

**CLIMATE ADAPTATION
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**

MEASURING & REDUCING SOCIETAL IMPACTS

Designing Cooler Cities

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Aldo Brandi

Arizona State University



Edith de Guzman

LA Urban Cooling
Collaborative and UCLA



V. Kelly Turner

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MEASURING & REDUCING SOCIETAL IMPACTS

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Aldo Brandi

Ph.D. Candidate, Arizona State University

@aldobrandi5

Influence of Projected Climate Change,
Urban Development and Heat Adaptation
Strategies on End of Twenty-First Century
Urban Boundary Layers Across the
Conterminous US

CLIMATE ADAPTATION RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

September 8th - 9th, 2021

Influence of Projected Climate Change, Urban Development and Heat Adaptation Strategies on End of 21st Century Urban Boundary Layers Across the Conterminous US

*Aldo Brandi**, *Ashley Broadbent**, *Scott E. Krayenhoff***, *Matei Georgescu**
abrandi@asu.edu

* Arizona State University – School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning

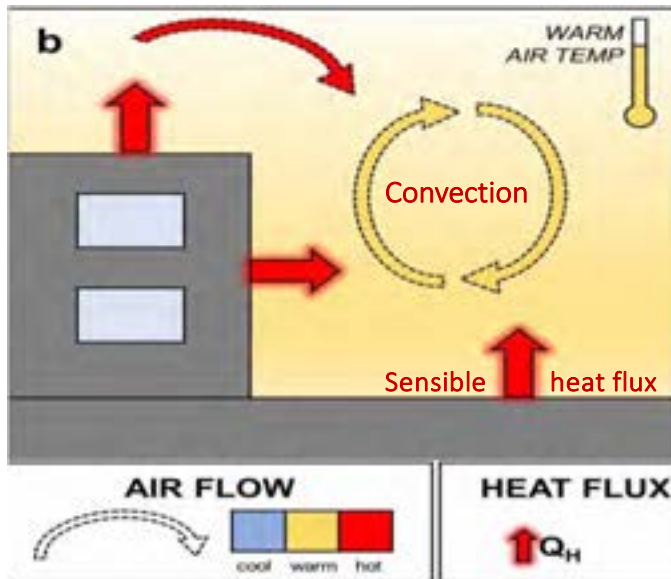
** University of Guelph – School of Environmental Sciences



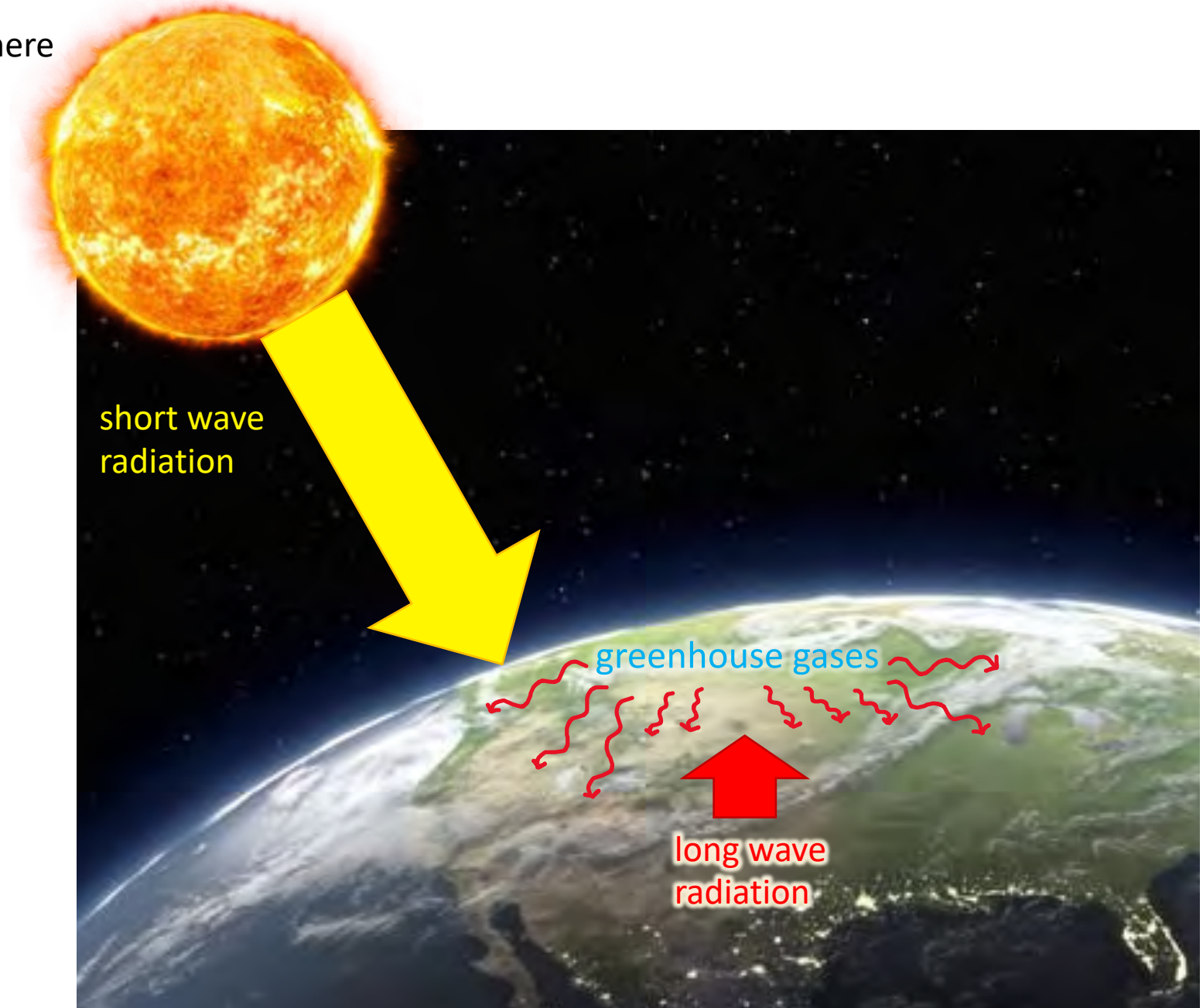
ASU
**Urban Climate
Research Center**
**Arizona State
University**

Introduction Heat in the Atmosphere

- The atmosphere is mostly transparent to short wave solar radiation
- The Earth surface emits long wave radiation as a function of its temperature
- Greenhouse gases (GHG; H_2O , CO_2 , CH_4) absorb and re-emit long wave radiation in the atmosphere



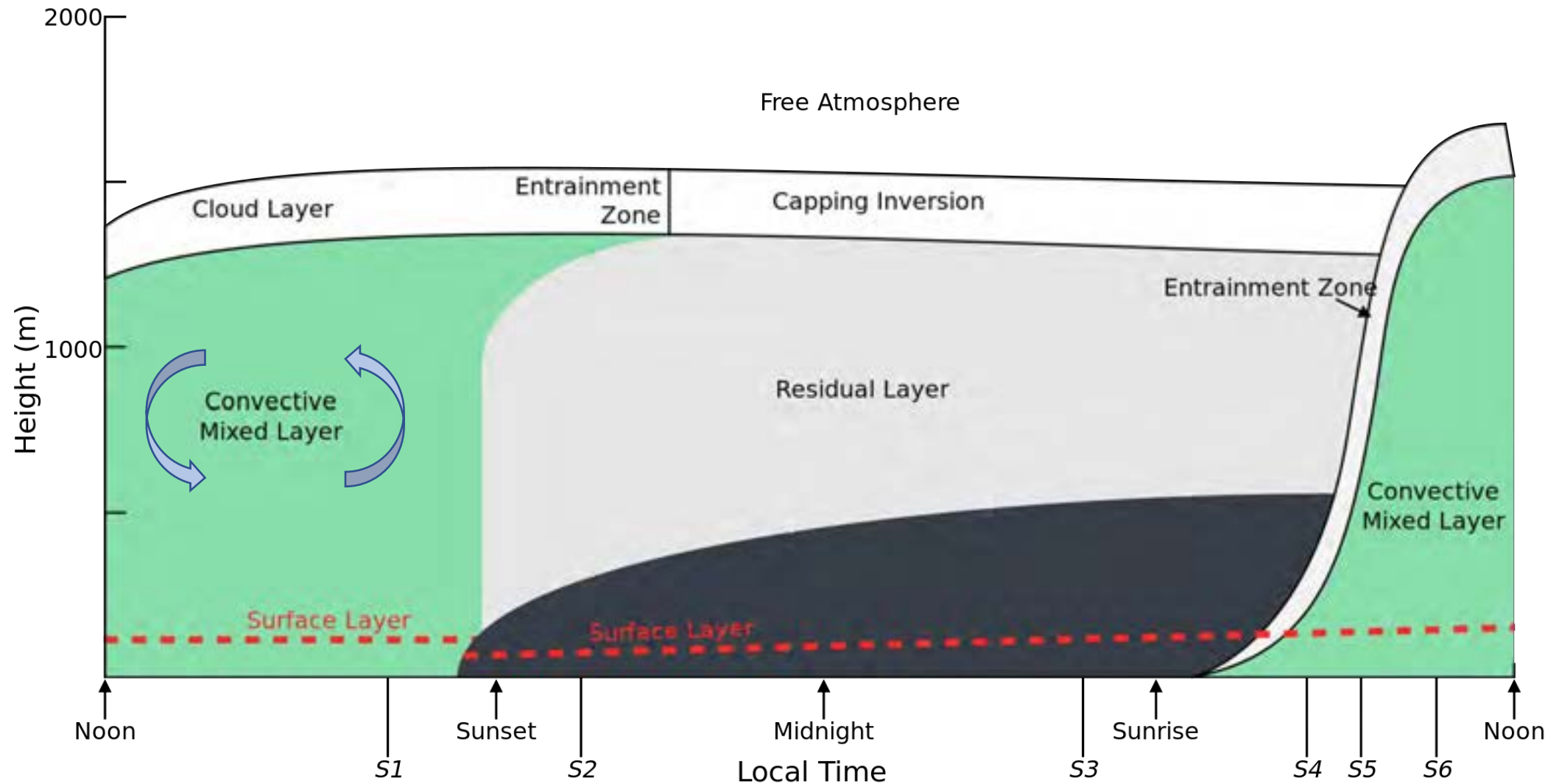
Modified from Kravynhoff et al., 2021



Introduction

The Planetary Boundary Layer

“... is that part of the troposphere that is directly influenced by the presence of the earth’s surface” (Stull, 1988)



Introduction The Greenhouse Effect

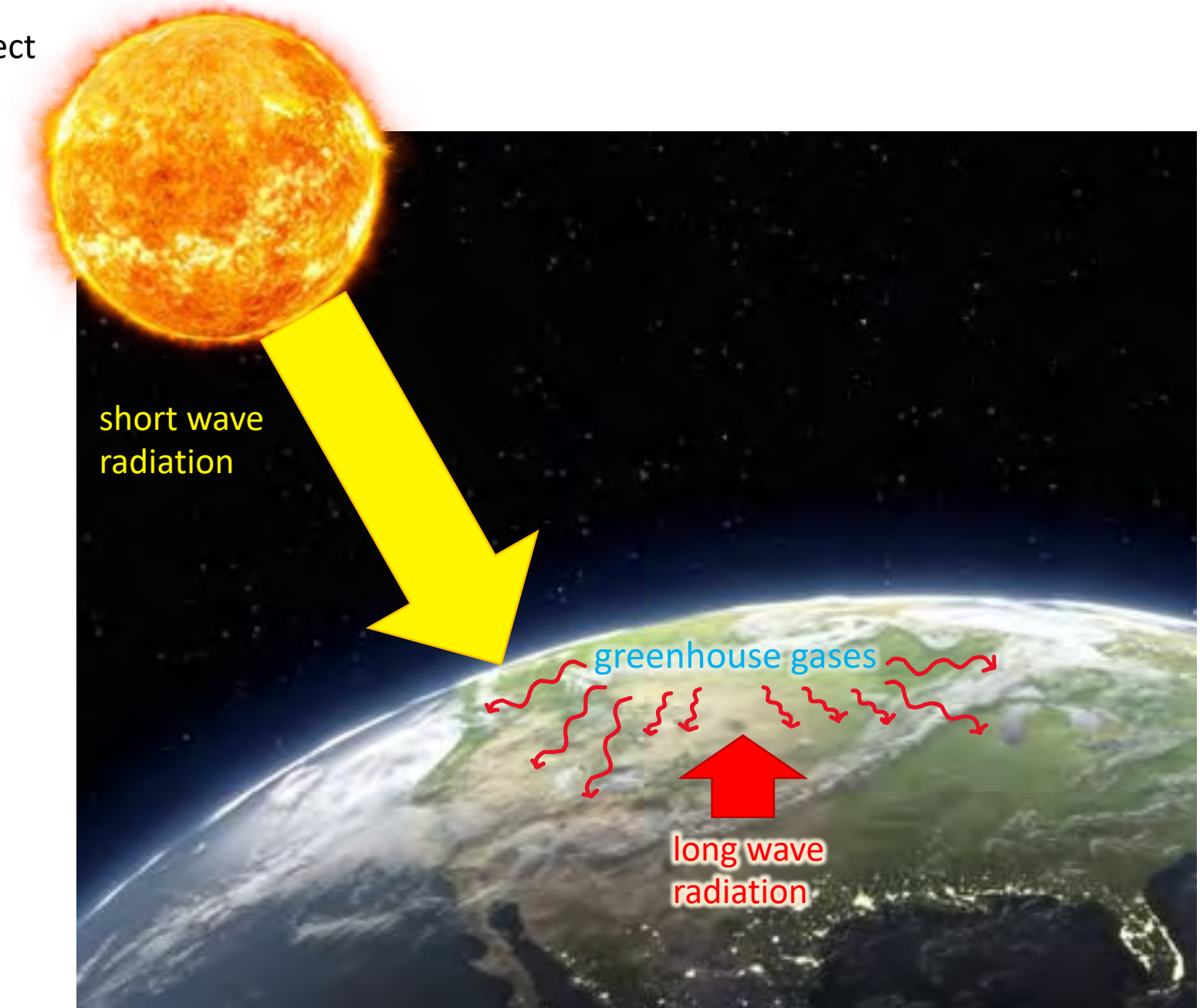
Increase in GHG concentration



Global Warming



Climate Change



Introduction The Greenhouse Effect

Increase in GHG concentration



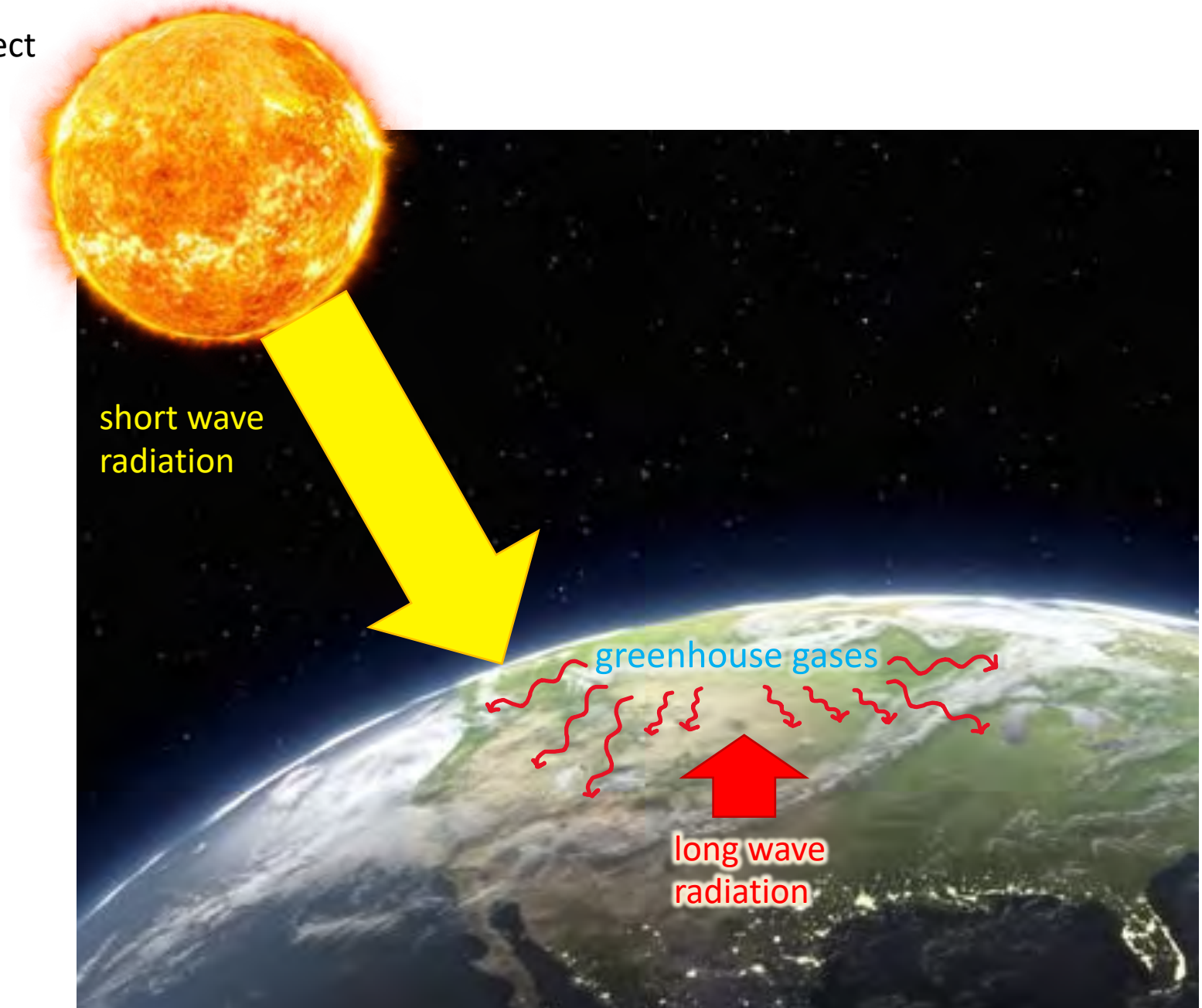
Global Warming



Climate Change



From <https://twitter.com/DrShepherd2013>, 2021



Introduction The Greenhouse Effect

Increase in GHG concentration



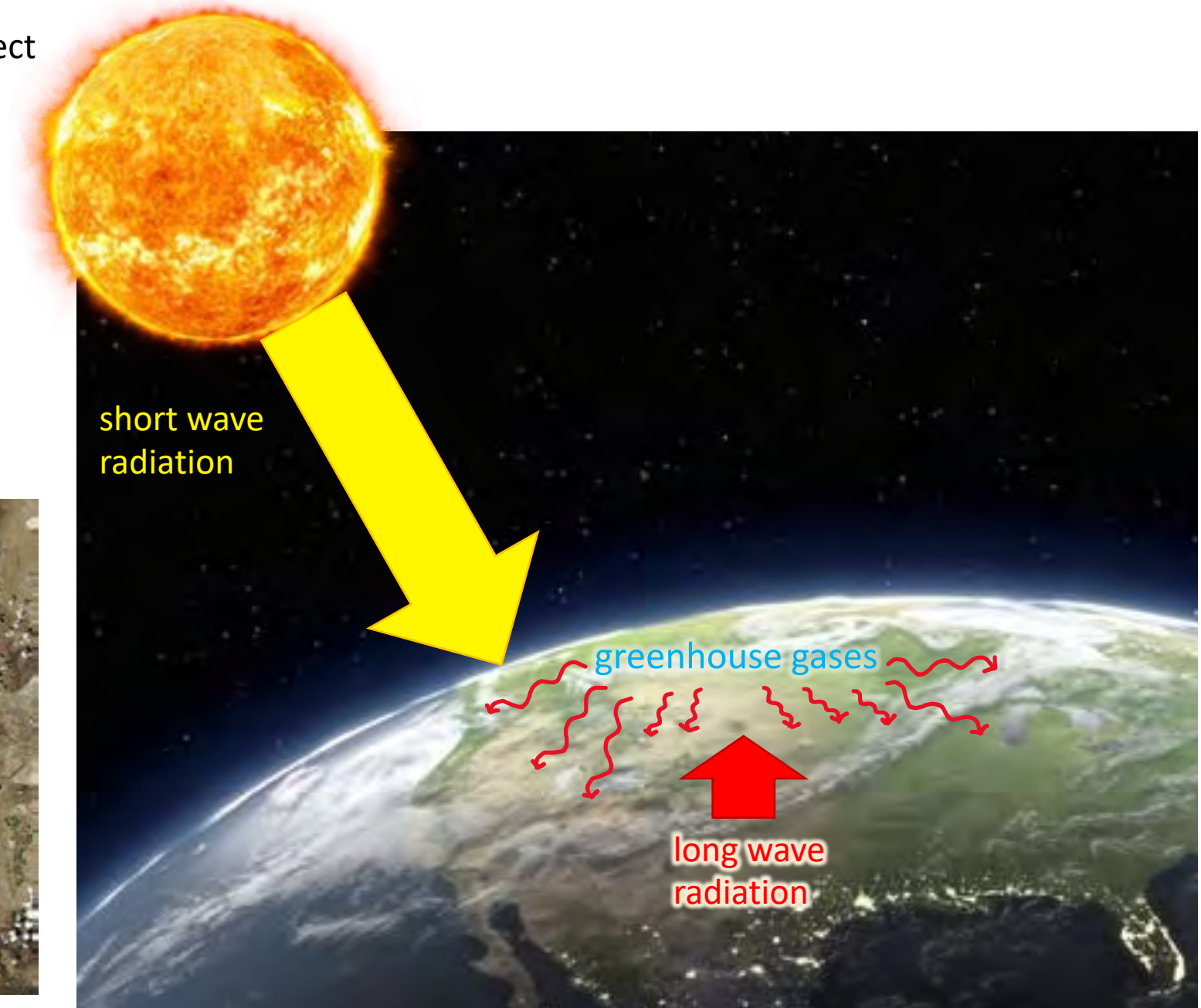
Global Warming



Climate Change

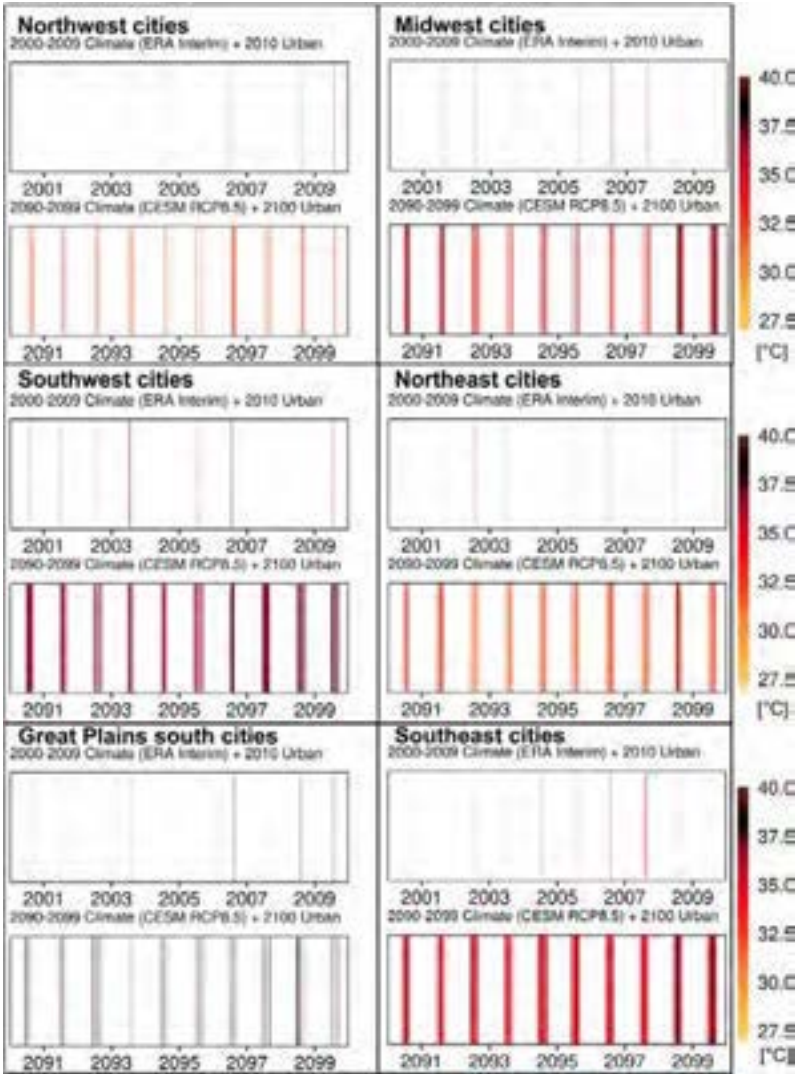


From <https://www.nasa.gov/>



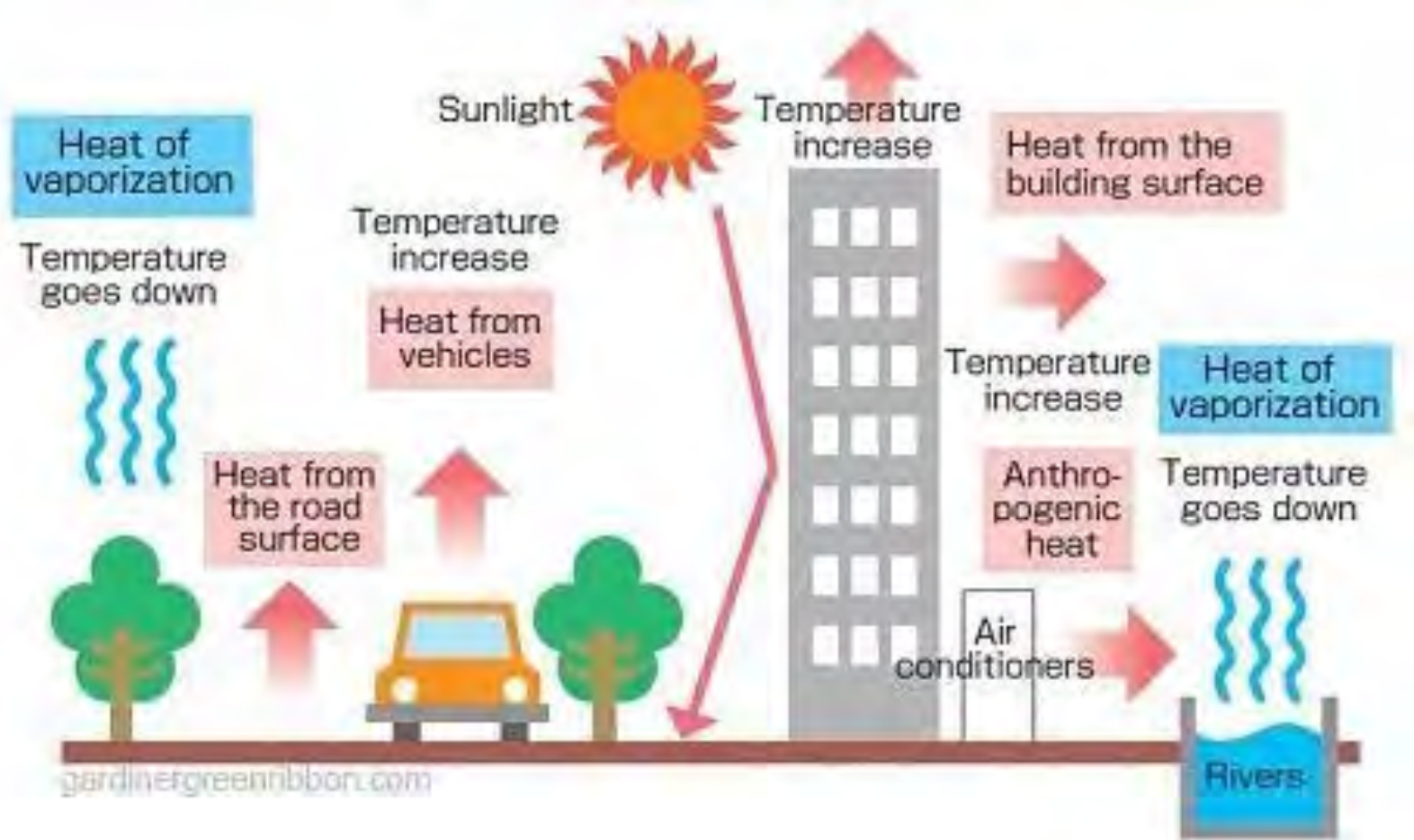
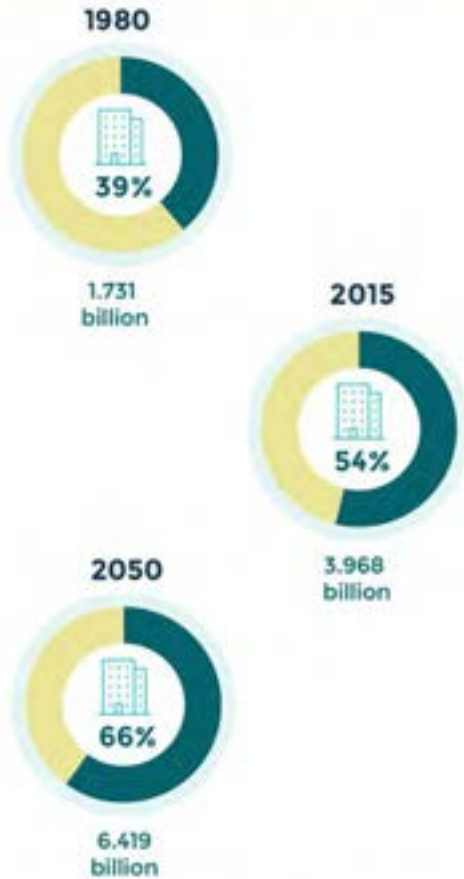
Heat Waves

- ↑ Intensity
- ↑ Frequency
- ↑ Length



Introduction Urban Environments

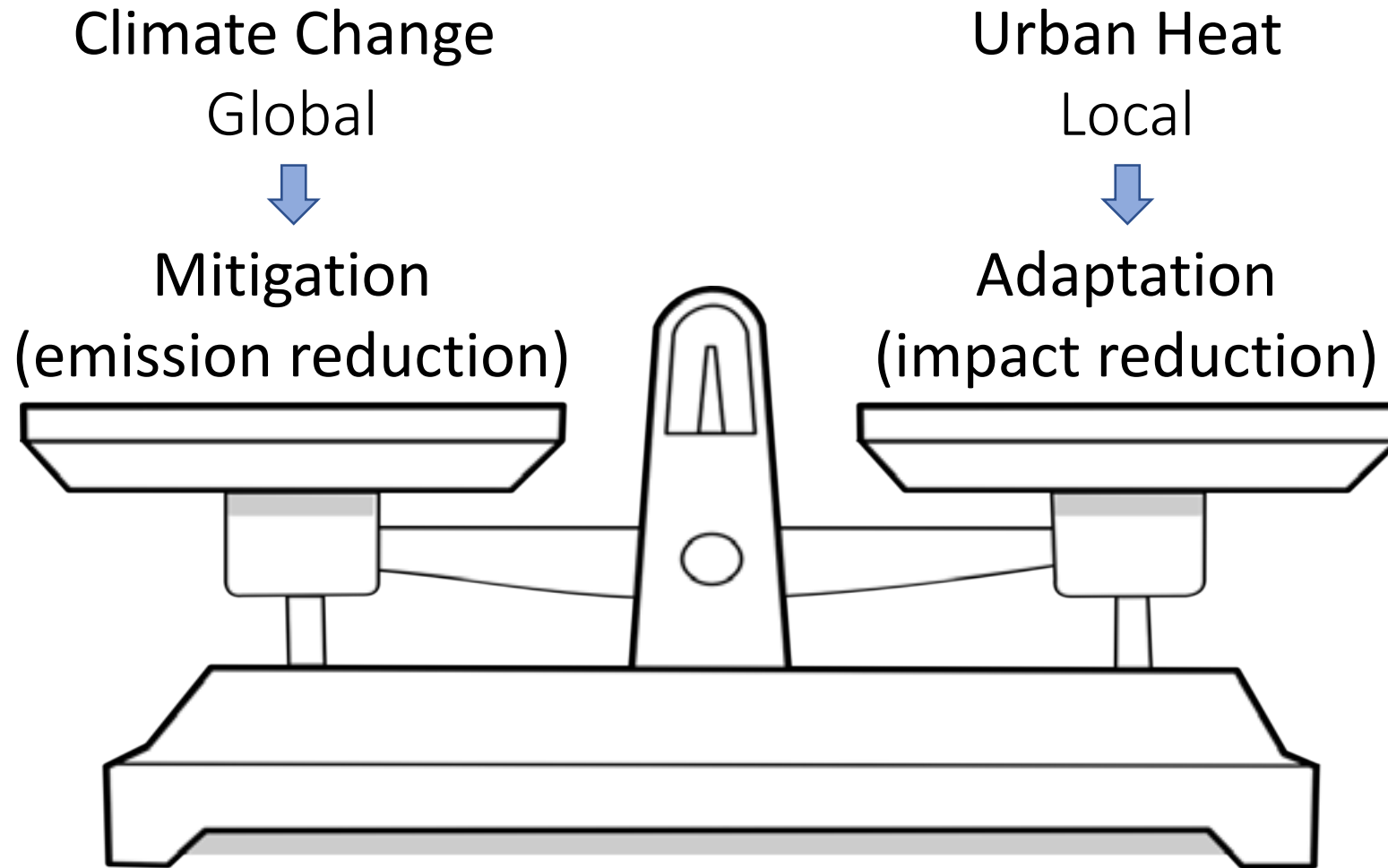
Share of the Urban Population Worldwide



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2014).
World Urbanization Prospects: The 2014 Revision, custom data acquired via website

Introduction

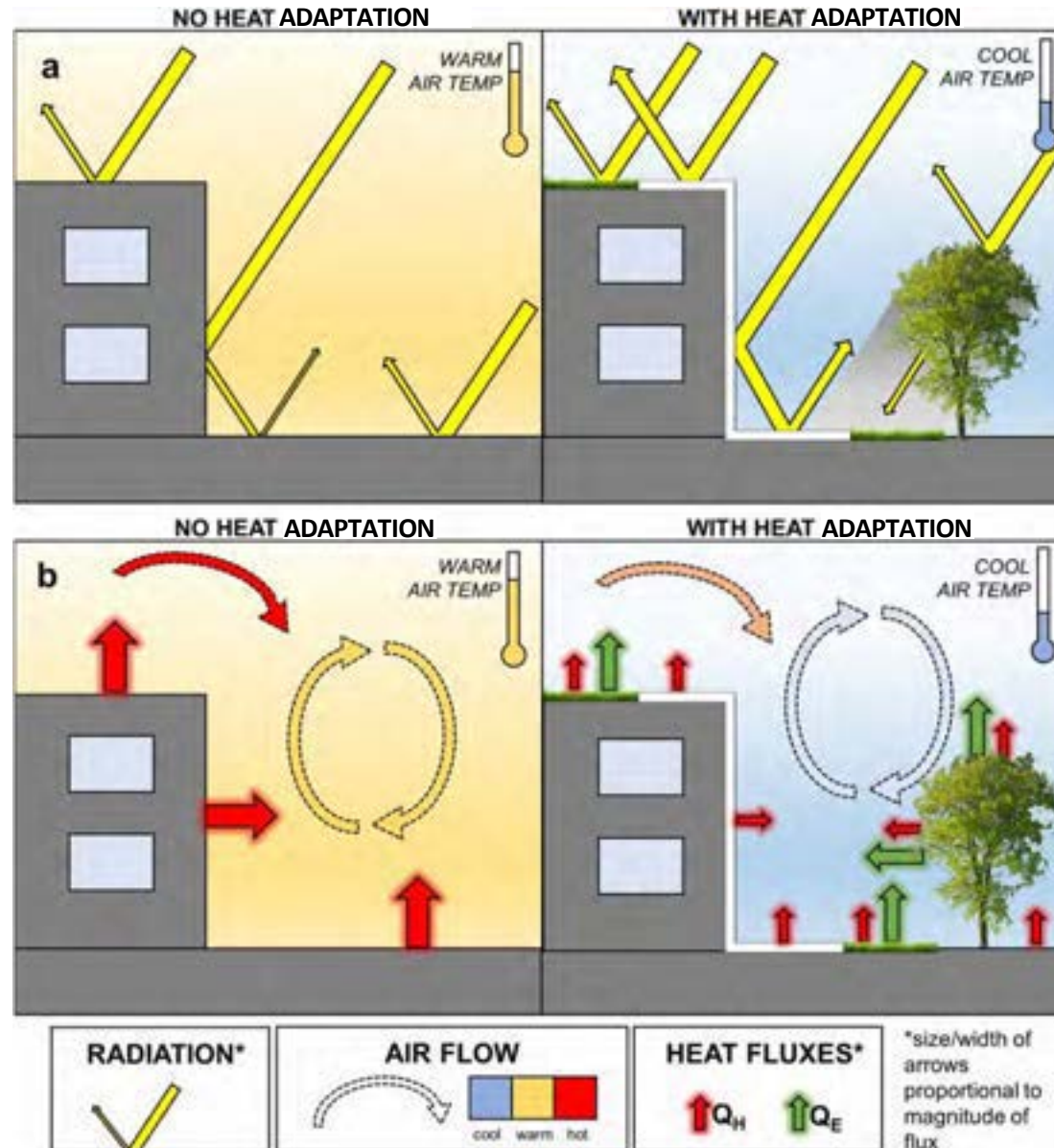
A matter of scale



Introduction Heat Adaptation

Main goals:

- Reducing heat absorbed by surfaces by shading or reflection
- Using evapotranspiration processes of plants to absorb part of surface heat and “store” it into water vapor

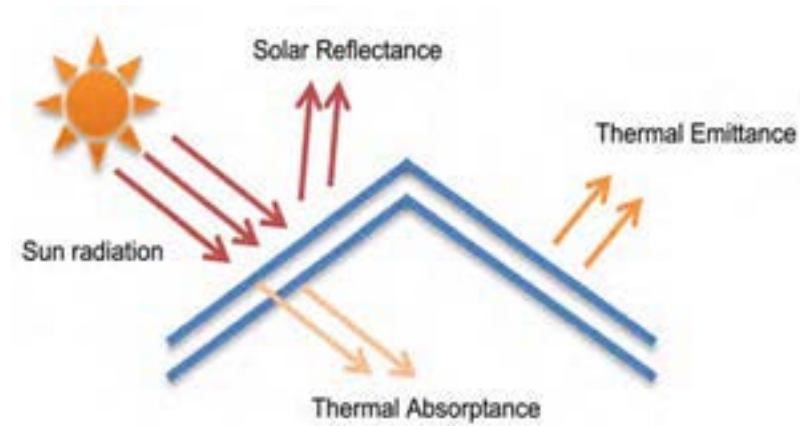


Modified from Krayenhoff et al., 2021

Introduction Heat Adaptation

Cool Roofs

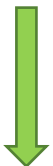
Increase Reflectivity



From Al-Obaidi et al., 2014

Green Roofs

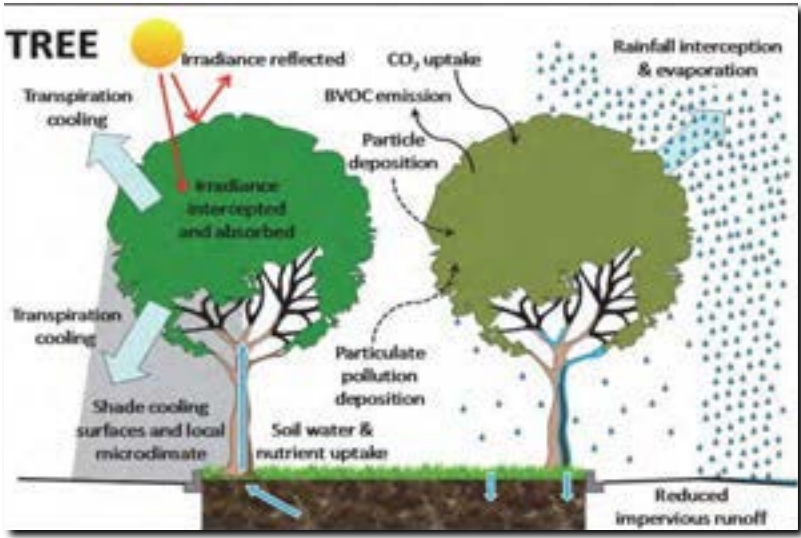
Increase Evapotranspiration



From Liu and Chui, 2019

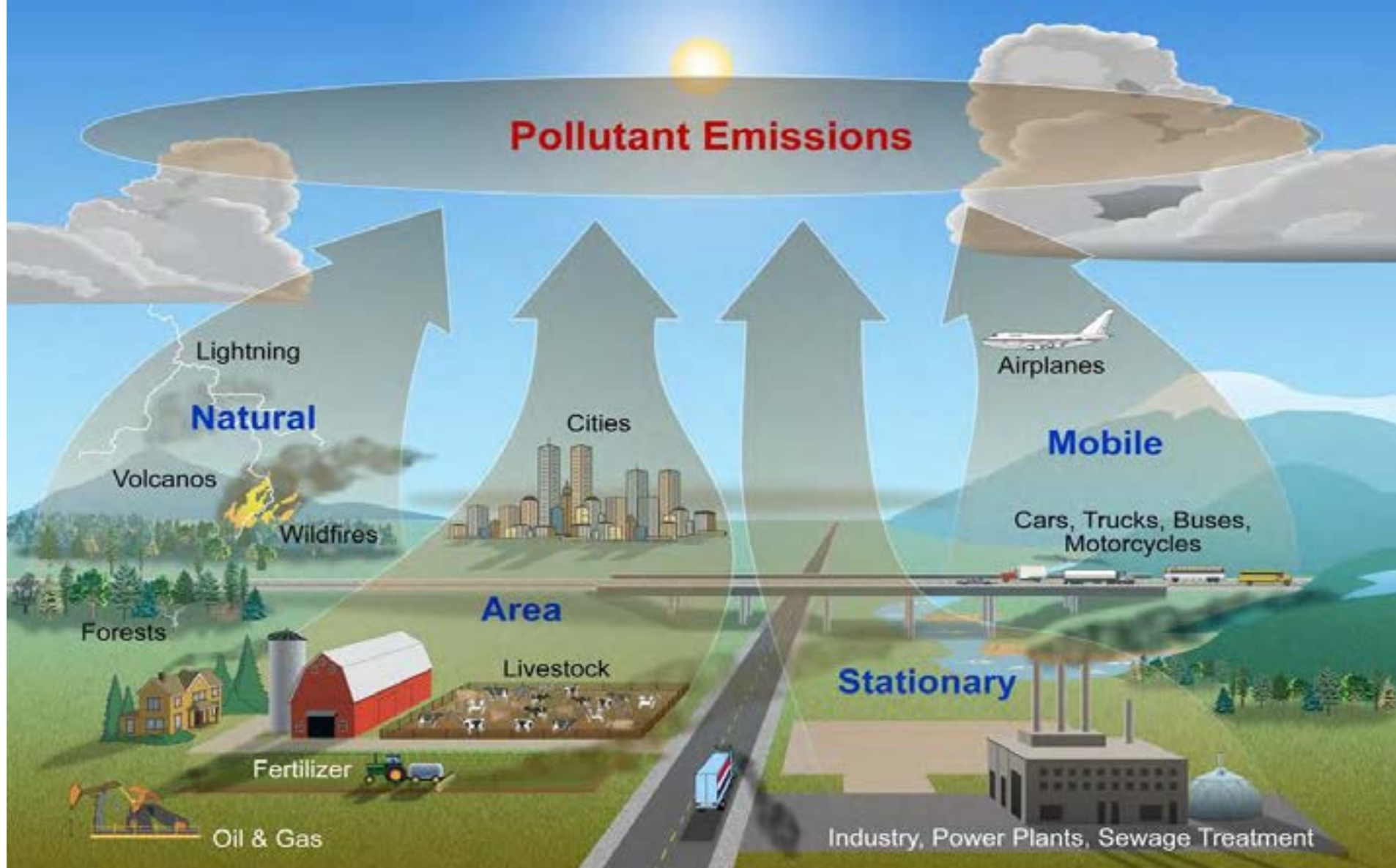
Street Trees

Shading + Evapotranspiration



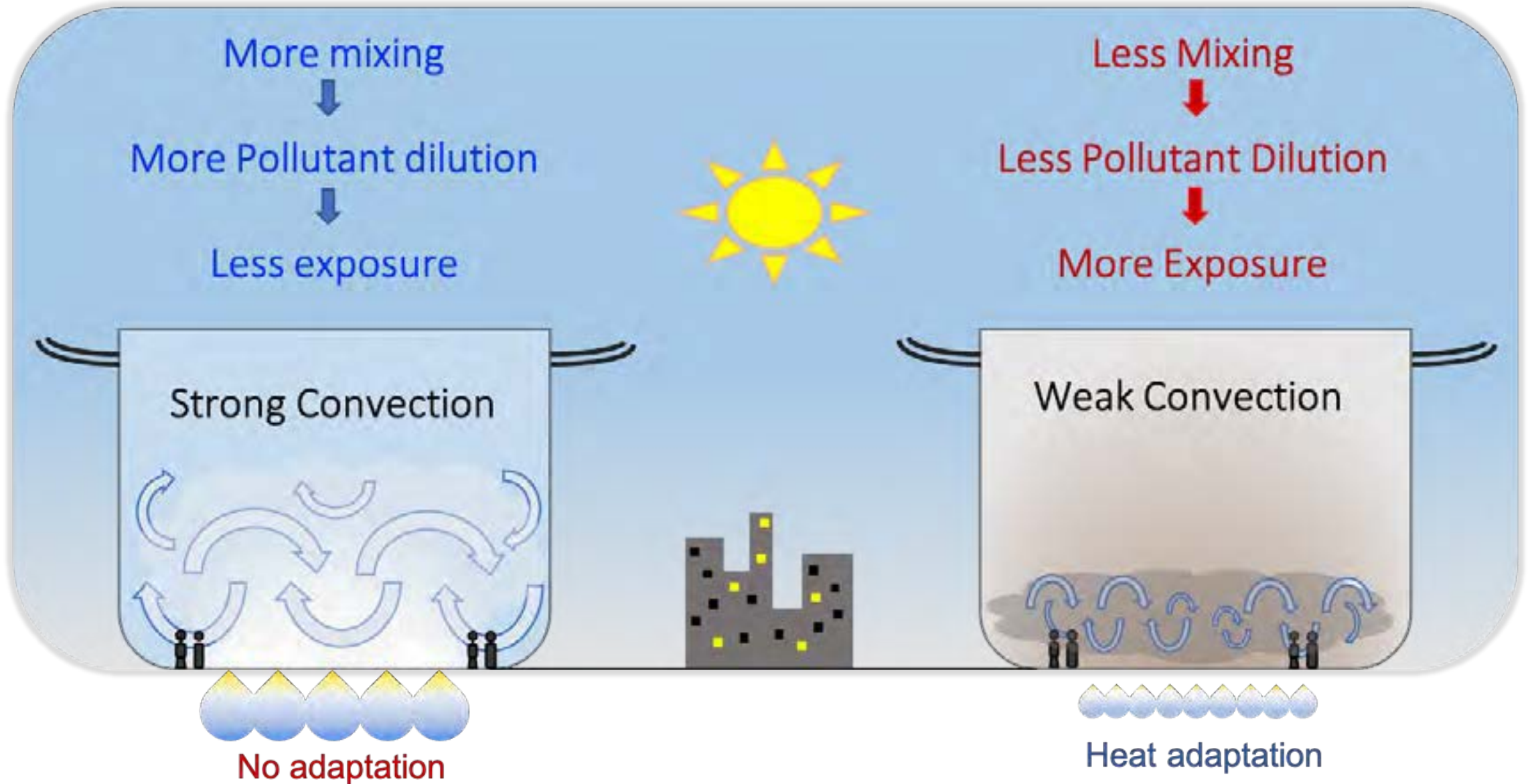
From Livesley et al., 2016

Introduction Air quality



Introduction

Why this is important




Introduction

Why this is important



Weak Convection



$$V(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0, \\ V_0, & x \geq 0. \end{cases} \quad \sigma_x \sigma_p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

$$\psi_1(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_1}} (A_{\rightarrow} e^{ik_1 x} + A_{\leftarrow} e^{-ik_1 x}) \quad x < 0$$

$$\psi_2(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} (B_{\rightarrow} e^{ik_2 x} + B_{\leftarrow} e^{-ik_2 x}) \quad x > 0$$

$$E = \hbar \nu \quad E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} A(t) = \frac{i}{\hbar} [H, A(t)] + \frac{\partial A(t)}{\partial t}$$

$$T|j, m\rangle \equiv |T(j, m)\rangle = (-1)^{j-m} |j, -m\rangle$$

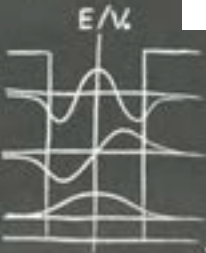
$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi(r, t) = \hat{H} \Psi(r, t)$$

$$|\Psi\rangle_{AB} = \sum_{i,j} c_{ij} |i\rangle_A \otimes |j\rangle_B$$

$$P[a \leq X \leq b] = \int_a^b \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} W(x, p) dp dx$$

Some Physics

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{d^2 \psi}{dx^2} = E \psi$$



$$\Psi(x) = A e^{ikx} + B e^{-ikx}$$

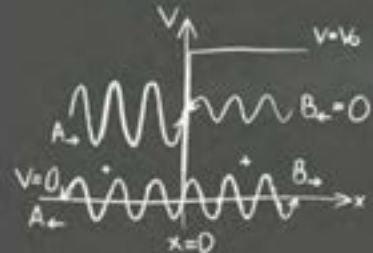
$$U(t) = \exp\left(\frac{-iHt}{\hbar}\right)$$



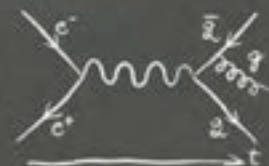
$$i\hbar \frac{d}{dt} |\Psi(t)\rangle = H |\Psi(t)\rangle$$

$$A(x) = \exp\left(\frac{i}{\hbar} \int X(t) dt\right)$$

$$P(a, b) = \int d\lambda \cdot \rho(\lambda) \cdot p_A(a, \lambda) \cdot p_B(b, \lambda)$$



$$W \rightarrow \frac{1}{(\pi \hbar)^3} \exp\left[-\alpha^2 \left(x - \frac{pt}{m}\right)^2\right]$$



The Urban Boundary Layer (UBL)

Thermal anomalies

+ Anthropogenic heat

human metabolism, transportation,
manufacturing, heating/cooling systems

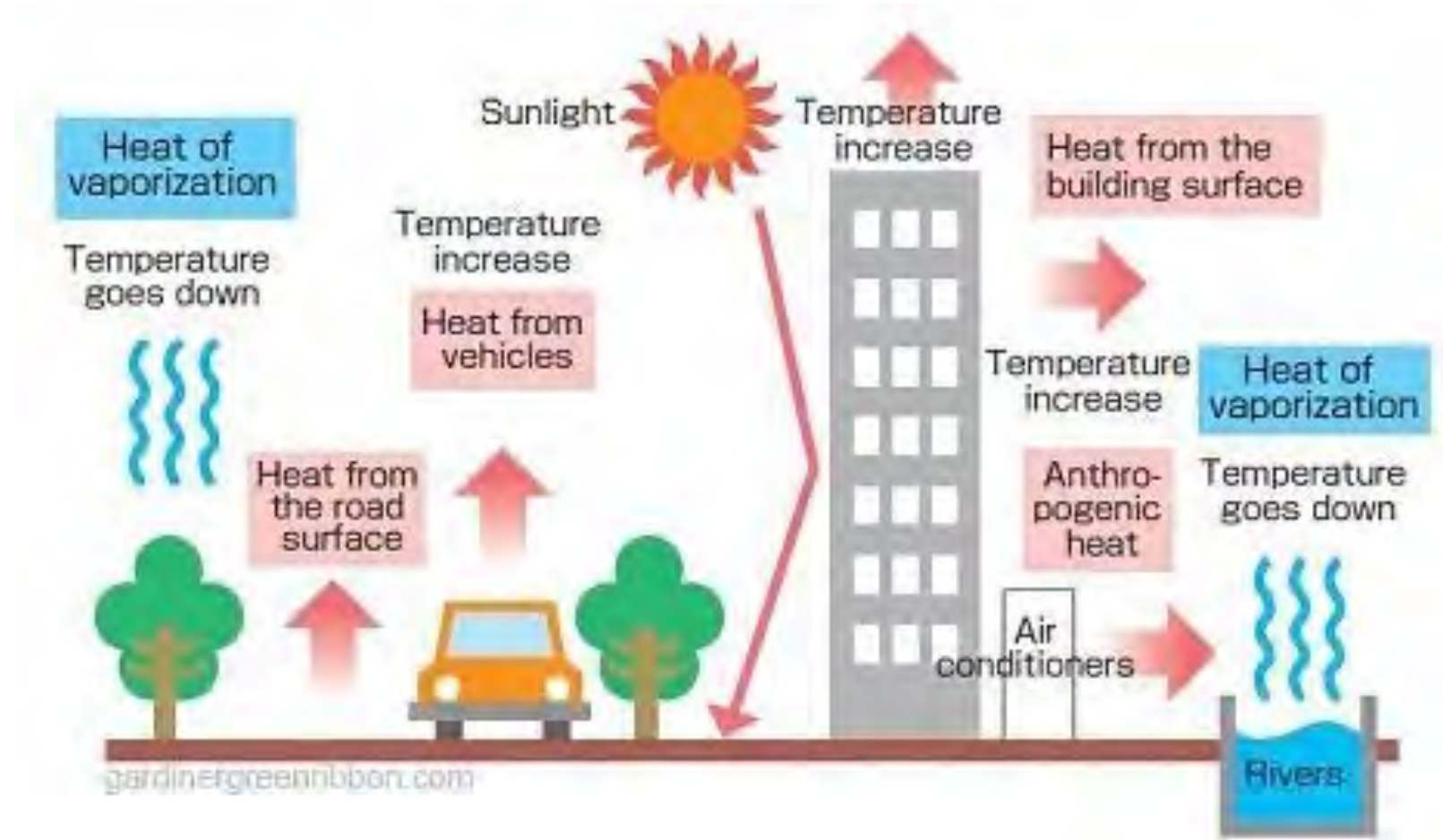
- + Paved impervious surfaces

- ↑ heat storage >> ↑ sensible heat (Q_H)
- ↓ soil moisture >> ↓ latent heat (Q_E)
- ↓ sky view factor >> ↑ canyon trapping and venting

Aerodynamic anomalies

+ Building 3D morphology

- ↑ roughness length (z_0)
- ↑ zero-plane displacement (z_d)



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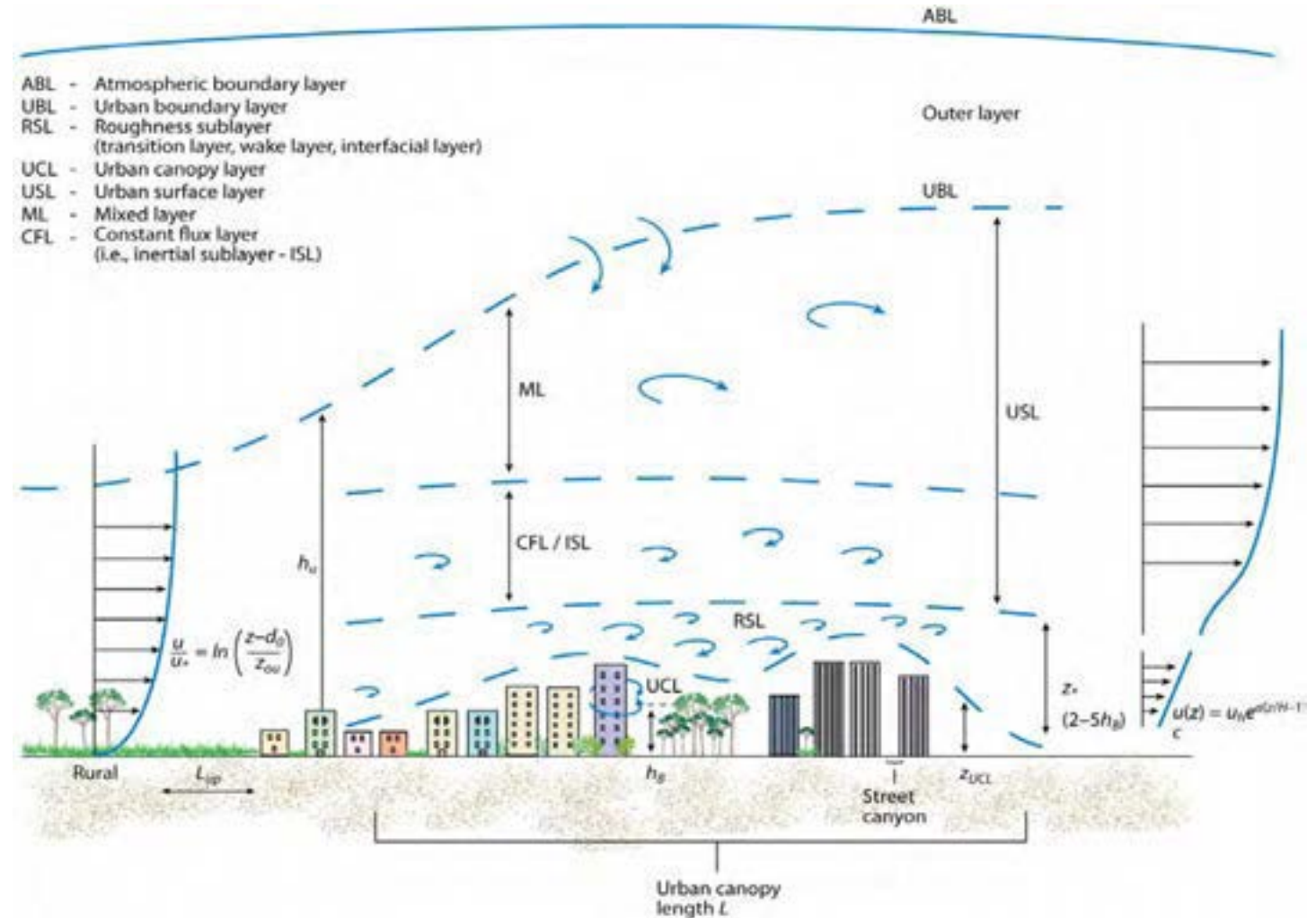
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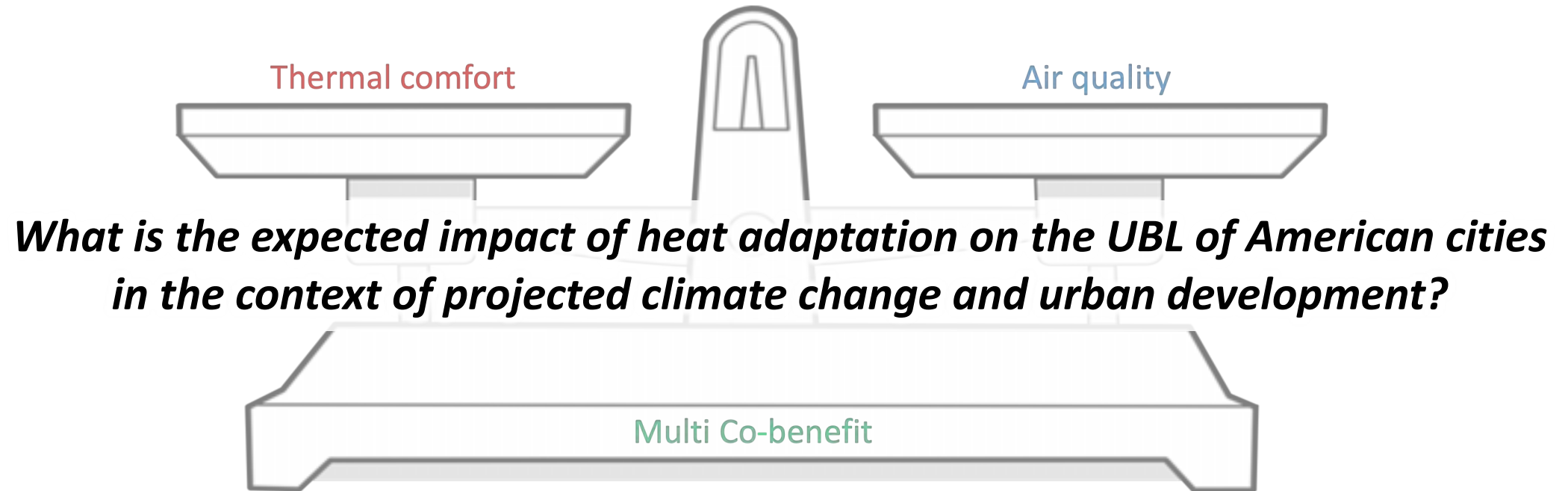
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AR Fernando HJS. 2010.
Annu. Rev. Fluid Mech. 42:365–89

Our research question



Published: 02 April 2021

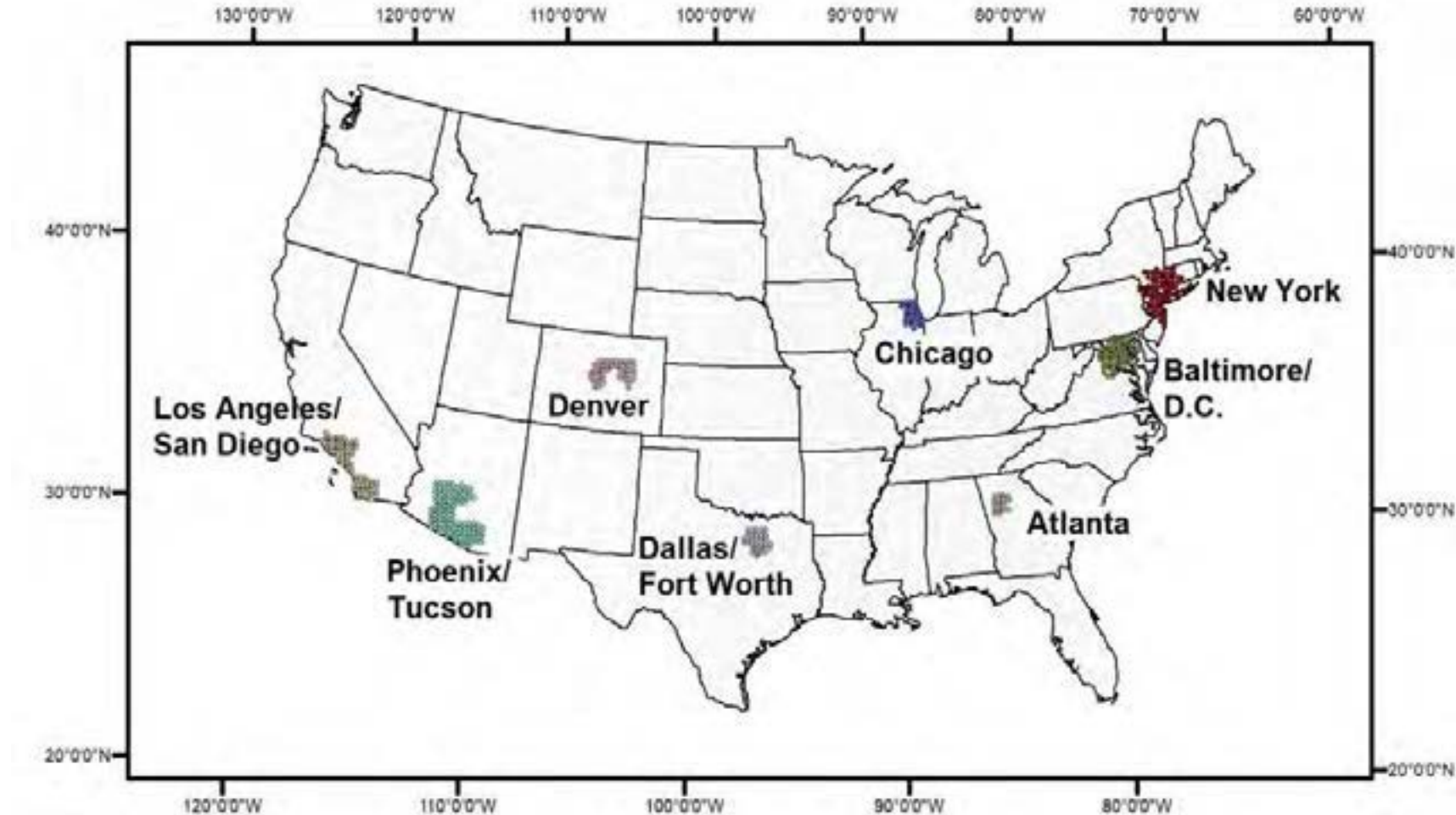
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[Aldo Brandi](#), [Ashley M. Broadbent](#), [E. Scott Krayenhoff](#) & [Matei Georgescu](#) 

[Climate Dynamics](#) (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

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Analysis domain and case study cities



From Brandi et al. 2021

Data & Methods

WRF-ARW V3.6

w/ Single Layer Urban Canopy Model

Spatial extent and resolution

North America, 20-km grid spacing, 29 vertical levels

Temporal extent and resolution

Contemporary (Climate and Urban Extent) = 2000 - 2009

Future (Climate and Urban extent) = 2090 - 2099

3-hourly outputs

Climate Forcing

Contemporary = ECMWF 'Era Interim' Reanalysis

Future = CESM CMIP5 – RCP 8.5

Land Cover

EPA ICLUS 1.3.2 A2 SRES Scenarios (2010 and 2100)

3 Urban Classes - ICLUS 31, 32, 33

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Full Adaptation Scenario

A combination of individual adaptation strategies

Cool Roofs

.88 albedo, uniformly applied on all roofs in the Contiguous US

Green Roofs

Evaporating surfaces with unlimited water availability,
uniformly applied on all roofs in the Contiguous US

Street Trees

2.0 m² m⁻² Canyon Mean Leaf Area, distributed evenly
between heights 2.5 and 7.5 m in streets of all urban classes

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More detailed information can be found in:

Krayenhoff E. S., Moustauoui M., Broadbent A. M., Gupta V. and Georgescu M. (2018). *Diurnal interaction between urban expansion, climate change and adaptation in US cities*. Nat. Clim. Change **8** 1097

Data available at:

<https://dataverse.asu.edu/dataverse/USRegClimateChgAssess>

Georgescu, Matei; Brandi, Aldo; Broadbent, Ashley; Krayenhoff, Scott (2021)

"2090-2099 Projected Climates and Urban Development Scenarios - Conterminous U.S. (CONUS) Simulation Data", <https://doi.org/10.48349/ASU/3TYXZL>, ASU Library Research Data Repository, V1

Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

Urban Development (ICLUS 2100 – 2010)

↑ UBL Depth (PBLH)

↑ Sensible Heat Flux (HFX)

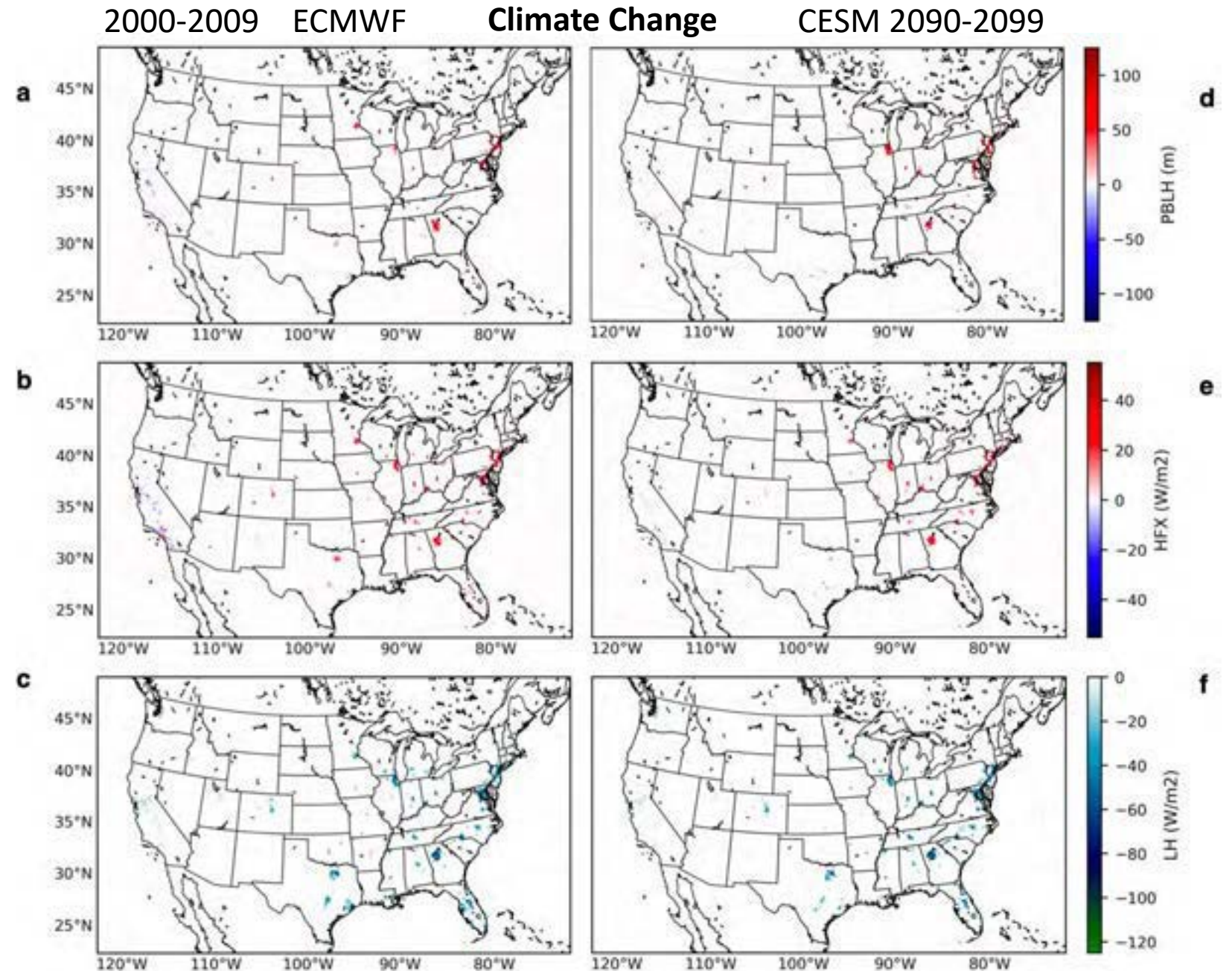
↓ Latent Heat Flux (LH)

↑ Ground Heat Flux

Greater changes in
Eastern CONUS

Climate Change exacerbates
Urban Development impacts

Transition from arid to urban
landscapes (California)



Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

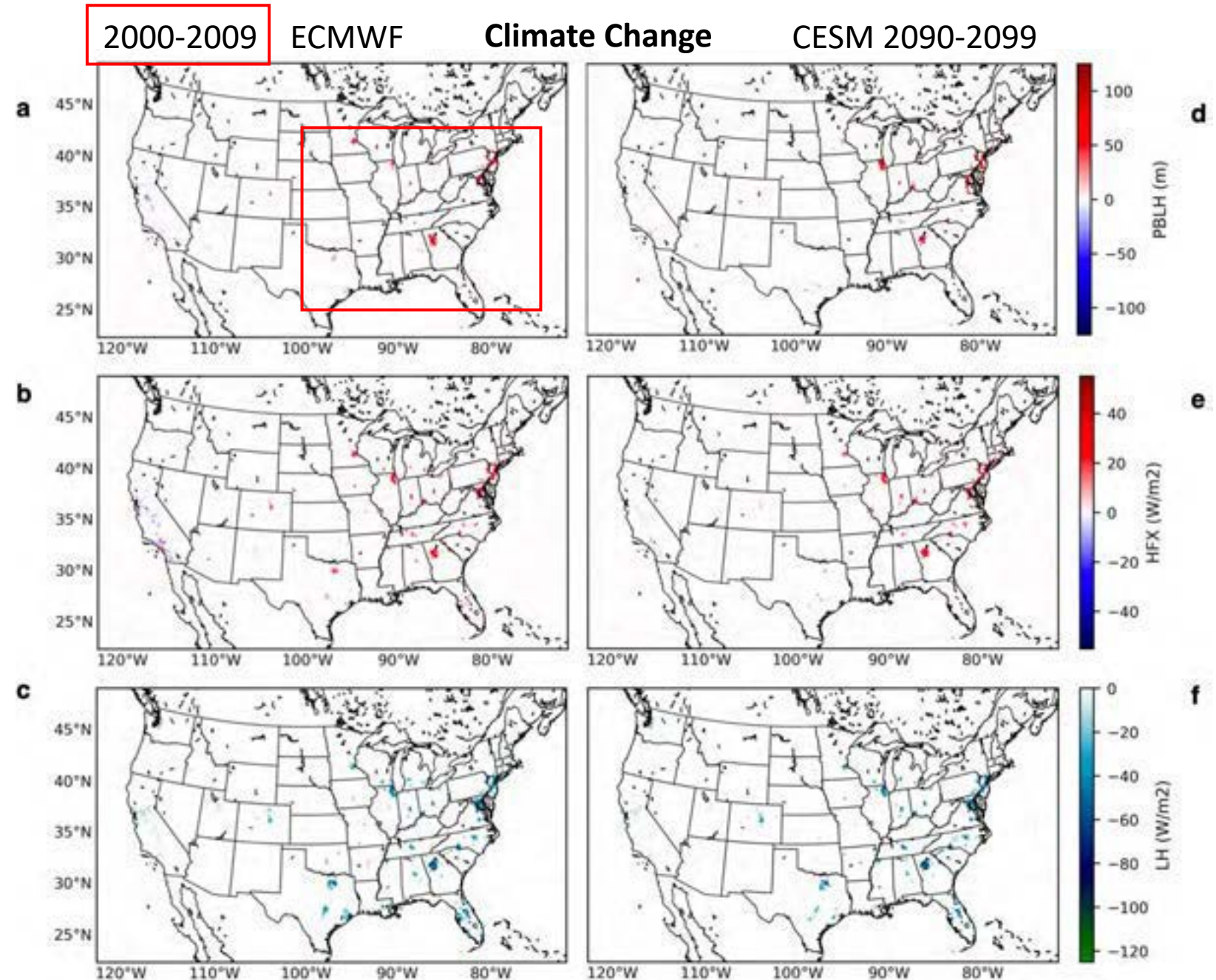
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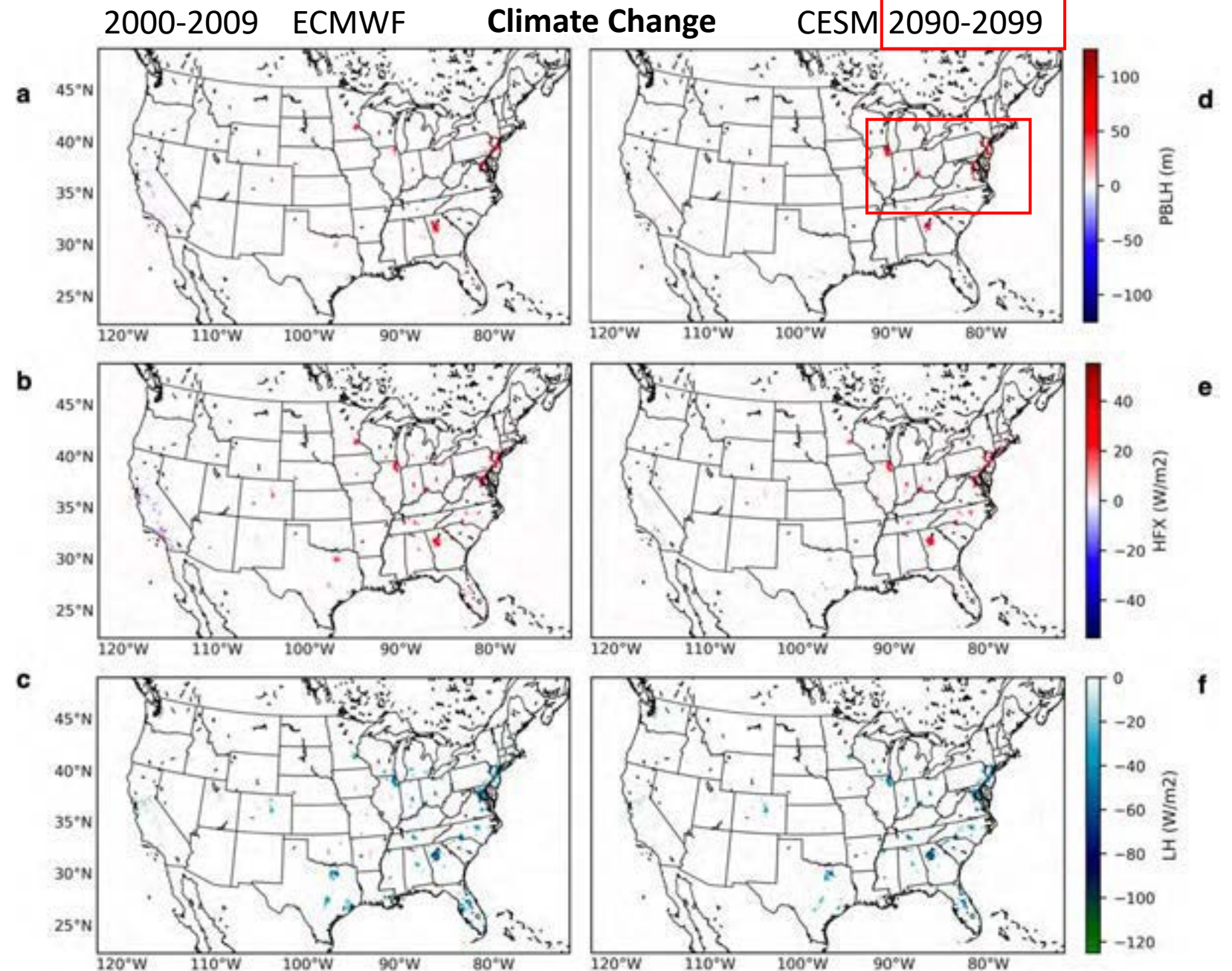
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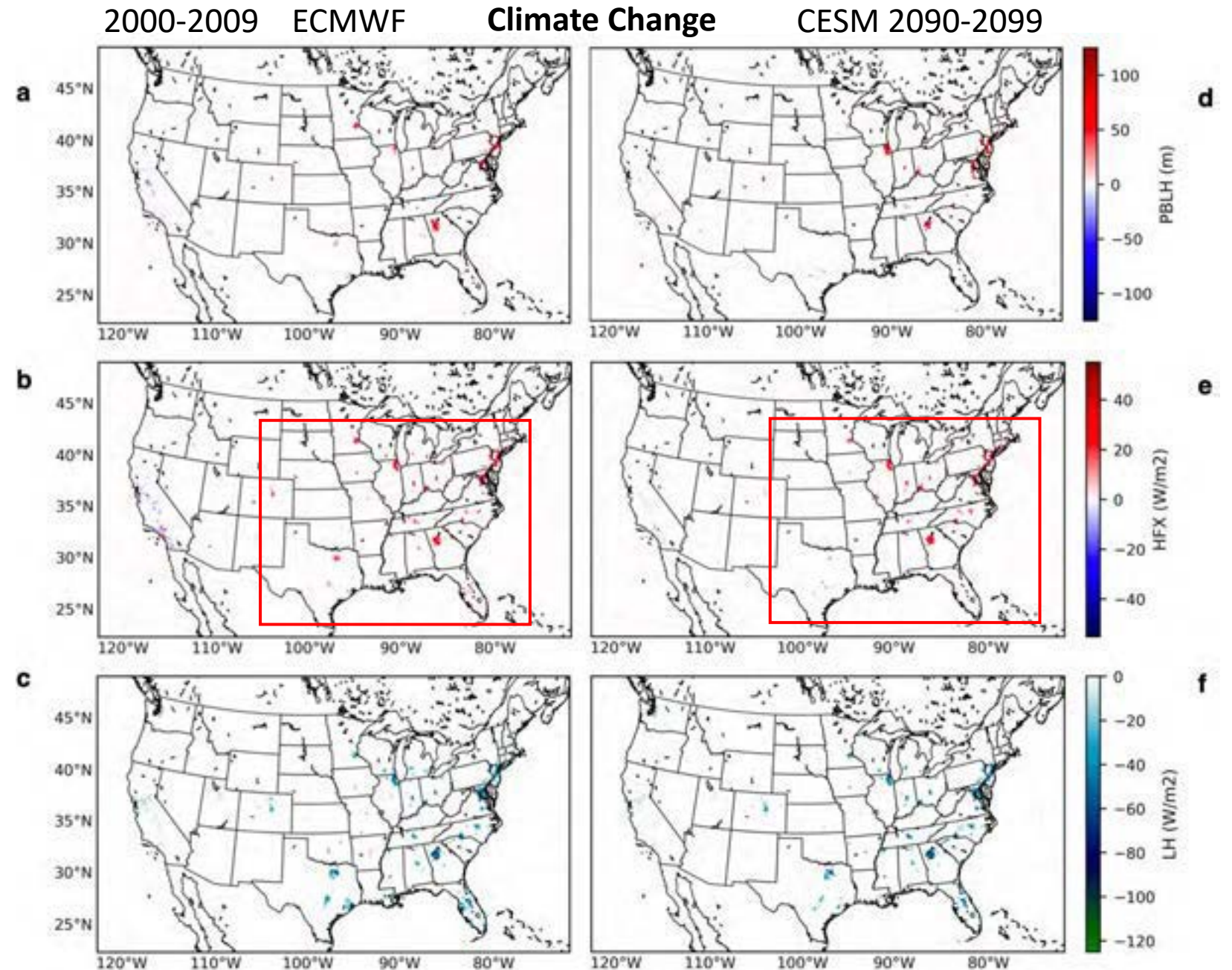
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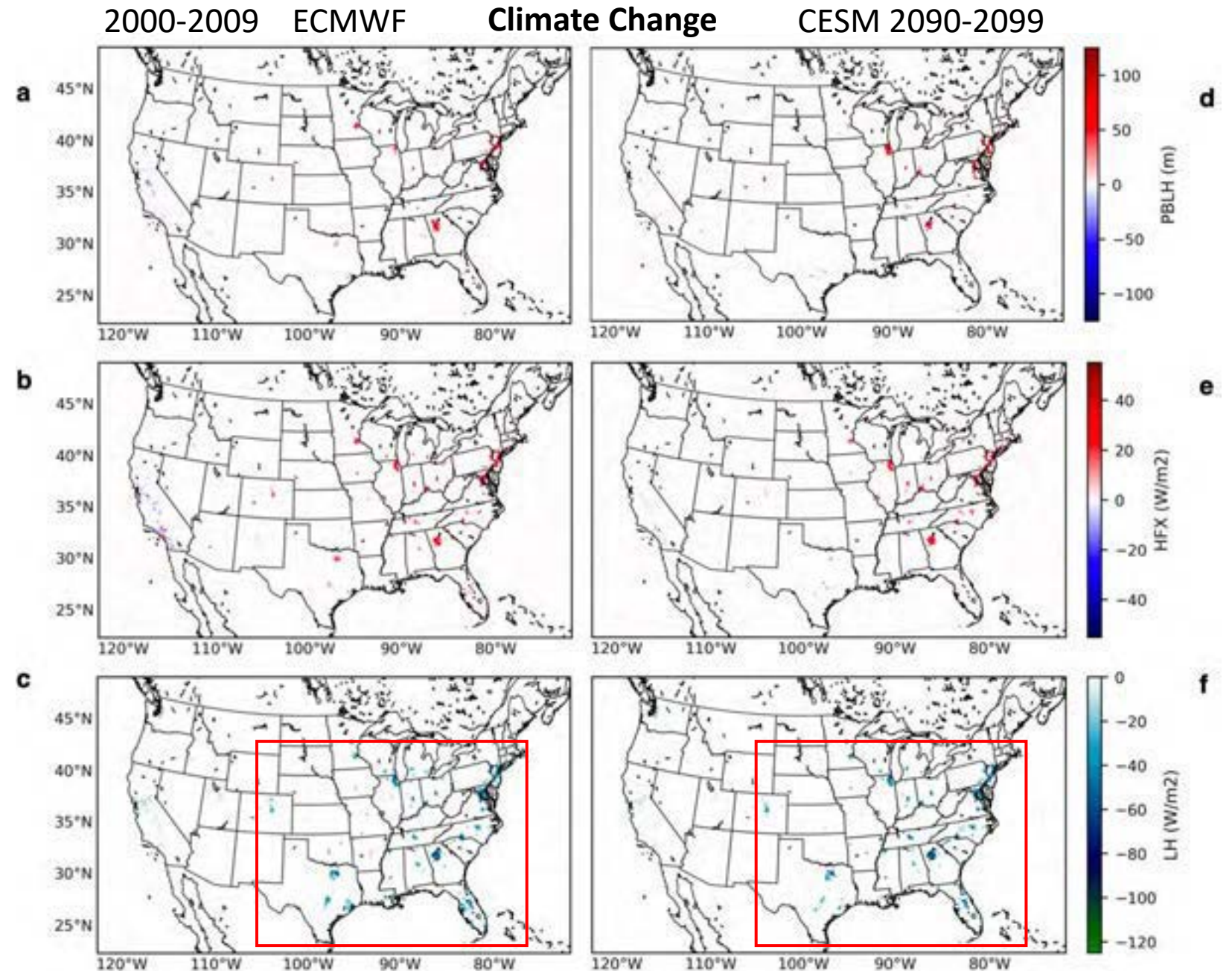
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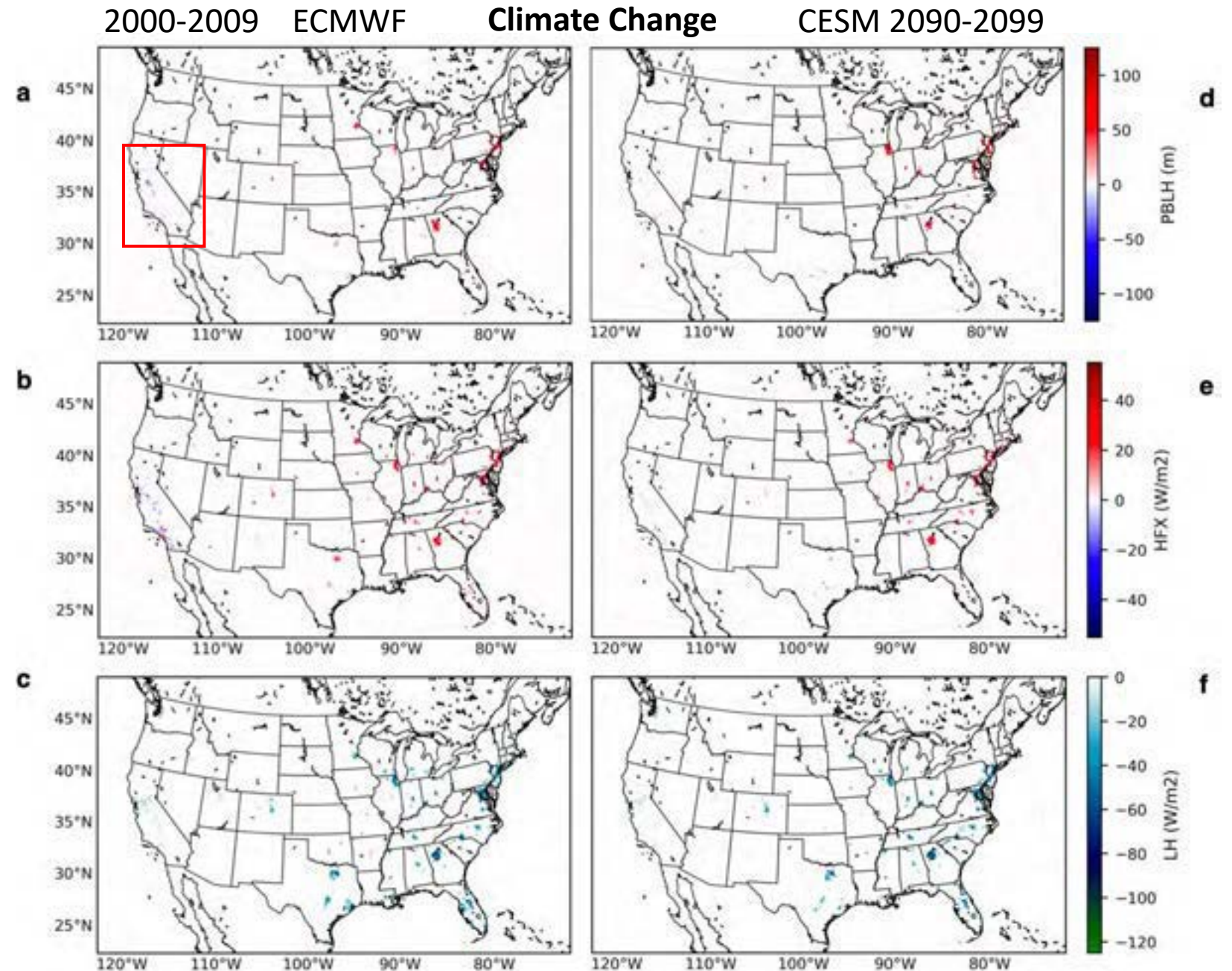
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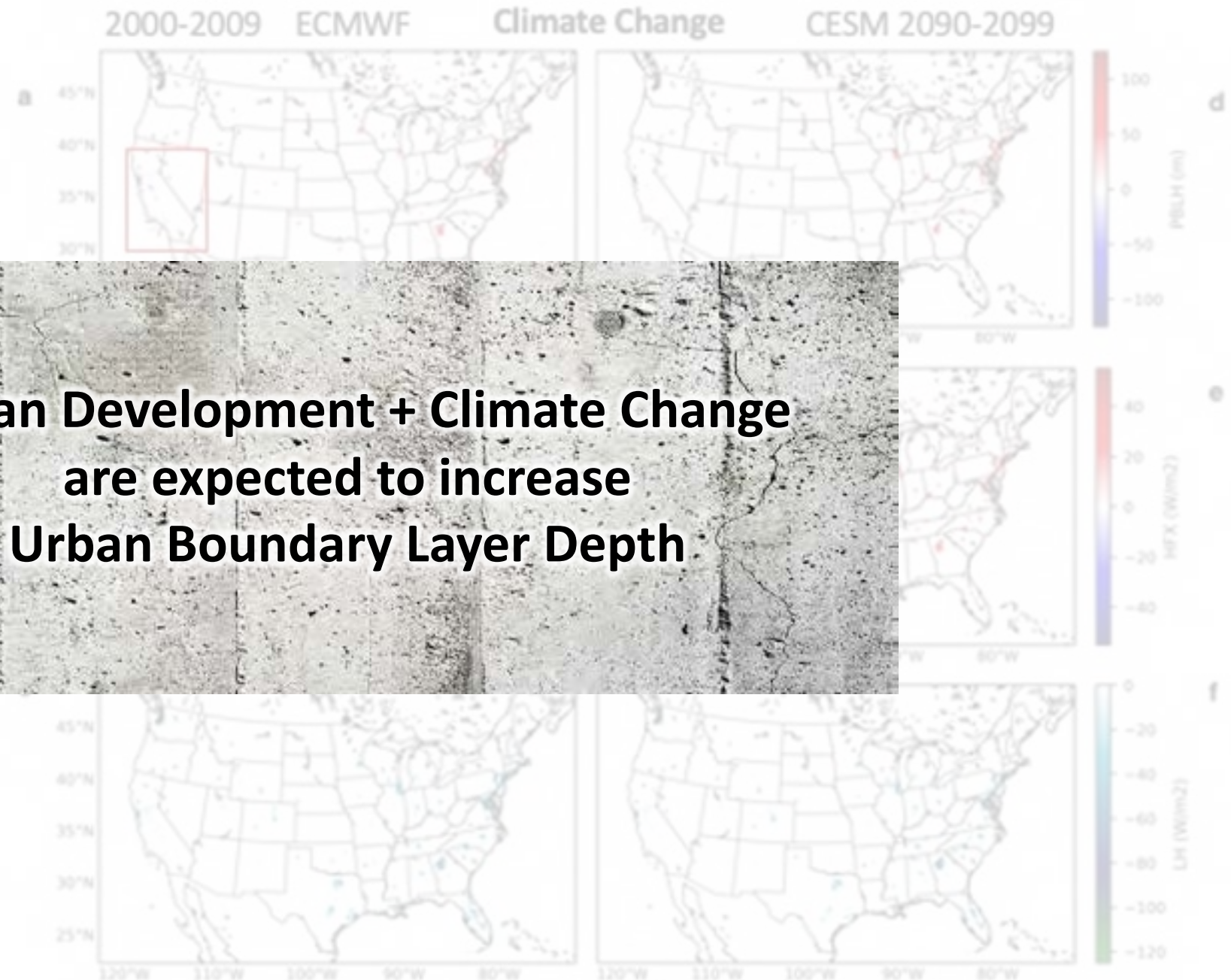
Greater changes in
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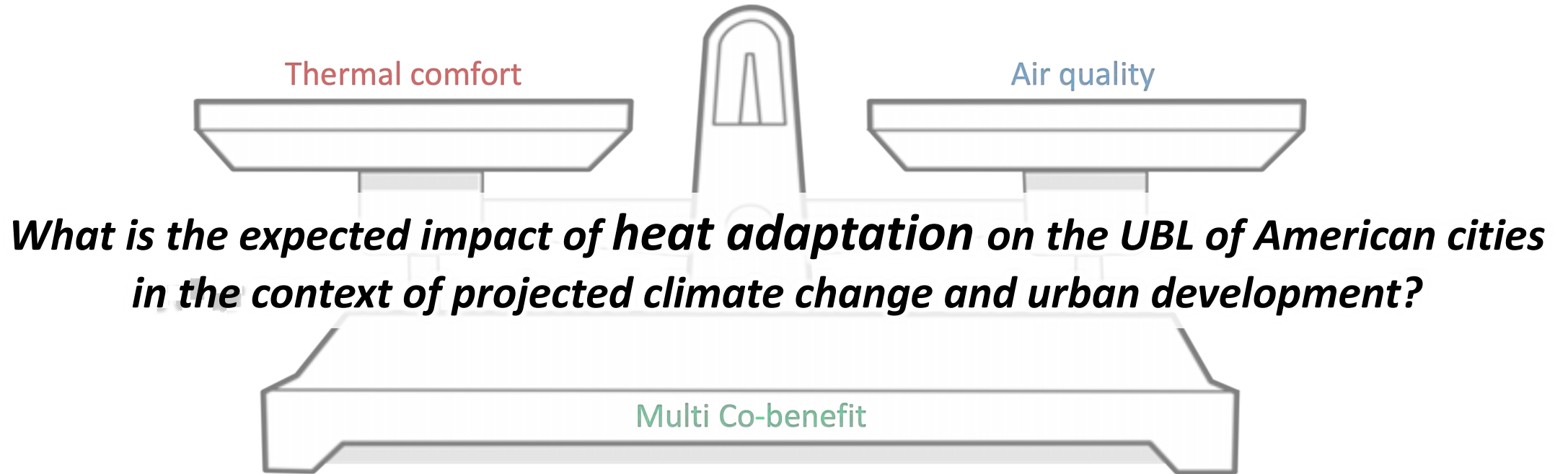


**Urban Development + Climate Change
are expected to increase
Urban Boundary Layer Depth**



From Brandt et al. 2021

Our research question

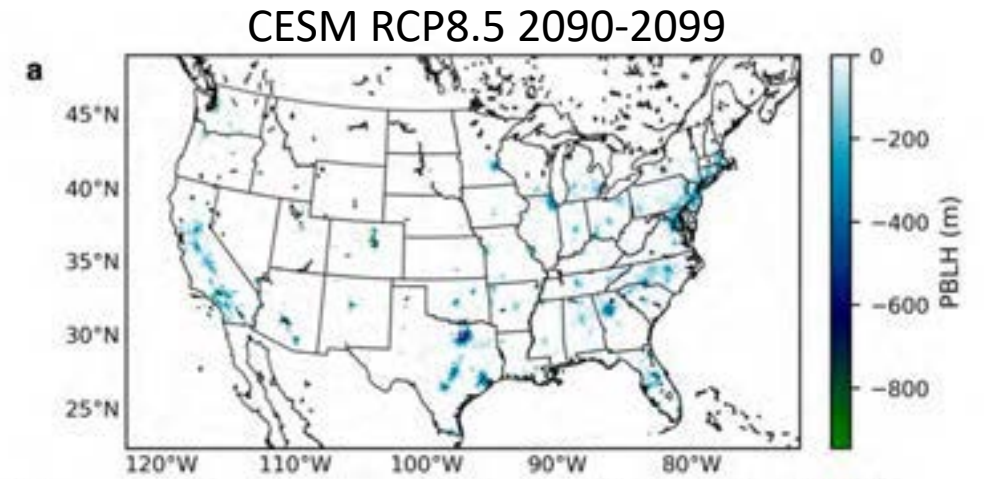


Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

Full Adaptation

Cool R. + Green R. + Street Trees

↓ UBL Depth (PBLH)



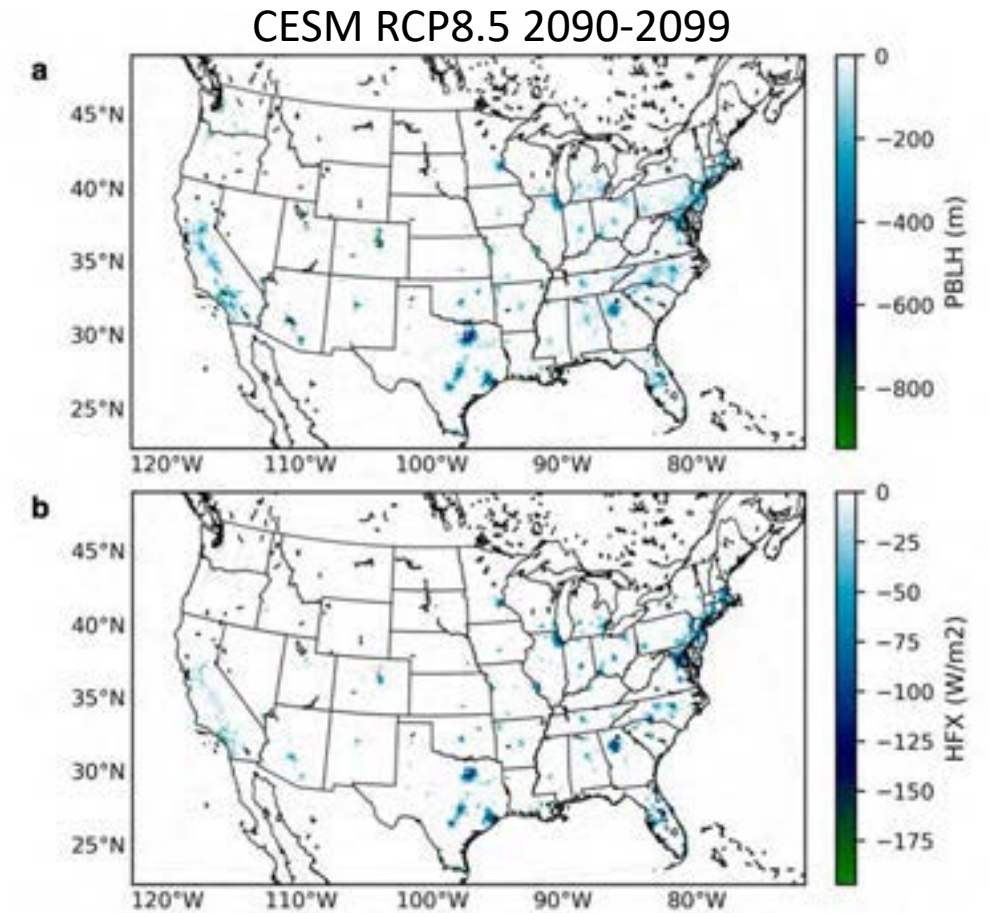
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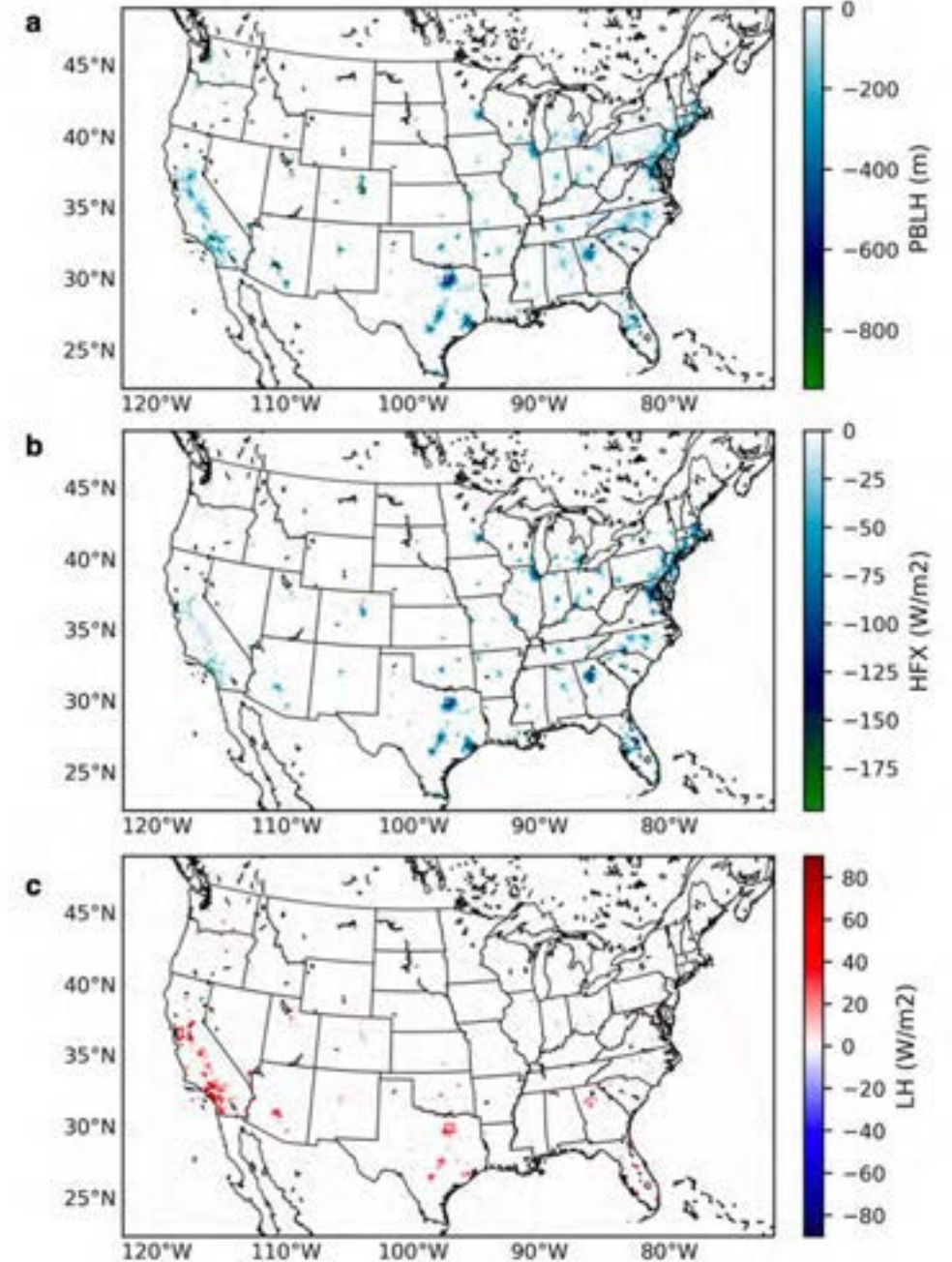
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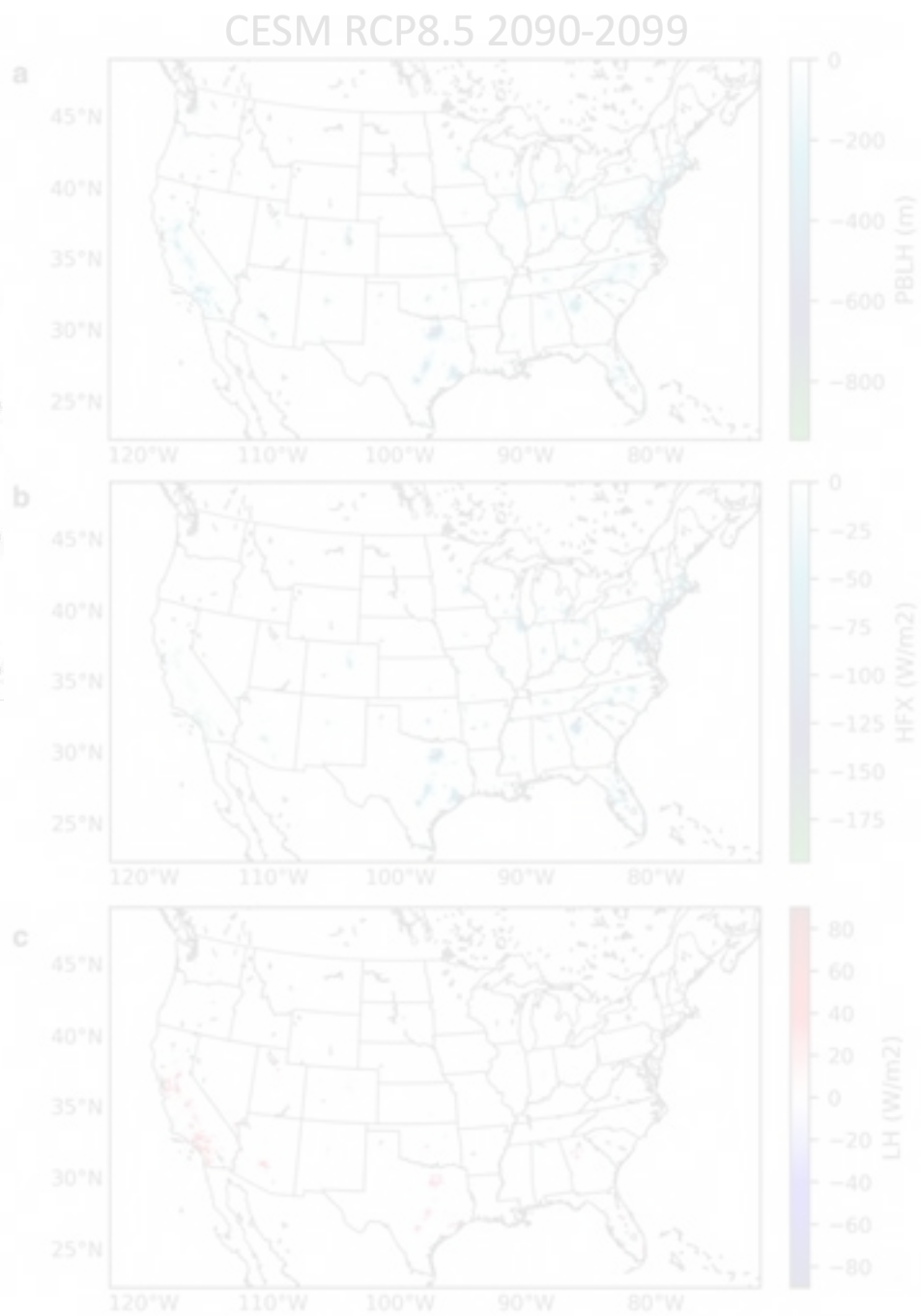
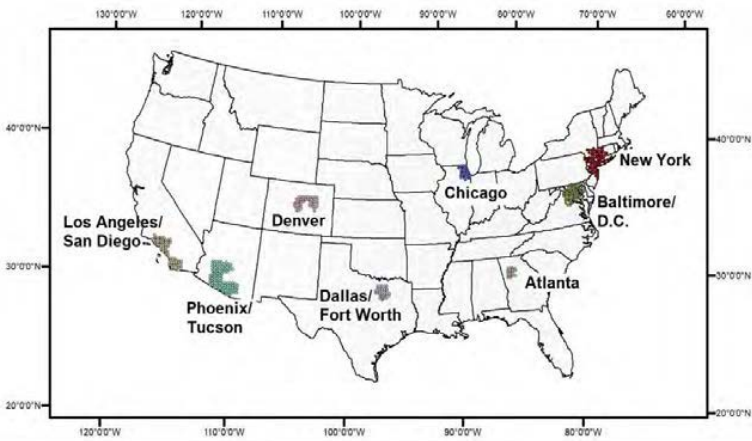
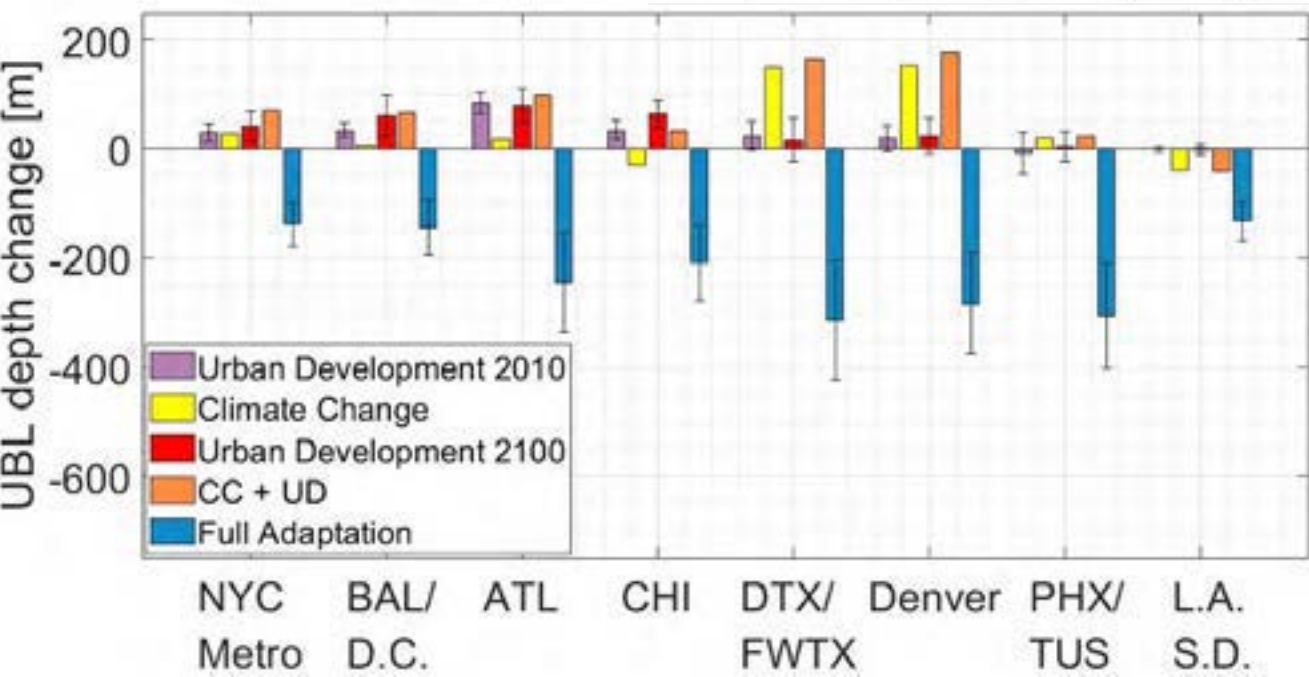
CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099



Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

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- ↑ Latent Heat Flux (LH)
- ≡ Ground Heat Flux



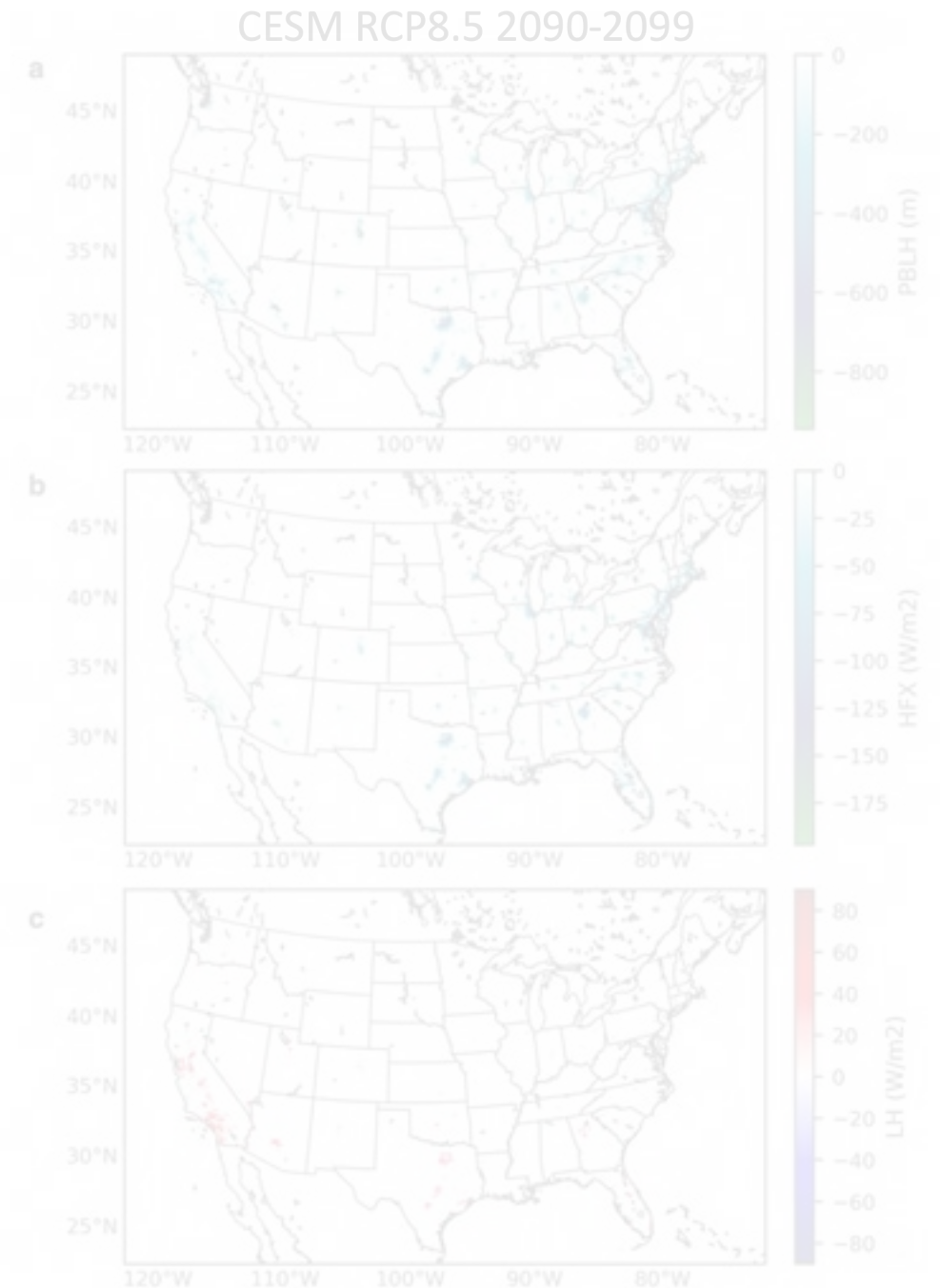
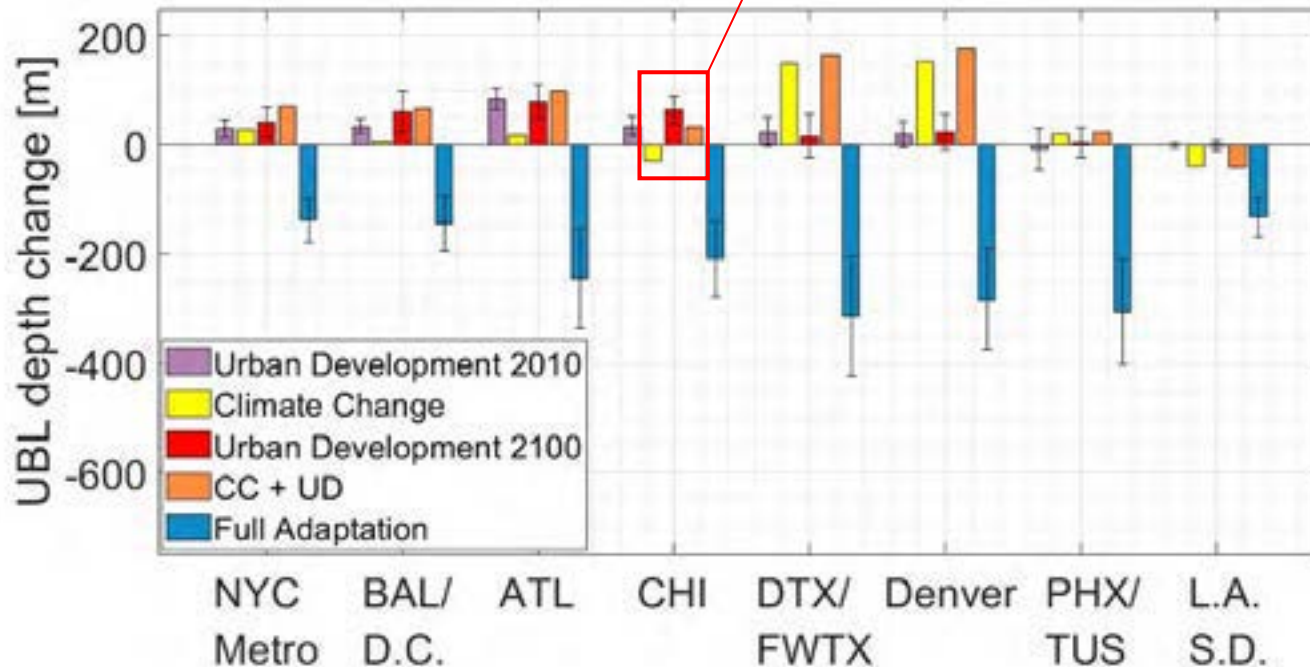
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- ↑ Latent Heat Flux (LH)
- ≡ Ground Heat Flux

Climate Change and Urban Development impacts sum linearly



Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

Full Adaptation

Cool R. + Green R. + Street Trees

↓ UBL Depth (PBLH)

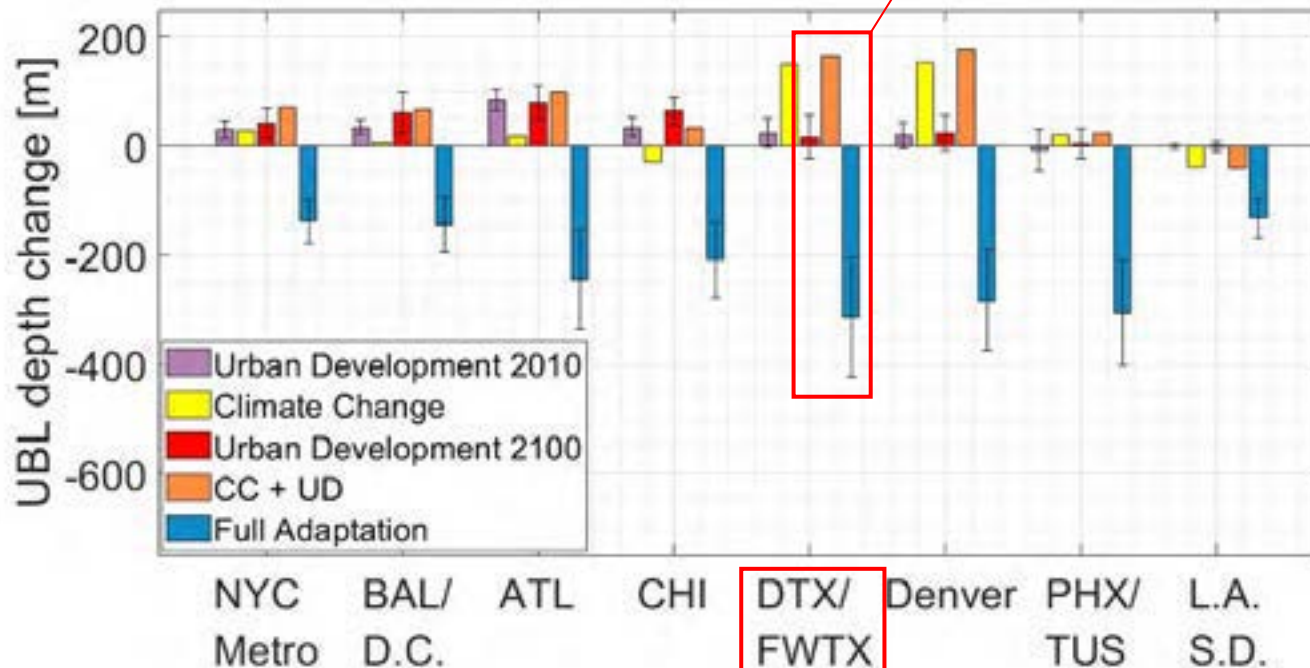
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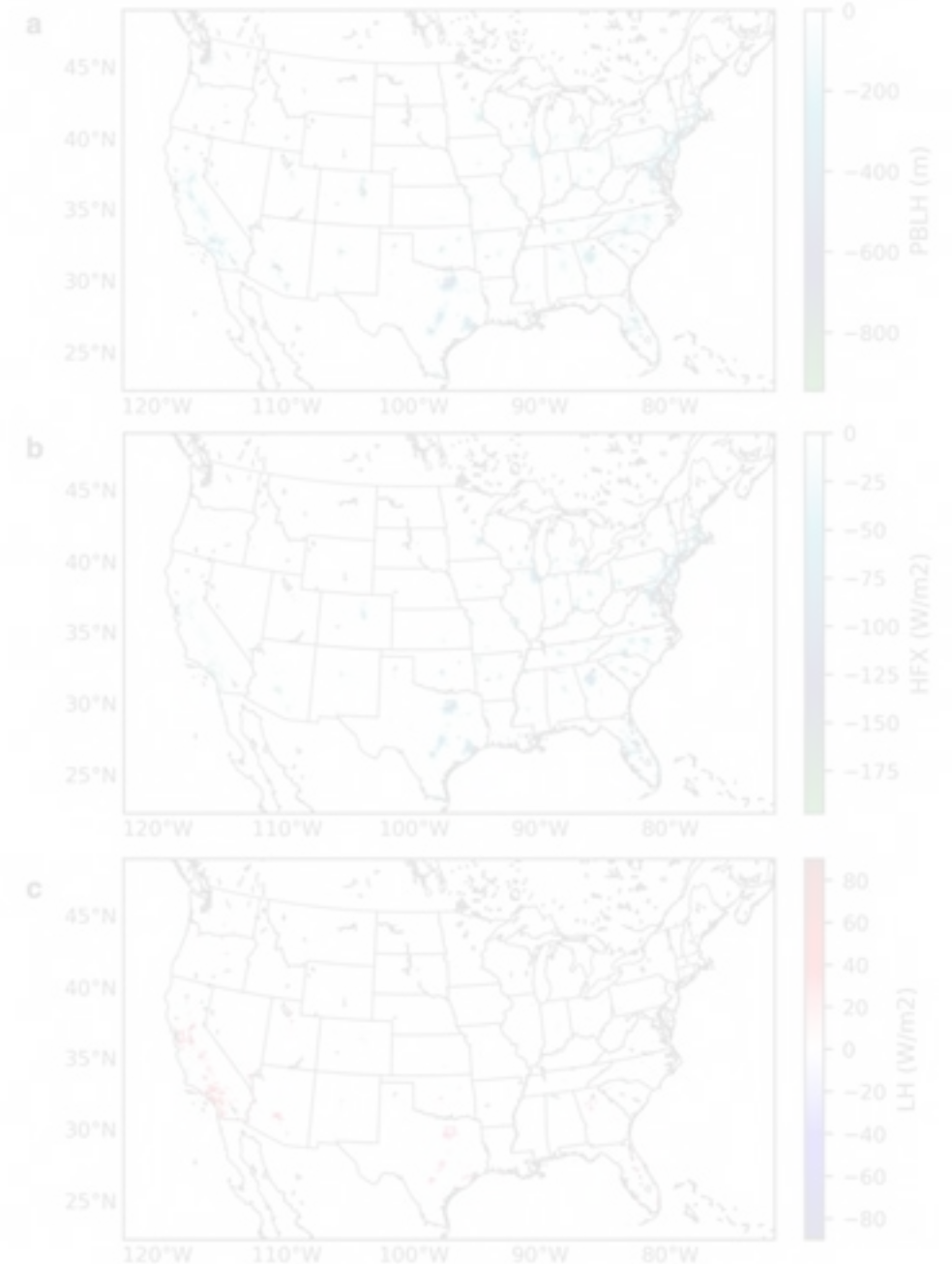
≡ Ground Heat Flux

Climate Change and Urban Development impacts sum linearly

Full Adaptation UBL reduction exceeds UD and CC increases



CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099



Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

Full Adaptation

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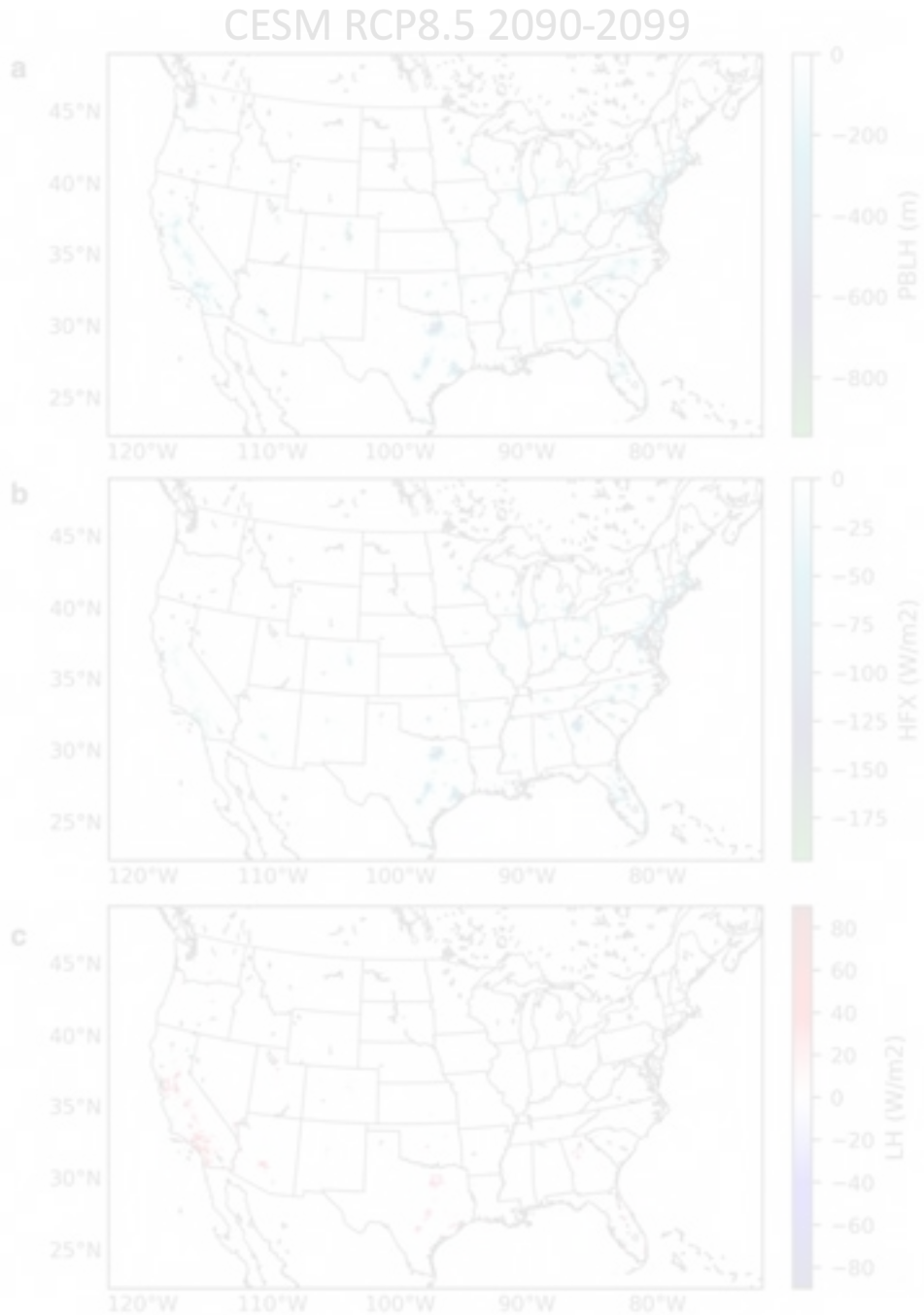
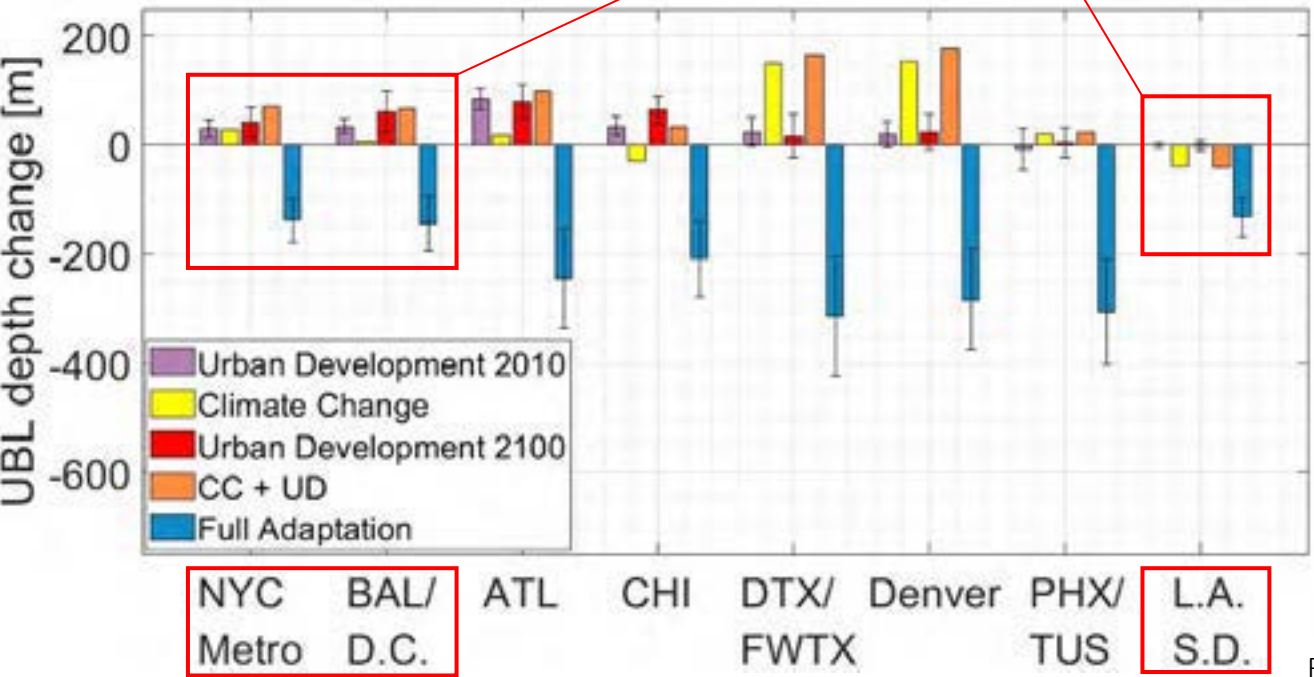
↑ Latent Heat Flux (LH)

≡ Ground Heat Flux

Climate Change and Urban Development impacts sum linearly

Full Adaptation UBL reduction exceeds UD and CC increases

Greater impacts inland
Lesser in coastal cities



Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

Full Adaptation

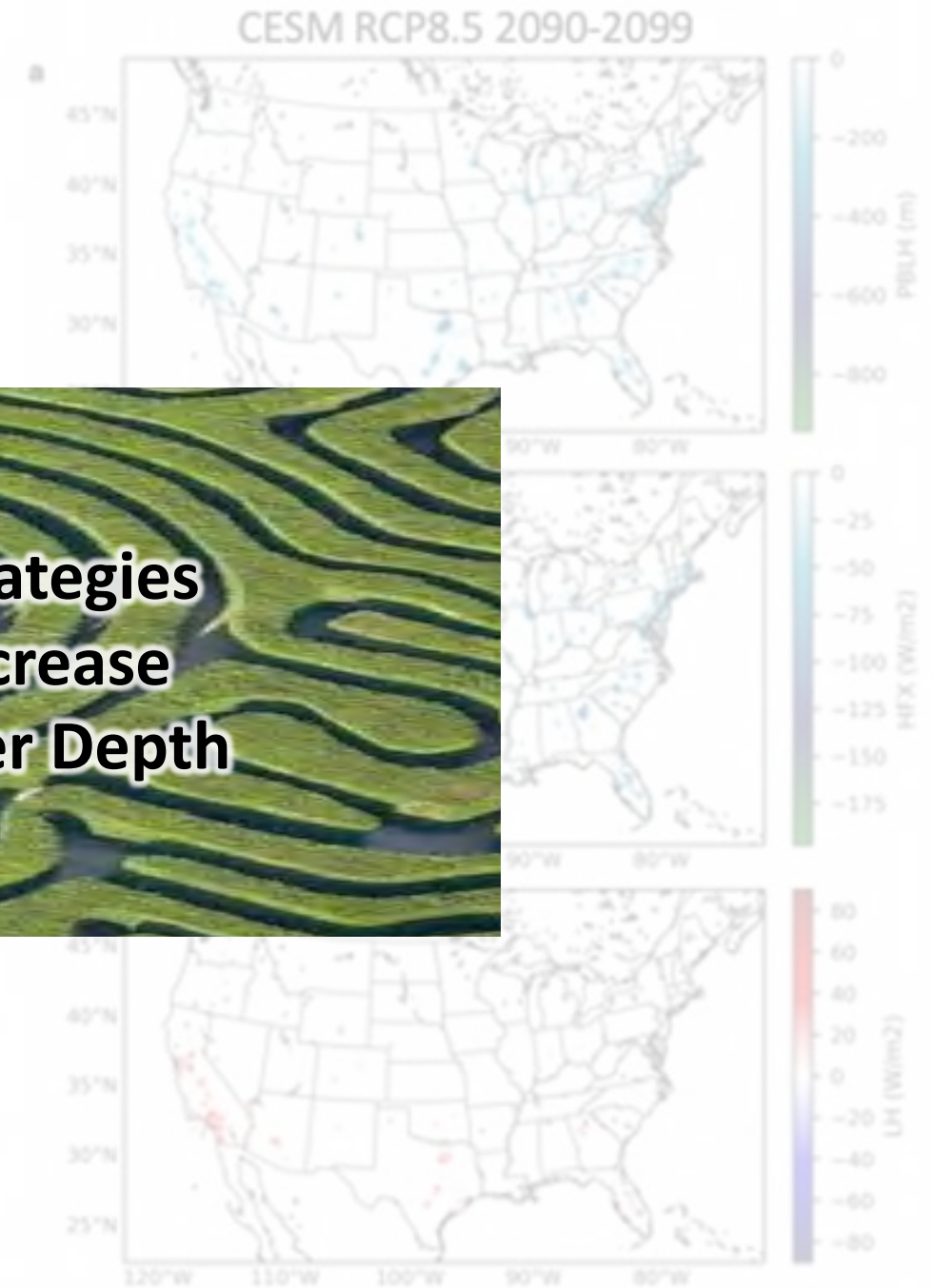
Cool R. + Green R. + Street Trees

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- ↓ Sensible Heat Flux (H_S)
- ↑ Latent Heat Flux (LH)
- Ground Heat Flux



**Heat Adaptation Strategies
are expected to decrease
Urban Boundary Layer Depth**

Climate Change and Urban
Development impacts sum linearly

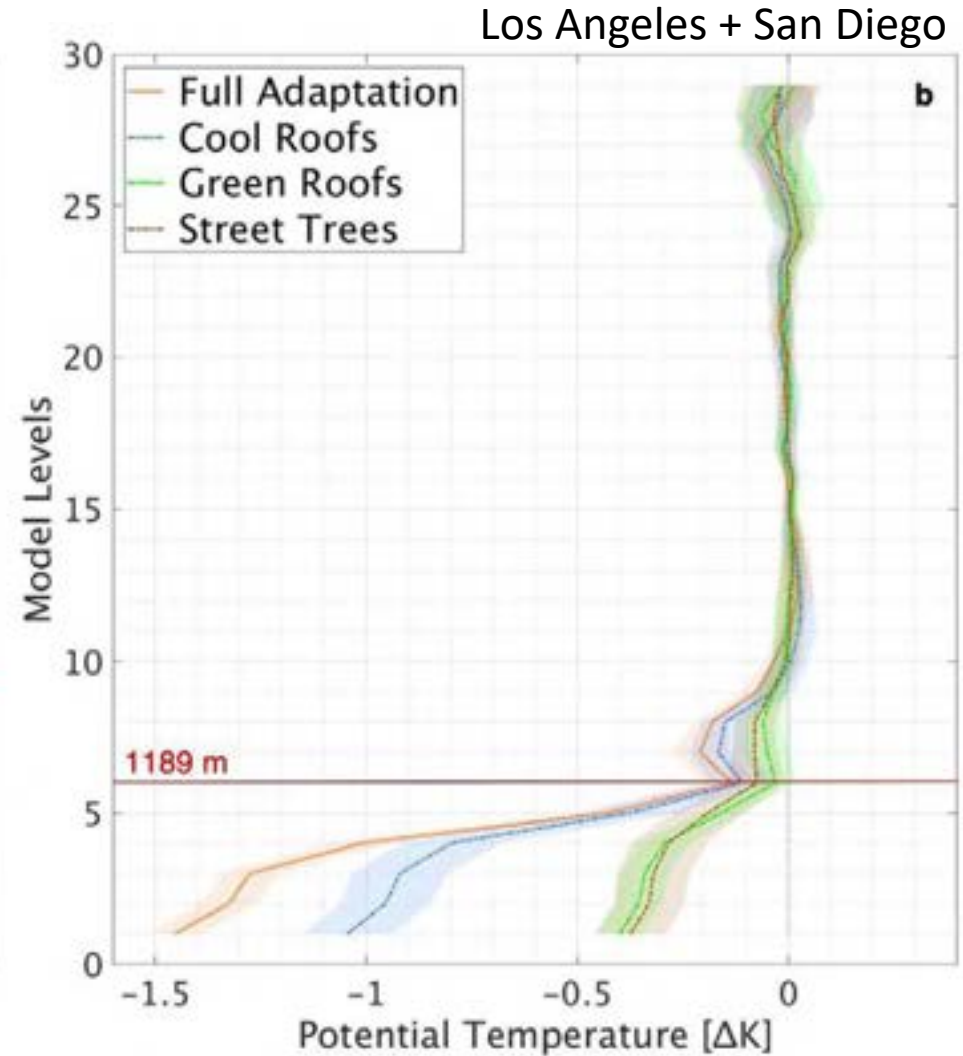
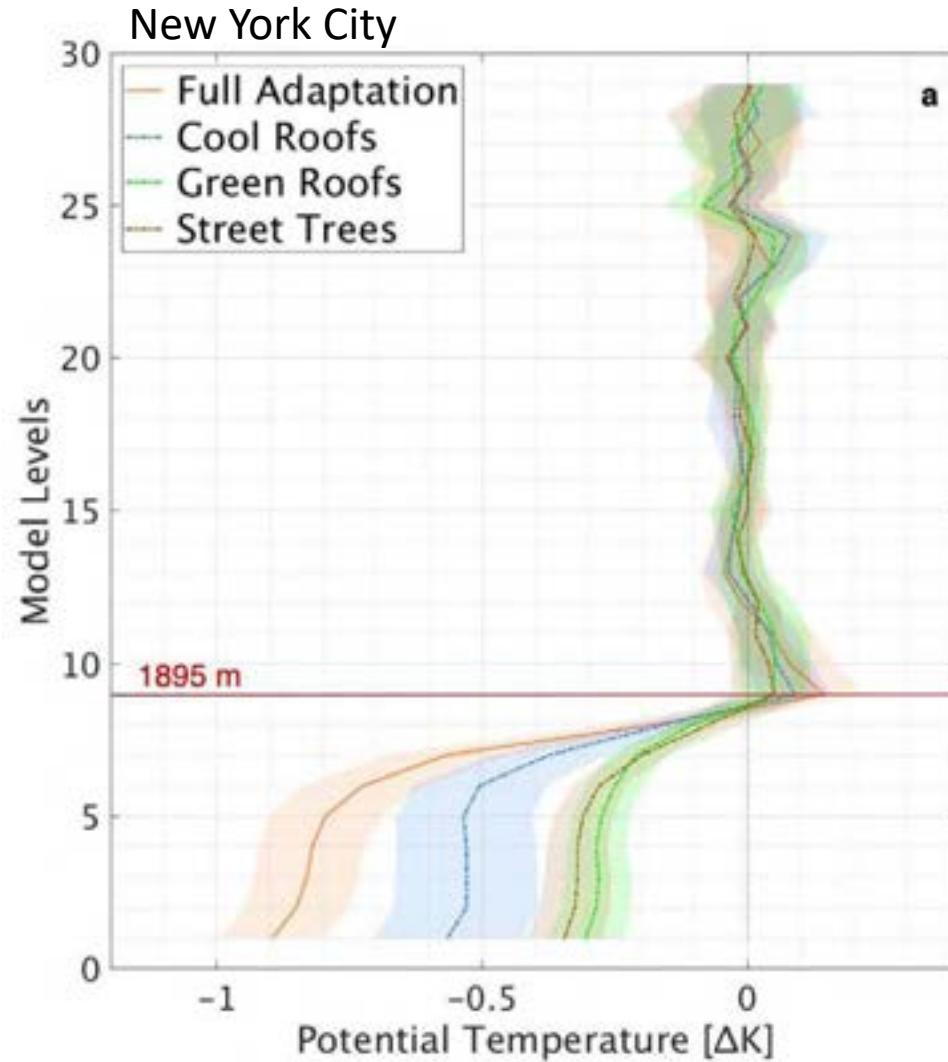


Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

ICLUS 2100 + CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099

Full Adaptation

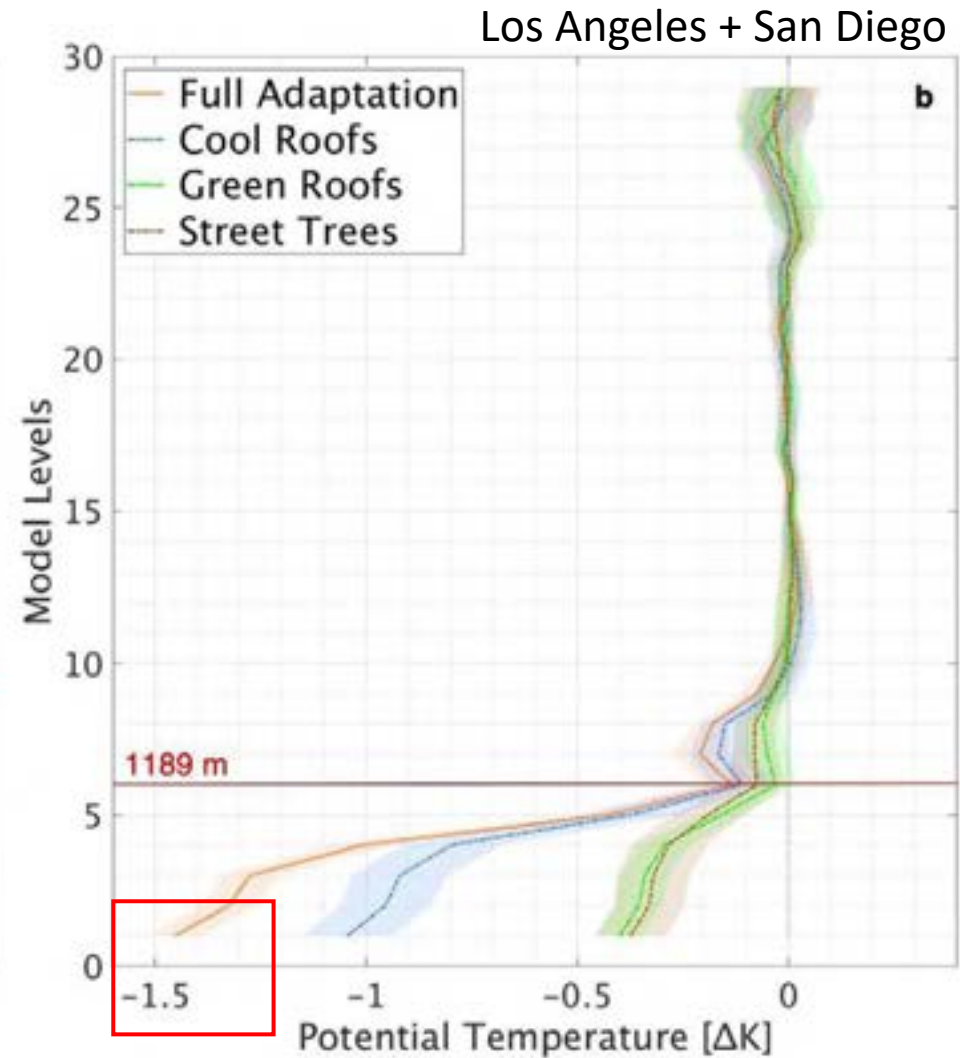
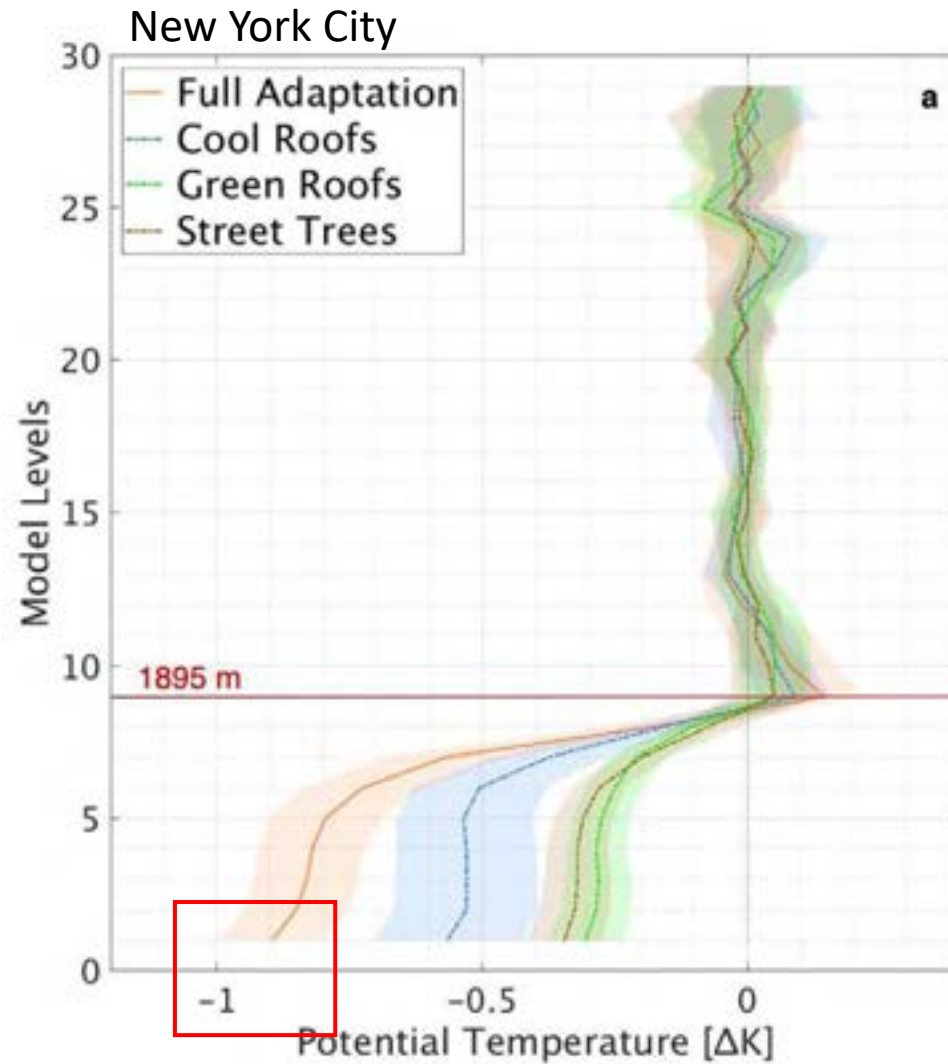
Cool Roofs + Green Roofs + Street Trees



Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

ICLUS 2100 + CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099

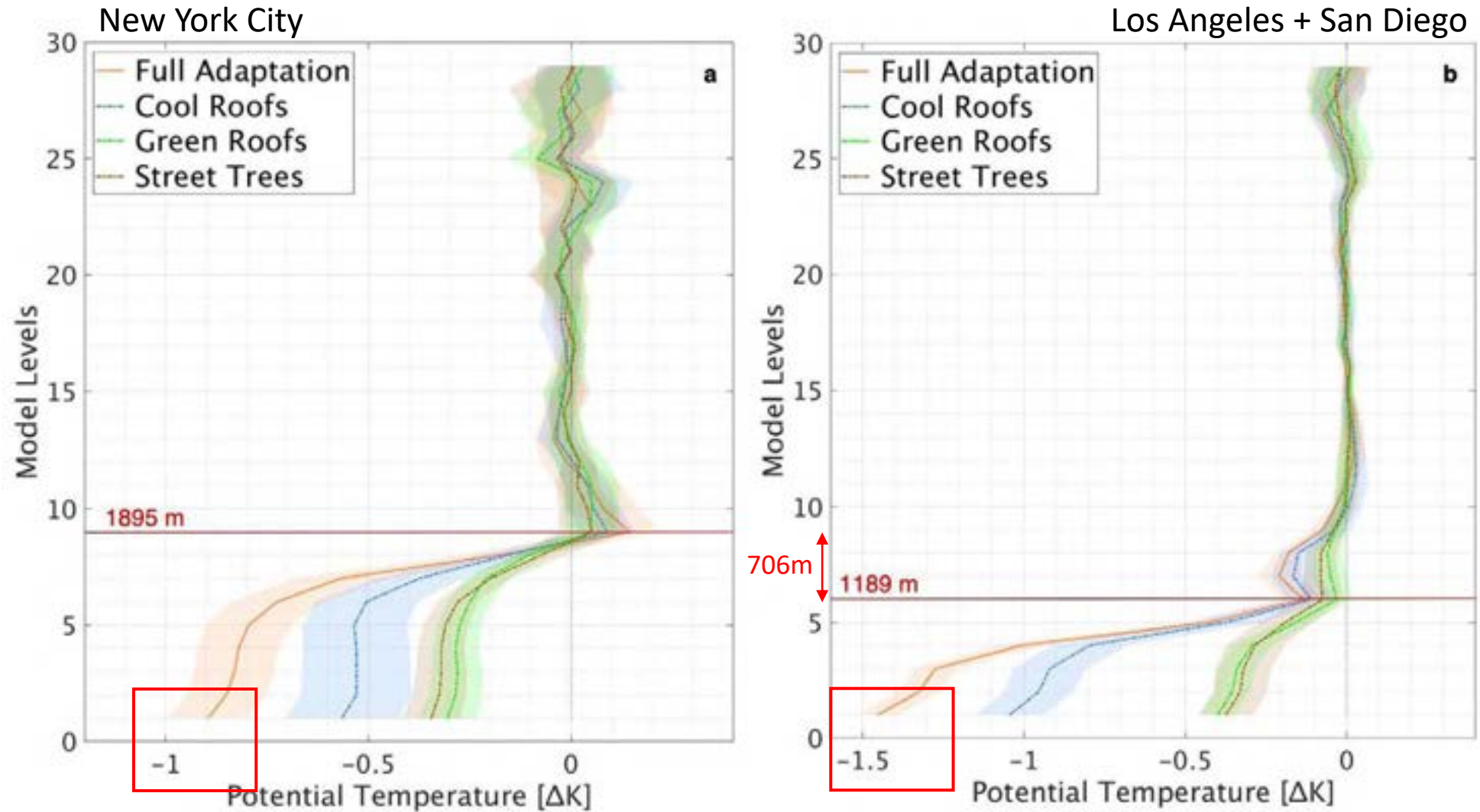
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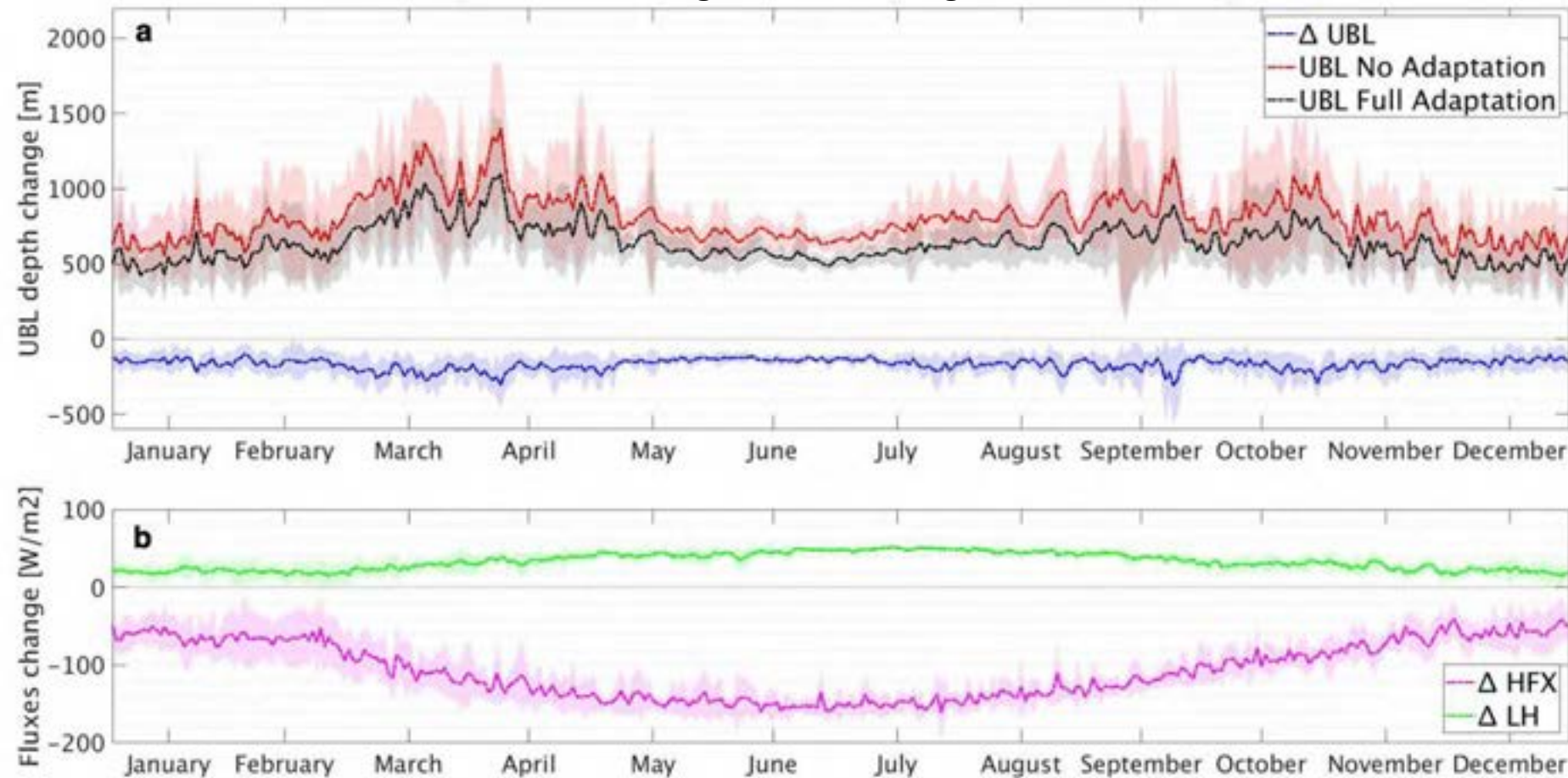
From Brandt et al. 2021

Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

ICLUS 2100 + CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099

Full Adaptation
Cool Roofs + Green Roofs + Street Trees

Los Angeles + San Diego



Peak Values



UBL Depth change
 $\Delta \cong -100 \text{ m}$



Sensible Heat change
 $\Delta \text{HFX} \cong -160 \text{ W/m}^2$



Latent Heat change
 $\Delta \text{LH} \cong 50 \text{ W/m}^2$

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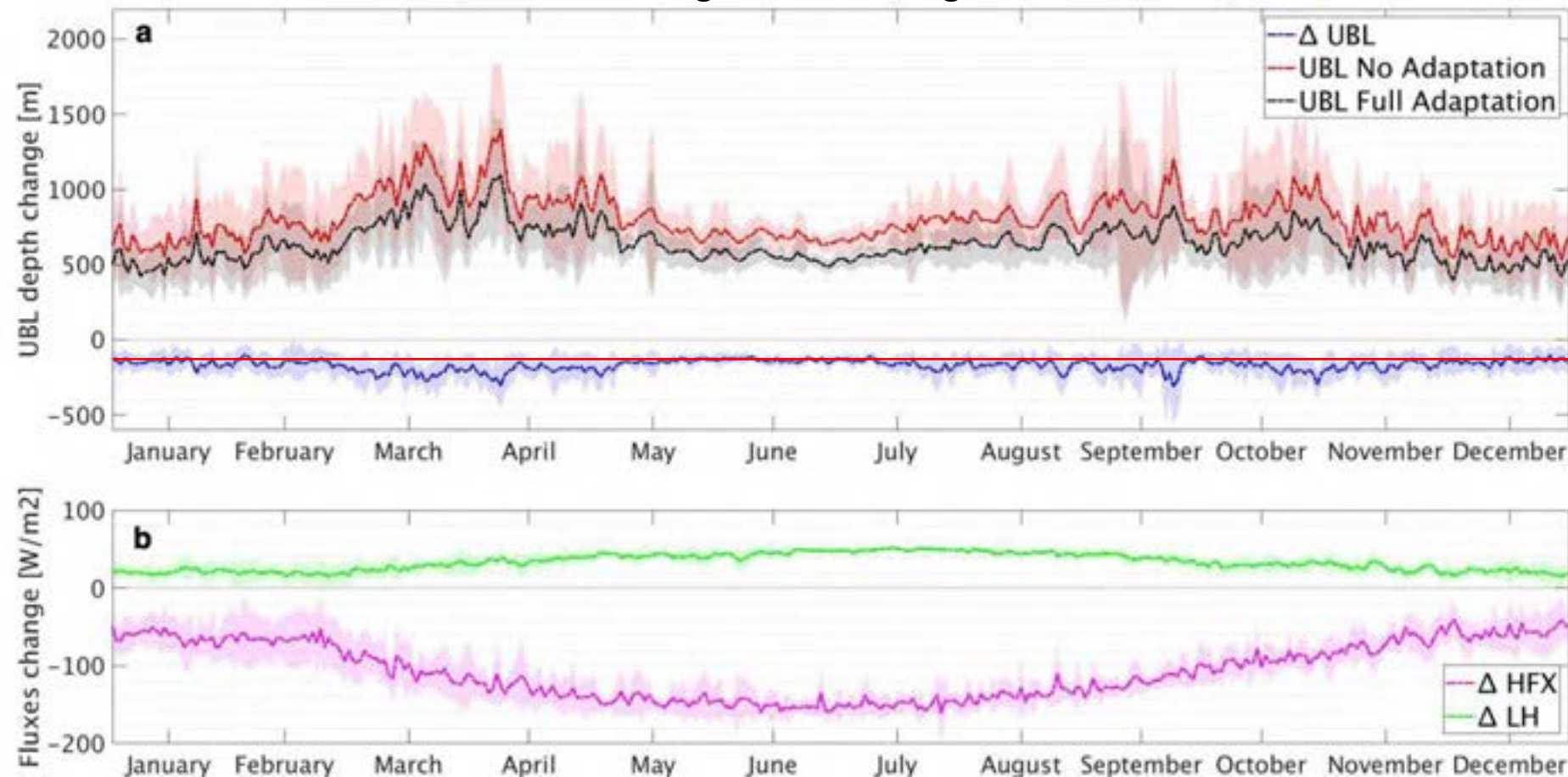
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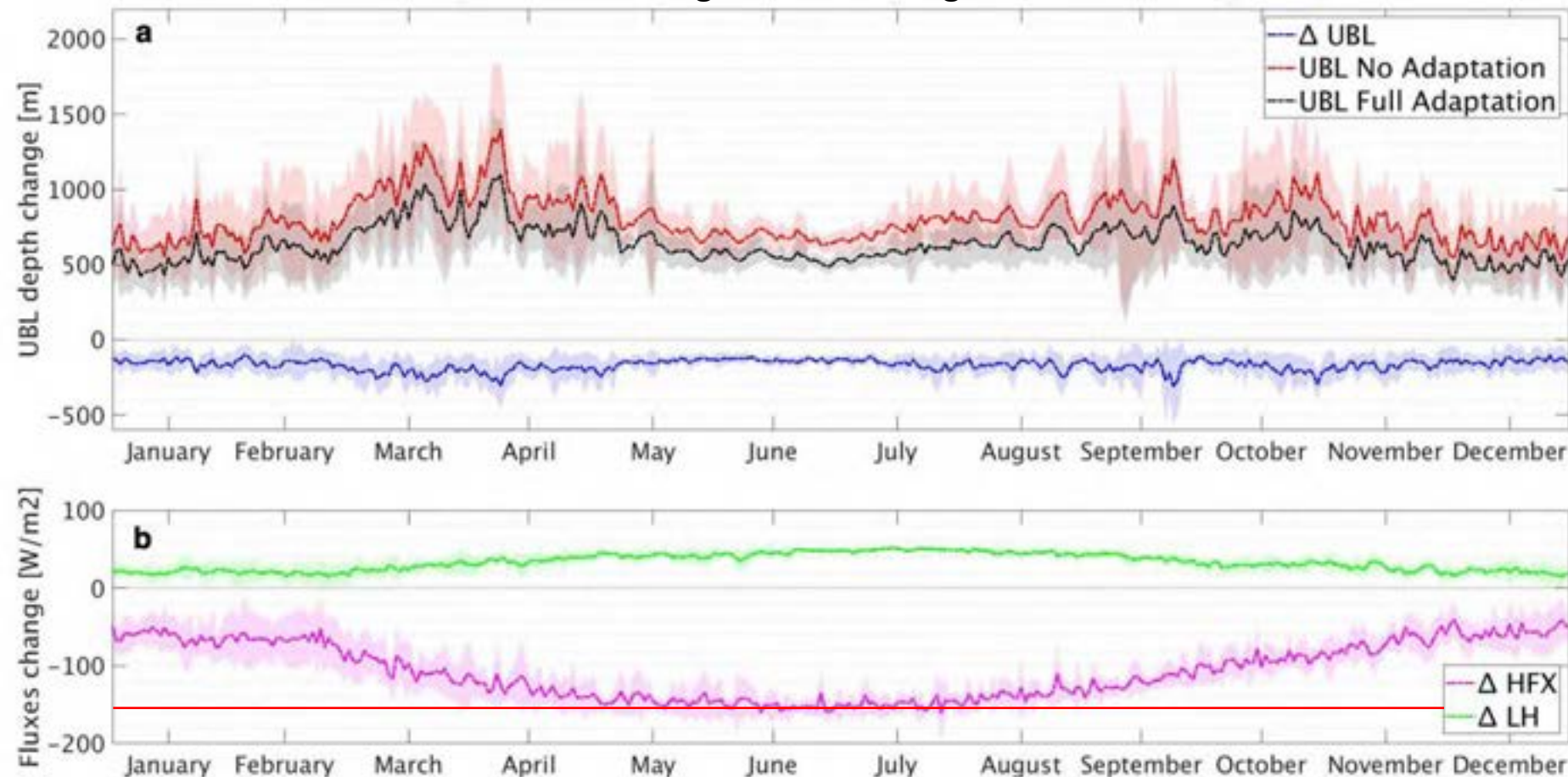
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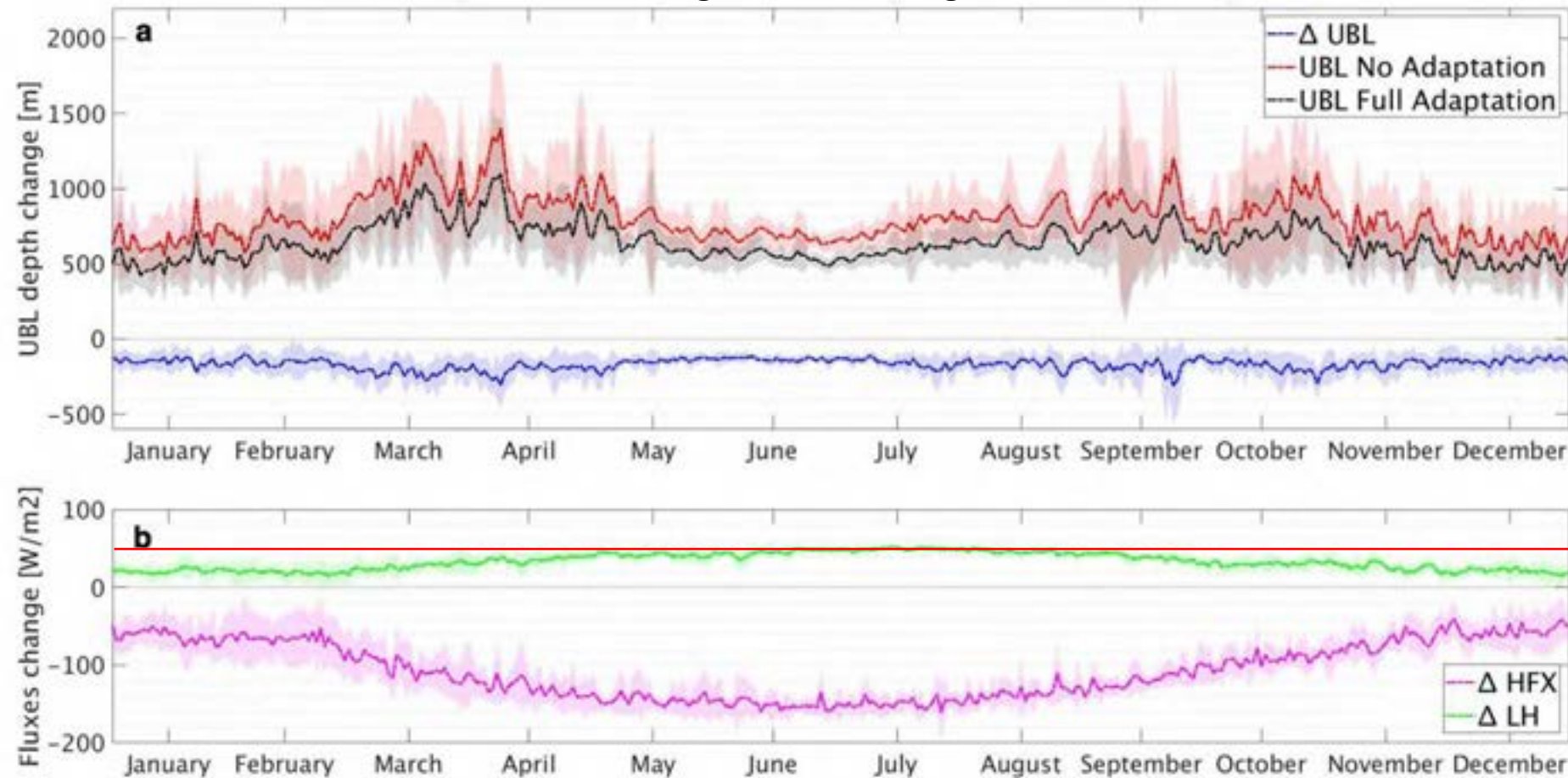
From Brandi et al. 2021

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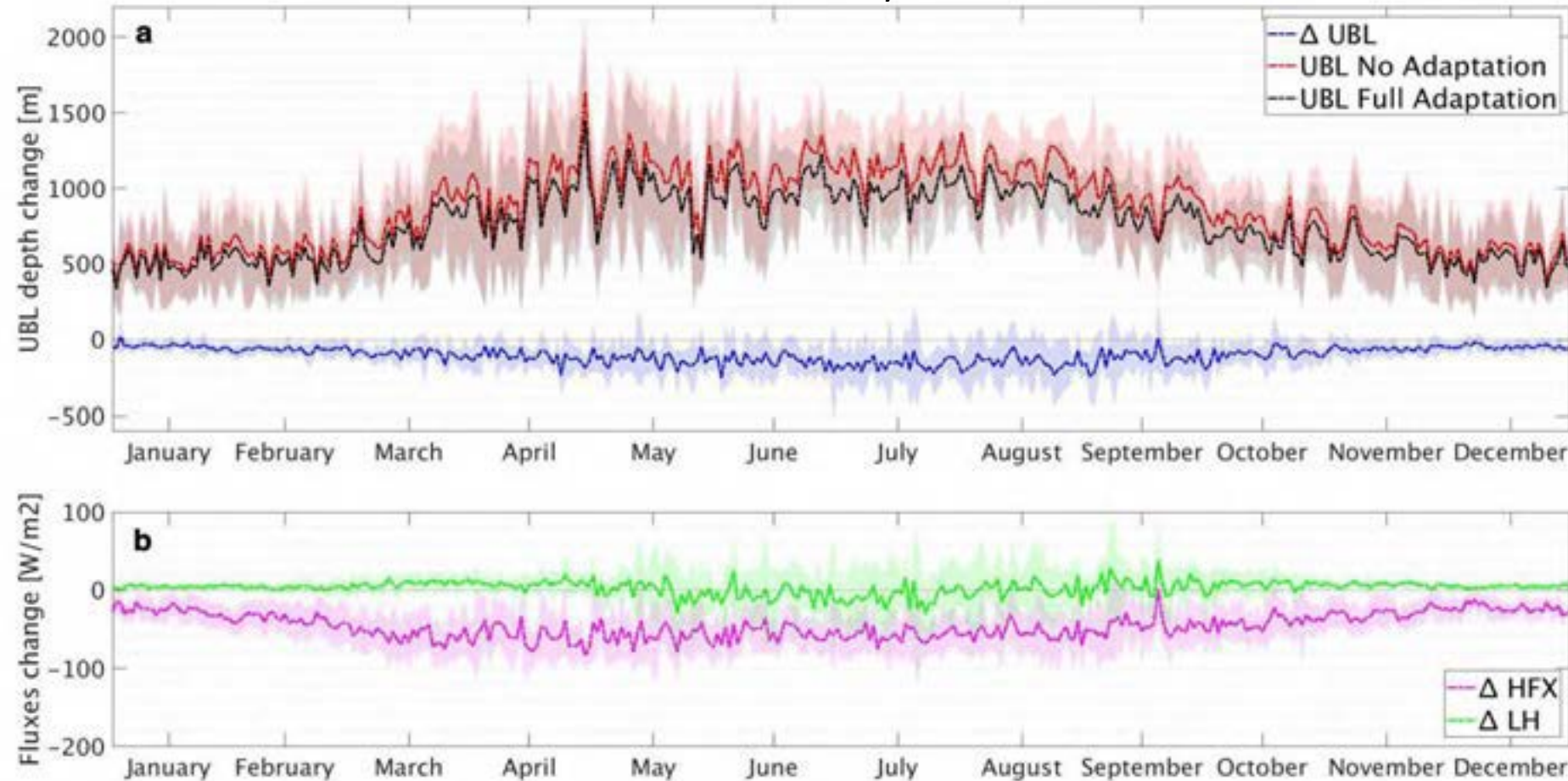
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Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

ICLUS 2100 + CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099

Full Adaptation
Cool Roofs + Green Roofs + Street Trees

New York City



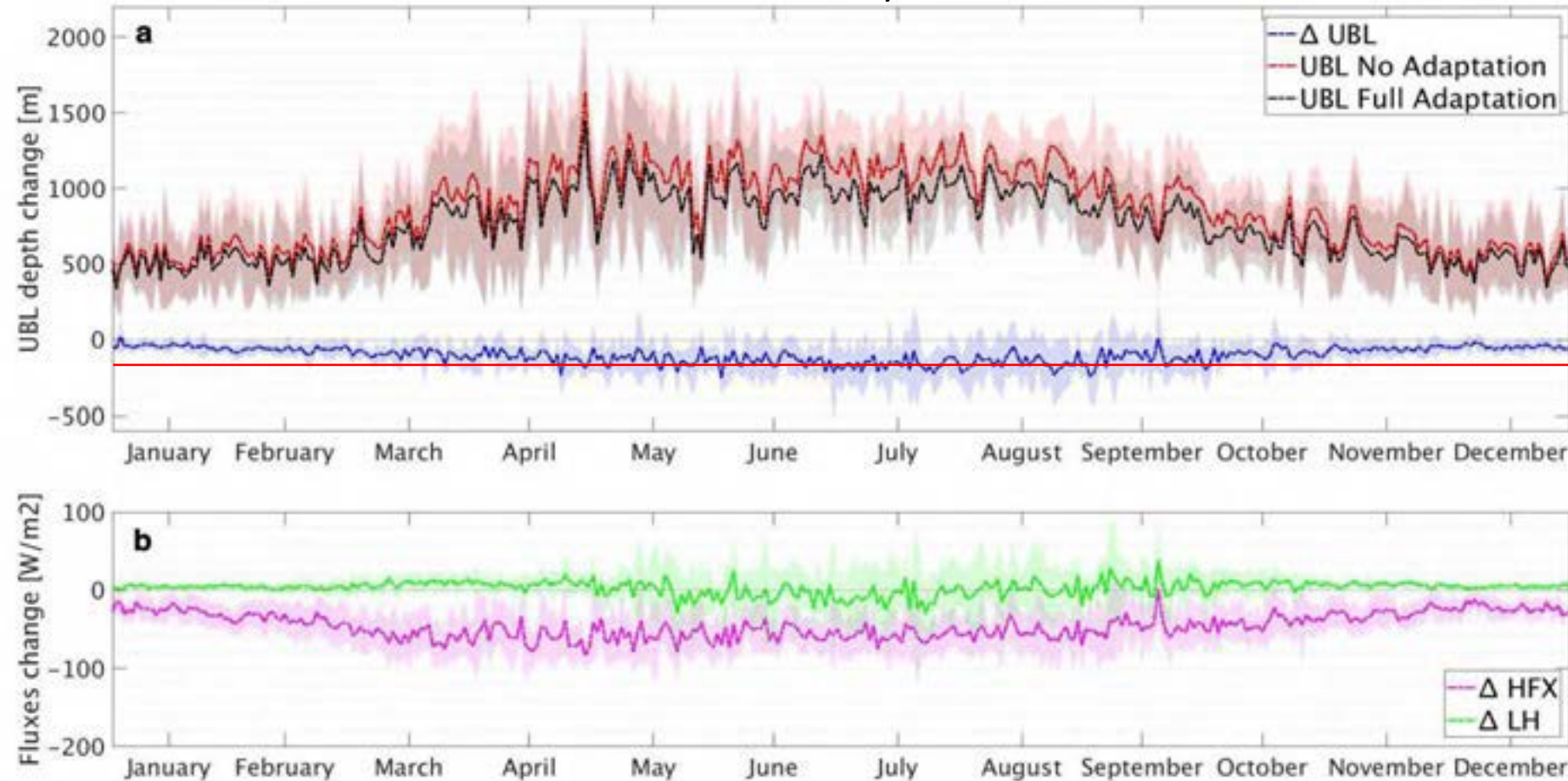
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ICLUS 2100 + CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099

Full Adaptation
Cool Roofs + Green Roofs + Street Trees

New York City



Peak Values



UBL Depth change
 $\Delta \cong -180$ m



Sensible Heat change
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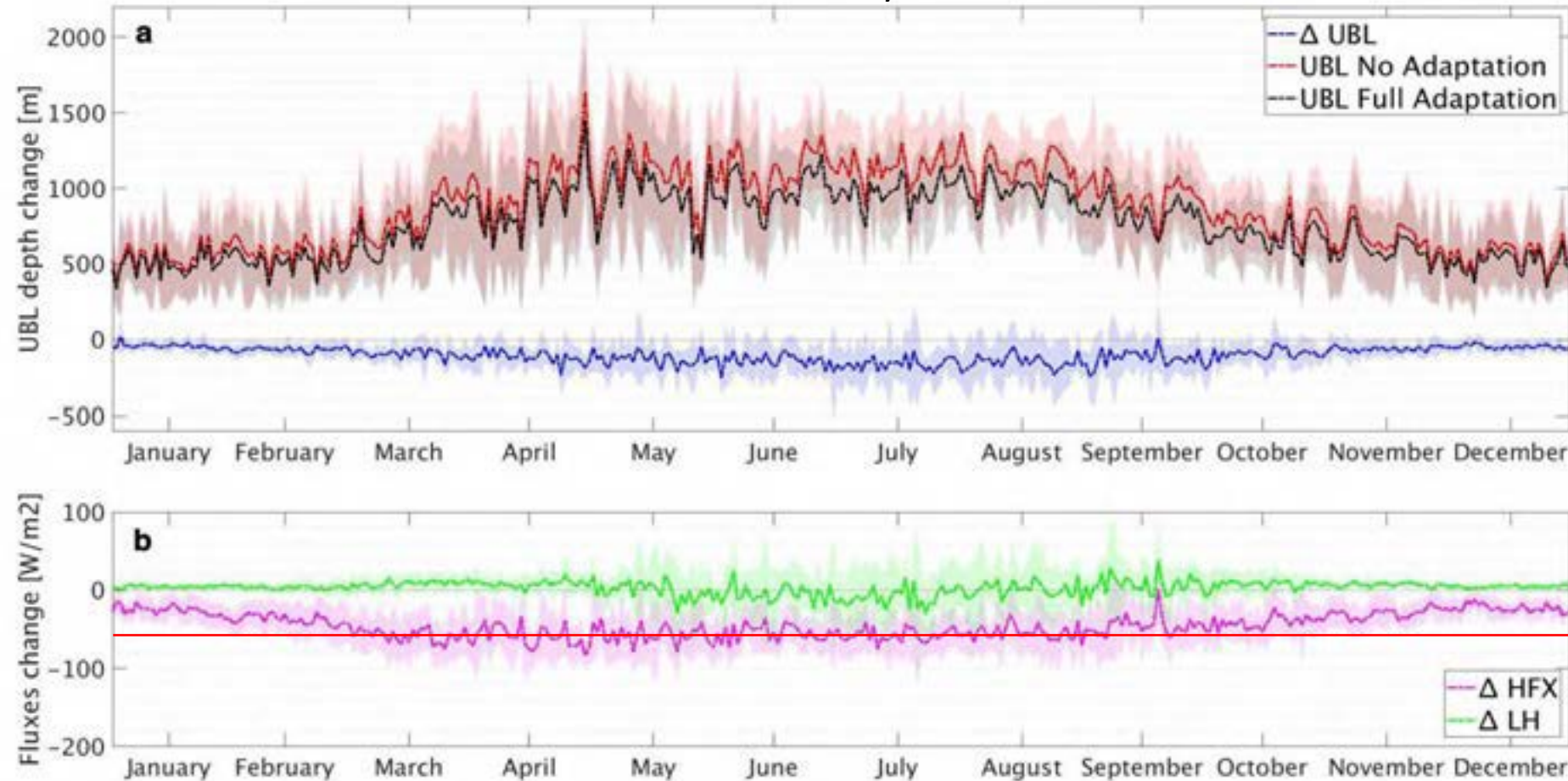
Latent Heat change
 $\Delta \cong 0$ W/m²

Results (JJA - 14:00 MST)

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Full Adaptation
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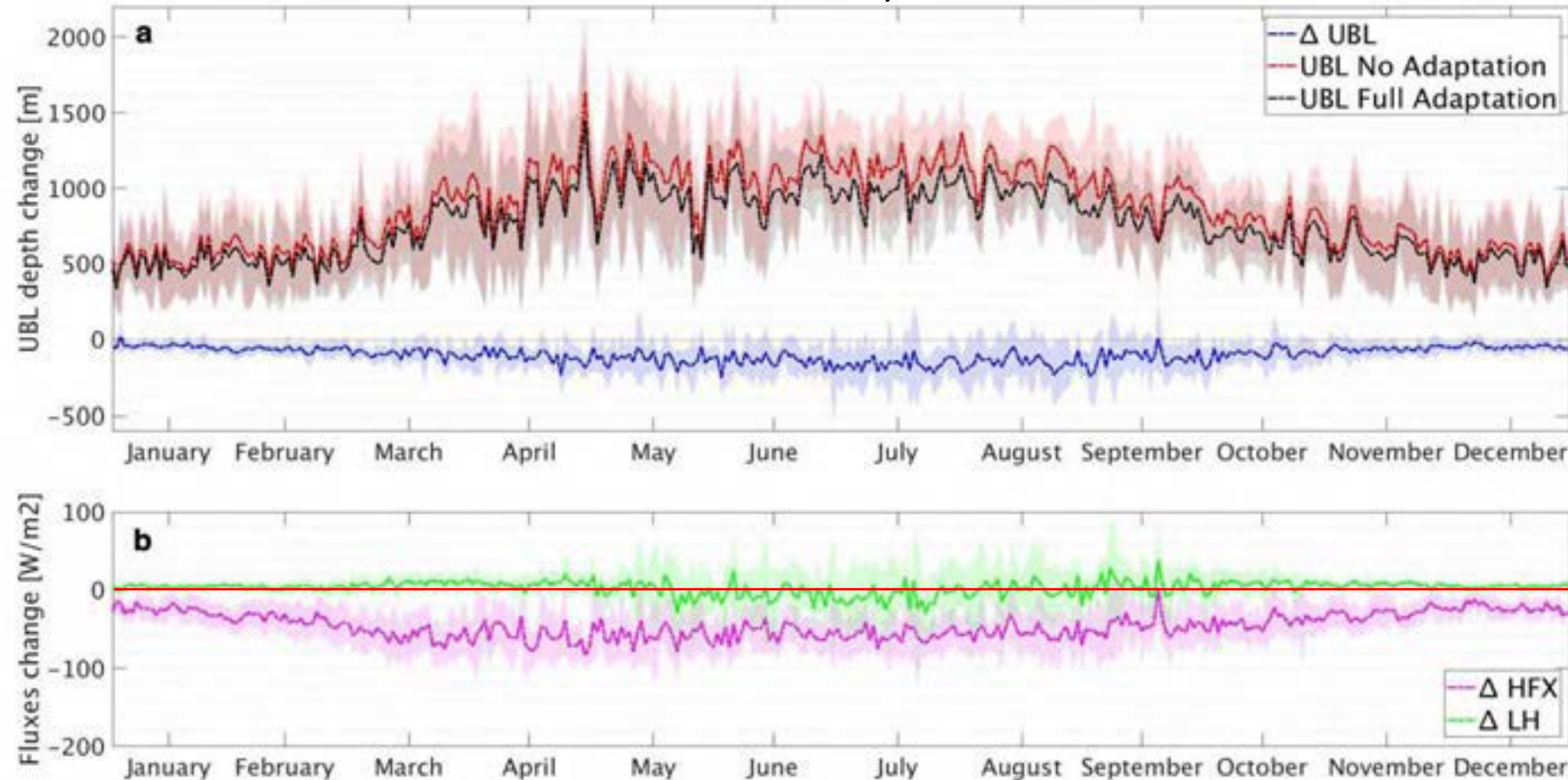
Latent Heat change
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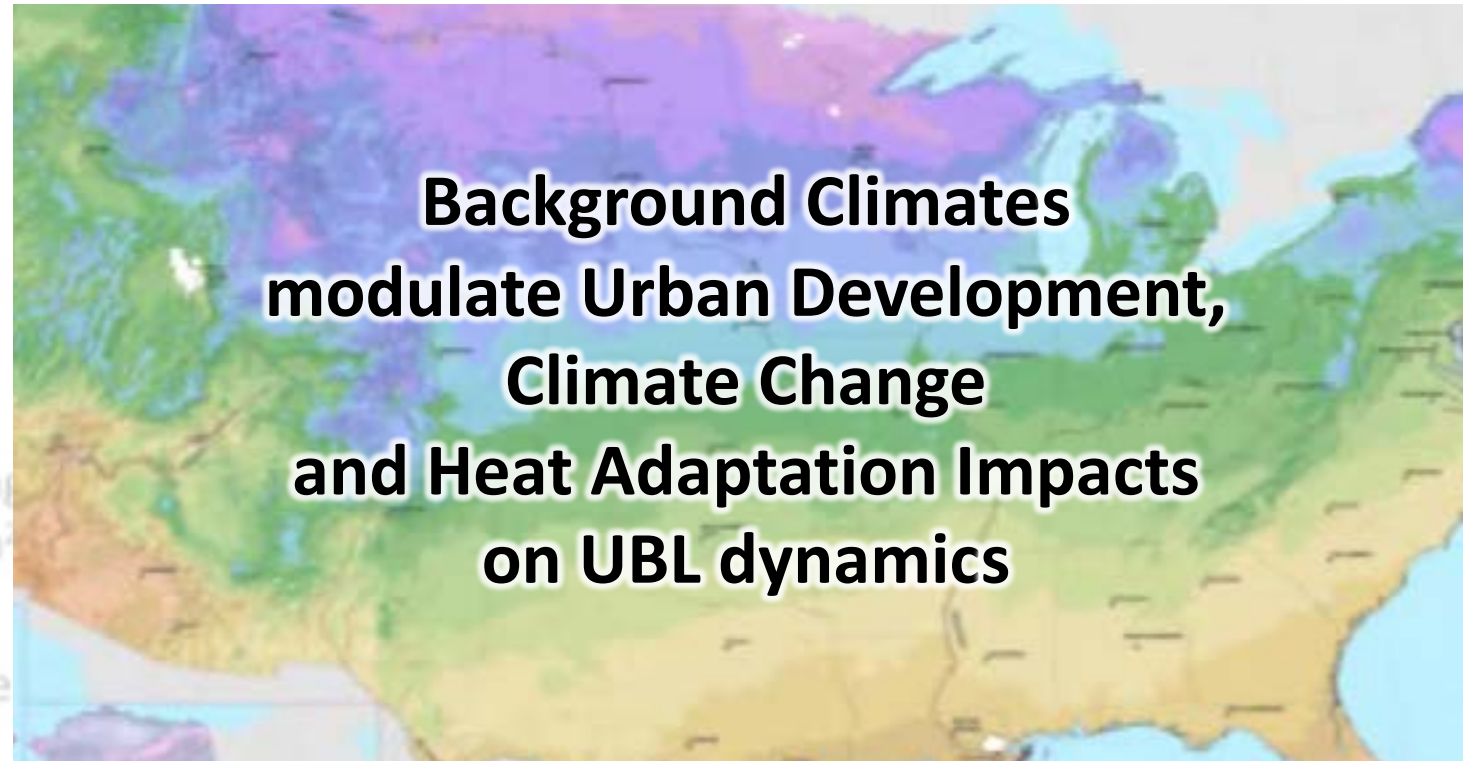
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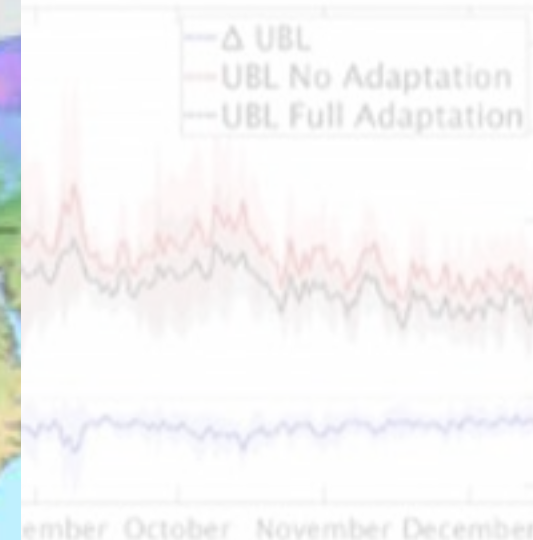
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ICLUS 2100 + CESM RCP8.5 2090-2099

Full Adaptation
Cool Roofs + Green Roofs + Street Trees



**Background Climates
modulate Urban Development,
Climate Change
and Heat Adaptation Impacts
on UBL dynamics**

- Peak Values
- ↓ UBL Depth change
 $\Delta \cong -100$ m
 - ↓ Sensible Heat change
 $\Delta HFX \cong -180$ W/m²
 - ↑ Latent Heat change
 $\Delta LH \cong 50$ W/m²



From Brandi et al. 2021

Conclusions (Brandi et al. 2021)

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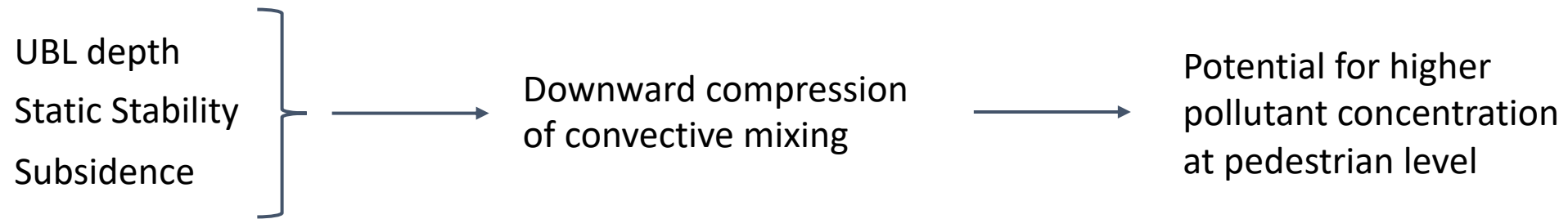
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Interaction between landscape change and background climate has important consequences on UBL dynamics



Need for thorough **evaluation of tradeoffs** between achieving thermal comfort and preserving air quality in **urban environments** when designing and implementing landscape modifications

CLIMATE ADAPTATION RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

September 8th - 9th, 2021



Thank you

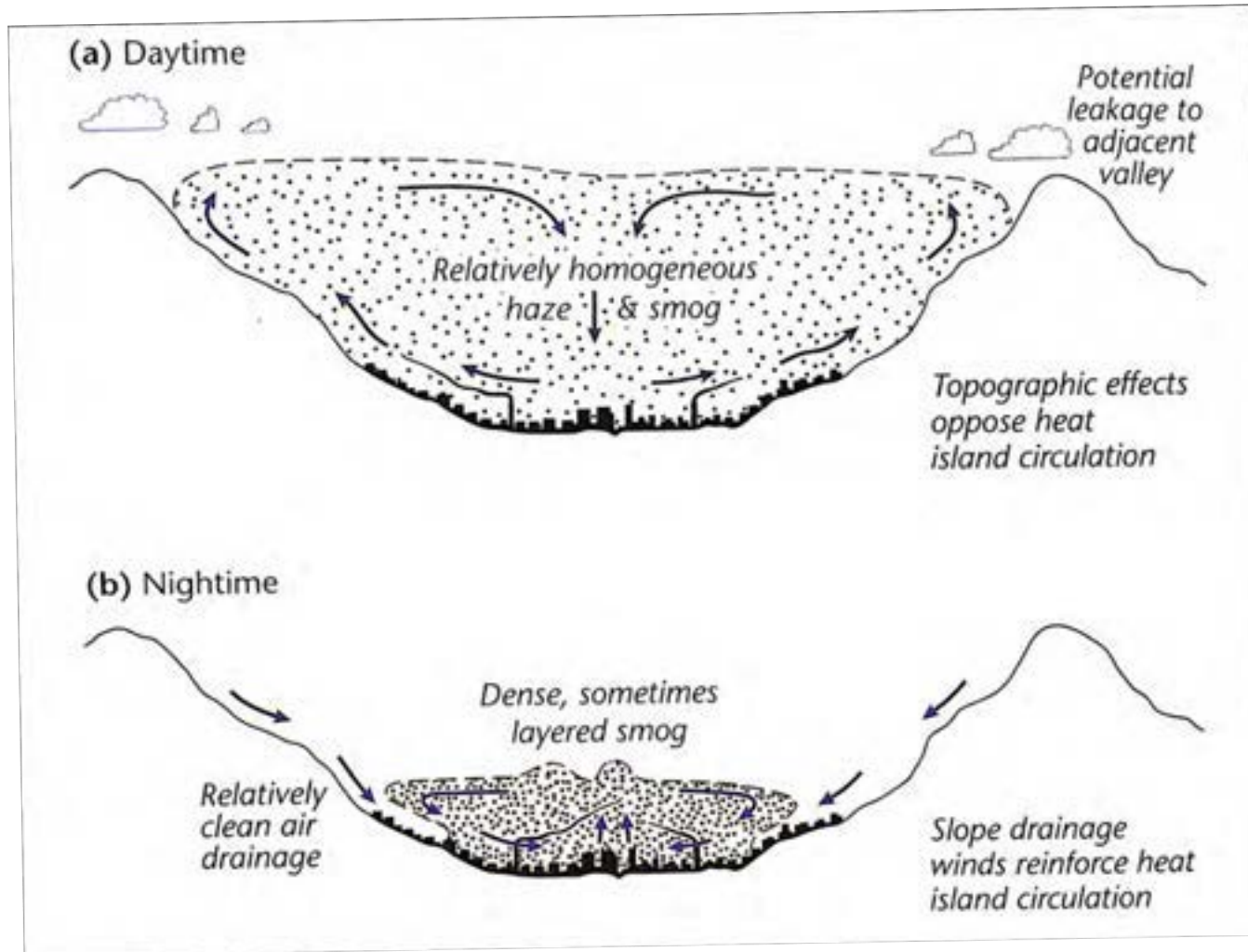
abranti@asu.edu

ASU
**Urban Climate
Research Center**
**Arizona State
University**

References

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Future work



From Oke et al. 2017

BL instability favors
Upward motion
UHIC ~ Thermal

BL stability favors
Downward motion
Thermal > UHIC

Future work

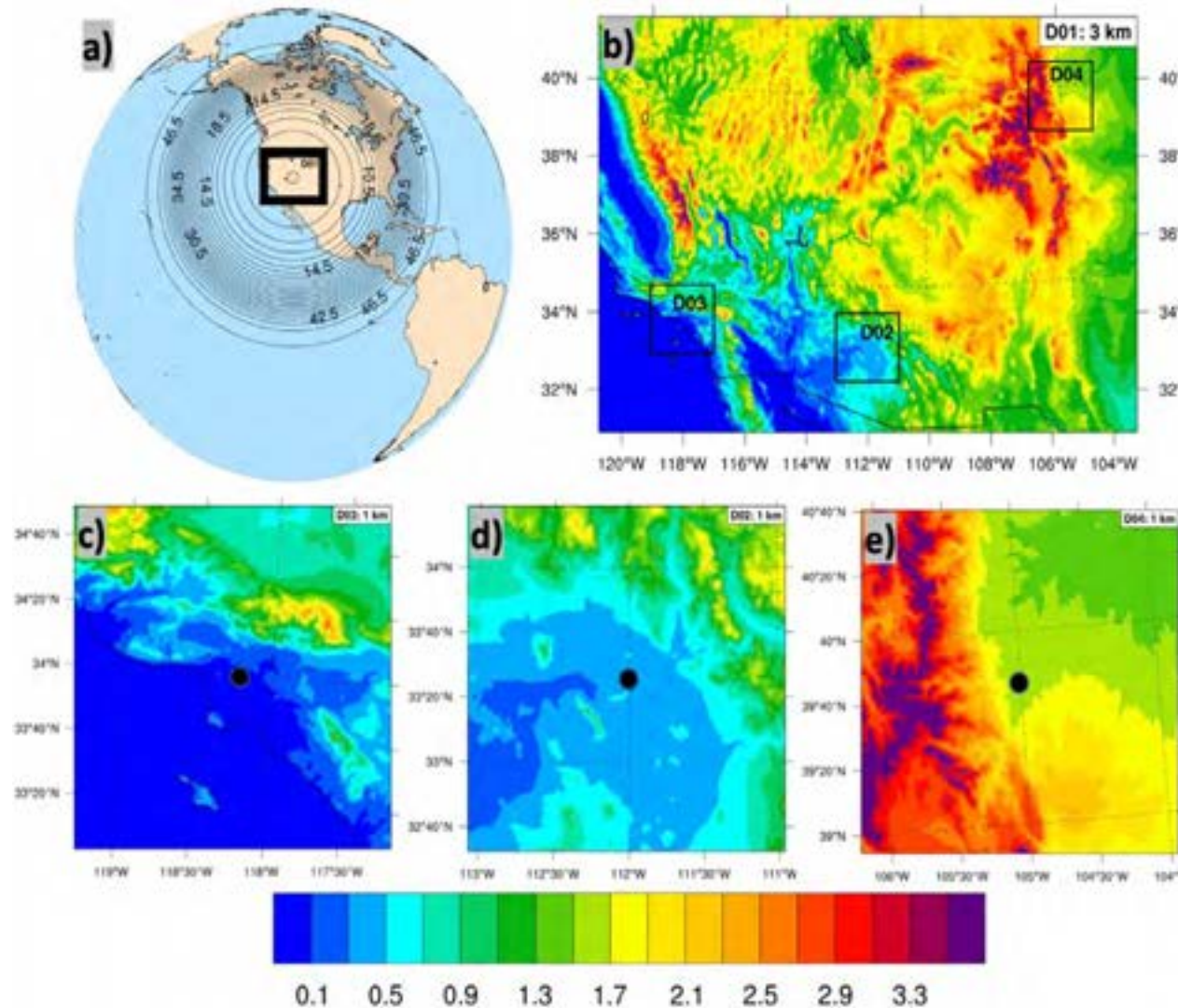


Figure 2. Domain configurations for the MPAS-WRF nested simulations: **a)** approximate grid spacing for the rotated MPAS 60km-to-3km variable resolution mesh centered at 36.6°N, 112°W. The bold rectangle indicates the parent WRF (D01) domain. The contour interval is 2km and the value of the innermost contour inside the rectangle is 2km; **b)** the parent WRF domain (D01) to be driven by MPAS with a grid spacing of 3km. The bold squares indicate the nested WRF domains driven by domain D01; **c)**, **d)**, and **e)** are the nested WRF domains D02, D03, and D04, centered on Phoenix, Los Angeles and Denver, respectively, with a grid spacing of 1km. The shading in the WRF domains represents terrain elevation in units of kilometers; the filled black circles superimposed in **c)** - **e)** denote city centers.

Air quality and Climate Change



More frequent stagnation events ⇒ Negative impact on local circulation systems

Projected higher temperatures will increase pollutant concentrations
Increased BVOCs (Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds) emissions

Ozone (O_3)

Facilitated photodissociation processes

Projected increase in methane (CH_4) concentration
might overcome NO_x reduction

Particulate Matter ($PM_{2.5} - PM_{10}$)

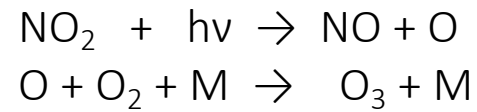
Increased frequency and duration of wildfires

Persisting drought events ⇒ Soil erosion ⇒ Dust storms

Air Pollution

Ozone (O₃)

Photodissociation

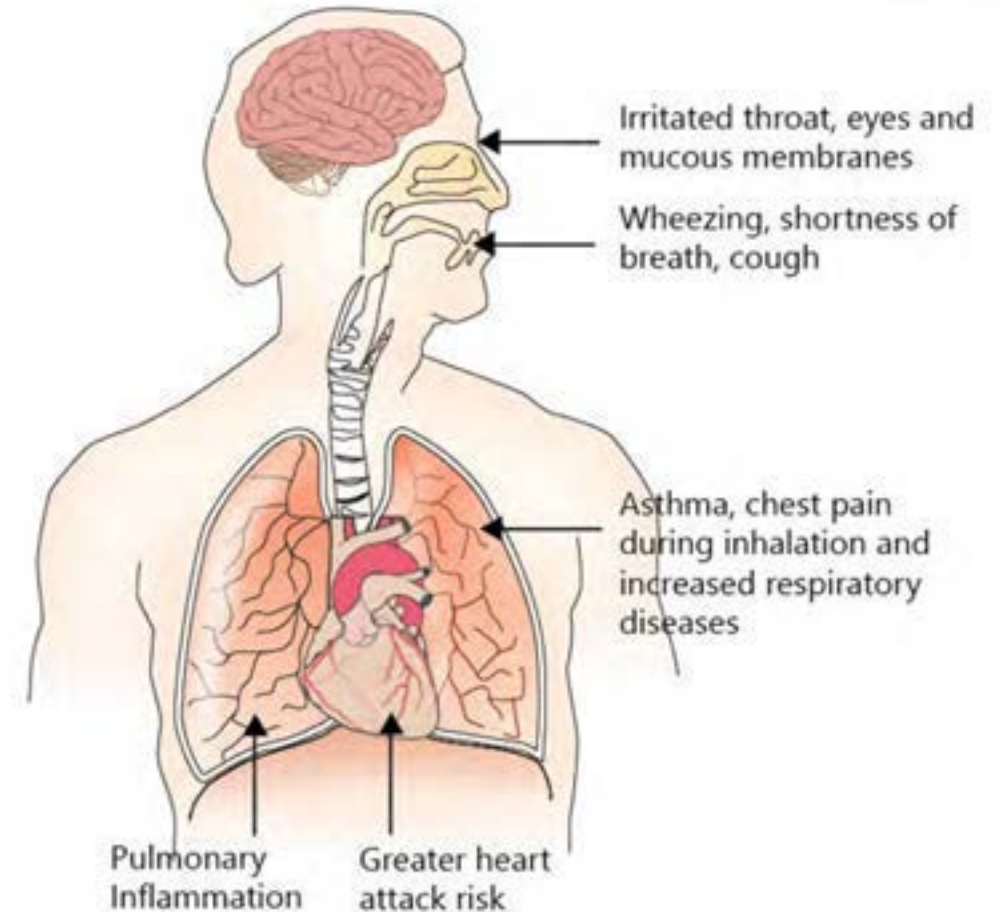


Mostly daytime reaction (needs UV radiation)
Favored by higher temperature

Powerful oxidant

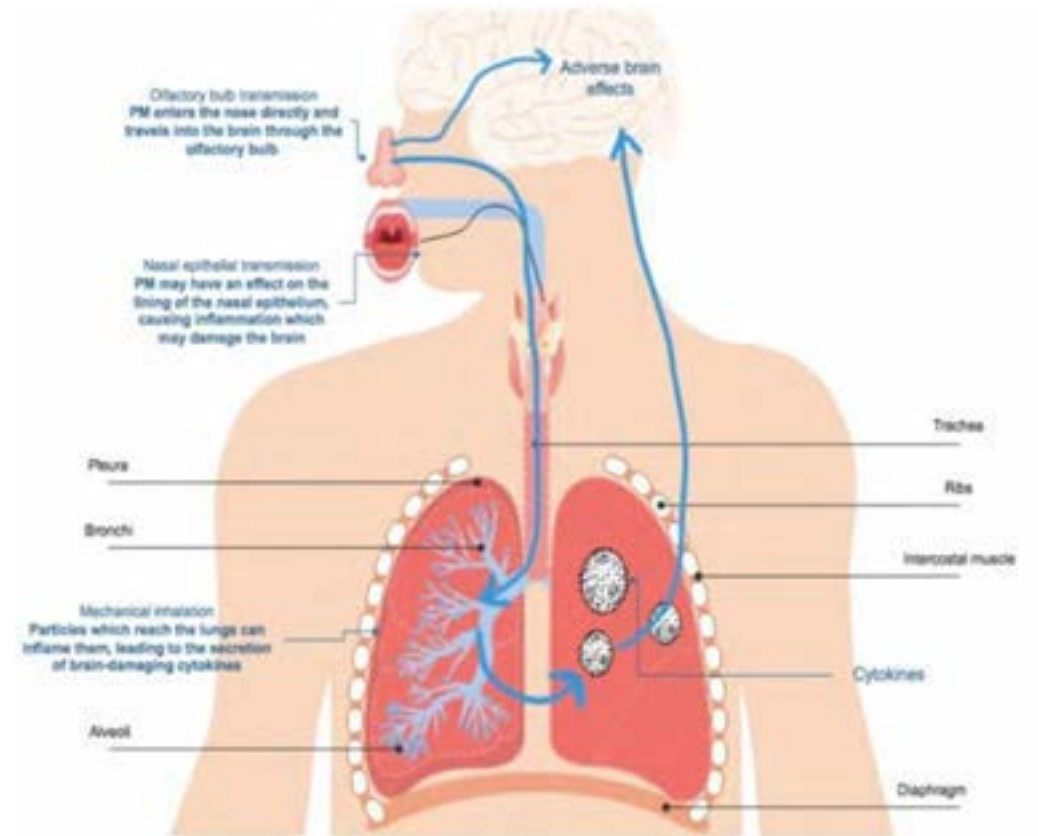
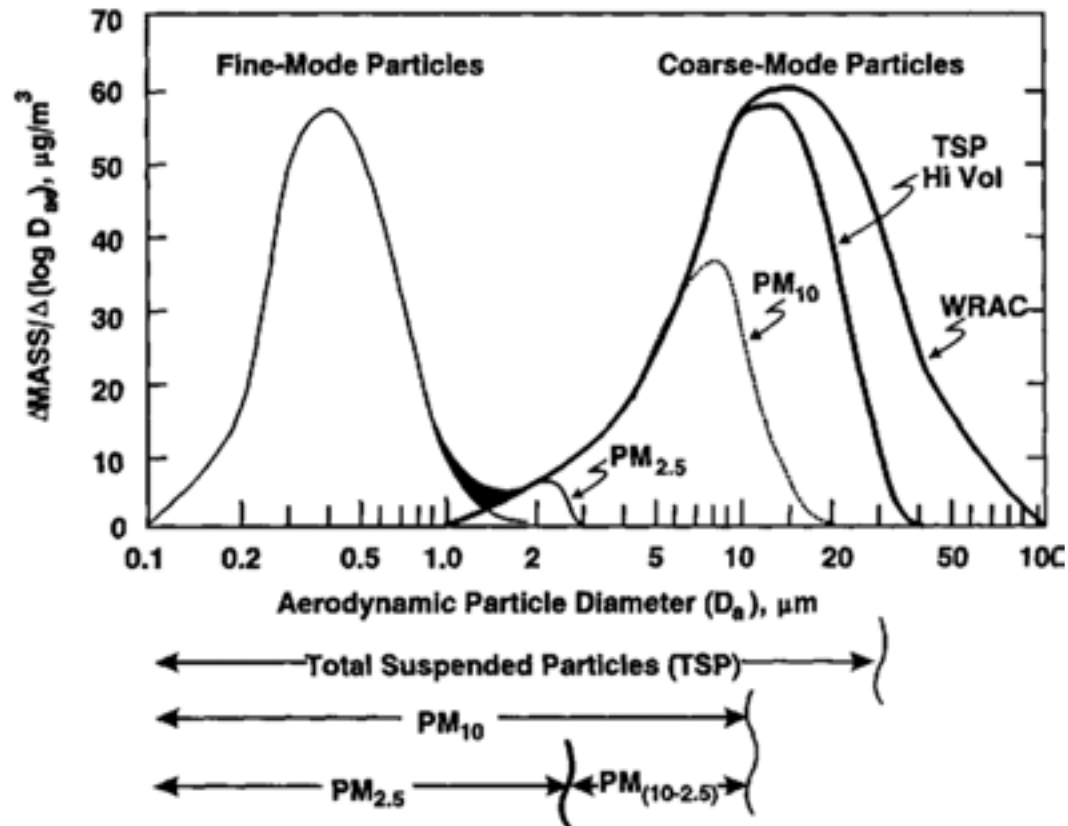
Attacks C=C double bonds
abundant in rubber, plants, human body membranes,
especially in the lungs and the heart

ILL-EFFECTS OF OZONE INHALATION



Air Pollution

Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5} – PM₁₀)



Schematic representation of the size distribution of particulate matter in ambient air (USEPA 1996) - "Chapter 7.3 Particulate Matter"



Edith de Guzman

Director and Co-founder, LA Urban Cooling Collaborative

Ph.D. Candidate, UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability

@edithbdeguzman

Cooler and Healthier: Reducing Heat-Health Risk Using Urban Forestry & Stakeholder Engagement

An aerial photograph of a city grid, likely Los Angeles, showing a mix of urban development and green spaces. The image is used as a background for the slide, with a dark grey overlay for the text.

COOLER AND HEALTHIER:

Reducing heat-health risk using urban forestry and stakeholder engagement

September 8, 2021 | UCLA Climate Adaptation Research Symposium

Edith de Guzman | UCLA Institute of the Environment & Sustainability and
Los Angeles Urban Cooling Collaborative



What I'll cover:

- 1. Urban forests and extreme heat**
- 2. Challenges of urban forest stewardship**
- 3. Behavior change study on urban forest stewardship**
- 4. Preliminary findings**
- 5. Next steps and implications**

Urban forests and extreme heat



Hottest day in L.A. County's recorded history:
121°F on Sept. 6, 2020

Duplex with no trees or AC in Huntington Park:
107.4°F indoors



**Could changes we make to the urban environment
cool neighborhoods and save lives?**

LOS ANGELES URBAN °COOLING COLLABORATIVE

Project team



Project funded by



We tested “prescriptions” of



TREE CANOPY

+



SOLAR REFLECTANCE (ALBEDO)

of roofs & pavements

Low



Moderate



High

Summary of heat-health modeling results



Temperature reductions often exceeded 1.0°C (1.8°F), and up to 2.0°C (3.6°F), a life or death difference



25%+ reductions in heat-related deaths are possible, saving dozens of lives during the worst heat waves



Oppressive air masses could be shifted to more benign ones

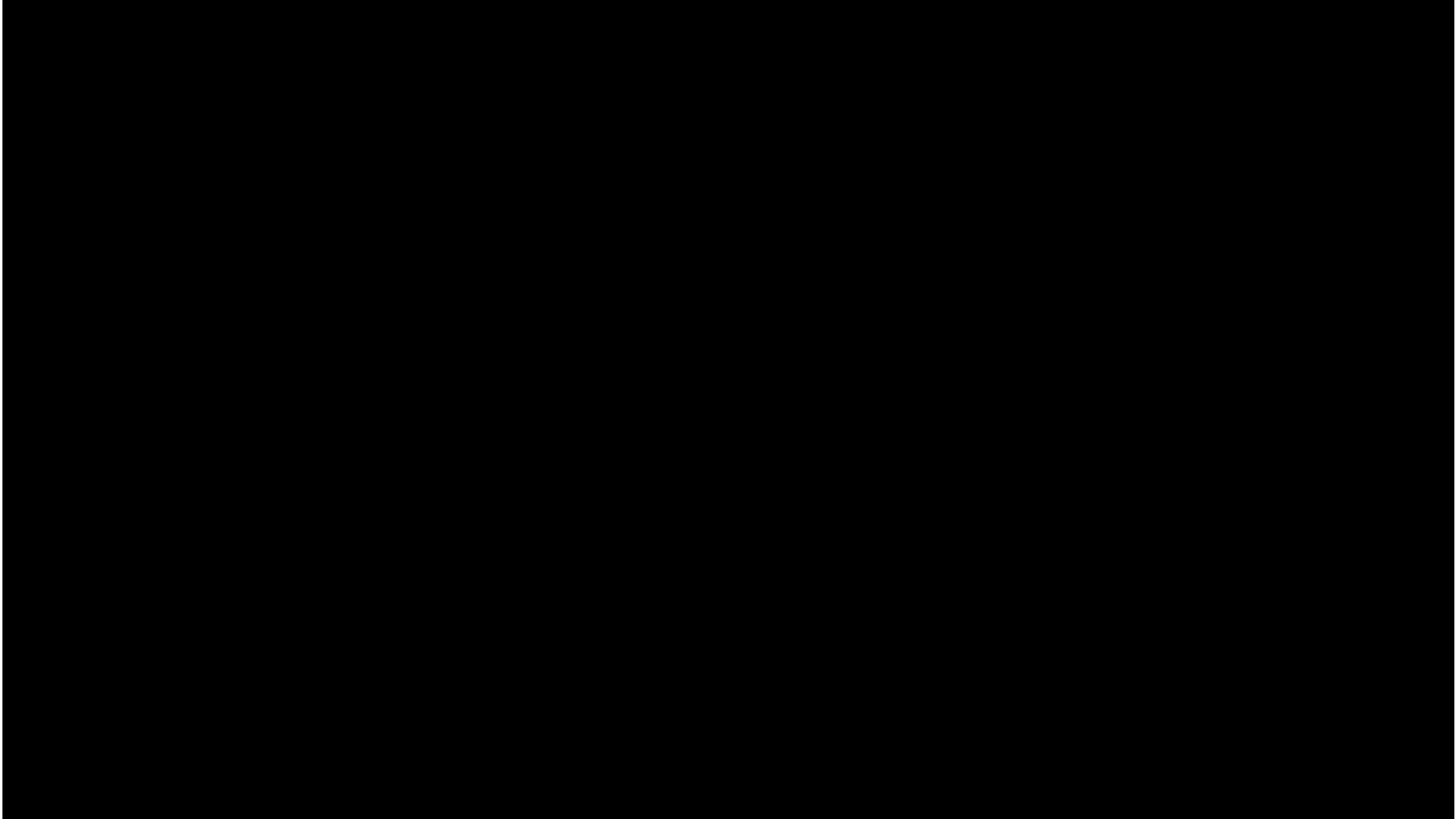


Heat impacts of climate change could be delayed ~25-60+ years



**If urban forest cover can cool neighborhoods,
why not just plant more trees?**

LOS ANGELES URBAN °COOLING COLLABORATIVE



Video credit: Coalition to Preserve L.A.

Challenges of urban forest stewardship



- Rainfall averages and patterns (young trees must be watered!)
- A changing climate
- Pests
- Funding for planting vs. establishment

Behavior change study on urban forest stewardship

- Can a residential street tree stewardship program serve as a portal to increase knowledge and action around heat-health risk?
- Does engagement tailored to the community lead to better outcomes than one that is more generic?
- Are outcomes enhanced by message framing that emphasizes improvements to *environmental health* rather than *public health*?

RESEARCH TEAM

Edith de Guzman | UCLA and LA Urban Cooling Collaborative
Dr. Erica Wohldmann and Delmy Martir | CSUN
Luis Rodriguez, Dr. Yujuan Chen, and Pam Gibson | TreePeople

Funded by



LOS ANGELES URBAN °COOLING COLLABORATIVE

Community Based Social Marketing (CBSM)



SELECTING TARGET AUDIENCE AND BEHAVIORS



IDENTIFYING BARRIERS & BENEFITS



DEVELOPING STRATEGIES



PILOT TESTING



EVALUATION & BROAD IMPLEMENTATION

Selecting target audience & behaviors

“The public” is not an audience.

AUDIENCE:

Residents whose home is adjacent to a newly-planted street tree in the City of San Fernando

“Tree stewardship” is not a behavior.

BEHAVIOR:

*Check soil moisture - weekly
Water w/ 15 gal - as needed*

—

(Behaviors should be end-state and non-divisible)

LOS ANGELES URBAN °COOLING COLLABORATIVE

Identifying barriers & benefits



REVIEW THE LITERATURE



FOCUS GROUPS



SURVEYS

KEY FINDINGS

Trees are valued

Barriers to tree stewardship are
mostly *not* structural

Perception that City is
responsible for care

Caring for trees is thought to be
expensive

Developing strategies

INSTRUCTIONAL PIECE



Water Your Tree

- Check to see if the tree needs water.
- Dig down 3-4 inches into the soil and grab a handful of soil.
- Squeeze the soil into a ball.
- If the soil doesn't hold together, it is dry and ready for water.
- Slowly give the tree 15-20 gallons (three 5 gallon buckets) of water.

Regar su árbol

- Chequear que el árbol necesita agua.
- Cavar abajo 3 a 4 pulgadas en la tierra y agarrar un puño de tierra.
- Apriete la tierra en su mano y fórmalo en bola.
- Si la tierra no se forma en una bola, indica que está seca y necesita agua.
- Muy despacio, dale 15-20 galones de agua (tres cubetas de 5 galones).

Did you know?
It only costs \$2 a year to water your tree – as much as a carton of eggs!

¿Sabías?
Solo cuesta \$2 al año para regar su árbol – tanto como un cartón de huevos!



COMMITMENT PIECES



REMINDER PROMPTS



Don't forget to water your tree!

- **Once a week!** Check the soil around the tree. Dig your finger in the soil – is it dry? If so...
- Your tree needs water to soak down into its roots, so give it a good soaking of 15 gallons of water.
- That's like 3x with a 5-gallon jug or 3 bags of potting soil.
- If using a hose, set a timer and leave it on for 2-3 minutes, depending on the strength of the flow.
- Did you know? It only costs about \$2 a year to water your tree!

¡No lo olvides! ¡regar su árbol!

- **Una vez a la semana.** Chequear la tierra alrededor del su árbol. Metle su dedo en la tierra – ¿está seco? Si lo es...
- Su árbol necesita agua hasta las raíces, así que dale 15 galones de agua. Eso es 3 veces grandes, como 3 bolsas de tierra.
- Si usas cañerías una manguera, déjala que corra de 2-3 minutos, dependiendo del flujo.
- ¿Sabías? Solo cuesta como \$2 al año para regar su árbol!

x 15

x 3

TreePeople

SAN FERNANDO



Pilot testing

CONTROL GROUP

Generic packet

Previously used successfully
in smaller study in
Huntington Park, southeast
LA County



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH GROUP

Messaging highlights link
between trees and
improved environmental
health

Tailored to San Fernando
community



PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP

Messaging highlights link
between trees and
improved public health

Tailored to San Fernando
community



Pilot testing

CONTROL
GROUP



ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH GROUP



PUBLIC HEALTH
GROUP



LOS ANGELES URBAN °COOLING COLLABORATIVE

Evaluation

12+ WEEKS OF OBSERVATION

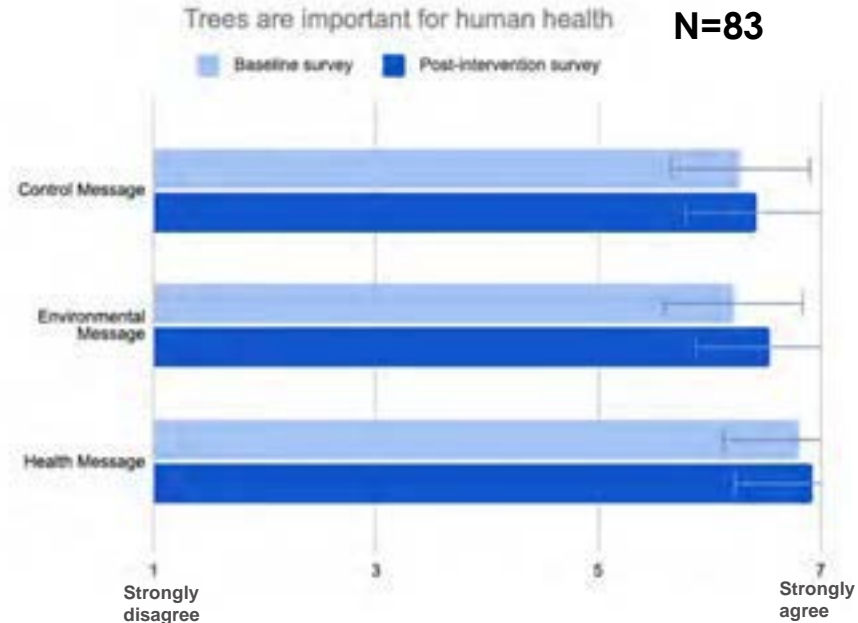
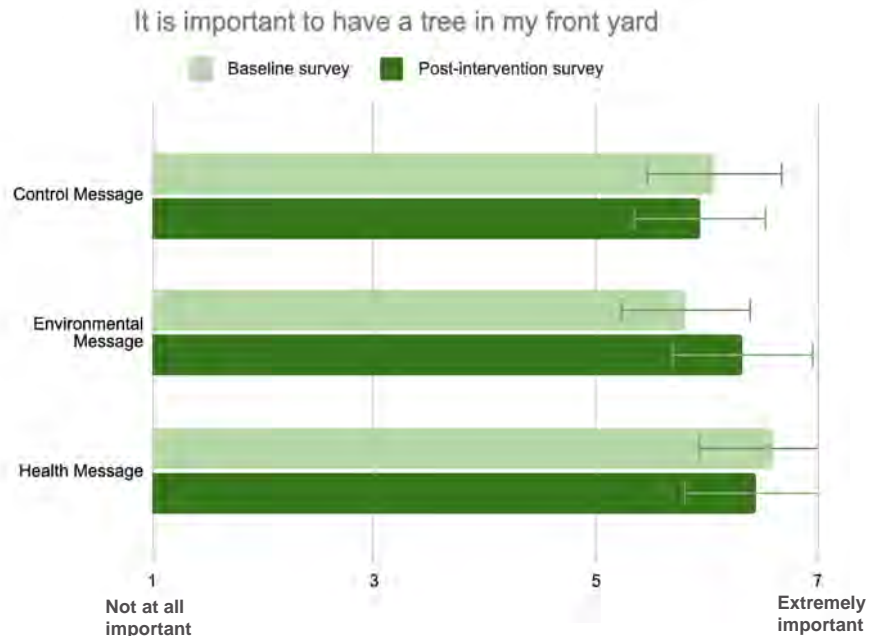
- Collect soil moisture readings
- Observe presence of mulch
- Observe presence of weeds
- Rate tree health
- Note other observed issues



LOS ANGELES URBAN °COOLING COLLABORATIVE

Preliminary findings | VALUES AROUND TREES

Trees are highly valued, and environmental messaging helps to solidify that

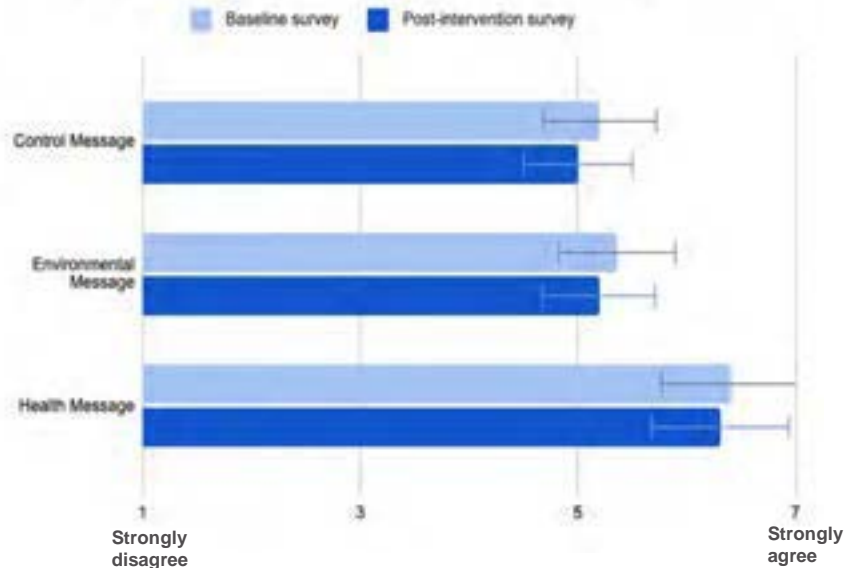


Preliminary findings | PAYING FOR TREE CARE

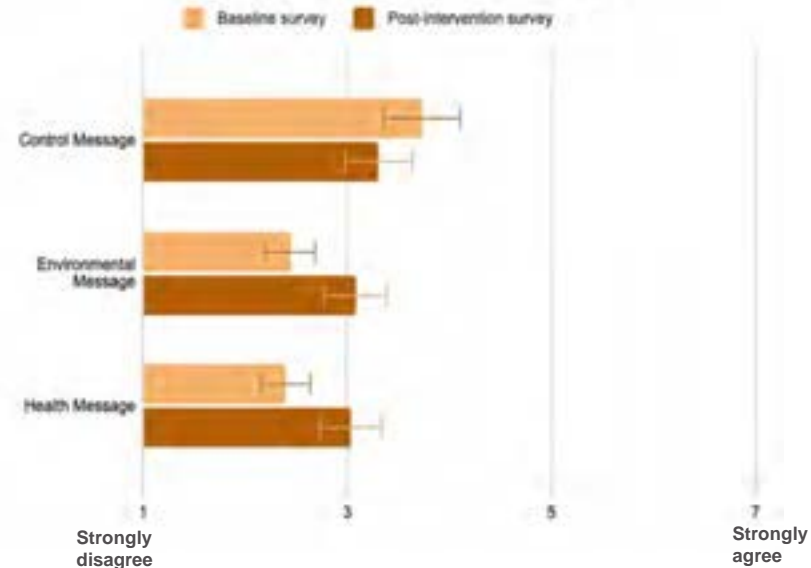
Residents are less willing to pay for watering after program engagement

N=83

I would rather have a tree than a \$5 monthly discount on my power bill



I do not want to pay for the water needed to care for a tree

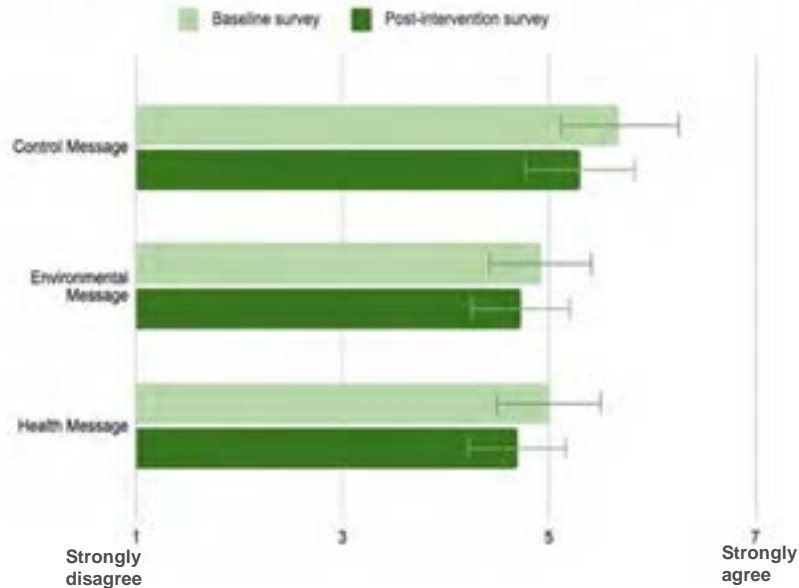


Preliminary findings | RESPONSIBILITY

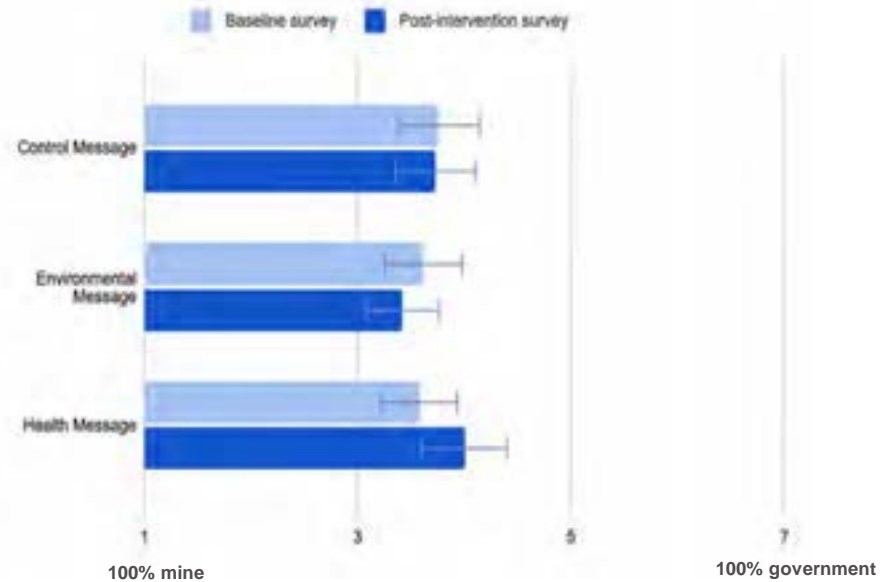
Belief that tree care is the city's responsibility is weaker after program

N=83

It is the responsibility of the city to care for the trees that line the streets

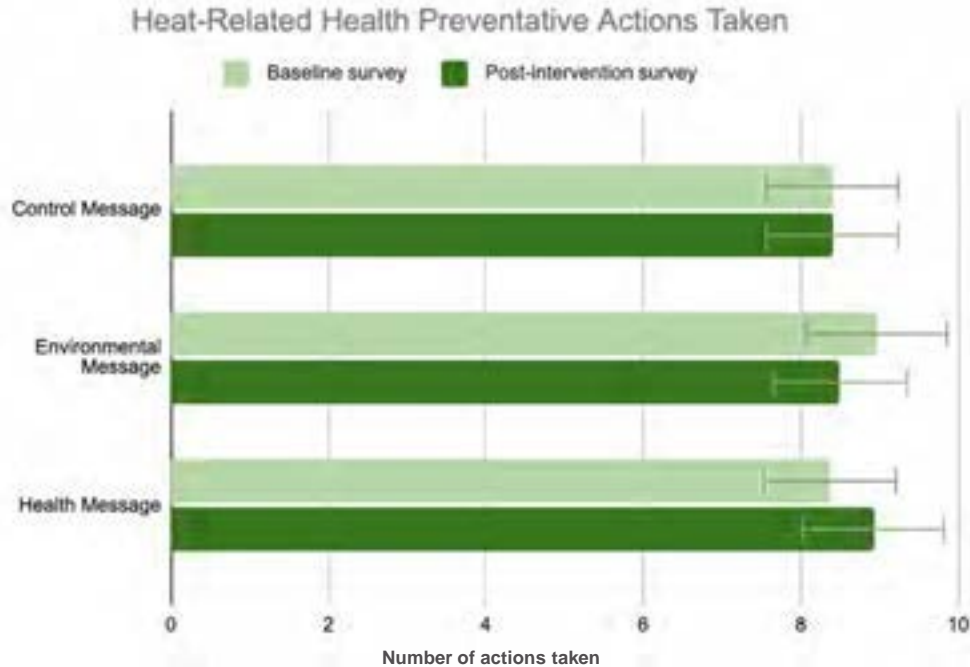


Locus of Responsibility



Question: Some people think it's mainly the government's responsibility to help communities prepare for a disaster or an emergency. Other people think that it's everyone's responsibility. Using a scale of 1 to 7, do you think it is mostly the government's responsibility or mostly your own responsibility?

Preliminary findings | PROTECTIVE ACTIONS IN THE HEAT



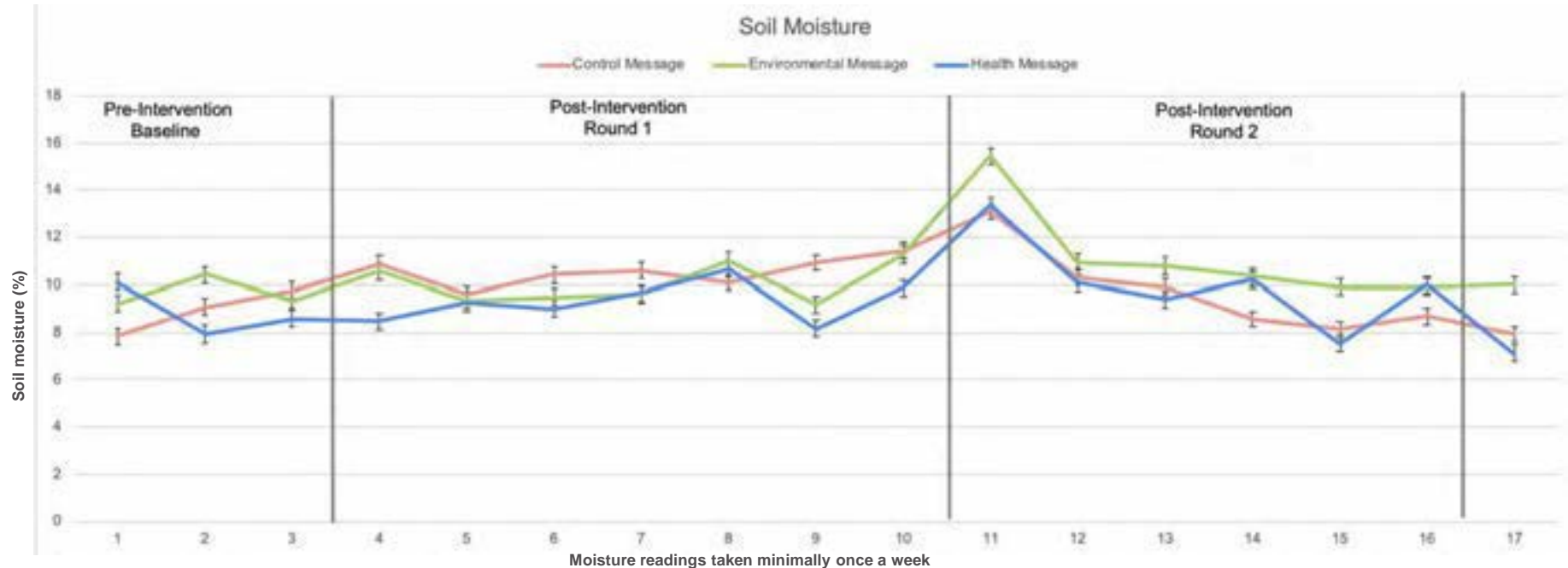
Public health messaging correlates with more protective actions taken during heat waves

N=83

Preliminary findings | SOIL MOISTURE

Environmental health messaging correlated with slightly higher soil moisture, but soil moisture is often still too low for tree health

N=115



Next steps

- Conclude survey data collection (pandemic-related delays)
- Collect additional soil moisture readings
- Conduct statistical analyses
- Compare to outcomes of prior pilot project

Implications

- In-person vs. passive engagement
- Generic messaging vs. tailored to the community
- Costs and benefits of community-based programs vs. hiring crews



THANK YOU

...and please go water
a tree that needs it!

Edith de Guzman
eb3@ucla.edu | edithdeguzman.com



Kelly Turner

Assistant Professor, UCLA

Co-Director, UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation

@VKellyTurner

Hyper-Local Land Systems: Synergies
and Trade-offs Between Regional
Heat Island Mitigation and Pedestrian
Thermal Comfort



Luskin Center
for Innovation



More Than Surface Temperature: Mitigating Thermal Exposure in Hyper-Local Land Systems

V. Kelly Turner^{1,2} Morgan L. Rogers¹ Yujia Zhang³ Ariane Middel⁴ Florian A. Schneider⁴ Jon P. Ocón² Megs Seely⁶

¹Department of Urban Planning, Luskin School of Public Affairs, ²Geography Department, College of Arts and Sciences, University of California, Los Angeles, U.S.A., ⁴School of Sustainability, College of Global Futures, ⁴School of Arts, Media and Engineering, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, ⁵Center for Global Discovery and Conservation Science, Arizona State University, ⁶School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,, Phoenix, Arizona, USA

Cities are hotter because of how we build them, and they could be cooler if we build them differently

Regional Urban Heat Island

Cities are hotter than proximate undeveloped areas



Low Albedo



Hot Surface



High Albedo



Cool Surface



Incoming Solar Radiation

Outgoing Longwave Radiation

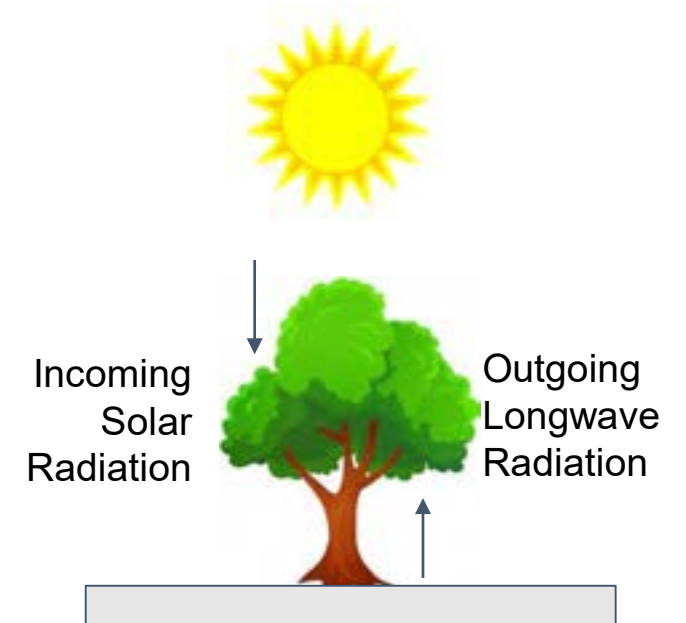
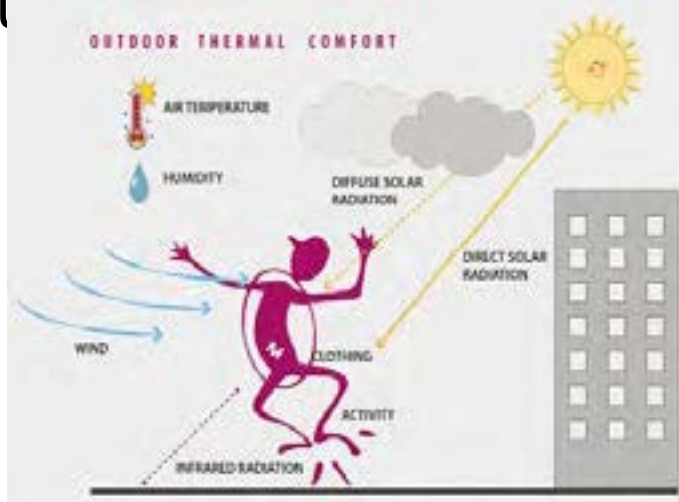
Albedo

Moderates how much incoming solar radiation is radiated back as outgoing longwave radiation

Cities are hotter because of how we build them, and they could be cooler if we build them differently

Human Thermal Comfort

Micro conditions influence the human experience of heat



Mean Radiant Temperatures

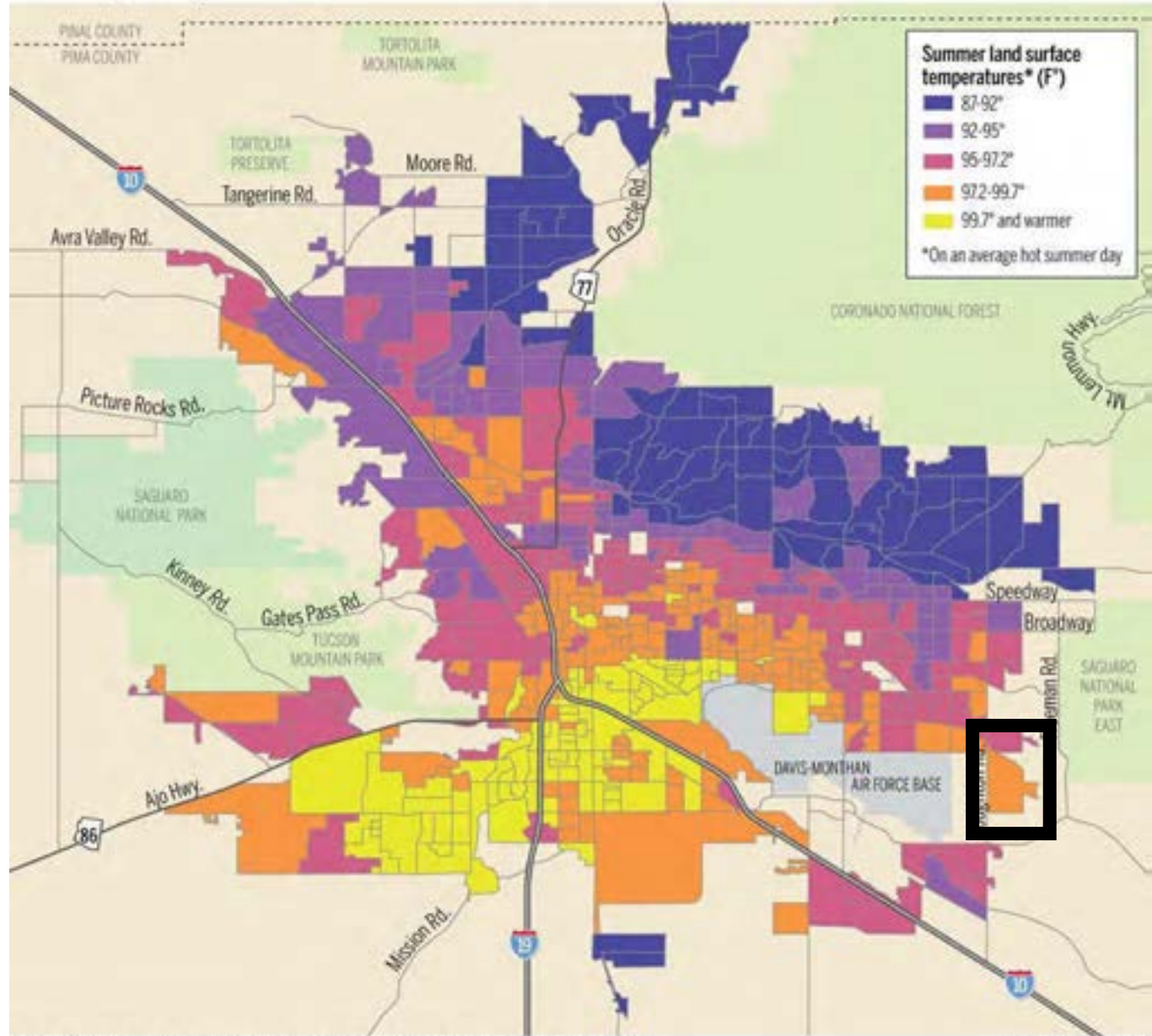
Net thermal exchange between a body and the objects that surround it.

Is surface temperature a good proxy for thermal comfort?

1. Diurnal variation?
2. Predicting simulated temperature? (Compared to sun exposure)
3. Relationship to land features? (Compared to MRT)

The great divide in Tucson temperatures

Seven of the 10 hottest neighborhoods in the Tucson area were found on the south side, a new study written by researchers at the University of California-Davis and American University of Beirut shows. The researchers took averages of satellite temperature measurements over seven years to come up with mean temperatures for Tucson and 19 other Southwestern cities for both average summer days and days with extreme heat.



CIVANO (Tucson, AZ)	
Approach to sustainable urbanism	Solar Energy, New Urbanism
Biophysical Context	Arid
Development Type	Public-private
Size (Acres)	1145
Number of Households at Build Out	2600
Development Start	1981



Comparing Measures of Temperature

- Remote Sensing (RS)
 - NAIP (0.6m, Jun. 15 2019), Landsat (30m, May 27, 2019)
 - Land Cover Composition and Configuration, LST, Albedo, SAVI, LISA hotspots
- Field Observations
 - MaRTy cart 23 stop transects (May 25 2019), 7:00 – 21:00 MST
 - ST, AT, MRT
- Micro-climate simulations
 - ENVI-met
 - ST, AT, MRT
- Regression models to examine predictive power of climate variables



MaRTY – mobile biometeorology sensor –
Ariane Middel SHADE Lab at ASU

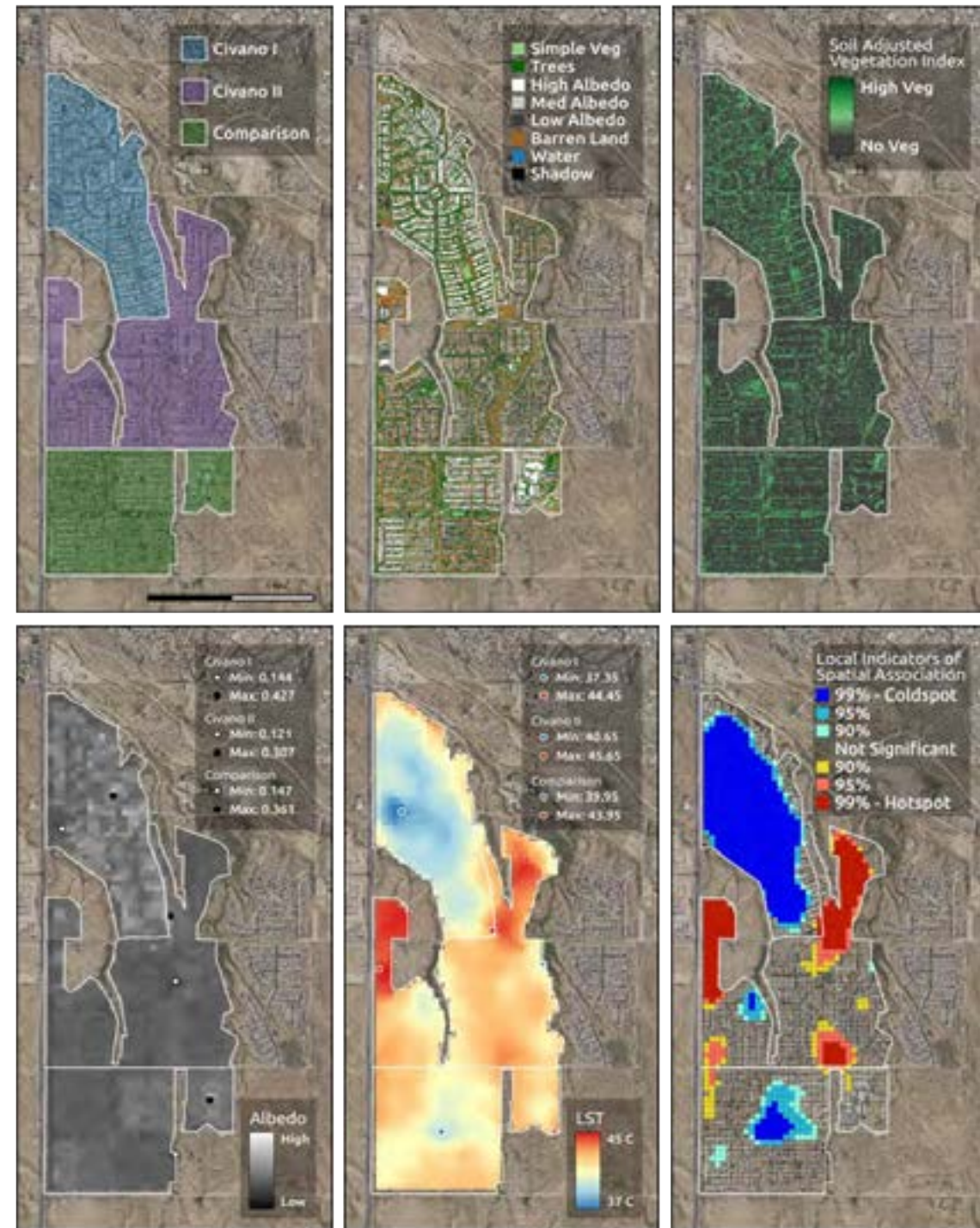
Civano = Cool Neighborhood Microclimate

- More vegetation...
...higher albedo...
...most 'coldspots'

- Little variation in LST, mostly desert 'edge effect'

RS-LST at 10:00

- Min ~37 C
- Max ~44 C



Diurnal Trends

AT peaks late afternoon,
little variability between sites

MRT high all day, lots of
variability between sites

ST peaks midday,
impervious/gravel hottest

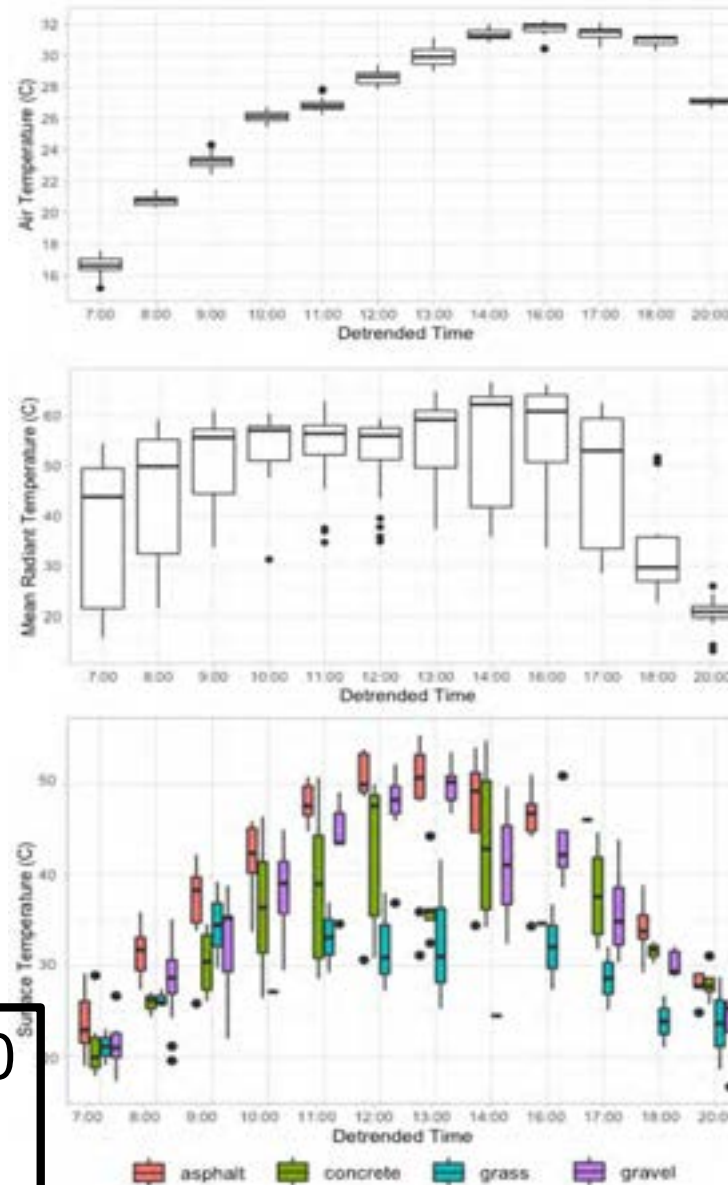
LST at 10:00

- Min ~10 C
- Max ~55 C

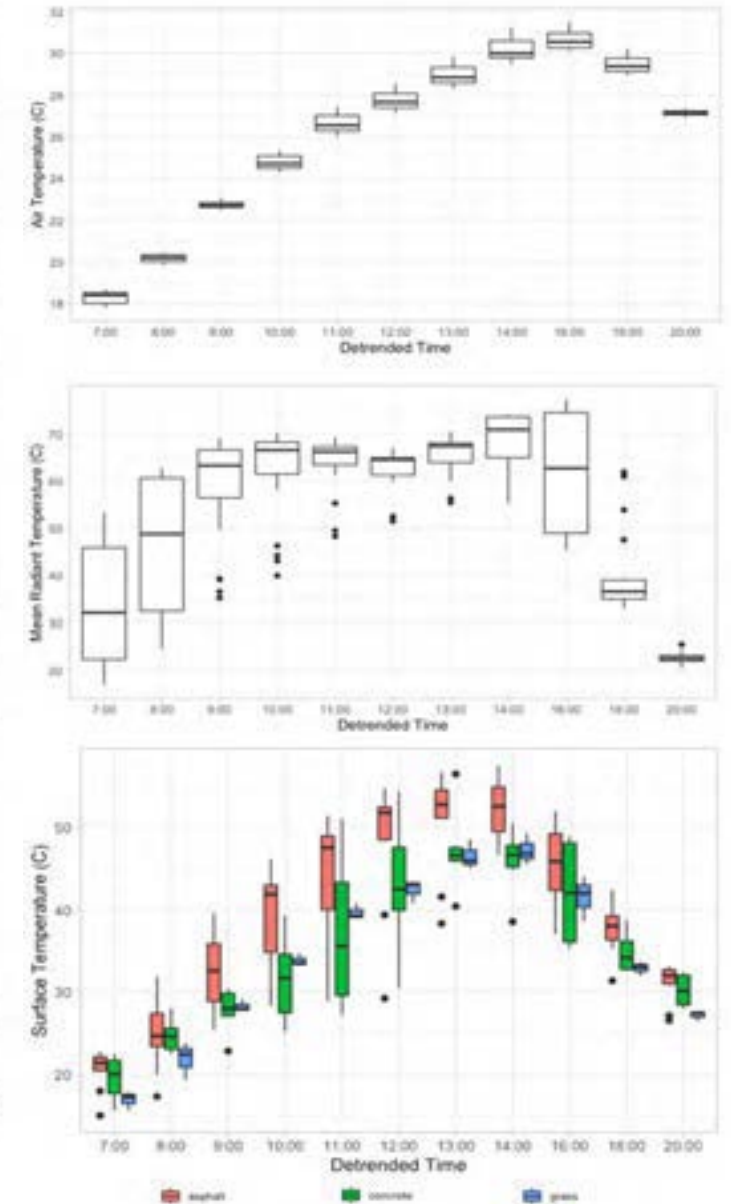
RS-LST at 10:00

- Min ~37 C
- Max ~44 C

Field Measurements



Simulations



Satellites provide weak estimate of simulated temperature

Better predictor of MRT,
than AT and LST

RS-LST		
Simulated Temperatures	R	R ²
LST_08:00	-0.49	0.24
LST_10:00	0.4	0.16
LST_12:00	0.53	0.28
LST_15:00	0.39	0.16
LST_20:00	-0.72	0.52
MRT_08:00	0.65	0.42
MRT_10:00	0.63	0.4
MRT_12:00	0.63	0.39
MRT_15:00	0.64	0.41
MRT_20:00	-0.67	0.45
AT_08:00	-0.1	0.01
AT_10:00	0.17	0.03
AT_12:00	0.25	0.06
AT_15:00	0	0
AT_20:00	-0.64	0.41

10:00 RS image strong,
negative relationship with
evening temp

Regression results between Landsat LST (RS-LST) and the simulated LST, MRT and AT at hour; all models are significant at 0.001 level (2-tailed) except for AT_15.

Sun exposure better predicts hyper-local temperature

As expected, strong relationship with MRT

Shortwave Radiation		
Simulated Temperatures	R	R ²
LST_08	0.05	0.003
LST_10	0.69	0.47
LST_12	0.76	0.58
LST_15	0.48	0.23
LST_20	na	na
MRT_08	0.99	0.98
MRT_10	0.98	0.96
MRT_12	0.85	0.73
MRT_15	0.98	0.97
MRT_20	na	na
AT_08	0.28	0.08
AT_10	0.16	0.03
AT_12	0.16	0.03
AT_15	0.07	0.01
AT_20	na	na

Regression results between simulated shortwave radiation and simulated LST, MRT and AT at hour *i* at 30m resolution, all models are significant at 0.001 level (2-tailed) except for AT_08 and AT_15.

But also, variation in midday surface temperature



Source: The City of Melbourne via The Guardian 2017

Different Urban Land Features Predict LST and MRT

RS-LST Best Predictors

- Stronger relationships overall
- Land cover variables
- % building, % impervious, % trees
- Relatively similar all day

MRT Best Predictors

- Weaker relationships overall
- Morphology variables
- % trees, mean building and tree height
- Diurnal variation

Local heat planning needs nuance

- Define heat goal
...UHI mitigation \neq improved thermal comfort
- Always specify temperature type
...especially what remote sensing estimates of LST can and can't describe
- Ask when is space used
...interventions perform differently throughout the day



Top: Phoenix Cool Pavement parking lot, Bottom: Shade Sails for Schools in the U.K.

Thank You!



Luskin Center
for Innovation



Vkturner@ucla.edu

Ed Hawkins, #showyourstripes, mean temp deviation in CA 1985-2020

Up next – 3:30-5pm PT

SESSION 4.1

The Effects of
Temperatures on
Behavior

SESSION 4.2

Adaptation
at Home:
Consumption,
Building Codes, and
Insurance

SESSION 4.3

Quantifying and
Minimizing Water
Quality Impacts

SESSION 4.4

Integrating Climate
and Transportation
Planning

CLIMATE ADAPTATION RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

MEASURING & REDUCING SOCIETAL IMPACTS

Thanks for tuning in!