

# URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT



**I PRO 328 – URBAN HEAT ISLAND**

**SPONSOR: OZINGA REDI-MIX CORPORATION**

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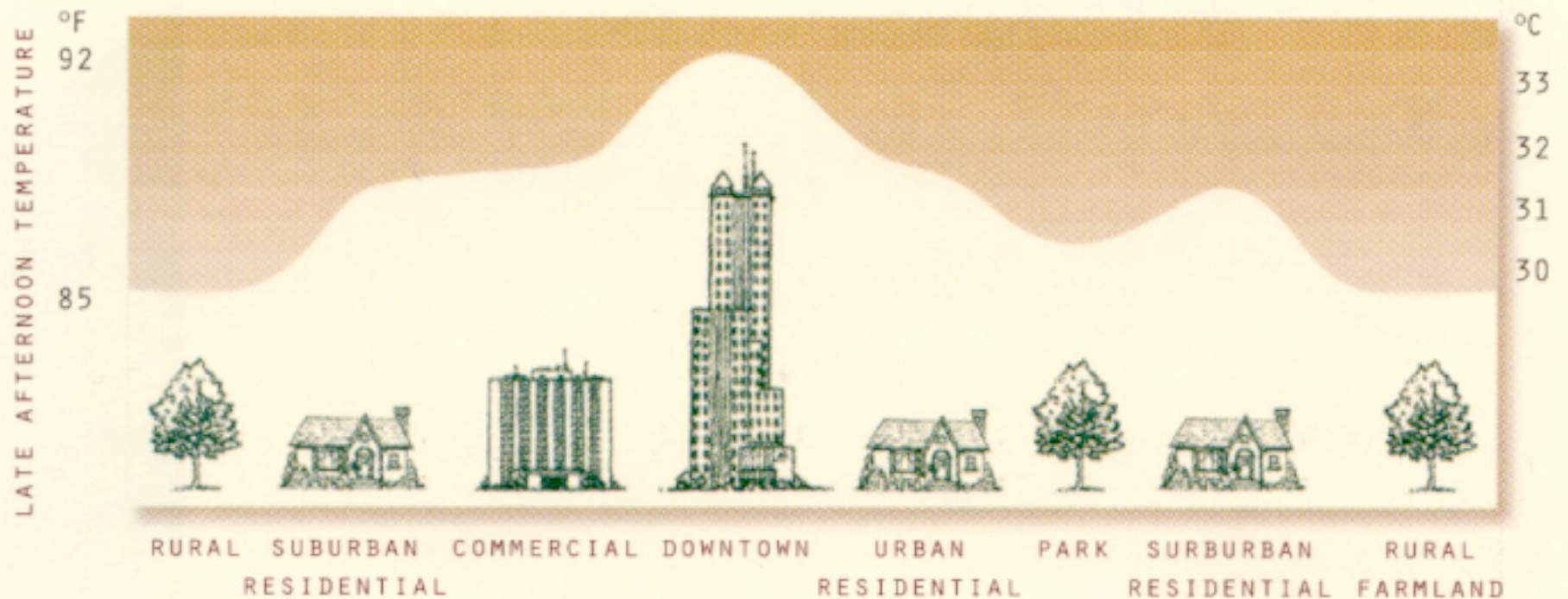
# GOAL

- **TO BETTER UNDERSTAND URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT AND POSSIBLY FIND AN EFFICIENT WAYS TO BATTLE IT.**

# URBAN HEAT ISLAND

- **A BUILT ENVIRONMENT WHEREIN THE LARGE PROPORTION OF DARK ABSORBING SURFACES TRAP SUNSHINE AND RADIATE IT BACK INTO THE ATMOSPHERE, CAUSING HIGHER AMBIENT TEMPERATURES AND HIGHER POLLUTION LEVEL.**

# SKETCH OF AN URBAN HEAT ISLAND PROFILE

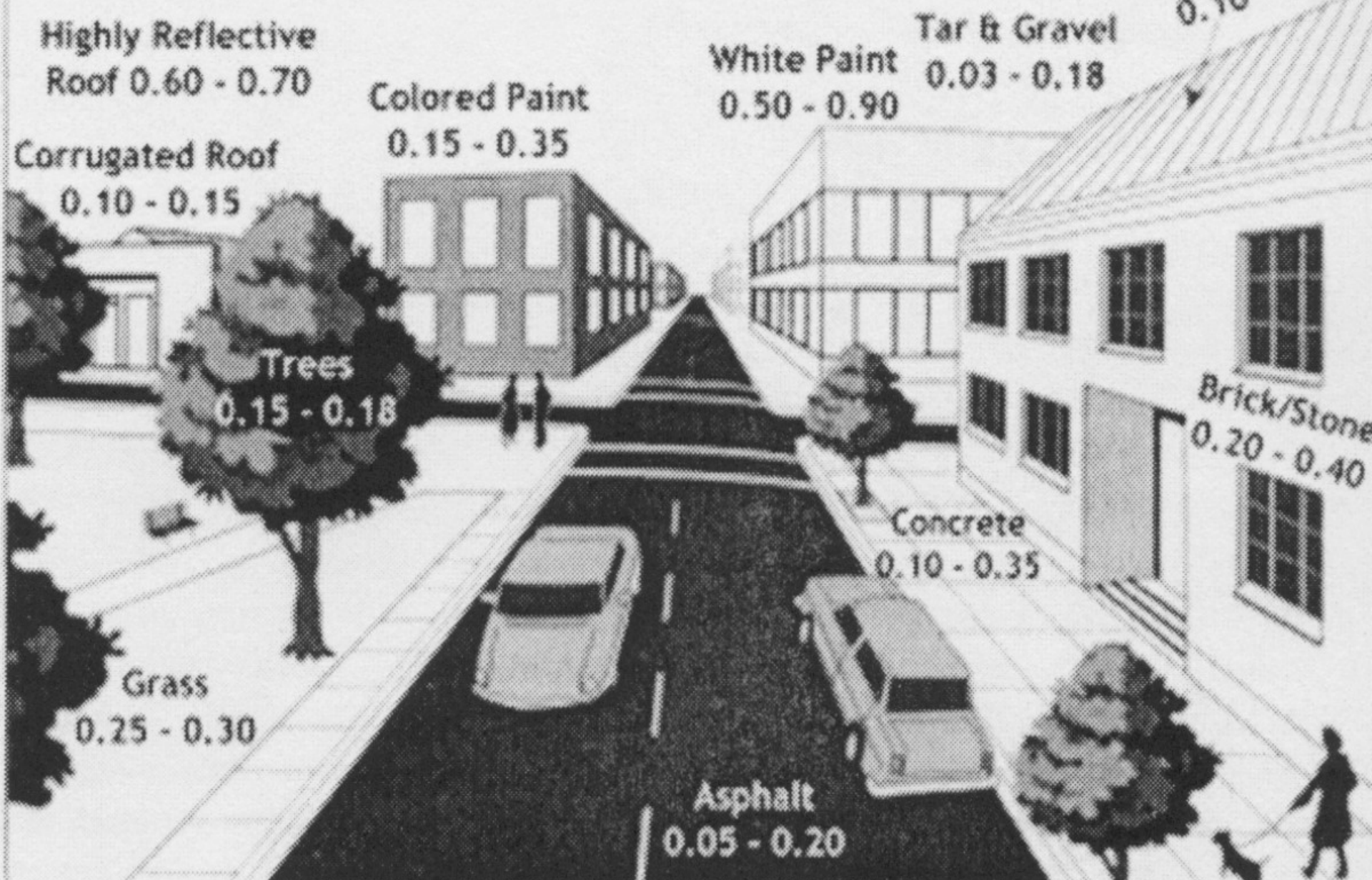


Source: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

# **SOURCES OF URBAN HEAT ISLAND**

- **THERE ARE FEWER TREES, AND OTHER NATURAL VEGETATION TO SHADE BUILDINGS, BLOCK SOLAR RADIATION AND COOL THE EVAPORATION OF WATER FROM THE SURFACE OF LEAVES AND THE SOIL.**
- **ROOF AND PAVING MATERIALS HAVE LOW REFLECTIVITY AND ABSORB MORE OF SUN'S RAYS**

# Various Urban Environment Albedos



# **DOWNFALLS TO URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT**

- **DIRTY AIR QUALITY**
- **EFFECT PROLONGS AND INTENSIFIES  
HEAT WAVES IN THE CITIES**
- **PUTTING PEOPLE AT RISK FOR HEAT  
EXHAUSTION AND HEAT STROKE**
- **CONCENTRATION OF GROUND LEVEL  
OZONE AGGRAVATE RESPIRATORY  
PROBLEMS SUCH AS ASTHMA**
- **INCREASE THE DEMAND FOR ENERGY**
- **IN LARGE SCALE GLOBAL WARMING**



# CITY OF CHICAGO



Chicago, Illinois

The aerial panoramic photograph of Chicago you select in James Wideman's *The Great American River* (1997) is a composite of two images. The left portion shows the city from the south, as it appears from the mouth of the Chicago River as it joins with Lake Michigan. Continuing further left is the TIT (Tribute in Light) sculpture, created by Fritz Koenig.

- The lake front makes Urban Heat Island effect almost non existent
- The cool winds setup air currents within downtown that remove heat concentration



# ATLANTA CITY



Atlanta, Georgia - Series 2

*The aerial panoramic photograph of Atlanta was taken by James Whitcomb. It features a view of downtown Atlanta with the Georgia State Capitol, home of the Atlanta Braves baseball team, in the foreground. At the far right is Turner Field, home of the Atlanta Braves baseball team. On the right side of downtown is the Georgia State Capitol with its gold-domed roof.*

- A landlocked place
- Hardly like Chicago, no place for the heat to go
- Heat kept within the city





ATLANTA – DAY TRUE COLOR





ATLANTA – DAY THERMAL RESOLUTION





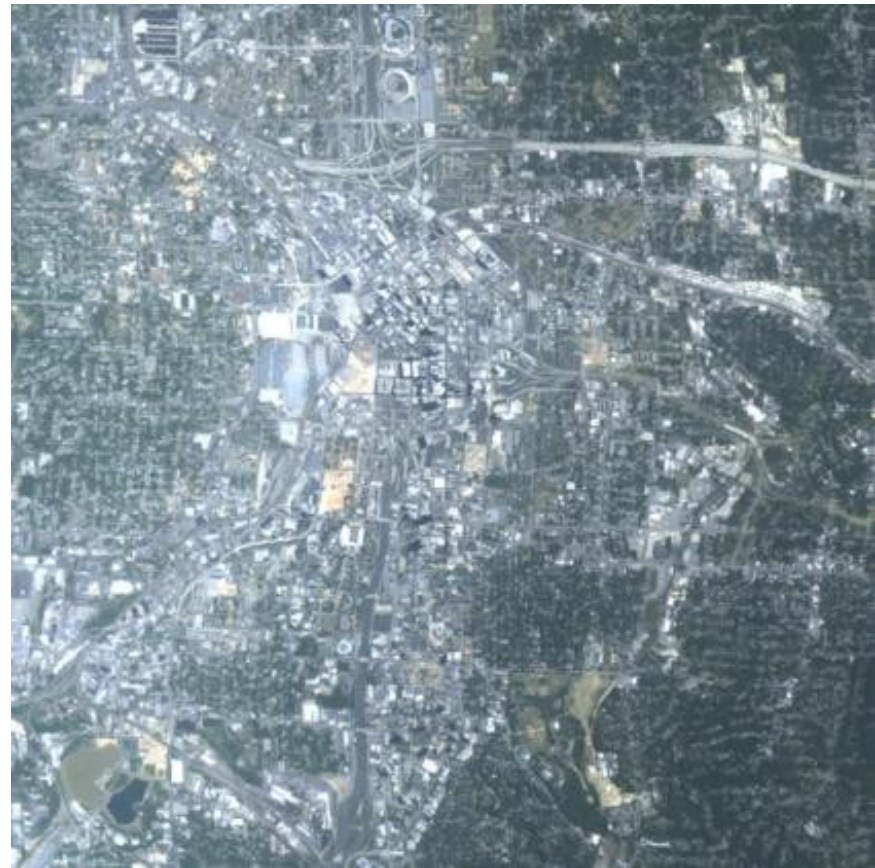
ATLANTA – NIGHT THERMAL RESOLUTION





SUBURBAN – DAY – TRUE COLOR

URBAN – DAY – TRUE COLOR

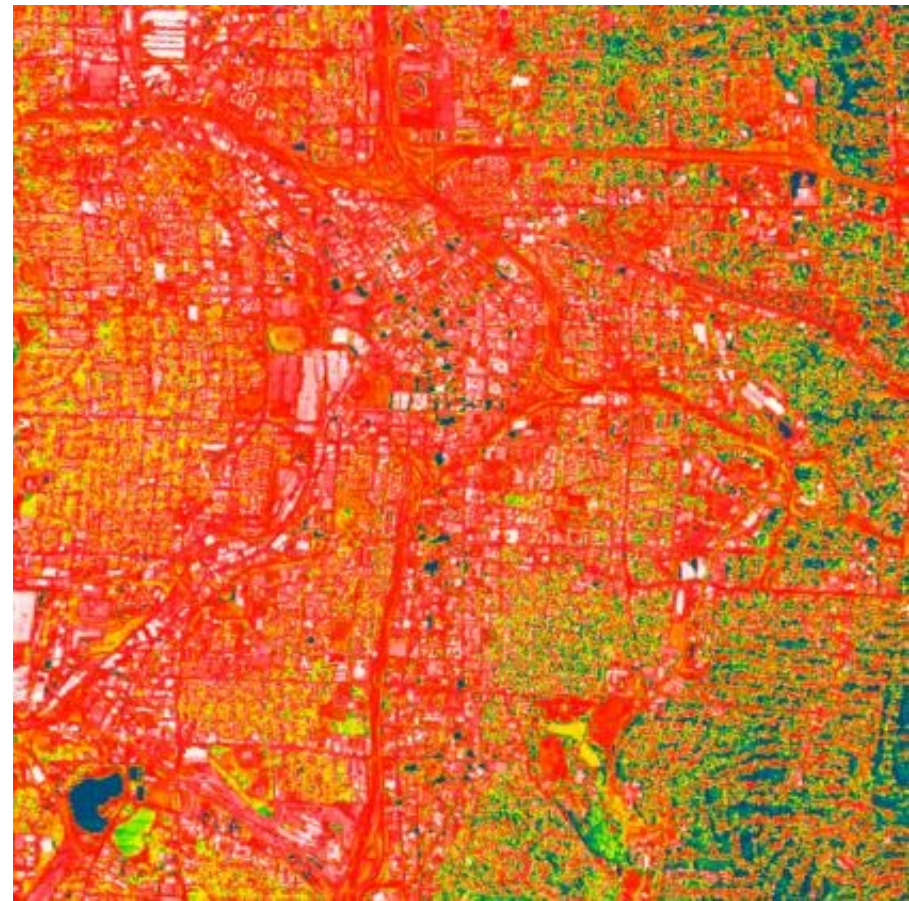






SUBURBAN – DAY – THERMAL  
RESOLUTION

URBAN – DAY – THERMAL  
RESOLUTION

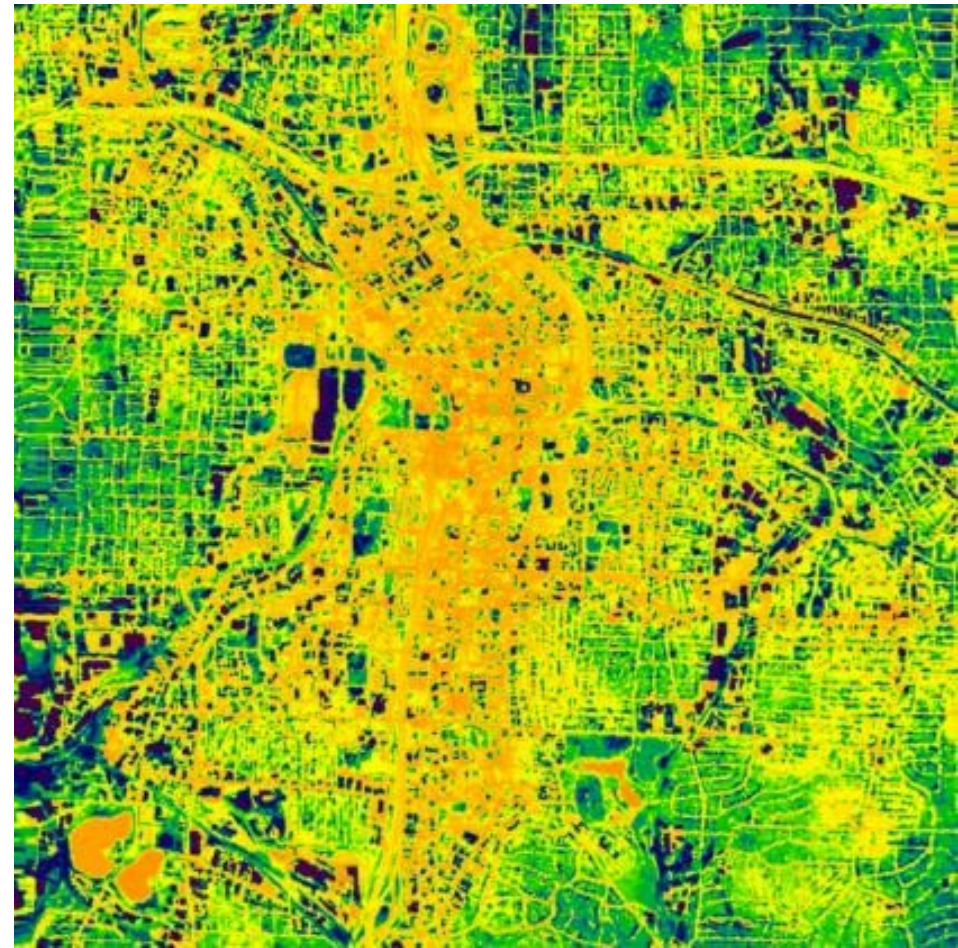






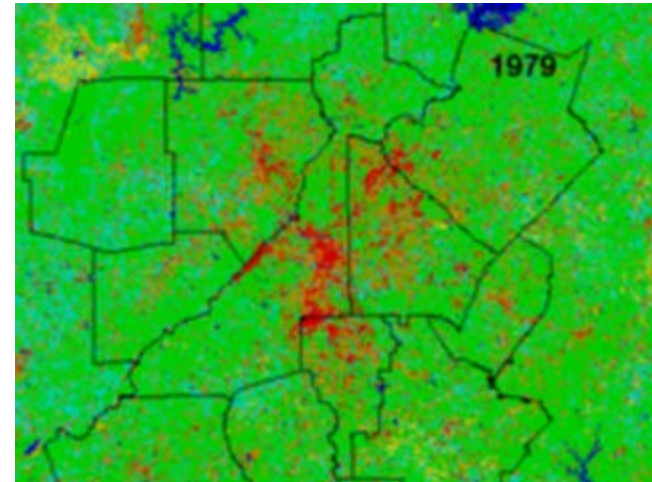
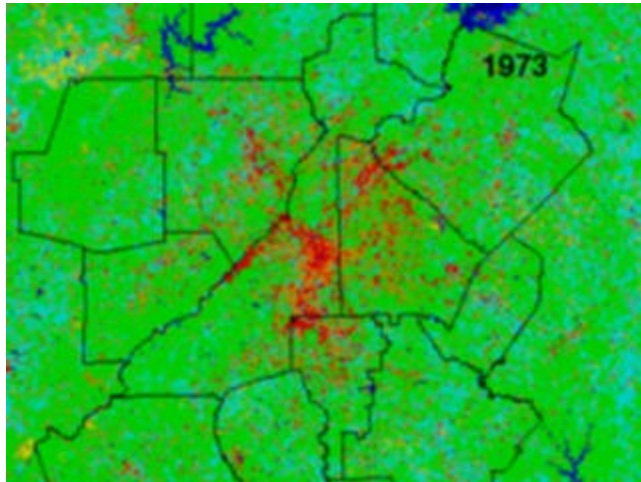
SUBURBAN – NIGHT – THERMAL  
RESOLUTION

URBAN – NIGHT – THERMAL  
RESOLUTION

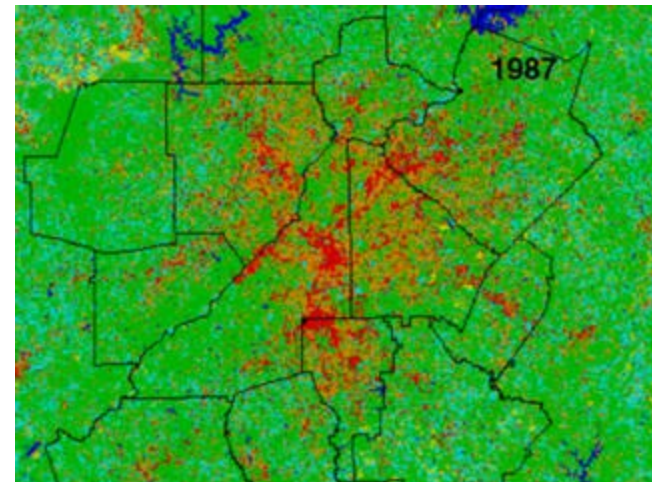
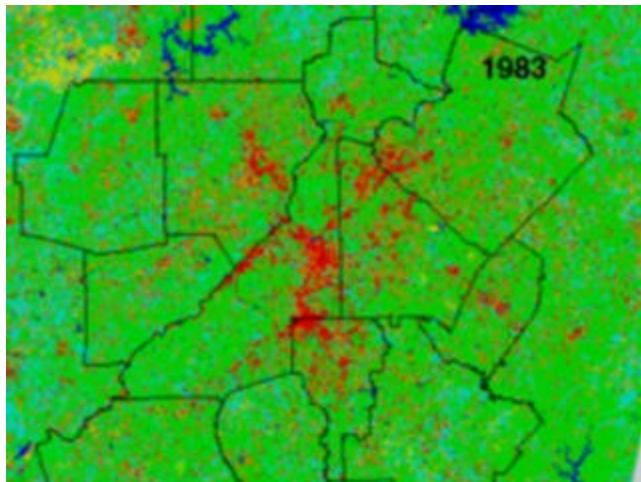




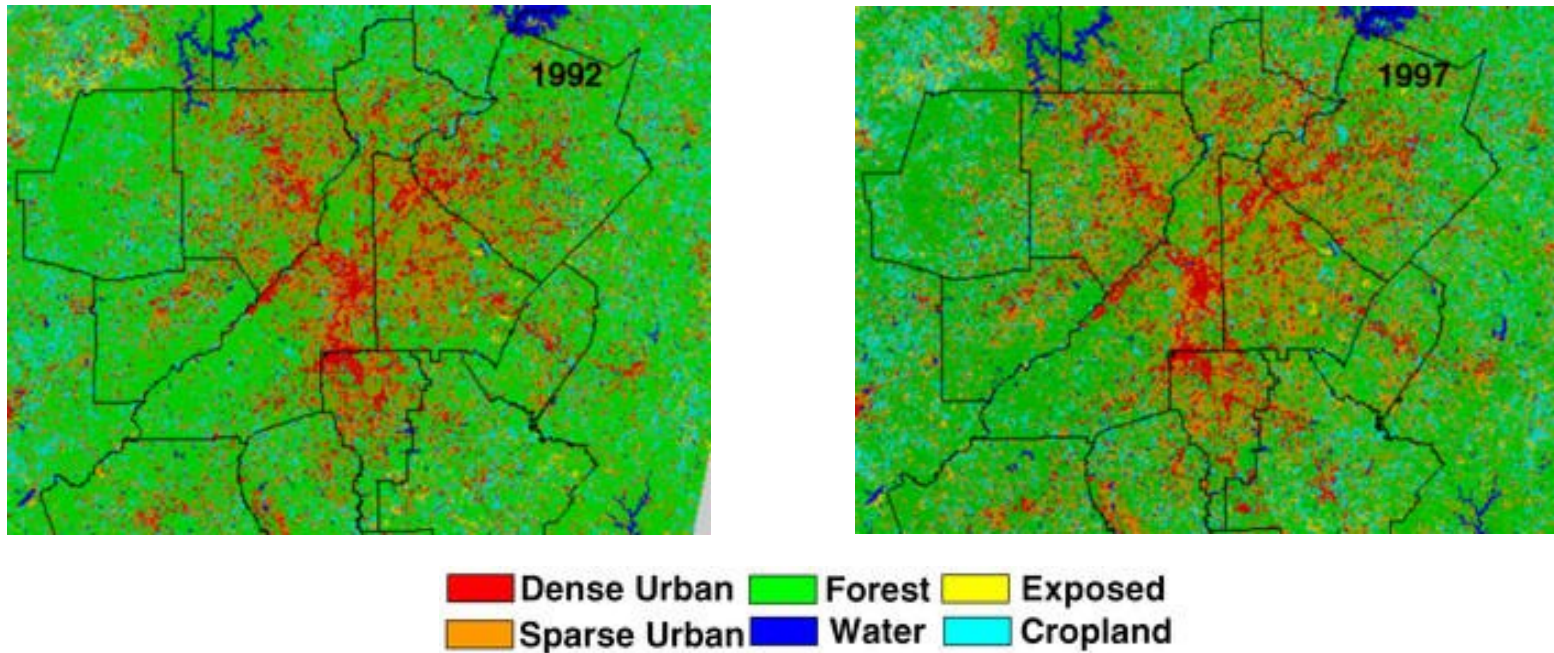
# Urban Growth of Atlanta



**Dense Urban** **Forest** **Exposed**  
**Sparse Urban** **Water** **Cropland**



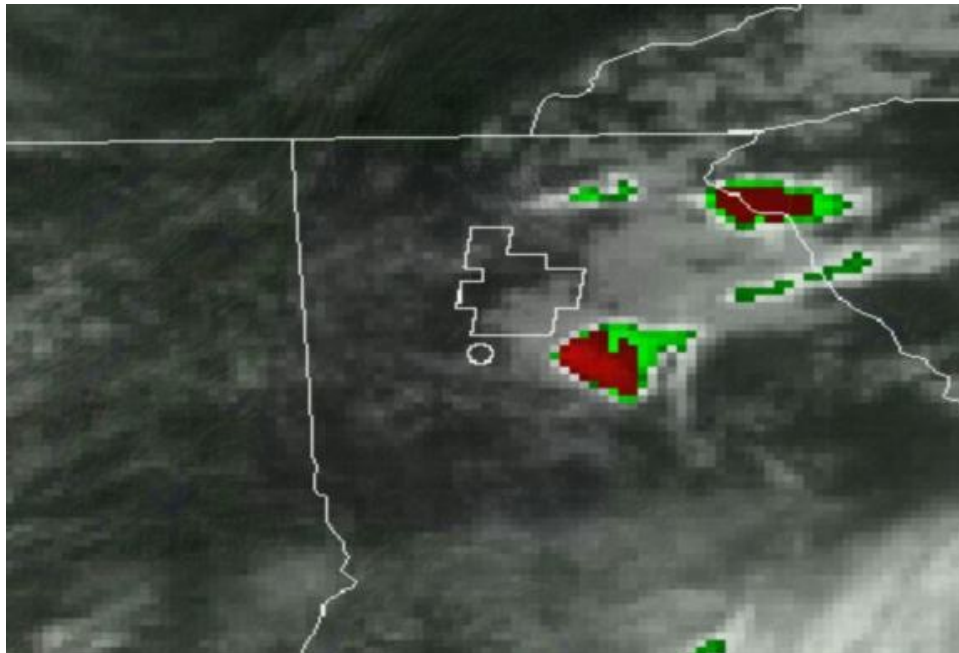
## Urban Growth (contd)



- Comparing Landsat images from the 70's to the 90's, we see that there has been a phenomenal growth
- Large patches of crop land have given way to commercial and residential developments, thereby increasing the Urban Heat Island Effect

# Clouds formation

- Clouds begin forming over the city and pick up strength and size as they develop, moving east
- The city holds onto heat at night, it creates a low pressure system, with hot air rising and cooler surrounding air rushing in to replace it
- That cooler air condenses and forms thunderclouds



# Movie – Integrating the data





# **MITIGATING URBAN HEAT ISLAND**

- **WAY TO DECREASE THE RISK TO PUBLIC HEALTH DURING SUMMER HEAT WAVES**
- **REDUCING ENERGY USE AND EMISSIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO GLOBAL WARMING**

# **COOL ROOF STRATEGIES**

- **USE REFLECTIVE ROOFING MATERIALS**
- **CREATE GREEN ROOF WITH  
VEGETATION OR ROOFTOP GARDENS**

# GREEN COMMUNITY STRATEGIES

- **PLANT MORE TREES AND OTHER VEGETATION**
  - NEIGHBORHOODS WITH PLANTY OF MATURE TREES CAN BE UP TO 7 DEGREES COOLER THAN TREELESS AREAS NEARBY
  - THE INCREASE TREE COVER IN PARKING LOT REDUCES EVAPORATION OF HYDROCARBONS FROM CAR FUEL TANKS AND THE EMMISION OF NOX EMMISION FROM CAR STARTS-UPS



# COOL PAVING STRATEGIES

- **INCREASING PAVEMENT REFLECTIVITY CAN LOWER TEMPERATURE OF PAVEMENT AND AMBIENT AIR TEMPERATURES**
  - STREETS AND PARKING LOTS ACCOUNT FOR THE MAJORITY OF PAVED SURFACES IN URBAN AREAS.
  - DARK COLORED PAVEMENTS, SUCH AS BLACK ASPHALT, CAN GET TO 40 DEGREE HOTTER THAN THE SURROUNDING AIR

# **GREEN –GROWING CONCRETE**

- **MAIN FEATURES OF GREEN-GROWING CONCRETE**
  - **STRENGTH & DURABILITY**
  - **ABILITY TO GROW PLANTS LIKE SOIL**
  - **IT CAN TAKE MEDIUM SIZED TREES**
  - **CANNOT BE EASILY ERODED BY RUNNING WATER**
  - **GREEN-GROWING CONCRETE CAN BE POURED  
ONSITE AND BE ALSO PRECAST**

# GREEN –GROWING CONCRETE

