# Time Series Analysis of terrain and climatic parameters data retrieved from Terraclimate dataset: A case study in Ranchi and Khunti district, Jharkhand, India

## Article Not Peer-Reviewed

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**Abstract**

Climatic and Terrain parameters which include the soil moisture, precipitation, evapotranspiration, maximum and minimum temperature are the most crucial factors which drives the future of earth. Soil Moisture regulates the movement of water and heat energy between the land surface and the atmosphere through evaporationn and plant transpiration. Precipitation controls the entire operation of the hydrosphere. Evapotranspiration is crucial for agricultural irrigation and water resource management. Land surface temperature (LST), which is crucial for monitoring crop and vegetation health, calculating the net radiation budget at the Earth's surface. The parameters of the delineated study area (Ranchi and Khunti districts, Jharkhand, India) data were retrieved from Terraclimate dataset for the years 1990 - 2020. The dataset was refined, and Mann Kendall trend analysis was implemented, and the trend graphs were prepared to determine the change in trend and relationship. The graphs generated shows the changes (positive or negative) in trend in every pixel for the 31 years for every month.

# 1 Introduction

Several research have looked into the critical problem of rainfall trends in India over the last century. Seasonal and inter-annual fluctuation in real evapotranspiration (ET) has a big impact on vegetation dynamics and land surface hydrology. As per the studies, the fluctuation in time of condition of climate shows significant results on evapotranspiration. Evapotranspiration dynamics and interaction of it with its variables referring to climate shows critical finding for future forecasting. Many regional studies performed so far have demonstrated the importance of evapotranspiration and its climate change effect. Soil moisture is an important parameter for hydrological research (S. Unninayar, L.M. Olsen, 2015). At low relative humidity the soil moisture content depends on the absorbed moisture content. At higher relative humidity it depends on the pore size. Plants require the soil moisture for their growth and when the content is low it is in the form of the thin film. It dissolves the salt and makes the soil solution which is required for the plant growth. Aggregation qualities and colloidal properties makes the soil to hold water by holding water on the surface of the pores, colloids and other particles. The forces responsible to do this are surface tension and surface attraction and are known as soil moisture tension which is referred to concept of energy in moisture retention relationships. The force with which water is held is also termed as suction. Time series3 analysis of the hydrological parameter and soil moisture will enable us to know how the trend in the soil moisture changed in different time scales viz. months and years in relation to the other hydrological parameters. Mann-Kendall analysis has also been performed to determine the trend. Agriculture in Jharkhand is primarily rain fed, and is grown on undulating topography associated with shallow soil depth, low water retentive capacity, poor soil fertility, and fragmented holdings with little irrigation possibilities (10-12 percent). The appropriateness, adaptability, and production of crops in a specific region are influenced by rainfall and temperature. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, billions of people, particularly in developing countries, will suffer modifications in rainfall styles, to be able to make a contribution to intense water shortages or flooding, in addition to growing temperatures, to be able to manage cropping styles and developing seasons to shift. University of California, Merced has developed a dataset called Terraclimate having data from the year of 1958-2021 with a monthly temporal resolution and a spatial resolution of 4km. The parameters of soil moisture, precipitation, evapotranspiration and temperature are retrieved from there. The intensity and frequency of extremes may be effortlessly modified with the aid of using weather alternate and the modifications in weather extremes and their affects on quite a few bodily and organic structures tested with the aid of using the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and their results also can make a contribution to worldwide warming (IPCC 2007). Many elements consisting of the enlargement of cities, and rapid populace increase

induce alongside migration from rural to city regions pose a chief task for town planners and additionally contributes to growing weather alternate. Some environmental hazards consisting of excessive temperature and severe rainfall, which leads to flooding in Addis Ababa, can be indicators of weather alternate (Birhanu et al. 2016). Also, the town temperature is often stricken by anthropogenic sports alongside weather alternate. The objective of the present research is primarily two-fold. First objective comprises determination of the trend of the climatic and terrain parameters in the districts of Ranchi and Khunti by implementing Mann Kendall test, and the second objective investigates the interactive changes between the different parameters. The results derived from these investigations will aid the climatologists and planners to develop feasible strategies to alleviate the climate induced hazards in the study area.

## 2  Research Objectives

As discussed earlier, the present study deals with the spatio-temporal variability analysis of two climatic parameters viz. precipitation, evapotranspiration and three terrain parameters viz. soil moisture, minimum and maximum land surface temperatures (LSTmin and LSTmax) over a period of 31 years from 1990 to 2000. The specific objectives of the present investigation include:

1. To determine the month wise variation of the five individual parameters over a period of 372 months from the year 1990 to 2020 (31 years x 12 months = 372 months).
2. To determine the monthly variation of the individual parameters in the respective calendar years starting from 1990 to 2020.
   (a) To determine the inter-quartile variability of the individual parameters over the entire year i.e., comprising 12 calendar months in the respective years, i.e. from 1990 to 2020.
   (b) To determine the inter-quartile variability of the individual parameters over the entire period of study i.e., 1990 to 2020 (31 years) in the respective calendar months, i.e. January to December.
3. To determine the trend of the individual parameters in each pixel of the study area in the respective calendar months, i.e., from January to December, employing the MannKendall trend analysis technique.

## 3  State of Art

JD Salas et. Al (1980.) showed that how the trend changes in the hydrological parameters which are precipitation and temperature variance. In the year of 1997 SG Giakoumakis et.al. showed the hydrological time series of Evinos river basin. In 2002 S Yue et.al. showed the rainfall and temperature time series and their autocorrelation. In 2003 Veli Hyvarinen et. al. explored the time variation of precipitation and evaportranspiration in Finland. Again in 2004 S Yue et. al. evaluated the Mann-Kendall test on serially correlated hydrological time series. M Kallache et. al. in 2005 checked trend assessment in Hydrology and Climate Research. Q Shao et. Al. in 2010 Showed trend detection in hydrological time series by segment regression with application to Shiyang
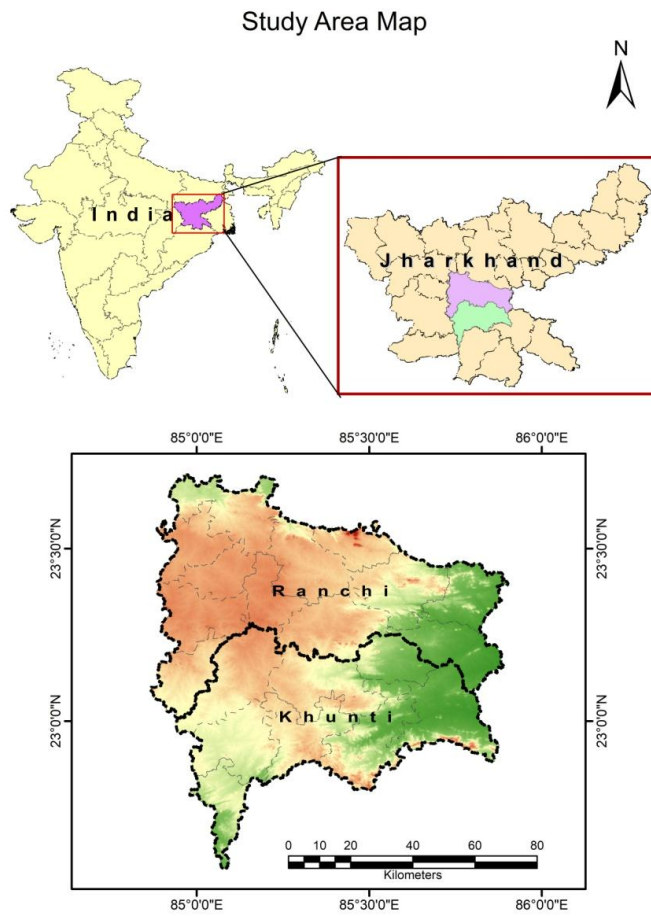
**Fig. 1** Study Area.

River Basin. Time series analysis of the long-term hydrologic impacts of afforestation in the Agueda watershed of north-central Portugal was experimented in 2015 by D Hawtree.et al. In the year of 2022, Y Shea et.al. Showed Hydrological Time-series changes using Piecewise linear representation.

# 4 Study Area

The area selected for the present study comprises the Ranchi and Khunti districts of Jharkhand state of India. The area comprises 337 pixels of 4 km resolution each. The residual type of soil is mostly found in the Ranchi and Khuti region. Archean and metamorphic rocks are highly exposed, and lateritic soils occur as a result of strong rainfall and high temperatures. The soils in the region are classed as follows based on texture: Stony and gravel soils, and are red or yellow. Soil is formed through the

disintegration of crystalline metamorphic rocks like schist, slate, and gneiss. Alluvial soils are found in the region's river channels and consist primarily of coarse sand and gravels, as well as sediment and muck. The study area falls under the Chotanagpur patland that resembles a table with steep edges all around and a flat top. The elevation ranges from 500 to 700 metres above sea level. Pat refers to a feature. The different landscape features in the study area are Scarps, revitalised meandering, Tors, are also prevalent in the state's beautiful landscape. Virtually two-thirds of the study area is covered by nearly flat and very gently sloping land. The district's core section has a moderately sloping terrain. Strongly sloping to very steeply sloping ground may be found largely along the district's northern and southern limits, as well as in the eastern half. The climate for the Ranchi and Khunti districts are classified as semi-arid subtropical. The average yearly temperature is 24.50 C, with a maximum of 280 C in the summer. Winter temperatures average 190 degrees Celsius. The area is classified as "hyperthermic" because the difference in mean summer and mean winter temperatures is greater than 50 degrees Celsius. The district receives about 1057.12 mm of rainfall every year, with the highest amounts falling in July and August and the lowest in November. However, rainfall is inconsistent, and droughts occur on a regular basis, roughly every other year. In this districts, three types of forests: reserved, protected, and open forests covering an area of 7678 square kilometres. Dry Deciduous Forest comprise of Bamboobs, Amaltas, Semal, Plas, Khour, Mahua, Asan, Sabai and Khus grasses and others grow in this type of forest. b) Dry Peninsular Forest has sal, jack trees, bamboo thickets, and other trees and Moist Peninsular Forest: These types of forests are found at higher elevations where rainfall exceeds 2000 mm. In such woodlands, sal is the most prevalent tree. Shrubs and shrubs can be found in patches in hilly/rocky environments and stony wastelands. Accasia catechu (Khair), Zizyphys jujuba (Ber), Accasia arabica (Babul), neem (Azadirachta Indica), Shisam (Dalbergia Latifolia), Shuras (Albizzia Lebbeck) and other species are dominant throughout the region. The primary river Subarnarekha flows through the region. Tributatiea such as Tazna, Kanchi, and Banai Rivers, Chhata, Karo, Changjhor, and Koel Rivers, are key tributary rivers that draind the basins in the region. Alluvial soils made up primarily of coarse sand and gravel mixed with silt and clay cover river channels throughout the district. Agriculture and forests dominate the district's land use/cover. Other land use groups found in the district include wasteland, non-agricultural lands, pasture, cultivable wasteland, and fallow land.

# 5  Materials and Methods

Google Earth Engine was used for retrieving the terrain and climatic data for 31years with temporal resolution of one month from Terraclimate that include Soil Moisture, Precipitation, Evapotranspiration, Highest and Lowest Soil Temperature. The data was refined and prepared for the analysis. The seasonality of the parameters was determined and Mann Kendall's Test was performed to determine the trend of the different parameters for the respective pixels over a period of 31 years.
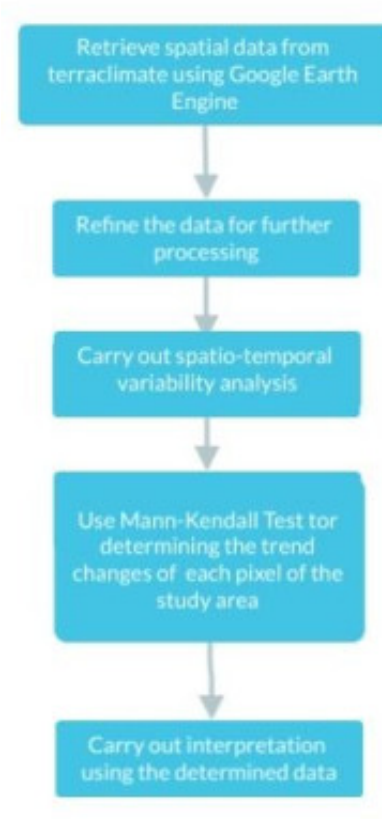
**Fig. 2** Methodology

# 6 Mann Kendall Test

Mann-Kendall test was formulated by Mann in 1945 for analyzing the trend mostly in environmental, climatological and hydrological data. The advantages of this test are its ability to handle data which are nonparametric and inhomogeneous in nature, that is, data which are not normally distributed and which are characterized by abrupt breaks. The H0 or null hypothesis represents no trend whereas the alternate hypothesis claims the data to have a trend. The calculation for Mann-Kendall test is as follows:

$$S = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=k+1}^{n} sgn(x_j - x_k) \tag{1}$$

The trend test is applied to a time series $X_k$, which is ranked from k = 1,2,3, ... n-1, which is ranked from j = k = i + 1 , i + 2 ..., n. Each of the data points $x_j$ is taken as a reference point.

$$Sgn(Xj - X_i) = \begin{cases} \text{-1} & \text{if } (x_j - x_i) < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } (x_j - x_i) = 0 \\ \text{+1} & \text{if } (x_j - x_i) < 0 \end{cases}$$

A positive S value indicates an upward trend, while a negative value indicates a downward trend. The variance of S for the trend is calculated as follows :

$$Var(S) = \frac{n(n-1)(2n+5) + t_i(t_i - 1)(2t_i + 5)}{18}$$

# 7 Results

## 7.1 Soil Moisture
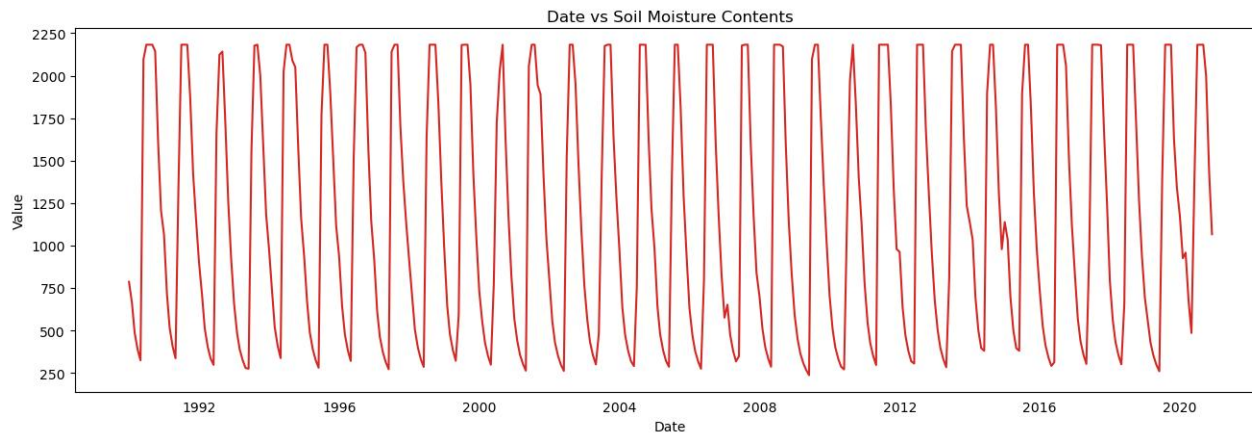


**Fig. 3** Soil Moisture Trend
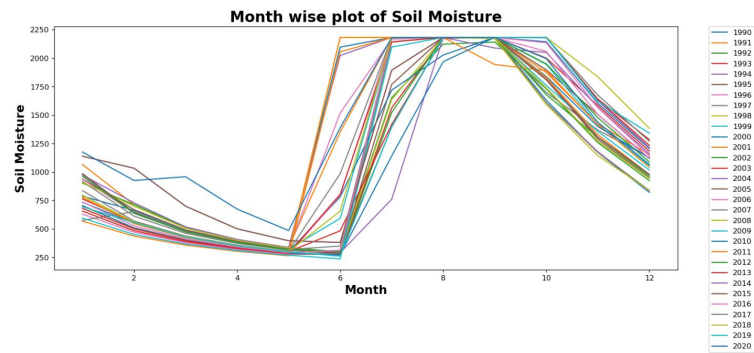


**Fig. 4** Month Wise plot of Soil Moisture
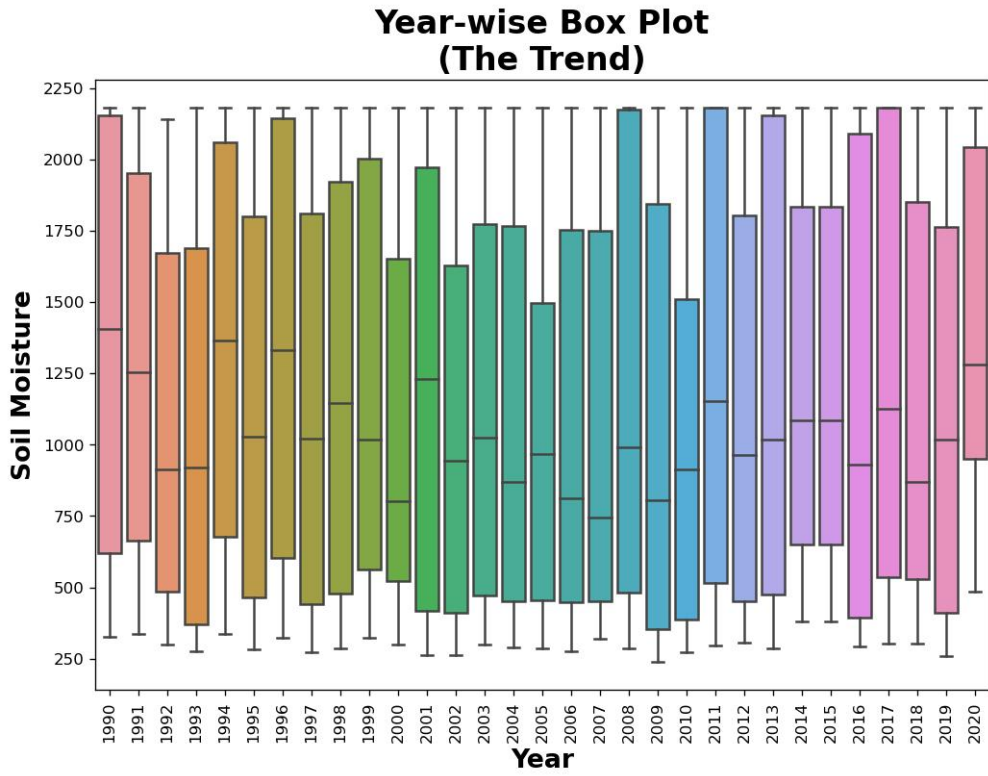
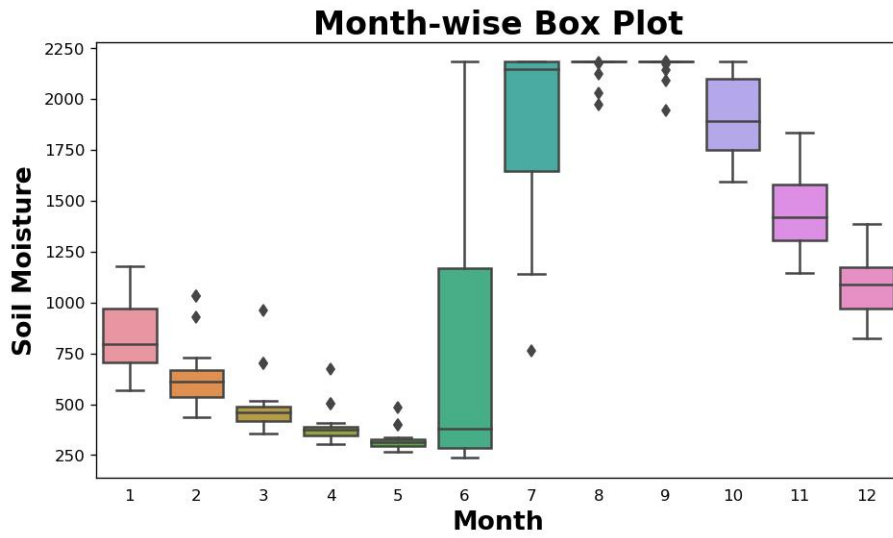**Fig. 5** Month Wise Box plot of Soil Moisture



**Fig. 6** Year Wise Box Plot of Soil Moisture

There is a seasonal trend in the pattern of Soil Moisture for the 31 years monthly averaged value. Month of May exhibits the smallest range and also 25th and 75th percentile; however, the subsequent month (i.e. June) portrays just the contrasting observation. There occurs a distinct decreasing trend of Max, Min, 75th percentile, 25th percentile, Range and also the difference, 25 and 75 percentile SM values from January to May, and again, from October to December. The post-harvest/harvest month exhibits higher SM values than the winter and pre-monsoon months. There occurs distinct difference/contrast between the two successive monsoon months (i.e., between June and July). The 75th percentile value of June is found to be lower than 25th percentile value of July. Table 1 shows the Pixel coverage of Trends for different months. No trend is observed in the month of January and December. Except the month of September which shows a increasing trend, January and December all other months show decreasing trend.
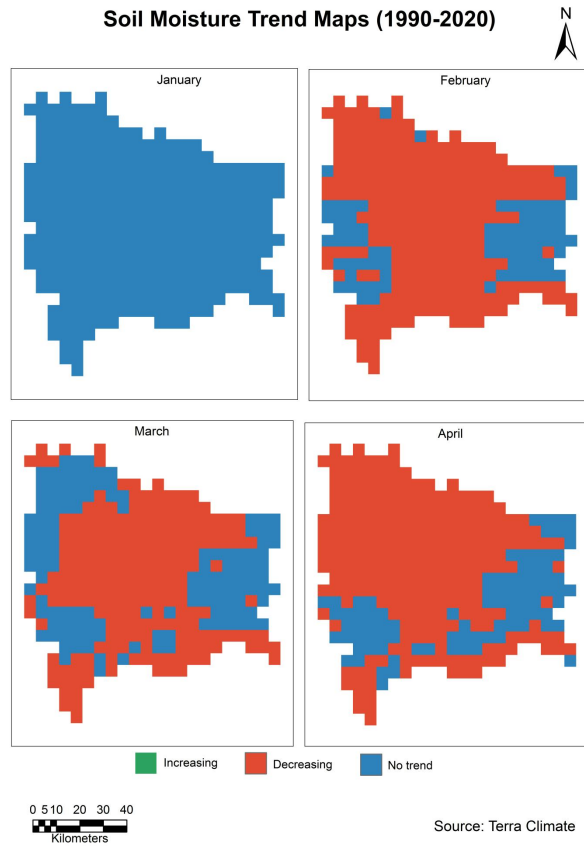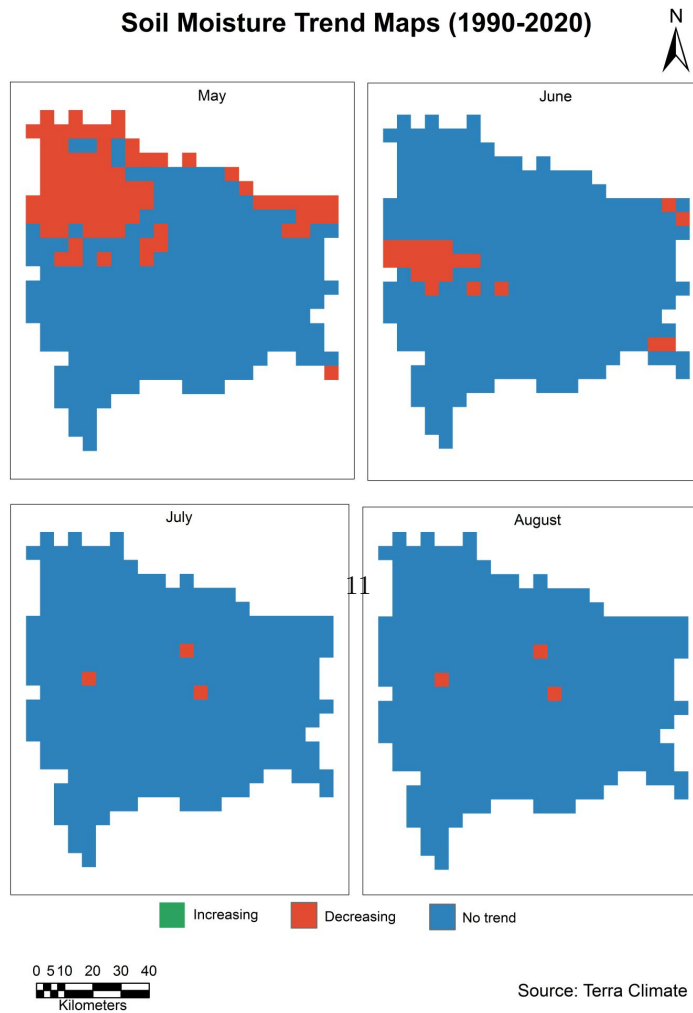
**Soil Moisture Trend Maps (1990-2020)**

N

| | |
|---|---|
| January | February |
| March | April |

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

0 5 10  20  30  40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 7** Soil Moisture Trend

**Soil Moisture Trend Maps (1990-2020)**

N

| | |
|---|---|
| May | June |
| July | August |

11

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

0 5 10  20  30  40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 8** Month Wise plot of Soil Moisture

# Soil Moisture Trend Maps(1990-2020)



**Fig. 9** Month Wise Box plot of Soil Moisture

| Month | Number of Pixels with Increasing Trend | Number of Pixels with Decreasing Trend | Number of Pixels Showing No Trend |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| February | 0 | 258 | 79 |
| March | 0 | 210 | 127 |
| April | 0 | 249 | 88 |
| May | 0 | 81 | 256 |
| June | 0 | 22 | 315 |
| July | 0 | 307 | 30 |
| August | 0 | 3 | 334 |
| September | 1 | 0 | 336 |
| October | 0 | 221 | 116 |
| November | 0 | 19 | 318 |
| December | 0 | 0 | 337 |

**Table 1** Table showing the trend of Soil Moisture

## 7.2 Precipitation
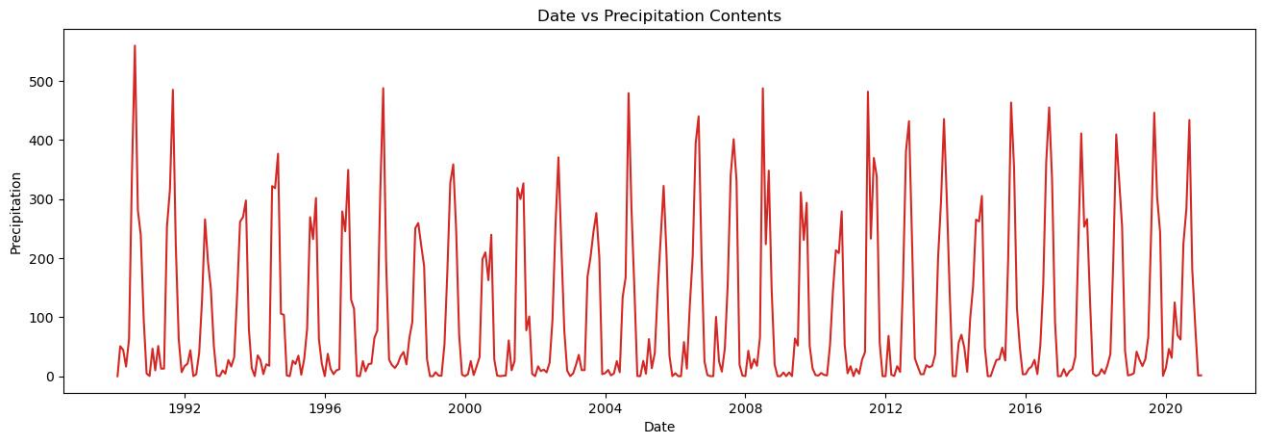


**Fig. 10** Precipitation Trend
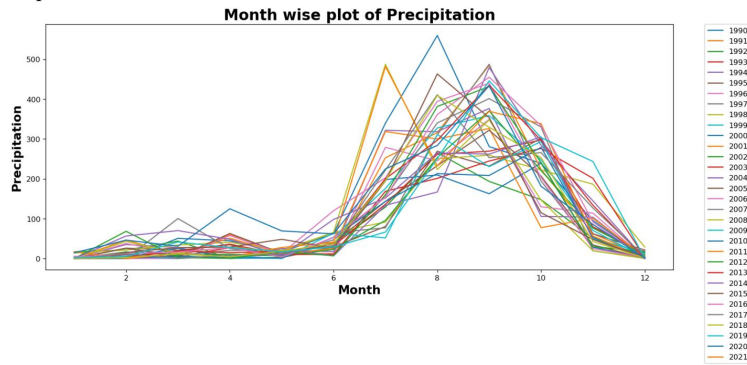


**Fig. 11** Month Wise plot of Precipitation

13

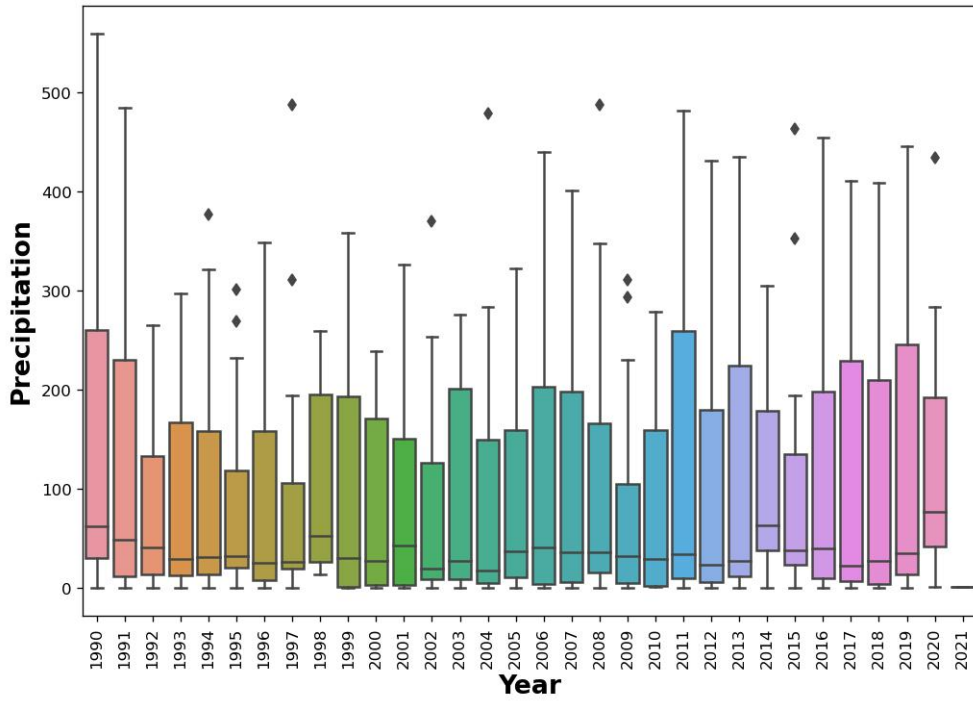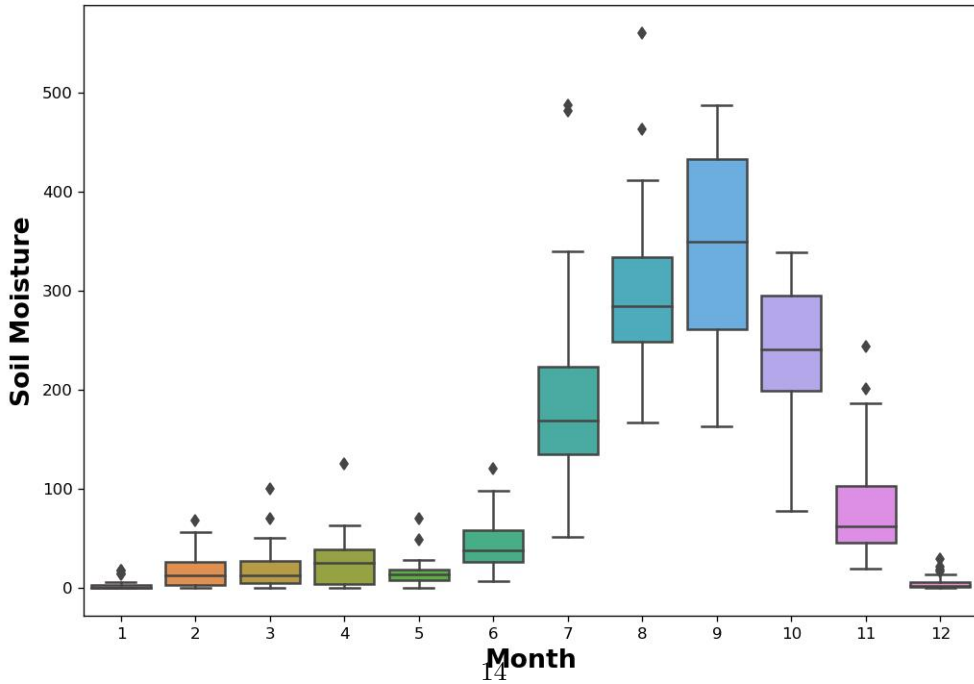**Fig. 12** Month Wise Box plot of Precipitation

**Fig. 13** Year Wise Box Plot of Precipitation

There exists a positive trend in precipitation from the month of June and it significantly rises to the maximum in the month of July, August and September in different years and starts decreasing by the month of November. The maximum precipitation is found in the years of 1990 and 2001 with values greater than 250mm. The median of all the years remains between 40mm and 60mm. Up to the year 1998 the lowest and 25 percentiles have significant gap but from the year 1999 to the year 2012 there exists similarity in the lowest value and 25 percentiles value.Table 2 shows the Pixel coverage of Trends for different months. The months of May, June, August and December show increasing trend in some pixels thus signifying increase in rainfall. The month of November comprises a large number of pixels with decreasing trend signifying decrease in rainfall. The months January, February, March, April, July, September and October do not exhibit any trend.
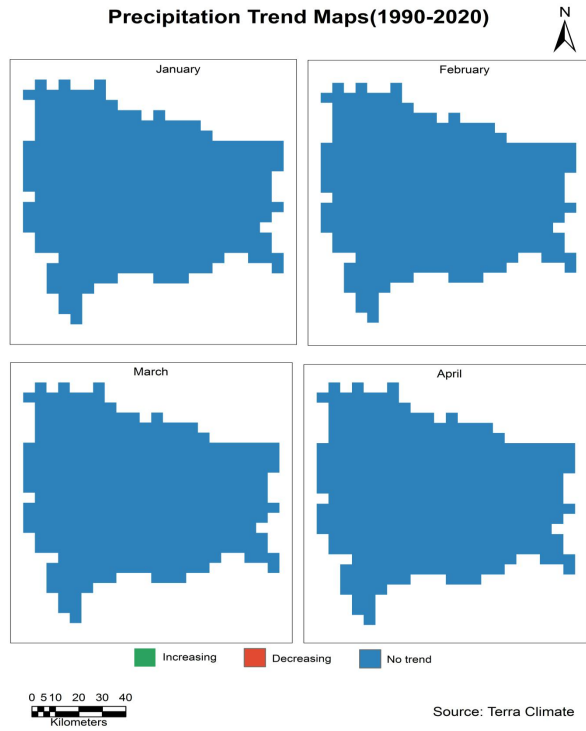
**Precipitation Trend Maps(1990-2020)**
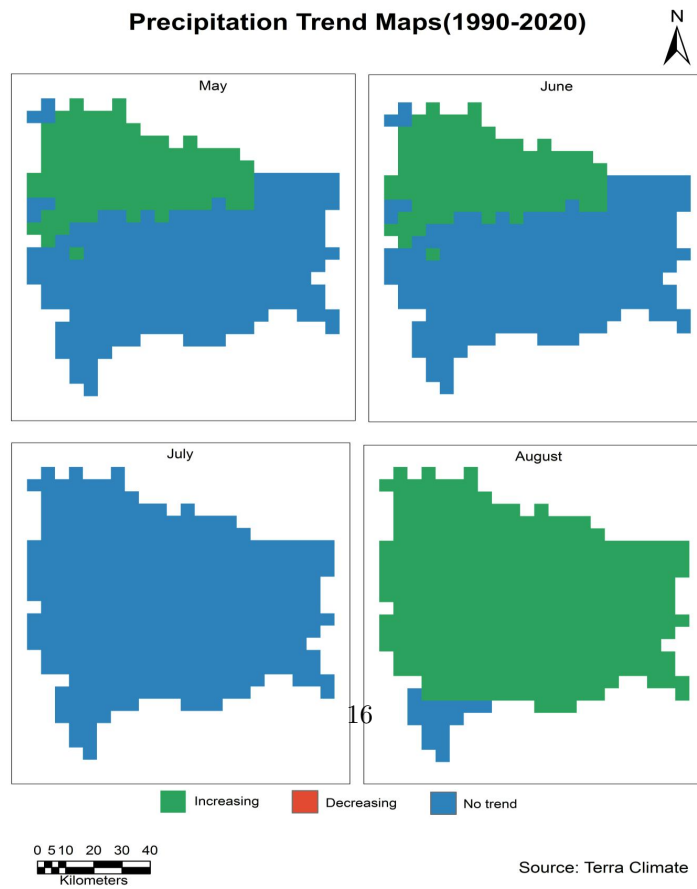
N

January | February

March | April

Increasing | Decreasing | No trend

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 14** Precipitation Trend

**Precipitation Trend Maps(1990-2020)**

N

May | June

July | August

16

Increasing | Decreasing | No trend

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 15** Precipitation plot of Soil Moisture

**Precipitation Trend Maps(1990-2020)**

N

September | October

November | December

Increasing   Decreasing   No trend
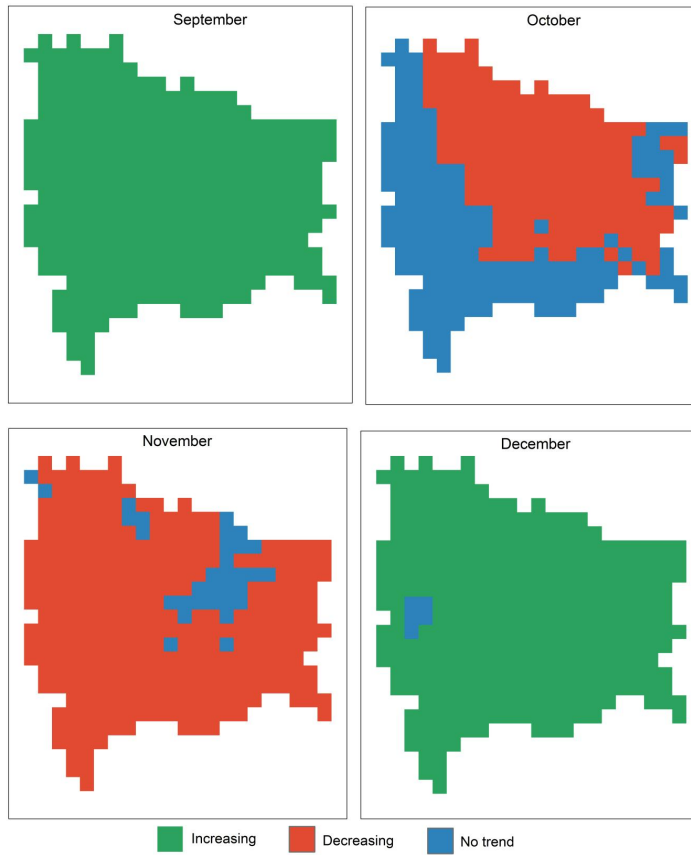
0 5 10  20  30  40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 16** Month Wise Box plot of Precipitation

17

| Month | Number of Pixels with Increasing Trend | Number of Pixels with Decreasing Trend | Number of Pixels Showing No Trend |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| February | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| March | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| April | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| May | 48 | 0 | 289 |
| June | 48 | 0 | 289 |
| July | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| August | 321 | 0 | 16 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| October | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| November | 0 | 189 | 148 |
| December | 332 | 0 | 5 |

**Table 2** Table showing trends of precipitation
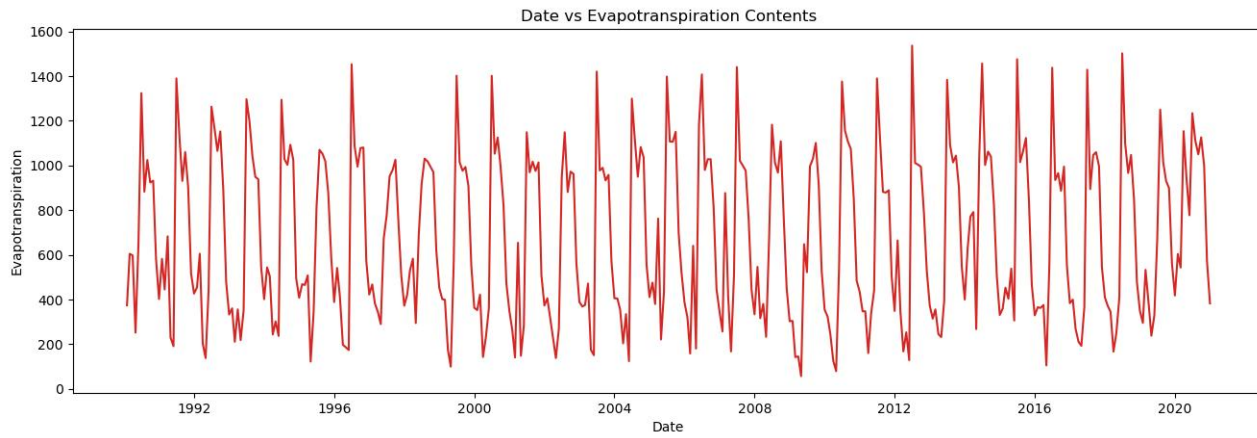
## 7.3 Evapotranspiration



**Fig. 17** Evapotranspiration Trend
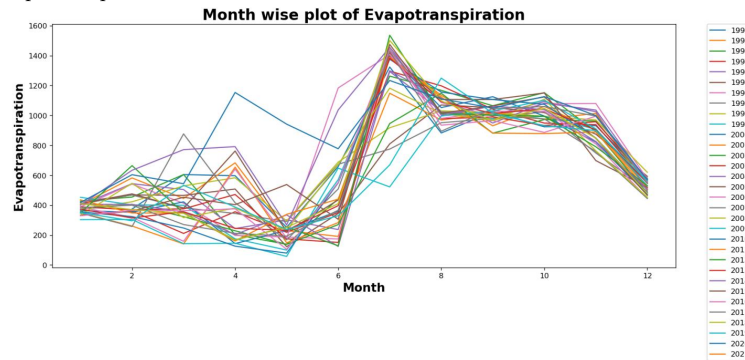


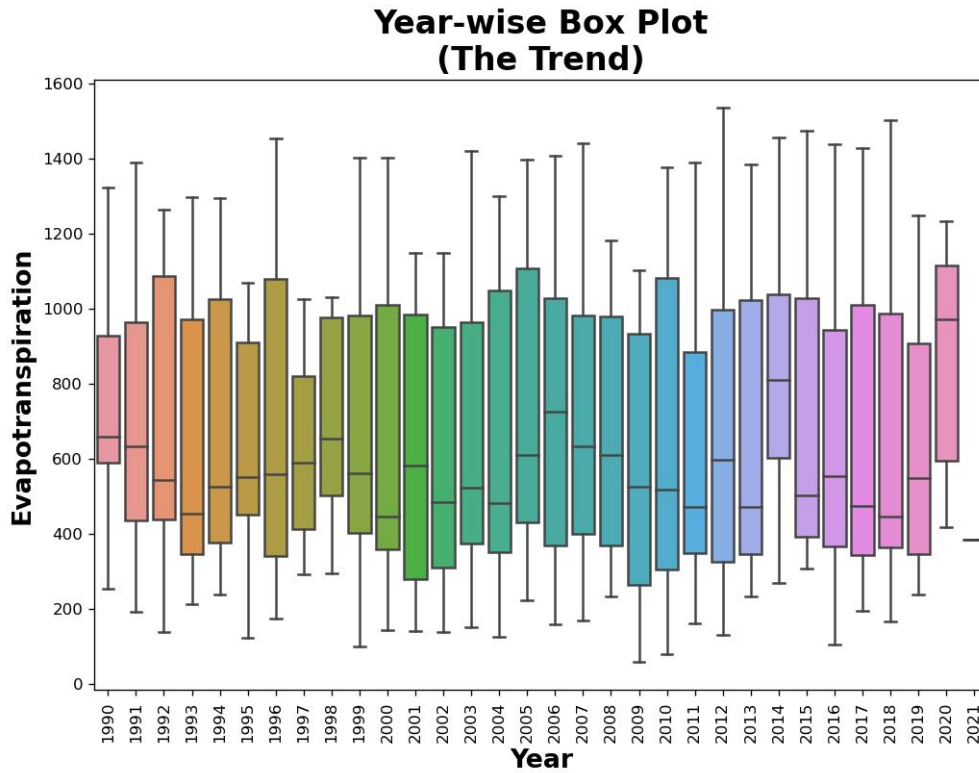**Fig. 18** Month Wise plot of Evapotranspiration

18

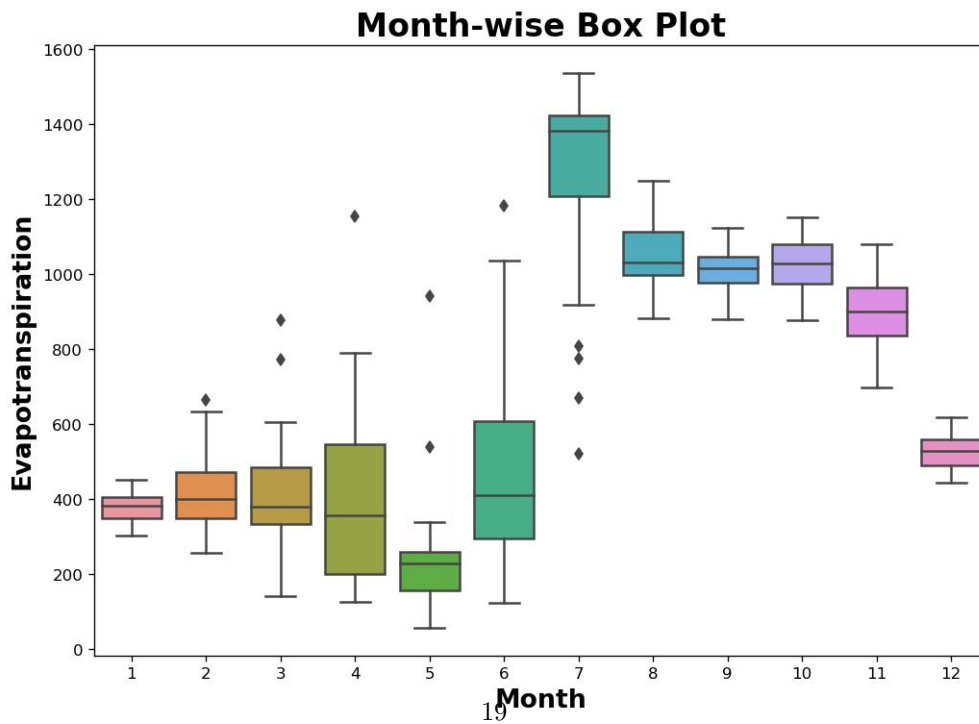**Fig. 19** Month Wise Box plot of Evapotranspiration



19

**Fig. 20** Year Wise Box Plot of Evapotranspiration

There exists a sharp increase of evapotranspiration from the month of June to July except in the years 1999, 2005 and 2006, which is followed by a sharp decline from August to October.Table 3 shows the Pixel coverage of Trends for different months. The months April, June, September and October shows no change in the trend in the entire study area. The month January, February, March and August shows increase in the level of evapotranspiration and the month of May shows 317 pixels i.e. 94% of the pixels shows a increment in the trend of Evapotranspiration. Month of November and December show a decrease in the trend of Evapotranspiration
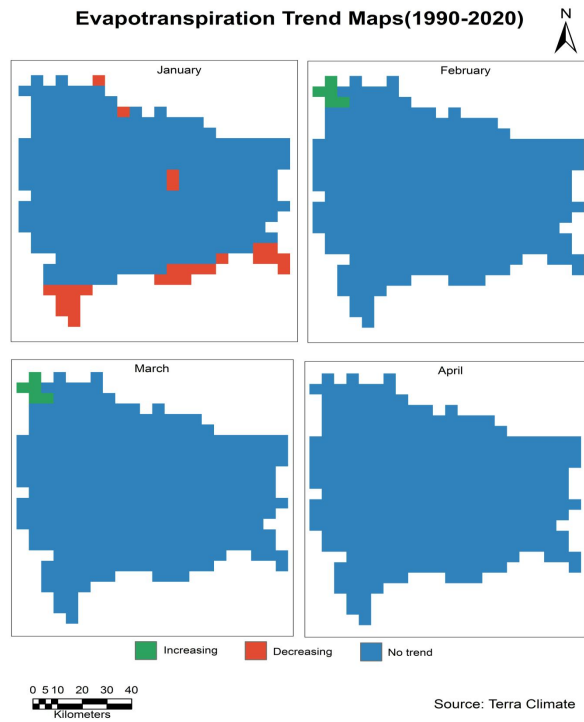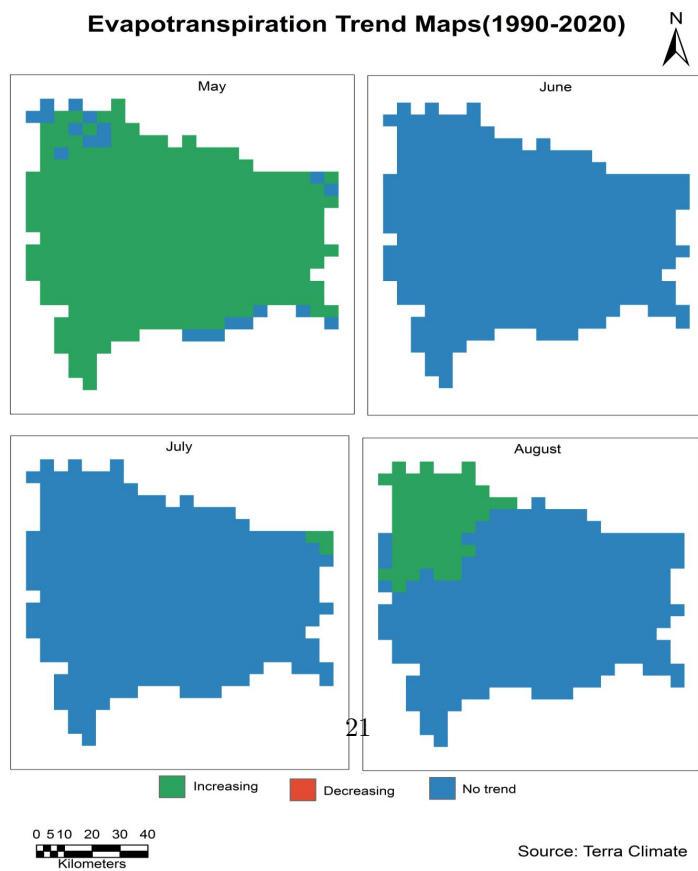
**Evapotranspiration Trend Maps(1990-2020)**

N

January

February

March

April

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

0 5 10  20  30  40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 21**  Evapotranspiration Trend

**Evapotranspiration Trend Maps(1990-2020)**

N

May

June

July

August

21

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

0 5 10  20  30  40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 22**  Month Wise plot of Evapotranspiration

**Evapotranspiration Trend Maps(1990-2020)**

September

October

November

December

Increasing   Decreasing   No trend

0 5 10  20  30  40
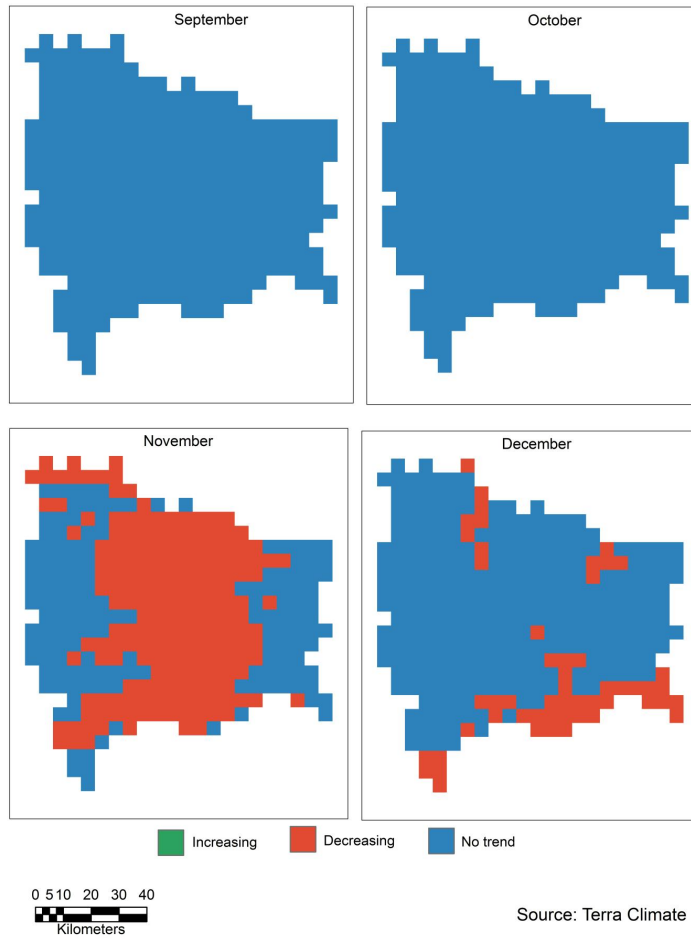Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 23** Month Wise Box plot of Evapotranspiration

| Month | Number of Pixels with Increasing Trend | Number of Pixels with Decreasing Trend | Number of Pixels Showing No Trend |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | 27 | 0 | 310 |
| February | 5 | 0 | 332 |
| March | 5 | 0 | 332 |
| April | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| May | 317 | 0 | 20 |
| June | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| July | 3 | 0 | 334 |
| August | 61 | 0 | 276 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| October | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| November | 0 | 189 | 148 |
| December | 0 | 53 | 284 |

**Table 3** Table showing trends of Evapotranspiration
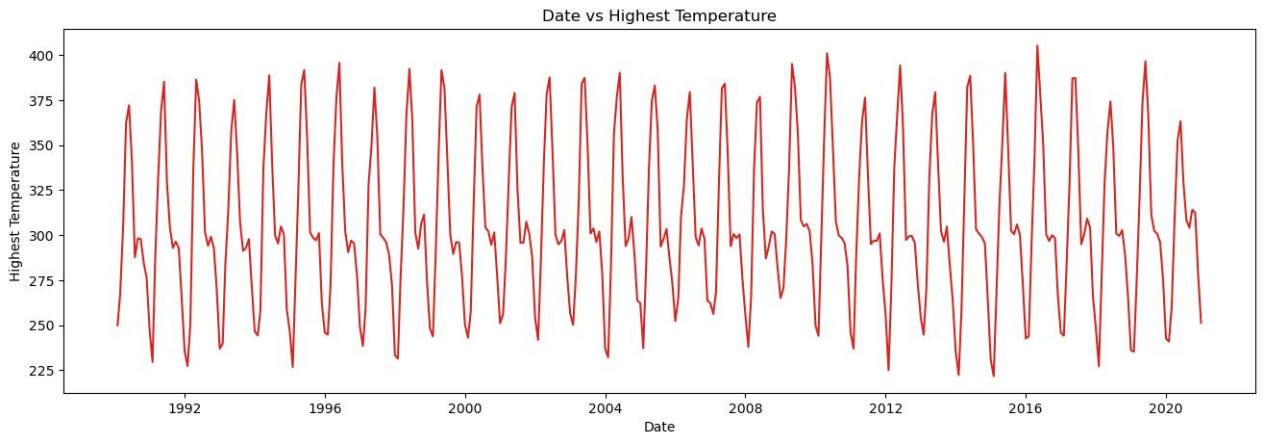
## 7.4 Highest Temperature



**Fig. 24** Highest Temperature Trend
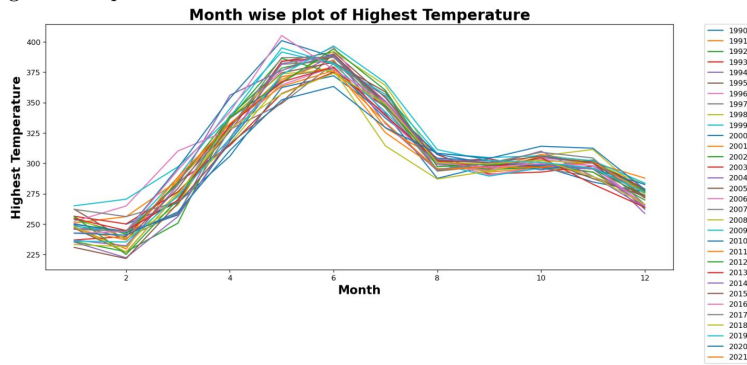


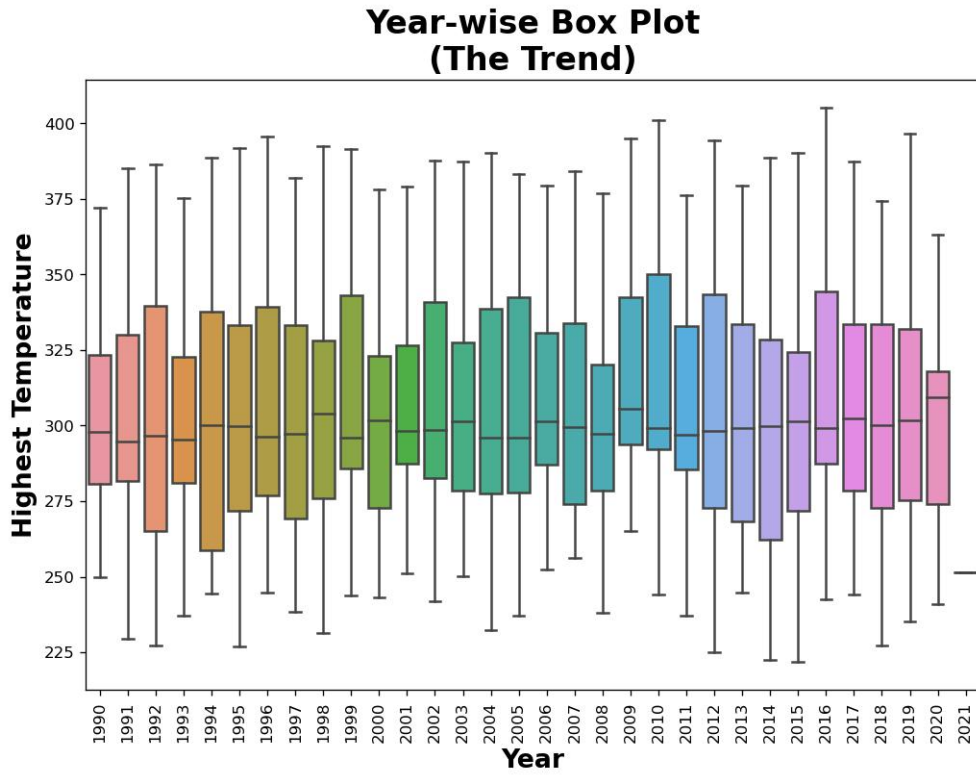**Fig. 25** Month Wise plot of Highest Temperature

23

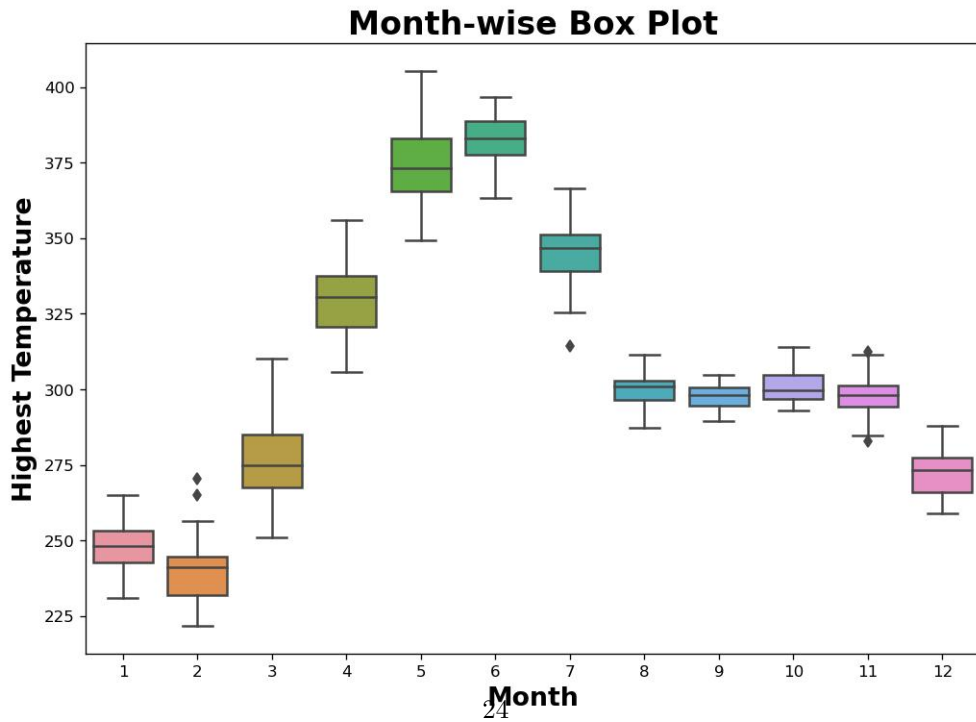**Fig. 26** Month Wise Box plot of Highest Temperature

**Fig. 27** Year Wise Box Plot of Highest Temperature

The highest temperature shows a seasonal variation. There is a uniform increase in the highest temperature from February to June after which the trend starts to fall and halts in the month of August and there is a low level fall of the highest temperature. From the Year-wise box-plot we can come to know there is a lowly varying median value nearing about 30 degree Celcius. Table 4 shows the Pixel coverage of Trends for different months. The months of January, March, April, July, August, September, November and December shows no sign in the change of trend in the highest temperature for the 31 years in the study area. The month of October shows an increasing trend for 56 pixels. February and June show the decreasing trend.
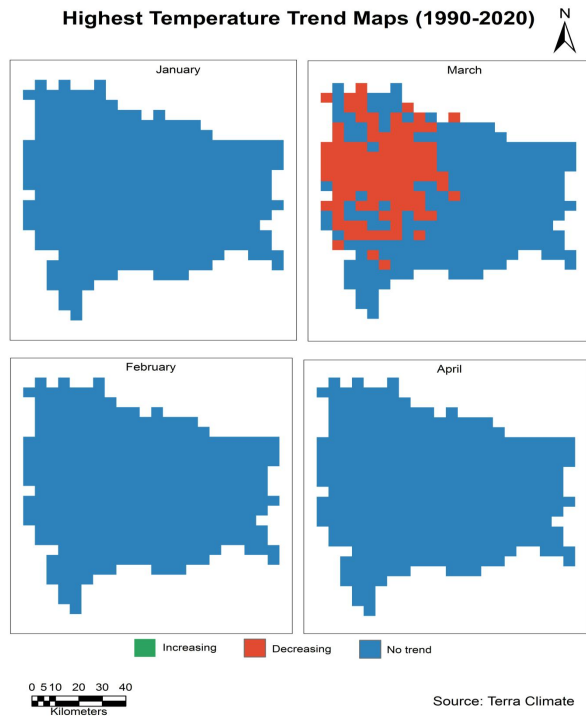
**Highest Temperature Trend Maps (1990-2020)**

N

January

March

February

April

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 28** Highest Temperature Trend

**Highest Temperature Trend Maps (1990-2020)**

N

May

July

June

August

26

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

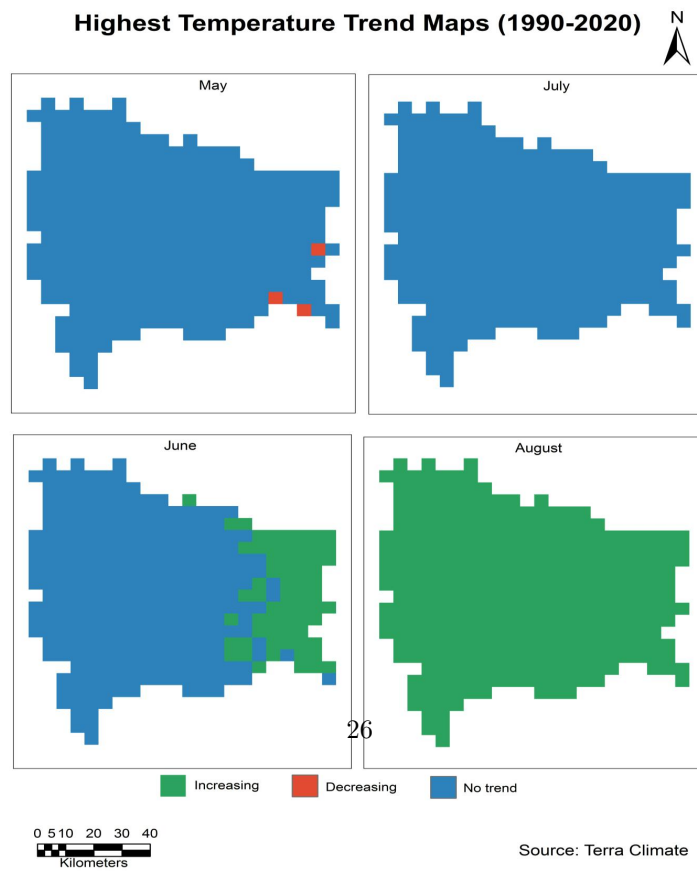0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

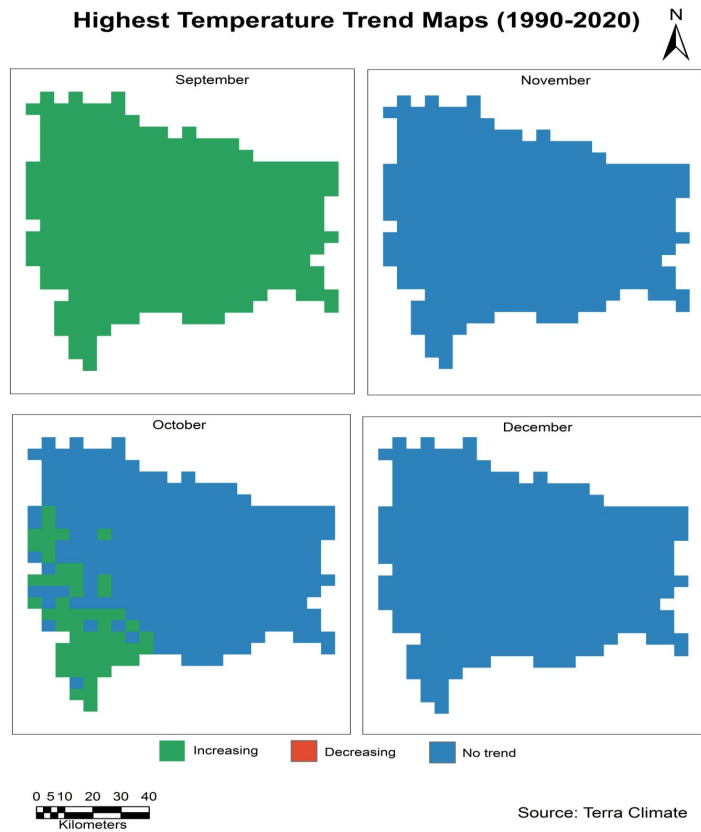**Fig. 29** Month Wise plot of Highest Temperature

**Fig. 30** Month Wise Box plot of Highest Temperature

| Month | Number of Pixels with Increasing Trend | Number of Pixels with Decreasing Trend | Number of Pixels Showing No Trend |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| February | 0 | 104 | 238 |
| March | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| April | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| May | 0 | 3 | 334 |
| June | 0 | 64 | 273 |
| July | 0 | 0 | 334 |
| August | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| October | 56 | 0 | 281 |
| November | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| December | 0 | 0 | 337 |

**Table 4** Table showing trends of Highest Temperature
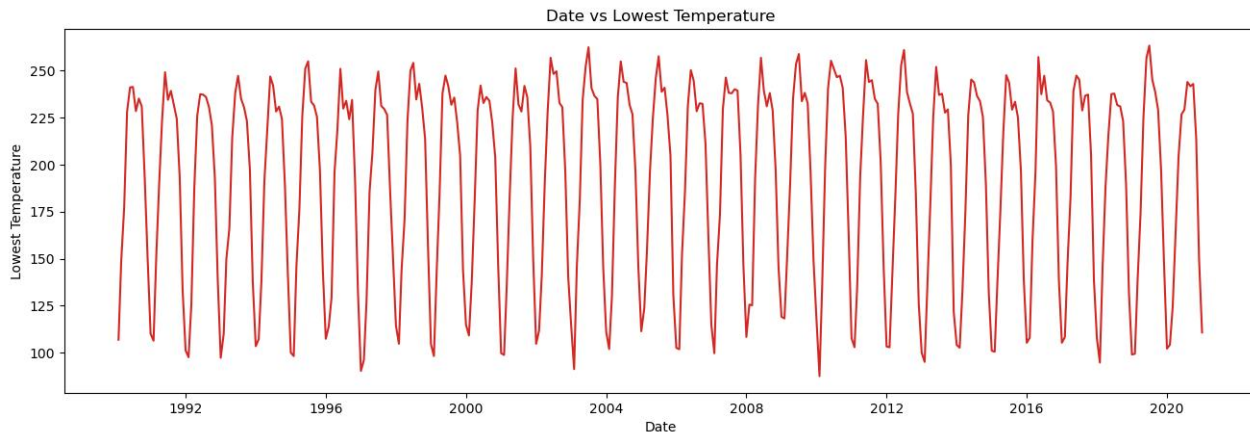
## 7.5 Minimum Temperature



**Fig. 31** Highest Temperature Trend
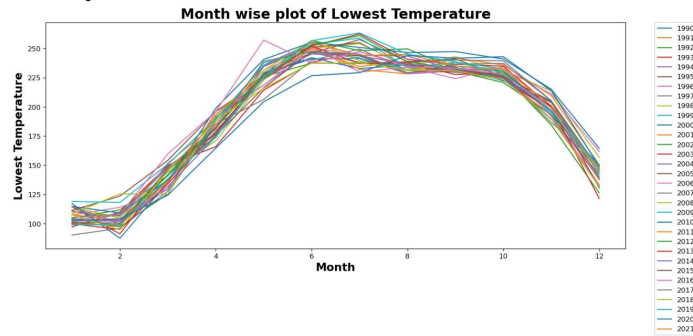


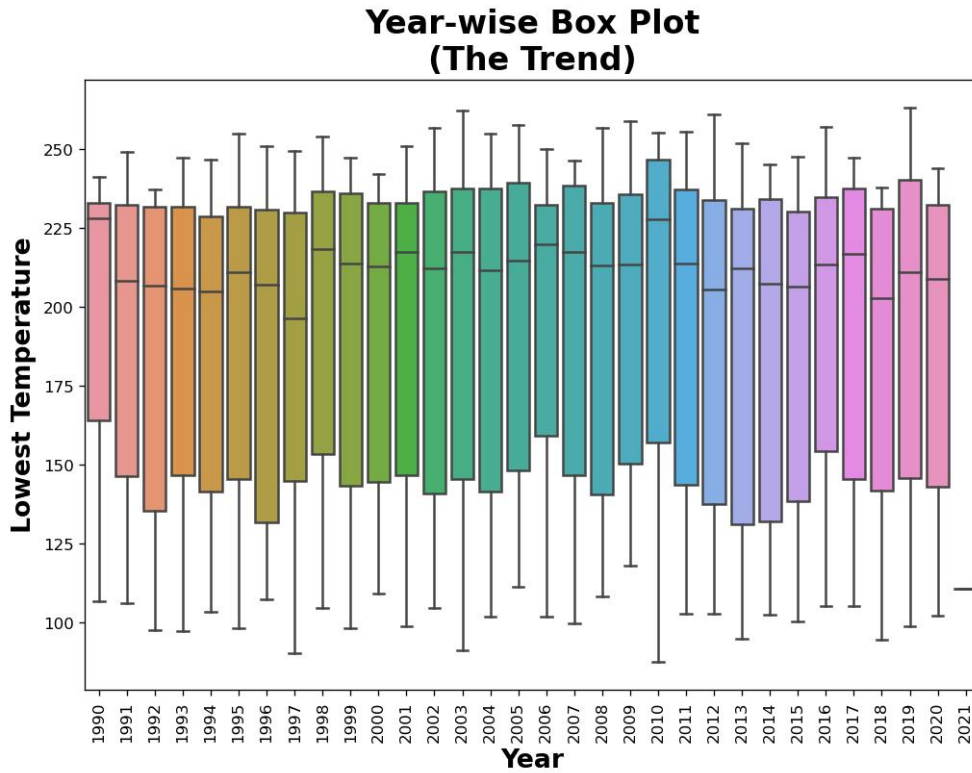**Fig. 32** Month Wise plot of Highest Temperature

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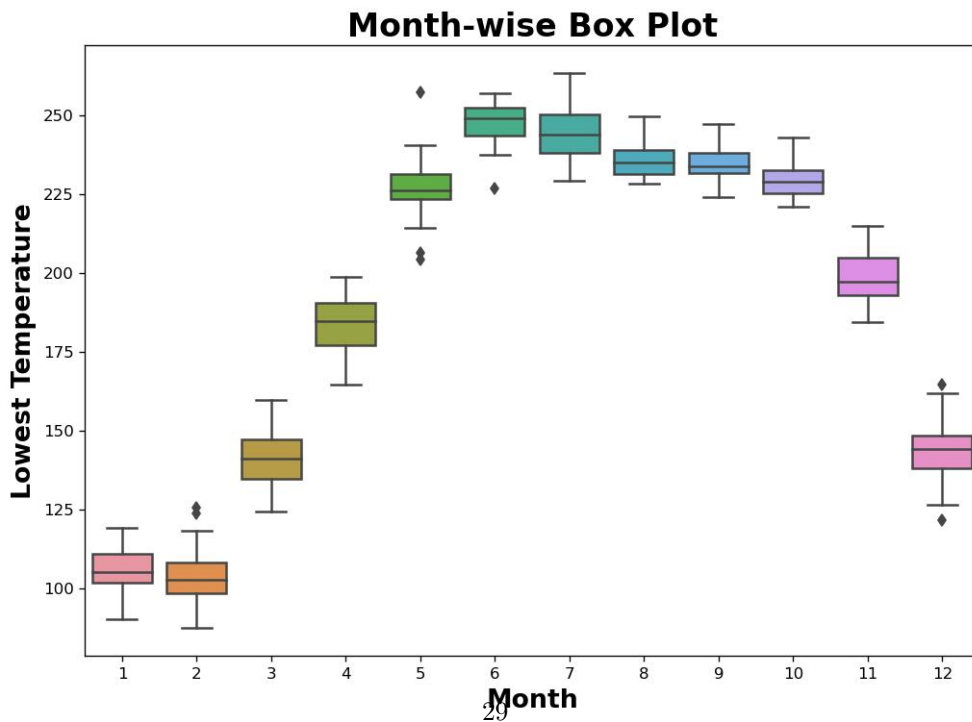**Fig. 33** Month Wise Box plot of Highest Temperature



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**Fig. 34** Year Wise Box Plot of Highest Temperature

There is a uniform increase in the lowest temperature from February to June after which the trend starts to fall and halts in the month of August and there is a low level fall of the lowest temperature. From the Year-wise boxplot we can come to know there is a lowly varying median value nearing about 30 degree Celcius. Table 5 shows the Pixel coverage of Trends for different months. The months of January, March, April, July, August, September, November and December shows no sign in the change of trend in the highest temperature for the 31 years in the study area. The month of October shows an increasing trend for 56 pixels. February and June show the decreasing trend. The months of January, February, March, April, May and September shows no change in the trend of Lowest Temperature. June, August and December shows a increasing trend where August and December shows a 95% and 98% of the pixels to follow the increasing trend. October and November shows decreasing trend for the study area.

**Lowest Temperature Trend Maps (1990-2020)**

N

| January | March |
| February | April |

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate

**Fig. 35** Highest Temperature Trend

**Lowest Temperature Trend Maps (1990-2020)**

N

| May | July |
| June | August |

31

Increasing    Decreasing    No trend

0 5 10 20 30 40
Kilometers

Source: Terra Climate
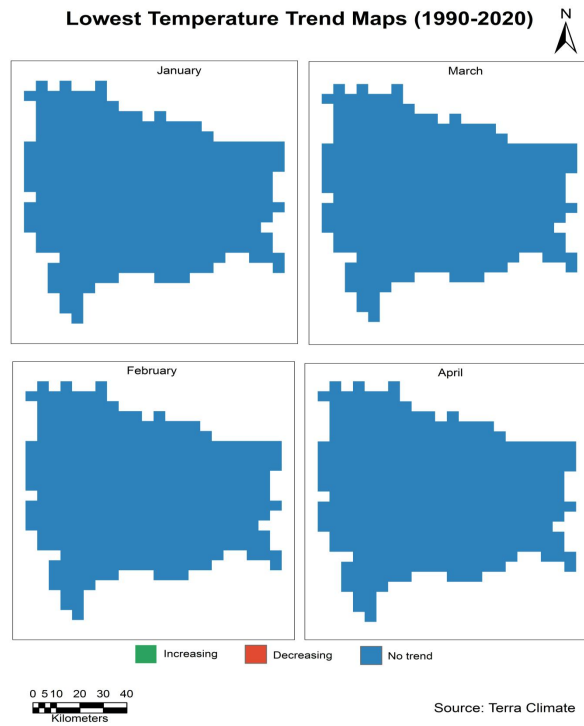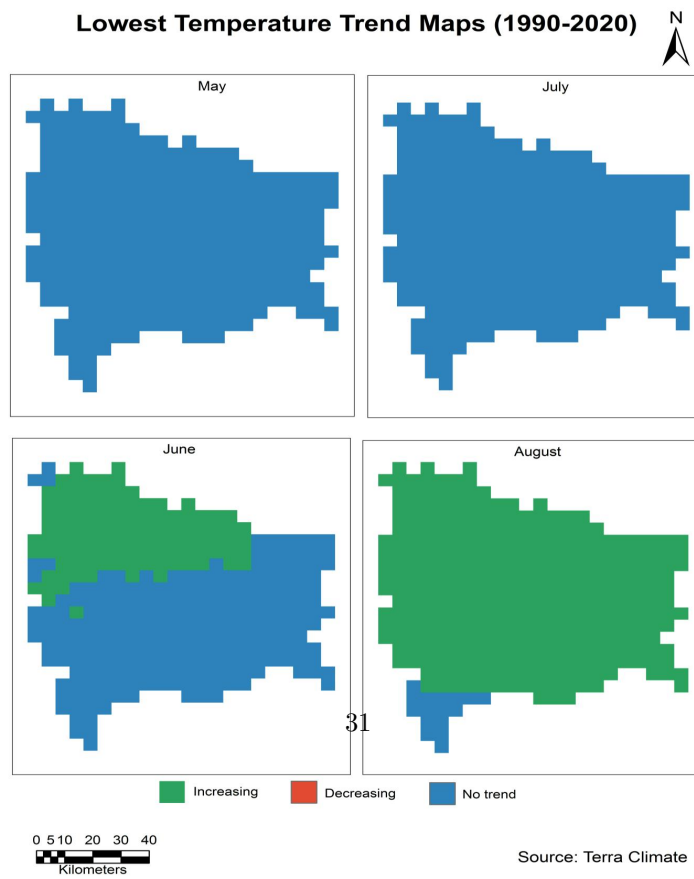
**Fig. 36** Month Wise plot of Highest Temperature

**Fig. 37** Month Wise Box plot of Highest Temperature

# 8 Conclusion

An important aspect of study for trend in Soil Moisture, Precipitation, Evapotranspiration, Highest and Lowest Temperature has been carried out for the district of Ranchi and Khunti of Jharkhand, India.

- It is observed that there is a decrease in the trend of monthly soil moisture in the 31 years for a large extent.
- In case of precipitation in January to April no trend was observed rest there was increasing in the monthly 31 year for a big extent.
- In evapotranspiration there is a increase from the month of Late May to June and follows the trend of precipitation.
- For the highest temperature we find a constant increase of trend in the month of August and September for the last 31 years.

| Month | Number of Pixels with Increasing Trend | Number of Pixels with Decreasing Trend | Number of Pixels Showing No |
|---|---|---|---|
| January | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| February | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| March | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| April | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| May | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| June | 109 | 0 | 228 |
| July | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| August | 321 | 0 | 16 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 337 |
| October | 0 | 175 | 162 |
| November | 0 | 305 | 32 |
| December | 332 | 0 | 5 |

**Table 5** Table showing trends of Minimum Temperature

- In lowest temperature we also find similar trend as the highest temperature showing a hike in temperature which can be well suited accordance to climate change.

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