Environmental complexity in urban neighborhoods.
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Urban neighborhoods are complex socio-ecosystems in which social, economic, and ecological inequalities influence the quality of individual lives and community sentiment. Using data from the Phoenix Area Social Survey and related research on urban microclimates, I will present two different examples of human-environment interactions in Phoenix neighborhoods. How do people’s perceptions of neighborhood environments affect their sense of community belonging? Is the urban heat island an environmental justice issue for people in poor neighborhoods?