

# Exploring the Correlation between Land Surface Temperature, NDBI, NDVI, and NDMI over Gombe Metropolis, Nigeria

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## ABSTRACT

Condition of being urbanized involves the substitution of natural environment with man-made surfaces built from imperviable materials, and such reduce vegetation cover result in the absorption of sun's energy, causing skin temperatures of the Earth and the temperatures of the air near surface to rise. It is on this note that this paper set out to assess the correlation between Land Surface Temperature (LST), and Normalized Difference Built-Up Index (NDBI), Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), Normalized Difference Moisture Index (NDMI) over Gombe Metropolis at three different periods (January, 30th, May 22nd and September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019) using Landsat 8 in ArcGIS. The result shows that there is a strong positive relationship between LST and NDBI in the three periods of studies with  $R^2 = 0.9935$  (January 30<sup>th</sup>),  $0.9863$  (May 22<sup>nd</sup>) and  $0.9923$  (September 30<sup>th</sup>). The result also indicated a strong negative relation between LST and NDVI in the three periods with  $R^2 = 0.5922$  (January 30<sup>th</sup>),  $0.7487$  (May 22<sup>nd</sup>) and  $0.6017$  (September 30<sup>th</sup>). The LST and NDMI correlation also shows a negative relationship with  $R^2 = 0.5399$  (January 30<sup>th</sup>),  $0.7115$  (May 22<sup>nd</sup>) and  $0.568$  (September 30<sup>th</sup>).

## Keywords

Land Surface Temperature, NDBI, NDVI, NDMI and Landsat 8

## Introduction

Land uptake for urbanization involves the process of replacement of the natural environment with a cultural one, mostly built from impervious materials [1], thereby affecting the radiative and thermal properties of the environment. These imperviable surfaces absorb greater percentage of the sun's energy than reflecting it, causing surface temperatures and air temperatures to rise due to their thermal storage capacity. In this paper, Land Surface Temperature (LST) can be defined as the temperature of the thin layer of the Earth surface that interacts with the mechanical mixture of gases near the surface.

Scholars have elucidated on the relevance of LST from urban studies to trends assessment pertaining hydrological cycle, climate variability, evapotranspiration and urban climate [2]–[9], monitoring and prediction of crop output [10], and modeling of vegetal stress [11]–[14]. LST can be observed using data obtained from the terrestrial platform, but satellite thermal infrared (TIR) data (Landsat 4, 5, 7 & 8, and Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) Terra & Aqua, Advance Space Borne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer (ASTER) Sentinel 2A

& 2B, Sentinel 3A & 3B etc.), is the most widely used in assessing LST [15]–[22].

The urbanized areas and public places become congested of some kind for daily human and economic activities [23], air condition, transportation, and other bake businesses release heat that contribute to the rising temperature during daytime [24]–[26] thereby increasing and leaving behind the footprint of heat island though there is a drastic fall at night due to reduction of activities [27]. Therefore built-up areas and bare surface experience an increase in surface and near-surface temperature [28]–[31]. Notwithstanding some studies reported the opposite pointing that the built-up areas (arid/semi-arid regions) experience a lessening surface temperature [32]–[33], they show an attribute of wetness as the sole deciding factor of the surface temperature [34] where the surrounding dry and bare soil have higher surface temperature than the built-up/sealed areas.

Monitoring spatiotemporal variations of LST and its correlation between normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI), normalized difference built-up index (NDBI), normalized difference moisture index (NDMI), leaf area index (LAI) etc. using linear regression technique, has been one of the point of research in recent time [35]–[46]. In

the foregoing, part of the outcome of the correlation analysis especially pertaining LST and NDVI among the scholars was not consistent, the results range from negative correlation [17], [42]–[43], [47] to relatively positive correlation [48] to no correlation [49].

## Materials And Method

### A. Materials

Landsat 8 datasets (January 30, May 22, and September 30, 2019) was used in ArcGIS for correlation of LST, NDBI, NDVI, and NDMI.

a) Computation land surface temperature using thermal bands (band 10 & 11).

- i. Conversion of satellite DN to spectral radiance [50] for band 10 was computed using equation (1),

$$L_{\lambda} = M_L Q_{cal} + A_L \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Where  $M_L$  is band specific multiplicative rescale factor,

$Q_{cal}$  is quantized and calibrated standard product pixel value (DN)

$A_L$  is band specific additive rescale factor.

- ii. Conversion of spectral radiance to brightness temperature [50] using equation (2),

$$BT = \ln \left( \frac{K_2}{K_1/L_{\lambda} + 1} \right) - 273.15 \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Where BT Brightness Temperature is at Satellite Brightness Temperature SBT,

$K_1$  &  $K_2$  are thermal constant factors for either band 10 or 11

$L_{\lambda}$  is radiance,

$\ln$  is natural log,

– 273.15 is added to convert the temperature to degree Celsius.

- iii. Computation of LST using equation (3),

$$LST = BT / 1 + \lambda (BT / \rho) \ln (LSE) \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

Where BT is at Satellite Brightness Temperature

$\lambda$  is the wavelength,

$\rho$  is 14380,

LSE is land surface emissivity.

- iv. Computation of land surface emissivity using equation (4),

$$LSE = 0.004P_V + 0.986 \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

Where  $P_V$  is Proportion of vegetation

- v. Computation of proportional vegetation ( $P_V$ ) using the equation (5), we derived  $P_V$  from NDVI

$$P_V = (NDVI - NDVI_{min} / NDVI_{max} - NDVI_{min})^2 \dots \dots \dots (5)$$

Where, NDVI is Normalized Difference Vegetation Index.

- vi. Computation normalized differential index NDVI using equation (6),

NDVI is the proportion of changes between near infrared and red bands to the sum of near infrared and red bands. It is used to assess above ground biomass health, determine vegetative or none vegetative areas.

$$NDVI = NIR - Red / NIR + Red \dots \dots \dots (6)$$

Where

NIR is near infrared is band 5 (Landsat 8),

Red is band 4 (Landsat 8).

The above procedures were repeated for band 11 and then average was computed between the two bands to obtain the LST.

- b) Other indices for correlation analysis:

i Normalized Difference Built-Up Index (NDBI), was developed [51] to assess built-up areas. Computation of NDBI using equation (7),

$$NDBI = \frac{SWIR - NIR}{SWIR + NIR} \dots \dots \dots (7)$$

Where SWIR is band 6 (Landsat 8),  
NIR is band 5 (Landsat 8).

ii Normalized Difference Moisture Index (NDMI), it highlights vegetation moisture of an area using the equation (8)

$$NDMI = \frac{NIR - SWIR}{NIR + SWIR} \dots \dots \dots (8)$$

Where NIR is band 5 (Landsat 8),

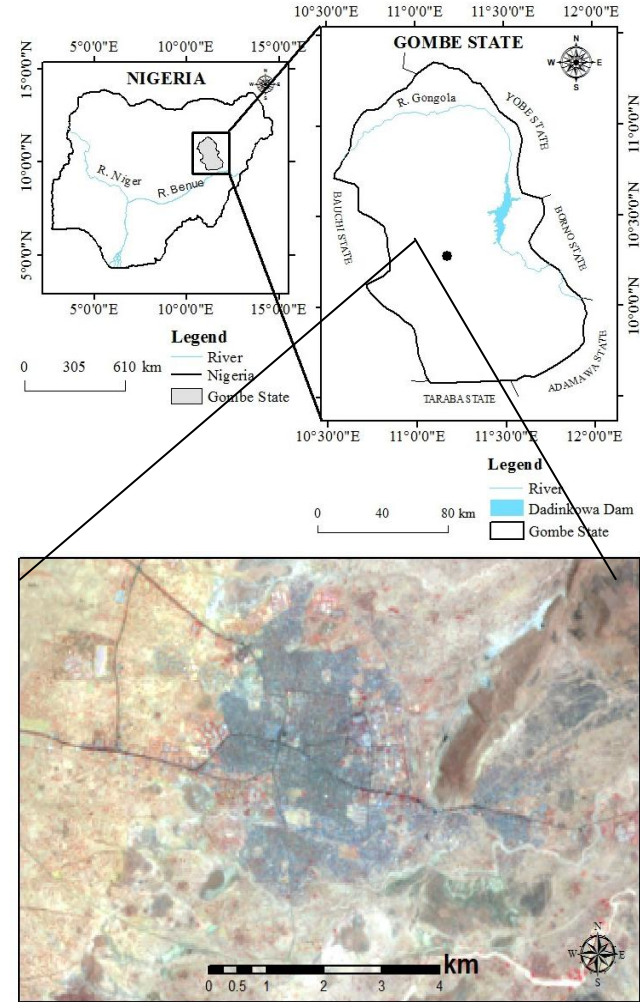
SWIR is band 6 (Landsat 8).

Correlation between LST and NDVI, NDBI, NDMI was computed using excel sheet.

### B. Study Area

Gombe metropolis is the capital city of Gombe state, situated in the North Eastern part of Nigeria. It was named state capital when Gombe state was created from the then Bauchi state on 1st October, 1996. Gombe metropolis overlaps into Akko, Kwami and Yamaltu-Deba local government areas [52]. It has a projected population of about 400,000 in 2010 [53]. Fig.1 show Landsat satellite scene of the study area in near infrared, red and green. The urban areas can be seen in light-medium or dark blue colors, undeveloped surfaces in light brown-yellow, vegetation in red, roads in black, and geological outcrop in brown. Previous research reported that due to the reflection of the roofs of corrugated iron sheets, most African

towns seen from space, appear in blue luminosity. The spectral attributes of these metal roofs differ with age, which is an important peculiarity allowing the differentiation of the urban structure and the monitoring of its development [54].



Source: Landsat, scene ID: 186-053; on 07-04-2000.

Fig. 1 Satellite image of Gombe Metropolis

Result and Discussion

A. Land Surface Temperature

Fig. 2 present spatial distribution of LST over Gombe metropolis and shows that landuse/landcover and season influence the land surface temperature statistics in table 1.

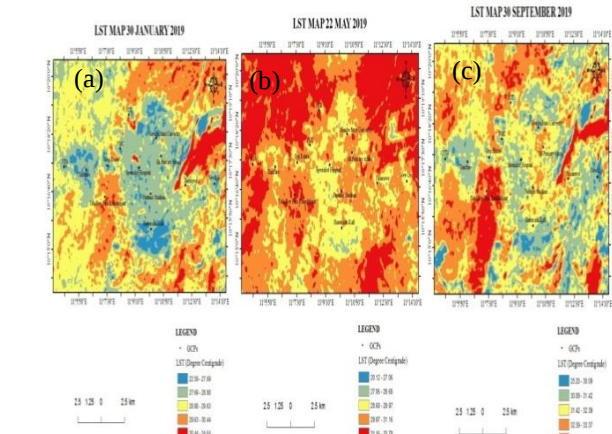


Fig. 2 LST Maps (a) January 30<sup>th</sup> LST map, (b) May 22<sup>nd</sup> LST map, (c) September 30<sup>th</sup> LST map.

Table 1 Mean LST Statistics

| Date    | Min (°C) | Max (°C) | Mean (°C) | SD     |
|---------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| 30/1/19 | 22.59    | 34.64    | 29.59     | 0.9197 |
| 22/5/19 | 26.44    | 33.95    | 31.27     | 0.9326 |
| 30/9/19 | 25.20    | 37.68    | 32.21     | 1.1348 |

January 30<sup>th</sup>, LST maps recorded mean temperature of 29.59<sup>0</sup>C and marked the lowest among three periods of this study. During this month (January), harmattan comes with dust/haze when visibility is poor, that absorbs, scatter and reflect the incoming sun's energy from reaching the earth's surface, therefore result into lower surface temperature. May 22<sup>nd</sup>, and September 30<sup>th</sup> LST maps recorded higher mean temperature of 31.27<sup>0</sup>C and 32.21<sup>0</sup>C respectively, during these months (May and September) the sky is clear and free from haze therefore, the sun's energy reaches the earth's surface causing the earth's thin layer and the mechanical mixture of gases near the surface to heat up more easily and result into higher surface temperature. The landcover of the study area is influence by number of landuse (residential, commercial, educational etc.) that gives rise to impervious/sealed surfaces, affecting number of ecosystem services. It was observed that the built-up areas of the metropolis experience lower and graduated surface temperature in all the periods of this study than the surrounding rocks and bare surfaces. The above findings are consistent with the previous

studies reported that the built-up areas (arid/semi-arid regions) experienced a lessening surface temperature [32]–[33], they show an attribute of wetness as the sole deciding factor of the surface temperature [34].

The maximum temperatures observed in all the three periods of this study were found on the surrounding rocks and bare surfaces.

B. Normalized Difference Vegetation Index

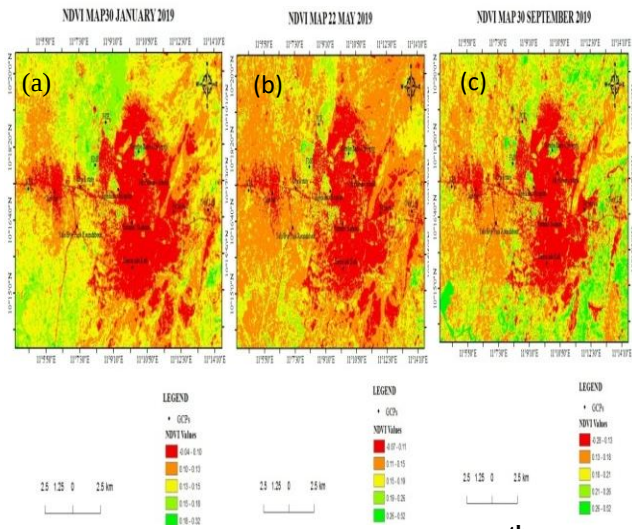


Fig. 3 NDVI Maps, (a) January 30<sup>th</sup> NDVI map, (b) May 22<sup>nd</sup> NDVI map, (c) September 30<sup>th</sup> NDVI map

| Table 2 NDVI Statistics |          |          |           |        |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Date                    | Min (°C) | Max (°C) | Mean (°C) | SD     |
| 30/1/19                 | -0.0400  | 0.3198   | 0.1391    | 0.0221 |
| 22/5/19                 | -0.0717  | 0.5214   | 0.1505    | 0.0345 |
| 30/9/19                 | -0.2834  | 0.5225   | 0.2062    | 0.0422 |

Fig. 3 present NDVI Maps and marked as a pointer that Landuse/Landcover and wet and dry seasons influence the NDVI statistics of Gombe metropolis (see table 2). The Land use/Landcover

of the metropolis reveals that greater percentage of surface area is being sealed up from the atmosphere therefore recorded low NDVI values in all the three periods of study. The minimum NDVI value (-0.0717) among the three periods of this study was recorded on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the NDVI map show significance of low values because of dry season, the vegetation also show sign of stress because of the insufficient soil moisture and low water table. The vegetated areas in the metropolis are part of Gombe State University, Federal Medical Center, Federal College of Education, and some selected areas outside the metropolis recorded higher NDVI values in all the three periods of study. The highest NDVI value of 0.5225 was recorded in the September 30, NDVI map.

C. LST and NDVI Correlation

Fig. 4 reveals a strong negative correlation between LST and NDVI in three periods of study with  $R^2 = 0.5922$  (January 30<sup>th</sup>),  $0.7487$  (May 22<sup>nd</sup>) and  $0.6017$  (30<sup>th</sup> September). The negative correlation observed between LST and NDVI shows that NDVI does not induce surface temperature but rather vegetation cover provide natural cooling effects from shading and evapotranspiration whereas built-up areas, rocks and bare surfaces absorb sun’s energy thereby causing the surface and air temperature to rise. It was observed variation in NDVI due to season influence surface temperature. This finding matches the result reported by [17], [42]–[43], [47] that there is a negative relationship between NDVI and LST

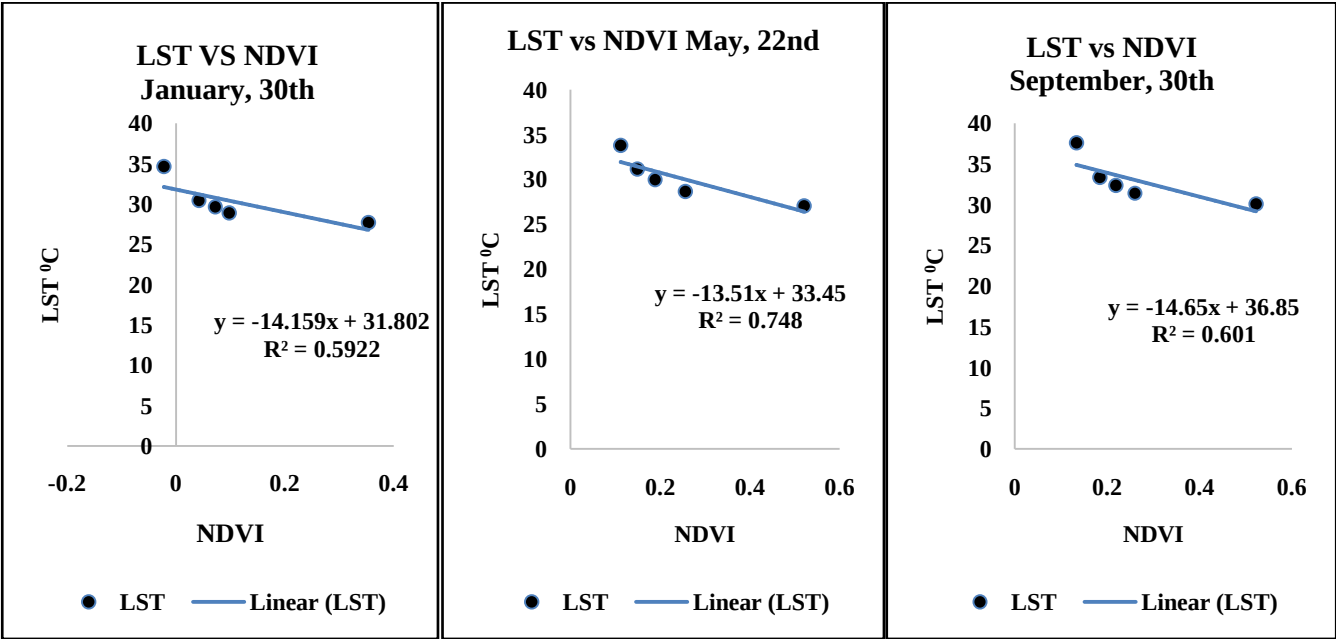


Fig. 4 Correlations between LST and NDVI

*D. Normalized Difference Built-up Index*  
Table 3 shows NDBI statistics, the minimum values for the three periods are -0.2344, -0.3457, -0.3466 respectively. The maximum values 0.3539, 0.2561 and 0.3050 respectively. Mean NDBI are 0.0832, 0.0936 and 0.0341 respectively. The result shows that the higher NDBI values are concentrated on rocks surfaces (Fig.5) in all the three periods of study. The results also indicate that the lower values were concentrated in vegetated areas in all the three periods of study.

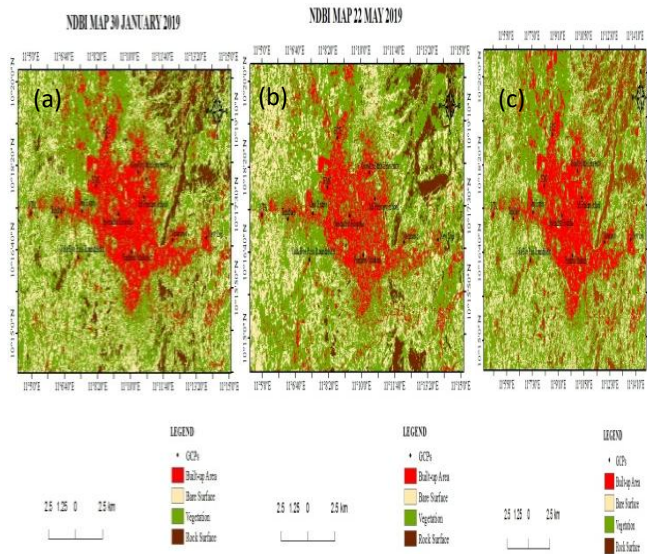


Fig. 5 NDVI Maps, (a) January 30<sup>th</sup> NDBI map, (b) May 22<sup>nd</sup> NDBI map, (c) September 30<sup>th</sup> NDBI map

| Table 3 NDBI Statistics |          |          |           |        |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Date                    | Min (°C) | Max (°C) | Mean (°C) | SD     |
| 30/1/19                 | -0.2324  | 0.3539   | 0.0832    | 0.0285 |
| 22/5/19                 | -0.3457  | 0.2561   | 0.0936    | 0.0368 |
| 30/9/19                 | -0.3466  | 0.3050   | 0.0341    | 0.0436 |

*E. LST and NDBI Correction*  
Fig. 6 present a strong positive correlation between LST and NDBI in all the three periods with  $R^2 = 0.9935$  (January 30<sup>th</sup>),  $0.9863$  (May 22<sup>nd</sup>) and  $0.9923$  (September 30<sup>th</sup>). Built-up/sealed surface understate the effect of vegetation and transpiration. This finding is consistent with previous study reported that there is positive relationship between LST and NDBI [43]. It was also reported that LST and NDBI relationship reveals that built-up areas produce LST based upon the behavior of the Earth's cover variation and result in UHI [43].

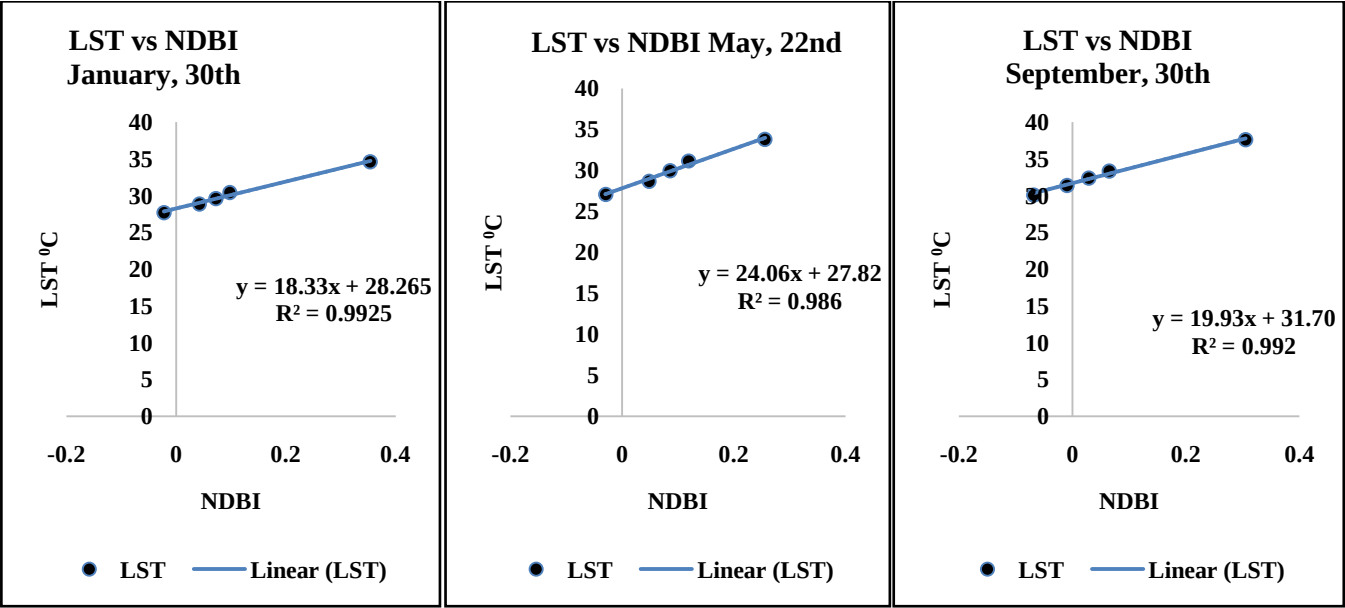


Fig. 6 Correlations between LST and NDBI

F. NDBI and NDVI Correlation

NDBI and NDVI correlation analysis in Fig. 7 shows a strong negative relationship in all the three periods of study with the  $R^2 = 0.5466$ , 0.7175, 0.5368 respectively. This finding matches

a previous study reported that there is negative correlation between NDBI and NDVI [43]. NDVI is applied to describe stages of development and expansion of built-up area [17].

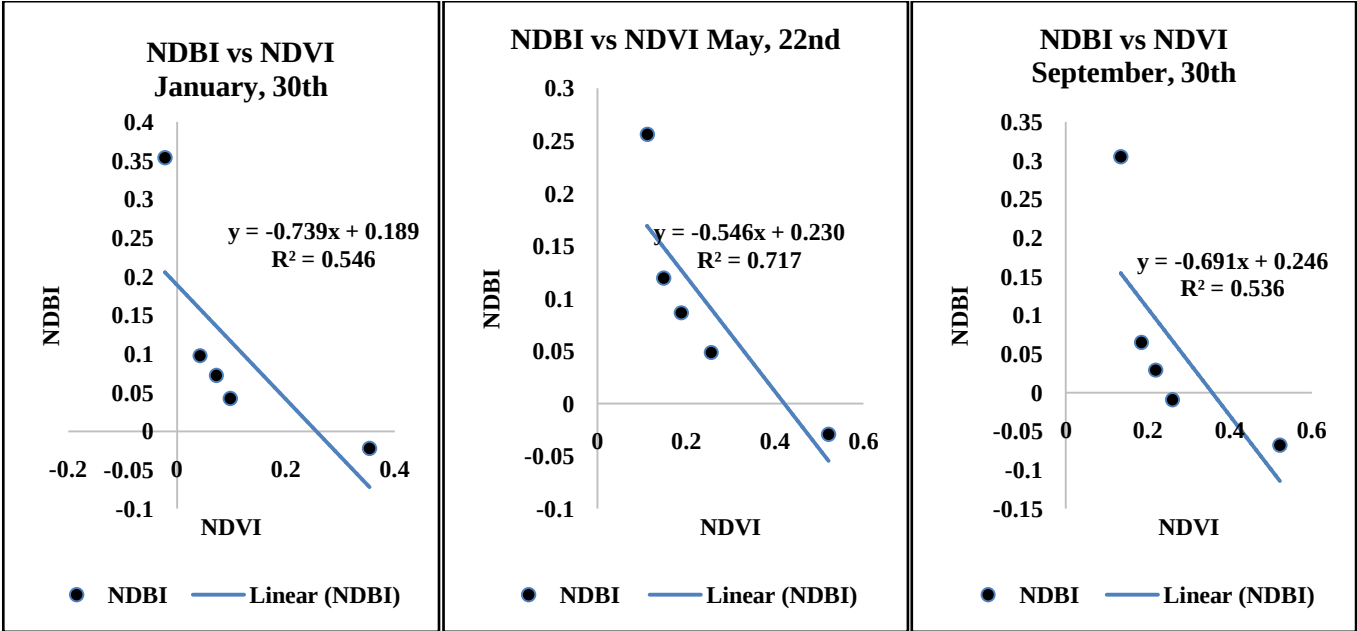


Fig. 7 Correlations between NDBI and NDVI

G. Normalized Difference Moisture Index

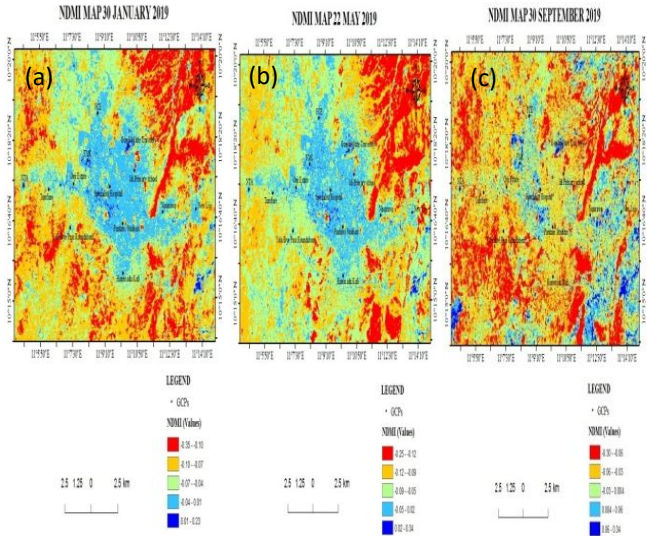


Fig. 8 NDMI Maps (a) January 30<sup>th</sup> NDMI map, (b) May 22<sup>nd</sup> NDMI map, (c) September 30<sup>th</sup> NDMI map

| Table 4 NDMI Statistics |          |          |           |        |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Date                    | Min (°C) | Max (°C) | Mean (°C) | SD     |
| 30/1/19                 | -0.3539  | 0.2344   | -0.0832   | 0.0285 |
| 22/5/19                 | -0.2561  | 0.3457   | -0.0936   | 0.0368 |
| 30/9/19                 | -0.3050  | 0.3466   | -0.0341   | 0.0436 |

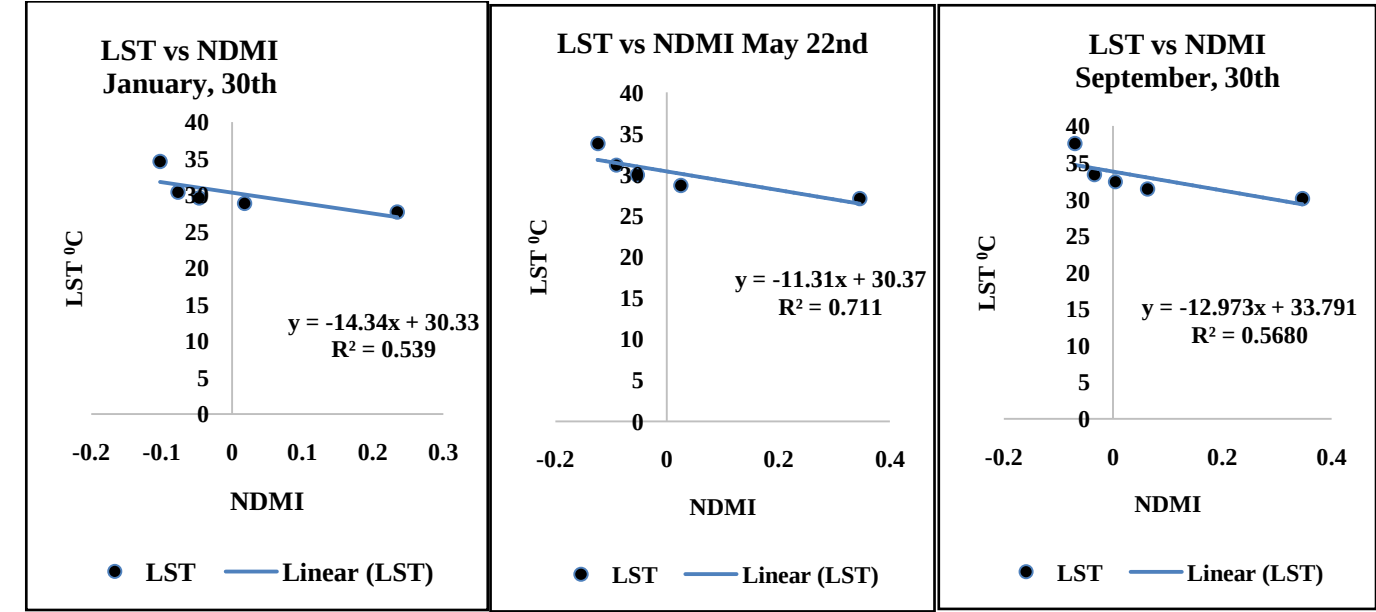


Fig. 9 Correlations between LST and NDMI

I. NDBI and NDMI Correlation

Landuse/landcover, wet and dry seasons influence the NDMI Statistics in table 4. The result indicated that lowest values of -0.3539 was observed during January 30<sup>th</sup> NDMI and was found on rocks and bare surfaces. The maximum NDMI value of 0.3466 was observed during September 30<sup>th</sup> and was associated with vegetation cover in Gombe State University, Federal Medical Center, Federal College of Education, and other vegetated areas outside the squares of Gombe metropolis.

H. LST and NDMI Correlation

The outcome of the correlation analysis between LST and NDMI in Fig. 9 reveals a negative relationship with  $R^2 = 0.5399$  (January 30<sup>th</sup>),  $0.7115$  (May 22<sup>nd</sup>) and  $0.5680$  (September 30<sup>th</sup>). NDMI influence LST, areas with vegetation moisture in abundance are inclined to have relatively low LST values, when compared to built-up areas, rocks and bare surfaces with less vegetation moisture tend to have a relatively higher LST.

The outcome of the NDBI and NDMI correlation analysis Fig. 10 indicate a negative relationship

with  $R^2 = 0.4831$ ,  $0.6809$  and  $0.5$  respectively. Greater

Percentage of built-up area is being sealed with the impervious materials with few or scattered trees that give rise to low vegetation moisture.

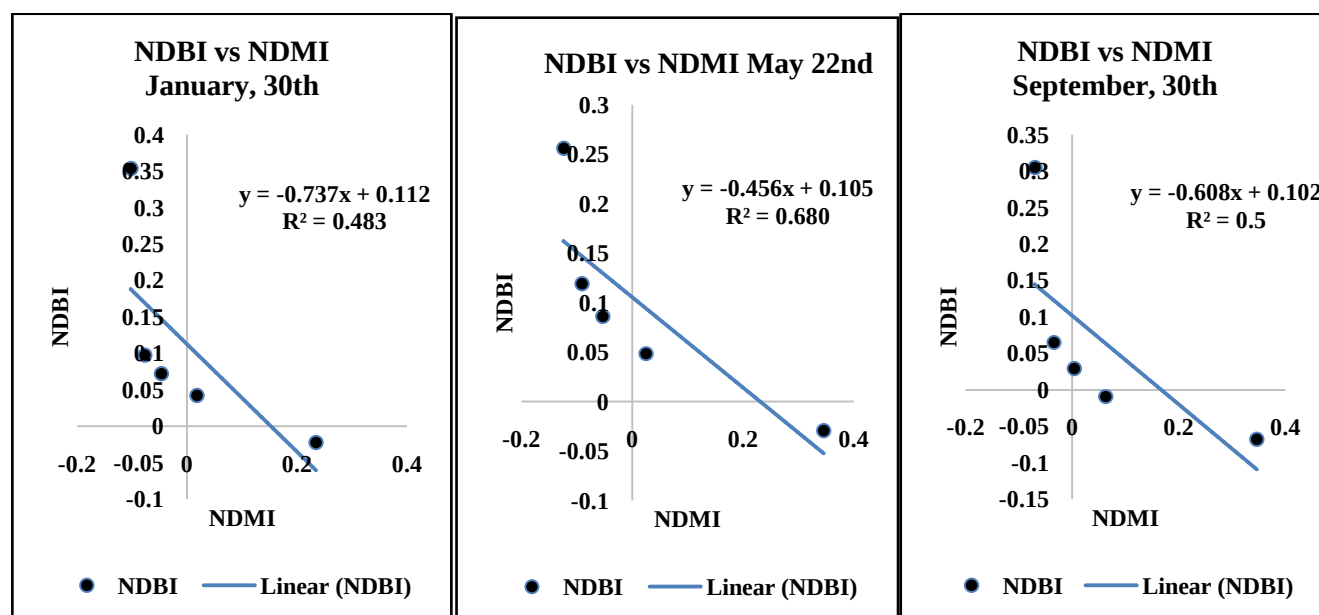


Fig. 10 Correlations between NDBI and NDMI

### Conclusion

This study used Landsat 8 and computed LST, NDBI, NDVI and NDMI of Gombe metropolis at three different periods (January 30<sup>th</sup>, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, and September 30<sup>th</sup> in 2019). It was observed that surface temperature of Gombe metropolis is influenced by season and landuse/landcover. Minimum LST was observed in the built-up areas especially part of Tudun Wada, Arawa, Tumfure, Hamma-du-kafi, and New Liji, the values are 22.59<sup>0</sup>C (January 30<sup>th</sup>), 26.44<sup>0</sup>C (May 22<sup>nd</sup>) and 25.20<sup>0</sup>C (September 30<sup>th</sup>). The maximum surface temperature was found on rocks and bare surfaces the values are from 34.64<sup>0</sup>C, 33.95<sup>0</sup>C and 37.68<sup>0</sup>C respectively. Maximum NDVI values observed was 0.3198, 0.5214 and 0.5225 respectively and were concentrated on the vegetated areas. The minimum NDVI values -0.0400, -0.0717 and -0.2834 respectively are found in the built-up area of the metropolis. The LST and NDVI correlation reveals a strong negative relation in three periods of study with  $R^2 = 0.5922$ ,  $0.7487$  and  $0.6017$  respectively. The maximum NDBI observed in each period was 0.3539, 0.2561 and 0.3050 respectively and were concentrated on rock surfaces. The minimum NDBI values -0.2344, -

0.3457, and -0.3466 respectively were concentrated in vegetated areas. The LST and NDBI correlation analysis shows a strong positive relationship with  $R^2 = 0.9935$ ,  $0.9863$  and  $0.9923$  respectively. Strong negative correlation was observed between NDBI and NDVI with the  $R^2 = 0.5466$ ,  $0.7175$  and  $0.5368$  respectively. The maximum NDMI values observed was 0.2344, 0.3457 and 0.3466 respectively and were concentrated in the vegetated areas. The minimum NDMI values observed was -0.3539, -0.2561 and -0.3050 respectively and were concentrated on the rock and bare surfaces. The correlation analysis between LST and NDMI reveals a negative relationship with  $R^2 = 0.5399$ ,  $0.7115$  and  $0.5680$ . Negative correlation was also observed between NDBI and NDMI with  $R^2 = 0.4831$ ,  $0.6809$  and  $0.5$  respectively.

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