

JANET NICHOL



I am an Applied Geographer, specialising in Remote Sensing, Geo-Informatics and Environmental Change. My main research interests are in the application of remote sensing to landscape change including agricultural and forest resources, especially in context of global climatic change. I have previously worked in universities in Nigeria, the Republic of Ireland, Singapore and Hong Kong. My current work is focused on trends in wood fuel resources, specifically farmland trees in northern Nigeria, succession in tropical secondary forests, global greening/browning trends under climate change, and remote sensing of atmospheric aerosols including fine particulates.

Academic qualifications:

PhD in Civil Engineering, Aston University, Birmingham, UK (1976)

MA in Arctic and Alpine Research, University of Colorado, USA (1973)

BSc Geography, Queen Mary College London University, London, UK (1972)

Previous academic positions

2018- Visiting Professor, University of Sussex, UK

2001-18 Professor, Dept. Land Surveying and Geo-informatics, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

1998 -01 Lecturer, Department of Geography, National University of Ireland,

1992 -98 Senior Lecturer, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

1989 -92 Senior Lecturer, Dept. Geography, National University of Singapore

1980 -88 Senior Lecturer, Dept. Geography, Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria

**PUBLICATIONS**

**2019**

1. Usman, M., Nichol, J.E. (2019). Trends in farmland tree stocks in the agroforestry landscape of northern Nigeria: reconciling scientific and stakeholder perceptions, Nichol, J.E. (2019). **Journal of Rural Studies** doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2019.01.006
2. Hafeez, S., Wong, M.S., Ho, H.C., Nazeer, M., Nichol, J.E., Tang, D., Lee, K.H., Pun, L. (2019). Evaluation of machine learning algorithms for retrieval of water quality indicators in case-II subtropical areas: a case study of Hong Kong. **Remote Sensing** 11, 612, doi:10.3390/rs11060617

3. Abbas, S., Nichol, J.E., Fischer, G.A., Zhang, J. (in press). The accumulation of species and recovery of species composition along a 70 year successional gradient in a tropical secondary forest. **Ecological Indicators**

### 2018

4. Usman, M., Nichol, J.E. (2018). Remarkable increase in tree density and fuelwood production in the croplands of northern Nigeria. **Land use Policy**. (Impact Factor 3.2) doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.04.046
5. Yang X, Li Y, Wang, X., Chan, P.W., Nichol, J.E., Li, X. 2018). The street warming phenomenon in a high rise compact city. **Atmosphere**, 9(10), 402, <https://doi.org/10.3390/atmos9100402>
6. Abbas, S., Nichol, J.E., Wong, M.S. (2018). Object-based, multisensor monitoring of successional age classes for effective management of a 70-year secondary forest succession. **Land Use Policy**, doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.04.035 (IF 3.4).
7. Usman, M., Nichol, J.E., Ibrahim, A.A., Buba, L. (2018). A spatio-temporal analysis of trends in rainfall from long term satellite rainfall products in the Sudano Sahelian zone of Nigeria. **Agriculture and Forest Meteorology** 273-286 doi.org/10.1016/j.agrformet.2018.06.016. (Impact Factor 4.5).
8. Shahzad, I.M, Nichol, J.E, Campbell, J.A, Wong, C\* (2018). Assessment of MODIS, OMI, MISR and CALIOP aerosol products for estimating surface visual range: A mathematical model for Hong Kong. **Remote Sensing** 10, 1333, doi:10.3390/rs10091333. (Impact Factor 3.4).

### 2017

9. Bilal, M., Nazeer, M. Nichol, J.E. (2017) Validation of MODIS and VIIRS derived aerosol optical depth over complex coastal waters. **Atmospheric Research** 186, 43-50. doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosres.2016.11.009 (Impact Factor 3.4).
10. Bilal, M., Nichol, J.E., Wang, L., New customized methods for improvement of the MODIS C6 Dark Target and Deep Blue merged aerosol product. **Remote Sensing of Environment** 197, 115-124, doi.org/10.1016/j.rse.2017.05.028
11. Xu, L., Ren, C., Yuan, C., Nichol, J.E., Goggins, W. (2017). An ecological study of the association between area-level green space and adult mortality in Hong Kong. **Climate**, 5, 55 doi:10.3390/cli5030055
12. Bilal, M., Nichol, J.E. (2017) Evaluation of the NDVI-based pixel selection criteria of the MODIS C6 Dark Target and Deep Blue combined aerosol product **IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Earth Information**, 10.1109/JSTARS.2017.2693289 (IF 2.7).
13. Nichol, J.E., Abbas, S., Fischer, GA (2017). Changing morphology and implications for biodiversity restoration of a 70-year forest succession in a degraded tropical landscape. **Biodiversity and Conservation** 11, 134-145. (Impact Factor 2.01).

14. Peng, F., Wong, M.S., Ho, H.C., Nichol, J.E., Chan, P.W. (2017). Reconstruction of historical datasets for analyzing spatiotemporal influence of built environment on urban microclimates across a compact city **Building and Environment** 123, 649-660. doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2017.07.038 (Impact factor 3.4)
15. Peng, F., Wong, M.S., Wan, Y.L, Nichol, J.E (2017). Modelling of urban wind ventilation using high resolution airborne Lidar data. **Computers, Environment and Urban Systems** 64, 81-90. DOI: 10.1016/j.compenvurbsys.2017.01.003
16. Nazeer, M., Wong M.S., Nichol, J.E. (2107). A new approach for the estimation of phytoplankton cell counts associated with algal blooms. **Science of the Total Environment** 590-591, 125-138. doi: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2017.02.182 (Impact Factor 4.6).
17. Abbas S, Nichol, JE, Fischer GA (2017) Mapping and assessment of impacts of cold and frost on secondary forest in the marginally tropical landscape of Hong Kong, **Agricultural and Forest Meteorology**, 232, 454-549. (Impact Factor 4.3)

## **2016**

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22. Bilal, M., Nichol, J.E., Spak, S.N. (2016). A New Approach for Estimation of Fine Particulate Concentrations Using Satellite Aerosol Optical Depth and Binning of Meteorological Variables. **Aerosol and Air Quality Research**, 17, 2, 356-367 DOI: 10.4209/aaqr.2016.03.0097.
23. Nazeer, M, Nichol, J.E. (2016). Improved water quality retrieval by identification of optically unique water classes. **Journal of Hydrology**, 541, 1119-1132. doi.org/10.1016/j.jhydrol.2016.08.020
24. Zhang Z. Y., Wong M. S., Nichol J. E. (2016), Global trends of aerosol optical thickness using ensemble empirical mode decomposition method, **International Journal of Climatology**. DOI: 10.1002/joc.4637.
25. Abbas S, Nichol J.E, Fischer GA (2016) A 70-year perspective on tropical forest regeneration. **Science of the Total Environment** 544:544–552. doi: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2015.11.171. (Impact Factor 4.6).
26. Yang, J.X., Wong, M.S., Menenti, M., Nichol, J.E., Voogt, J., Krayenhoff, E.S. (2016). Development of an improved urban emissivity model based on sky view factor for retrieving effective emissivity and surface temperature over urban areas. **ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing**, 122, 30-40. doi.org/10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2016.09.007 (Impact Factor 4.3)
27. Zou, B., Wang, Q., Bilal, M., Weng, Q., Nichol, J.E. (2016). High-Resolution Satellite Mapping of Fine Particulates Based on Geographically Weighted Regression, **IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters**, DOI 10.1109/LGRS.2016.2520480

## **2015**

28. Bilal, M., Nichol, J.E (2015). Evaluation of MODIS aerosol retrieval algorithms over the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region during low to very high pollution events. **Journal of Geophysical Research Atmospheres**, 120, 7941-7957. doi:10.1002/2015JD023082. (Impact Factor 3.4)
29. Yang, J., Wong, M. S., Menenti, M., Nichol, J. (2015). Modeling the effective emissivity of the urban canopy using sky view factor. **ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing**, 105, 211-219. DOI: 10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2015.04.006 (Impact Factor 4.3)
30. Nazeer, M., Nichol, J.E. (2015). Combining Landsat TM/ETM+ and HJ-1 A/B CCD Sensors for Monitoring Coastal Water Quality in Hong Kong . **IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters**, 12 (9), 1898–1902. doi: 10.1109/LGRS.2015.2436899 (Impact Factor 1.9)
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32. Nichol, J.E. and Nichol, D.W., (2015) Character and provenance of aeolian sediments in northeast Thailand. **Aeolian Research**, 19, 5-14. doi: 10.1016/j.aeolia.2015.09.001 (Impact Factor 2.8)
33. Bilal, M. Nichol, J.E., Nazeer, M. (2015) Validation of Aqua–MODIS C051 and C006 operational aerosol products using AERONET measurements over Pakistan. **IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Earth Observation**. 1939-1404. 10.1109/JSTARS.2015.2481460 (Impact Factor 3.1)
34. Wong M. S., Yang J. X., Nichol J. E., Weng Q., Menenti M., Chan P. W. (2015), Modeling of Anthropogenic Heat Flux using HJ-1B Chinese Small Satellite Image: a Study of Heterogeneous Urbanized Areas in Hong Kong, **IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Letters**, 07/2015; 12(7):1-5. (Impact Factor 2.1)
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36. Wong, M.S., Xiao, F., Nichol, J.E., Fung, J., Kim, J., Campbell, J., Chan, P.W. (2015). A multi-scale hybrid neural network retrieval model for dust storm detection, a study in Asia. **Atmospheric Research**, 158-159, 89-106. (Impact Factor 2.8).
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39. Lee, K.H., Wong, M.S., Nichol, J.E., Chan, P.W. (2015). Retrieval of aerosol size distribution from Microtops II sunphotometer in Hong Kong. **Aerosol and Air Quality Research** 15, 1712-1719.
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41. Mijin K, Jhoon K, Wong, M.S., Yoon, J., Lee, J., Wu, D., Chan, P.W., **Nichol, J.E.**, Chung, C-Y., Ou, M-L. (2013). Improvement of aerosol optical depth retrieval over Hong Kong from a geostationary meteorological satellite using critical reflectance with background optical depth correction. **Remote Sensing of Environment** 142, 176-187. (Rank 1 of 27, Impact Factor 6.07)
42. Nazeer, M., Nichol, J.E., Yung, Y.K, (2014). Evaluation of Atmospheric Correction Models for Landsat ETM+ and HJ-1 A/B Imagery in an Urban Coastal Environment. **International Journal of Remote Sensing**, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01431161.2014.951742> (Impact Factor 1.72)
43. Nichol, J.E., Abbas, S. (2015) Integration of remote sensing datasets for local scale assessment and prediction of drought. **Science of the Total Environment** 505, 503-507. (Impact Factor 4.6)
44. Bilal, M., **Nichol, J.E.**, Chan, P.W. (2014). Validation and accuracy assessment of a Simplified Aerosol Retrieval Algorithm (SARA) over Beijing under low and high aerosol loadings and dust storms. **Remote Sensing of Environment** 153, 50-60 DOI: 10.1016/j.rse.2014.07.015 (Rank 1 of 27, Impact Factor 6.07)
45. Abbas, S, **Nichol, J.E.**, Qamer, F.M., Xu, J. (2014). Characterisation of drought development through remote sensing; a case study in Central Yunnan, China. **Remote Sensing**, 6, 4998-5018. doi.org/10.3390/rs6064998. (Rank 6 of 27, Impact Factor 3.1)

## **2013**

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47. Shahzad, I., **Nichol, J.E.**, Wang, J., Campbell, J., Chan, P.W. (2013). Estimating surface visibility in Hong Kong using ground-based lidar, sunphotometer and operational MODIS products. **Journal of Air and Waste Management Association**, 63(9):1098-1110. (Rank 30 of 44, Impact Factor 1.5).
48. Nichol, J.E., Nichol, D.W. (2013). Pleistocene loess in the humid sub-tropical forest zone of East Asia. **Geophysical Research Letters**, 40(120):19778-1983. (Rank 9 of 173, Impact factor 4.4).

49. Nichol, J.E., To, P.H., Ng, E. (2013) Temperature projection in a tropical city using remote sensing and dynamic modeling, **Climate Dynamics** 40(4): DOI 10.1007/s00382-013-1748-2. (Rank 8 of 76, Impact factor 5.3).
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51. Nichol, J.E., King B.A., Ding, X.L. (2013). Remote sensing for sustainable urbanization: editorial, **International Journal of Remote Sensing**, 34(3), 755-758. (Rank 11 of 23, Impact Factor 1.72)
52. Wong, M.S., **J.E. Nichol**, K.H Lee, (2013). Estimation of aerosol sources and aerosol transport pathways using AERONET clustering and backward trajectories: a case study of Hong Kong. **International Journal of Remote Sensing**, 34(3), 938-955. (Rank 11 of 23, Impact Factor 1.72)
53. Wong, M.S., J.E. Nichol (2012). Spatial variability of frontal area index and its relationship with urban heat island intensity, **International Journal of Remote Sensing**, 34(3), 885-896. (Rank 11 of 23, Impact Factor 1.72)
54. Wong, M.S., M.I. Shahzad\*, **Nichol, J.E.**, K. H. Lee and P.W. Chan (2012). Validation of MODIS, MISR, OMI, and CALIPSO aerosol optical thickness using ground-based sunphotometers in Hong Kong. **International Journal of Remote Sensing**, 34(3), 897-918. (Rank 11 of 23, Impact Factor 1.72)
55. Sarker, Md. L.R, **J. Nichol**, H.B. İz, and A.A. R Rahman (2013). Forest Biomass Estimation Using Texture Measurements of High-Resolution Dual-Polarization C-Band SAR Data, **IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing**, 51(6)3371-3384. (Impact factor 3.39, 3 of 27)
56. Wong, M.S., Sarker\*, M.L.R., **Nichol, J.E.**, Chen, H., Chan, P.W. (2013) Modeling BVOC isoprene emissions based on a GIS and remote sensing database. **International Journal of Earth Observation and Geo-Information** 21, 66-77 (Rank 5 of 27, Impact Factor 2.96).

## 2012

57. Nichol, J.E., To, P.H. (2012). Temporal characteristics of thermal satellite images for urban heat stress and heat island mapping. **ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing** 74, 152-162 (Impact factor 4.02, Rank 2 of 15).
58. \*Sarker, L.R.H., **Nichol, J.E.**, B. Ahmed, I. Busu, A. A. Rahman, 2012. Potential of texture measurements of two-date dual-polarisation PALSAR data for the improvement of forest biomass information. **ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing** 69, 146-166. (Impact factor 4.02, Rank 2 of 15).

## 2011

59. Wong, M.S., Nichol, J.E., Lee, B.Y. (2011). Monitoring Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) within urban regions using satellite-derived Aerosol Optical Thickness (AOT), **International Journal of Remote Sensing** 32(23):8449-8462 (Rank 9 of 15, Impact Factor 1.72)

60. Wong, M.S., **Nichol, J.E.**, (2011). Fine resolution aerosol optical thickness (AOT) retrieval and applications over a complex urban region **Atmospheric Research** 99, 579-589. (Impact factor 2.6, Rank: 28 of 76).
61. Wong, M.S., **Nichol, J.E.**, Ng, Y.E. (2011). A study of the “wall effect” caused by proliferation of high-rise buildings using GIS techniques **Landscape and Urban Planning** 102, 245-253 (Impact factor 3.18, Rank 16 of 46).
62. Nichol, J.E., Wong, M.S., (2011). Estimation of ambient BVOC emissions using remote sensing techniques, **Atmospheric Environment**. 44, 2501-2506. (Impact Factor 3.79, Rank 44 of 215).
63. Sarker, M.L.R, **Nichol, J.E.**. (2011) Improved forest biomass estimates using ALOS AVNIR-2 texture indices **Remote Sensing of Environment** 115, 968-977 (Impact Factor 6.07, Rank 1 of 15)
64. Nichol, J.E., Sarker, M.L.R. (2011) Improved Biomass Estimation using the Texture Parameters of Two High Resolution Optical Sensors. **IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing**, 49(3):930-948. (Impact Factor 3.39, Rank 3 of 15)
65. Wong, M.S., **Nichol, J.E.**, Shaker, A, Hui, C.F., 2011. Data fusion using aerial photographs and satellite images for detailed landslide assessment. **International Journal of Image and Data Fusion**, 2, 2,181-190 (Impact Factor 2.33).

## 2010

66. Wong, M.S., **Nichol, J.E.**, Lee, K.H., Li, Z. (2010) Retrieval of Aerosol Optical Thickness using MODIS 500 x 500m<sup>2</sup>, a study in Hong Kong and Pearl River Delta region, **IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing**, 48(4), 3318-3327. (Impact Factor 3.39, Rank 3 of 27)
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68. Nichol, J.E., Wong, M.S., Wang, J., 2010. A 3D aerosol and visibility information system for urban areas using remote sensing and GIS. **Atmospheric Environment**. 44, 2501-2506. (Impact Factor 3.79, Rank 44 of 215).
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70. Wong, M.S, **Nichol, J.E.**, To, P.H., Wang, J. (2010) A simple method for designation of urban fresh air corridors and its application to urban heat island analysis. **Building and Environment** 45, 1880-1889. (Rank 5 of 58, Impact factor 3.0)
71. Wong, M.S., Lee, K.H. and **Nichol, J.E.** 2010. Aerosol optical thickness retrieval using a small satellite. **Korean Journal of Remote Sensing**, 26, 6, 605-615.

72. \*Wong, M.S., **Nichol, J.E.**, Lee, K.H., 2010. A satellite view of urban heat island: causative factors and scenario analysis. **Korean Journal of Remote Sensing**, 26, 6, 617-627

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73. Nichol, J.E., Wong, M.S. (2009) Mapping urban environmental quality using satellite images and multiple parameters. **Environment and Planning B** 36:170-185. Impact factor: 0.707 (B grade).
74. Fung, W.Y., Lam, K.S., Nichol, J.E., and Wong M.S., (2009) Heat Island study: satellite-derived air temperature. **Journal of Applied Meteorology** 48, 4: 863-872. Impact factor: 1.888 (A grade), Rank: 20/51 Impact Factor 1.9
75. Nichol, J.E., (2009), An emissivity modulation method for spatial enhancement of thermal satellite images in urban heat island analysis. **Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing**, 75(5):547-556. (Rank 9 of 27, Impact factor 2.1)
76. Nichol, J.E., Wong M.S., 2009, High resolution remote sensing of densely urbanized regions: a case study of Hong Kong, **Sensors**, 8, 4695-4708 (Rank 10 of 57, Impact Factor 2.45).
77. Wong, M.S., Nichol, J.E., Lee, K.H., 2009, Modelling of aerosol vertical profiles using GIS and remote sensing. **Sensors** 9, 4380-4389. (Rank 10 of 57, Impact Factor 2.45).
78. Wong, M.S., Nichol, J.E., Lee, K.H., Li, Z., 2009, Improved estimation of aerosol optical thickness using MODIS 500 x 500m<sup>2</sup> imagery over Hong Kong and Pearl River Delta region. **Science in China Series D: Earth Sciences**. 52(9), 1641-1649.
79. Chen, H.W, **Nichol, J.E.**, Ho, Lee, S.C. (2009) Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds (BVOC) in Ambient Air over Hong Kong: Analytical Methodology & Field Measurement. **International Journal of Environmental Analytical Chemistry** 89, 56-70. (Impact factor: 2.867 Rank: 17/70).
80. Nichol, J.E., Fung, W.Y., Lam K.S., and Wong, M. S., (2009). Urban Heat Island diagnosis using ASTER satellite images and 'in situ' air temperature. **Atmospheric Research**, 94, 276-284. (Impact factor 2.6, Rank: 28/76)
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84. Nichol, J.E., Wong, M.S. 2008 Habitat mapping in rugged terrain using multispectral IKONOS images, **Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing** 74 (11), 1325-1334. (Rank 9 of 27, Impact factor 2.1)
85. Shaker, A., Nichol, J.E., Wong M.S., (2008). Topographic mapping from small satellites. **The Photogrammetric Record** 23(123), 275-289, (Rank 10 of 23, Impact Factor 1.4).
86. Nichol, J.E. Law, K.H., (2008) The influence of DEM accuracy on topographic correction of IKONOS satellite images, **Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing**, 74(1):47-53. (Rank 9 of 27, Impact Factor 2.1).

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90. Nichol, J.E. Wong M.S., Fong, C., Leung, K., 2006. Assessment of urban environmental quality in a sub-tropical city using multispectral satellite images, **Environment and Planning B**, 33, 39-58.
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### 2005

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97. Shi, W., ChangQuing Z, Yan Tian, **Nichol, J E.**, 2005, Wavelet-based image fusion and quality assessment. **International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation**, 6, 241-251