



## Surface Urban Energy and Water Balance Scheme (SUEWS): Development, Evaluation and Application

S. Grimmond (1), L. Jarvi (2), and A Christen (3)

(1) King's College London, Geography, London, United Kingdom (Sue.Grimmond@kcl.ac.uk, 44 207 848 2287), (2) University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland (leena.jarvi@helsinki.fi), (3) University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada (andreas.christen@ubc.ca)

An urban energy and water balance model, which uses a small number of commonly measured meteorological variables and information about the surface cover, is presented. Rates of evaporation-interception for a single layer with multiple surface types (paved, buildings, coniferous trees and/or shrubs, deciduous trees and/or shrubs, irrigated grass, non-irrigated grass and water) are calculated. Below each surface type, except water, there is a single soil layer. At each time step the moisture state of each surface is calculated. Horizontal water movements at the surface and in the soil are incorporated. Particular attention is given to the surface conductance used to model evaporation and its parameters. The model is tested against direct flux measurements carried out over a number of years in Vancouver, Canada and Los Angeles, USA. At all measurement sites the model is able to simulate the net all-wave radiation and turbulent flux densities of sensible and latent heat well ( $rmse = 25-47 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ , 30-59 and 20 and 55  $\text{W m}^{-2}$ , respectively). The model reproduces the diurnal cycle of the turbulent fluxes but underestimates latent heat flux and overestimates sensible heat flux in the day time. The model tracks measured surface wetness and simulates the variations in soil moisture content. It is able to respond correctly to short-term events as well as annual changes. The largest uncertainty relates to the determination of roughness length for heat and surface conductance. The model has the potential use for multiple applications; for example, to predict effects of regulation on urban water use or landscaping or planning scenarios.