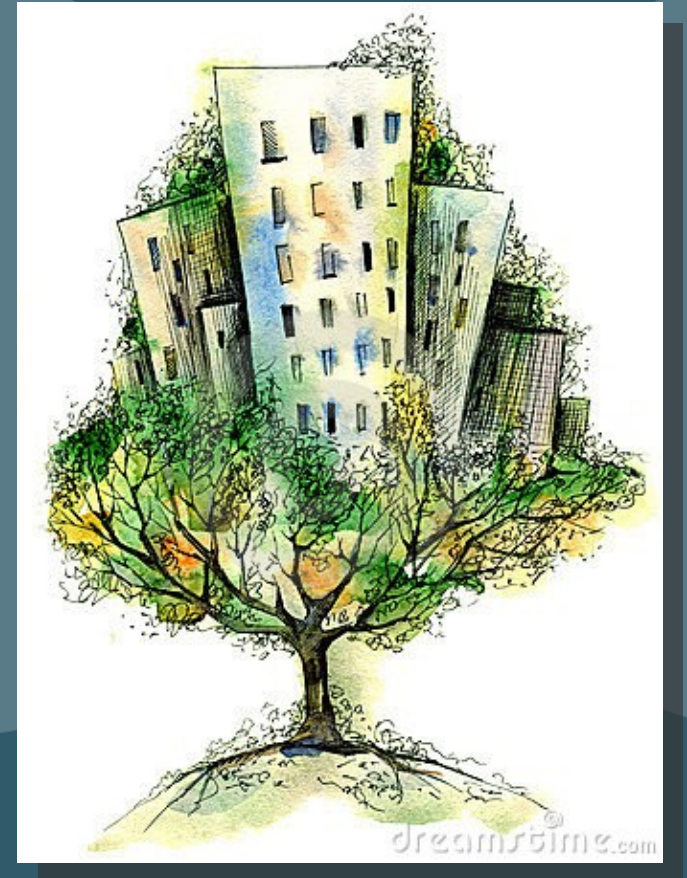


# Urban greening for improved human thermal comfort

*Kerry Nice*

*CRC for Water Sensitive Cities  
School of Earth, Atmosphere and  
Environment  
Monash University*



CRC for  
Water Sensitive Cities

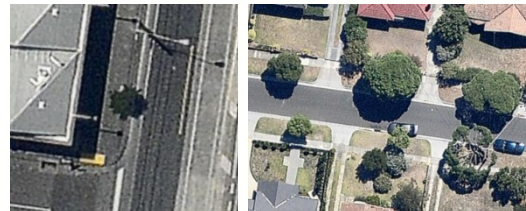


An Australian Government Initiative

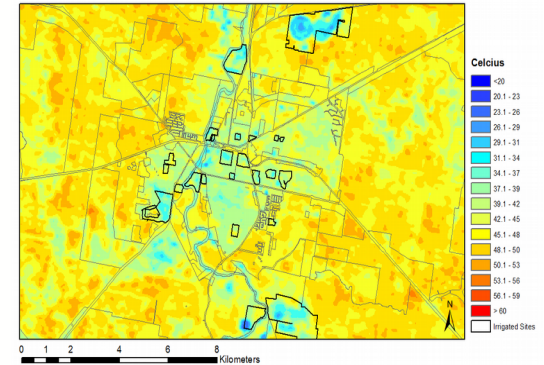


# Research questions

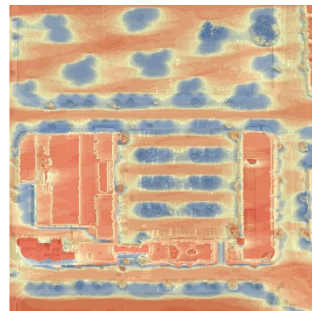
- How effective are storm water harvesting technologies, tree cover, green infrastructure and WSUD in improving urban climates **at a range of scales?**
- What are the key configurations required to reduce temperatures to save lives under heat wave conditions and to enhance human thermal comfort and liveability?



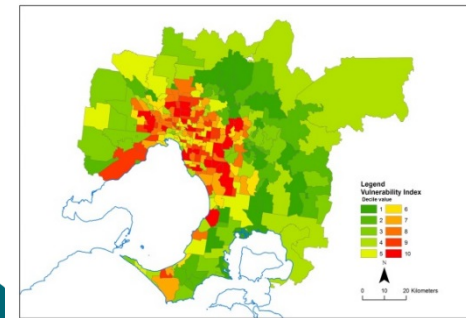
Observations



Remote sensing



Modelling

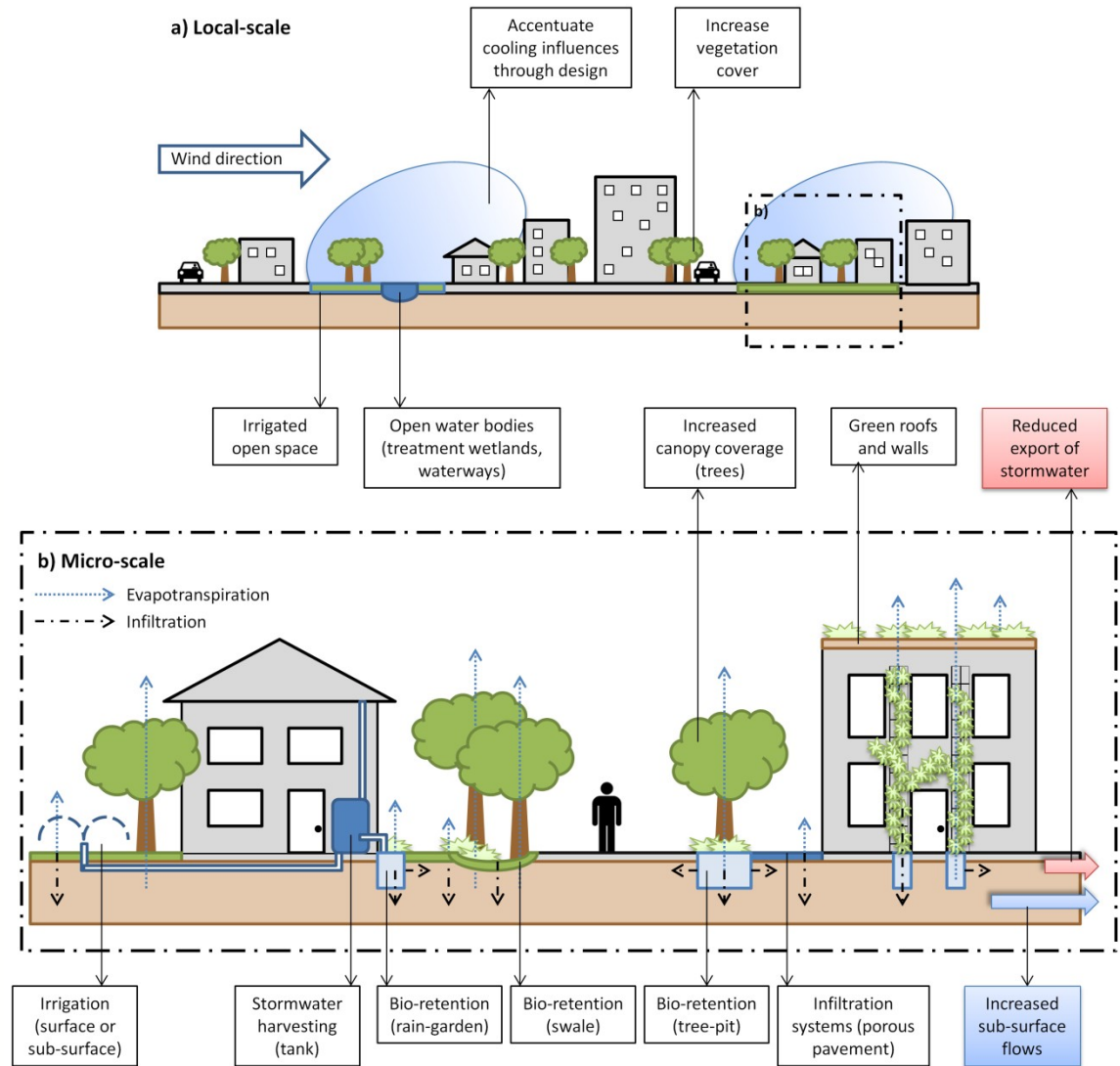


Database mapping

# Urban greening for improved human thermal comfort

## 2 Key Goals:

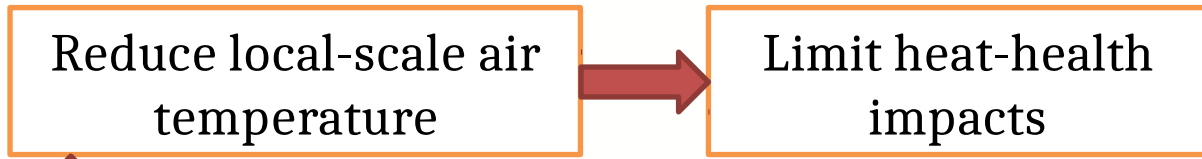
- Reduced neighbourhood (local-scale) air temperature
- Improve street (micro-scale) human thermal comfort



*Coutts et al 2013*



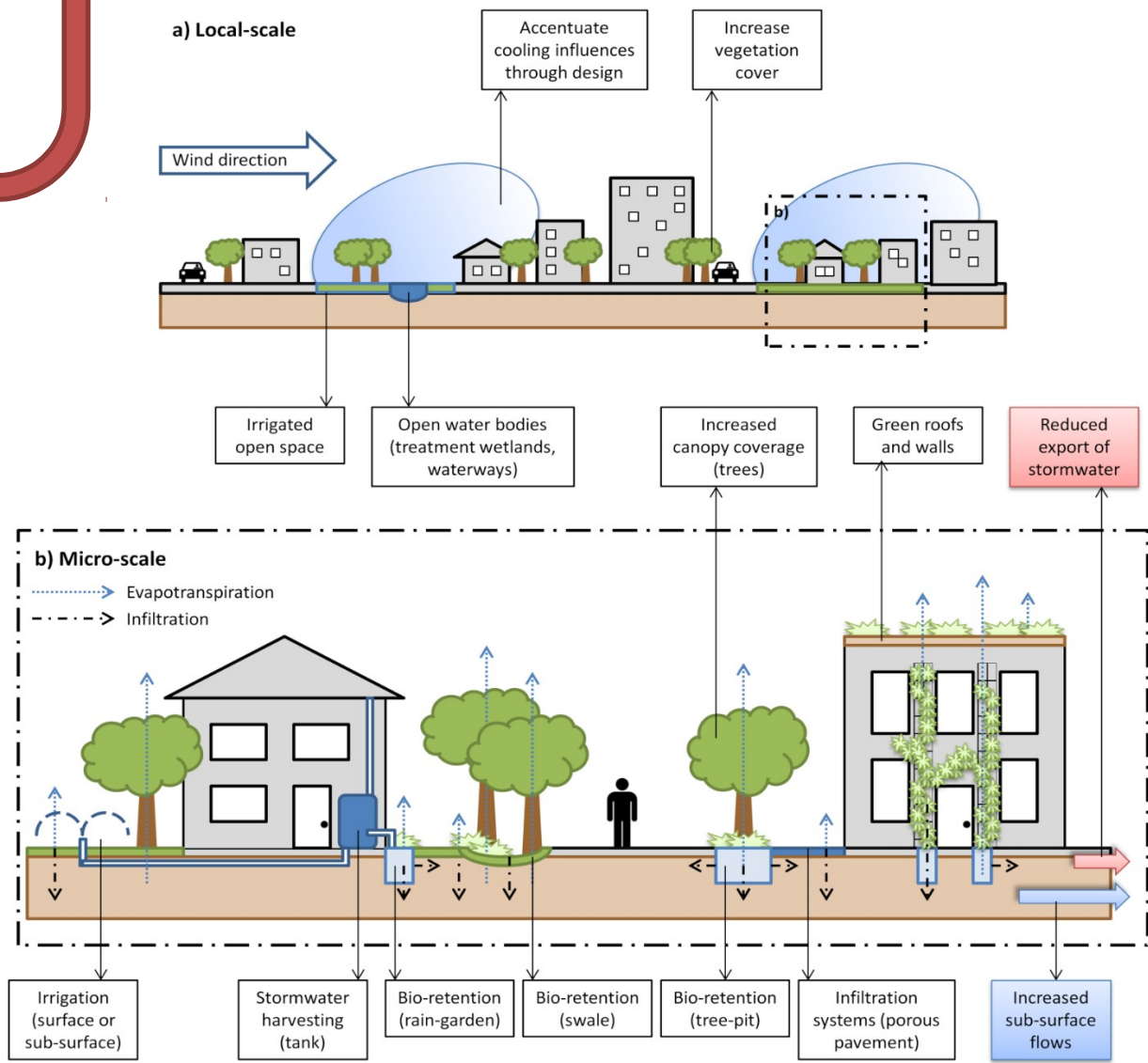
# Solutions



Role of water and green infrastructure

Reduce micro-scale air temperature and radiant temperature

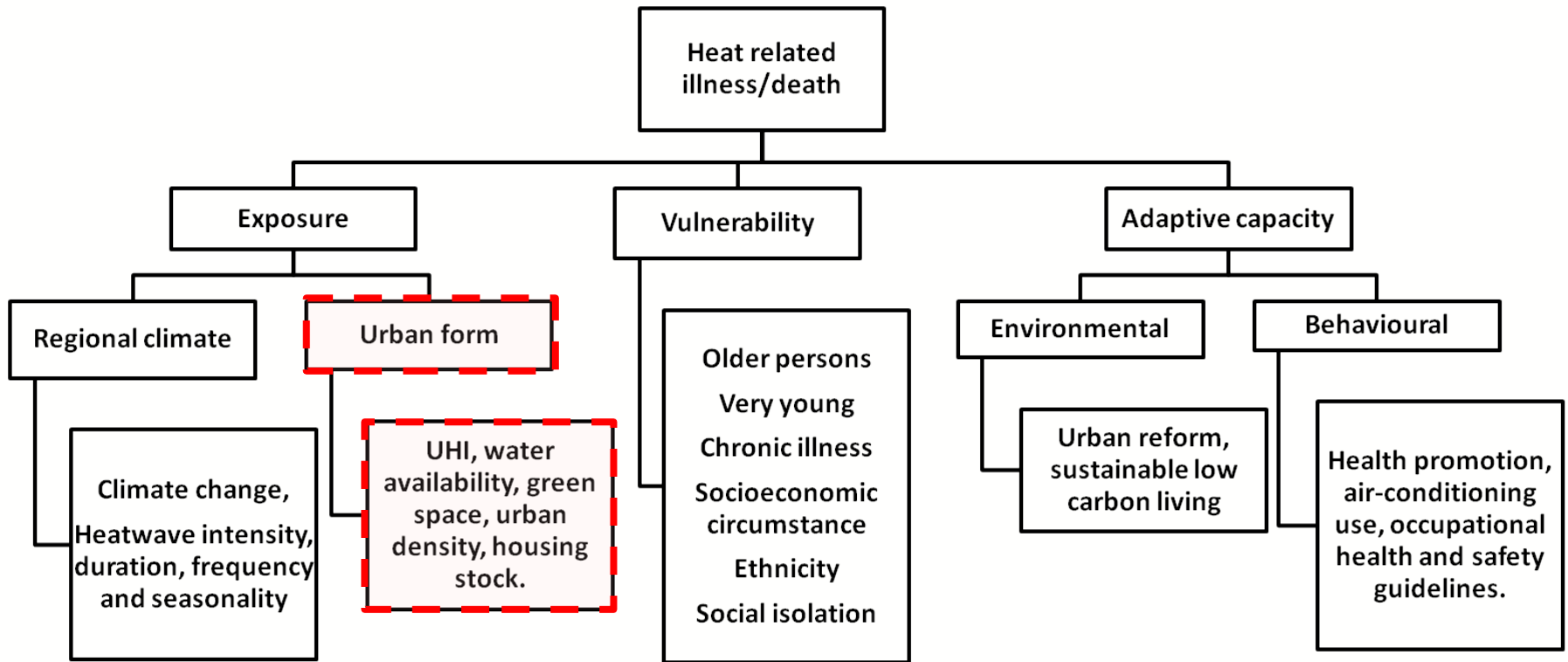
Improve human thermal comfort



Coutts, Tapper, Beringer, Loughnan, Demuzere (2013)



# Heat-health relationships

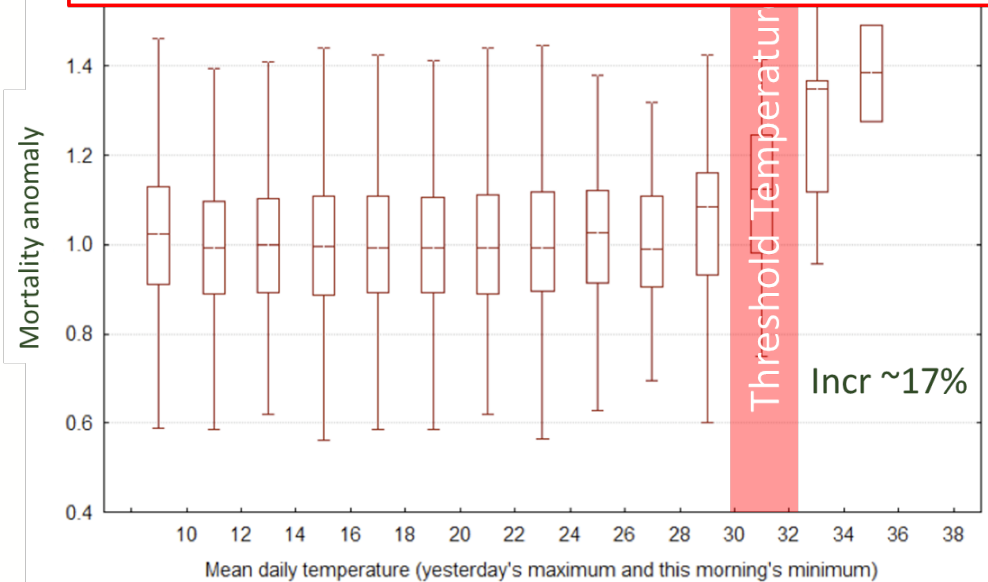


*Tapper, Coutts, Loughnan & Pankhania (2014)*

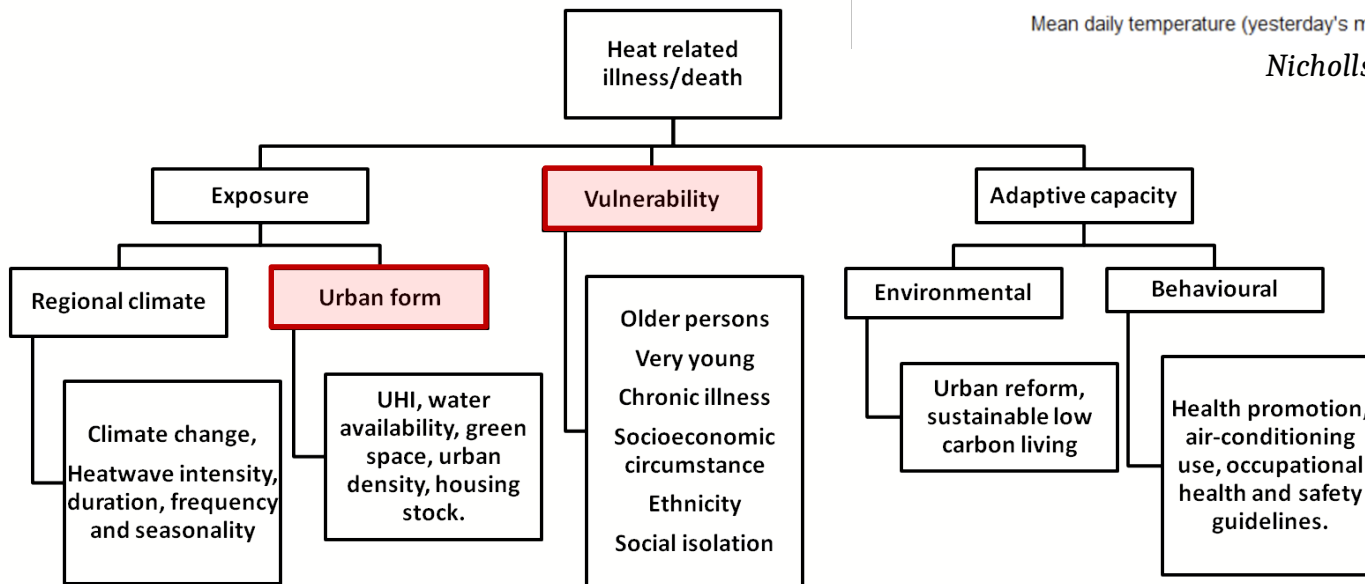
# Heat-Health Background

- Melbourne – Heat Threshold for Excess Deaths in >64 year olds
- Heat-Health outcomes depend on:
  - Heat Exposure
  - Vulnerability
  - Adaptive Capacity

Suggested that even a slight temperature reduction (1-2° C) in extreme heat events (i.e. **heat mitigation**) would be sufficient to save many lives



Nicholls, Skinner, Loughnan & Tapper (2007)



Tapper, Coutts, Loughnan & Pankhinia (2014)

# Threshold Temperatures (Best Predictors of Mortality/Morbidity) for Australia's Capital Cities

**Table 6: Threshold temperature derived from analyses of daily all-cause mortality, daily emergency hospital admissions, daily ambulance call-outs or emergency department presentations in Australian capital cities** (number of days exceeding the temperature threshold over the record period are in parenthesis)

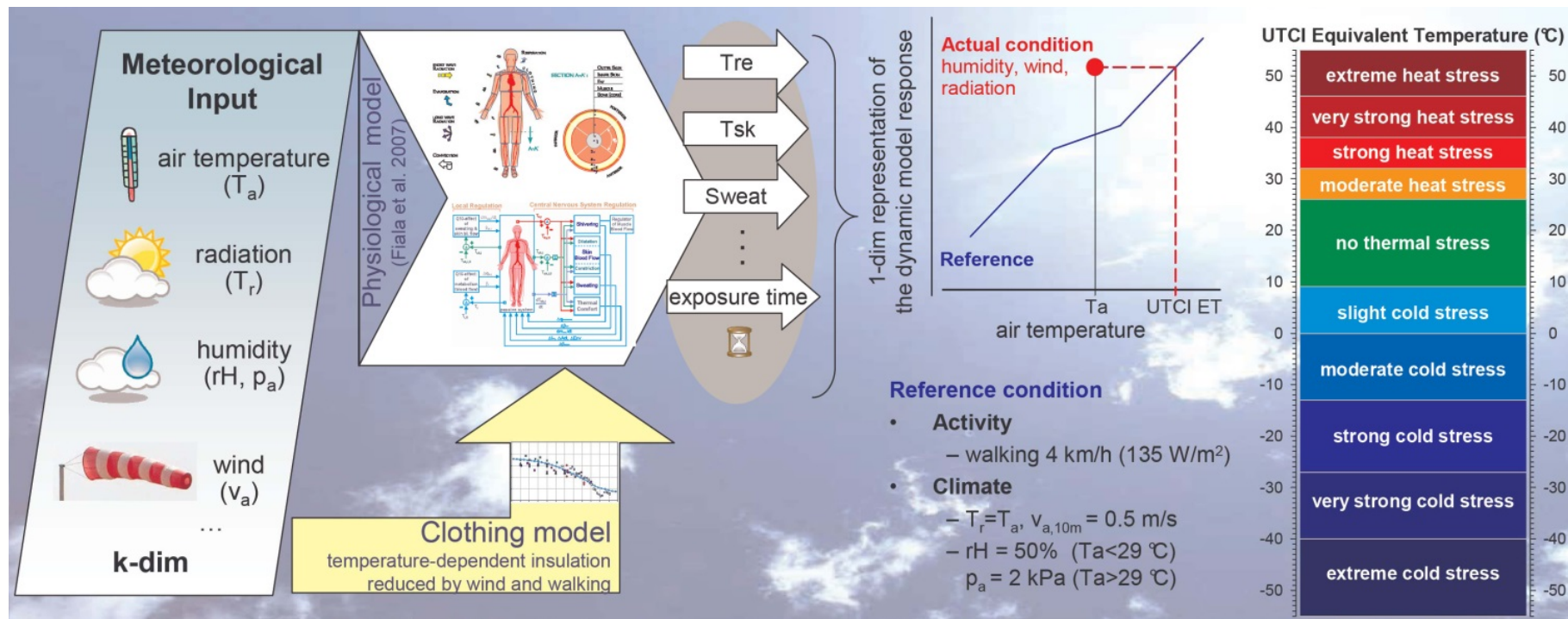
City	Number of days of data	Tmax		Tmin		meanT		AT	
			% increase in median		% increase in median		% increase in median		% increase in median
<b>Brisbane</b>									
Morbidity	2956	36 (55)	2.5–12%	26 (7)	2.5%	34 (2)	9%	40(25)	4–11%
Mortality	4007	36(58)	12%	25(11)	5%	31(6)	15%	40(9)	8%
<b>Canberra</b>									
Morbidity	2320	37 (33)	5–10%	20 (30)	5%	28 (28)	5-8%	38(11)	8-10%
Mortality	4007	33(179)	5%	20(43)	2%	28(16)	2%	41(4)	5%
<b>Darwin</b>									
Morbidity	1826	36 (4)	5%	28 (17)	5%	31 (19)	7%	35(5)	5%
Mortality	4007	37(11)	5%	29(19)	8%	31(94)	3%	47(5)	10–20%
<b>Hobart</b>									
Morbidity	2953	NA		18 (28)	5–20%	27 (3)	5%	36(5)	4–10%
Mortality	4007	35(13)	11%	20(5)	2%	28(5)	6%	37(6)	5–20%
<b>Melbourne</b>									
Morbidity	3287	44 (5)	3%	26 (6)	3%	34 (6)	3%	42(10)	2–3%
Mortality	4007	20(22)	2–65%	26(0)	5%	28(112)	2–12%	26(68)	4%
<b>Perth</b>									
Morbidity	2007	43 (3)	14%	26 (4)	4%	NA		43(8)	2–5%
Mortality	4007	44(3)	30%	NA		32(20)	3–10%	45(3)	10%
<b>Adelaide</b>									
Morbidity	3045	NA		31(4)	5%	39(1)	24%	NA	
Mortality	4007	42(21)	2–8%	NA		34(2)	8%	43(16)	2–10%
<b>Sydney</b>									
Morbidity	4162	41(3)	5–38%	25(5)	4%	31(5)	2%	41(3)	5%
Mortality	4007	38(3)	2–18%	25(3)	5%	30(12)	5%	37(27)	2–24%

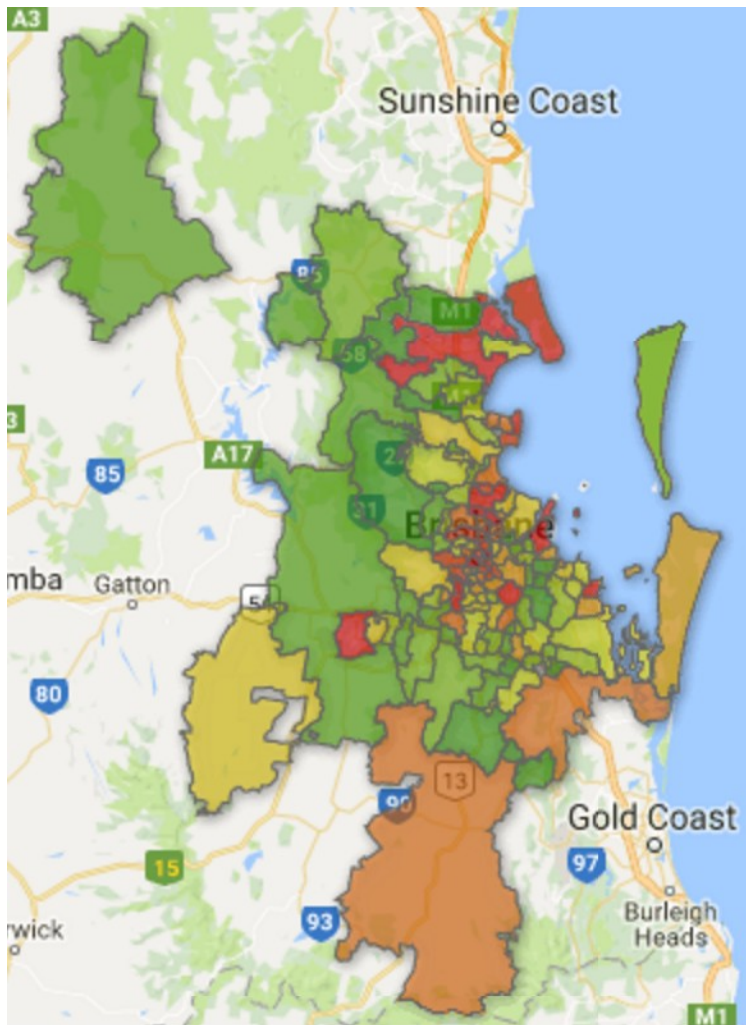
Final report *Loughnan, Tapper et al., 2013 SPATIAL VULNERABILITY TO EXTREME HEAT EVENTS IN AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL CITIES. National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility, Gold Coast, pp146*



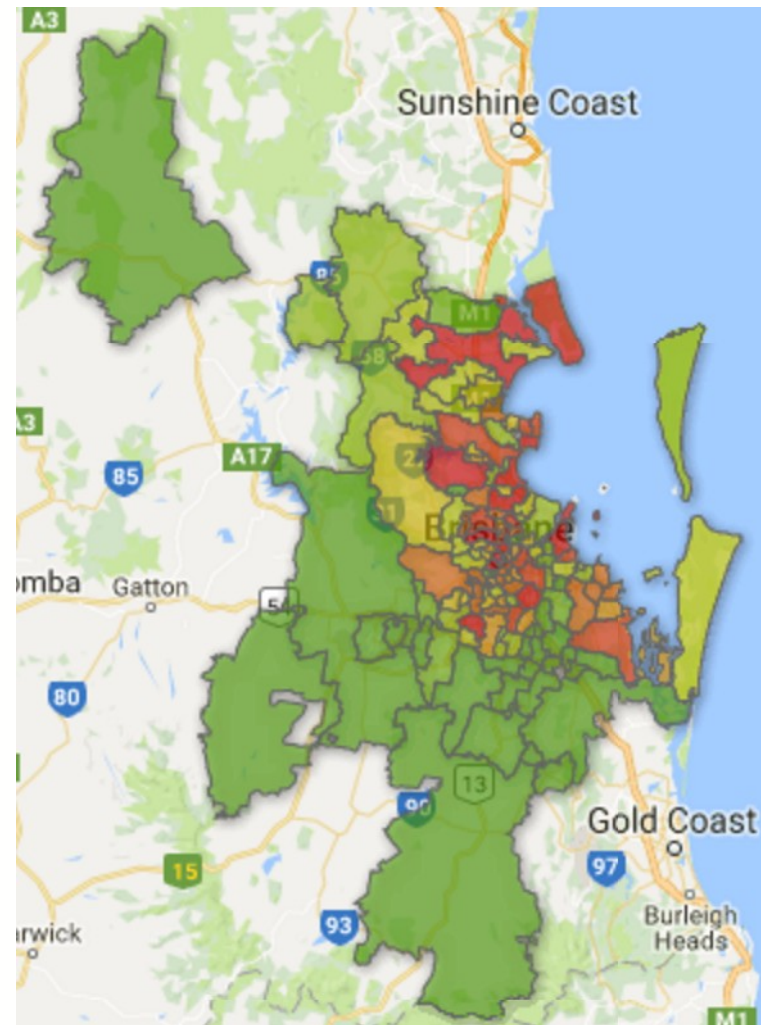
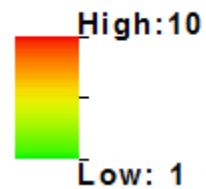
# Human thermal comfort

- Considers multiple microclimate variables
- Determined by a thermal comfort index
- Provides an assessment of heat stress
- *Mean radiant temperature* important during the day

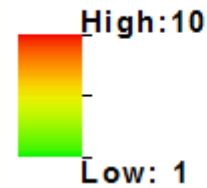




### Vulnerability Index



### Ambulance Callouts



*Loughnan et al*

# Trees must be part of the solution

- They provide shade, reducing *mean radiant temperature*
- They access water from deep layers of the soil
- Diversity of species allowing more tailored greening options
- They deliver multiple benefits
- People just ‘get’ trees



*Norton, Coutts et al (2015)*

UGI	Green open spaces	Trees	Green roofs	Vertical greening
Shades canyon surfaces?	Yes, if grass rather than concrete	Yes	Shades roof, not internal canyon surfaces	Yes
Shades people?	Yes, if treed	Yes	No, only very intensive green roofs	No
Increases solar reflectivity?	Yes, when grassed	Yes	Yes, if plants healthy	Yes
Evapo-transpirative cooling?	Yes, with water	Yes (unless severe drought)	Yes, with water when hot	Yes, with water when hot
	No, without water		No, without water	No, without water
Priority locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wide streets with low buildings – both sides</li> <li>• Wide streets with tall buildings – sunny side</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wide streets, low buildings – both sides</li> <li>• Wide streets, tall buildings – sunny side</li> <li>• In green open spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sun exposed roofs</li> <li>• Poor insulated buildings</li> <li>• Low, large buildings</li> <li>• Dense areas with little available ground space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canyon walls with direct sunlight</li> <li>• Narrow or wide canyons where trees are unviable</li> </ul>

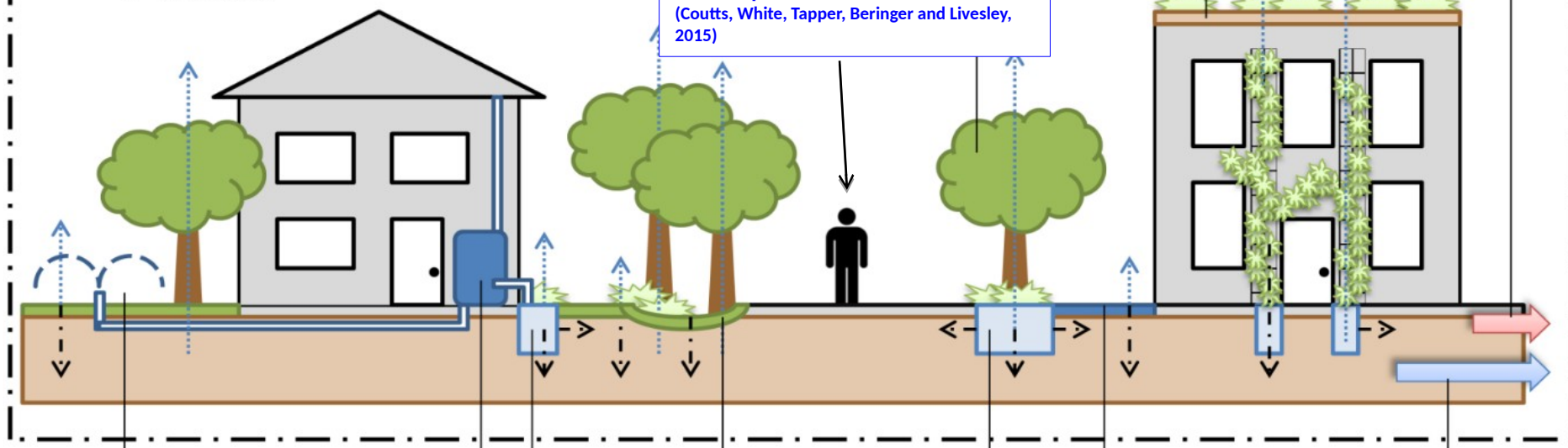


# Summertime WSUD Cooling

Various B3.1/3.2 pubs

**b) Micro-scale** (Household to street scale)

- - - - -> Evapotranspiration  
 - . - . -> Infiltration



**Precinct canopy**  
 "Realistic" optimal design  
 Typically - up to 4.0°C MRT  
 Heat wave - up to 7.0°C MRT  
 (Thom, Coultts, Broadbent and Tapper, 2016)

Increased canopy coverage (trees)

Green roofs and walls

Reduced export of stormwater

**Green roof**  
 Typically up to 20.0°C surface temp  
 (Coultts, Daly, Beringer and Tapper, 2013)

**Streetscape**  
 Typically - up to 1.0°C air temp  
 UTCI - up to 12.0°C  
 (Coultts, White, Tapper, Beringer and Livesley, 2015)

Irrigation (surface or sub-surface)

Stormwater harvesting (tank)

Bio-retention (rain-garden)

Bio-retention (swale)

Bio-retention (tree-pit)

Infiltration systems (porous pavement)

Increased sub-surface flows

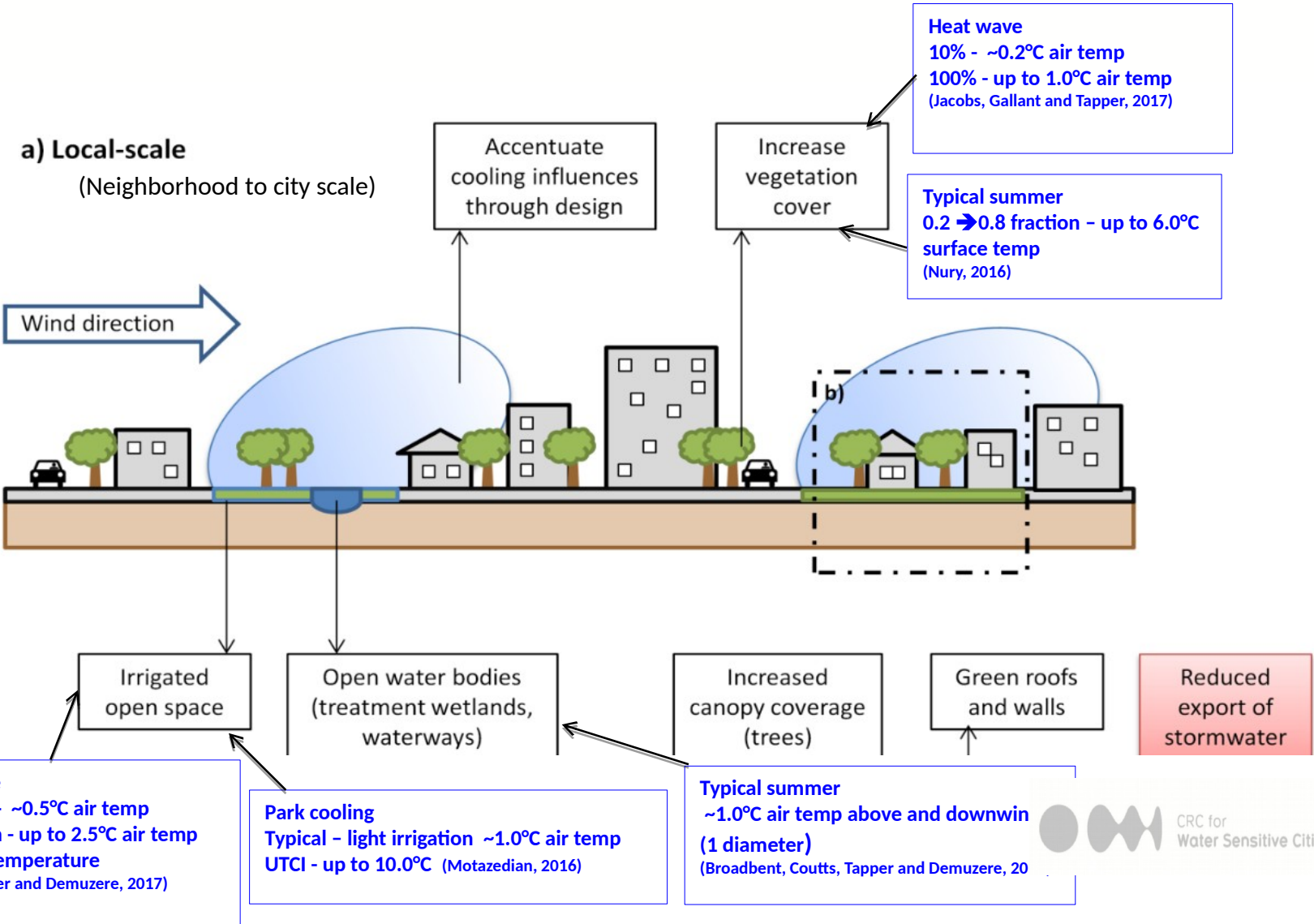
**Botanic Garden Irrigation**  
 Heat wave - up to 3.5°C air temp  
 (Lam, Gallant and Tapper, 2017)

**Rain-garden**  
 Summer conditions  
 Surface temp - to 25°C  
 Air above and downwind (1 diameter) - up to 1.5°C  
 (Shu and Tapper, 2017)

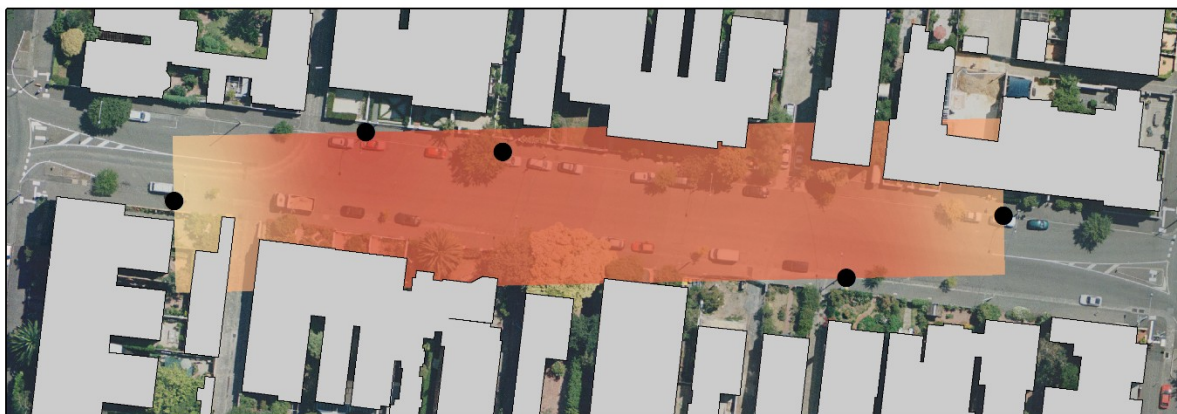
**Single tree**  
 Typically - up to 1.2°C air temp below canopy  
 UTCI - up to 7.0°C below canopy  
 (Coultts, Moore, Thom, Tapper and White, 2017)

# Summertime WSUD Cooling

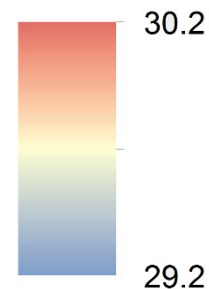
Various B3.1/3.2 publications



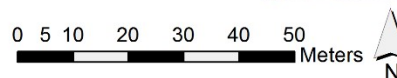
# Street tree cooling



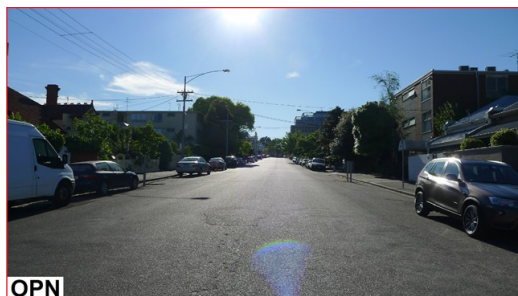
OPN



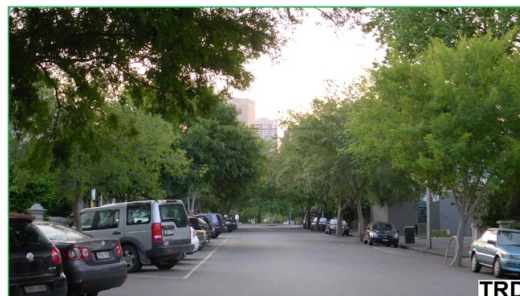
TRD



- OPEN street vs. a TREED street
- Average daytime air temperature
- 4-12 March 2013
- 9 consecutive days exceeding 32 °C
- Differences of up to 3.1 °C among the seven stations in TRD



OPN



TRD

Coutts, et al (2015)

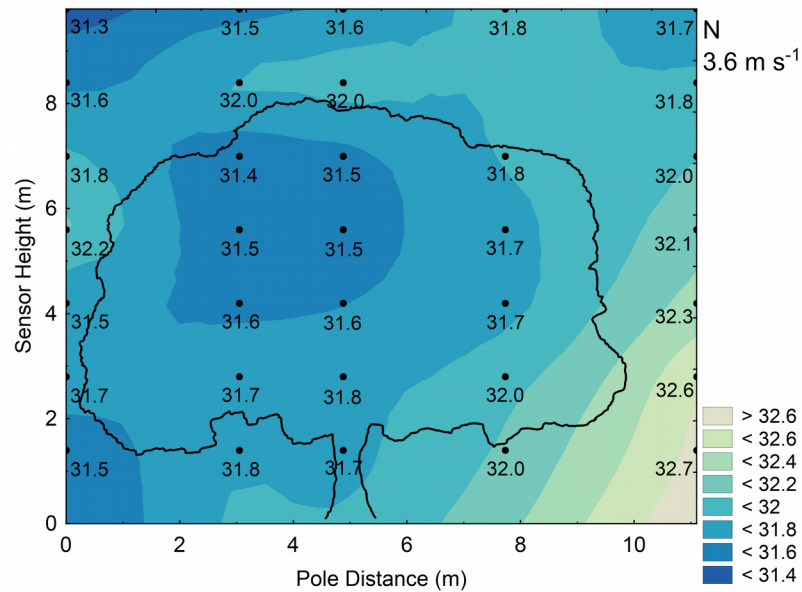


CRC for  
Water Sensitive Cities

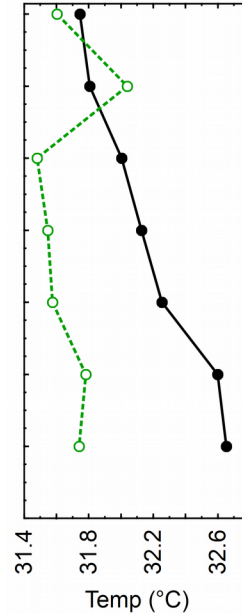


# Isolated tree cooling

9031600

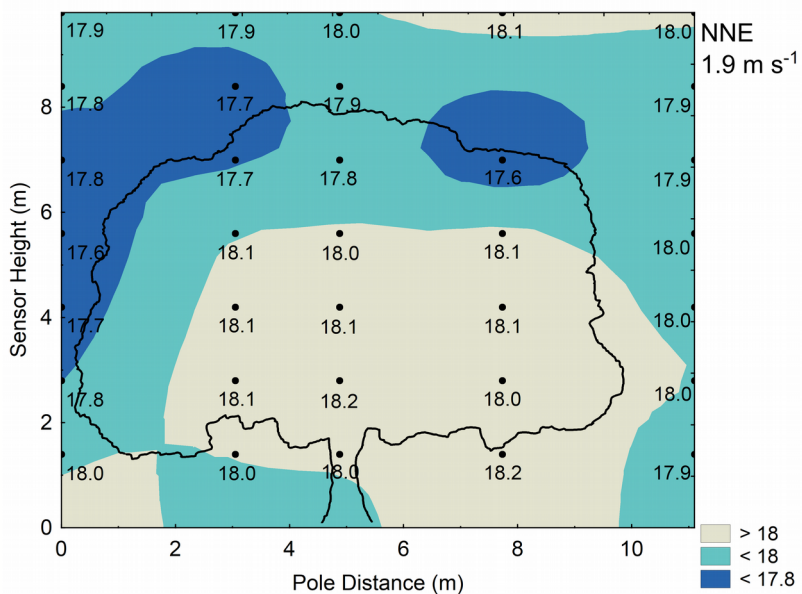


9 Mar 16:00

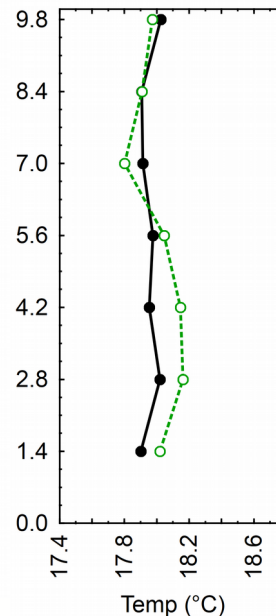


- Micro-scale cooling from shading
- Transpiration will add to local scale cooling
- Up to 1.2 °C difference at 1.4 metres
- Large improvements in human thermal comfort

9030400



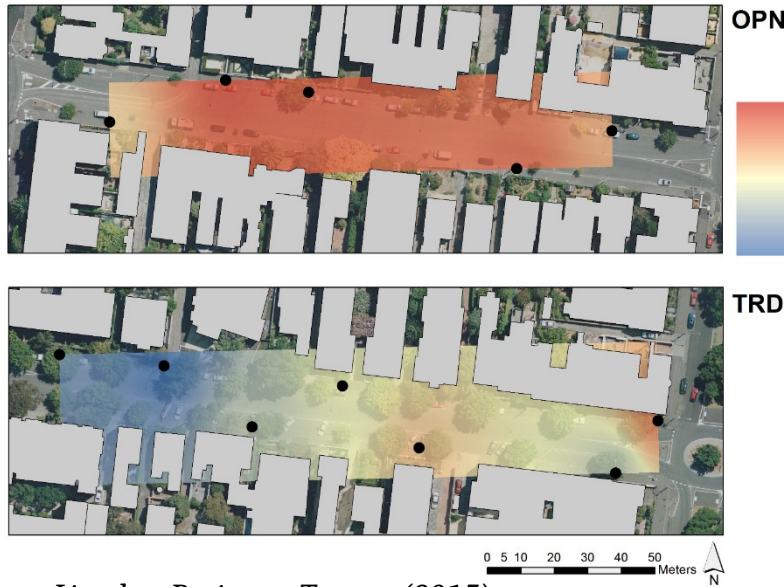
9 Mar 04:00



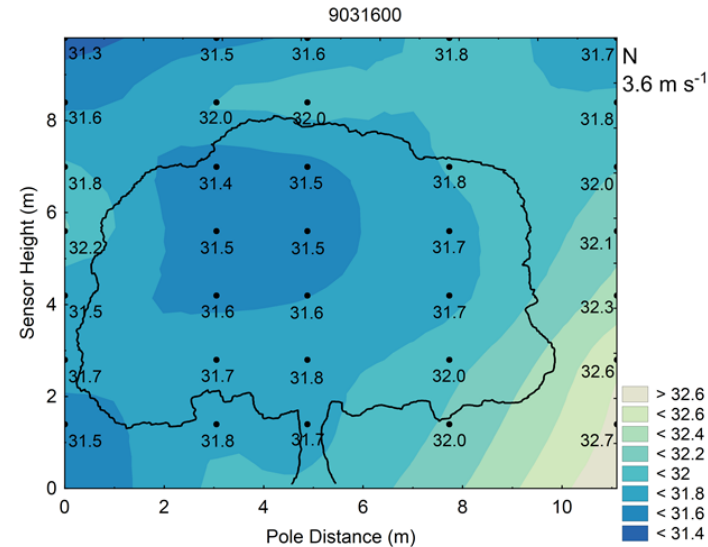
- Slightly warmer below canopy at night of up to 0.4 °C
- Radiation trapping and emission below canopy
- Longwave cooling at canopy surface

*Coutts et al (2016)*

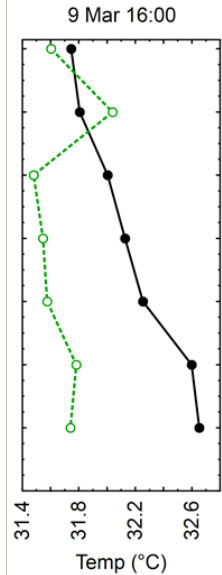
# Reduce micro-scale air temperature



Coutts, Livesley, Beringer, Tapper (2015)

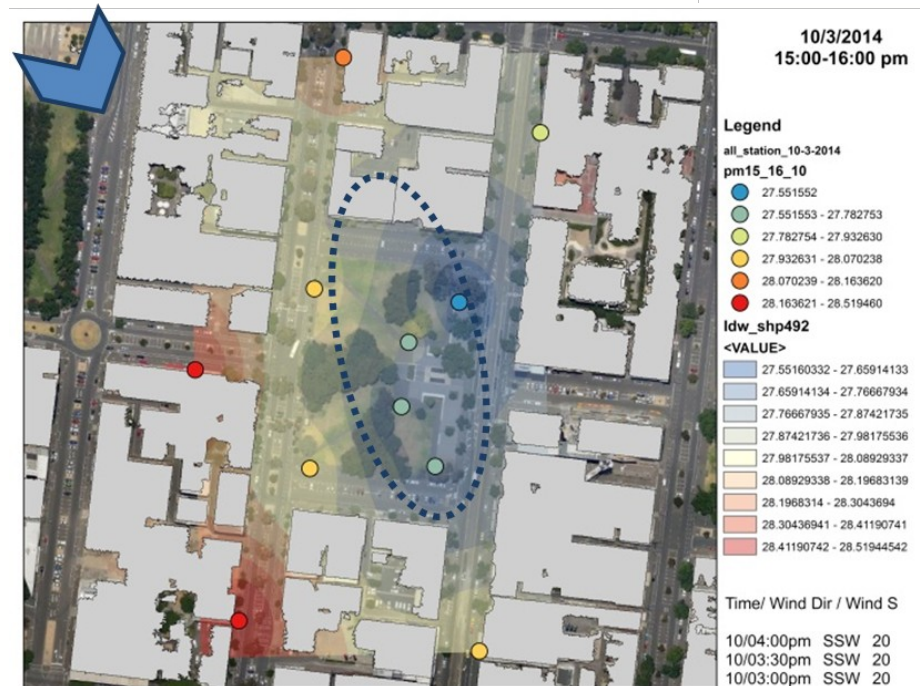


Coutts, Tapper (2016)



- Reductions in air temperature during the day
- Downwind cooling limited: Greening must be distributed widely
- Cooling variable in complex urban environment:
  - Type of greening
  - Urban geometry
  - Meteorology
  - Etc

Motazedian (2015)



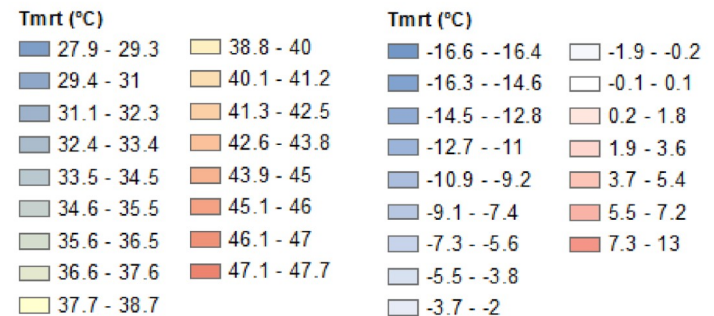
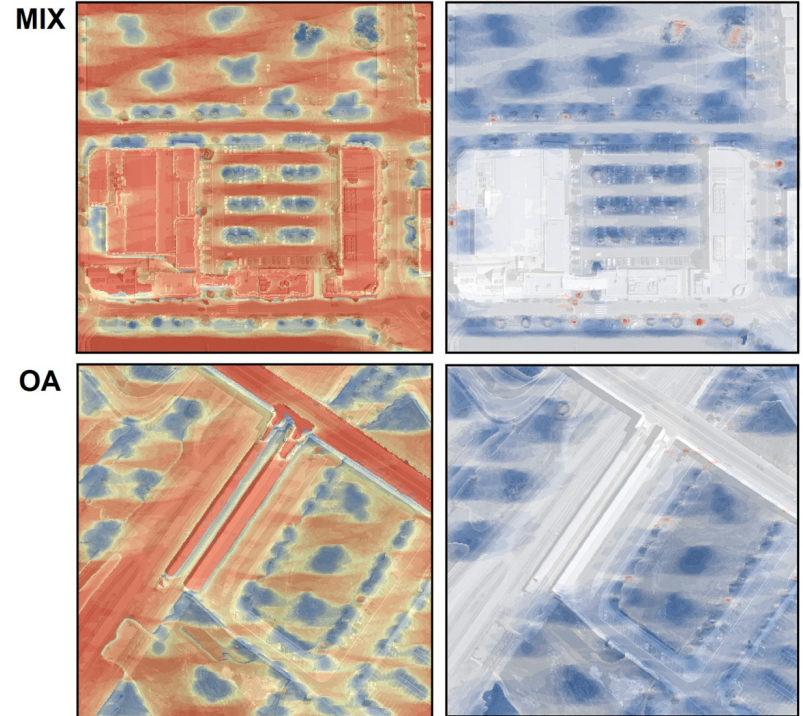
# Reduce micro-scale radiant temperature

Land surface  
temperature (remote  
sensing)

*Coutts et al  
(2016)*

- Large reductions in daytime Land SURFACE temperature from greening and irrigation
- Large reductions in daytime Mean RADIANT temperature due to shade

Mean radiant temperature (model)

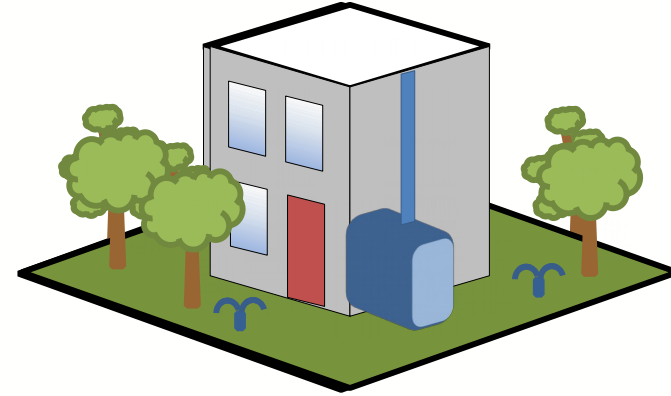


*Thom, Coutts, Broadbent, Tapper (2016)*

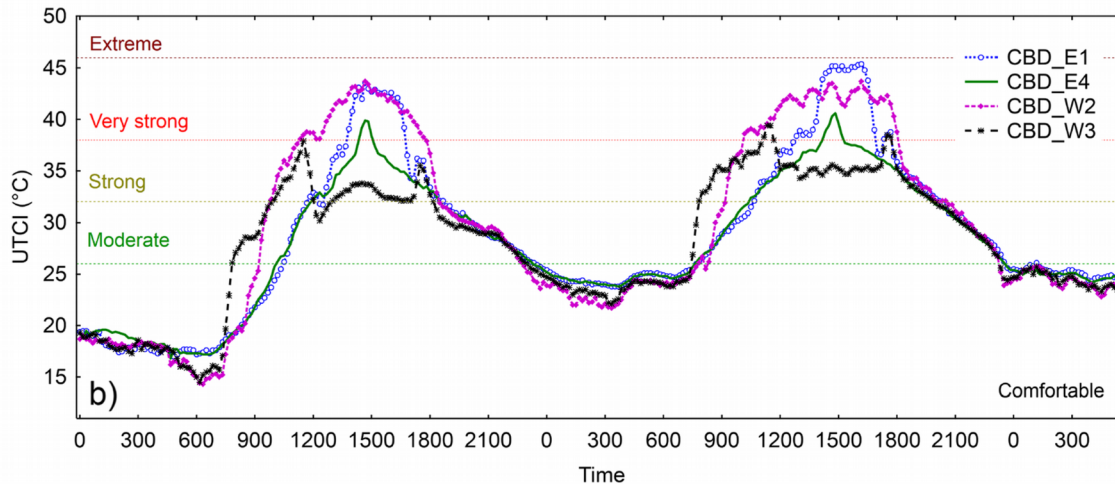
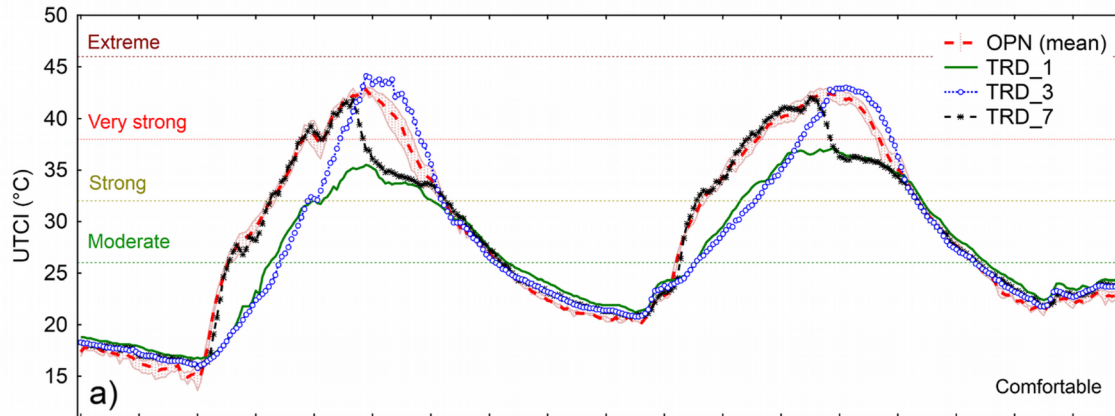


# Improve human thermal comfort - Streetscape

- Large improvements in daytime human thermal comfort from trees. Critical that trees are present where possible in greening scenarios

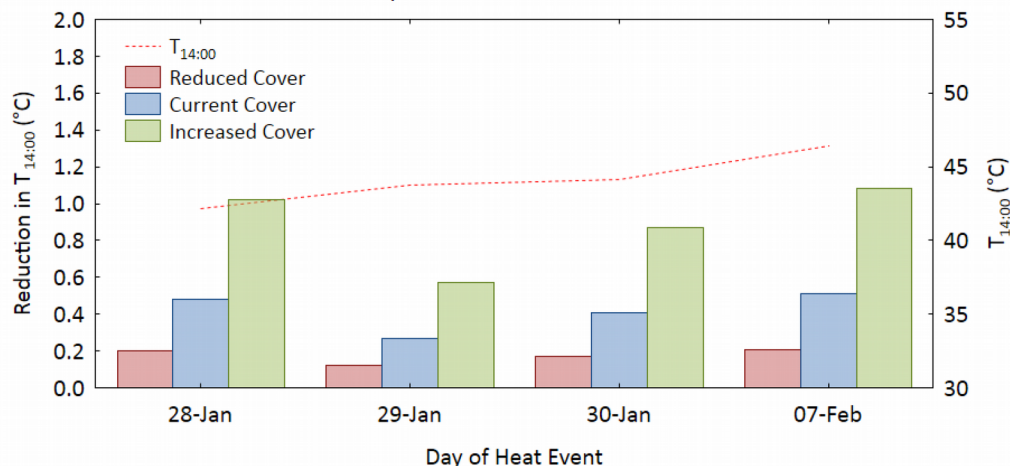


*Coutts, Livesley, Beringer, Tapper (2015)*

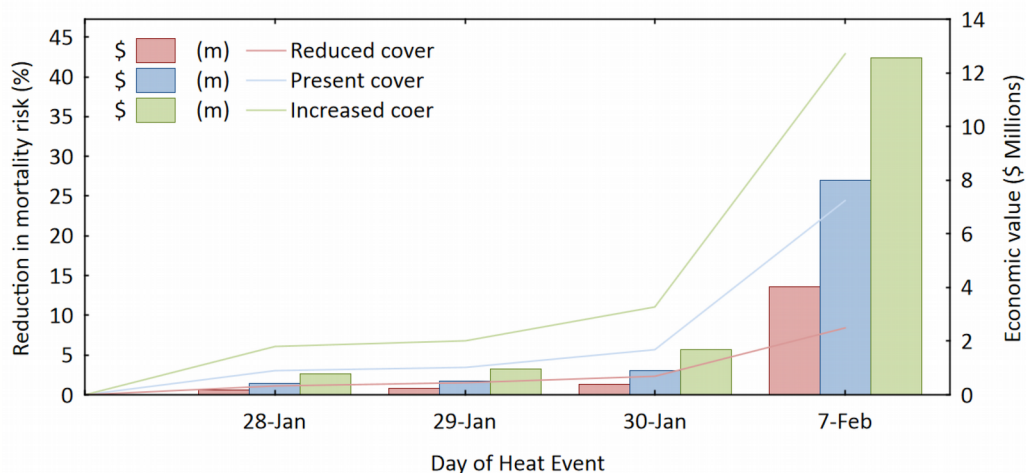


# Reducing heat-health costs with trees

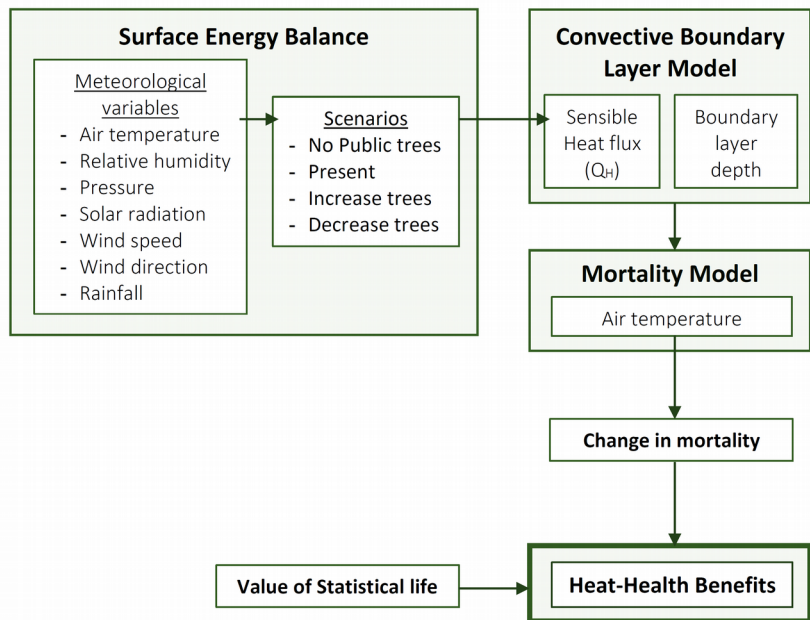
- Economic benefit of street trees
  - City of Monash
- Street trees only (private veg left unchanged)
- Also valued carbon uptake and storage, air quality and stormwater



**Figure 4.12:** Illustrates the change in temperature ( $T_{14:00}$ ) attributed to three tree cover scenarios: (i) the current tree population, (ii) a 50% reduction in public trees, and (iii) a 100% increase in public trees (left axis).  $T_{14:00}$  measured at Moorabbin Airport on the four most extreme days of the 2009 heatwave is displayed on the right axis.



**Figure 4.13:** Illustration of the reduction in predicted mortality ( $\Delta M$ ) during an extreme heat event (left axis). Here canopy cover scenarios are: (i) present tree population, (ii) increased tree population, and (iii) reduced tree population. The associated economic value (\$) is indicated in bars for each scenario (right axis) based on the recommended VSL for Australian policy analysis (\$ 4.2 million) (Australian Government, 2014).





# Green open space cooling



16/1/2014  
13:00-14:00 pm

**Legend**

**Ta Stations\_16-1-2014**

- 41.55 - 41.65
- 41.66 - 41.88
- 41.89 - 42.25
- 42.26 - 42.34
- 42.35 - 42.46
- 42.47 - 42.69

**Ta Value**

- 41.55 - 41.68
- 41.69 - 41.8
- 41.81 - 41.93
- 41.94 - 42.06
- 42.07 - 42.19
- 42.2 - 42.31
- 42.32 - 42.44
- 42.45 - 42.57
- 42.58 - 42.69

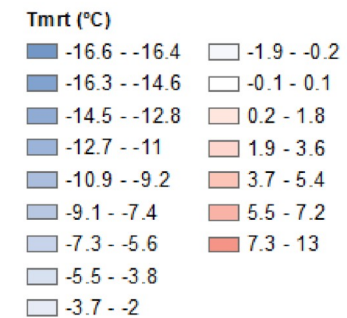
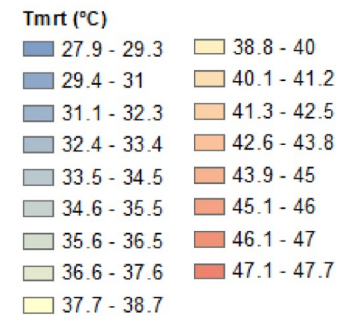
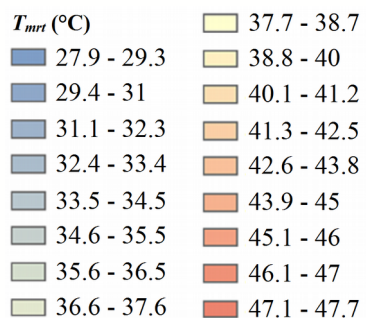
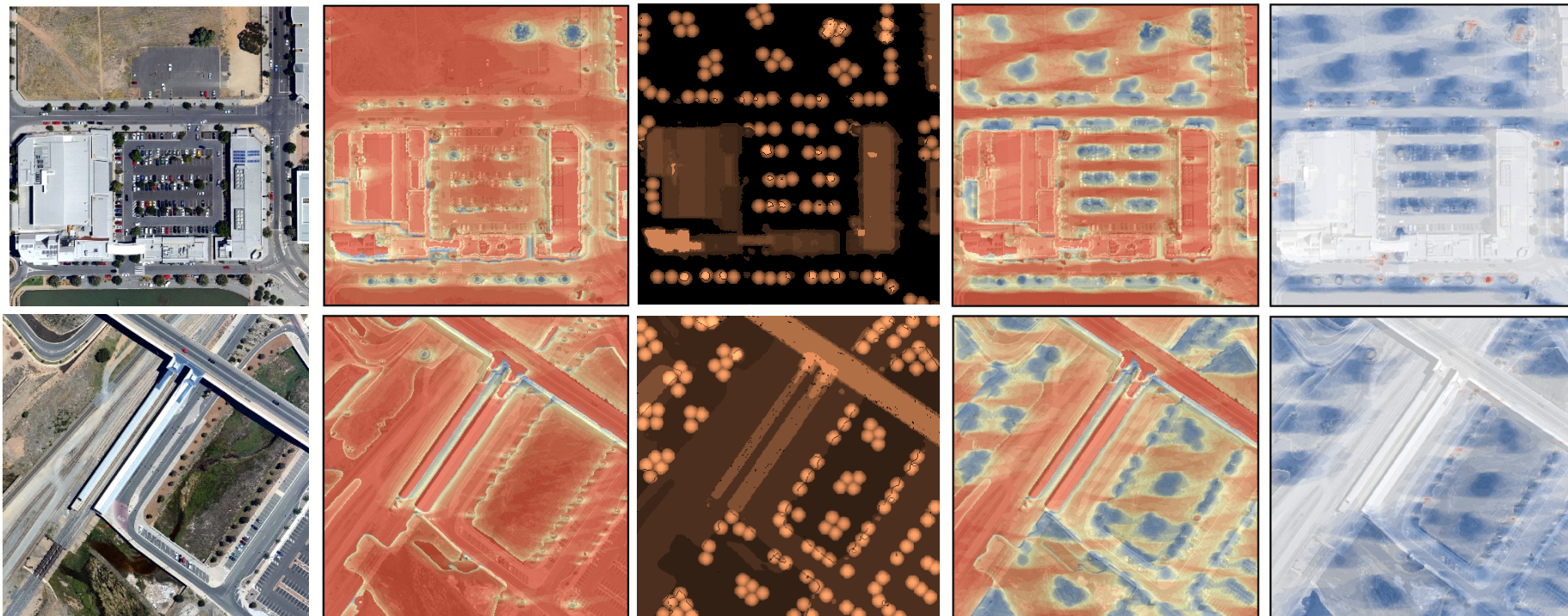
**Time/ Wind Dir. / Wind Speed**

01:00pm NW 9  
01:30pm NW 9  
02:00pm N 13



Motazedian, Coutts, Tapper (2016)

# Trees reduce mean radiant temperature

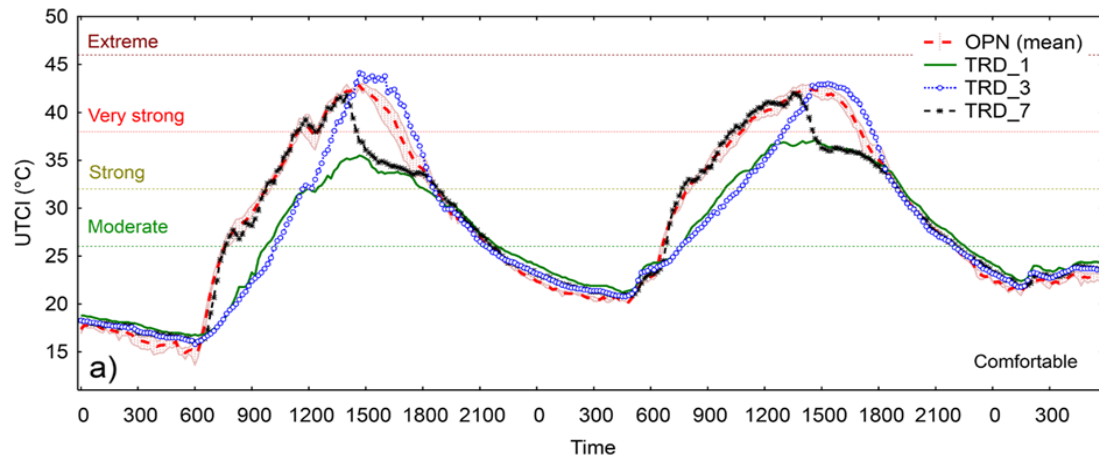
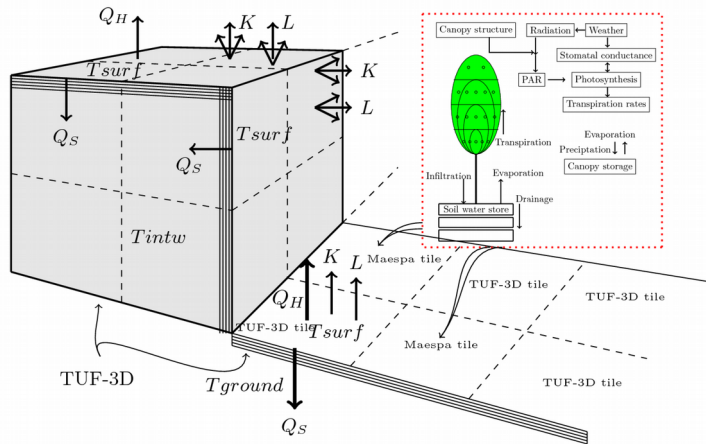


Thom, Coutts et al (2016)

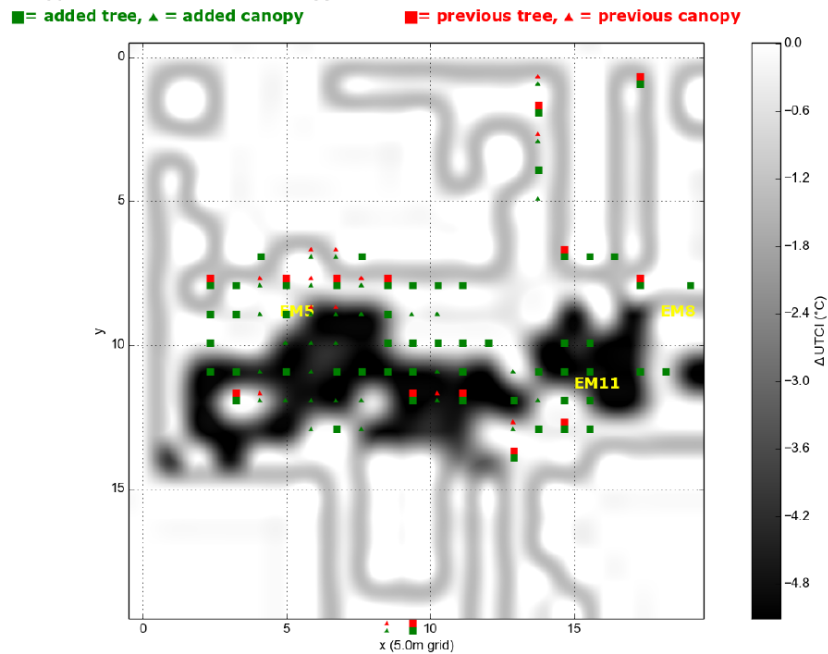
© CRC for Water Sensitive Cities 2012



# Trees improve human thermal comfort

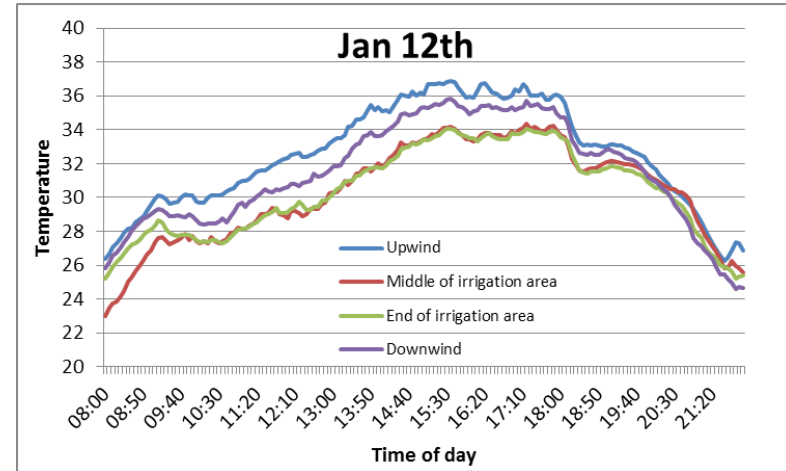
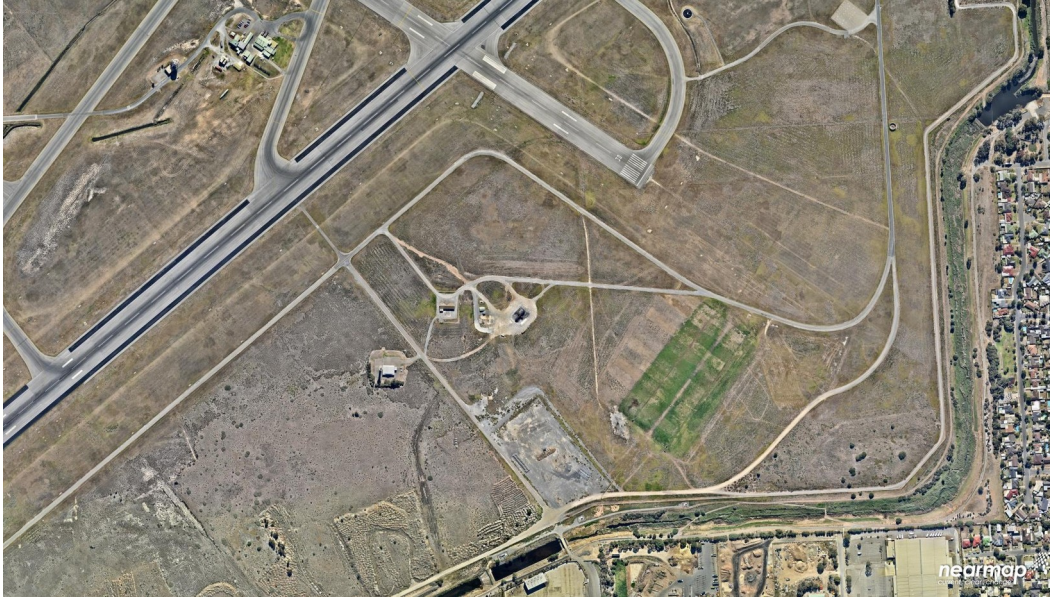


CoMGippScenarios5-4xTrees - CoMGippScenarios3-Trees differences - UTCI 2012-02-24-1500

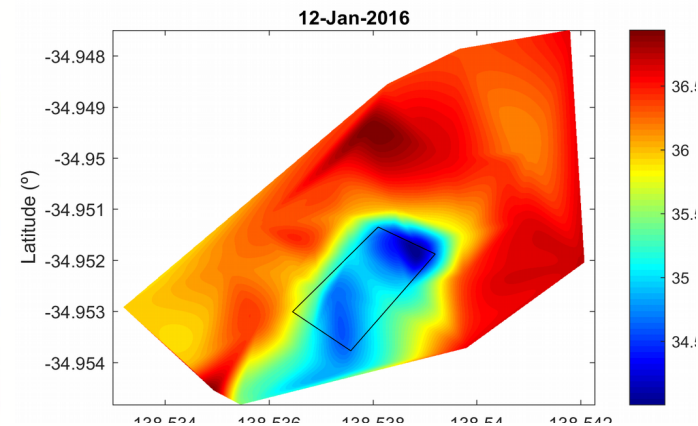
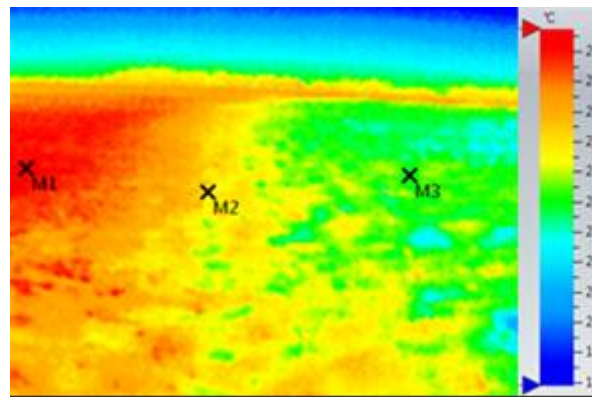


Nice, 2016

# Irrigation study at Adelaide Airport



(Ingleton

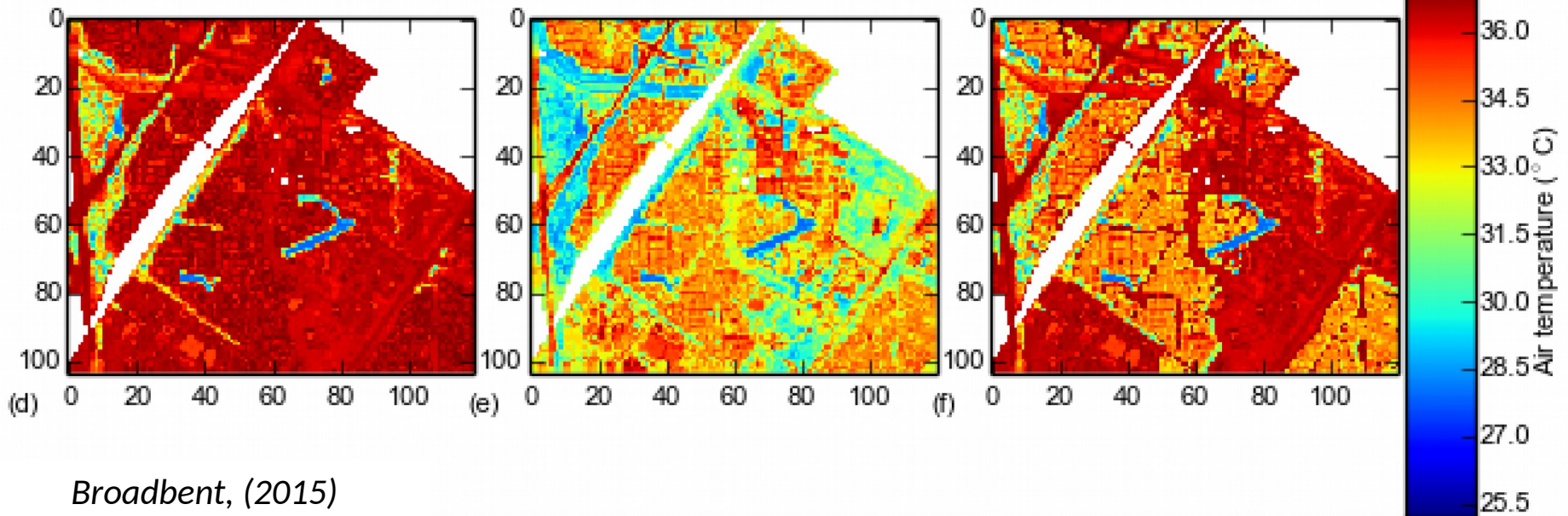
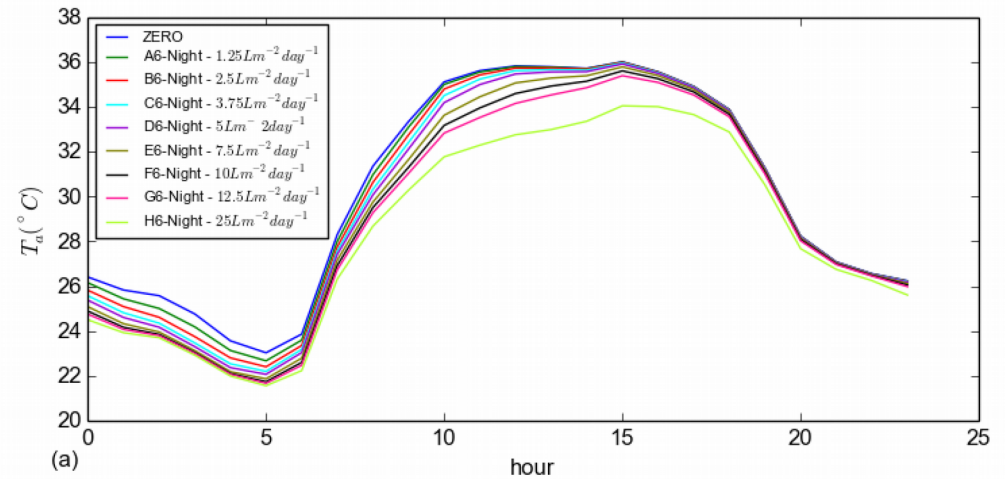




# Irrigation cooling



- Explored various irrigation scenarios



Broadbent, (2015)

# Landscape irrigation - Mawson Lakes, Adelaide

## Temporal Patterns

Table 1: A description of irrigation scenarios used in this study.

Scenario	Hourly irrigation (L m <sup>-2</sup> hr <sup>-1</sup> )	Daily irrigation (L m <sup>-2</sup> d <sup>-1</sup> )	Water-use (domain)* (ML d <sup>-1</sup> )	Water-use (residential) (ML d <sup>-1</sup> )
24Irr5L	0.21	5	17.6	3.8
24Irr10L	0.42	10	35.1	7.6
24Irr15L	0.63	15	52.7	11.5
24Irr20L	0.83	20	70.2	15.3
24Irr30L	1.25	30	105.3	22.9
Day_6Irr1.25L   Night_6Irr1.25L	0.21	1.25	4.4	1.0
Day_6Irr2.5L   Night_6Irr2.5L	0.42	2.50	8.8	1.9
Day_6Irr3.75L   Night_6Irr3.75L	0.63	3.75	13.2	2.9
Day_6Irr5L   Night_6Irr5L	0.83	5.00	17.6	3.8
Day_6Irr7.5L   Night_6Irr7.5L	1.25	7.50	26.3	5.7
Day_6Irr10L   Night_6Irr10L	1.67	10.0	35.1	7.6
Day_6Irr12.5L   Night_6Irr12.5L	2.08	12.5	43.9	9.6
Day_6Irr25L   Night_6Irr25L	4.17	25.0	87.8	19.2

day scenarios = 11 am-5 pm

night scenarios = 11 pm-5 am

ML = mega-litres

\*note that these simulations are hypothetical and in reality irrigation would be conducted selectively. We irrigated the whole domain to assess the effect of irrigation across the entire suburban environment.

- Continuous irrigation average cooling of up to 2.3°C (30L/m<sup>2</sup>/day)
- Non-linear (20L/m<sup>2</sup>/day may be optimal)
- Bigger impact on hotter days
- Night irrigation marginally less effective than day irrigation

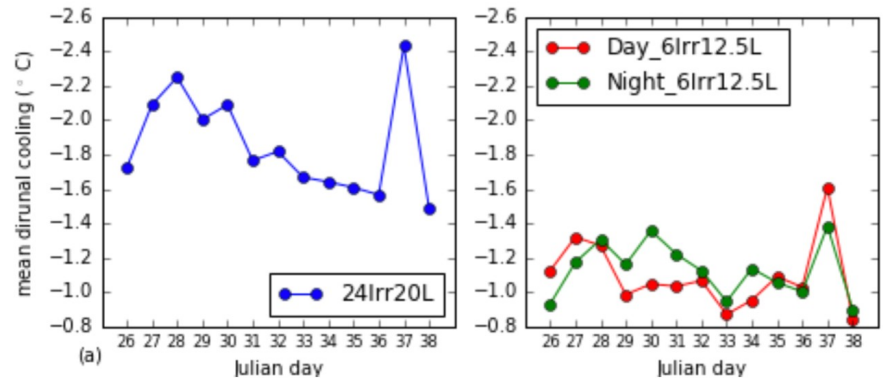
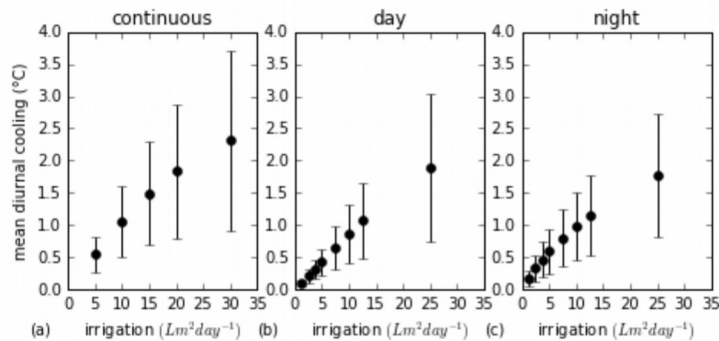


Figure 7: Heatwave average diurnal cooling (with standard deviations) for (a) continuous, (b) day, and (c) night irrigat

Figure 8: The mean diurnal cooling on each day of the heatwave for (a) 24Irr20L and (b) Day/Night\_6Irr12.5L scenarios.

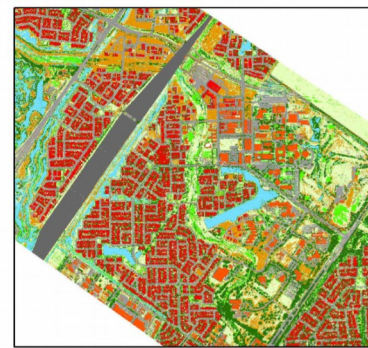


# Landscape irrigation for cooler cities and suburbs – Example from Mawson Lakes, Adelaide

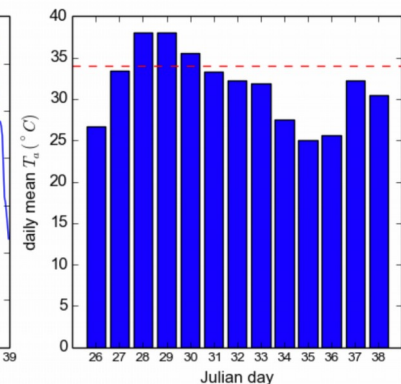
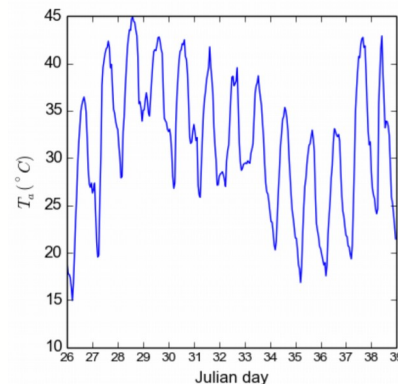
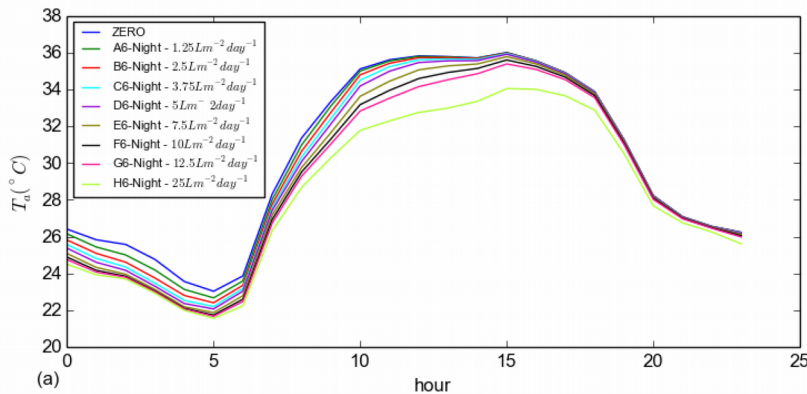
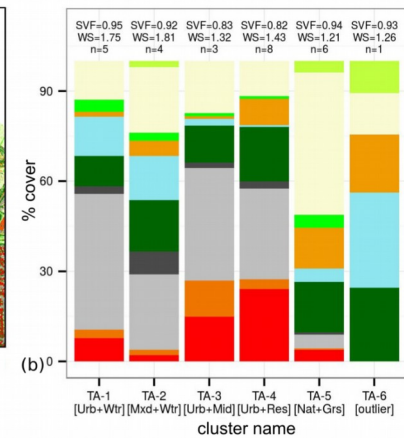
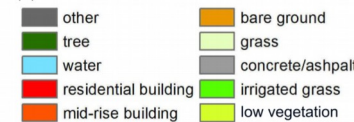


0 185 370 740 1,110 1,480 Meters

- Used an observation-validated SURFEX model to assess impact of irrigation during 2009 heatwave
- A range of irrigation scenarios simulated



(a) Mawson Lakes land cover data



Broadbent, Coutts, Demuzere and Tapper (2017)

# Landscape irrigation - Mawson Lakes, Adelaide

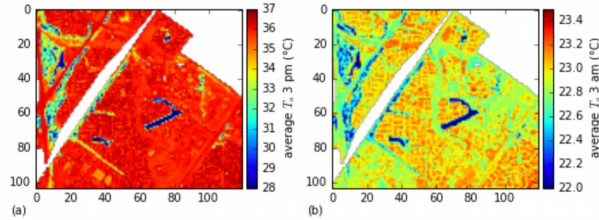


Figure 6: The spatial representation of the heatwave average (a) 3 pm and (b) 3 am  $T_a$  (2 m) across the Mawson Lakes domain for the base case (no irrigation) simulation. The x and y axis are labelled by cell number.

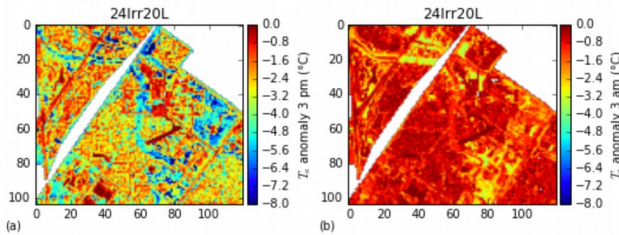


Figure 9: Spatial representation of cooling from 24Irr20L at (a) 3 pm and (b) 3 am on Julian day 37. The x and y axis are labelled by cell number.

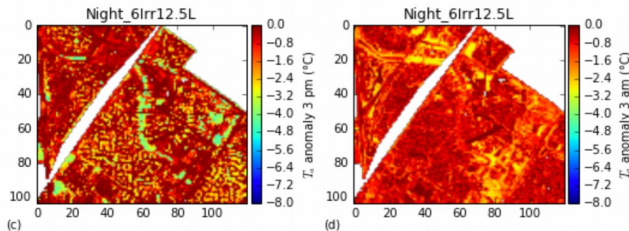
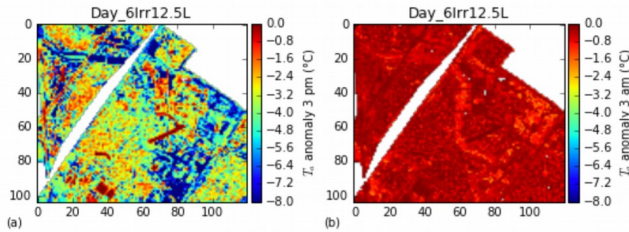


Figure 10: Spatial representation of cooling from Day/Night\_6Irr12.5L scenario at (a/c) 3 pm and (b/d) 3 am on Julian day 37. The x and y axis are labelled by cell number.

Modelled  
Heatwave Temp

## Spatial Patterns

- Significant spatial variation within the domain due to pervious fraction and vegetation type (see left and below)
- For continuous irrigation, more cooling during day than night – LHF especially large

24h20L  
3pm/3am  
Cooling

Day 37  
3pm/3am  
Cooling  
(12.5L applied)

Day 37  
3pm/3am  
Cooling  
(12.5L applied)

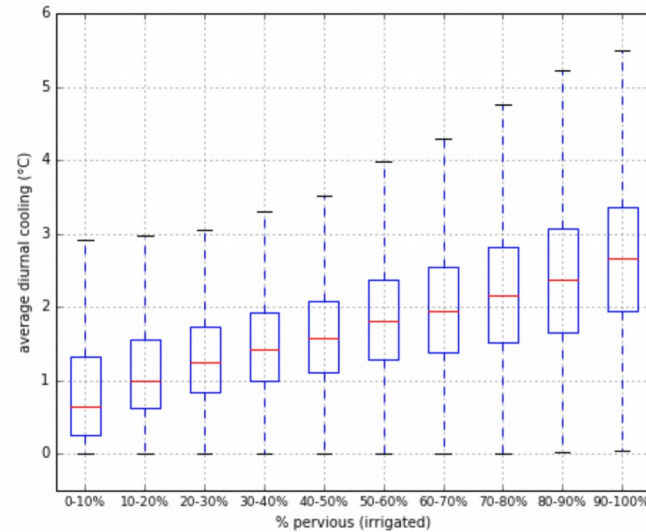
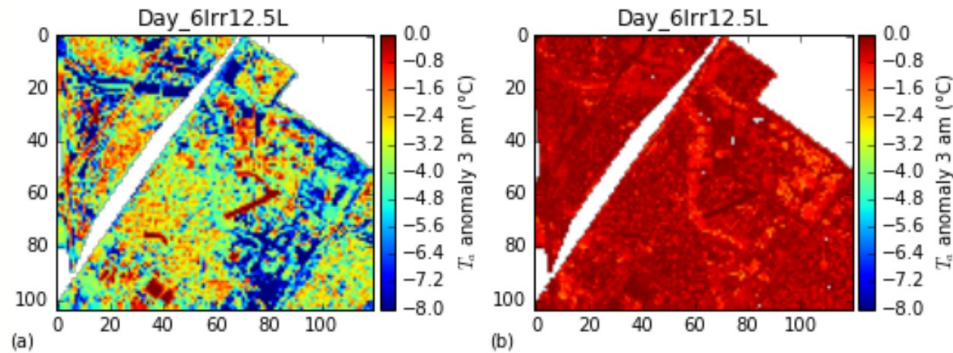


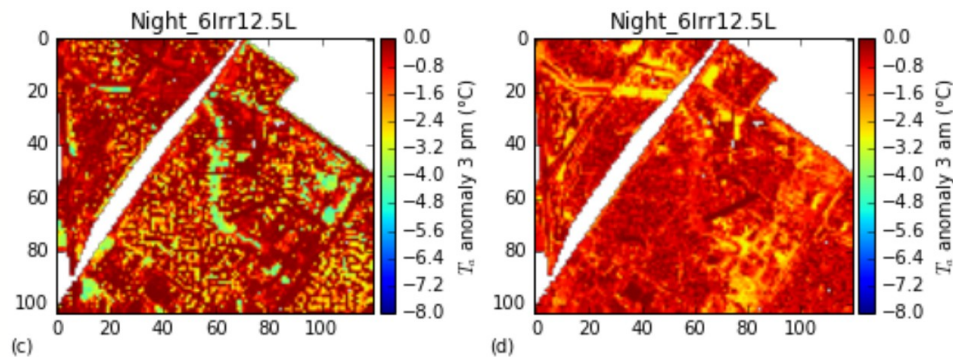
Figure 11: The daily cooling (24Irr20L scenario) for each grid cell during the heatwave period grouped by pervious (irrigated) fraction. Average cooling increases at a near linear rate, but does diminish slightly above 90% perviousness. The boxes represent the inter-quartile range and the whiskers represent  $1.5 \times$  inter-quartile range.



# SURFEX modelling irrigation schemes



p



(Broadbent 2017)

# Water and trees

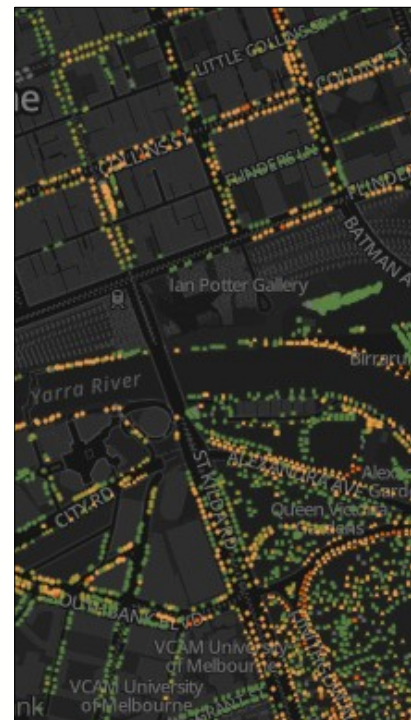
Trees can be extremely beneficial for urban climate BUT:

- They must have full canopies to provide shade
- Be actively transpiring to provide evaporative cooling

A lack of water compromises this

(Whitlow and Bassuk, 1988):

- Low soil water availability:
  - High stormwater runoff
  - Drought
  - Water restrictions
  - Reduced infiltration:
    - Hydrophobic soils
    - Compacted soils



**City branches out to replace drought-hit trees**

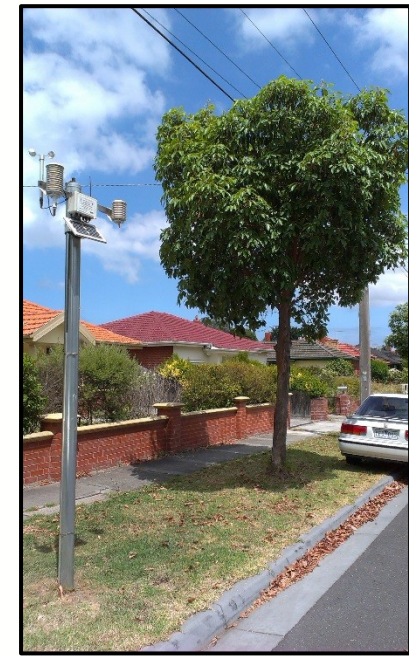
Dewi Cooke  
May 11, 2010  
Comments 17

Extreme weather and the ravages of time have left many of Melbourne's trees in need of replacement. Photo: Justin McManus

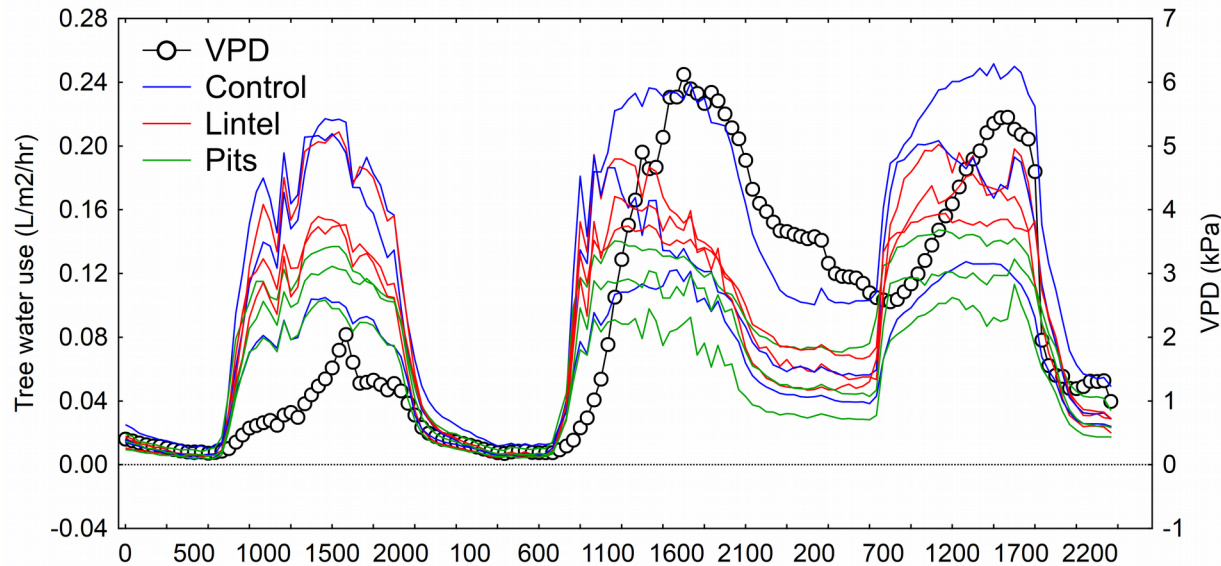
MELBOURNE will look to such countries as Spain, Chile and the US for replacements of thousands of drought-ravaged trees



# Passive irrigation of street trees



1-3 Jan 2015

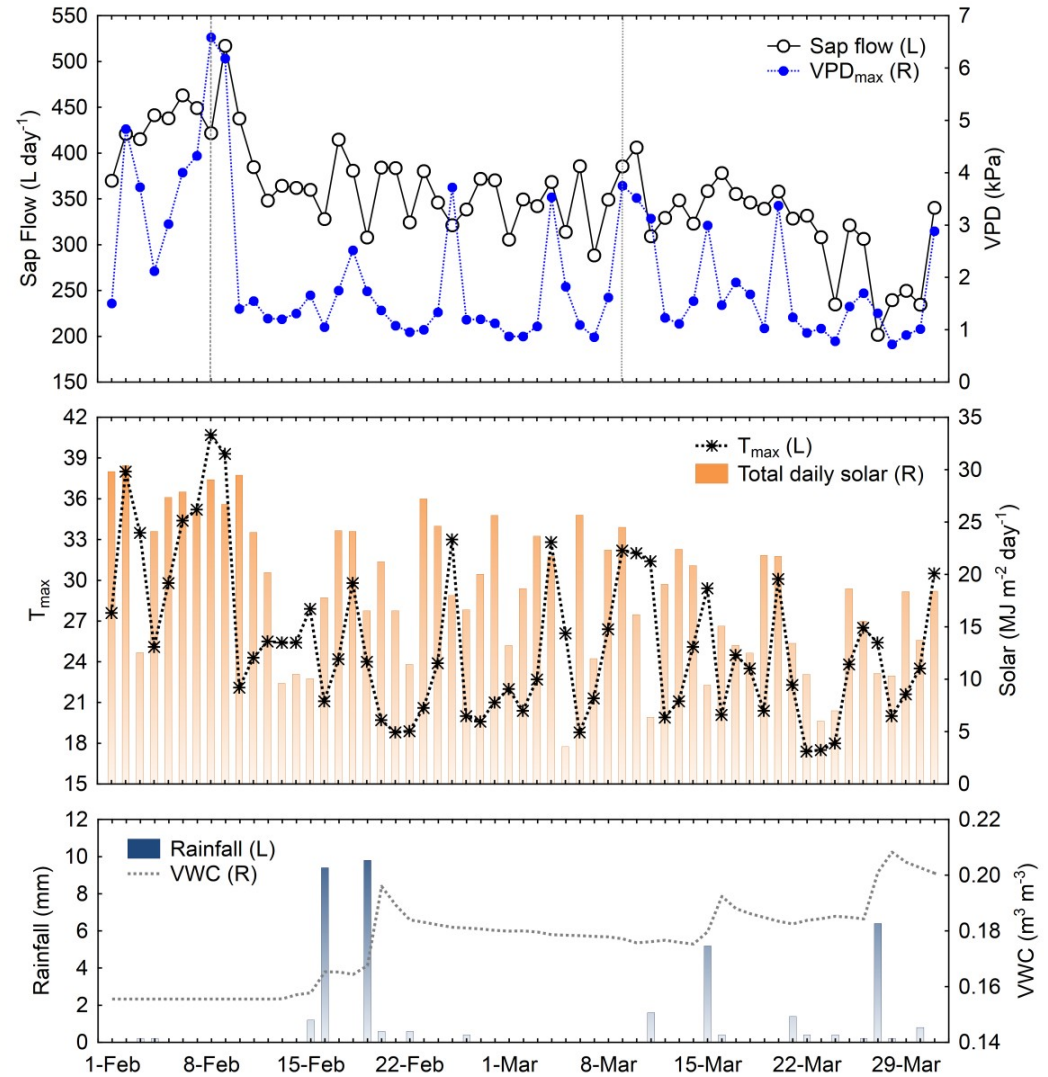


- Evidence of stomatal control on water loss
- Water transport at night
- No clear evidence of benefit of passive irrigation – issues with treatments
- 2015/16 summer???

Coutts, Thom, Szota, Livesley, (2015)



# Water use of an isolated tree

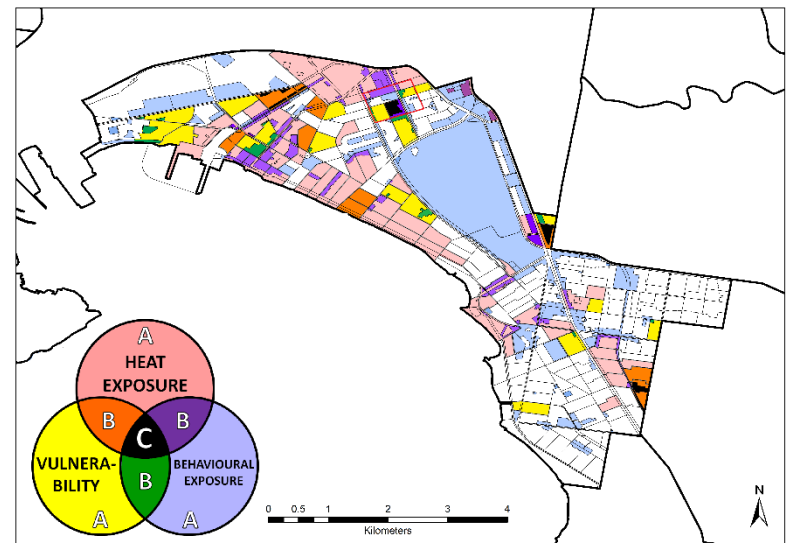


Coutts et al 2016



# Key interventions

- Existing street trees should be protected & maintained
  - Passive and active irrigation in built up areas
  - Maintain healthy canopies for shading
- More trees should be planted
  - Prioritise canopy cover in areas of high solar exposure
  - Highly localised benefit so trees must be distributed
  - Tree species should be diverse
  - Water should be supplied
- ‘Right tree, right place’
  - Consider light, water availability, climate, etc



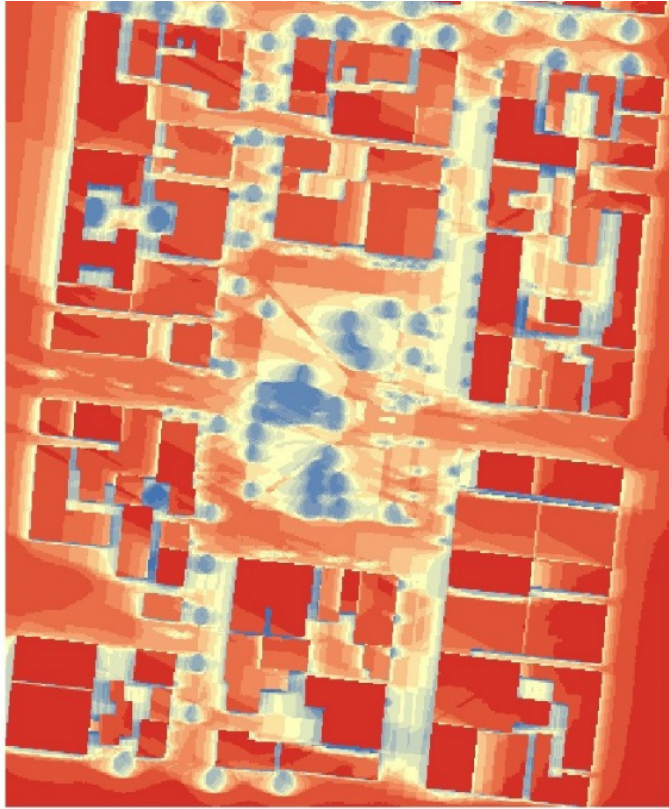
*Norton, B. A., Coutts, et al 2015.*

# Prioritising tree placement

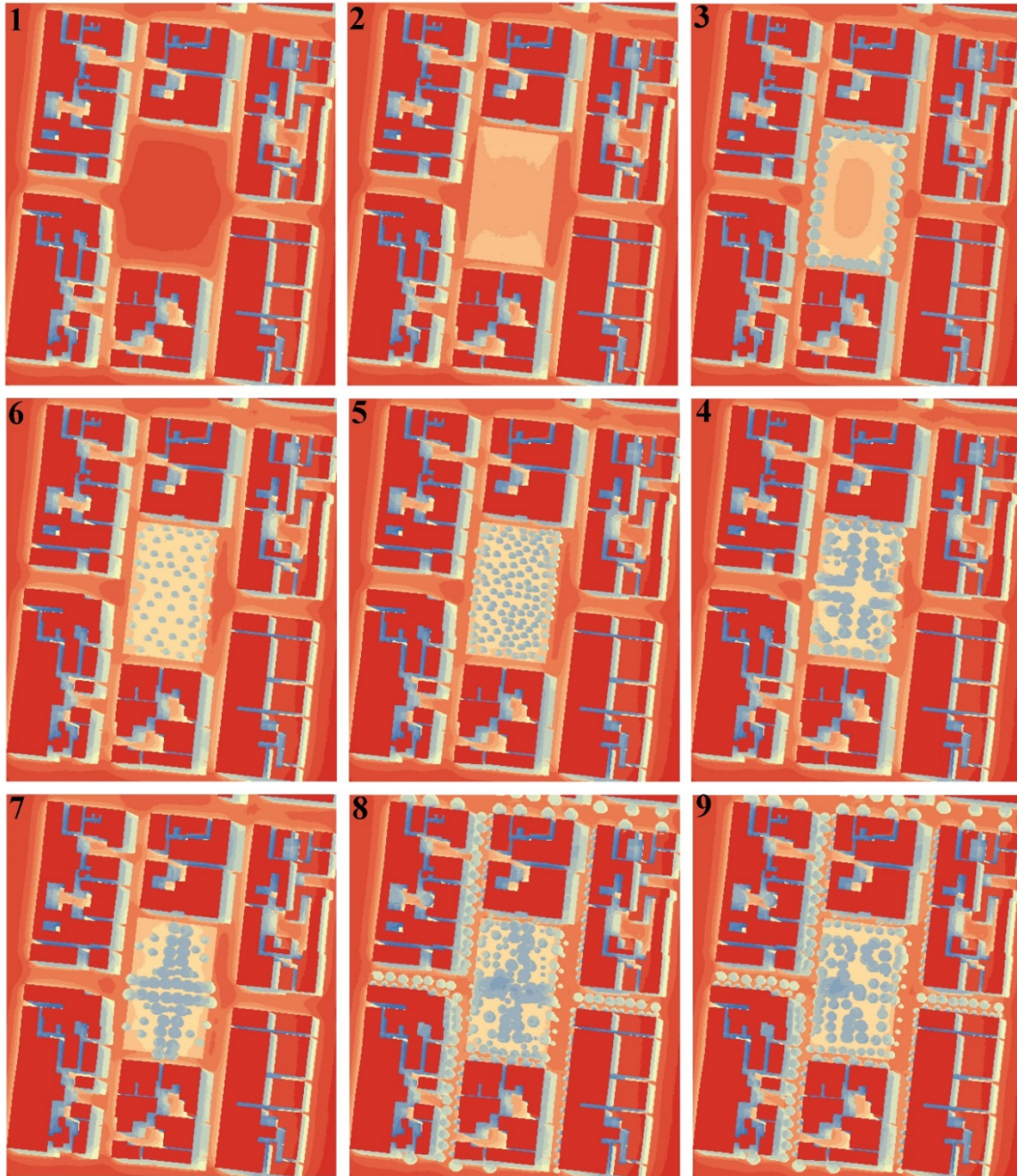
- **Wide open streets** should be targeted as they are exposed to larger amounts of solar radiation during the day (Norton et al., 2015).
- **East-west oriented streets** were targeted as they are exposed to more solar radiation during the day (Ali-Toudert and Mayer, 2006).
- **North facing walls** (in the Southern Hemisphere) in east-west streets, and **west facing walls** to provide shading from the afternoon sun when  $T_a$  peaks.
- Trees should be **clustered together** - more effective at reducing  $T_{mrt}$  than isolated trees (Streiling and Matzarakis, 2003) and can help protect them from intense radiative loads (Oke, 1988).
- Employ a **'Savannah' type landscape** arrangement (as suggested by Spronken-Smith [1994] in relation to urban parks) of **clustered trees** interspersed **with open areas** to provide daytime shading while allowing nocturnal cooling and ventilation (Spronken-Smith and Oke, 1998)



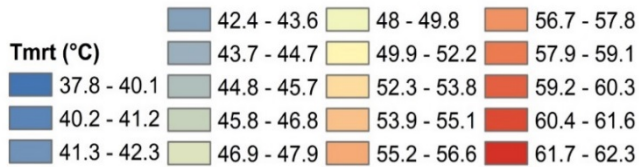
# Current



# Scenarios

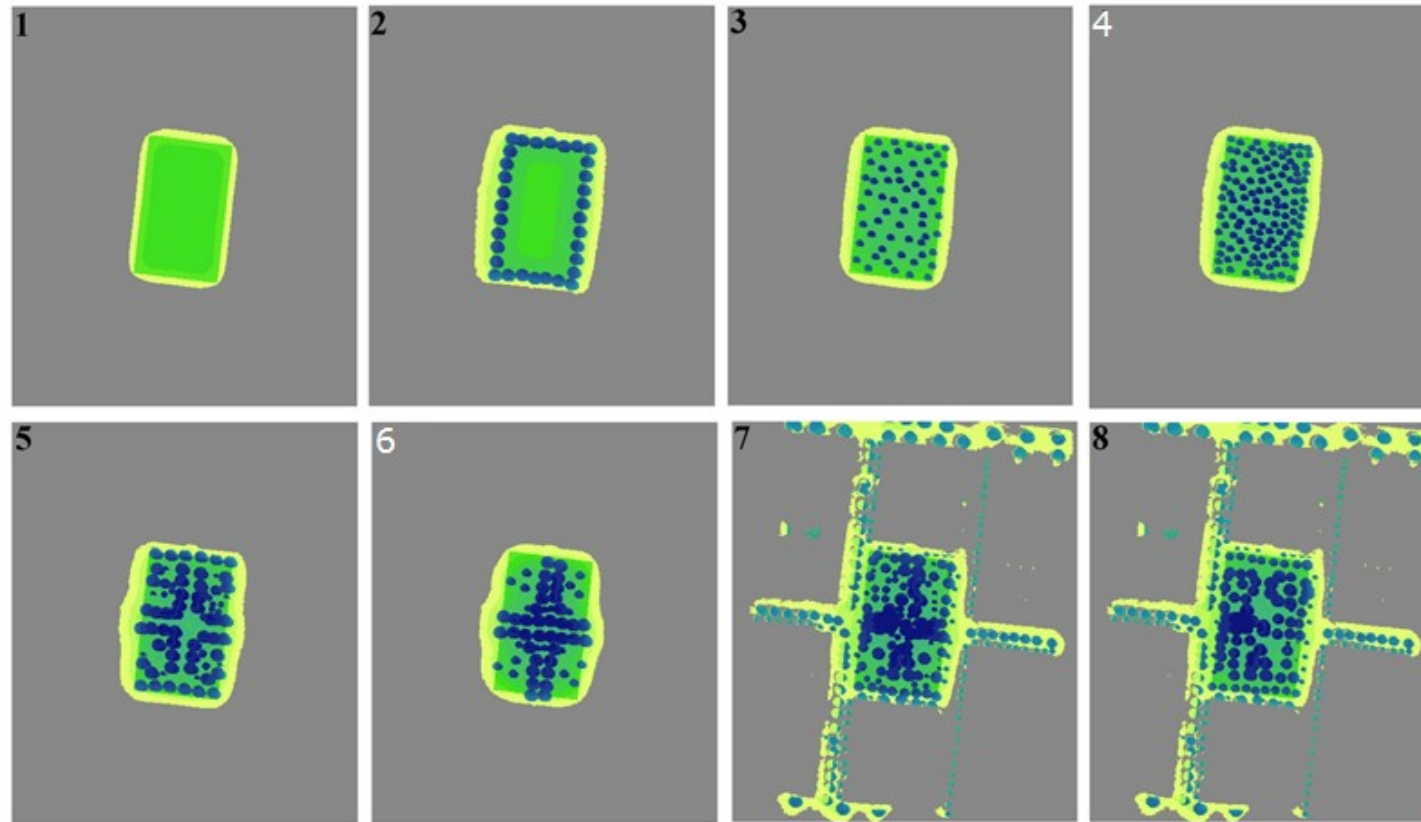


- 1- base case
- 2- grass
- 3- grass with tree borders
- 4- savanna
- 5- forest
- 6- garden1
- 7- garden2
- 8- optimum1
- 9- optimum2
- 10- current veg





Mean  $T_{mrt}$  difference at 3pm during heatwaves (13-17<sup>th</sup> January)



- 1- grass
- 2- grass with tree borders
- 3- savanna
- 4- forest
- 5- garden1
- 6- garden2
- 7- optimum1
- 8- optimum2
- 9- current veg



Scenarios	24 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> December $\Delta T_{mrt}$	13 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> January at 15:00 $\Delta T_{mrt}$
Current	--	--
Base case	--	--
Future build-current tree	-1.0	-1.0
Grass	-0.3	-0.5
Grass with Tree borders	-0.4	-0.9
Savanna	-0.6	-0.8
Forest	-0.8	-0.9
Garden 1/ Multi-use	-0.9	-1.1
Garden 2/ Multi-use	-0.8	-1.0
Optimum design 1	-1.8	-1.8
Optimum design 2	-1.5	-1.8

# Limiting heat health impacts

- Economic benefit of street trees – City of Monash
- Mortality benefits (\$)
- Street trees only (private veg left unchanged)
- Also valued carbon uptake and storage, air quality and stormwater

Thom (2015)

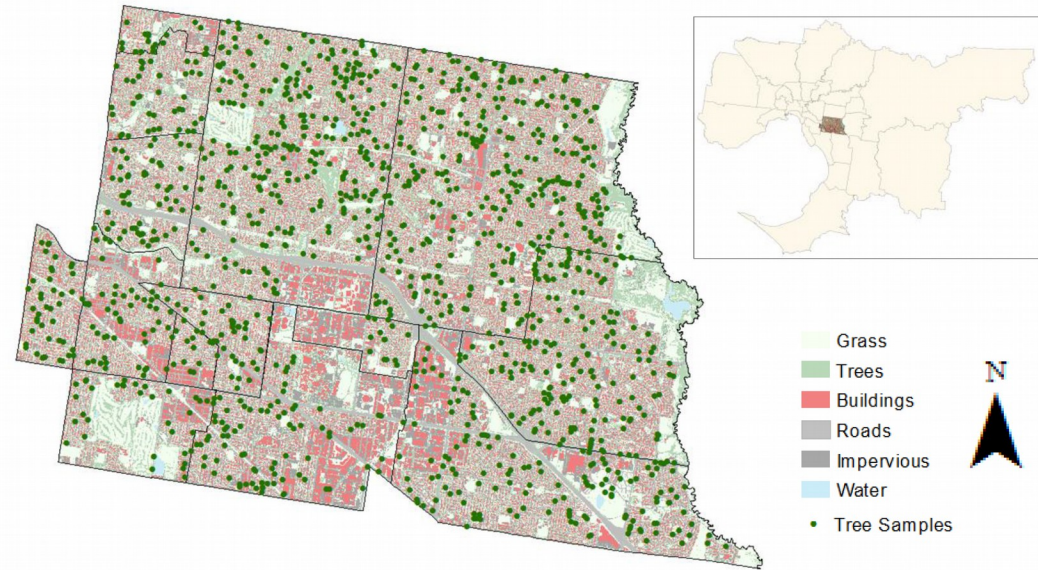
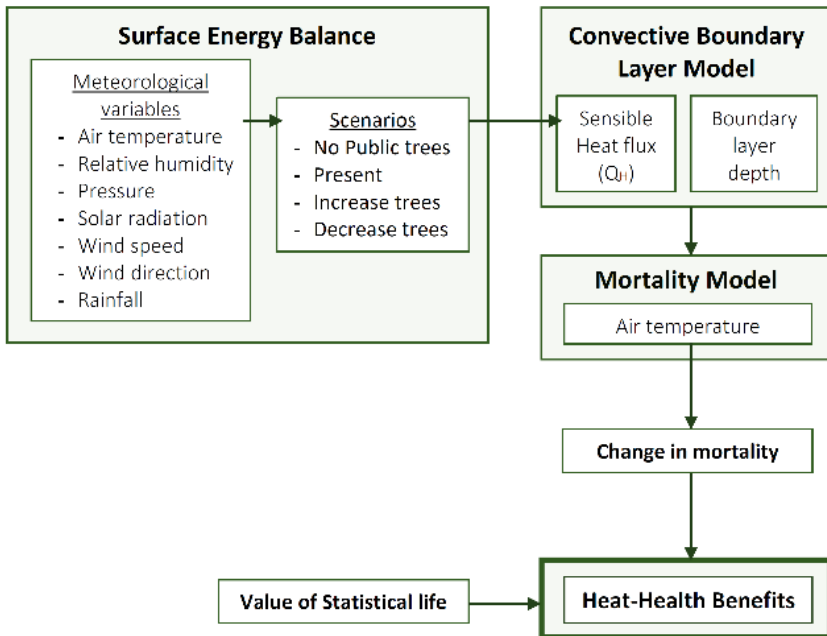
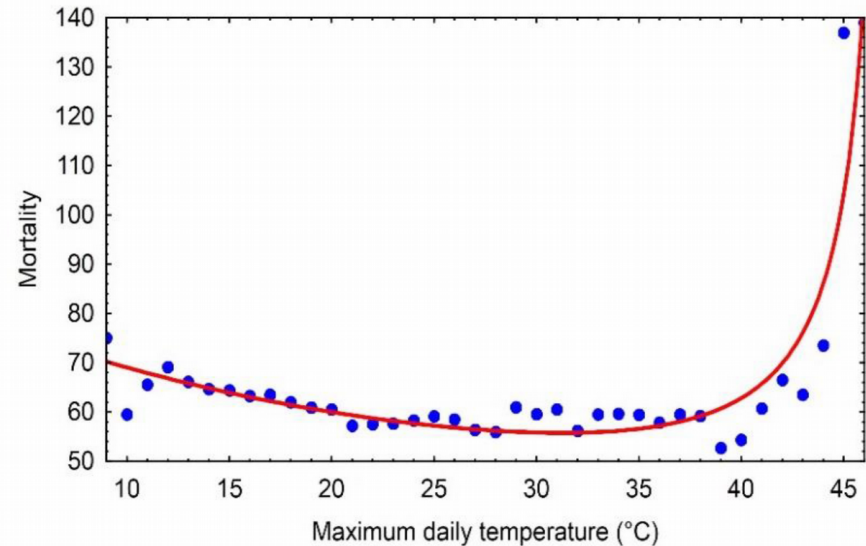


Figure 3.6: Street trees selected by stratified random sampling process (1 284) for field measurement in the City of Monash, Melbourne. Associated land cover around sample trees is illustrated.



# Limiting heat health impacts

Thom (2015)

## Scenarios

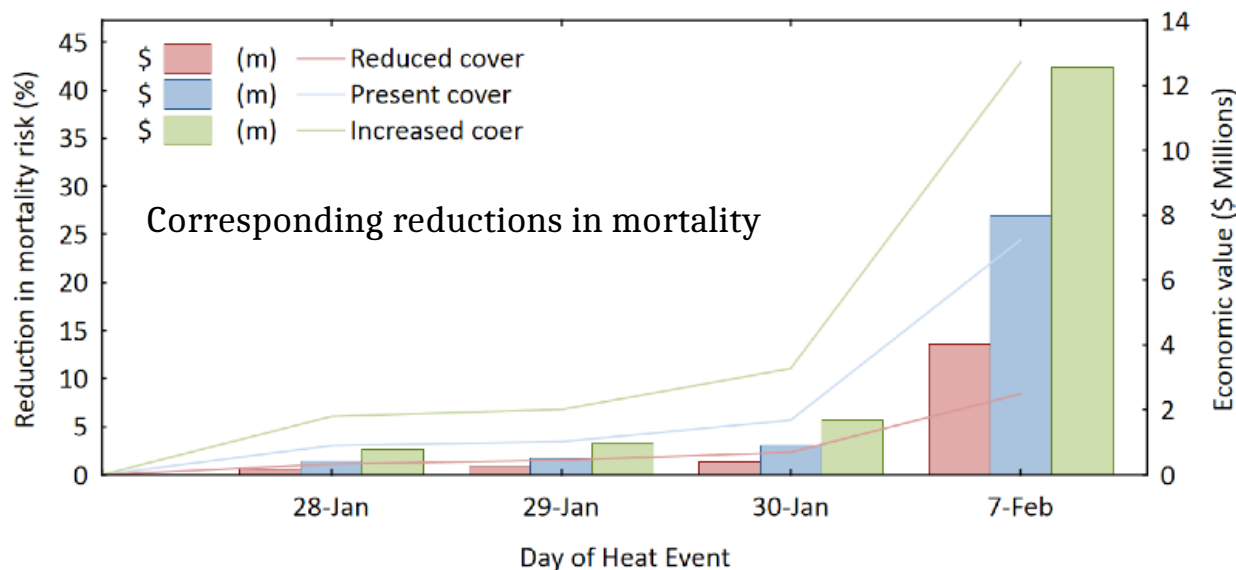
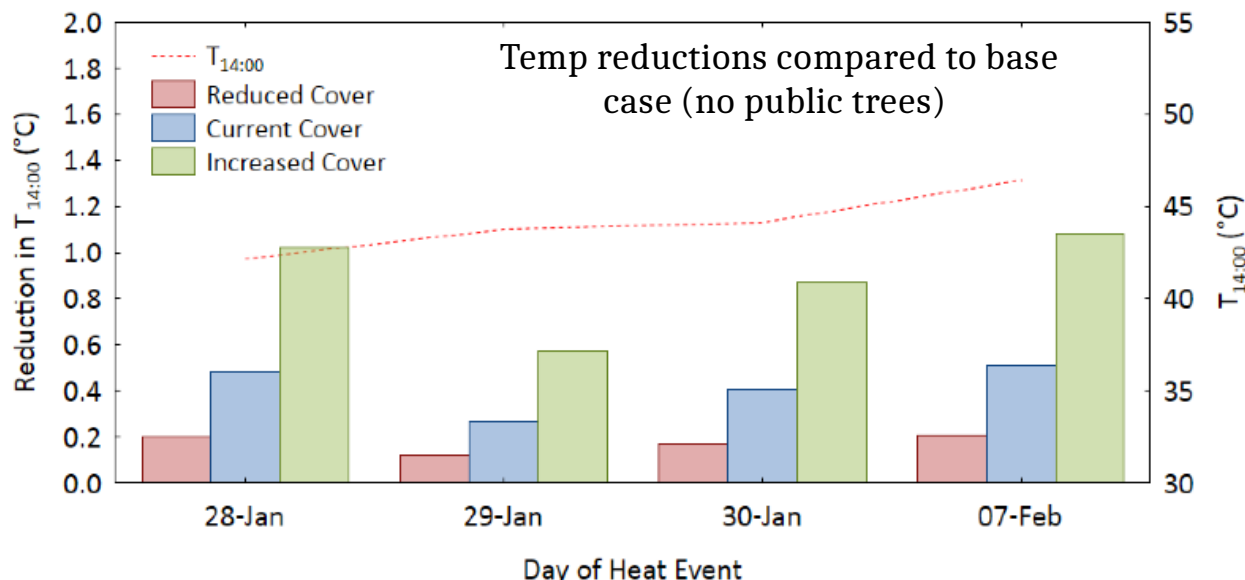
- No street trees (base case) (17%)
- Current street trees (24%)
- Less street trees (20%)
- More street trees (32%)

## Mortality benefits over 4 day period:

- Current tree cover delivers  $\sim 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  benefits = \$9.78 million
- Doubling of cover provides a further  $\sim 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  benefits ( $\sim 1.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  total over base case) = \$16.01 million



## Total value of current urban forest

- **\$12.85 million**





# Summary of Tree Planting Principles

Principle	Why?	Example of each principle
<p><b>EXISTING TREES</b></p> <p><i>Aim to maximise the cooling potential of existing trees and vegetation cover first. Trees that are healthy, with a full canopy and actively transpiring will provide the greatest benefit. Existing vegetation must be supported with sufficient water (preferably from water sensitive urban design or alternative water sources)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water stressed trees limit their water loss during hot dry conditions and can lose their canopy. This can compromise both evaporative cooling and shading.</li> <li>• Existing trees already provide a substantial cooling benefit. Lead times for tree replacement limits cooling.</li> </ul>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>Example of an unhealthy tree versus a healthy tree. Greater shading and transpiration from the healthy tree canopy.</p> <p>Cooling from a single tree can reach over 1.0°C during the day beneath the tree canopy with a much greater reduction in 'felt' temperature</p> <p>Large trees with unrestricted water supplies can transpire hundreds of litres of water per day</p>

# Summary of Tree Planting Principles

## LACK OF VEGETATION

*Focus on dense urban environments with little or no vegetation. Well-watered vegetation is most effective at cooling under warm/hot and dry conditions and this coincides with areas of highest heat exposure that can place vulnerable populations at risk.*

- The warmer and drier atmosphere means trees will transpire more (if well-watered).
- Greater opportunity for trees to shade urban surfaces (roads, pavements, walls) in denser urban environments, reducing surface heating.
- Focusing on dense urban environments will deliver a greater cooling benefit per tree.




Example of very high amounts of impervious surfaces where trees are drastically needed.

Wide streets are exposed to large amounts of solar radiation and require shade.


This example is likely to be a hotspot with high heat stress in an area with parking, restaurants, public transport and health services.

# Summary of Tree Planting Principles

<p><b>USE TREES</b></p> <p><i>Harness the cooling and HTC benefits of trees that achieve cooling via both evapo-transpiration and shading. Trees also deliver more cooling and improvement in HTC for the amount of water applied, compared to other urban green approaches.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trees prevent solar radiation reaching pedestrians, reducing <math>T_{mrt}</math>. Green roofs and walls do not shade pedestrians.</li><li>• Trees provide more °C of cooling per litre of water than grass and other green infrastructure, such as green roofs.</li><li>• Shading from the tree canopy makes trees the most effective and efficient vegetation approach for cooling.</li></ul>		<p>Example of trees providing shade for roads, buildings, sidewalks and pedestrians, especially in wide-open streets. Trees can drastically reduce heat stress.</p> <p>Further greening could occur via wall and rooftop greening to improve building energy efficiency, to reduce heat storage in the ground and urban materials, and to reduce air (and in the case of walls) <math>T_{mrt}</math> temperature.</p>
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# Summary of Tree Planting Principles

Principle	Why?	Example of each principle
<p><b>DISTRIBUTE TREES</b></p> <p><i>Trees and vegetation need to be distributed at regular intervals throughout the urban environment. Distributing trees throughout the landscape should provide a larger areal extent of cooling than large, but isolated green areas</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cooling effects of trees are highly localised (especially from shade). Cooling effects extend downwind to a distance equivalent to tree/park width.</li> <li>• People are distributed throughout the landscape, so trees (and their cooling effects) should be too.</li> </ul>	 <p>An example showing green areas that are well vegetated and irrigated, providing downwind cooling effects extending to around one park width.</p> <p>This example also shows only few trees in surrounding streets and hence limited sidewalk shading for pedestrians beyond the park boundary. Green corridors should connect separated urban parks wherever possible.</p>

# Summary of Tree Planting Principles

## SMART PLANNING

*Work with the built environment to accentuate cooling influences through strategic design. Urban spaces should be sensitive to local and regional climatic influences (such as sea breezes and prevailing winds) and maintain natural cooling mechanisms such as ventilation and trees.*


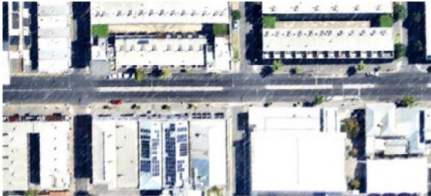



- Tree cooling effects can be enhanced or negated by the built environment (e.g. buildings shading trees, or large buildings blocking downwind cooling effects).
- Strategic design can deliver larger cooling benefits for \$\$\$ invested.



An example of how buildings already provide some shade. Carefully consider the placement of trees to maximise their cooling benefit and achieve the largest benefit for their cost (i.e. don't replicate shade).

Follow the '*Guidelines for targeted street-scale tree arrangements*' that consider street orientation, street widths and building heights that all impact shade.

# Summary of Tree Planting Principles

Guideline	Why?	Example of where to target
<p><b>STREET WIDTH</b></p> <p><i>Target wide, open streets with a low "Building Height to Street Width ratio" (H:W) to provide shade</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wide open streets are exposed to greater amounts of solar radiation leading to higher daytime heat stress.</li> <li>Tree canopies absorb and reflect solar radiation, reducing the amount of radiation that reaches pedestrians and urban surfaces below.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>STREET ORIENTATION</b></p> <p><i>Target east-west oriented streets</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East-west oriented streets are exposed to more solar radiation during the day compared to north-south oriented streets where some building shading occurs in the morning and afternoon.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>STREET SIDES</b></p> <p><i>Target the southern side of east-west streets (in the Southern Hemisphere)</i></p> <p><i>Target the eastern side of north-south oriented streets</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The north facing walls are exposed to greater solar radiation throughout the day, leading to heat stress.</li> <li>The west facing walls are exposed to greater solar radiation at the peak daytime heating period (maximum air temperature).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TREE GROUPING</b></p> <p><i>Trees should be clustered together in groups where possible, with overlapping canopies to maximise shading.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Isolated trees can be exposed to high heat and radiation loads in urban areas, increasing tree water stress.</li> <li>Clustering trees delivers greater reductions in air temperature and <math>T_{mrt}</math> below the canopy than isolated trees.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>TREE SPACING</b></p> <p><i>Groups of clustered trees should be interspersed with open spaces</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Groups of trees provide shading during the day, while the open spaces between allows for surface cooling and ventilation (wind) at night.</li> </ul>	



# Summary of Urban Tree Planting Priorities

Canyon width	Street tree prioritisation									Orientation
Very wide 40m	0.10	0.20	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	E-W
	0.10	0.20	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.70	0.80	0.90	N-S
Wide 30 m	0.13	0.27	0.40	0.53	0.67	0.80	0.93	1.07	1.20	E-W
	0.13	0.27	0.40	0.53	0.67	0.80	0.93	1.07	1.20	N-S
Medium 20 m	0.20	0.40	0.60	0.80	1.00	1.20	1.40	1.60	1.80	E-W
	0.20	0.40	0.60	0.80	1.00	1.20	1.40	1.60	1.80	N-S
Narrow 10 m	0.40	0.80	1.20	1.60	2.00	2.40	2.80	3.20	3.60	E-W
	0.40	0.80	1.20	1.60	2.00	2.40	2.80	3.20	3.60	N-S
Canyon height	4 m	8 m	12 m	16 m	20 m	24 m	28 m	32 m	36 m	
	Low			Medium			High			

Table 1: Table of Height to Width ratio (H:W) for streets in Melbourne and their priority rating for protection and implementation of trees to improve daytime human thermal comfort (Norton et al., (2015)). Those zones marked as red are of a high priority for street tree planting as they are exposed to high amounts of solar radiation and so tree shading is most needed. Those zones marked green and blue are less of a priority as buildings along the street provide shade.

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