

# Urban Climate – impact and interaction of air quality and Global Change

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# Some urban facts



- Since 2007 more than 50 % of the world's population live in urban agglomerations; it is estimated that 70 % do so by 2050
- Until 2030 there will be 59 cities with more than 5 000 000 inhabitants and 23 megacities with more than 10 000 000 people. (Brennan-Galvin 2000)
- Urban agglomerations in China increased from 20 % to 41 % (between 1980-2005)
- Europe has an urbanization rate of 72 %
- > 1.2 % of the land surface is considered to be urban

Anthroposphere comprises cities and agricultural areas



**Urbanisation** has been the most drastic change in land use and land surface properties ever.

Stefan Norra therefore suggested the term astysphere.

The **astysphere** surrounds the globe like a spider net. The knots are the cities, and the silks represent the connecting transport network (Norra 2009).



Peculiarities of the climate in the astysphere



- buildings → enhanced roughness → reduced mean wind speed
  - → increased turbulence
  - → flow convergence at upwind edge → mean upward motion

→ clouds, precipitation

- → short wave radiation is trapped (multiple scattering in street canyons, etc.)
- → long wave radiation is retained (reduced sky view)
- → heat is stored

impervious surfaces → stronger run off during precipitation events

→ less humidity available for evaporation long after precipitation events

less vegetation → less humidity available for evaporation

human beings → anthropogenic heat production → trace gas emission → changed radiative properties of the air → contribution to global warming → aerosol production → clouds, precipitation → regional dimming excess heat → upward motion over cities → compensating inflow from rural areas (UHI) → clouds, precipitation → enhanced chemical transformations → photo-oxidants → health risks → health risks



# A city and its regional interrelations due to climate change, anthropogenic emissions and energy production



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#### existing reviews

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

topic	reference Karlsruhe Instit.
turbulence over cities	Roth (2000)
climatology of tropical cities	Jauregui (2000)
circulation and dispersion	Fernando et al. (2001)
urban climatology	Arnfield (2003)
precipitation	Shepherd (2005)
surface transfer coefficients	Hagishima et al. (2005)
scientific cooperation on urban climate	Oke (2006)
measurements and observations	Grimmond (2006)
surface models	Masson (2006)
physical models	Kanda (2006)
sustainable urban development	Mills (2006)
weather forecast	Best (2006)
CFD for street canyons	Li et al. (2006)
urban meteorology	Kanda (2007)
urban heat island	Hidalgo et al. (2008)
mitigation of UHI	Corburn (2009)
heat waves and health	Kovats und Ebi (2006)
UHI and air quality	???

#### The urban boundary layer





Figure I. Schematic of the urban boundary layer including its vertical layers and scales. 'UBL' stands for Urban Boundary Layer, and 'UCL' for Urban Canopy Layer (revised by Oke and Rotach after a figure in Oke, 1997).

Piringer, M., C. S. B. Grimmond, S.M. Joffre, P.Mestayer, D. R. Middleton, M.W. Rotach,

- A. Baklanov, K. de Ridder, J. Ferreira, E. Guilloteau, A. Karppinen, A. Martilli, V. Massoni,
- B. M. Tombrou, 2002: Investigating the surface energy balance in urban areas –
- C. recent advances and future needs. Water, Air, and Soil Pollution: Focus 2: 1–16.

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# **Urban Heat Island: Definition**



- "Urban Heat Island" (UHI) refers to the tendency for a city or town (urbanized areas) to remain warmer than its surroundings.
- The annual mean temperature of a large city may be 1°-2°C warmer than the surrounding areas, and on individual calm, clear nights may be up to 12°C warmer (-> Heat Island Intensity).
- ➤ Closed isotherms indicating an area of the surface (→ island) that is relatively warm; most commonly associated areas of human disturbance such as towns and cities (urbanized areas).
- The warmth extends vertically to form an urban heat dome in near calm, and an urban heat plume in more windy conditions.



#### existing UHI studies



climate zone		examples	references
tropical	humid	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur	Tso (1996)
	dry-humid	Mumbai	Kumar et al. (2001)
	elevated terrain	Mexico	Jauregui (1997), Doran et al. (1998)
	deserts	Kuwait City, Phoenix	Nasrallah et al. (1990)
sub-tropical		Johannesburg	Goldreich (1992)
mediterranean		Athens	Philandras et al. (1999)
temperate	coastal	Tokio	Saitoh et al. (1996)
	continental	Moscow	Shahgedanova et al. (1997)
	complex terrain	Santiago de Chile	Romero et al. (1999)
higher l	atitudes	Göteborg	Eliassen und Holmer (1990)



#### Infrared images from MODIS (Hung et al. 2006)





temporal pattern of UHI





Figure 2. Cross section of simulated UHI at: (a) 1500 hr; (b) 0300 hr. U marks the limit of the urban area; temperature is in  $^{\circ}$ C.

Left: Fig. 2 from Atkinson (2003). Top: day-time, below: nighttime. Right: Time series from Singapore (Fig. 6 top from Chow und Roth 2006) COM: commercial site,

CBD: Central Business District,

HDB: high-rise residential site (Hochhaussiedlungen),

**RES:** low-rise residential site).

Atkinson, B.W., 2003: Numerical modelling of urban heat-island intensity. Bound.-Lay. Meteorol., 109, 285-310.

Chow, W.T.L., M. Roth, 2006: Temporal dynamics of the urban heat island of Singapore. Int. J. Climatol., 26, 2243-2260.



#### magnitude of UHI







#### spatial variation of UHI





#### annual variation of UHI







Fig. 2. Temporal variations of the day-time surface UHIs in: (a) Tokyo throughout the year and (b) Bangkok over the dry season.

from: Hung et al. 2006



#### energy balance of UHI







#### Cloud formation over urban heat islands (May 28, 2011)

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#### Interaction with air quality



cities  $\rightarrow$  trace gas emission  $\rightarrow$  changed radiative properties of the air

- → contribution to global warming
- ➔ production of secondary trace gases (e.g., ozone)
- aerosol production
  clouds, precipitation
  regional dimming
- → more heat → faster chemical reactions (e.g., more ozone)
  - → shifted chemical equilibria
  - → secondary circulation → brings rural biogenic and urban



- brings rural biogenic and urban anthropogenic emissions together (e.g., ozone from BVOC and NO<sub>x</sub>)
- ➔ enhanced the import of fresh air

Correlation between measured ozone and temperature at a urban centre



cities → trace gas emission → changed radiative properties of the air → contribution to global warming

→ aerosol production → changed clouds and precipitation patterns
 → regional dimming

→ heat → changed regional circulations

- → growing urban population → more emissions
  - → more heat
  - → more fresh water demand

Global Change  $\rightarrow$  warmer and partly dryer climate  $\rightarrow$  even warmer cities  $\rightarrow$  health

→ less fresh water availability





# risks → mitigation → adaptation

#### Mitigation



- increasing albedo, e.g., cool/white roofs
- less capturing of incoming short wave radiation in warm seasons
- more capturing of incoming short wave radiation in cold seasons
- less capturing of outgoing long wave radiation in warm seasons
- more capturing of outgoing long wave radiation in cold seasons

#### less heat storage

- reducing heat capacity of urban structures, e.g., better insulation of buildings

#### less anthropogenic heat production

- less cooling
- less air conditioning
- more effective (i.e. less) energy consumption

#### → nearly no negative consequences



#### white roofs ....



Baufritz

... still quite unusual ?



but ...



Corbis, spiegel.de

#### ... take Santorin in Greece for example

#### desert towns ...





Tindouf, Algeria

www.awesome-robot.com



#### more insulation $\rightarrow$ reduces heat capacity $\rightarrow$ effective energy use





#### Adaptation

#### more urban vegetation

- green roofs
- trees, parks

#### more urban water

- lakes, creeks

#### passages for colder air

- open spaces, wide roads

#### more cooling

- air conditioning

#### more care

- health service

#### ➔ many negative consequences

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# breeding place for insects supply humidity

#### windy conditions for pedestrians open spaces cool at night

high energy consumption

expensive



#### green roof in Chicago





www.explorechicago.org



#### green tram tracks in Zurich and Stuttgart







#### urban water in Vancouver



Murdoch University



## how to decide which measure is suitable? how to avoid to much negative side effects?

# Tools - observation/monitoring

complex numerical assessment models

## **Surface-based Remote Sensing Systems**

#### at IMK-IFU



#### SODAR (Large system),

acoustic backscatter, Doppler shift analysis → wind, turbulence









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Ceilometer, backscatter, optical pulses, wave length ~ 0.9 µm → aerosol profiles

Wind-LIDAR, optical backscatter, Doppler shift analysis, wave length ~ 1.5  $\mu$ m  $\rightarrow$  wind and

aerosol profiles



image: Halo Photonics



#### comparison of urban and rural wind profiles from sodar measurements





#### comparison of urban and rural turbulence profiles from sodar measurements



# Integrated model approach







#### **Coupling of models/Modelling System** Orography Global Anthropogenic Global Weather **Observations** Land use **Emissions** forecast models Climate Models **Soil Texture** Analysis Interpolation **Runoff / Routing** Model (e.g. WASIM **Meteorological** MCCM or WRF/chen **Data Assimilation** regional etailed hydrologica Meteorology, Climate, Aerosols Model Air Chemistry, Soil-Vegetation **Biogenic** Dynamic Vegetation **Emissions** Model (MOBILE) **Bio-Geo-Chemistry** Model Simulation Simulation of of Air Quality **Regional Climate Micro-scale Model** (e.g. GRAL) Soil-Vegetation-**Air Pollution Critical Levels** local Climate Changes Extreme **Atmosphere Control Strategies** and Loads and Air Quality **Events Feedback Effects**



#### representation of a city in a numeircal model

#### multi-layer approach



Masson 2006



#### modelled increase of PBL height over a city



#### Difference in PBLH for 3rd domain (48x60km); BEP; Aug 12th 2003 – 17:00 UTC

# Impact of mitigation/adaptation on air pollution levels мі







# **Conclusions and summary**



- urban climate needs attention
- risksgrowing urban population

solution strategies

mitigationadaptation

good tools available

observation and monitoring devicescomplex assessment models

special urban climate features - urban heat island

**Conclusions and summary** 



#### The Urban Heat Island (UHI)



→ more anthropogenic heat and emissions

#### → direct health risks



# Thank you very much for your attention

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