

1 Modelling of street-scale pollutant dispersion by coupled simulation of 2 chemical reaction, aerosol dynamics, and CFD

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15 ABSTRACT

16 In the urban environment, gas and particles impose adverse impacts on pedestrians' health.
17 The conventional computational fluid dynamics (CFD) methods that regard pollutant as
18 passive scalar cannot reproduce the formation of secondary pollutants and lead to
19 uncertain prediction. In this study, SSH-Aerosol, a modular box model that simulates the
20 evolution of gas, primary and secondary aerosols, is coupled with the CFD softwares
21 OpenFOAM and Code_Saturne. The transient dispersion of pollutants emitted from
22 traffic in a street canyon is simulated using unsteady Reynolds-averaged Navier–Stokes
23 equations (RANS) model. The simulated concentrations of NO₂, PM₁₀ and black carbon
24 are compared with field measurements on a street of Greater Paris. The simulated NO₂
25 and PM₁₀ concentrations based on the coupled model achieved better agreement with
26 measurement data than the conventional CFD simulation. Meanwhile, the black carbon
27 concentration is underestimated, probably partly because of the underestimation of non-
28 exhaust emissions (tyre and road wear). **Aerosol dynamics lead to large increase of
29 ammonium nitrate and anthropogenic organic compounds from precursor-gas emitted in
30 the street canyon.**

32 Keywords

33 Pollutant dispersion, Street canyon, Aerosol dynamics, CFD, PM₁₀, Secondary aerosols

35 1. Introduction

36 Traffic-related pollutants can impose adverse effects on pedestrians' health in the urban

37 environment (Anenberg et al., 2017; Jones et al., 2008). Especially, particulate matter
38 (PM) is strongly associated with increased cardiovascular diseases (Du et al., 2016).
39 Therefore, investigating the dispersion of PM and the corresponding precursor gas is of
40 great significance to evaluate the environmental impact and devise suitable
41 countermeasures (Kumar et al., 2008).

42 With the development of numerical simulations, computational fluid dynamics (CFD) has
43 been widely used for near-field dispersion prediction (Tominaga and Stathopoulos, 2013).
44 The pollutant dispersion patterns in complex geometric and non-uniform building
45 configurations can be well predicted using CFD simulations (Blocken et al., 2013).
46 Pollutant dispersion, deposition and transformation (chemical reactions and aerosol
47 dynamics) have primary roles in near-field prediction models. However, most CFD-based
48 studies assume that the time scale of transport at the street scale (~ 100 m) is relatively
49 shorter than the time scale of deposition and transformation; therefore, they frequently
50 regard pollutants as inert matter. Meanwhile, the recirculation flows which commonly
51 exist in street canyons lead to low-ventilation zones and may provide sufficient time for
52 transformation (Lo and Ngan, 2017; Zhang et al., 2020).

53 In addition, when PM is transported as a passive scalar, the distribution of the total
54 concentration can be simulated, however, information on the particle size distribution and
55 chemical composition is unclear. Understanding the size distribution is important for
56 evaluating the health hazards because large particles are deposited in the mouth and upper
57 airways, whereas smaller particles deposit deeper in the lungs and can even reach the
58 alveolar region of the lungs (Sung et al., 2007). In addition, as particles of different
59 chemical compositions are related to different sources and/or precursor gases, gaining
60 knowledge of their composition may help devise countermeasures to limit their
61 concentrations (Kim, 2019).

62 To simulate pollutant concentrations considering both transport and transformation, many
63 studies have coupled air-quality models with gas-phase chemistry and aerosol modules
64 and achieved chemical transport from a regional scale (~ 100 km) (Sartelet et al., 2007) to
65 a street scale (Lugon et al., 2021b). However, few models can simultaneously represent
66 detailed particle dispersion in a complicated urban flow field considering secondary
67 aerosol formation.

68 For the recent development and application of CFD-chemistry coupling model, Kurppa
69 et al., (2019) implemented a sectional aerosol module into large eddy simulation (LES),
70 and conducted a particle dispersion simulation on a neighborhood scale. Gao et al., (2022)
71 employed the same model to examine the dispersion of cooking-generated aerosols in an
72 urban street canyon. In both studies, the effect of particle dynamics on aerosol number

73 concentration was well reproduced. However, the simulated chemical composition was
74 not detailed. In addition, the chemical reactions of the precursor gas were not considered.
75 Kim et al., (2019) coupled unsteady Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) model
76 with gas chemistry and aerosol modules and conducted simulations of PM_1 in a street
77 canyon under summer and winter conditions. The diurnal variations, spatial distribution
78 and chemical composition of pollutants in the street canyon were investigated. However,
79 the size distribution of particles and the secondary organic aerosol (SOA) chemistry were
80 not considered. **Therefore, a more comprehensive coupled model is needed to simulate**
81 **the evolution of gas concentrations, mass and number concentrations of primary and**
82 **secondary particles at the same time.**

83 **Vehicles are considered to be the main ammonia (NH_3) source in urban environments**
84 **(Sun et al., 2017). Reactive nitrogen emissions from many new vehicles are now**
85 **dominated by NH_3 (Bishop and Stedman, 2015). Since the formation of ammonium**
86 **nitrate is often limited by HNO_3 rather than NH_3 in urban areas (NH_3 -limited), increasing**
87 **NH_3 may lead to increased ammonium nitrate production and PM concentration in urban**
88 **streets (Lugon et al., 2021b). However, NH_3 emissions from passenger cars are usually**
89 **not regulated (Suarez-Bertoa and Astorga, 2018). Therefore, to provide evidence in**
90 **making policies for NH_3 emission regulation, it is important to investigate the local**
91 **influence of NH_3 emissions on PM concentrations.**

92 Therefore, to achieve a more comprehensive simulation of PM and related precursor gas,
93 this study couple two open-source CFD softwares: OpenFOAM (OpenFOAM user guide)
94 and Code_Saturne (Archambeau et al., 2004), with gas-phase chemistry and aerosol
95 module SSH-Aerosol (Sartelet et al., 2020). **Both OpenFOAM and Code_Saturne own**
96 **wide users. Therefore, coupling SSH-aerosol with both CFD softwares may satisfy more**
97 **needs.** Simulations of the PM concentrations in a two-dimensional street canyon are
98 conducted. The coupled model is validated by comparison to field measurements. The
99 size distributions and chemical compositions of particles from the models with and
100 without secondary aerosol formation are compared. **In addition, cases with large NH_3**
101 **emissions are considered and the related PM increase is investigated.**

102 The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. The coupling of the aerosol model
103 and CFD is introduced in Section 2. The computational details are presented in Section 3.
104 In Section 4, the simulated pollutant concentrations are compared with field
105 measurements, followed by evaluations of the influence of the grid, coupling method and
106 time step. In Section 5, spatial and temporal variations in the concentrations are analyzed.
107 The chemical compositions and size distributions of the particles between the coupled
108 model and the model that does not consider gas chemistry or aerosol dynamics are

109 compared. In addition, the effect of NH₃ traffic emissions on particle concentrations is
110 discussed. Finally, the conclusions and perspectives are presented in Section 6.

111 112 **2. Model description**

113 The coupling method between CFD and chemistry modules is similar to the literature
114 (Gao et al., 2022; Kurppa et al., 2019). OpenFOAM v2012 and Code_Saturne 6.2 are
115 used to solve the governing equations of the flow field and transport equations of gas and
116 particle mass fractions. The inflow conditions, pollutants' background concentrations and
117 emission rates are obtained from regional models, and are linearly interpolated into each
118 time step, which will be introduced in Section 3. This simulation method is called
119 transient-condition method (TCM) in this study. However, because time-varying flow
120 fields and concentration fields are expensive to compute in terms of computational time,
121 conducting CFD simulations with fixed boundary conditions and emission rates at
122 specific time points is considered a practical method for evaluating street-level pollutant
123 concentrations (Wu et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2020). The transport (advection and
124 diffusion) and chemical processes will reach equilibrium, and the simulated
125 concentrations will reach quasi-stable values. These values are often regarded as time-
126 averaged concentrations. This method is called the constant-condition method (CCM) in
127 this study, in contrast to TCM. However, the simulation accuracy of CCM has not been
128 validated in simulations that consider both gas chemistry and particle dynamics.
129 Therefore, validation is conducted using boundary conditions and emission rates at
130 specific time points and the simulated concentrations with CCM and TCM are compared
131 in Section 4.2.

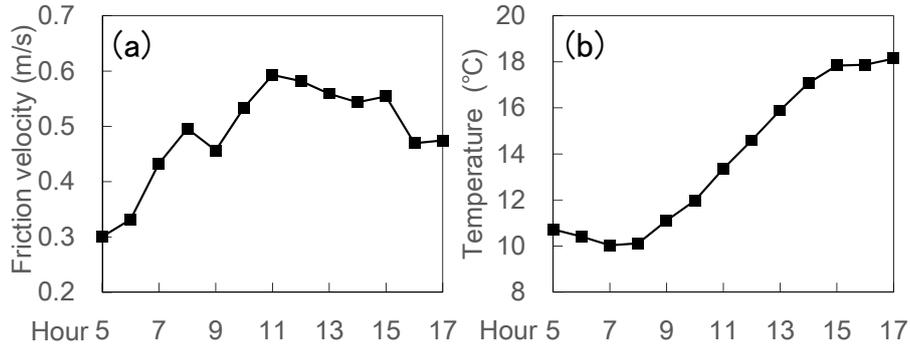
132 The unsteady RANS model is used for the transient simulations with both CFD codes. In
133 OpenFOAM, the RNG (Re-Normalisation Group) k - ϵ model (Yakhot et al., 1992) is
134 deployed for turbulence closure. All transport equations are discretized using the total
135 variation diminishing (TVD) scheme (Harten, 1984; Yee, 1987), which combines the
136 first-order upwind difference scheme and the second-order central difference scheme. The
137 PIMPLE algorithm, a merged PISO (Pressure Implicit with Splitting of Operator)-
138 SIMPLE (Semi-Implicit Method for Pressure-Linked Equations) algorithm in the
139 OpenFOAM toolkit, is used for pressure-velocity coupling. In Code_Saturne, turbulence
140 is solved using the k - ϵ turbulence model (linear production) (Guimet and Laurence, 2002).
141 The time and space discretizations of velocity, pressure and other scalars in all transport
142 equations are realized through a centred scheme and a fractional step scheme
143 (Archambeau et al., 2004). For both CFD software, the dry deposition schemes for gas
144 and particle are added to the transport equations using volume sink terms based on Zhang

145 et al. (2003) and Zhang et al. (2001), respectively. The details of the implementation are
146 provided in Appendix A.

147 SSH-Aerosol (Sartelet et al., 2020) is a modular box model that simulates the evolution
148 of not only gas concentrations but also the mass and number concentrations of primary
149 and secondary particles. In SSH-Aerosol 112 gas species and 40 particle species are
150 considered. The particle compounds are dust, black carbon, inorganics (sodium, sulphate,
151 ammonium, nitrate and chloride), primary organic aerosol (POA) and secondary organic
152 aerosol (SOA). Three main processes involved in aerosol dynamics (coagulation,
153 condensation /evaporation and nucleation) are included. The particle size distribution is
154 modelled using a sectional size distribution. **Nucleation is not considered in this study
155 because only the mass and not the number of particles is available for evaluation, and
156 large uncertainties remain on the nucleation parameterizations (Sartelet et al., 2022)
157 mostly affecting the number of particles. As nucleation is not considered, the minimum
158 diameter does not need to be as low as 0.001 μm , and it is fixed to 0.01 μm , as in the
159 regional-scale simulations of Sartelet et al. (2018), which provide the background
160 concentrations. Six particle size sections are employed with bound diameters of 0.01, 0.04,
161 0.16, 0.4, 1.0, 2.5 and 10 μm .**

162 The coupling between CFD and SSH-aerosol are achieved by using the application
163 program interface (API) of SSH-aerosol. The gas and particle concentrations are
164 initialized in CFD and are transported in the domain for each time step. For each grid
165 volume cell, these transported concentrations, as well as meteorological parameters, such
166 as temperature and humidity, are then sent to SSH-aerosol to advance one time step of
167 gaseous chemistry and aerosol dynamics. Once the SSH-aerosol calculation is completed,
168 the concentrations are sent back to the CFD for the next time step. **It should be noted that
169 as the SSH-aerosol processes the ensemble-averaged concentration from RANS model,
170 the covariance of turbulent diffusion and chemical reaction may not be fully reproduced.**
171 The influence of different operator splitting algorithms is discussed in Section 4.4.

172



197
198 **Fig. 2 Time variations of hourly friction velocity and temperature for inflow.**

199
200 **Meteorological conditions (Fig. 2) including time-varying friction velocity and**
201 **temperature are obtained from the simulation described in Sartelet et al. (2018) using the**
202 **Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) model. The grid resolution is 1 km × 1 km in**
203 **Paris. The lowest and highest friction velocities occurred approximately at 5 a.m. and 11**
204 **a.m., respectively. The lowest and highest temperatures are around 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. For**
205 **the inflow, the wind direction is perpendicular to the street canyon. The friction velocity**
206 u_* **is used to prescribe the vertical profiles of the streamwise velocity U , turbulent kinetic**
207 **energy k and turbulent dissipation rate ε as follows**

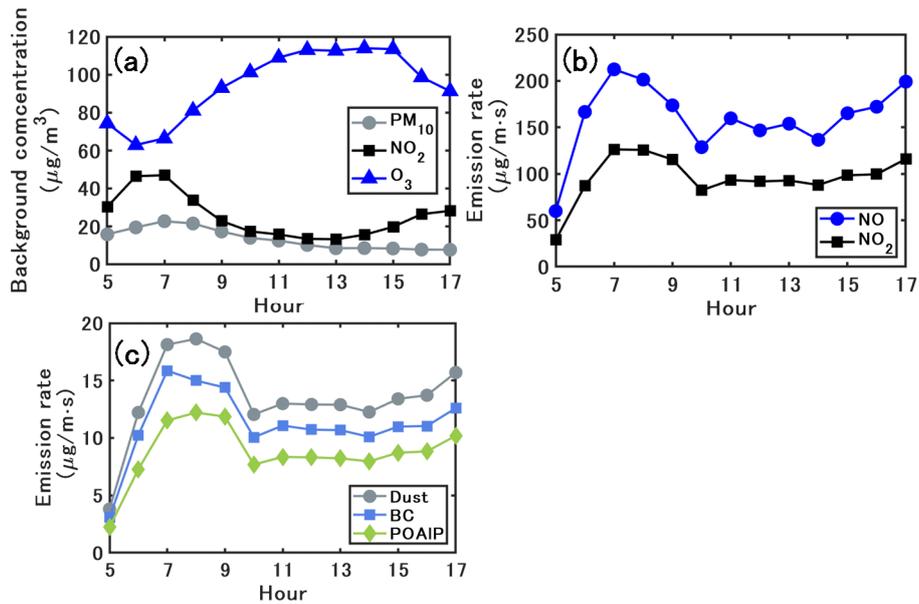
$$U(z) = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \ln\left(\frac{z-H}{z_0}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$k(z) = \frac{u_*^2}{\sqrt{C_\mu}} \quad (2)$$

$$\varepsilon(z) = \frac{u_*^3}{\kappa(z-H)} \quad (3)$$

208 where κ is the von Kármán constant and C_μ is the model constant (=0.09) in the k- ε
209 model. The roughness length z_0 is set to 1 m for the inlet (Belcher, 2005) and 0.1 m for
210 the wall and bottom (Lo and Ngan, 2015).

211 **In addition, since the domain height is low (51 m) in this study and we focus on the**
212 **pollutant dispersion behaviors in the street canyon, it is reasonable to consider the**
213 **atmospheric stability as neutral; therefore the temperature is assumed to be spatially**
214 **uniform at the inflow. The hourly friction velocities and temperatures are linearly**
215 **interpolated into each timestep and prescribed at the inflow.**



217

218 Fig. 3 Time variations of (a) PM₁₀, NO and NO₂ background concentrations, (b) emission
 219 rates of NO and NO₂ and (c) emission rates of dust, BC and organics (POAIP).

220

221 Fig. 3(a) shows the time variations of the PM₁₀, NO and NO₂ background concentrations.
 222 Fig. 3(b) and (c) show the emission rates for NO, NO₂ and the emitted compounds of
 223 PM₁₀. The background concentrations of the gas and particles are obtained from the
 224 regional-scale simulations of Sartelet et al. (2018) with the Eulerian model Polair3D of
 225 the Polyphemus air quality modelling platform (Mallet et al., 2007), which uses the same
 226 chemical representation as in this study. As detailed in Sartelet et al. (2018), the regional
 227 background concentrations compare well to measurements of O₃, NO₂, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5},
 228 black carbon and organic aerosols. The hourly background concentrations are linearly
 229 interpolated into each timestep and prescribed at the inflow and top. The traffic emission
 230 source is assumed to be approximately 14 m in width and 1.5 m in height, and it is set in
 231 the middle of the bottom of the canyon (Fig. 1). As detailed in Kim et al. (2022), emissions
 232 are estimated from the fleet composition and the number of vehicles in the street using
 233 COPERT's emission factors (COMputer Program to calculate Emissions from Road
 234 Transport, version 2019, EMEP/EEA, 2019). After the speciation of NO_x, Volatile
 235 Organic Compounds (VOC), PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ into model species, emissions are set for 16
 236 gaseous model species and three particle model species: dust and unspecified matter
 237 (Dust), black carbon (BC) and primary organic aerosol of low volatility (POAIP). The
 238 PM size distribution at emission is assumed to be the same as in the previous studies
 239 (Lugon et al., 2021a, 2021b). The exhaust primary PM is assumed to be in the size bin
 240 [0.04 – 0.16 µm] while non-exhaust primary PM is coarser in the size bin [0.4 – 10 µm].

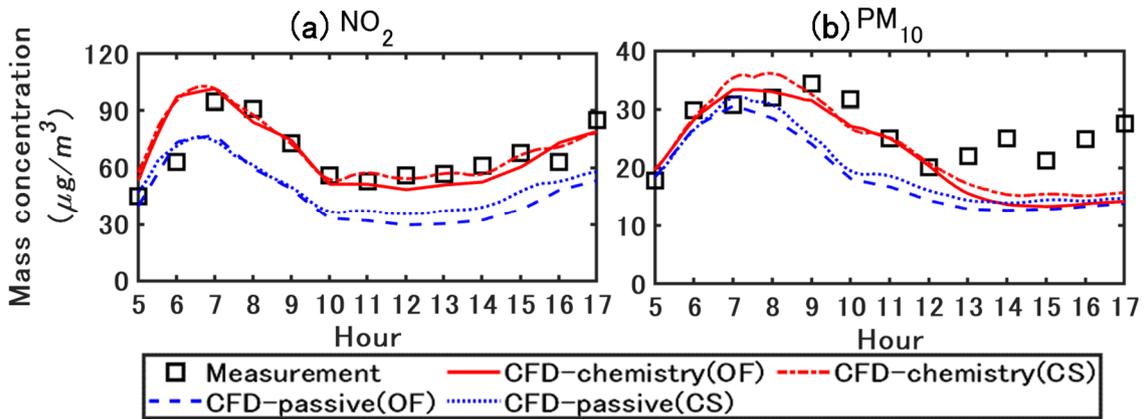
241 For the boundary conditions of the OpenFOAM, the pressure and the gradients of all other
 242 variables are set to zero at the outlet. For the walls, we use the wall functions of ε and
 243 turbulent kinematic viscosity ν_t for atmospheric boundary layer modelling in
 244 OpenFOAM toolkit (OpenFOAM user guide) based on (Parente et al., 2011). The
 245 gradients of turbulent kinetic energy k , concentration, and temperature are set to zero. In
 246 Code_Saturne, a two-scales logarithmic friction velocity wall function is used for solving
 247 the fluid velocity near wall cell and a three layers wall function is used for computing
 248 other transported scalar profiles such as temperature near the wall (Arpaci and Larsen,
 249 1984).

250 The turbulent Schmidt number Sc_t in the concentration transport equations, which is the
 251 ratio of the turbulent diffusivity to the concentration and turbulent kinematic viscosity, is
 252 important in turbulent diffusion modeling. The value of Sc_t is considered between 0.2
 253 and 1.3, depending on the flow properties and geometries (Tominaga and Stathopoulos,
 254 2007). For urban environments with a compact layout, a small $Sc_t = 0.4$ is found to
 255 show better agreement with wind tunnel experiment data (Di Sabatino et al., 2007).
 256 Therefore, a value of 0.4 is adopted in the current study.

257

258 4. Model evaluation

259 4.1. Validation with field measurements and comparison of simulated concentrations with
 260 the two CFD software



261

262 Fig. 4 Measured and simulated NO_2 and PM_{10} concentrations. The values are spatially
 263 averaged in the street canyon ($27.5 \leq x \leq 55, 0 \leq z \leq 8.5$ m). CFD-passive and CFD-
 264 chemistry denote the CFD simulation without and with chemistry coupling. OF and CS
 265 denote the simulated concentrations based on OpenFOAM and Code_Saturne. All
 266 concentrations are represented in local time (GMT+2).

267

268 Reproducing the flow field is important in this study. Meanwhile, the observation data on

269 wind velocity is not available. Therefore, we conducted a velocity validation for
 270 OpenFOAM v2012 using data from a wind tunnel experiment (Blackman et al., 2015).
 271 The predicted mean velocity agreed well with the experimental values. The details can be
 272 found at Appendix B.

273 Fig. 4 compares the simulated concentrations with those obtained from the field
 274 measurements. In the field measurements, the measured concentration was obtained from
 275 averaging over two measurement points near the leeward and windward walls in the street
 276 canyon. In this section, the simulated results and discussion are based on the spatially-
 277 averaged values in the street canyon ($27.5 \leq x \leq 55, 0 \leq z \leq 8.5$ m). CFD-passive and
 278 CFD-chemistry denote the CFD simulation without and with chemistry coupling. OF and
 279 CS denote simulated concentrations based on OpenFOAM and Code_Saturne. The
 280 operator splitting order and time step for OF and CS are the A-B-A splitting method with
 281 0.5 s and the A-B splitting method with 0.25 s, as detailed in Section 4.4. The simulation
 282 time ratio of CFD-chemistry and CFD-passive is about three times in both OpenFOAM
 283 and Code_Saturne in this study.

284 For NO₂, the peak concentration in the field measurement occurred approximately at 7
 285 a.m. owing to the morning traffic. In the CFD-passive simulations, the lack of chemical
 286 reactions lead to an underestimation of NO₂, while the concentrations simulated with
 287 CFD-chemistry agree well with the measurements. For PM₁₀, the concentrations
 288 simulated with CFD-chemistry also show better agreement with the measurements than
 289 CFD-passive. The primary reason is that CFD-chemistry can reproduce the condensation
 290 of inorganic and organic matter from the gas phase to the particle phase, which will be
 291 further explained in the following sections. The simulation results based on OF and CS
 292 show small differences, and detailed comparisons are presented in Fig. 6.

293 Validation metrics (Chang and Hanna, 2004) are used to quantify the overall accuracy of
 294 the CFD simulated concentrations based on OF, compared with the measured values
 295 (Trini Castelli et al., 2018; Ferrero et al., 2019). The following metrics are used: fractional
 296 bias (FB), geometric mean bias (MG) and normalized mean square error (NMSE). These
 297 metrics are defined as follows:

$$FB = \frac{\overline{Obs} - \overline{CFD}}{0.5(\overline{Obs} + \overline{CFD})} \quad (4)$$

$$MG = \exp(\ln \overline{Obs} - \ln \overline{CFD}) \quad (5)$$

$$NMSE = \frac{\overline{(Obs_i - CFD_i)^2}}{\overline{Obs} \times \overline{CFD}} \quad (6)$$

298 where Obs_i and CFD_i are the measured and CFD simulated concentrations for the
 299 compound/species i , respectively. The overbar represents the mean value of the entire

300 dataset. The ideal values are 1 for MG, and 0 for FB and NMSE. Previous research has
 301 suggested that $|FB| < 0.3$, $0.7 < MG < 1.3$ and $NMSE < 4$ are acceptable for
 302 simulated concentrations (Hanna et al., 2004).

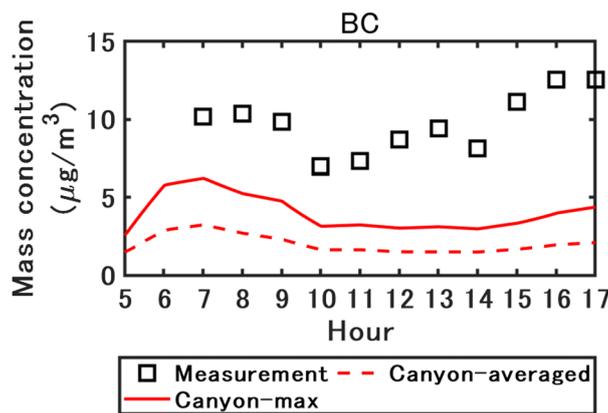
303 Table 1 shows the statistical indicators for spatially averaged concentrations of NO_2 and
 304 PM_{10} in the street canyon from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. For NO_2 and PM_{10} , the mean and 90%
 305 percentile concentrations simulated with CFD-chemistry are closer to the measurements
 306 than those simulated with CFD-passive. In addition, the FB, MG and NMSE values of
 307 CFD-chemistry are closer to the ideal values than those of CFD-passive.

308

309 **Table 1 Statistical indicators for NO_2 and PM_{10} in the street canyon from 5 a.m. to 5p.m.**
 310 **The concentrations are simulated with OpenFOAM.**

	Concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)		Validation metrics		
	Mean	Percentile 90%	FB	MG	NMSE
NO_2					
Measurement	66.6	91.8	/	/	/
CFD-chemistry	67.3	97.3	-0.01	1.00	1E-4
CFD-passive	45.9	73.7	0.36	1.50	0.14
PM_{10}					
Measurement	26.4	32.5	/	/	/
CFD-chemistry	22.3	33.1	0.17	1.23	0.03
CFD-passive	18.8	28.9	0.34	1.45	0.13

311



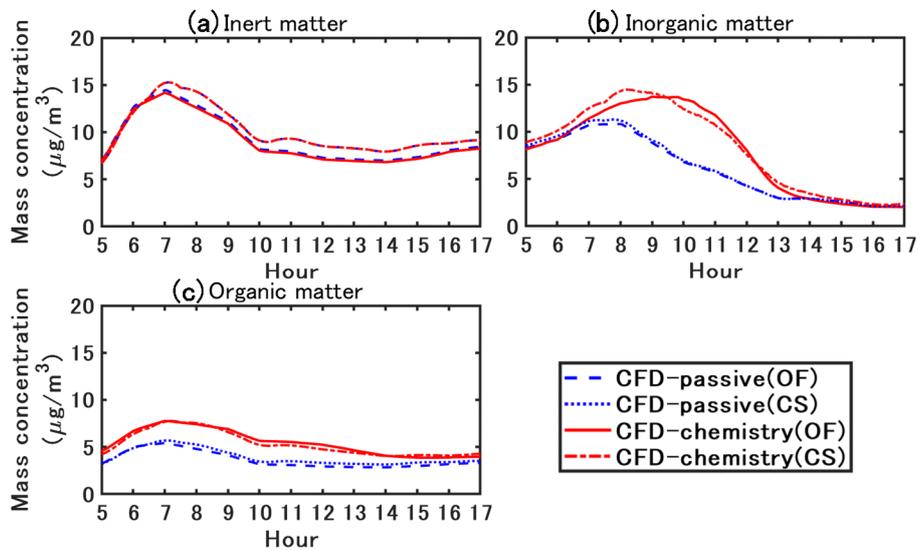
312

313 **Fig. 5 Measured and simulated black carbon concentrations with OpenFOAM. The**
 314 **canyon-averaged and maximum concentrations in the street canyon are represented by**
 315 **the plain line and the dashed line respectively ($27.5 \leq x \leq 55, 0 \leq z \leq 8.5$ m).**

316

317 **The black carbon (BC) concentration simulated with OF is compared with the**

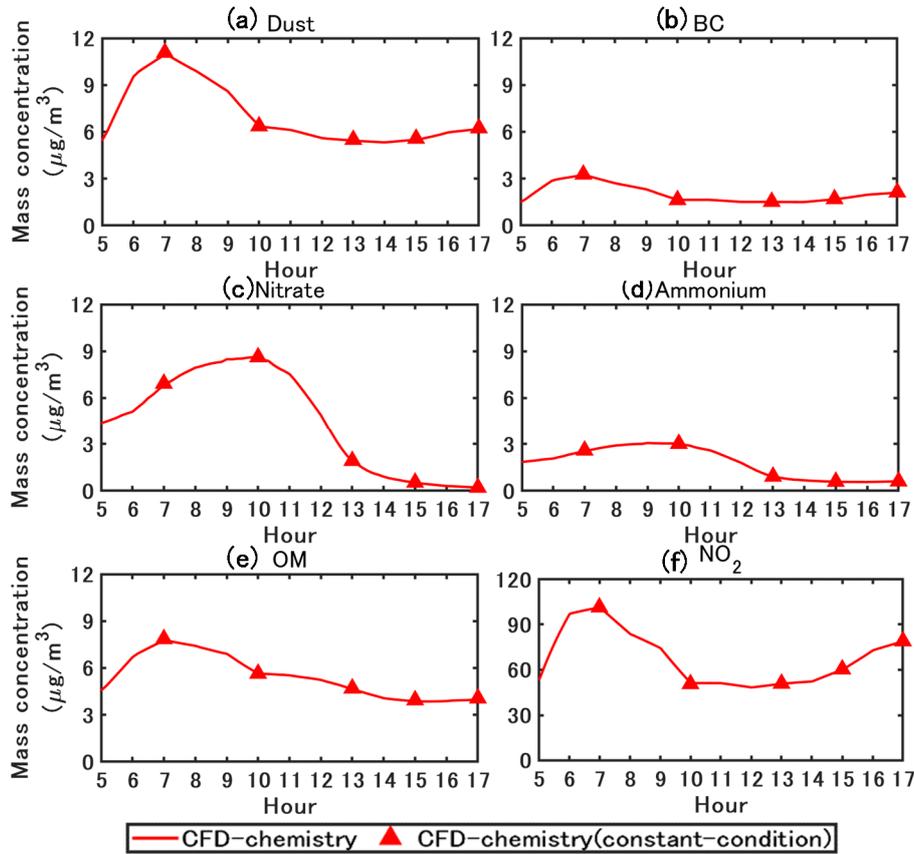
318 **measurements in** Fig. 5. Because BC is considered an inert matter, considering chemistry
 319 does not influence the mass concentration. Therefore, the concentrations simulated with
 320 CFD-passive and CFD-chemistry show little difference; only the concentration simulated
 321 with CFD-chemistry is shown here. **The BC concentrations are underestimated by a factor**
 322 **of approximately 5.** Even the maximum concentrations in the street canyon largely
 323 underestimate the measurements. One of the causes of this underestimation may be the
 324 underestimation of the non-exhaust tyre emission factors in the COPERT emission factors
 325 used here (Lugon et al., 2021a).



326
 327 **Fig. 6 Simulated particle concentrations with OpenFOAM (OF) and Code_Saturne (CS).**
 328 **CFD-passive and CFD-chemistry denote the CFD simulation without and with chemistry**
 329 **coupling.**

330
 331 The particle concentrations simulated with OF and CS are compared in Fig. 6. **The**
 332 **evolutions of the concentrations simulated by OF and CS are similar. Higher PM₁₀**
 333 **concentrations are simulated by CS around 8 a.m. during the traffic peak and in the**
 334 **afternoon, mostly because of the higher concentrations of emitted inert compounds, such**
 335 **as black carbon and dust.** Differences in the turbulence scheme may explain these
 336 variations. **Meanwhile, the difference between CFD-passive and CFD-chemistry for the**
 337 **inorganic and organic matter is in accordance with OF and CS, showing the robustness**
 338 **of the coupling method between CFD and SSH-aerosol by API.** For simplicity, only the
 339 simulated concentration based on OF is presented and discussed in the following sections.
 340

341 4.2. Transient-condition method and constant-condition method



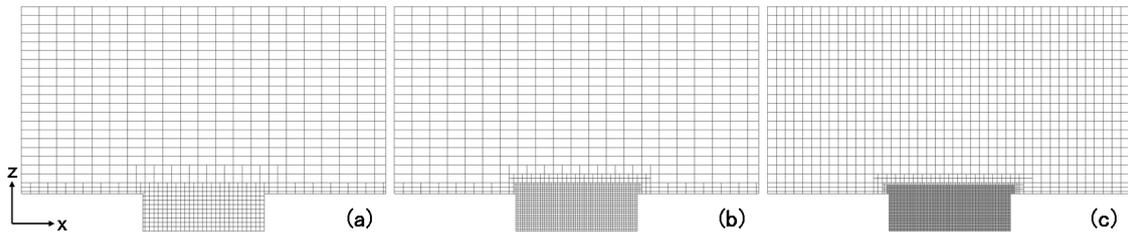
342
 343 Fig. 7 Simulated PM_{10} and NO_2 concentrations with the transient-condition and constant-
 344 condition methods. The concentrations are spatially averaged in the street canyon.

345
 346 To validate the simulation accuracy of CCM in simulations that consider both gas
 347 chemistry and particle dynamics, simulations are conducted using boundary conditions
 348 and emission rates at five time points (7 a.m., 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.). Other
 349 simulation conditions, including the grid, coupling method, and time step, are the same
 350 as the transient-condition simulation.

351 In Fig. 7, for PM_{10} and NO_2 , the concentrations simulated with CCM (red triangles) are
 352 similar to those simulated with TCM. In addition, depending on the background
 353 concentration and emission conditions, the simulation time required for CCM to reach
 354 dynamic equilibrium is less than 1000 time steps (approximately 500 s). Therefore, CCM
 355 can be utilized for parameter studies. The sensitivity analysis of the grid, coupling method
 356 and time step in Section 4.3 and 4.4 is based on CCM. However, CCM should be used
 357 with caution when the inflow wind speed and direction vary rapidly. The simulated
 358 concentrations in Section 5 are based on TCM.

359

360 4.3. Grid sensitivity

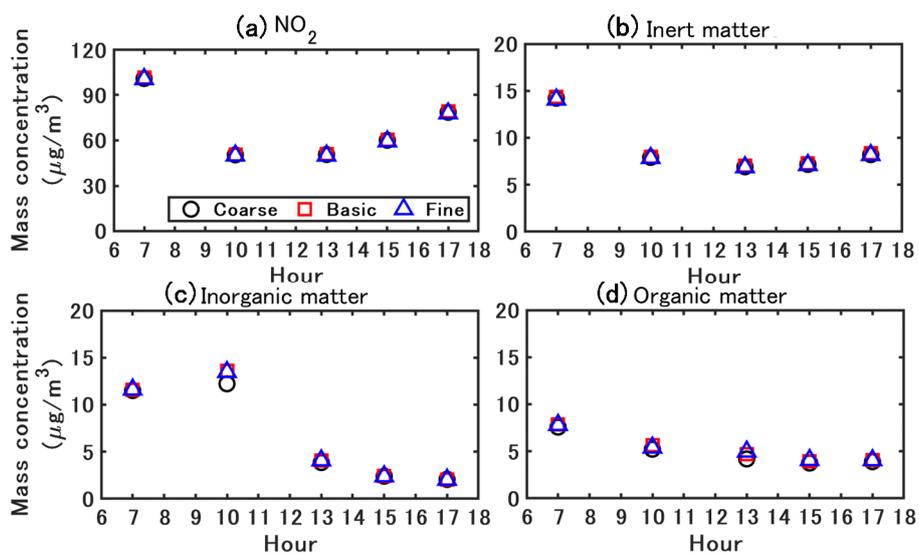


361

362 Fig. 8 Different grid resolutions for sensitivity analysis: (a) coarse, (b) basic, (c) fine. The
 363 grid resolutions in the street canyon are 1 m, 0.5 m and 0.25 m in both x - and z - directions,
 364 respectively. The largest grid sizes are 4 m (x) \times 2m (z) in the coarse and basic grids,
 365 and 2 m (x) \times 2m (z) in the fine grid.

366

367 Grid sensitivity analysis is conducted based on three different resolutions as shown in Fig.
 368 8. The grid resolutions in the street canyon for coarse, basic and fine grids are 1 m, 0.5 m
 369 and 0.25 m in both x - and z - directions, respectively. The largest grid sizes are 4 m (x) \times
 370 2m (z) for the coarse and basic grids, and 2 m (x) \times 2m (z) for the fine grid. The
 371 simulations are based on constant-condition method. The A-B-A splitting method, which
 372 is introduced in Section 4.4, is used with a time step of 0.5 s. Fig. 9 shows the comparative
 373 results for the mass concentration. No significant discrepancy is observed between the
 374 different grids for NO_2 , inert matter and organic matter. Meanwhile, the simulated
 375 inorganic matter based on coarse grids shows slightly smaller concentrations than the
 376 other grid resolutions, while the concentrations based on basic and fine grids are close.
 377 Therefore, the basic grid is adopted for simulations in this study.



378

379 Fig. 9 Simulated NO_2 and particle concentrations with different grid resolutions.

380

381 *4.4. Coupling method and time step sensitivity*

382 The transport equation for the chemical species includes terms of advection, diffusion,
383 emission and chemical reactions. Ideally, the transport equation should be solved with all
384 the above terms, that is, by coupling all processes. However, the chemical process is
385 integrated with a stiff integrator, whereas advection, diffusion and emission are integrated
386 with a flux scheme. Therefore, operator splitting (Sportisse, 2000) is often employed to
387 solve different terms individually and sequentially over a given time step in chemical
388 transport simulations (Fu and Liang, 2016).

389 In this study, advection, diffusion and emission are simultaneously solved in CFD, and
390 the chemical reactions including gas chemistry, particle dynamics and size redistribution
391 are solved in SSH-Aerosol. Two operator-splitting orders are considered for coupling: A-
392 B splitting and A-B-A splitting (Sportisse, 2000). For A-B splitting, which can be
393 summarized as CFD(Δt)-Chemistry(Δt), the mass concentrations are first integrated for
394 transport over a time step Δt . The updated concentrations are then integrated for
395 chemistry at the same Δt . On the other side, A-B-A splitting adopts a symmetric sequence
396 of operators, which can be summarized as CFD($\Delta t/2$)-Chemistry(Δt)-CFD($\Delta t/2$). The
397 mass concentrations are first integrated for transport over a half time step, then for
398 chemistry over the full time step and finally for transport again over a half time step.

399

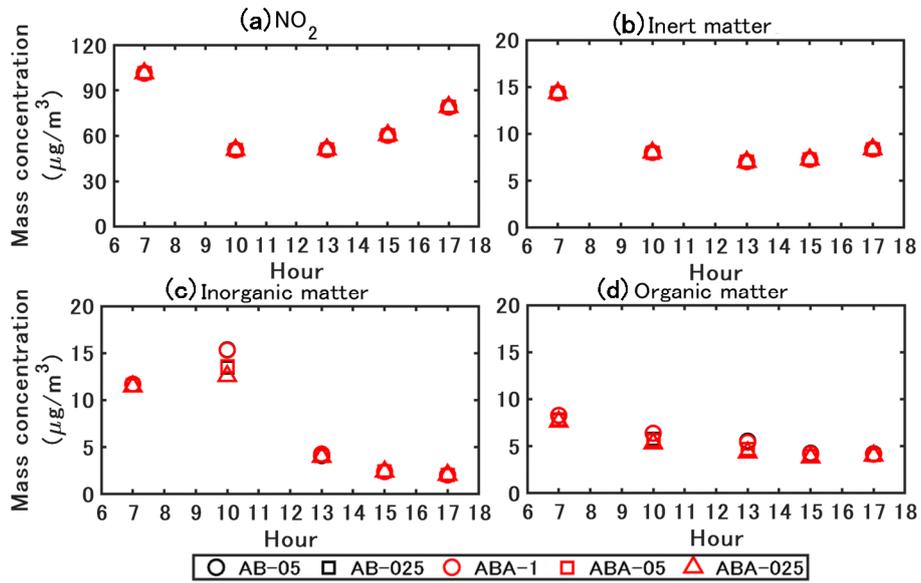
400 Table 2 Relative change in the computation time with different operator-splitting order
401 and time steps. The computation time is normalized by ABA-05.

Case	Operator splitting order	Δt (s)	Change in the computation time
AB-05	A-B splitting CFD(Δt)-Chemistry(Δt)	0.5	0.90
AB-025		0.25	1.56
ABA-1	A-B-A splitting CFD($\Delta t/2$)-Chemistry(Δt)-CFD($\Delta t/2$)	1	0.57
ABA-05		0.5	1
ABA-025		0.25	2.44

402

403 A sensitivity analysis is conducted on the operator splitting method and splitting time step.
404 As shown in Table 2, the time step is considered 0.5 s and 0.25 s for the A-B splitting
405 (named AB-05 and AB-025), and 1 s, 0.5 s and 0.25 s for the A-B-A splitting (named
406 ABA-1, ABA-05 and ABA-025). The simulated NO₂ and particle concentrations are
407 presented in Fig. 10. ABA-1 and AB-05 concentrations hardly differ from the figures.
408 Meanwhile, the computational time of ABA-1 is only 63% of that of AB-05. Similarly,
409 the concentrations simulated with ABA-05 and AB-025 are almost the same, and the

410 computational time of ABA-05 is only 64% of AB-025. Therefore, the A-B-A splitting
 411 method can be considered as a cost effective method.
 412



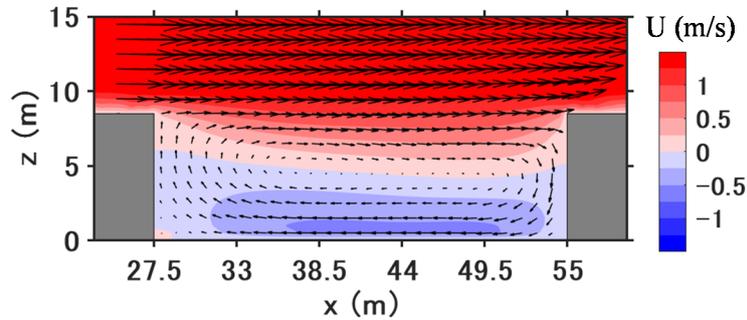
413
 414 Fig. 10 Simulated NO₂ and particle concentrations with different coupling methods and
 415 time steps. ABA denotes the A-B-A splitting method: CFD($\Delta t/2$)-Chemistry(Δt)-
 416 CFD($\Delta t/2$). AB denotes the A-B splitting method: CFD(Δt)-Chemistry(Δt). In the legend,
 417 the values that follow the capital letter ABA or AB denote the time step Δt (in s) used in
 418 the simulation.

419
 420 The concentrations simulated with the A-B-A splitting method and different time steps
 421 show that small time step results in low inorganic and organic matter concentrations. The
 422 concentrations simulated with ABA-1 are larger than those of ABA-05, and larger than
 423 ABA-025. However, the differences between the concentrations simulated with ABA-05
 424 and ABA-025 are lower than the differences between ABA-1 and ABA-05. For NO₂ and
 425 inert particles, no obvious difference is found between the simulations with different
 426 splitting methods and splitting time steps. Therefore, the A-B-A splitting method with a
 427 time step of 0.5 s is adopted in this study.

428

429 **5. Results and discussion**

430 *5.1. Time-averaged flow field and concentration field*

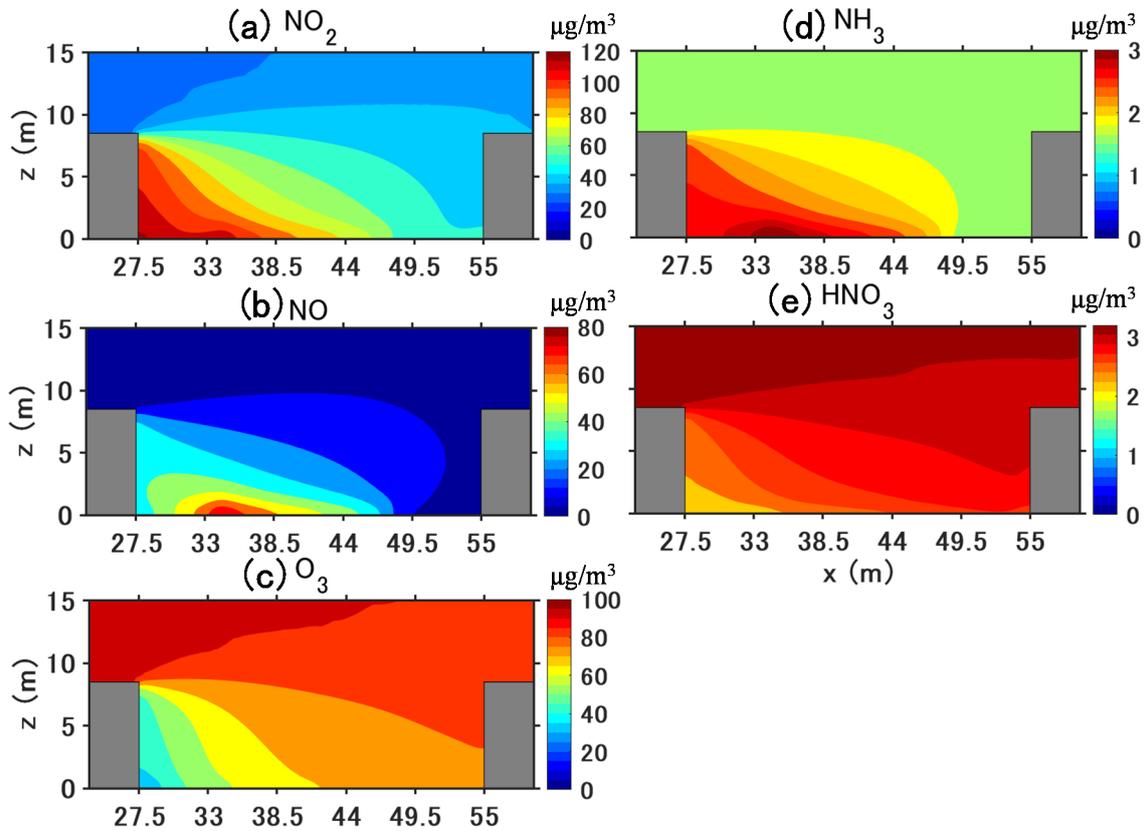


431

432 **Fig. 11** Time-averaged flow field in the street canyon from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.

433

434 This section shows the results for time-averaged values from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fig. 11
435 shows the 12-hour time-averaged streamwise velocity and wind direction in the street
436 canyon. **At the current aspect ratio ($H/W=0.31$), a large vortex is observed in the canyon**
437 **with a small secondary vortex at the corner of the leeward wall. A reverse flow is observed**
438 **in the lower half of the canyon.**



439

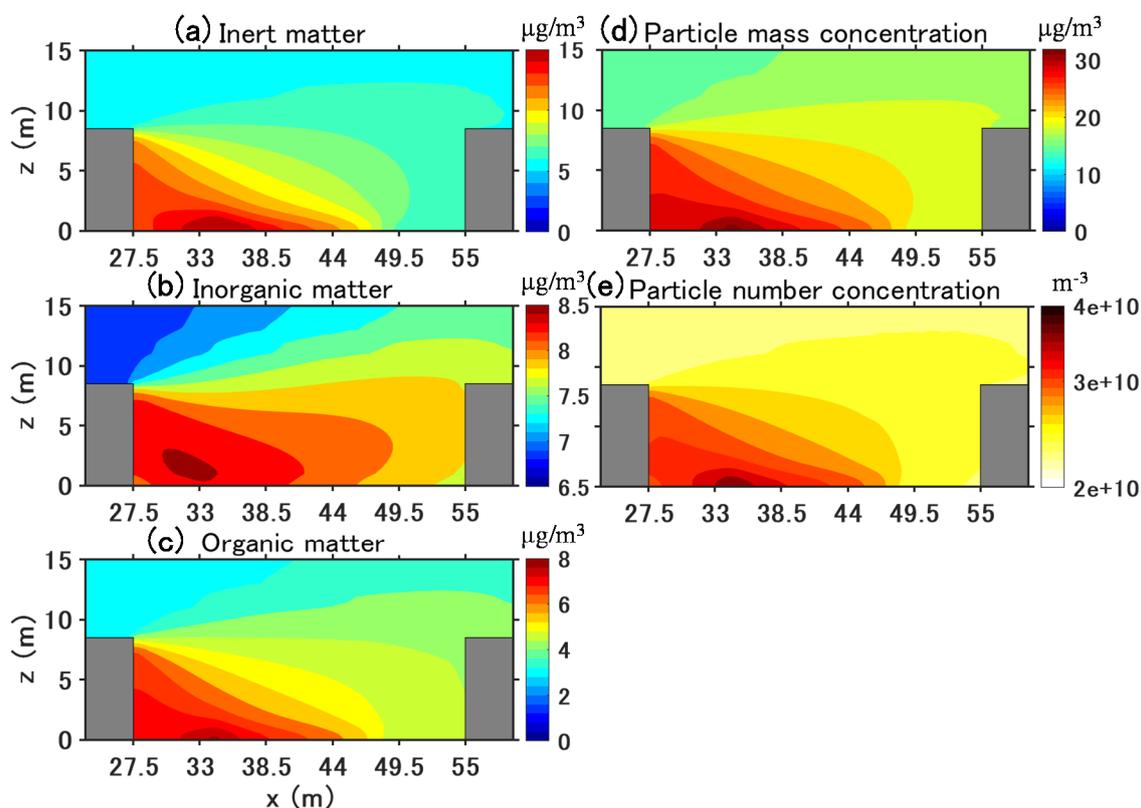
440 **Fig. 12** Time-averaged concentrations ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) of gaseous pollutants in the street canyon

441 from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.

442

443 Fig. 12 shows the time-averaged concentrations of the gaseous pollutants from 5 a.m. to
444 5 p.m. For gaseous pollutants emitted by traffic, such as NO_2 , NO and NH_3 , larger
445 concentrations are found in the street, particularly near the leeward wall, compared to the
446 windward wall due to the reverse flow. Simultaneously, gas-phase chemistry and
447 condensation/evaporation between the gas and particle phases also influence the
448 concentration distribution. NO_2 mainly increases due to chemical production from NO
449 emissions and background O_3 . Compared to the background NO_2 concentration of 26
450 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, the longest retention time at the leeward side corner leads to the street canyon's
451 largest concentration ($121 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). At pedestrian height ($z=1.5 \text{ m}$), NO_2 concentration is
452 $116 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at the leeward wall and $49 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at the windward wall.

453 However, NO and NH_3 generally decrease because of loss by gaseous chemistry and the
454 condensation of ammonium nitrate, respectively; therefore, the largest concentrations are
455 at the leeward corner of the traffic emission source. For secondary gaseous pollutants
456 without traffic emissions such as O_3 and HNO_3 , gaseous chemistry and condensation lead
457 to lower concentrations in the street canyon than background concentrations. For O_3 , this
458 is due to the titration of O_3 by NO , whose concentration is large near the leeward wall.
459 For HNO_3 , this is because of the high concentrations of NH_3 , which then condenses with
460 HNO_3 to form ammonium nitrate. In addition, the lowest concentration of O_3 and HNO_3
461 can be found at the leeward corner which corresponds to the secondary vortex in Fig. 11,
462 indicating that the pollutant residence time is the highest in that corner leading to enhance
463 ozone titration.



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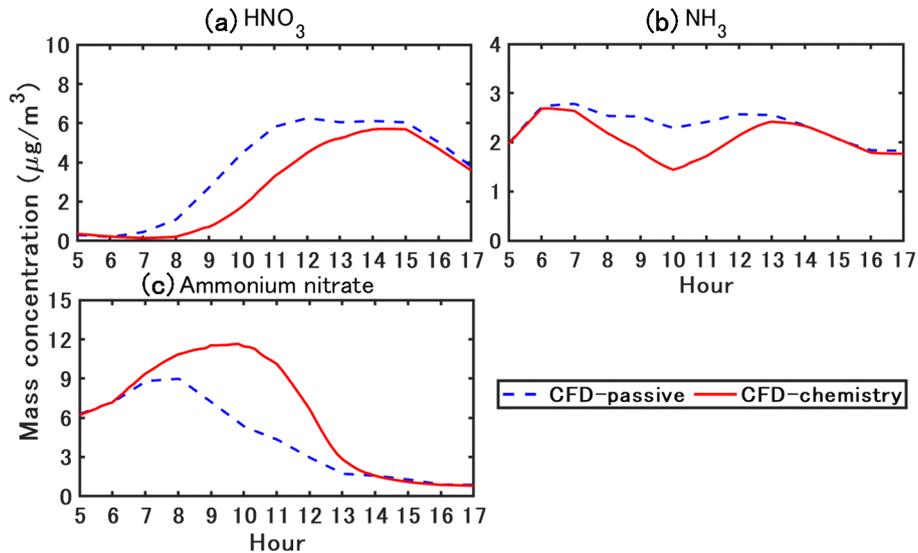
Fig. 13 Time-averaged concentrations of particle number, mass and composition in the street canyon from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. The unit is $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for mass concentration and m^{-3} for number concentration.

Fig. 13 shows the time-averaged PM_{10} mass concentration, and the number concentrations and PM composition (inorganic, organic and inert matter) from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. For inert and organic matter, the highest concentrations are near the leeward corner of the traffic emission source. Because inorganic matter is not emitted, the concentration distribution differs from inert and organic matter. However, as they are produced from gas condensation and strongly influenced by traffic emissions, the highest concentrations are observed in the leeward corner.

At pedestrian height ($z=1.5$ m), the PM_{10} mass concentration is approximately $28 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at the leeward wall and $19 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at the windward wall, which is larger than the background concentration of $15 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The number concentration is computed from the mass concentration and therefore has a similar spatial distribution as PM_{10} mass concentration (nucleation from gas was not taken into account). Traffic emission significantly increases the number concentration. The number concentration is about $2.3 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}^{-3}$ in the background, whereas the largest number concentration in the street canyon is about $3.8 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}^{-3}$.

484

485 5.2. Time-variant characteristics



486

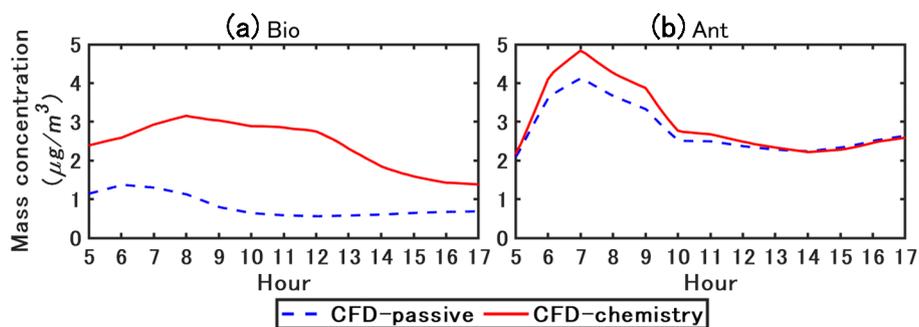
487 Fig. 14 Simulated time-varying concentrations of ammonium nitrate and precursor gas
488 (HNO_3 and NH_3).

489

490 Fig. 14 shows the simulated time-varying concentrations of ammonium nitrate formed by
491 the condensation of HNO_3 and NH_3 . Based on the traffic fleet in the current study, NH_3
492 emission is approximately 1-2% of NO_x emissions. Ammonium nitrate and HNO_3 are not
493 emitted and differences between simulations with or without chemistry coupling are due
494 to gas chemical reactions and phase change between the gas and particle. Phase change
495 may be driven by NH_3 emissions, as well as the non-thermodynamic equilibrium of the
496 background concentrations.

497 In CFD-passive, NH_3 concentration peaks around 7 a.m. as NO_x because it is emitted by
498 traffic. The peak in HNO_3 concentration is later in the morning, around 11 a.m. HNO_3 is
499 formed from the oxidation of NO_2 , which is emitted by traffic and is rapidly formed from
500 NO traffic emissions. The formation of HNO_3 is slower than the formation of NO_2 , and
501 probably occurs at the regional scale, leading to a delay in the peak of HNO_3
502 concentration compared to NO_2 concentration. In CFD-chemistry, the temporal variations
503 of HNO_3 concentration show large differences with CFD-passive because HNO_3
504 condenses with NH_3 to form ammonium nitrate during the daytime. As a result, the HNO_3
505 concentration peak in CFD-chemistry is later than that in CFD-passive (it is shifted from
506 11 a.m. to around 2 p.m.). The NH_3 concentration in CFD-passive peaks at 7 a.m. because
507 of traffic emission and is stable from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and then decreases from 1 p.m.
508 Meanwhile, the condensation in CFD-chemistry leads to lower concentration than in

509 CFD-passive during the daytime (between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m.).
 510 For 12-hour time-averaged concentrations, ammonium nitrate increases by 46% in CFD-
 511 chemistry compared with that in CFD-passive. Background ammonium nitrate
 512 concentration (CFD-passive) peaks around the morning rush (7 to 8 a.m.) and then
 513 decreases. Meanwhile, in CFD-chemistry, ammonium nitrate concentration peaks later
 514 around 10 a.m., because of the large increase in HNO_3 between the traffic rush and 10
 515 a.m. However, although HNO_3 concentration does not vary much between 11 a.m. and 3
 516 p.m., the ammonium nitrate concentration decreases from 10 a.m. to a very small level
 517 (lower than $1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) after 2 p.m. This decrease is probably linked to the temperature
 518 increase during the daytime (Fig. 2(b)) and the relative humidity decrease, leading to a
 519 decrease in the condensation rate (Stelson and Seinfeld, 1982).

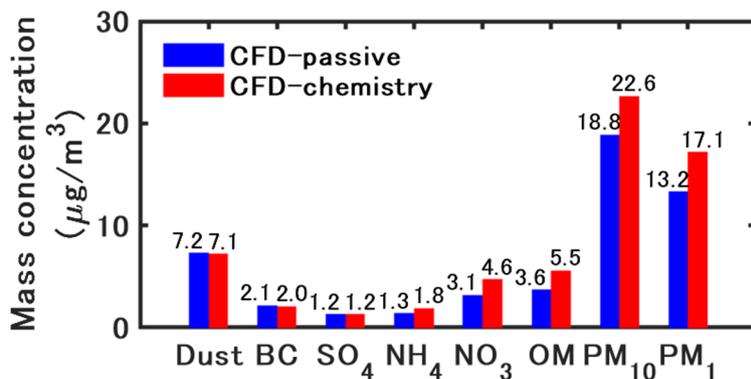


520
 521 Fig. 15 Simulated time-varying concentration of organic matter. Bio refers to organic
 522 matter formed from biogenic precursors. Ant refers to organic matter formed from
 523 anthropogenic precursors.

524
 525 Fig. 15 shows the simulated time-varying concentrations of organic matter. Organic
 526 matter is divided into two main categories depending on the origin of the precursors: Bio
 527 and Ant refer to the organic matter of biogenic and anthropogenic precursors respectively.
 528 In CFD-chemistry, Bio concentration is larger than that in CFD-passive. As biogenic
 529 precursors are not emitted in the street, the condensation of Bio is due to background
 530 precursor gases. As discussed previously, the concentration of ammonium nitrate is higher
 531 in CFD-chemistry than in CFD-passive, providing a larger aqueous mass onto which
 532 hydrophilic compounds of the biogenic precursor gases condense. As the condensation of
 533 ammonium nitrate decreases in the afternoon as shown in Fig. 14, the condensation of
 534 Bio also decreases.

535 Ant is largely influenced by traffic emissions in the street, particularly by emissions of
 536 semi-volatile compounds (Sartelet et al., 2018), which soon condenses after emissions.
 537 Therefore there is a peak around 7 a.m. owing to the morning rush. In the model,
 538 anthropogenic emissions are mostly hydrophobic, therefore the condensation is not

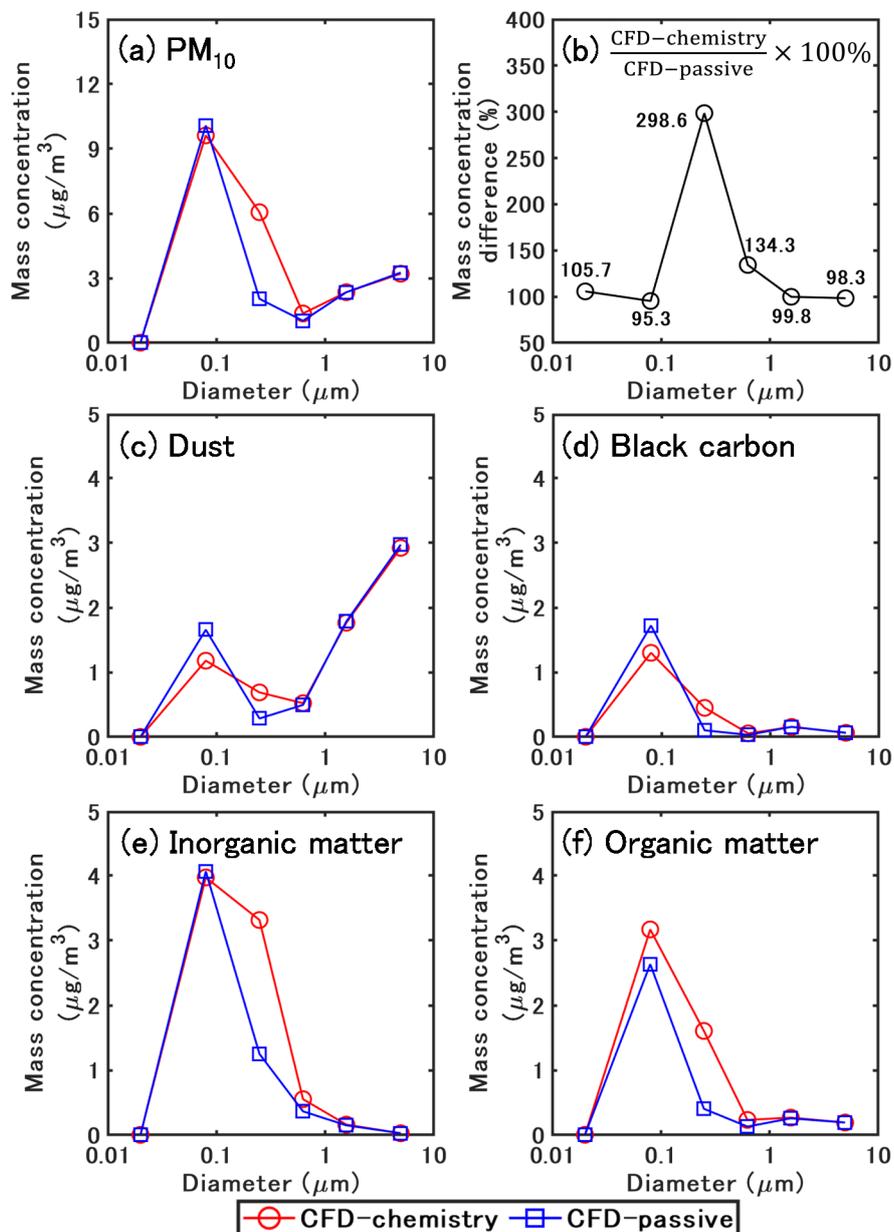
539 enhanced by the increase in inorganic concentrations. Consequently, the difference
 540 between CFD-chemistry and CFD-passive is larger in the morning owing to the large
 541 increase in traffic emissions, but small differences are observed in the afternoon.



542
 543 Fig. 16 Time-averaged concentration of PM₁₀, PM₁ and the chemical compounds of PM₁₀
 544 from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.

545
 546 Fig. 16 shows the time-averaged concentrations of PM₁₀, PM₁ and the chemical
 547 compounds of PM₁₀ from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. The time-averaged PM₁₀ and PM₁
 548 concentrations increase by approximately 3.8 µg/m³ in CFD-chemistry compared to CFD-
 549 passive, indicating that chemistry mainly influences small particles. Inert matter slightly
 550 decreases in CFD-chemistry owing to dry deposition. Condensation increases of 48%,
 551 38% and 53% of nitrate, ammonium and organic matter concentrations in CFD-chemistry
 552 compared to CFD-passive.

553



555
 556 Fig. 17 Time-averaged size distribution of PM₁₀ for different chemical species from 5 a.m.
 557 to 5 p.m.

558
 559 Fig. 17 shows the time-averaged size distribution of PM₁₀ for the different chemical
 560 compounds of particles from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. The bound diameters are 0.01, 0.04, 0.16,
 561 0.4, 1.0, 2.5 and 10 μm, and the mean diameters are 0.02, 0.08, 0.25, 0.63, 1.58 and 5.01
 562 μm.

563 For the total concentration of PM₁₀ (Fig. 17(a)), the lowest and the largest concentrations
 564 are in the first size section (0.01-0.04 μm) and the second size section (0.04-0.16 μm)

565 respectively, for both the CFD-passive and the CFD-chemistry simulations. Generally,
566 the loss and gain of mass concentration in each size section are related to emission, dry
567 deposition, coagulation (small particles coagulate into large particles), and
568 condensation/evaporation (phase exchange between gas and particles).

569 Fig. 17(b) shows the mass concentration ratio between CFD-passive and CFD-chemistry
570 for each size section. For particles in the size range of 0.04-0.16 μm , the concentrations
571 are smaller in CFD-chemistry than in CFD-passive, because dry deposition and
572 coagulation both decrease mass concentration for those particles. Furthermore, semi-
573 volatile gases may evaporate from small particles because of the Kelvin effect and
574 condense onto larger particles. For particles in the size range of 0.16-1.0 μm , the
575 concentrations are much larger in CFD-chemistry than CFD-passive, indicating that
576 coagulation and condensation on the mass-concentration increase are dominant to other
577 processes, such as deposition. For particles larger than 1 μm , the concentrations of CFD-
578 passive and CFD-chemistry are similar, because particle dynamics have a low influence
579 on large particles.

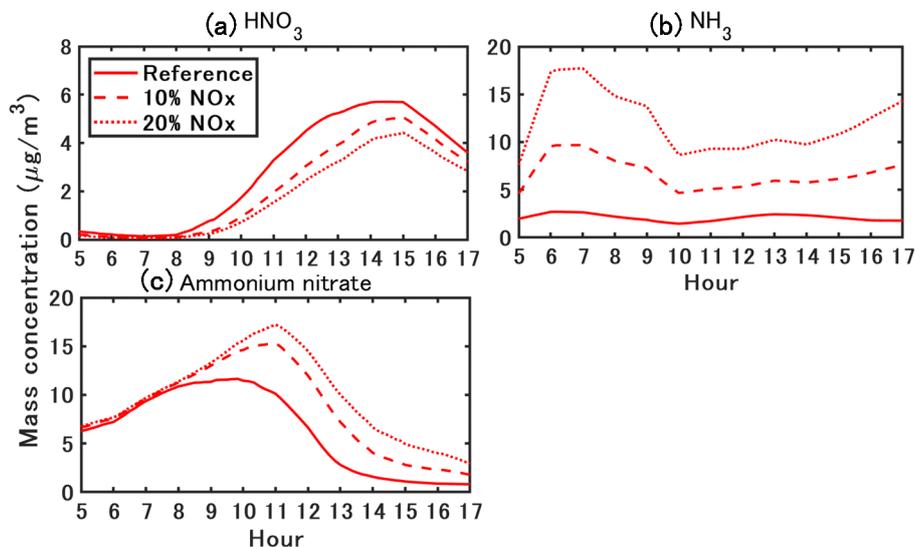
580 The size distribution of dust (Fig. 17(c)) shows that most dust mass concentrations are in
581 particles larger than 1 μm . Meanwhile, most of the mass concentration of BC, inorganic
582 and organic matter (Fig. 17(d-f)) is in particles smaller than 1 μm . Coagulation is the main
583 process influencing the size distribution for inert matter (dust and BC). Compared to
584 CFD-passive, the mass concentration of dust and BC in the second size section decrease
585 by 0.48 and 0.43 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in CFD-chemistry. Correspondingly, the mass concentrations of
586 dust and BC in the third size section increase by 0.41 and 0.35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

587 For inorganic matter, in the second size section, the concentrations are similar in CFD-
588 passive and CFD-chemistry: particle dynamics decrease sulphate concentration by 0.32
589 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and increase nitrate concentration by 0.17 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. However, as the results of the
590 combination effect of coagulation and ammonium nitrate condensation, the
591 concentrations largely increase in the third size section in CFD-chemistry: sulphate,
592 ammonium and nitrate increase by 0.27, 0.6 and 1.24 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, respectively.

593 For organic matter, because of condensation of hydrophilic compounds from background
594 biogenic gases and anthropogenic emissions, CFD-chemistry leads to a small increase in
595 concentrations (0.53 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in the second size section and a large increase in the third
596 section (1.21 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) compared to CFD-passive. In detail, Bio concentrations increase by
597 0.89 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and Ant concentrations decrease by 0.36 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ in the second size section. In
598 the third size section, Bio and Ant concentrations increase by 0.67, 0.54 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

599

600 5.4. Influence of ammonia traffic emissions



601

602 Fig. 18 Sensitivity of ammonium nitrate concentration to NH₃ emission.

603

604 Suarez-Bertoa et al. (2017) conducted on-road measurements of NH₃ emissions from two
605 Euro 6b compliant light duty cars (one gasoline and one diesel) under real-world driving
606 conditions, and they found that NH₃ emissions accounted for 11.9% and 0.92% of NO_x
607 emissions for gasoline and diesel vehicles. As explained in Section 5.2, NH₃ emission
608 emissions are approximately 1-2% of NO_x emissions in the reference case. Two cases are
609 considered to simulate the impact of an increase in the fraction of gasoline cars, and
610 sensitivity simulations are performed with NH₃ emission considered as 10% and 20% of
611 the NO_x emissions.

612 Fig. 18 shows the sensitivity of ammonium nitrate concentration to NH₃ emissions. A
613 larger NH₃ emission delays the peak of ammonium nitrate by approximately one hour.
614 For a 12-hour average, considering NH₃ emissions of 10% and 20% of NO_x emissions
615 leads to a large increase in ammonium nitrate (35% and 55%) compared to the reference
616 case, because of the formation of ammonium nitrate by the condensation of HNO₃ and
617 NH₃.

618

619 6. Conclusions

620 Particles in urban environment impose adverse impacts on pedestrians' health.
621 Conventional CFD methods regarding particles as passive scalars cannot reproduce the
622 formation of secondary aerosols and may lead to uncertain simulations. Therefore, to
623 increase the simulation accuracy of particle dispersion, we coupled the CFD software
624 OpenFOAM (OF) and Code_Saturne (CS) with SSH-Aerosol, a modular box model to

625 simulate the evolution of primary and secondary aerosols. The main processes involved
626 in the aerosol dynamics (coagulation, condensation /evaporation and dry deposition) were
627 considered.

628 We simulated a 12-hour transient dispersion of pollutants from traffic emissions in a street
629 canyon using the unsteady RANS model. The simulation domain was generated to model
630 a street-canyon where field measurements are available. The flow field was based on the
631 WRF model. The background concentrations of gas and particles were obtained from
632 regional-scale simulations with a chemistry-transport model. The particle diameter range
633 (0.01 μm to 10 μm) was divided into six size sections. The following conclusions were
634 drawn from the results of this study.

- 635 1) The simulated spatially-averaged values in the street canyon were validated from
636 field measurement using validation metrics. For both OF and CS, the simulated NO_2
637 and PM_{10} concentrations based on the coupling model (CFD-chemistry) achieved
638 better agreement with the measurement data than the conventional CFD simulation
639 which considered pollutants as passive scalars (CFD-passive). The differences
640 between of the OF and CS results were not obvious and were mainly due to the
641 differences in the turbulence scheme. The following conclusions were drawn based
642 on the simulated OF concentrations.
- 643 2) For the flow field, a large vortex was observed in the canyon with a small secondary
644 vortex at the corner of the leeward wall at the current aspect ratio ($H/W=0.31$). In
645 CFD-chemistry, because of the reverse flow, the 12-hour (from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m.) time-
646 averaged NO_2 mass concentration, PM_{10} mass and number concentrations at
647 pedestrian height were much higher near the leeward wall ($116 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, $28 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$,
648 $3.2 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}^{-3}$) than the background ($26 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, $15 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, $2.3 \times 10^{10} \text{ m}^{-3}$).
- 649 3) Secondary aerosol formation largely affected the mass concentration and size
650 distribution of particle matter. For 12-hour time-averaged concentrations, ammonium
651 nitrate and organic matter increased by 46% and 53% in CFD-chemistry compared
652 to CFD-passive because of condensation of HNO_3 and NH_3 , background biogenic
653 precursor-gases and anthropogenic precursor-gas emissions. Coagulation largely
654 influenced the size distribution of small particles by combining particles with a
655 diameter of 0.04-0.16 μm into 0.16-0.4 μm . At the same time, CFD-chemistry
656 showed a much larger concentration than CFD-passive for the particles in 0.16-1.0
657 μm , indicating that the effect of condensation on increasing mass concentration was
658 dominant compared to other chemical processes.
- 659 4) Urban areas are NH_3 -limited (HNO_3 sufficient) areas, therefore, increasing NH_3 leads
660 to a large increase in ammonium nitrate. Vehicles are considered to be the main

661 source of NH₃ in urban environments. Increasing the fleet's proportion of recent
662 gasoline vehicles may increase NH₃ emissions. For a 12-hour average, we considered
663 NH₃ emissions of 10% and 20% of NO_x emissions led to a large increase in
664 ammonium nitrate (35% and 55%) compared to the reference case which considers
665 NH₃ emission as 1-2% of NO_x emissions.

666 5) A grid sensitivity analysis showed that the particles' concentrations of inorganic and
667 organic compounds were sensitive to grid resolution, whereas inert particle
668 concentrations were not sensitive to grid resolution. In addition, simulated values
669 based on a grid size of 0.5 m in the street canyon showed small differences with a
670 grid size of 0.25 m, indicating that a spatial resolution of 0.5 m can be enough for
671 reactive particle dispersion at the street level.

672 6) Operator splitting is often employed to solve the transport term and chemical
673 reactions over a given time step in chemical transport simulations. **Two integration**
674 **orders were considered: A-B splitting method (CFD(Δt)-Chemistry(Δt)) and A-B-A**
675 **splitting method (CFD($\Delta t/2$)-Chemistry(Δt)-CFD($\Delta t/2$)). The results showed that**
676 **the A-B-A splitting method had almost the same concentrations as the A-B splitting**
677 **method with half the computational time. Further sensitivity analysis on the time step**
678 **showed that a time step of 0.5 s was enough when using the A-B-A splitting method.**

679 7) Conducting a CFD simulation with constant boundary conditions and emission rates
680 at a specific time point is considered a practical method to achieve time-averaged
681 concentrations for evaluating street-level pollutant concentrations. The validation
682 was conducted using conditions on five time points (7 a.m., 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m.
683 and 5 p.m.). The simulated concentration based on the above method exhibited
684 almost the same value as the simulation with transient conditions at the same time
685 points.

686 **The limitation of this study should be addressed as several reasonable approximations**
687 **and assumptions were made in the simulation settings.**

688 1) **Concerning the simulation domain: since we focused on the coupling of gas chemical**
689 **reactions and particle dynamics to the CFD codes, we selected a 12-hour period when**
690 **wind direction was perpendicular to the street. In that case, a 2-D simplification of**
691 **the simulation domain is reasonable, as shown by Maison et al. (2022). However, in**
692 **more general cases, the pollutant residence time for a 3-D canyon could be shorter**
693 **compared to the 2-D canyon adopted in this study, and the effects of chemical**
694 **reaction or aerosol processes could be weaker than this study reported. In addition,**
695 **various wind directions should be considered to better evaluate the performance of**
696 **the coupled model. Further work will focus on the application of the coupled model**

697 to a complex urban environment with changing wind directions.
698 2) Concerning the physical model: the simulations were based on RANS-closure, and
699 the SSH-aerosol processed the ensemble-averaged concentration, therefore the
700 covariance of turbulent diffusion and chemical reaction may not be fully reproduced.
701 The simulation based on LES may provide better prediction of second-order
702 quantities. In addition, the radiation on the wall may lead street-level-variations of
703 temperature and could affect the flow field and chemical reaction rates. However,
704 this was not considered here, and the radiation effect on the local temperature was
705 simplified as being the same as in the inflow condition. The inflow temperature was
706 obtained from WRF model where the radiation was considered, and the time variation
707 of temperature was considered to be the same as the background.

708 Future work will be conducted on the influence of environmental factors and emission
709 conditions, aiming to provide knowledge to devise suitable countermeasures to decrease
710 particle concentration in microscale urban environments.

711

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714 quality in the Île-de-France region) and from Île-de-France region.

715

716 Code/Data availability

717 The codes used in this publication are available to the community, and they can be
718 accessed by request to the corresponding author.

719

720 Author contribution

721 KS and RO were responsible for conceptualization. CL, YW, CF, KS, YK and ZW
722 developed the software. CL and YW conducted the visualization and validation; CL, YW
723 and KS performed the formal analysis. KS and RO acquired resources. CL, YW, RO and
724 KS were responsible for writing and original draft preparation. CF, YK, HK reviewed and
725 edited the manuscript All co-authors contributed to the discussion of the paper.

726

727 Competing interests

728 The contact author has declared that neither they nor their co-authors have any
729 competing interests.

730

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900

901 Appendix A

902 The schemes for particle deposition velocity v_d were added to the transport equations
903 using volume sink terms based on (Zhang et al., 2001) and can be represented as:

$$v_{d,p} = \begin{cases} v_g + \frac{1}{R_a + R_s}, & \text{Wall surfaces} \\ v_g, & \text{Entire field} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$v_g = \frac{\rho d_p^2 g C}{18\eta} \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$R_a = \frac{\ln(z_R/z_0) - \psi_H}{\kappa u_*} \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$R_s = \frac{1}{\varepsilon_0 u_* (E_B + E_{IM} + E_{IN}) R_1} \quad (\text{A4})$$

904 The deposition velocity for the particles $v_{d,p}$ consists of both gravitational settling and
 905 surface deposition near the wall surfaces. The gravitational settling velocity v_g was
 906 considered for the entire field, ρ is the particle density; d_p is the particle diameter; g
 907 is the acceleration of gravity; C is Cunningham correction factor for small particles; η
 908 is the viscosity coefficient of air.

909 The aerodynamic resistance R_a is calculated from the first-layer-height z_R , roughness
 910 length z_0 , Von Kármán constant κ , friction velocity u_* and stability function ψ_H . For the
 911 k- ε model, u_* is estimated by $(C_\mu^{0.5} k)^{0.5}$ and $C_\mu = 0.09$ is a constant of the model.

912 The surface resistance R_s is calculated from u_* , the collection efficiency from Brownian
 913 diffusion E_B , the impaction E_{IM} and the interception E_{IN} . The correction factor
 914 represents the fraction of particles that stick to the surface R_1 and an empirical
 915 constant $\varepsilon_0 = 3$.

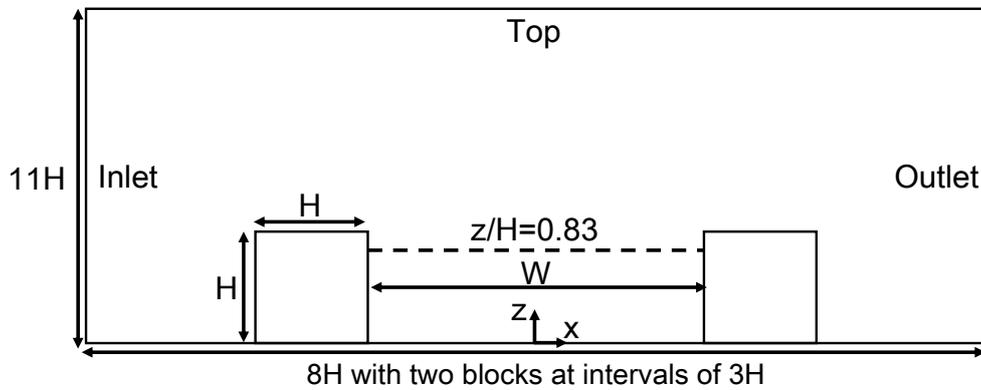
916 The dry deposition schemes for gas were added to the transport equations using volume
 917 sink terms based on (Wesely, 1989) and (Zhang et al., 2003), which can be represented as:

$$v_{d,g} = \frac{1}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$R_b = \frac{2}{\kappa u_*} \left(\frac{Sc}{Pr} \right)^{2/3} \quad (\text{A6})$$

918 The deposition velocity for gas $v_{d,g}$ is calculated from the aerodynamic resistance R_a ,
 919 the quasi-laminar layer resistance R_b and the surface resistance for gas R_c . $Sc = \nu/D$
 920 and $Pr = 0.72$ are the Schmidt and Prandtl number. ν is the kinematic viscosity of air
 921 and D is the molecular diffusivity of different gases. R_c is calculated based on (Zhang
 922 et al., 2003).

923

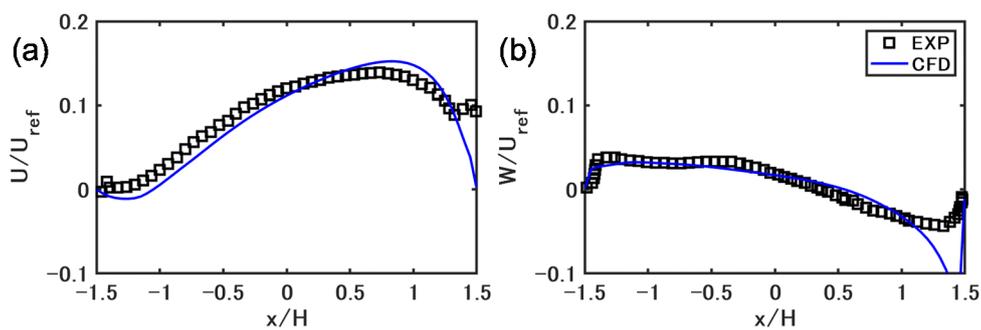


925

926 Fig. S1 Simulation domain for velocity validation.

927

928 Correctly representing the flow field in the street canyon is important to model accurately
 929 the concentrations. Unfortunately, observation data on wind velocity in the street is not
 930 available. Therefore, we conducted a velocity validation for OpenFOAM v2012 using
 931 data from a wind tunnel experiment (Blackman et al., 2015). The 2-D simulation domain
 932 is shown in Fig. S1. The aspect ratio in the experiment ($H/W=0.33$) is close to this study
 933 ($H/W=0.31$). The building height H is 0.06 m. The grid size is $1/20 H$ in x - and z -
 934 directions in the simulation domain under $3H$. The free-stream velocity U_{ref} is 5.9 m/s.
 935 The steady-state flow field is simulated with the same turbulence model (RNG $k-\epsilon$ model)
 936 as in the paper, and cyclic boundary conditions are used for the inlet and outlet. The slip
 937 boundary is considered for the top, and non-slip boundary conditions with the same wall
 938 functions as in the paper are considered for other walls.



939

940 Fig. S2 Streamwise and vertical direction of mean wind velocities at $z/H = 0.83$.

941

942 Fig. S2 compares the simulated streamwise and vertical direction of mean wind velocities
 943 with the experimental values at $z/H = 0.83$. The RNG $k-\epsilon$ model reproduces well the
 944 velocities, although the velocities very close to the windward wall show differences with

945 the experimental values. The above validation shows that if suitable inlet conditions are
946 given, the flow field is well reproduced with the turbulence model adopted in this study.