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TITLE

Comparison of Physically Based and Empirical Modeling of Nighttime Spatial Temperature Variability during a Heatwave in and around a City

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31 thermophysically relevant physiography was lacking or was only partly captured by the
32 model.

33 SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

34 As more and more people are living in an urban environment, the demand for accurate
35 urban climate modeling is growing. This study aims to understand the differences between
36 the numerical weather prediction and multiple linear regression modeling, and their
37 limitations in modeling surface air temperature in sub-kilometer scale. The case-study shows
38 that models are capable of predicting the spatial variation of 2 am night-time temperature
39 during a heatwave in a high-latitude coastal city. Both models are therefore valuable assets
40 for city planners who need accurate information about the impacts of the physiography on the
41 urban climate. The results indicate that to improve the performance of the models, more
42 accurate physiographic description and higher spatial resolution of the models are needed.

43

44

45 **1. Introduction**

46 Development of modeling methods for city scale spatial air temperature differences,
47 together with increased availability of relevant GIS-based input data (Dai et al., 2018; Guerri
48 et al., 2023), has broadened the spectrum of modeling approaches applied during the last
49 decades. Linear regression has been used in urban temperature modeling since the 1990's
50 (e.g., Eliasson, 1992; Kim and Baik, 2002). The modeling settings have varied, and along
51 with increased amount of high-quality open access data, one rather common approach has
52 been the use of multiple linear regression model incorporating multiple GIS data based
53 explanatory variables, and temperature as a dependent variable (Bottyán and Unger, 2003;
54 Ketterer and Matzarakis, 2015; Porangaba et al., 2021). Such regression models are based on
55 the assumptions on thermal impacts of land cover, urban morphology, topography, water
56 bodies and other relevant environmental factors on air temperature. In the explanatory
57 variable formation, these factors can already as such be used in a numerical form (e.g.,
58 elevation) or they can be converted to a numerical form by e.g., calculating their spatial
59 coverage (%) inside a buffer zone around the temperature observation site (Foissard et al.,
60 2019; Oukawa et al., 2022).

61 Another approach to model urban scale spatial temperature differences is to use
62 physically based modeling, as in numerical weather prediction models and in climate models
63 (see Hamdi et al. 2020 for review on physically based urban modeling, and Ronda et al. 2017
64 for high-resolution urban modeling). Numerical weather prediction (NWP) (Bauer et al.,
65 2015) is the primary method for operational weather forecasting, using physics based
66 numerical models to simulate the physical phenomena occurring in the atmosphere and near
67 the surface. The resolution as well as the size of the modeled domain vary, depending on the
68 need and the available computational resources.

69 One urban scale spatial temperature difference phenomenon is the urban heat island
70 (UHI) which means the warmness of urban areas compared to their rural surroundings. The
71 UHI results mainly from differences in 1) solar heat storage, 2) anthropogenic heat release,
72 and 3) evaporation between urban and rural areas (Oke, 1987). When referring to UHI in this
73 study, we mean the canopy layer UHI which means the urban-rural temperature difference in
74 the lower part of the atmospheric canopy layer (WMO, 2023). In high latitudes in winter,
75 spring and autumn, the consequences of UHI, such as lower heating demand and longer
76 growing season, are often considered beneficial phenomena (Santamouris, 2014; Schatz and
77 Kucharic, 2016; Yang et al., 2020). In high latitudes in summer, and in lower latitudes
78 throughout the year, the high temperatures can cause health problems and even increase
79 mortality (Hajat and Kosatky, 2010; Kollanus et al., 2021). As a consequence of rise in
80 temperature due to climate change, heat-related health problems will get more common, and
81 in urban areas, UHI will for its part probably worsen the situation, as already in current
82 climate it is likely increasing the mortality (Kivimäki et al., 2023). Better knowledge on the
83 city-scale heat-related health risks and their spatial distribution call for more accurate UHI
84 modeling (Ruuhela et al., 2021). The purpose of this study is to compare and analyze the
85 performance of two different kind of spatial temperature prediction models, namely a
86 multiple linear regression model (later the ‘TURCLIM model’) and a NWP model
87 HARMONIE-AROME (Bengtsson et al., 2017) in modeling the UHI and other spatial
88 temperature variations during a July heatwave. In literature, the UHI is reported to be
89 strongest 3-5 hours after sunset (Oke and Maxwell, 1975; Oke, 1987; see also Bokwa et al.,
90 2015), and also the spatial temperature variability in general is often largest at night or early
91 morning (Suomi and Käyhkö, 2012; Suomi, 2018). Consequently, we compared the surface
92 air temperatures at 2 am local standard time (UTC +2), which fits inside the time frame of
93 diurnally strongest UHI, during a one-week long study period in July 2018 in the city of

94 Turku and its surroundings on the south-western coast of Finland. In all contexts of this
95 study, when we discuss temperature, we refer to the surface air temperature. In the case of the
96 TURCLIM model, this means 3 m height, and 2 m height for the HARMONIE-AROME
97 model.

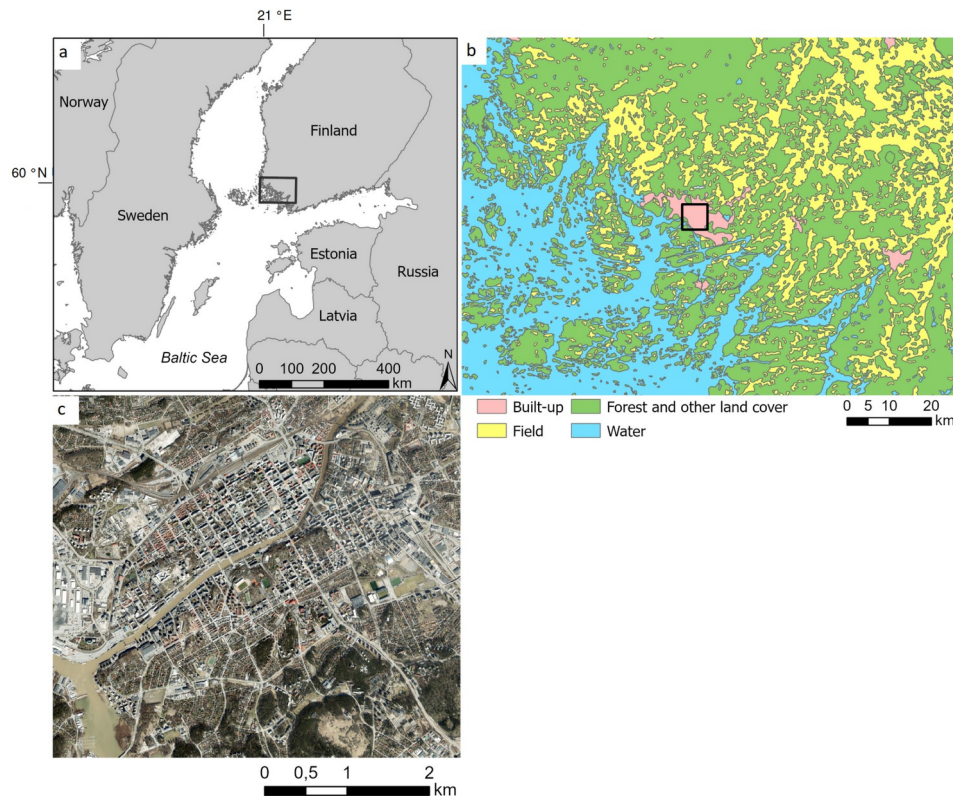
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99 The main objectives of this study are to:

- 100 1. Investigate, how the night-time surface air temperatures and their spatial variability
101 modeled with the HARMONIE-AROME model and the TURCLIM model
102 correspond to the observations
- 103 2. Assess how do the night-time surface air temperatures modeled by the HARMONIE-
104 AROME model and the TURCLIM model differ spatially and temporally from each
105 other
- 106 3. Assess which factors explain these differences, and what are the implications in future
107 model development

108 **2. Study area**

109 Our study area in south-western Finland on the coast of the Baltic Sea consists of a
110 middle-size (ca. 200,000 inhabitants) city of Turku (city center: 60°27'N, 22°16'E) and parts
111 of its neighboring municipalities (Fig. 1). The second largest city in the study area is Salo
112 (52,000 inhabitants), located 50 km to the ESE of Turku. The extent of the rectangular study
113 area delineated for the modeling purposes is 113 km (E-W) times 76 km (N-S). The climate
114 of the Turku region is a combination of coastal and inland types because of the relatively
115 large islands next to the city center and an extensive archipelago consisting of thousands of
116 islands stretching tens of kilometers to the sea. The location and movements of large weather
117 systems determine temporally whether continental or marine characteristics dominate
118 (Alalammi, 1987). Towards the inland from the city center, the climate becomes gradually
119 more continental.



120

121 Fig. 1. The study area in the southwestern Finland. In the subfigure b, city of Turku is the
 122 built-up area in the center of the subfigure, and the urban area in the center right is the Salo
 123 city center. The aerial photo (subfigure c) presents the 6 x 6 km area in the Turku city center.
 124 The respective area is marked with a black square in the subfigure b, which in turn is marked
 125 with a black rectangle in the subfigure a.

126

127 In Köppen's climate classification, Turku belongs to the hemiboreal and humid Dfb class,
 128 which extends to the Baltic countries, the southern parts of Scandinavian Peninsula, the
 129 eastern part of Europe and the mid-latitudes of western Asia, and the North American Great
 130 Lakes region. By using 1991-2020 as a reference period, the annual average temperature at
 131 Turku Airport, approximately 7 km to the north of the city center, is 5.8 °C (Jokinen et al.,
 132 2021). February is the coldest month based on the average temperature (-4.5 °C), and the
 133 average daily minimum and maximum temperatures (-7.1 °C and -1.2 °C, respectively). The
 134 warmest month is July, based on the average temperature (17.5 °C), and the average daily
 135 minimum and maximum temperatures (12.5 °C and 22.6 °C, respectively). The highest and
 136 lowest observed temperatures in 1991-2020 were +33.0 °C (Jul 2018), and -28.2 °C (Jan
 137 2013), respectively. The mean annual rainfall in Turku is 684 mm, with April (32 mm) as the
 138 driest month and July (74 mm) the wettest. The length of the permanent snow cover period
 139 increases from the archipelago towards the inland, being approximately 2-3 months around

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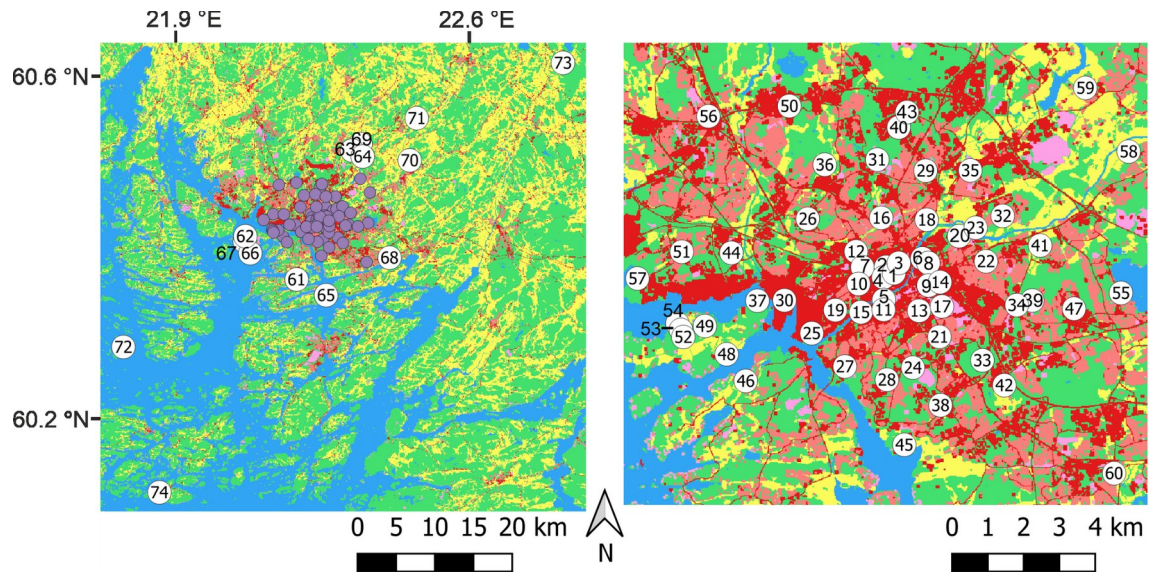
140 the Turku city center, starting typically at the end of December (FMI, 2022). The average
141 wind speed in the area is 3.4 m s^{-1} , being strongest in December (3.7 m s^{-1}), and weakest (3.1
142 m s^{-1}) in July, August and September. The dominant wind direction (16 %) is southeasterly,
143 while northerly and northeasterly winds are the rarest (8 %). During the study period, 25 to
144 31 July 2018, the city of Turku experienced a strong heatwave. The average temperature of
145 the study period was $7.9 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ warmer than the average temperature of $17.5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ in July in the
146 period 1991-2020. Altogether, the heatwave lasted almost uninterrupted from 12 July to 3
147 August, but to eliminate the potential impact of the day of the week on UHI, we selected one
148 week period for the analyses (see e.g. Earl et al., 2016).

149 The extent of the Turku city center is approximately 1.5 km (SE-NW) times 4 km (SW-
150 NE). The streets are oriented from SW to NE and from SE to NW. Otherwise the grid plan
151 area mostly consists of 6-8 storey high blocks of flats, and scattered parks. Commercial
152 activities are concentrated in the surroundings of the market place located in the middle of the
153 grid plan area. The 50-100 m wide Aura River flows from NE to SW across the grid plan.
154 The city center area extends over relatively flat terrain 5-10 m above sea level, with scattered
155 bedrock hills 30-50 m in height. Beyond the grid plan area, the land cover consists of a
156 mosaic of built-up areas, forests and fields (City of Turku, 2022).

157 **3. Data and methods**

158 **a. Temperature data**

159 Temperature observations have been recorded as part of the Turku Urban Climate
160 Research Project (TURCLIM) of the Geography Division at the University of Turku. The
161 TURCLIM observation network currently consists of altogether 83 Onset Hobo Pro v2 U23-
162 001 temperature and relative humidity data loggers, placed inside Onset RS1 radiation shields
163 on poles at 3 m elevation above the ground. The elevation differs from the standard 2 m
164 elevation in order to minimize the risk of vandalism. The observation interval is 30 minutes.
165 According to the manufacturer, the accuracy of the instrument is $\pm 0.2 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ at $0\text{--}70 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, and
166 $\pm 0.25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ at $-40\text{--}0 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, while the resolution is $0.04 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. In this study, we use temperature
167 observations of 74 sites.



168

169 Fig. 2. Observation sites in the study area. The order of the numbering is based on the beeline
 170 distance from the Turku city center (site no. 1, Market place). The sites that are presented on
 171 the right-hand side map are marked with purple dots on the left-hand site map. For more
 172 information on the sites, see Table A1.

173 *b. TURCLIM model*

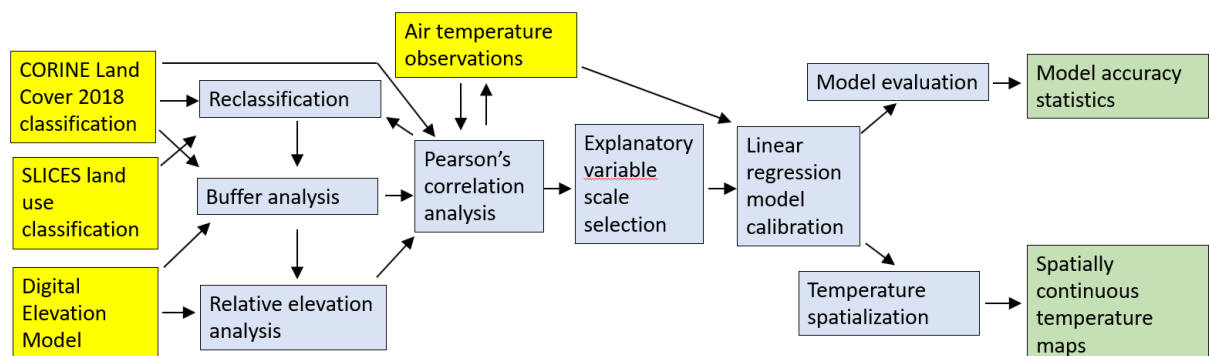
174 Spatially continuous temperature maps were produced with the TURCLIM model (Fig.
 175 3). The observed temperatures of the observation site network acted as response variables,
 176 while the GIS-based variables representing the impact of topography, water bodies and land
 177 use acted as explanatory variables. The sizes of the circle-shaped footprint areas of the
 178 explanatory variables were determined case-specifically based on the Pearson's correlation
 179 coefficients between the response and explanatory variables. The correlation analyses were
 180 performed with the original resolutions of the dataset, i.e., in the case of topography and
 181 water bodies with 10 m resolution and in case of land use with 20 m resolution. Either the
 182 footprint area with the highest correlation coefficient or the correlation coefficient
 183 representing clear saturation of the coefficient in relation to the change in footprint area was
 184 selected to be used in the respective regression model. Also, the thermophysical mechanisms
 185 relevant in the climatic impact of the variable in question were considered in determining the
 186 footprint area. E.g., the impact of a variable that represents land use is mostly transmitted via
 187 heat flux that originates from anthropogenic activity and solar heat storage and releases from
 188 urban construction material. Before deciding the footprint area, the area suggested by the
 189 correlation analysis was first compared to the literature (see e.g. Oke, 2006), and if
 190 considered to be in line with earlier studies, accepted as a footprint area of the respective
 191 variable in this study.

20

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192 The variable reflecting the impact of water bodies was formulated based on the SLICES
 193 land use classification (spatial resolution 10 x 10 m) (National Land Survey of Finland,
 194 2020). Sea areas, lakes and rivers were combined to represent surface waters in the area.
 195 Numerically, the variable represented the area of water bodies in relation to the area of the
 196 footprint area as a whole. The variable reflecting the impact of land use was formulated from
 197 CORINE Land Cover (CLC) 2018 dataset (spatial resolution 20 x 20 m) (SYKE, 2023). CLC
 198 classes representing continuous urban fabric, commercial units and road and rail networks
 199 and associated lands were reclassified to a single class reflecting the impact of urban land use
 200 on temperatures. The reclassification was based on metadata of the CLC classification and
 201 Pearson's correlation coefficients between temperatures and spatial coverage of single CLC
 202 classes in the vicinity of temperature measurement sites. After preliminary analyses, coverage
 203 of the reclassified urban land use class of the total footprint area represented the numeric
 204 value of the variable. Relative elevation acted as a variable reflecting the local climatic
 205 impact of topography in the area. The variable was formulated from the Digital Elevation
 206 Model (DEM, spatial resolution 10 x 10 m) (National Land Survey of Finland, 2019), and
 207 indicated whether the site was in a lower or higher position relative to its surroundings.
 208 Numerically, the variable described how many meters higher position (positive values) or
 209 lower position (negative values) the site is relative to the average elevation of the footprint
 210 area. In the TURCLIM model, these numeric explanatory variables reflect thermophysical
 211 impacts of the environmental factors: for example high proportion of urban land use (and
 212 high value of respective explanatory variable) in the vicinity means higher temperature of
 213 those areas compared to the areas with less urban land use. The variable formulation was
 214 performed with the ArcGIS Pro 2.9 software, and the correlation analyses were made with the
 215 IBM SPSS Statistics 27 software.

216



217

218 Fig. 3. A flow diagram representing the steps of the TURCLIM model including data
 219 (yellow), methods (blue) and results (green).

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220

221 TURCLIM model including explanatory variables for water bodies, relative elevation and
222 urban land cover, was calibrated with the 'Enter' setting for each case (each day in 25 to 31
223 July 2018 at 2 am local standard time + average of the previously mentioned times = 8 cases)
224 with the temperature data of all the available 71 observation sites as a dependent variable.
225 With the 'Enter' setting, all explanatory variables are entered in a model in a single step in
226 spite of their statistical significance. These model results were rasterized to 100 m resolution
227 spatially continuous temperature maps. To evaluate the accuracy of the models with
228 independent evaluation data, the model calibration was also performed with the data of 60-61
229 observation sites, whereas the remaining 10-11 sites were used in model accuracy evaluation.
230 When evaluating the model accuracy, the model calibration was repeated 7 times per case so
231 that each observation site was involved in model calibration and model accuracy evaluation.
232 Additionally, temperature data of 3 remote observation sites that are located approximately
233 30-40 km from the city center (see Fig. 2) and that were not used in any model calibrations,
234 were also included in the model accuracy evaluation, resulting in altogether 74 sites used for
235 model evaluation. For the 3 remote observation sites, the model calibration was performed
236 with the data of the previously mentioned 71 observation sites. The TURCLIM model was
237 run by the IBM SPSS Statistics 27 software and the model accuracy estimation was
238 performed with the MS Excel 2016 software.

239 In the TURCLIM model evaluation, the explanatory variables for temperature
240 observation sites were extracted based on the 100 m resolution grid cell structure that was
241 used in the spatialization of the modeling results. For comparison of the spatial differences
242 between the TURCLIM model and HARMONIE-AROME model, the impact of different
243 spatial resolutions between the models was first neutralized by generalizing the 100 m
244 resolution temperatures predicted by the TURCLIM model to a 750 m resolution of the
245 HARMONIE model. As 750 is not divisible with 100, the 100 m resolution TURCLIM model
246 temperatures were first resampled to 50 m. After that, the average temperature of the
247 TURCLIM model temperature was calculated for each 750 m resolution HARMONIE-
248 AROME model grid cell. The spatialization and generalization of the modeling results was
249 done with ArcGIS Pro 2.9 software.

250 *c. HARMONIE-AROME*

251 HARMONIE-AROME (Bengtsson et al., 2017) is a short-range limited-area numerical
252 weather prediction system used for high-resolution forecasts at the Finnish Meteorological
253 Institute, and at several other European meteorological services. It is developed in the frame
254 of the international ACCORD consortium formed by 26 European services (ACCORD,
255 2022). HARMONIE-AROME includes a non-hydrostatic, convection-permitting limited-area
256 model of the atmosphere. Sub-grid scale atmospheric physical processes treated in the model
257 include cloud microphysics and precipitation, radiative transfer, turbulence and shallow
258 convection.

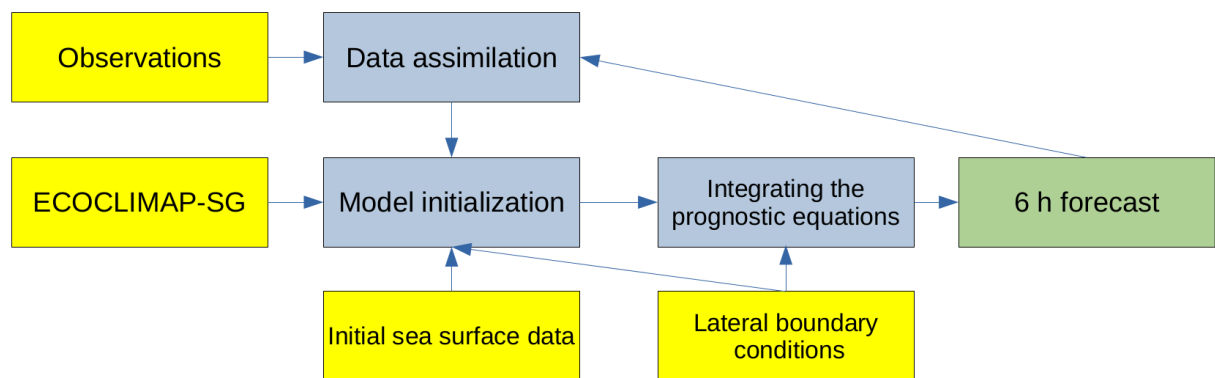
259 The interaction between surface and atmosphere through the exchange of energy, water
260 and momentum is calculated by the surface and soil module SURFEX (Masson et al., 2013).
261 SURFEX includes sub models for four different surface types: Sea and ocean, inland water,
262 vegetated surfaces and urban surfaces. For example, biophysical processes of soil and
263 vegetation related variables, and their interactions with the atmosphere are treated by the
264 Interactions between Soil–Biosphere–Atmosphere model (ISBA) (Noilhan and Planton, 1989,
265 Masson et al., 2013).

266 In the HARMONIE-AROME model, the built-up areas are handled by the Town Energy
267 Balance model (TEB) (Masson, 2000). TEB is a single layer urban canopy model which
268 calculates energy budgets for three surfaces: roads, roofs, and walls. The model assumes a
269 homogeneous street layout inside a grid cell. TEB takes into account several physical
270 processes related to urban environment: 1) shortwave and longwave trapping effect of the
271 canyon geometry; 2) anthropogenic sensible heat flux from heated or cooled buildings or
272 from traffic and industry; 3) water and snow interception by roofs and roads; 4) heat
273 conduction and heat storage in buildings and roads; and 5) interactions between the built
274 surfaces and the canyon air (temperature, specific humidity, wind, turbulence). TEB has been
275 shown to be capable of predicting the UHI (Hamdi 2010, Hamdi et al. 2012).

276 When both town and nature are present in a model grid cell, the diagnostic surface
277 parameters, such as temperature at 2 meter height, are calculated separately in ISBA and
278 TEB, and then averaged together based on the grid tile fractions. In ISBA, diagnostic
279 quantities are interpolated from atmospheric forcing, and surface variables. In TEB,
280 thermodynamic fluxes for the canyon air are assumed to be in equilibrium, and anthropogenic
281 flux is taken into account (Masson, 2000).

282 In SURFEX 8.1 (CNRM 2017) and onwards, ECOCLIMAP Second Generation
 283 physiographic data base (CNRM 2018) is used for topographic information. ECOCLIMAP-
 284 SG land cover map has a resolution of 300 m, and has 33 cover types. The 10 urban cover
 285 types represent the 10 urban local climate zones (LCZ) (Stewart and Oke, 2012).

286 In this study, HARMONIE-AROME was used as a forecasting system to generate short-
 287 range hind casts of the weather conditions during a heatwave in July 2018. The experiment
 288 was run with a grid size of 750 m and with 65 vertical levels. The applied version of
 289 HARMONIE-AROME (Cy43h2.1) uses the surface interaction sub model SURFEX 8.1 and
 290 thus ECOCLIMAP-SG physiographic data base was used after minor corrections to the sea
 291 and lake tiles based on local data. Analyses from the European Centre for Medium-Range
 292 Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) were used as boundary conditions at the lateral edges of the
 293 domain, and to supply the sea surface temperature which is not a prognostic variable of
 294 HARMONIE-AROME. Atmospheric variables were initialized by combining forecasts from
 295 the previous cycle to large-scale features from the hosting analyses. In order to keep the
 296 model as close as possible to the actual prevailing conditions during the experiment, surface
 297 and soil variables (road surface temperature in an urban environment) were updated by data
 298 assimilation using observations of near surface temperature and relative humidity from
 299 reporting weather stations (located outside the cities). The experiment produced 6-hour
 300 forecasts four times for each day. See Fig. 4 for a flow diagram describing the steps of
 301 HARMONIE-AROME.



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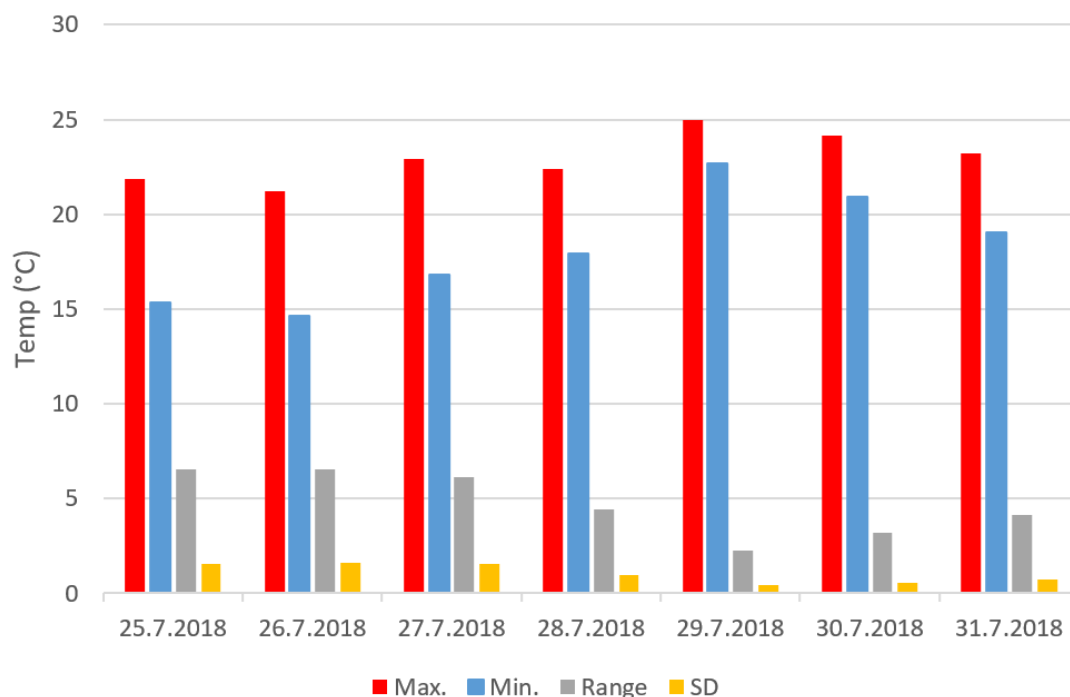
303 Fig. 4. A flow diagram representing the steps of the HARMONIE-AROME model
 304 including data (yellow), methods (blue) and results (green).

305 *d. Weather conditions during the study period*

306 The average temperature of the study period 25 to 31 July 2018 was 25.4 °C in the Turku
 307 Artukainen weather station 5 km to the west of the city center. Daily maximum temperatures

308 were close to 30 °C, and daily minimum temperatures around 20 °C. During the first part of
 309 the study period, a high-pressure ridge extended over Finland from the east resulting in clear
 310 sky and weak wind conditions in the study area. This resulted in relatively large spatial
 311 temperature differences in the study area (Fig. 5). On the 29 and 30 July, the weather was
 312 cloudier and windier than on the other days of the study period, and during those days the
 313 spatial temperature differences were suppressed.

314



315

316 Fig. 5. Observed maximum and minimum temperature, spatial temperature range and
 317 standard deviation of temperatures (°C) at 2 am Finnish local standard time (UTC+2) for
 318 each day of the week as observed at the 71 sites used in the TURCLIM model calibration.

319

320 4. Results

321 a. Difference between observed and modeled temperatures

322 For the TURCLIM and the HARMONIE-AROME model, the mean absolute error
 323 (MAE), root mean square error (RMSE), and the maximum difference between the observed
 324 and modeled temperature were generally larger in the beginning of the study period, when
 325 also the spatial temperature differences were the largest (Table 1). Adjusted R^2 values,
 326 calculated for TURCLIM models only, followed a similar pattern. Regarding the average
 327 differences between the observed and modeled temperatures, HARMONIE-AROME and

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12

328 TURCLIM model behaved differently; for HARMONIE-AROME model, the average
 329 differences were largest in the beginning and in the middle of the study period, whereas for
 330 the TURCLIM model, the respective differences were largest at the end of the study period.

331

332 Table 1. Mean absolute error (MAE), root mean square error (RMSE), average difference
 333 (Av. diff.), maximum difference (Max. diff), site with maximum difference, Index of
 334 Agreement and Pearson's correlation coefficients between the observed and modeled
 335 temperatures of the HARMONIE-AROME (HAR.) model and TURCLIM (TUR.) model
 336 (100 m resolution) + adjusted R² value of the TURCLIM model. Regarding the TURCLIM
 337 model, R² values represent the model calibrations performed with the data of all 71
 338 observation sites. MAE, RMSE, Av. diff., Max. diff., Index of Agreement and Pearson's R
 339 values are determined based on the separate evaluation data. Each MAE value represents the
 340 average MAE of the 8 time-specific model calibrations, and the Max. diff. the largest
 341 difference of the 8 time-specific model calibrations. For information on the locations of the
 342 sites (Column Site with max. diff), see Fig. 2.

Error statistics	Model	25.7. 2 am	26.7. 2 am	27.7. 2 am	28.7. 2 am	29.7. 2 am	30.7. 2 am	31.7. 2 am	Average*	25.- 31.7. **
MAE (obs-mod), °C	HAR.	1.83	2.34	1.66	2.39	0.48	0.4	1.21	1.47	
	TUR.	0.74	0.8	0.71	0.66	0.27	0.33	0.4	0.56	0.45
RMSE (obs-mod) °C	HAR.	2.12	2.61	1.92	2.55	0.53	0.5	1.3	1.65	
	TUR.	0.93	1	0.89	0.79	0.37	0.49	0.55	0.72	0.59
Av. diff. (obs-mod), °C	HAR.	-1.71	-2.26	-1.57	-2.38	0.39	-0.29	-1.22	-1.29	
	TUR.	0	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.04	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01
Max. diff. (obs-mod), °C	HAR.	-4.43	-5.18	-4.84	-4.33	-1.13	-1.71	-2.91	-3.5	
	TUR.	2.35	2.92	-2.3	-2.14	-1.28	-1.98	-2.2	-0.66	-1.59
Site with max. diff.	HAR.	50	50	42	42	54	64	64		
	TUR.	52	52	2, 73	64	54	64	64		73
Index of agreement	HAR.	0.58	0.49	0.64	0.20	0.69	0.78	0.48	0.55	
	TUR.	0.88	0.88	0.90	0.72	0.70	0.63	0.79	0.78	0.88
Pearson's R	HAR.	0.66	0.67	0.74	0.50	0.65	0.73	0.79	0.68	
	TUR.	0.80	0.80	0.83	0.62	0.61	0.52	0.69	0.69	0.81
Adj. R ²	TUR.	0.67	0.66	0.72	0.41	0.4	0.36	0.5	0.53	0.69

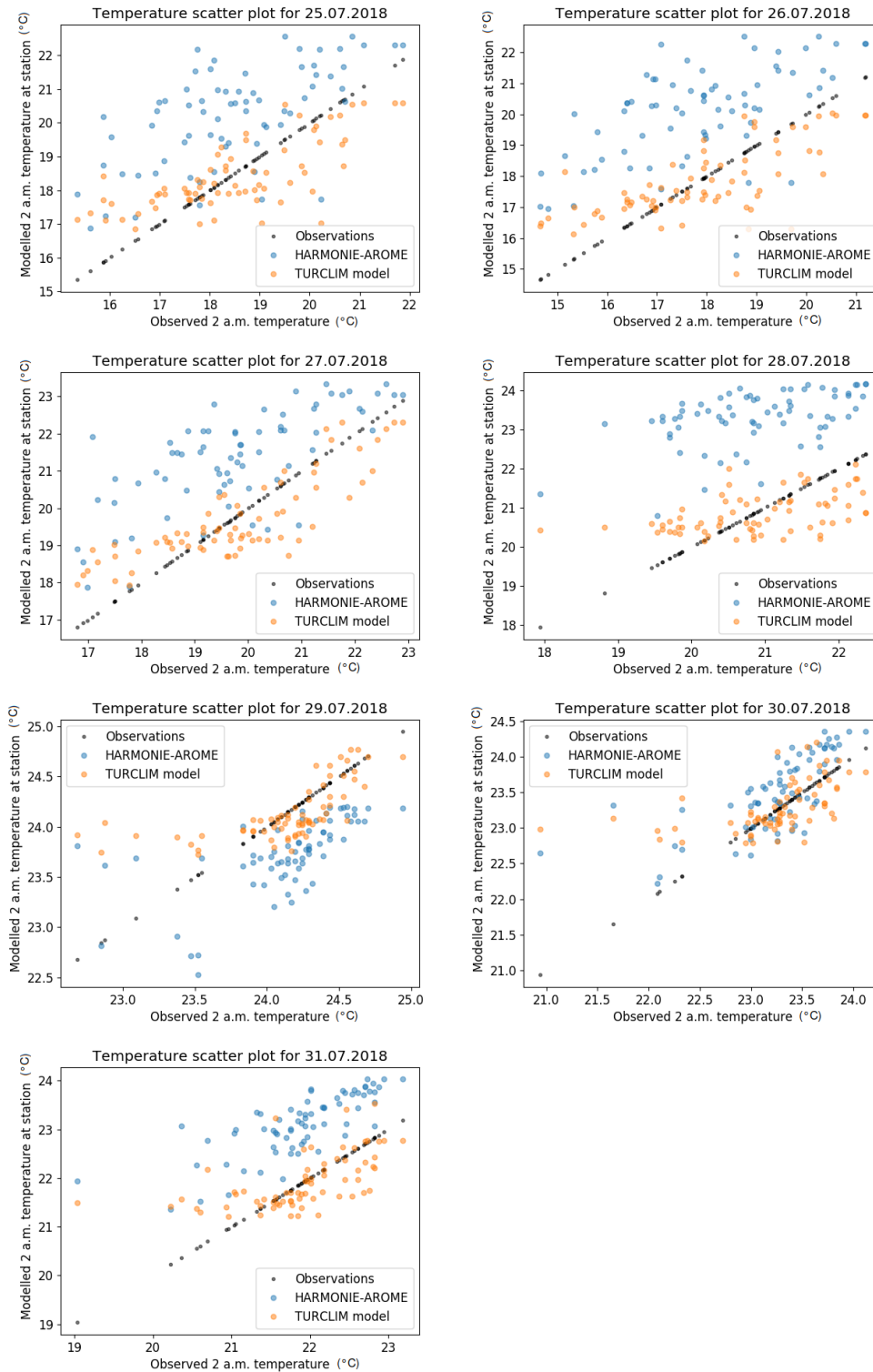
343 * = Calculated based on each days' 2 am model results.

344 *** = A model that is calibrated for the average temperature of 25 to 31 July at 2 am instead*
345 *of separate model calibration for each day. Due to the differences in modeling methods, this*
346 *can be performed only with the TURCLIM model.*

347

348 Considering the direction of the difference between the observed and modeled
349 temperature, for HARMONIE-AROME and the TURCLIM model the average difference
350 between the observed and modeled temperature is without one exception negative, i.e., the
351 modeled temperature is higher than the observed temperature. In case of maximum
352 difference, the respective difference is always negative in case of HARMONIE-AROME
353 model, whereas for the TURCLIM model the respective difference is positive during the first
354 two nights and during the rest of the nights negative. On average the average and maximum
355 differences are negative for both models.

356 Regarding comparison between the HARMONIE-AROME and the TURCLIM model,
357 MAE and average difference between the observed and modeled temperature was smaller for
358 the TURCLIM model during each seven nights and on average. In the case of maximum
359 difference between the observed and modeled temperature, the difference was larger for the
360 HARMONIE-AROME model during five nights, and for the TURCLIM model during two
361 nights. On average, the maximum difference was larger for the HARMONIE-AROME
362 model. These model-specific characteristics are detectable also in the scatterplots
363 representing the observation site specific differences between the observed and modeled
364 temperatures (Fig. 6).



365

366 Fig. 6. The scatterplots on the modeled and observed temperatures. The black X = Y dots
 367 represent the observed temperatures, the blue dots the temperatures predicted by the
 368 HARMONIE-AROME model and the orange dots the temperatures predicted by the
 369 TURCLIM model.

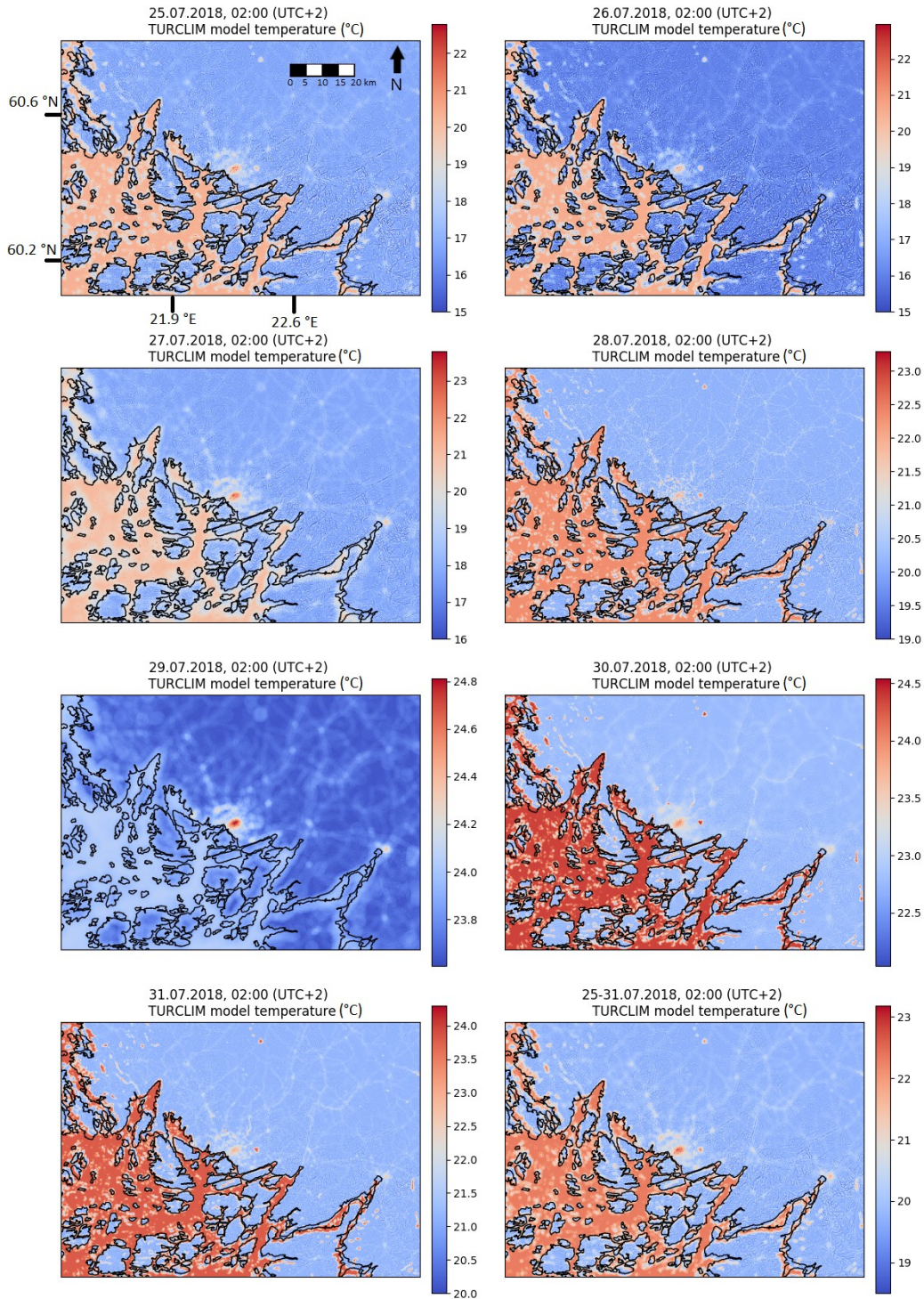
370

371 *b. Spatial pattern of the differences between the observed and modeled temperatures*

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372 Temperatures predicted by both models generally correspond rather well with the
373 observed temperatures of the study area. E.g. the UHI of the Turku and Salo city centers are
374 clearly visible in both modeling results (Figs 7 and 8), and the negative and positive residuals
375 (difference between the observed and the modeled temperature) are not clearly concentrated
376 on any certain areas (Figs 9 and 10), but the differences are mostly explained by the
377 characteristics of the immediate neighborhood of the observation sites. There are also time-
378 specific differences; some points that have negative residuals at certain night can have
379 positive ones at some other night.



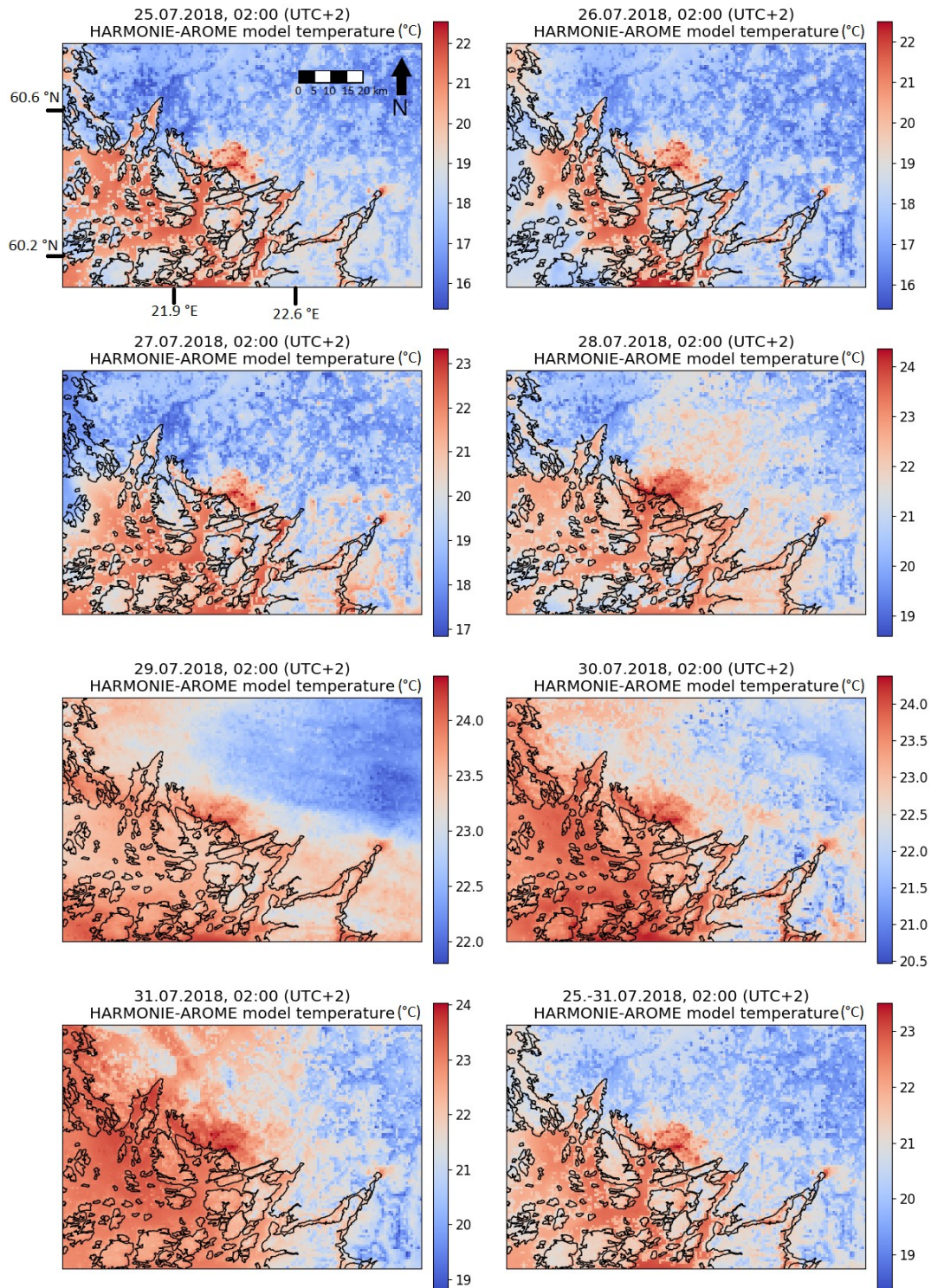
380

381 Fig. 7. 100 x 100 m resolution temperatures modeled by the TURCLIM model. The UHIs
 382 of the Turku and Salo city centers (for the locations, see Fig. 1) are detectable, as well as the
 383 warming impact of the sea. The minimum values for the 25th, 26th, 27th and 31st of July are
 384 8.8, 7.6, 12.7 and 19.3 °C, respectively, but the scales of the maps were trimmed for clearer
 385 visualization. Similarly, the modeled average temperatures have a minimum temperature of
 386 16.6 °C. These low minimum values are due to the local pronounced cooling impact of
 387 topography in over a 100 m deep open-pit limestone mine approximately 18 km to the south
 388 of the Turku city center, and thus do not represent the natural topography-based temperature
 389 variation of the study area.

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391 Fig. 8. The spatial distribution of 2 am temperatures modeled by HARMONIE-AROME
 392 for each day from 25 to 31 July 2018 and the average for the seven days.

393

394 Despite the generally logical results of both models, there are, however, relatively large
 395 differences between the observed and modeled temperatures at certain sites. For

396 HARMONIE-AROME and TURCLIM models, the largest site-specific differences between

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54

397 the observed and modeled temperature, 5.18 °C and 2.92 °C, respectively, occurred during
398 the second night of the study period, and the second largest difference, 4.84 °C and 2.35 °C,
399 during the third night of the study period for HARMONIE-AROME model and during the
400 first night of the study period for TURCLIM model. For the HARMONIE-AROME model,
401 the largest difference occurred at the observation site 50 (Mylly shopping mall, Fig. 2; Table
402 A1) approximately 5.5 km to the NW of the Turku city center, and the second largest
403 difference at the observation site 42 (Huhkola), located approximately 4.5 km to the SE of the
404 Turku city center. For the TURCLIM model, the two largest differences occurred in the same
405 site, namely in the observation site 52 (Hiiriluoto, inland) in the middle of Ruissalo island
406 approximately 6 km to WSW of the city center. For the TURCLIM model the two largest
407 differences were positive, i.e., the observed temperatures were warmer than the modeled
408 ones, whereas for the HARMONIE-AROME model the differences were negative, i.e., the
409 observed temperatures were colder than the modeled ones.

410 For the HARMONIE-AROME model, during the last five days of the study period, the
411 difference between the observed and modeled temperature was largest during 27 and 28 July
412 in the site 42 (Huhkola), during 29 July in site 54 (Hiiriluoto, shore), and during 30 and 31
413 July in site 64 (Niuskala). Site 54 is located on the seashore at the northern part of Ruissalo
414 island approximately 6 kilometers to the WSW of the city center and approximately 400
415 meters to the NNW of the site 52 (Hiiriluoto, inland) referred earlier in this chapter. The site
416 64 is located in an uninhabited forested area approximately 10 km to the NNE of the Turku
417 city center. On average, the difference between the observed and modeled temperature was
418 largest (-2.70 °C) in site 42 (Huhkola).

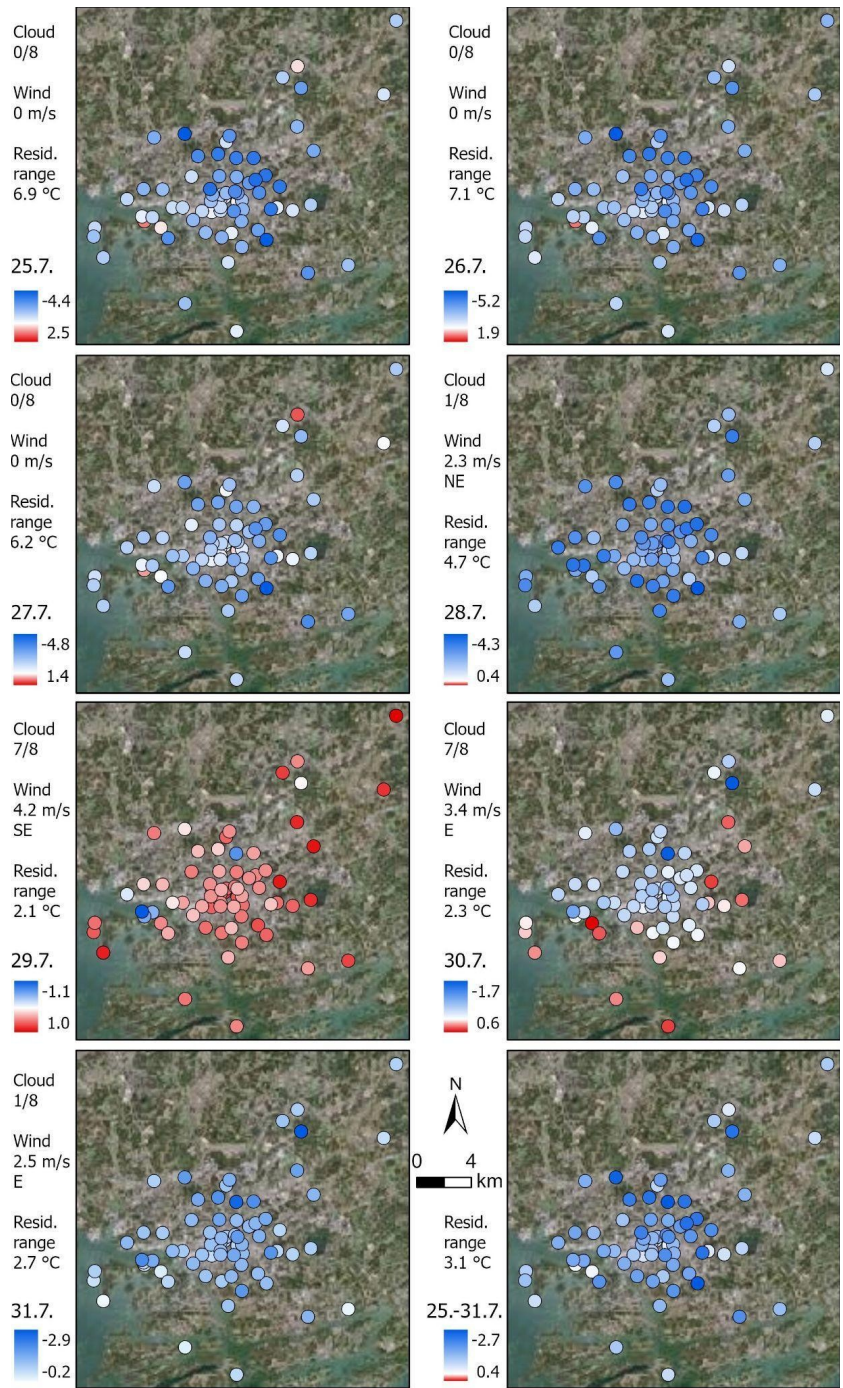
419 Considering the rest of the week, for the TURCLIM model, most often, i.e., during three
420 nights, the largest difference between the observed and modeled temperature occurred in site
421 64 (Niuskala). During one night the difference was largest both in site 2 (Puolalanmäki) at the
422 city center and in site 73 (Karinainen) approximately 37 km to the NE of the city center, and
423 during one night in observation site 54 (Hiiriluoto, shore) in the northern shore of the
424 Ruissalo island, During all of these five nights, the observed temperatures were colder than
425 the modeled ones. In addition to the single days, the TURCLIM model was calibrated also for
426 the average temperature of single days (25 to 31 July) 2 am temperatures. For that model, the
427 difference between the observed and modeled temperature was largest in site 73
428 (Karinainen), where the observed temperature was -1.59 °C colder than the modeled
429 temperature. To summarize, during the last three nights of the study period, the maximum

430 difference occurred in the same site (twice at site 64 and once at site 54) for the
431 HARMONIE-AROME and TURCLIM models.

432 Regarding the differences between the observed and modeled temperatures during the
433 whole week, the majority of the sites (in case of HARMONIE-AROME 70 out of 74, and in
434 case of the TURCLIM model 57 out of 74) had both positive and negative residuals,
435 depending on the day. For the HARMONIE-AROME there were, however, 4 sites that had
436 negative residuals each night, whereas for the TURCLIM model there were 7 sites that had
437 negative residuals each night and 10 sites that had positive residuals each night. Regarding
438 the TURCLIM model, for example, on the sites 25 (Turku castle) and 30 (Vapaavarasto) next
439 to the Turku harbor the observed temperatures were systematically warmer than those
440 predicted by the TURCLIM model (see Figs 2 and 10). This could be explained by the fact
441 that the harbor area, located next to the both sites, consists of relatively large buildings and
442 asphalted surfaces that store heat rather well in summer. That area, which is defined as ‘Port
443 areas’ in the CLC is, however not included in the TURCLIM model as an individual
444 explanatory variable or as a part of any other variable as it exists only in a limited area next to
445 the sea and is thus irrelevant for the vast majority of the study area. Consequently, the
446 warming impact of the Turku harbor is not reflected by the modeled temperature, which is
447 seen as approximately 1 °C too cold modeled temperature for the sites 25 and 30.

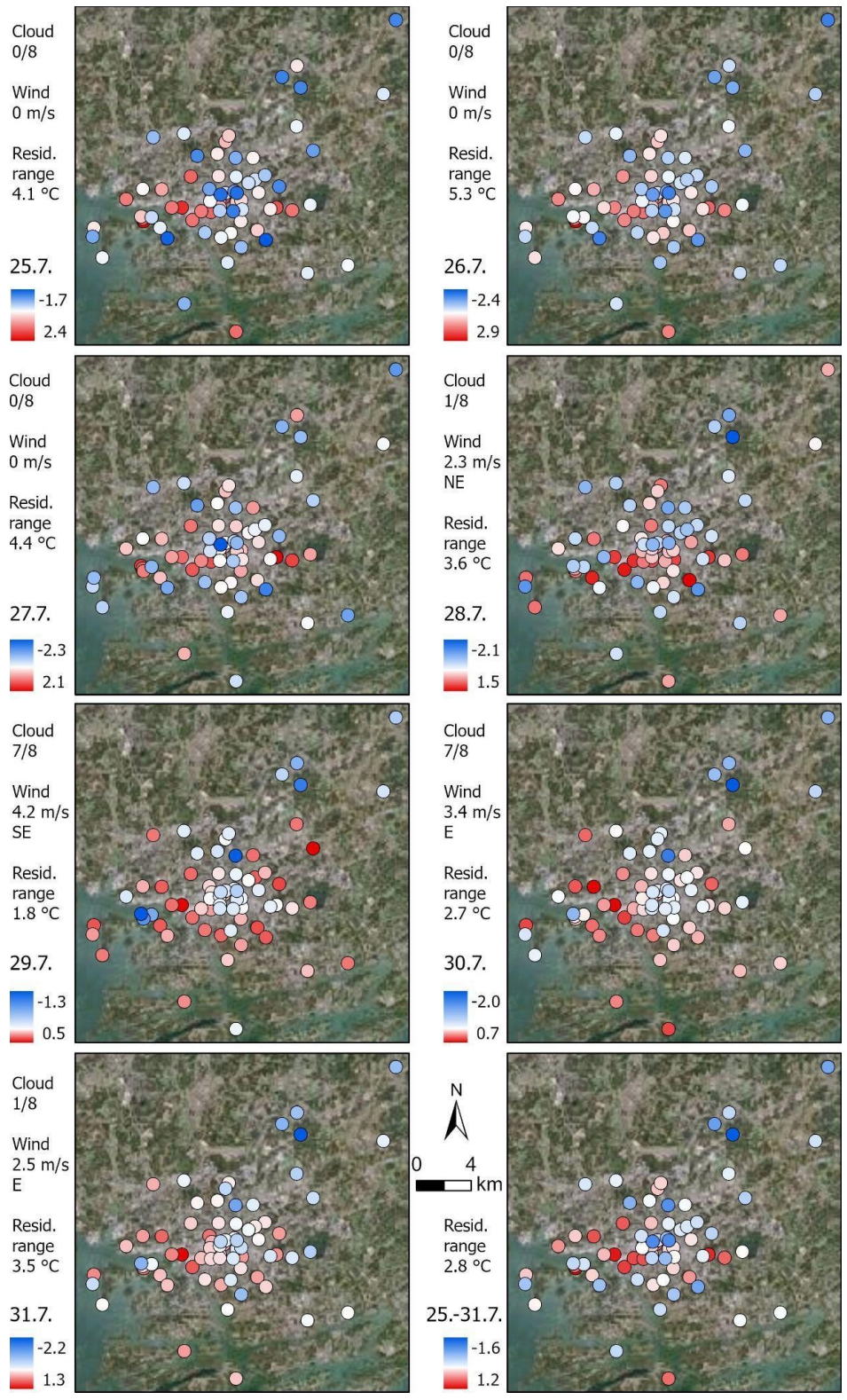
448 On the contrary, examples on the site in which the TURCLIM model based temperatures
449 are systematically too warm are sites 29 (Valkiasvuori) and 64 (Niuskala). Of those sites, site
450 29 is the only site for which both models predict systematically too warm temperatures (see
451 Figs 2, 9 and 10). The site 29 is located in a grassy area in the yard of a detached house. The
452 site is bordered from the south and southwest by a forested hill that results in unfavorable
453 radiative conditions and increased proneness to cold air drainage (see Suomi et al., 2024).
454 Systematically too warm modeled temperature for the site indicates that the local cooling
455 factors are not properly incorporated in either model. Analogous challenge also relates to the
456 site 64 (Niuskala), even if the HARMONIE-AROME -based modeled temperature for the site
457 is at one night slightly (0.03 °C) colder than the respective observed temperature. That
458 specific night (29 July) is an exception in the HARMONIE-AROME residuals also in
459 general; whereas during the other nights, the residuals are dominantly negative, on 29 July
460 the residuals are close to zero and on average slightly positive (see Fig. 9).

461



462

463 Fig. 9. Spatial distribution of the difference between the observed temperatures and
 464 HARMONIE-AROME based modeled temperatures at 2 am local standard time. Blue tones
 465 denote that the observed temperature is colder than the modeled, and red tones vice versa.
 466 Pale tone denotes only a minor difference between the observed and modeled temperatures.
 467 For better readability, the view (22.08 °E -22.50 °E (W-E) x 60.35 °N - 60.59 °N (S-N))
 468 focuses on the 71 observation sites nearest to the Turku city center. The cloudiness and wind
 469 speed values represent the 2 am conditions at the Turku Artukainen weather station located
 470 approximately 5 km to the west of the Turku city center. Background map: Orthophoto,
 471 National Land Survey of Finland.



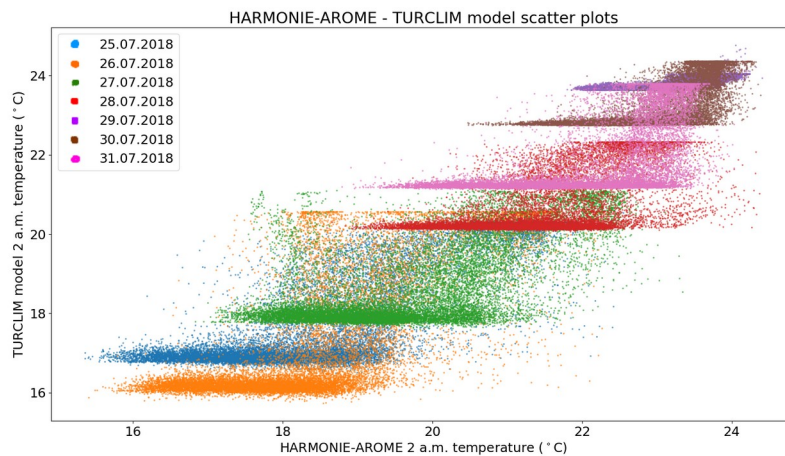
472

473 Fig. 10. Spatial distribution of the difference between the observed temperatures and
 474 TURCLIM based modeled temperatures 25 to 31 July 2018 at 2 am local standard time. Blue
 475 tones denote that the observed temperature is colder than the modeled one, and reddish vice
 476 versa. Pale tone denotes only a minor difference between the observed and modeled
 477 temperatures. For better readability, the view (22.08 °E -22.50 °E (W-E) x 60.35°N - 60.59
 478 °N (S-N)) focuses on the 71 observation sites nearest to the Turku city center. The cloudiness

479 and wind speed values represent the 2 am conditions at the Turku Artukainen weather station
 480 located approximately 5 km to the west of the Turku city center. Background map:
 481 Orthophoto, National Land Survey of Finland.

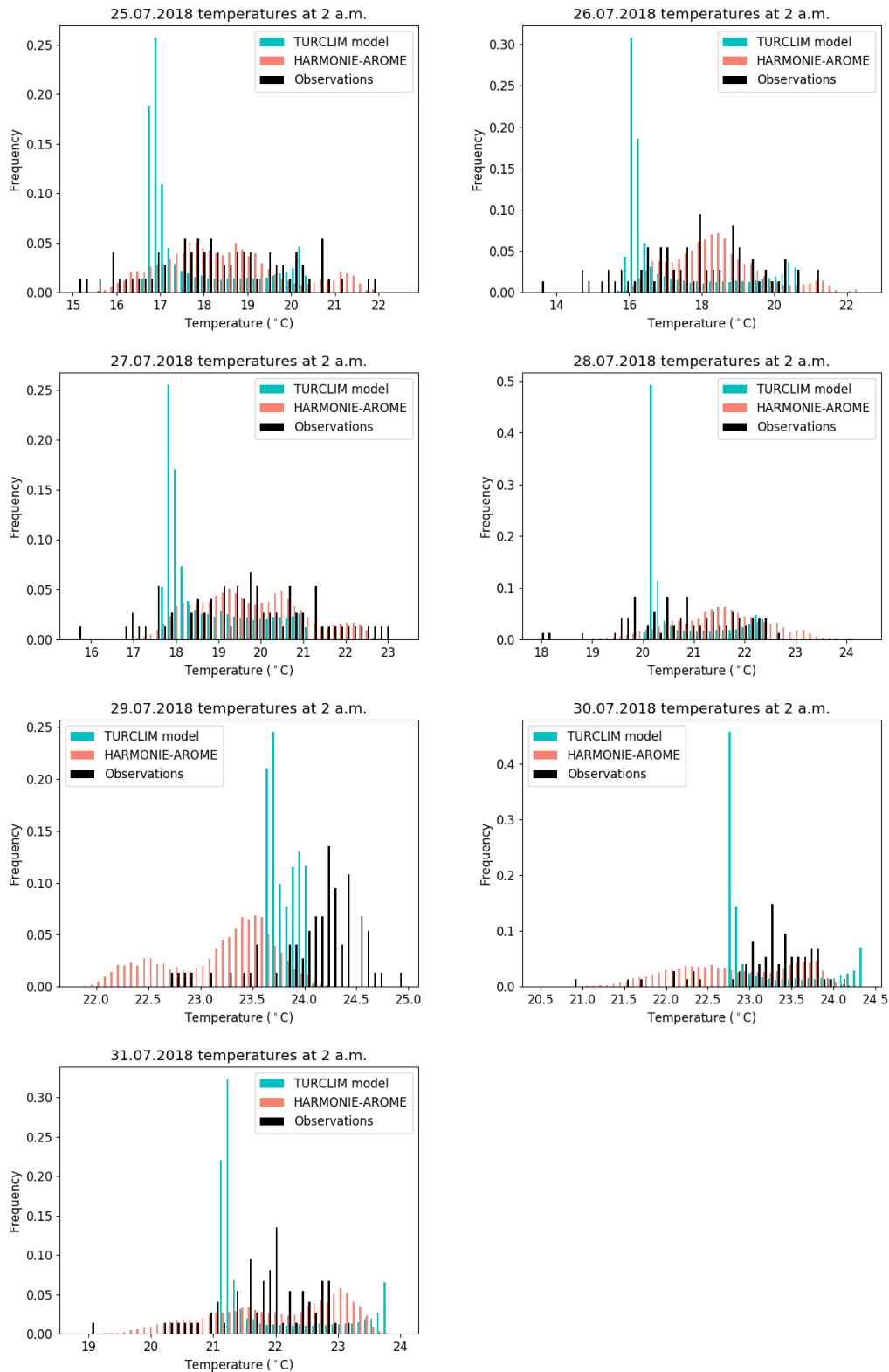
482 *c. Differences between the temperatures modeled by HARMONIE-AROME model and*
 483 *TURCLIM model*

484 For comparative purposes, the temperatures predicted by the TURCLIM model
 485 temperatures dealt with in this section have been generalized to 750 m resolution. The
 486 temperatures predicted by the HARMONIE-AROME model are on average slightly warmer
 487 than the respective TURCLIM model based temperatures. The scatter plots (Fig. 11) and
 488 histograms (Fig. 12) also demonstrate generally larger variability in temperatures predicted
 489 by HARMONIE-AROME than by the TURCLIM model.



490

491 Fig. 11. A scatter plot between 2 am predicted temperatures from HARMONIE-AROME
 492 and the TURCLIM model. Each point on the plot represents one 750 m resolution grid cell
 493 inside the modeled area. Each color represents a different day in the 25 to 31 July 2018
 494 period.



495

496 Fig. 12. Temperature distributions of the TURCLIM model (blue), HARMONIE-
 497 AROME model (red), and observations (black) at 2 a.m. for each day of the period 25 to 31
 498 July 2018. The modeled datasets consist of 750 m resolution grids resulting in altogether 151
 499 x 101 individual temperature values. The observed temperatures are measured at 74 sites.

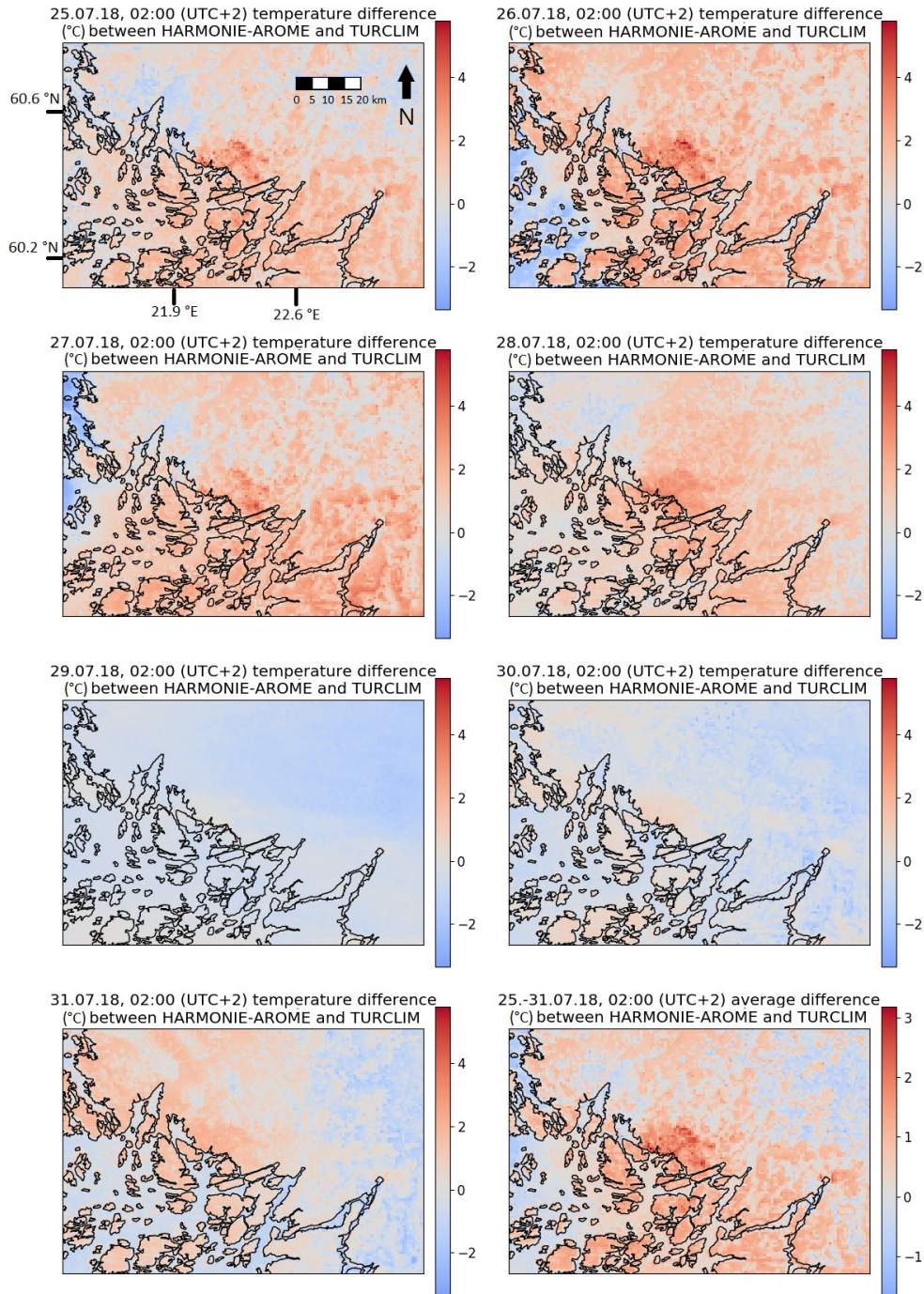
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500 *d. Spatial pattern of the differences between the temperatures modeled by HARMONIE-*
501 *AROME model and TURCLIM model*

502 The difference between the temperatures modeled by HARMONIE-AROME and
503 TURCLIM (see Fig. 13) are largest in the Turku city center and in the beginning of the week
504 also in the densely built areas in neighboring municipalities Raisio and Kaarina. In these
505 areas, the HARMONIE-AROME temperatures are warmer than the TURCLIM temperatures.
506 In uninhabited inland areas there is no uniform pattern in the differences in the beginning of
507 the week, but during the windiest nights 29 and 30 July the HARMONIE-AROME
508 temperatures are principally slightly cooler than the TURCLIM based temperatures.



509

510 Fig. 13. The differences between 2 am temperatures modeled by HARMONIE-AROME
 511 and the TURCLIM model for each day in the period 25 to 31 July 2018. The last figure is the
 512 average difference between the modeled 2 am temperatures. Positive values mean that
 513 HARMONIE-AROME predicted warmer temperatures. Note that the individual days have
 514 identical scales, but the average map has a differing scale for better visualization.

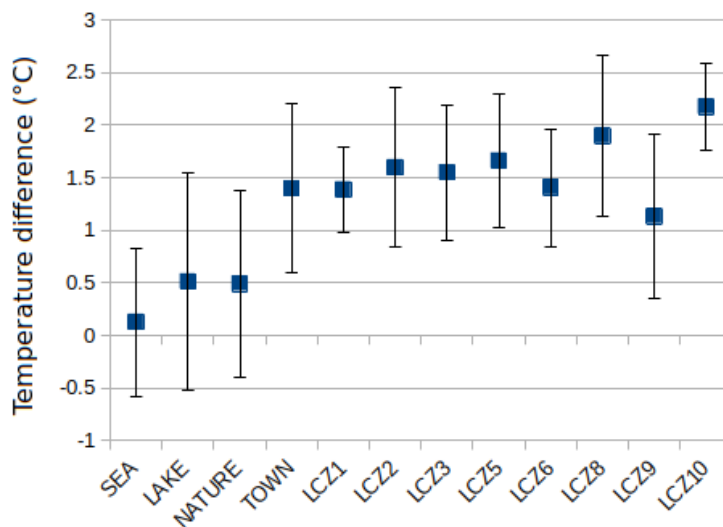
515

516 The temperatures modeled by HARMONIE-AROME and TURCLIM were almost the
 517 same for the sea tile of the HARMONIE-AROME model indicating only slightly (0.2 °C)
 518 warmer HARMONIE-AROME temperatures (Fig. 14). For the lake and nature tiles were

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519 0.49 °C and 0.51 °C, respectively. The clearest difference existed in town tiles, in which the
 520 HARMONIE-AROME temperatures were on average 1.4 °C warmer than the respective
 521 TURCLIM temperatures. The more detailed comparison of LCZs of the town tile indicates
 522 that the difference between the modeled temperatures is smallest in sparsely built areas
 523 (LCZ9) and largest in areas dominated by heavy industry (LCZ10). Note that the coverage of
 524 some LCZs is quite low (values listed in the figure caption of Fig. 14) and therefore the
 525 average values of those covers are less reliable than others, but the trend of the LCZs seem to
 526 be quite convergent.



527

528 Fig. 14. The average differences of 2 am temperatures between the two models
 529 (HARMONIE-AROME minus TURCLIM) in the period 25 to 31 July 2018 for the SEA,
 530 LAKE, NATURE and TOWN tiles and the urban cover types. Standard deviations are shown
 531 as error bars. The coverage (in grid cells) of different tiles and LCZs in the examined area
 532 surrounding Turku are: SEA: 3339.8, LAKE: 45.8, NATURE: 11414.3, TOWN: 248.9,
 533 LCZ1: 3.5, LCZ2: 3.4, LCZ3: 1.5, LCZ5: 2.7, LCZ6: 0.3, LCZ8: 82.9, LCZ9: 532.5, LCZ10:
 534 8.0.

535

536 5. Discussion

537 The HARMONIE-AROME and TURCLIM models performed principally well in
 538 predicting night-time spatial temperature variability in the study area during a heatwave. The
 539 TURCLIM model's R^2 values are, especially during the calm and clear conditions in the
 540 beginning of the week, in line with the linear regression models applied elsewhere with a
 541 similar kind of model settings (see e.g. Unger, 2006; Szymanowski and Kryza, 2009; Wicki
 542 et al., 2018). Despite the generally good performance of the models, at some locations the
 543 differences between the observed and modeled temperatures were rather large, especially

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27

544 during certain weather conditions. In previous studies, similar weather-related variability in
545 the multiple linear regression model performance has also been reported e.g. by Alonso and
546 Renard (2019) and in the HARMONIE-AROME model performance by Sandu et al. (2013)

547 The largest difference between the observed temperature and modeled temperature by the
548 HARMONIE-AROME model occurred in the observation site 50 (Mylly shopping mall). As
549 shown by Suomi et al. (2024), the same site also had the largest average difference between
550 the observed and modeled hourly temperatures throughout the diurnal cycle during a one-
551 week long observation period. The apparent large warm bias can mostly be explained by the
552 fact that the temperature observation site is in the middle of a grassy patch in an otherwise
553 densely built and asphalted area. Due to the resolution of ECOCLIMAP-SG, HARMONIE-
554 AROME did not have the information about grassy patch (approximately 7% of the total grid
555 cell area), as the respective grid cell is entirely covered by the LCZ8 (large low-rise) land
556 cover.

557 The two largest differences between the observed and modeled temperature by the
558 TURCLIM model (25 July: 2.35 °C; 26 July: 2.92 °C) occurred at the site 52 (Hiiriluoto,
559 inland). This can probably be explained by the inadequate incorporation of the warming
560 effect of the sea to the north and to the south of the site with the 500 m radius buffer used in
561 the TURCLIM models of 25 July and 26 July. This is supported by the fact that e.g., in the
562 observation site 54 (Hiiriluoto, shore) the respective differences were only 0.54 °C and 0.01
563 °C. On that seashore site the 500 m buffer was adequate to capture the sea areas immediately
564 to the north-west of the observation site. On the south, the sea is further than in the case of
565 site 52 (Hiiriluoto inland), and respectively, the absence of the sea areas in the southern
566 sector of the 500 m buffer is less relevant for site 54 (Hiiriluoto, shore). On the whole, this is
567 a good example in demonstrating that even if the model has been run with the optimal
568 footprint areas of the explanatory variables regarding the whole observation network, it is
569 probable that for some sites some other scale would have been more appropriate.

570 For TURCLIM model, the third largest difference between the observed and modeled
571 temperature occurred in two rather different sites, i.e., site 2 (Puolalanmäki) in the city center,
572 and rural site 73 (Karinainen) located approximately 37 kilometers to the NE of the city
573 center. For both sites the modeled temperature was 2.3 °C warmer than the observed one,
574 whereas for site 52 (Hiiriluoto, inland) that had the two largest differences, the modeled
575 temperature had been colder than the observed one. For site 2 (Puolalanmäki), too warm
576 modeled temperature can probably be partly explained by poor representability of the

577 observation site surroundings in relation to the land cover of the 700 m radius buffer that was
578 used as a source area of the urban land cover variable of the model. Immediately to the W
579 and NW of the observation site is park, whereas over 86 % of the land cover inside the 700 m
580 buffer consists of urban land cover. Consequently, the cooling impact of the park is only
581 partly incorporated in the model. The observation is analogous with that of the HARMONIE-
582 AROME model at the site 50 (Mylly shopping mall). In the case of site 73 (Karinainen), the
583 difference of similar magnitude can possibly be due to regional scale temperature variation
584 that cannot be captured by the TURCLIM model.

585 For both of the models, the differences between the observed and modeled temperatures
586 were largest in the beginning of the week when clear skies and weak winds favored the
587 formation of a strongly stratified nocturnal boundary layer, and the spatial temperature
588 differences in the area were at their largest. This intra-week variation in the difference
589 between the observed and modeled temperature was more pronounced for the HARMONIE-
590 AROME model than for the TURCLIM model, and is related to the tendency of
591 HARMONIE-AROME to overestimate the turbulent mixing and consequently surface air
592 temperature during conditions favoring strong stratification. The overestimation is not present
593 in the model during the cloudy and windy nights of 29 and 30 July. This weather-related
594 dependency of model accuracy is in line with earlier observations that stable atmospheric
595 stratification and related calm or weak wind conditions are challenging for the HARMONIE-
596 AROME model and for numerical weather prediction models in general (Sandu et al., 2013;
597 Kalverla et al., 2019; Sekula et al., 2019). Even though the differences between the observed
598 and modeled temperatures were largest during the calm weather, the explanatory power of the
599 TURCLIM model was also largest during those conditions. The observation is analogous to
600 that of Straub et al. (2019), who studied the performance of linear regression model and
601 random forests method in modeling the UHI of Augsburg, Germany, and to that of Coseo and
602 Larsen (2014), who used linear regression model in studying the impacts of land use / land
603 cover and other relevant factors on the UHI of Chicago, the United States. Better explanatory
604 power during calm or weak wind conditions is logical in the sense that during windier
605 weather the spatial temperature differences are diminished by horizontal mixing, and
606 consequently, the impact of explanatory variables such as land cover, topography and water
607 bodies are less clearly reflected by temperatures (see e.g. Wicki et al., 2018).

608 One difference between the HARMONIE-AROME and TURCLIM model is that the
609 TURCLIM model predicts rather similar temperatures for unbuilt or sparsely built inland

610 areas, whereas for the HARMONIE-AROME model the respective variation is larger. The
611 TURCLIM model has variables for land cover, topography and water bodies. Therefore, as in
612 the unbuilt and sparsely built inland areas the topographical variation is small, the land cover
613 is rather homogeneous dominated by fields and forests, and there are no large water bodies, it
614 is only logical that the spatial differences in predicted temperature are negligible and clearly
615 smaller than in the coastal areas and topographically varying Turku city center. For the
616 similar kind of reasons, the spatial variability of TURCLIM model based temperatures is
617 small or even absent also in the sea areas, where topographic differences and urban land
618 cover may be totally lacking also inside the buffer zone distances that have been used in
619 model calibration. In addition to the small spatial variability, the temperatures predicted by
620 the TURCLIM model may also have some warm bias in the open sea areas, as the model has
621 been calibrated based on the observations recorded in land areas where the proportion of
622 water bodies around the observation sites is zero or remarkably lower than in the open sea
623 areas. Furthermore, the relatively shallow coastal waters near the observation sites reach
624 higher temperatures during the heatwaves than in the outer archipelago. Consequently, the
625 warming impact of water bodies may be overestimated in the open sea areas where the water
626 temperature is lower than in the coastal zone.

627 In addition to the higher resolution of the TURLIM model, one potential factor for the
628 models' slightly better performance in general could be the calibration of the TURCLIM
629 model with the temperature observations of the study area. Even though the model accuracy
630 analyses are performed with a separate validation dataset, the model calibration with the
631 actual on-site temperatures succeeds to incorporate the effects of relevant environmental
632 factors rather well especially in the study area in question.

633

634 Based on the results of this study, even though both models generally perform rather well
635 in an urban environment, the models also call for further development. A night-time warm
636 bias is a general feature of HARMONIE-AROME noted by forecasters and is clearly visible
637 here. Similar modeling results with the MUKLIMO_3 urban climate model were found by
638 Hürzeler et al. 2022, who reported a bias of 0.2 to 0.7 K at the lowest air temperatures at 7
639 a.m., while a larger bias of 1.5 to 2.8 K was found at midnight. On the other hand, WRF has
640 been found (Hu et al. 2022) to model colder (daytime) near-surface temperatures than what
641 was observed in Shanghai. In Suomi et al. (2024) it was noted that at other times of day, the
642 model performance was significantly better during this same 2018 July heatwave. The

643 HARMONIE-AROME model's relatively coarse spatial resolution is a challenge in
644 heterogeneous areas in which the temperature can vary remarkably within a small area. This
645 pitfall could in many cases be overcome or eased by higher resolution.

646 Another angle towards more accurate numerical weather prediction is developing more
647 elaborate physical models. For example, TEB is a single layer urban canopy model, and thus
648 the model does not resolve vertical structures. Schoetter et al. (2020) points out a
649 comprehensive list of uncertainties related to the absence of vertical resolution in SURFEX-
650 TEB. For example, the building height being constant within a grid cell can cause
651 inaccuracies in the wind speed prediction.

652 As for the TURCLIM model, a linear regression based model is deficient in detecting
653 potential non-linear relationships between the explanatory and response variables that could
654 be better taken into account with some non-linear modeling method (see e.g. Equere et al.,
655 2020; Oukawa et al., 2022). Alternatively, better inclusion of those dependencies in the
656 TURCLIM model could be performed with transformations (e.g. logarithmic transformation,
657 square root transformation) for explanatory variables.

658 The TURCLIM model could also be tried to develop by including more explanatory
659 variables in the model. This may, however, be problematic from a viewpoint of
660 multicollinearity, as the central causes of UHI are probably mostly captured with the
661 contemporary variables (see e.g. Shaker et al., 2019; Chen et al., 2020). Regarding the land
662 cover variable applied, the fine-scale variability in heat storage capacity and anthropogenic
663 heat release of the buildings in urban areas could potentially be more accurately modeled e.g.,
664 with the floor area or the volume of the buildings, or with the direct data on anthropogenic
665 heat release (see e.g. Alonso and Renard, 2019), but as far as we authors know, this
666 information is not as broadly, easily and freely available as the European-wide CLC dataset
667 that forms the basis of the current land cover variable. The broad availability enhances the
668 usability of the model also beyond the current study area, and additionally, the CLC based
669 variable also covers the flat asphalted surfaces that have good thermal conductivity and heat
670 storage capacity and that would not be covered by the floor area or building volume variables
671 (see Suomi et al., 2012). Even though the urban land cover variable of the TURCLIM model
672 captures generally well the heat of the urban-type land cover in the area, the region to the
673 south-west of the city center forms an exception; the area that is defined as 'Port areas' in the
674 CLC2018 classification, exists only in the surroundings of 2 out of 71 observation sites used
675 in the model calibration. Consequently, the 'Port areas' class did not stand out from other
676 CLC2018 classes in the preliminary correlation analyses, based on which the urban land
677 cover variable was principally formulated, and was thus not included in the regression model.

678 This resulted in systematically too cold modeled temperature for these 2 observation sites that
679 actually have urban type land cover, such as asphalted surfaces and relatively large buildings
680 in their surroundings. This is a good example of a challenge in incorporating in the
681 TURCLIM model all relevant environmental factors of certain observation sites that have
682 some specific characteristics compared to the other sites. The challenge could be tried to
683 overcome by checking e.g. from the aerial photo the actual land cover characteristics of the
684 areas which are covered by land cover class that might have local effect on temperature but is
685 only poorly present, and depending on the check, include the respective land cover class as
686 part of the existing variable representing urban land cover.

687

688 **6. Conclusions**

689 This paper compares the performances of numerical weather prediction model
690 HARMONIE-AROME and multiple linear regression based TURCLIM model in modeling
691 the night-time temperatures and spatial temperature differences in the high-latitude coastal
692 city of Turku, Finland, during a summer-time heatwave. The modeling accuracy was assessed
693 against the temperature observations of the TURCLIM local climate observation network.
694 The results indicate slightly better modeling accuracy for the TURCLIM model with an
695 average MAE of 0.56 °C and with a warm bias of 0.02 °C against HARMONIE-AROME's
696 average MAE of 1.47 °C and warm bias of 1.29 °C. Largest single site-specific differences
697 between the observed and modeled temperatures occurred for the both models during the
698 three first nights of the one-week long study period, when the weather was calm and
699 cloudless, and the spatial temperatures differences in the study area were largest. This
700 weather-related variability in modeling accuracy was clearer for the HARMONIE-AROME
701 model, and moreover, under calm and cloudless circumstances, temperatures modeled by
702 HARMONIE-AROME were systematically warmer than the observed temperatures, whereas
703 for the TURCLIM model, both cold and warm biases occurred. Regarding spatial
704 characteristics of model performances, the largest differences between the observed and
705 modeled temperatures were not clearly concentrated in any certain areas but were mostly
706 related to the site-specific characteristics of the observation sites. For both models, large
707 differences occurred on sites in which the immediate neighborhood of the observation site
708 deviated clearly from the principal land cover characteristics of the area, as demonstrated in
709 the Discussion section by the cases of Mylly shopping mall and Puolalanmäki. With the

95

32

710 HARMONIE-AROME, the problem could be approached e.g., with higher resolution
711 physiographic description and with more accurate physical modeling, and with the
712 TURCLIM model e.g., by testing distance-based weighting of explanatory variables In the
713 TURCLIM model, an insufficient incorporation of relevant environmental factors at some
714 observation sites caused systematic cold or warm bias in those areas. This could potentially
715 be tackled by additional explanatory variables or by merging the rare land cover classes that
716 are relevant for spatial temperature differences to the classes that are more widely present and
717 that are used as part of the explanatory variables.

718 The comparison of the modeled temperatures over the whole study area ($\approx 8600 \text{ km}^2$)
719 reveals that both models predict spatial temperature variability in urban and coastal areas.
720 The HARMONIE-AROME model predicts larger spatial temperature variability for the rural
721 areas than the TURCLIM model. The temperatures modeled by the HARMONIE-AROME
722 model were on average warmer than the respective temperatures modeled by the TURCLIM
723 model. For the tiles SEA, NATURE, LAKE, and TOWN, the average differences were 0.12
724 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 0.49 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, 0.51 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 1.40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, respectively.

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733 *Data Availability Statement.*

734 The authors are aware of the AMS data and software policies. The data used and derived
735 in this study will be available for public use when the work is published.

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APPENDIX

738 Observation site land cover data

739 Table A1. Land cover information of the observation site surroundings. The
740 ECOCLIMAP is used as a physiographic database in the HARMONIE-AROME model. The
741 CLC based urban land cover is used as one of the explanatory variables in the TURCLIM

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99 File generated with AMS Word template 2.0

742 model. For locations of the observation sites, see Figure 2. Common names have been
 743 translated in English, while proper nouns are in their original Finnish form.

Obs. site number	Obs. site name	The dominant ECOCLIMAP cover(s) inside a 750 m x 750 m grid cell (LCZ = Local Climate Zone)	Coverage (% of the 750 m x 750 m grid cell area)	Coverage (%) of the CLC based urban land cover inside a 700 m radius buffer
1	Market place	LCZ2: compact midrise	40	83.6
2	Puolalanmäki	LCZ2: compact midrise	40	86.6
3	Puutori	LCZ8: large low-rise	86.7	79.2
4	Betel	LCZ2: compact midrise	40	83.5
5	Virastotalo	LCZ9: sparsely built	50	67.2
6	Piispankatu	LCZ8: large low-rise	86.7	72.4
7	Railway station	LCZ8: large low-rise	60	62.8
8	University campus	LCZ8: large low-rise	40	73.3
9	Kerttuli	LCZ9: sparsely built	80	71.8
10	Mikaeli church	LCZ9: sparsely built	50	64.5
11	Sports park	LCZ9: sparsely built	50	59
12	Kähäri	LCZ8: large low-rise	60	43.9
13	Saarnitie	LCZ9: sparsely built	40	56.6
14	Sirkkala	LCZ8: large low-rise	40	70.7
15	Martti	LCZ8: large low-rise	53.8	58.1
16	Rieskalähde	LCZ9: sparsely built	86.7	20.7
17	Kupittaa park	LCZ9: sparsely built	80	48.5
18	Alfa sports center	LCZ9: sparsely built	100	25.1
19	Kakola	LCZ10: heavy industry	53.3	44.5
20	Student village	LCZ9: sparsely built	90	32.4
21	Uudenmaantie	LCZ8: large low-rise, LCZ9: sparsely built	50	36.7
22	Nummi	LCZ9: sparsely built	90.9	19.9
23	Halinen	LCZ9: sparsely built	66.7	21.4
24	Luolavuori	LCZ9: sparsely built	100	19.9
25	Turku castle	LCZ9: sparsely built	50	19.4
26	Suikkila	LCZ9: sparsely built	100	23
27	Heikkilä barracks	winter C3 crops	30	19.6
28	Ispoinen	LCZ9: sparsely built	90	21.7
29	Valkiasvuori	LCZ9: sparsely built	100	25
30	Vapaavarasto	LCZ10: heavy industry	70	17.8
31	Impivaara	LCZ9: sparsely built	70	22.6
32	Liponkuja	LCZ9: sparsely built	93.3	16.7
33	Cemetery	LCZ9: sparsely built	86.7	29.2
34	Pääskyvuori, valley	LCZ9: sparsely built	80	24.8
35	Räntämäki	LCZ9: sparsely built	64.3	15.6
36	Metsäkylä	LCZ9: sparsely built	90	24.1
37	Marjaniemi	sea and oceans	40	10.1

38	Peltola allotment	LCZ9: sparsely built	100	30.7
39	Pääskyvuori	LCZ9: sparsely built	100	14.1
40	Runosmäki	boreal needleleaf evergreen	66.7	46.5
41	Kurala	LCZ9: sparsely built	70	17.4
42	Huhkola	LCZ9: sparsely built	70	20.2
43	Vahdontie	LCZ8: large low-rise	55.6	33.8
44	Exhibition center	LCZ9: sparsely built, LCZ10: heavy industry	50	30.5
45	Katariina	winter C3 crops	40	8
46	Hirvensalo	winter C3 crops	46.7	1.5
47	Varissuo	LCZ9: sparsely built	86.7	36
48	Ruissalo	winter C3 crops	100	0.5
49	Botanical garden	winter C3 crops	53.3	0.6
50	Mylly shopping mall	LCZ8: large low-rise	100	36.3
51	Perno	LCZ9: sparsely built	80	24.7
52	Hiiriluoto, inland	winter C3 crops	50	1.7
53	Hiiriluoto, hill	winter C3 crops	50	0.3
54	Hiiriluoto, shore	temperate broadleaf deciduous	33.3	0.2
55	Rauhaniemi	lakes	55.6	8.5
56	Raisio	LCZ9: sparsely built	81.8	48.2
57	Pansio	sea and oceans	40	3.7
58	Vanhalinna	winter C3 crops	70	3.1
59	Metsämäki	winter C3 crops	50	3.4
60	Kaarina	LCZ9: sparsely built	60	24.1
61	Satava	sea and oceans	46.7	2.9
62	Camping site	boreal needleleaf evergreen	50	4.5
63	Ylijoki	winter C3 crops	100	3.7
64	Niuskala	boreal needleleaf evergreen	53.3	1.2
65	Kakskerta	winter C3 crops	40	0.4
66	Kuuva	sea and oceans	100	0
67	Kolkka	sea and oceans	91.7	4.2
68	Tuorla	LCZ9: sparsely built	53.3	11.7
69	Jäkärlä	LCZ9: sparsely built	93.3	23.9
70	Lieto	winter C3 crops	90	0.5
71	Sikilä	winter C3 crops	80	6.8
72	Kuusinen	sea and oceans	93.3	0
73	Karinainen	boreal needleleaf evergreen, winter C3 crops	33.3	0.3
74	Kirjainen	temperate needleleaf evergreen	53.8	0

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