



Article The Influence of Green Space Patterns on Land Surface Temperature in Different Seasons: A Case Study of Fuzhou City, China

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Abstract: Background: Urban green space (UGS) has been shown to play an important role in mitigating urban heat island (UHI) effects. In the context of accelerating urbanization, a better understanding of the landscape pattern mechanisms affecting the thermal environment is important for the improvement of the urban ecological environment. Methods: In this study, the relationship between land surface temperature (LST) and the spatial patterns of green space was analyzed using a bivariate spatial autocorrelation and spatial autoregression model in three seasons (summer, transition season (spring), and winter) with different grid scales in Fuzhou city. Results: Our results indicated that the LST in Fuzhou City has a significant spatial autocorrelation. The percentage of landscape and patch density area were negatively correlated with surface temperature. The results of our indicators differed according to the season, with population density and distance to the water indicators not being significant in the winter. The coefficient of determination was higher at the 510 m grid scale on this study's scale. Conclusion: This study extends our understanding on the influence of UHI effects after accounting for different seasonal and spatial scale factors. It also provides a reference for urban planners to mitigate heat islands in the future.

Keywords: land surface temperature; greenspace spatial patterns; landscape metrics; spatial autoregressive model; seasonal variation

1. Introduction

China is currently experiencing rapid urbanization, with the urbanization rate expected to reach 70% by 2030. As urbanization accelerates, the subsequent expansion of roads and buildings has led to the reduction of green space, resulting in a significant increase in the temperature of the city relative to the peripheral suburbs, a phenomenon also known as the urban heat island (UHI) effect [1]. Not only does the UHI effect affect the local and regional climate [2], it also affects water resources, air quality [3,4], the growth of plants [5], biodiversity, and the ecosystem in general [6]. It also has an adverse impact on the health of urban residents [7,8]. Developing effective adaptation measures and mitigation strategies for UHI effect is thus a common challenge that urban planners and climatologists are currently facing.

Rapid urbanization has significantly affected land cover characteristics. This change affects the characteristics of surface radiation, heat, and water in urban areas, and increases the urban surface temperature. On the one hand, remote sensing collected by satellites or airborne platforms has been proven effective in evaluating large-scale and local-scale land surface temperature (LST) [9]. By monitoring the relationship between the spatial



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Copyright: © 2021 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/). change of LST and UHI combined with satellite images, it is found that impervious surfaces and urban green space (UGS) are highly related to LST. The average LST of impervious surfaces is 4–6 °C higher than that of green space, which indicates that urban expansion is the fundamental reason behind the UHI effect [10–15]. At the same time, urbanization has led to land use/land cover (LULC) change on the surface, while the transformation of forest land for commercial land use intensified the change in surface temperature and humidity [16,17].

UGS has been proven to be an important measure for alleviating the UHI effect [12], given that increasing vegetation coverage in urban areas has been proven to effectively reduce LST [18–20]. As such, many scholars have carried out research on the shape [21], area, structure, composition, and configuration of green space [22]. It has been found that the connectivity [23], complexity [24], and fragmentation of greenfield patches are all strongly correlated with LST [25–27]. It is confirmed that the structure and configuration of green space can effectively reduce urban temperature by rational optimization [28].

As a fast-growing city in China, Fuzhou's rapid urban expansion has led to a large reduction in wetlands and woodlands, which has earned Fuzhou the title of a "burning stove" in recent years [18]. Therefore, studying the spatial distribution and composition of UGS in Fuzhou City and analyzing the changes in its landscape patterns can guide us toward alleviating the urban heat island effect. However, the cooling effect of the UGS spatial pattern differs regionally [29]. Thus, further research is needed to optimize the effect of UGS on UHI and clarify the effect of UGS on UHI mitigation in different cities. Considering the changes in UGS, the relationship between UGS landscape patterns and LST is mostly analyzed via correlation or linear regression [20,30], which ignores the spatial heterogeneity of the two. Moreover, due to the difference in landscape patterns, the relationship between landscape patterns of different geographical environments and LST is not consistent [12,31]. Therefore, while considering the spatial patterns of green space by combining spatial autocorrelation and spatial regression models, this paper analyzes the spatial relationship between green space landscape patterns and LST in different seasons and scales in Fuzhou, while adding further discussion on the impact mechanism of green space on the thermal environment.

2. Methods

2.1. Study Area and Data Source

Fuzhou is the capital of Fujian Province in China, which is located at $25^{\circ}15'-26^{\circ}39'$ N, $118^{\circ}08'-120^{\circ}31'$ E, and has a subtropical monsoon climate. The urbanization process of Fuzhou has been particularly obvious in recent years. According to data from the Fuzhou Bureau of Statistics, by the end of 2017, the population of Fuzhou was 7.21 million, with 5.105 million urban residents; the urbanization rate of Fuzhou had already exceeded 70 percent (70.8 percent). The conversion of water bodies and UGS into major built-up areas amounted to 13.3 and 20.2 km². From 1985 to 2015, the area of built-up areas doubled. Large UGS losses during urbanization are the main impact of the urban thermal environment [18,32]. The study area covers a total of 1448.479 km² (Figure 1).

Fuzhou has a subtropical monsoon climate, which is marked by longer summers and shorter winters. Spring starts in March and ends in June, while autumn starts in October and ends in November. After analyzing the temperature changes in Fuzhou from 2000–2020 (Figure 2), we found that the temperature distributions in spring and autumn were relatively similar, and that there was little difference in temperature between April and May in spring, and October and November in autumn. Therefore, the study divided the seasons in Fuzhou into three types: summer, transitional seasons, and winter [33–35]. Landsat8 image data (11 December 2019, 16 March 2020, and 22 July 2020) for three different periods were selected from the USGS (https://espa.cr.usgs.gov/index/ accessed on 18 March 2021) and radiometric and geometric corrections were applied [36]. Based on the atmospheric correction method, LST was retrieved from the thermal band of Landsat8 images to characterize the LST of different seasons.



Figure 1. Study area: (**a**) Fujian Province, China; (**b**) Fuzhou City, Fujian Province; (**c**) the land classification of Fuzhou City in this study area.



Figure 2. Violin plot of the monthly average air temperature in Fuzhou City during 2000–2020.

Land use data were obtained using the 2018 Gaofen-1 satellite (GF-1) image, which has a panchromatic resolution of 2 m and a multispectral resolution of 8 m [37]. Using eCognition software (Definiens Imaging, Inc., Munich, Germany), five main landscape types were extracted based on an object-oriented classification approach—green space, built-up area, water body, cropland, and unused land—and combined with high-resolution historical images from Google EarthTM, they were used as a reference layer to assess classification accuracy for all land types. The classification accuracy assessment was calculated based on a confusion matrix of 100 randomly selected points, with an overall classification accuracy of 88.19%. At the same time, the results of land use classification were further used to analyze the landscape metrics of UGS.

2.2. Retrieving Land-Surface Temperature (LST)

This research is based on the atmospheric correction method, and the Landsat8 TIRS was used to retrieve the surface temperature with a data accuracy of 30 m \times 30 m.

$$L_{\lambda} = [\varepsilon B(T_s) + (1 - \varepsilon)L_d]\tau + L_{\mu}$$
(1)

In Equation (1), L_{μ} is the upwelling radiance, L_d is the downwelling radiance, εL_{λ} is the top-of-atmosphere (TOA) radiance, where ε is the surface emissivity, $B(T_s)$ is the black body heat radiation brightness, and τ is the transmittance of the atmosphere in the thermal infrared band. Thus, the radiance of a black body with a temperature of T in the thermal infrared band $B(T_s)$ is:

$$B(T_s) = \frac{L_{\lambda} - L_{\mu} - \tau(1 - \varepsilon)L_d}{\tau\varepsilon}$$
(2)

 T_s is the true surface temperature (LST) (°C), which can be obtained by the function of Planck's formula:

$$T_s = \frac{K_2}{\ln(K_1/B(T_s) + 1)}$$
(3)

For Landstat8, $K_1 = 774.89 \text{ W}/(\text{m}^2 \cdot \mu \text{m} \cdot \text{sr})$, $K_2 = 1321.08 \text{ K}$.

2.3. Influencing Factors Selection

The landscape metrics can effectively quantify the structural composition and spatial configuration characteristics of the patch [38], given that studies have proven landscape composition and configuration to have a significant impact on LST [39]. Based on the results of previous studies, six commonly used landscape indicators were selected as explanatory variables for LST changes [30]. To account for the correlation between the various landscape metrics, to fully reflect the landscape pattern of green space, and to avoid potential correlations caused by redundant metrics, we selected percentage of landscape (PLAND), patch density (PD), edge density (ED), aggregation index (AI), mean patch size (AREA_MN), and mean shape index (SHAPE_MN) as our key indicators [40] to analyze the relationship between green space patterns. Generally, PLAND and AREA_MN represent the patch area, PD and ED are indicator density and patch boundary, while SHAPE_MN is the patch shape index and AI represents the spread of landscape patches.

We used the grid analysis method to analyze the green landscape pattern metrics using the FRAGSTATS 4.2 software [31]. However, the appropriate grid scale is still argued in the literature, and previous studies have proved that the green space cooling effect is scaledependent [41], while the optimal scale varies depending on study area [12]. To explore the suitable grid scale in Fuzhou, we applied four grid scales: $360 \text{ m} \times 360 \text{ m}$, $510 \text{ m} \times 510 \text{ m}$, $720 \text{ m} \times 720 \text{ m}$, and a 960 m \times 960 m grid scale (all grid scales are integer multiples of 30 m accuracy of landsat8 images) [25,42–44]. By extracting the green landscape metrics of each grid, a grid image of each green landscape metric were obtained. We then used ArcGIS 10.2 (ESRI, Redlands, CA, USA) software to calculate the average LST and landscape metrics for each grid. We normalize the indicator results before analysis. Considering the impact of the water bodies and population density on LST [11,45–47], we also added closest distance to a water (water_distance) [17] and population density as research variables (https://www.worldpop.org/ accessed on 30 June 2021). The accuracy of the population density map was 100 m \times 100 m (Table 1). We applied the Pearson correlation to check the strength of the association between LST and each variable indicator.

Variables	Description	Formula	Unit
Percentage of landscape (PLAND)	The proportional abundance of each patch type in the landscape within an analysis unit.	$PLAND = p_i = rac{\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}}{A} * 100$	Percent
Patch density (PD)	Density of landscape patches within an analysis unit, reflects the degree of fragmentation and spatial heterogeneity of landscape patches.	$PD = \frac{N_i}{A}(10000) * (100)$	n/km ²
Edge density (ED)	The total perimeter of landscape patches per ha within an analysis unit, reflects the degree of fragmentation of the patch.	$ED = \sum_{k=1}^{m} e_{ik} \times \frac{10000}{A}$	m/ha
Aggregation Index (AI)	Aggregating degree of the corresponding patches within an analysis unit.	$AI = \left \frac{g_{ii}}{\max - g_{ii}} \right * 100$	Percent
Mean patch area (AREA_MN)	The average area of landscape patches within an analysis unit.	$AREA_MN = \frac{1}{10000 \times n} \times \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{ij}$	Hectares
Mean patch shape index (SHAPE_MN)	The average shape index of landscape patches within an analysis unit, for reflecting the complexity of individual patch shapes.	$SHAPE_MN = \frac{\frac{1}{n} \times \frac{0.25p_{ij}}{\sqrt{a_{ij}}}}{\frac{1}{n} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{a_{ij}}}}$	unitless
Water_distance	Analyze the Euclidean distance of each unit to the water bodies.		Km
Population density	The population density within an analysis unit.		People/km ²

Table 1. Descriptions of the variables used in this study [48].

A, total landscape area (m²); a_{ij} , area (m²) of patch ij; N_i , number of patches in the landscape of patch type (class); n, number of patches p_i , proportion of the landscape occupied by patch type (class) i; e_{ik} , total length (m) of edge in landscape involving patch type (class) i; p_{ij} , perimeter (m) of patch ij; g_{ii} , number of like adjacencies (joins) between pixels of patch type (class) i based on the single-count method; max- g_{ii} , maximum number of like adjacencies (joins) between pixels of patch type (class) i based on the single-count method.

2.4. Spatial Autocorrelation and Spatial Autoregressive Model

Spatial autocorrelation analysis reveals whether the variables are spatially correlated, and the degree of autocorrelation [49]. Spatial autocorrelation includes global spatial autocorrelation and local spatial autocorrelation, and here we use global Moran's I (the spatial correlation of the whole study area) and local indicators of spatial association (LISA) (the spatial correlation of each spatial unit and its neighboring units for a certain attribute) to describe the above results [50,51]. Moran's I values range from -1 to 1, with negative values indicating negative spatial autocorrelation, and positive values indicating positive spatial autocorrelation. LISA plots depict the results of five scenarios: clusters of high values (high-high), clusters of low values (low-low), outliers where high values are surrounded by low values (high-low), and outliers where low values are surrounded by high values (low-high) and have no significant local autocorrelation (not-significant). It determines the degree of spatial clustering present in the data (*p*-value). Additionally, the bivariate spatial autocorrelation analysis was used to analyze the spatial correlation of different variables with LST [52]. The GeoDa (v.1.14.0; Luc Anselin, AZ, USA) software was used for the above-mentioned spatial correlation analysis.

The formula for global spatial autocorrelation can be expressed as:

$$I = \frac{n}{S_0} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n w_{i,j} z_i z_j}{\sum_{i=1}^n z_i^2}$$
(4)

where *n* is the total number of spatial units, z_i is the attribute of element *i* with its mean $(x_i - \overline{x})$, $w_{i,j}$ is the spatial weight value between *i*,*j*, and S_0 is the aggregation of all spatial weights.

$$S_0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n w_{ij},$$
(5)

The z_x score for the statistic is given by:

$$z_x = \frac{I - E[I]}{\sqrt{V[I]}} \tag{6}$$

where

$$E[I] = \frac{-1}{(n-1)}$$
(7)

$$V[I] = E\left[I^2\right] - E[I]^2 \tag{8}$$

A traditional ordinary least squares (OLS) model was employed to examine the effect of each variable on the change in LST.

$$y = X\beta + u \tag{9}$$

where *X* is the matrix of explanatory variables, β denotes a vector of slopes, and *u* represents a vector of random error terms.

Spatial lag model (SLM):

$$y = \rho W y + X \beta + u \tag{10}$$

where ρ is a spatial autocorrelation parameter, *W* is the spatial weight matrix, *Wy* is the spatial lag operator, and β is the unknown coefficient vector.

Spatial error model (SEM):

$$y = X\beta + \gamma W\varepsilon + \delta \tag{11}$$

where γ is the spatial autocorrelation parameter, $W\varepsilon$ denotes the spatial weight matrix, and δ represents a vector of the error terms.

The spatial error model and the spatial lag model were determined using Lagrangian multiplier diagnostics (LM) [36,44]. The LM and robust LM values of the SEM model are larger than that of SLM, indicating that SEM performed better than SLM. Results show that the spatial error model was suitable for the data in this study (Table A1).

3. Results

3.1. Spatial Characteristics of LST

In general, the spatial distribution characteristics of LST in Fuzhou during different seasons tend to be consistent. High-temperature areas were mainly concentrated in the city center (Figure 3). As Fuzhou is surrounded by mountains on three sides (Gushan Mountain to the east, Wuhu Mountain to the south, and Qishan Mountain to the west), the vegetation coverage is high and the forests are relatively abundant. Thus, low-temperature areas mainly surround the urban areas. In summer, the temperature in Fuzhou can reach above 50 °C (with an average of 43 °C) (Table 2), which is quite different from the other two seasons and can seriously affect daily travel [53].



Figure 3. The three images represent the spatial distribution of land surface temperature (LST, $^{\circ}$ C) in (**a**) summer, (**b**) transitional season, and (**c**) winter, respectively.

Table 2. Temperature in different seasons.

Season	Data Date	Local Time	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Std. Dev.
Summer	22 July 2020	02:32:25	20.473	62.633	43.417	5.556
Transition season	16 March 2020	02:32:22	11.674	46.229	22.305	3.168
Winter	11 December 2019	02:32:49	2.843	36.573	18.225	1.901

Through the analysis of the study area, the LST distribution of global Moran's I is positively autocorrelated (Table 3). The overall distribution of LST and the spatial autocorrelation of LST were also significant at the 0.01 level, indicating that the spatial distribution of LST exhibited aggregation. With an increase in the grid scale, the larger the scale, the lower the correlation to a certain extent. At the same time, the global Moran's I of LST in summer and the transition season was greater than that in winter. It can be seen from (Figure A1) that the spatial aggregation distribution trends of all scales in the study area are basically the same. The low-low cluster (L-L) is distributed in the forest areas to the west, east, and north, while the proportion of high-high clusters (H-H) is relatively large and distributed mostly in the urban center and a little to the south. With a decrease in temperature, the L-L distribution in the urban area decreased. The distribution proportions of the high-low cluster (H-L) and low-high cluster (L-H) were small and sporadic. In winter, H-H accumulation in the urban center decreased significantly, but increased in the east. The distribution of L-L increased with a decrease in temperature, especially in the south.

Scale (m)	Global Moran's I			
Scure (III)	Summer	Transition Season	Winter	<i>p</i> -Value
360 m	0.766	0.773	0.653	< 0.01
510 m	0764	0772	0668	< 0.01
720 m	0.664	0.673	0.546	< 0.01
960 m	0.620	0.644	0.548	< 0.01

Table 3. Global Moran's I (Equation (4)) of land surface temperature (LST).

3.2. LST and UGS Spatial Pattern Analysis

3.2.1. Analysis of the Spatial Pattern of Green Space

By comparing the cities around Fuzhou [54], the patch density (PD) and edge density (ED) in Fuzhou were higher than the surrounding cities, and the mean patch area (AREA_MN) value was lower. The higher the patch density, the higher the fragmentation of the landscape; the higher the edge density, the lower the aggregation of patches at the edge of the landscape, while the small average patch area indicates that there are many small green areas with a certain degree of fragmentation in the Fuzhou UGS. Meanwhile, the global Moran's I is also greater than 0.7 (Table 4), thus indicating that the green space has obvious spatial aggregation.

Table 4. Green space landscape metrics and global spatial autocorrelation analysis.

Landscape Metrics						
PLAND (%)	PD (n/km ²)	ED (m/ha)	ED (m/ha) AI (%)		SHAPE_MN	Worall 51
58.379	33.869	65.510	82.582	10.222	1.197	0.869

3.2.2. Bivariate Analysis of Green Space Landscape Pattern Index and LST

Pearson's correlation coefficient and bivariate spatial autocorrelation analysis showed that the relationship between each indicator and LST was more significant in summer and transition seasons than in winter (Figure 4). The correlations of PLAND, AI, AREA_MN, and water_distance were all negative. Among the negative indicators, PLAND and AREA_MN were more strongly correlated with LST, indicating that the increase in the proportion of green patches can have a cooling effect. ED, SHAP_MN, and population density were positive numbers. This indicates that the increase of patch edge density leads to the fragmentation of green areas. Under different grid scales, the correlation between the positive indexes SHAPE_MN and ED increases with an increase in the grid scale, while the negative index AI is the opposite. The larger the grid, the lower the correlation. There was no strong correlation between PD and spatial autocorrelation (see Figure 4b).

3.2.3. Spatial Autoregressive Analysis

Spatial autoregressive analysis was carried out using LST as the dependent variable. At the same time, before performing spatial regression analysis, all indicators passed the collinearity test with variance inflation factor (VIF) values less than 10, indicating that there was no problem with collinearity among the indicators.

From the results of the OLS analysis (Table 5), the correlation of the overall indicators is the highest in the transition season and lowest in winter. The contribution of PLAND and PD to LST cooling is larger (especially PLAND), while ED, AI, and population density are obviously positive. At the same time, the correlation of PLAND decreased from summer to winter, while PD remained relatively stable. In terms of positive correlation indicators, the LST interpretation rates of ED, AI, and population density increased with an increase in temperature. Water distance is positively correlated in summer and transition seasons, while negatively correlated in winter. AREA_MN loses explanatory significance as the temperature decreases. On the grid scale, as the grid scale increases, the fit of each index (R2) in different seasons grows higher under the OLS model.



Figure 4. Pearson correlation analysis at different scales and bivariate spatial autocorrelation. Values without significant correlation were excluded from the graph. (a) Pearson correlation analysis; (b) bivariate spatial autocorrelation.

However, it was found through the results that the residuals of the OLS model Moran's I had significant spatial clustering (Table A1), and the traditional OLS regression model may have ignored the spatial correlation of the indicators, so the SEM model was used for further analysis (Table 6).

Specifically, the coefficients of ED, AI were significantly positive. The coefficients for PLAND and PD were significantly negative. SHAPE_MN was not statistically significant. The correlation of overall indicators was better in the summer and transition season than in the winter. Under the standardized coefficient, the indexes of PLAND and PD make a great contribution to the reduction of LST; with the increase in grid scale, the effect of index on LST is enhanced. At the same time, with the increase in scale, the correlation between AREA_MN, water_distance, population density, and LST disappeared. From the fitting results, the fitting effect (R²) of the 510 m scale is higher than that of the other scales in this study. Compared with the OLS model, the interpretation degree of the SEM index for seasonal changes is lower, but the overall fitting effect of the index is better than that of OLS.

Season	Scale (m)	PLAND	PD	ED	AI	AREA_MN	SHAPE_MN	Water_Distance	Population Density	AIC	\mathbb{R}^2
2.62	-0.081 ***	-0.002 ***	0.014 ***	0.025 ***	0.075 ***	-0.179	0.000 ***	0.022 ***	67,392.8	0.424	
	360 m	(-0.610)	(-0.181)	(0.250)	(0.155)	(0.077)	(-0.019)	(0.058)	(0.215)		
	=10	-0.076 **	-0.003 ***	0.017 ***	0.024 ***	0.028 **	-0.220	0.000 ***	0.022 ***	34,568.3	0.459
0	510 m	(-0.585)	(-0.221)	(0.289)	(0.143)	(0.057)	(-0.022)	(0.077)	(0.217)		
Summer		-0.077 **	-0.001 ***	0.017 ***	0.039 ***	0.016 *	-0.022	0.000 **	0.024 ***	17,156.5	0.474
	720 m	(-0.562)	(-0.226)	(0.256)	(0.193)	(0.061)	0.000 **	(0.051)	(0.219)		
	0(0	-0.073 **	-0.001 ***	0.019 ***	0.056 ***	0.008 *	-0.177	0.000	0.024 ***	9729.38	0.551
960 m	(-0.533)	(-0.241)	(0.264)	(0.238)	(0.056)	(-0.015)	(0.013)	(0.223)			
360 m	-0.040 ***	-0.001 ***	0.007 ***	0.012 ***	-0.008	0.102	0.000 *	0.007 ***	53,706	0.432	
	(-0.540)	(-0.169)	(0.235)	(0.131)	(-0.014)	(0.019)	(-0.018)	(0.117)			
	F 10	-0.038 ***	-0.002 ***	0.009 ***	0.012 ***	-0.011 *	0.040	0.000	0.006 ***	27,337.2	0.472
Transition	510 m	(-0.526)	(-0.207)	(0.277)	(0.123)	(0.040)	(0.007)	(0.008)	(0.112)		
Season	700	-0.036 ***	-0.001 ***	0.009 ***	0.019 ***	-0.006	0.197	0.000 ***	0.007 ***	13,485	0.495
	720 m	(-0.474)	(-0.212)	(0.236)	(0.167)	(0.041)	(0.032)	(0.070)	(0.114)		
	0(0	-0.040 ***	-0.001 ***	0.010 ***	0.030 ***	-0.006 *	-0.007	0.000	0.007 ***	7571.76	0.538
	960 m	(-0.533)	(-0.226)	(0.258)	(0.231)	(-0.068)	(-0.001)	(0.019)	(0.113)		
	260	-0.019 ***	-0.001 ***	0.004 ***	0.004 ***	0.022 **	0.034	0.000 ***	0.002 ***	45,041.6	0.290
	360 m	(-0.425)	(-0.231)	(0.218)	(0.081)	(0.065)	(0.010)	(-0.076)	(0.049)		
	F 10	-0.018 ***	-0.002 ***	0.005 ***	0.004 **	0.004	0.070	0.000 ***	0.001 ***	22,555	0.334
X 4.7* /	510 m	(-0.407)	(-0.274)	(0.248)	(0.071)	(0.023)	(0.021)	(-0.064)	(0.044)		
Winter	700	-0.016 ***	-0.001 ***	0.005 ***	0.006 **	0.003	0.193	0.000 ***	0.002 **	11,323.9	0.362
	720 m	(-0.333)	(-0.299)	(0.202)	(0.089)	(0.039)	(0.050)	(-0.151)	(0.048)		
	0(0	-0.018 ***	-0.001 ***	0.005 ***	0.012 **	-0.001	0.084	0.000 *	0.002 *	6371.76	0.399
	960 m	(-0.392)	(-0.325)	(0.225)	(0.150)	(0.012)	(0.020)	(-0.064)	(0.044)		

Table 5. Results from the ordinary least squares (OLS) multiple linear regressions.

Note: ***, **, and * represent significance at the 0.001, 0.01, and 0.05 levels respectively. We included both unstandardized regression coefficients and standardized coefficients (included in parentheses). The standardized coefficient estimates help determine the relative importance of the explanatory variables in different grids. The larger the absolute value of the standardized coefficient estimate, the more important the variable. AIC is Akaike information criterion.

Season	Scale(m)	PLAND	PD	ED	AI	AREA_MN	SHAPE_MN	Water_Distance	Population Density	AIC	R ²
	2(0)	-0.035 ***	-0.001 ***	0.005 ***	0.008 ***	0.0422 ***	-0.009	0.000 ***	0.007 ***	FF (3 0.1	0.007
	360 m	(-0.269)	(-0.174)	(0.089)	(0.049)	(0.043)	(0.000)	(0.154)	(0.064)	55,629.1	0.827
	F10	-0.049 ***	-0.003 ***	0.008 ***	0.006 **	0.022 **	-0.083	0.000 ***	0.003 *	00 1 40 E	0.945
Summer	510 m	(-0.380)	(-0.205)	(0.146)	(0.033)	(0.044)	(-0.009)	(0.183)	(0.034)	28,148.3	0.845
	720 m	-0.054 ***	-0.001 ***	0.008 ***	0.016 **	0.009	-0.022	0.000 ***	0.006 *	15 224 0	0 762
	720 m	(-0.394)	(-0.236)	(0.134)	(0.081)	(0.035)	(0.002)	(0.177)	(0.059)	13,234.9	0.765
	960 m	-0.059 ***	-0.002 ***	0.012 ***	0.018 **	0.003	0.155	0.000 *	0.006 *	8734	0 763
	900 III	(-0.437)	(-0.281)	(0.175)	(0.077)	(0.024)	(0.013)	(0.162)	(0.063)	0734	0.765
	2(0)	-0.016 ***	-0.000 ***	0.003 ***	0.005 ***	0.018 **	0.024	0.000 **	0.003 ***	41.041.6	0.020
360 m	(-0.218)	(-0.162)	(0.093)	(0.054)	(0.033)	(0.005)	(0.099)	(0.059)	41,941.6	0.830	
Transition 510 m	-0.023 ***	-0.002 ***	0.005 ***	0.0038 **	0.011 **	-0.032	0.000 ***	0.0012 *	21 001 0	0.944	
	510 m	(-0.318)	(-0.186)	(0.154)	(0.040)	(0.040)	(-0.006)	(0.119)	(0.033)	21,001.0	0.844
Season	720	0.026 ***	-0.000 ***	0.005 ***	0.008 ***	0.003	0.077	0.000	0.003 *	11,714.4	0.750
	720 m	(-0.338)	(-0.214)	(0.144)	(0.076)	(0.024)	(0.012)	(0.039)	(0.050)		0.759
	960 m	-0.029 ***	-0.000 ***	0.007 ***	0.014 ***	-0.000	0.057	0.000	0.003	6637	0 767
	900 III	(-0.397)	(-0.239)	(0.188)	(0.106)	(-0.005)	(0.009)	(0.096)	(0.048)	0037	0.707
	260 m	-0.009 ***	-0.000 ***	0.002 ***	0.003 ***	0.014 **	-0.012	-0.000 ***	0.002 **	26 220	0 711
	360 m	(-0.207)	(-0.217)	(0.093)	(0.057)	(0.043)	(-0.004)	(-0.139)	(0.046)	30,329	0.711
	F10 m	-0.014 ***	-0.001 ***	0.003 ***	0.003 **	0.010 ***	-0.077	0.000	0.000	17 540 6	0.740
Winter 510	510 m	(-0.326) (-0.257)	(-0.257)	(0.163)	(0.054)	(0.062)	(-0.023)	(-0.016)	(0.028)	17,349.6	0.749
	720 m	-0.013 ***	-0.000 ***	0.002 ***	0.006 **	0.005 *	-0.028	-0.000 ***	0.001	0042 25	0.620
	720 III	(-0.284)	(-0.289)	(0.128)	(0.079)	(0.053)	(-0.007)	(-0.153)	(0.042)	9942.33	0.039
	960 m	-0.016 ***	-0.000 ***	0.004 ***	0.007 ***	0.001	-0.029	-0.000	0.001	5420.88	0.602
	900 III	(-0.336)	(-0.319)	(0.166)	(0.091)	(0.031)	(-0.007)	(-0.025)	(0.047)	0409.00	0.095

Table 6. The results of spatial error models (SEM).

Note: ***, **, and * represent significance at the 0.001, 0.01, and 0.05 levels, respectively. We included both unstandardized regression coefficients and standardized coefficients (included in parentheses). AIC is Akaike information criterion.

4. Discussion

4.1. Spatial Variation of LST

Urban LST decreases with the change from summer to winter. Owing to the characteristics of urban development in Fuzhou, the suburbs are basically surrounded by mountains and less developed, which is why the distribution characteristics of the high-temperature areas across the whole study area are obvious and H-H accumulation is mainly distributed in the urban center where the population is concentrated. Urban expansion leads to the continuous reduction of green space and the continuous expansion of construction land, man-made emissions, etc., resulting in high LST. L-L aggregation is mainly distributed around the suburbs. With the decrease in LST, the aggregation degree of H-H decreased, while the L-L aggregation in the suburbs increased significantly.

4.2. Differences in the Impact of UGS on UHI Mitigation

Our OLS analysis showed that the indexes which contributed greatly to the cooling of LST under the standardized coefficient are PLAND and PD. This supports the claim that PLAND has great explanatory significance for cooling [55]. ED, AI, and population density also had significant effects on LST. At the same time, the effect of model fitting increased with an increase in the grid scale.

The results of the index analysis by the SEM model were slightly different from those of the OLS model. The coefficient of determination (R^2) for each variable at the 510 m grid scale is higher than the other three scales of this study. With an increase in scale, the value of each index coefficient increases. The landscape metrics PLAND and PD of green space showed an obvious negative correlation with LST, which is consistent with the research results of [40,55]. This shows that an increase in green space area, a larger patch area, and more patch quantity can reduce LST, given that green space can produce cold island effects through evapotranspiration, as well as shade to prevent the surface from being directly heated by the sun [56]. At the same time, the more aggregated the patch area, the better the connectivity and interaction between vegetation, and the better the cooling effect on the area [57]. However, the results of ED contradicted some previous studies. LST was found to decrease with an increase in the complexity of plant shape and edge density, probably because the shape complexity of edge density can increase the area of shadow provided by plants and reduce LST [40]. Although the patch edge density in Fuzhou was high, there were many small patches in Fuzhou and the green space distribution was relatively scattered, which weakened the cooling capacity of the green space and reduced the cooling effect [58–60]. Several studies have pointed out that population density is an important reason for the rise in LST. The more densely populated an area is, the more anthropogenic heat emissions there are, and the higher the UHI [34,61]. The heat island effect is more pronounced closer to the urban center. In the summer and transition seasons, the effect of population density on LST was positively correlated, but the correlation was not obvious in winter.

At the same time, different seasons have a significant impact on indicators. The nearest distance to the water was positively correlated with LST in the summer and transition seasons, but not in winter. It may be that rivers are scattered, mainly distributed around roads and urban areas, and are seriously disturbed by human factors. This shows that the distance and area of the water from the urban area are different, the degree of impact of human activities is different, and the impact on LST is different in different seasons. Because of the low temperature in winter, the temperature difference between the water body and the surface decreases, so the factors affecting LST will also decrease and the cooling effect will not be so obvious [33,62]. Overall, the research shows that the impact of the index in summer and transition season is higher than that in winter; in summer, the heat brought by the reduction of thermal radiation and evaporation is greater than that in winter, the temperature in winter is low, the impact of vegetation on LST is reduced [62], and the amount of solar thermal radiation is small [36,62,63].

4.3. UHI Mitigation Implications by Urban Greening

Our findings help planners to implement differentiated UGS management strategies for LST alleviation in specific regions. From the analysis, it is clear that increasing the UGS coverage is the most effective way to promote cooling effects. However, with the acceleration of urbanization in Fuzhou, green space resources are gradually being reduced, while the spread of impervious surfaces has also reduced the aggregation of green space patches and dispersed them. Under limited circumstances, it is difficult to conduct greening in large areas, thus optimizing space allocation and improving space utilization, such as increasing roof greening and pocket parks [20] in undeveloped urban suburbs, is necessary. During the construction process, the patch areas of green space can be increased, and a certain scale of parks and green spaces can be built to improve the evapotranspiration of plants and reduce the development intensity of the city and the aggregation of buildings. With the urbanization of Fuzhou in recent years, a large number of UGS have been reduced, which have resulted in many scattered patches [18]. The edge density of these patches is large, which results in a low cooling effect. Therefore, improving the connectivity between patches and reducing the fragmentation of patches can improve the mitigation effect of green spaces on UHIs. At the same time, Fuzhou has a rich network of urban waterways since it has a significant effect on reducing LST. With the optimization and rational use of the water system and the protection of existing wetlands from damage, we can alleviate the negative impact of the thermal environment [32,64].

4.4. Limitations and Future Research

The changes in urban ecosystems and land use/land cover caused by accelerated urbanization have largely exacerbated the UHI effect [20]. Combining land use data from multiple years can better identify the changing patterns of LST; this study only used one year's worth of data to analyze the spatial characteristics of green space and LST in Fuzhou. Meanwhile, there are many factors affecting LST, and the study failed to comprehensively analyze the interactions between multiple LST influencing elements. By analyzing the LST temperature changes across different years using the long-time series and multi-cycle data analysis in combination with different indicators in the future, the UHI effect can be analyzed more comprehensively. Incorporating it with the above analysis in future studies can also help us study and alleviate the heat island effects in Fuzhou more comprehensively.

5. Conclusions

Taking Fuzhou as the study area, this paper used a bivariate spatial autocorrelation and spatial autoregression model to analyze the spatial relationship between different green landscape elements and LST in different seasons from multiple grid scales. The results showed that the percentage of landscape and patch density were negatively correlated with LST, while edge density and aggregation index were positively correlated with LST. Mean patch shape index had no correlation. At the same time, the dominant factors affecting LST differed according to the season. Distance to the water body and population density had positive impact on LST during the summer, but the correlation weakened in the transition season and winter. With the decrease of seasonal temperature, the explanatory effect of each index on LST decreased accordingly. Because the factors affecting LST in the winter differed from the other seasons, this indicates that more factors need to be considered in the analysis of LST, and mitigation measures need to be taken for different seasons. At the same time, it was found that the coefficient of the spatial error model was lower than that of the OLS regression model, indicating that SEM considers the spatial autocorrelation of each index. The fitting effect of SEM is better than that of OLS, which proves it can better explain the spatial relationship between the greenspace landscape pattern and LST. This study also analyzed the impact of landscape indicators on LST in different seasons at different grid scales to identify seasonal changes that can promote development and guide urban planning, and ultimately reduce the UHI effect.

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Appendix A

Local indicators of spatial association (LISA) at different grid scales in the study area.



Not significant 📕 High-high cluster 📃 Low-low cluster 📃 Low-high cluster 📕 High-low cluster

Figure A1. (a) $360 \text{ m} \times 360 \text{ m}$; (b) $510 \text{ m} \times 510 \text{ m}$; (c) $720 \text{ m} \times 720 \text{ m}$; (d) $960 \text{ m} \times 960 \text{ m}$. (1) High-high means spatial clustering of similarly high values, (2) low-low means spatial clustering of similarly low values, (3) low-high cluster means low values surrounded by high neighboring values, and (4) high-low cluster means high values surrounded by low values. (5) no significant value.

Appendix A

		Value			p-Value		
Scale (m)		Summer	Transition Season	Winter	Summer	Transition Season	Winter
360 m	LM (SLM)	17,669.722	17,554.956	14,749.657	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SLM)	751.682	817.425	335.424	0.000	0.000	0.000
	LM (SEM)	18,289.119	17,995.990	15,079.633	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SEM)	1371.078	1258.459	665.401	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Moran's I (error)	0.638	0.633	0.576	0.000	0.000	0.000
510 m	LM (SLM)	8980.604	8785.118	8081.876	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SLM)	315.210	375.142	134.112	0.000	0.000	0.000
	LM (SEM)	9733.919	9383.335	8577.889	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SEM)	1068.525	973.335	630125	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Moran's I (error)	0.646	0.634	0.606	0.000	0.000	0.000
720 m	LM (SLM)	2777.740	2600.889	2244.589	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SLM)	164.529	165.802	62.053	0.000	0.000	0.000
	LM (SEM)	2892.608	2658.432	2314.228	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SEM)	279.137	223.345	131.692	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Moran's I (error)	0.506	0.485	0.453	0.000	0.000	0.000
960 m	LM (SLM)	1229.250	1196.510	1335.168	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SLM)	52.147	77.669	38.198	0.000	0.000	0.000
	LM (SEM)	1393.353	1308.945	1443.972	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Robust LM (SEM)	216.250	190.104	147.002	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Moran's I (error)	0.466	0.451	0.474	0.000	0.000	0.000

 Table A1. Lagrange multiplier (LM) diagnostics for spatial dependence.

Note: *p*-value is the probability of observing an event at least as extreme as the test statistic.

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