



# Session 1.4

**In the Cool of the Day: The role of urban forests in improving microclimate and reducing the heat island effect**



**Chair: Cynnamon Dobbs**



**World Forum on  
Urban Forests**



# 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

Washington DC, 2023

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## Addressing interactions between landcover and urban heat at local and regional scales



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### Presented by

Peter Ibsen PhD

United States Geological Survey – Climate Research and Development Program

Geoscience and Environmental Change Science Center







## 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

Washington DC, 2023

# Statewide Tree Planting Programs to Combat Urban Heat

### Baltimore's Heat Islands Are a Problem, but New Tree Planting Efforts Could Help



Volunteers and staff with Baltimore Tree Trust planted 10 trees at Mary Ann Winterling Elementary School in Baltimore. BALTIMORE TREE TRUST

### PORTLAND STATE STUDY DEMONSTRATES HOW PLANTS, TREES AND REFLECTIVE MATERIALS CAN REDUCE EXTREME HEAT IN CITY NEIGHBORHOODS

By John Kirkland | July 8, 2019 [Share](#)

### LA needs 90,000 trees to battle extreme heat. Will residents step up to plant them?

by Jaimie Ding



### Tucson launches 'Million Trees' tree-planting effort

Mayor Regina Romero says new trees will help cool the fast-warming city.

### Trees battle Houston's brutal heat, but many poorer areas are left unshaded

FEATURES: Jul. 16, 2021

DEMOGRAPHICS | HEALTH | HOUSING

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ENVIRONMENT

### Proposal would create a \$30 million fund to plant trees in areas suffering from heat

Brandon Loomis  
Arizona Republic

Published 6:15 a.m. MT April 21, 2022

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16 Photos

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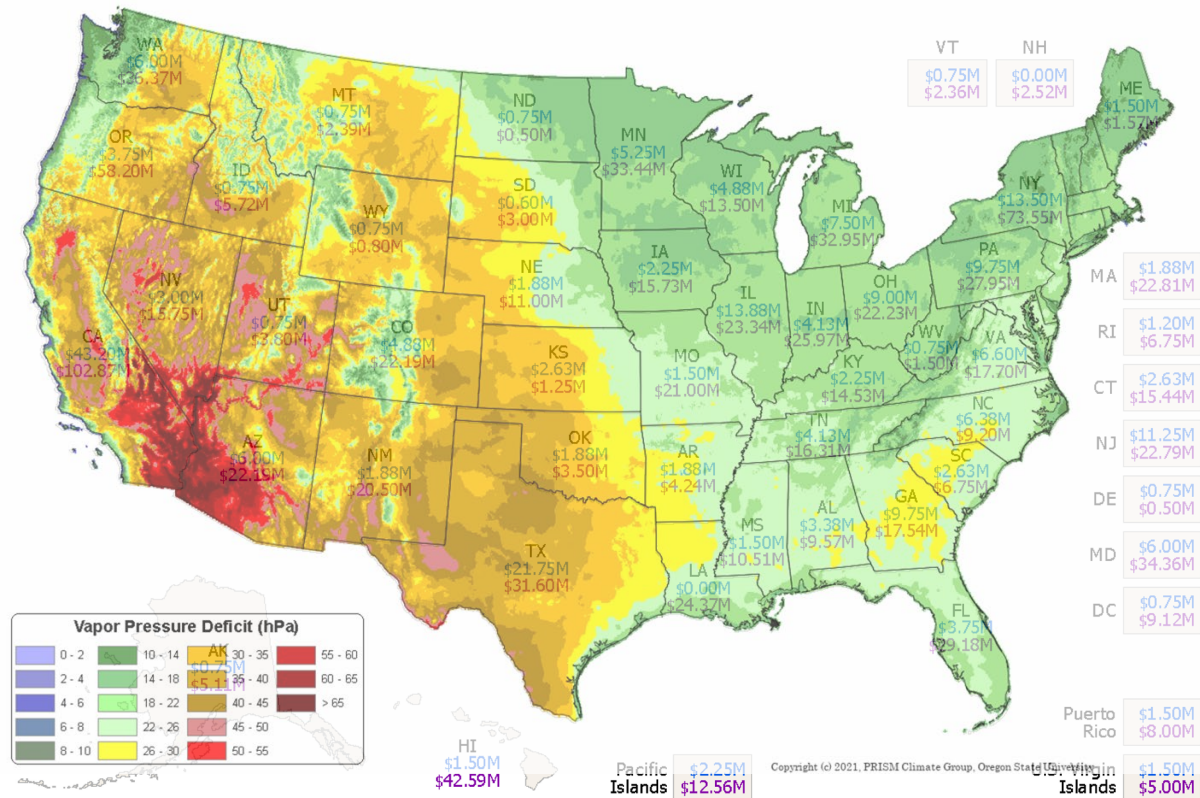


## URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANTS

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

The USDA Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program awarded more than \$1 billion to fund projects that support urban communities through equitable access to trees and the benefits they provide. The funding was made possible by the Inflation Reduction Act.

## Urban and Community Forestry FY 2023 IRA Grant Allocations in Millions of Dollars

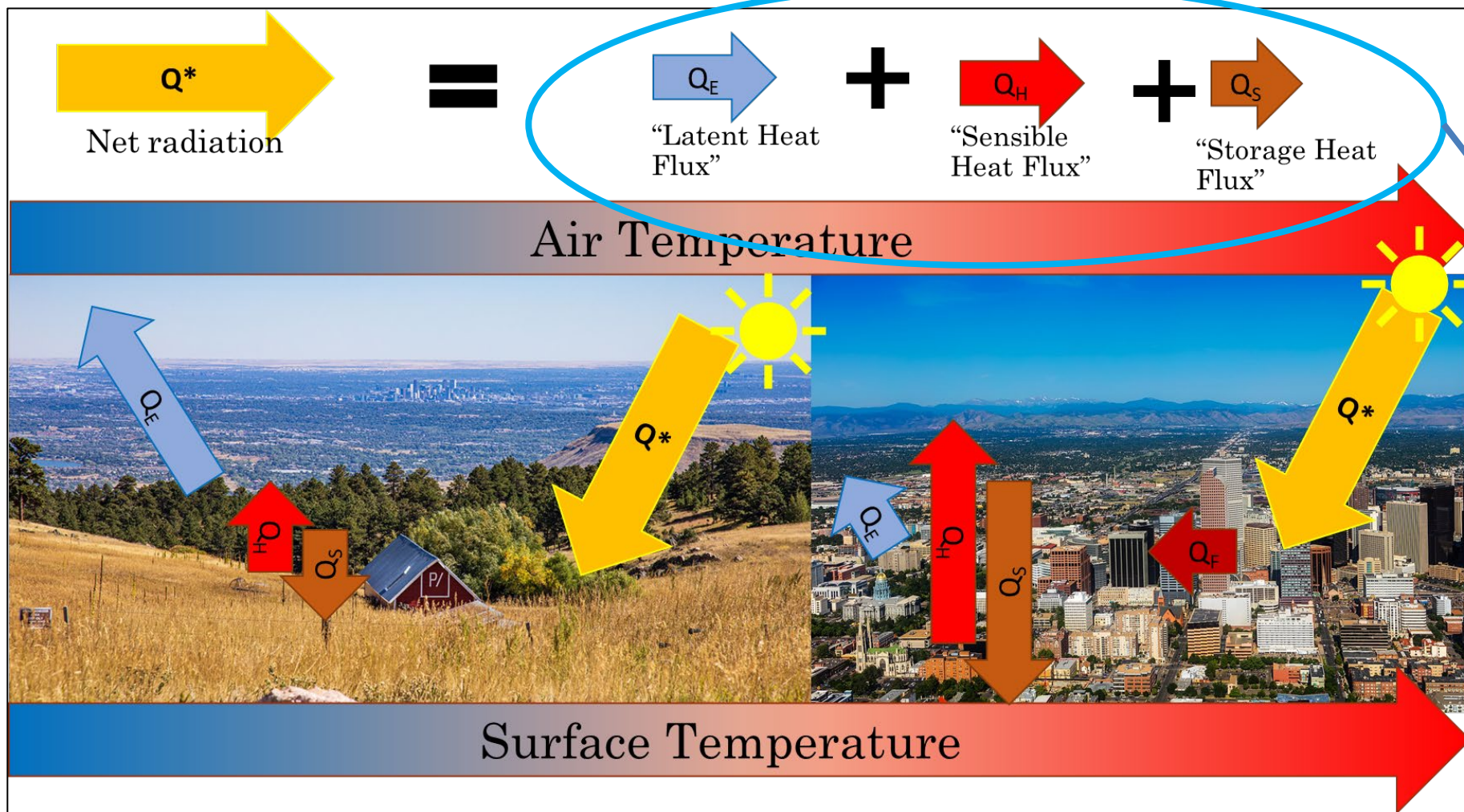


FY 2023 IRA State Allocation - \$250 Million Total  
FY 2023 IRA Notice of Funding Opportunity Grants - \$1.13 Billion Total





# Land Cover and Heat Mitigation Can Be Dependent of Regional Climate



Climate underlies the biophysical mechanisms relating urban vegetation to cooling





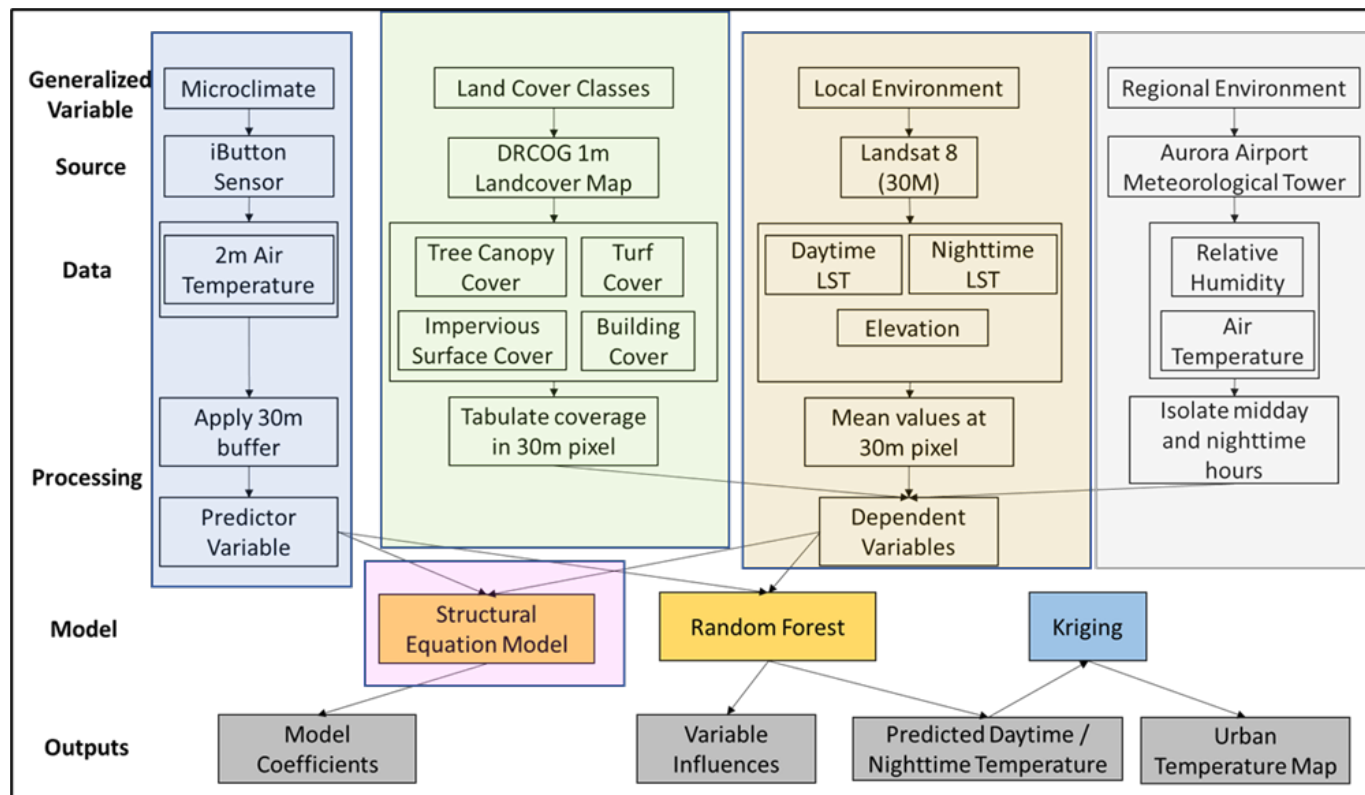
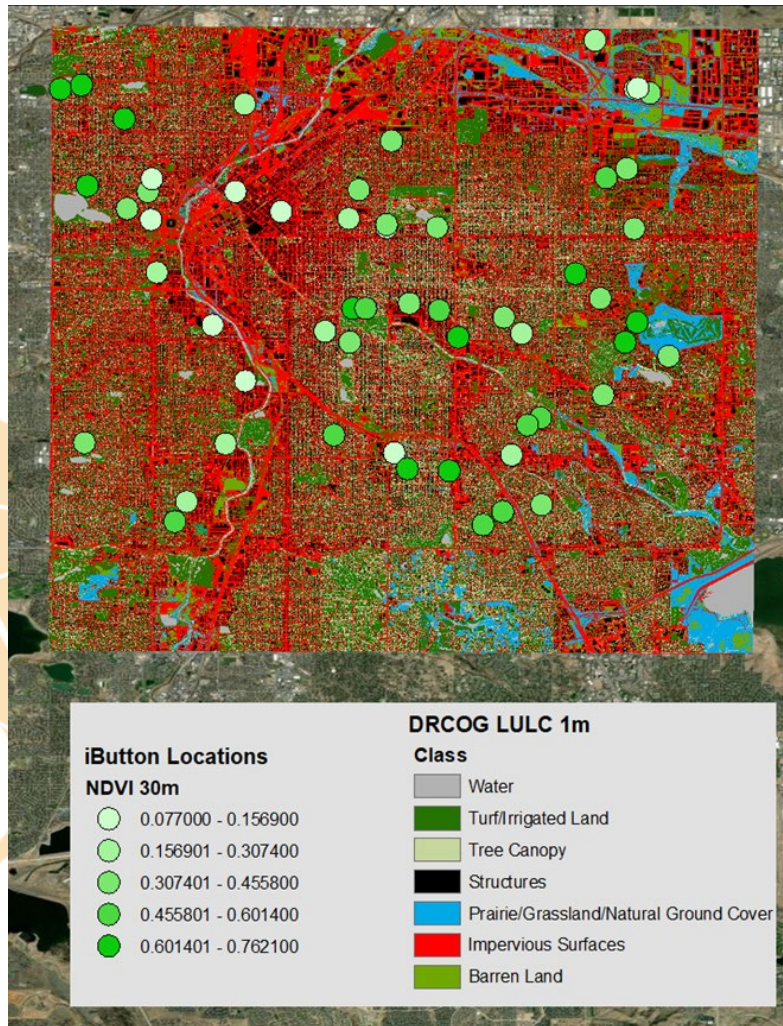
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study – Research Questions

1. How do highly heterogenous land covers influence daytime and nighttime urban temperatures?
2. Does the influence of urban land cover on urban heat vary in different regional climates?
3. Does the relative influence of urban land cover on air temperature vary during heat waves?
4. How does urban land covers' heat mitigating properties affect urban residents?





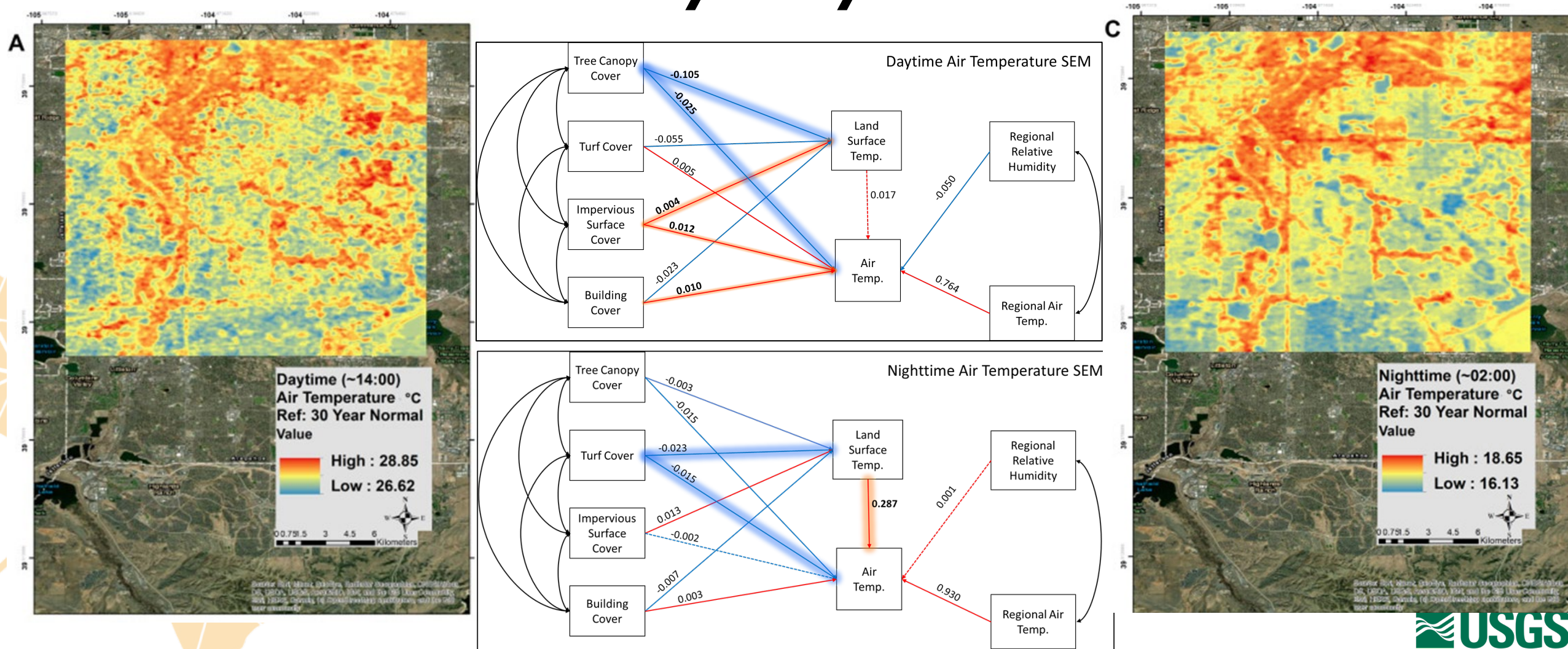
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study - Citywide Scale







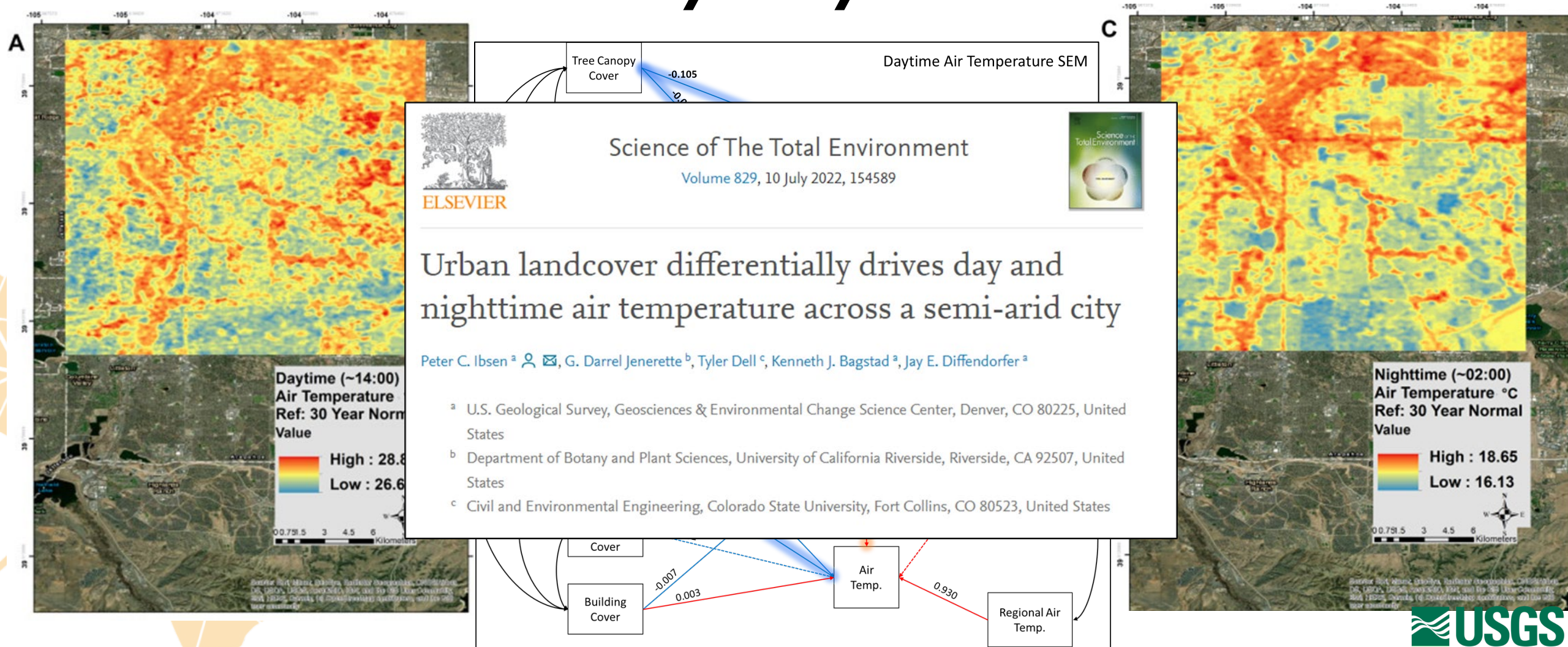
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study - Citywide Scale







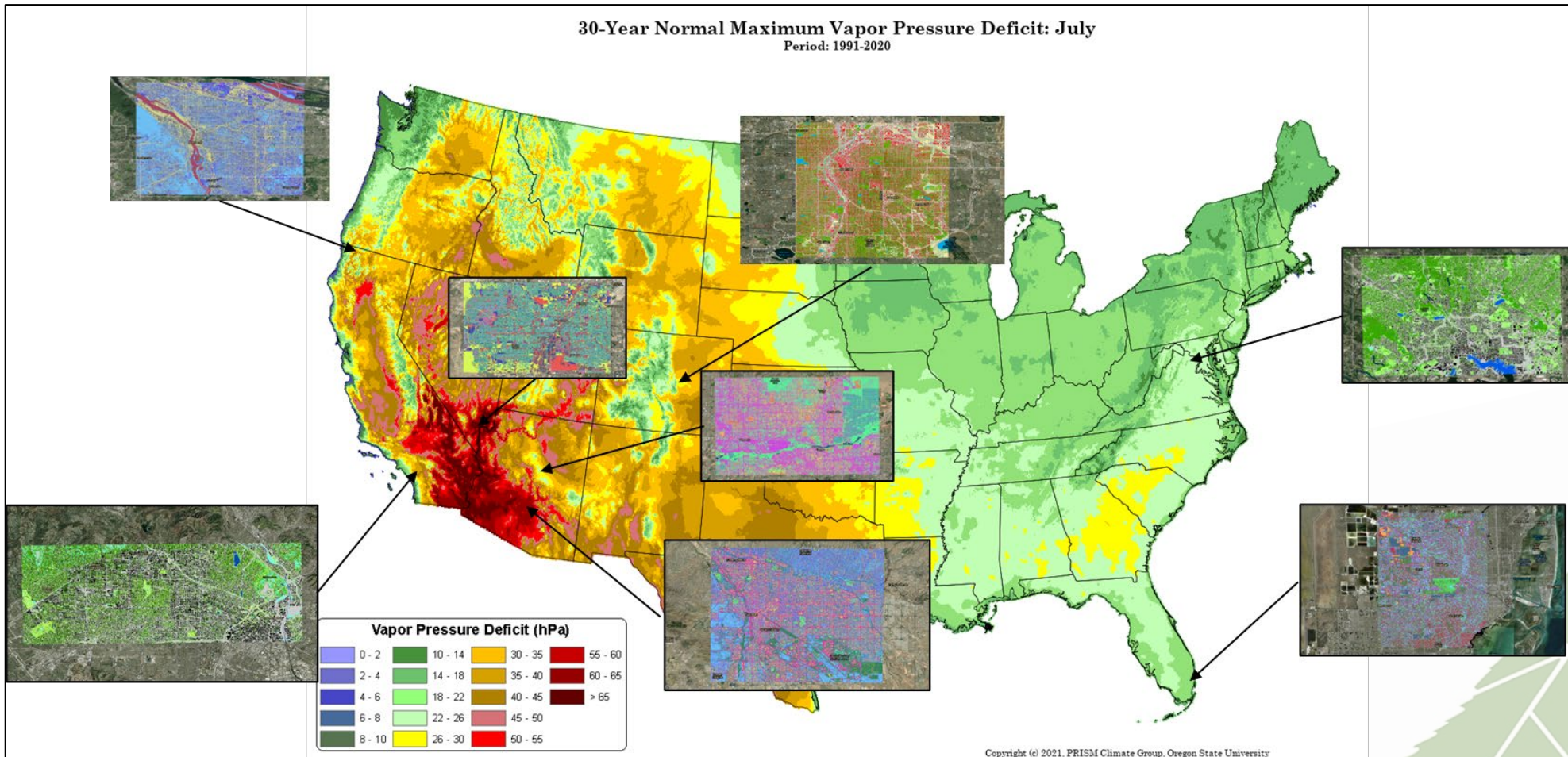
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study – Citywide Scale







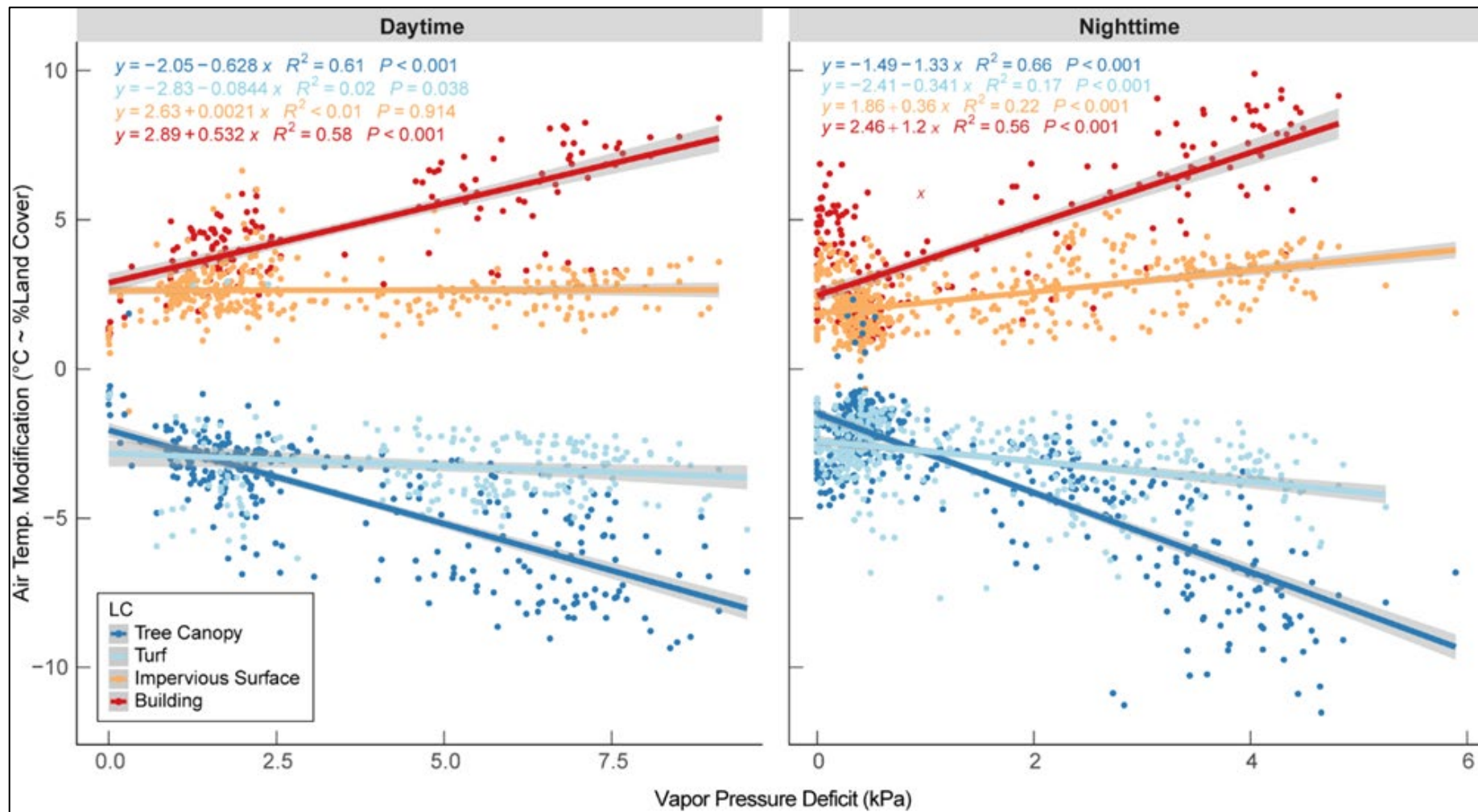
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study – Nationwide Scale







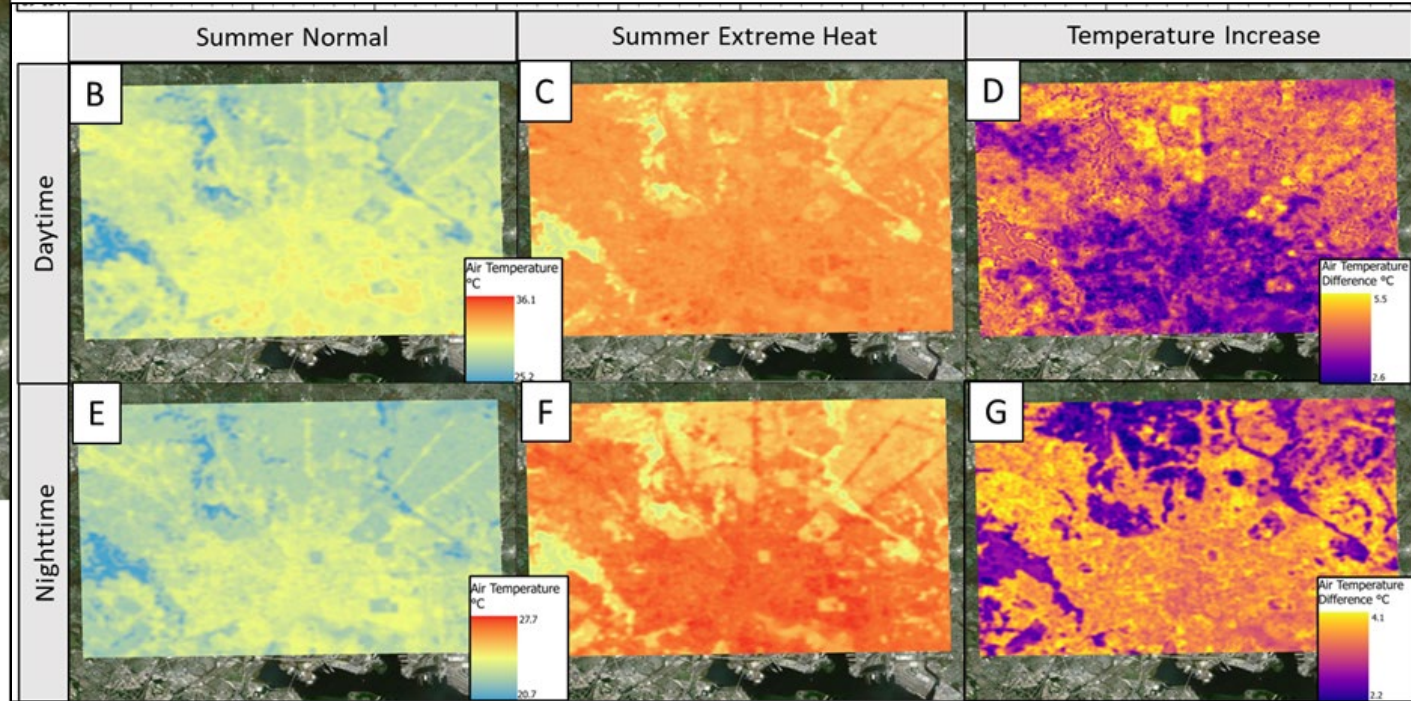
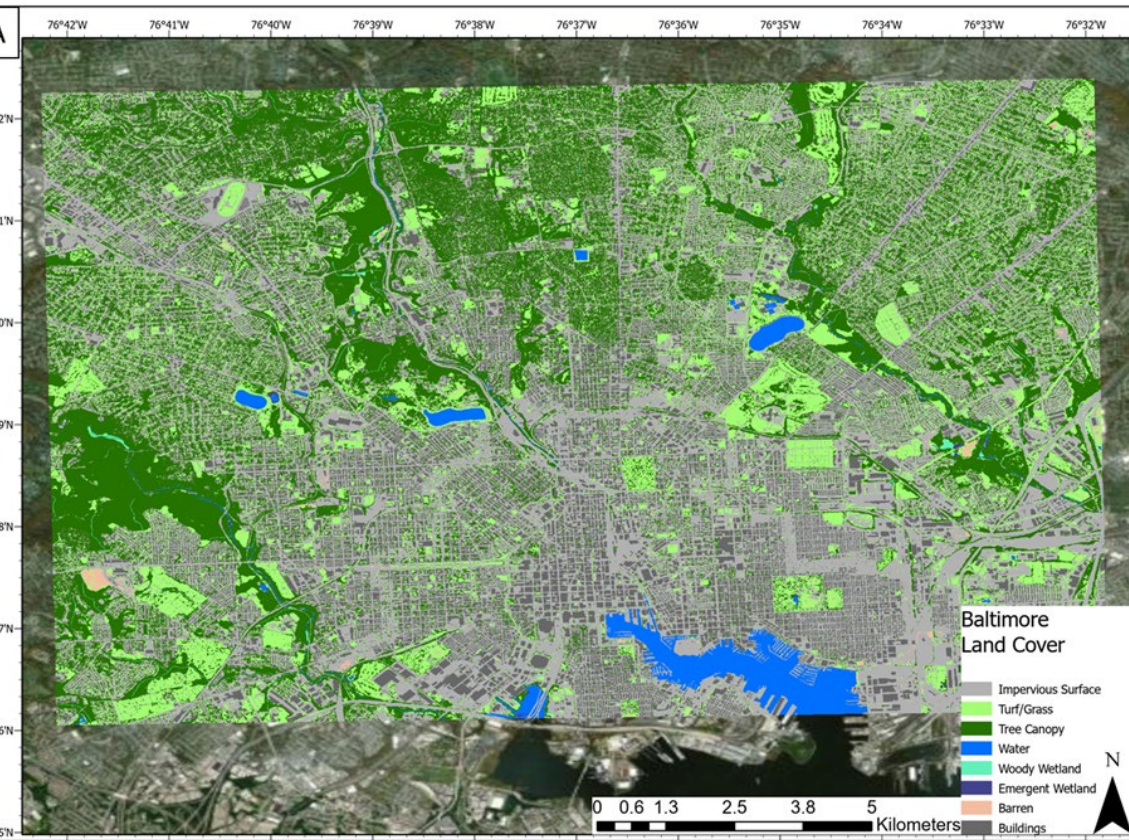
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study – Nationwide Scale







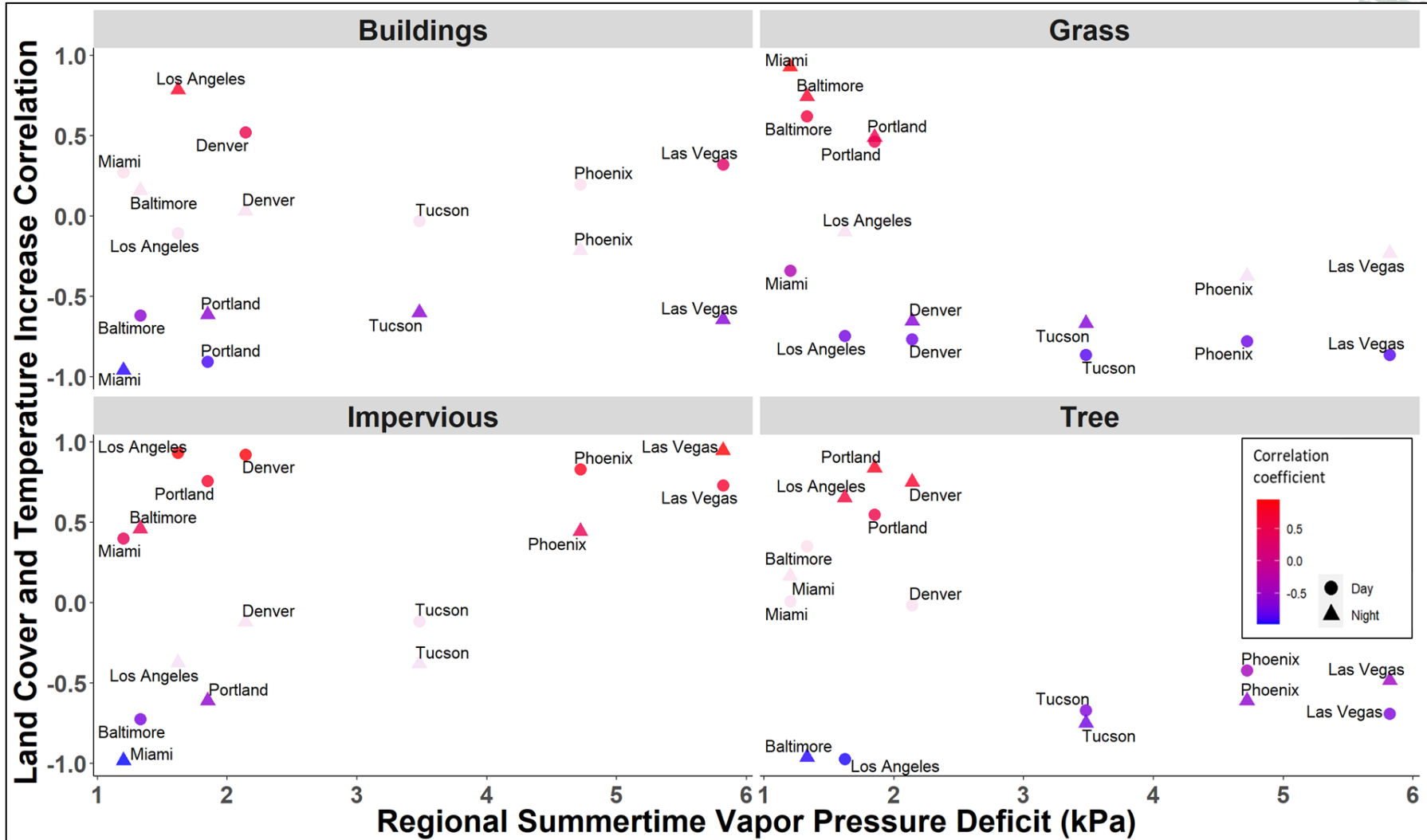
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study - Nationwide Scale







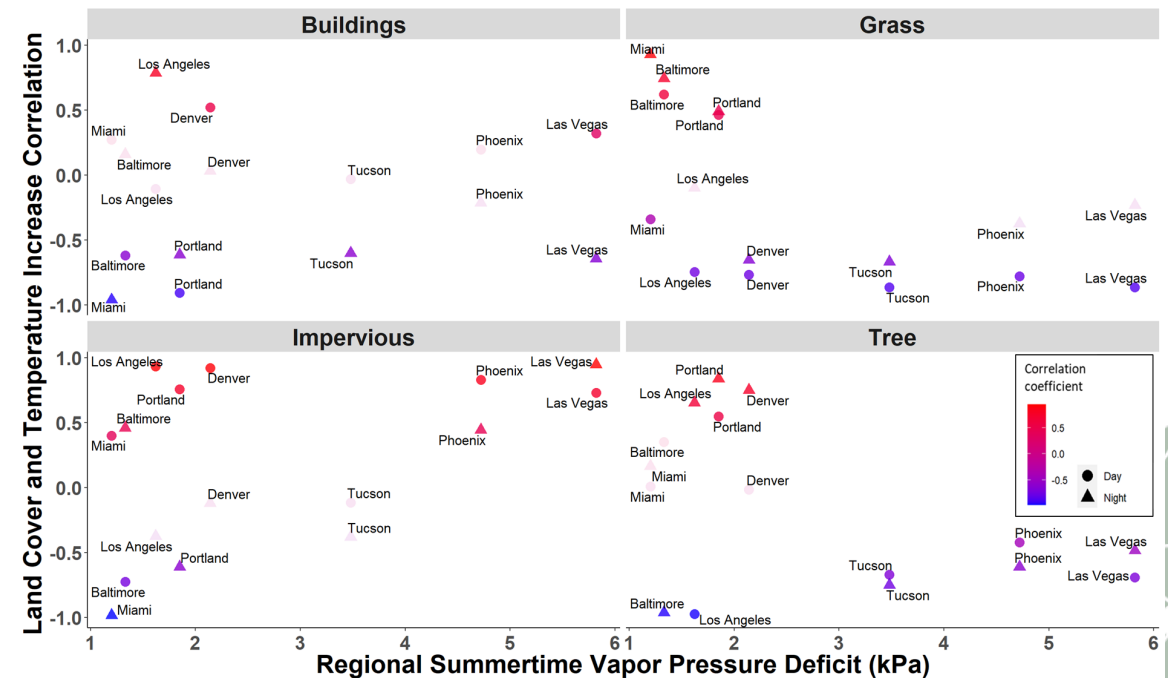
# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study – Nationwide Scale



# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study – City & Nationwide Scale

## Main Takeaways

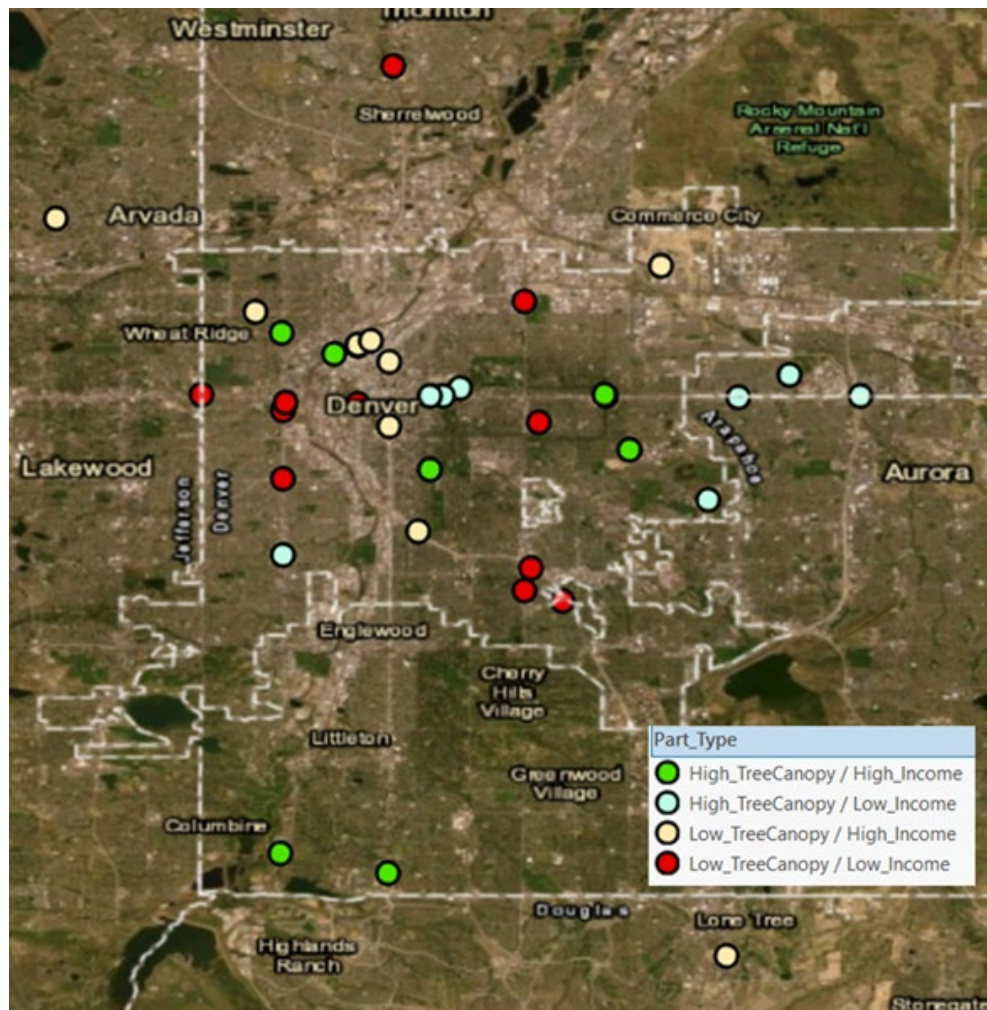
- Vegetation-derived cooling ecosystem services have a significant interaction with regional climate
- Hotter/Drier cities experience greater vegetation-derived cooling benefits – Primarily driven by tree canopy
- Buildings' effect on urban warming also scales with regional heat/aridity
- During heatwaves, vegetation in arid cities consistently increases cooling potential, while land use in more humid cities responds variably to heat waves, which can inform city-specific heat mitigation planning



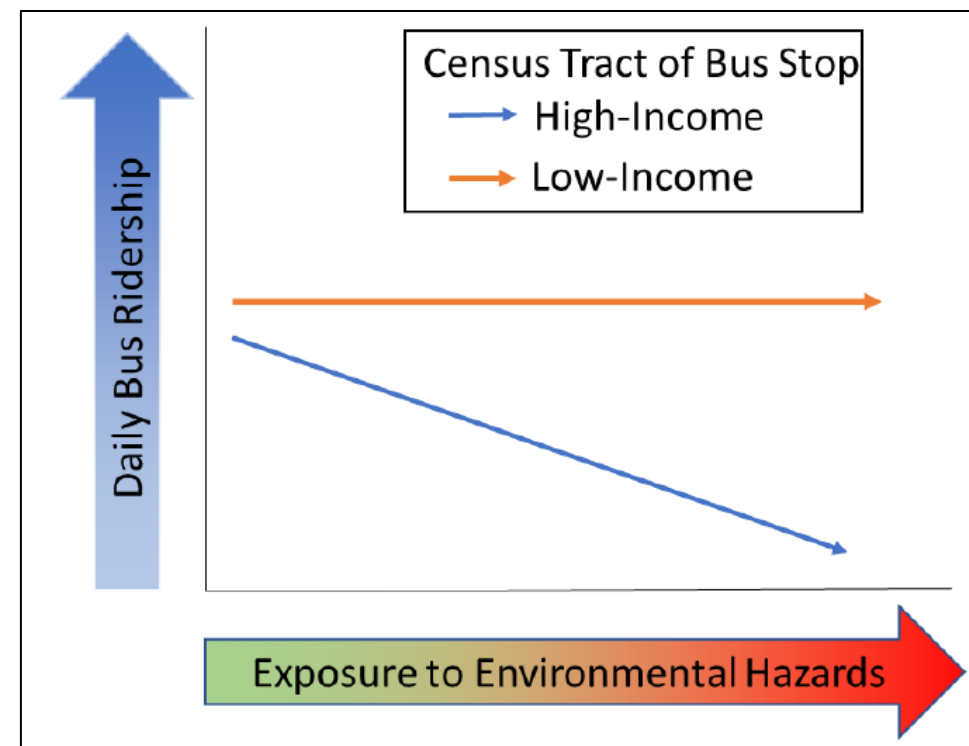
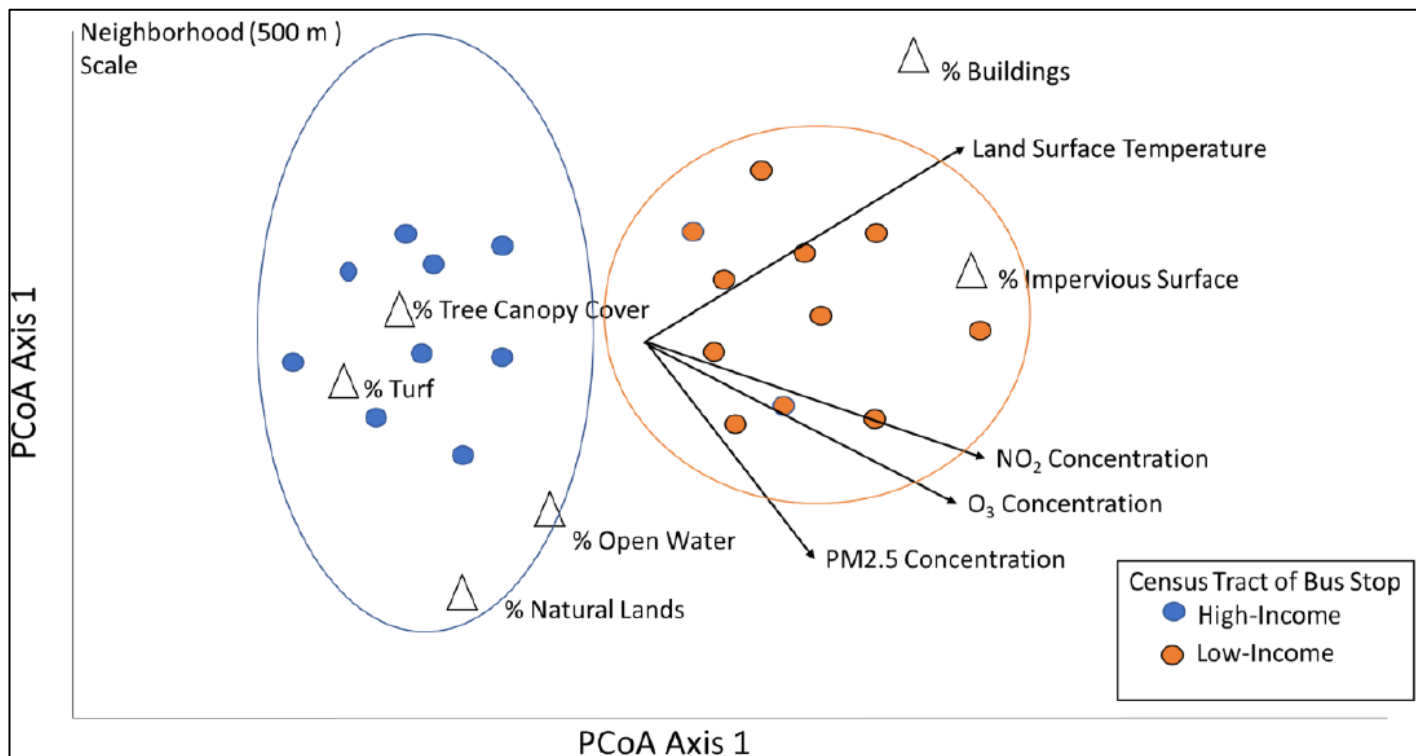




# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study – Local Scale



# USGS Climate Research and Development Program Urban Heat Study - Local Scale



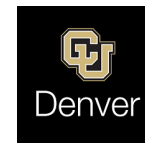




# Thank you

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Food and Agriculture  
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# **2nd** **World** **Forum on** **Urban** **Forests**

**2023**



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Greener & Cooler.  
Earth observation and AI to check the  
performance of Urban Forest in  
contrasting heat islands

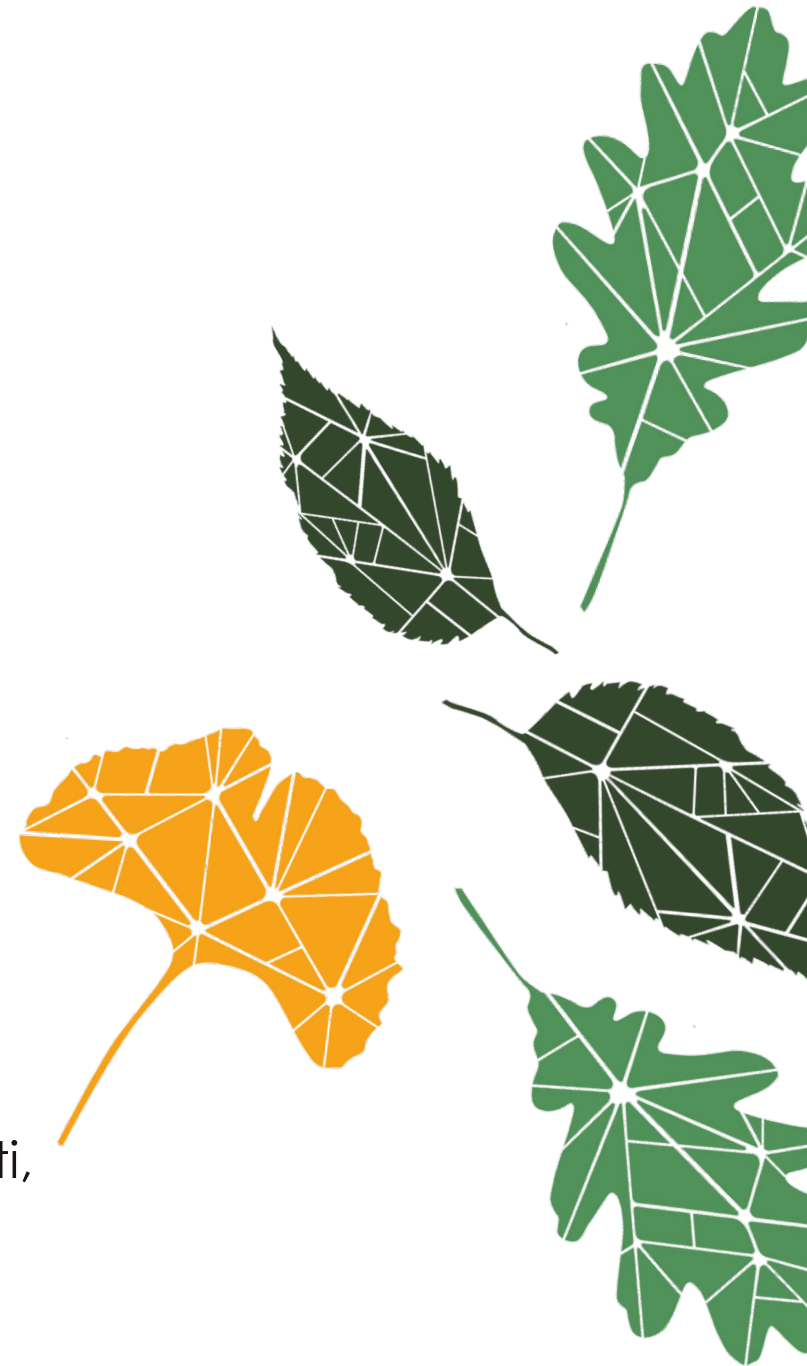


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## Presented by

Fabio Salbitano, Mondanelli, L., Francini, S.,  
Cocoza, C., Chirici, G., Clementini, C., Marchetti,  
M., Manaresi, M., Speak, A.F.

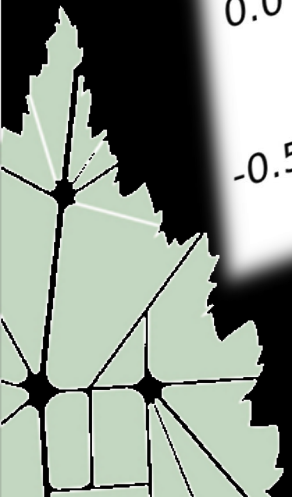
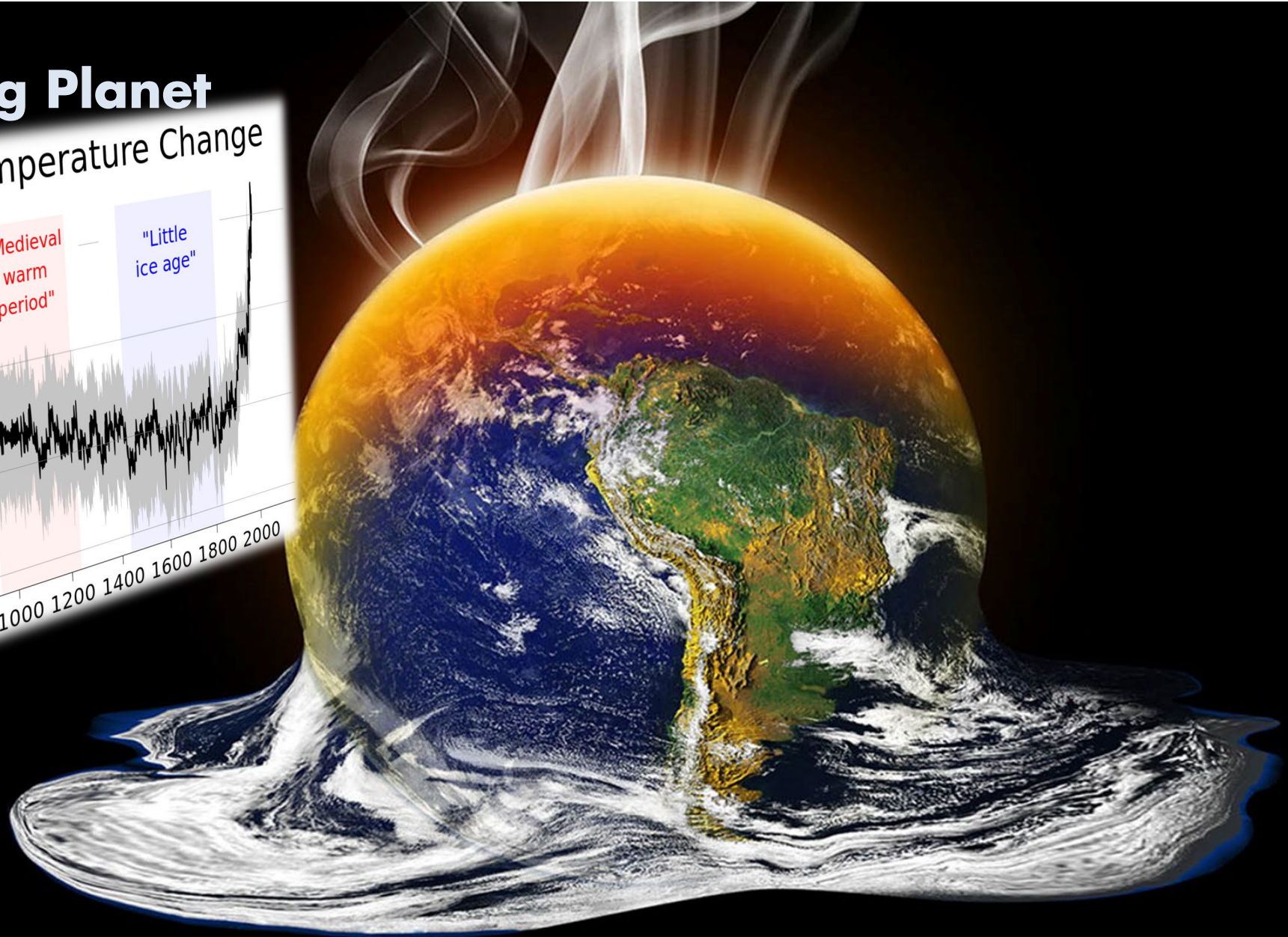
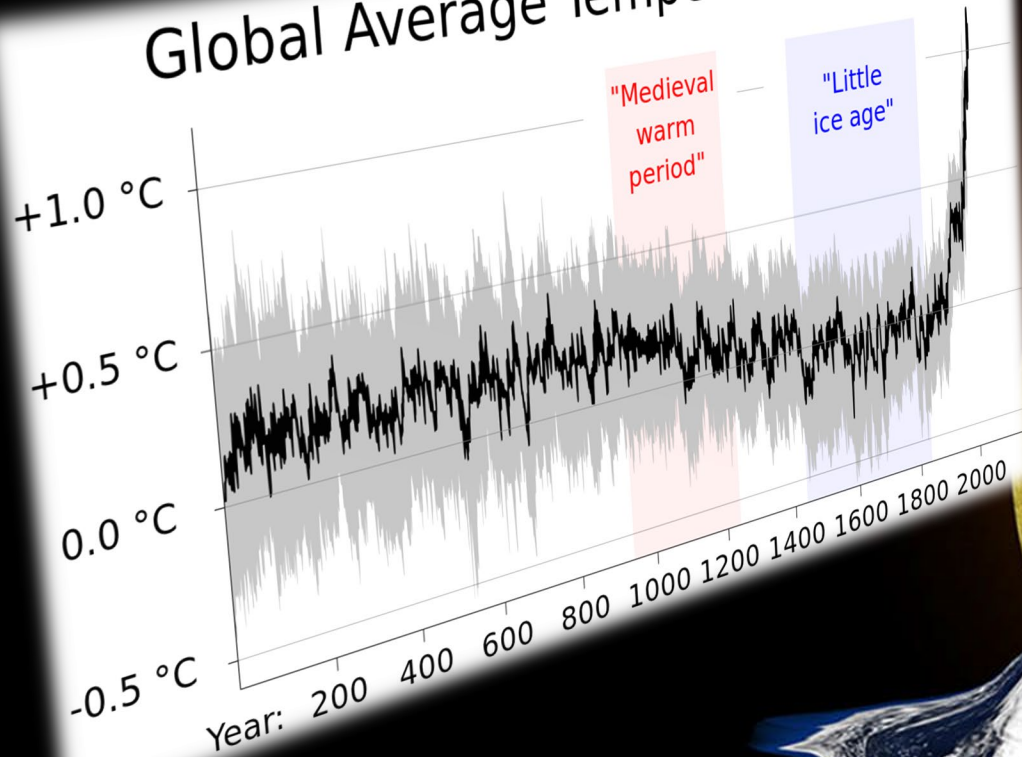
October 18, 2023





# Living in a boiling Planet

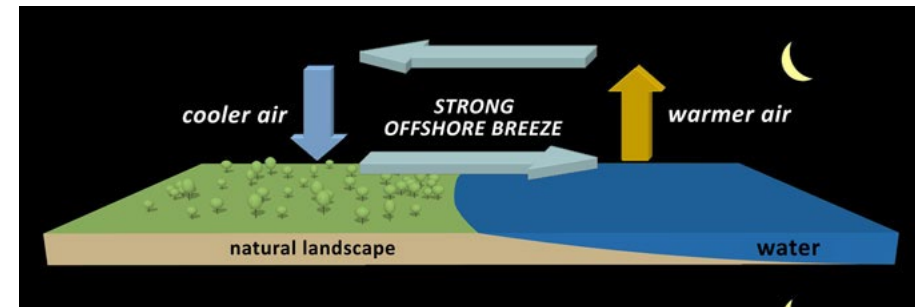
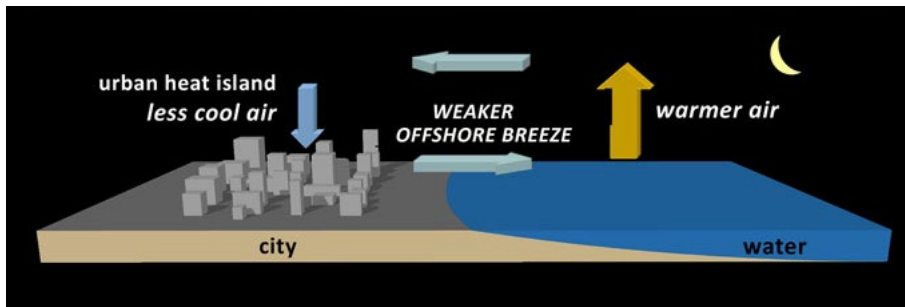
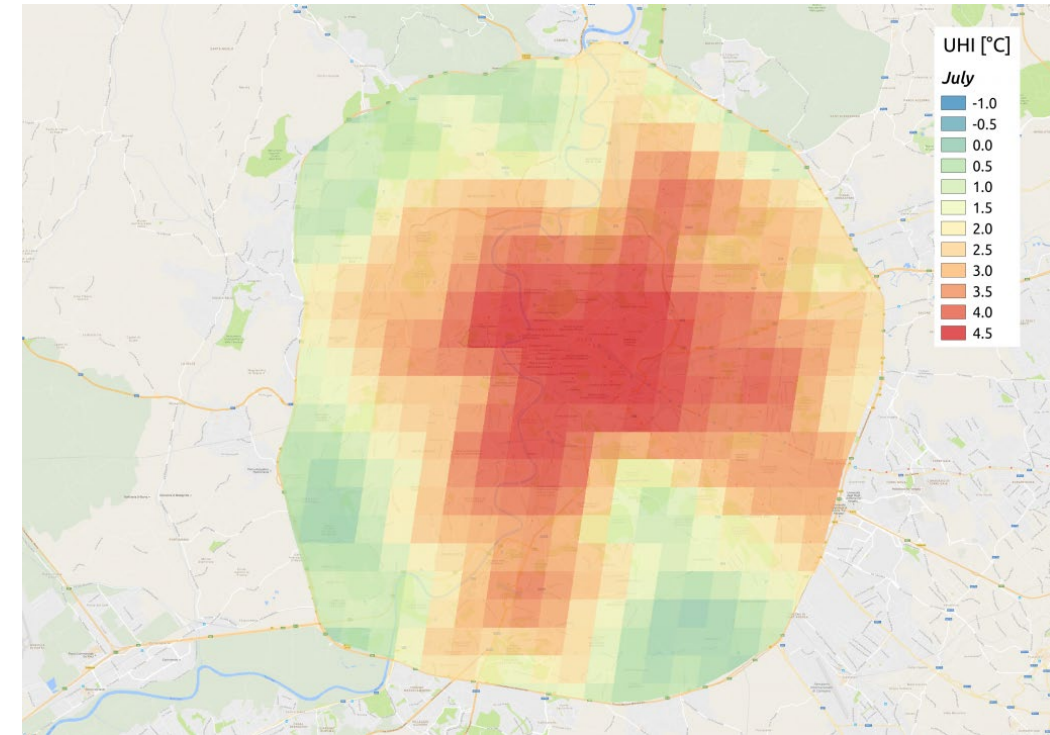
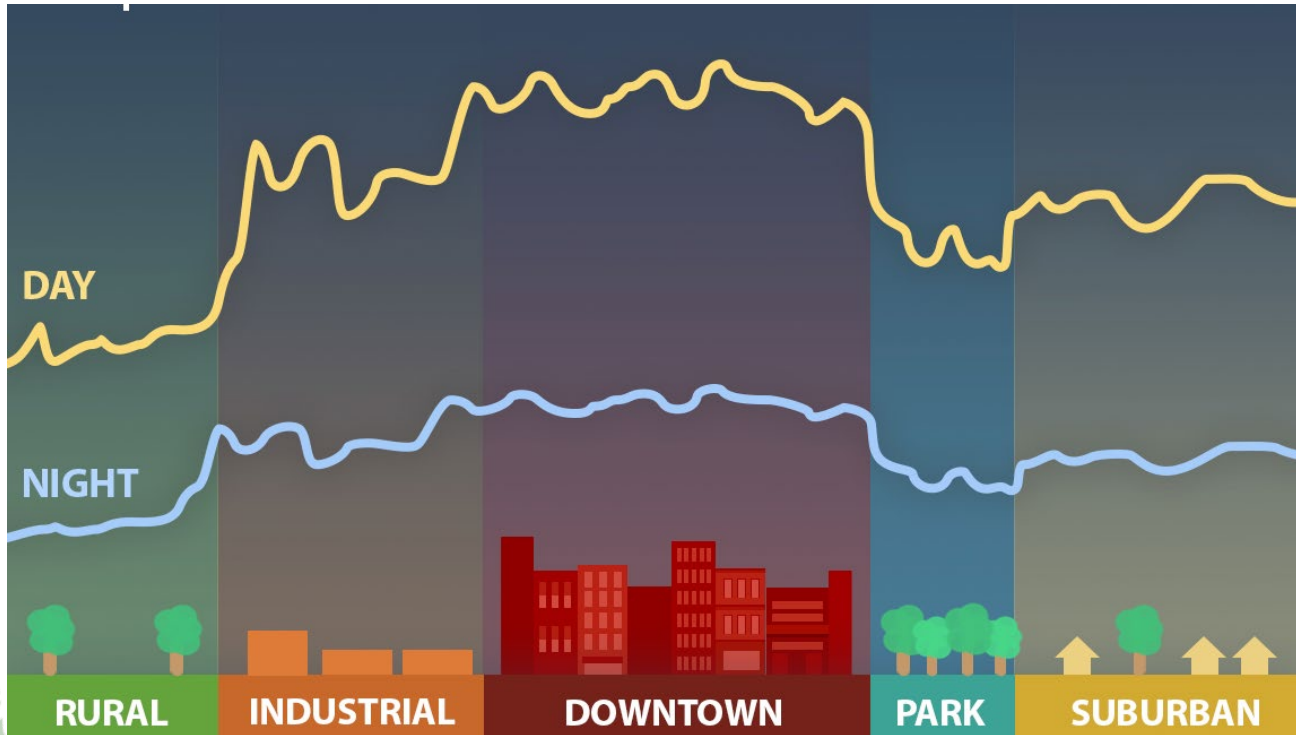
Global Average Temperature Change





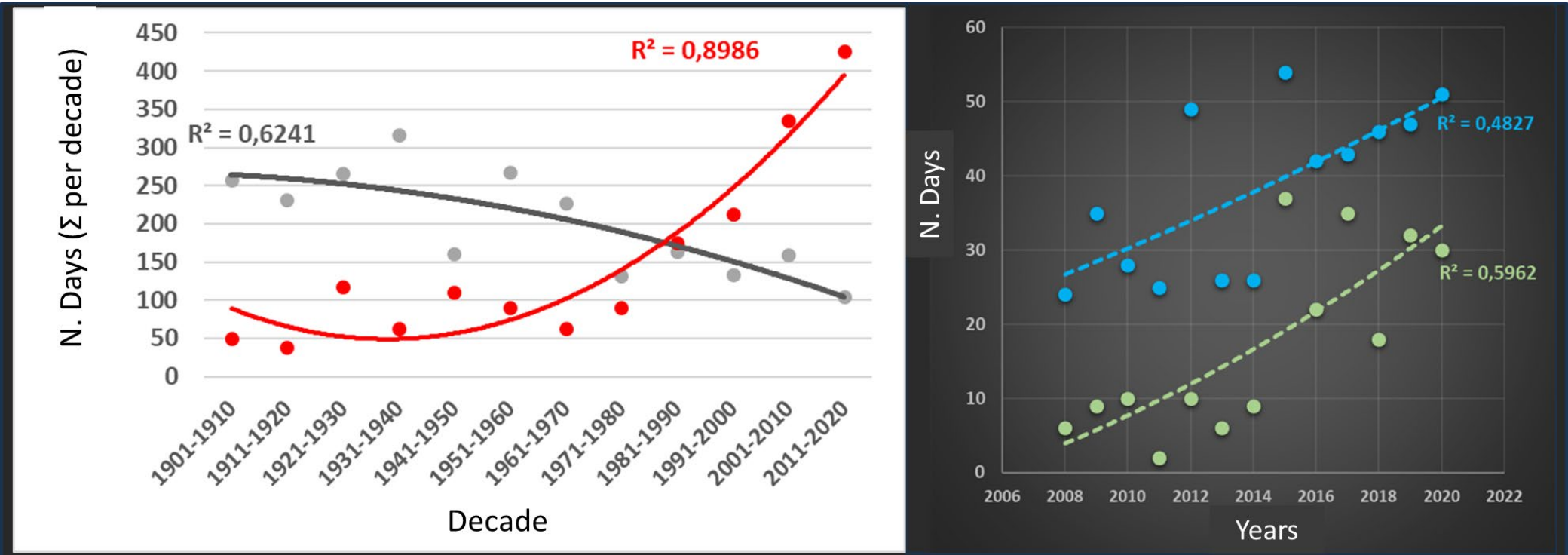


# The Urban Heat Island





# Climate change & Temperature



● N. Days per decade **temperature > 34°C**

● N. Days per decade **temperature < 0°C**

● Tropical nights (**t min > 21°C**) in center of Florence

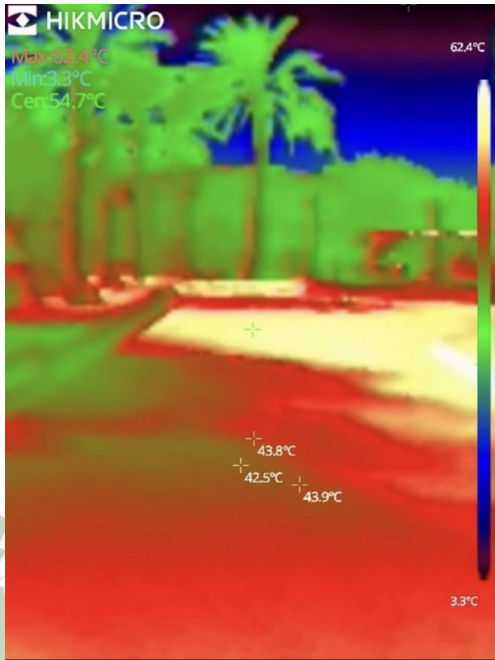
● Tropical nights (**t min > 21°C**) hills surrounding Florence





# Air temperature and urban heat islands

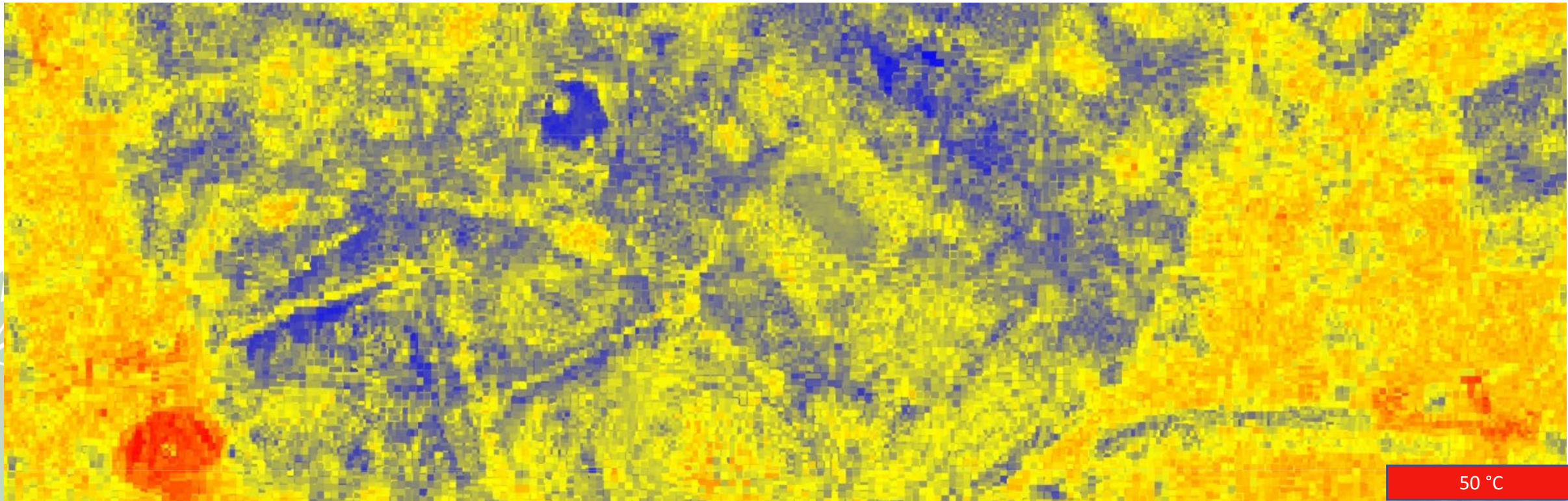
**Quantified by in situ measurements: a homogeneously distributed network of sensors and can be time-consuming and expensive.**







# Remote sensing data is known to be a relevant source of information for large-scale monitoring of Land Surface Temperature (LST)



**Predicted temperature. Average June-August 2022**

50 °C

42.5 °C

35 °C



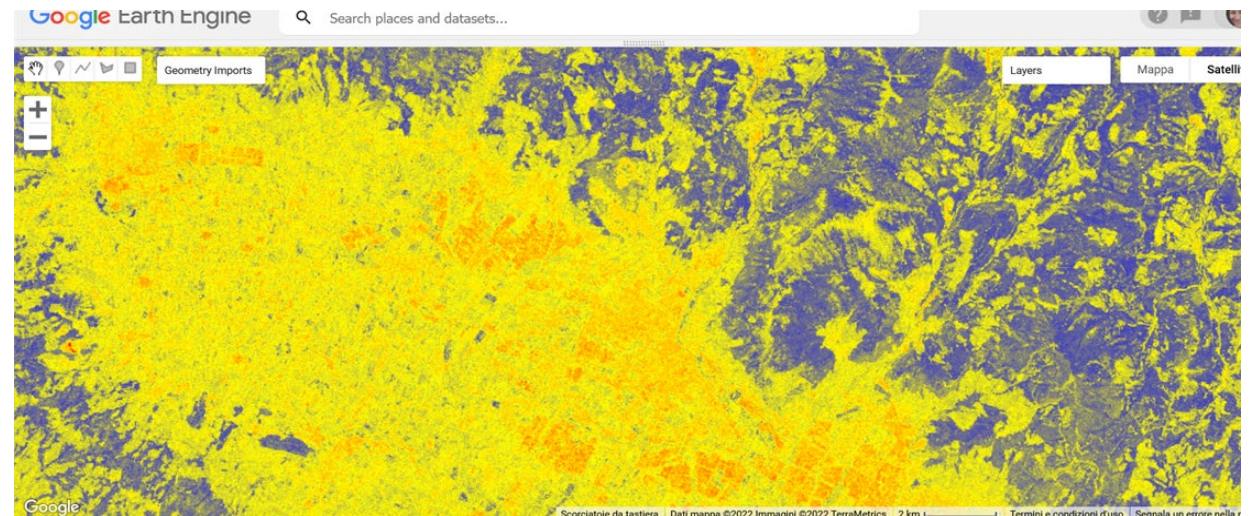
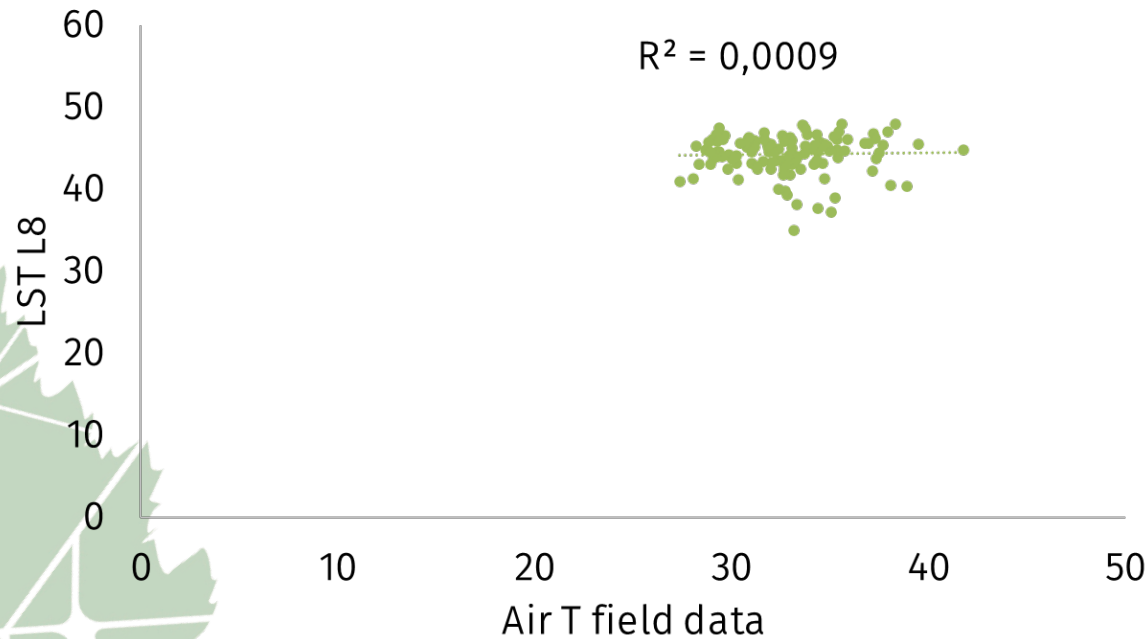


# **Assessing LST in the urban context is essential for understanding the capability of urban forests and trees in mitigating climate and avoiding urban heat islands, and so improving human thermal comfort**

- ✦ Landsat provides LST data at 30 meters, but LST urban monitoring requires data at a finer resolution.**
- ✦ Urban forests are often characterized by very small patches that are challenging to analyze using 30-meter resolution data.**
- ✦ Little knowledge was developed in up-scaling the LST products by using Sentinel-2 data.**
- ✦ Combining MODIS and Landsat LST data, studies combining MODIS LST and Sentinel-2 data, and studies combining Sentinel-3 LST and Sentinel-2 data.**
- ✦ Almost any study focuses on upscaling Landsat LST data by using Sentinel-2 data.**



# What is the level of accuracy and admissibility of satellite remote sensing applications to understand the multiscalarity of thermal comfort in urban environments?







**A dataset of air temperatures (Wet and Dry Bulb Temperature, and Globe Thermometer temperature) measured on-field during the summer of 2020**

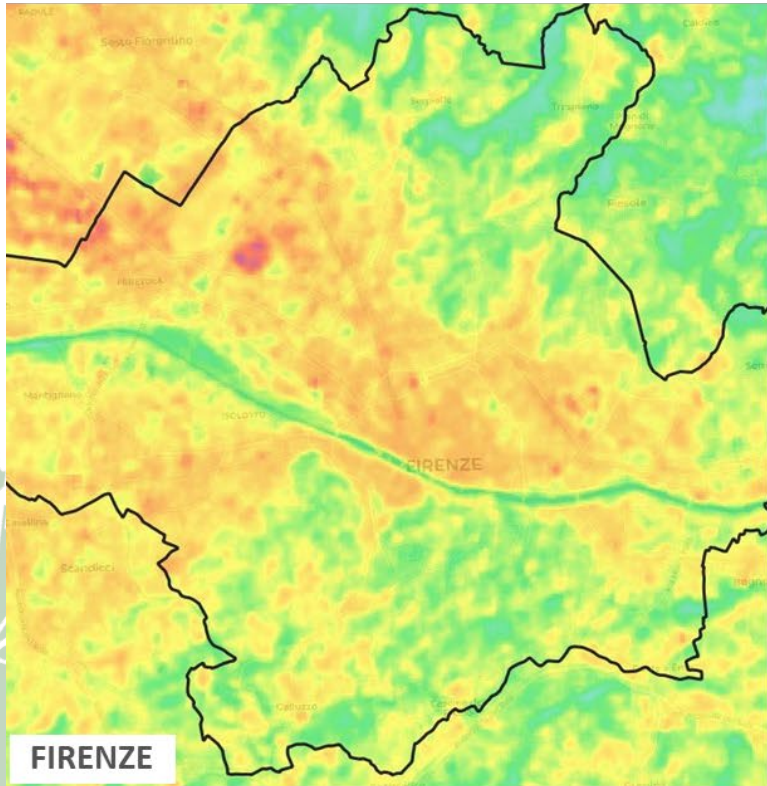
**A model to predict LST as acquired by the Landsat sensor (30-resolution) using random forests and the four Sentinel-2 bands at 10-meters resolution, blue, green, red, and nir.**



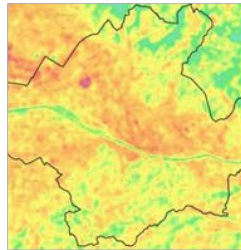


# 4 yrs. series of Temperature using combined Sentinel 2 data

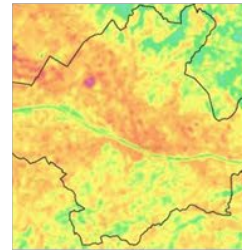
2013-2016



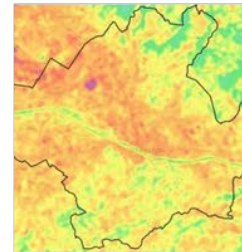
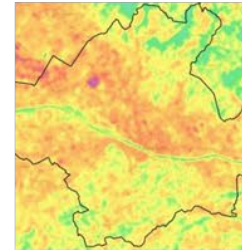
2014-2017



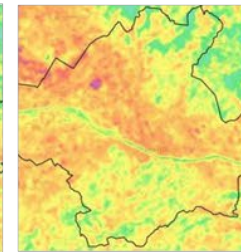
2015-2018



2016-2019

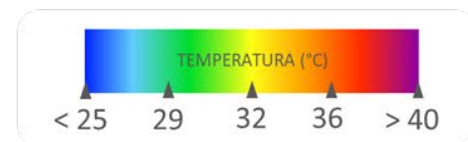
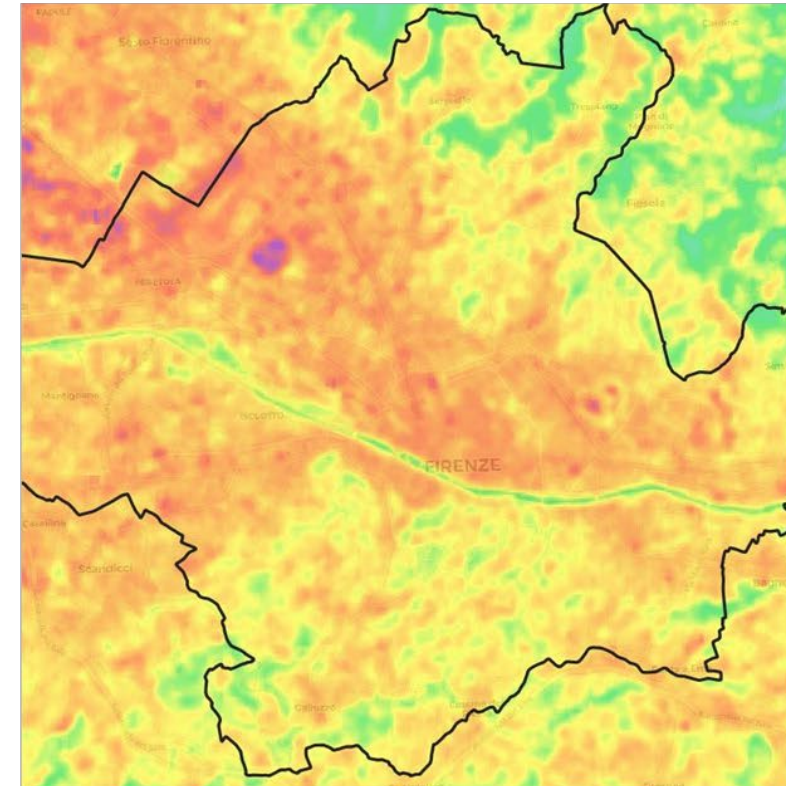


2017-2020



2018-2021

2019-2022



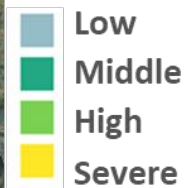
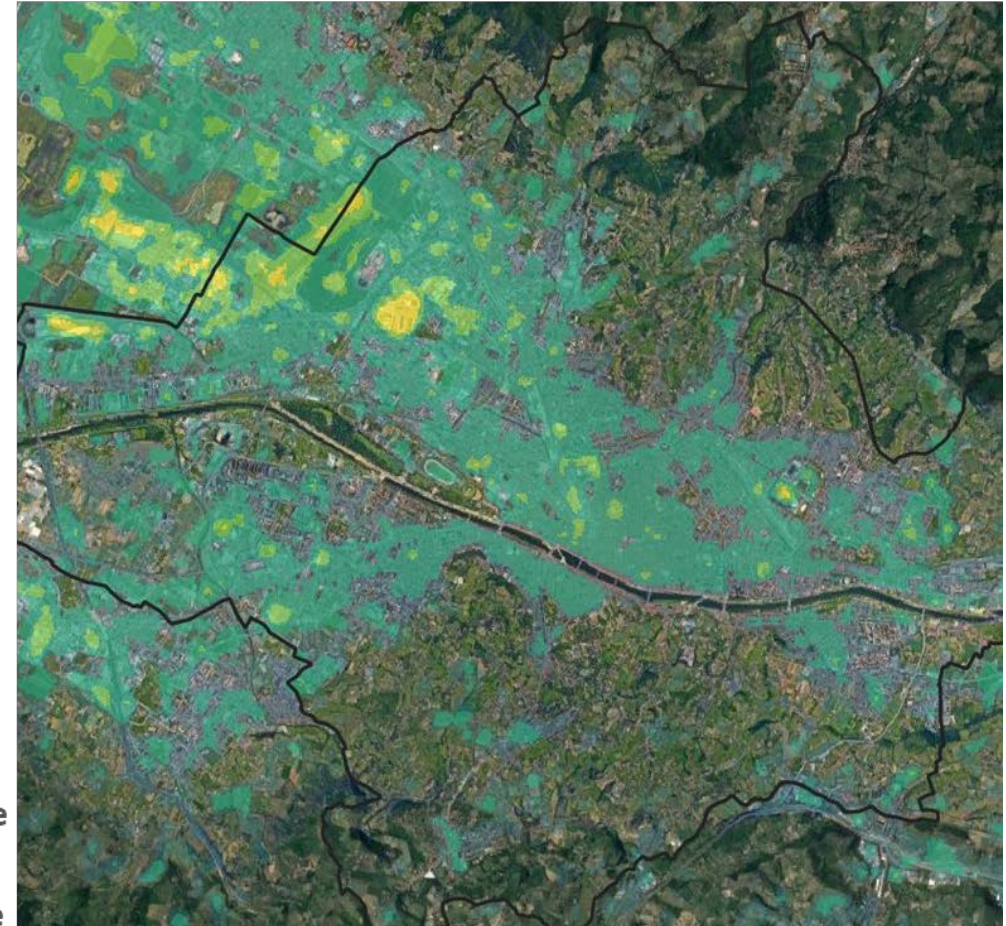
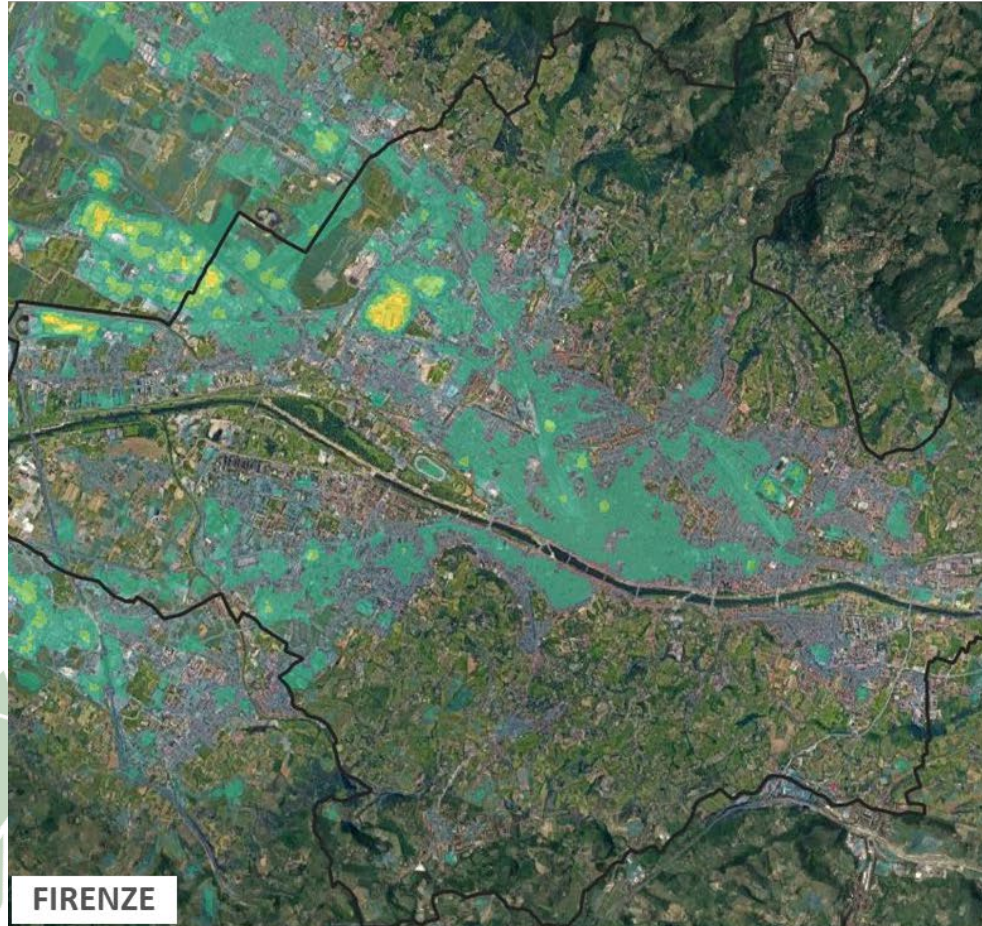




# Surface urban heat island

2013-2016

2019-2022

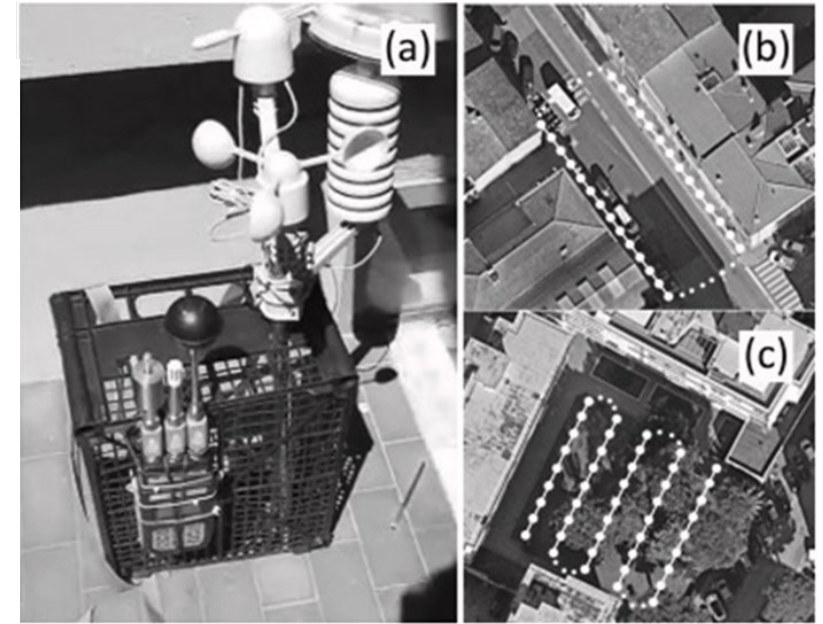
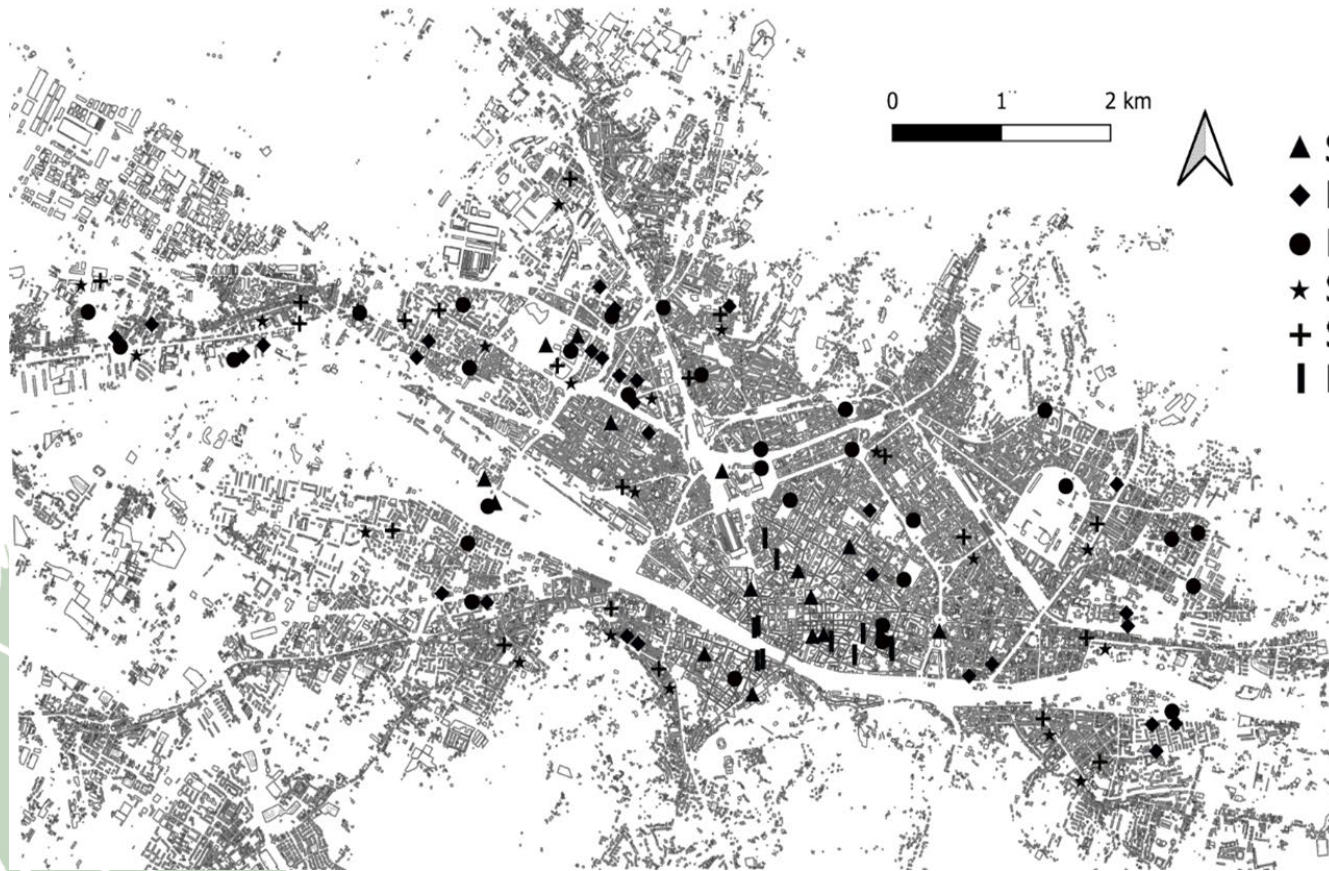


FIRENZE



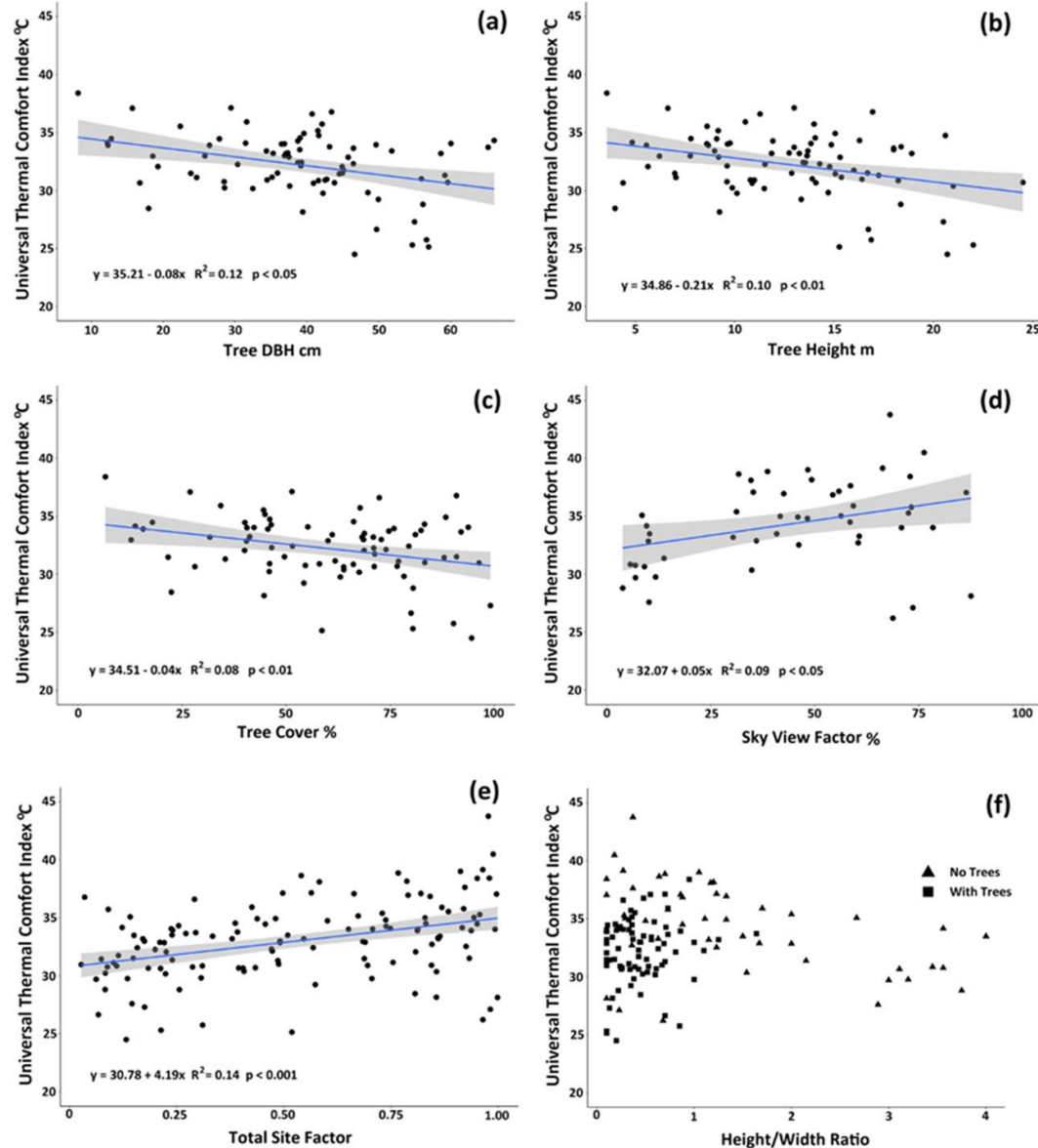


# The micrometeorological and thermal comfort mobile study in Florence



a) Mobile meteorological monitoring station for measuring wet bulb, dry bulb and globe temperature alongside humidity and wind speed, and schematic diagrams of the walking paths taken in b) streets and c) gardens, parks and piazzas. Speak, A. F., & Salbitano, F. (2022). Summer thermal comfort of pedestrians in diverse urban settings: A mobile study. *Building and Environment*, 208, 108600.

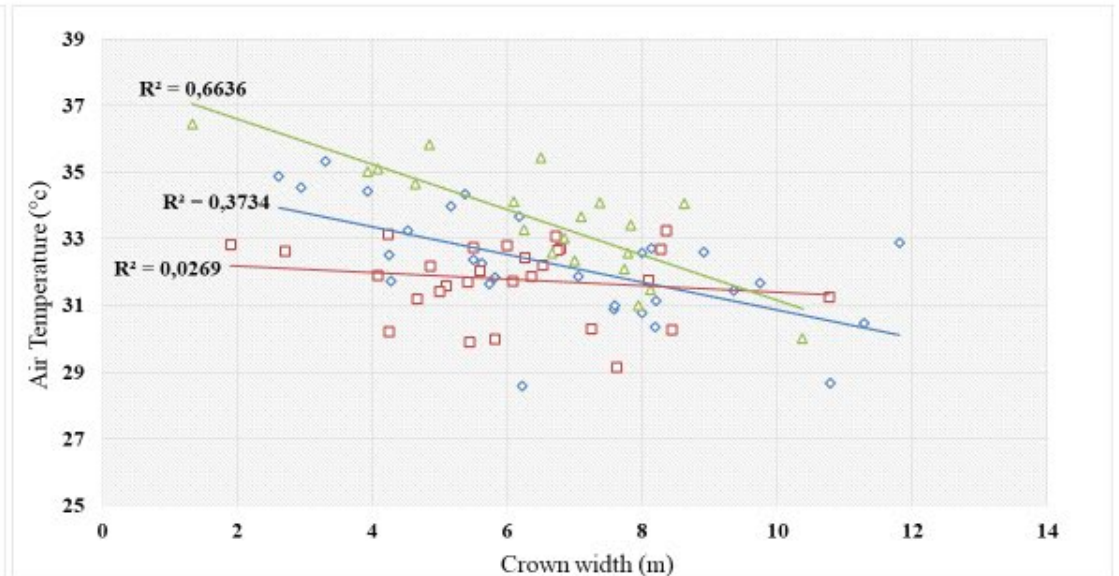
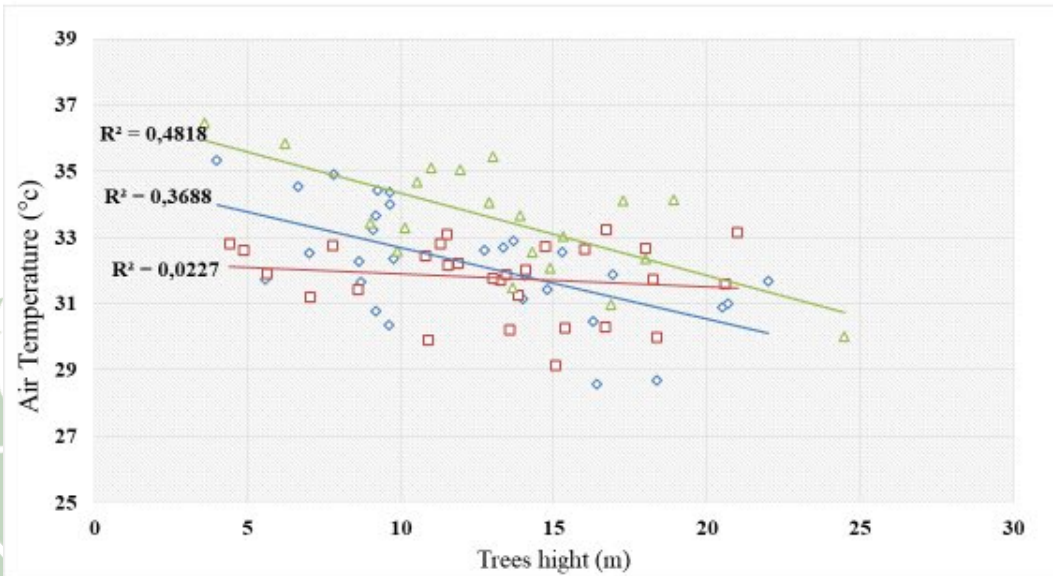
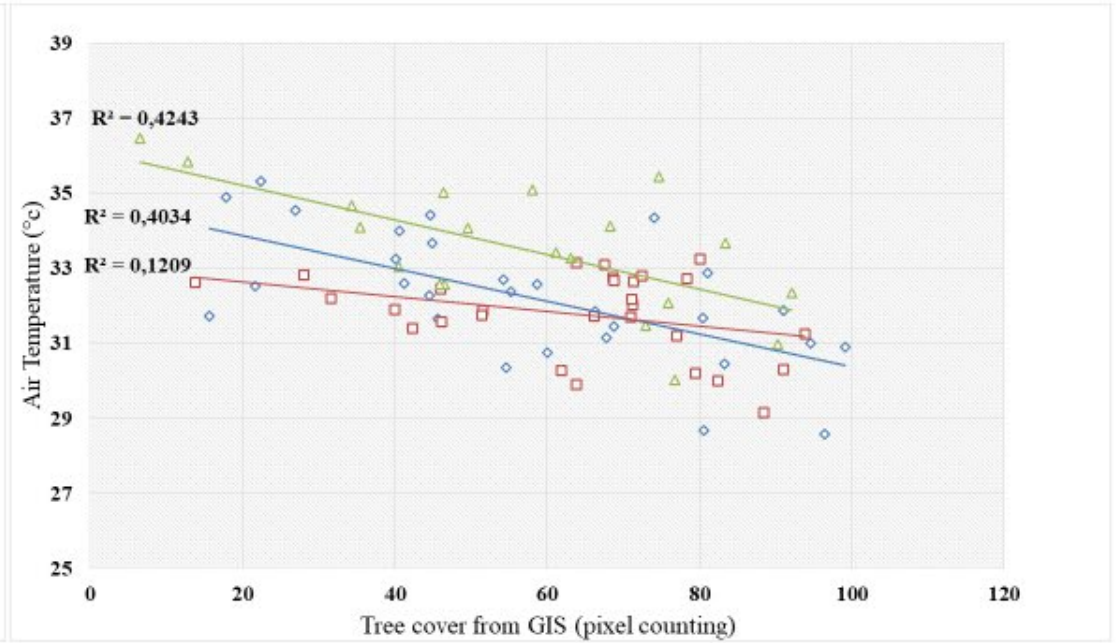
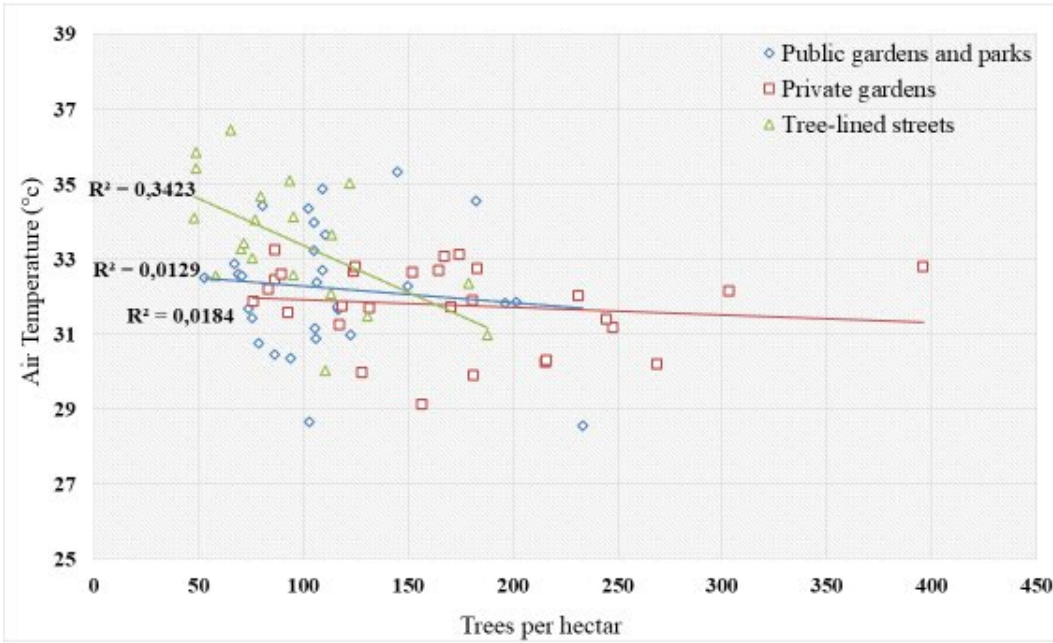




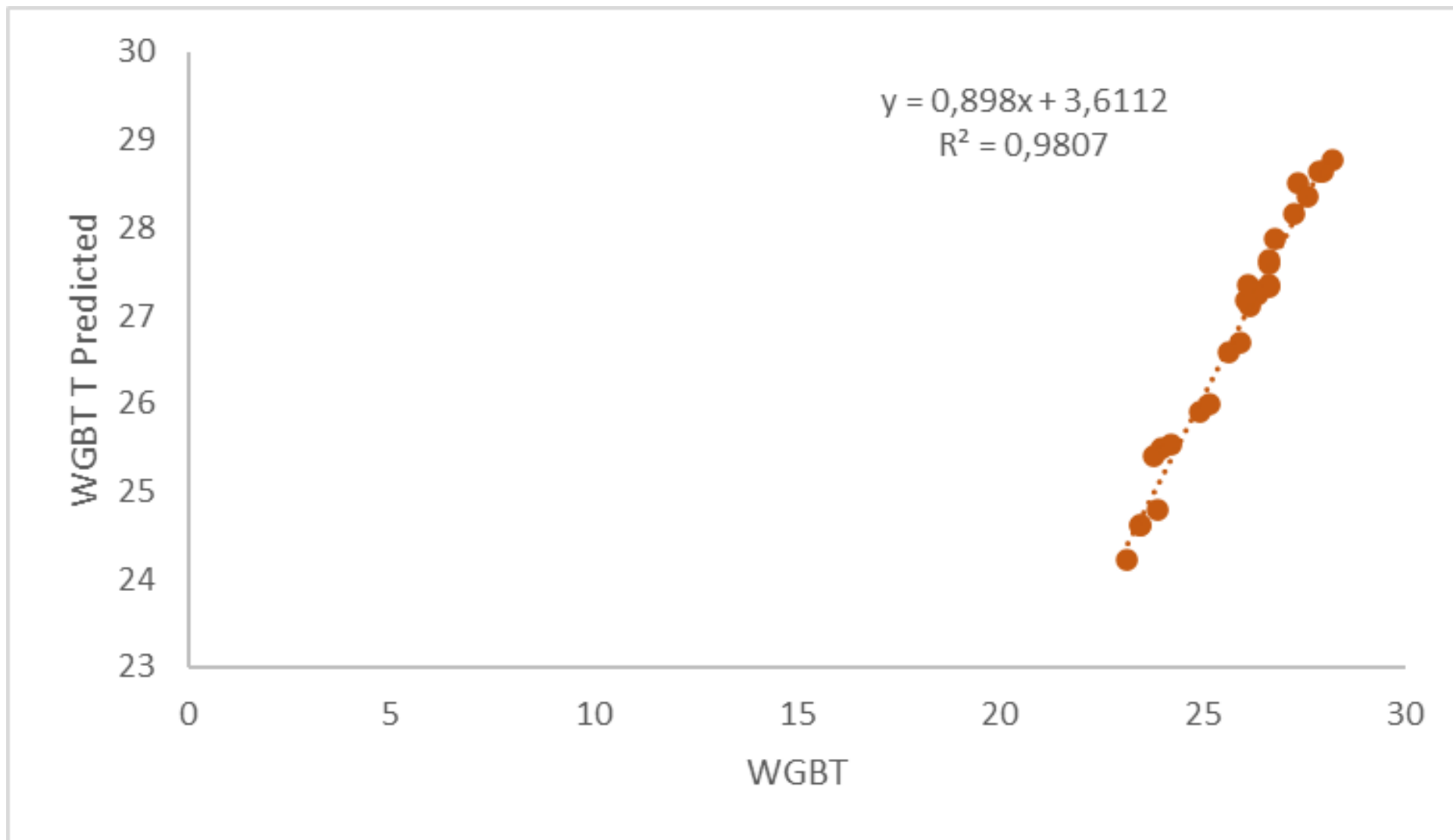
## Variation of the thermal index UTCI by

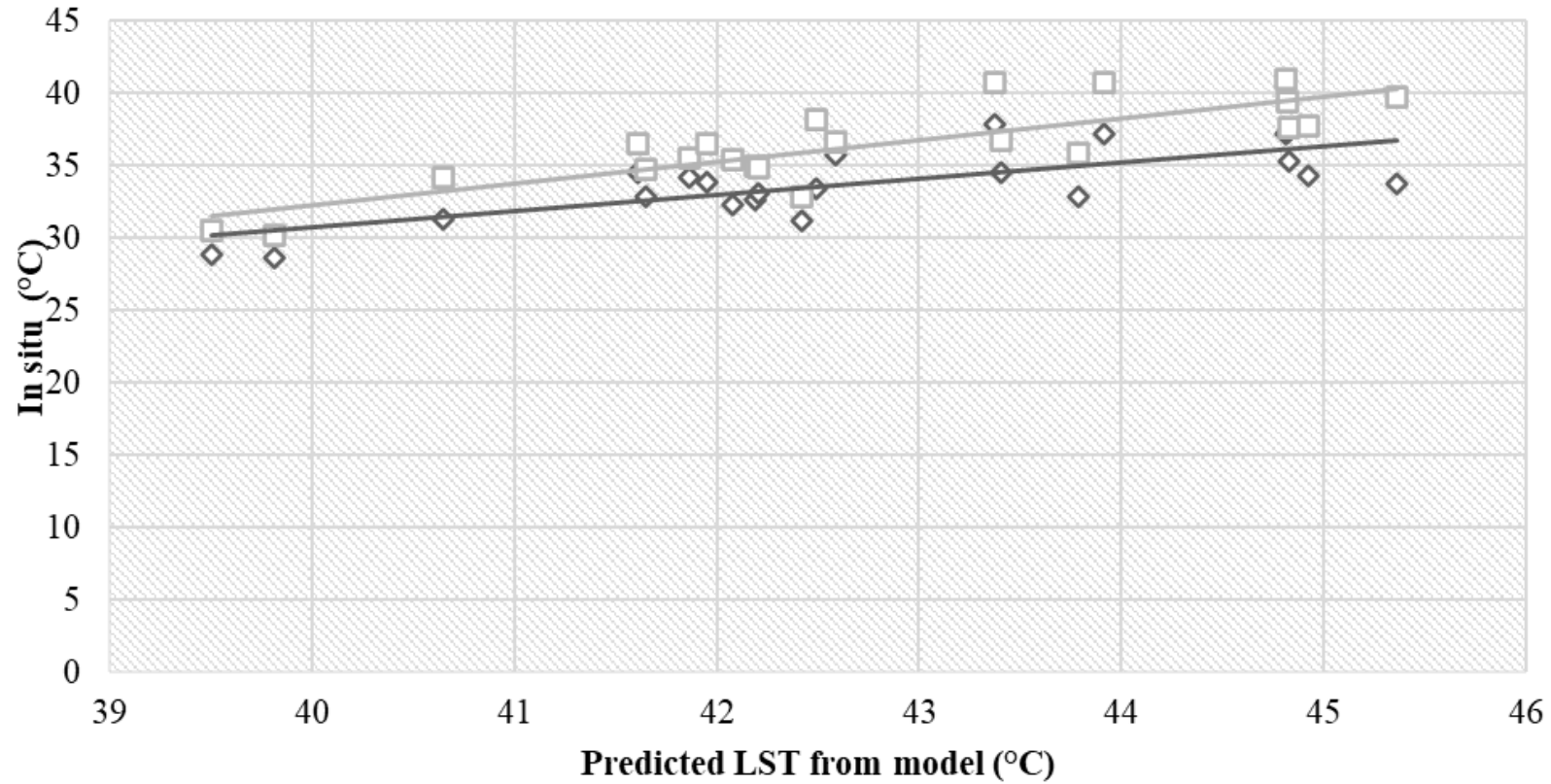
- a. average tree diameter,
- b. average tree height,
- c. tree canopy cover,
- d. sky view factor,
- e. total site factor, and
- f. Height/width ratio.

a) to c) represent data from green sites only, d) from non-green sites only and e) to f) using all data.









◇ Air Temperature °C

□ Globe temperature °C

$$y = 1,1195x - 14,047$$
$$R^2 = 0,5479$$

$$y = 1,5037x - 27,852$$
$$R^2 = 0,6861$$





## Some conclusion

- 😊 **There is a greater correlation between LST\_S2 and Globe T compared to LST\_S2 and Air T**
- 😊 **There is correlation only when considering ground surveys and remote sensing images referring to the same day, otherwise very weak  $R^2$ .**
- 😞 **There is no correlation between remote sensing data and the average of ground data in the nearest two days.**
- 😞 **The alleys of the center: micro-canyon effect difficult to define from satellite**
- 😊 **High correlation between LST\_S2 and Sky view factor: looks promising to interpret the tree cover effect**
- 😐 **Correlations between LST\_S2 and other vegetation parameters need to be explored**



# Thank you!

**Fabio Salbitano**

 **fsalbitano@uniss.it**



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Arbor Day  
Foundation





# **2nd** **World** **Forum on** **Urban** **Forests**

**2023**



**World Forum on  
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## Beyond Canopy Coverage : The impact of Shrubs and Evaporative Cooling on Human Thermal Comfort in Urban Forests

**Nayanesh Pattnaik, Mohammad A. Rahman,  
Stephan Pauleit**

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### Presented by

Nayanesh Pattnaik

Chair for Strategic Landscape Planning and Management

Technical University of Munich

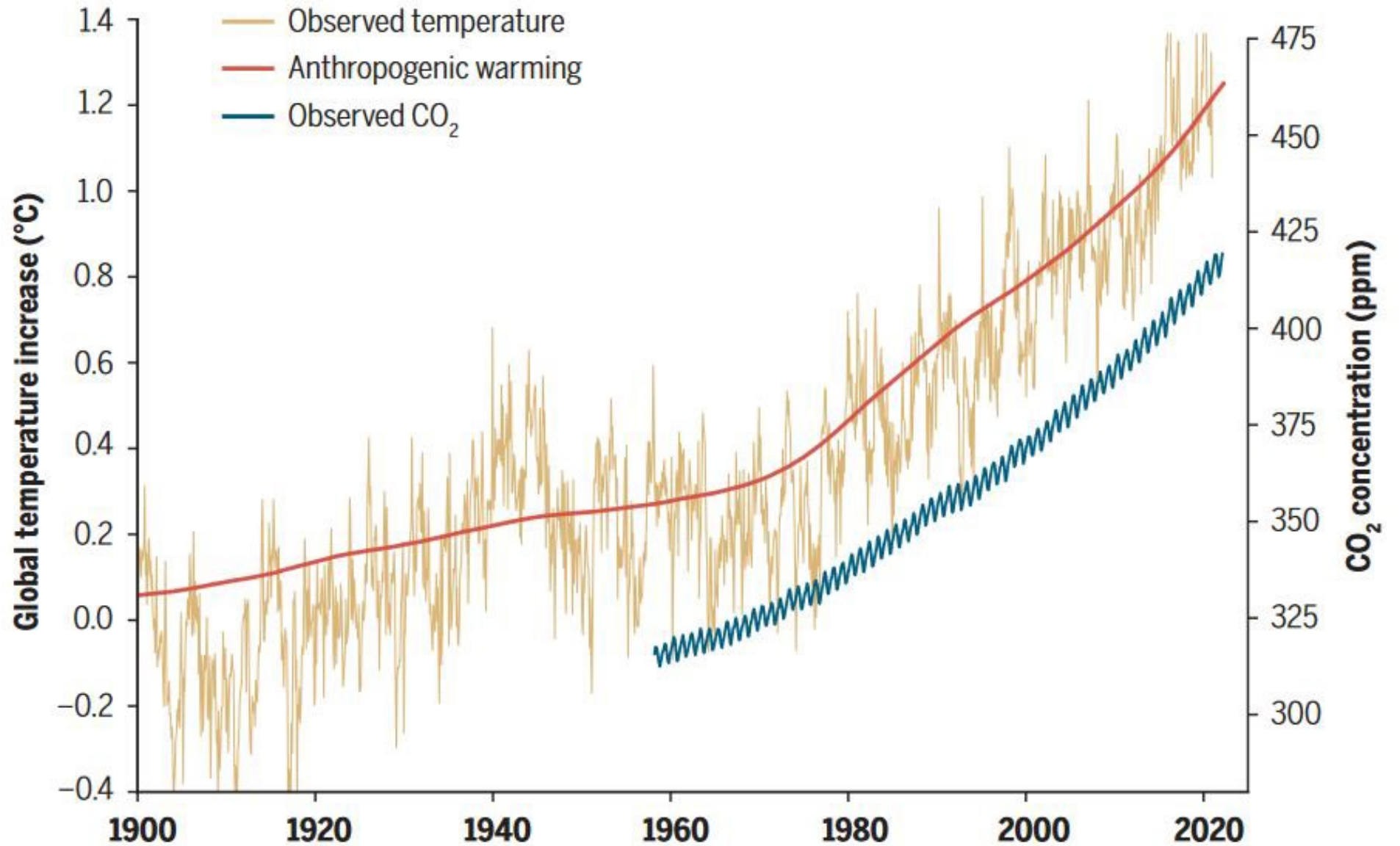






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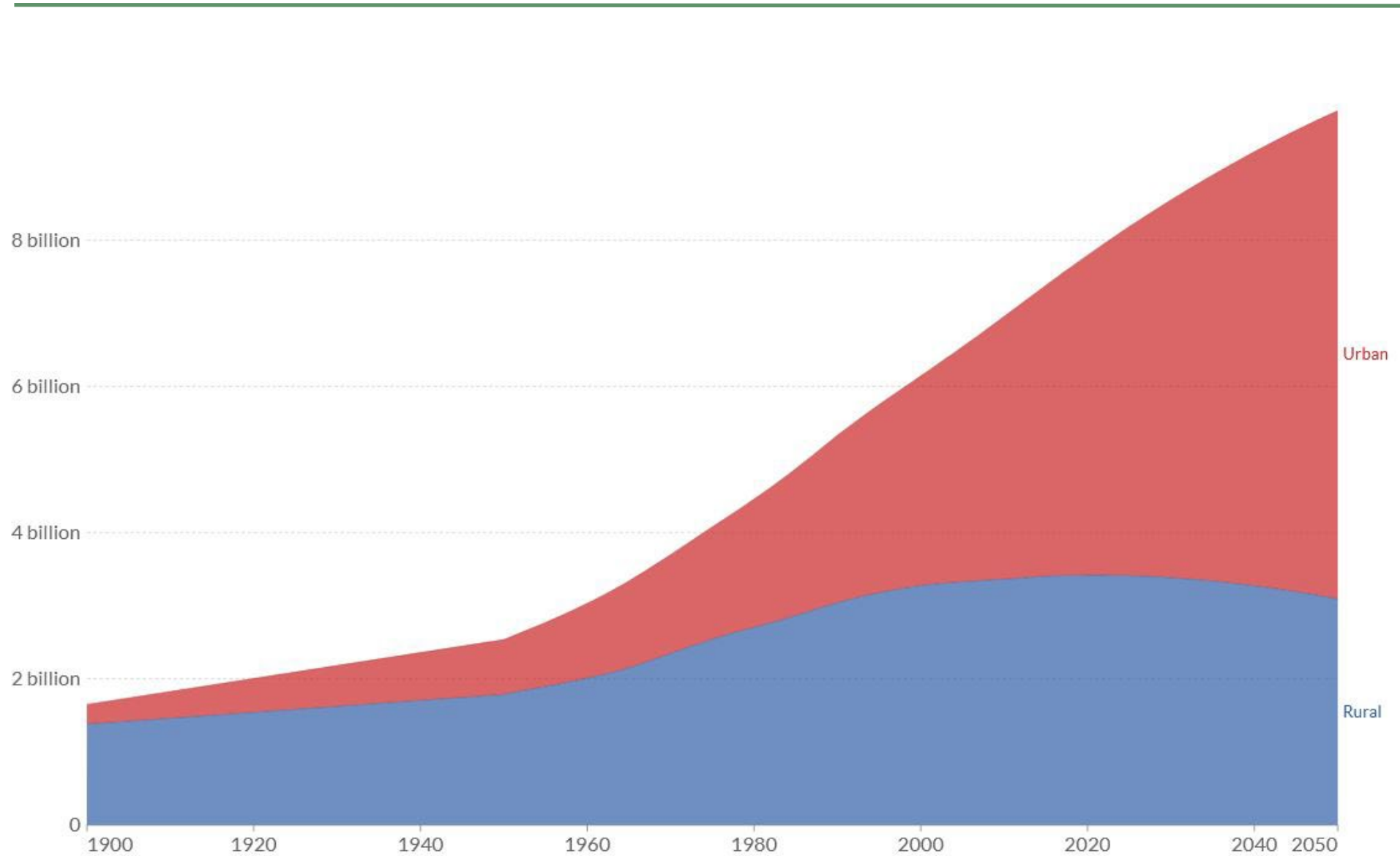
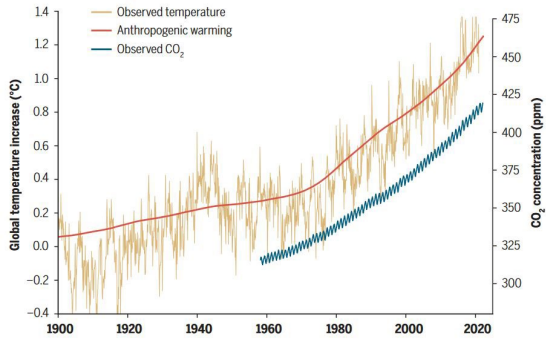
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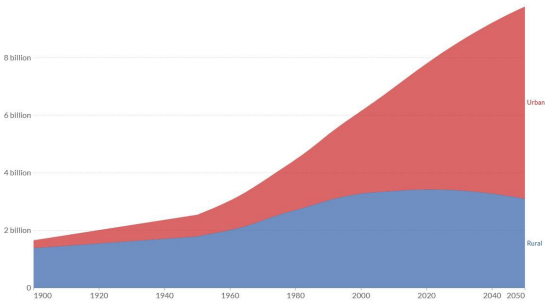
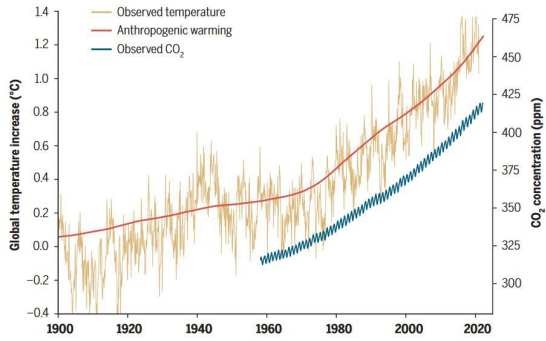




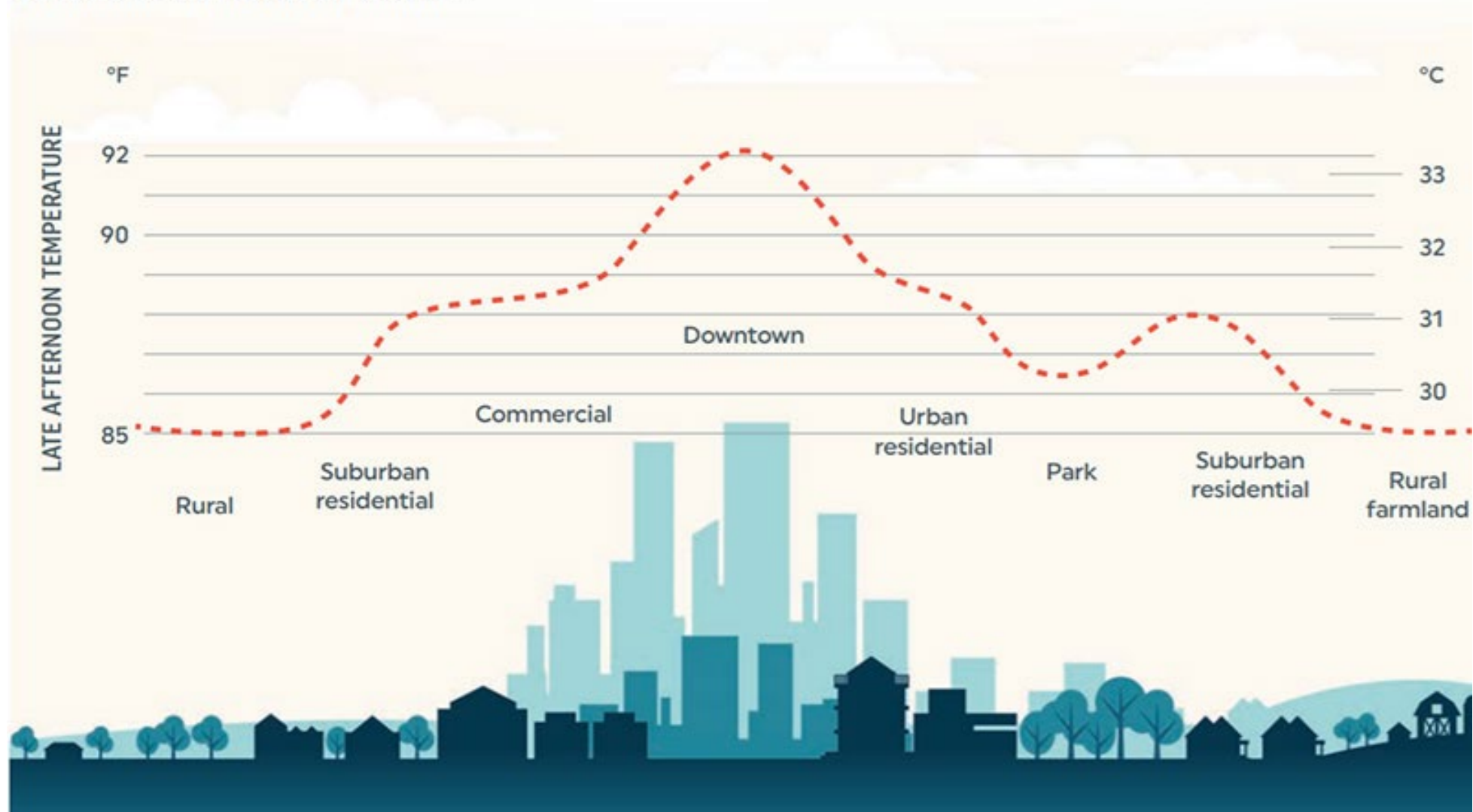


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## URBAN HEAT ISLAND PROFILE

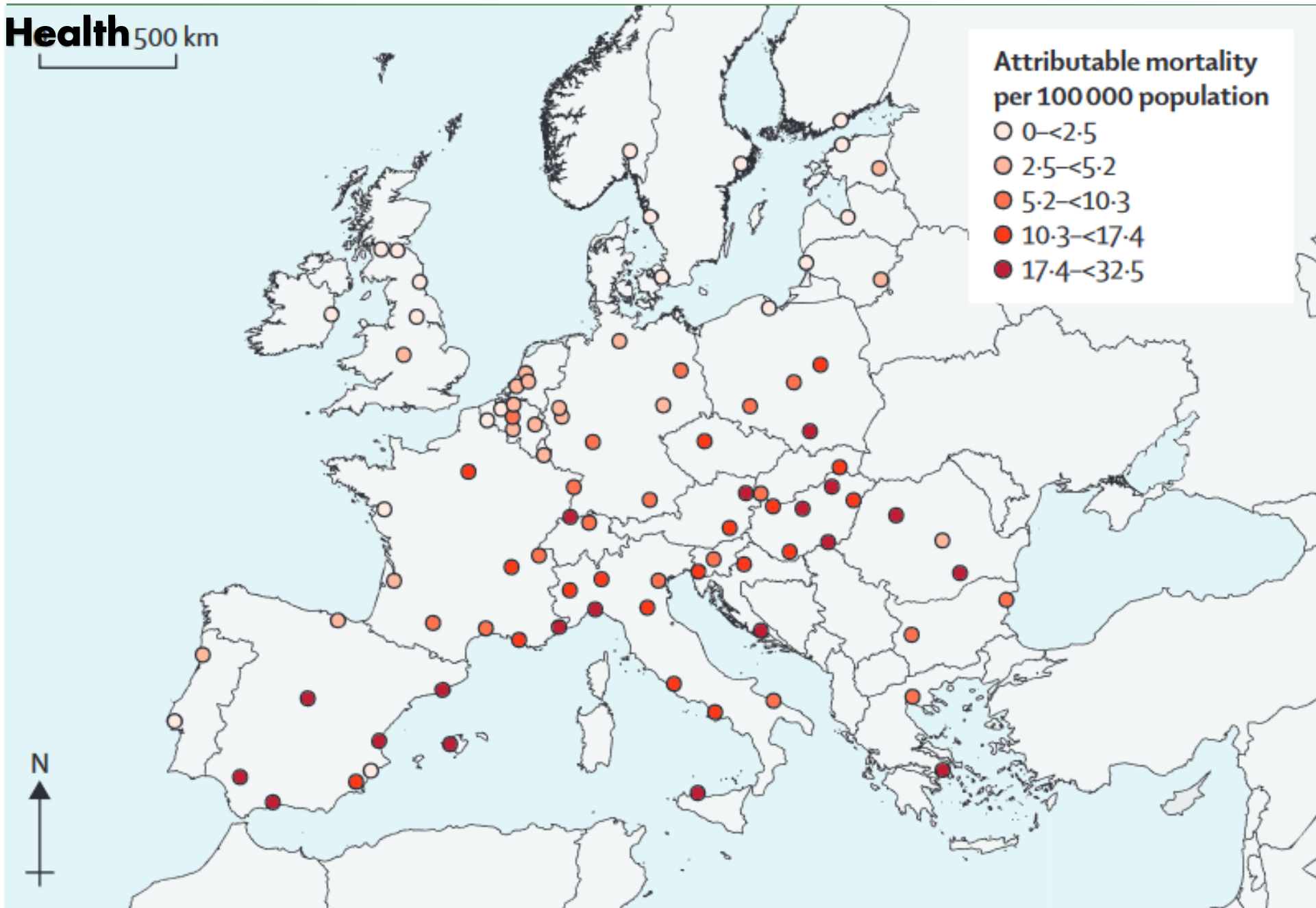
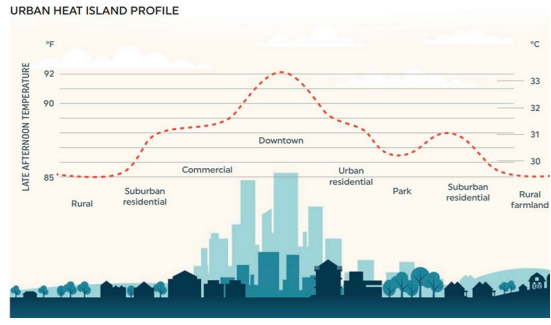




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# Urban Heat and Health

500 km







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# London will feel like Barcelona!

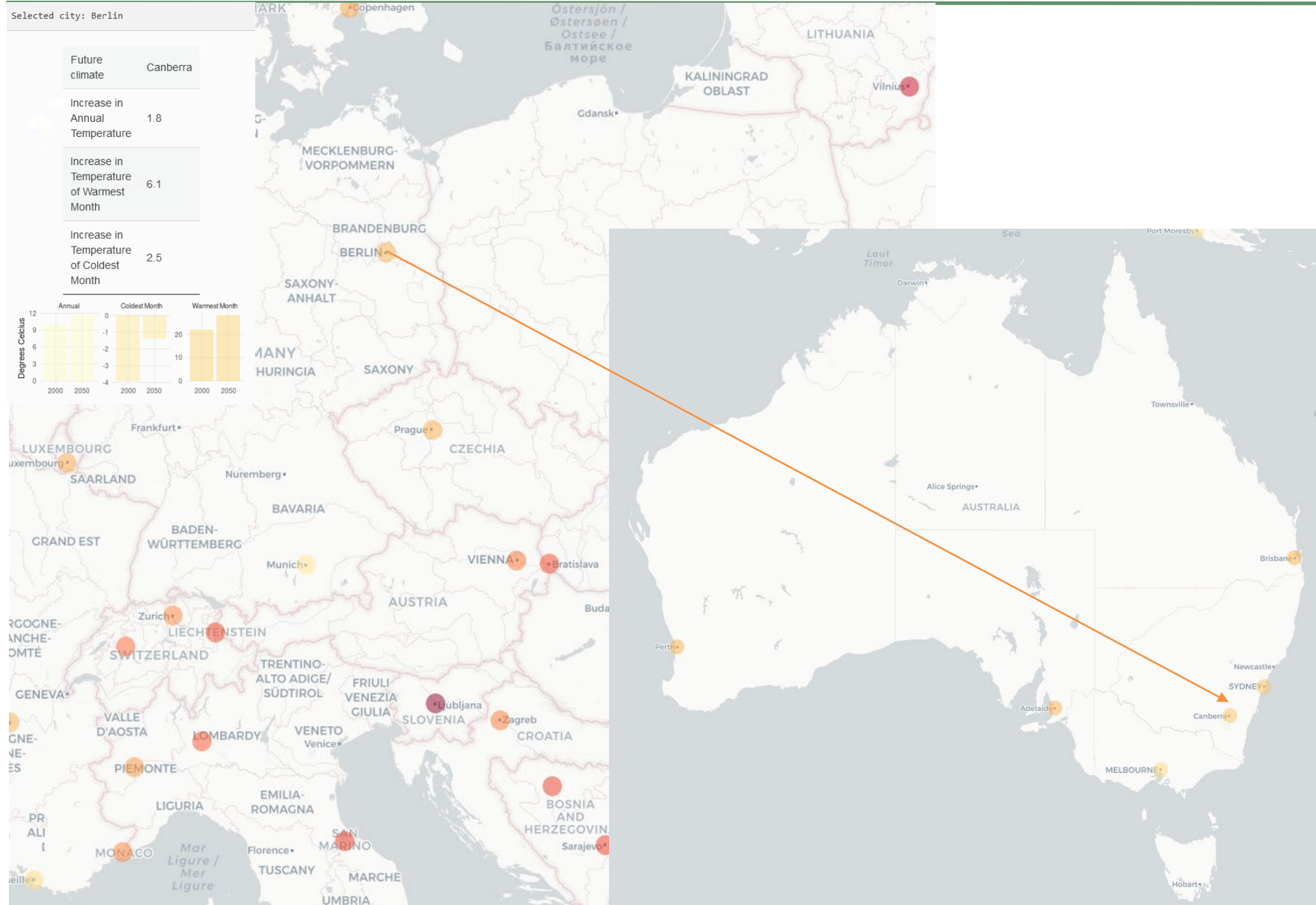




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# Berlin will feel like Canberra!







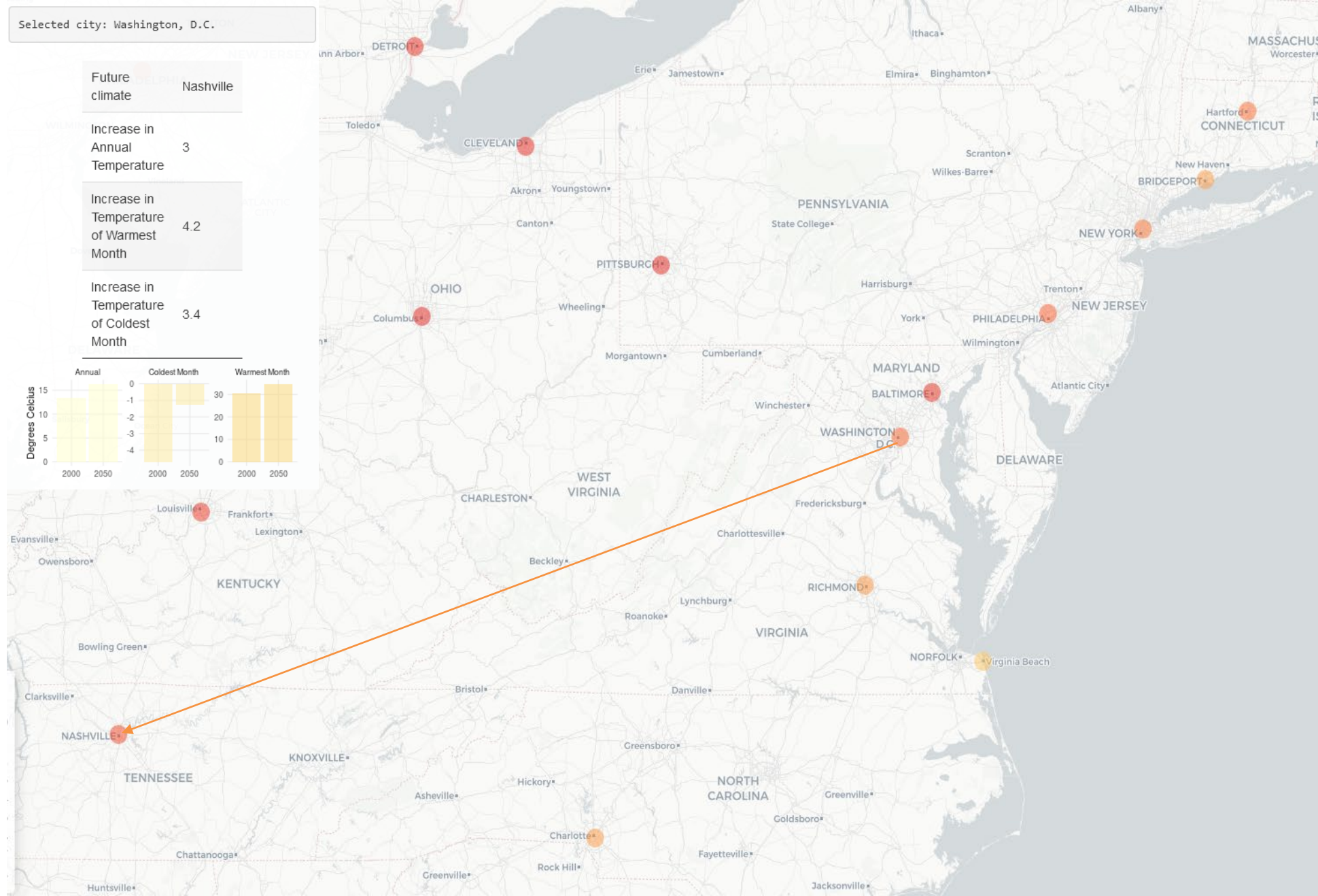
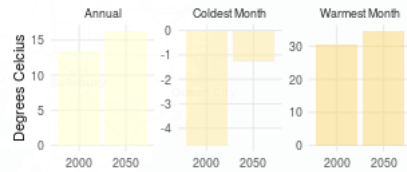
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# Washington will feel like

Selected city: Washington, D.C.

Future climate	Nashville
Increase in Annual Temperature	3
Increase in Temperature of Warmest Month	4.2
Increase in Temperature of Coldest Month	3.4



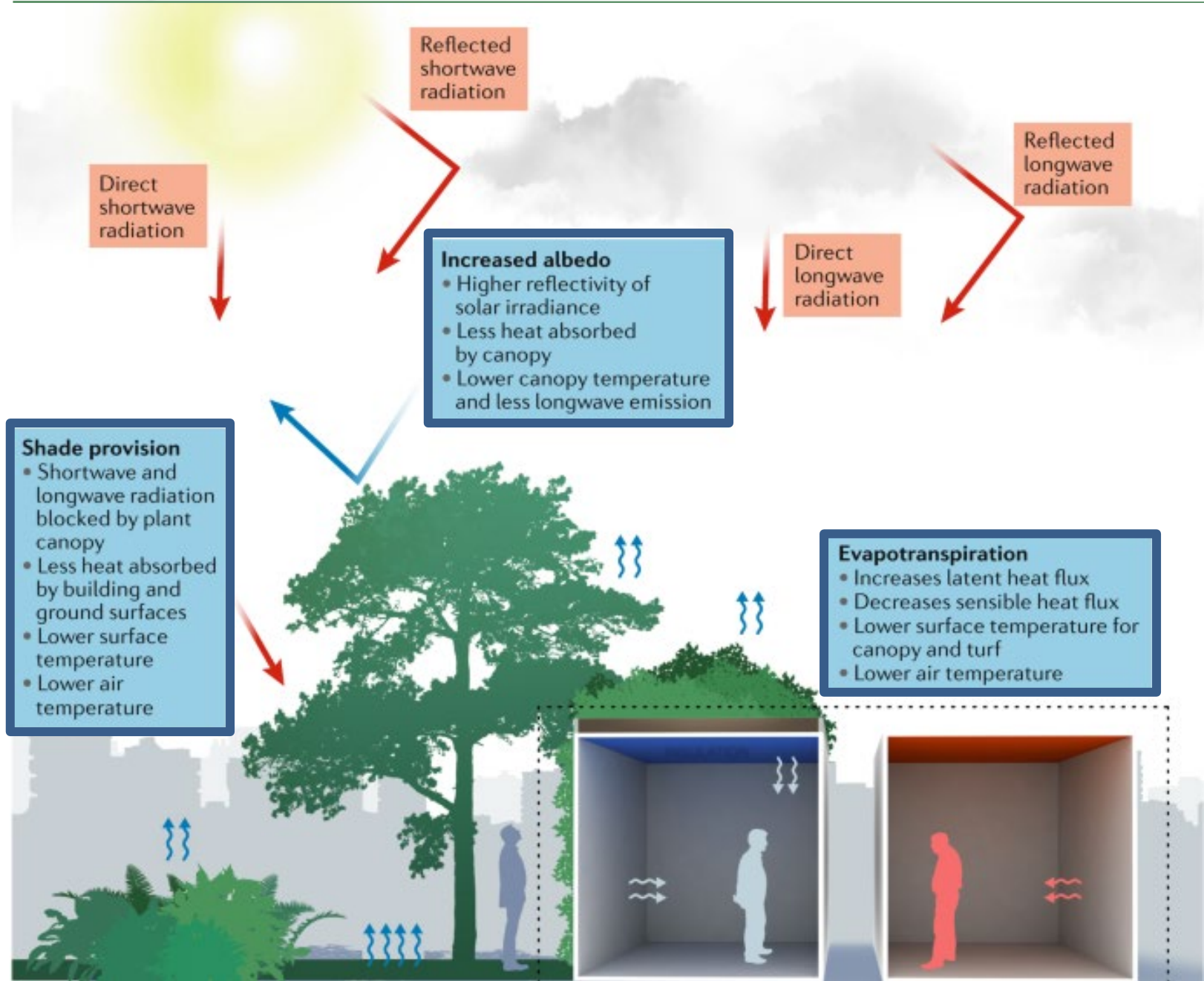








# Cooling Mechanisms

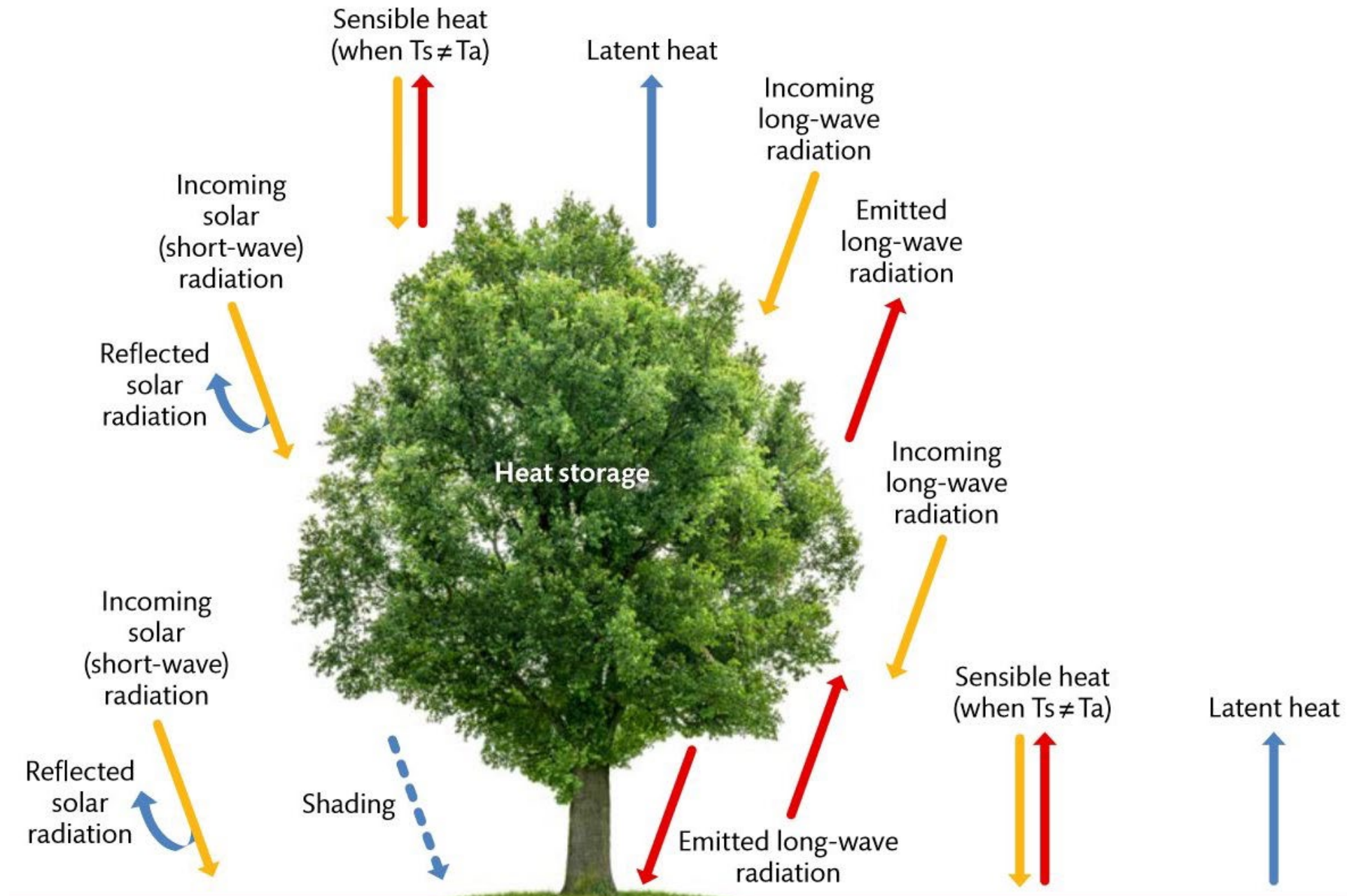
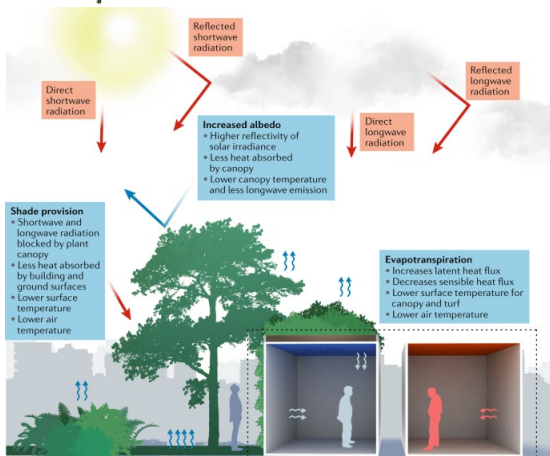




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## Emphasis on Trees

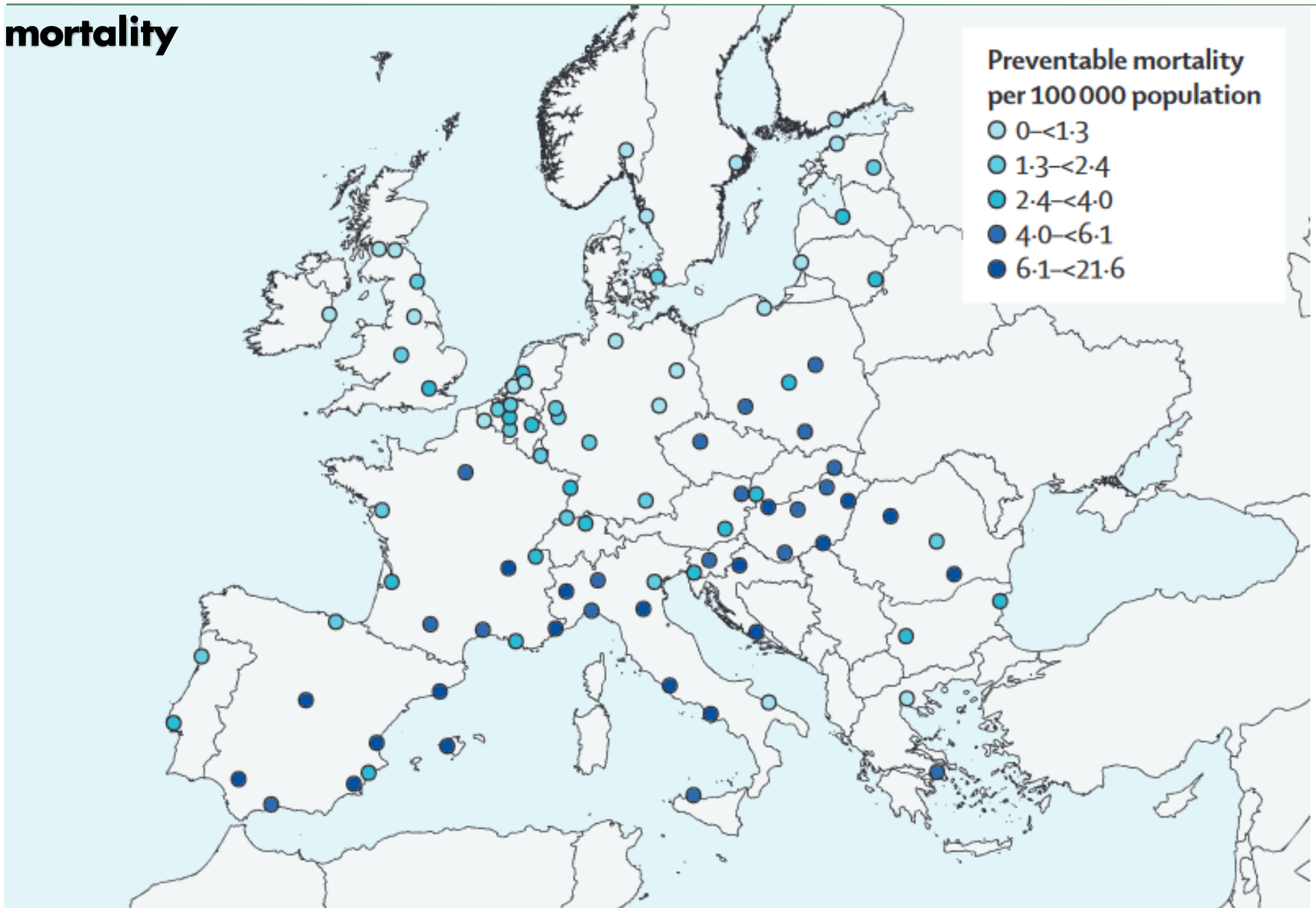
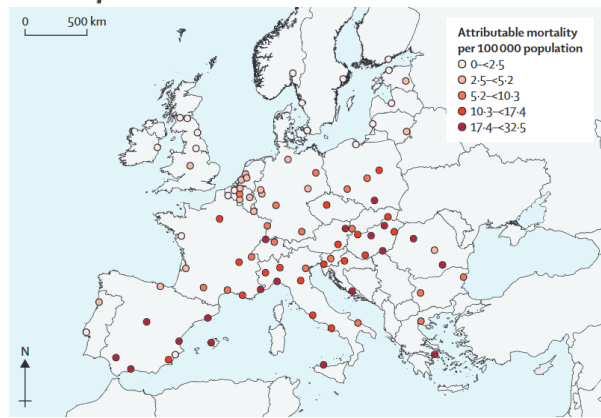






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# Tree Cover decreases heat-related mortality





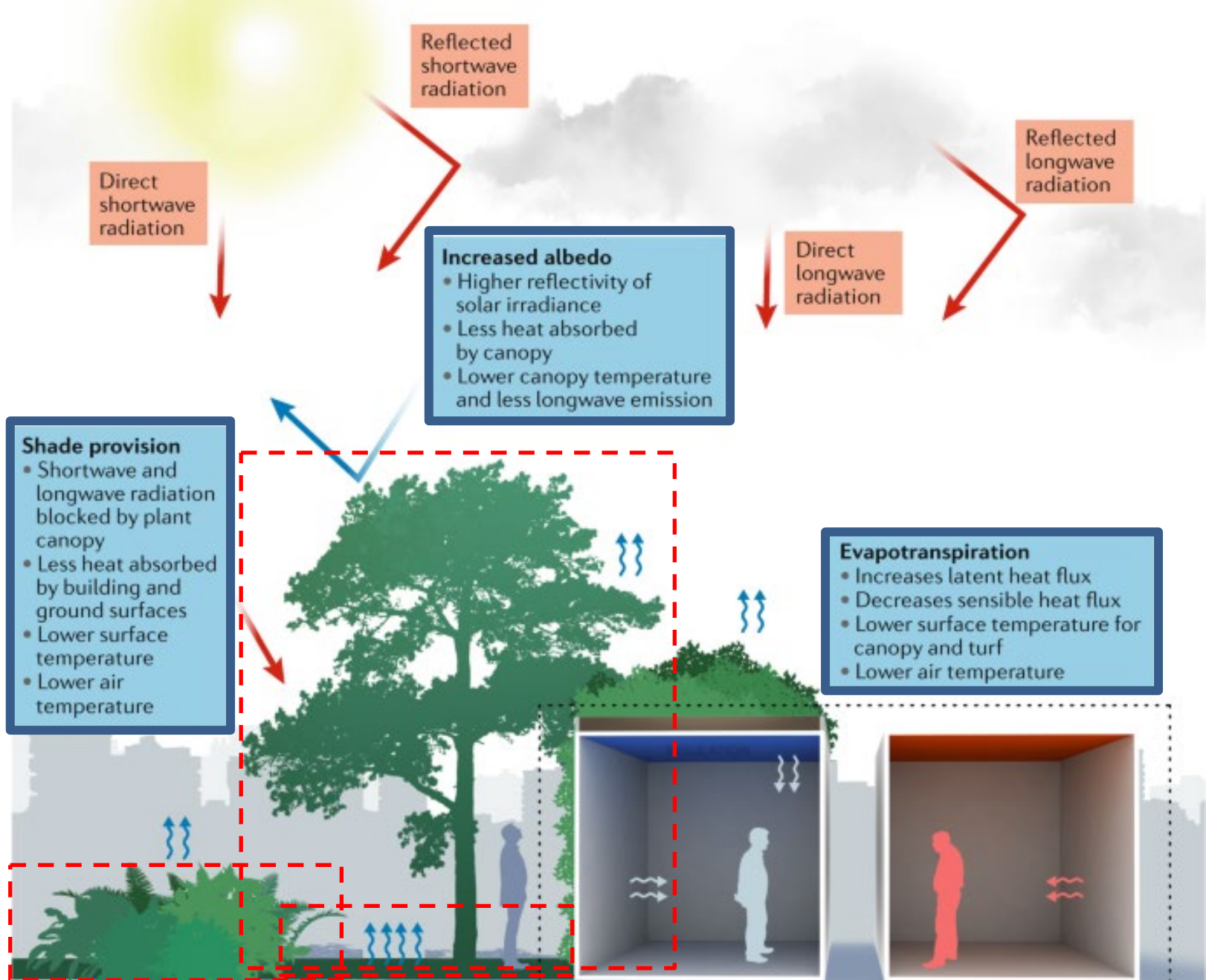


Urban vegetation is more than just





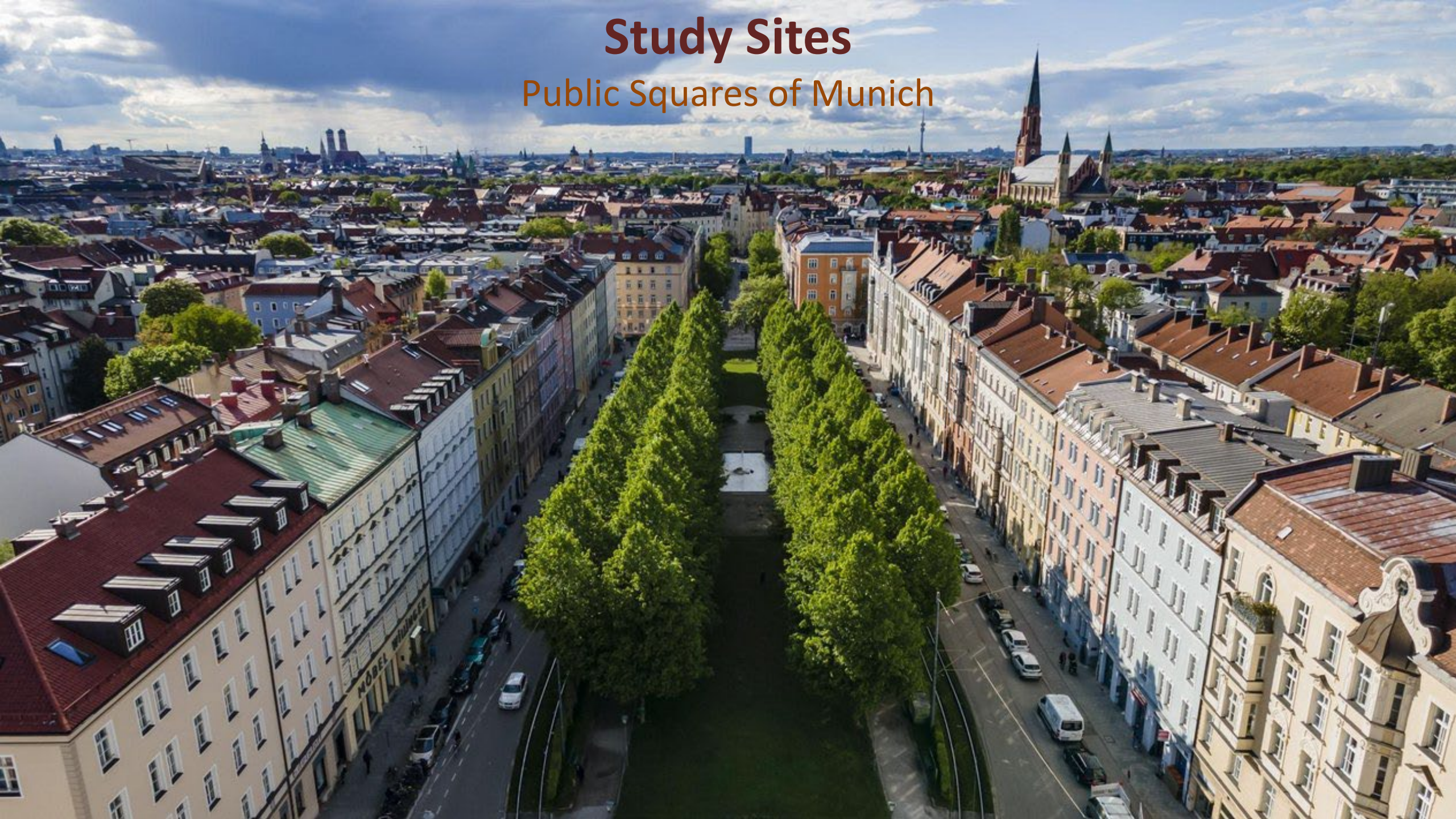
# Cooling provided by other layers of vegetation





# Study Sites

## Public Squares of Munich

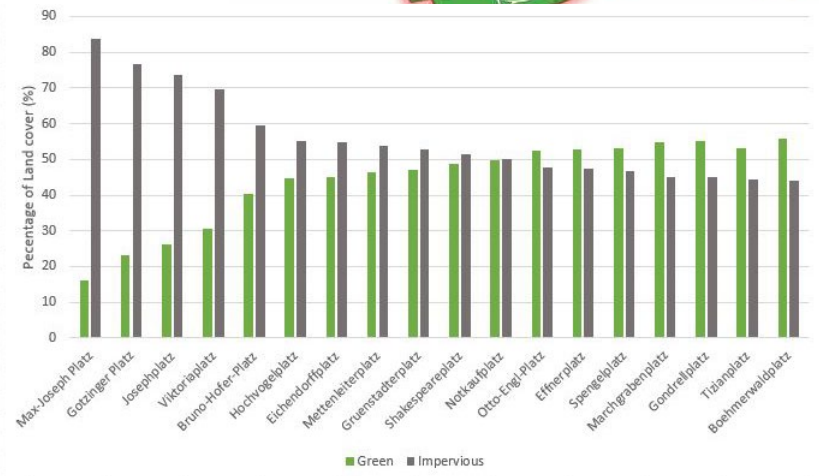
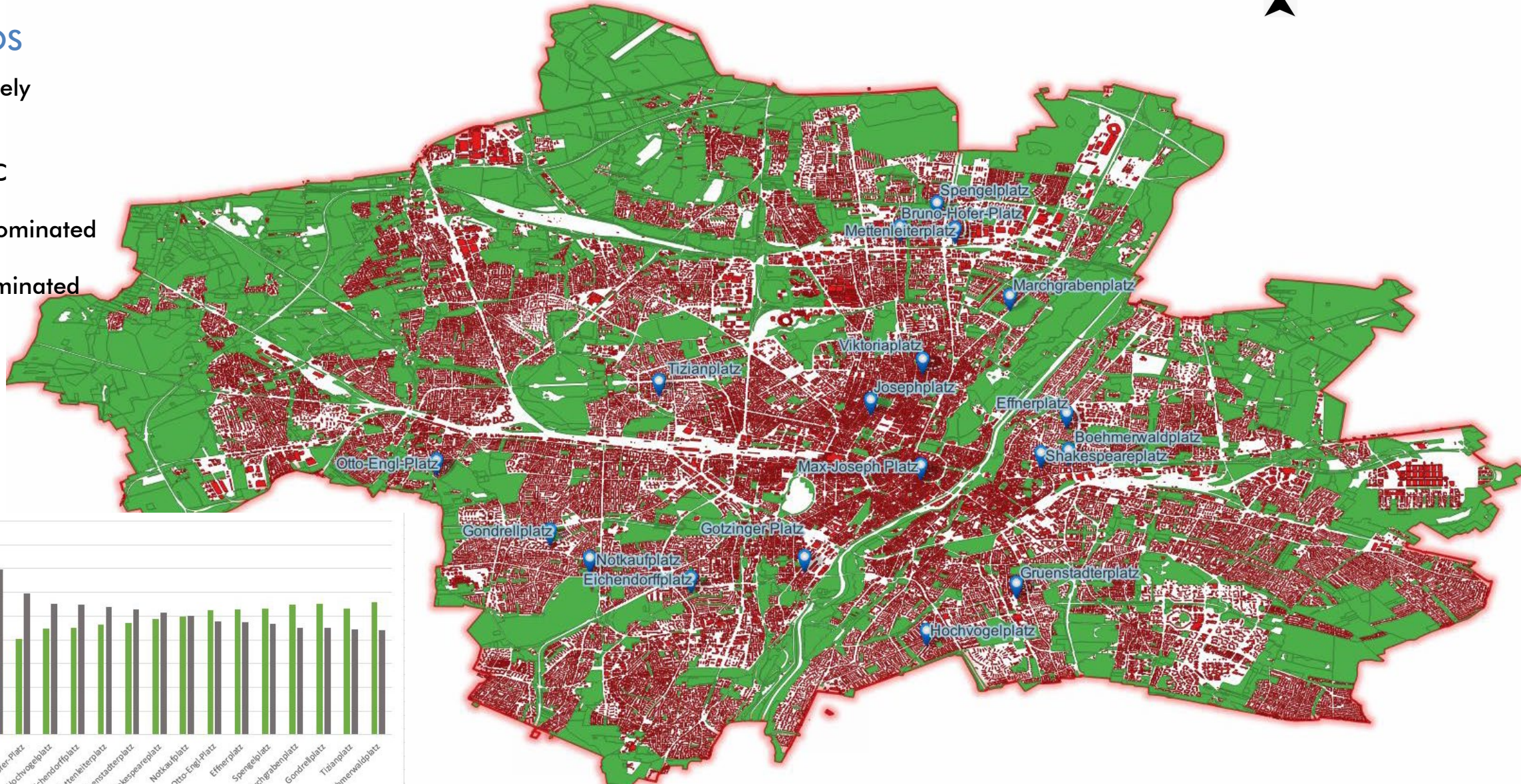






## SCENARIOS

- Completely Sealed
- Mixed LC
- Grass Dominated
- Tree Dominated







## 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

Washington DC, 2023

# Experimental Design

Sun – Shrub = ▲



### Microclimate Measurements

- Air Temp, Relative Humidity, Radiation, Surface Temperature, Wind Speed, Black Globe
- July and August (Three Repeations)
- Sunny, Cloudless and warm days
- From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m

### Ecophysiological Measurements

- Stomatal Conductance, Transpiration, Net Assilimation Rate
- Soil Moisture and Soil Temperature





## Measured Shrub Species



*Cornus sanguinea* (Common Dogwood)

- Ornamental
- Non-Native
- Wood Anatomy –  
Diffused Porous
- Shrub height  
between 0.8 to 1.3m



*Carpinus betulus* (European Hornbeam)



*Syringa vulgaris* (Common Lilac)

- Ornamental
- Non-Native
- Wood Anatomy –  
Diffused Porous
- Shrub height  
between 0.8 to 1.3m

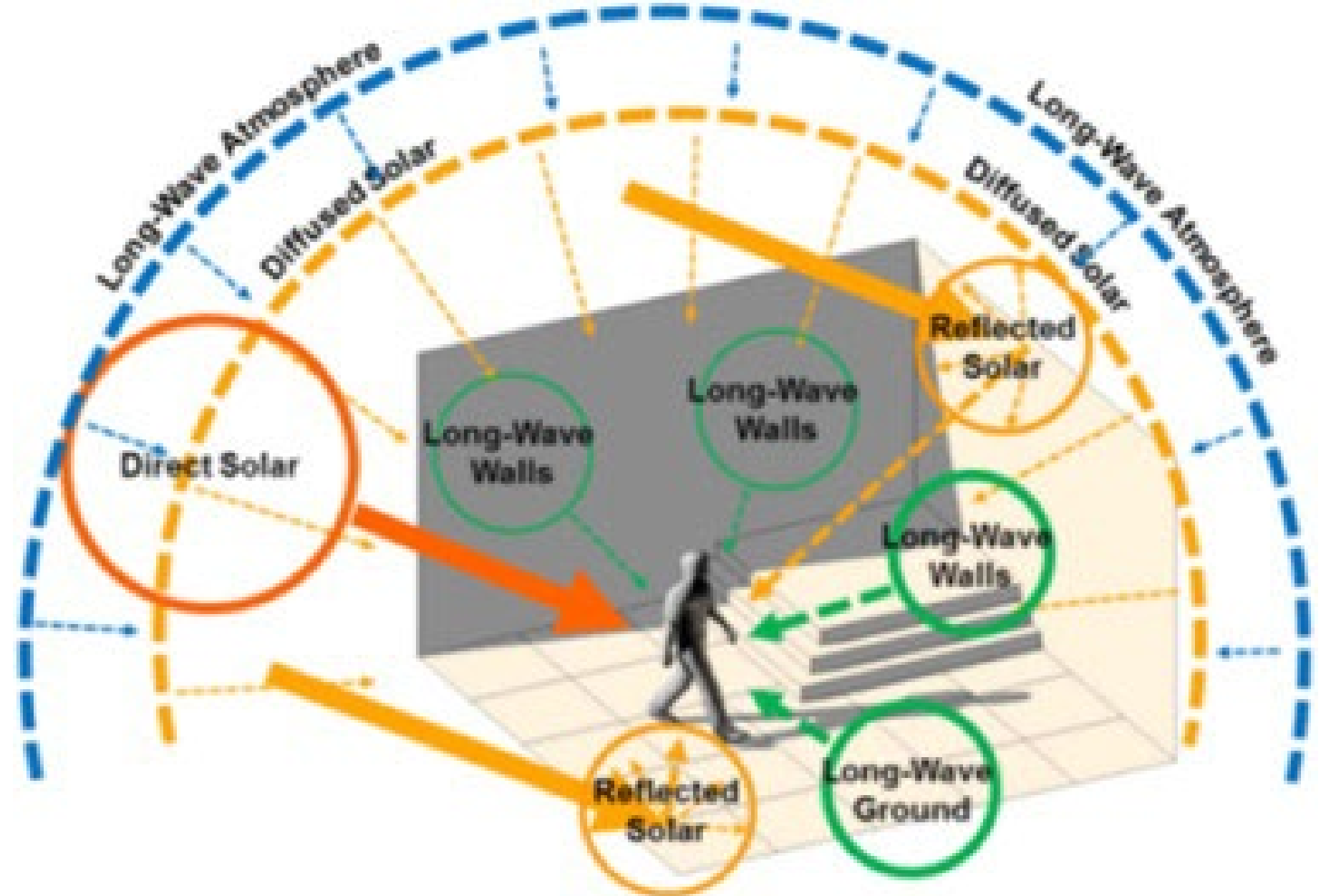


*Forsythia viridissima* (Green-Stemmed forsythia)



# Mean Radiant Temperature (Tmrt)

- Tmrt summarizes the effects of all radiant heat fluxes
- Tmrt between 55°C to 60 °C = Moderate Heat Stress
- Tmrt > 60 °C = Extreme Heat Stress



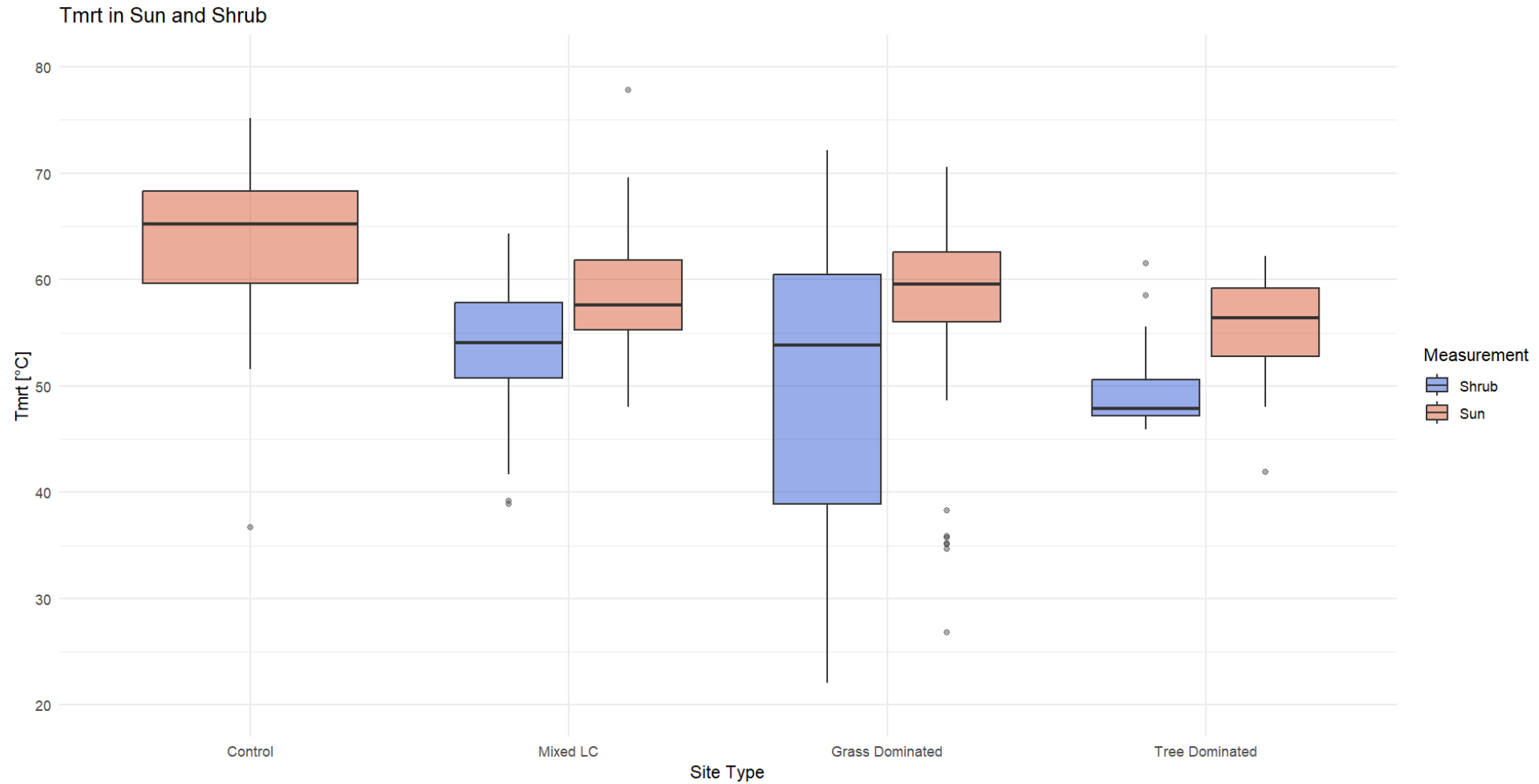




# Differences in Tmrt



Sun - Shrub = ▲



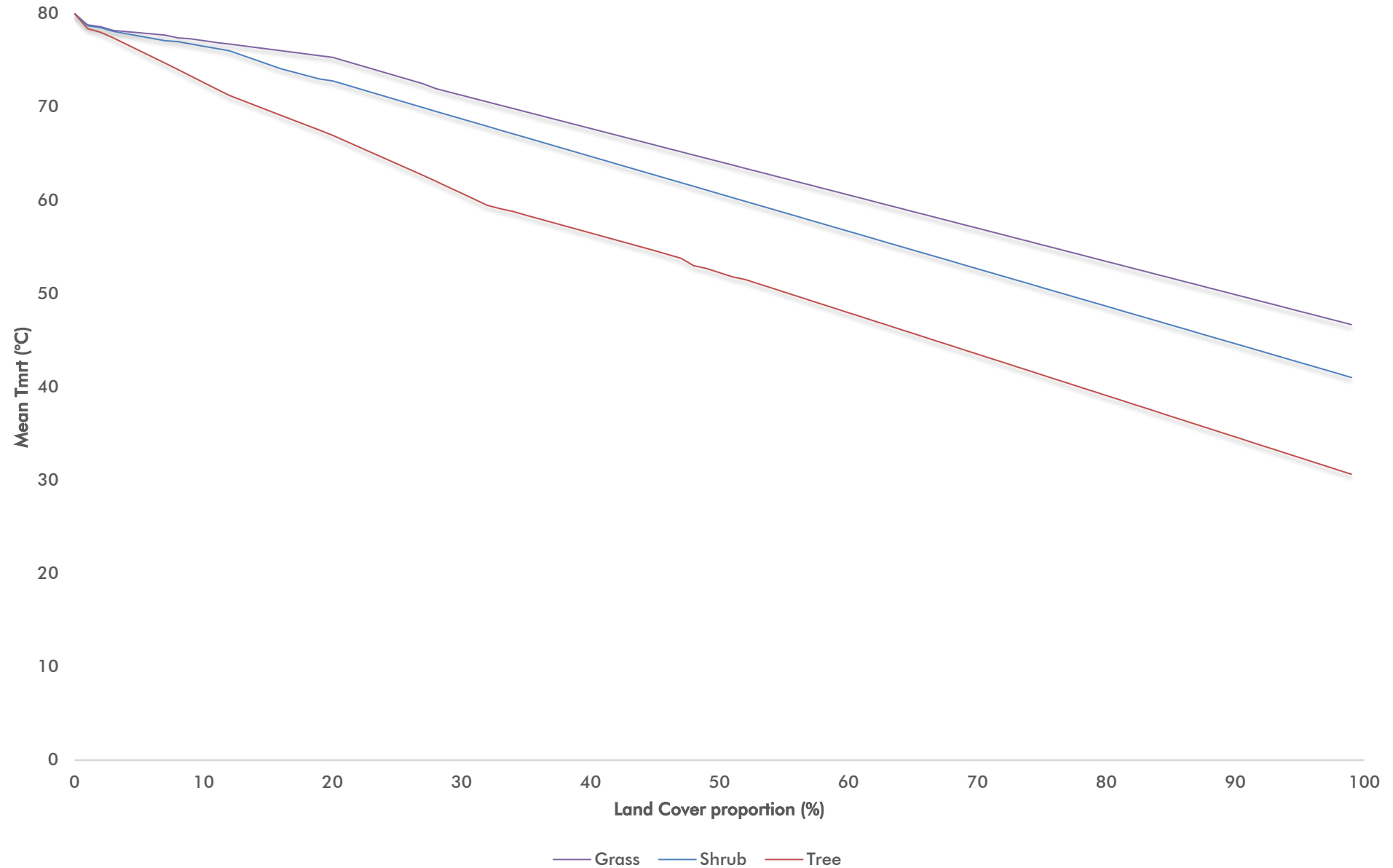
Mean ▲ = 6.2 °C



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# Vegetation Structure



Moderate Heat Stress reduced by

- 35% Tree Cover
- 60% Shrub Cover
- 75% Grass Cover





# Microclimate Vegetation Feedbacks



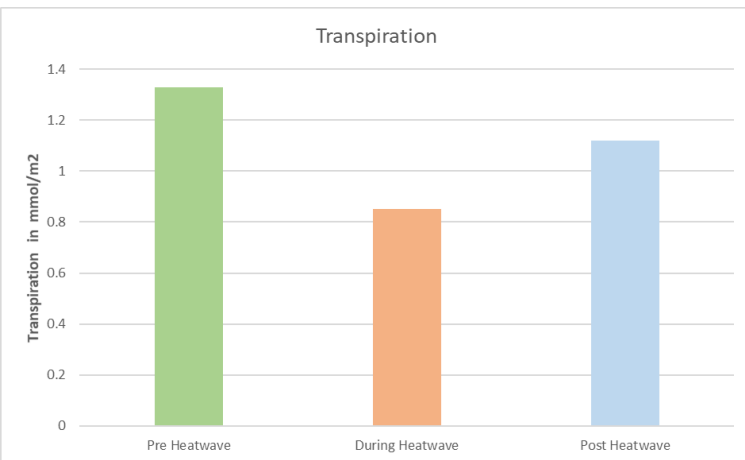
Pre Heatwave



During Heatwave



Post Heatwave

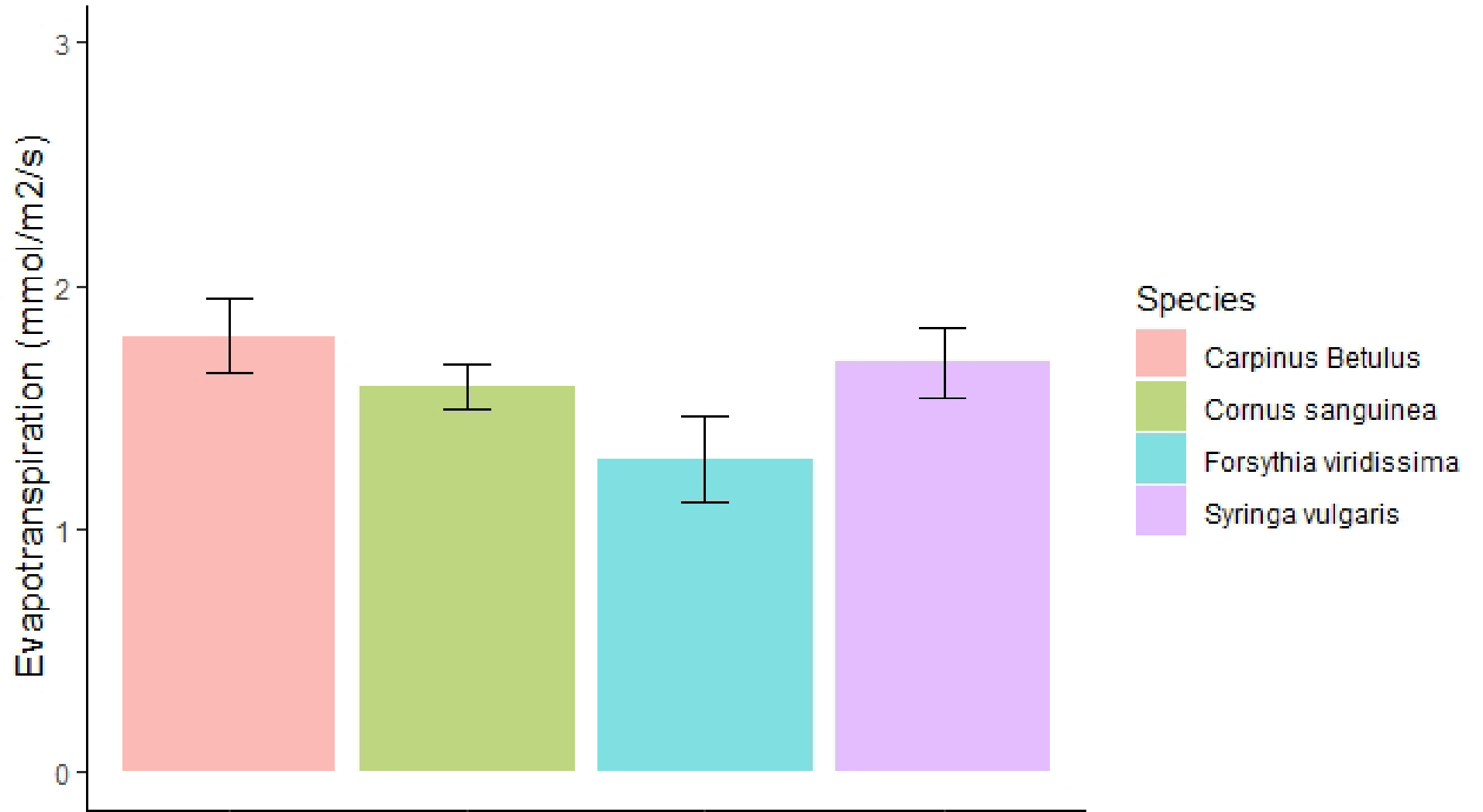


~40% decrease in transpiration



## Evapotranspiration of Shrub species

~ 1/3rd of latent heat as compared  
to tree



### Species

- Carpinus Betulus
- Cornus sanguinea
- Forsythia viridissima
- Syringa vulgaris





# Thank you

**Nayanesh Pattnaik | TU Munich**

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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Arbor Day  
Foundation



International Society of Arboriculture



Smithsonian



FOREST SERVICE  
U.S.  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

# **2nd** **World** **Forum on** **Urban** **Forests**

**2023**



**World Forum on  
Urban Forests**





# 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

Washington DC, 2023

## Monitoring urban surface temperatures using UAV-derived thermal imagery

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### Presented by

Katrina Henn

Dr. Alicia Peduzzi, Assistant Professor

Sudhir Payare

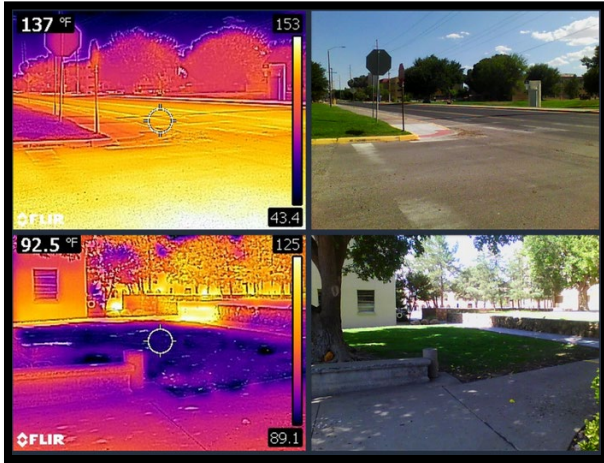
Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, UGA



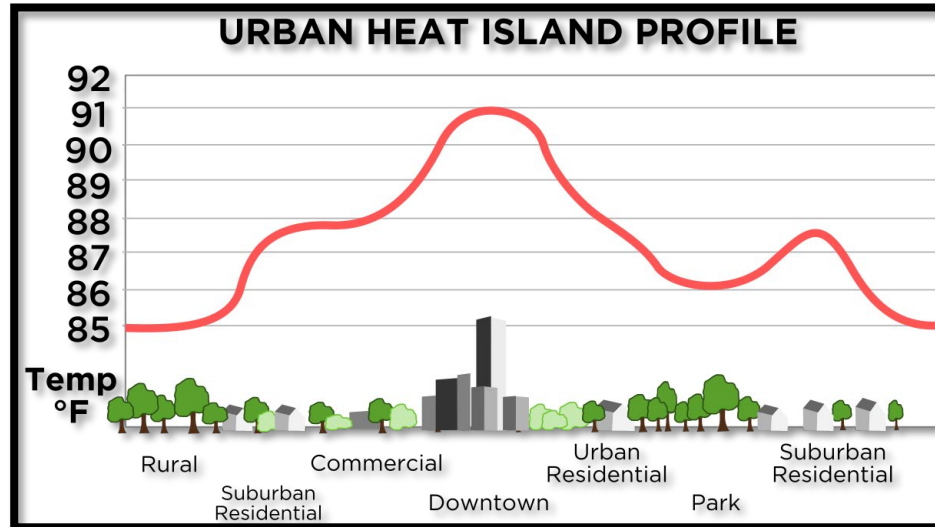


# Background: Why is urban heat important?

- Urban area hotter than surrounding rural area
- Day- & night-time effects
- Marginalized communities more affected



[Heat.gov](http://Heat.gov)



[Royal Meteorological Society](http://Royal Meteorological Society)



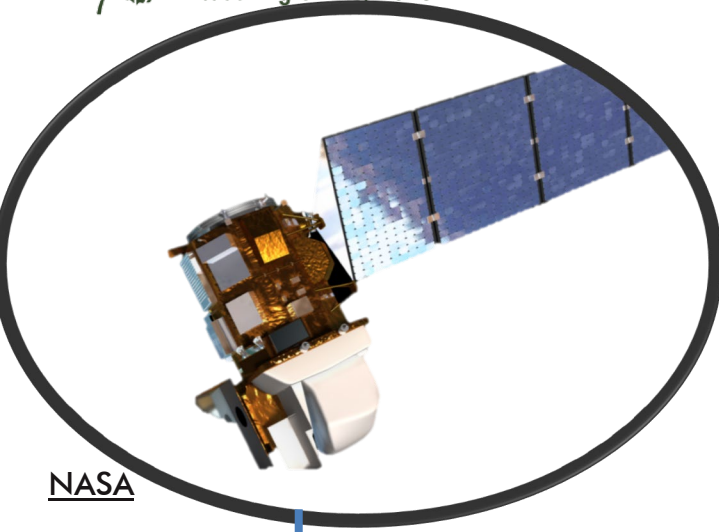
[One Tree Planted](http://One Tree Planted)



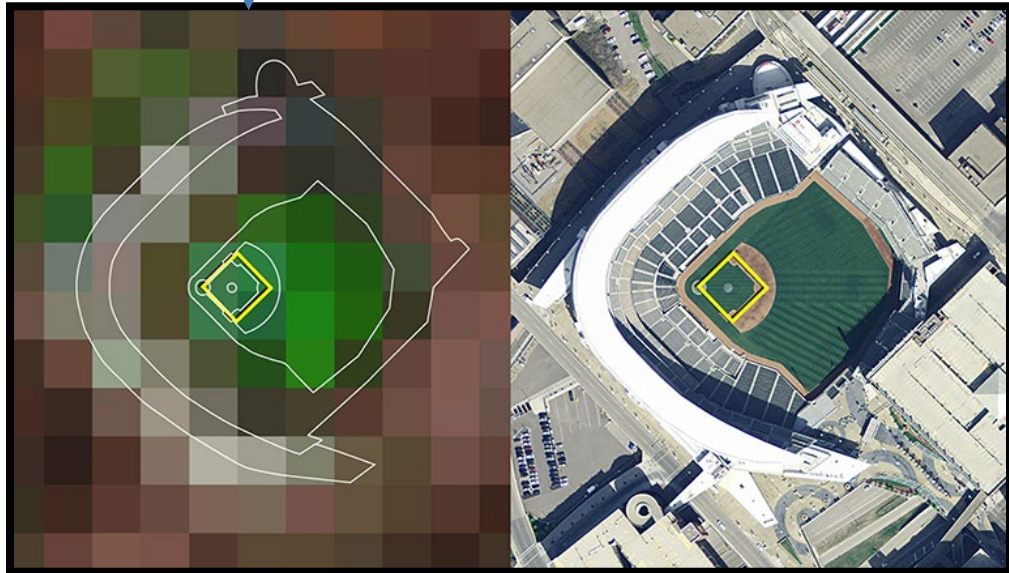


# Background: How are we currently measuring urban heat?

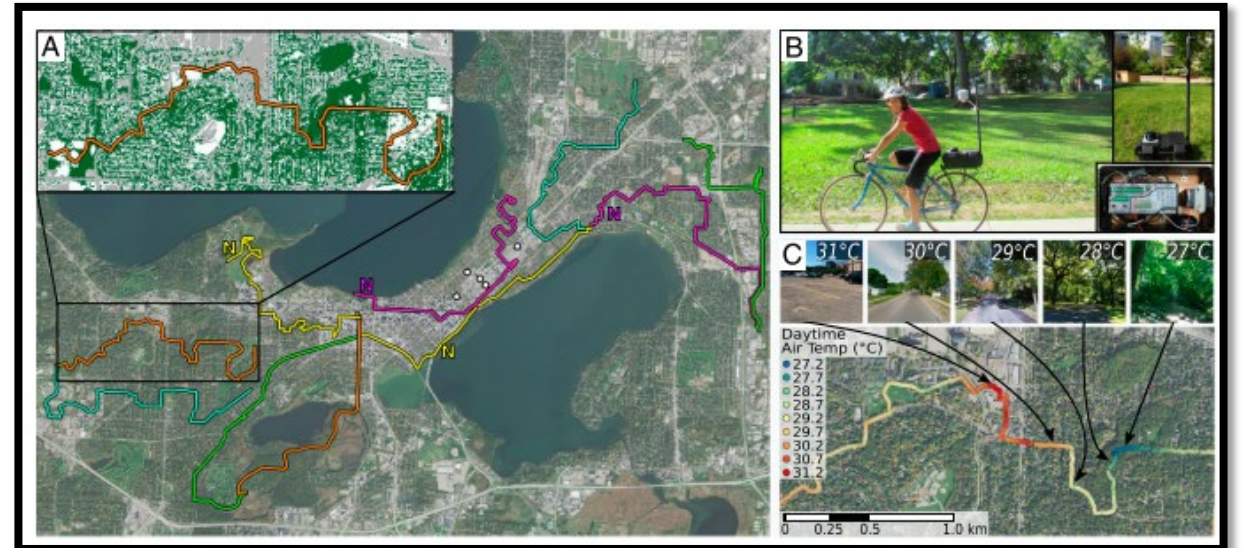
- Levels
  - Satellite (spaceborne) level
  - Ground ← Plane? UAV?
- Surface vs. air temperature
- Resolution



NASA



NASA



Ziter et al., 2019

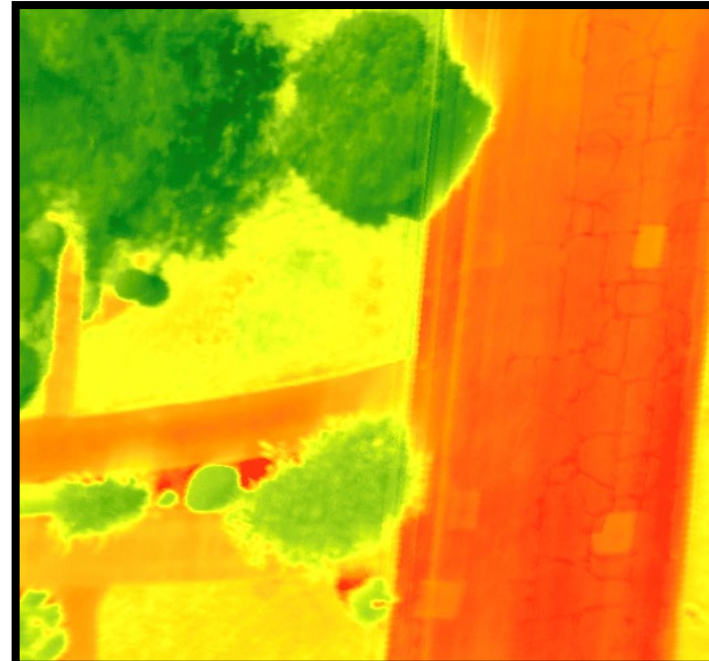


# Objectives: Two-pronged approach

1. Demonstrate UAV  
and thermal  
application in urban  
environment



2. Analyze urban surface  
differences, shaded &  
non-shaded







# Methods: Initial testing

UAV with FLIR camera ( $\pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



Freerangestock

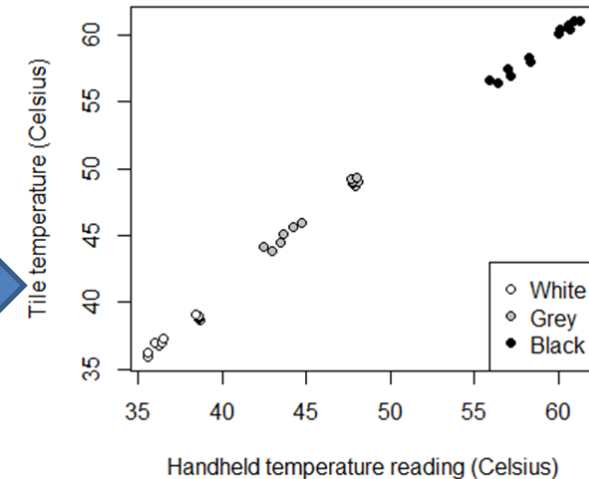
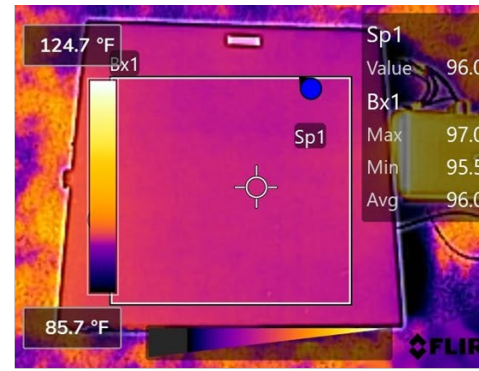
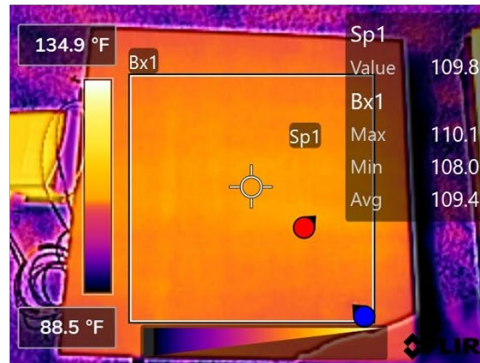
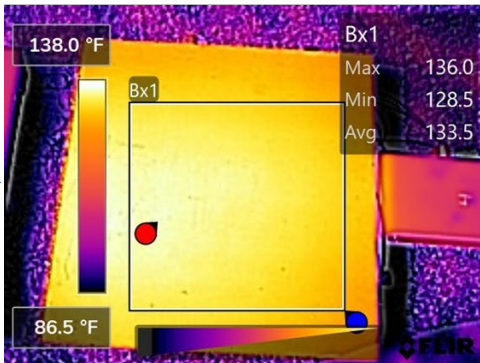
FLIR



Surface thermal imagery from UAV



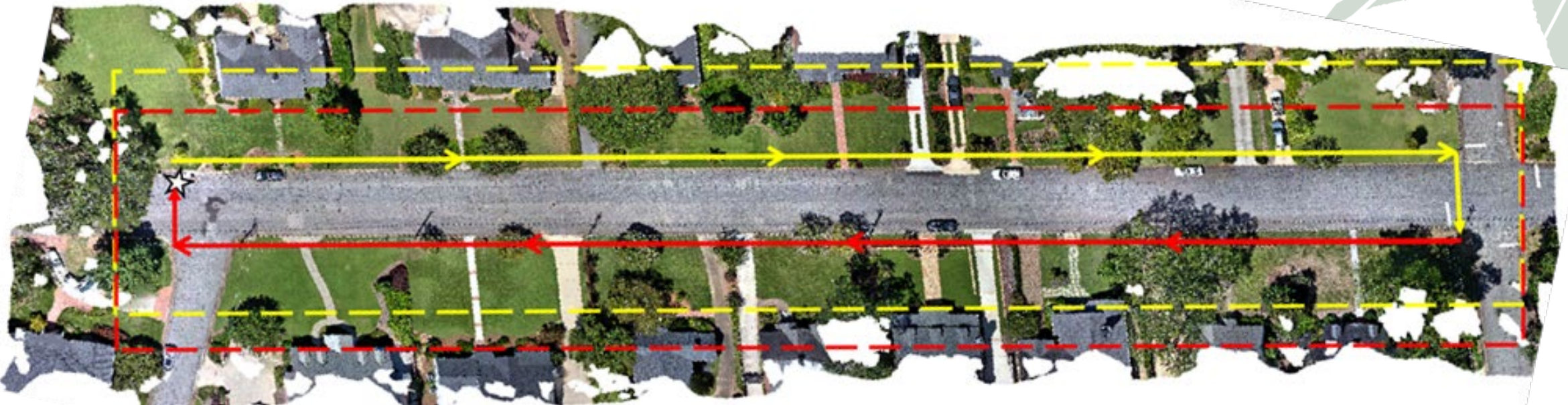
Ground check: Tile, handheld, & UAV





## Methods: UAV application

- Transects = balance between safety and practical application
  - Regulations + courtesy
- Both sides of street. Low enough for detail, high enough for image overlap.
  - 165-175 ft & 80% overlap

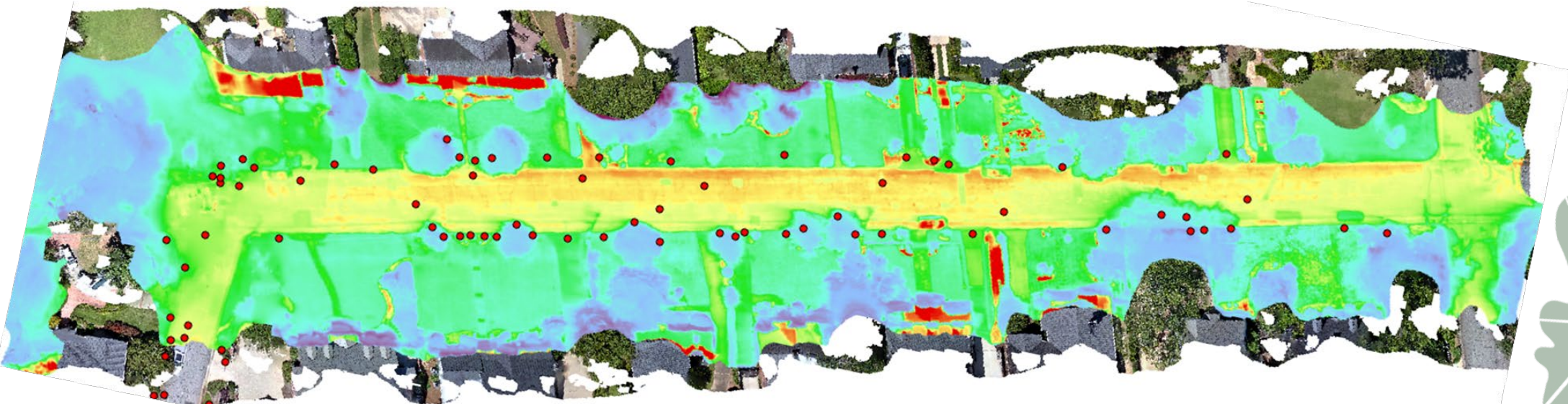






## Methods: Ground data collection

- Ground data collected at same time as flight
  - Surface type & Shaded or unshaded
  - Audio recording during collection
- GPS point taken for each point
- Handheld reading compared to UAV reading

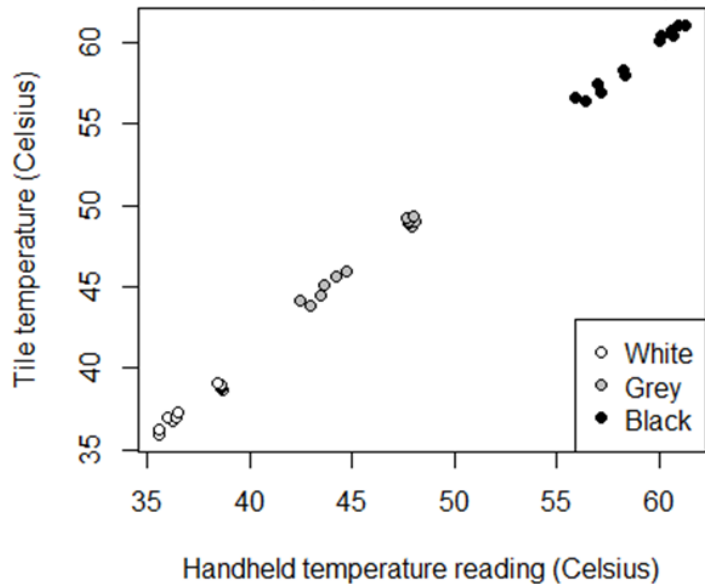




# Results: Handheld and UAV accuracy

- Handheld = accurate (n = 36)

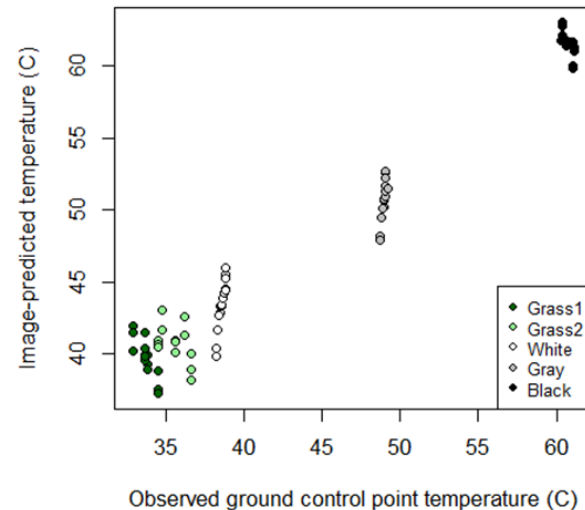
White		Gray		Black		Measurement Error (%)
Handheld FLIR	Average Tile Reading	Handheld FLIR	Average Tile Reading	Handheld FLIR	Average Tile Reading	
37.3	37.8	45.7	46.9	58.9	58.9	White Gray Black



- Majority of UAV thermal image readings fell within FLIR-specified  $\pm 5^\circ \text{C}$ 
  - (n = 38/45, or 84%) for tiles, worse for grass (7/30, or only 23%)
  - For neighborhoods so far: 222/278 (80%)

White Measurement Error (%)	Gray Measurement Error (%)	Black Measurement Error (%)
12.5	3.61	1.32

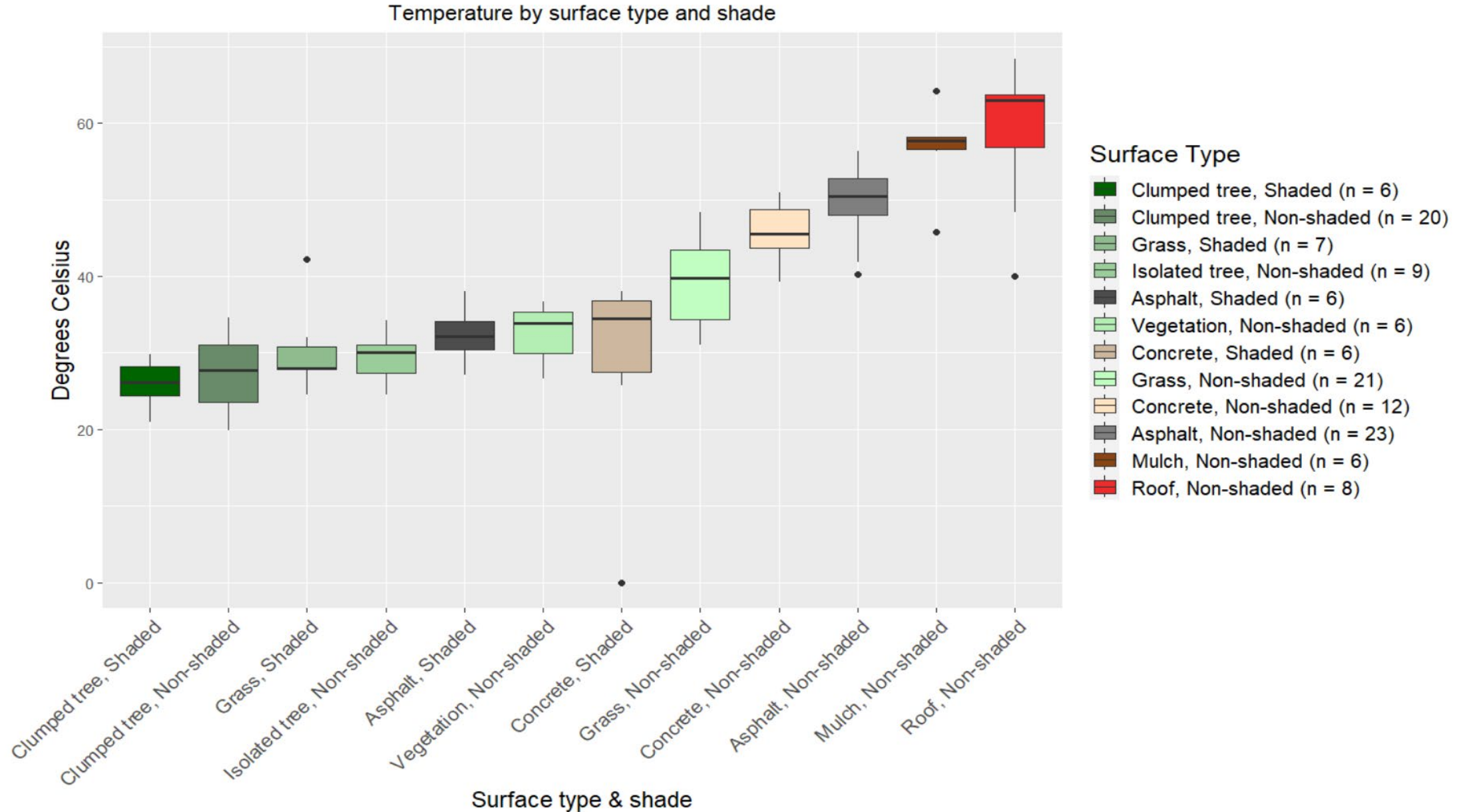
Predicted Temperature to True Temperature







# Results: Urban surface temperatures



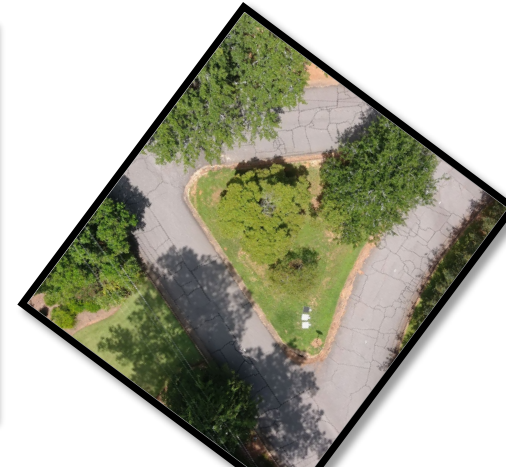
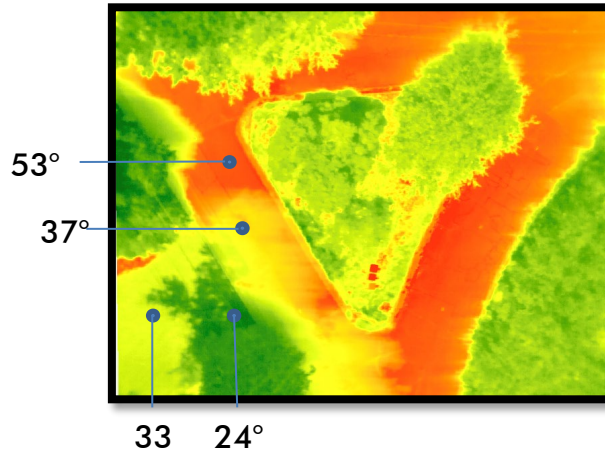
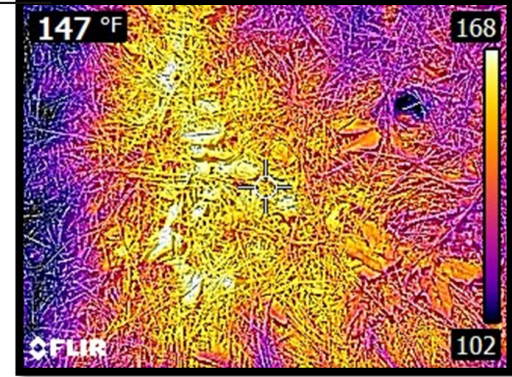


# Takeaways

- UAV can measure urban temperatures
  - There is a way to fly urban areas while minimizing risk
  - Person with technical knowledge needed
- Even non-shaded greenery = some of the coolest surfaces
  - Non-green natural surfaces appear hotter—comparable?
- Tree configuration (clumped vs. isolated) might show temperature differences in canopy temperature (Alonzo et al., 2021)
  - Does configuration make a difference in surrounding surface temps?



[Wikimedia Commons](#)







# Takeaways (continued)

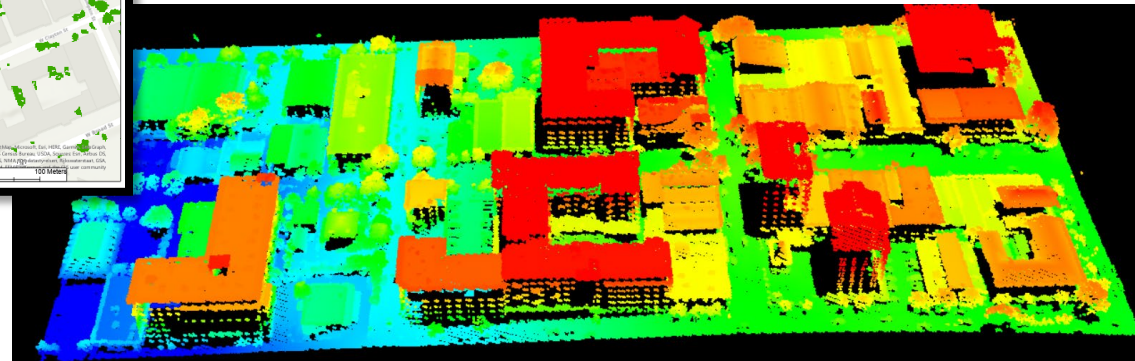
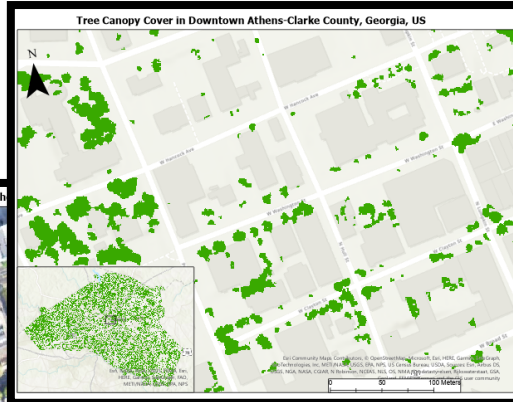
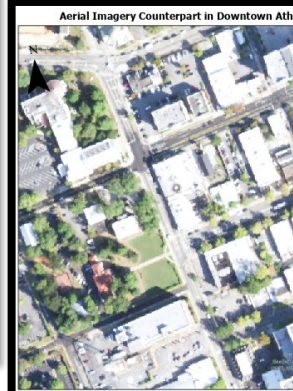
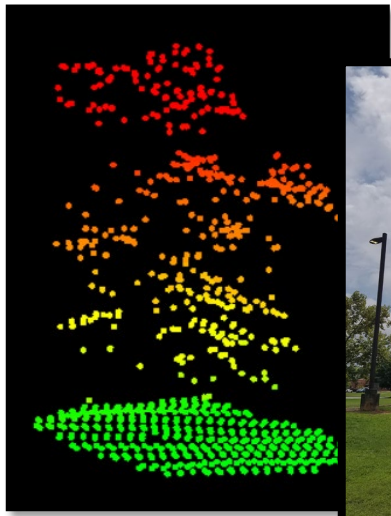
- More work required in:
  - Tree characteristics effects and spatial configurations of trees (Cai et al., 2022; Davis et al., 2016; Rafiee et al., 2016)
  - Relationships among canopy temperature, air temperature, and surface temperature (Cheung et al., 2021)
  - Spatial configurations of surrounding environment & trees (da Rocha et al., 2017; Oke & Stewart, 2012; Yu et al., 2019)
- Higher resolution thermal imagery from UAV makes more detailed data fusion possible



Cheung et al., 2021



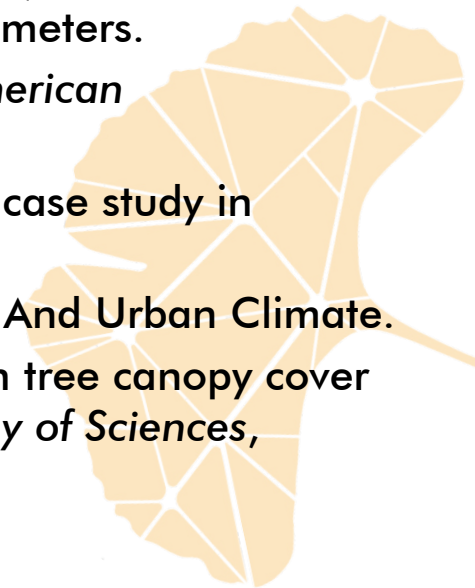
Accounting for  
3-  
dimensionality





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# Thank you

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UNIVERSITY OF  
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& Natural Resources

# **2nd** **World** **Forum on** **Urban** **Forests**

**2023**



**World Forum on  
Urban Forests**





# 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

Washington DC, 2023

## Session 1.4 - In the Cool of the Day

Impacts of water restriction on the development of urban trees and their associated climate services.



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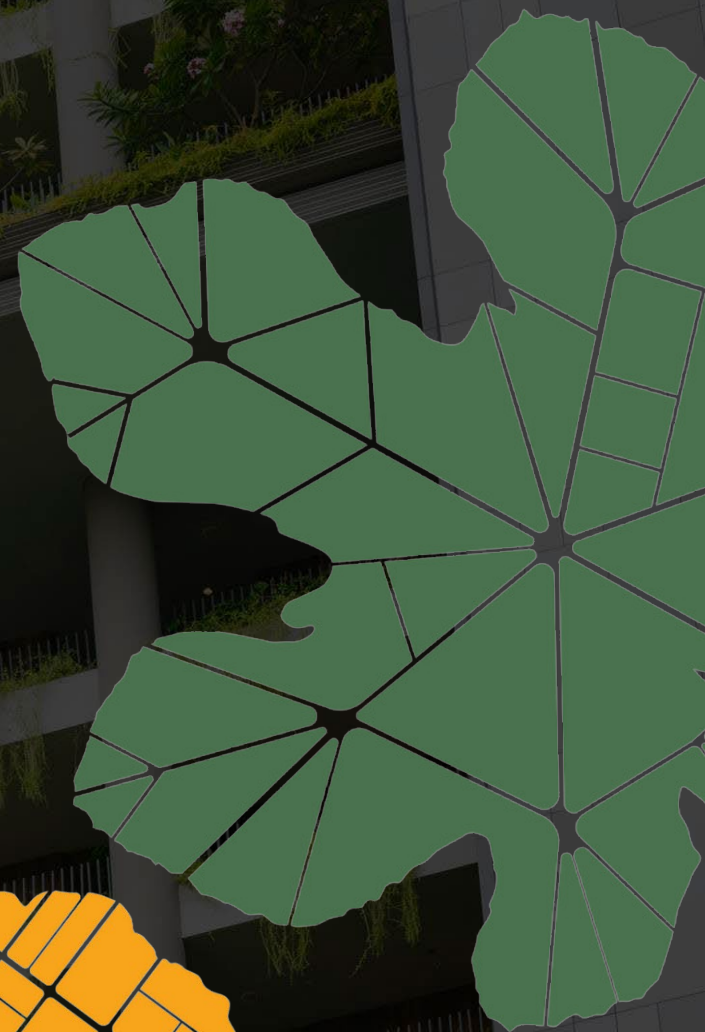
### Presented by

Dorine Canonne, Sabine Demotes-Mainard,  
Marc Saudreau, Julien Thierry, Bénédicte Dubuc,  
Lydie Ledroit, Denis Cesbron, Camille Lebras, Lydia Brialix,  
Dominique Lemesle, Sophie Herpin, Pierre-Emmanuel Bournet



**Introduction**

Context & Objectives



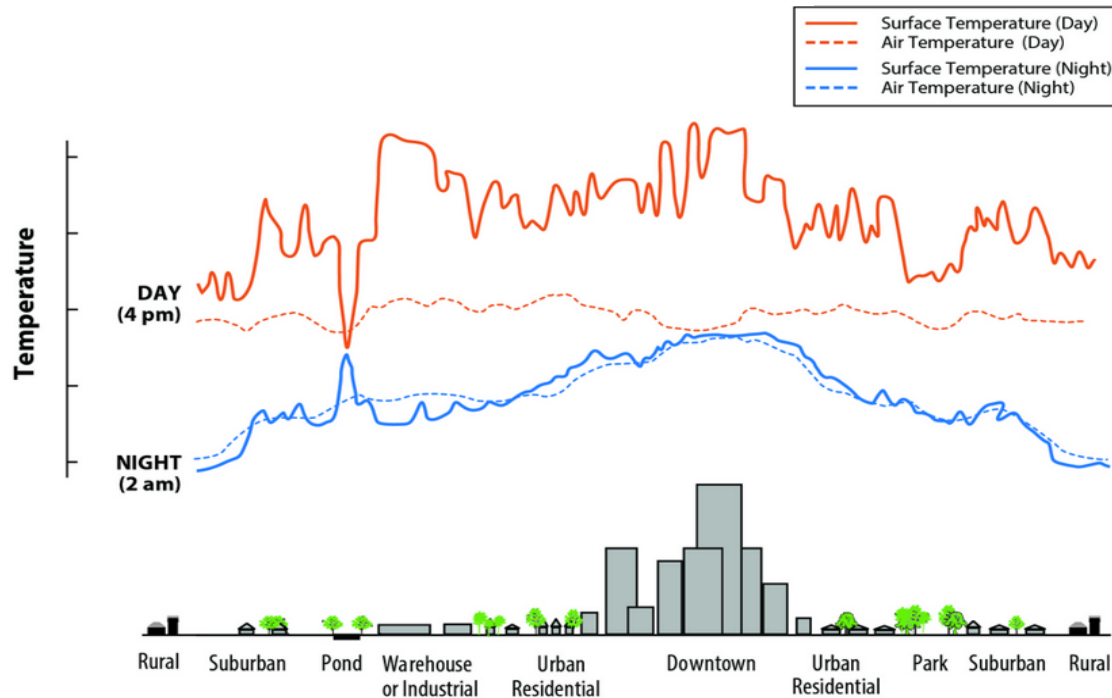




- Ongoing climate changes, e.g. ↗ global average air temperature

IPCC, 2022

- Urban Heat Island (UHI) intensification



Oke, 1981; US EPA, 2014

## ↗ Human thermal stress in cities

&

- Increasing **urbanization** trend, i.e. ↗ in the number of people exposed to these extreme climatic events

United Nations,  
2019

⇒ Identify solutions for adapting to increasing heat: **trees** in cities are a promising line ...  
... but there is a need to **account for increasing droughts**

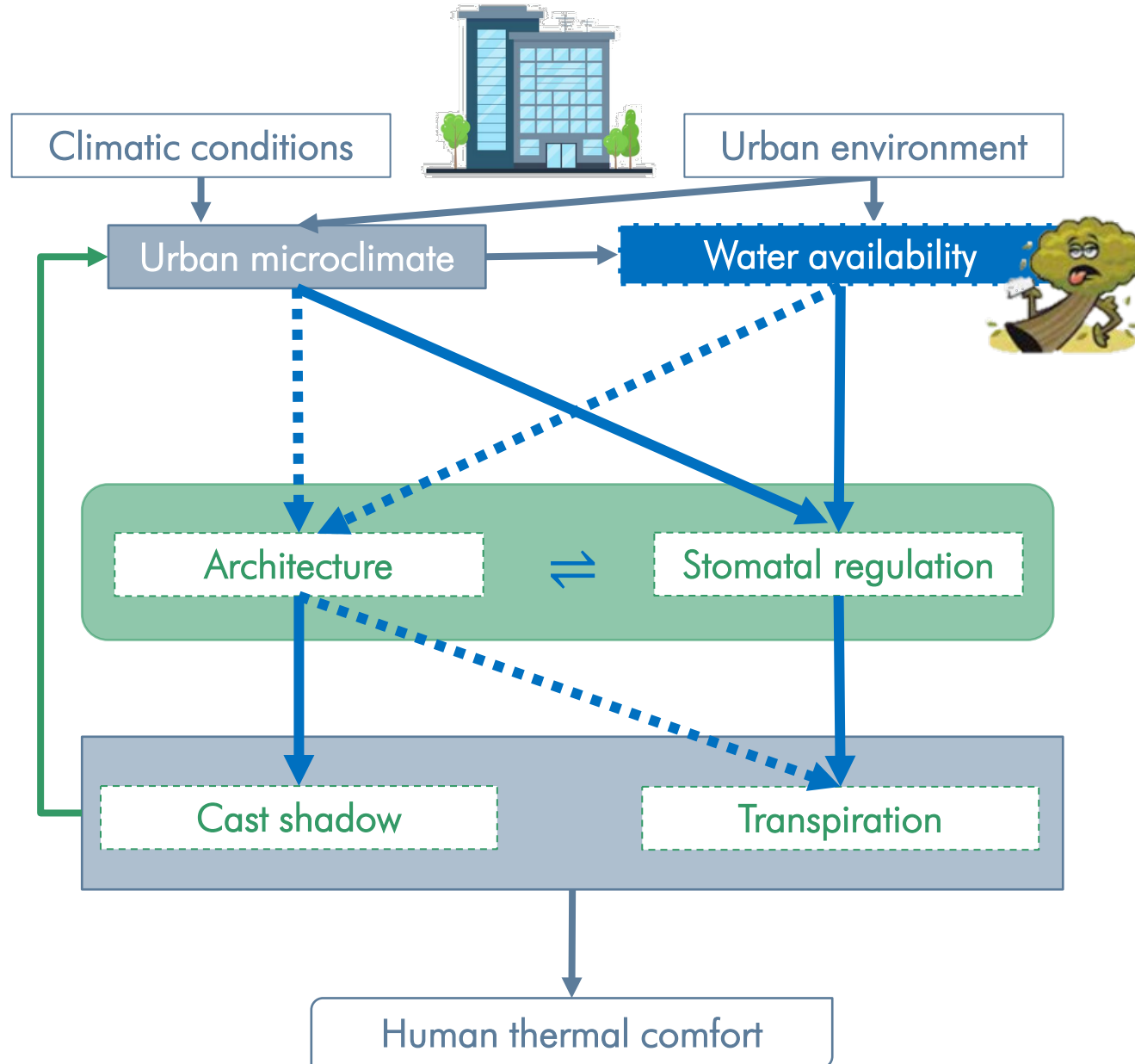
Bühler et al, 2006; Rahman et Ennos, 2016; Rötzer et al, 2021



Short term effects



Medium term effects



## Objective s

1. Analyze the effects of a drought period on the architectural development and the transpiration of alignment trees in a canyon street
2. Characterize their consequences on the cooling services

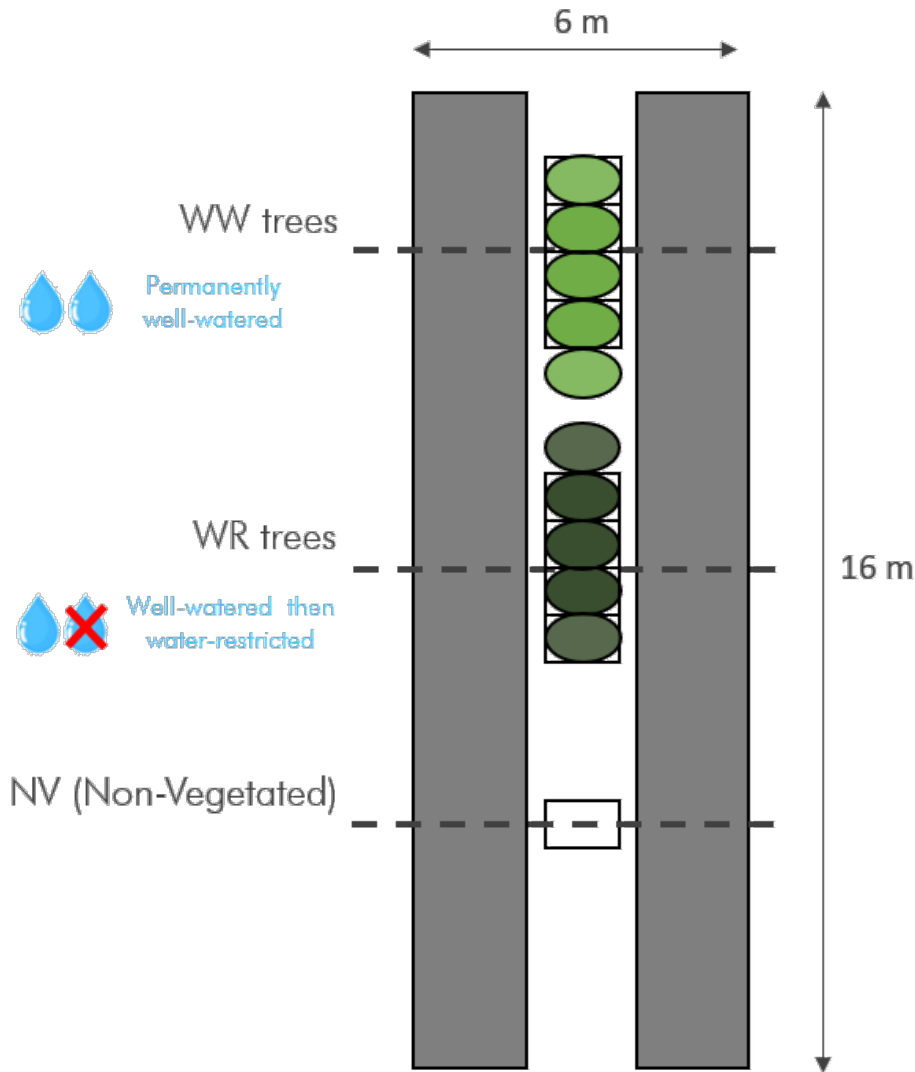


## Material & Methods

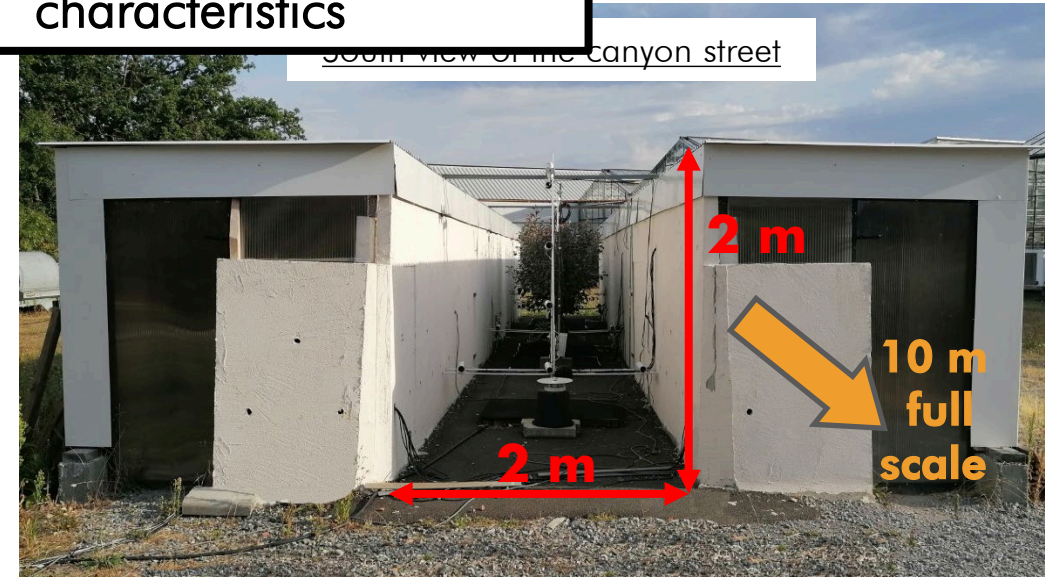
## Facility & Measurements







## Experimental facility characteristics



- Width : 2 meters
- Height : 2 meters
- Aspect ratio : 1
- Scale : 1/5
- 2 vegetated zones
- 1 non-vegetated zone
- 1 species *Malus Coccinella*<sup>®</sup> 'Courtarou'

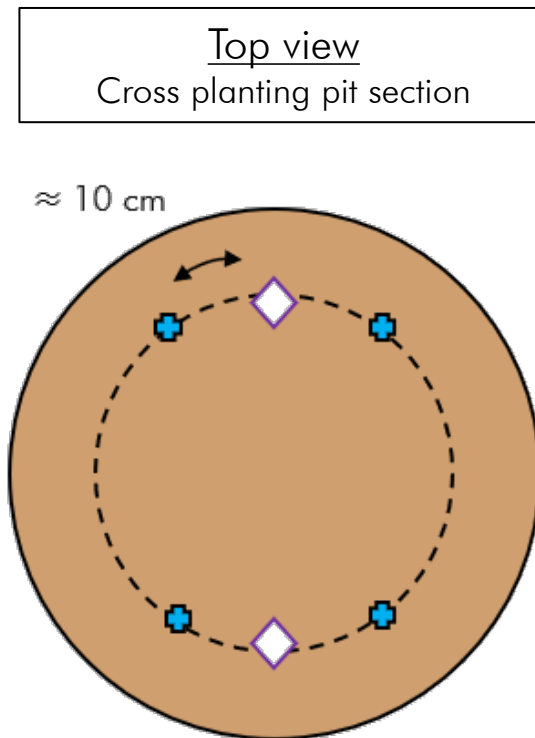
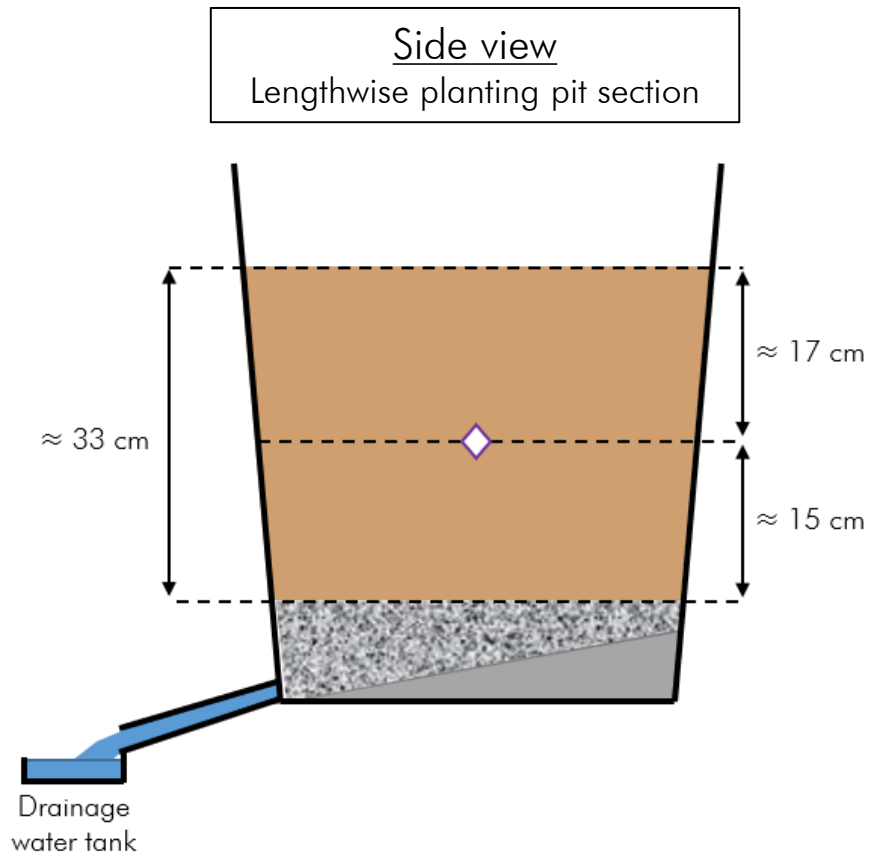




# Ground measurements

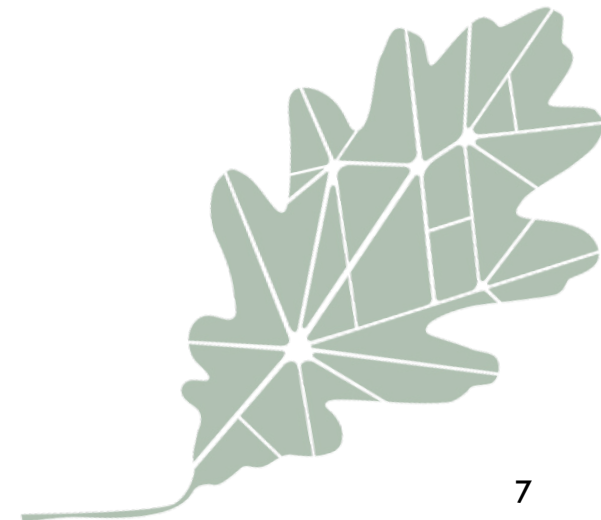
Bioclimatic sensors to characterize.

## ➤ Water availability in the soil



W ↔ E

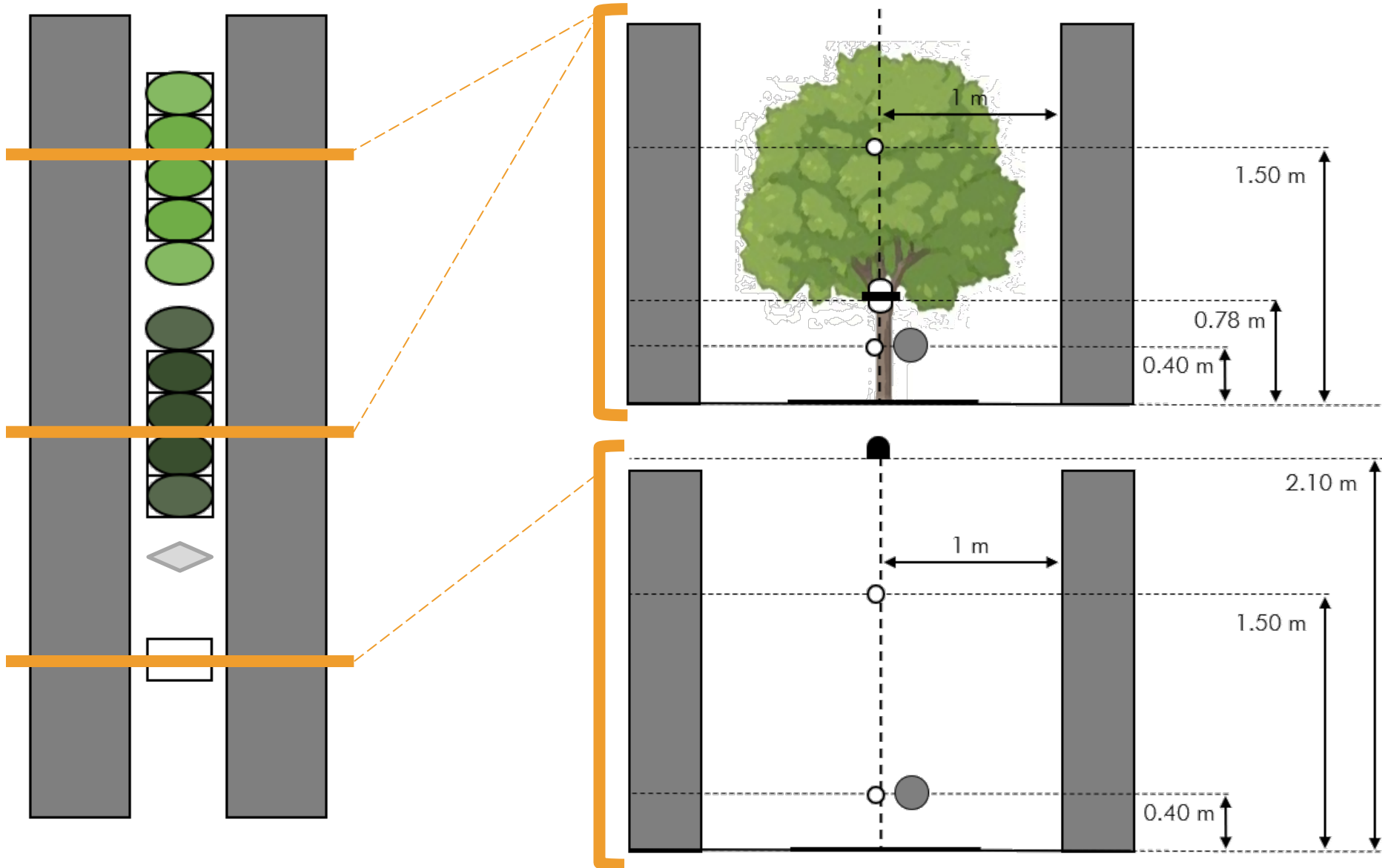
- ◊ Capacitive probe  
[m<sup>3</sup><sub>water</sub> m<sup>-3</sup><sub>soil</sub>]
- ⊕ Dripper



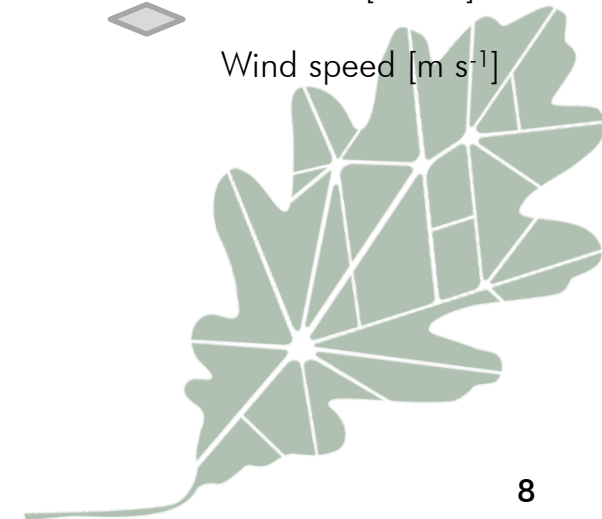


# Climate measurements

➤ Climatic conditions both in vegetated and non-vegetated urban street & tree climate services



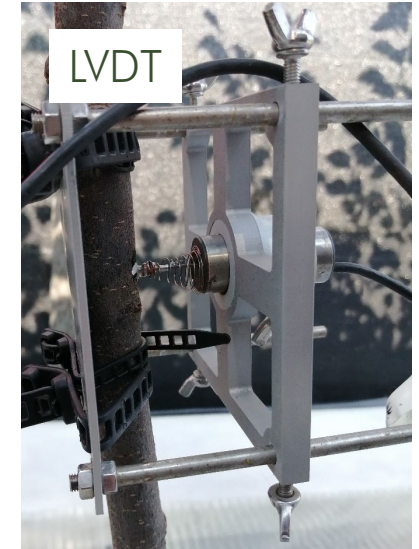
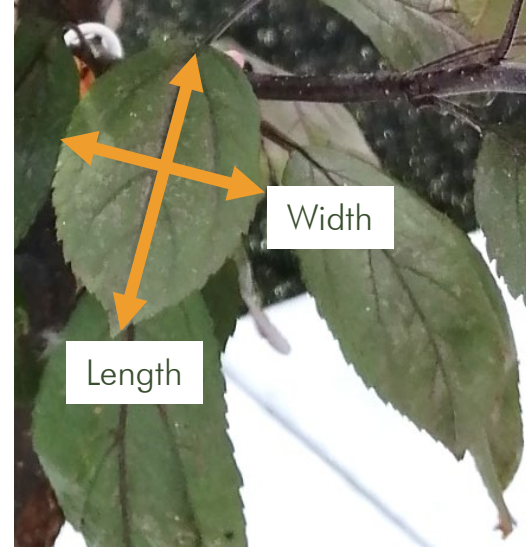
- Air temperature [°C] and relative humidity [%]
- Globe temperature [°C]
- ◐ Incident short wavelength radiation [ $W m^{-2}$ ]
- ◑ Incident and reflected short wavelength radiation [ $W m^{-2}$ ]
- ◇ Wind speed [ $m s^{-1}$ ]





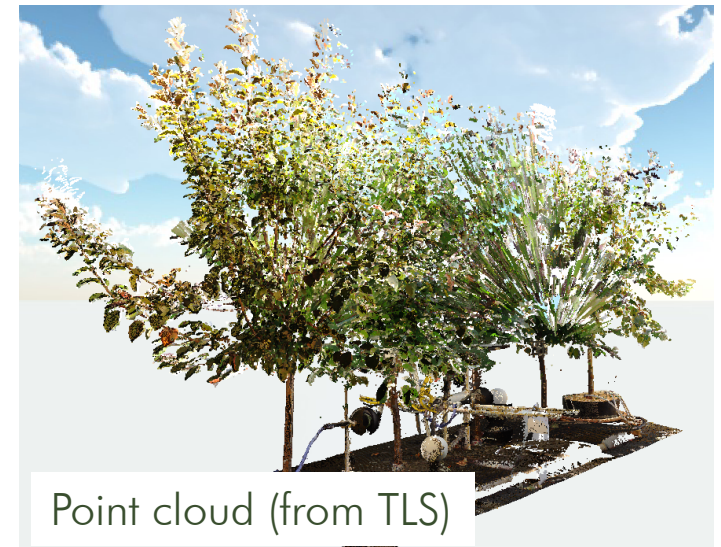
**Tree measurements**

- Organ characteristics:
  - o Leaf and stem numbers and dimensions (length & width) *by manual measurements*
  - o Trunk diameter variations *using LVDT*



- Crown characteristics:
  - o Tree leaf area using allometric relationships *based on manual measurements of leaf length, leaf width and total foliated length of the axes*
  - o Crown geometry such as projected area, volume *using Terrestrial Laser Scanner*

- o Leaf Area Index (LAI), Leaf Area Density (LAD) *calculated from tree leaf area and crown geometry variables*

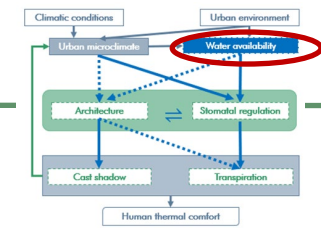




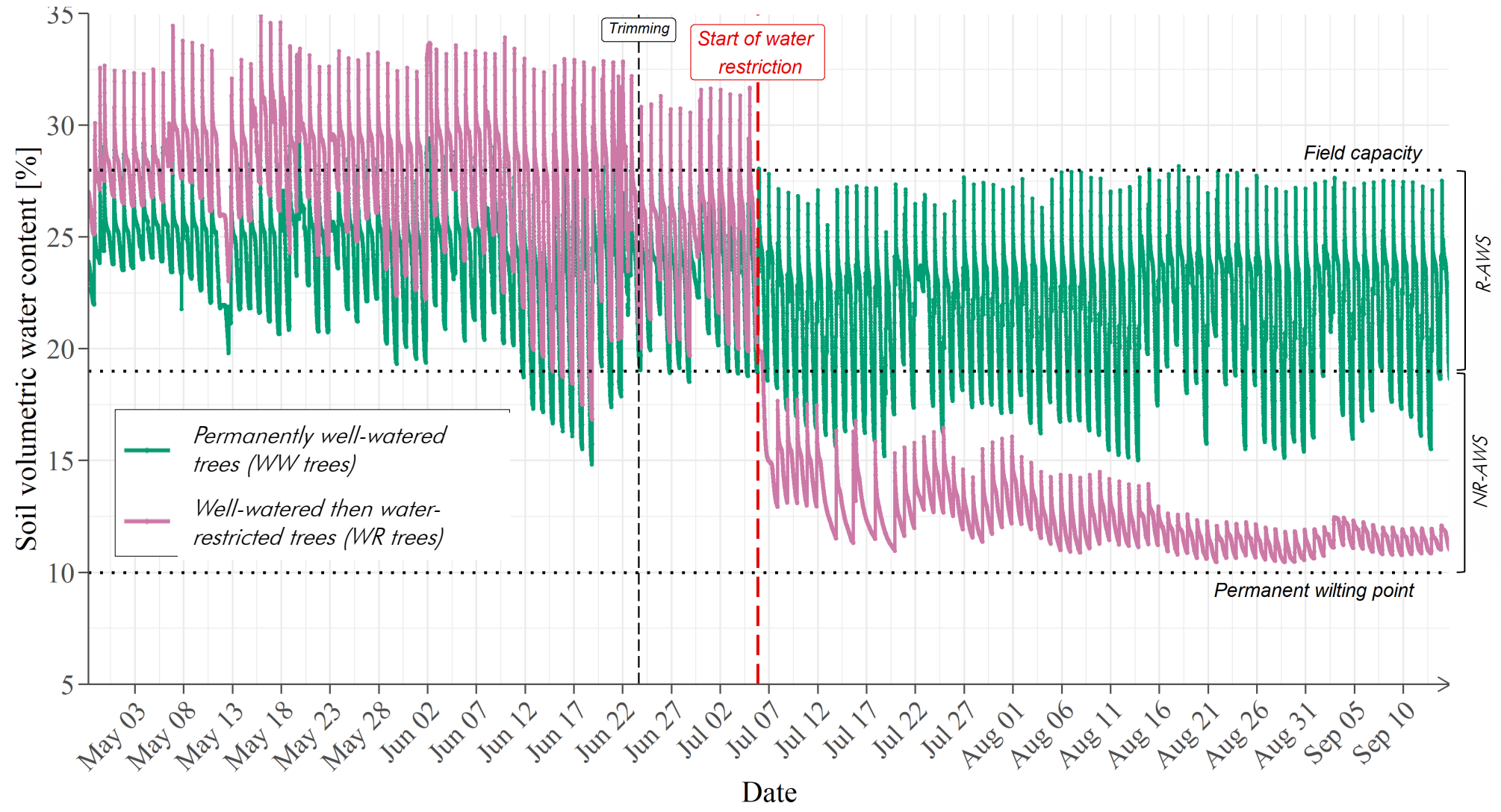
## Results

# Characterization of water regime

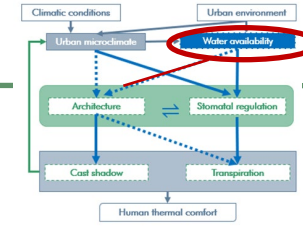




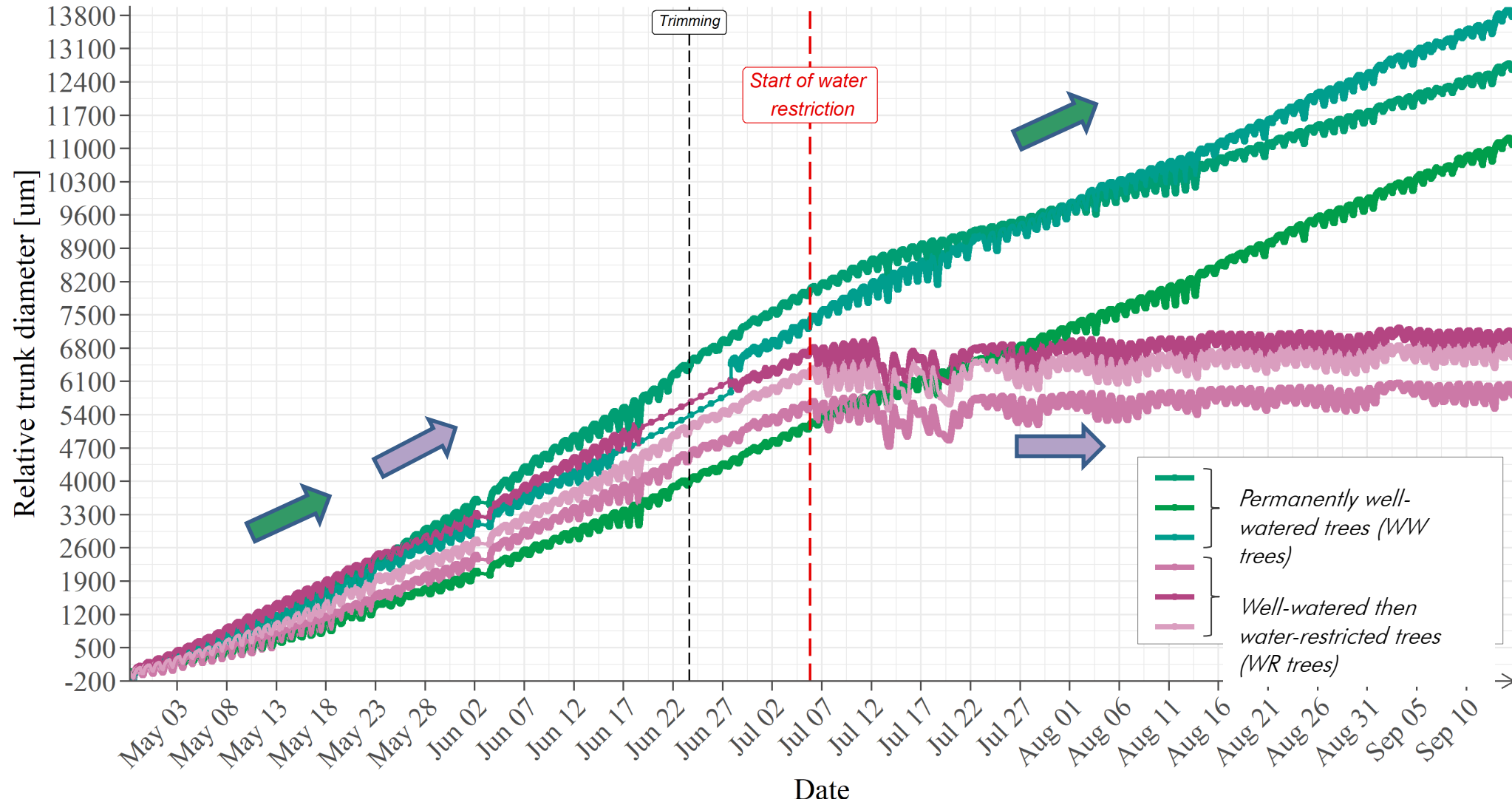
## Evolution of average soil volumetric water content



- **Before WR starts:**  
Soil volumetric water content in the readily available water storage (R-AWS) = **Well-watered conditions** for both WW trees & WR trees
- **After WR starts:**
  - Soil volumetric water content in the R-AWS = **Well-watered conditions** for WW trees
  - Soil water content in non-readily available water storage (NR-AWS) = **Water-restriction** for WR trees



## Evolution of trunks' micrometric variations of the trees



- Before WR starts:  
Positive trunk secondary growth for both WW trees & WR trees
- After WR starts:
  - Still positive trunk secondary growth for WW trees
  - **No trunk secondary growth** for WR trees



## Results

# Impact of water restriction on tree architecture



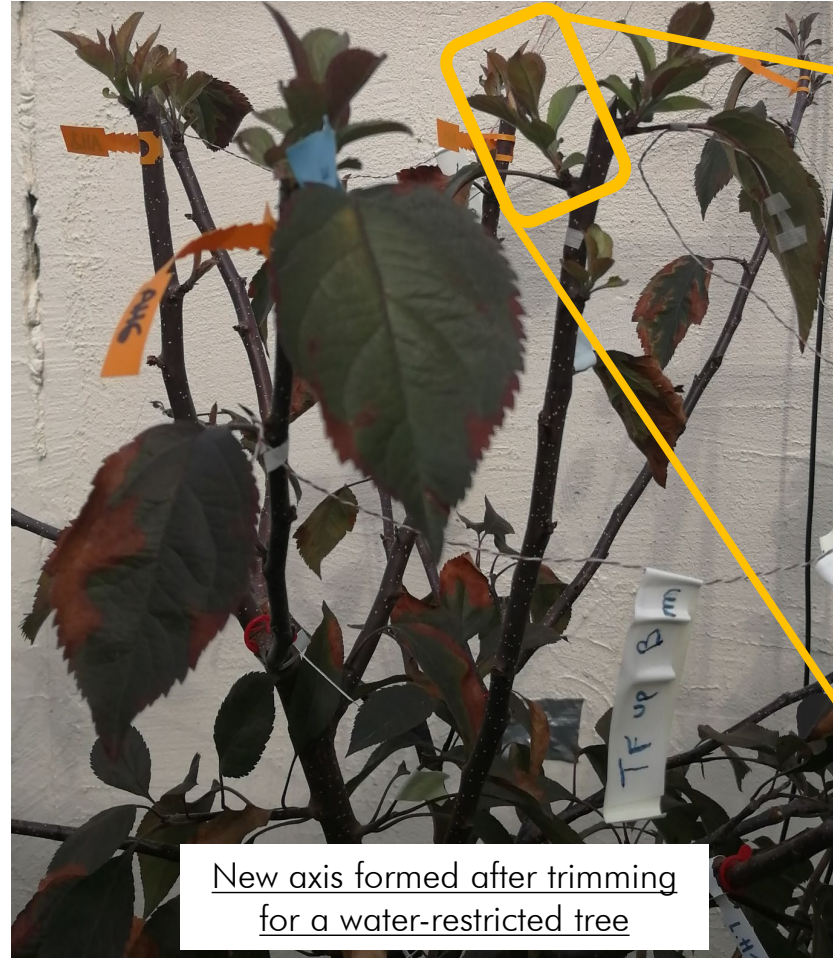




Second seasonal generation of axes **G2 axis**

First seasonal generation of axes **G1 axis**

New axis formed after trimming for a well-watered tree



New axis formed after trimming for a water-restricted tree

2022.07.22



First seasonal generation of axes **G1 axis**

Second seasonal generation of axes **G2 axis**

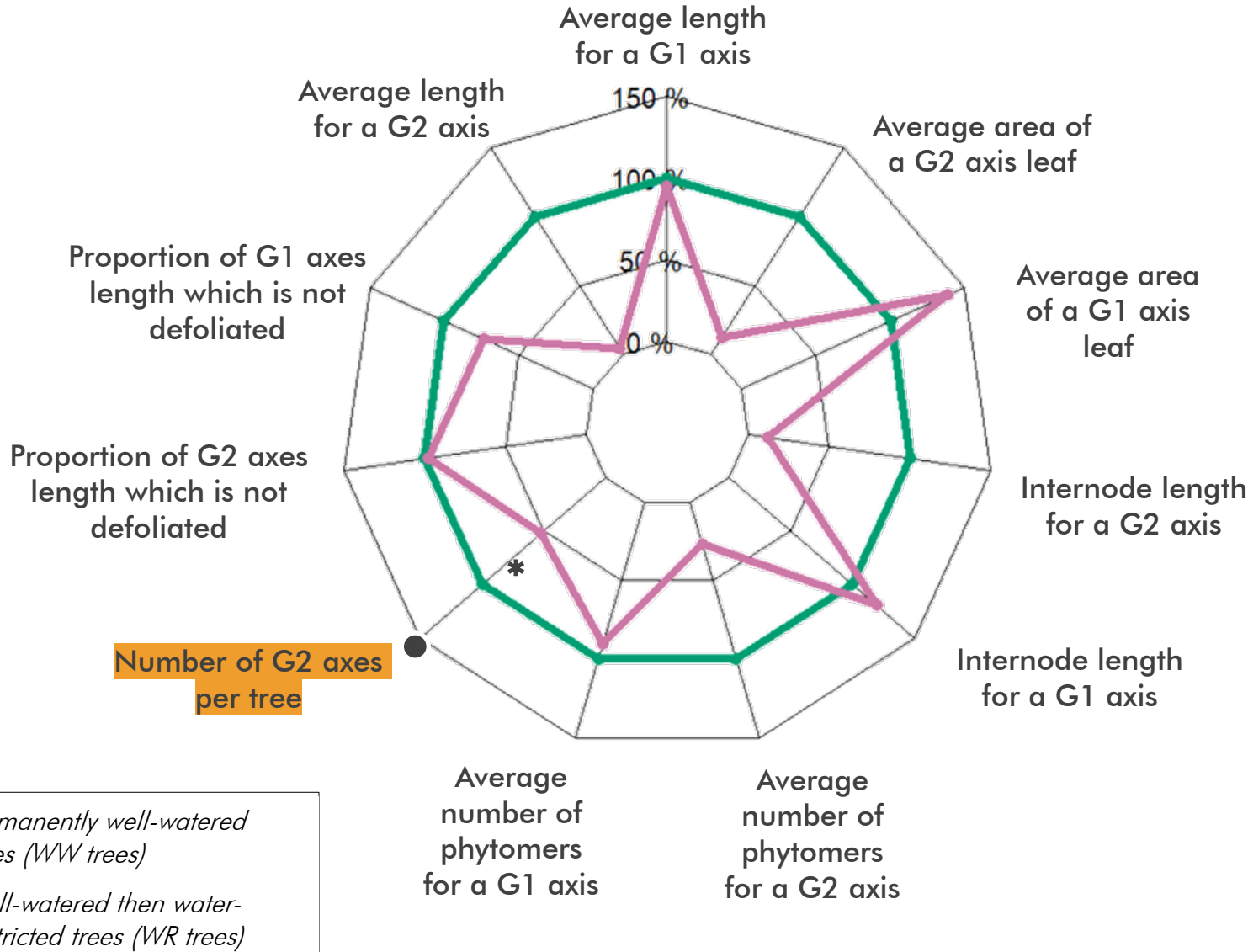
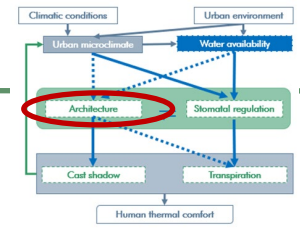
Trimming to maintain coherent tree dimensions, which resulted in new branches development rather than evolution of formerly developed axes





**After 7 water-restricted weeks (for WR trees)**

Architectural variables involved in crown structure (relative values)



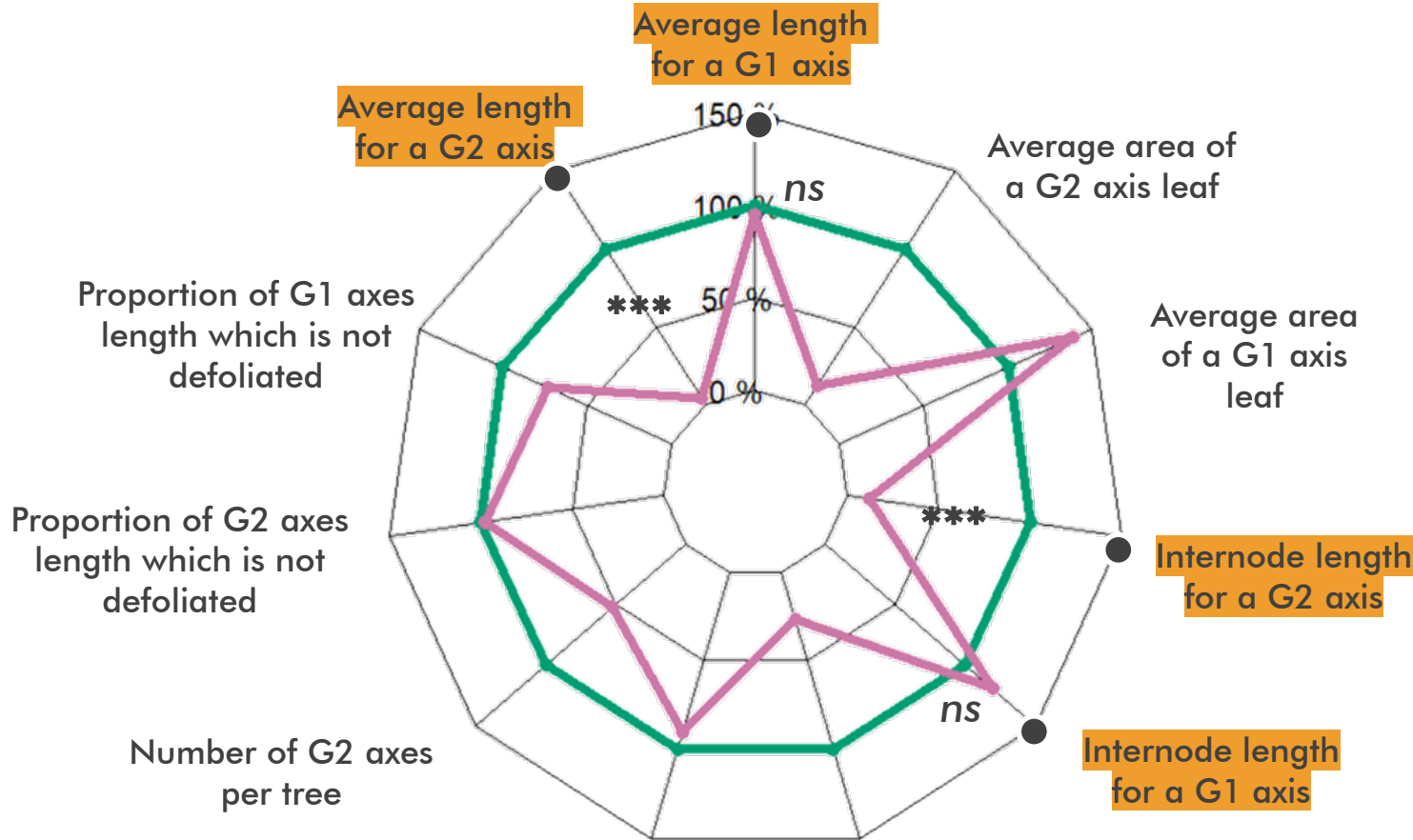
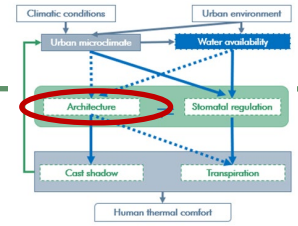
Water restriction implies:

- 1) **Branching:** ↓ of the number of newly formed axis



**After 7 water-restricted weeks (for WR trees)**

Architectural variables involved in crown structure (relative values)



Water restriction implies:

- 1) **Branching:**  $\searrow$  of the number of newly formed axis
- 2) **Elongation** of newly formed axis  $\searrow$

— Permanently well-watered trees (WW trees)

— Well-watered then water-restricted trees (WR trees)

Average number of phytomers for a G1 axis

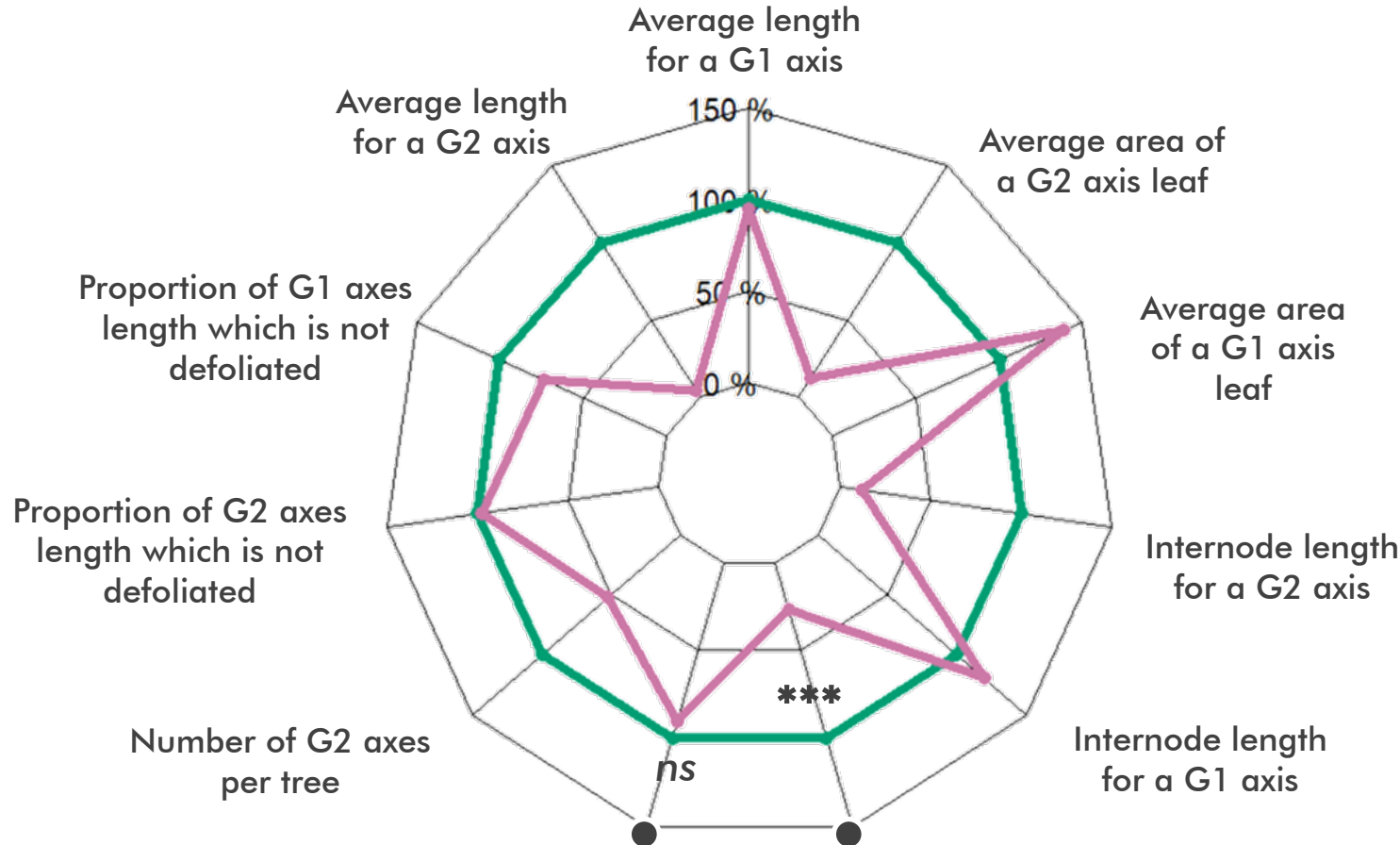
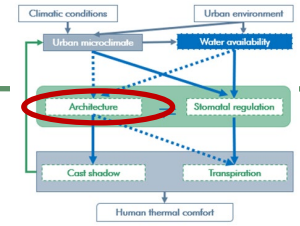
Average number of phytomers for a G2 axis





**After 7 water-restricted weeks (for WR trees)**

Architectural variables involved in crown structure (relative values)



Water restriction implies:

- 1) **Branching:** ↓ of the number of newly formed axis
- 2) **Elongation** of newly formed axis ↓
- 3) **Phytomer (and leaf) formation:** ↓ in newly formed axes

— Permanently well-watered trees (WW trees)

— Well-watered then water-restricted trees (WR trees)

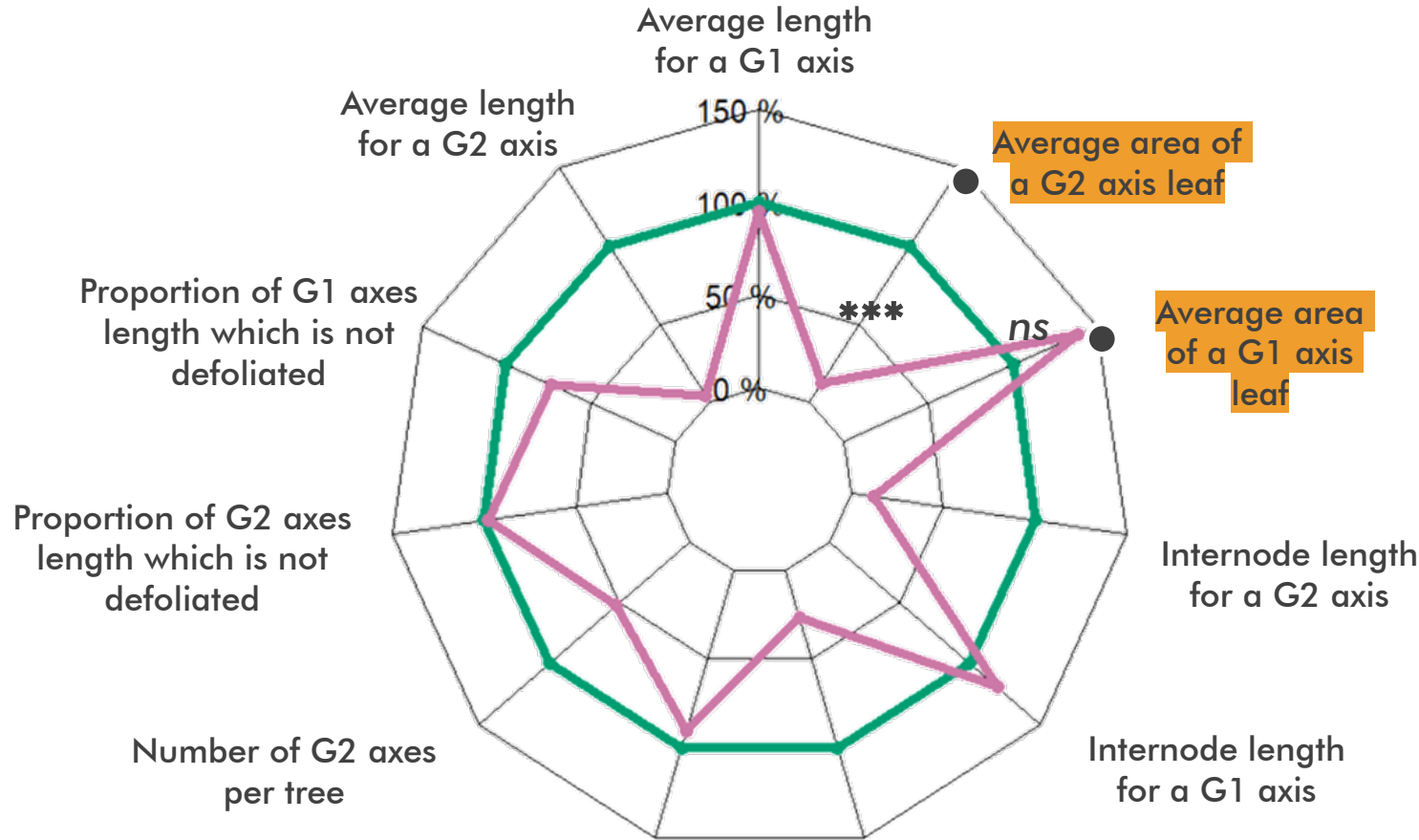
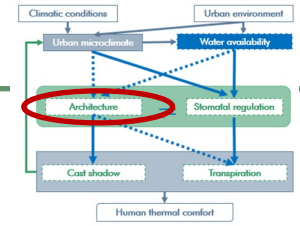
Average number of phytomers for a G1 axis

Average number of phytomers for a G2 axis



**After 7 water-restricted weeks (for WR trees)**

Architectural variables involved in crown structure (relative values)



Water restriction implies:

- 1) **Branching:** ↓ of the number of newly formed axis
- 2) **Elongation of newly formed axis** ↓
- 3) **Phytomer (and leaf) formation:** ↓ in newly formed axes
- 4) **Foliar expansion** of leaves carried out by newly formed axis ↓

Permanently well-watered trees (WW trees)

Well-watered then water-restricted trees (WR trees)

Average number of phytomers for a G1 axis

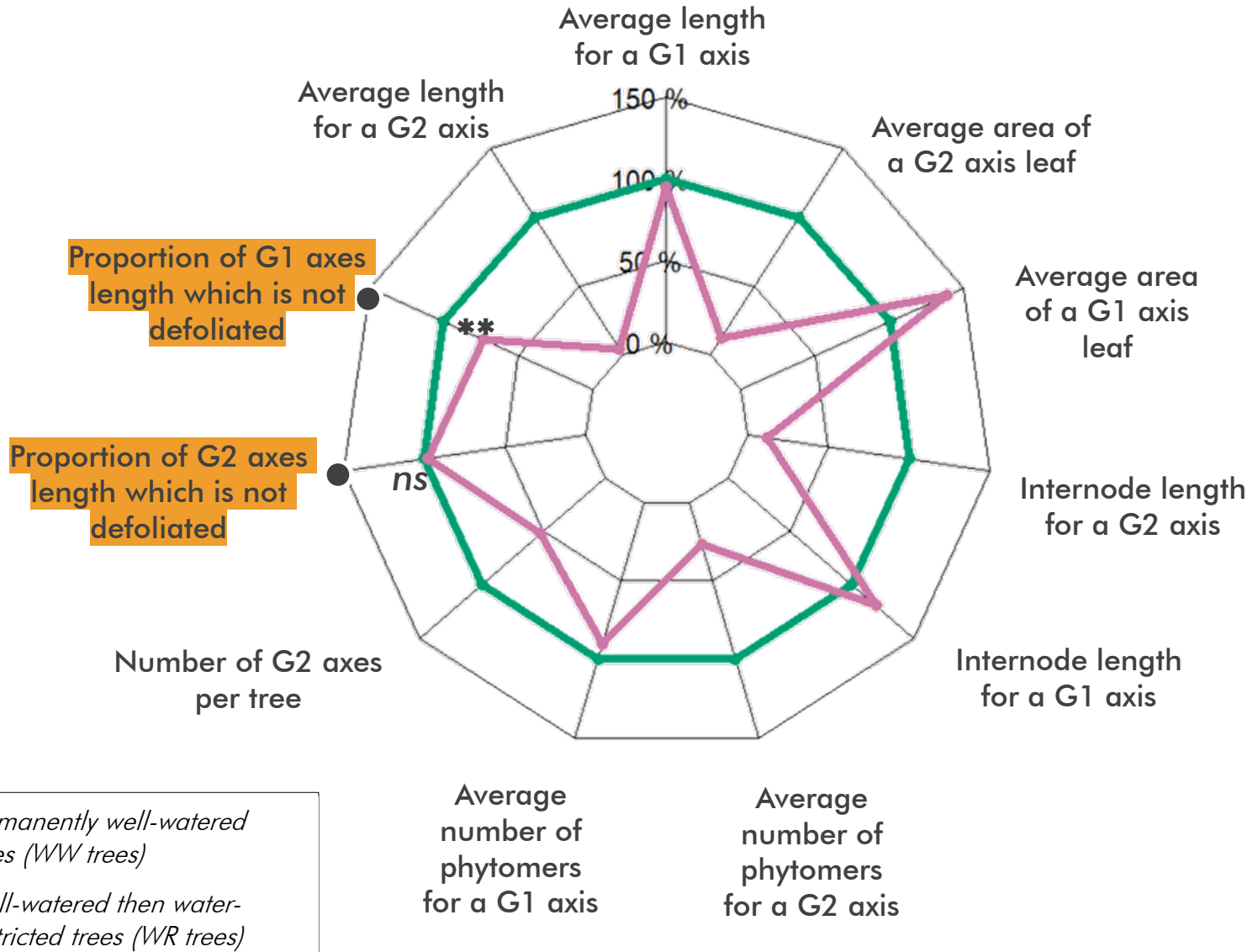
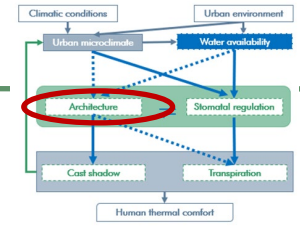
Average number of phytomers for a G2 axis





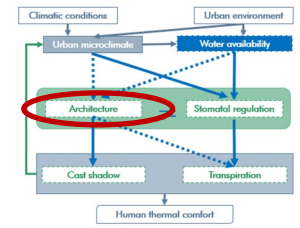
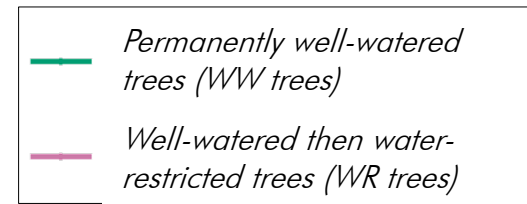
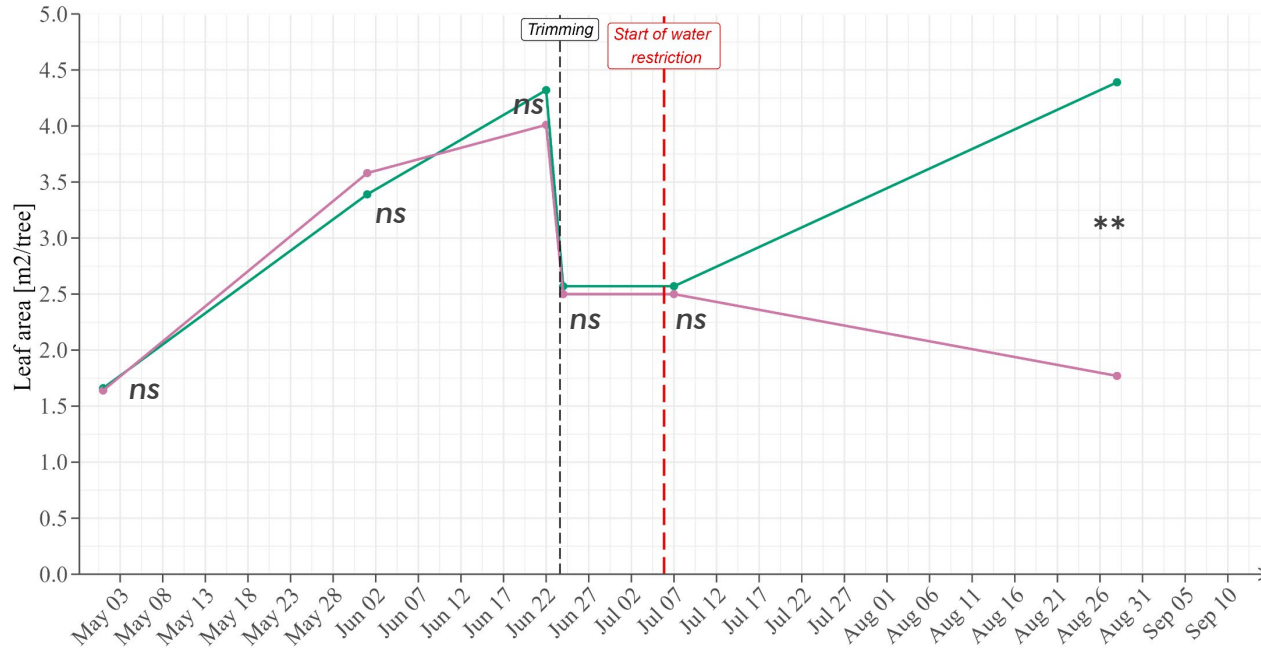
**After 7 water-restricted weeks (for WR trees)**

Architectural variables involved in crown structure (relative values)



- Water restriction implies:
- 1) **Branching:** ↓ of the number of newly formed axis
  - 2) **Elongation** of newly formed axis ↓
  - 3) **Phytomer (and leaf) formation:** ↓ in newly formed axes
  - 4) **Foliar expansion** of leaves carried out by newly formed axis ↓
  - 5) **Defoliation** of formerly formed axes ↗

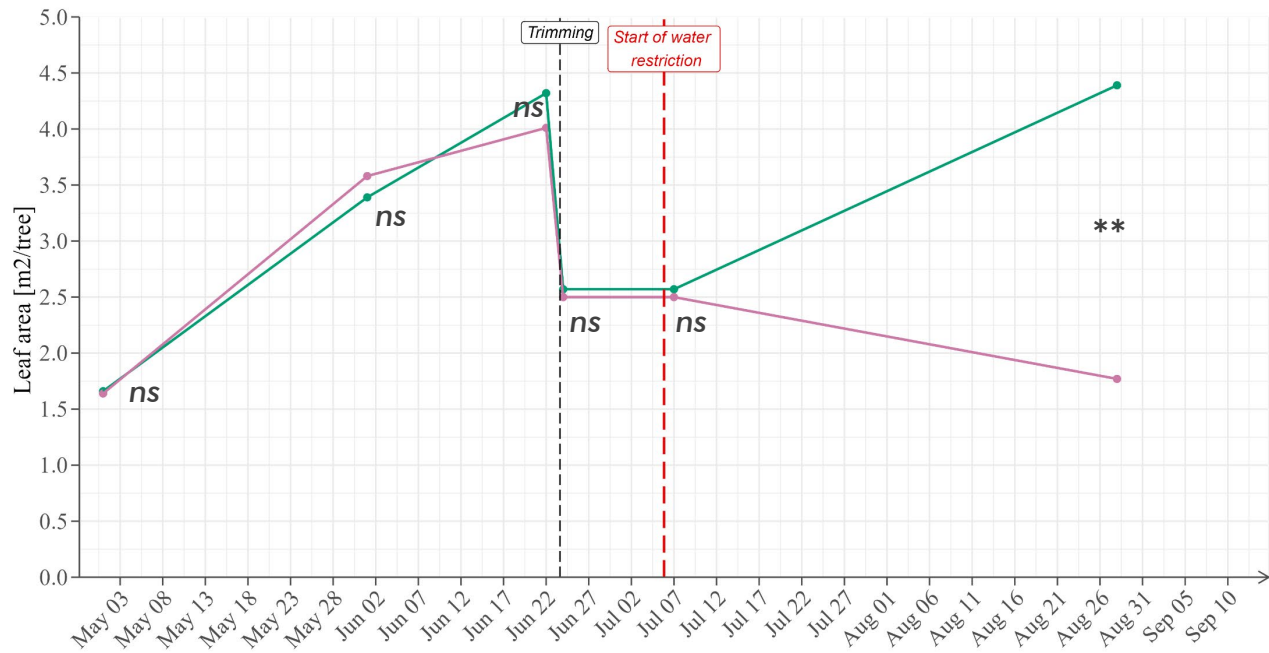
## Evolution of leaf area of the trees



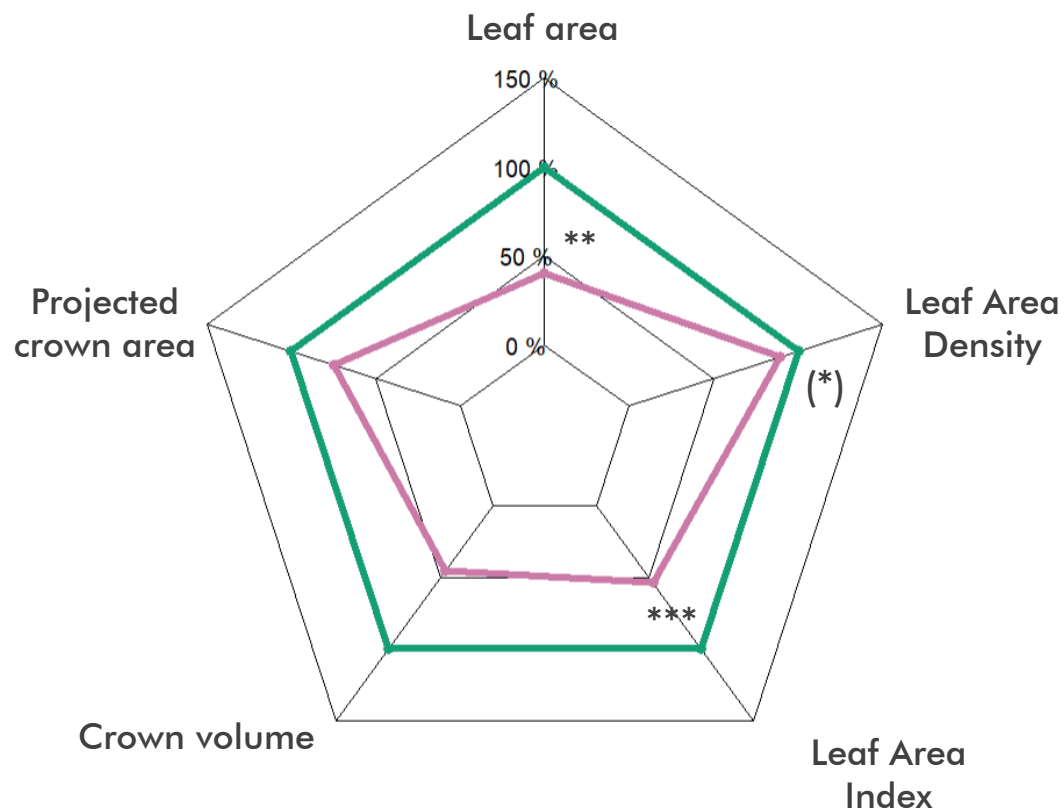
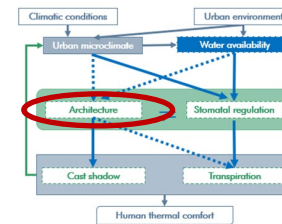
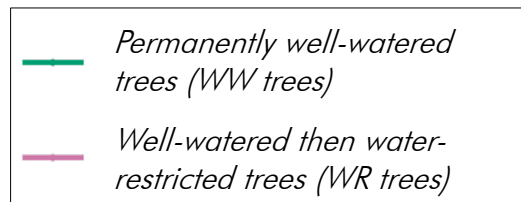
- Before WR starts:  
Leaf area of WW trees  $\approx$  Leaf area of WR trees
- After 7 water-restricted weeks:  
Leaf area of WW trees  $\gg$  Leaf area of WR trees, meaning **effects of water restriction on architectural processes affect the leaf area**



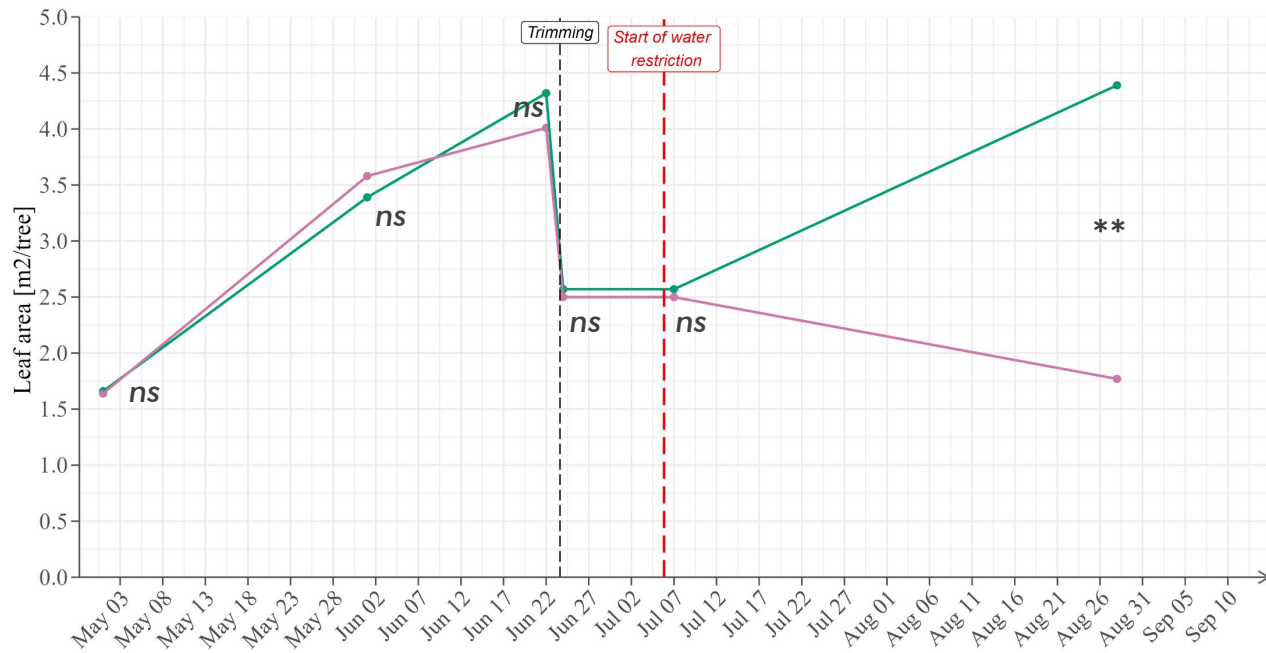
## Evolution of leaf area of the trees



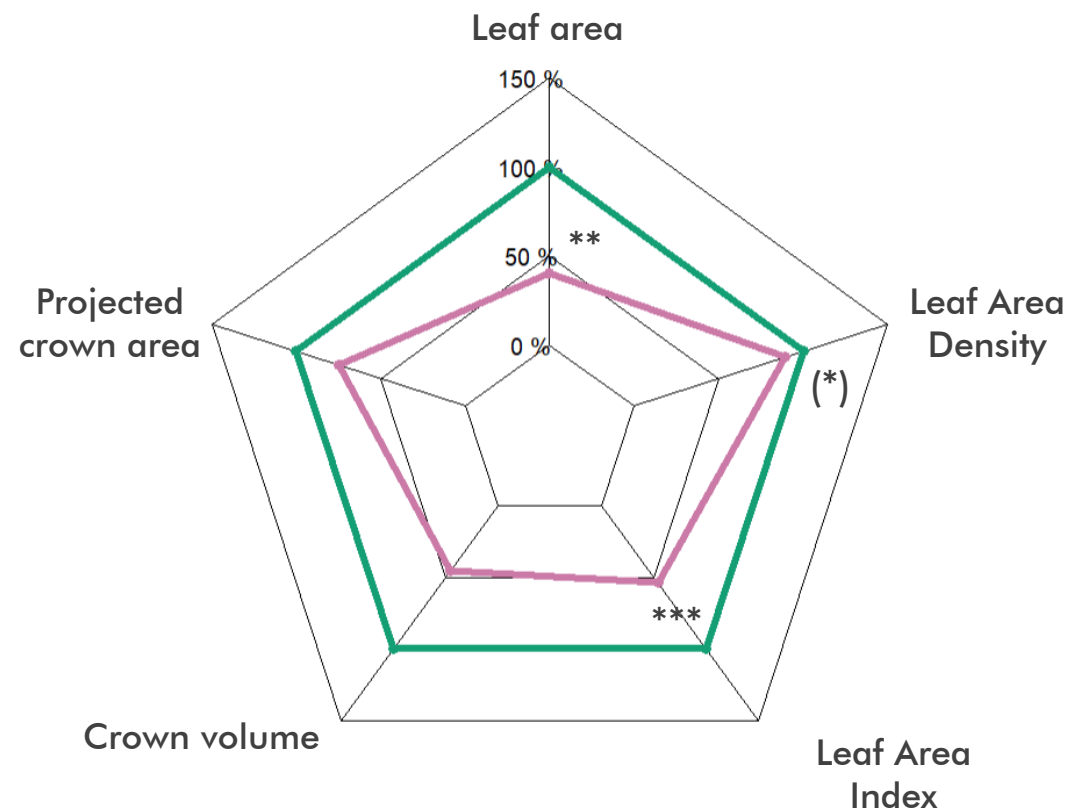
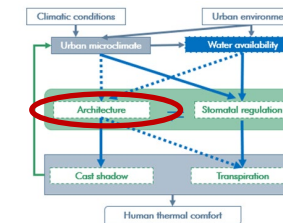
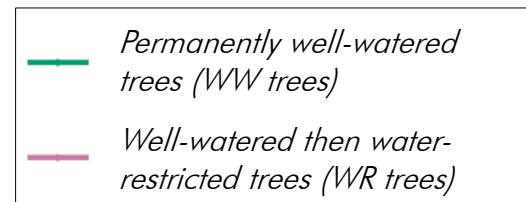
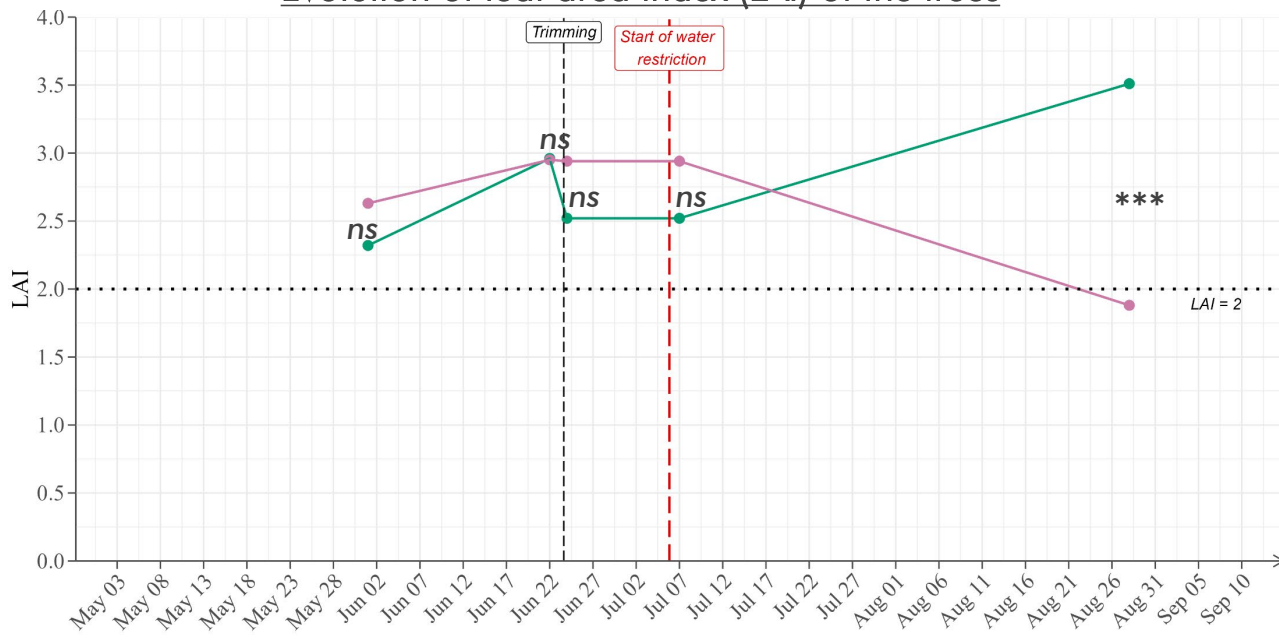
Crown geometry variables such as LAI are reduced after 7 weeks of water restriction due to reduction in leaf area



## Evolution of leaf area of the trees

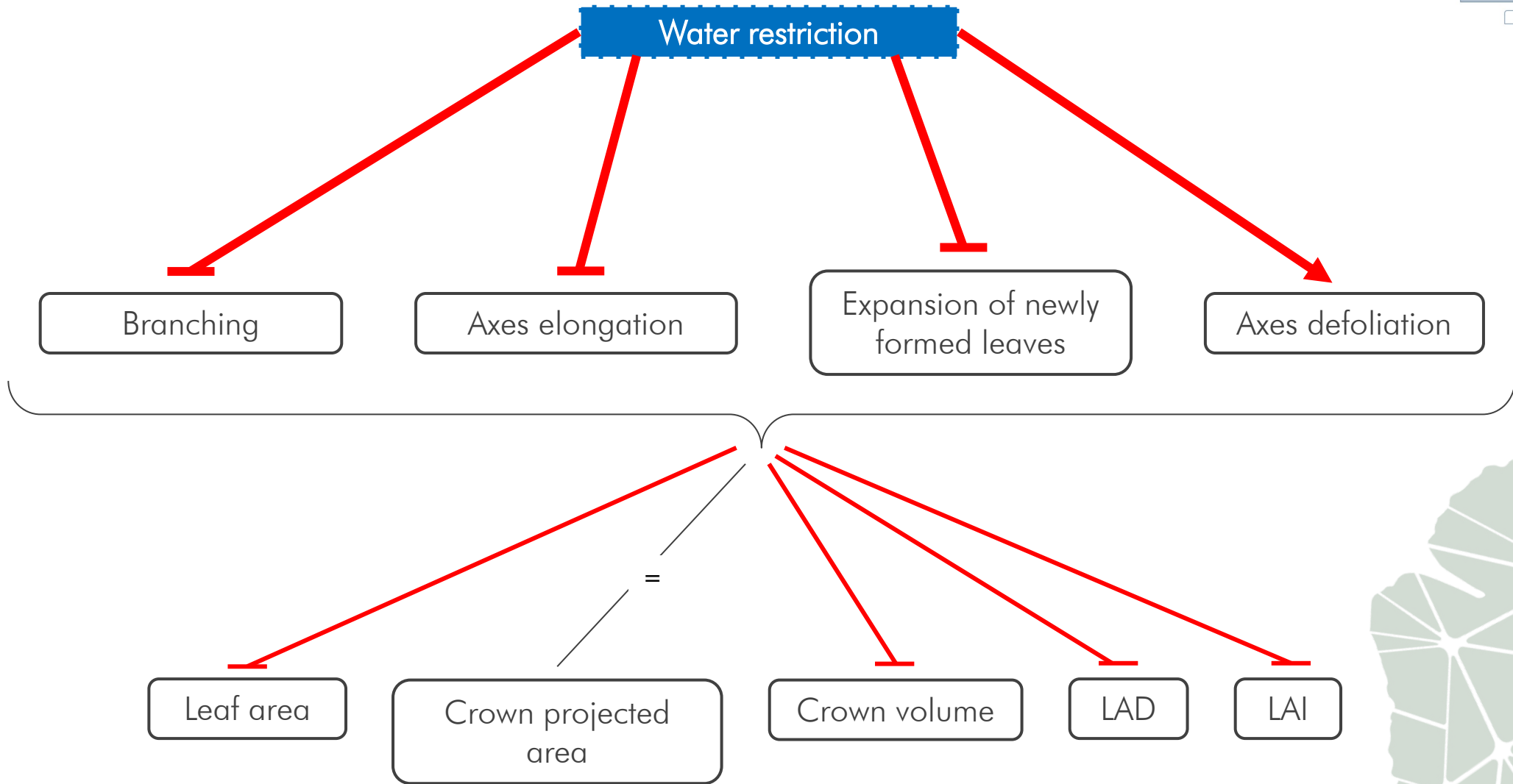
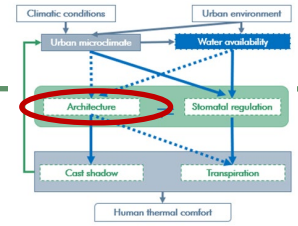


## Evolution of leaf area index (LAI) of the trees



LAI values are higher than or close to 2 during the whole season, even after the water-restricted period for WR trees (= 1.88)





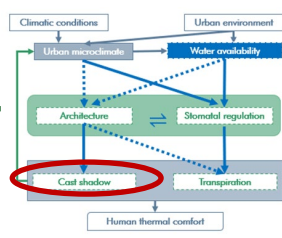


## Results

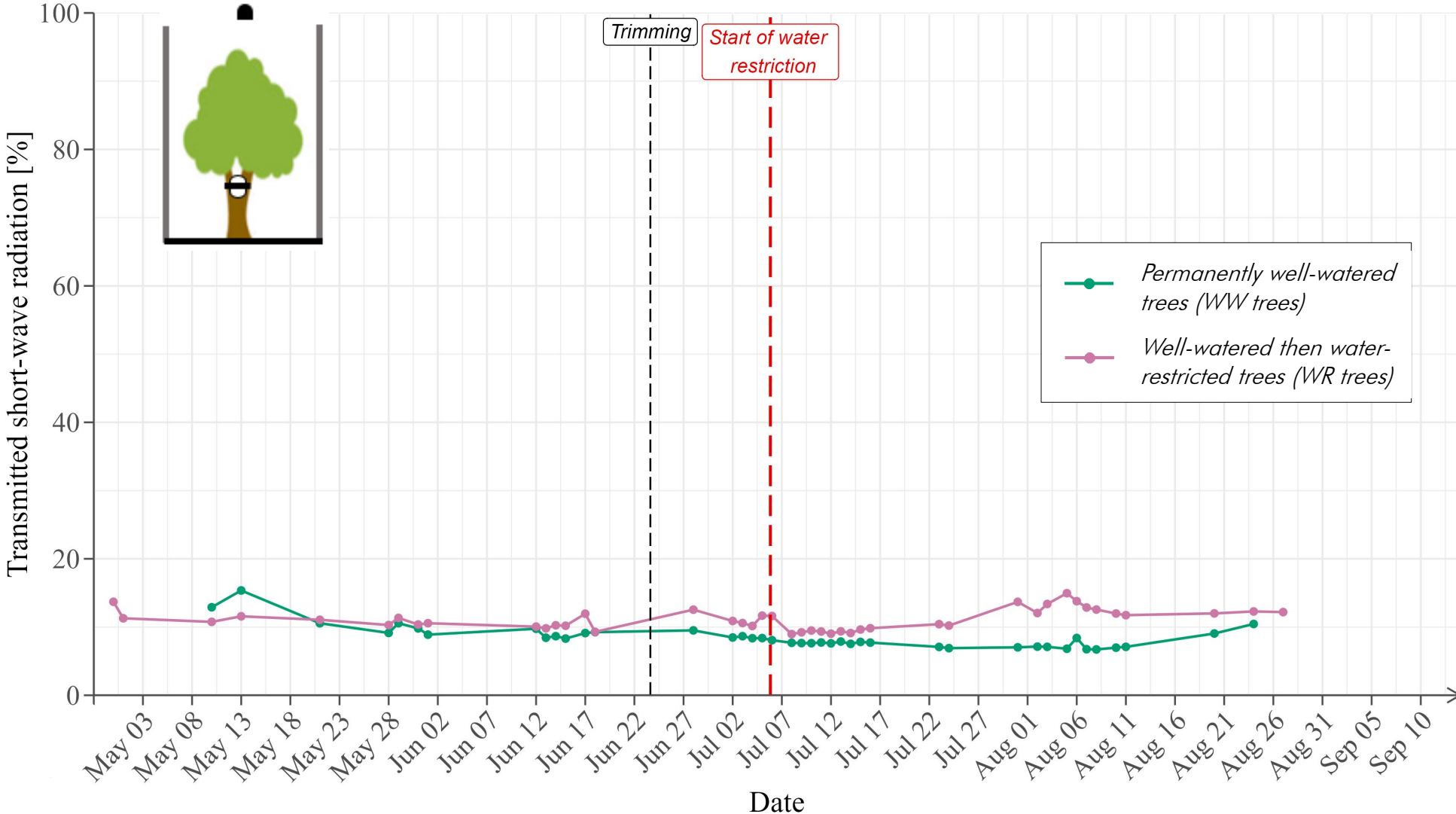
Impact of tree architectural modifications on associated climate services







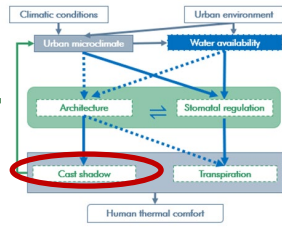
Evolution of the percentage of short wavelength transmitted radiation measured under the crown (at 0.78 m above street ground level at reduced scale)



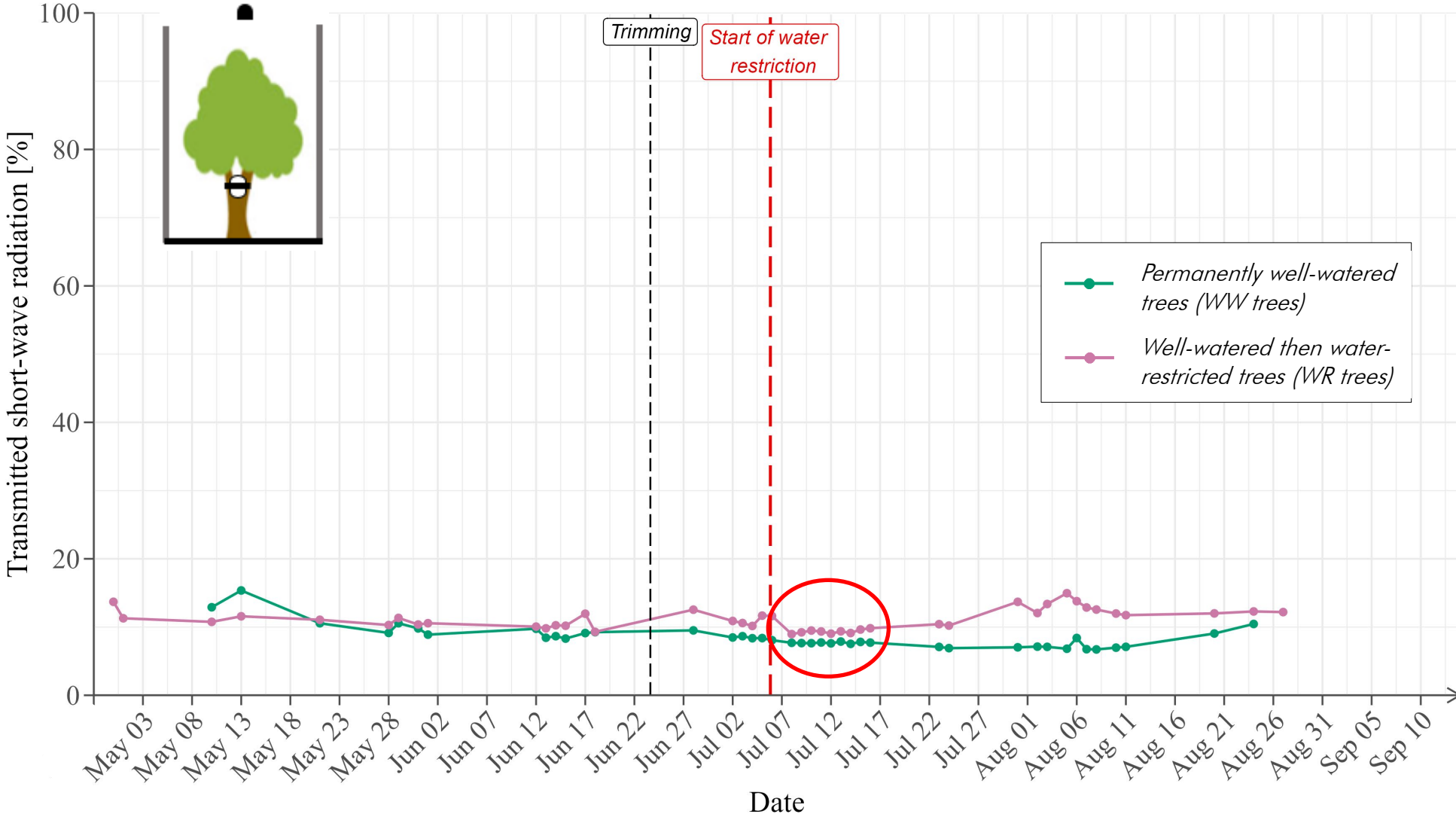
○ Before & after WR starts:

Both WW trees and WR trees afford strong cast shadow



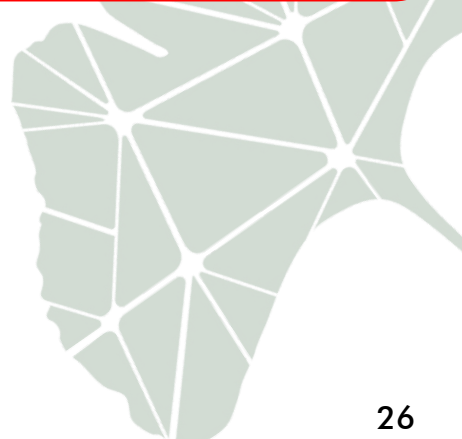


Evolution of the percentage of short wavelength transmitted radiation measured under the crown (at 0.78 m above street ground level at reduced scale)

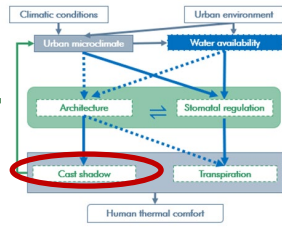


○ Before & after WR starts:  
Both WW trees and WR trees afford strong cast shadow

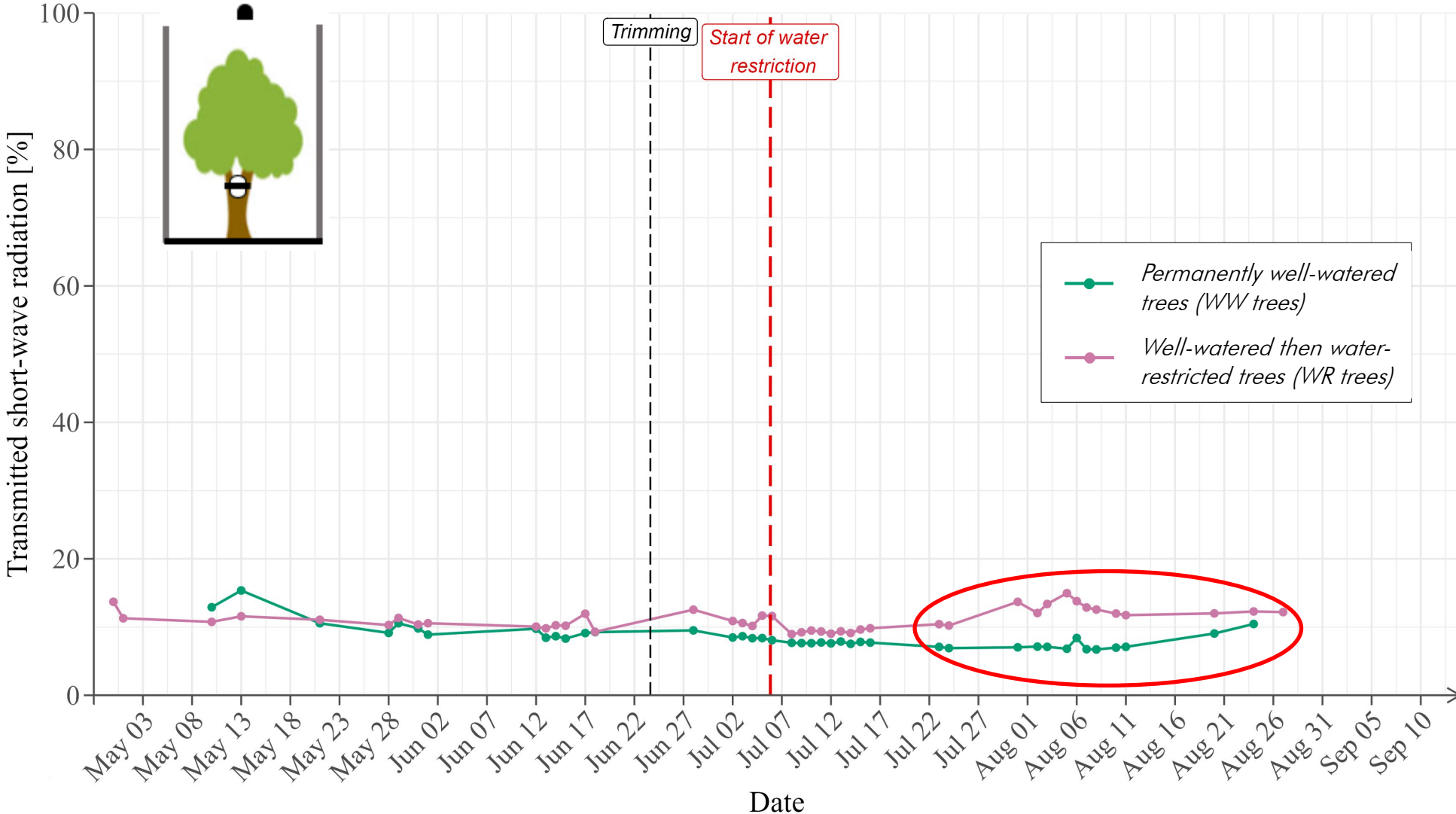
○ After WR starts:  
1) Cast shadow provided by WW trees ≈ WR trees







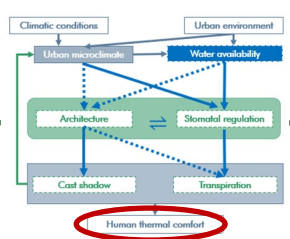
Evolution of the percentage of short wavelength transmitted radiation measured under the crown (at 0.78 m above street ground level at reduced scale)



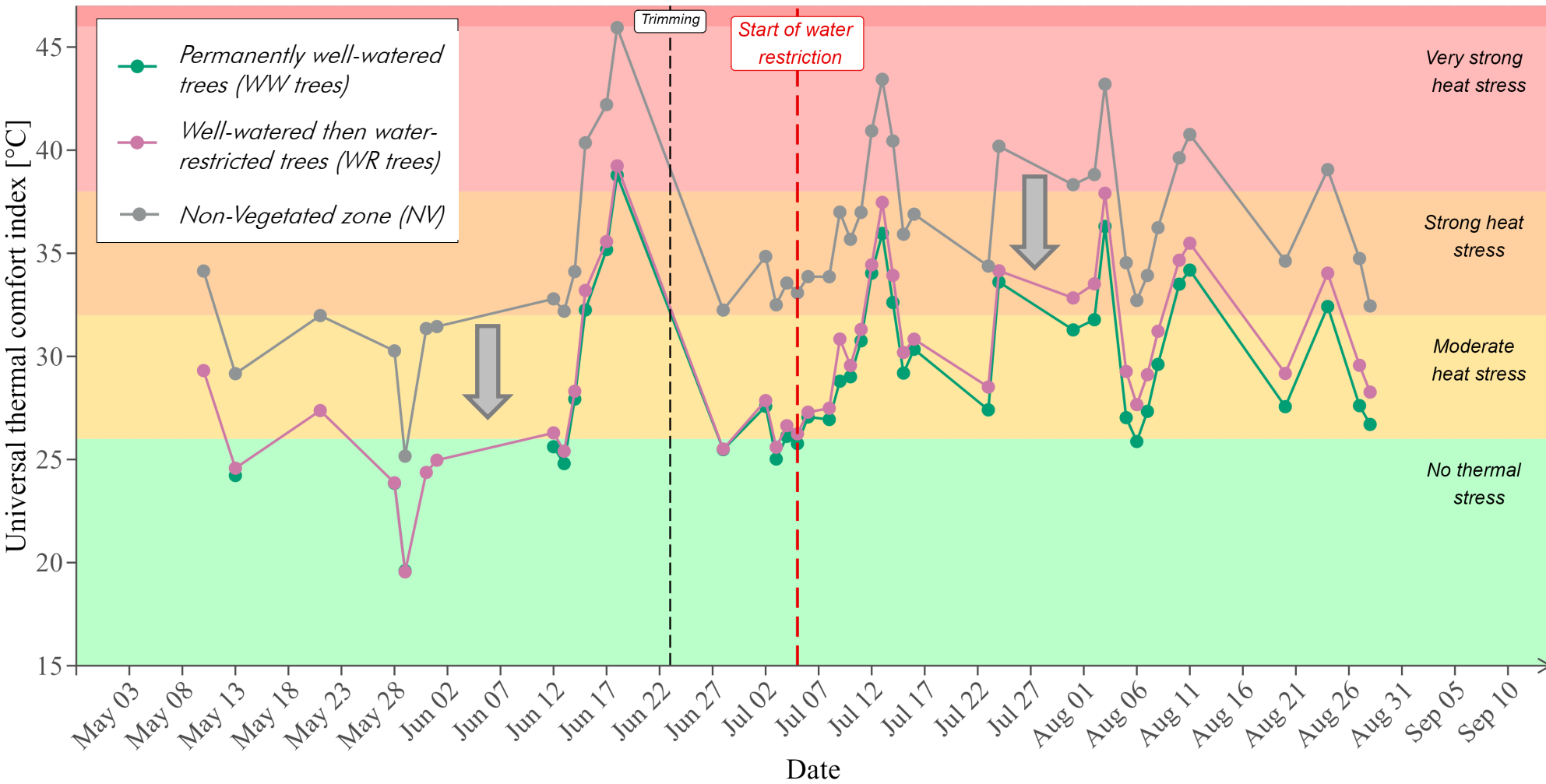
○ Before & after WR starts:  
Both WW trees and WR trees afford strong cast shadow

○ After WR starts:  
1) Cast shadow provided by WW trees  $\approx$  WR trees

2) Cast shadow under WR trees is 5% less than under WW trees



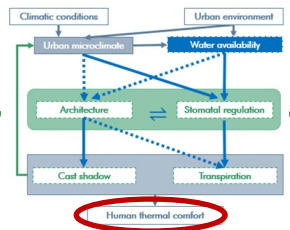
**Evolution of the UTCI at human height** (at 0.40 m above street ground level at reduced scale)



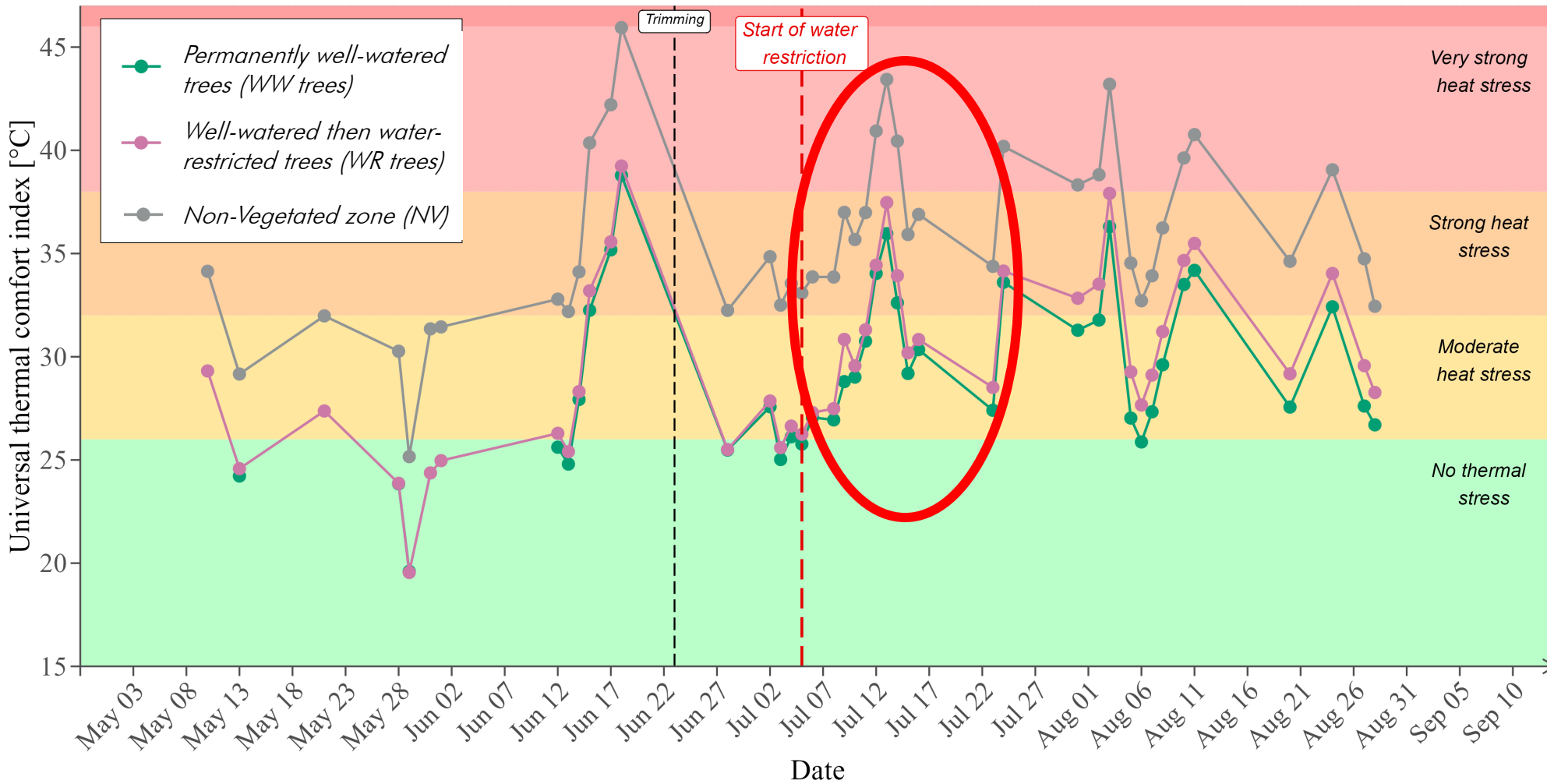
○ On the whole study period, i.e. **even when air temperature & hydric restriction ↗**:  
UTCI reduced under both WW trees and WR trees







## Evolution of the UTCI at human height (at 0.40 m above street ground level at reduced scale)

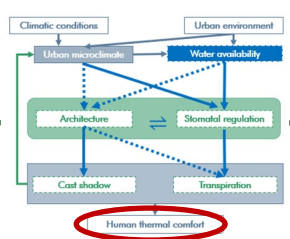


○ On the whole study period, i.e. **even** when air temperature & hydric restriction ↗:

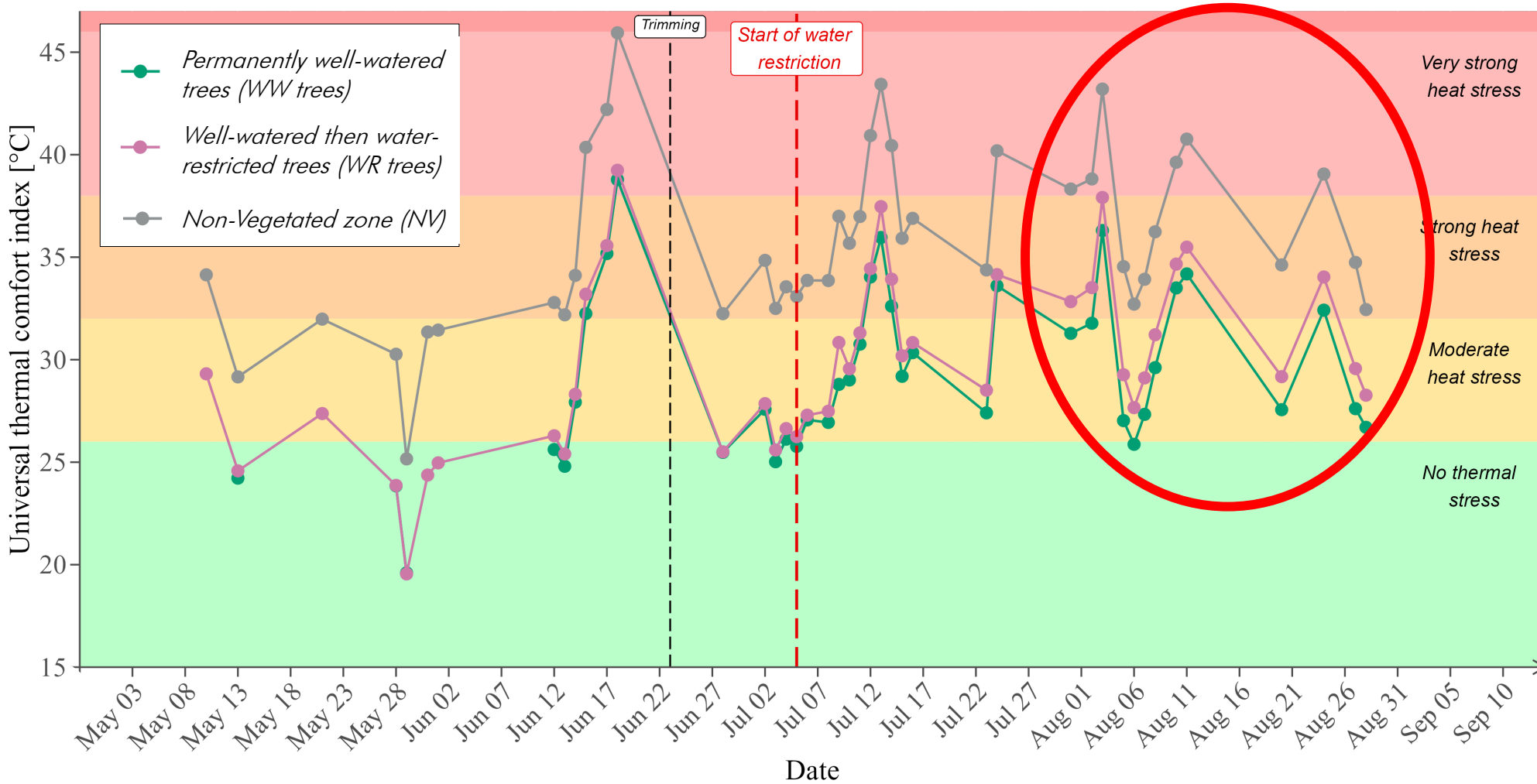
UTCI reduced under both WW trees and WR trees

○ **After** WR starts:

1) UTCI provided by WW trees ≈ WR trees



## Evolution of the UTCI at human height (at 0.40 m above street ground level at reduced scale)



○ On the whole study period, i.e. **even when air temperature & hydric restriction** ↗:

UTCI reduced under both WW trees and WR trees

○ After WR starts:

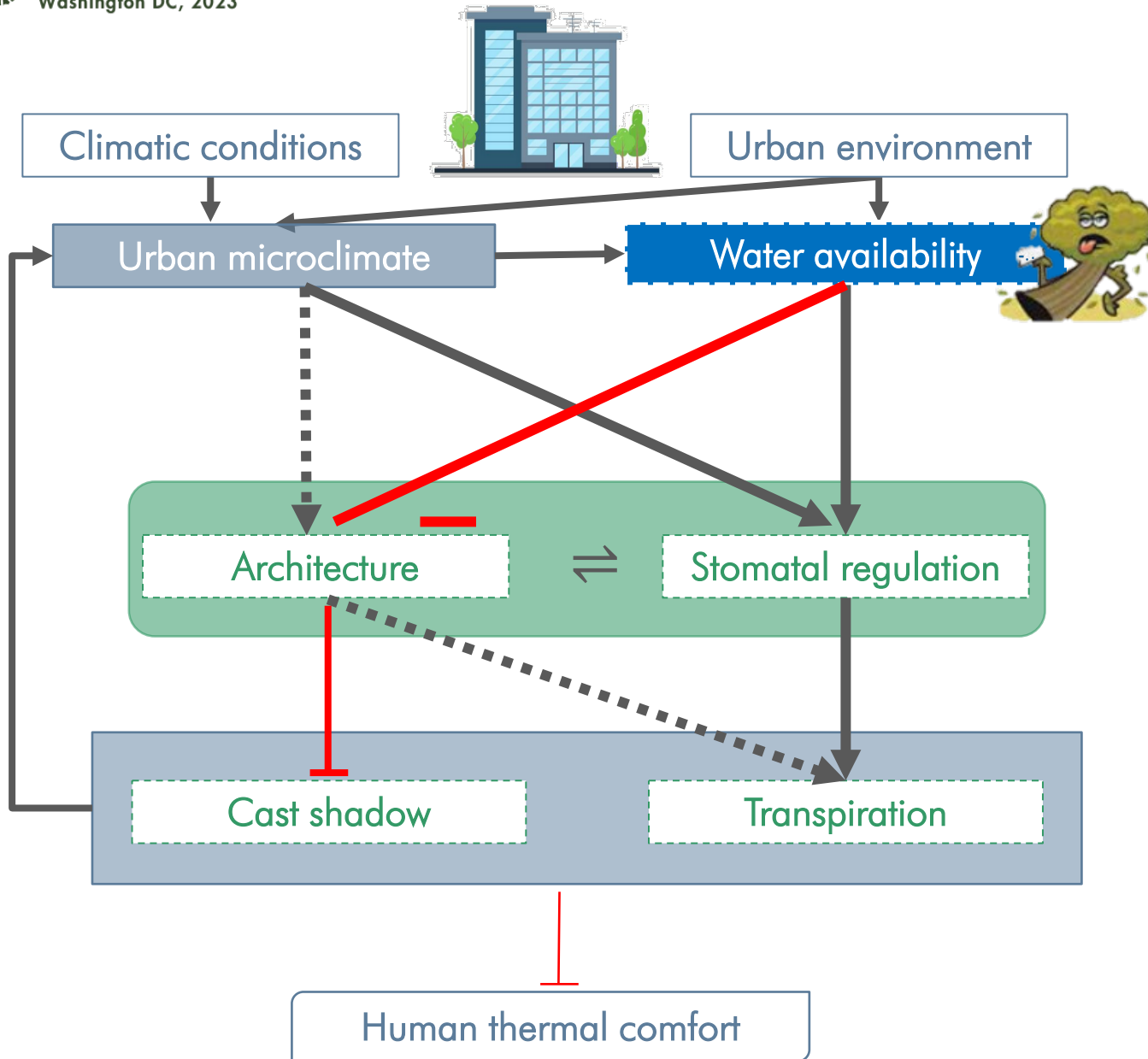
1) UTCI provided by WW trees  $\approx$  WR trees

2) UTCI provided by WW trees  $>$  UTCI provided by WR trees by 1.7°C



## Conclusion & Perspectives





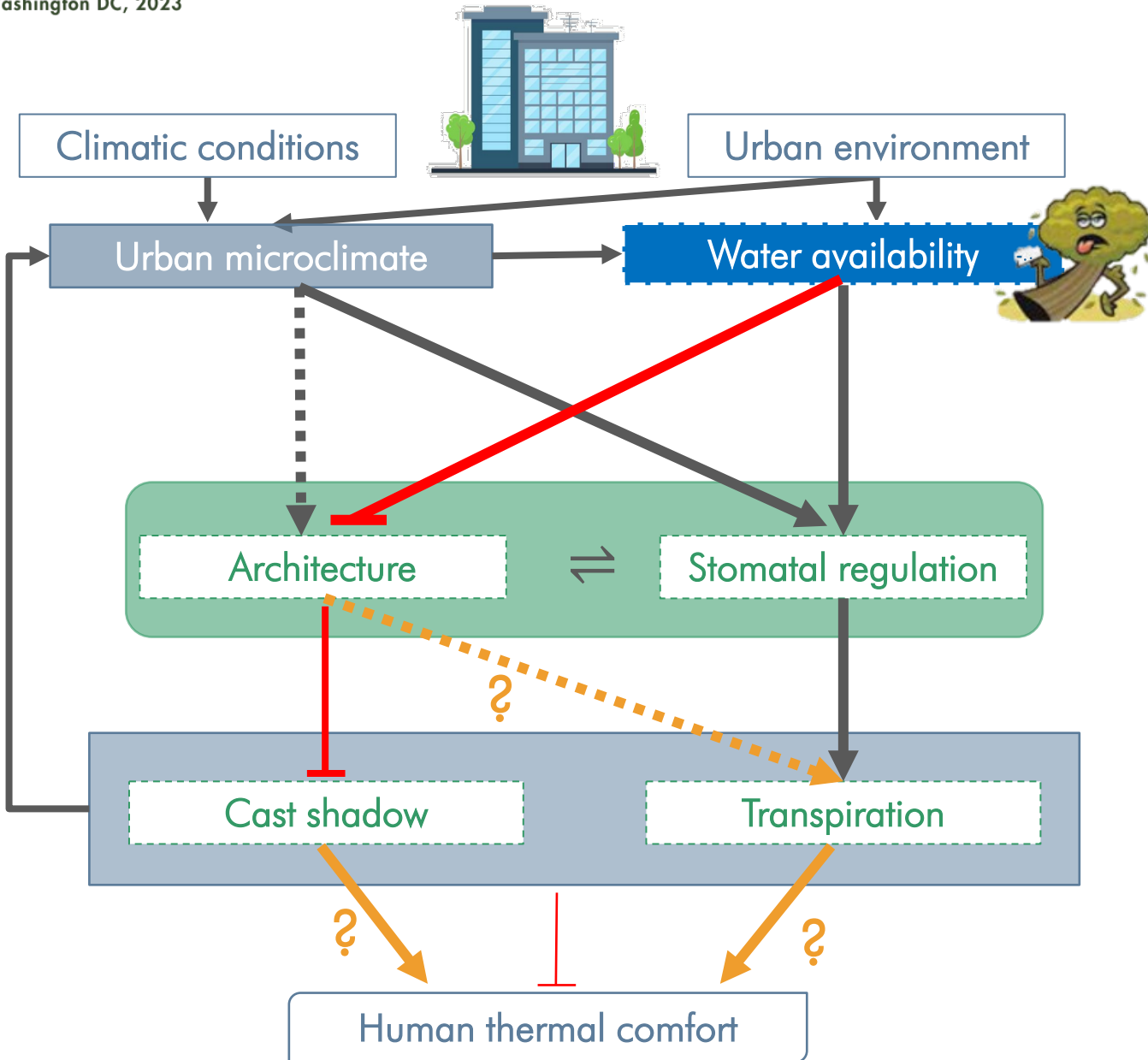
Take home messages:

1. Water restriction had strong impacts on architectural processes.
2. These impacts induced major changes in leaf area and leaf area index (LAI) at crown scale ...
3. ... but tree climate services were only little reduced by water restriction.
4. This is probably because the water restriction began late, when a sufficient leaf area was already developed and for a species whose services mainly rely on shade (Mballo et al, 2021)





①



②

## Objective

s

1. Analyze the effects of a drought period on the architectural development and the transpiration of alignment trees in a canyon street
2. Characterize their consequences on cooling services
3. Identify the architectural and ecophysiological variables that best explain the variations in climate services over time

③

- Explore the place of plant taxa in the tree contribution to improve human thermal comfort



## Special thanks to:

- Financial support: CPER (French ministry for agriculture and food & French Region Pays de la Loire), Regional program "Objectif Végétal, Research, Education and Innovation in Pays de la Loire" (French Region Pays de la Loire, Angers Loire Métropole and the European Regional Development Fund), City of Paris & French Ministry of Education, Research and Innovation through the ANRT (National Association for Research and Technology)
- Contribution in reflection, data acquisition and technical resources (BARRAUD-ROUSSEL Yvette (UR EPHor), BERTHELOOT Jessica (UMR IRHS), BOZONNET Emmanuel (UMR LaSIE), CANNAMO Patrice (UR EPHor), LEVI Rachel (UR EPHor), NGAO Jérôme (UMR Eco&Sol), SAKR Soulayman (UMR IRHS), WALSER Pascal (UMR PIAF))
- Experimental maintenance: PHENOTIC platform (UMR IRHS)
- Tree supply: Nursery André Briant Jeunes Plants





Bühler, O., Nørgård Nielsen, C. and Kristoffersen, P. (2006) 'Growth And Phenology Of Established Tilia Cordata Street Trees In Response To Different Irrigation Regimes', *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry*, 32(1), pp. 3–9. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.48044/jauf.2006.001>.

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Mballo, S. *et al.* (2021) 'Impact of well-watered trees on the microclimate inside a canyon street scale model in outdoor environment', *Urban Climate*, 37, p. 100844. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.uclim.2021.100844>.

Oke, T.R. (1981) 'Canyon geometry and the nocturnal urban heat island: Comparison of scale model and field observations', *Journal of Climatology*, 1(3), pp. 237–254. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1002/joc.3370010304>.

Rahman, M.A. and Ennos, A.R. (2016) 'What we know and don't know about the cooling benefits of urban trees', p. 30.

Rötzer, T. *et al.* (2021) 'Urban tree growth and ecosystem services under extreme drought', *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology*, 308–309, p. 108532. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2021.108532>.

United Nations (2019) *World population prospects Highlights, 2019 revision Highlights, 2019 revision*. Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

US EPA, O. (2014) *Learn About Heat Islands*. Available at: <https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/learn-about-heat-islands> (Accessed: 16 May 2022).



# Thank you

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Environmental Physics and Horticulture

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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Arbor Day  
Foundation



International Society of Arboriculture



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FOREST SERVICE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# **2nd** **World** **Forum on** **Urban** **Forests**

**2023**



**World Forum on  
Urban Forests**



# 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

Washington DC, 2023

In the Cool of the Day

## Tree Species Influence in Reducing Urban Heat Island Effects in Local Climate Zones of Nairobi



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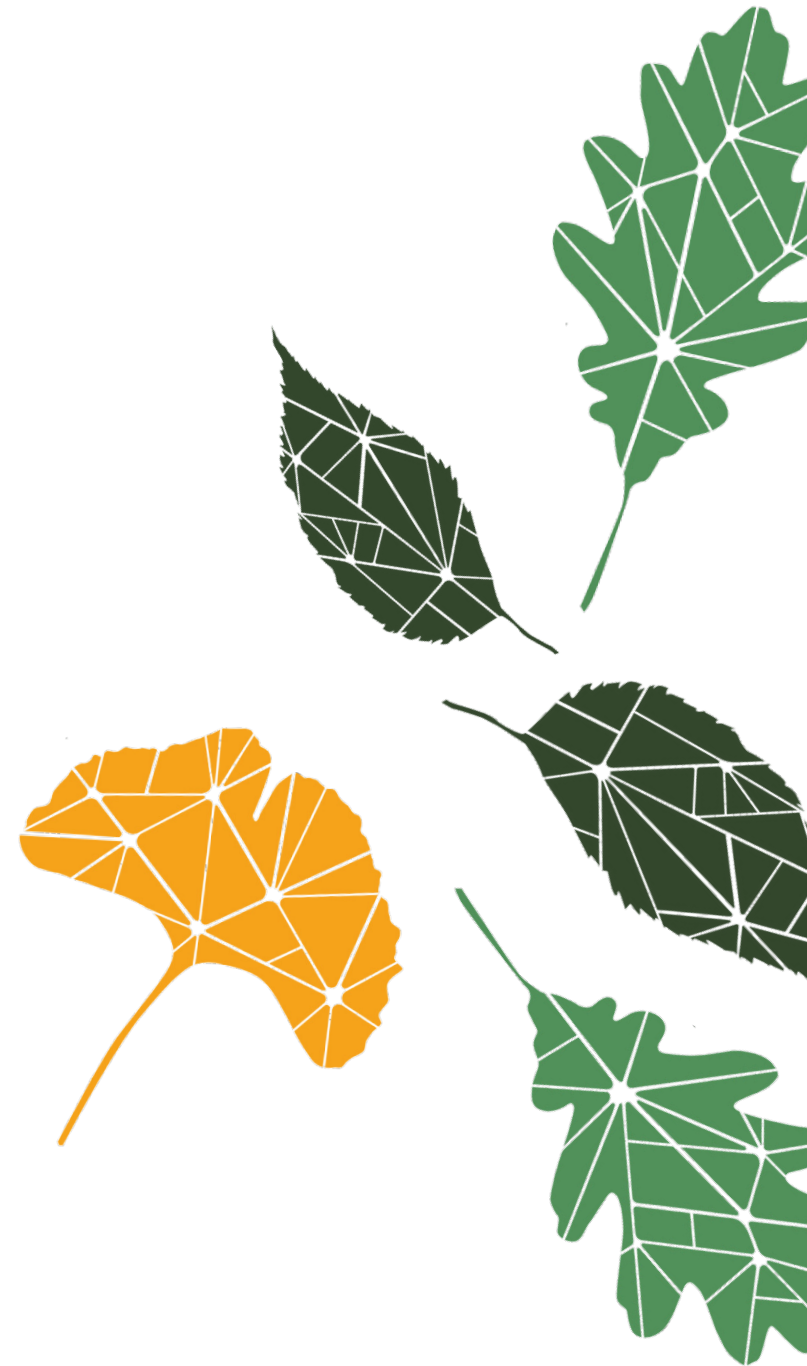
### Presented by

Onyango Sharon Anyango

Landscape Planner and Urban Climate Scientist

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

MSc. Landscape Planning and Conservation (Major: Urban Climate)

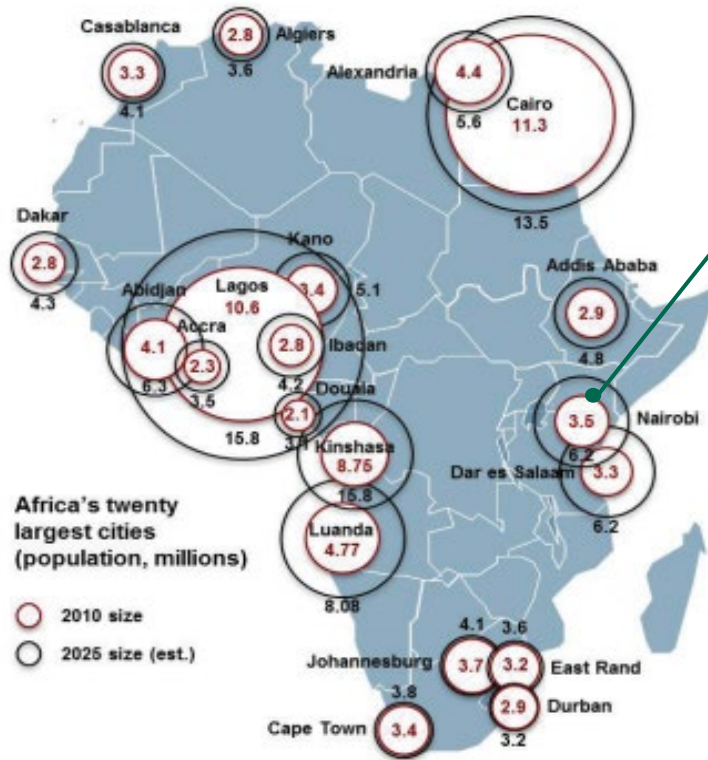






# Introduction:

Africa (1 billion people) 15 - 40%

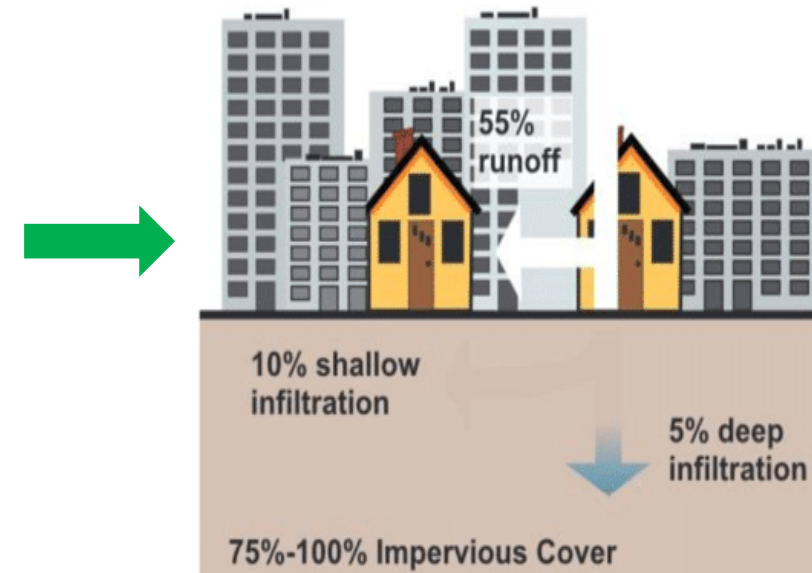


Kenya's Urbanization rate: 29% (Statista, 2021)

Nairobi City: 4.5million (6.2m - 2025)

- Nairobi; the "Green City in the Sun"
- Urban sprawl - loss of forests and other natural areas converted to built-up areas (Tibaijuka, 2007).
- Temperatures in Kenya could increase by about 2°C by 2050 (UNDP, 2017).

## Vegetation (UGS) Loss



(UN-SEPA, 2013).

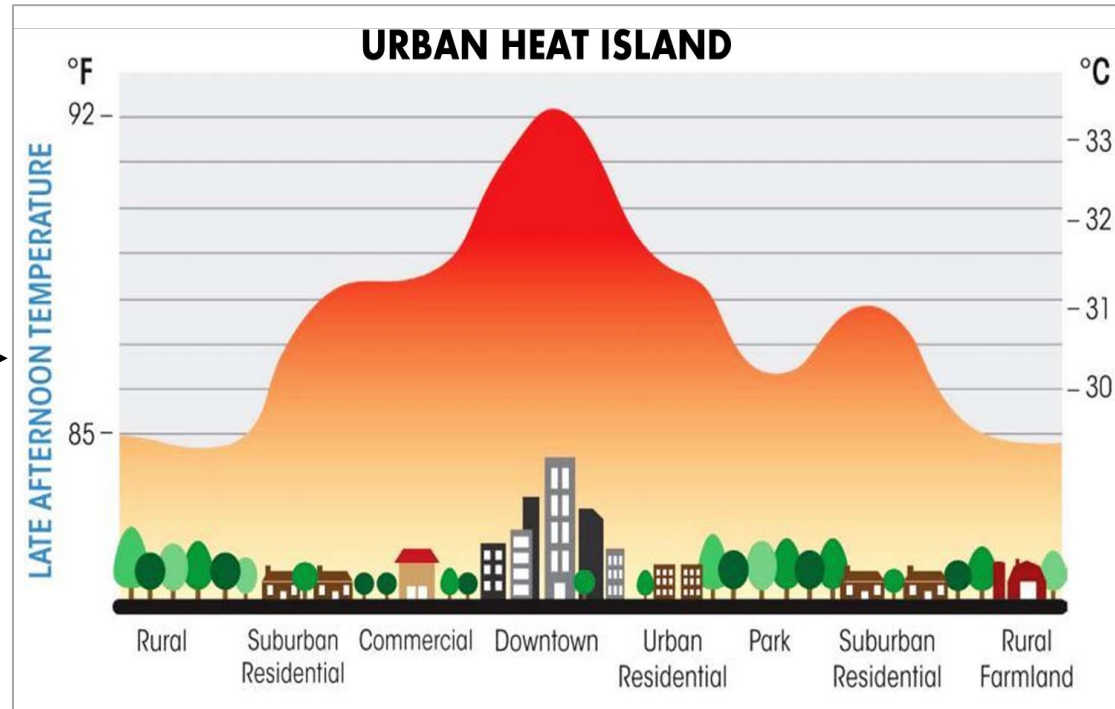


# Problem Statement:

Increasing urban  
population; need  
for infrastructure

Natural &  
anthropogenic  
sources  
Changes in  
albedo

Changes in  
biophysical features  
from natural to built  
up areas



(Stewart & Oke, 2012)

Compromised  
outdoor thermal  
comfort

Increased energy  
costs  
& air pollution  
levels


Increased heat-  
related illness &  
mortality





## 2nd World Forum on Urban Forests

Washington DC, 2023

Built types		Land cover types	
<b>1</b>  Compact highrise	Dense mix of tall buildings to tens of stories. Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved. Concrete, steel, stone, and glass construction materials.	<b>A</b>  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.
<b>2</b>  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>B</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.
<b>3</b>  Compact lowrise	Dense mix of lowrise buildings (1–3 stories). Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved. Stone, brick, tile, and concrete construction materials.	<b>C</b>  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.
<b>4</b>  Open highrise	Open arrangement of tall buildings to tens of stories. Abundance of pervious land cover (low plants, trees). Concrete, steel, stone, and glass construction materials.	<b>D</b>  Low plants	Featureless landscape of grass or herbaceous plants/crops. Few or no trees. Zone function is natural grassland, agriculture, or urban park.
<b>5</b>  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.	<b>E</b>  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.
<b>6</b>  Open lowrise	Open arrangement of lowrise buildings (1–3 stories). Abundance of pervious land cover (low plants, scattered trees). Wood, brick, stone, tile, and concrete construction materials.	<b>F</b>  Bare soil or sand	Featureless landscape of soil or sand cover. Few or no trees or plants. Zone function is natural desert or agriculture.
<b>7</b>  Lightweight lowrise	Dense mix of single-story buildings. Few or no trees. Land cover mostly hard-packed. Lightweight construction materials (e.g., wood, thatch, corrugated metal).	<b>G</b>  Water	Large, open water bodies such as seas and lakes, or small bodies such as rivers, reservoirs, and lagoons.
<b>8</b>  Large lowrise	Open arrangement of large lowrise 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> Variable or ephemeral land cover properties that change significantly with synoptic weather patterns, agricultural practices, and/or seasonal cycles.	
<b>9</b>  Sparsely built	Sparse arrangement of small or medium-sized buildings in a natural setting. Abundance of pervious land cover (low plants, scattered trees).	<b>b. bare trees</b>	Leafless deciduous trees (e.g., winter). Increased sky view factor. Reduced albedo.
<b>10</b>  Heavy industry	Lowrise and midrise industrial structures (towers, tanks, stacks). Few or no trees. Land cover mostly paved or hard-packed. Metal, steel, and concrete construction materials.	<b>s. snow cover</b>	Snow cover >10 cm in depth. Low admittance. High albedo.
		<b>d. dry ground</b>	Parched soil. Low admittance. Large Bowen ratio. Increased albedo.
		<b>w. wet ground</b>	Waterlogged soil. High admittance. Small Bowen ratio. Reduced albedo.

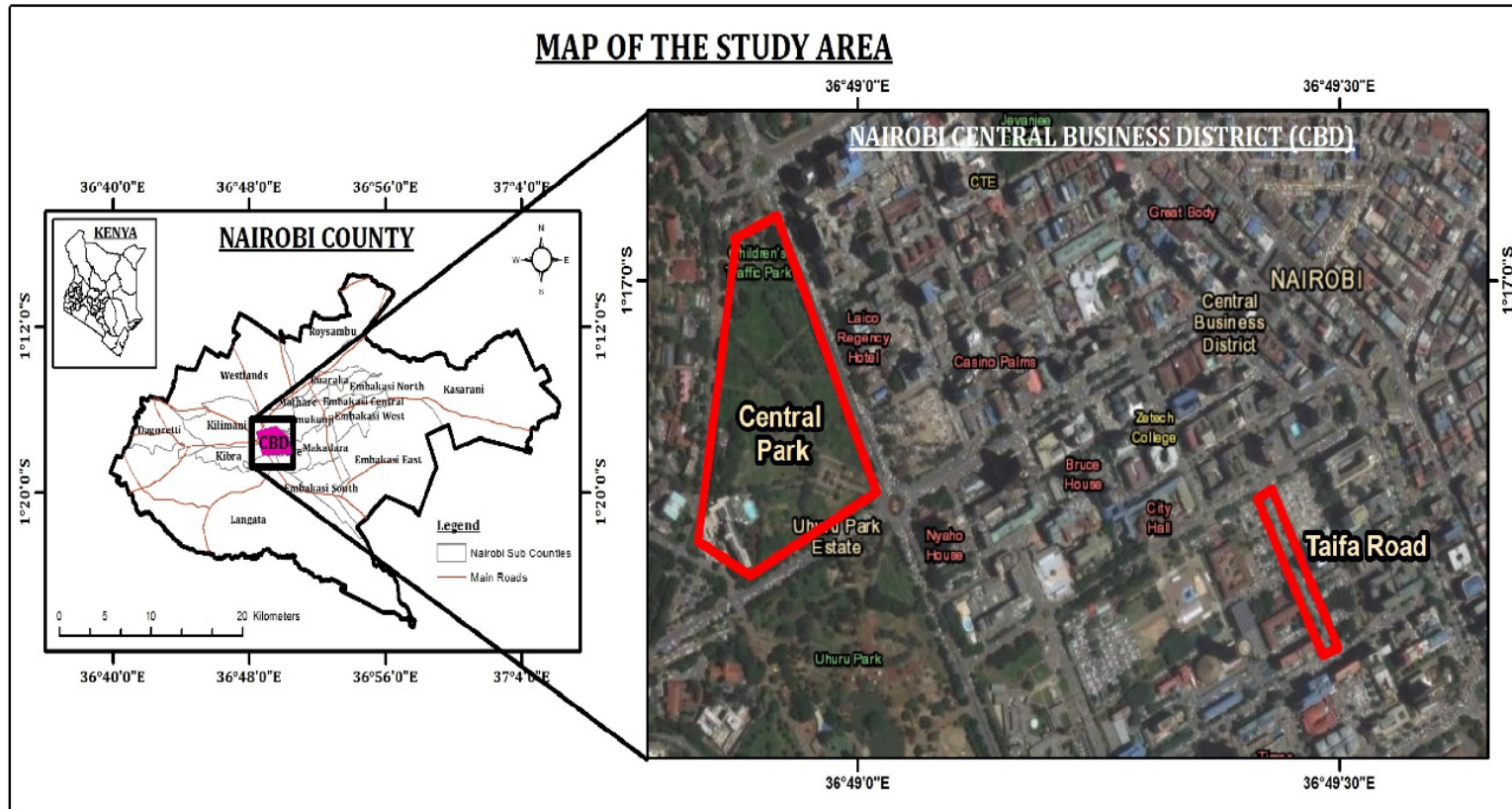


## Rationale:

- Local Climate Zones (LCZs) approach, a universal climate-based classification, established by Stewart & Oke, (2012), considered effective in UHI and thermal environment studies.
- 17 Classes; 10 (1-10) built-up and 7 (A-G) natural surface, considering the micro-scale details of the urban thermal observations.
- Using thermal indices like Physiologically Equivalent Temperature (PET) (Matzarakis & Amelung, 2008), is necessary in quantifying the thermal comfort rate within these LCZs.
- Dire scarcity of information regarding the effectiveness of diverse mature tree species in microclimate variation within heterogeneous urban environments, particularly in tropical climate areas.



# Study Area:



## Objective

To evaluate tree species' influence in ameliorating urban heat island (UHI) effects and enhancing human thermal comfort (HTC) within local climate zones (LCZ) of Nairobi City

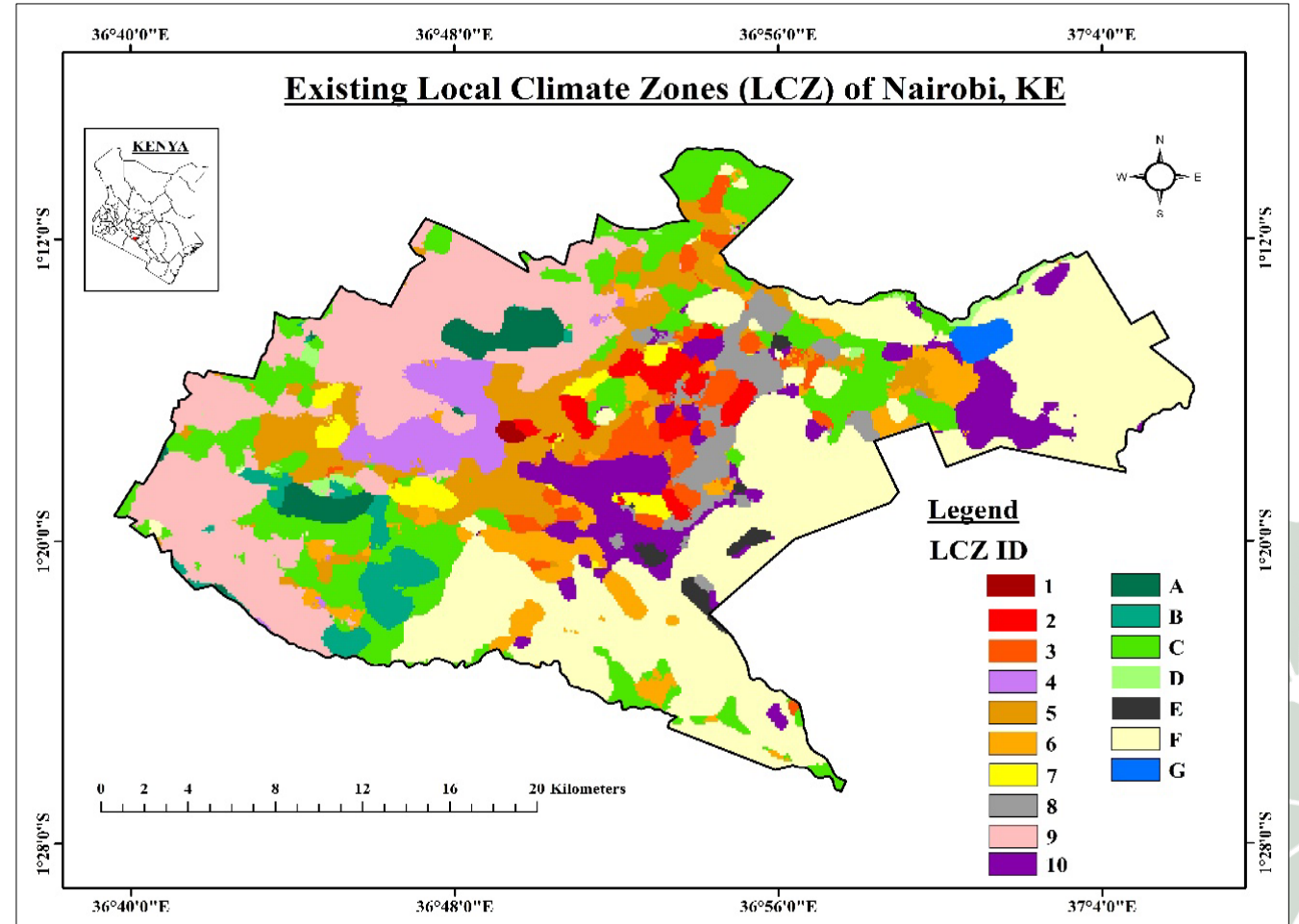
**Fig. 3:** The maps of Africa, East Africa, Kenya, Nairobi County and the Selected Study Sites: Central park (CP) and Taifa road (TR) within the central business district.





# Selected sites: Local Climate Zones

- Two LCZs were selected represented by A Park and A street (Fig 1.)
- To compare similar plant species in two different LCZs within Nairobi CBD;
  - i. LCZ B: *Scattered trees*:- Central Park
  - ii. LCZ 4: *Open High-rise*:-Taifa Road.

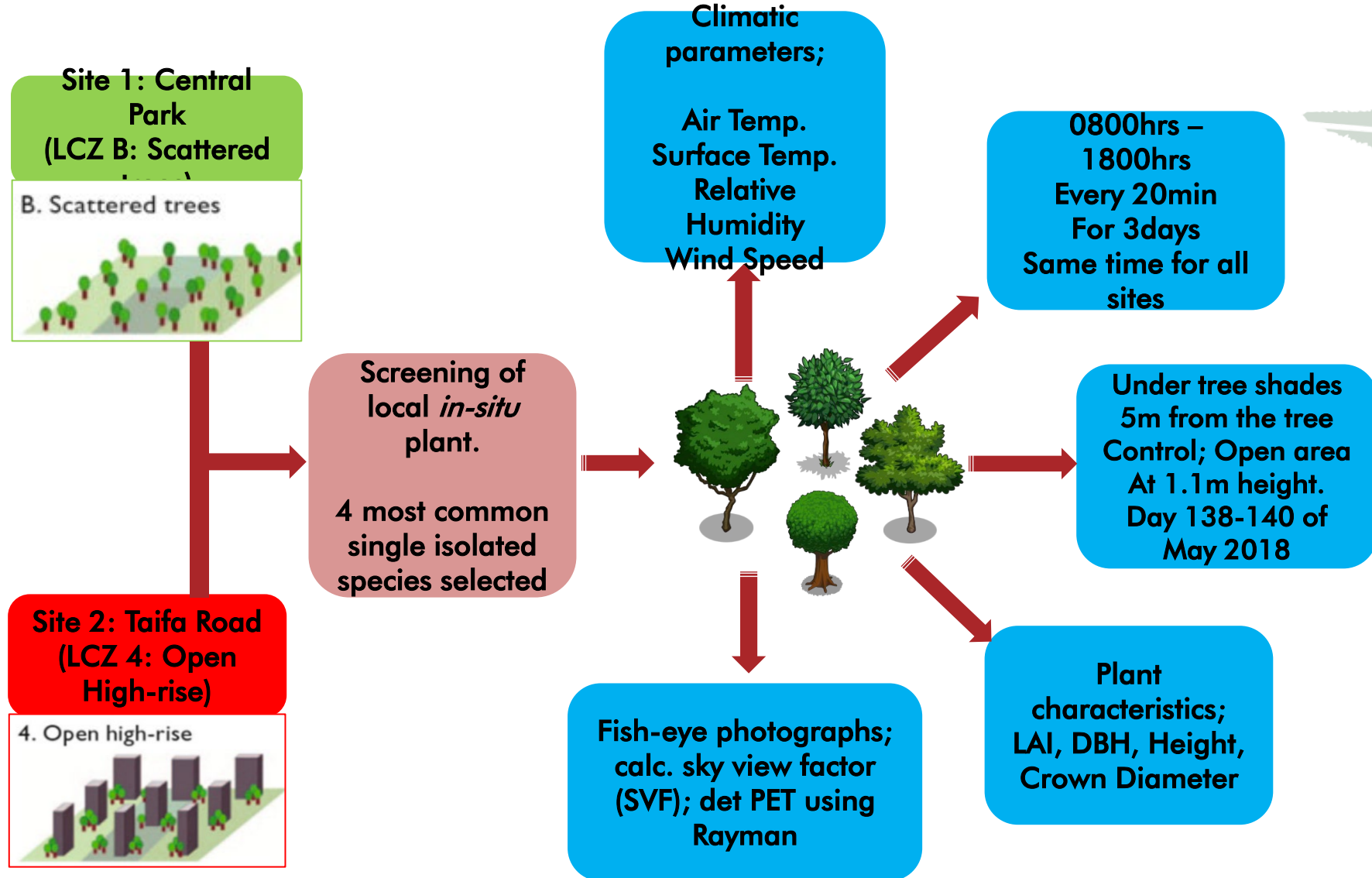


**Fig 4:** Spatial distribution of the existing LCZs in Nairobi

(Source: WUDAPT)



# Data Collection:







## LCZ B: Scattered trees (Central Park)

## LCZ 4: Open-Highrise (Taifa road)

P1



*Cassia spectabilis*  
Cassia

P2



*Podocarpus falcatus*  
EA yellow wood

P3



*Terminalia mantaly*  
Umbrella tree

C1



Control: Open area

P4



*Tipuana tipu*; Tipu tree

P3



*Terminalia mantaly*  
Umbrella tree

C2



Control: Open area

P4



*Tipuana tipu*; Tipu tree

P1

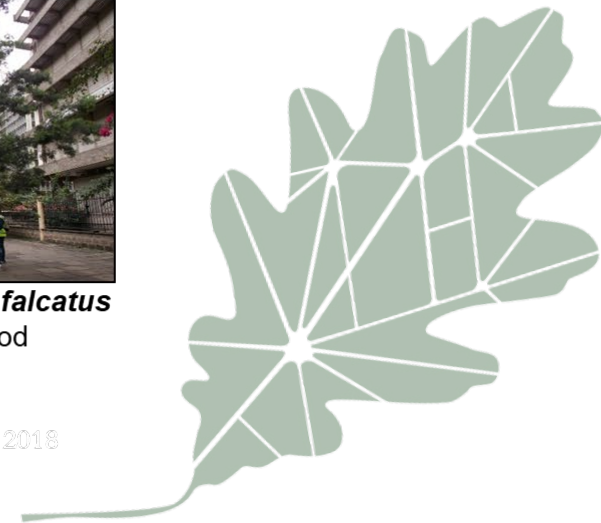


*Cassia spectabilis*  
Cassia

P2



*Podocarpus falcatus*  
EA yellow wood



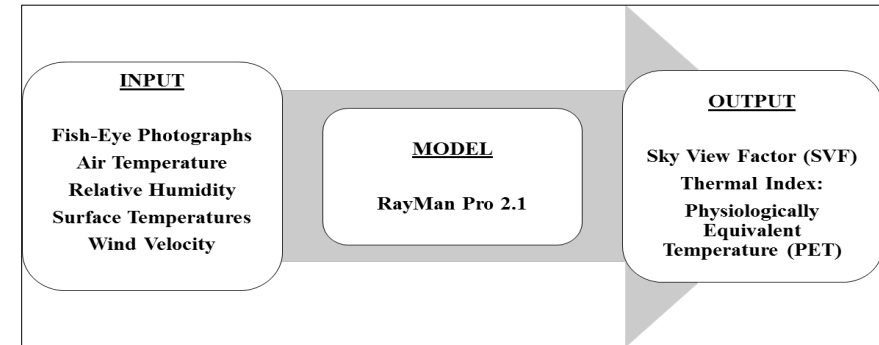


# Data Analysis:

## Tree Species effect on Microclimate

- Three specific hours used; 8am (chilled air), 1pm (air heated up) and 6pm (heat island effect is felt) (Matzarakis & Amelung, 2008; Van Hoof *et al.*, 2010; Sodoudi *et al.*, 2018).
- Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS)
- Non parametric ANOVA
- Kruskal-Wallis Test; intra-site comparison
- Mann Whitney U Test; inter-site comparison
- $P < 0.05$  statistically significant

## Human Thermal Comfort



## PET Classification according to Matzarakis and Meyer (1997)

PET (°c)	Thermal Perception	Grade of physiological stress
<4.0	Very cold	Extreme cold stress
4.1 - 8.0	Cold	Strong cold stress
8.1 – 13.0	Cool	Moderate cold stress
13.1 – 18.0	Slightly cool	Slightly cold stress
18.1 – 23.0	Neutral (comfortable)	No thermal stress
23.1 – 29.0	Slightly warm	Slightly heat stress
29.1 – 35.0	Warm	Moderate heat stress
35.1 – 41.0	Hot	Strong heat stress
41>	Very hot	Extreme heat stress





# Results:

## a. Selected plant species' canopy densities & allometric properties

**Table 1:** Selected plants' allometric properties; *CP* - Central Park, *TR* - Taifa Road.

Plant Species	LAI		DBH (m)		Crown Diameter (m)		Tree Height (m)	
	CP	TR	CP	TR	CP	TR	CP	TR
<b>P1:</b> <i>Cassia spectabilis</i>	3.25	3.43	0.63	0.60	7.00	7.20	7.90	7.60
<b>P2:</b> <i>Podocarpus falcatus</i>	3.02	3.21	0.60	0.56	6.60	6.00	8.90	8.50
<b>P3:</b> <i>Terminalia mantally</i>	4.10	4.10	0.75	0.73	8.80	8.40	8.50	8.30
<b>P4:</b> <i>Tipuana tipu</i>	3.58	3.85	0.69	0.67	7.10	8.00	8.20	7.70





## Results:

### b. Inter-site/Inter-species effects on microclimate

- Mean (AT) in the Park were 1.0°C, 2.3°C and 1.3°C lower than the AT in the Street at 8am, 1pm and 6pm respectively. Lowest values at trunk, 5m and control.
- RH was 1.4°C, 8.2°C and 9.3°C higher in the Park compared to the Street at 8am, 6pm and 1pm respectively. Highest values at the trunk, 5m & control.
- ST in the Street were 3.5°C, 6.4°C and 5°C warmer compared to Park at 8am, 1pm and 6pm respectively. Cooler surfaces at 8am, slightly warmer at 6pm and warmer at 1pm.
- WV in the Street was 0.2m/s, 0.3m/s and 0.1m/s higher compared to the Park at 8am, 1pm and 6pm respectively. No general trend.







## Results:

### c. Human Thermal Comfort evaluation

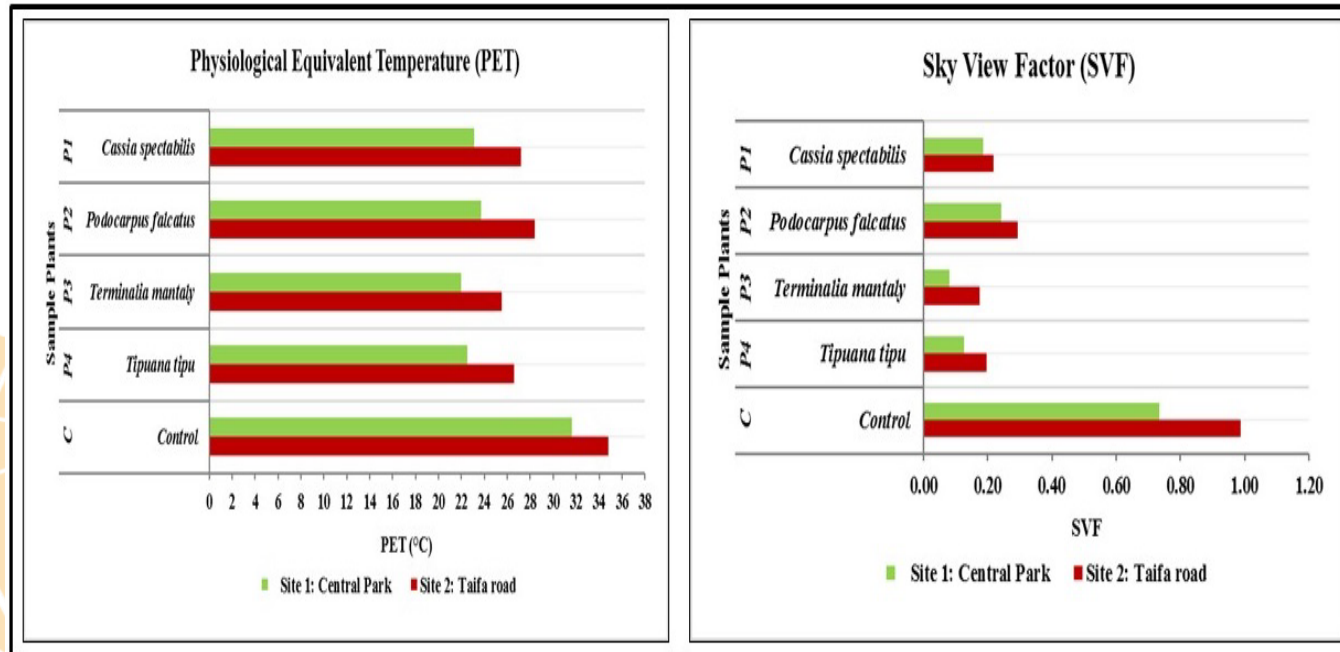


Figure 8: PET and SVF distribution for both sample sites

- *Terminalia mantaly* (P3); best cooling effect, PET reduction of 18% (9.6°C) and 15% (9.3°C) in the Park and Street respectively.
- *Tipuana tipu* (P4) was the second best with 17% (9.2°C) and 13% (8.2°C).
- *Cassia spectabilis* (P1) with 16% (8.5°C) and 12% (7.6°C).
- *Podocarpus falcatus* (P2) with 14% (7.9°C) and 10% (6.4°C).

A strong negative correlation between the LAI and PET was obtained from both sites (S1;  $r = -0.96$ , S2;  $r = -0.8$ ).



## Conclusion

- Nairobi city residents are more likely to suffer no thermal stress in parks to warm moderate heat stress in built areas during hot seasons
- Consider tree species with strong trunks, spreading canopies as well as rounded canopy forms, such as *Tipuana tipu* tree species. Evergreen trees with more foliar/canopy densities, similar to *Terminalia mantaly* (some are deciduous) through seasons
- Besides the aesthetics and functionality of the plants, considering the urban trees' architectural aspects and form are essential in regulating microclimate in Nairobi
- Frequent assessment of the vegetation alterations & Sustainable planning within Nairobi's LCZs, following set developmental standards, guarantees the vegetation cover improvement significantly
- Incorporating eco-friendly infrastructure in the city's spatial advancement plans is imperative, specifically the use of reflecting roofs and walls, UV-absorbent windows, and pavements with high albedo. Equal resource disbursement to counties to minimize rural-urban migration
- **Way forward:** Develop a Guide for Practitioners (collaborative)





## Output:

- Onyango, S. A., Mukundi, J. B., Adimo, A. O., Wesonga, J. M., & Sodoudi, S. (2021). Variability of In-Situ Plant Species Effects on Microclimatic Modification in Urban Open Spaces of Nairobi, Kenya. *Current Urban Studies Journal*, 9, 126-143.  
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### **Variability of *In-Situ* Plant Species Effects on Microclimatic Modification in Urban Open Spaces of Nairobi, Kenya**

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Prof. Sahar Sodoudi – FUB

*"We simply must do everything we can in our power to slow down global warming before it is too late.  
The science is clear. The global warming debate is over."  
~ Arnold Schwarzenegger*





# Thank you

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**Session 1.4: In the Cool of the Day: The role of urban forests in improving microclimate and reducing the heat island effect**



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