Green areas and thermal comfort in the coastal tropical city of Fortaleza (Brazil)

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Motivation

TropCool

- The temperature varies ~2°C during a year, while precipitation defines the 2 seasons: rainy (Jan-Jul) and dry (Aug-Dec) seasons.
- Aim: understanding the relationship of heat stress, climate and urban physiography, and provide rational information towards a more climate-sensitive urban planning in tropical cities.



Results

Temperature *vs* urban fraction



Warmer areas those with more are Impervious surfaces less urban and planning (slums). where the most socio-economic venerable population

> UHI (Urban – Rural): [4.8; 5.4] °C (9:00 UTC) PCI (Park-Urban): [-1.2 ; -0.8] °C (21:00 UTC)

29.5

29.0

28.5

E 28.0



The rainy season is the least pleasant due to high RH levels. As the temperature variation during the year is small (max 2° C), the evapotranspiration during the day is strong from the sunrise (8:30 UTC) to zenith time (16:00 UTC) in the rainy period, leading to a UTCI rising in natural areas.

Universal Thermal Comfort Index (UTCI)

Message to take home

- High urbanization density is linked to higher thermal stress, affecting more where the most vulnerable population lives;
- Rainy season: UTCI can be higher at park and lake sites than in urban areas;
- The heat stress is stronger in the rainy season due to high humidity levels.

Achnowlegements

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