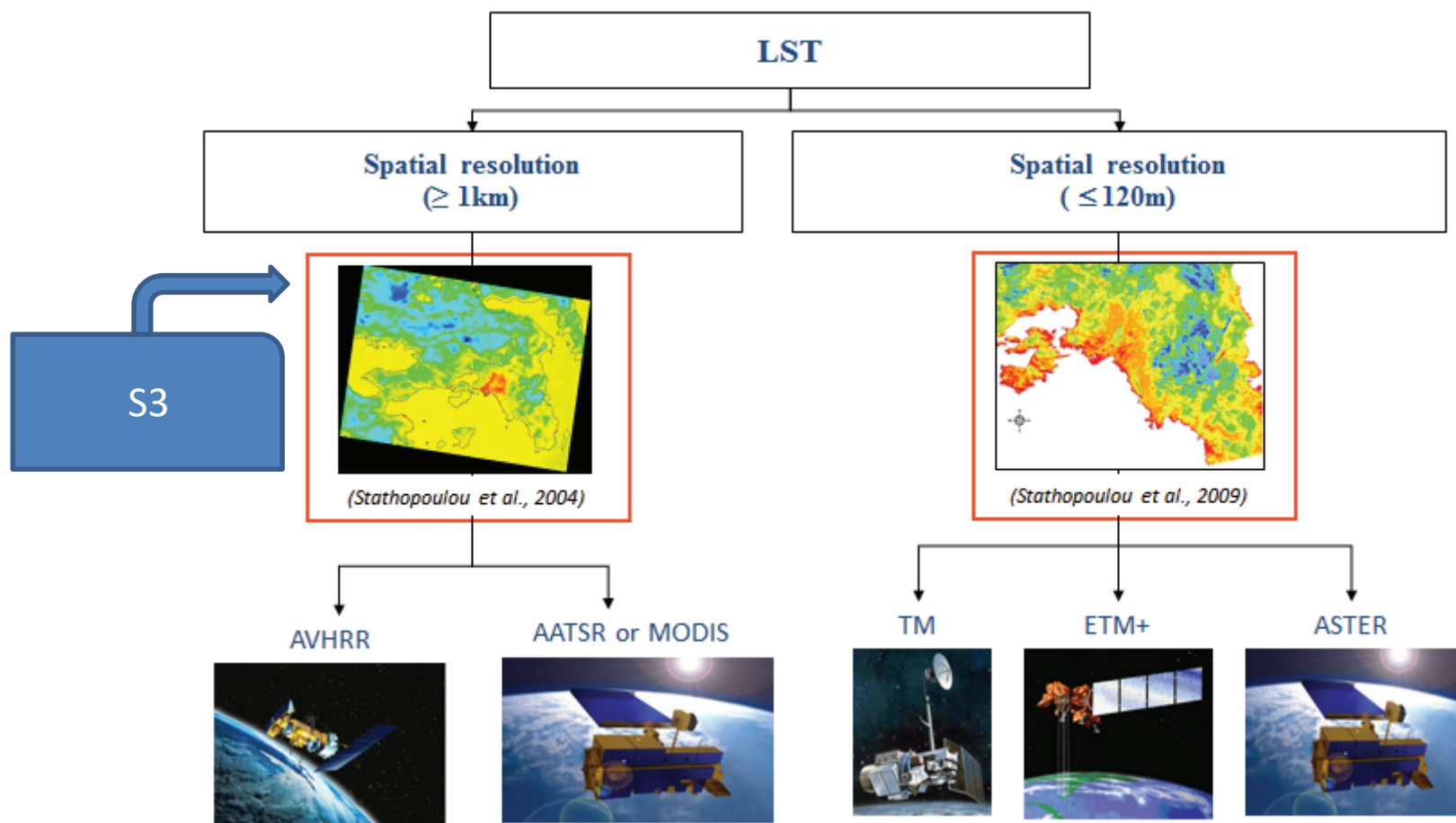
1.1 km resolution



*Source: processing by C.Cartalis*

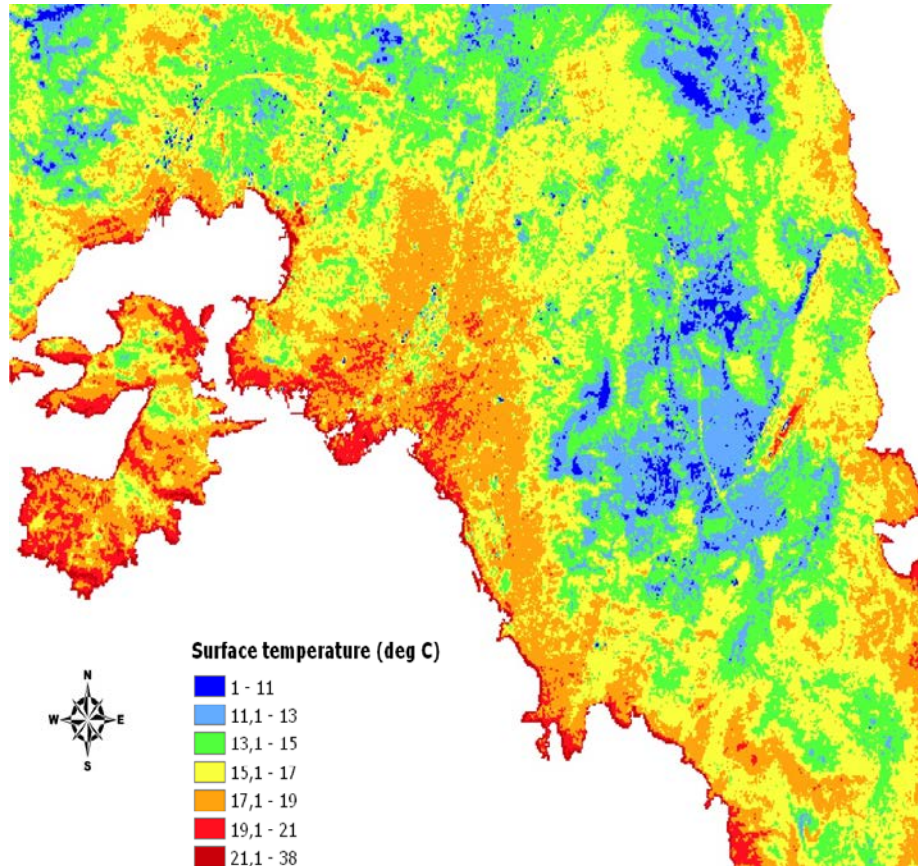


## Step 4. Choose the right satellite mission – Merge satellite data



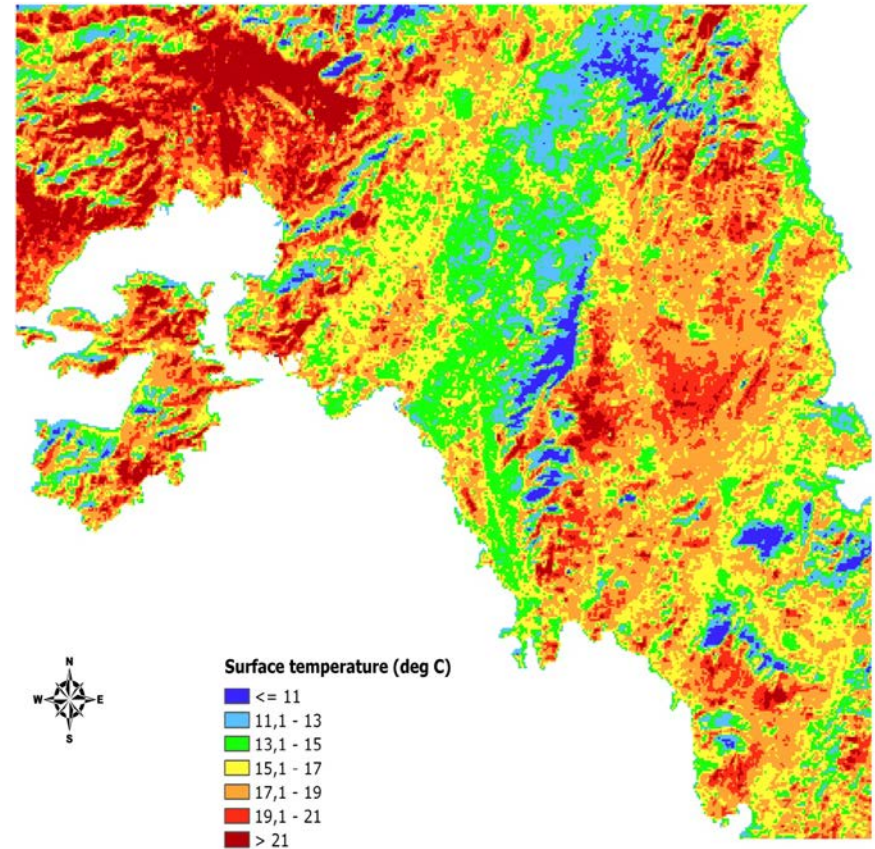


## Step 5. What time of the day? (the impact of thermal capacity)



*22:32 local time*

*Source: processing by C. Cartalis*



*10:30 local time*



## Step 6. Which period of the year?

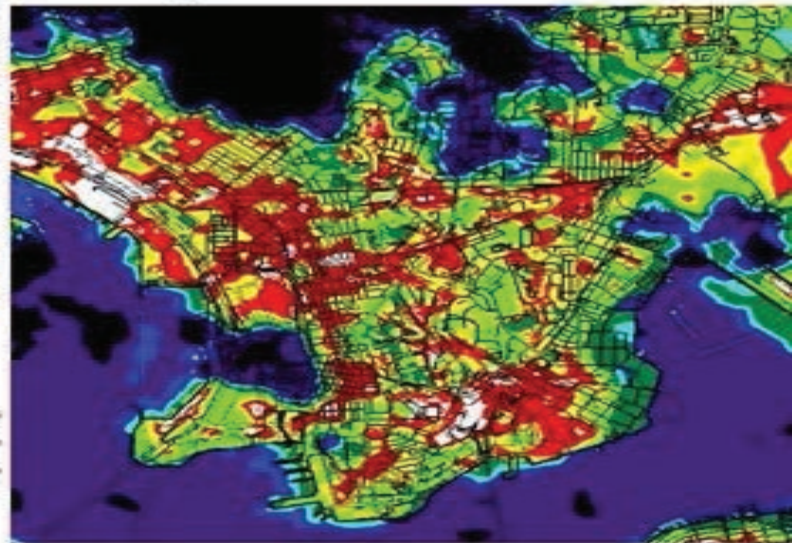


Night-time ASTER  
images



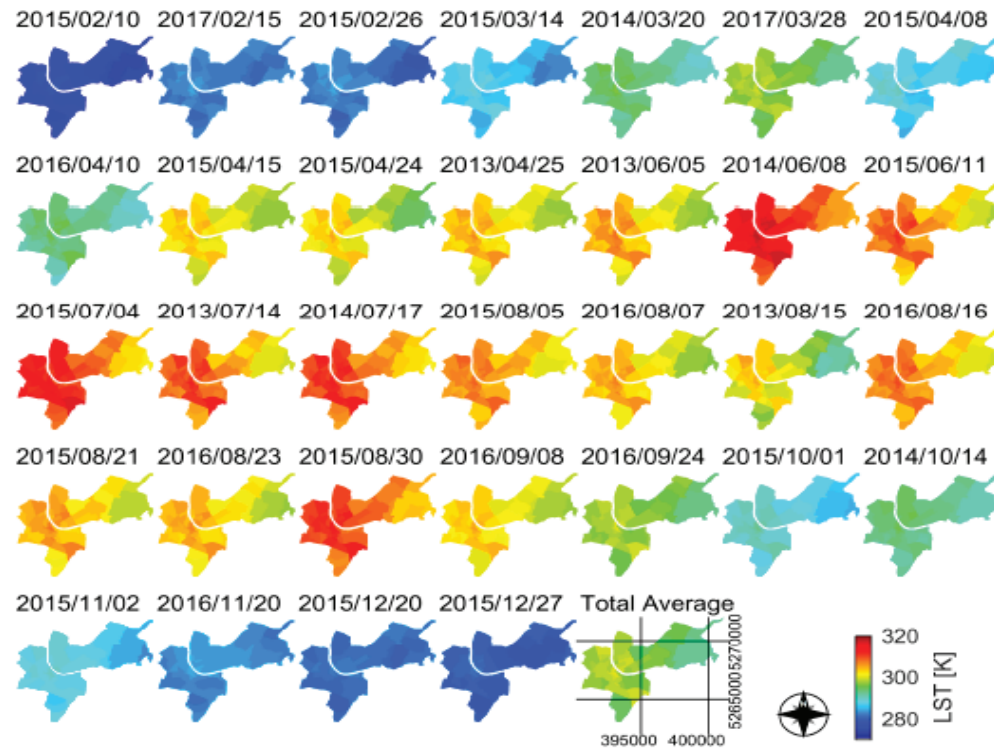
January/August night  
comparison

Black=cloud



Source: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

## Step 6. Which period of the year?

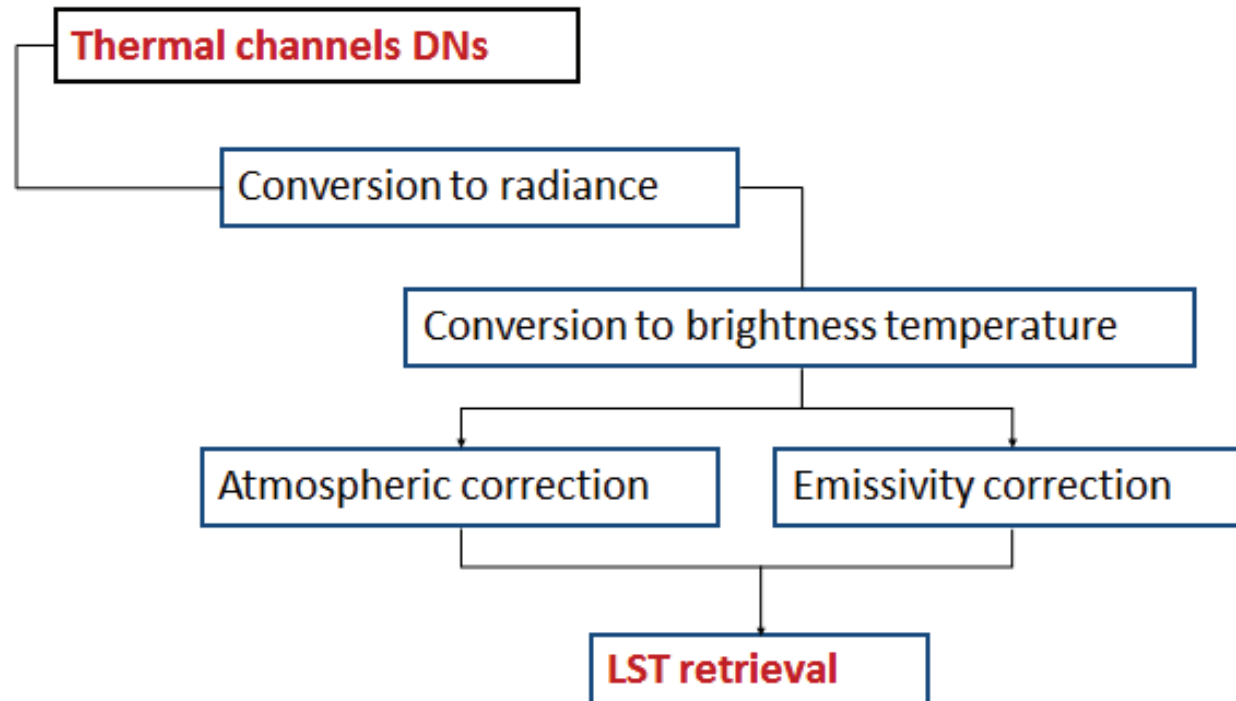


LST averages retrieved from L8 TIRS of each residential district for 32 days between 2013 and 2017 of the Canton Basel-Stadt. The scenes are ordered after the DOY of acquisition.

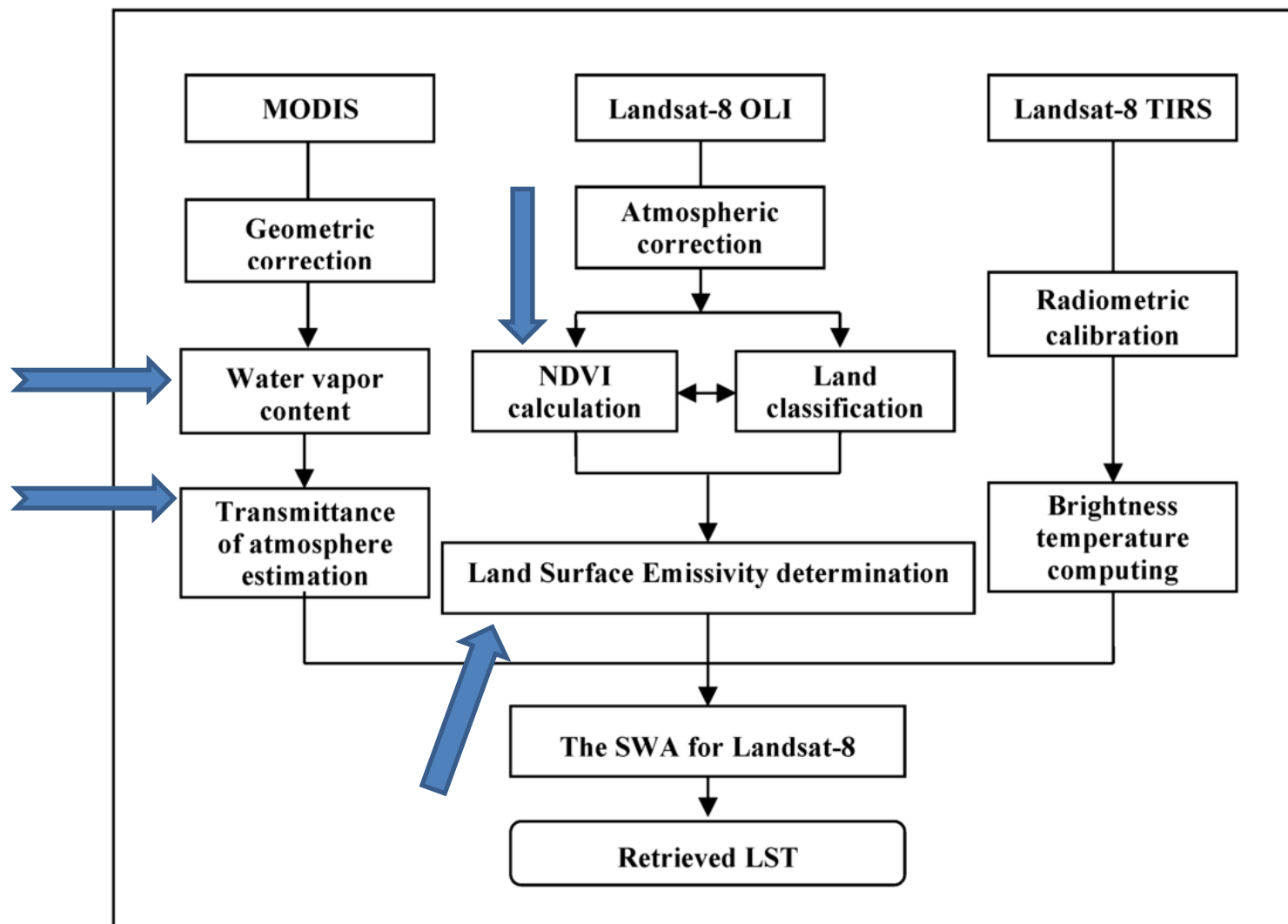
Source: Wicki, A. and Parlow, E., 2017



## Step 7. Convert and Retrieve



**Overall LST accuracy:  $\pm 2$  Kelvin**



## Retrieval of Surface Temperature from Landsat TM images

$$L = 0.0056322 \times DN + 0.1238$$

$$T_b = \frac{K_2}{\ln((K_1/L) + 1)}$$

where  $T_b$  is the brightness temperature in Kelvin,  $L$  is spectral radiance;  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are the calibration constants in  $\text{m} \cdot \text{W} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr} \cdot \mu\text{m}^{-1}$  ( $K_1 = 60.776$ ,  $K_2 = 1260.5$ ).

$$LST = \frac{T_b}{1 + (\lambda \times T_b / \rho) \ln \epsilon}$$

$$\rho = \frac{h \times c}{\sigma}$$

where  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of emitted radiance ( $\lambda = 11.5 \mu\text{m}$ ),  $\sigma$  is the Boltzmann constant ( $1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$ ), and  $h$  is the Planck's constant ( $6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$ ),  $C$  is the velocity of light ( $2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$ ).



## Retrieval of land surface temperature from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS)

**MODIS has a 36 spectral band spectrometer; its thermal infrared (TIR) bands are used for LST retrieval.** The methodology used for the calculation of the LST maps is based on the Split Window Technique (SWT). Using the SWT, LST is calculated as ( $T_s$ ), (Jiménez-Muñoz et al., 2008):

$T_s$  (land surface temperature) =  $T_i + c_1 (T_i - T_j) + c_2 (T_i - T_j)^2 + c_0 + (c_3 + c_4 * W) (1 - \varepsilon) + (c_5 + c_6 * W) \Delta\varepsilon$  where:

$T_i$  and  $T_j$  : at-sensor brightness temperatures at the SW bands  $i$  and  $j$  (in Kelvin)

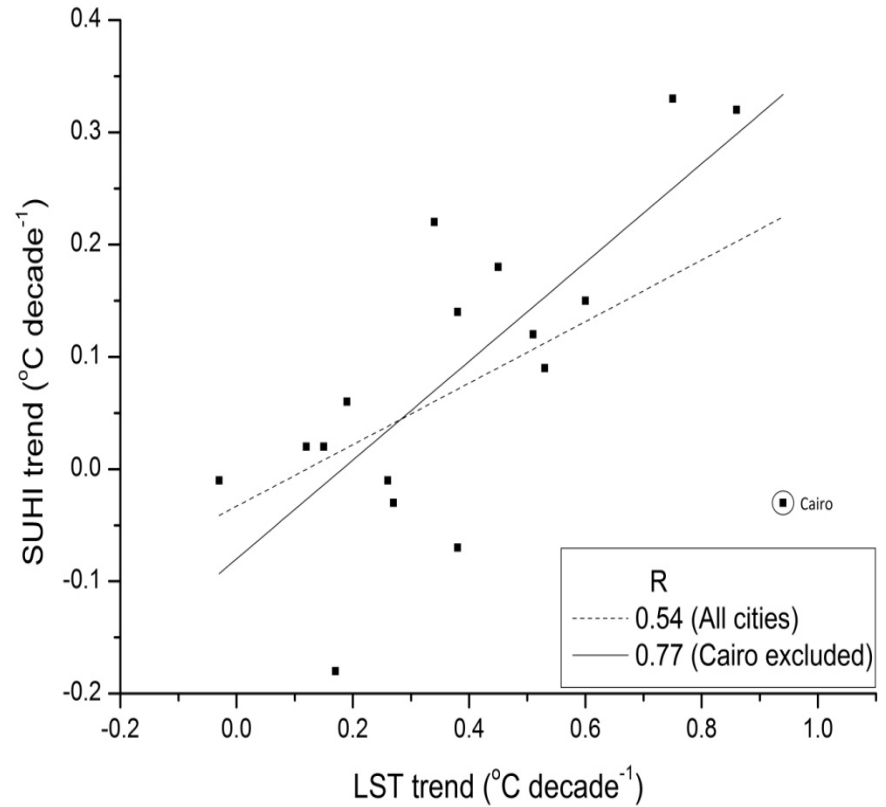
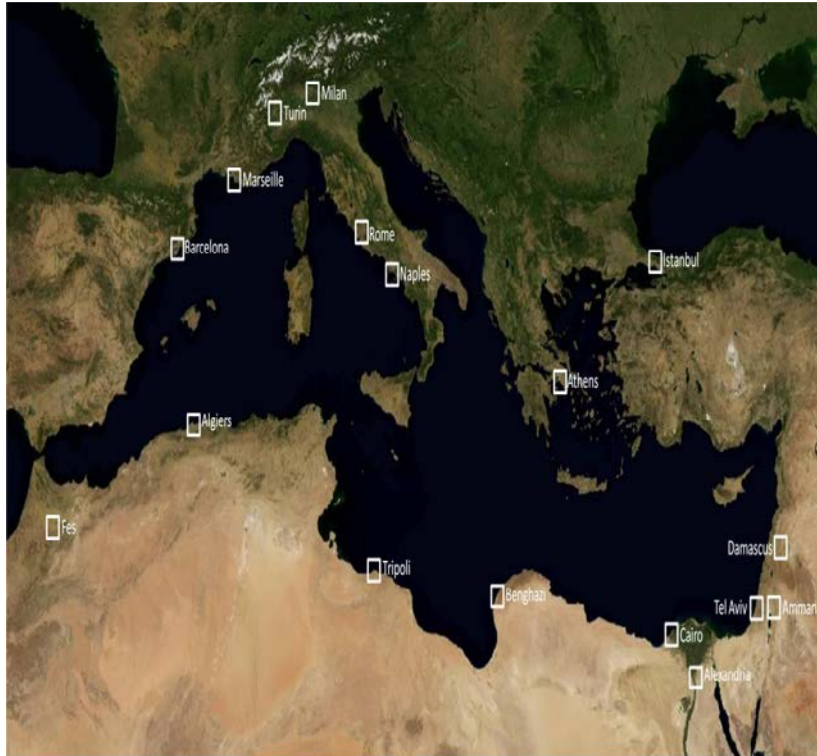
$\varepsilon$ : the mean emissivity,  $\varepsilon = 0.5(\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_j)$ ,

$\Delta\varepsilon$ : the emissivity difference,  $\Delta\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j)$ ,

$W$  is the total atmospheric water vapor content (in grams per square centimeter),

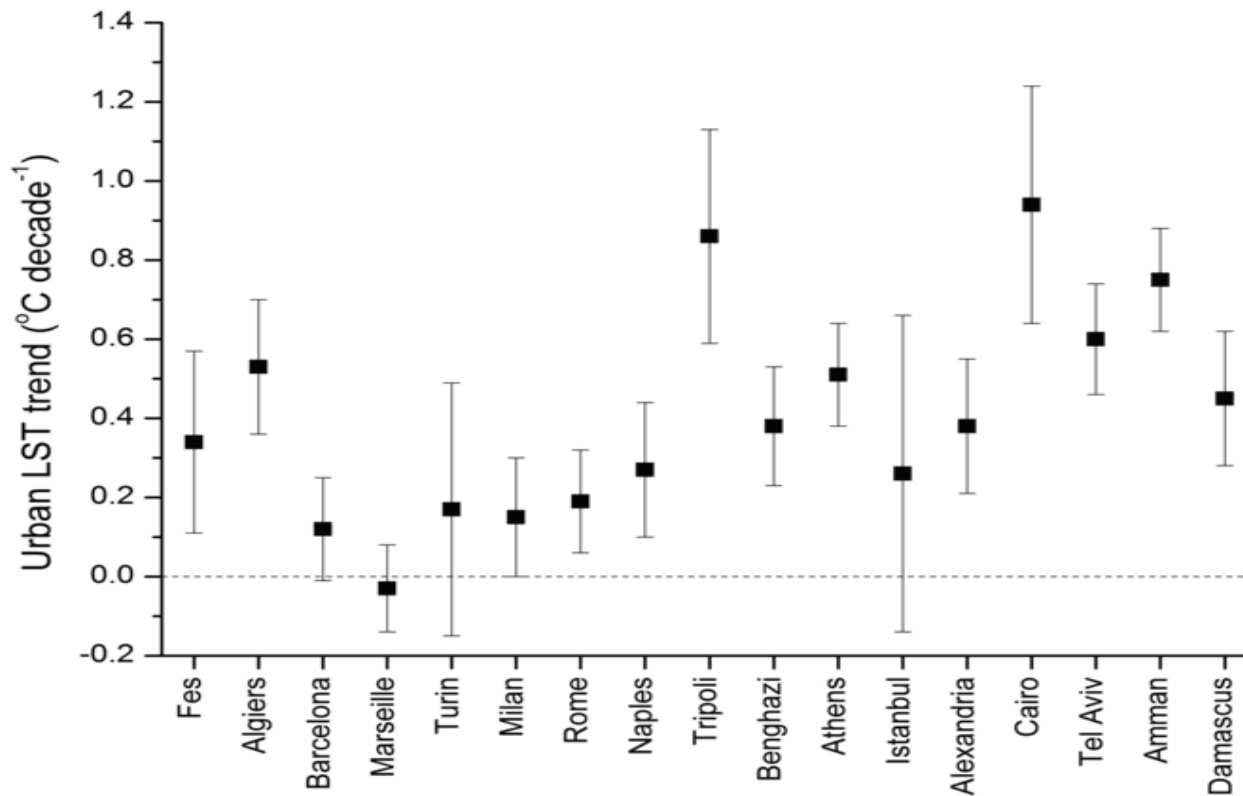
$c_0$ – $c_6$ : the SWT coefficients

In the case of the MODIS sensors  $i$  and  $j$  are bands 31 and 32, at 10.780–11.280  $\mu\text{m}$  and 11.770–12.270  $\mu\text{m}$  respectively.



→ 7th ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE ON LAND REMOTE SENSING

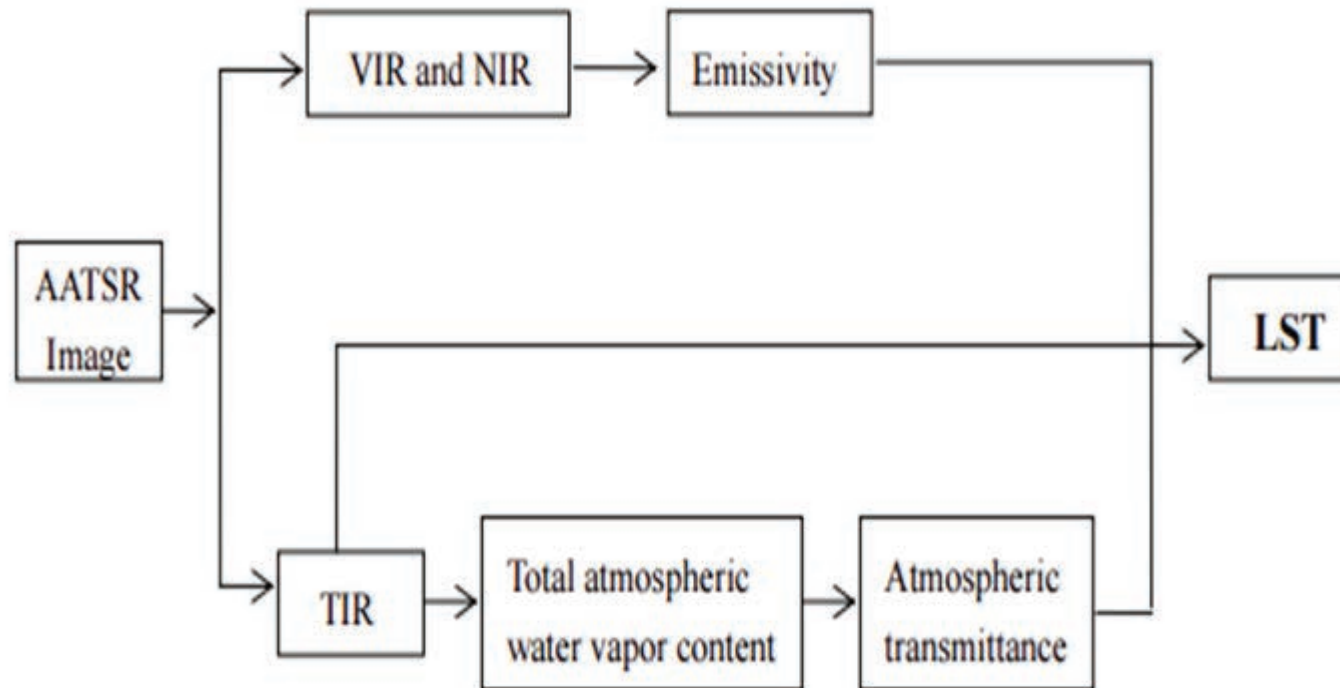
4–9 September 2017 | Szent István University | Gödöllő, Hungary



Source. Benas, N, Chrysoulakis, N., and Cartalis, C., 2016



## Retrieval of Land Surface Temperature from AATSR data



Source: Tangtang Zhang et al., 2008

## DOWNSCALING

One of the techniques to be used in order to improve the spatial resolution of satellite images relates to the use of LSTs or emissivities (PBIM -pixel block intensity modulation, Guo and Moore, 1998; Stathopoulou and Cartalis, 2007):

$$T_{\text{Sentinel3},30} = T_{\text{Sentinel3},1000} * T_{\text{landsat},30}^{27/7/16} / T_{\text{landsat},30 \rightarrow 1000}^{27/7/16}$$

$$T_{\text{Sentinel3},30} = T_{\text{Sentinel3},1000} * \varepsilon_{\text{landsat},30} / \varepsilon_{\text{landsat},30 \rightarrow 1000}$$

$T_{\text{Sentinel3},30}$  Corrected image high spatial resolution

$T_{\text{Sentinel3},1000}$  Initial image of low spatial resolution

$T_{\text{landsat},30}^{27/7/16}$  Initial value of high spatial resolution (LANDSAT)

$T_{\text{landsat},30 \rightarrow 1000}^{27/7/16}$  Mean LST for an area corresponding to the area of Sentinel – 3 (LANDSAT)

$\varepsilon_{\text{landsat},30}$  Emissivity for an image of high spatial resolution (LANDSAT)

$\varepsilon_{\text{landsat},30 \rightarrow 1000}$  Mean emissivity for an area corresponding to the area of Sentinel 3

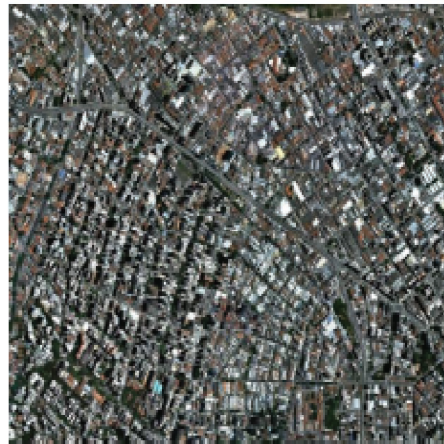
# Part VI: UHI Mitigation

*Source: Santamouris, 2014; Santamouris and Cartalis, 2015*



# UHI mitigation techniques

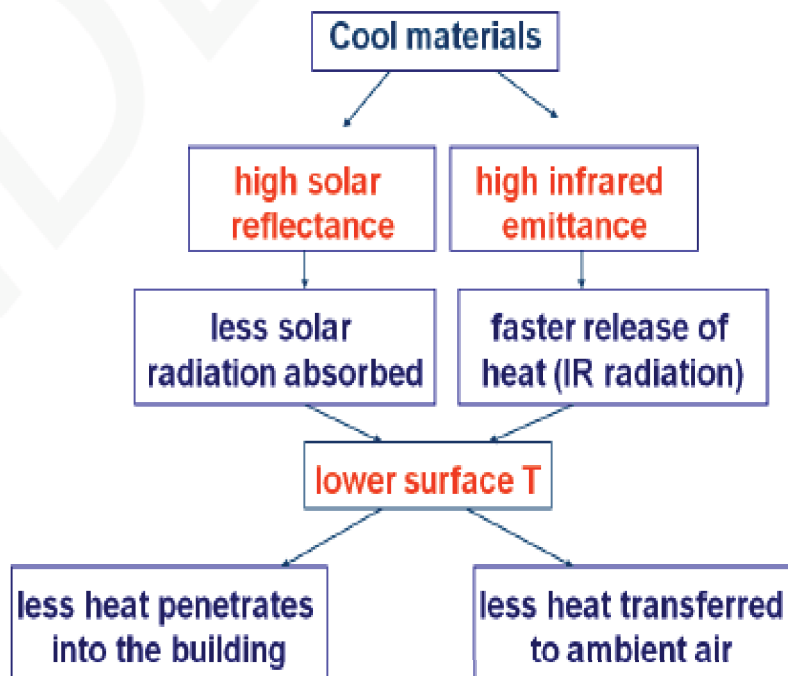
| Methods                              | Applications examples        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Creation of cool surfaces            | Use of appropriate materials |
|                                      | Green areas                  |
|                                      | Water surfaces               |
|                                      | Creation of shading area     |
| Reduction of anthropogenic heat      | Energy conservation measures |
|                                      | Heat release measures        |
| Improvement of the urban environment | City block configuration     |
|                                      | Building configuration       |



► Pavements and roofs comprise over 60% of urban surfaces. Vegetation cover presents a low percentage

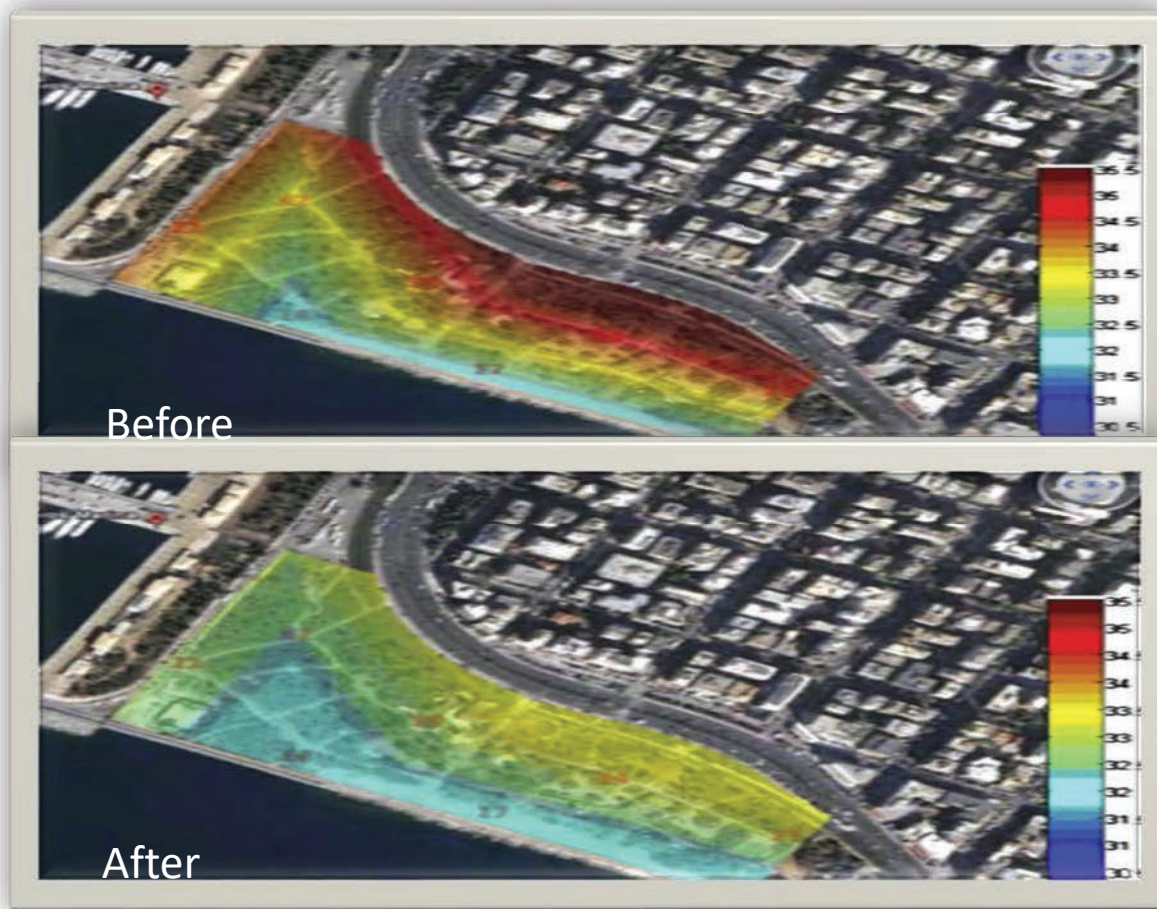


# Cool materials

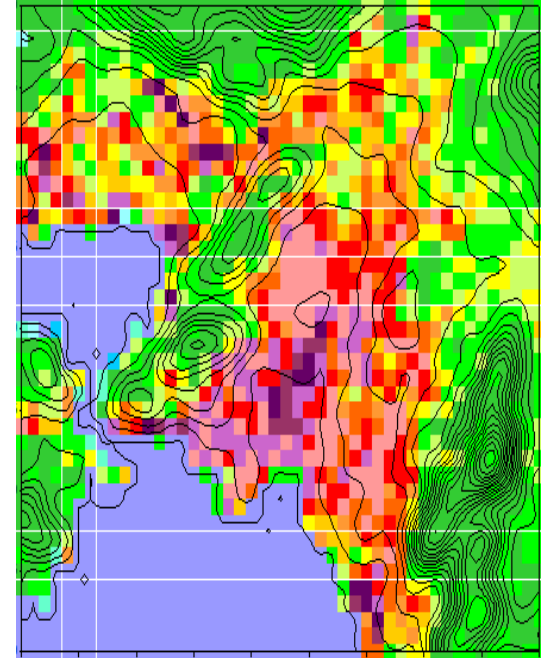
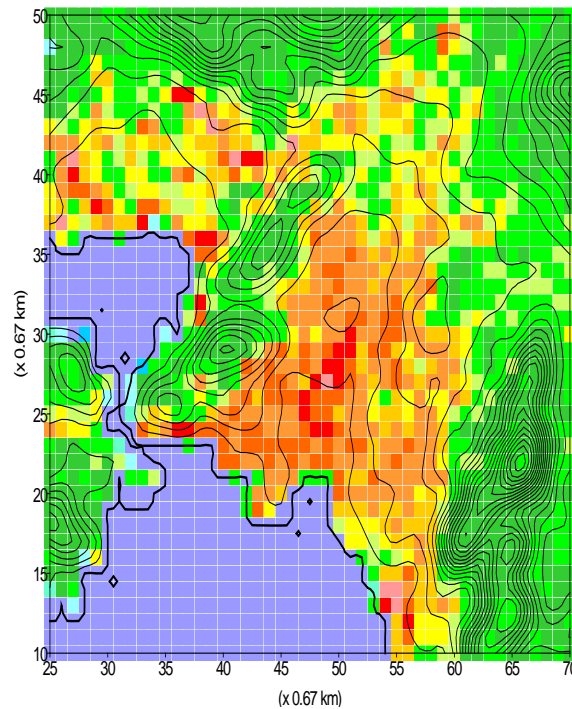
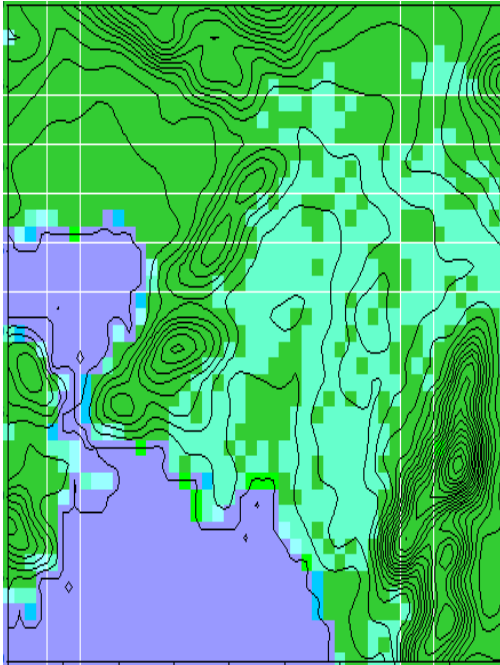




**Example of urban regeneration project: at the top the thermal environment before the project and below after the use of cool materials (Courtesy: M. Santamouris, Laboratory of Building Physics, Univ. of Athens).**







Simulation of roof top temperatures for albedo values: 0.18, 0.63 and 0.85 (left to right).  
Green to red: from higher to lower temperatures