

We thank the reviewers for their comments, these have improved the paper. Our detailed responses are given in blue below.

Page number and line numbers indicated in the responses are the new ones unless otherwise indicated

Referee #1

General comments

By evaluating the impact of haze on urban hydrological cycle and limitation of the current modelling multi-scale approach, the paper addresses a relevant scientific issue that will help the scientific communities and decision makers worldwide. This research gains even more in importance in highly dense Asian megacities (China, India) that already suffer from aerosol pollution. By talking modelling approach and atmospheric chemical and physical processes, the reviewer agrees that the topics entirely fit with the concerns of the Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics journal. In general the manuscript is well written but effort can be made to simplify the sentences (some-time confusing) and on the abstract/introduction to clarify the aims (as it seems there are several) and take-out messages of the research. It seems that the paper questions the modelling approach and particularly the quality of the global reanalysis data used to simulate the local urban hydrological cycles during haze episodes, the SUEWS urban land surface model performance as well as the interactions between the aerosols and the urban hydrological. This should be clearly stated from the abstract until the result sections. The novelty (the focus on the local scale), challenges, and operational urban water management implication raised in the paper should also be better justified in the introduction and generic terms should be avoided to go directly to the fact (aerosols instead of pollution) and determinant physical interactions treated by the papers. The introduction can be elaborated so as to immediately focus the reader on the nature of the pollution the authors are dealing with (aerosols and wet haze?) instead to use generic terms. It will help to strengthen the message of the introduction. Following are specific and some technical comments/corrections that will hopefully be helpful to the authors.

Response

Abstract changes

The justification of the study is moved from the end of the abstract to the first paragraph and rephrased (page 1, l. 2–4): “Changes in hydrological cycle modify surface runoff and flooding. Furthermore, as runoff commonly transports pollutants to soil and water, any changes impact urban soil and aquatic environments.”

Also the aims of the study (evaluation of the model and reanalysis data and the simulation of hydrological cycle) are rephrased to clarify it.

Introduction changes

The introduction text is rephrased to raise the novelty of local scale and the potential deterioration of urban water bodies (page 2, l. 14–17): “The higher surface runoff rates due to the modified water balance may increase pollutant loads in urban water bodies, by flushing pollutants from contaminated surfaces. However, the linkage between increased aerosol concentrations and urban hydrological cycle has not yet been studied in local scale despite its potential contribution to deterioration of urban aquatic environment.”

The atmospheric (or air) pollution is rephrased in introduction to increased atmospheric aerosol concentration (page 1, l. 18, page 2, l. 7 and 16).

Description of physical interactions of pollutant concentrations, solar radiation, boundary layer height and its effects on water balance is added to the introduction (page 2, l. 10–14).

A short description of the importance of the accuracy of the reanalysis data is added (page 2, l. 21–24).

Specific comments

1. Page 3, l.8. Is it possible to explain the specificity of the Murto(2017)'s methods. Murto (2017) does not detail enough the method behind the landcover model construction and how the various vegetation compositions are retrieved from the aerial photographs.

The methods are widely used methods with ArcGIS-software using OpenStreetMap (OSM) and World Imagery, as described in the text (page 4, l. 2–7), and not specific to this study. With the available imagery the vegetation composition and tree height is not possible to obtain with GIS-methods. Therefore, it is estimated from the common tree species in Haidian district as described in page 4, l. 7–10.

2. What is the benefit of using the Murto's method and two source of spatial information?

There are substantial gaps in the OSM data in the region, especially at the southern part of the study area. Therefore two sources were used to evaluate the existing data at the areas where the two sources could be compared. This information is added to the text (page 4, l. 5–7).

3. What is the resolution of the World imagery?

The spatial resolution is 1m. This has been added to the text (page 4, l. 4).

4. Why a semi supervised classification was not able to distinguished evergreen from deciduous trees based on irradiance and trees from shrubs based on a structural geometry algorithm?

It might have been possible to distinguish the evergreen and deciduous trees from irradiance data, but from the data used this was not possible. However, the method used, where the classification is made using the studied proportions of the trees in the district should give high enough accuracy.

The fraction of trees and shrubs are given to the model as one input variable where both are included (for evergreen and deciduous separately) so there is no need to identify trees from shrubs.

5. What is the quality of the OSM data in the region?

See, comment #2 above.

6. Page 4 Can you confirm that the model has been run for a time period of 3 years and a 5 min time step over a 1km² simulation domain?

The evaluation of the WFDEI data and the SUEWS model has been made for a time period of 4 years (2006–2009), since it is the time when observations were available. This is stated at page 2, l. 25 and 28 and page 4, l. 23–26. For the analysis of the hydrological cycle, the model is run for the period of 14 years (2000–2013), where the first year is used as a spin-up period, leaving years 2001–2013 for the analysis (page 4, l. 29). The time step for the model runs is 5 min. The study area is a 1 km radius circle around the IAP tower (page 3, l. 17–18) (i.e. area= 3.14 km²).

7. Page 5 l.28. What was the nMBE before the correction?

The nMBE before correction (-0.01, 0.00, 0.08, 0.28 from clean to extremely polluted conditions) were added to the text (page 6, l. 13).

8. Page 8, l.1. “SUEWS model performance is relatively independent of haze level (...) in the model input variables”. Is the precipitation not also an input variable affected by the haze levels?

Precipitation is added to the variables affected by the haze (page 9, l. 3).

9. How the bias in the precipitation can impact the quality of the simulation with respect to the precipitation rates (p.8 l5.)?

The surface runoff is the most sensitive to precipitation, but it is analysed using normalized values and therefore the uncertainties in precipitation are not crucial to the conclusions (page 9, l. 7–8). Also Fig. 5 and Table 5 show that the model performance is not substantially decreasing with increasing air pollution.

10. What about the influence of haze level on the longwave radiations, surface temperature and resulting QH and atmosphere stability?

The effect of haze on longwave radiation is shown in Fig. 7 and it is discussed in the text (page 9, l. 3–5 and page 2, l. 9).

The evaluation against the sensible heat flux which is also related to surface temperature is included in Fig. 5 and Table 5 showing the statistics. It is discussed in the text (page 10, l. 1–5 and page 14, l. 4–6).

The further analysis of QH and the stability of the atmosphere is out of the scope of this paper, as we focus on the hydrological cycle and surface processes. However, a short description of the effect of aerosols on atmospheric stability is included in page 2, l. 10–11 and page 10, l. 11–12.

11. Should the model performance only be evaluated with the evaporation? Evapotranspiration is the common term in the energy and precipitation budget but as the incoming energy is partitioned also amongst other terms (sensible, storage), does it worth it to also consider these variable in the evaluation of the simulations.

The model evaluation against sensible heat flux is included (see above comment #10). Unfortunately, the evaluation against storage heat flux is not possible due to difficulty of measuring this flux.

12. A fortiori, aerosols have been proven to increase the contributions of the scattered radiation versus direct radiation in the solar energy budget, while they potentially absorb and emit longwave radiation resulting in heat retention in the atmosphere.

Short description of this has been added (see above comment #10)

13. Table 2. What are the uncertainties associated with the temperature, humidity and wind speed sensors developed by the institute of Atmospheric Physics? As being nonstandard instruments, is it possible to have a description of these and know if they have been already tested against standard sensors?

We do not have detailed description of these instruments, but these have been widely used in previous internationally peer reviewed papers (e.g., Liu et al., (2012) *Atmos. Chem. Phys.* 12, 7881–7892; Song and Wang, (2012) *Atmos. Res.* 106, 139–149; Shi et al., (2018) *Atmospheric and Oceanic Science Letters* 12, 41–49; Al-Jiboori and Hu, (2005) *Adv. Atmos. Sci.* 22, 595–605)

14. Page 10 l.11. Is surface runoff not diminished for small precipitation intensities compared to high precipitation intensity episodes? The infiltration capacity of the soil horizon is usually reduced during high precipitation intensity episodes due to the destruction of soil aggregates -> less porosity, and usually deeper wetting front in the soil resulting in higher surface resistance. Please clarify.

Yes the surface runoff is smaller with small daily precipitation totals (as also seen in Fig. 4 and A2) for the above-mentioned reasons. However, surface runoff does not totally vanished as there are a lot of impervious surfaces (buildings and paved surfaces) that still generate surface runoff.

Technical corrections

15. Abstract l. 5-6 please, rephrase.

“We show how the reanalysis radiation data do not include the attenuating effect of haze and develop a haze correction for the incoming solar radiation. With this haze correction the SUEWS model simulates the eddy covariance measured latent heat flux well.”

Rephrased as (abstract, l. 8–9):

“We show that the reanalysis data do not include the attenuating effect of haze on incoming solar radiation and develop a correction method. Using these corrected data, SUEWS simulates measured eddy covariance heat fluxes well.”

16. Additionally, it was not clearly stated before that the evaluation of the SUEWS performance is also part of the aim of the paper. It can be good either to neglect this aspect in the abstract or if crucial add this additional and somehow “hidden” aim in the abstract.

In abstract it is rephrased (l. 6–7): “The secondary aims are to examine the usability of global reanalysis dataset in highly polluted environment and the SUEWS model performance.”

In addition the introduction is rephrased as (page 2, l. 25–32):

“The aims of this study are (1) to evaluate the 2006 to 2009 WATCH Forcing Data ERA-Interim (WFDEI, Weedon et al., 2014) reanalysis data using meteorological observations in highly polluted Beijing, China (Sect. 3.1), (2) to evaluate the urban land surface model Surface Urban Energy and Water Balance Scheme (SUEWS, Järvi et al., 2011; Ward et al., 2017) using eddy covariance flux measurements of latent and sensible heat for 2006–2009 (Sect 3.2), and (3) to simulate how increased aerosol concentrations modify the local urban hydrological cycle for the period 2001–2013 using SUEWS (Sect. 3.3). Aerosol optical depth observations are used to classify the pollution levels for the assessment of the impact of radiative effect of haze on the local urban water balance in Beijing for 2001–2013. The broader impacts of changes in water balance on local aquatic environment are discussed in Section 4.”

17. l. 10-12 “induce” instead “induces” considering the plural “rates”. Also the message of the sentence is a bit confused to figure in the abstract. Please simplify your message.

Rephrased as (abstract, l. 11–14):

“Considering all precipitation events, runoff rates are higher during extremely polluted conditions than cleaner conditions, but as the cleanest conditions have high precipitation rates, they induce the largest runoff. Thus, the haze radiative effect is unlikely to modify flash flooding likelihood.”

18. l.11-12 this is a justification of the research, isn't it? It should maybe be placed before the general outcomes.

This has been place in the first paragraph and rephrased (page 1, l. 2–4):

“Changes in the hydrological cycle modify surface runoff and flooding. Furthermore, as runoff commonly transports pollutants to soil and water, any changes impact urban soil and aquatic environments.”

19. Introduction Page 1, l. 17. Is “northeast China one of the most populated areas” a consequence of environmental problems? Please rephrase.

This is rephrased (from page 1, l. 119 to page 2, l. 1): “As a consequence of urbanization and industrialization, northeast China is one of the most populated and polluted areas in the world”

20. Page 2, l. 1-2. Please rephrase. The sentence is difficult to read in my opinion.

Rephrased as (page 2, l. 2–3):

“With continuing urbanization, serious water shortages and deterioration of aquatic environment are becoming essential concerns for municipal hydrological authorities”

21. Page 2. l 4-5. It can worth it to elaborate more the interactions between the aerosols, the solar radiation, and the boundary layer height and stability. How these elements interact?

A short description has been added to the original text. Now it says (page 2, l. 7–12): “Increased aerosol concentration modifies local urban climate by decreasing solar radiation received at the surface and thus decreasing near surface air temperatures (Ding et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2014), turbulent heat fluxes and boundary layer heights but increases incoming longwave radiation emissions from the polluted atmosphere (Miao et al., 2009; Petäjä et al., 2016; Tang et al., 2016). Increased absorption of radiation by the polluted atmosphere changes the vertical temperature profile leading to more stable conditions (Petäjä, et al., 2016). With reduced turbulence and mixing, the boundary layer height is lower (Petäjä et al, 2016) which increases the near surface pollutant concentrations.”

22. Further Page 4 l.10. “as the main focus...balance”. This information can be removed and is not so necessary here.

Removed as suggested.

23. Page 4 l.24 Please indicate where are the mentioned box-plots, RMSEs, etc. in the paper?

These have been added to the text in Section 2.1.

24. Page 5 l-9-11. This is more appropriated in the introduction.

This part has been moved to the introduction (page 2, l. 21–24).

25. Page 6 Table 3. Please modify the title to better explain what is presented in this table and which variables are there intercompared.

Rephrased as:

“Comparison for 2006-2009 of WFDEI meteorological variables with observations, stratified by pollution levels (extremely polluted air (AOD>1), polluted air (0.438-1), low pollution (0.203-0.438), fairly clean air (<0.203) (see Sect. 2.1 for details). Data are hourly: relative humidity (RH, %), air temperature (T_{air} , °C), and incoming solar radiation (K_{\downarrow} , $W m^{-2}$), and daily: precipitation (P , $mm day^{-1}$). Superscript uc indicates uncorrected variables. For explanation of the statistical methods see Sect. 2.1.”

In addition, similar changes have been made for Table 5.

26. Page 11 l.11 –Page 12 l.11. This is an interesting discussion although not a result.

This has been moved to its own section (Section 4. Discussion of broader impacts).

Referee #2

The authors evaluated a reanalysis data and a hydrological model with observational data and examined the effects of haze impact on the surface hydrology. The examination of how haze impacts on local scale urban hydrological cycle is particularly interesting. But I have some concerns about the connection between two parts. There also needs some clarifications about the approach and the hydrological model. My specific comments are as below. I recommend a major revision before the paper can be accepted for a publication in ACP.

1. Part 1, Introduction

The authors did not describe the ways how urban pollution can impact on the hydrological cycle.

Short description has been added to the introduction (page 2, l. 12–14): “With less energy available at the surface, because of the attenuated incoming solar radiation, evaporation may be reduced modifying other water balance terms. In addition, haze can increase the condensation nuclei and therefore precipitation.”

2. On Page 2, 2nd paragraph, the authors mentioned the air temperature change by urban pollution, but the focus of the paper is how urban pollution impacts on hydrological cycle. It is necessary to provide some background about how precipitation or water on ground are connected with pollution in atmosphere.

See answer comment #1 above.

3. In the introduction, it needs to be clear that the pollution effects on precipitation are not considered, which would add the uncertainty to the study. It seems to me that the paper only considers the effects induced by changed surface temperature. Pollution can change temperature profile in atmosphere and serve as cloud condensation nuclei to affect precipitation rate and then surface hydrology. But all of these are not considered and the paper needs to be clear about it.

This has been now clarified in the introduction (from page 2, l. 33 to page 3, l. 2).

4. Last paragraph of this section: need to be clear about which method is used for each objective.

Rephrased as (page 2, l. 25–32):

“The aims of this study are (1) to evaluate the 2006 to 2009 WATCH Forcing Data ERA-Interim (WFDEI, Weedon et al., 2014) reanalysis data using meteorological observations in highly polluted Beijing, China (Sect. 3.1), (2) to evaluate the urban land surface model Surface Urban Energy and Water Balance Scheme (SUEWS, Järvi et al., 2011; Ward et al., 2017) using eddy covariance flux measurements of latent and sensible heat for 2006–2009 (Sect 3.2), and (3) to simulate how increased aerosol concentrations modify the local urban hydrological cycle for the period 2001–2013 using SUEWS (Sect. 3.3). Aerosol optical depth observations are used to classify the pollution levels for the assessment of the impact of radiative effect of haze on the local urban water balance in Beijing for 2001–2013. The broader impacts of changes in water balance on local aquatic environment are discussed in Section 4.”

5. Section 2

It is not clear that what are the physical parameters for model input and outputs. Although Table shows some input variables, those are just symbols and their physical meaning is not provided. Most importantly, there is no information about how aerosols/pollution would impact temperature, runoff, and soil infiltration in the model? This is very important to understand what mechanisms are included for pollution impact runoff and soil infiltration.

Air temperature from the reanalysis data is used to force the model. This includes readily the effect of pollutants. This is added to page 6, l. 16. Runoff and soil infiltration are impacted mainly by the changes in the energy balance via the corrected reanalysis attenuated incoming solar radiation data (model forcing). This leads to decreased evaporation rates which modifies the other water balance term. Further explanation is added (from page 2, l. 33 to page 3, l. 1) in addition to the existing text (page 10, l. 13–16). In addition, the effect of haze on the longwave radiation is explained in page 2, l. 9 and page 9, l. 3–5 and shown in Fig. 7. The Table 1 is showing the parameterisation mainly for the reproducing purposes, and it is not showing the relation of the model to the haze. The meaning of each of the variables are shown in Table A1.

6. For the hydrological model, is precipitation rate changed by any factors? Is it just an input, not an output?

The precipitation rate is only an input. It has been clarified in the text that the precipitation is one of the input variables and the changes in precipitation are provided by the reanalysis data (page 2, l. 34; page 3, l. 12; page 5, l. 20 and page 9, l. 2)

7. Section 3

It is not clear to me how section 3.1 and 3.2 are relevant or connected. Or are they just separated results without much connection? Why not run the model validated in Section 3.1 to look at the effect of haze on surface water in Section 3.2? In this way, the connection between the two sections is clear.

Section 3.1 is the evaluation and correction of the WFDEI reanalysis data. Section 3.2 is evaluation of SUEWS model using corrected reanalysis data as meteorological forcing and section 3.3 is the analysis of the effect of haze on the hydrological cycle using SUEWS forced with corrected WFDEI data. Text has been rephrased to clarify this (page 2, l. 25–32).

8. Some symbols are used without being defined in the text, such as P , K ,...

The symbols for P and K_{\downarrow} are defined at page 4, l. 24–25. Also other variables are defined in this page (T_{air} , RH). The definition of I for irrigation has been changed from page 3, l. 11 to page 10, l. 16–17 for clarity.

9. Section 4

Please use physical terms, not symbols in the conclusion text.

The symbols are now changed to physical terms in the conclusions (Section 5).

Simulation of the radiative effect of haze on urban hydrological cycle using reanalysis data in Beijing

Tom V. Kokkonen¹, Sue Grimmond², Sonja Murto^{1,3}, Huizhi Liu⁴, Anu-Maija Sundström⁵, and Leena Järvi^{1,6}

¹Institute for Atmospheric and Earth System Research / Physics, Faculty of Science, University of Helsinki, Finland

²Department of Meteorology, University of Reading, UK

³Department of Meteorology, University of Stockholm, Sweden

⁴Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China

⁵Earth Observation, Finnish Meteorological Institute, Helsinki, Finland

⁶Helsinki Institute of Sustainability Science, University of Helsinki, Finland

Correspondence: Tom Kokkonen (tom.kokkonen@helsinki.fi), Huizhi Liu (huizhil@mail.iap.ac.cn)

Abstract. Although, ~~air pollution increased aerosol concentration~~ modifies local air temperatures and boundary layer structure in urban areas, little is known about its effects on the urban hydrological cycle. ~~Changes in the hydrological cycle modify surface runoff and flooding. Furthermore, as runoff commonly transports pollutants to soil and water, any changes impact urban soil and aquatic environments.~~ To explore the radiative effect of haze on changes in the urban surface water balance ~~during in Beijing~~, different haze levels are modelled ~~in Beijing~~ using the Surface Urban Energy and Water Balance Scheme (SUEWS), forced by reanalysis data. The pollution levels are classified using aerosol optical depth observations. ~~We show how the reanalysis radiation.~~ ~~The secondary aims are to examine the usability of global reanalysis dataset in highly polluted environment and the SUEWS model performance.~~

~~We show that the reanalysis data do not include the attenuating effect of haze on incoming solar radiation and develop a haze correction for the incoming solar radiation. With this haze correction the SUEWS model simulates the eddy covariance measured latent heat flux well.~~

~~correction method. Using these corrected data, SUEWS simulates measured eddy covariance heat fluxes well.~~ Both surface runoff and drainage increase with severe haze levels particularly with low precipitation rates: runoff from 0.06 to 0.18 mm day⁻¹ and drainage from 0.43 to 0.62 mm day⁻¹ during fairly clean ~~and to~~ extremely polluted conditions, respectively. ~~When Considering all precipitation events are taken into account, runoff is higher during the, runoff rates are higher during~~ extremely polluted conditions than ~~with cleaner conditions except during cleaner conditions, but as~~ the cleanest conditions ~~when the have~~ high precipitation rates ~~induces-, they induce the~~ largest runoff. Thus, the ~~radiative effect of haze is not likely impacting on the likelihood of flash floods~~ ~~haze radiative effect is unlikely to modify flash flooding likelihood.~~ However, ~~the low runoff rates commonly transport pollutants to soil and water and therefore their changes are important to understanding detailed deterioration of urban soil and aquatic environments~~ ~~flushing pollutants from surfaces may increase pollutant loads in urban water bodies.~~

1 Introduction

In recent decades rapid economic development and acceleration of urbanization and industrialization has led to many environmental problems in China, such as ~~atmospheric and~~ increased atmospheric aerosol concentrations, water pollution, and soil contamination (e.g., Kulmala, 2015; Liao et al., 2015; Shao et al., 2006; Sun et al., 2014; Xia et al., 2011). As a consequence of urbanization and industrialization, northeast China is one of the most populated and ~~most~~-polluted areas in the world (HEI International Scientific Oversight Committee, 2010). With ~~the continuing growth of urban population~~ continuing urbanization, serious water shortages ~~, deterioration of water quality and~~ and deterioration of aquatic environment are becoming essential concerns for municipal hydrological authorities (Li et al., 2015; Sun et al., 2014). As urbanization increases the extent of imper-
10 vious surfaces, enhancing the likelihood of surface floods from surface runoff (e.g., Rodriguez et al., 2003), understanding the local urban hydrological cycle, potential increase in surface flooding and pollutant loads to urban water bodies are important.

~~Atmospheric pollution~~ Increased aerosol concentration modifies local urban climate by decreasing solar radiation received at the surface ~~further lowering the and thus decreasing~~ near surface air temperatures (Ding et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2014), turbulent heat fluxes and boundary layer heights ~~and but~~ increases incoming longwave radiation ~~emitted~~ emissions from the polluted
15 atmosphere (Miao et al., 2009; Petäjä et al., 2016; Tang et al., 2016). Increased absorption of radiation by the polluted ~~layer~~ (Miao et al., 2009; Petäjä et al., 2016; Tang et al., 2016) atmosphere changes the vertical temperature profile leading to more stable conditions (Petäjä et al., 2016). With reduced turbulence and mixing, the boundary layer height is lower (Petäjä et al., 2016) which increases the near surface pollutant concentrations. With less energy available at the surface, because of the attenuated incoming solar radiation, evaporation may be reduced modifying other water balance terms. In addition, haze can increase the condensation
20 nuclei and therefore precipitation. The higher surface runoff rates due to the modified water balance may increase pollutant loads in urban water bodies, by flushing pollutants from contaminated surfaces. However, the linkage between ~~atmospheric pollution~~ increased aerosol concentrations and urban hydrological cycle has not yet been studied at the local scale despite its potential contribution to deterioration of ~~urban water bodies~~ the urban aquatic environment. This may be because of lack of high resolution meteorological and/or hydrological observations ~~or their availability needed~~ for detailed analyses and mod-
25 elling from regions with heavy air pollution episodes. Global reanalysis products could provide the essential variables to enable modelling where needed observations are unavailable or have too coarse temporal resolution (Kokkonen et al., 2018b). A number of reanalysis products are available but to our knowledge none have been properly evaluated in highly polluted urban environments. Poor air quality is a result of several factors including pollutant emissions, atmospheric transport, atmospheric chemistry and meteorological conditions. Therefore the accuracy of meteorological variables in reanalysis products is essential
30 to be able to study correctly the effects of pollutants to the local hydrological cycle.

The aims of this study are ~~to~~ (1) ~~explore how atmospheric pollution modifies the local urban hydrological cycle and~~ (2) ~~to examine the quality of the reanalysis data to evaluate the 2006 to 2009 WATCH Forcing Data ERA-Interim (WFDEI, Weedon et al., 2014) reanalysis data using observations~~ in highly polluted Beijing, China. ~~The evaluated reanalysis product is the WATCH Forcing Data~~

ERA-Interim (WFDEI, Weedon et al., 2014) with the focus on the most important meteorological variables (precipitation, solar radiation, air temperature) controlling the hydrological cycle and modelling. In addition, (Sect. 3.1), (2) to evaluate the urban land surface model Surface Urban Energy and Water Balance Scheme (SUEWS) (Järvi et al., 2011; Ward et al., 2017) used to simulate the (SUEWS, Järvi et al., 2011; Ward et al., 2017) using eddy covariance flux measurements of latent and sensible heat for 2006–2009 (Sect. 3.2), and (3) to simulate how increased aerosol concentrations modify the local urban hydrological cycle in different haze levels is evaluated against eddy covariance measured latent and sensible heat fluxes for the period 2001–2013 using SUEWS (Sect. 3.3). Aerosol optical depth observations are used to classify the pollution levels for the assessment of the impact of radiative effect of haze on the local urban water balance in Beijing for 2001–2013. The broader impacts of changes in water balance on local aquatic environment are discussed in Sect. 4.

10 In this study the changes in the hydrological cycle are assumed to be caused mainly by the changes in the surface energy balance due to the attenuated incoming solar radiation and the changes in the precipitation rates provided by the reanalysis data, which further modifies the water balance. The effect of for example vapour pressure deficit and changes in soil water storage (i.e. availability of water) are not discussed.

2 Hydrological modelling

15 The hydrological modelling is conducted using the Surface Urban Energy and Water Balance Scheme (SUEWS, Järvi et al., 2011) version V2017b (Ward et al., 2017, 2018). SUEWS is an urban land surface model that simulates the surface energy and water balances at the local (~~neighborhood~~neighbourhood) scale. In SUEWS, the urban surface is separated into seven hydrologically connected surface types (buildings, paved surfaces, grass, evergreen trees/shrub, deciduous trees/shrubs and water) ~~each having with~~ a single soil layer below ~~;~~(excluding the water surface). For each surface type, evaporation is calculated using

20 the Penman-Monteith equation (Monteith, 1965; Penman, 1948) modified for urban environments (Grimmond and Oke, 1991), and runoff from a running water balance (Grimmond and Oke, 1991; Järvi et al., 2011). SUEWS has been optimized to run with minimum amount of model forcing data and includes sub-models for net all-wave radiation, irrigation (+) and anthropogenic heat flux. The meteorological input variables needed are wind speed, relative humidity, air temperature, pressure, precipitation, and incoming solar radiation. The overall parameters used in the model runs are given in Table 1. The performance of SUEWS

25 and sensitivity to input variables and parameterisation has been extensively evaluated in the past studies in different climates and for multiple variables (e.g., Alexander et al., 2015; Demuzere et al., 2017; Järvi et al., 2011, 2014, 2017; Karsisto et al., 2016; Kokkonen et

The study area is a 1 km radius circle around the 325 m high Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP) meteorological measurement tower (39.97° N, 116.37° E) located in the north-western part of Beijing, China, at the Haidian district (Liu et al., 2012). This circle approximates the source area of the eddy covariance (EC) measurements at height 47 m (Liu et al., 2012) used to

30 evaluate SUEWS model performance. This area is densely built (70 % of impervious surfaces) urban area (Local Climate Zone (LCZ) 1; Stewart and Oke, 2012) with only 29 % of vegetated surfaces and 1 % of open water. The surface cover fractions for the study area are calculated from aerial photographs using GIS-software (ArcGIS 10.1) and digitalized using two freely available base maps: OpenStreetMap (OpenStreetMap contributors, 2015) and World Imagery with 1 m spatial resolution (Esri,

Table 1. Overall model parameter values used at model runs in Beijing. See Table A1 for notation and Järvi et al. (2011, 2014); Ward et al. (2016) for data sources.

α_s^{\min}	0.18	α_r 0.07 mm °C ⁻¹ h ⁻¹ $G1$ 3.5 R_C 1.0 mm α_s^{\max} 0.85 $a_{0,\{wd,we\}}$ 0.308 W m ⁻² (p ⁻¹ ha ⁻¹) ⁻¹ $G2$ 200 W m ⁻² S_T
$\rho_e \alpha_s^{\max}$	200 kg m ⁻³ 0.85	$a_{2,\{wd,we\}}$
$\rho_s^{\min} \epsilon_s$	100 kg m ⁻³ 0.99	$b_{0,a}$
$\rho_s^{\max} \rho_s^{\min}$	400 kg m ⁻³ 100 kg m ⁻³	$b_{1,a}$
$\tau_a \rho_s^{\max}$	0.006 400 kg m ⁻³	$b_{2,a}$
$\tau_f \tau_e$	0.0367 0.006	$b_{0,m}$
$\alpha_T \tau_f$	0.25 0.0367	$b_{1,m}$
$\alpha_T a_1$	0.6 0.25	$b_{2,m}$
$\alpha_T a_2$	-30 0.6	C_{\min}^R
$\alpha_T a_3$	1 -30	C_{\max}^R
a_r	0.0016 mm W ⁻¹ h ⁻¹	DaysSinceRain
a_t	0.07 mm °C ⁻¹ h ⁻¹	$G1$
$a_{0,\{wd,we\}}$	0.308 W m ⁻² (p ⁻¹ ha ⁻¹) ⁻¹	$G2$

2009), following the methods in Murto (2017). The OpenStreetMap has substantial gaps especially at the southern part of the study area. Therefore two sources of spatial data are used, which enables evaluation of the existing data at the areas where the two sources could be compared. With the available imagery, separation to evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs needed by the model is not possible using GIS-methods. Therefore these fractions (15 % and 85 % of fraction of vegetation, respectively) together with mean tree height (8 m) are estimated based on the common tree species to be found in Haidian district (Ma and Liu, 2003). The mean building height is 19.1 m (Miao et al., 2012).

The population density is estimated from 1 km gridded population dataset for 2010 (Fu et al., 2014). The grid population densities are weighted by their areal fractions within the study area. There has been no further urbanization at the study site (Cheng et al., 2018) and therefore population density and surface characteristics are assumed to stay constant throughout the study period.

The WFDEI (Weedon et al., 2014) meteorological forcing data are derived for hydrological modelling purposes from ERA-Interim (Dee et al., 2011) reanalysis product via sequential interpolation to half-degree resolution with 3 h temporal resolution. Bias correction with quantile mapping (BCQM) is applied to downscale the daily precipitation totals (Kokkonen et al., 2018b). The 5 min time-step calculations are disaggregated in a nonlinear manner to provide realistic precipitation ~~pattern~~ patterns from coarse input data (Ward et al., 2018) (Table A3). The air temperature (T_{air}) and pressure are adjusted to simulation height using environmental lapse rate ($\Gamma = -6.5$ K km⁻¹) and the hypsometric equation (Kokkonen et al., 2018b; Weedon et al., 2010). The WFDEI data are downscaled from 3 h to 5 min temporal resolution of the model time-step within the model (Ward et al., 2017).

The WFDEI reanalysis data in Beijing are evaluated for 2006–2009 using observed meteorological variables, including hourly T_{air} , relative humidity (RH) and incoming solar radiation ($K\downarrow$) measured on the IAP tower at 47 m level (Liu et al., 2012) (Table 2) and daily precipitation (P) 10 km southwest of the tower (Menne et al., 2012a, b). The same years are used to

Table 2. Instruments used on the 325 m IAP tower (47 m level; Liu et al. (2012)).

Physical quantity	Instrument	Model
Three-dimensional wind velocity	Three-dimensional sonic anemometer	CSAT-3
H ₂ O density	Infrared gas analyser	LI-7500
Incoming solar radiation	Radiometer	CNR1
Temperature	Thermometer	Developed by the Institute of Atmospheric Physics
Humidity	Hygrometer	Developed by the Institute of Atmospheric Physics
Wind speed and direction	Cup anemometers and vanes	Developed by the Institute of Atmospheric Physics

evaluate SUEWS against the IAP EC measurements from the same 47 m level. The 47 m level of IAP tower is in the roughness sublayer for wind directions mainly from southwest and northwest (Miao et al., 2012). Therefore the wind directions with buildings over 50 m high (314–3°, 40–45°, 112–128°, 160–243°) are filtered out from the EC observations (34 % of the data).

SUEWS is run for 2000 to 2013, with the first year as a spin-up period, leaving years 2001–2013 for the analysis. The hydrological cycle is analysed during the thermal summer (Apr–Sep) as the ~~main focus of the study is in water balance and~~ the-winter time in Beijing is extremely dry. For example in 2013 the precipitation occurred between Oct–Mar covers only 6 % (33.7 mm) of the annual precipitation (Beijing Municipal Bureau of Statistics, 2016). Due to difference in behaviour in summer and winter months, the two periods should be analysed separately and this would leave insufficient amount of data for statistical analysis in winter months. The polluted and non-polluted days in the studied years are separated based on aerosol optical depth (AOD, 440 nm) obtained from AERONET station (Che et al., 2009; Holben et al., 1998) located at the study site.

10 2.1 Statistical methods

The pollution levels are obtained by dividing the AOD observations from the whole study period (2001–2013) into four quantiles (i.e. roughly equal amount of data in all of the air quality classes), i.e. extremely polluted air (AOD>1), polluted air (0.438–1), low pollution (0.203–0.438) and fairly clean air (<0.203).

The hydrological analysis is made stratifying the results by different pollution levels described above and different percentiles of daily precipitation from the study period (2001–2013). The hydrological components are divided into four ranges of daily precipitation percentiles (0–25, 0–50, 0–75, 0–100) including dry days. The further statistical analysis of the results of P (stratified already by different percentiles) includes only wet days, but the other variables analysed include also the dry days.

Box plots ~~used to explore the hydrological cycle,~~ (Fig. 4, 7 and A2) give the median \bar{x} and the interquartile range (IQR) \bar{y} with whiskers of 1.5 IQR. The box plots have notches which indicate the 95 % confidence levels.

The linear correlations among different variables in Tables 3 and 5 are analysed using common statistical tools, including root mean square error (RMSE), RMSE normalised with standard deviation of observations (nRMSE), mean bias error (MBE), MBE normalised with mean of observations (nMBE), mean absolute error (MAE), MAE normalised with mean of observations (nMAE) and Pearson’s correlation coefficient (r). The regression lines have been calculated for scatter plots (Fig. 1 and A1)

after applying the Lowess smoothing (Cleveland, 1979, 1981). The performance of model runs and WFDEI variables are evaluated using a Taylor (2001) diagram (Fig. 5).

5 3 Results

3.1 Evaluation of WFDEI data in polluted urban environment

~~Poor air quality is a result of several factors including pollutant emissions, atmospheric transport, atmospheric chemistry and meteorological conditions. Therefore the accuracy of meteorological variables in reanalysis products is essential to be able to study the effects of pollutants correctly to local hydrological cycle.~~

10 Although, extensive evaluation of WFDEI data have been undertaken (e.g., Weedon et al., 2014) polluted urban areas have so far been neglected. Here WFDEI P , $K\downarrow$, RH and T_{air} (here after the subscript WF indicates WFDEI variables), the most important input variables for hydrological modelling with SUEWS (Alexander et al., 2015; Kokkonen et al., 2018b; Ward and Grimmond, 2017) are evaluated.

Haze is known to attenuate $K\downarrow$ in highly polluted environments but this attenuation is not properly accounted for in the WFDEI data (Fig. 1 and 2, Table 3) because sometimes haze may be from local emissions and because of secondary nucleation. Overestimation of hourly $K\downarrow_{WF}$ against the observed values increases with the level of pollution (nMBE: -0.01, 0.00, 0.08, 0.28; fairly clean, low pollution, polluted and extremely polluted air, respectively; see Sect. 2.1 for details). Thus hourly $K\downarrow_{WF}$ is corrected using observations between 2006–2009 from the 325 m IAP measurement tower separately for thermal summer (Apr–Sept) and winter (Oct–Mar) due to slightly different behaviour (Fig. 1 and A1). First a Lowess smoothing is applied to observed $K\downarrow$ normalized with the clear sky radiation (determined from $I_{SC} \times \cos\theta_z$, where I_{SC} is the solar constant (1367 W m^{-2}) and θ_z is the solar zenith angle) as a function of AOD. Second, regression coefficients for different times of day are determined (Fig. 1). Before corrections are applied to WFDEI data, the $K\downarrow_{WF}$ is downscaled from 3 h to 1 h temporal resolution (Kokkonen et al., 2018b). The corrections are made by fitting the hourly $K\downarrow_{WF}$ data for the whole study period (2001–2013) using regression coefficients when AOD observations are available ($N = 20462$). The developed correction increases substantially the $K\downarrow_{WF}$ accuracy during ~~pollution-haze~~ events bringing the more polluted levels closer to the cleaner levels (nMBE: -0.01, 0.00, -0.03, -0.03 from clean to extremely polluted conditions; before correction nMBE: -0.01, 0.00, 0.08, 0.28).

The height corrected $T_{air,WF}$ (Kokkonen et al., 2018b) correlates with observations well ($r > 0.93$) and the nMBE is low (up to 0.26; Table 3). The nMBE of RH_{WF} is also low (from -0.11 to 0.11) and the correlation coefficient reasonably good (> 0.68).
30 Thus, these reanalysis variables are assumed to already include the effect of haze.

The WFDEI precipitation is higher than observed for days with $< 11 \text{ mm day}^{-1}$ of precipitation, but too low for higher ($> 11 \text{ mm day}^{-1}$) daily rainfall rates (Fig. 3). After the BCQM correction (Kokkonen et al., 2018b) the correspondence with observations is generally improved (Fig. 3) ~~similarly to earlier results as found previously~~ in Vancouver and London (Kokkonen et al., 2018b). However, P_{WF} statistics (Table 3) during extremely polluted and polluted levels become slightly poorer (r : from 0.42 to 0.38 and 0.73 to 0.68; nRMSE: from 0.95 to 1.06 and 0.85 to 1.33, respectively) whereas mainly improving with

Table 3. Comparison for 2006–2009 of hourly-WFDEI meteorological variables (except daily for P) 2006–2009 with observations, stratified by pollution levels (extremely polluted air ($AOD > 1$), polluted air (0.438–1), low pollution (0.203–0.438), fairly clean air (< 0.203) (see Sect. 2.1 for details). Data are hourly: relative humidity (RH, %), air temperature (T_{air} , °C), and incoming solar radiation (K_{\downarrow} , $W m^{-2}$), and daily: precipitation (P , $mm day^{-1}$). Superscript uc indicates uncorrected variables. For explanation of the statistical methods see Sect. 2.1.

	Variable	Level of pollution	N	r	RMSE	nRMSE	MBE	nMBE	MAE	nMAE
WFDEI	RH_{WF}	Extreme	1557	0.72	13.73	0.82	-5.44	-0.11	10.83	0.23
		Polluted	1748	0.72	13.00	0.75	-2.36	-0.06	9.90	0.26
		Low	1523	0.74	11.45	0.70	0.23	0.01	8.34	0.28
		Clean	1290	0.68	10.21	0.81	3.05	0.11	7.84	0.29
	$T_{air,WF}$	Extreme	1557	0.94	5.63	0.56	4.25	0.25	4.58	0.27
		Polluted	1748	0.93	5.88	0.54	3.94	0.25	4.48	0.29
		Low	1523	0.95	4.90	0.43	3.21	0.23	3.90	0.28
		Clean	1290	0.97	4.47	0.37	2.96	0.26	3.65	0.33
	P_{WF}	Extreme	70	0.38	13.23	1.06	-2.88	-0.37	7.05	0.90
		Polluted	69	0.68	16.20	1.33	3.10	0.42	8.39	1.14
		Low	53	0.55	10.35	1.00	-1.64	-0.18	6.32	0.71
		Clean	47	0.67	10.19	0.77	-2.81	-0.33	5.82	0.69
	P_{WF}^{uc}	Extreme	82	0.42	11.15	0.95	-2.37	-0.33	5.94	0.83
		Polluted	80	0.73	9.78	0.85	1.34	0.20	6.10	0.92
		Low	62	0.49	10.08	0.95	-2.95	-0.33	6.20	0.68
		Clean	54	0.66	10.04	0.80	-2.32	-0.31	5.19	0.70
$K_{\downarrow WF}$	Extreme	1557	0.94	70.08	0.33	8.63	-0.03	44.46	0.13	
	Polluted	1748	0.96	68.86	0.27	13.23	-0.03	40.98	0.10	
	Low	1523	0.96	72.83	0.27	0.57	0.00	40.82	0.09	
	Clean	1290	0.96	75.24	0.28	-5.44	-0.01	43.08	0.11	
$K_{\downarrow WF}^{uc}$	Extreme	1557	0.90	132.88	0.63	93.28	0.28	108.95	0.32	
	Polluted	1748	0.93	98.08	0.39	32.65	0.08	73.94	0.19	
	Low	1523	0.93	100.29	0.38	-1.54	0.00	73.21	0.17	
	Clean	1290	0.94	97.42	0.36	-5.60	-0.01	72.45	0.19	

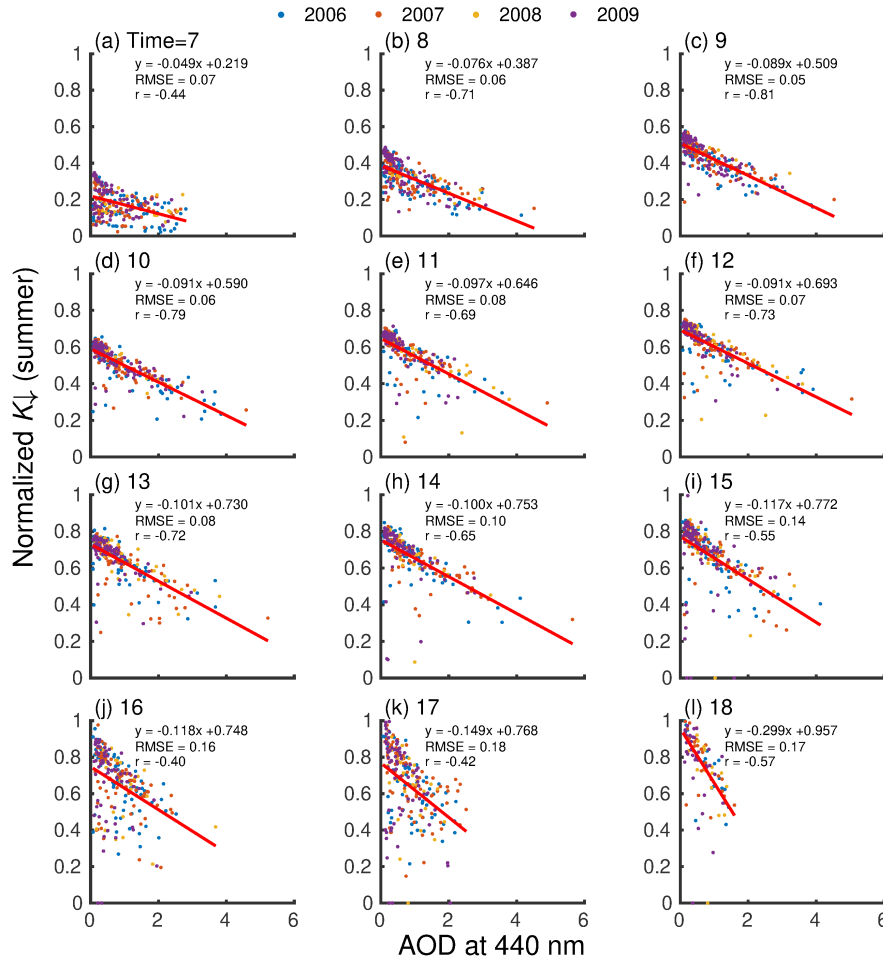


Figure 1. Observed hourly incoming solar radiation (K_{\downarrow}) normalized with clear sky radiation ($I_{SC} \times \cos\theta_z$) against aerosol optical depth (AOD) observations (Holben et al., 1998) for different hours of day (a–l) for thermal summer months (Apr–Sept) at 325 m IAP meteorological tower (47 m level; Liu et al. (2012)). Winter months in Fig. A1. A linear regression (red line) is ~~fitted~~ fit after Lowess smoothing made for the scatter. For statistics see Sect. 2.1.

low pollution and fairly clean pollution levels (r : from 0.49 to 0.55 and 0.66 to 0.67; nRMSE: from 0.95 to 1.00 and 0.80 to 0.77, respectively). It is expected that the correction affects mostly cleaner conditions since most of the larger daily totals of precipitation occur during low pollution and fairly clean air (Fig. 4).

The corrected $K_{\downarrow,WF}$ and other meteorological variables correspond well with observations in all air quality levels except for P_{WF} which still has substantial biases even after the correction (Fig. 5, Table 3).

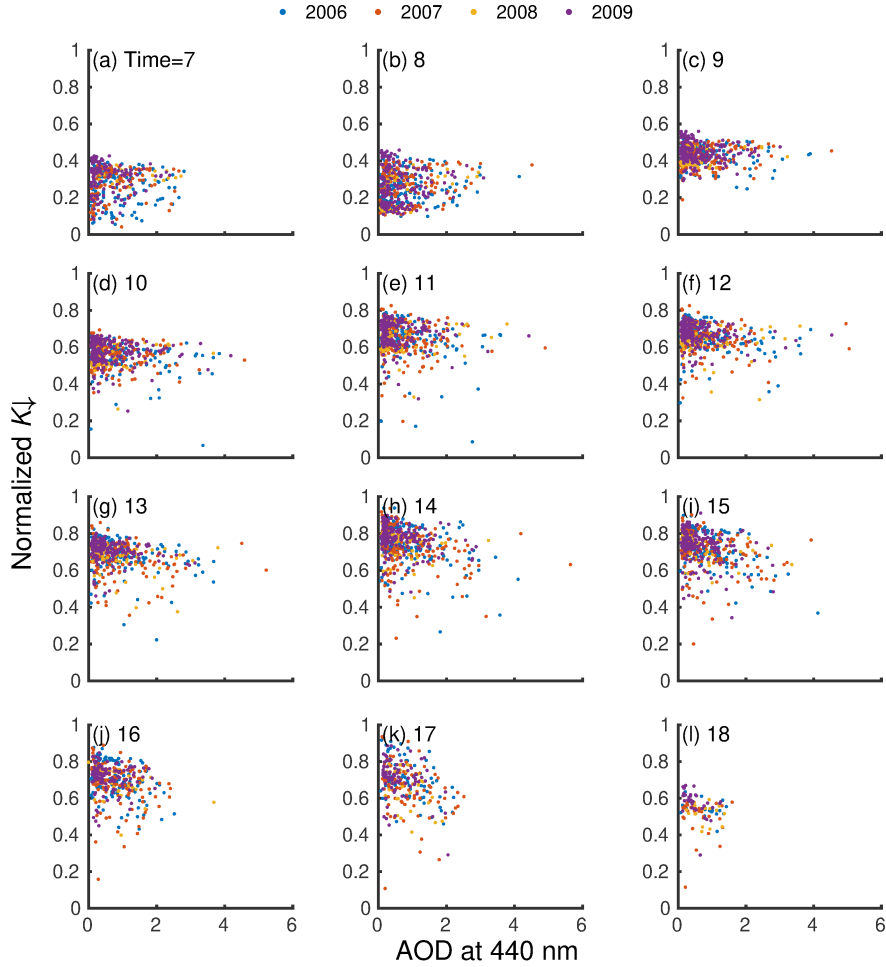


Figure 2. ~~Uncorrected~~ ~~As Fig. 1, but for the uncorrected~~ WFDEI incoming solar radiation (K_{\downarrow}) ~~downscaled from 3-h resolution to 1-h~~ (Kokkonen et al., 2018b) ~~normalized with clear sky radiation ($I_{SC} \times \cos \theta_z$)~~ against AOD observations (Holben et al., 1998) for different hours of day (a-l) at 325 m IAP meteorological tower.

3.1.1 Meteorological conditions during haze

Haze events in Beijing typically occur with southerly ~~windwinds~~, which brings warm and humid air masses from the south (e.g., Cai et al., 2017; Chen and Wang, 2015; Wu et al., 2017). In addition, the wind speeds are typically slower ($< 2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) during haze events (Zheng et al., 2015, 2016). The highly polluted industrial areas are located south of Beijing, so southerly winds transport pollutants from these areas (Zhang et al., 2014; Zhao et al., 2013; Zheng et al., 2015). These meteorological conditions are also favorable to haze formation from local emissions and secondary nucleation (Kulmala et al., 2016; Yao et al., 2018). Due to wet deposition of aerosols the high precipitation rates commonly occur on less polluted days (Ouyang et al., 2015).

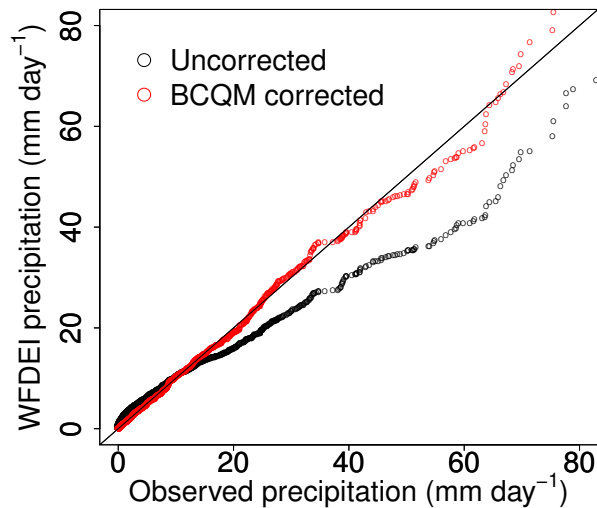


Figure 3. Quantile-quantile plot of uncorrected WFDEI precipitation and WFDEI precipitation bias corrected using quantile mapping (BCQM; Kokkonen et al. (2018b)) versus observed precipitation (1980–2012).

Meteorological conditions during haze events are well represented in the corrected WFDEI dataset. Figure 6 shows the average daily meteorological conditions of all the days when $AOD > 1$ ($N = 568$, day 0), five days before and five days after for different WFDEI meteorological variables in 2001–2013. When AOD increases in the extremely polluted conditions (from 0.99 in day -5 to 1.82 in day 0), RH_{WF} and $T_{air,WF}$ also increase (from 55.1 % and 22.5°C in day -5 to 56.0 % and 24.0°C in day 0) and U_{WF} and P_{WF} decrease (from 1.8 m s⁻¹ and 2.5 mm day⁻¹ in day -5 to 1.8 m s⁻¹ and 1.0 mm day⁻¹ in day 0). The correct description of meteorological conditions during haze events makes the study of water balance during different pollution levels possible using the WFDEI data.

3.2 Evaluation of SUEWS model in polluted urban environment

SUEWS model performance is relatively independent of haze levels as its effects on local meteorological conditions are included in the model input variables P_{\downarrow} , K_{\downarrow} , T_{air} and RH. As the incoming longwave radiation (L_{\downarrow}) emitted by the sky is calculated from T_{air} and RH, which have positive correlation with level of pollution in Beijing (e.g., Cai et al., 2017; Chen and Wang, 2015; Wu et al., 2017), the positive correlation of L_{\downarrow} and air quality is reproduced by SUEWS (Figure 7b). Therefore, the model performance does not significantly decrease with increasing AOD (Fig. 5, Table 5), even though there are substantial differences in uncertainties of P_{WF} between the different air quality conditions. Surface runoff, which is most sensitive to precipitation, is analysed using normalized values and therefore the uncertainties in P_{WF} are not crucial to the conclusions.

After the above corrections are made to the WFDEI data, the model performance is improved (Table 5) and SUEWS simulates Q_E well ($r > 0.73$, nRMSE: 0.58 to 0.81 from clean to extremely polluted conditions) and the results during different air

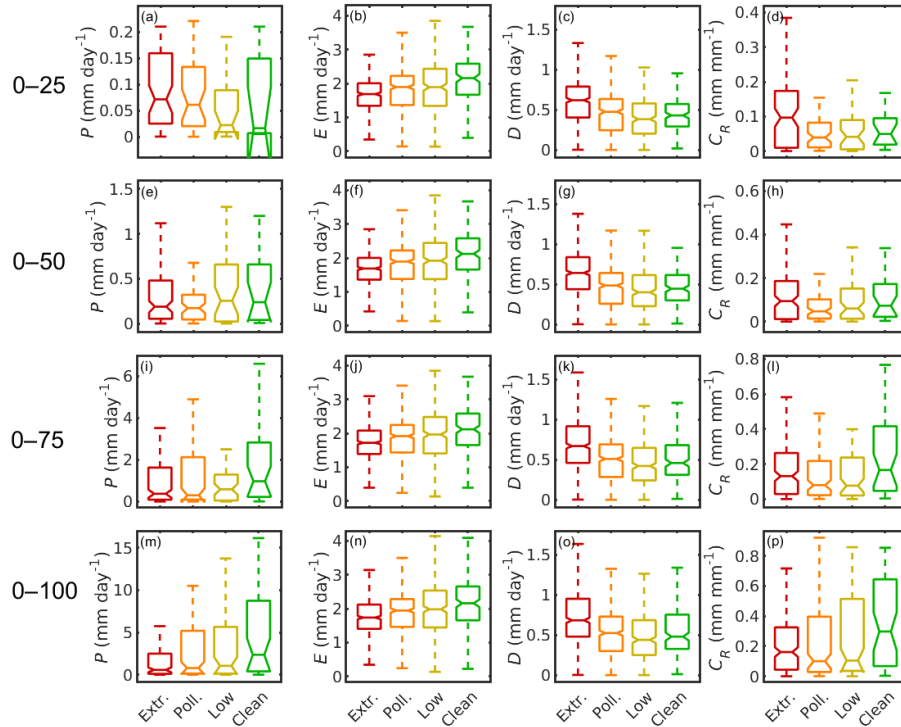


Figure 4. Box plots of daily precipitation (P), evapotranspiration (E), drainage (D) and runoff coefficient (C_R) stratified by different pollution levels (extremely polluted air, polluted air, low pollution, fairly clean air; see Sect. 2.1 for details) and daily precipitation percentiles (rows) from low (0–25) to all precipitation events (0–100) for 2001–2013. The notches indicate the 95 % confidence levels. Outliers are not shown. The amount of data used for each box is shown in Table 4. For statistics see Sect. 2.1.

quality levels are generally comparable to each other (Fig. 5, Table 5). Also the modelled sensible heat flux (Q_H) is reasonably good ($r > 0.74$, nRMSE: 0.83 to 1.33 from clean to extremely polluted conditions) with overestimating slightly the daytime values. Similar overestimation has been observed with other urban local scale models used in Beijing (e.g., Liang et al., 2018) and relates likely to the overestimated anthropogenic heat flux (Q_F) or underestimated storage heat flux (ΔQ_S) values that cannot be easily measured. Detailed hydrological analysis on the effect of haze can be made using SUEWS forced by WFDEI data in highly polluted Beijing as, the performance of the model is similar to the results in cleaner cities of Vancouver, Los Angeles, London and Swindon (e.g., Järvi et al., 2011; Kokkonen et al., 2018b; Ward et al., 2016).

3.3 The radiative effect of haze on surface water balance

Comparison of K_{\downarrow} on-for different pollutant levels shows that aerosols attenuate finds that haze attenuates $K_{\downarrow WF}$ by 167 W m⁻² (medians of midday $K_{\downarrow WF}$ of fairly clean conditions and extremely polluted conditions; Fig. 7). This reduces the surface energy availability and sensible heat flux-fluxes (Kajino et al., 2017). In addition, K_{\downarrow} absorbed by the heavily polluted layer

Table 4. Number of days of data (N) in each Fig. 4 box plot stratified by pollution levels (extremely polluted air, polluted air, low pollution, fairly clean air; see Sect. 2.1 for details) and daily precipitation percentiles (columns) from low (0–25) to all precipitation events (0–100). For explanation of the statistical methods see Sect. 2.1.

Variable	Level of pollution	Precipitation percentiles			
		0–25	0–50	0–75	0–100
P	Extreme	65	110	152	175
	Polluted	36	62	90	113
	Low	21	42	55	70
	Clean	8	19	33	46
E	Extreme	458	503	545	568
	Polluted	386	412	440	463
	Low	280	301	314	329
	Clean	148	159	173	186
D	Extreme	457	502	544	567
	Polluted	377	403	431	454
	Low	270	291	304	319
	Clean	145	156	170	183
C_R	Extreme	94	132	174	197
	Polluted	68	87	115	138
	Low	41	60	73	88
	Clean	17	27	40	52

changes the vertical temperature profile leading to an increased stability, which reduces turbulence and mixing and therefore also the boundary layer height (Petäjä et al., 2016). With less energy available at the surface, evaporation decreases by 0.42 mm day⁻¹ (daily median of fairly clean compared to extremely polluted conditions, Fig. 4). Thus with the same precipitation rate more water would be stored at the surface ~~and soil and or in the soil or~~ directed to surface runoff ~~especially during~~, especially during the smaller precipitation intensities ~~on associated with~~ more polluted levels (Fig. A2). The drainage is decreased by 0.19 mm day⁻¹ and the runoff coefficient ($C_R = R/[P + I]$, where I is irrigation) is increased by 0.047 based on the same comparison of daily medians for the 0–25 percentiles daily precipitation (Fig. 4). This is because for the most polluted days with the lowest precipitation (0–25 percentiles) P is slightly larger (0.07 mm day⁻¹) and E is the lowest (1.69 mm day⁻¹) resulting in C_R being largest (median 0.097) whereas the cleaner conditions are substantially lower (0.039–0.049) (Fig. 4). As higher daily precipitation percentiles are included, the higher amount of P during the fairly clean conditions starts to dominate. Even though the median C_R during extremely polluted conditions is higher than during other polluted levels (polluted and low pollution conditions) in all of the precipitation classes, C_R during fairly clean air starts to be equal with the extreme haze

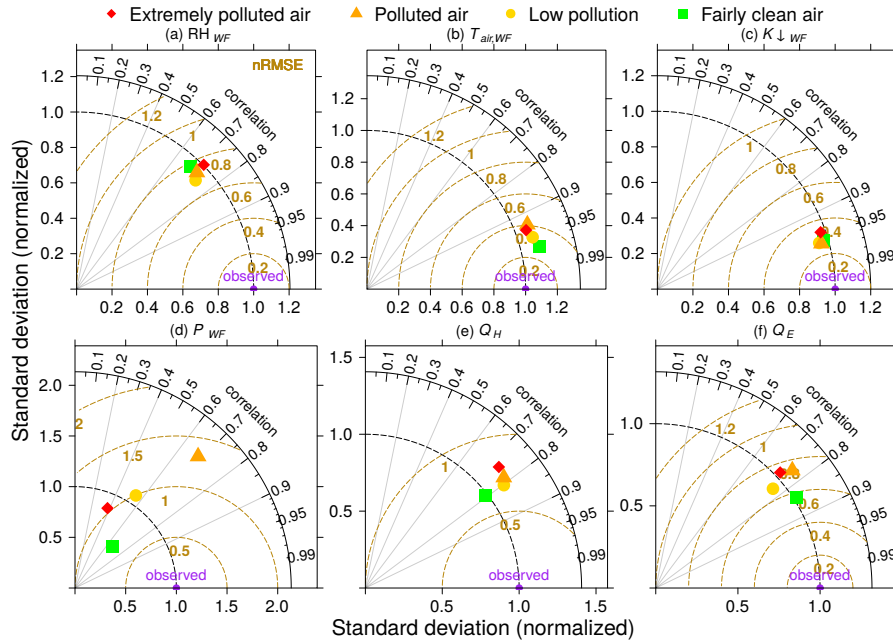


Figure 5. Taylor diagram (Taylor, 2001) for hourly (a) relative humidity (RH_{WF}), (b) air temperature ($T_{air,WF}$), (c) incoming solar radiation ($K_{\downarrow WF}$) and daily (d) precipitation (P_{WF}) with corrected WFDEI data assessed with IAP observations stratified by air quality (Sect. 2.1), and hourly modelled (e) sensible heat flux (Q_H) and (f) latent heat flux (Q_E) against eddy covariance IAP observations from 47 m height for 2006–2009. The radial axis is normalized standard deviation, angular axis is correlation coefficient and brown dashed lines indicate normalized root-mean square error (nRMSE). See Sect. 2.1 for statistics explanation. [Note scales differ between plots.](#)

- 5 conditions during days with precipitation of 0–75 percentiles (C_R : 0.13, 0.08, 0.08, 0.17 for extremely polluted, polluted, low pollution and fairly clean air, respectively) and exceeds extreme haze conditions when all the percentiles of precipitation are included (0.16, 0.10, 0.10, 0.30 from extremely polluted to fairly clean conditions).

4 [Discussion of broader impacts](#)

Beijing urban top soil is heavily polluted in gardens, roadsides and residential areas in Beijing (e.g., Chen et al., 2005; Xia et al., 10 2011). Two-thirds of Beijing’s water supply is from groundwater which is often contaminated by surface pollution sources (Sun et al., 2014). Decreased evaporation with poorer air quality increases surface drainage (0.70, 0.54, 0.44, 0.50 mm day⁻¹ from extremely polluted to fairly clean conditions) (Fig. 4) potentially causing more infiltration to groundwater from surfaces on occasions where higher atmospheric deposition has occurred. Hence, potentially making water quality poorer.

The increase in surface runoff during high haze conditions is quite small (Fig. 4) and may not contribute significantly to urban 5 flooding. However, the poorest surface runoff water quality is associated with first flush of runoff (Deletic and Maksimovic, 1998; Gupta and Saul, 1996; Yufen et al., 2008), thus the days with increased runoff may have poorer water quality. The

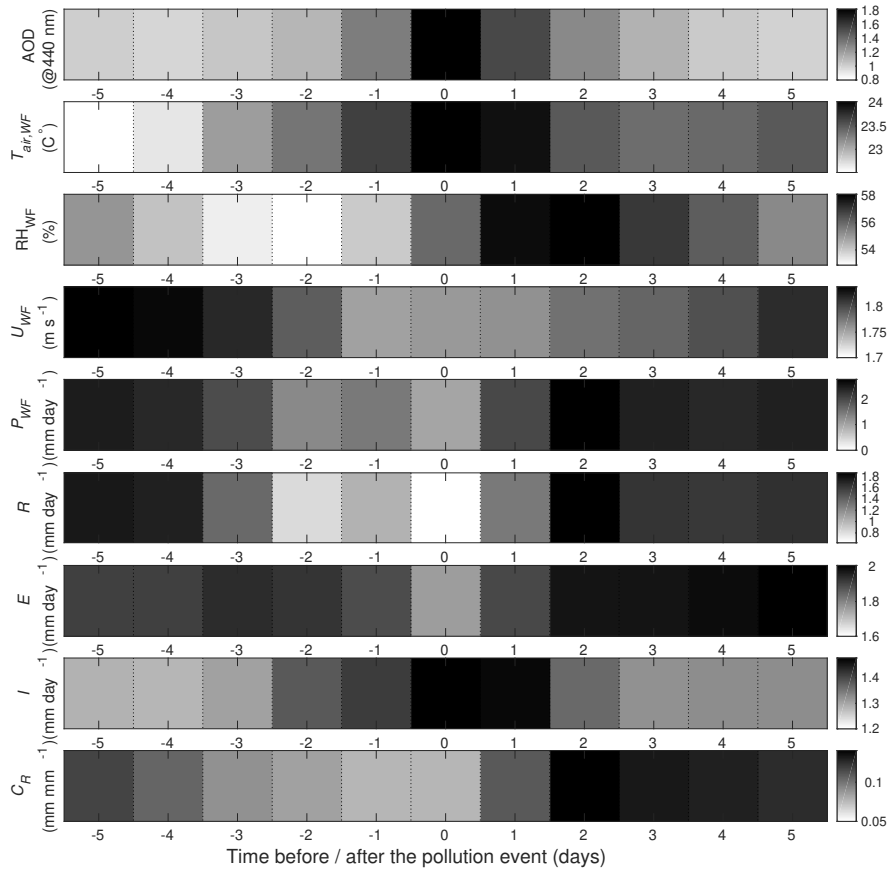


Figure 6. Average meteorological conditions of the pollution event days ($AOD > 1$, day 0), five days before (days -5 to -1) and five days after (days 1 to 5) in 2001–2013. Daily averages ($N = 568$) of aerosol optical depth (AOD), air temperature ($T_{air,WF}$), relative humidity (RH_{WF}), wind speed (U_{WF}) and daily cumulative values of observed precipitation (P_{WF}) and modelled surface runoff (R), evapotranspiration (E), irrigation (I) and runoff coefficient (C_R).

irrigation of urban green areas might have also similar effect by flushing the pollutants regularly from the surfaces. The flush of pollutants from contaminated surfaces to urban water bodies as surface runoff from vegetated and impervious surfaces in Beijing has been shown to include significantly more pollutants than rain water (Yufen et al., 2008). Therefore, the increase in runoff and drainage due to radiative effect of [air pollution haze](#) will increase the pollutant loads in already deteriorated urban surface waters (Sun et al., 2014) and groundwater.

5 Conclusions

In this study the radiative effect of haze on local scale hydrological cycle is examined for the period 2001–2013. The hydrological modelling is conducted using Surface Urban Energy and Water Balance Scheme (SUEWS) forced with WATCH WFDEI

Table 5. Comparison for 2006–2009 of hourly-model results of Q_H and Q_E for 2006–2009 with observations, stratified by pollution levels (extremely polluted air (AOD>1), polluted air (0.438–1), low pollution (0.203–0.438), fairly clean air (<0.203) (see Sect. 2.1 for details). Data are hourly: sensible heat flux (Q_H , $W m^{-2}$) and latent heat flux (Q_E , $W m^{-2}$). Superscript *uc* indicates uncorrected variables. For explanation of the statistical methods see Sect. 2.1.

	Variable	Level of pollution	N	r	RMSE	nRMSE	MBE	nMBE	MAE	nMAE
Model results	Q_H	Extreme	848	0.74	62.27	1.33	49.76	1.03	52.58	1.09
		Polluted	990	0.78	69.01	1.23	55.80	1.06	59.14	1.13
		Low	896	0.80	73.87	1.05	56.71	0.77	62.09	0.84
		Clean	837	0.79	57.80	0.83	36.32	0.48	47.34	0.62
	Q_H^{uc}	Extreme	848	0.69	94.85	2.02	82.37	1.70	84.75	1.75
		Polluted	990	0.72	84.36	1.51	69.52	1.32	74.31	1.42
		Low	896	0.75	83.29	1.19	65.48	0.88	71.56	0.97
		Clean	837	0.74	63.88	0.91	41.17	0.54	52.67	0.69
	Q_E	Extreme	850	0.73	38.10	0.81	15.36	0.38	27.27	0.67
		Polluted	995	0.76	41.65	0.76	11.07	0.23	27.66	0.58
		Low	915	0.76	36.80	0.67	-3.30	-0.06	24.39	0.46
		Clean	883	0.84	33.97	0.58	-6.47	-0.10	23.62	0.38
	Q_E^{uc}	Extreme	850	0.68	43.56	0.93	18.86	0.46	31.66	0.78
		Polluted	995	0.71	44.74	0.82	10.20	0.21	29.47	0.62
		Low	915	0.74	38.50	0.70	-7.32	-0.14	26.42	0.49
		Clean	883	0.83	35.43	0.60	-9.90	-0.16	25.53	0.41

reanalysis data. The representativeness of WFDEI reanalysis data in highly polluted urban environment (Beijing) is assessed with meteorological observations from 325 m IAP tower from 47 m level. In addition, the SUEWS performance is evaluated against eddy covariance observations of latent and sensible heat fluxes from the same height of IAP tower. The results are stratified by air quality based on observations of aerosol optical depth.

- 10 The effects of pollution-haze are well accounted for in the original WFDEI meteorological variables except for incoming solar radiation and precipitation. After the correction, daily precipitation totals are generally improved, but there are still substantial differences in the performance between the different air quality levels. After correcting ~~$K_{\downarrow WF}$~~ the WFDEI incoming solar radiation with new developed haze correction, it compares well to observations across pollution levels ($r > 0.94$, nRMSE < 0.33). Evaluations of SUEWS using eddy covariance observations of evaporation in Beijing concludes the model performance is good (r : >0.68 and >0.73; nRMSE: <0.93 and <0.81 using uncorrected and corrected WFDEI forcing data, respectively). Similarly SUEWS performance of sensible heat flux is rather good (r : >0.69 and >0.74; nRMSE: <2.02 and <1.33 using uncorrected and corrected WFDEI forcing data, respectively). Therefore the local urban water balance can be modelled despite
- 5 substantial biases in WFDEI precipitation data.

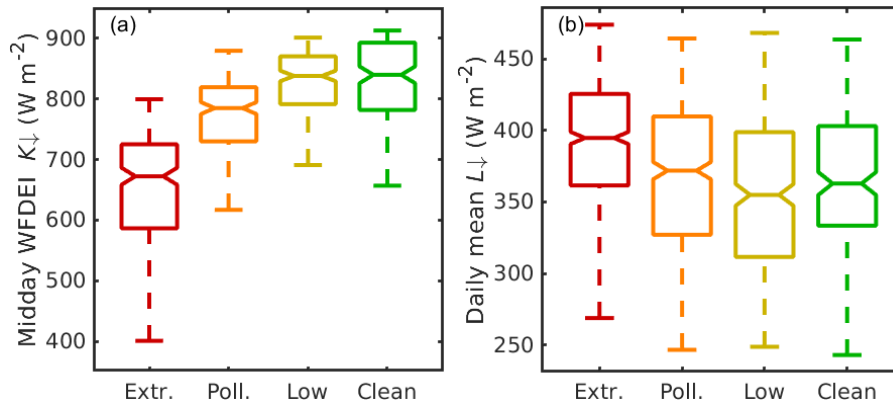


Figure 7. Box plots of (a) midday WFDEI incoming solar radiation (K_{\downarrow}^{WF}) and (b) modelled daily mean incoming longwave radiation (L_{\downarrow}) stratified by different pollution levels (extremely polluted air, polluted air, low pollution, fairly clean air) for 2001–2013. See Sect. 2.1 for details.

Detailed analyses of water balance terms finds that attenuated ~~K_{\downarrow} from atmospheric pollution decreases~~ incoming solar radiation due to increased atmospheric aerosol concentrations decrease the daily median evapotranspiration from 2.16 mm day⁻¹ during fairly clean conditions to 1.74 mm day⁻¹ during extremely polluted conditions. This leads to an increased runoff coefficient (from 0.049 to 0.097 during fairly clean and extremely polluted conditions, respectively) especially during smaller precipitation totals (days with precipitation totals of 25th percentile). When all precipitation events are included the higher precipitation levels during fairly clean conditions induce highest runoff coefficients (0.30), even though the runoff coefficient during the extremely polluted conditions (0.16) is higher than during other air quality levels (0.10 in both polluted and low pollution conditions). Also soil infiltration is increased due to decreased evapotranspiration: drainage from 0.48 mm day⁻¹ during fairly clean conditions to 0.68 mm day⁻¹ during extremely polluted conditions.

This study is the first to examine the radiative effects of haze on local scale urban hydrological cycle. The increased surface runoff and soil infiltration are expected to lead to increased pollutant loads washed from polluted surfaces and top layers of soils into urban surface waters and groundwater which are already poor in the Beijing region. The evaluation of WFDEI reanalysis data gives first results of the representativeness of an reanalysis dataset in a highly polluted urban area. Also other reanalysis datasets should be carefully evaluated and make the needed corrections prior to use at-in polluted urban areas.

Code and data availability. For SUEWS manual and software, visit: <http://suews-docs.readthedocs.io>. WATCH WFDEI data can be acquired from <ftp://rfddata.forceDATA@ftp.iiasa.ac.at> and AOD data from <https://aeronet.gsfc.nasa.gov/>.

5 Appendix A

Table A1. Notations used in Tables 1 and A2. Details and sources of the values in Järvi et al. (2011, 2014).

Variable	Description
α_i	Effective surface albedo
α_s	Effective snow albedo
α_s^{min}	Minimum snow albedo
α_s^{max}	Maximum snow albedo
ϵ_i	Effective surface emissivity
ϵ_s	Effective surface emissivity
ρ_e Threshold value in the calculation of retention capacity (kg m^{-3})	ρ_s^{min} Minimum snow density (kg m^{-3})
ρ_s^{max}	Maximum snow density (kg m^{-3})
τ_a	Cold snow time constant for snow albedo aging
τ_f	warm snow time constant for snow albedo aging
$a_{0,\{wd,we\}}$	Parameter defining the base Q_F per capita ($\text{W m}^{-2} (\text{capita}^{-1} \text{ha}^{-1})^{-1}$)
$a_{1,\{wd,we\}}$	Parameter defining the base CDD per capita ($\text{W m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-1} (\text{capita}^{-1} \text{ha}^{-1})^{-1}$)
$a_{2,\{wd,we\}}$	Parameter defining the base HDD per capita ($\text{W m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-1} (\text{capita}^{-1} \text{ha}^{-1})^{-1}$)
$a_{1,2,3}$	Constants in the calculation of the snow heat storage
a_f Temperature freezing factor ($\text{mm C}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$)	a_r Radiation melt factor ($\text{mm W}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$)
a_t	Temperature melt factor ($\text{mm } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$)
b	Empirical coefficient in the calculation of drainage
$b_{0a,1a,2a}$	Parameters for automatic irrigation ($\text{mm}, \text{mm K}^{-1}, \text{mm d}^{-1}$)
$b_{0m,1m,2m}$	Parameters for automatic irrigation ($\text{mm}, \text{mm K}^{-1}, \text{mm d}^{-1}$)
C_i	Interception state of i th surface (mm)
$C_{soil,i}$	Soil water storage (mm)
C_{min}^R	Minimum retention capacity (mm)
C_{max}^R	Maximum retention capacity (mm)
$D_{0,i}$	Drainage rate (mm)
VariableDescription	DaysSinceRain
	Days since rain before the simulation period (from WATCH data of previous year)

Variable

Description

G_{1-6}	Parameters related to surface conductance
GDD	Growing degree days
$g_{i,max}$	Maximum conductance (m s^{-1})
I_w	Additional water to water surface type (mm)
$K \downarrow_m$	Maximum incoming solar radiation used in g_s

Table A2. Model parameters used in SUEWS for different surfaces: buildings (bldgs), paved (pav), evergreen vegetation (everg), deciduous vegetation (dec), grass and water. Initial conditions assume there is no snow on the ground and leaf area index of each vegetation type is at their minimum value. See Table A1 for notation and Järvi et al. (2011, 2014) for data sources.

	Units	Bldgs	Pav	Everg	Dec	Grass	Water
S_i	mm	0.25	0.48	1.3	0.3–0.8	1.9	0.5
$S_{soil,i}$	mm	150	150	150	150	150	–
$D_{0,i}$	mm	10	10	0.013	0.013	10	–
b	–	3	3	1.71	1.71	0.013	–
C_i	mm	0	0	0	0	0	0
$C_{soil,i}$	mm	30	70	130	130	130	–
α_i	–	0.15	0.12	0.1	0.16	0.19	0.1
ϵ_i	–	0.95	0.91	0.98	0.98	0.93	0.95
$g_{i,max}$	mm s ⁻¹	–	–	7.4	11.7	40	–
LAI_{max}	m ² m ⁻²	–	–	5.1	5.5	5.9	–
LAI_{min}	m ² m ⁻²	–	–	4.0	1.0	1.6	–
$SWE_{max,i}$	mm	190	190	190	190	190	–
SWE_{lim}	mm	40	100	–	–	–	–
z_{soil}	mm	349	349	349	349	349	–

Table A3. Disaggregation for precipitation parameters (see details from Ward et al. (2017, 2018)). [Rainfall is evenly distributed among RainAmongN subintervals in a rainy interval for different intensity bins. The number of subintervals over which to distribute rainfall in each interval is given in MultRainAmongN for three intensity bins. Upper limit for each intensity bin to apply MultRainAmongN is given in MultRainAmongNUpperI.](#)

Resolution of input	3 h		
Disaggregation method	102		
RainAmongN	36		
MultRainAmongN	15	24	36
MultRainAmongNUpperI	1.5	6.0	150.0

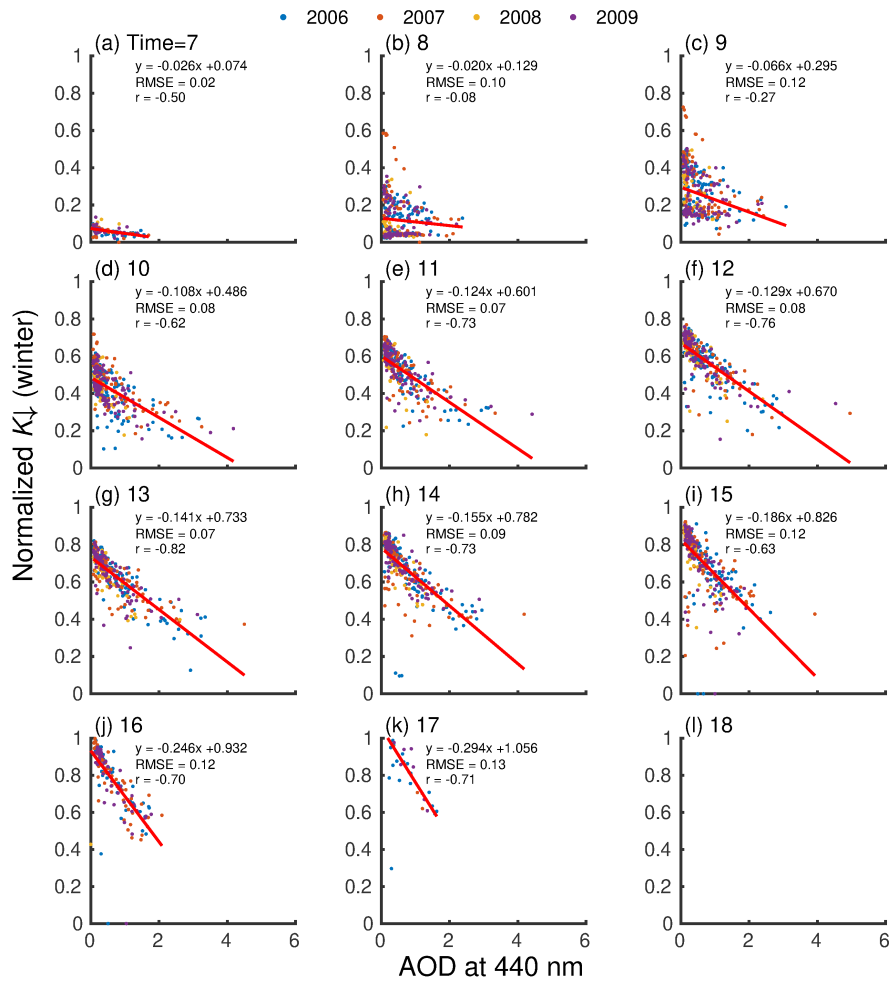


Figure A1. As in Fig. 1, but for the thermal winter months (Oct–Mar).

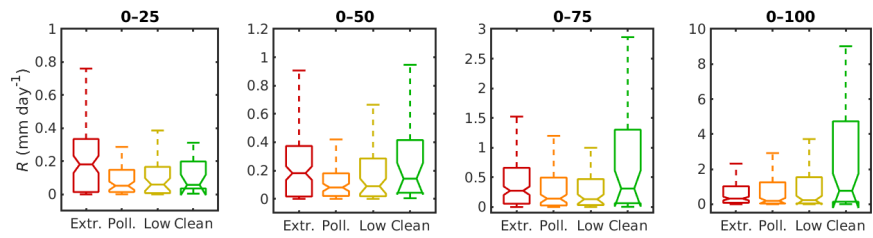


Figure A2. Daily cumulative runoff (R) stratified by different pollution levels (extremely polluted air, polluted air, low pollution, fairly clean air; see Sect. 2.1 for details) and daily precipitation percentiles from low (0–25) to all precipitation events (0–100) for 2001–2013. The notches indicate 95 % confidence levels. Outliers are not shown. For statistics see Sect. 2.1. See also Fig. 4.

Author contributions. TVK and LJ conceived this study; TVK was responsible for the atmospheric and hydrological analyses; SM was responsible for the GIS analysis; HL was responsible for the meteorological measurements. All authors contributed in writing the manuscript.

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