

Urban Heat Island (UHI) analysis by Local Weather Types (LWT) in Lisbon, Portugal



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What we want to know?



I. Daily Local Weather Type (LWT) classification

K-means cluster analysis of climate data from Lisbon's airport weather station and ERA5 reanalysis

Daily LWT Designation	Climate Variables Thresholds					
	Frequency of days per thermal season (%)	Cloud Cover (tenths)	Wind Speed (m/s)	Specific Humidity (kg/kg)	Air Temperature (°C)	Total Daily Precipitation (mm)
Summer						
Mild, cloudy and humid with light rain and moderate NW winds (Sumild_cloudy)	14.9	7	4.8	0.0127	20.5	1.4
Mild, sunny and humid with moderate NW and N winds (SUMildNW)	26.1	3	4.5	0.0120	21	0.1
Mild, sunny and humid with strong N winds (SUMildN)	22.7	2	7.5	0.0115	20.8	0
Hot, sunny and humid with moderate N winds (Suhot)	6.4	1	4.7	0.0105	23.9	0
Very hot, sunny and humid with moderate N winds (Suvhot)	21.4	1	4.7	0.0147	25.4	0
Winter						
Cold, cloudy and dry with weak and variable winds, specially from N and NW (WcoldN)	29	7	3.6	0.0084	12.9	0.6
Cold, cloudy, rainy and dry with moderate SW and W winds (WcoldSW)	7.1	8	6.5	0.0088	13.6	5.2
Very cold, sunny and dry with moderate N winds (WvcoldN)	26.2	3	4.7	0.0067	10.4	0.6
Very cold, sunny and dry with weak NE, E and N winds (WvcoldNE)	21.7	3	3.8	0.0058	9.6	0.2
Cold, cloudy and dry with weak precipitation and moderate and variable winds, specially from NW, SW and W (ScoldNW)	29.1	7	4.6	0.0087	14.3	2.2
Spring						
Cold with moderate cloud coverage, dry and with moderate N winds (ScoldN)	27.9	4	6	0.008	14.3	0.4
Mild, sunny and humid with moderate N winds (Smild)	22.3	3	4.6	0.0118	20.5	0.1
Autumn						
Cold, with moderate cloud cover and dry with moderate N and NE winds (Acold)	22.9	4	4.2	0.0089	14.3	0.5
Cool, cloudy, humid and rainy with moderate SW and W winds (Acool)	9.7	8	5.3	0.0112	16.6	7.6
Mild, with moderate cloud cover, humid, with possibility of rain and weak N, NE and S winds (Amild)	21.4	5	3.9	0.0116	18.8	1.5

II. Climate variables for cities in Europe from 2008 to 2017 – Copernicus Earth Observation Programme

Over 61000 hourly air temperature raster maps retrieved and grouped by thermal seasons and LWT



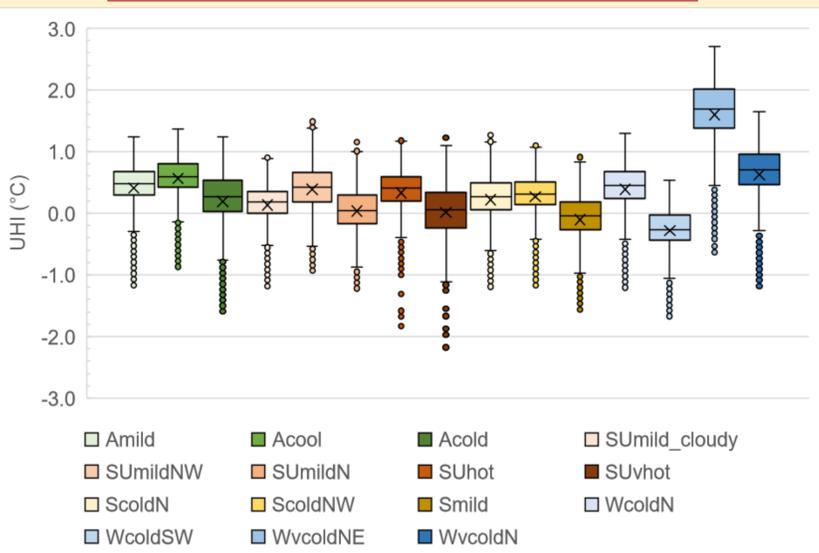
Construction of an R script in order to calculate hourly UHI:

$$UHI_t = T_{cop} - T_{la}$$

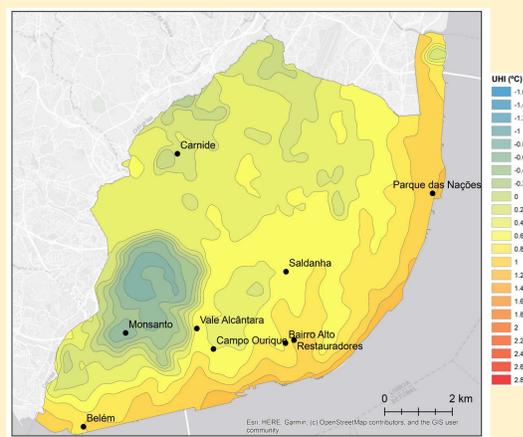
UHI_t represents UHI intensity in moment t;
T_{cop} represents air temperature of each cell in Copernicus grid for moment t;
T_{la} represents the air temperature registered at the Lisbon's airport weather station in the same moment t;

<https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/cdsapp#!/dataset/sis-urban-climate-cities?tab=overview>

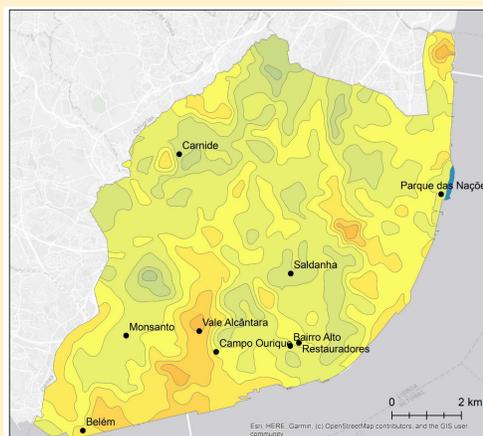
IV. UHI intensity by LWT in Lisbon



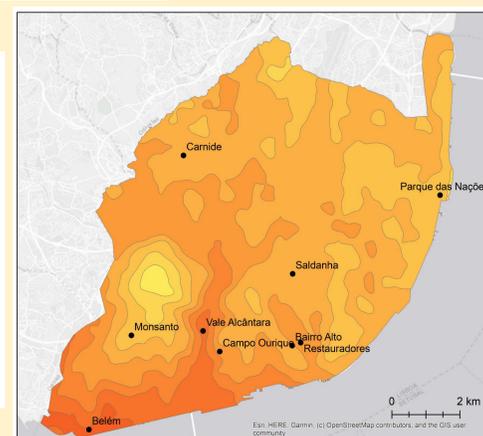
V. UHI patterns in Lisbon



N/NW-S/SE contrast



Mix of cool and hot spots



E-W contrast

VI. Concluding remarks

- Local meteorological conditions influence strongly UHI patterns and intensity in Lisbon, especially wind direction, cloud cover and precipitation
- Strong UHI occur in very cold, sunny and dry winter days with weak NE, E and N winds
- Cold, cloudy, rainy and dry winter days with moderate SW and W winds generate an urban cool Island (UCI) in Lisbon
- UHI intensity varies significantly throughout the day. The highest intensities occur in the late afternoon (6:00 pm) when compared to late morning (12:00 am – UCI in most of the city)
- In Lisbon three different UHI mosaics may be distinguished: the most frequent corresponds to a N/NW-S/SE contrast, where the riverfront is often the hottest area against Monsanto Hill (the largest green space in the city) and the northern area, which is well ventilated by frequent N and NW winds that reach the city. At 12:00 am a mix of cool and hot spots is formed with no defined pattern and after several hours of solar radiation, which is strongly absorbed by urban materials, strong thermal differences appear clearly (6:00 pm). The third mosaic (E-W contrast) is only visible on very cold and sunny winter days with weak NE, E and N winds and on hot and sunny summer days with moderate N winds, both at 12:00 am.
- These results were validated using hourly records from the mesoscale meteorological network of CEG-IGOT with nine measuring points from 2004 to 2015 and it was concluded that in most LWT an overestimation of the UHI intensity is observed. However, at 6:00 pm the city is generally warmer than the model predicts. Regardless of that, the generated patterns are consistent with previous studies about Lisbon UHI.

Adapted from Reis, C., Lopes, A., Correia, E., & Fragoso, M. (2020). Local Weather Types by Thermal Periods: Deepening the Knowledge about Lisbon's Urban Climate. Atmosphere, 11(8), 840.