

The effect of urban heat island and other mesoclimatic anomalies on C stocks and CO₂ emissions in Moscow megapolis

Viacheslav Vasenev, Andrey Dolgikh, Olga Romzaykina,
Inna Brianskaia, Mikhail Varentsov, Pavel Konstantinov



Why soil carbon? Soil functions

Blum, 2005

- Protection of humans and environment
- **Biomass production**
- General reservoir
- Physical basis of human activities
- **Source of raw materials**
- **Geogenic and cultural heritage**

BBodSchG, 1998

- **Water and nutrient cycling**
- Ground water protection
- **Basis for organisms' life**
- Land for settlements
- **Land for agriculture**
- **Deposition of raw materials**

...

Andrews et al, 2004

- **Nutrient cycling**
- Water filtering and buffering
- **Biodiversity and habitat**
- Resistance and resilience
- Physical stability and support

*30 to 50% of distinguished soil functions are **directly** or **indirectly** related to soil carbon balance*

Why soil carbon? Ecosystem services (ES)

ESs' categories (TEEB, 2010)

Provisioning	Regulating	Cultural
➤ Food ➤ Water ➤ Raw materials ➤ Genetic resources ➤ Medical resources ➤ Ornamental resources	➤ Air quality regulation ➤ Climate regulation ➤ Moderation of extreme events ➤ Regulation of water flows ➤ Water treatment ➤ Erosion prevention ➤ Maintenance of soil fertility	• Aesthetic information • Opportunities for recreation and tourism • Inspiration of culture, art and design • Spiritual experience
Habitat		
➤ Maintenance of life cycles of migratory species ➤ Maintenance of genetic diversity		

*25 to 40% of distinguished ecosystem services are **directly** or **indirectly** related to soil carbon balance*

Background

DEGRADATION, REHABILITATION,
AND CONSERVATION OF SOILS

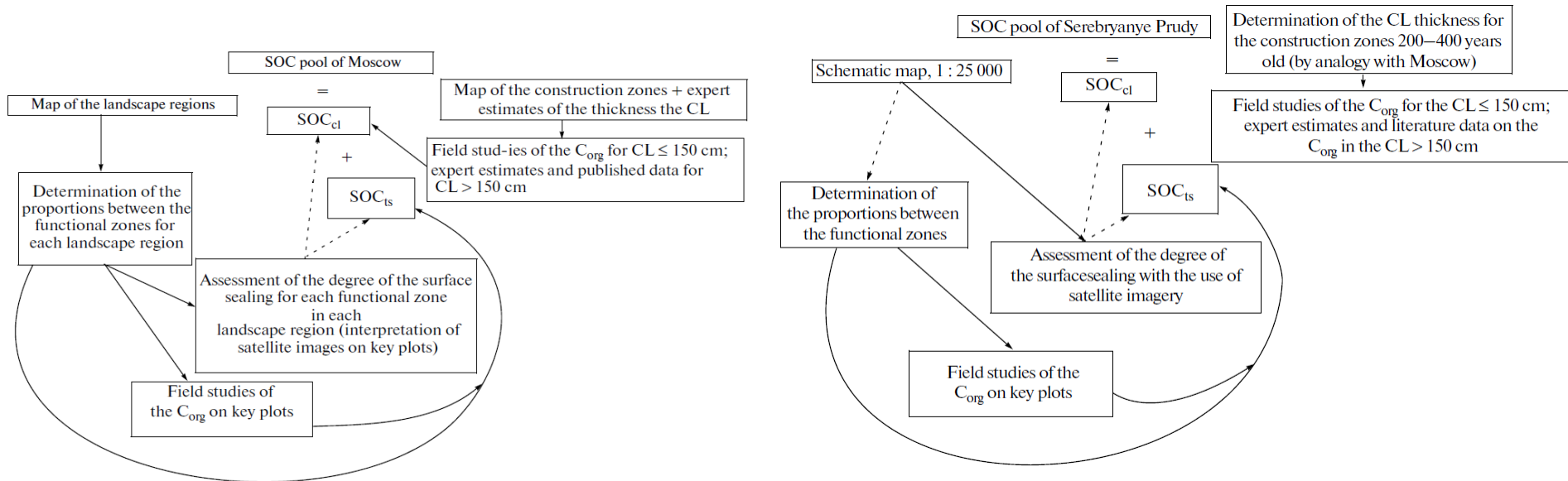
The Development of Approaches to Assess the Soil Organic Carbon Pools in Megapolises and Small Settlements

V. I. Vasenev, T. V. Prokof'eva, and O. A. Makarov

Faculty of Soil Science, Lomonosov Moscow State University, Vorob'evy gory, Moscow, 119991 Russia

E-mail: vasenyov@mail.ru

Received: May 25, 2011



**SOC stocks in 0-150 cm
of urban soils in Moscow**

From 70 to 800 t ha⁻¹

**SOC stocks in 0-150 cm of
urban soils**

From 900 to 1100 t ha⁻¹

Serebryanye Prudy village

How to map soil organic carbon stocks in highly urbanized regions?



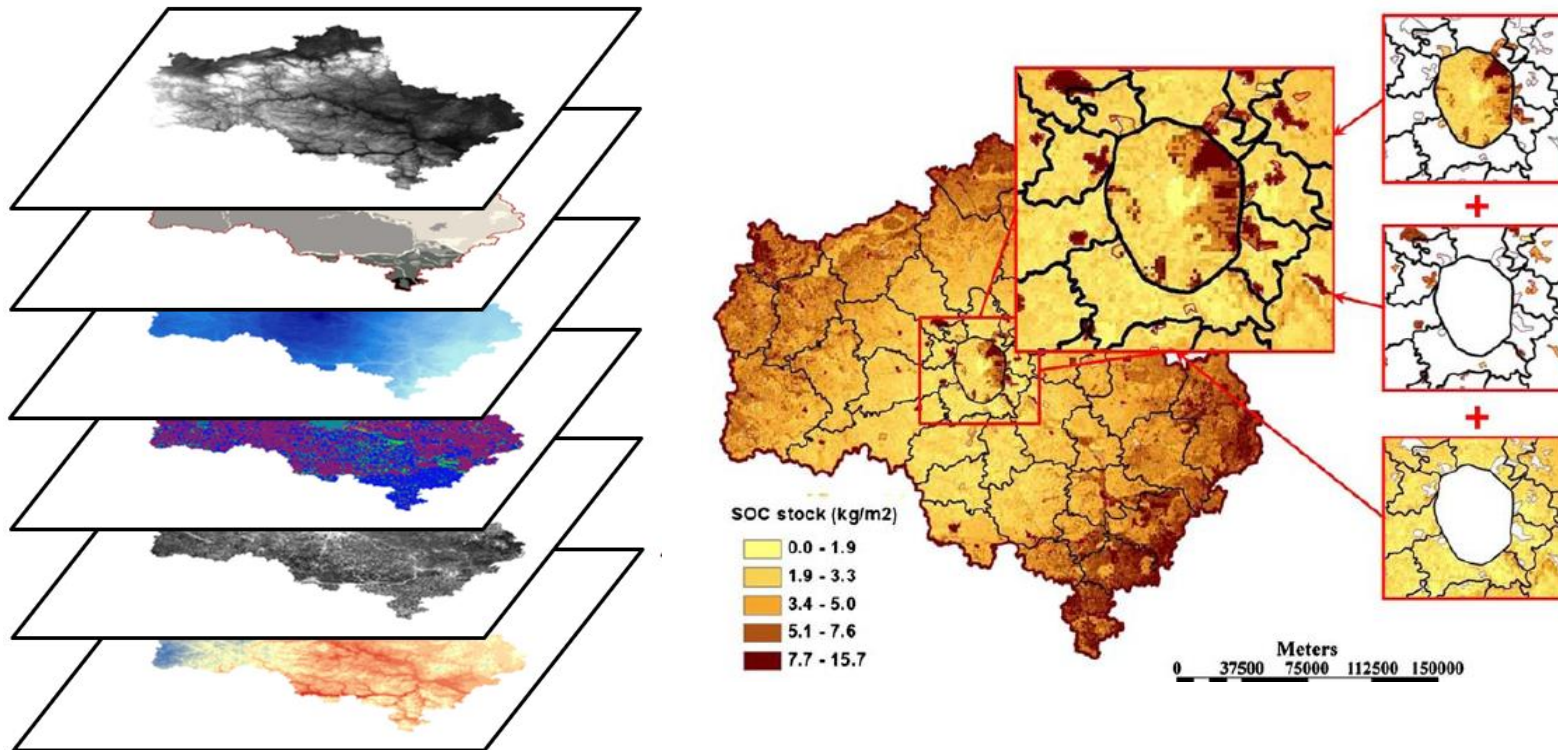
V.I. Vasenev^{a,b,c,d,*}, J.J. Stoorvogel^a, I.I. Vasenev^c, R. Valentini^c

^a Soil Geography and Landscape Group, Wageningen University, P.O. Box 47, 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands

^b Environmental System Analysis Group, Wageningen University, P.O. Box 47, 6700 AA Wageningen, The Netherlands

^c Laboratory of Agroecological Monitoring, Ecosystem Modeling and Prediction, Russian State Agricultural University, 127550, Timiryazevskaya, 49, Moscow, Russia

^d Landscape Architecture and Design Group, Agrarian Faculty, Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, 117198, Miklukho-Maklaya str., 6, Moscow, Russia

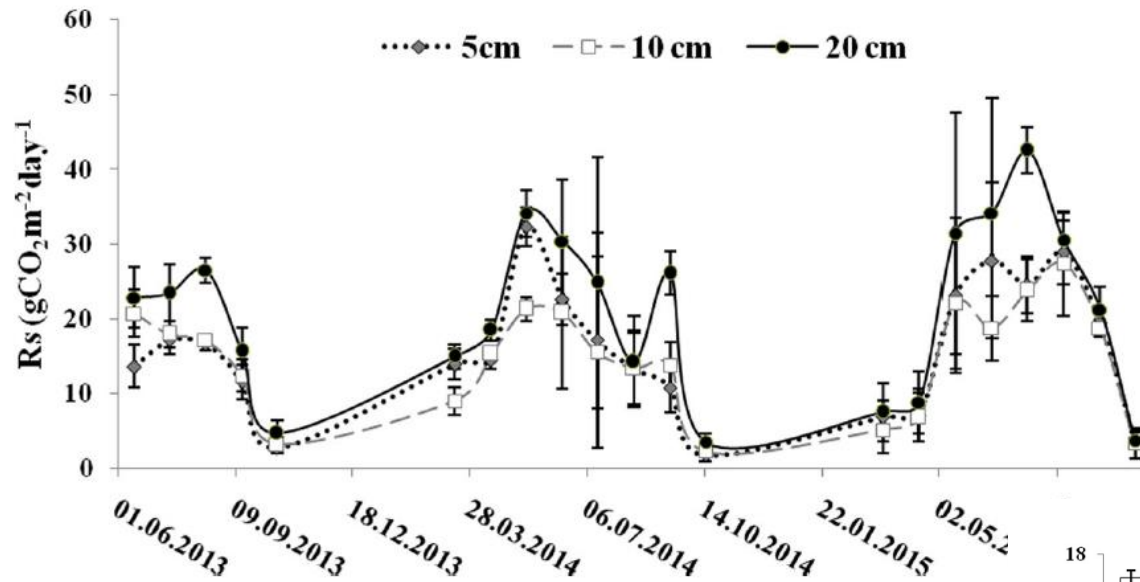


SOC stocks in 0-150 cm of urban
soils in Moscow region

From 200 to 300 t ha⁻¹

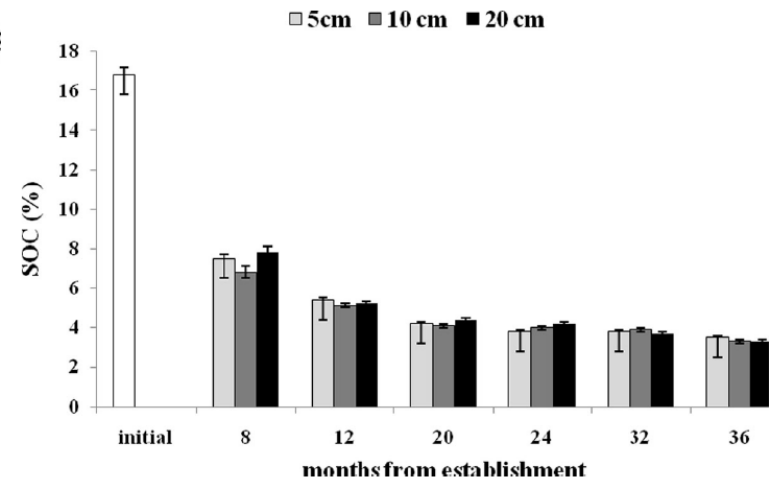
Changes of soil organic carbon stocks and CO₂ emissions at the early stages of urban turf grasses' development

A. S. Shchepeleva¹ · V. I. Vasenev^{1,2} · I. M. Mazirov² · I. I. Vasenev² · I. S. Prokhorov² · D. D. Gosse³



Seasonal dynamics in 2013-2015 (summer period gave up to up to 60% of annual emissions)

Rapid depletion in C_{org} stocks after the 1st year and stabilization by the 3rd year



Research questions and tasks

- ✓ Mapping and assessment of SOC stocks in Moscow megapolis
- ✓ Quantifying relationships between microbial (basal respiration), soil properties and meteorological parameters (lab experiment)
- ✓ Analyze dynamics in soil respiration, soil temperature and moisture in situ
- ✓ Climate monitoring and modeling



Complete

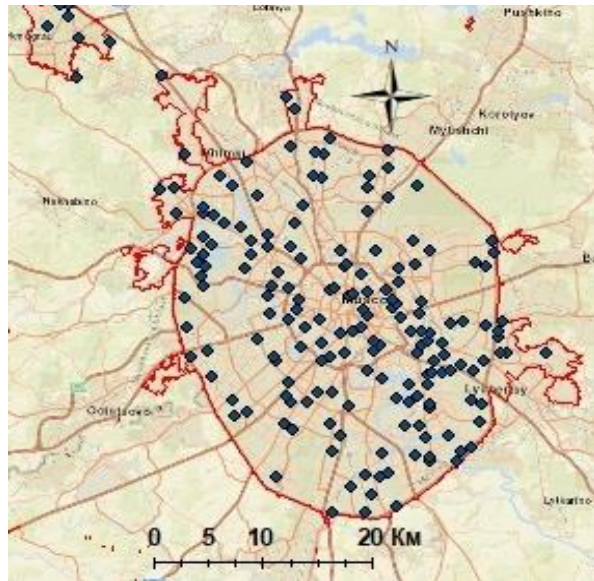


Remains

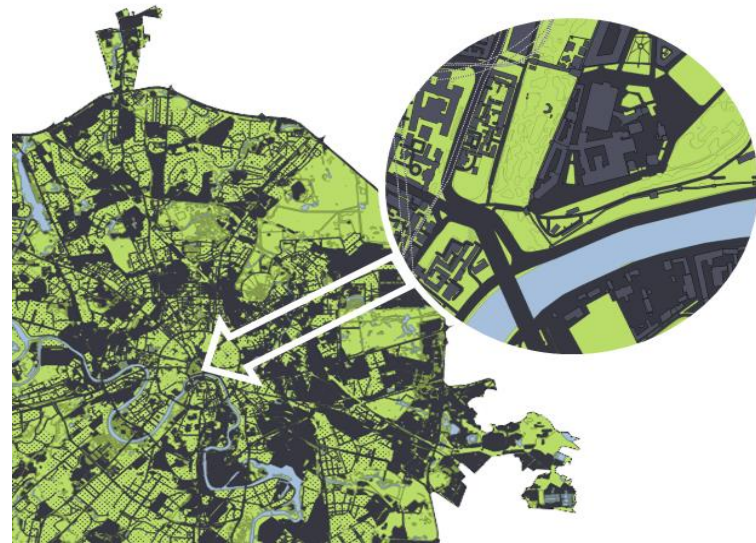
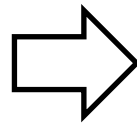
- ❑ Project the mesoclimatic effect by linking SOC maps to soil temperature and moisture model outcomes

Soil survey and SOC interpolation in Moscow

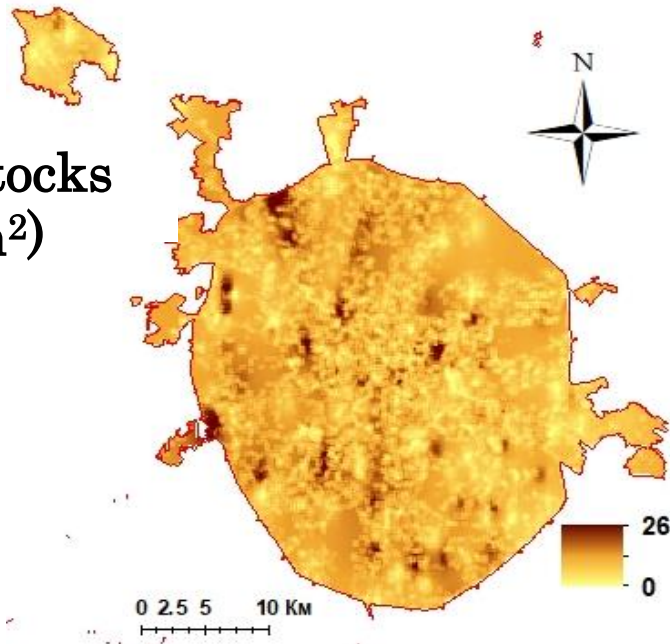
Sampling campaign



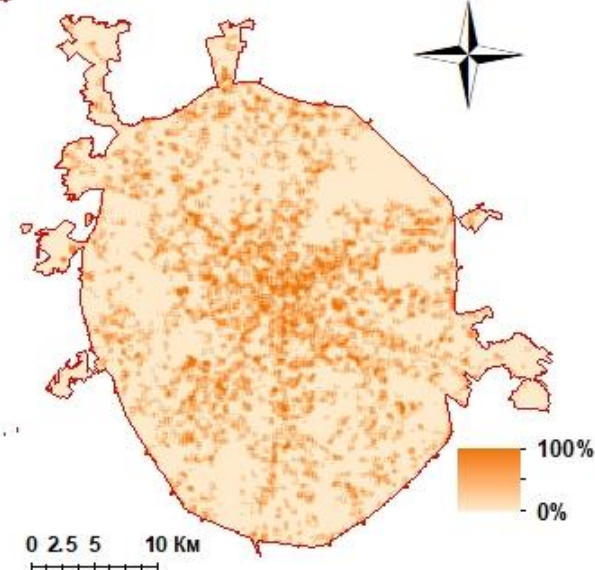
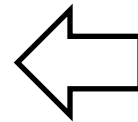
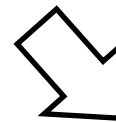
Soil sealing (OSM-based)



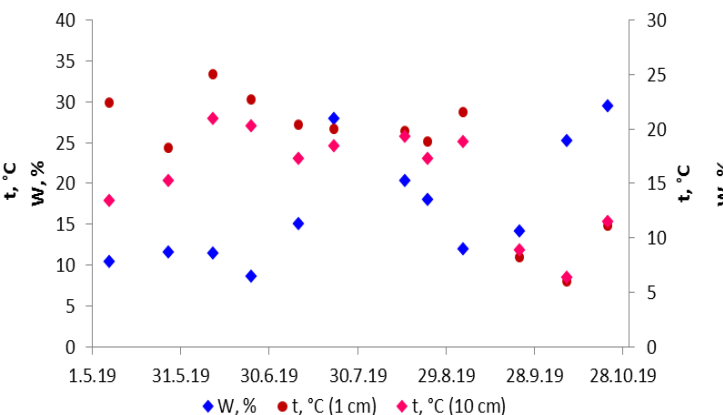
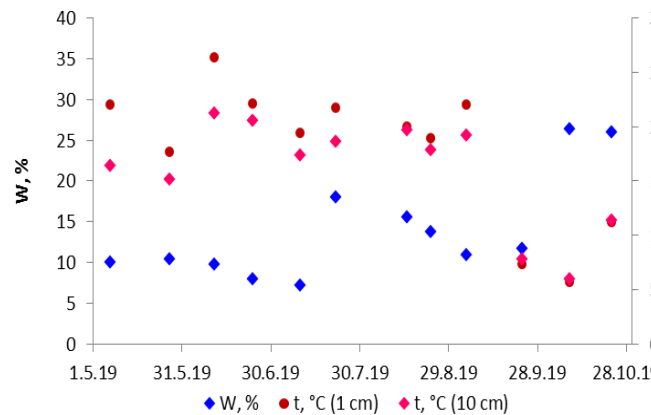
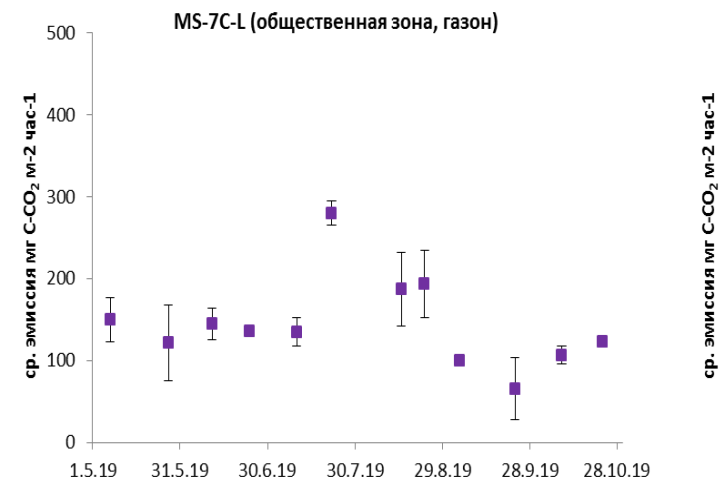
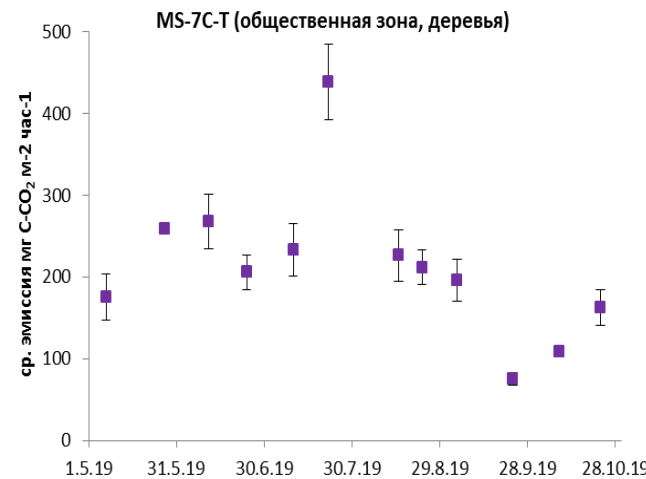
SOC stocks
(g m²)



Percentage of
sealed soils

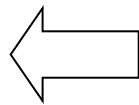
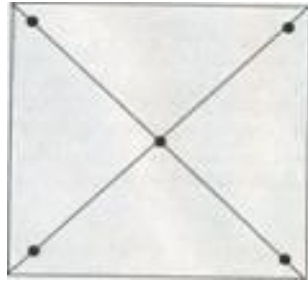
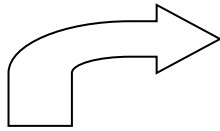


Soil respiration in situ measurements



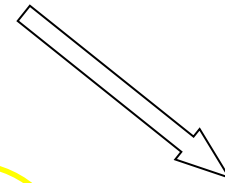
- ✓ Seasonal dynamics driven by soil temperature and moisture
- ✓ Considerable difference in CO_2 emissions between different surfaces (trees, shrubs, lawns) at the local scale

Lab experiment

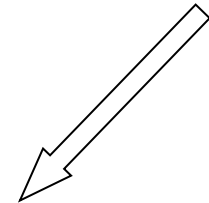


Soil sample
(2 g)

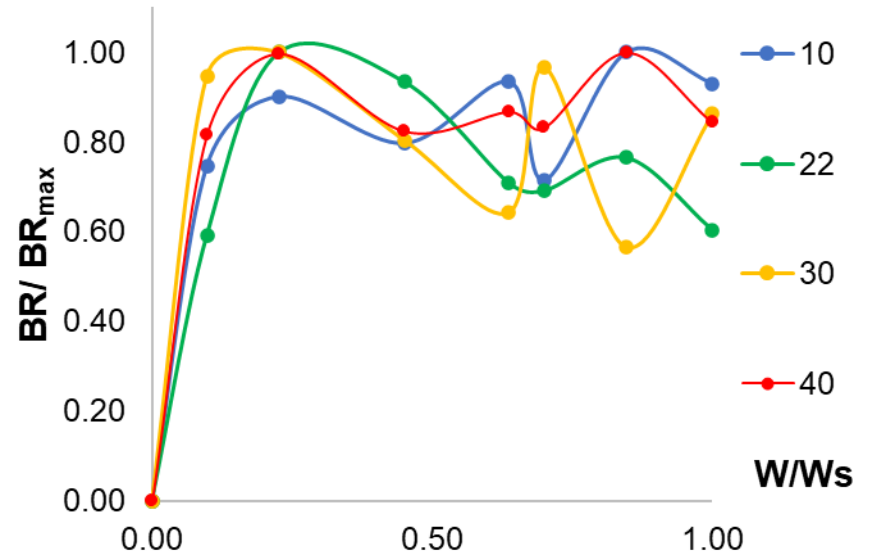
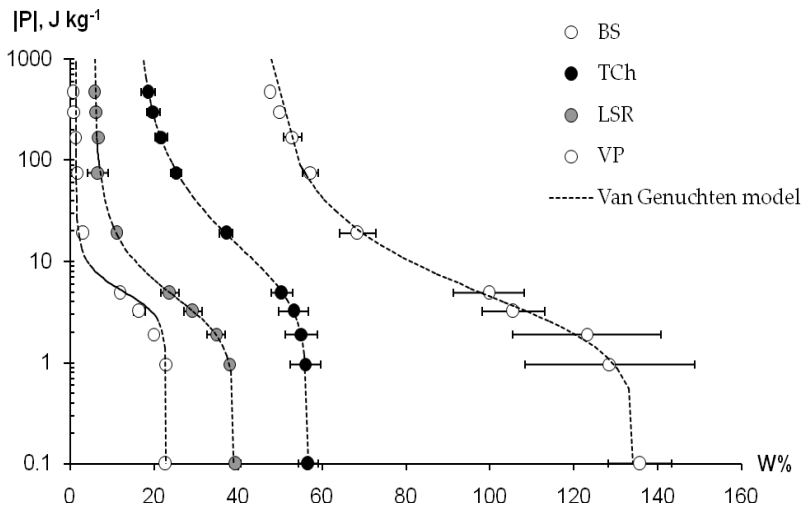
+ H₂O
(0.1 ml / g)



22°C, 24 h

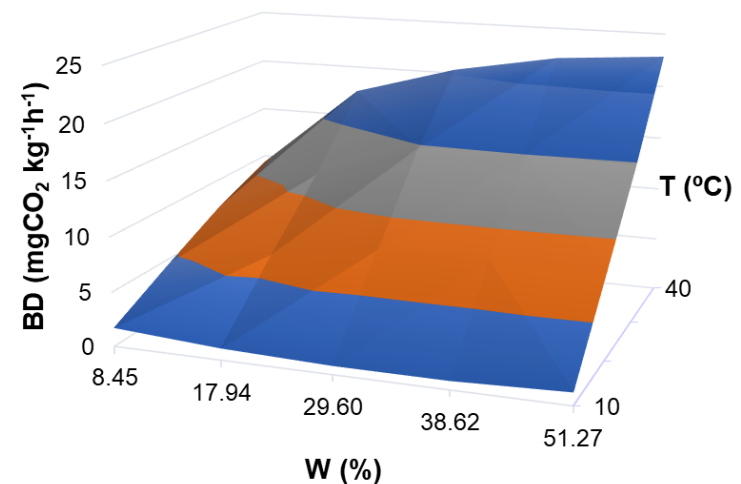


Relationships between BR, soil temperature and moisture



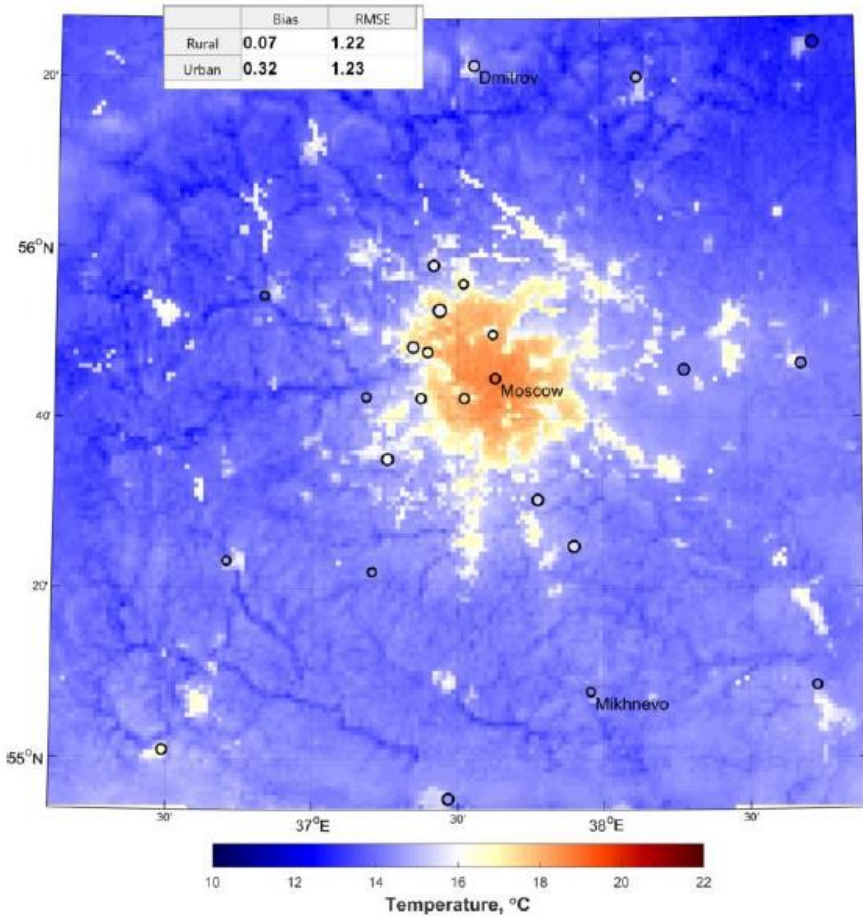
$$BR = 13.1 + 0.54 T - 0.26 \text{ pH} + 0.4 \text{ SOC} + 0.01 W$$

$$R^2_{adj} = 0.52$$

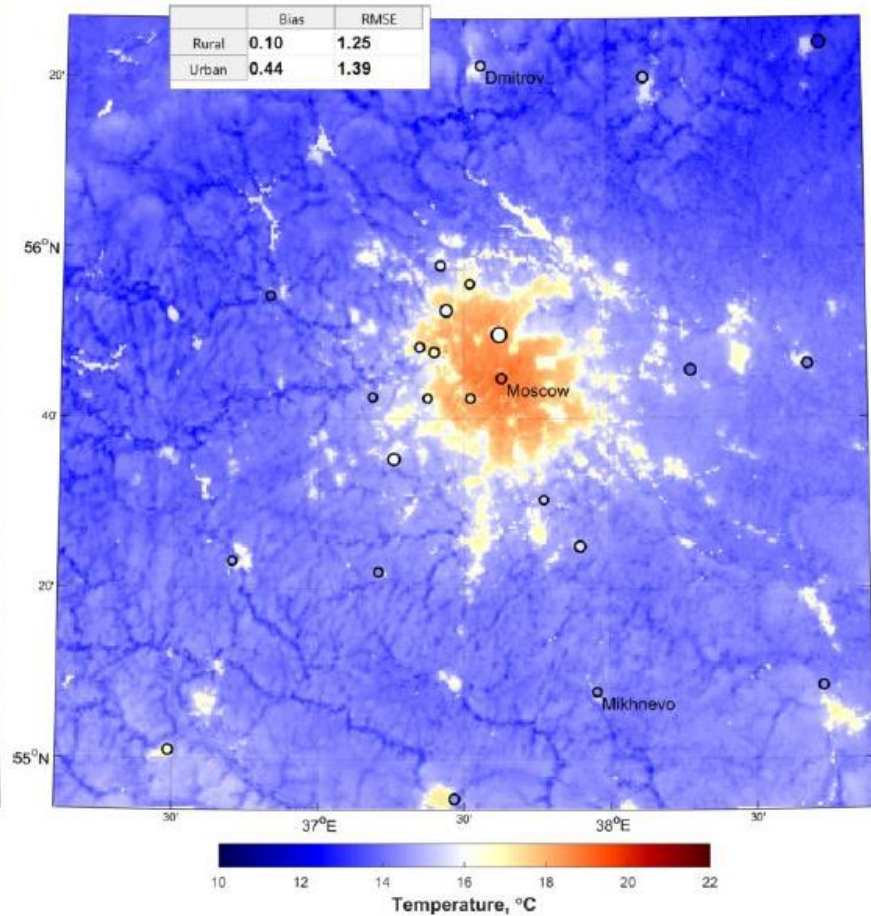


Mesoclimatic modelling

$\Delta x = 1 \text{ km}$, 180×180 grid cells, $dt = 10 \text{ sec}$



$\Delta x = 500 \text{ m}$, 400×400 grid cells, $dt = 5 \text{ sec}$



Preliminary outcomes and next steps

- ✓ SOC stocks in topsoils (20 cm) of Moscow megapolis were over 8000 and SOCD ranged from 0 to 24 g/m²
- ✓ In situ respiration of urban soils ranged from 100 to 500 mg C-CO₂ m² h⁻¹ and was more sensitive to land cover than to the level of anthropogenic load or functional zoning
- ✓ Basal respiration was significantly correlated to soil temperature, SOC and pH and was not influenced by soil moisture linearly.
- ✓ Different approaches to model Moscow climate agree on a clear pattern with higher temperatures in the central area due to urban heat island
- ✓ Mesoclimatic maps will be linked to SOC map via the obtained regression equations to project dynamic changes in potential CO₂ emission from urban soils