

# Evaluation of the Urban Ecosystem and Local Climate Changes Caused by Urbanization in Izmir in Terms of Long-Term UHI Formation with the SSI Method

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## Abstract

Even if urbanization offers various opportunities to people living in today's world. It also comes with some side effects such as worsening climate conditions by creating thermal pollution due to certain urban activities, sectoral urban designs and consequent patterns in cities. In local sense, the old climatic conditions before the change because of urbanization in rural areas can be called natural when they are compared with new conditions deteriorated by widespread urbanization. Thus, thermal pollution changes city's local climate over time and negatively affects city's resilience.

Here in this research, it is determined temperature related local climate variation caused by specific city activities in the city of Izmir by analysing time series thermal data distribution over the entire city over a certain period of time and for this analyse even a novel approach is introduced and suggested which is a Simulated Single Image (SSI) method based on Simulated Single Data (SSD) statistical analyze. The method uses not only trend or average values of time series data as being as usual but it uses both and also standart deviation of the data to support a single output from the time series data analyse. Thus, outputs were obtained as single images from the the LANDSAT time series data to represent where generally Urban Hot Spots (UHS) appear and Urban Heat Islands (UHI) develop in the city. Stereo representation of the study region is also used to visually examine the topographical effect on UHI distribution in the city.

Izmir which is the third mostly populated city of Turkey located on the Izmir Gulf of Egean Sea is chosen as study area and the study clearly demonstrated that industrial regions and roads with large surfaces, bare lands with sparse bushes, empty or sparse grassy urban lands and more significantly the urban land parts faced to certain directions are the main urban land cover and structure types contributing UHSs to appear and UHI developments in the city.

**Keywords:** Land Surface Temperature, UHI, Time series, Urbanization, Climate Change, LANDSAT

## 1. Introduction

Human have been experiencing drastic urban sprawl especially since the beginning of second half of 20<sup>th</sup> century (Kii et al., 2017). Since human getting economic benefits and better life style from urbanization, almost 5% of global lands has currently been converted to urban lands, more than half of the world's population moved into these urbanized areas, and this is expected

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to reach 66% by 2050 (Lutz et al., 2001; Schneider, 2012). On the other hand, drastic urbanization has caused numerous environmental problems such as cropland occupation, urban heat island effects, ecological degradation, and jeopardized ecological and socioeconomic systems (He et al., 2014; Liu and Zhang, 2011). Thus, cities with current urbanized areas can be assumed as living organisms invading and swallowing those natural lands like green spaces by their surrounding urbanized parts as they grow and spread over these natural areas. Therefore, the development of city societies along with uncontrolled rapid urbanization (Oke, 1997; Zhao and Chen, 2005; Gao, 1996) have changed the game by dominating the Earth in several ways, thus the energy balance, infiltration, storm water runoff, precipitation, temperature, air quality, carbon storage and local biodiversity regimes have been changing contrarily previous natural conditions especially at the places in the world where the cities are located and where they grow over time, and this change also contributes the environmental degradation (e.g., decreases seen in green space, open spaces and water bodies) and depreciates the quality of life even in developing and growing cities (Cheng et al., 2008; Pickett et al., 2011). In addition to those, urbanization also makes environment vulnerable to natural hazards and even causes channel-bank and road-surface erosion, habitat destruction, landscape degradation and fragmentation, climate change, species extinction as bad as a decrease in net primary productivity (Oke, 1997; Zhao and Chen, 2005; Gao, 1996; Guo, 2015; Kalnay & Cai, 2003). These warn us about that uncontrolled urbanization becomes a very serious treat for these natural lands over time, sooner or later. On the other hand, green spaces support high-quality life style for urban settlers, since they act as “lungs” for cities (Boryan et al., 2011). Even they as most important natural signs and key factors for an urban ecological system, fulfil an indispensable mission for cleaning the air, adjusting the microclimate, eliminating noise, beautifying the surroundings and so on.

Collectively, uncontrolled growth of many cities and towns in the world nowadays takes a great national and global attention on energy security, greenhouse gas emissions, environmental changes and major modifications to the natural landscape. Knowing the huge negative effect of uncontrolled urban growth in the world on the natural resources, understanding the extinction of natural environment and ecosystem and the spatial and temporal land cover change triggering UHI developments as well as the factors like temperature increase affecting these changes are important for rising up sustainable rational economic, social and environmental policies to support city resilience (Coseo & Larsen, 2014; Zhong et al., 2014; El Garouani, 2017). Therefore, sustainability measures should be taken as top priorities by city authorities to meet the information society expectations in today's world especially when it comes to cities. One of priorities in terms of sustainability measures for our cities today and in the future is thermal sustainability since cities are the places including several urban activities which rapidly become sources of heat pollution in the world. The effect of heat increase caused by cities can be the source of several serious problems for the entire world like degradation of local comfort by climate change, drought, sea level rise and etc.

### **1.1. Importance of UHI analyses for cities**

One of prominent consequences of Global Warming is rapid increase in temperature at some particular areas in addition to the general increase in the earth system. These particular areas mostly are ‘Urbanized’ or “built up” regions where their most of the land are covered with buildings and artificial entities. In addition to the urban structures, several other reasons like emission of gases from vehicles and industries, high population density, less green patches, heavy machineries have caused to originate higher temperature (Kershaw, 2017). These sites are called “Urban Hot Spots” causing to develop “Urban Heat Islands (UHI)” which it was first described by Luke Howard in 1833 (Howard, 1833). UHI researchers payed more attention and it is studied by so many researchers (Detwiller, 1970; Fukui, 1970; Detwiller, 1970;

Camilloni and Barros, 1997; Kim, 1992; Gartland, 2008). According to the United State Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), the term of "Heat Island" also describes "built up areas that are hotter than nearby rural areas and a city of 1 million people or more with an annual mean air temperature can be 1.8-5.4°F (1-3°C) warmer than its surroundings" (Liu and Zhang, 2011).

The intensive civilian immigration from rural to urban areas especially during the second half of the last century due to the nonstop industrialization is mostly shown as the important reason for the development of UHIs in the cities nowadays especially in developing countries. Since this rapid movement mostly causes unplanned urban growth in such cities almost all around the world, this process then ends up with a cost as a reduction of vegetated areas and invasion of impervious built-up surfaces at where these cities are located on Earth. Thus, natural environments of the world at those parts of the Earth are transformed into solid concrete blocks or impervious surfaces. This transformation in cities then causes a significant negative effect on city local weather and climate too (Landsberg, 1981) by inspiring urban heat island developments in cities (Streutker, 2002), which are the direct representation of environmental degradation (Lu et al., 2009). So that, especially in terms of sustainability and city resilience, recently urban heat island has become more and more significant issue (Chen et al., 2009). Therefore, several other studies were carried to investigate the impacts of UHIs in cities (Yan et al., 2012; Choi et al., 2012).

These previous studies clearly demonstrated that rapid urban growth concludes with the decrease in the vegetated areas, the increase of the surface temperature and hence changes in urban microclimate. Outcomes from these studies suggest majorly that one of the significant impacts of an urbanization process due to specific city activities which cause local temperature increase and then consequently negative changes in the local climate is the emergence of urban hotspots (UHSs) and then the formation of urban heat islands (UHIs), which furtherly deteriorates life style and quality of city inhabitants and energy consumption and then causes changes in urban planning (Chen et al., 2016; Streutker, 2002; Chen et al., 2009). Therefore, changing and increasing recent requirements of society and accelerated urbanization processes nowadays, make the urban heat island more and more significant issue for cities and it has had a severe and contra impact on developed urban areas and on city residents' living environments (Chen et al., 2009).

Remote Sensing (RS) is one of the most promising techniques providing spatiotemporal thermal data along with other image-based earth observation data (Lu et al., 2014). Along with Geographical Information Systems (GIS), thus remote sensing becomes main source of such studies focusing on urbanization by providing land coverage data even for every entire city and for quantification of urban sprawl and also for determination of urbanization side effects like UHSs and formation of UHIs (Almazroui et al., 2017; Sun et al., 2015; Son et al., 2018; Dadras et al., 2014; Zhao et al. 2020).

Urban heat spot and urban head island analyses fundamentally depend on determination of Land Surface Temperature (LST) values. Thus, urban LST data analyze has become a useful indicator of the ecological environment and climatic conditions over different spatiotemporal concern for cities (Reza et al., 2009; Kuang et al., 2013). Land surface temperature then takes an active role in many environmental analyses by providing important information for the surface physical properties and regional climate (Weng, 2001). A scientific analyze of climate conditions of any urban land part is a must for integrative urban planning and regional sustainability and mitigating climate change effect and concequently for city resilience (Kalnay & Cai, 2003; Guo, 2015; Tozer, 2018). Even for this reason, LST analyses also become an important issue for today's cities for dealing with thermal pollution and for carrying them to sustainable and advanced resilience levels.

Urban heat island can even be observed continuously when the surface heat fluxes at the urbanized sites are monitored through timely mapping the land surface temperature (LST) distribution (Dousset and Gourmelon, 2003; Sun et al., 2010). Therefore, mapping the spatial distribution of LST in a city is the most fundamental process for the determination of urban heat island distribution showing a great negative impact on cities' local climate. Without mapping LST distribution by the help of geospatial technologies there will be no chance to perform UHI analyzes for today's cities especially where information societies nested and whose residents desperately need their cities to be governed smartly and sustainably in every possible way since UHI data gathering and analyzes and UHI mitigation, all become a part of today's smart city concept. If city authorities decide about transferring their cities to sustainable, resilient and consequently to smart one, in addition to other issues, they should also consider mapping UHI distribution even in timely manner by gathering appropriate and periodic data and setting up an analyzing environment. This must also help to construct a strong, reliable and sustainable decision support system to meet their smart cities' requirements at the highest level.

Since thermal conditions in a city are time dependent, the temporal analysis of land surface temperature distribution in cities is becoming an important issue for the local climate sustainability of cities which are under thermal threat. Therefore, this study focuses on spatio-temporal analyses of local climate formation driven by thermal conditions in a city (here is Izmir) by the help of remote sensing (RS) data analyses (LANDSAT 5 and 8 time series images).

## **1.2. UHI development and its relation with urbanized land types and patterns and local climate**

Evapotranspiration is the process which water is transferred to the atmosphere by evaporation process from soil and water and by transpiration from plants (Kalma et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2016b). Therefore, it is also a natural cooling process that decreases the surface temperature naturally (Dong et al., 2019; Santamouris et al., 2019; Santamouris, 2013, Miralles et al., 2011).

As it is mentioned above, transformed land surfaces in cities mostly are impervious, which causes rain water runoff greater than that seen on natural, like rural surfaces (Xiao et al., 2007; Tang and Xu, 2016). Less vegetation cover and high rated runoff on impermeable surfaces work together and cause reduces in the soil moisture, shading and the rate of evapotranspiration in urban areas since these impervious urban surfaces are not capable of capturing and trapping enough water to increase evaporation to cool down and reduce temperature of these surfaces (Sun et al., 2016). Mohammad et al., (2019) also mentions similarly about that the replacement of natural land surfaces with impermeable surfaces (built surfaces) in urban lands reduces the vegetation and moisture-trapped soils which use a relatively large proportion of the absorbed radiation during the evapotranspiration process and release water vapors that contribute cooling the surrounding air. Therefore, these hot and nearby local areas, warm up each other more and more over time and increase the regional temperature especially during long hot summer daytimes. Then this process contributes UHIs to develop at those certain regions in cities. In fact, regardless of the type of land cover, the fact that the land cover contains a certain amount of water or moisture is the main issue at the point of cooling process in natural lands (Anderson, 2012). In other words, if a land cover having some water in its content (like plants) or holds some water as capillary process (like soil), temperature of the land is transferred to that water content. This also means that the surface transfers and releases its temperature by using its water content through

evapotranspiration or transpiration and this process cools down that land part itself. Excluding impermeable surfaces due to rapid runoff, urban lands covered with soil and vegetation can hold some water in their content. Thus, more heat energy is transferred to the air in impermeable urban areas, causing the temperature of these areas to rise rapidly. It then negatively affects the local climate and comfort level in those parts of a city. (Nie et al., 2016). All those closely located and locally warmed areas contribute each other and therefore extreme temperature rise occurs at those city parts over time, ultimately leading to the development of UHIs in cities and in addition to that, similar processes in different cities all together then contribute to the global warming in the world like butterfly effect. Therefore, it is very important to conduct an urban heat island analysis and also evaluating its impact on urban environment to prevent our cities from heat pollution (Ahmad and Goparaju, 2016). Thus, this analyzes and related processes must have an important place in every city planning projects to build up livable, sustainable and resilient cities supported with natural environments for our city residents and for our future generations.

Except trees and water bodies and soil lands even with sparse bushes and urban lands with grass cover which are capable of water infiltration, the other land use/land cover types in cities are generally built-up (shelters, residential, commercial, administrative and industrial building areas with single, double, triple or multi-storey) and open areas (like paved regions) and even barren lands, so those areas in cities are impervious areas as mentioned above and in total they occupy large parts of a city especially in developing countries. This improper urban growth in developing countries causes loss of woodlands lands and trees by replacing these vegetated natural areas with urbanized lands mostly covered with built-up materials such as concrete, stone and most importantly metal and asphalt and industrial structures which significantly contribute UHI developments at where they are installed in the city and then they leads an increase in surface radiant temperature on urban lands (Kumar et al., 2012; Solecki et al., 2004; Gartland, 2008; Amir et al., 2020; Mohajerani et al., 2017). This is actually because of that these built surfaces tend to absorb a significant proportion of incident radiation, which is later released as heat, due to difference of their thermal properties (Mohajerani et al., 2017; Ji Zhou et al., 2010). These urban materials have also high heat capacity and they retain heat and slowly release. Therefore, high temperature is seen even at night times. As well as those materials, anthropogenic heat which is released by industrial activities, vehicle traffic, power plants and air conditioners as heat waste in urban areas is also other key factors causing UHSs to appear and then UHIs to develop (Shahmohamadi et al., 2011; Coseo & Larsen, 2014). This additional heat also causes temperature increase even in night time at those urban parts in cities if there are no cooling measures in these city sections (Ayanlade, 2016; Bala et al., 2020). On the other hand, heat release during anthropogenic high energy consuming cooling processes in such urban areas (such as using air conditioners) also cause UHIs to develop at these city parts and to severely affect the surrounding regions too (Takeuchi et al., 2010).

Air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions also cause to increase the temperature in urban areas (Shahmohamadi et al., 2011). Main polluters are generally industrial activities taken place in cities' industrial zones. It is obvious that air pollutants, particularly aerosols released after some industrial activities are seen in abundant amount in those over polluted urban areas (Wei et al., 2017; Lim et al., 2009; Kershaw, 2017). These polluted air including aerosols and greenhouse gases absorb the large proportion of re-radiated long wave (infrared) radiation and inhibit the corresponding radiative surface cooling process producing a pseudo-greenhouse effect, which is also another process that is responsible for urban heat island to develop (Chen et al., 2020; Zoran M. and Zoran L., 2005).

Urban geometry is also another key factor for forming UHIs which is represented with the building structures and space among the buildings in cities (Li et al., 2020). The lack of urban spaces for city extension in developing countries increases the public demand for denser

constructions; this requirement transforms them into vertical cities. The intense urbanization with dense building coverage and narrow streets and without green spaces results in high urban heat island effect in the cities (Shafaghat et al., 2016; Mohammed and Salman, 2018). The temperature variations may be linked with greater temperature absorbance by man-made materials and denser building pattern which creates a blockage to air-flow in narrow streets and causes trapped air and consequently rising temperature in these urban valleys. These several floor buildings appearing as steep urban street valleys between these dense and vertical tall buildings on both sites of these problematic city streets even cause the reflected radiance to scatter between these buildings (Giannopoulou et al., 2010; Ujang et al., 2018; Kleerekoper et al., 2012), then these sites appear as UHI development sites in cities (Gunawardena et al., 2017). Therefore rough, intricate and complex structure of urban valleys is another problem of urban areas other than the reasons mentioned previously, which reduces the convective heat removal and transfer by wind (Williams and Davis, 2007). An urban heat island is an urban area which is significantly warmer than natural lands surrounding these urbanized regions in a city; thus, the higher urbanization leads to more distinct urban heat island development with extensive temperature differences between urban and these untouched lands (Koomen and Diogo, 2017).

On the other hand, UHI developmet is actually a sequential process. At early stage it generally appears as UHS, and then when it finds a contributing environment, it starts to develop as UHI. So, urban hot spots (UHS) appearance can also be related with some certain city zones, like industrial zones (Corumluoglu et al., 2015). In fact, these UHS locations are the city spots under an extreme heat stress mainly seen at where anthropogenic activities are in cities (Chen et al., 2006; Ren et al., 2016). The places where anthropogenic heat releases from vehicles, air conditioners, industrial and other urban activities and from other heat sources in cities like power plants and even from city parts experiencing removal of vegetation cover in great extent and then increase in impervious surfaces are the main suspicious urban areas where UHSs probably appear and eventually contribute the UHI formations at those places (Memon et al., 2008; Du et al., 2016a; Senanayake et al., 2013).

Takeuchi (Takeuchi et al., 2010) in their study has also emphasized that currently more green spaces, forest and unused lands have been wildy converted into commercial and business centers, government offices, residential areas and public amenities and then contunied with that this conversion contributes UHIs to develop in these urbanized lands transformed from natural or bare fields. Therefore, it is useful to know UHI distribution in cities to restore these lands and protect them from heat pollution due to the uncontrolled urbanization causing local climate change. This information will be very helpful for city administrators who like to govern their cities sustainably (Zurina and Hukil, 2012).

Urban heat island is also a driving factor for regional weather and climate by altering local wind patterns, spurring the development of clouds and fog, increasing the number of lightning events, and influencing the rates of precipitation (Liu and Zhang, 2011). Furthermore, the poor air quality that results from the increased energy usage for cooling in heat-island city parts can cause discomfort for the residents and affect health, aggravating asthma and promoting other respiratory illnesses (Liu and Zhang, 2011; Lin et al., 2010). Thus, one of the major problems in terms of regional severe climate change over time and faced especially in developing countries that is generally ignored is the UHI formation because of current conditions of the cities in such countries and we must straggle all together with this problem without considering whether it is in micro or macro scales (Filho et al., 2018). UHI impact on cities then became globally considerable (Chen et al., 2014; Peng et al., 2016). The impact of the heat island also appears in many ways such as increase in energy consumption, management of storm water

run-off, environmental disturbance, community health, and altering climatic conditions in cities (Zhao and Chen, 2005). Conclusively, it can be suggested that UHI development in cities is a multi-criteria issue (Sangiorgio et al., 2020). Therefore, multi-criteria analyses must be accounted for every aspect influencing UHI development (Putra et al., 2019). Nowadays, having a digital database which is capable of UHI multi-criteria analyzes becomes the most promising strategy that can work sufficiently and successfully for building up a sustainable future for our cities under a severe UHI pressure and in fact, this strategy allows city authorities to promise and provide a reasonable and livable climate conditions for their residents while being capable of fulfilling the needs of smart city and information society as well.

UHI development is also a matter of time especially during long and hot summer seasons (Chen et al., 2002). Therefore, it is highly important to make timely analyses on urban heat island distribution in cities for providing an information base to city authorities to conduct sustainably affective solutions and plans for their cities' futures to overcome their cities UHI problem. Only in this way, they would have a chance to make successful decisions for a sustainable future for their cities and to protect and sustain their cities' natural environments where city residents would like to live (Liu and Zhang, 2011).

### **1.3. LST and its relation with local climate**

Surface temperature is an important issue and theme in earth sciences for studying urban climatology, global environmental change and human-environment interactions. Furthermore, land surface temperature (LST) is driven by a complicated landscape composition and configuration (Asgarian et al., 2015; Zhou et al., 2014). From UHI point of view, urban heat islands mainly appear as spatial distribution of accumulated heat at the locations having higher LST values w.r.t the LST values at surrounding land parts and it is governed by high amount of surface heat fluxes obviously caused from densely located certain types of urbanization structures (Dousset and Gourmelon, 2003; Sun et al., 2010). As it is emphasized earlier, the built-up areas and bare lands directly affect UHS appearance and UHI development, whereas green spaces and water bodies reduce the UHI intensity (Amiri et al., 2009; Song et al., 2014).

LST values in urbanized areas of a city differ during day, night and seasonal periods. The larger LST changes are usually seen at night but not that large change seen in day time (Ayanlade, 2016). On the other hand, heat in high magnitudes caused by some city lands with specific land cover types in day times may cause large UHI developments especially during summer seasons in moderate climate zones (Majkowska et al., 2017). Heat island affect is usually strongest during the summer times in the mid latitude cities as it is experienced in Izmir (Corumluoglu et al., 2015). Some researchers showed that natural and anthropogenic activities in urban areas simultaneously cause oppositely particular LST patterns (Chaudhuri and Kumar, 2020; Zhao et al., 2020; Shafaghat et al., 2016; Du et al., 2016b). With inconsistent urban development, the UHI zones may worsen the eco-environmental quality and drop down the city to the worst ecological grade too (Li et al., 2020).

In the climate change studies, it is important to determine the changes in LST values at specific city land parts in a period of time (Zhao et al., 2021). Identifying LST changes over time at regional levels is one of the key requirements to analyze the local climate changes (Tan et al., 2020). LST is one of the most important environmental parameters and is used for determination of energy exchange between the surface of the earth and the lower layer of the atmosphere and this energy exchange is the most dominant factor controlling the local climate and its changes over time (Jia G. et al., 2020). Thus, temporal monitoring of LST distribution in a city and then subsequent regional change analysis reveal the suspected local climate change in the city (Mohan, 2000). Therefore, determination of LST distribution and consequently identification of UHSs and UHI developments become one of important tasks of today's city authorities who want to sustainably manage their city local climate and its change

especially during hot summer times (Guha et al., 2017). In this way, they will have a chance to maintain their cities' urban ecology and local climate by ensuring their cities' thermal sustainability and also taking serious precautions for high thermal conditions at where UHIs probably develop in the cities.

For compensating the negative effect of high thermal conditions and maintaining the thermal stability in cities, it is quite important for the city authorities which they should pay attention to the fact that the vegetation and water bodies represent relatively lower LST than those seen at city build-up areas (Guha and Govil, 2021; Gupta et al., 2019). They affirmatively retrieve the thermal conditions of the neighboring city parts even if they are build-up areas. Since the existence of the vegetated sites in a city lowers the temperature in and around those vegetated areas as they enhance the evapotranspiration by maintaining the heat flux, these regions act as heat sinks for the cities (Joshi et al., 2012). Therefore, the planning of urban green areas (e.g., creation of parks, urban forest lands and afforestation of streets with long, large canopy and dense trees) is becoming one of the most crucial parts of today's city development plans approved by city authorities and assigned to city services to reduce and to remove UHI effects where they appear in cities (Huang et al., 2018). This section of the plans must include first the determination and positioning of UHSs and then UHI development areas over time for mitigating and straggling with their effects in cities effectively by taking proper course of actions for example tree plantation (with tall and dense tree pattern and with large canopy cover) at the correct locations, so at exactly where UHSs and UHI developments happen in the cities and even taking into account the extent of the UHIs as well.

## **2. Methodology**

The UHI issue in big cities such as Izmir city which is the third most populated metropolitan city which occupies the land part of Turkey surrounding Izmir Gulf of Aegean Sea has been being one of the major city problems gradually over the past few decades (Akbari et al., 2001; Stone, 2007) with the increase of urban concentration causing improper changes in regional temperature and consequently the local climate (Georgescu et al., 2011; Li et al., 2004).

As it is mentioned above sections, urbanization results in higher radiation absorption for a land part transformed rural to urban and then causes UHIs to develop. Contrary to that, green vegetation and tree plantation or urban forests in cities help for reducing the UHI effects, and then they provide thermal comfort (Coutts et al., 2016). Therefore, identification of UHI developments depending on LST distribution over time in cities is now one of the key issues for contemporary urban management and planning projects to transfer our cities to sustainable and even resilient city levels. Thus, the determination of local climate distribution w.r.t. temporal thermal conditions over a city becomes an important task and issue for the city authorities promising to govern their cities sustainably, especially in developing countries.

The aim of this study consequently became the evaluation of spatiotemporal distribution of urban heat islands (UHISs) at where they develop in the city of Izmir, Turkey over a long period of time to determine specific and operative factors driving UHI developments in the city. The study follows these steps: 1) temporal NDVI distribution maps for the determination of emissivity to compute LST over time, NDVI from RS MS time series' images is required to map the distribution of urban natural areas (green and wet lands) and non green areas and their changes to compute emissivity for spatiotemporal LST data analyses; 2) LST spatiotemporal distribution pattern are obtain across the entire city by using the RS thermal data; 3) trend images individually for the distributions of LST and the normalized difference vegetation index

(NDVI) are computed; and then 4) Simulated Single Images (SSI – to be explained in forthcoming sections) were computed and analysed for the both data series.

UHSs which are controlled by the heat flux in urban surfaces depending on the surface material and consequently UHIs appear as accumulated high land surface temperatures (LSTs) in cities (Dousset and Gourmelon, 2003; Sun et al., 2010). Thus, obtaining LST is crucial for the analysis of UHIs (Liu and Zhang, 2011). If the land surface temperature is not available, the near-surface air temperature has been being used to map LST distribution for validating the urban heat island effect (Mutiibwa et al., 2015). Up to nowadays, mapping of urban heat island distribution was depending on classical UHI analyses of in situ LST measurements obtained at rarely distributed local meteorology stations across the city in interst (Lu et al., 2009). However, the unevenly distribution and locational isolation of these meteorological sites may result in an under-representation of LST distribution across the studied city (Liu and Zhang, 2011). Since these restricted amount of data from meteorological stations are not sufficient for evenly resampling an entire study area, remote sensing (RS) offering high-resolution data with almost continuous coverage of the entire world which makes large-scale urban heat island research possible. Therefore, RS became the most reliable method for LST data collection for example providing those data as 30m by 30m sampling tiles which cover an entire study area with no gap and even in different time intervals such as every 16 days after 1960s when the high-resolution earth-observing satellites were launched such as LANDSAT satellite series providing MS image data (Liu and Zhang, 2011; Lu et al., 2009). This even means that multi temporal analyses are available as LANDSAT MS image data for several decades in that high spatial resolution. Thus, an archived temporal data is now available almost half of a century from the LANDSAT Earth Observing Satellite Program (Wulder et al., 2019). Nowadays, remote sensing technology is also the most reliable technology providing archived and continuous data and overcoming the problem of unevenly distributed temporal LST measurements, however, evenly distributed temporal LST data are the fundamental data for the urban heat island temporal analysis (as time series analysis) especially for today's rapidly growing cities which are prone to evolve into megacities (Zhou et al., 2019).

The Landsat TM data from a long-life LANDSAT earth-observing satellite program is the most widely used satellite images providing continuous LST data distribution even for an entire world. So, full coverage of all cities and even freely downloadable data from the website of US Geological Survey (USGS) are possible (U.S. Geological Survey, 2020). Data from LANDSAT programs provide great advantages than the traditional meteorological data. Otherwise, it can never ever be possible such data for LST studies with traditional one (Urban et al., 2013). On the other hand, LANDSAT 5 served only one thermal infrared (TIR) band up to the provision of two bands from LANDSAT 8 till it launched at 2013 (Wulder et al., 2019). So, Landsat 5 data with one thermal infrared band is capable of providing evenly distributed land surface temperature between 1984 and 2011, even if Landsat 5 TM multi-spectral image scenes is the mostly used data for monitoring the changes on lands and to model the biophysical characteristics of the earth surfaces at that times (Wulder et al., 2019). As it is mentioned in the study by Mallick et al. (2008), Landsat 5 TM thermal data is used to estimate heat distribution as a control for local climate, Landsat 5 TM and Landsat 8 TIRS thermal infrared data with  $120^2 \text{ m}^2$  and  $100^2 \text{ m}^2$  spatial resolutions respectively, both provide continuous data for UHI studies in local-scales since 1984 (Gong et al., 2013; Weng, 2001; Bendib et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2016a). The thermal infrared data as band 6 and band 10 from Landsat 5 and 8 are actually the bands resampled by using the nearest neighbor algorithm to a pixel size of 30 m by 30 m from a spatial resolution of  $100^2 \text{ m}^2$  and  $120^2 \text{ m}^2$  respectively to fit the pixel resolutions to the optical bands' spatial resolutions for the sake of data compatibility (Wulder et al., 2019).

Freely available archived LANDSAT 5 and 8 data are preferred as time series data source for the LST analyzes here in this research. Since LANDSAT 5 which is the only satellite offering freely available archived data since 1984 provides only one channel thermal band and optical spectral data without missing lines (as being experienced in LANDSAT 7 data), single band LST computation algorithm was preferred to extract LST values from LANDSAT data to analyze LST distribution over the city of Izmir for 32 years in the study. Even if the use of a single thermal band from old LANDSAT satellite (or sensor) makes retrieving LST more difficult, it is actually easier than those from multiple thermal bands for example from LANDSAT 8 (Kafer et al., 2020). So that, Qin et al. (2001) proposed a single TIR band algorithm using Landsat TM data to map LST distribution (Lu et al., 2009; Feyisa et al., 2016; Qin et al., 2001). On the other hand, according to Lu (Lu et al., 2009), the use of single band offers a simple and yet highly effective method for computation of LST values, thus it facilitates the study and the analysis of UHI effects.

In the case of LANDSAT 8, it is decided to use only band 10 as a single thermal band for the data compatibility with LANDSAT 5's thermal band 6 and then the single band algorithm without attempting the use of two thermal channel algorithm which would depend on calibration uncertainties in LANDSAT 8's thermal band 11, even though LANDSAT 8 provides both 10th and 11th bands as two channel thermal data (Sekertekin et al., 2020). The only thermal band of LANDSAT 5 which is the band 6 was used to delineate the LST distribution for the dates between 1985 and 2013. Thus, both thermal data from LANDSAT 8 and 5 were processed for the delineation of LST distribution across the entire city of Izmir for the all dates studied in the project spanning from 1985 up to 2018. The optical bands from both satellites' TM and OLI sensors have also been processed to extract the NDVI distributions across the entire city of Izmir again for different dates to compute the emissivity. High-resolution Google Earth data corresponding with the process dates has been used for the confirmation of different types of urban land cover distribution in the city and for different type of anthropogenic city activities which may be correlated with low or high LST values (Du et al., 2016a; Du et al., 2016b). ERDAS Imagine 2015 and ArcGIS 10 were utilized for remote sensing and GIS data analysis and to obtain the final outputs for the entire study area.

Here in this study, the spatial distribution of emissivity to reveal and to correct its effect on the LST values distributed all over the entire city was obtained by the help of NDVI distribution for the city of Izmir showing Aegen climate conditions which are similar to Mediterranean humid climate conditions, since the city of Izmir is located on the Aegen sea coast of the western Turkey (Figure 1).

First phase of this project was on demonstration of LST distribution across the city of Izmir using only one day data (LANDSAT multispectral image data) and representing which land use types contribute to UHI development in the city (Corumluoglu et al., 2015). Even if one date data was used, our previous research's results emphasized that some industrial areas especially with specific activities appeared as Urban Hot Stops (UHSs) affecting neighboring areas up to several kilometers and causing UHIs to develop at those parts of the city (Corumluoglu et al., 2015). In the current stage of this ongoing project, here is studied if similar results are confirmed by a temporal data analysis for a long period of time. Therefore, temporal remote sensing data is obtained and analyzed to reveal whether the results show up with a similar output contributing our previous study outcomes through a certain period of time. Thus, we would have a robust argument to make strong and locationally precise suggestions to our city authorities who may then take further actions for improving their future city development plans with the support of proven time series data and consequently effectively reliable arguments depending on our research outcomes given here. Then we would have chance to

prevent our city from heat pollution and make the city much more sustainable, comfortable and livable one and even to cut our cooling bills further down in the future especially by given a chance to nature-based solutions. By the decrease in energy consumption for such cooling purposes, it means low greenhouse gas and carbon foot print effects and the saved nature or increased environmental conditions of our city. Thus, here in the current state of the research it is not specifically focused on only UHSs, but also investigating the city regions under the threat of severe UHI developments by time series analyses. This will also let to find out which specific city activities and urban land cover types cause strong and significant UHI impact. Afterward, we will have a chance to take effective and correctly positioned actions to prevent our city nature in a sustainable way from harmful side effects of anthropogenic activities like UHIs and let it stay resilience.

To carry our cities to a smart and sustainable future by supporting the decision makers of our city authorities with most effective and natural solutions, here in this stage of the project, some statistical analyses were carried out to extract the temporal distribution of UHI developments in the city of Izmir by the help of long term historical land surface temperature (LST) distribution data (32 years of data) from LANDSAT multispectral images (thermal for UHI and optical bands for emissivity by NDVI computations). These also reveal the varying effects of changing anthropogenic activities on UHI developments in the city of Izmir over that period of time. The outcome of processes followed here in this research is not include a pack of timely images for LST distributions spanning through the years which it is actually the usual way followed by the researchers so far, but here in this research it is given a statistically projected single image representing a long period of temporal LST distribution over the city of Izmir. Therefore, it is an image from a mapping process of statistically optimized and projected long-time distributions of LST. This single output image also represents a unique UHI distribution over the city for that period of time. Thus, this project plan will also help us to understand UHI distribution and its relation with the distribution of urbanized land cover types in a certain long period of time. Thus, it helps us to reveal the main suspicious urban factors which strongly effect the UHI developments in an urban environment even by the support of a long period of temporal data. So, this will encourage city authorities to take most effective precautions beforehand they happen in the future.

### **3. Study Area and Used Data**

#### **3.1. Study Area**

Izmir is the third of the first three metropolitan cities in Turkey with almost 4.37 million citizens living in the 12 studied central districts which they hold the densest urban population in the region. The city is located on Menderes and Gediz deltas at where they confluence and on some hilly terrain inlands almost all around the Izmir Gulf of the Aegean Sea. Geographic coordinates of Izmir are between 37° 49' and 39° 23' North latitudes and 26° 13' and 28° 29' East longitudes.

The studied city land in the province of Izmir covers almost 400 km<sup>2</sup> urbanized area (the area covered by red curved boundary in Fig. 1) around the Gulf of Izmir and the wide of the urbanized city part generally extend 3 to 5 km towards inlands all around the gulf. But at somewhere it reaches up to 10 - 12 km, especially at the Sought, where the surrounding parts around the ancient city center (now called Konak) are. On the other hand, it shrinks down to few kilometers at the North section of the city (where Karsiyaka district is and city newly developing areas towards the North are). This is probably because of local mountains running towards the Gulf. At those parts of the city, in generally speaking, urbanization stops extending at where it reaches to the forested lands covering vast amount of field and toward the tops of these mountainy areas because of the topography which rises rapidly, but not at low altitude hilly lands. So, several hills next to the coast of Izmir Gulf are covered by city urban structures

and buildings. City also extends towards the valleys between these mountains at least at two locations more than 10 km inland of these valleys, the one is seen as city sprawl at the East part and the second is similar to the first but with a wider sprawl at the South. The sprawl extending towards the north is not a sprawl extending into valley, this city extension only follows a roughly 1 km wide strip on the Gediz delta parts, just next to the mountain slopes running into that delta plain. Another, but very narrow urban sprawl with more vegetation cover can be seen at the South. This is because of rough and high mountain slopes with forest covers running along very closely, right next to the gulf coast. Other very narrow sprawl is also seen in the east valley formed by high mountain slopes running towards Aegean Sea and ends up at the city center on the large plain coast formed by Gediz delta. All those urban strawals and extensions of Izmir city can be followed by the stereo illustration represented in Fig. 6a.

Izmir is also the highly developed cultural, economic and industrial center in the Aegean region which is the western part of Turkey (Fig. 1) (Yucekaya, 2018). It represents high temperature values (mostly over moderate climate temperature values) especially in summer times and temperature in some city regions sometimes reaches extreme levels (Unal et al., 2013). It is also the most attractive economic, cultural and tourism center offering several types of activities in the region (Gunlu et al., 2009). It therefore attracts so many people to move in to the city every year. Because of increasing population, as it is seen from the stereo 3D illustration of the City in Fig. 6a, city expands towards Kemalpaşa district in the East and towards Menderes district in the South by occupying the valley plains left between the mountains running towards the Izmir Gulf of the Aegean Sea and also towards Menemen district in the North and Urla district in the West directions. In other words, Izmir metropolitan extends along the coasts of Izmir Gulf and Gediz River's delta in the North, along the alluvial plain created by several small streams in the East and to slightly rugged terrains in the South (Fig. 5 and 6).

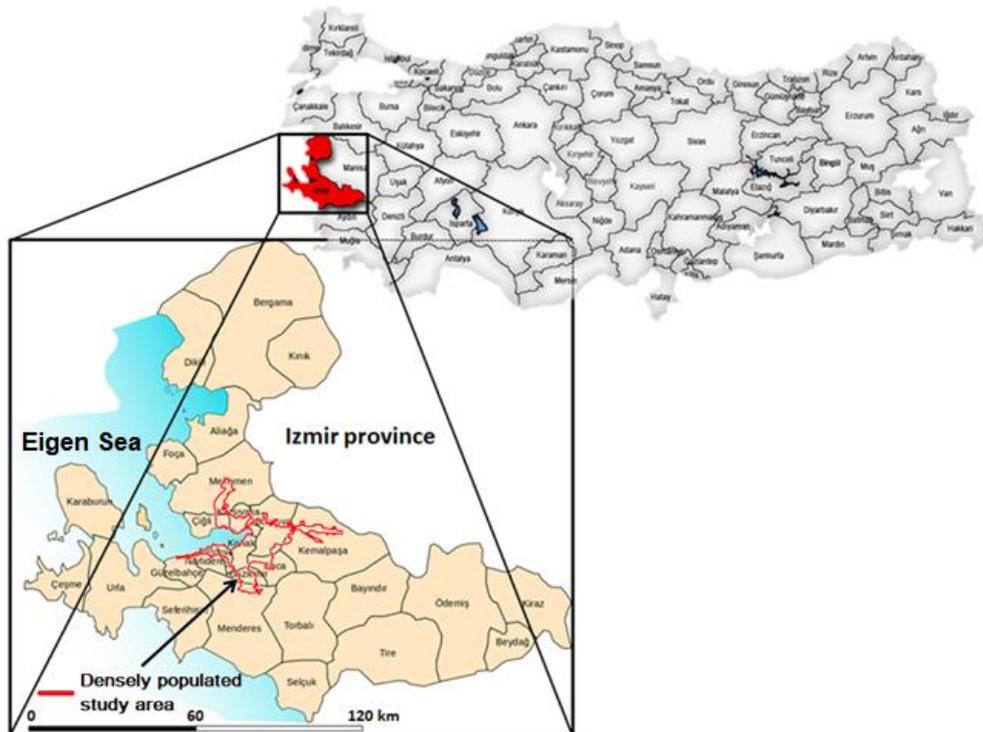


Figure 1. Izmir province and densely populated central metropolitan city part (study area is in red boundary).

In recent years, the rapid population increase and corresponding urban expansions towards available terrains following the topographical structures around the existing parts of the city caused several problems such as air pollution and greenhouse gas emission problems which seriously impact the human health and also increases in LST and then UHIs to develop in some parts of the city following the UHSs appearing at where certain anthropogenic activities are like industrial activities which are emphasized by Corumluoglu (Corumluoglu et al., 2015) in their previous research.

### 3.2. Used Data

To understand the temporal effect of urbanization on the temporal diversity of LST and UHI formation, a long period of remote sensing data is required. For this reason, 32 years of freely available LANDSAT 5 (TM) and 8 (OLI and TIRS) data with WRS path number of 181 and WRS row number of 33 acquired at almost 11:15 in Izmir local time during the summer season (August) (Table 1) were downloaded from USGS Earth Explorer web site (U.S. Geological Survey, 2020) and processed sequentially almost for every year between 1985 and 2018 (except 2002 and 2012). The August data is chosen for the sake of doing LST time series analyses at the time when the city of Izmir is having hottest annual temperate to catch the possible hot spots and heat islands when they are most significant and at their peak levels (Fig. 2) and also having MS LANDSAT scenes with minimum cloud cover in the region.

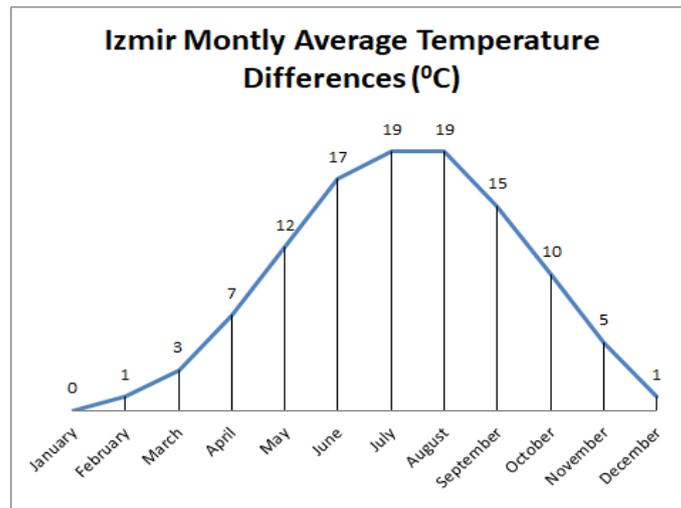


Figure 2. Long term monthly average temperature differences for the city of Izmir w.r.t the annually minimum average temperature.

Table 1. LANDSAT data packs for 32 years used in the study

Number	SPACECRAF T	Data type	WRS path and row	Acquisition date	File date	Number	SPACECRAF T	Data type	WRS path and row	Acquisition date	File date
1	lt05_l1tp_181033_19850825_20171212					17	lt05_l1tp_181033_20010821_20180501				
2	lt05_l1tp_181033_19860828_20170216					18	lt05_l1tp_181033_20030726_20161205				
3	lt05_l1tp_181033_19870831_20170211					19	lt05_l1tp_181033_20040813_20161130				
4	lt05_l1tp_181033_19880801_20171208					20	lt05_l1tp_181033_20050816_20161124				
5	lt05_l1tp_181033_19890820_20170808					21	lt05_l1tp_181033_20060819_20161119				
6	lt05_l1tp_181033_19900823_20171208					22	lt05_l1tp_181033_20070822_20161111				

7	lt05_l1tp_181033_19910826_20171214	23	lt05_l1tp_181033_20080824_20161029
8	lt05_l1tp_181033_19920828_20180210	24	lt05_l1tp_181033_20090827_20161021
9	lt05_l1tp_181033_19930815_20180210	25	lt05_l1tp_181033_20100830_20161013
10	lt05_l1tp_181033_19940818_20180302	26	lt05_l1tp_181033_20110817_20161008
11	lt05_l1tp_181033_19950805_20180210	27	lc08_l1tp_181033_20130822_20170502
12	lt05_l1tp_181033_19960823_20180210	28	lc08_l1tp_181033_20140825_20170420
13	lt05_l1tp_181033_19970826_20180210	29	lc08_l1tp_181033_20150828_20170405
14	lt05_l1tp_181033_19980829_20170908	30	lc08_l1tp_181033_20160830_20170321
15	lt05_l1tp_181033_19990816_20180210	31	lc08_l1tp_181033_20170801_20170811
16	lt05_l1tp_181033_20000818_20161214	32	lc08_l1tp_181033_20180820_20180829

The Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) sensor was carried by Landsat 4 and Landsat 5 satellites, and creates an image scene consisting of images for six spectral reflectance bands 1 to 5 and 7 with a spatial resolution of 30 by 30 meters, and one thermal band (Band 6) with a spatial resolution of 120 by 120 meters (Wulder et al., 2019). The approximate sizes of one LANDSAT scene along and across track are 170 km north-south and 183 km east-west directions (106 mi by 114 mi). The Landsat Operational Land Imager (OLI) and Thermal Infrared Sensor (TIRS) sensors are carried on Landsat 8 satellite. A pack of one LANDSAT 8 image scene consists of nine spectral reflectance band images 1 to 7 and 9 with a spatial resolution of 30 by 30 meters. New band 1 (ultra-blue) is useful for coastal and aerosol studies. Other new band 9 is useful for cirrus cloud detection. The resolution of band 8 which is the panchromatic band is 15 by 15 meters. Two channel thermal bands from TIRS, 10 and 11 are useful for more accurate surface temperatures and are collected for every 0.01 km<sup>2</sup> (100m x 100m) in the land part corresponding with a whole scene, are finally provided as thermal bands resampled to 30 meter in the delivered data product (Wulder et al., 2019). Approximate scene size is 170 km (in north-south direction) by 183 km (in east-west direction).

Since temperature in summer time is commonly high and UHIs are spatially more significant during the summer daytime according to the literature (Nichol et al., 2009). And highest temperature values are experienced in July and August in the study area as it is seen from the Fig. 2. The August daytime cloud-free image scenes were therefore selected and downloaded from the USGS web site for this study. Furthermore, since a LANDSAT scene frame covers much larger area than the urbanized lands in the city of Izmir, all temporal LANDSAT image scenes used in the project were subset to study only the densely urbanized land parts of the city as shown with red boundary lines in Fig. 1. Appropriate atmospheric correction was also applied independently to each band of MS images in every used scene in the study (Table 1) w.r.t. the Dark Object Subtraction atmospheric correction algorithm (DOS1). Thus, the atmospheric effect is removed from every pixel of those individual MS band images in the preprocessing step.

#### **4. Preprocessing of Landsat Ms Images**

##### **4.1. DN to spectral radiance conversion**

Especially when time is concerned, all MS images in all scenes must go through some preprocessing steps before RS data analyze. The first one in that image preprocessing step is "DN to spectral radiance conversion" (Chander and Markham, 2003; Chander and Markham, 2007). This conversion is applied to brightness value of every pixel of each MS band image packed in every MS scene (like those given in the Table 1) using equation 1 below. The computed radiance in a certain spectral wavelength range (band's spectral resolution) is

actually total or top of atmosphere radiance reaching to satellite sensor's individual detector corresponding with one certain pixel in a relevant band image that mimics the observed value at detector in graphical form, so as gray tones in a purposed radiometric resolution (for example 8 bit radiometric resolution) and also corresponding with certain land part in the size of Sampled Tiniest Area on Ground (even if it is called as Ground Sampling Distance – GSD - in the literature, it is actually the area of instantly scanned or sampled tiniest land part by detector, therefore, it is better to call it as STAG- Sampled Tiniest Area on the Ground). Therefore, the top of atmosphere radiance does not include only the radiance from an object on land surface, but also the radiance from the atmosphere along the path between this instantly scanned tiniest land part which it corresponds with a certain pixel in band images in a MS image scene and the sensor. Because of that, the atmospheric radiance must be removed from the total radiance reached to any detector in sensor to obtain only the radiance off the object on the earth surface. Here in this study; DOS1 procedure which is one of the Dark Object Subtraction (DOS) models (Nazeer et al., 2014) was followed to remove the radiance caused by atmosphere and accumulated in the radiance at sensor or at TOA (therefore, below it is called as total radiance). The dark object atmospheric correction should not be applied directly to the brightness values (DNs) of pixels in each individual MS band image in interest as a subtraction process between pixels' brightness values (DNs) in that single band image and brightness value (DN) of dark object determined through visual analyses of graphical representation of the same single band image's statistics (Zhang et al., 2010). "DN to spectral radiance conversion" first must be applied to all pixels' DN in every band individually in a scene by using the first formulas in the equation groups below (Equations 1 and 2 which are for LANDSAT 5 and for LANDSAT 8 respectively) (Chander and Markham, 2003; Chander and Markham, 2007) and then secondly, the unique dark object radiance value for each band must be obtained by using the second formulas in the same equation groups given below. Dark object radiance value of each band in a scene is then computed from the dark object brightness value (DN) determined individually for relevant single MS band image in the scene by visual interpretation of that relevant image band statistics. Finally, the computed dark object radiance value is then subtracted from the total radiances at the sensor's detectors to get the radiances for the objects at the corresponding sampled ground areas represented as pixels in that individual band images by using the third formulas in the same equation groups (refer to the follow chart in Fig. 3). Thus, this procedure must be followed individually for each band in each MS image scene used for different dates as well.

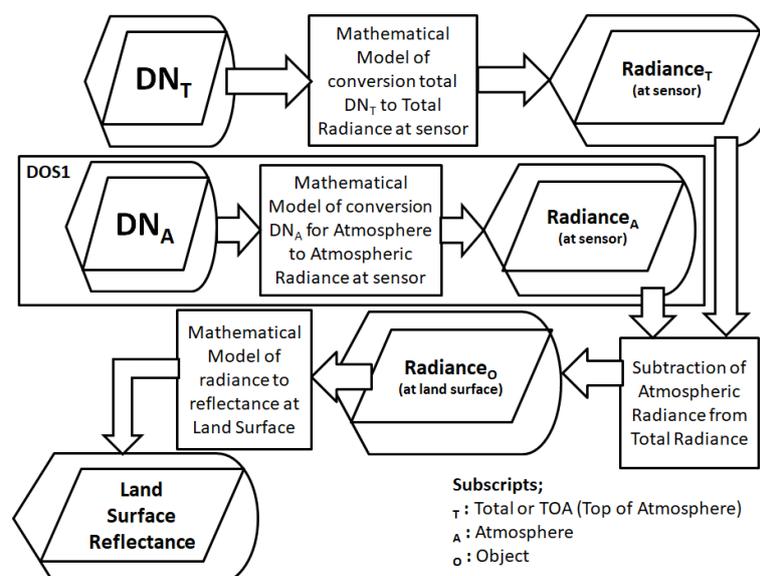


Figure 3. Conversion algorithm DN to Radiance and Radiance to Land Surface Reflectance.

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_{\lambda(T)} &= M_{L\lambda} Q_{cal\lambda(T)} + A_{L\lambda} \\
 L_{\lambda(DO)} &= M_{L\lambda} Q_{cal\lambda(DO)} + A_{L\lambda} \\
 L_{\lambda(O)} &= L_{\lambda(T)} - L_{\lambda(DO)}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho'_{\lambda(T)} &= M_p Q_{cal\lambda(T)} + A_p \\
 \rho'_{\lambda(DO)} &= M_p Q_{cal\lambda(DO)} + A_p \\
 \rho'_{\lambda(O)} &= \rho'_{\lambda(T)} - \rho'_{\lambda(DO)}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2}$$

where:

$L_{\lambda}$  : band-specific spectral radiance [Watts/ (m<sup>2</sup> \* srad \* μm)].

$\rho'_{\lambda}$  : reflectance without solar angle correction.

$M_{L\lambda}$  : band-specific multiplicative rescaling factor for conversion from DN to radiance (that can be obtained from the metadata - RADIANCE\_MULT\_BAND\_x, where x is the band number for LANDSAT 5's reflectance bands).

$A_{L\lambda}$  : band-specific additive rescaling factor for conversion from DN to radiance (that can be obtained from the metadata - RADIANCE\_ADD\_BAND\_x, where x is the band number for LANDSAT 5's reflectance bands).

$M_p$  : multiplicative rescaling factor for conversion from DN to reflectance (that can be obtained from the metadata - REFLECTANCE\_MULT\_BAND and  $2 \times 10^{-5}$  for LANDSAT 8's reflectance bands).

$A_p$  : additive rescaling factor for conversion from DN to reflectance (that can be obtained from the metadata - REFLECTANCE\_ADD\_BAND and -0.1 for LANDSAT 8's reflectance bands).

$Q_{cal\lambda}$  : Band-specific quantized and calibrated standard product pixel values (DN) – derived from raw input band image.

$\lambda$  : Multi-spectral image band number.

Subscripts (T), (DO), (O) : are for Total or Top of Atmosphere, Dark Object and Object respectively.

Since this conversion procedure is band-specific it is individually applied to every pixel's brightness values (DNs) in each specific band image of a MS scene including bands of reflected wavelengths and thermal bands as well.

#### 4.2. Spectral radiance to reflectance conversion for the bands of reflected wavelengths

This conversion is for the bands of reflection wavelengths in a MS image scene. Reflectance is required for description, determination and discrimination of objects and their details and even properties of those objects and also for analyses of indices to extract information from remote sensing image bands except thermal bands (Bowker, 2010). Reflectance conversion in RS makes band images comparable even if they are obtained at different time and by different sensors to eliminate the case dependent biases. So, the radiance to reflectance conversion process removes the cosine effect caused by changing solar zenith angles due to the time difference between subsequent image acquisitions by satellites (Robinove, 1982). Reflectance is referred to a single band because of different amount of irradiance reaching to the earth in every different certain wavelength range (so, called as band) from sun. Changing solar irradiance should also be accounted for the variation in the earth-sun distance between different image acquisition dates (Young, 2017; Chander et al., 2009). Therefore, it is crucial to use reflectance values in such projects requiring temporal analyses of band images in a RS MS scene obtained at different times as it is being in this study since not only thermal bands but also reflectance bands are used (for example, for emissivity computations from NDVIs) and even from different sensors as if LANDSAT family satellites are exploited (images scenes from LANDSAT 5 and LANDSAT 8 satellites are utilized).

The conversion is applied to pixel radiances of reflectance bands in RS MS image scenes using the first and second formulas given in the equation group 3 below (in our case, LANDSAT 5's and LANDSAT 8's reflectance bands were used).

$$\rho_{\lambda(O)} = \frac{\pi L_{\lambda(O)} d^2}{E_{SUN\lambda} \cos \theta_s} \quad (3)$$

$$\rho_{\lambda(O)} = \frac{\rho'_{\lambda(O)}}{\cos \theta_s}$$

where:

- $\rho_{\lambda(O)}$  : band-specific spectral reflectance of an object (land surface reflectance) [unitless]  
 $\pi$  : mathematical constant [unitless] (3.14159).  
 $d$  : earth-sun distance [astronomical unit] (that can be obtained from the metadata - EARTH\_SUN\_DISTANCE, for LANDSAT 5 and 8's reflectance bands).  
 $E_{SUN\lambda}$  : spectral mean solar irradiance [Watts/( m<sup>2</sup> \* $\mu$ m)]  
 $\theta_s$  : solar zenith angle [degree] (90 -  $\theta_E$ ).  
 $\theta_E$  : solar elevation angle [degree], (that can be obtained from the metadata - SUN\_ELEVATION, for LANDSAT 5 and 8's reflectance bands).  
 $\rho'_{\lambda(O)}$  : band-specific spectral reflectance of an object without solar angle correction [unitless]

#### 4.3. At-sensor spectral radiance to at-sensor brightness temperature conversion for the thermal bands

Considering black body assumption for the heat transfer from the Earth, emissivity can then be assumed as uniform for the Earth surface and equation 4 below is used for the at-sensor spectral radiance to brightness temperature conversion (Sekertekin et al. 2020; Chander and Markham 2009).

$$T_{B(O)} = \frac{K_2}{\ln\left(\frac{K_1}{L_{\lambda(O)}} + 1\right)} \quad (4)$$

where:

- $T_{B(O)}$  : at sensor brightness temperature of land surface cover in the size of STAG [K]  
 $K_1$  : calibration constant 1 for thermal band [Watts/( m<sup>2</sup> \*sr \*  $\mu$ m)] (that can be obtained from the metadata - K1\_CONSTANT\_BAND\_x, where x is the band 6 and band 10, so 607.76 and 774.89 for LANDSAT 5 and LANDSAT 8 respectively).  
 $K_2$  : calibration constant 2 for thermal band [K] (that can be obtained from the metadata - K2\_CONSTANT\_BAND\_x, where x is the band 6 and band 10, so 1260.56 and 1321.08 for LANDSAT 5 and LANDSAT 8 respectively).

#### 4.4. Brightness Temperature to Land Surface Temperature conversion

Since temperatures of objects on the earth surface are the main concern of UHI analyses, brightness temperature values are then converted to Land Surface Temperatures (LST – TS) by using the equation 5 below (Salih et al., 2018). In this respect, the land surface emissivity must be accounted to reach LST values at the land surface as it is required for this conversion.

$$T_{S(O)} = \frac{T_{B(O)}}{1 + \left(\frac{\lambda_T T_{B(O)}}{\rho}\right) \ln \varepsilon} - 273.15 \quad (5)$$

where:

$T_{S(O)}$  : Land Surface Temperature of an object (LST) [°C]  
 $\lambda_T$  : the central wavelength of the thermal infrared band [m] ( $\lambda_T(\text{mid}) = 11.45\mu\text{m}$  and  $\lambda_T(\text{mid}) = 10.90\mu\text{m}$  for LANDSAT 5 Band 6 and LANDSAT 8 Band 10 respectively)  
 $\rho$  : thermal constant [m K] ( $\rho = h \cdot c / \sigma$ ,  $\rho = 1.438 \cdot 10^{-2}$  mK)  
 $c$  : the speed of light [m / s] ( $c = 2.998 \cdot 10^8$  m/s)  
 $h$  : the Planck constant [J s] ( $h = 6.626 \cdot 10^{-34}$  Js)  
 $\sigma$  : the Boltzmann constant [J / K] ( $\sigma = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23}$  J/K)  
 $\epsilon$  : the land surface emissivity [unitless].

Equation 5 (Memon et al., 2008; Solecki et al., 2004) above represents the conversion formula using Brightness Temperature (TB) values to compute the Land Surface Temperature values in Celsius degree (with that additional term for the absolute zero,  $-273.15$  °C) (Choi et al., 2012; Mejbel et al., 2018). Except brightness temperature, the other unknown term in this equation is the emissivity. So that, the emissivity values for each pixel must be computed before LST computation as it is mentioned above.

#### 4.5. Computing NDVI Values From Landsat Reflectance Bands

Even if emissivity is an indirect requirement for local climate studies driven by temperatures of land features, MS satellite images provide the most appropriate data source to compute the emissivity from Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) algorithm extracted from these MS band images (Sun et al., 2010; Corumluoglu et al., 2015; Ng et al., 2012; Mushore et al., 2017). Therefore, in such UHI and temperature related climate studies using RS satellite images; the first requirement is the computation of NDVI from satellites' reflectance bands for computation of emissivity correction. Therefore, the next step here became the computation of temporal NDVI values for the Izmir's urbanized lands using the time series of LANDSAT MS image scenes.

On the other hand, there are several vegetation indexes computed from RS MS band images. Output index images represent the healthy vegetation distribution on the land part corresponding with whole frame of a RS MS image scene or surrounded with a delineated boundary as a sub-set area. Mostly preferred vegetation index especially for the determination of emissivity is the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) in the literature (Chen et al., 2009). Therefore, in the case of LANDSAT, the bands to be used for the computation of such vegetation index values for each pixel corresponding with STAG are the 3th and 4th bands of LANDSAT 5 MS image scenes and 4th band and 5th band of LANDSAT 8 MS image scenes (Sekertekin et al., 2020). Normalized Difference Vegetation Index values at the time when each MS image scene was acquired (NDVI<sub>t</sub>) (Fig. 4) are then computed from the formulas given in Equations group 6 using these certain bands in MS image scenes acquired by LANDSAT 5 and LANDSAT 8 respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}
 NDVI_t &= \frac{\rho_{BAND4\_L5(t)} - \rho_{BAND3\_L5(t)}}{\rho_{BAND4\_L5(t)} + \rho_{BAND3\_L5(t)}} \\
 NDVI_t &= \frac{\rho_{BAND5\_L8(t)} - \rho_{BAND4\_L8(t)}}{\rho_{BAND5\_L8(t)} + \rho_{BAND4\_L8(t)}}
 \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where:

$NDVI_t$  : Normalized Difference Vegetation Index at the time of MS image acquisition.  
 $\rho_{BAND3\_L5(t)}$ : Computed Land Surface Reflectance Value of each STAG for the wavelength corresponding with the 3th band of LANDSAT 5 MS image scene at the time of acquisition.

$\rho_{BAND4\_L5(t)}$ : Computed Land Surface Reflectance Value of each STAG for the wavelength corresponding with the 4th band of LANDSAT 5 MS image scene at the time of acquisition.

$\rho_{BAND4\_L8(t)}$ : Computed Land Surface Reflectance Value of each STAG for the wavelength corresponding with the 4th band of LANDSAT 8 MS image scene at the time of acquisition.

$\rho_{BAND5\_L8(t)}$ : Computed Land Surface Reflectance Value of each STAG for the wavelength corresponding with the 5th band of LANDSAT 8 MS image scene at the time of acquisition.

t : stands for the time (date) when an individual MS image scene is acquired.

#### 4.6. Emissivity

Land Surface Emissivity ( $\varepsilon$ ) depends on the surface capability of transforming heat energy into radiant energy (Kumar et al., 2012). As it is mentioned earlier, it is the most efficient way to use remote sensing satellite MS band images to compute the emissivity from Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) to reach most reliable LST values in remote sensing projects. Therefore, here in this research NDVI Threshold Based Emissivity Method was adapted for the estimation of  $\varepsilon$  from Landsat data (Kumar et al., 2012; Jenerette et al., 2007; Zhang, 2006). The following equations 7 and 7a are used in this research to estimate emissivity from NDVI using appropriate reflectance image bands of LANDSAT 5 and 8's for the land surfaces representing mixed land cover with soil and vegetation (Willett and Sherwood, 2012).

$$\varepsilon_t = \varepsilon_V + \varepsilon_S (1 - P_{vt}) + d\varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad d\varepsilon = (1 - \varepsilon_S) (1 - P_{vt}) F \varepsilon_V \quad (7)$$

where:

$\varepsilon_t$  : is emissivity at the time of image acquisition.

$P_{vt}$  : is the proportion of vegetation on the land at time of acquisition (Lu et al., 2014).

$\varepsilon_V$  and  $\varepsilon_S$ : are the soil and vegetation emissivity, respectively.

$d\varepsilon$  : is the cavity effect due to surface roughness.

$F$  : is a geometrical shape factor with the mean value of 0.55 (Lopez et al., 2017).

$$P_{vt} = [ (NDVI_t - NDVI_s) / (NDVI_v - NDVI_s) ]^2 \quad (7a)$$

where:

$NDVI_t$  : Normalized Difference Vegetation Index at the time of image acquisition.

$NDVI_v = 0.5$  and  $NDVI_s = 0.2$  represent the general NDVI threshold values in the NDVI graph (Fig. 4) for vegetation coverage on land at where mixed land cover starts to turn into vegetation and for soil at where mixed land cover starts to turn into soil in the opposite direction towards 0 and negative values respectively (Lopez et al., 2017).

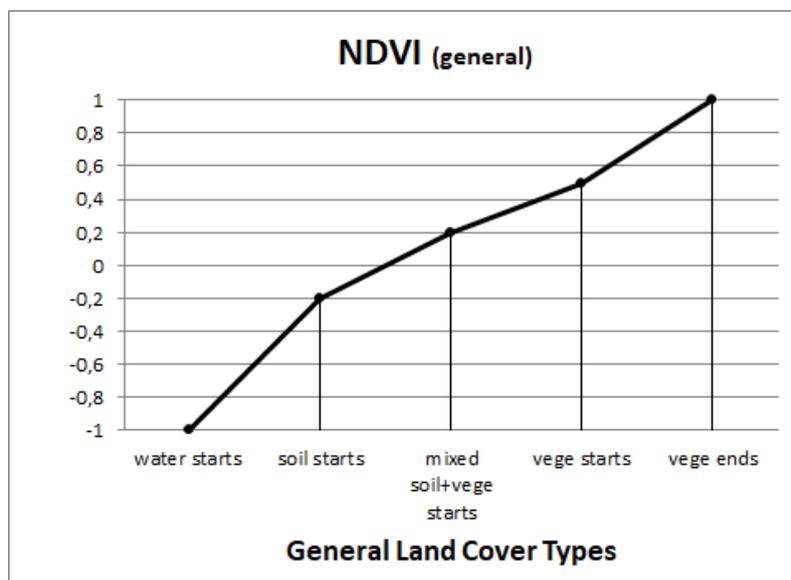


Figure 4. General NDVI values for general land cover types.

Table 2. Emissivity from NDVI.

NDVI	Emissivity ( $\epsilon$ ) for LANDSAT 5	Emissivity ( $\epsilon$ ) for LANDSAT 8
If $0.2 > NDVI_t$	$\epsilon = 0.979 - 0.035 \rho_R$	$\epsilon = 0.979 - 0.046 \rho_R$
If $0.2 \leq NDVI_t \leq 0.5$	$\epsilon = 0.986 - 0.004 P_v$	$\epsilon = \text{Equation 7}$
If $0.5 < NDVI_t$	$\epsilon = 0.99$	$\epsilon = 0.987 + d\epsilon$

Emissivity values are suggested as 0.985 and 0.960 for vegetation and soil respectively in Equation 7 (Bendib et al., 2017). Thus, the formulas in table 2 take care of the land covers like soil, vegetation and mixed land cover types individually for estimating emissivity from NDVI.  $\rho_R$  in the table 2 is for the red band reflectance value.

After producing time series emissivity images by following the instructions given in Table 2 (Shahmohamadi et al., 2011; Solecki et al., 2004), Land Surface Temperature (LST) values at each image acquisition time were then computed by using Equation 5 in Celsius as time series LST images as well (Corumluoglu et al., 2015).

## 5. Simulated Single Data (Or Image) (SSD or SSI)

### 5.1. Computation of Trend, Standard Deviation and Mean Value of Time Serous Data

A significant correlation between land cover and land surface temperature indicates that land cover type generally dominates the land surface temperature changes in most parts on the earth especially in urbanized regions (Firoozi et al. 2020). In this study, LST images for the period of 32 years between 1985 and 2018 were analyzed to reveal temperature distribution and to find out UHI development regions that effect and change the city natural climate condition over time. Therefore, spatiotemporal trends of land surface temperature values for the given period were then computed and analyzed for every STAG in the land boundary corresponding with subset image boundary by using the pixels of each subset LST image in time series data set. Here in this research, analyzed subset LST image data set is a time series data set of 32 years covering almost entire urbanized land parts in Izmir city.

Trend analysis in RS is a linear regression analysis of a variable against time that variable represents one of the land characteristics (here is LST and vegetation cover) of a tiniest land part (STAG) represented as a pixel in RS images in a time series data set (Firoozi et al., 2020; Forkel et al., 2013). Therefore, each pixel value in the output image represents change trend of the variable for that tiniest land part of the ground (STAG) over the time. They are computed from the series of values for each pixel in variable images obtained in annual temporal resolution and covering the entire study area and at the same time, they also simulate inter-annually average Variable Change Rate (VCR) here in this study (Song et al., 2015). VCR can also be defined as timely slope of a variable computed from the values of the same pixel in the time series variable images by using the linear regression equation (Equation 8) given below (Song et al., 2018; Tan et al., 2017). In this research, LST values forming a data cube for every individual pixel in time serious subset images obtained in month August through 32 years were used to simulate the change trend, the standard deviation of the change and the mean chance of LST variable for each STAG in the urbanized region. The regression slope of a change over time is calculated by the least square method. The trend (or slope) formula is then given as followings:

$$Slope_k = \frac{n \sum_{i=1}^n i * V_{ki} - (\sum_{i=1}^n i) * (\sum_{i=1}^n V_{ki})}{n * \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 - (\sum_{i=1}^n i)^2}, k (1, \dots, l), i (1, 2, 3, \dots, n) \quad (8)$$

where k is for variables, l is the total number of the variables and here we have only one variable, LST, therefore k is 1 and Slope<sub>k</sub> is for slope of k<sup>th</sup> variable, V<sub>ki</sub> stands for k<sup>th</sup> variable's pixel value in the i<sup>th</sup> time serious image and i stands for the number of sequential year and n is for the total number of years in the time series, here is 32.

After the computation of LST slope (or trend) image formed as pixels for every corresponding STAG in the urban area (here is for Izmir city urban area) from LST time serious image data for the years between 1985 and 2018, similarly to the trend image computation, standard division (SD) and mean (M) value images were then also computed using the equations 9 and 10 below.

$$SD_k = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (V_{ki} - m_k)^2}{n-1}} \quad (9)$$

$$m_k = (\sum_{i=1}^n V_{ki}) / n \quad (10)$$

where, m<sub>k</sub> is LST mean values computed by using the LST pixel values through the entire time series LST image data set for each corresponding STAG in the study area.

## 5.2. Computation of Simulated Single Data (or Image) (SSD or SSI) for a time series data set

Trend, standard division and mean images of the variable (here LST) are all single images computed after a statistical processes of time series data. Here in this study, a combined statistical approach using those statistical quantities altogether is suggested and a mathematical model is then developed to form a more robust representation of a time series variable and utilizing combined force of all these three quantities since they are used individually in time series studies so far. Therefore, the next step in the study became the computation of a simulated single image of a time series data for a certain variable using Equation 11 below. The output image from the equation 11 mimics the entire related time

serious data as a Simulated Single Image (SSI) for the variable in interest, here is LST. So, the SSI represents and encompasses statistically the trend, the change range and the mean value of entire time serious data for the related variable for the study region. In other words, a SSI pixel value for a variable stands as a single value statistically estimated from slope, standard division and mean values using the entire time serious data of unic pixel corresponding with an individual STAG and therefore simulates the properties' change of that tiny land part statistically in terms of related variable during a certain period of time (here, it is the yearly august LST variable for 32 years). This let us to do represent time serious distribution of variable as a single image. If there would be several variables, then SSI process makes multi-criteria analyses possible using single images instead of dealing with several time serious data or images individually and still accounting the changes in the variable over time. In the case of single factor analyses and even it is single image, SSI still accounts the time series data and provides usefull analyse medium for the variable obtained as time series data set.

$$SSI_k = Slope_k * SD_k + M_k \quad (11)$$

If SSI equation (Equation 11) is reviewed, it can be realized that there is no need to put SD value (multiplied by slope) into the equation with a plus-minus sign because the slope value comes with the direction sign as plus sign for an increasing trend or as minus sign for a decreasing trend from the values in the entire time series data of every individual pixel. Thus, the standard deviation of the variable obtained from variable values in the time series data set for an individual pixel represents the change in the variable through this entire data range w.r.t. mean value and similarly to that, slope also represents the change trend of the LST through this time series data. When these two statistical values are multiplied, then simulated single image is obtained for an entire time series data set, but at that step, in fact it is referred to zero. For a realistic simulation, it must be shifted to mean value. Therefore, final simulated single value of the variable for the pixel in process (for SSI LST image) must be computed just by adding that statistical product term to the mean value from the values of time series image data for the same pixel.

## **6. Results and Discussions**

After analyse of the result as SSI output of LST distribution to reveal hot spots and heat island developments in the urbanized areas of Izmir city over the years which these urbanized regions can be followed with the delineated red boundary polygon in Fig. 6a presented as a 3D illustration, it is recognized that some specific parts of the city are the most candidate and prone sites for the appearance of such hot spots and UHI developments. For the sake of easy following the relationship between land structures and/or covers and LST distribution and for the determination of hot spots and heat island developments in the Izmir urban areas, some parts of the city are grouped and lebaled w.r.t. apparent structures formed by specific anthropogenic activities at those regions. Thus, they are tagged as CC, I, R and A in Fig. 5 (and in Fig. 6a as 3D illustration by a stereo image pair) which they represent city center, industrial, residential and airport areas respectively.

Now, here can be discussed the land structures and types of urban areas in the city of Izmir. As it can be seen from the Fig. 5 and 6a, city sprawl in the East includes no other types of urban structures but almost entirely two industrial zones (I4 and I5) at where they are spread on the bottom of the narrow valley trapped between two mountains running towards the gulf of Izmir. There are also two other industrial sites (I2 and I3) located at where this valley ends and reaches to the city part occupying plain area just next to the mouth of this valley with a width of almost 7 km in north-south direction even if the mountains still run along the both sites of

the plain towards the gulf (follow the local terrain and the topography of the region by checking 3D illustrations from the stereo pair perspective images provided in the Fig. 6a). It is also seen from Fig. 5 and Fig. 6b (as 3D illustration from the stereo image pair) that heat islands and so the hot sites of the city appear at the slightly high slopes at the bottom of these mountains up to where the urban land parts reach to the high slopes until they are interrupted by green areas like forested regions on high sloppy terrains of these mountains, even if the valley forms a natural channel for local wind blow and breeze. So, these forested or green areas are the coolest sites around the city as seen from LST distribution in Figure 6b. Other cool sites in the city are seen at the city regions on the lowlands with some slightly rugged terrains, so at the mouth of the previously mentioned valley. It is where it reaches to the coast of Izmir gulf east to west in the city centre. Those cool sites almost completely met with urban sites at where residential and some commercially active areas are, but none is seen at the industrial regions. So, the research pointed out that even the city has 7 industrial sites (Fig. 5 and 6a) none of them appears in these cool sites. This is a significant result even if it is a single image, but it is actually an output representing a SSI of LST distribution of 32 years of time series LANDSAT thermal data analyse (Fig. 6b and 6c and Fig. 7). Thus, urban parts where industrial activities are in the city almost entirely contribute to and coincide with heat island development sites in the city. So, generally these sites cause hot spots to appear first and then this heat problem accumulates and finally ends up with heat pollution as heat island. Furthermore this heat pollution spreads towards neighboring urban areas next to these industrial sites in the city and effects these neighboring zones in great extents (in some cases up to 5-10 km) by creating UHIs (Fig. 6a and 6b and Fig. 7). This outcome also confirms our previous research outcome, even if it revealed the heat island distribution over the city of Izmir for only one specific date (Corumluoglu et al., 2015).

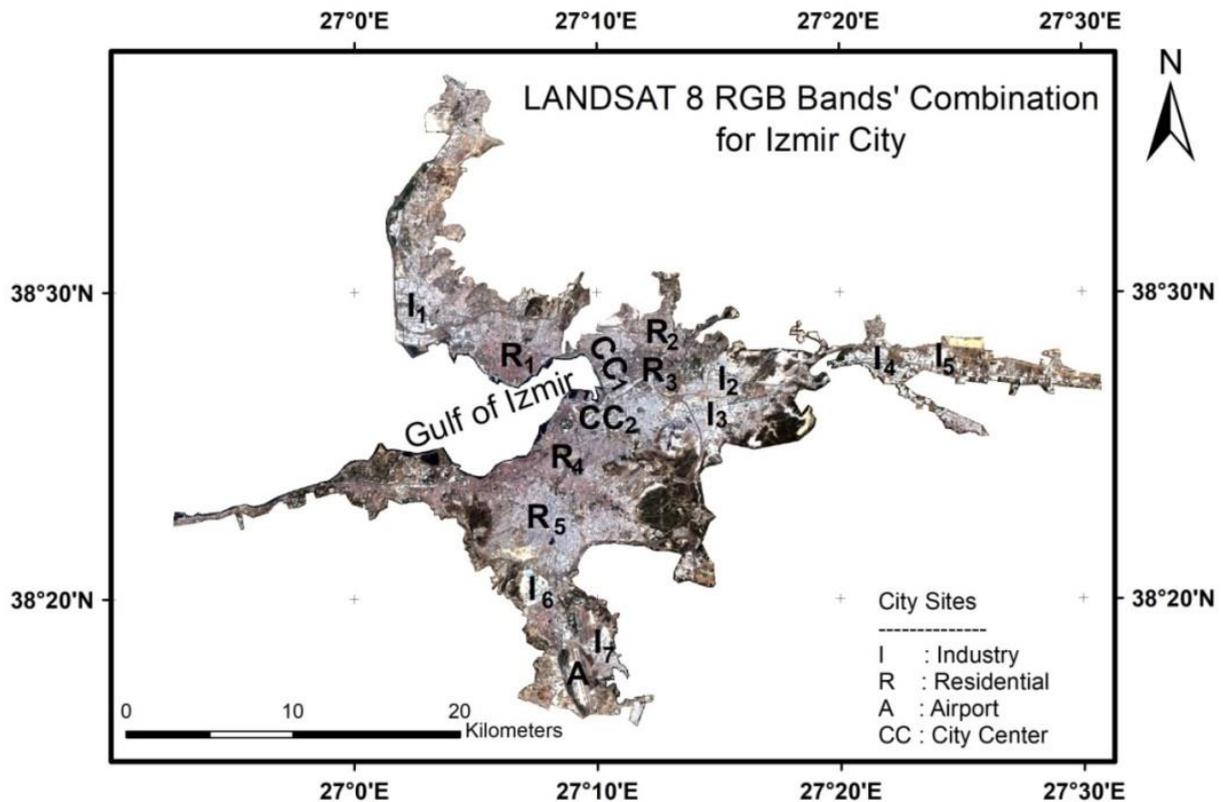


Figure 5. Representation of City of Izmir and urban area distribution in RGB true color LANDSAT images

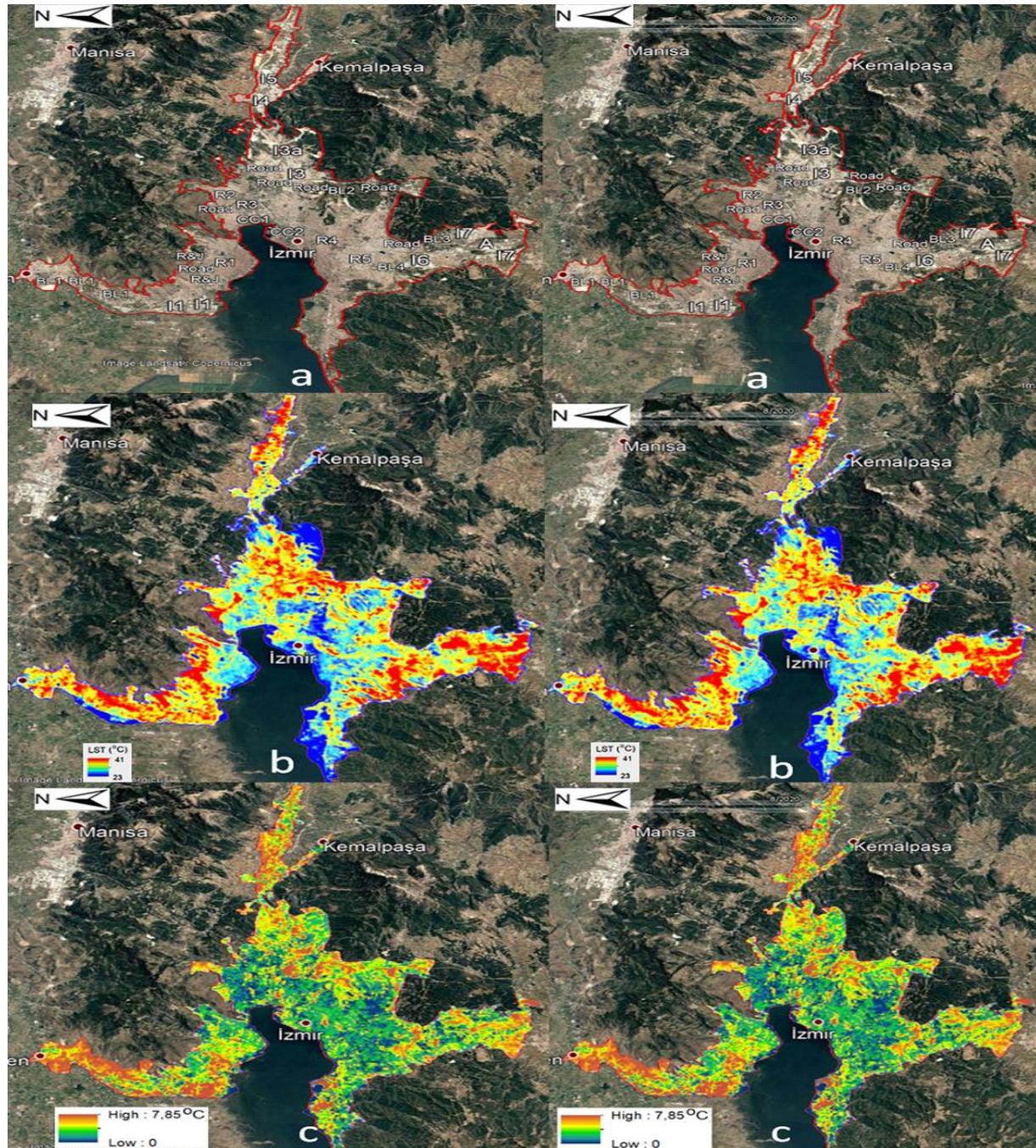


Figure 6. 3D representation of study area (red curved line) (a) with some urban details, and (b) for the Simulated Single Image (SSI) LST distribution and (c) for the distribution of SSI Local LST differences in the city of Izmir for the month August of 32 years' time span between 1985 and 2018 by using stereo display techniques with embedded illustrations on Google Earth captured images (use converging eye lines' method to see the 3D illustrations above and for seeing the 3D illustration of these stereo pair images, reader is recommended to follow the steps of stereo viewing technique which depends on converging left and right eye axes behind the stereo images or simply cross eye technique. Furthermore, reader is also referred to one of the "youtube videos" on that technique in social media, DanInAfterEffects, 2011. 3D illustrations here do not have any scale because a 3D perspective illustration can not have a unic scale in its 3D space and the North arrows in the illustrations are not put

towards the top of the page for the sake of fitting the 3D illustrations to the page and since colorful distribution of LST and LST differences use continuous color representation even legends are chosen in continuous color forms).

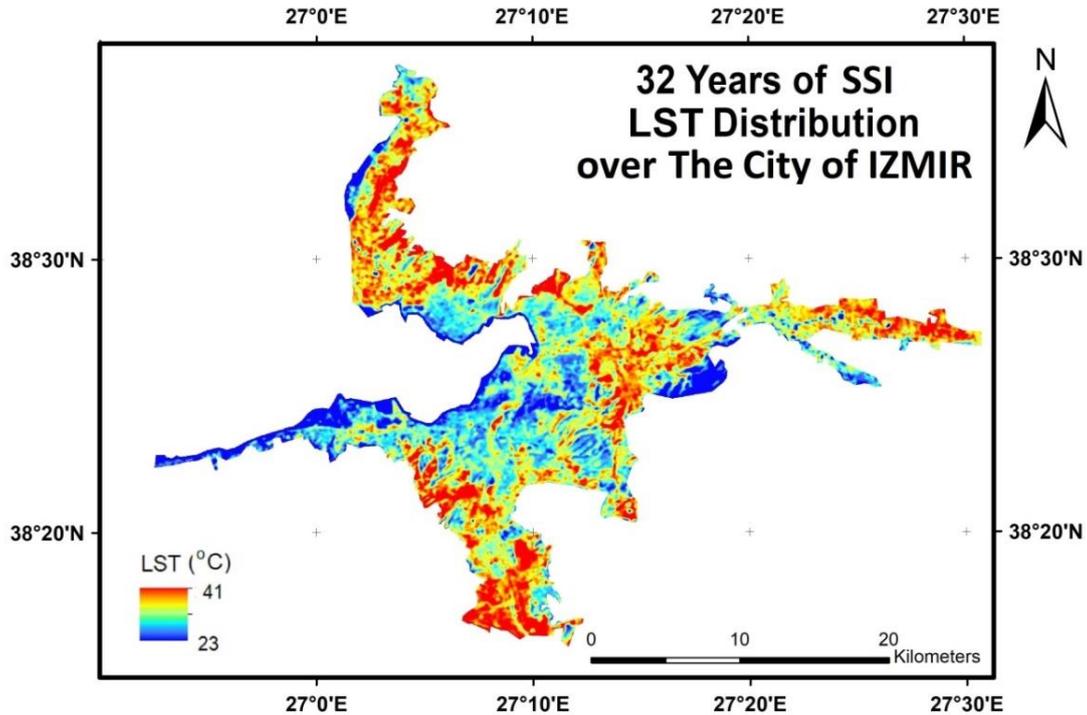


Figure 7. Simulated Single Image (SSI) of LST distribution for 32 years between 1985 and 2018 for the month August over the city of Izmir

There are also several other outcomes from this research. These results will be explained w.r.t. the thermal conditions in some sub-urban sections of the city showing a similar LST distribution behavior. So that, the city is divided into several subsections with certain types of LST distributions for the sake of easy understanding and recognition the corresponding urban structures behind that specific types of LST distribution over such urban areas (these subsections are represented as black and white rectangles in Fig. 8).

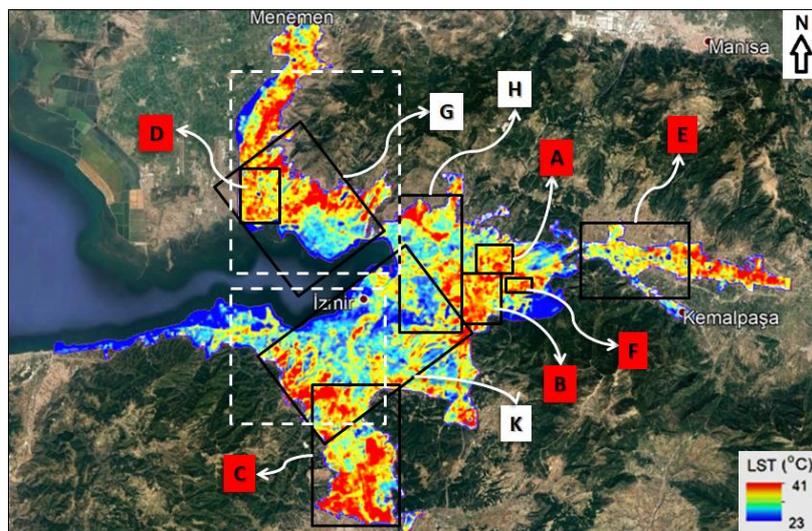


Figure 8. Subsections of the project covering the different urban zones in the city of Izmir w.r.t. the LST distribution.

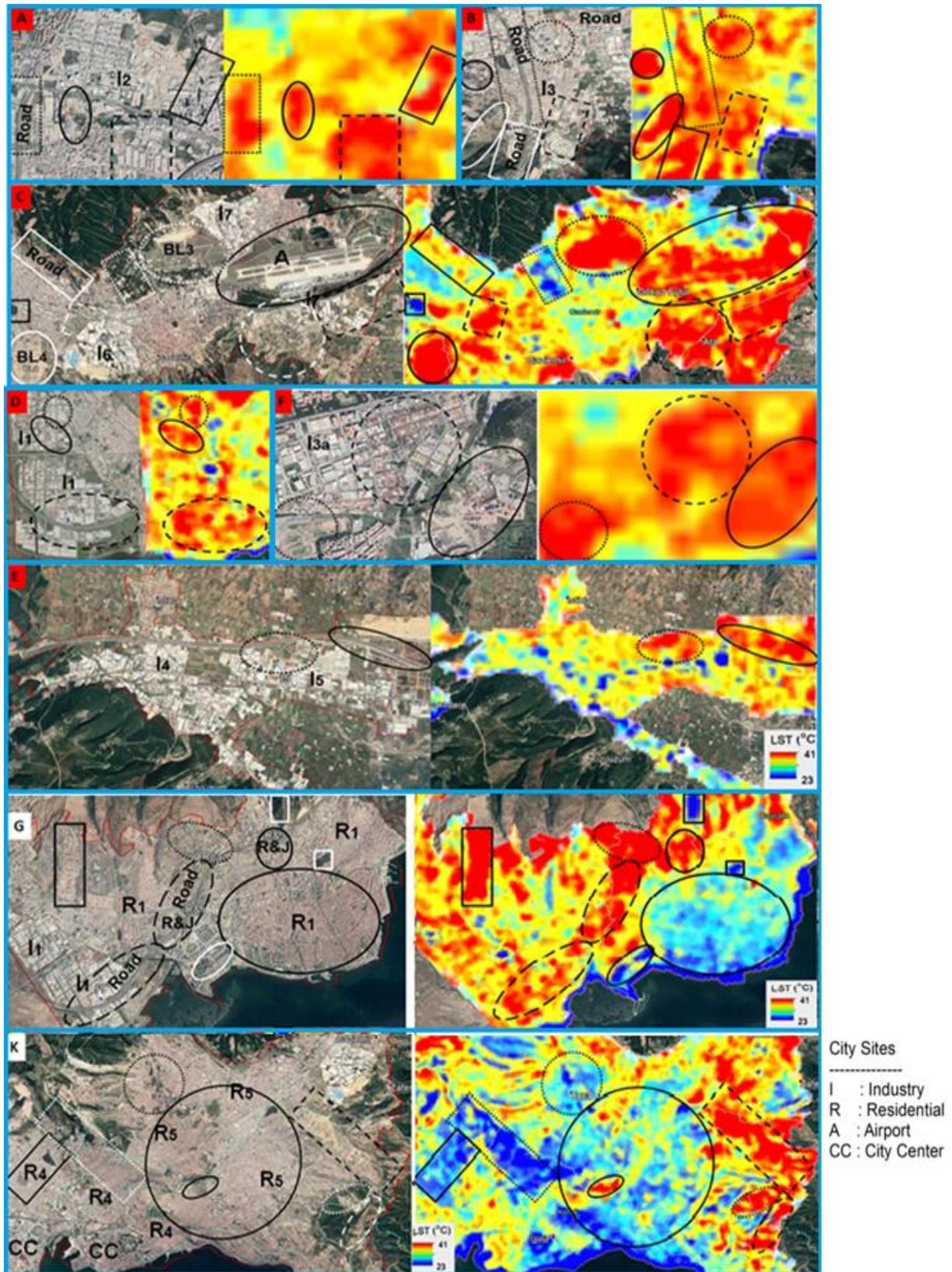


Figure 9. Representation of detailed subsections covering the areas with specific urban features shown in different geometrical shapes for the comparison with specific LST distributions in the city.

Fig. 9 also represents these subsections in detail with related letter tags A to K as shown in Fig. 8. Every tagged part seen in the Fig. 9 shows the urban structures in details at that specifically urbanized city parts in RGB color image form along with thematic representation of detailed SSI LST distribution related to that specific city part. Fig. 9 shows different urban types of city subsections in the details with corresponding tag given in Fig. 8 as mentioned above and also highlights some areas with specific urban structures in these subsections by marking them with black and white geometrical shapes on the Fig. 8 since they represent distinct LST distributions. These corresponding SSI LST distributions are also shown in the Fig. 9 next to that tagged image parts of these urban subsections.

As it can be seen from SSI illustration of LST distribution corresponding with A tagged RGB image part in Fig. 9, there are several hot spot areas which they also contribute the heat island development covering almost entirely this A tagged subsection in the city. In fact, this A tagged area is almost entirely covered by one of the industrial areas among several others in the city. The buildings in this region are generally single-storey industrial buildings with high ceiling and large metal roof tops which are also confirmed by investigation done on “google earth” high resolution images. Because of that, when they are generally exposed to solar energy during daylight times in summer seasons, they absorb the solar energy in great extent and are heated up extremely, then start to reradiate this absorbed great amount of energy as thermal radiation back into the surrounding environment. Therefore, they appear as hot spots contributing the heat island developments in the whole subsections of the city which are tagged as A up to E as shown in Fig. 9. Almost all of the industrial regions in the city are the regions labeled with “I” as shown in the tagged RGB images in Fig. 9 w.r.t. the tags in Fig. 8. They are the regions such as those marked with dashed black rectangle and black solid line rectangle and ellipse in the RGB image with tag A and even the large industrial area appearing in the top middle section of the image and are also marked by rectangles with black dashed line and dotted circle in the B tagged RGB image and represented by black dashed rectangle and the area labelled as “I6 and I7” in the RGB image with tag C and delineated by black solid, dotted and dashed ellipses in the RGB image with tag D and also delineated by black dashed circle in the RGB image with tag F and all white details in the regions labelled as “I5 and I6” in the RGB image with tag E and two city urban sections labelled with “I1” as seen in G tagged RGB image and also the region with wide white details on the top right corner of the K tagged image.

They all contribute hot spots to appear and then heat island to develop as seen in the colorful thematic representations just next to the tagged RGB images. All those colored thematic representations are the subset images from SSI LST distribution in the entire urban land. The sections appearing in dense red color representing the hot spots and heat islands correspond with those marked regions in the tagged RGB images. Probably the industrial activities and processes in industrial regions and the industrial building structures cause heat increase in these regions and create heat pollution and then changes the local climate and natural condition of the environment in these regions and in the surrounding city parts (so these regions are seen as brownish and yellowish colors in the subset SSI LST distribution images next to the RGB images). This harmful effect in these city parts deteriorates and disturbs the comfort of the local people who lives and works in these regions and also increases the cooling cost for bringing back the comfort artificially in vehicles and buildings.

The research also emphasized that another suspicious urban detail in the city, contributing the heat island developments are the roads. When the wide of an asphalt roads becomes larger as it is being experienced with highways and since the city of Izmir has a long one of them as a ring highway which some cases it occupies surrounding terrains around and at the city boundaries and even with large highway junctions at several locations, then they become other group of most suspicious candidate urban structures causing hot spots to emerge and contributing heat islands to develop as it can be seen through the same tagged RGB images

and those corresponding color images of SSI LST distributions given next to the every RGB image in Fig. 9 such as those highway road sections and junctions marked by dotted black rectangle in A tagged RGB image and again dotted black rectangle and white rectangle with solid line in RGB image with B tag and white rectangle and dashed white square in the RGB image with C tag and black dashed ellipse in the RGB image with tag D (with some industrial buildings) and both ellipse shapes in the RGB image with tag E and both dashed ellipse (for highway) and small solid line ellipse (for large highway junction) in the RGB image with tag G.

Other urban land features which are important to highlight here in this research as other suspicious urban structures that cause heat islands to develop and consequently heat pollution in cities can be grouped as bare lands with no urban structures, so the lands within these forms; bare soil lands, barren lands, excavated bare lands and even grassy green lands and green lands covered with grass, brush and scrub. These areas can be followed from the tagged RGB images in Fig. 9. So, these are the areas marked with white ellipse in the B tagged RGB image and the excavated bare soil area labeled as BL4 and marked with white soled line ellipse and grassy land labelled as BL3 and delineated with dotted white ellipse and the area with mostly grassy, brushy and barren land mixed with few small dwelling houses and marked with dashed white circle in the C tagged RGB image and also the areas including grassy lands, excavated barren soils and barren lands mixed very few small buildings marked with dotted black circle and black solid line ellipse in the F tagged RGB image and even hilly slope barren land with dwelling structures facing towards south delineated with black solid line rectangle in the G tagged RGB image and finally the almost entirely barren slope land facing towards south marked with black dashed line rectangle and also excavated barren and some grassy and brushy hills' slope land parts facing towards south-east and south marked with white dotted and dashed ellipses in the K tagged RGB image. All these land features, structures and patterns cause to emerge hot spots and to develop heat islands in the urban regions with such specific urban features and even by effecting the neighboring urban lands in great extents as seen in the labelled images in Fig. 9 above and they can also be followed as red areas for hot spot sites and all red-reddish and yellow-yellowish areas for heat island development sites from the colored SSI-LST images given along with tagged RGB images in Fig. 9.

In addition to these bare, bare soil, excavated and barren lands and even with grass, brush and scrub urban land features, if an urban land having any types of these land covers is on a hill slope facing towards either south-east or directly east or south (Fig. 10), then the topographical aspect of the land w.r.t. its slope direction facing directly toward either east, south or south-east becomes the dominant factor contributing greatly the emergence of hot spots and development of heat islands over those urban lands having such sort of certain specifications (Estoque et al., 2017). This is probably because of the increase of heat retention capability of such lands with land cover types mentioned above when they face directly or almost perpendicularly towards the sun. Thus, thermal energy coming from the sun is absorbed in high amount with minimum scattering by such land surfaces when they face towards the sun. In the case of Izmir, realizing examples of that process on such urban land slopes having together with one of the aspects of either east, south or south-east and land covers mentioned above which cause hot spots to emerge and heat islands to develop can be followed from Fig. 7 and even from the 3D illustration of Izmir city and also 3D illustration of SSI-LST distribution over the city in Fig. 9 and Fig. 10.

This is probably the most important outcome of this research obtained after analyzing the topographical structure of the entire city through these 3D illustrations from stereo pairs in Fig. 9 and Fig. 10. As it is seen from the same figures that urban hill slopes not facing to the mentioned directions (so, if they are facing towards North, West or North-West) are having

cool climates relatively w.r.t. the hot slopes discussed previously and they are shown with black solid line arrows in 3D illustrations in the Fig. 10 and marked with black solid line and white dotted line rectangles in K tagged RGB image in the Fig. 9.

On the other hand, relatively cool sites in the city are seen at residential and commercial areas delineated with large black solid line ellipse in G tagged RGB image and large black solid line circle in K tagged RGB image in the Fig. 9 and they are also located on (in general) almost flat or slightly rough terrains as shown in 3D illustrations with dotted line and solid line ellipses in both stereo images of Fig. 10. It is probably because of city building structures and building materials being different than industrial sites since they are generally dwelling houses or apartments or mostly commercial buildings in these regions which are almost entirely city district centers. So, all those work together and behave like scattering surfaces w.r.t. the sunlight coming from a slope angle. Therefore, these regions within described structural form do not absorb much energy but scatter it around contrary to the sites causing UHI developments. There are also some dotted line arrows which they point some sites appearing in darker blue color (as cool spots) in both stereo illustrations of SSI LST embedded images in Fig. 10. So, these areas are the parks with mature and tall trees with large canopy surrounded by urban structures as it can be followed in the Fig. 11 as well which represents SSI-NDVI distribution over the city of Izmir. Other cool sites marked by black solid line arrows again in Fig. 10 are slope lands facing towards North, West or North-West directions. They are the coolest areas in the region.

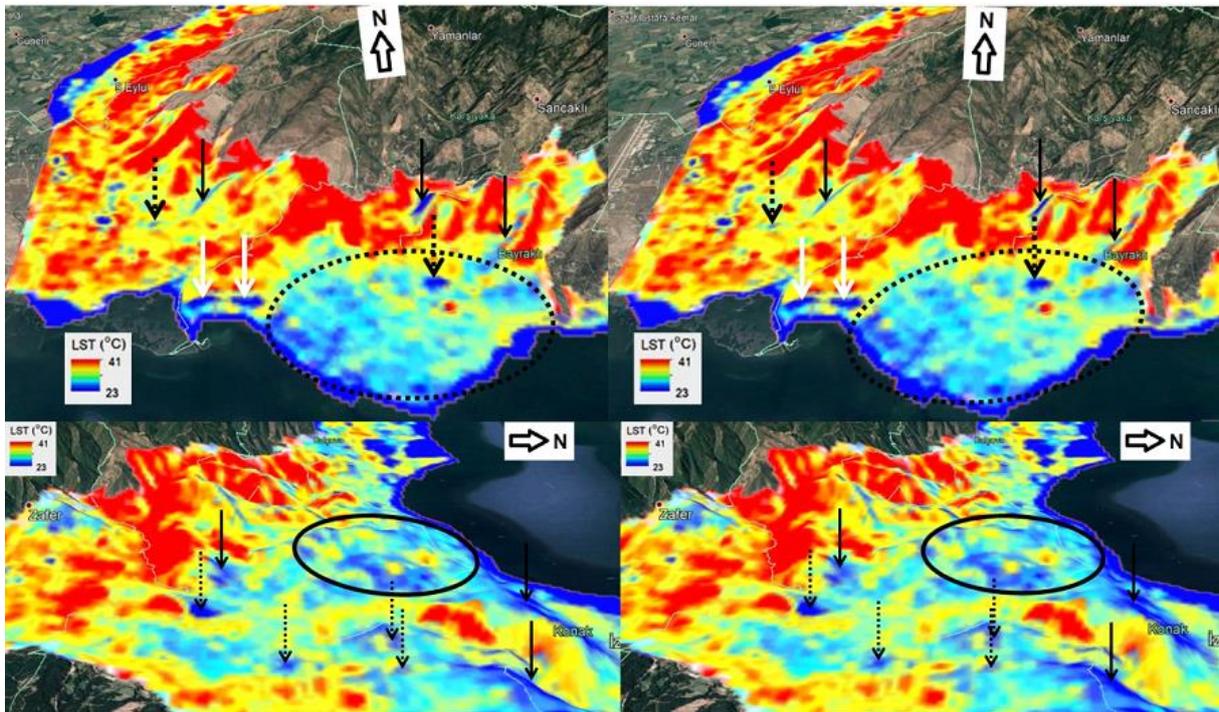


Figure 10. 3D illustrations from stereo pairs of thematic representation of SSI-LST distributions over the city of Izmir for cool sites marked with arrows and ellipses.

One of the most interesting findings in this research is related with a residential area including tall and high-rise apartments in discrete formation and also including recreation sections between these apartments decorated with green vegetation and trees as shown in large scale image at the bottom of Fig. 12 and with black solid line ellipses in the left middle part of the figure which includes the thematic illustration of SSI LST distribution. What should be kept in mind here related with this research is that the SSI-LST distribution means in one sense, single image thermal data output from statistical analyses of 32 years which still carry contribution of

trend, standard deviation and average values altogether. So, the middle left part of the Fig. 12 illustrates that SSI-LST appearance over that region as dark blue color which is referred to coolest temperature and over other sites surrounding this specific apartment site. Here, it must strongly be emphasized that the mentioned apartment site is one of the coolest city regions like an isolated city section in the entire city even if it is still urbanized residential area just next to the heat island developed site in this part of the city. This is probably because of the above-described specific formation of the site. This outcome becomes more meaningful when it is compared with a similar apartment site with tall buildings and again with discrete pattern but with recreation areas between the apartment blocks decorated as car park sites with asphalt or paved lands or grassy lands with some bushes and even if they are located just next to the mentioned coolest site, they appear as two of the hot spot areas in the city and they are shown with two black dotted arrows in the Fig. 12. The figure also represents other two hot spot sections. They are highway road and junction shown with two black solid line arrows and the others are empty bare lands with very rare vegetation shown with two black dashed line arrows in the middle image.

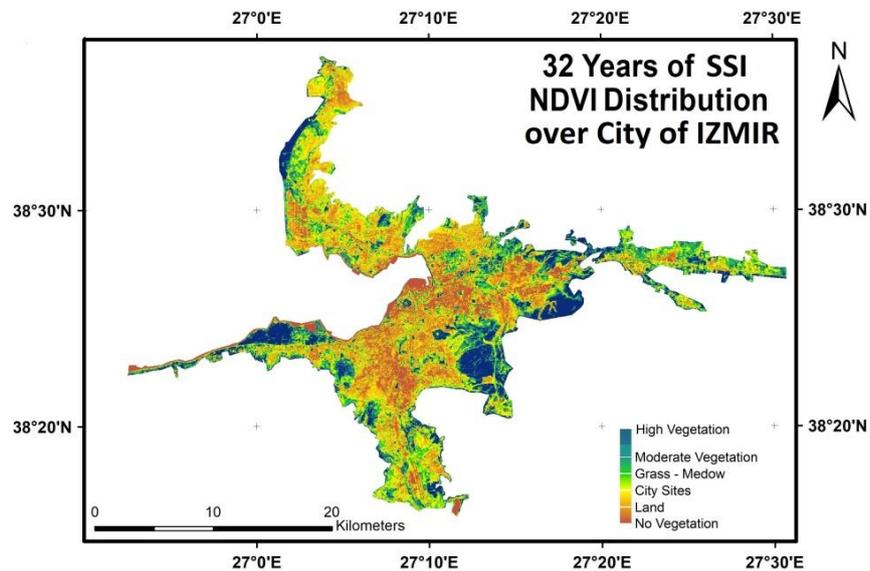


Figure 11. Simulated Single Image (SSI) NDVI distribution of 32 years between 1985 and 2018 for the month August over the city of Izmir

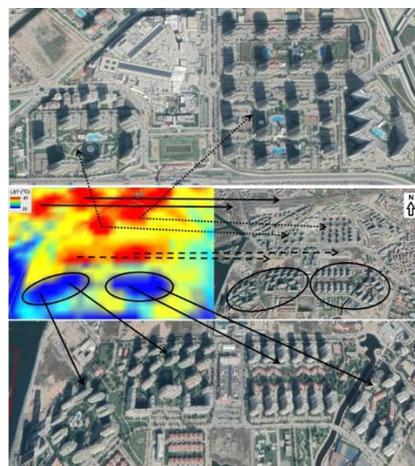


Figure 12. Unique formation of high-rise dwelling apartments with specific natural recreation areas for cool site creation in cities.

## Conclusions

Local climate studies for urban areas under thermal stress revealed a strong correlation between different urban land cover types and urban LST distribution (Chen et al., 2006; Weng and Yang, 2004; Deilami and Kamruzzaman, 2017; Tran et al., 2017). This relationship introduces the driving forces on UHI developments w.r.t. urban land cover types in cities. On the other hand, it became a well-known fact that UHI determined by LST analyzes is a temperature dependent climatic phenomenon exposing which urban areas are under severe heat pollution effecting local climate with higher air temperature than their surroundings (Shahmohamadi et al. 2011). Thus, LST dependent thermal analyses became a phenomenon representing heat related local climate condition and distribution over an entire city and city parts under severe thermal risks caused by the heat pollution when LANDSAT MS and fundamentally thermal images are used for the related analyses in high resolution land tiles, like 30 m by 30 m resolution without any gap.

This study demonstrates timely changes and decreases in natural areas w.r.t. their normal thermal conditions because of transformation of these natural areas into different types of urban lands and activity areas caused by urban growth in time, then increases in surface temperature and the modified urban microclimate due to these increased LST values and also UHI developments during that certain course of time following UHSs at where they emerge in cities and at where specific urban activities are. Here in this research, it is strongly confirmed that industrial sites in urban areas are the major contributors and one of the most candidate sites in urban areas with suspicious industrial activities and certain building structures causing urban hot spots to appear and then heat islands to develop in time. As it can be seen from the Fig. 6c, relative temperature differences for the entire city computed w.r.t. standard deviation of LST distributions through 32 years for each land part in 30 meters by 30 meters tile size can reach up to 7.85 °C. The results also mean that the highest LST standard deviation value in UHI development areas is 7.85 °C higher than those in the coolest sites where they are generally seen at the lands covered with trees in residential areas on flat or smooth terrains without any industrial activities (they are the areas appearing in dark blue color and are marked white dotted arrows in Fig. 10) and on slopes facing towards north, west or northwest directions (Fig. 6c).

The sites with industrial facilities using heat for their specific industrial processes and building structures with large and flat metal roofs generally appearing as roof installation style of industrial factories are the most suspicious anthropogenic urban and activity patterns for initiating UHSs and then in time forming UHIs in cities. Therefore, industrial zones cause severe UHI developments over the urban lands where industrial zones are located at and clustered in the city and their affects also extent to the neighboring city parts in great extent (Rizwan et al., 2008). This was also the outcome of our previous research depending on only one day data. Similar results are also reached here in this research, but this time from the analyses of time serious data. Therefore, this outcome of the research is now a strongly confirmed with the results from SSI analyses based on time series data. Such type of UHI patterns appearing over industrial zones is seen especially at the three industrial sites in the city of Izmir, the first one is in the Cigli district at the far North city part, the second one is in the Bornova district at the far East city part and the final one is the industrial zone in the Gaziemir district at the far South part of the city. All represent worst temperature conditions causing heat pollution over locally large areas that change and effect natural form of the local climate, living conditions and comfort level of these city districts and surrounding areas.

LST–NDVI builds a strong negative correlation between thermal condition and vegetation cover in urban lands and even in rural landscapes. The urban sections with trees are remained as preserved natural islands in an impervious, rough and rugged urban sea. Meanwhile LST-

NDVI also represents a weak relation in small areas like those vegetated and green lands with rare and short trees appearing mostly in dense urban built-up regions (Fig. 5, Fig. 6a and Fig. 11). High values in a NDVI image are first highly dependent on existence of vegetation and then the types and the state of vegetation based on some factors such as the canopy coverage, maturity, density and height of trees where trees are involved. Normally, high NDVI values are for trees and green vegetation and low NDVI values for built-up areas and bare lands. Moreover, high LST values can basically be related with increase and densification in built-up areas and bare lands whereas low values are for the increases in forest, wetland and water bodies. The existence of vegetation and water bodies reduces the LST values at that land parts of the city. UHSs generally appear within the UHI zones as high concentrated LST locations. Therefore, UHSs affect the neighboring areas and then cause UHIs to develop over those areas in time. Only the regions in UHI zones where the UHSs or eyes of UHIs appear are under a severe heat stress. With inconsistent urban development, the UHI zones may worsen the eco-environmental quality and fall under worst ecological condition (Guha et al. 2018).

Moreover, the relationship between LST and non-vegetation urban covers (not including build up areas) represented in this study by SSI-LST and SSI-NDVI distributions based on a 32 years of time series data analyses indicates a strong positive effect (for example, non-vegetated urban lands like bare, excavated or soil lands and even low vegetated areas such as grassy or bushy urban land parts) with hot spot emergence and heat island developments since these lands have almost a very little or negligible amount of vegetation and water bodies or none of them (Fig. 11). Contrary to that, vegetated areas with mature and/or long trees and with trees having large canopy cover appear as one of the coolest sites in the city and show a reducing affect for UHI and heat pollution in and around such urban lands.

There is also another contributing factor that carries UHI developments to further severe levels. It is the influence of land aspects depending on the topographical structure of urban lands. If urban land located on a hill slope facing towards either East, South or South-East, these land parts heat up by sun during day time but not losing their temperature during the night times especially in summer seasons and then daily heat accumulates on top of the previous times' temperature which could not reduce much during night times (Fig. 6 and 10). This process goes on and on in daily manner and initiates hot spots to appear at that sites and then ends up as UHIs in time. Thus, aspect conditions of urban lands cause these UHI developments influence large areas and widely extent over neighboring city lands especially when it works together with other factors such as industrial zones appearing in special building patterns with very large metal roofs as seen in all three industrial regions in the city mentioned previously and even with bare, excavated or rarely vegetated grassy bushy urban lands on hill slopes facing towards those directions given previously.

Other suspicious city urban features which cause UHSs to appear and then contribute the development of UHIs are wide asphalt roads such as highways passing through cities or occupying surrounding city terrains and large highway intersections (Fig. 9). Asphalt absorbs the incoming energy from the sun and then this process heats up the urban land parts where these roads are. Afterward, asphalt starts to reradiate that absorbed energy in longer wavelengths such as those in thermal wavelength region of electromagnetic spectrum. Thus, wide asphalt roads become another contributing factor causing increase in temperature and heat pollution in that suspicious city parts and they even affect the surrounding urban parts in cities as being experienced in the city of Izmir case, here in this research.

There is another outcome of this study which is about building structure and building site design pattern. Depending on the SSI-LST analyses here, a dwelling site in Izmir represents quite a cool region. A certain layout pattern of this site consists of several apartment blocks in a discrete order with large common recreational areas between the buildings. These recreational areas include not paved surfaces (usually which are not encountered in most cases) but green spaces with mature trees which are tall and having large canopy. Other sites with similar layout pattern (even next to this site in Izmir) but with paved surfaces between building blocks as car parking areas appear as one of the urban land cover forms contributing UHI development in the region (Fig. 12). In addition to that, the residential areas supported with commercial activities and buildings and also dwelling units (as apartment blocks, houses and etc.) generally show relatively cool local climates being contrary to the situations encountered in the regions under severe UHI pressures and with suspicious urban structures mentioned earlier since these cool sites include discrete or even row housing buildings and apartment blocks with low-rise of few storeys and generally with tile roofs and most importantly they are recreationally supported by mature and large canopy trees which are closely planted around and just next to the buildings and also at the sides of the streets between these dwelling apartments and houses in the region. This mature and large canopy tree supported recreational area and housing urbanization layout style works together with the heights of low-rise and high-rise storey buildings (no matter they are for dwelling or commercial purposes) and closely planted mature trees for creating significant number of shadowy regions in these urban sites which are generally located on almost slightly rough terrains in the city (areas with blueish colors and marked by ellipses seen in Fig. 10).

### **6.1. Suggestions for the mitigating the UHI impact on city local climate**

As an essence from this study, one can come up with a conclusion such as that, if there would be no industrial sites next to regions where city residents dwell, shop and live and in short, spend most of their out work times or if the industrial zones would be in distant locations to such city zones, the city would be more comfortable than the cases under the pressure of industrial zones and even people's cooling bills would be cut down in residential and commercial buildings and in their cars as well. So this means considerable amount of cost saving in total for cooling issue in cities when city population is taken into consideration especially in metropolitans and then maybe, this would create extra financial resources coming from individuals for supporting more recreational areas and activities at where city residents mostly spent their time in cities with a more comfortable and calm city local climate (temperature) conditions which would need only few centigrade degrees to be cooled down, not as much as that seen in the cases of UHIs. So this would contribute the resilience and sustainability of the city as well.

The above urban areas with above mentioned specific features are all urban regions contributing UHSs to appear and UHIs to develop which make people to live in harsh and uncomfortable environmental conditions and even costly in term of several aspects. Consequently, these outputs of the study suggest us to create a guidance to prevent our cities from such sort of environmental pollution, so thermal pollution caused by aforementioned urban structures. With the light of another outcome of this study it can be suggested a nature-based solution. This solution focuses on a future urban forest plantation plan (to grow urban forest) to be taken into consideration at those industrial sites as a priority to mitigate the negative effect of heat islands at and around and even at where they accumulate in cities in an effective, an efficient and a sustainable way. It then promises providing thermal comfort for the residents living close to these sites, reducing sera effect, contributing prevention of climate change, increasing energy save, reducing fossil fuel usage and many more. This will also increase the current city rank to a city rank which is more resilient, sustainable, livable and etc. by only using nature-based solutions; tree plantation in a compatible pattern so tall and mature trees with large canopy coverage. This sort of nature-based solutions can also be suggested

for the highway sides and surrounding terrains as well. In addition to that especially in the industrial zone with large and wide roof and even not tiled but roofing with metal materials it can be suggested some more solutions as those followings to reduce heat causing UHS appearance and UHI development and then to prevent our cities from heat pollution and to restore local climate as comfortable as at the times when people enjoy the nature. The first, the large and wide roofs of existing industrial buildings can be divided in to several sections almost in the sizes of normal dwelling building roofs with tiles and then a series of gable, hip or shed types of roofs with tiles can be installed on one-meter-high scaffolds and in the case of new industrial buildings, the roof construction plans can be rearranged appropriately or modified with the suggested roof styles. Another solution could be the installation of green roofs on top of existing industrial buildings' roofs even if it is labor intensive and a costly solution, even after the construction it will need continuous care, survival and maintenance attentions. On the other hand, mostly cost effective one could be the setting up a water sprinkle system on top of industrial roofs that sprinkle water in an appropriate time order which is similar to the water sprinkle systems used by municipalities to water grassy urban lands like ring road intersections and also in parks (Tsoka et al., 2020). In the industrial buildings' roof case, a different process than the watering in parks takes place. So, in this case, the water is used for absorbing the heat from industrial building roofs and then for removing it through existing rainwater drainage systems on the roofs. Same approach can be applied to the wide asphalt roads such as highways to remove heat from the road surface (Dong et al., 2019) and then drain it through the existing road side drainage system. As a side benefit, the heated water can be used for different purposes in the cities as well.

Long term urban LST distribution was studied to determine temporal local climate using the thermal conditions and ecological comfort level of Izmir city in time. In accordance with the statement of that the urban heat island (UHI) effect indicates the higher air and land surface temperature (LST) generated by high amount of near-surface energy emission, solar radiation absorption of ground objects and low rates of evapotranspiration in impervious urbanized areas in comparison with the surrounding non-urbanized regions (Oke, 1997; Rizwan et al., 2008; Buyantuyev and Wu, 2010; Oke, 1982 ), even w.r.t the results from long term analyzes, several locational urban heat islands (UHIs) were extracted as the most heated zones within urbanized territories of Izmir city due to increasing anthropogenic activities, especially like those experienced in the city industrial zones, at where wide roads are and at the slopes facing towards south, east and south-east directions (Fig. 7).

As it is discussed earlier, LST shows a negative strong correlation with NDVI (Fig. 11). Moreover, most of the UHIs even from SSI analyzes which are appearing as ecologically stressed zones are found in none vegetated urban lands of Izmir city when low vegetated areas with low NDVI values as seen in Fig. 11 were compared with the areas in high LST values in Fig. 7. The natural vegetated areas such as forest and agricultural areas found at and around the boundary of urbanized lands of Izmir city as seen in the SSI NDVI image (Fig. 11) appear with low radiant temperatures in the SSI LST image (Fig. 7), so even this long period of data used in this study (compare the areas in Fig. 7 and Fig. 11). Dense vegetation can prevent lands to store high amount of heat and even lets surfaces lose high amount of heat through evapotranspiration w.r.t. the results of the study concluded with that the textures of land cover and land use types and also changes in land use and land cover can have profound effects on the surface radiant temperature (Buyadi et al., 2013), here in this study this is also strongly approved by SSI analyses depending on long period of data. In the same study it is also mentioned that vegetation regulates the radiant temperature in the zones surrounding them up to 100 meters towards built-up areas depending on type and density of vegetation and also water body helps lowering the surface radiant temperature as well. According to the study here

using the long period of data, it is shown that UHI effects can reach up to several kilometers from the UHSs by contributing one another into the neighboring regions. So, the LST differences between UHI regions like built-up areas and barren lands and cool sites like vegetated areas reach up to 7.85°C w.r.t. analyses of the standard deviation differences (Fig. 6c). The vegetation mitigates high temperature in urban areas by its regulating effect (Fig. 7 and 11). An initiative to replace of loss of natural green spaces is a must for city resilience and sustainable urbanization which offers nature-based solutions for such kind of city problems. Thus, such studies could provide an insight and create perception on the effects of vegetation for mitigating UHI phenomenon in built-up areas and could assist decision makers or planners to plan our cities for a sustainable future with those smart technologies supported by Geospatial Technologies (GeoTech).

## 6.2. Future researches

The results are shown here are the early outcomes of the current stage of the project on local climate change in Izmir over several decades. There are still some sequential research steps to be completed as further stages of the project. First, it will be analyzed the change trend of specific urban lands turned into impervious urban areas (such as those suspicious urban lands mentioned above sections of the paper and appearing as UHSs and causing UHI developments) which were previously natural lands by using NDVI and build-up index with time serious data. For this reason, these sections of the city will be extracted by a classification process using SSI NDVI, Build-up and LST time serious data. Then the correlation will be computed between LSTs from time serious data and these previous natural lands which are urbanized in time by using time serious data of combined NDVI-build-up index algorithm to analyze the impact of above mentioned suspicious urban land cover types on UHI developments. So that, this will let us to find out how effective of each suspicious land type is on UHI development. So, the outcome of this research will help us to develop a heat pollution warning system for smart and sustainable future and calm local climate conditions for our cities.

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