



1	Intercomparison between the Integrated Urban land Model and the			
2	Noah Urban Canopy Model			
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### 24 Abstract

Urban land surface model (ULSM) is an important tool to study the climatic effect 25 26 of human activity. Now there are two main methods to parameterize the effects of human activity, the coupling method and the integrating method. For the coupled 27 method, the urban canopy model (UCM) was developed and coupled with the land 28 29 surface model for the natural land surfaces. For the integrated method, the urban 30 land surface model was built directly based on the traditional land surface model. In 31 this paper, the Noah Single Layer Urban Canopy Model (Noah/SLUCM) and the 32 Integrated Urban land Model (IUM) were compared using the observed fluxes data at 33 the 325-meter meteorology tower in Beijing. Through the comparison, the key factors and physical processes of the urban land surface model which have significant 34 35 impact on the performance of ULSM were found out. The results indicate that the 36 absorbed solar radiation of urban surface was reduced by the solar radiation 37 scattering, the absorption of building roof and wall, and the shading effect of urban 38 canopy and tall buildings. Urban surface roughness length and friction velocity are 39 important in urban sensible heat flux simulation. Urban water balance and 40 impervious surface evaporation (ISE) are important in urban latent heat flux simulation. 41

Key words: integrated urban land model; urban canopy model; reduction coefficient
of solar absorption; impervious surface evaporation; urban water balance

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## 47 1. Introduction

48 China now is experiencing an unprecedented urbanization movement. The 49 regional climate could be changed by urbanization through the greenhouse gases emission, land use and land cover change (LUCC), and anthropogenic heat release 50 51 (AHR) (Committee on Urban Meteorology 2012). The impact of land use and land 52 cover change (LUCC) on climate change has the same order of magnitude as the impact of greenhouse gases emissions (Kalnay and Cai 2003; Sun et al. 2016). Urban 53 land surface model is an important tool to study the climatic effect of urbanization. 54 55 Now there are two main methods to parameterize the effects of human activity. One is the coupled method and the other is the bulk or integrated method. For the 56 coupled method, the urban canopy model (UCM) (e.g. Kusaka et al. 2001; Kusaka and 57 58 Kimura 2004) was developed and coupled with the land surface model for the natural land surfaces. For the integrated method (e.g. Meng 2015), the urban land surface 59 60 model was built directly based on the traditional land surface model.

61 Model intercomparison is an effective method to evaluate different land surface 62 models. Through the comparison, the key factors of the urban land surface model 63 were found out. In the 1990s, the Project for Intercomparison of Land Surface Parameterization Schemes (PILPS) (Henderson-Sellers and 64 Brown 1992; 65 Henderson-Sellers et al. 1993, 1995) was launched to compare land surface models. Along the development of the urban land surface parameterization schemes, urban 66 67 land surface model comparison project (Grimmond et al. 2010, 2011; Best and 68 Grimmond 2015) was launched. The results indicate that the urban database (Ching 69 et al. 2009; Demuzere et al. 2017; Hammerberg et al. 2018; He et al. 2015; Loridan 70 and Grimmond 2012) is very important to urban land surface models. Compared with





the parameterization of the urban energy balance processes, recently developed urban land surface models could not parameterize the urban water balance (Grimmond et al. 1986; Mitchell et al. 2001; Wang et al. 2013; Miao and Chen 2014; Yang et al. 2015) processes accurately. Albedo and fractional vegetation cover are important parameters in urban land surface model, while the AHR is only important in certain cities.

77 However, these intercomparison studies only concern the impact of the bulk 78 model and UCM with different complexity on surface radiation and energy balances. 79 In this paper, different from the models used for intercomparison in Best and Grimmond (2015), the Integrated Urban land Model (IUM) (Meng 2015) was 80 introduced for intercomparision. In IUM, for urban underlying surfaces, a water 81 82 balance model was developed using the impervious water depth as the prognostic 83 variable. The Noah Single Layer Urban Canopy Model (Noah/SLUCM) (Chen et al. 84 2011) and the IUM (Meng 2015) were intercompared using the observed fluxes data 85 at 325-meter Beijing meteorology tower in Beijing. In addition to the comparison of 86 the fluxes in the radiation and energy balance equations, the ISE in waterlogging 87 circumstance was also compared to study the mechanism of urban water balance processes. Through the comparison, the key factors and physical processes in the 88 89 urban land surface model were found out.

90

## 91 2. Model and Data

### 92 2.1 Model

93 Three main control equations exist in the land surface model; they are radiation
94 balance model, energy balance model and water balance model. We compared all





- 95 the simulated fluxes in the radiation and energy balance equations with the96 observation. The radiation balance model could be described as follows:
- 97  $R_n = S \downarrow + L \downarrow -S \uparrow -L \uparrow \tag{1}$

98 Where  $R_n$  is the net radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>);  $S \downarrow$  is the downward solar radiation;

99  $L\downarrow$  is the downward longwave radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>);  $S\uparrow$  is the upward solar

100 radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>); 
$$L \uparrow$$
 is the upward longwave radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>)

101 The energy balance model could be described as follows:

$$R_n = H + LE + G + A \tag{2}$$

103 Where *H* is the sensible heat flux (W m<sup>-2</sup>); *L* is the latent heat of evaporation 104 for water (W m<sup>-2</sup>); *E* is the evapotranspiration (W m<sup>-2</sup>); *LE* is the latent heat flux 105 (W m<sup>-2</sup>); *G* is the ground heat flux (W m<sup>-2</sup>); *A* is the AHR (W m<sup>-2</sup>), which used the 106 same diurnal cycle data for the two models.

As this paper focuses on the fluxes in urban areas, only the parameterization schemes of the fluxes in urban areas is given blow. The detailed parameterization scheme of the models could be seen in relevant papers (Chen and Dudhia, 2001; Meng, 2015).

111 2.1.1 Noah/SLUCM

The Noah Land Surface Model (Noah LSM) (Chen et al. 1996; Chen and Dudhia 2001; Ek et al. 2003) has been implemented in the fifth-generation Pennsylvania State University–NCAR Mesoscale Model (MM5) and the weather research and forecasting (WRF) model. It was developed by National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP), the U.S. Air Force Weather Agency (AFWA), and the university community. The single-layer urban





118	canopy model (SLUCM) was developed by Kusaka et al. (2001) and Kusaka and
119	Kimura (2004). It assumes infinitely-long street canyons parameterized to represent
120	urban geometry, but recognizes the three-dimensional nature of urban surfaces. The
121	SLUCM has been coupled with the Noah LSM in the community mesoscale WRF
122	Model, version 2.2 (Chen et al. 2011). The fluxes in Noah/SLUCM are divided into
123	three parts; they are fluxes in roof, wall and road respectively.

124 The upward shortwave radiation is parameterized as follows:

125 
$$S \uparrow = S \downarrow - [RS_R + 2H_{GT}S_B + (1-R)S_G]$$
(3)

126 Where  $S \uparrow$  is the upward shortwave radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>);  $S \downarrow$  is the downward 127 shortwave radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>); R is the normalized roof width;  $H_{GT}$  is the 128 normalized building height;  $S_R$ ,  $S_B$  and  $S_G$  are the absorbed solar radiation by 129 roof, wall and road respectively (W m<sup>-2</sup>).

130 The upward longwave radiation is parameterized as follows:

131 
$$L \uparrow = L \downarrow - [RR_R + 2H_{GT}R_B + (1-R)R_G]$$
(4)

132 Where  $L\uparrow$  is the upward longwave radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>);  $L\downarrow$  is the downward 133 longwave radiation (W m<sup>-2</sup>);  $R_R$ ,  $R_B$  and  $R_G$  are the absorbed longwave radiation 134 by roof, wall and road respectively (W m<sup>-2</sup>).

135 The sensible heat flux is parameterized as follows:

136 
$$H = RH_R + 2H_{GT}H_B + (1 - R)H_G$$
 (5)

137 Where *H* is the sensible heat flux (W m<sup>-2</sup>);  $H_R$ ,  $H_B$  and  $H_G$  are the sensible

138 heat flux from roof, wall and road respectively (W m<sup>-2</sup>).

139 The ISE is parameterized as follows:

140 
$$E_{imp} = RE_R + 2H_{GT}E_B + (1-R)E_G$$
 (6)





- 141 Where  $E_{imp}$  is the ISE (mm s<sup>-1</sup>);  $E_R$ ,  $E_B$  and  $E_G$  are the evaporation from roof,
- 142 wall and road respectively (mm s<sup>-1</sup>), they are calculated as follows:

$$E_{R} = Ch_{r}u_{a}\beta_{r}(q_{sr} - q_{a})$$
<sup>(7)</sup>

144 
$$E_B = Ch_b u_c \beta_b (q_{sb} - q_c)$$
(8)

145 
$$E_G = Ch_g u_c \beta_g (q_{sg} - q_c)$$
(9)

146 Where  $Ch_r$ ,  $Ch_b$  and  $Ch_g$  are the heat transfer coefficient from roof, wall and 147 road respectively (mm m<sup>-1</sup>);  $u_a$  and  $u_c$  are wind speed in the reference height and 148 canopy respectively (m s<sup>-1</sup>);  $\beta_r$ ,  $\beta_b$  and  $\beta_g$  are the evaporation coefficients that 149 are regulated by the availability of moisture for roof, wall and road respectively; they 150 could be calculated as follows (Miao and Chen, 2014):

151 
$$\beta_{g} = \begin{cases} 1.0, & Rain \ge 10mm, \\ 0.5, & 0 < Rain < 10mm, \\ \beta_{g,0}e^{(-dt/5)}, & No rain, \end{cases}$$
(10)

- 152  $\beta_r = \beta_b = \beta_g$
- 153 Where *Rain* is the daily precipitation;  $\beta_{g,0}$  is  $\beta_g$  at the previous step; dt is 154 the time step (h).

155  $q_{sr}$ ,  $q_{sb}$  and  $q_{sg}$  are the saturated specific humidity for roof, wall and road 156 respectively (kg kg<sup>-1</sup>);  $q_a$  and  $q_c$  are the specific humidity for reference height and 157 canopy respectively (kg kg<sup>-1</sup>).

158 The ground heat flux is parameterized as follows:

159 
$$G = RG_R + 2H_{GT}G_W + (1 - R)G_G$$
 (11)

160 Where *G* is the surface heat flux (W m<sup>-2</sup>);  $G_R$ ,  $G_B$  and  $G_G$  are the surface 161 heat flux from roof, wall and road respectively (W m<sup>-2</sup>).





162 2.1.2 IUM

163	The Integrated Urban land Model (IUM) (Meng 2015) was developed based on the
164	Common Land Model (CoLM) (Dai et al. 2003). IUM integrates the land surface
165	models for urban and natural land surfaces. For urban land surfaces, the energy
166	balance model was improved and the water balance model for impervious surfaces
167	was developed.
168	The upward shortwave radiation is parameterized as follows (Dai et al. 2003):
169	$S\uparrow = S \downarrow \cdot \alpha \tag{12}$
170	Where $\alpha$ is the albedo, which is defined as follows (Dai et al., 2003):
171	$\alpha = \left(\alpha_{vis,dif} + \alpha_{nir,dif}\right)/2 \tag{13}$
172	Where $lpha_{{ m vis},{ m dif}}$ and $lpha_{{ m nir},{ m dif}}$ are the albedo for visible and near infrared diffuse
173	solar radiation respectively, which are set as the same as the albedo of the saturated
174	soil with darkest color in CoLM, they are 0.05 and 0.1 respectively.
175	The upward longwave radiation is parameterized as follows:
176	$L\uparrow = (1-L\downarrow)\varepsilon + (1-F_{\rm cov})\varepsilon\sigma T_g^4 + F_{\rm cov}\varepsilon\sigma T_l^4 $ (14)
177	Where $arepsilon$ is the emissivity; $\sigma$ is the Stefan-Boltzmann constant (W m <sup>-2</sup> K <sup>-4</sup> )
178	$F_{\rm cov}$ is the fractional vegetation cover; $T_{\!g}$ is the ground surface temperature (K)
179	$T_l$ is the leaf temperature (K).
180	The sensible heat flux is parameterized as follows:
181	$H = \rho_a c_p \frac{\theta_g - \theta_a}{r_{ah}} = \rho_a c_p \frac{T_g - \theta_a}{r_{ah}} $ (15)

182 Where  $\rho_a$  is the air density (Kg m<sup>-3</sup>);  $c_p$  is the specific heat of dry air (J Kg<sup>-1</sup> 183 K<sup>-1</sup>);  $\theta_g$  is the surface potential temperature (K);  $\theta_a$  is the air potential





temperature at reference height (K);  $r_{ah}$  is the aerodynamic resistance for sensible heat flux between the atmosphere at reference height and the surface (m s<sup>-1</sup>), which could be calculated as follow:

$$r_{ah} = vu_* / f_h \tag{16}$$

188 Where v is the von Karman constant;  $u_*$  is the friction velocity (m s<sup>-1</sup>);  $f_h$  is 189 the integral of profile function for heat, which is associated with the thermodynamic 190 roughness.

191 The ISE in the IUM it is parameterized as follows:

192 
$$E_{imp} = \begin{cases} E_p & (W_{i-1} > 0 \text{ and } W_i > 0) \\ \min(E_p, \max(0, (P_{rcp} - D_{rain}))) & (W_{i-1} > 0 \text{ and } W_i = 0) \end{cases}$$
(17)

Where  $E_p$  is the potential evaporation (m s<sup>-1</sup>),  $W_{i-1}$  is the road water depth (mm) in the previous time step, and  $W_i$  is the road water depth (mm) in the current time step. The road water depth is controlled by the road water balance equation which will be discussed in the next part of the paper.  $E_p$  can be parameterized as follows:

198 
$$E_{p} = \frac{1000}{\rho_{w}} \rho_{a} \frac{q_{sat} - q_{m}}{r_{d}}$$
(18)

Where  $\rho_a$  is the air density (kg m<sup>-3</sup>);  $\rho_w$  is the water density (kg m<sup>-3</sup>), which is approximately equal to 1000;  $r_d$  is the aerodynamic resistance for evaporation (s m<sup>-1</sup>);  $q_m$  is the specific humidity of the air (kg kg<sup>-1</sup>); and  $q_{sat}$  is the saturated specific humidity of the water surface (kg kg<sup>-1</sup>). If the water depth is not zero, road surfaces are treated as shallow lakes, and the lake model (Henderson-Sellers 1986; Hostetler and Bartlein 1990; Hostetler et al. 1993) in the CoLM is simplified to





205 compute the road water temperature. The simplified shallow lake model can be206 described as follows:

207 
$$\frac{\partial T_w}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial W} \left[ \left( \frac{k_w}{c_w} + k_e \right) \frac{\partial T_w}{\partial W} \right] + \frac{1}{c_w} \frac{d\phi}{dW}$$
(19)

208 Where  $T_w$  is the road water temperature (K),  $k_w$  is the thermal conductivity of 209 water (W m<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>),  $k_e$  is the eddy diffusion coefficient (m<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>),  $c_w$  is the heat 210 capacity of water (J m<sup>-3</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>), and  $\phi$  is the solar radiation heat source term (W m<sup>-2</sup>). 211 The ground heat flux is considered as the remainder of the energy balance 212 equation.

#### 213 2.2 Data

214 The Chinese Academy of Sciences 325-m-high Meteorology and Environmental 215 Observation Tower data was used to force the models and for comparison. The 216 tower is located in downtown Beijing, the altitude of the foot of the tower is 49m, 217 the longitude and latitude are 116.3708E and 39.9744N respectively. The turbulent heat fluxes including the sensible heat flux and latent heat flux are measured using 218 the eddy covariance (EC) technique at the 47-meter height. The radiation fluxes 219 including the upward and downward shortwave and longwave radiation are 220 221 measured using the radiometer at the 47-meter height. The net radiation was 222 calculated using equation 1. The ground heat flux was calculated using equation 2; 223 the AHR was not considered. The Gaofen-2 2m resolution LULC data (Figure 1) was used to calculate the area percentage of each LULC categories. Within a 1000m 224 radius of the tower, the surface is 78.3% impervious (buildings, roads, etc) and 21.7% 225 pervious (trees and grass). The simulation time period is from 1st March to 31st 226 October 2015. The temporal resolution of the two models is 30min. 227





## 228 **2.3 Model Parameterization and Initialization**

- 229 Table 1 listed the sources of the initial values of the time-variant variables, forcing
- 230 variables, and the values of the time-invariant variables for the two models. In order
- 231 to ensure the objectivity of the intercomparison, identical values were set up for the
- 232 variables used both in Noah/SLUCM and IUM. For the variables only used in
- 233 Noah/SLUCM, the values were parameterized using the default look-up table. All
- 234 other variables referred by the paper in section 2.1 are intermediate variables, which
- 235 were calculated by the models themselves. The initial values of soil moisture, surface

236 temperature and soil temperature are from the observation of the tower. The LULC

- 237 categories are from Gaofen-2 data which referred in the last section. The diurnal
- 238 cycle of the anthropogenic heat is the same for the two models which is used from
- 239 Miao et al. (2011). The meteorological forcing data is from the observation of the

240 tower. The leaf area index (LAI) and fractional vegetation cover (FVC) are considered

- 241 as the forcing variables which calculated using an empirical equation (Dai et al. 2003;
- 242 Wang et al. 2007) as follows:

243 
$$LAI = LAI_{\max}(LULC) + (LAI_{\min}(LULC) - LAI_{\max}(LULC))(1 - f)$$
(20)

244

$$FVC = 1 - \exp(-K \cdot LAI)$$
<sup>(21)</sup>

245 Where *LAI* is the LAI;  $LAI_{max}$  is the maximum LAI;  $LAI_{min}$  is the minimum LAI; 246 *LULC* is the LULC; *f* is the coefficient to calculate LAI, which is associated with 247 the soil temperature in a certain soil depth, above this depth, 90 percent root 248 fraction was included; *FVC* is the FVC; *K* is the direct solar extinction coefficient, 249 which is associated with the leaf angle distribution factor which is designated

according to the LULC.





251

### 252 **3. Results and Discussion**

#### 253 **3.1 Radiation Balance**

The upward shortwave radiation is determined by the albedo. The albedo is zero at night. From the daily mean (Figure 2a) and diurnal cycle (Figure 2b) of upward shortwave radiation, it is concluded that the simulation result of IUM is very good compared with the observation especially from 9:00 to 16:00. The Albedo in Noah/SLUCM is too large compared with the observation. Albedo is very important in radiation balance, the remote sensing retrieved albedo (Xu and Shu 2014) should be assimilated into land surface model in the future.

The upward longwave radiation (Figure 3) is associated with the emissivity and the 261 262 surface radiative temperature. The simulated upward longwave radiation is higher 263 than the observation in the daylight. Compared with that of the Noah/SLUCM, the 264 upward longwave radiation simulated by IUM has a greater deviation from 8:00 to 265 17:00, as the ground surface temperature simulated by IUM is too high during this 266 time period. In IUM, the solar radiation absorption of the ground surface is overestimated as the shading effect of urban canopy and buildings and the multiple 267 scattering of the solar radiation are not considered (Wang et al. 2016). In order to 268 improve the simulation performance of IUM, the reduction coefficient of solar 269 radiation absorption which is associated with the urban canyon direction, building 270 271 height, road width ratio, sky view factor, and fractional vegetation cover etc. should 272 be considered. For Noah/SLUCM, the simulated upward longwave radiation is a little 273 higher than the observation at night; while for IUM, it is a litter lower than the





- 274 observation. Due to the complicated parameterization of the UCM, the Noah/SLUM
- 275 is superior to IUM in upward longwave radiation modeling.
- 276 Figure 4 shows the simulated net radiation compared with the observation. The 277 net radiation is also an important component in surface energy balance (Offerle et al. 278 2003). The observed net radiation is calculated by equation 1; it is associated with 279 the upward shortwave and longwave radiation. The net radiation is underestimated 280 by both the two models from 8:00 to 20:00. Compared with that of the Noah/SLUCM, 281 the IUM can simulate the net radiation better both in the daylight and at night. The 282 net radiation is considered as the remainder of the surface radiation balance equation; the simulation results are depended on both the upward shortwave and 283 284 longwave radiation.

### 285 3.2 Energy Balance

286 The sensible heat flux is associated with the ground surface temperature and the 287 heat transfer resistance. The heat transfer resistance is associated with the thermodynamic roughness and the friction velocity (See eq. 15). For urban land 288 289 surface, the thermodynamic roughness and friction velocity are relatively larger than 290 those in the natural surface. The parameterization of friction velocity should be 291 studied in the future in order to improve the simulation of sensible heat flux. The 292 simulated sensible heat flux for Noah/SLUCM and IUM are apparently larger than those of the observation in the daylight. Compared with that of the Noah/SLUCM, 293 294 the sensible heat flux simulated by IUM has a greater deviation, as the ground 295 surface temperature simulated by IUM is too high in the daylight especially from 9:00 to 17:00 (Figure 5). At night, the simulation of IUM is compared well with the 296 observation. Due to the complicated parameterization of the UCM, the Noah/SLUM 297





298 is superior to IUM in sensible heat flux modeling too.

The ISE parameterization schemes for Noah/SLUCM and IUM are different (See eq. 299 300 10 and 17). For Noah/SLUCM, it is associated with the precipitation; while for IUM, it is associated with the surface water depth, precipitation and drainage. From figure 6, 301 302 it is concluded that the simulated ISE by IUM is apparently larger than that simulated 303 by Noah/SLUCM both in the daylight and at night; but it is still lower that of the 304 observation. One of the reasons is the accuracy of the impervious surface 305 percentage is questionable; the other reason is the drainage is hard to parameterize. 306 The characteristic scale of the observed fluxes is crucial important for urban heterogeneous underlying surfaces. Except for these limitations, urban water 307 balance model is still important in the parameterization of ISE; this would be 308 309 discussed at length in the next section.

310 Figure 7 is the simulated ground heat fluxes compared with the observation. The 311 ground heat temperature is associated with the ground temperature and the soil temperature in the second layer; it is considered as the remainder term of the 312 313 surface energy balance equation for observation. Noah/SLUCM has four soil layers; 314 while IUM has 10 layers. The ground heat flux is underestimated by all the two models in the daylight from 8:00 to 18:00. Compared with that of the Noah/SLUCM, 315 316 the simulated by IUM has a greater deviation during this time period. As the Noah/SLUCM is superior to IUM in the simulation of urban surface temperature, the 317 ground heat flux simulation of Noah/SLUCM is also better than that of IUM 318 319 compared with the observation. IUM should be coupled with SLUCM to improve the 320 simulation performance in upward longwave radiation, sensible and ground heat flux. 321





### 322 3.3 Urban Water Balance

The ISE is an important parameter in urban water balance (Yang et al. 2015). The water depth in impervious surface is an important parameter in urban waterlogging study which is not included in the Noah/SLUCM. In IUM, the water depth in impervious surface is considered as the prognostic variable of urban balance equation. The urban water balance equation in IUM could be described as follows:

328 
$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial t} = P_{rcp} - I_{roof} - E_{imp} - D_{rain} - P_{er}I_{nf}$$
(22)

Where *W* is the water depth on impervious surface (mm);  $I_{roof}$  is the roof rainfall interception (mm s<sup>-1</sup>) (Nakayoshi et al, 2009);  $P_{er}$  is the percentage of the pervious surface; and  $I_{nf}$  is the infiltration rate (mm s<sup>-1</sup>).

332 An empirical equation is developed in Noah/SLUCM to parameterize the ISE, it is 333 only associated with the daily precipitation and the time step (Eq. 10). Figure 8 334 shows the observed precipitation and simulated water depth by IUM during the simulation period (Figure 8). The drying of the impervious surface should last a 335 period of time. As the result, the impervious surface evaporation is not just 336 337 associated with the daily precipitation. For IUM, the ISE is parameterized based on 338 the physical mechanisms which control the urban water balance and urban water 339 temperature (Eq. 17-19, 22).

Figure 9 is the observed and simulated diurnal cycle of the latent heat fluxes in waterlogging days. Apparently, the simulated ISE of Noah/SLUCM is smaller than that of the observation. ISE plays an important role in rainy days; the simulation of latent heat flux by IUM is increased compared with that of Noah/SLUCM and it is very close to the observation both in the daylight and at night. The urban water balance model





345 is indispensable in urban latent heat flux simulation and urban hydrology research.

#### 346 **3.4 Quantitative Comparison**

347 Figure 10 is the scatted plots of the simulated upward shortwave radiation, upward longwave radiation, net radiation, sensible heat flux, latent heat flux and 348 349 ground heat flux by the simulation of Noah/SLUCM and IUM compared with the 350 observation. Table 2 and figure 11 are the biases, mean errors (MEs), root mean 351 square errors (RMSEs) and correlation coefficients (Rs) of these fluxes simulated by 352 the two models compared with those of the observations. Compared with the 353 Noah/SLUCM, IUM simulated the upward shortwave radiation quite well. The bias, ME and RMSE are 0.32W/m<sup>2</sup>, 2.74 W/m<sup>2</sup> and 5.03 W/m<sup>2</sup> respectively. Both two 354 models overestimate the upward longwave radiation and the sensible heat flux; the 355 356 deviation of IUM is larger than that of Noah/SLUCM. Both models underestimate the 357 net radiation and the latent heat flux; the deviation of IUM is smaller than that of 358 Noah/SLUCM. Both models underestimate the ground heat flux, the deviation of IUM is larger than that of Noah/SLUCM. Through the quantitative comparison, it is 359 360 concluded that the Noah/SLUCM can simulate the urban surface temperature, 361 sensible heat flux and upward longwave radiation well; while the IUM could simulate the ISE more accurately. The simulation result of the upward shortwave radiation is 362 363 depended on the albedo.

364

## 365 **4. Conclusions**

366 In this paper, the Noah/SLUCM and IUM were intercompared using the observed 367 fluxes data at 325-meter meteorology tower in Beijing. Through the comparison, the 368 key factors and physical processes of the urban land surface model were found out.





The characteristic scale of the observed fluxes is crucial important for urban 369 heterogeneous underlying surface. The albedo is an important factor in surface 370 371 radiation partition. In order to improve the simulation accuracy, remote sensing retrieved albedo should be assimilated into land surface model. The solar radiation 372 absorption of urban surface is reduced by the multiple scattering, absorption of 373 374 building roof and wall, and shading effect of urban canopy and tall buildings. The 375 reduction coefficient of solar radiation absorption is associated with the urban 376 canyon direction, building height, road width ratio, sky view factor, and fractional 377 vegetation cover etc. Urban thermodynamic roughness and friction velocity are important in urban sensible heat flux simulation. Urban thermodynamic roughness is 378 associated with the height of urban canopy. Urban friction velocity is usually larger 379 380 than that in the rural area. The drying of the impervious surface should last a period of time. So, the impervious surface evaporation is not just associated with the daily 381 precipitation. ISE is important in rainy days. The urban water balance model is 382 383 indispensable in urban latent heat flux simulation and urban hydrology research.

In the near future, the characteristic scale of the observed fluxes should be studied by using the footprint method (Roth et. al, 2017). The World Urban Database and Access Portal Tools (WUDAPT) (Hammerberg et al. 2018) should be used in IUM to parameterize the reduction coefficient of solar radiation absorption. The MODIS retrieved albedo should be assimilated into IUM. The urban thermodynamic roughness and urban friction velocity should be reparameterized too.

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# 392 Code and Data Availability

- 393 The supplement of the paper includes the data for the 325m tower and the code
- 394 of the IUM and the Noah/SLUCM.
- 395

# **396** Author Contributions

- 397 C.M. conceived the study and wrote the initial draft of the paper. J.D. drew some the
- 398 pictures and dealt with the paper. All authors revised the paper.
- 399

## 400 Competing interests

- 401 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.
- 402

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# 535 Table 1 The sources of the initial values of the time-variant variables, forcing variables, and the

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values of the time-invariant variables for IUM and Noah/SLUCM.

	Variables	IUM	Noah/SLUCM
Time-variant	Soil Moisture	Observation	Observation
	Surface temperature	Observation	Observation
	Soil temperature	Observation	Observation
	LULC categories	Gaofen-2	Gaofen-2
Forcing	Anthropogenic heat	Diurnal cycle	Diurnal cycle
	Meteorological forcing	Observation	Observation
	Leaf area index	Empirical	Empirical
	Fractional vegetation cover	equation Empirical equation	equation Empirical equation
Time-invariant	Emissivity of ground	0.96	0.96
	Emissivity of wall	/	0.96
	Emissivity of roof	/	0.96
	Roof level	/	Look-up table
	Roof width	/	Look-up table
	Heat capacity of roof	/	Look-up table
	Heat capacity of wall	/	Look-up table
	Thermal conductivity of roof	/	Look-up table
	Thermal conductivity of wall	/	Look-up table
	Heat capacity of impervious ground surface Thermal conductivity of impervious	2.025×10 <sup>6</sup> J m <sup>-3</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> 2.9 Wm <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>	2.025×10 <sup>6</sup> J m <sup>-3</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> 2.9 Wm <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>
	Albedo of roof	/	Look-up table (0.20)
	Albedo of wall	/	Look-up table
	Albedo of ground	0.075	0.075
	Street direction	/	Look-up table
	Street width	/	Look-up table
	Building width	/	Look-up table
	Building height	/	Look-up table
	Number of roof layer	/	4





	Roof layer thickness	/	Look-up table
	Number of wall layer	/	4
	Wall layer thickness	/	Look-up table
	Number of road layer	4	4
	Road layer thickness (m)	0.0071, 0.028,	0.0071, 0.028,
	Roughness length of roof (m)	/	0.002, 0.115
	Roughness length of wall (m)	/	0.0001
	Roughness length of ground (m)	0.01	0.01
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557	Table 2 Biases, mean errors (MEs), root mean square errors (RMSEs) and correlation
558	coefficients (Rs) of the fluxes simulated by the two models compared with those of the

observations.					
Varia	ables and Models	Biases(W/m <sup>2</sup> )	MEs(W/m <sup>2</sup> )	RMSEs(W/m <sup>2</sup> )	Rs
s۲	Noah/SLUCM	11.98	12.73	22.86	0.988
	IUM	0.32	2.74	5.03	0.988
L个	Noah/SLUCM	26.18	26.59	36.58	0.954
	IUM	37.19	46.98	69.25	0.853
Rn	Noah/SLUCM	-52.33	52.41	67.93	0.997
	IUM	-31.62	42.57	62.62	0.988
н	Noah/SLUCM	39.20	44.65	62.13	0.824
	IUM	47.39	57.45	97.26	0.800
LE	Noah/SLUCM	-33.89	42.82	88.20	0.199
	IUM	-25.78	45.60	88.59	0.205
G	Noah/SLUCM	-30.71	64.03	105.89	0.856
	IUM	-80.99	111.37	169.85	0.552

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- Figure 1 The LULC with 1km radius around the tower from Gaofen-2 2m resolution satellite data
  1. Trees; 2. Other impervious surfaces; 3. Grass; 4. Parking lots; 5. Roads; 6. Water; 7. Buildings
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Noah/SLUCM and IUM compared with the observation.

































(a)





















Figure 9 Observed and simulated diurnal cycle of latent heat fluxes in waterlogging days.







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(a)



637 638

(b)







639 640





(d)

observed sensible heat flux (W/m<sup>2</sup>)

600

100

-100

0













650 651





652 653

(b)







654 655



(c)

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Figure 11 Biases (a), mean errors (b), root square mean errors (c) and correlation coefficients (d)

of the fluxes simulated by the two models compared with those of the observations.