

Natural ventilation assessment in typical open an semi-open urban environments under various wind directions

Article

Accepted Version

Hang, J., Luo, Z. ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2082-3958, Sandberg, M. and Jian, G. (2013) Natural ventilation assessment in typical open an semi-open urban environments under various wind directions. Building and Environment, 70. pp. 318-333. ISSN 0360-1323 doi: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2013.09.002 Available at https://centaur.reading.ac.uk/34361/

It is advisable to refer to the publisher's version if you intend to cite from the work. See <u>Guidance on citing</u>.

To link to this article DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.buildenv.2013.09.002

Publisher: Elsevier

All outputs in CentAUR are protected by Intellectual Property Rights law, including copyright law. Copyright and IPR is retained by the creators or other copyright holders. Terms and conditions for use of this material are defined in the End User Agreement.

www.reading.ac.uk/centaur



CentAUR

Central Archive at the University of Reading Reading's research outputs online

Accepted Manuscript

Natural ventilation assessment in typical open and semi-open urban environments under various wind directions

Jian Hang, Zhiwen Luo, Mats Sandberg, Jian Gong

PII: S0360-1323(13)00260-6

DOI: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2013.09.002

Reference: BAE 3509

To appear in: Building and Environment

Received Date: 20 June 2013

Revised Date: 2 September 2013 Accepted Date: 5 September 2013

Please cite this article as: Hang J, Luo Z, Sandberg M, Gong J, Natural ventilation assessment in typical open and semi-open urban environments under various wind directions, *Building and Environment* (2013), doi: 10.1016/j.buildenv.2013.09.002.

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.



>Semi-open street roofs protect pedestrians from strong sunshine and heavy rains. >But they may affect airflows and ventilation in urban canopy layers (UCL).> Age of air & flow rates are analyzed under wind directions of 0° , 15° , 30° , 45° .>Walls fully or partly covering street roofs at z=H get the worst UCL ventilation.> Semi-open street roofs at z=1.2H, 1.1H get good ventilation and are realistic designs.

1	To be resubmitted to Building and Environment, September 2013
2	Natural ventilation assessment in typical open and semi-open urban
3	environments under various wind directions
4	
5	Jian Hang ^{a*} , Zhiwen Luo ^b , Mats Sandberg ^c , Jian Gong ^d
6	
7	^a Department of Atmospheric Sciences, School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Sun
8	Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, Guangdong, P. R. China
9	^b School of Construction Management and Engineering, University of Reading, Reading, UK
10	^c Laboratory of Ventilation and Air Quality, University of Gävle, SE-80176 Gävle, Sweden
11	^d School of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Nanchang Hangkong University, Nanchang,
12	Jiangxi, 330063, P. R. China
13	
14	*Corresponding author. Jian Hang
15	Tel: +86-20-84110375; fax: +86-20-84110375
16	E-mail address: hangj3@mail.sysu.edu.cn
17	
18	Abstract
19	Semi-open street roofs protect pedestrians from intense sunshine and rains. Their effects on
20	natural ventilation of urban canopy layers (UCL) are less understood. This paper investigates two
21	idealized urban models consisting of 4(2×2) or 16(4×4) buildings under a neutral atmospheric
22	condition with parallel (0°) or non-parallel (15°,30°,45°) approaching wind. The aspect ratio
23	(building height (H) / street width (W)) is 1 and building width is $B=3H$. Computational fluid
24	dynamic (CFD) simulations were first validated by experimental data, confirming that standard
25	k - ε model predicted airflow velocity better than RNG k - ε model, realizable k - ε model and
26	Reynolds stress model. Three ventilation indices were numerically analyzed for ventilation
27	assessment, including flow rates across street roofs and openings to show the mechanisms of air
28	exchange, age of air to display how long external air reaches a place after entering UCL, and
29	purging flow rate to quantify the net UCL ventilation capacity induced by mean flows and
30	turbulence.

31	Five semi-open roof types are studied: Walls being hung above street roofs (coverage
32	ratio λ_a =100%) at z =1.5 H , 1.2 H , 1.1 H ('Hung1.5 H ', 'Hung1.2 H ', 'Hung1.1 H ' types); Walls partly
33	covering street roofs (λ_a =80%) at z=H ('Partly-covered' type); Walls fully covering street roofs
34	$(\lambda_a=100\%)$ at $z=H$ ('Fully-covered' type). They basically obtain worse UCL ventilation than open
35	street roof type due to the decreased roof ventilation. 'Hung1.1H', 'Hung1.2H', 'Hung1.5H' types
36	are better designs than 'Fully-covered' and 'Partly-covered' types. Greater urban size contains
37	larger UCL volume and requires longer time to ventilate. The methodologies and ventilation
38	indices are confirmed effective to quantify UCL ventilation.
39	
40	Key words: Semi-open street roof; natural ventilation; age of air; purging flow rate; CFD
41	simulations; wind tunnel experiment
42	
43	1. Introduction
44	Wind from rural areas provides cleaner rural air into urban canopy layers (UCL) to help
45	pollutant and heat dilution. Good UCL ventilation has been known as one of the possible
46	mitigation solutions to improve urban air environments[1-11], meanwhile ameliorate indoor air
47	quality through building ventilation systems.
48	Complemented by wind tunnel/field experiments, computational fluid dynamics (CFD)
49	simulations have been widely used to predict turbulent airflow, mass transports and energy
50	budgets within, close to and above different UCLs [2,4-11, 17-26, 28-37], ranging from street
51	canyons, street intersections, cavities and courtyards, up to structured building arrays and
52	realistic urban areas. Good reviews on this topic can be found in the literatures [12-15]. For two-
53	dimensional (2D) street canyons [1, 15-19], street aspect ratio (building height/street width, H/W)
54	is the first key parameter to affect the flow regimes and pollutant dispersion. For three-
55	dimensional (3D) urban canopy layers, total street length or urban size [8,11,30], building
56	packing density and frontal area density [8,10,20-23], ambient wind directions [23-24, 32, 37],
57	building layouts and height variations [8, 21-23, 25-26] etc, are significant parameters and have
58	been widely investigated.
59	In addition to the widely studied urban models with open street roofs, semi-open street roof
60	is one of popular urban design elements existing in the realistic urban areas to protect pedestrians
61	from strong sunshine and reduce the inconveniences in rainy or snowy days. Such semi-open

62	street roofs have been reported and investigated by experiments and CFD simulations in the
63	literatures [5-7], including a large naturally ventilated semi-open market building [5], a semi-
64	open shopping mall being located in Lisbon, Portugal [6], enclosed-arcade (or semi-open)
65	markets of Korea with eleven arcade-type designs (or semi-open street roof) [7]. Although the
66	requirements of design are different according to various climate conditions, sufficient natural
67	UCL ventilation has been considered as an important environment design factor for more healthy
68	semi-open outdoor environments [5-7]. Fig. 1 shows two other kinds of semi-open street roof
69	designs in the suburb of Guangzhou China, which are located in a subtropical region annually
70	characterized by intense solar radiation and precipitation. Fig. 1a shows walls being hung above
71	street roofs of a food court, and Fig. 1b displays walls partially covering street roofs of a retail
72	center. Each shop or restaurant has its own enclosed space with air conditioners inside for
73	cooling in summer (April to September) and with doors connected to the semi-open streets.
74	These semi-open outdoor environments are naturally ventilated to reduce energy consumption.
75	Such semi-open street roof designs are used to provide convenience for pedestrians, but they
76	possibly deteriorate UCL ventilation performance. This paper aims to quantitatively evaluate
77	these effects. Although thermal buoyancy force induced by temperature difference and
78	atmospheric stability also influence urban airflows and UCL ventilation [19, 28-29], this paper
79	takes the first step to consider a neutral atmospheric condition assuming that the ambient wind
80	velocity is sufficiently large and thermal effects are negligible.
81	In building ventilation, as reviewed by Chen [27], indoor ventilation indices have been
82	widely used to evaluate how external air enters a room and ventilates it. In recent years,
83	researchers have started to apply similar concepts to estimate UCL ventilation [2,4-11, 24, 28-32,
84	37], including ventilation flow rate and air change rate per hour (ACH) [4, 6-7, 28-30], pollutant
85	exchange rate [31], pollutant retention time and purging flow rate [2,8, 24], age of air and air
86	exchange efficiency [32], city breathability [10-11] etc. This paper emphasizes the quantitative
87	analysis of UCL ventilation induced by rural wind assuming that rural air is relatively clean.
88	Flow rates across street openings and street roofs are first analyzed to quantify the mechanisms
89	of air exchange [37], moreover the local mean age of air [32] is used to quantify how long the
90	external air can reach a place after it enters the UCL. Finally, the UCL purging flow rate [2, 8] is
91	also applied to estimate the net UCL ventilation capacity induced by both mean flows and
92	turbulent diffusions.

93	Tracer gas techniques [27, 44] are usually used to measure indoor ventilation indices.
94	However for both open or semi-open outdoor spaces, ventilation indices such as age of air and
95	purging flow rate are difficult to be measured by tracer gas techniques, since outdoor
96	environment is not an enclosed space with more complicated openings than indoor, moreover
97	perfect mixing and uniform pollutant generation rate in UCLs are difficult to experimentally
98	control. Thus the literatures [5-11, 24, 28-32] usually use experimental data to validate the
99	reliability of CFD methods in predicting concentration and airflow field, then analyze outdoor
100	ventilation indices by using CFD simulations. This paper also utilizes similar methodologies.
101	
102	2. Methodologies
103	2.1 Turbulence modeling in CFD simulations
104	Large eddy simulation (LES) models are known to perform better in predicting turbulent
105	flows than the Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) approaches, but the applicability of
106	LES models is more problematic due to its much longer computational time required than RANS
107	approaches and some issues regarding the implementation of wall and inlet boundary conditions
108	[33-34]. Considering that RANS turbulence models are more time-saving and provide reasonable
109	results for mean flows and the spatial average flow properties [33], this paper adopted RANS
110	turbulence models for evaluating UCL ventilation.
111	UCL ventilation relies on both mean flows and turbulence within the UCL [8, 37].
112	According to the literatures [35-36], the modified $k-\varepsilon$ models, for example RNG $k-\varepsilon$ model, are
113	able to correct the drawback of the standard k – ε model that severely over-predicts turbulent
114	kinetic energy in separated flows around front corners of buildings, however, they fail to predict
115	the sizes of reattachment lengths behind buildings and under-predict the velocity in weak wind
116	regions. It is desirable to compare different RANS turbulence models in predicting urban
117	airflows and UCL ventilation to provide a sensitivity study, including standard k – ε model, RNG
118	$k-\varepsilon$ model, realizable $k-\varepsilon$ model and Reynolds stress model (RSM).
119	
120	2.2 Experimental and CFD set-ups in the validation case
121	This paper aims to study UCL ventilation in low-rise idealized and typical urban models
122	consisting of two-storey buildings (about 7m tall). Wind tunnel data was first used to evaluate
123	the reliability of CFD methodologies. As shown in Fig. 2a, Hang et al. [37] performed some

124	wind tunnel experiments to investigate the flow in a small-scale urban model with four square
125	building blocks (building height H =0.069m, building width B =3 H) and two crossing streets
126	(street width $W=H$, urban size $L=7~H$). The approaching wind was parallel to the main street and
127	perpendicular to the secondary streets. The scale ratio between small-scale and full-scale models
128	is 1:100. Thus in full-scale real conditions $H=W\approx 7$ m, $B=3H\approx 21$ m, $L\approx 49$ m. In small-scale
129	models the height of 1.5 mm (0.22H) corresponds to the face level (1.5 m) in full-scale
130	conditions.
131	The measurements were performed in the closed-circuit type wind tunnel at the Laboratory
132	of Ventilation and Air Quality, University of Gävle, Sweden, with the working section of 11m
133	long, 3m wide,1.5m tall. Thus the blockage ratio is about 0.6%, which represents the percentage
134	of the small-scale urban model obstructing the test section area (3m×1.5m) of the wind tunnel.
135	The stream-wise, lateral and vertical directions are represented by x , y , z . Hotwire anemometer
136	was used to measure vertical profiles of velocity $(U_m(z))$ and turbulence intensity $(I(z))$ in the
137	upstream free flow of wind tunnel (see Fig. 2b), horizontal profiles of velocity $u(x)$ and
138	turbulence intensity $I(x)$ along the main street centerline (see Fig. 3b) at $z=0.11H$ (7.5mm). The
139	sampling frequency was 100 Hz. The measurement time was 30s for each point. It is worth
140	mentioning that, the hotwire is only sensitive to velocity components perpendicular to it (i.e. the
141	vertical velocity \overline{w} and the stream-wise velocity \overline{u}). So data measured by the hotwire were
142	actually $\sqrt{u^2 + w^2}$. Here the hotwire was only located where the span-wise (y) velocity v was
143	zero, including in the upstream free flow and along the main street centerline, so the measured
144	data were actually the velocity magnitude ($U = \sqrt{u^2 + v^2 + w^2}$).
145	Because there were no roughness elements in wind tunnel experiments, a thin neutral
146	atmospheric boundary layer (ABL) and a sharp vertical profile of velocity was produced in the
147	upstream free flow (see Fig. 2b). We only used the measured profiles ($U_m(z)$ and $I(z)$) in Fig. 2b
148	to provide boundary conditions at domain inlet in the CFD validation case. At domain inlet,
149	turbulent kinetic energy is defined as $k(z)=1.5(I U_m)^2$ and its dissipation rate is $\varepsilon(z)=C_\mu^{3/4}k^{3/2}/l$,
150	where C_{μ} =0.09 and l is the turbulent characteristic length scale. Note that, the maximum velocity
151	in the upstream free flow of wind tunnel experiments was 13.33 m/s, however in cases for
152	ventilation analysis, we used a realistic approaching wind (see Eq. (1a)) with a spatial mean
153	velocity of about 3.2 m/s, so in the validation case we actually utilized a smaller fitting velocity

154	profile (maximum velocity is 3.24 m/s, see Fig. 2b) with the same thickness of ABL as that in
155	wind tunnel and the similar spatial mean velocity (about 3.2m/s) as that in Eq. (1a). According to
156	Snyder [39], Reynolds-number independence can be satisfied if the Reynolds number is greater
157	than 4000, i.e. the main structure of turbulence can be almost entirely responsible for the bulk
158	transport of momentum and heat or mass transfer. If the velocity $z=H=0.069$ m in the upstream
159	free flow (see Fig. 2b) is defined as the reference velocity $U_{\rm ref} \approx 2.94 \rm m/s$, the reference Reynolds
160	number ($Re_H = \rho U_{ref}H/\mu \approx 13887$) is much larger than 4000, Thus the technique of using a smaller
161	inflow velocity (i.e. 3.24m/s) can ensure Reynolds number independence.
162	The CFD code FLUENT 6.3 [38] was used to solve the steady-state isothermal turbulent
163	flows. For CFD simulations, we used the same small-scale urban geometries (H =0.069m) as
164	those in wind tunnel experiments. Only half computational domain was used to reduce the
165	calculation time. Fig. 3a displays the computational domain and boundary conditions in the CFD
166	validation case. The computational domain is 14.5H wide (1 m) in the lateral (y) direction and
167	11H tall (0.75 m) in the vertical (z) direction. Thus the blockage ratio is about 1.9% (less than
168	3%) satisfying the requirement of the literature [40]. No-slip wall boundary condition was
169	utilized at wall surfaces, and zero normal gradient boundary condition was used at domain
170	outlet, domain roof, domain lateral boundary, domain symmetry boundary.
171	Fig. 3b displays the grid arrangements in x-y plane of the validation case. Finer grids are
172	produced within the UCL and near wall surfaces, building corners, street openings. The grid size
173	near the ground is $0.036H(dz=2.5mm)$. There are 6 cells vertically from $z=0$ to the pedestrian
174	height (z =20mm=0.29 H). The grid size near building roofs at z = H is 0.022 H (d z =1.5mm). The
175	horizontal grid size (dx and dy) near building surfaces varies from 0.022H to 0.043H. The
176	maximum expansion ratio from building surfaces to the surrounding is 1.15 and the total
177	number of hexahedral cells is about 0.82 million.
178	In the CFD validation case, all CFD set-ups including computational domain size,
179	boundary conditions and grid arrangements fulfilled the major CFD guidelines recommended by
180	Tominaga et al. [40].
181	
182	2.3 CFD set-ups for flow modelling
183	After the CFD validation case, more urban configurations with or without semi-open street

roofs and various ambient wind directions were investigated. To better illustrate idealized urban

184

185 models, all test cases were defined as Case [number of rows-number of columns, wind direction, 186 roof type]. 'Open' roof type denotes open street roofs; As shown in Fig. 4a-4c, four wind directions of 0°, 15°, 30°, 45° were included. So the name of validation case is Case [2-2, 0, 187 Open] with four buildings (2 rows, 2 columns), a parallel approaching wind (0°) and open street 188 189 roof ('Open' roof type). As displayed in Fig. 4c, a bigger urban model with 16 buildings (4 190 columns, 4 rows, urban size $L=15H\approx105$ m in full scale) was also investigated in CFD 191 simulations. Besides the 'Open' roof type, Fig. 5 shows the other five types studied in CFD 192 simulations. 'Fully-covered' roof type (see Fig. 5a) means walls entirely covering street roofs 193 with a coverage ratio(λ_a) of 100% at z=H, and 'Partly-covered' roof type (see Fig. 5b) represents 194 street roofs being partly covered (λ_a =80%) by walls at z=H. Roof types of 'Hung1.5H', 195 'Hung1.2H' and 'Hung1.1H' (see Fig. 5c) represent walls being hung above street roofs (λ_a =100%) at z=1.5H, 1.2H and 1.1H, respectively. As summarized in Table 1, total 48 test cases were 196

197

198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

206

207

208

numerically investigated.

For test cases with a parallel approaching wind (0°) , the computational domain and boundary conditions were similar as the CFD validation case. A power-law velocity profile was applied at domain inlet with a power-law exponent of 0.16(see Eq. (1a)). As reported by Lien and Yee [41], it represents a neutral atmospheric boundary layer (ABL) with a depth of 1.8 m created in the wind tunnel by using spires and floor roughness with a roughness length of approximately z_0 =0.001 m. In full-scale real conditions, it corresponds to a neutrally-stratified ABL with a surface roughness of z_0 =0.1m [42] (i.e. a neutral ABL above open rural area with a regular cover of low crop and occasional large obstacles [43]) The spatial mean velocity at domain inlet calculated from Eq. (1a) approximately equals to that calculated from the inflow velocity profile of the CFD validation case (see Fig. 2b). The inlet profiles of turbulent kinetic energy and its dissipation rate were calculated by Eq. (1b)-(1c)) [30,41].

$$\overline{u}(z) = U_0(z) = U_H(z/H)^{0.16}, \overline{v}(z) = \overline{w}(z) = 0$$
(1a)

210
$$k_0(z) = u_*^2 / \sqrt{C_{\mu}}$$
 (1b)

211
$$\varepsilon_0(z) = C_{\mu}^{3/4} k_0(z)^{3/2} / (\kappa_{\nu} z)$$
 (1c)

where the friction velocity $u_* = 0.24 \text{ ms}^{-1}$, $\kappa_{\nu} = 0.41 \text{ is von Karman's constant}$, $U_H = 2.66 \text{ms}^{-1} \text{ is the}$ reference velocity at z = H = 0.069 m of domain inlet.

214	For test cases with a non-parallel approaching wind (15°, 30°, 45°), there are two domain
215	inlets and two domain outlets(see Fig. 4a). At domain inlets, the power-law velocity profiles
216	(stream-wise velocity $u = U_0(z)\cos\theta$, span-wise velocity $v = U_0(z)\sin\theta$ and vertical velocity
217	$\overline{w}(z) = 0$) and profiles of turbulent quantities in Eq. (1b)-(1c) were used to provide boundary
218	conditions. Zero normal gradient conditions were still used at two domain outlets and domain
219	roof.
220	Fig. 6a and 6b show two examples of the grid arrangements in test cases with four (2×2)
221	buildings and semi-open street roofs. Note that, the thickness of hung walls to produce semi-
222	open street roofs was zero in CFD models. The grid arrangements were similar with those in the
223	CFD validation case except three points: The first is that the grids near semi-open street roofs
224	(i.e. at $z=1.1H$, 1.2 H , 1.5 H) are also fine with a grid size of d $z=0.014H=1$ mm (see Fig. 6b); The
225	second is that for test cases with 16 buildings the maximum expansion ratio of grid size from
226	wall surfaces to the surrounding is 1.2 which is less than 1.3 and satisfies the CFD guideline
227	[40]; The third is that the grid number in cases with 'Partly-covered' roof type (see Fig. 6a) is a
228	little more than the other roof types, because fine grids with grid size of dy=0.029H were also
229	generated near lateral boundaries of partly-covered street roofs. The maximum grid number is
230	about 3.5 million in Case [4-4,45, Partly-covered].
231	All transport equations were discretized by the second order upwind scheme to increase the
232	accuracy and reduce numerical diffusion. The SIMPLE scheme was used for the pressure and
233	velocity coupling. CFD simulations were run until all residuals became constant. Overall,
234	residual for the continuity equation was below 10^{-4} , residuals for the velocity components and k
235	were below 10^{-7} , residuals for pollutant concentration and ε were below 0.5×10^{-5} and 0.5×10^{-4}
236	respectively.
237	
238	2.4 Ventilation assessment indices
239	2.4.1 Age of air
240	The local mean age of air (τ_p) was originally defined in indoor ventilation and can be
241	measured by tracer gas techniques [44]. The local age of air in UCLs represents the mean time
242	required for the external young air to reach a point since it enters UCLs. If the age of air in rural
243	areas is zero, the greater age of air in UCLs represents a greater probability to be polluted. The

- UCL age of air depicts how rural air is supplied and distributed within UCLs. Hang et al. [32]
- 245 first introduced the homogeneous emission method [44] to numerically predict age of air in
- 246 UCLs.
- The governing equations of time-averaged pollutant concentration $(\bar{c}, \text{kg/m}^3)$ and the age of
- 248 air (τ_n , s) are displayed as below:

249
$$\frac{-u_j}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial \tau_p}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (K_c \frac{\partial \tau_p}{\partial x_k}) = 1$$
 (2)

250
$$\overline{u}_{j} \frac{\partial \overline{c}}{\partial x_{i}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} (K_{c} \frac{\partial \overline{c}}{\partial x_{i}}) = S_{c}$$
 (3)

- where u_i is the velocity components (u, v, w) in the stream-wise (x), span-wise (y) and
- vertical (z) directions, $K_c = v_t / S_{ct}$ is the turbulent eddy diffusivity of pollutants, v_t is the
- kinematic eddy viscosity, S_{ct} is the turbulent Schimdt number (S_{ct} =0.7) [8, 10, 20, 45]. S_c is the
- 254 pollutant source term (kgm⁻³s⁻¹).
- In the homogeneous emission method[44], a relation between these two variables was
- 256 mathematically derived. If a homogenous pollutant release rate $(S_c, \text{kgm}^{-3}\text{s}^{-1})$ is defined in the
- entire UCL, the age of air (τ_p , s) can be calculated:

$$\tau_n = \overline{c}/S_c \tag{4}$$

- Eq. (4) illustrates a relationship that, with a uniform pollutant source in the entire UCL,
- 260 higher pollutant concentration at a point represents that it takes the external clean air a longer
- time to arrive.
- Fig.6c shows an example of defining uniform pollutant source in the entire UCL. In this
- paper, the pollutant emission rate was small ($S_c = 10^{-7} \text{kg m}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$) to ensure the source release
- 264 producing little disturbance to the flow field. The inflow concentration at domain inlet was
- defined zero, and the zero normal flux condition was used at wall surfaces. At all other
- boundaries zero normal gradient condition was utilized.
- Because the age of air in small-scale urban models is small (scale ratio 1:100), the age of air
- 268 was normalized in Eq. (5a). To compare the age of air in the entire UCLs, this paper also
- analyzed the normalized spatial mean age of air ($\langle \tau_n^* \rangle$) in Eq. (5b)

$$\tau_p^* = \tau_p \times 100 \tag{5a}$$

where *Vol* is the entire UCL volume.

273

274

2.4.2 Ventilation flow rates and UCL purging flow rates

- Both mean flows and turbulent diffusions are significant factors for UCL ventilation [37] and pollutant removal [8]. The purging flow rate represents the net flow rate induced by both mean flows and turbulent diffusions for a volume to be purged out by wind through it. It has been used to quantify the ventilation in UCLs [2] and at the pedestrian levels [8].
- This paper mainly emphasizes the purging flow rate for the entire UCL. If a passive contaminant source is generated within the entire UCL (see Fig. 6c) with a uniform emission rate (here $S_c=10^{-7} \text{ kgm}^{-3}\text{s}^{-1}$), the UCL purging flow rate (*PFR*, m³/s) is calculated in Eq. (6).

$$PFR = \frac{S_c \times Vol}{\langle \overline{c} \rangle} = \frac{S_c \times Vol}{\int_{Vol}^{\overline{c}} dx dy dz / Vol}$$
 (6)

- Here $\langle \overline{c} \rangle$ is the spatially-averaged concentration in the entire UCL volume (*Vol*). It is worth mentioning that *PFR* is independent of pollutant sources, and illustrates the net UCL ventilation capacity due to both mean flows and turbulent diffusion.
- Because *PFR* is small for small-scale urban models (scale ratio 1:100), *PFR* is normalized by the reference flow rate (Q_{∞}) .

$$PFR^* = \frac{S_c \times Vol}{\langle \overline{c} \rangle Q_{\infty}} = \frac{PFR}{Q_{\infty}}$$
 (7)

$$Q_{\infty} = H \times \int_0^H U_0(z) dz \tag{8}$$

- where $Q_{\infty} = 0.01093 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ is the flow rate far upstream through the same area with a windward street opening (area $A = H \times H$), $U_0(z)$ is defined in Eq. (1a).
- Fig. 4b-4c show the definition of street openings in test cases with 4 (2×2) and 16 (4×4) buildings. To quantify the ventilation pattern, all flow rates entering and leaving UCL volumes were normalized by the reference flow rate (Q_{∞}), including Q^* due to mean flows (see Eq. (9)) and $Q^*_{\text{roof}}(turb)$ due to turbulence fluctuations across street roofs [37] (see Eq. (10)):

$$Q^* = \int_A \vec{V} \cdot \vec{n} dA / Q_{\infty} \tag{9}$$

$$Q^*_{roof}(turb) = \pm \int 0.5\sigma_w dA/Q_{\infty}$$
 (10)

- where in Eq.(9), \vec{V} is velocity vector, \vec{n} is the normal direction of street openings or street roofs, \vec{A} is
- surface area; In Eq.(10), $\sigma_w = \sqrt{\overline{w'w'}} = \sqrt{2k/3}$ is the fluctuation velocity on street roofs based on
- 300 the approximation of isotropic turbulence (k is the turbulent kinetic energy).
- Due to the flow balance by mean flows, the total flow rate leaving UCL (Q_{out}) through
- 302 UCL boundaries equals to that entering UCL (Q_{in}). They are named as the total flow rates by
- mean flows Q_T and are normalized by the reference flow rate Q_{∞} .

$$Q_T^* = Q_{in}^* = Q_{out}^* \tag{11}$$

- By applying the above concepts, this paper quantifies the effects of semi-open street roofs and various wind directions on the age distribution, the ventilation pattern and the entire UCL
- 307 ventilation capacity.

308309

310

3. Results and discussions

3.1 Evaluation and validation of CFD results

- Fig. 7 shows the validation of CFD results by using the measured horizontal profiles of
- velocity and turbulent intensity along street centerline at z=0.11H in Case [2-2.0, Open]. x/H=0
- denotes the location of windward street opening (at O1). The velocity was normalized by the
- inflow velocity at domain inlet at the same height (z=0.11H). In comparison to wind tunnel data,
- 315 the standard $k-\varepsilon$ model and realizable $k-\varepsilon$ model predicted the velocity profile better than RNG k-
- 316 ε model and RSM model. More importantly the standard k- ε model performed the best in
- 317 predicting airflow velocity in the downstream region of the main street. This finding agrees with
- 318 the literature [35-36] that non-standard k- ε models perform better in predicting separate flows
- but do worse in predicting airflow velocity in weak wind regions. All RANS turbulence models
- can only predict the shape of turbulence intensity profile, thus Q^*_{roof} (turb) calculated by CFD
- simulations were only used to provide a reference study and the relative values of $Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{turb})$
- 322 among different test cases were emphasized. Since the better prediction of mean flows within

UCL and along the streets is more important, this paper hereby regards the standard k - ε model
as the default turbulence model in the following CFD simulations.

For the validation case (medium grid, 0.8 million), a finer grid arrangement with the minimum grid size of 0.014*H* and grid number of 1.3 million was used to perform a grid independence study. As displayed in Fig. 7c, numerical results were not sensitive to the grid refinement, indicating present grid arrangements in Fig. 3b were sufficiently fine.

328329

330

331

332

323

324

325

326

327

3.2 Ventilation assessment in cases with four buildings

In this subsection, the effects of semi-open street roofs and various wind directions in test cases with four buildings and two crossing streets (i.e. Case [2-2,wind direction, roof type], see Table 1) were investigated.

333334

335

336

337

338

339

340

341

342

343

344

345

346

347

348

349

350

351

352

3.2.1 Effect of semi-open street roofs in four example test cases

Fig. 8a displays three-dimensional (3D) streamline in four test cases (only half domain, 0°), i.e. Case [2-2, 0, Open], Case [2-2, 0, Hung1.2H], Case [2-2, 0, Partly-covered], Case [2-2, 0, Fully-covered]. Channel flows are found in the main streets parallel to the approaching wind and 3D helical flows exist in the secondary streets. These channel and helical flows produce air exchange and turbulent diffusion through street openings and street roofs. Different semi-open street roofs may produce various flow pattern and ventilation capacity but this effect cannot be clearly displayed by only 3D streamlines in Fig. 8a. To quantify this effect, Fig. 8b shows the normalized age of air ($\tau_p *= \tau_p \times 100$) in z=0.22H (i.e. 1.5m in full scale) and normalized flow rates (Q^*) in these four test cases. Positive values denote air entering UCLs and negative ones represent air leaving UCLs. τ_n^* along the main street (Street 1 and Street 3) is relatively small (i.e. air is relatively young) because Q^* through O1 and O3 are always large (Q^* (O1)=1.048 to 0.848; $Q^*(O3)=-0.551$ to -0.813). In the secondary streets (Street 2 and Street 4), Q^* through O2 (O4) are small (only 0.086 to -0.019). Thus the roof ventilations are more significant to the secondary streets. For example, in Case [2-2, 0, Open], τ_p * in Street 2 (or Street 4) is similar with that in Street 3 because the flow rates across street roofs are comparable to those across O1 and O3, including the upward and downward flow rates due to mean flows $(Q^*_{roof}(out)=-0.825)$ and $Q^*_{\text{roof}}(in)=0.148$), and the effective flow rate induced by turbulence fluctuations

353	$(Q*_{roof}(turb)=1.211)$. For types of 'Hung1.2H' and 'Partly-covered', roof ventilation capacity
354	significantly decreases, including $Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{out})=-0.825$ to -0.424 and -0.306, $Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{in})=0.148$ to
355	0.116 and 0.008 , $Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{turb})=1.211$ to 1.059 and 0.258 . Moreover Q^* across O1 decreases a little
356	(1.048 to 0.999 and 0.950) due to the displacement by semi-open street roofs, and Q^* across O3
357	increases a little (-0.551 to -0.684 and -0.685). These results show that semi-open street roofs not
358	only pose additional flow resistances and therefore reduce the ventilation by vertical mean flows
359	and turbulence across street roofs, but also influence the inflow rates and redistribution of
360	airflows along the streets within UCL, especially driving more air across Street 3 (O3). Thus in
361	contrast to Case [2-2, 0, Open], models with semi-open street roofs obtain much greater $\tau_{_p}$ * and
362	older air in the secondary streets due to the weakened roof ventilation. An extreme example is
363	'Fully-covered' type, in which the flow rates across street roofs are zero, and $ au_{_p}$ * in the
364	secondary street (125 to 225) is much greater than that in the main street (0-45). The UCL spatial
365	mean age of air $<\tau_p^*>$ with 'Open' and 'Hung1.2H' types are 24.3 and 37.7, which is much
366	smaller than $<\tau_p^*>$ with 'Partly-covered' and 'Fully-covered' types (54.9 and 90.4), confirming
367	that the 'Hung1.2H' type provide better overall UCL ventilation than 'Partly-covered' and 'Fully-
368	covered' types.
369	
370	3.2.2 Effect of ambient wind directions in four example test cases
371	Fig. 9 displays 3D streamline, τ_p^* and Q^* in Case [2-2, 0, Hung1.5H], Case [2-2, 15,
372	Hung1.5H], Case [2-2, 30, Hung1.5H] and Case [2-2, 45, Hung1.5H]. The flow patterns are
373	obviously different and flow rates are redistributed. With a parallel approaching wind, air enters
374	UCL through O1, O2 and O4, then leaves through O3. Moreover 3D helical flows mainly exist
375	in Street 2 and Street 4 where air is relatively old. With non-parallel approaching wind, air enters
376	UCLs across O1 and O2, then leaves through O3 and O4; Recirculation flows exist in all four
377	streets and τ_p * is relatively large in the downstream streets (Street 3 and Street 4) and in
378	recirculation regions. If wind directions change from 0° to 15°, 30°, 45°, both roof ventilation and
379	overall UCL ventilation are improved including $Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{out})$ varies from -0.547 (0°) to -0.939(15°),
380	$-0.919 (30^{\circ})$ and $-0.730 (45^{\circ})$, $Q^*_{roof}(in)$ changes from $0.106 (0^{\circ})$ to $0.586 (15^{\circ})$, $1.092 (30^{\circ})$ and
	0.515 (50) and 0.750 (15), \(\frac{1}{2} \) non(m) changes from 0.760 (0) to 0.500(15), 1.052 (50) and
381	1.041(45°)), and $<\tau_p^*>$ decreases from 29.6 (0°) to 22.6 (15°), 18.9 (30°) and 18.5 (45°).

As discussed and reported by the literature [2, 8-11, 18-20, 24, 31-32, 45], turbulent Schimde
numbers (S_{ct}) may influence numerical results of pollutant dispersion. As displayed in Table 2,
the effects of different S_{ct} and turbulence models are studied in Case [2-2, 0, Open] to quantify
the sensitivity of turbulence models and S_{ct} on UCL ventilation: $S_{ct} = 1.0$, 0.7 and 0.4 are used in
standard k - ε model, S_{ct} =0.7 in RNG k - ε model, and S_{ct} =0.7 in Realizable k - ε model. With the
same standard k - ε model and S_{ct} of 1.0, 0.7 or 0.4, $\langle \tau_p^* \rangle$ in the entire UCL are 26.4, 24.3 and
21.2, respectively, showing that smaller S_{ct} may enhance pollutant dispersion by turbulent
diffusion and slightly reduce the age of air. With the same S_{ct} of 0.7, realizable k - ε model and
RNG k - ε model obtain different flow rates through O3 and street roofs which result in a little
greater $<\tau_p^*>$ (27.2 and 28.2) than that by standard k - ε model (24.3). Especially Q^* across O3
predicted by RNG k - ε model is much smaller than those by the other two, which can be
explained by the fact that RNG k - ε model significantly over-predicts $Q*_{\rm roof}({\rm out})$ (-1.127) than the
other two (-0.825 and -0.844). To be consistent, standard k - ε model with S_{ct} of 0.7 was selected
as the default settings in CFD simulations.

3.2.2 Overall ventilation assessment in cases with four (2×2) buildings

To quantify the effect of semi-open street roofs on UCL ventilation flow rates, Fig. 10 shows Q^* through O1-O4 and $Q^*_{roof}(out)$, $Q^*_{roof}(in)$, $Q^*_{roof}(turb)$ in all test cases with 4 buildings and wind directions of 0° to 45° . Roof types change from 'Open', 'Hung1.5H', 'Hung1.2H', 'Hung1.1H', to 'Partly-covered' and 'Fully-covered' (reading figure from left to right). Roof ventilations for 'Fully-covered' type are all zero. For wind directions of 0° and 15° (see Fig.10a-10b), roof type variations result in a slightly decreasing flow rates across O1 and an increasing flow rates across O3. More importantly, the flow rates across street roofs are all significantly weakened, including $Q^*_{roof}(out)$ from -0.825 (0°) and $-1.156(15^\circ)$ to 0, $Q^*_{roof}(in)$ from 0.148 (0°) and 0.619 (15°) to 0, and $Q^*_{roof}(turb)$ from $1.211(0^\circ)$ and 1.315 (15°) to 0. Moreover, Q^* across O2 and O4 are relatively small for wind direction of 0° (see Fig. 10a), but they become considerably large for wind direction of 15° (see Fig. 10b). For wind directions of 30° and 45° (see Fig.10c-10d), similar findings exist due to such roof type variations that all roof ventilation indices decrease quickly and Q^* across street openings decrease a little.

412	To quantify the reduction of UCL ventilation as roof types varying from 'Open' type to
413	'Fully-covered' type, the normalized ventilation ratio (NVR) is defined as the value of ventilation
414	indices in a case divided by those with 'open street roofs' and the same wind direction. Thus for
415	cases with open street roofs, $NVR=1$, and Q^* across street roofs for 'Fully-covered' roof type are
416	all zero (NVR=0). Fig. 11displays Q^*_{roof} (in) and Q^*_{roof} (out), Q^*_{roof} (turb), total normalized flow
417	rates by mean flows (Q_T^*) , normalized UCL purging flow rate (PFR^*) , $<\tau_p^*>$ in the entire
418	UCL, and their NVR values for all 24 cases with 4 buildings. With the same roof type, wind
419	direction of 30° and 45° obtain greater Q^*_{roof} (in) and Q^*_{roof} (turb), larger Q_T^* and PFR^* , smaller
420	$<\tau_p^*>$, showing that 30° and 45° produce better UCL ventilation than 0° and 15°. In addition,
421	Fig.11a-11b also confirm that, all roof ventilation indices decrease as roof type varies from
422	'Open' to 'Partly-covered' , and NVR for 'Partly-covered' type are as small as 5.6% to 34% for
423	Q^*_{roof} (in), 18.0%-37.1% for Q^*_{roof} (out), and 21.3%-22.6% for Q^*_{roof} (turb) respectively. Fig.
424	11c-11d displays that overall UCL ventilation basically decreases from 'Open' type to 'Fully-
425	covered' type, indicated by the fact as below: the NVR of Q_T^* are 87%-99% for 'Hung1.5H' type,
426	81%-92% for 'Hung1.2H' type, 67%-78% for 'Hung1.1H' type, 57%-72% for 'Partly-covered'
427	type and 41%-62% for 'Fully-covered' type; the NVR of $PFR*$ are from 82%-110%, 64%-110%,
428	52%-104% to 44%-87% and 27%-64%, and the <i>NVR</i> of $<\tau_p^*>$ are from 90%-122%, 91%-
429	155%, 96%-190% to 115%-226% and 156-373%. Overall, Fig. 11d-11e confirm that roof types
430	of 'Hung1.5H', 'Hung1.2H' and 'Hung1.1H' may produce relatively considerable UCL ventilation
431	in contrast to 'Open' type (i.e. <i>NVR</i> are 52%-110% for <i>PFR</i> * and 91%-190% for $<\tau_{_{p}}$ *>).
432	Considering 'Hung1.1H' and 'Hung1.2H' types are more realistic, they are proposed as better
433	semi-open street roof configurations. Meanwhile, Fig. 11d-11e also verify that, if roof types
434	change from 'Open" to 'Fully-covered', overall UCL ventilation with $0^{\rm o}$ wind direction may
435	decrease much more significantly (NVR are 100% to 27% for $PFR*$, and 100% to 372% for
436	$<\tau_p^*>$) than the other wind directions, because the secondary streets with 0° wind direction and
437	semi-open street roofs tend to be poorly ventilated.
438	

439

440

441

3.3 Ventilation assessment in test cases with sixteen buildings

What happen if urban size enlarges? To quantify this effect, test cases with 16 buildings are investigated, as summarized in Table 1. Fig. 12 displays normalized age of air in four test cases,

442	i.e. Case [4-4, 0, Hung1.2H], Case [4-4, 15, Hung1.2H], Case [4-4, 30, Hung1.2H], Case [4-4, 45,
443	Hung1.2H]. The ventilation patterns are similar with those consisting of 4 buildings. For wind
444	direction of 0°, air mainly enters UCL across windward street openings of O1a, O1b, O1c, and
445	leaves UCL through leeward openings of O3a, O3b, O3c. For wind directions of 15°, 30°, and
446	45°, air enters UCL through O1a to O1c and O2a to O2c, then leaves UCL across O2a to O2c
447	and O4a to O4c. Age of air is relatively large and air is old in recirculation regions and
448	downstream regions.
449	UCL ventilation indices and their normalized ventilation ratios (NVR) in all 24 test cases
450	with 16 buildings are quantitatively analyzed, including Q^*_{roof} (in) and Q^*_{roof} (out) in Fig. 13a,
451	Q^*_{roof} (turb) in Fig. 13b, Q_T^* in Fig. 13c, PFR^* in Fig. 13d and $\langle \tau_p^* \rangle$ in the entire UCL in Fig.
452	13e. It is found that UCL ventilation indices basically become a little better if wind directions
453	change from 0° and 15° to 30° and 45°. More importantly, roof type variations from 'Open' to
454	'Fully-covered' produce a large decreasing rate of overall UCL ventilation and obtain
455	macroscopically older air, which can be represented by the below data. For roof ventilation
456	indices(see Fig. 13a-13b), NVR for 'Fully-covered' type are all zero, and those for 'Partly-
457	covered' type are 11%-23% for Q^*_{roof} (in), 28%-39% for Q^*_{roof} (out), and 16%-22% for Q^*_{roof}
458	(turb). For overall UCL ventilation, NVR of Q_T^* (see Fig. 13c) are 81%-96% for 'Hung1.5H' type,
459	78%-87% for 'Hung1.2H' type, 65%-86% for 'Hung1.1H' type, 52%-61% for 'Partly-covered'
460	type and 28%-50% for 'Fully-covered' type, and NVR of PFR*(see Fig. 13d) for the above roof
461	types are 84%-90%, 76%-87%, 65%-86%,52%-68%, and 36%-45% respectively, moreover <i>NVR</i>
462	of $<\tau_p^*>$ increase from 111%-120%, 115%-131%, 116%-154% to 148%-192%, 223%-279%
463	(i.e. air becomes older). Results also confirm that, 'Hung1.5H', 'Hung1.2H' and 'Hung1.1H' types
464	produce a little smaller but comparable UCL ventilation in contrast to 'Open' type. Thus for cases
465	with 16 buildings, the roof types of 'Hung1.2H' and 'Hung1.1H' are better choices considering
466	they are more realistic designs.
467	
468	3.4 Effect of urban size on UCL ventilation
469	To quantify how overall UCL ventilations change if building number or urban size
470	increases, Fig. 13b-13e also compares Q^*_{roof} (turb), Q_T^* , PFR^* and $\langle \tau_p^* \rangle$ between urban
471	models with 4 or 16 buildings (the smaller or bigger model). By analyzing Fig. 13b 13d O*

472	(turb), Q_T^* and PFR^* in the bigger model are found several times (about 3.2-4.7 for Q^*_{roof} , 1.2-
473	2.6 for Q_T^* , 0.8-3.5 for PFR^*) larger than those in the smaller model. Larger urban model
474	obtains greater ventilation capacity because their total area of street openings and street roofs are
475	2 and 5.2 times greater than the smaller one. However it does not represent larger urban model
476	can produces better overall UCL ventilation. It can be confirmed by Fig. 13e that $\langle \tau_p^* \rangle$ in the
477	bigger model is about 1.4 to 3.5 times as great as that in the smaller model, showing that the
478	bigger model obtains macroscopically older air. It is because the bigger model has a UCL
479	volume of 5.2 times larger than that in the smaller model and requires longer time for wind to
480	flow through.

3.5 Discussions and Future outlooks

Further investigations are still required before formulating a practical guidelines for these semi-open street roof designs, such as the effect of the surrounding building height, the effect of atmospheric thermal stratification (not neutral) and buoyancy force due to solar shading, the analysis of rain-cover and shading capability etc. This paper is one of the first attempts to quantify and address a relationship between semi-open street roof configurations and UCL ventilation indices. The methodologies and techniques utilized in this paper are promising, and possibly provide a valid tool to investigate UCL ventilation in other types of idealized or realistic urban configurations.

4. Conclusions

The arrangements of semi-open street roofs in urban space are effective to protect pedestrians from strong sunshine and heavy rains or snows. Their effects on urban canopy layer (UCL) ventilation are still not fully understood. This paper numerically quantified how five types of semi-open street roofs influence isothermal turbulent airflows and UCL ventilation performance under a neutral atmospheric condition with various ambient wind directions (0° , 15° , 30° , 45°). Two small-scale idealized urban models were investigated consisting of 4 (2×2) or 16 (4×4) buildings with uniform building height of H=0.069m, and street aspect ratio of H/W=1, corresponding to full-scale urban models of about 7m tall, 49m and 105m long as the scale ratio is 1:100. In contrast to 'Open' roof type (open street roof), five kinds of semi-open street roofs were included: Walls are hung above open street roofs (coverage ratio λ_a =100%) at z=1.1H, 1.2H,

503	1.5 <i>H</i> , i.e. type	es of 'Hung1.1H', 'Hung1.2H', 'Hung1.5H'; Walls partly cover street roofs at z=H			
504	$(\lambda_a=80\%)$, i.e. 'Partly-covered' type; Walls are set up to cover the entire street roof at $z=H$				
505	$(\lambda_a=100\%)$, i.	e. 'Fully-covered' type. The age of air and its spatial mean value, flow rates across			
506	street opening	gs and street roofs, the UCL purging flow rate were numerically analyzed to			
507	quantify UCI	ventilation.			
508	Results	show that the prediction of airflow velocity by using standard k - ε model agreed			
509	better with w	ind tunnel data than other three RANS turbulence models. Semi-open street roofs			
510	significantly	influence UCL ventilation patterns and redistribute flow rates across street openings			
511	and street roo	ofs. As roof types vary from 'Open' to 'Hung1.5H', 'Hung1.2H', 'Hung1.1H' then to			
512	'Partly-covere	ed' and 'Fully-covered', both roof ventilation and overall UCL ventilation			
513	performance	are basically weakened. The net UCL ventilation is the worst for the 'Fully-covered'			
514	type, followe	d by the 'Partly-covered' type. The roof types of 'Hung1.2H' and 'Hung1.1H' are			
515	proposed because they produce comparable UCL ventilation, meanwhile are more realistic roof				
516	designs. Oblique ambient wind directions of 30° and 45° obtain better UCL ventilation than 15°				
517	and 0°. If the	building number increases from 4 (2×2) to 16 (4×4), air in the entire UCL becomes			
518	macroscopica	ally older because the greater UCL volume requires longer time for rural wind to			
519	flow through.				
520					
521	Acknowledg	ements			
522	This stud	dy was financially supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China			
523	(No. 5110810	22) and Guangdong Natural Science Foundation (Code S2011040004149). The two			
524	anonymous re	eviewers who provided constructive suggestions and comments are also gratefully			
525	acknowledge	d.			
526					
527	Nomenclatur	re			
528	\boldsymbol{A}	area of a surface (m ²)			
529	B,H,L,W	building width, building height, total length, street width			
530	$\overline{c}, <\overline{c}>$	time-averaged pollutant concentration(kgm ⁻³) and its spatial mean value			
531	K_c, V_t	turbulent eddy diffusivity of pollutant and momentum $K_c = v_t / S_{ct}$			
532	k, ε	turbulent kinetic energy and its dissipation rate			

533	$\stackrel{ ightarrow}{n}$	normal direction of street openings or canopy roofs		
534	NVR	normalized ventilation ratio in contrast to models with 'open' street roofs		
535	PFR,PFR*	purging flow rate and its normalized value $(PFR^*=PFR/Q_{\infty})$		
536	Q^*	normalized flow rate through street openings or street roofs		
537	Q_{in} *, Q_{out} *	normalized total inflow and outflow rate for entire UCL		
538	Q_T^{*}	total ventilation flow rate by mean flows (m ³ s ⁻¹)		
539	$Q_{\scriptscriptstyle\infty}$	reference flow rate in upstream free flow to normalize flow rates		
540	$Q*_{\text{roof}}$ (turb)	normalized effective flow rate across street roofs by turbulence		
541	$Q*_{\text{roof}}$ (in)	normalized inflow rate across street roofs by downward flows		
542	$Q*_{\text{roof}}$ (out)	normalized outflow rate across street roofs by upward outflows		
543	S_c	pollutant release rate		
544	S_{ct}	turbulent Schmidt number		
545	$\sigma_{_{\scriptscriptstyle w}}$	fluctuation velocity on street roofs		
546	$ au_{_{p}}$, $ au_{_{p}}^{^{*}}$	age of air (s) and its normalized value		
547	$< au_p^*>$	normalized spatial mean age of air		
548	$U_{ m m},I_{ m m}$	velocity, turbulence intensity measured in upstream free flow		
549	$U_0(z)$	velocity profiles used at CFD domain inlet for ventilation cases		
550	$U_{_H}$	reference velocity (2.66m/s) at $z=H$		
551	$\overline{u_j}, x_j$	velocity and coordinate components		
552	$ec{V}$	velocity vector		
553	Vol	control volume		
554	x, y, z	stream-wise, span-wise, vertical directions		
555				
556	References			
557	[1] Oke TR. S	Street design and urban canopy layer climate. Energ Build 1988; 11(1-3): 103-113.		
558	[2] Bady M, Kato S, Huang H. Towards the application of indoor ventilation efficiency indices			

to evaluate the air quality of urban areas. Build Environ 2008; 43(12): 1991-2004.

559

- 560 [3] Deng Q, He G, Lu C, Liu W. Urban ventilation a new concept and lumped model. Int J
- 561 Vent 2012; 11: 131-140.
- 562 [4] Yang, XY, Li YG, Yang LN. Predicting and understanding temporal 3D exterior surface
- temperature distribution in an ideal courtyard. Build Environ 2012; 57:38-48.
- [5] Kato S, Murakami S, Takahashi T, Gyobu T. Chained analysis of wind tunnel test
- and CFD on cross ventilation of large-scale market building. J Wind Eng Ind Aerodyn 1997; 67-
- 566 68: 573-587.
- 567 [6] da Graça GC, Martins NR, Horta CS. Thermal and airflow simulation of a naturally
- ventilated shopping mall. Energ Build 2012; 50: 177-188.
- 569 [7] Kim T, Kim K, Kim BS. A wind tunnel experiment and CFD analysis on airflow
- performance of enclosed-arcade markets in Korea. Build Environ 2010; 45: 1329-1338.
- [8] Hang J, Li Y, Sandberg M, Buccolieri R, Di Sabatino S. The influence of building height
- variability on pollutant dispersion and pedestrian ventilation in idealized high-rise urban areas.
- 573 Build Environ 2012; 56: 346-360.
- 574 [9] Hu T, Yoshie R. Indices to evaluate ventilation efficiency in newly-built urban area at
- 575 pedestrian level. J Wind Eng Ind Aerodyn 2013; 112: 39–51.
- 576 [10]Buccolieri R, Sandberg M, Di Sabatino S. City breathability and its link to pollutant
- 577 concentration distribution within urban-like geometries. Atmos Environ 2010; 44(15): 1894-
- 578 1903.
- 579 [11] Hang J, Li Y, Buccolieri R, Sandberg M, Di Sabatino S. On the contribution of mean flow
- and turbulence to city breathability: the case of long streets with tall buildings. Sci Total Environ
- 581 2012; 416: 363-373.
- 582 [12]Britter RE, Hanna SR. Flow and dispersion in urban areas. Annu Rev Fluid Mech 2003;
- 583 35:469-496.
- 584 [13] Arnfield AJ. Two decades of urban climate research: a review of turbulence, exchanges of
- energy and water, and the urban heat island. Int J Climato 2003; 23:1-26.
- 586 [14] Grimmond CSB, Blackett M, Best MJ, Barlow J, Baik JJ, Belcher SE et al. The
- 587 International Urban Energy Balance Models Comparison Project: First Results from Phase 1. J
- 588 Appl Meteorol Clim 2010; 49: 1268-1292.
- 589 [15] Li XX, Liu CH, Leung DYC, Lam KM. Recent progress in CFD modelling of wind field
- and pollutant transport in street canyons. Atmos Environ 2006; 40(29): 5640-5658.

- [16] Meroney RN, Pavegeau M, Rafailidis S, Schatzmann M. Study of line source characteristics
- 592 for 2-D physical modelling of pollutant dispersion in street canyons. J Wind Eng Ind Aerodyn
- 593 1996; 62(1):37-56.
- 594 [17] Li XX, Liu CH, Leung DYC. Numerical investigation of pollutant transport characteristics
- inside deep urban street canyons. Atmos Environ 2009; 43(15): 2410-2418.
- 596 [18] Salim SM, Cheah SC, Chan A. Numerical simulation of dispersion in urban street canyons
- with avenue-like tree plantings: Comparison between RANS and LES. Build Environ 2011;
- 598 46(9): 1735-1746.
- 599 [19] Cai XM. Effects of differential wall heating in street canyons on dispersion and ventilation
- characteristics of a passive scalar. Atmos Environ 2012; 51: 268-277.
- 601 [20] Di Sabatino S, Buccolieri R, Pulvirenti B, Bitter R. Simulations of pollutant dispersion
- within idealised urban-type geometries with CFD and integral models. Atmos Environ 2007;
- 603 41(37):8316-8329.
- [21] Kanda M. Large-eddy simulations on the effects of surface geometry of building arrays on
- 605 turbulent organized structures. Boundary-layer meteorol 2006; 18(1): 151-168.
- 606 [22] Zaki SA, Hagishima A, Tanimoto J, Ikegaya N. Aerodynamic Parameters of Urban
- Building Arrays with Random Geometries. Boundary-Layer Meteorol 2011; 138:99-120.
- 608 [23] Abd Razak A, Hagishima A, Ikegaya N, Tanimoto J. Analysis of airflow over building
- arrays for assessment of urban wind environment. Build Environ 2013; 59:56-65.
- 610 [24] Yim SHL, Fung JCH, Lau AKH, Kot SC. Air ventilation impacts of the "wall effect"
- resulting from the alignment of high-rise buildings. Atmos Environ 2009; 43(32): 4982-4994.
- 612 [25] Hagishima A, Tanimoto J, Nagayama K, Meno S. Aerodynamic parameters of regular
- arrays of rectangular blocks with various geometries. Boundary-Layer Meteorol 2009;
- 614 132(2):315-337.
- 615 [26] Gu ZL, Zhang YW, Cheng Y, Lee SC. Effect of uneven building layout on air flow and
- pollutant dispersion in non-uniform street canyons. Build Environ 2011; 46(12): 2657-2665.
- [27] Chen Q. Ventilation performance prediction for buildings: a method overview and recent
- 618 applications. Build Environ 2009; 44:848-858.
- 619 [28] Luo ZW, Li YG. Passive urban ventilation by combined buoyancy-driven slope flow and
- wall flow: Parametric CFD studies on idealized city models. Atmos Environ 2011; 45(32):5946-
- 621 5956.

- [29] Yang LN, Li YG. Thermal conditions and ventilation in an ideal city model of Hong Kong.
- 623 Energ Buildings 2011; 43(5): 1139-1148.
- 624 [30] Hang J, Li YG. Wind conditions in idealized building clusters--macroscopic simulations by a
- porous turbulence model. Boundary-Layer Meteorol 2010; 136(1): 129-159.
- 626 [31] Liu CH, Cheng WC, Leung TCY, Leung DYC. On the mechanism of air pollutant re-
- entrainment in two-dimensional idealized street canyons. Atmos Environ 2011; 45(27): 4763-
- 628 4769.
- 629 [32] Hang J, Sandberg M, Li YG. Age of air and air exchange efficiency in idealized city models.
- 630 Build Environ 2009; 44(8):1714-1723.
- 631 [33]Santiago JL, Dejoan A, Martilli A, Martin F, Pinelli A. Comparison between Large-Eddy
- 632 Simulation and Reynolds-Averaged Navier–Stokes computations for the MUST field
- experiment. Part I: study of the flow for an incident wind directed perpendicularly to the front
- array of containers. Boundary-Layer Meteorol 135; 2010:109-132.
- 635 [34] Salim SM, Buccolieri R, Chan A, Di Sabatino S. Numerical simulation of atmospheric
- pollutant dispersion in an urban street canyon: Comparison between RANS and LES. J Wind
- 637 Eng Ind Aerodyn 2011; 99(2-3): 103-113.
- 638 [35] Yoshie R, Mochida A, Tominaga Y, Kataoka H, Harimoto K, Nozu T, Shirasawa T.
- 639 Cooperative project for CFD prediction of pedestrian wind environment in the Architectural
- Institute of Japan. J Wind Eng Ind Aerodyn 2007; 95:1551-1578.
- [36] Mochida A, Lun IYF. Prediction of wind environment and thermal comfort at pedestrian
- level in urban area. J Wind Eng Ind Aerodyn 2008; 96(10-11): 1498-1527.
- 643 [37] Hang J, Sandberg M, Li Y. Effect of urban morphology on wind condition in idealized city
- 644 models. Atmos Environ 2009; 43(4): 869-878.
- [38] FLUENT V6.3. User's Manual.2006. http://www.fluent.com.
- [39] Snyder WH. Similarity criteria for the application of fluid models to the study of air
- pollution meteorology. Boundary-Layer Meteorol 1972; 3:113-134.
- [40] Tominaga Y, Mochida A, Yoshie R, Kataoka H, Nozu T, Yoshikawa M, Shirasawa T. AIJ
- 649 guidelines for practical applications of CFD to pedestrian wind environment around buildings. J
- 650 Wind Eng Ind Aerodyn 2008; 96(10-11):1749-1761.

651 [41] Lien FS, Yee E. Numerical modelling of the turbulent flow developing within and over a 3-652 D building array, part I: A high-resolution Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes approach. 653 Boundary-layer Meteorol 2004; 112(3): 427-466. 654 [42] Irwin JS. A theoretical variation of the wind profile power-law exponent as a function of 655 surface roughness and stability. Atmos Environ 1979; 13(1):191-194. 656 [43]WMO Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation WMO-No. 8, page 657 I.5-12 658 [44] Etheridge D, Sandberg M. Building Ventilation: Theory and Measurement. John Wiley & 659 Sons, Chichester. 1996, p.573-633. [45] Tominaga Y, Stathopoulos T. Turbulent Schmidt numbers for CFD analysis with various 660 661 types of flow field. Atmos Environ 2007; 41(37):8091-8099. 662 663 Figure list 664 Fig. 1. Two urban configurations of semi-open street roof design: (a) Walls being hung above 665 street roofs of food court, (b) Walls being partly covered at street roof height (z=H) of retail 666 center. 667 668 Fig. 2. Model descriptions of experimental model: (a) The idealized urban model with 4 669 buildings and open street roof, (b) Vertical profiles of velocity and turbulence intensity in the 670 upstream free flow of wind tunnel experiment. 671 Fig. 3. (a) Computational domain for cases with a parallel approaching wind (0°) and half domain 672 673 size, (b) Grid arrangements in x-y plane in the validation case. 674 675 Fig. 4. (a) Computational domain with oblique wind direction and full domain size. Model 676 descriptions of urban models with (b) 4 (2×2) buildings and (c) 16 (4×4) buildings.

677

- Fig. 5. (a) Fully-covered roof type: walls fully cover street roofs at z=H (b) Partly-covered roof
- 679 type: walls partly cover street roofs at *z*=*H*, (c) Types of 'Hung1.5H', 'Hung1.2H', 'Hung1.1H':
- walls are hung above street roofs at z=1.1H, 1.2H, 15H.

681

Fig. 6. Two examples of grid arrangements for urban geometries with 4 buildings: (a) in x-v

682 683 plane, (b) in x-z plane. (c)Definition of uniform pollutant source in UCL volume. 684 685 Fig. 7. Validation profiles of (a) velocity and (b) turbulence intensity along the street centerline 686 at z=0.11H by using different turbulence models. (c) Horizontal profiles of velocity for a grid 687 independence study. 688 Fig. 8. (a) 3D streamline, (b) τ_p * in z=0.22H and Q* in Case [2-2, 0, Open], Case [2-2, 0, 689 690 Hung1.2H], Case [2-2, 0, Partly-covered], Case [2-2, 0, Fully-covered]. 691 692 Fig. 9. (a) 3D streamline, (b) τ_n^* and Q^* in Case [2-2, 0, Hung1.5H], Case [2-2, 15, Hung1.5H], 693 Case [2-2, 30, Hung1.5H], Case [2-2, 45, Hung1.5H]. Note that in Fig. 9b, negative values of Q^* 694 by mean flows denote air leaving UCL and positive ones represent air entering UCL. 695 Fig. 10. Q^* in urban models with 4 buildings and wind directions of (a) 0° , (b) 15° , (c) 30° , 696 697 $(d)45^{\circ}$. 698 699 Fig. 11. Ventilation indices and their NVR for test cases with 4 buildings: (a) Q^*_{roof} (in) and 700 Q^*_{roof} (out), (b) Q^*_{roof} (turb), (c) Q_T^* , (d) PFR^* , (e) $<\tau_n^*>$. 701 Fig. 12. τ_n * in z=0.22H in (a) Case [4-4, 0, Hung1.2H], (b) Case [4-4, 15, Hung1.2H], (c) Case 702 703 [4-4, 30, Hung1.2H], (d) Case [4-4, 45, Hung1.2H]. 704 705 Fig. 13. Ventilation indices and their NVR: (a) Q^*_{roof} (in) and Q^*_{roof} (out) in 24 test cases with 16 buildings, In all 48 test cases: (b) Q^*_{roof} (turb), (c) Q_T^* , (d) PFR^* , (e) $<\tau_n^*>$. 706

Table 1 Model descriptions of 48 test cases.

2 rows, 2 columns	(2×2)	4 rows, 4 columns (4×4)			
Case name*	Ambient wind	Case name	Ambient wind		
	direction θ^{o}		direction θ^{o}		
[2-2, 0, Open]		[4-4, 0, Open]			
[2-2, 0, Hung1.5H]		[4-4, 0, Hung1.5H]			
[2-2, 0, Hung1.2H]	$0^{\rm o}$	[4-4, 0, Hung1.2H]	0°		
[2-2, 0, Hung1.1H]		[4-4, 0, Hung1.1H]			
[2-2, 0,Partly-covered]		[4-4, 0,Partly-covered]			
[2-2, 0, Fully-covered]		[4-4, 0, Fully-covered]			
			_		
[2-2, 15, Open]		[4-4, 15, Open]			
[2-2, 15, Hung1.5H]		[4-4, 15, Hung1.5H]			
[2-2, 15, Hung1.2H]	15°	[4-4, 15, Hung1.2H]	15°		
[2-2, 15, Hung1.1H]		[4-4, 15, Hung1.1H]			
[2-2, 15,Partly-covered]		[4-4, 15,Partly-covered]			
[2-2, 15, Fully-covered]		[4-4, 15, Fully-covered]			
[2-2, 30, Open]		[4-4, 30, Open]			
[2-2, 30, Hung1.5H]		[4-4, 30, Hung1.5H]	_		
[2-2, 30, Hung1.2H]	30°	[4-4, 30, Hung1.2H]	30°		
[2-2, 30, Hung1.1H]		[4-4, 30, Hung1.1H]			
[2-2, 30,Partly-covered]		[4-4, 30,Partly-covered]			
[2-2, 30, Fully-covered]	4	[4-4, 30, Fully-covered]			
		Y			
[2-2, 45, Open]		[4-4, 45, Open]			
[2-2, 45, Hung1.5H]		[4-4, 45, Hung1.5H]	_		
[2-2, 45, Hung1.2H]	45°	[4-4, 45, Hung1.2H]	45 °		
[2-2, 45, Hung1.1H]		[4-4, 45, Hung1.1H]			
[2-2, 45,Partly-covered]	7	[4-4, 45,Partly-covered]			
[2-2, 45, Fully-covered]	Y	[4-4, 45, Fully-covered]	20) C 1		

*Case name is defined as [row number-column number, wind direction (θ^0), roof type]. Open' denotes open street roofs; 'Fully-covered' and 'Partly-covered' means solid walls 'fully or 'partly cover' street roofs at z=H. 'Hung1.5H, Hung1.2H and Hung1.1H' represent solid walls are 'Hung' above street roofs at z=1.5H, 1.2H and 1.1H.

Table 2 Effect of turbulence models and turbulent Schimdt number (*Sct*) on $\langle \tau_p^* \rangle$, *PFR** and Q_T^* in the entire UCL, $Q_{\text{roof}}(\text{turb})^*$ and Q^* across O3 in Case [2-2, 0, Open].

Turbulence models	Sct	$< au_p^*>$	PFR*	Q_{T}^{*}	$Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{out})$	$Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{in})$	$Q^*_{\text{roof}}(\text{turb})$	Q*(O3)
	0.4	21.2	1.847	1.376	-0.825	0.148	1.211	-0.551
Standard k - ε	0.7	24.3	1.609					
	1.0	26.4	1.482					
Realizable k - ε	0.7	27.2	1.439	1.401	-0.844	0.145	1.066	-0.536
RNG k - ε	0.7	28.8	1.358	1.378	-1.127	0.181	0.919	-0.274

^{*}Negative values denote air leaving UCL and positive ones represent air entering it.



Fig. 1. Hang et al.

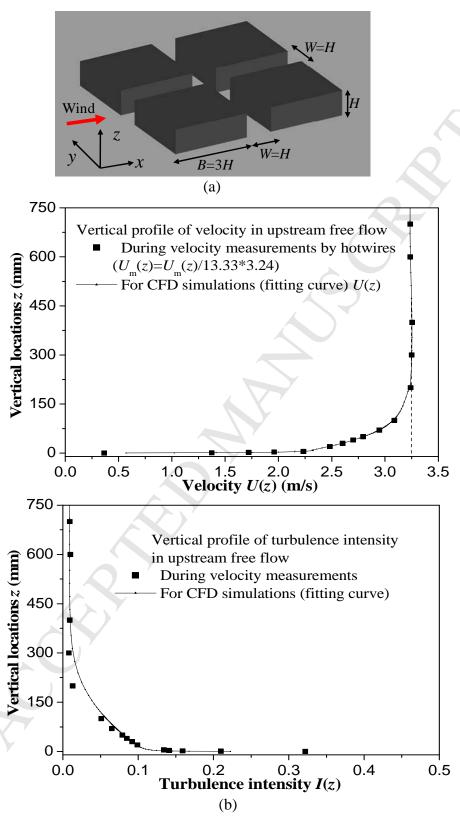
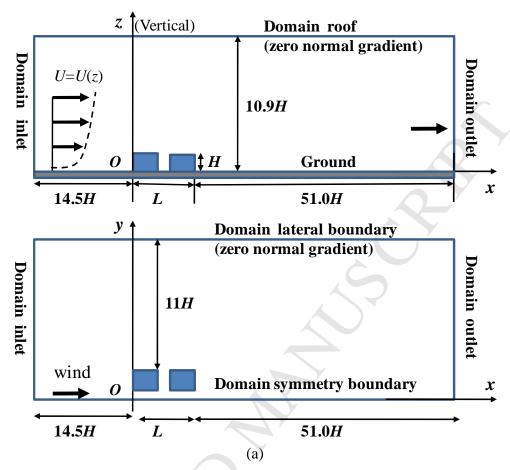
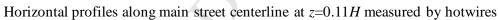


Fig. 2. Hang et al.





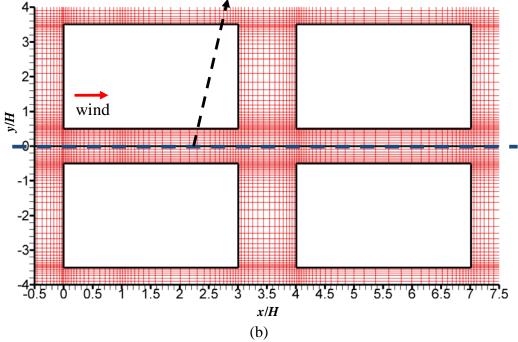
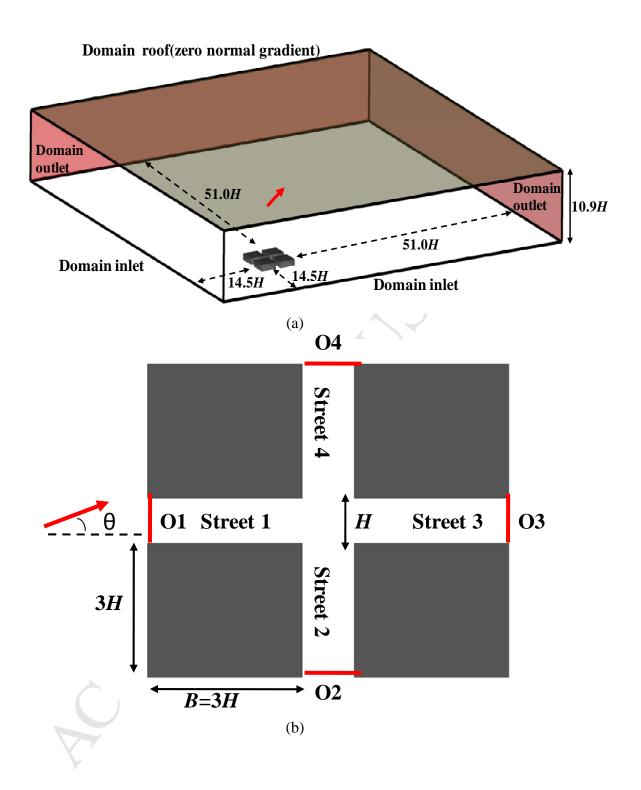


Fig. 3 Hang et al.



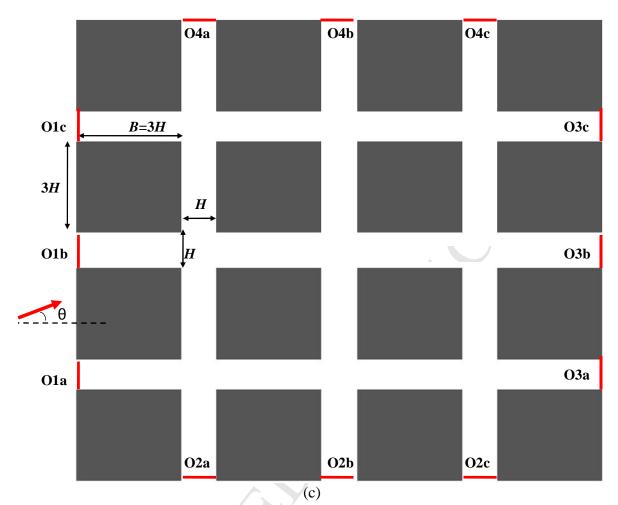


Fig. 4. Hang et al.

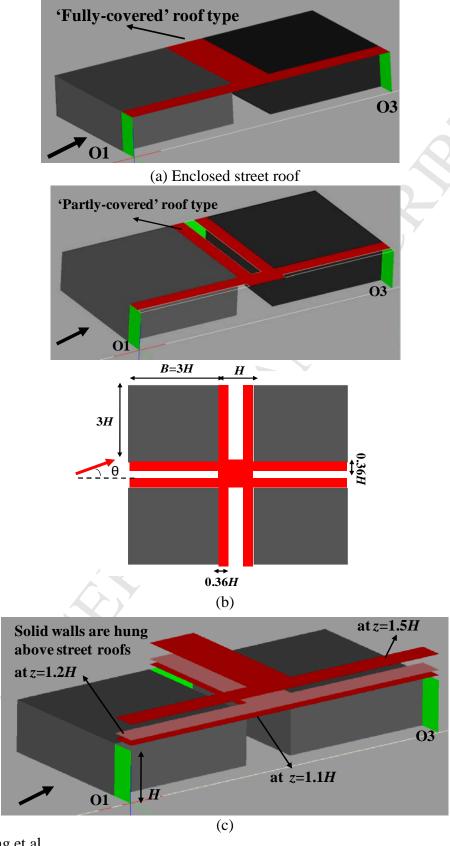


Fig. 5. Hang et al.

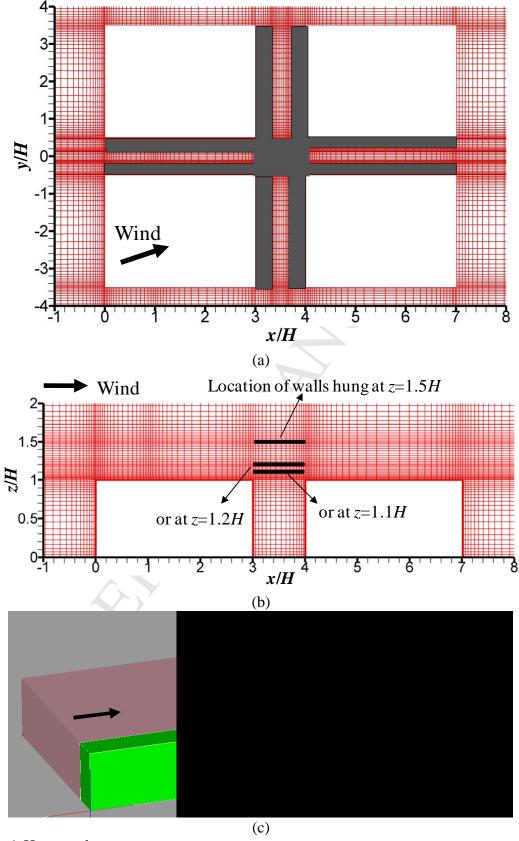


Fig.6. Hang et al.

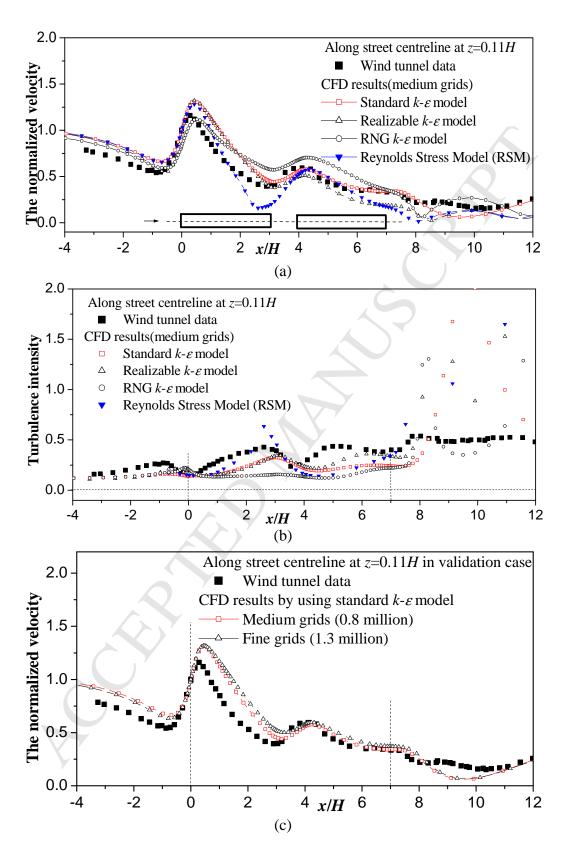


Fig. 7. Hang et al.

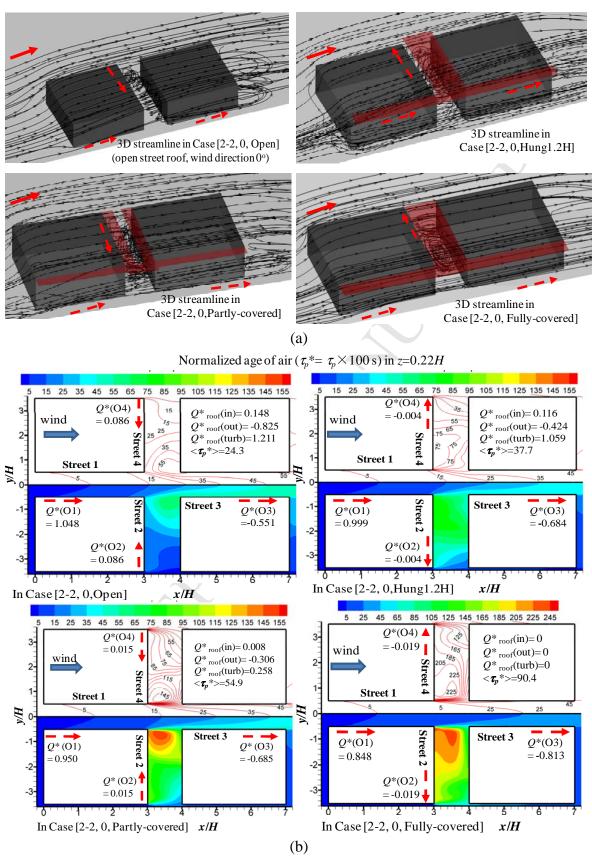


Fig. 8 Hang et al.

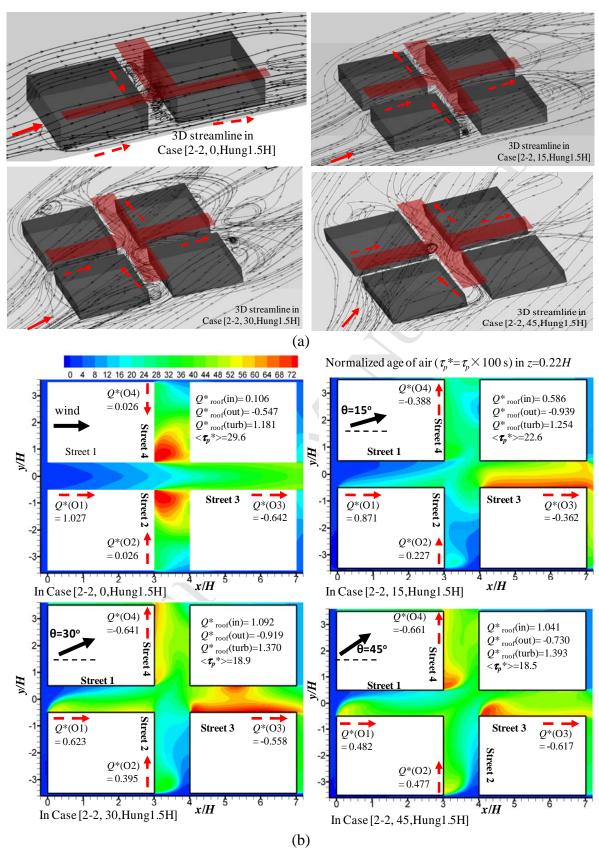
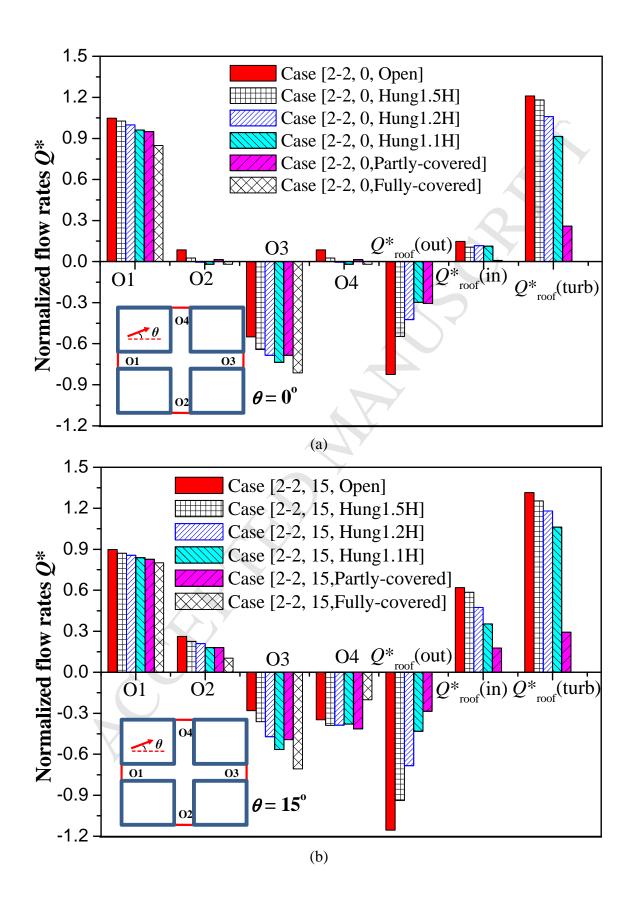


Fig. 9 Hang et al.



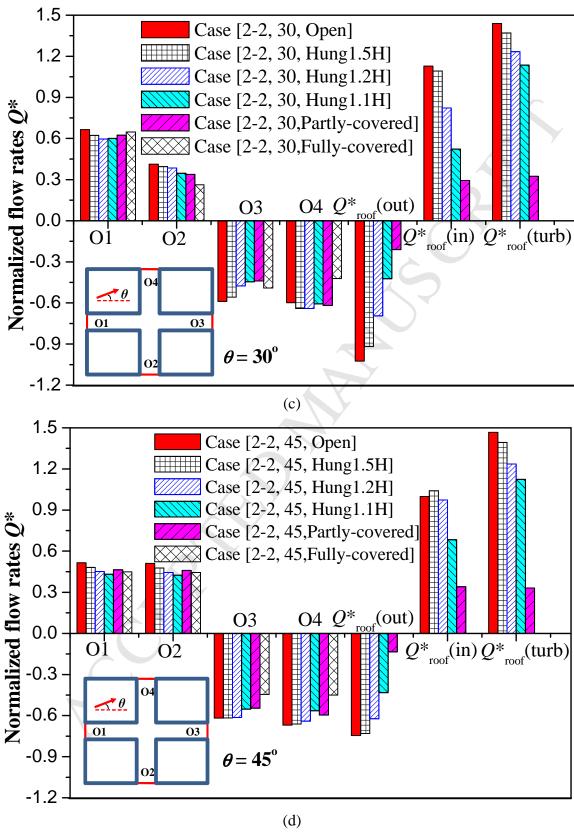
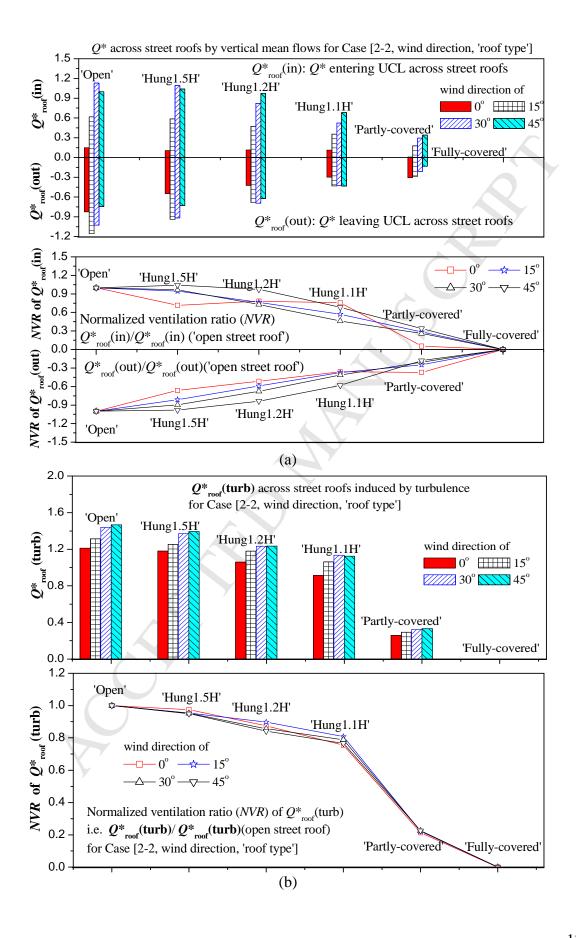
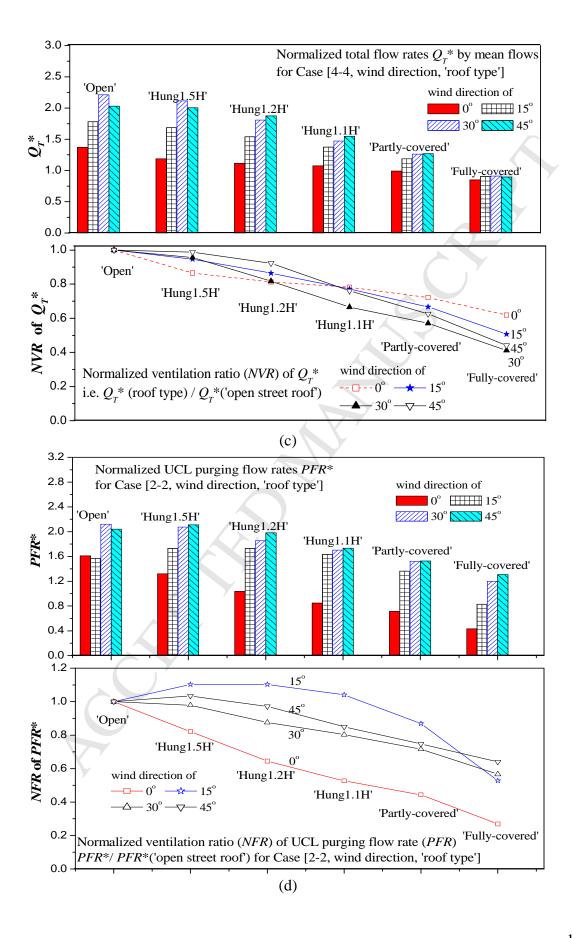


Fig.10. Hang et al.





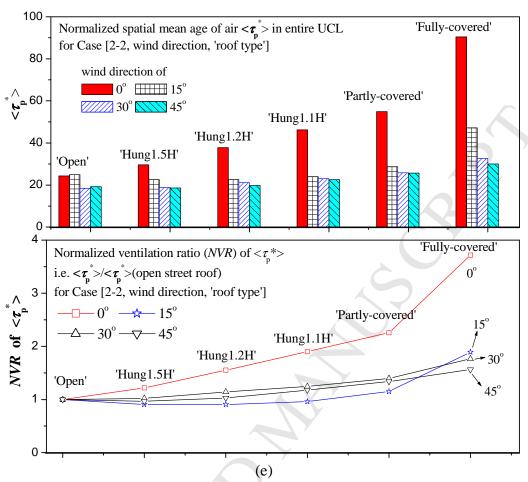
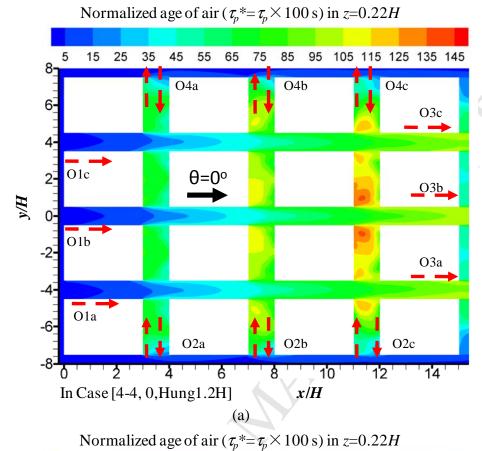
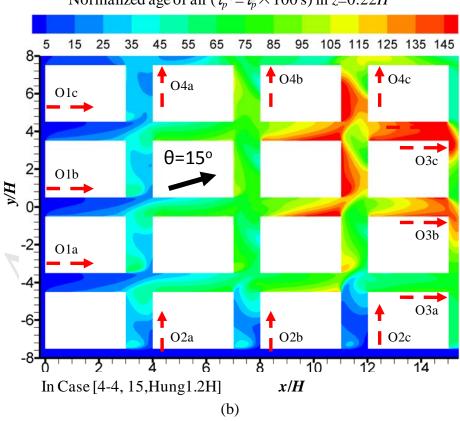


Fig. 11. Hang et al.





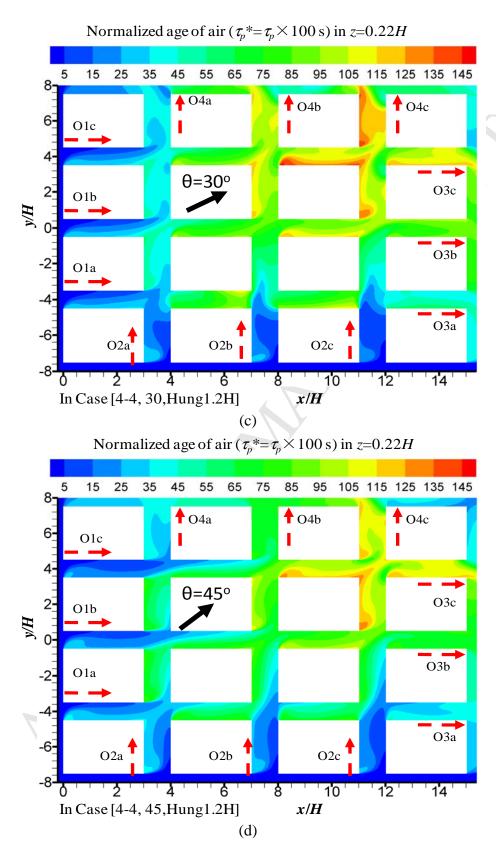
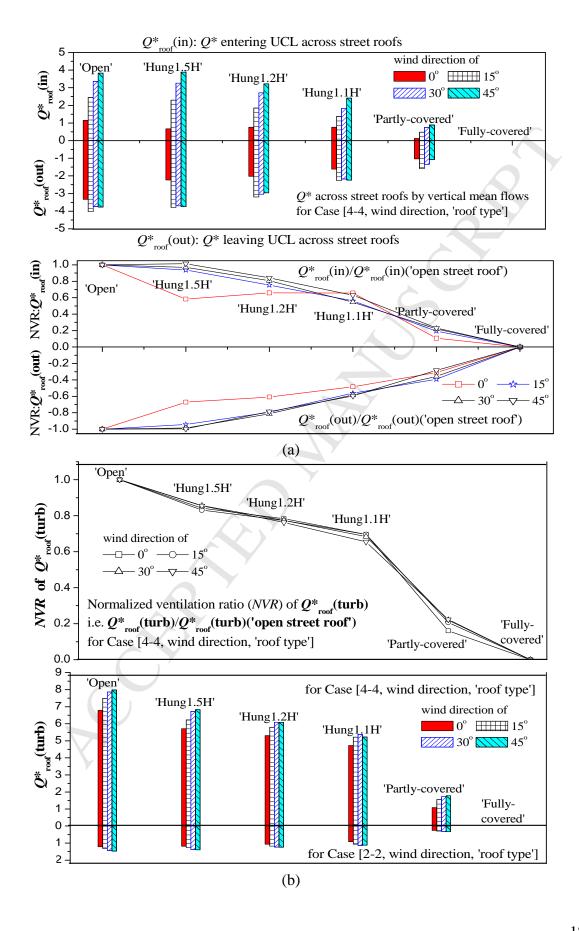
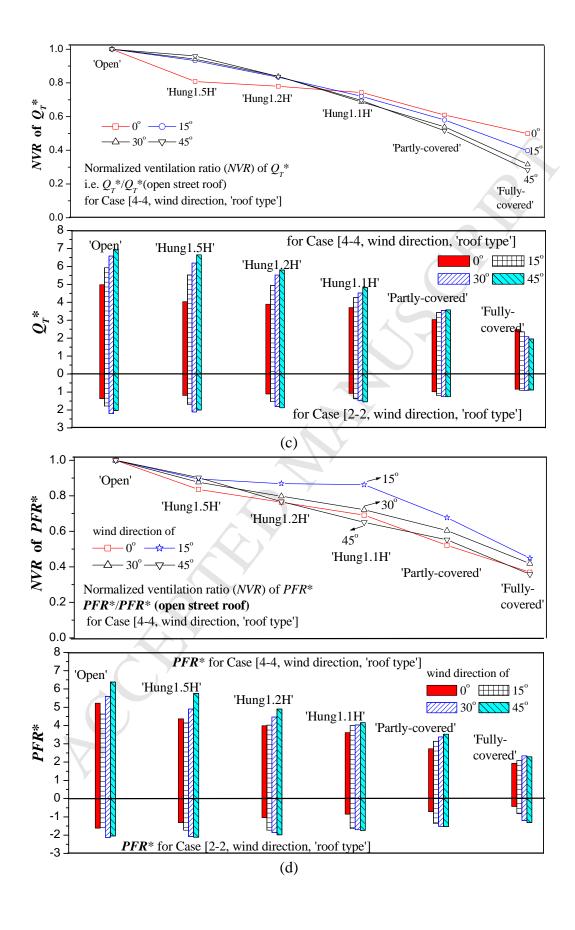


Fig. 12. Hang et al.





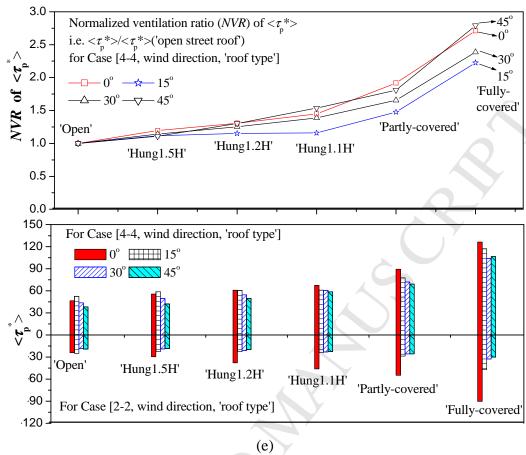


Fig. 13 Hang et al.

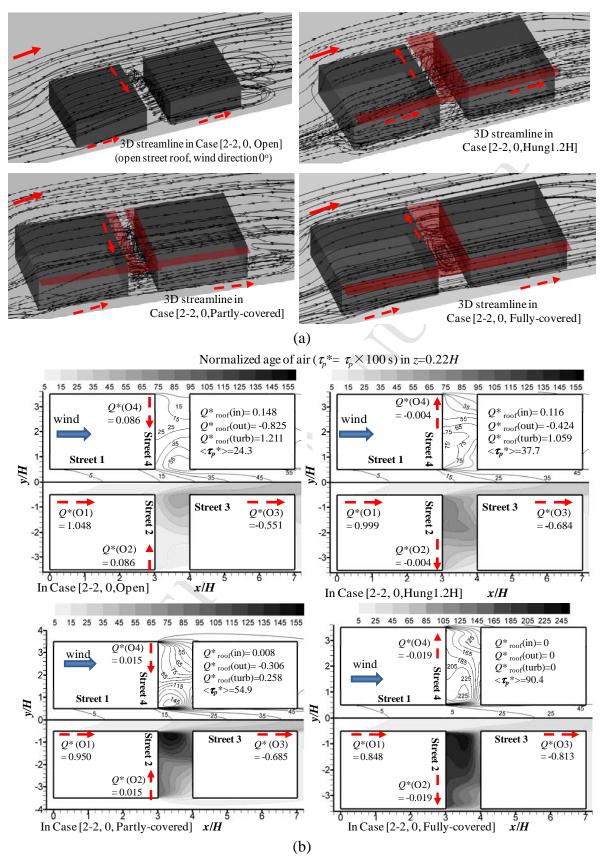


Fig. 6 Hang et al.

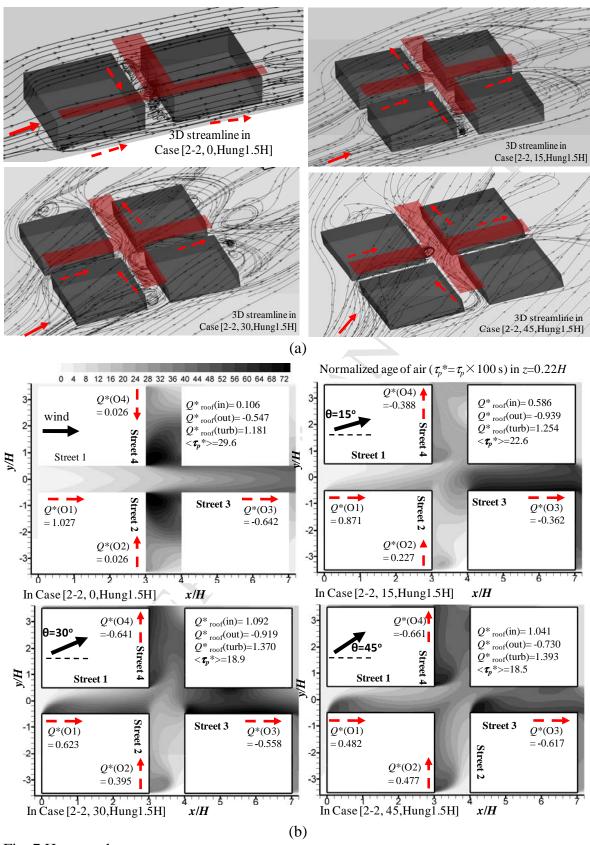
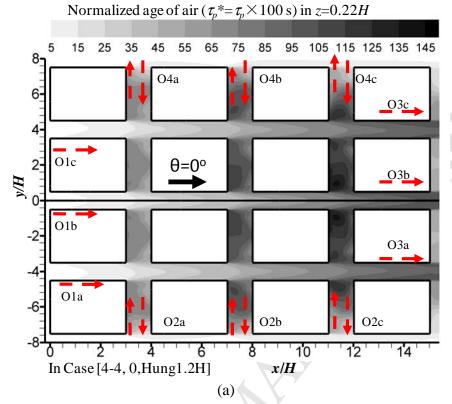
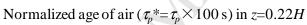
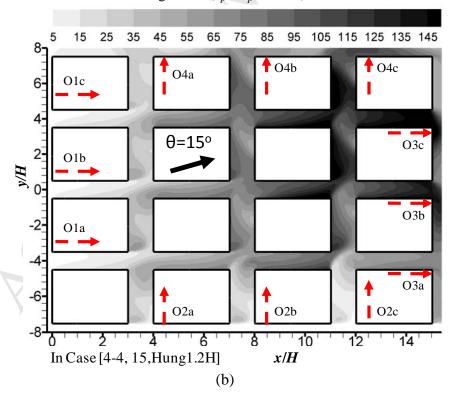
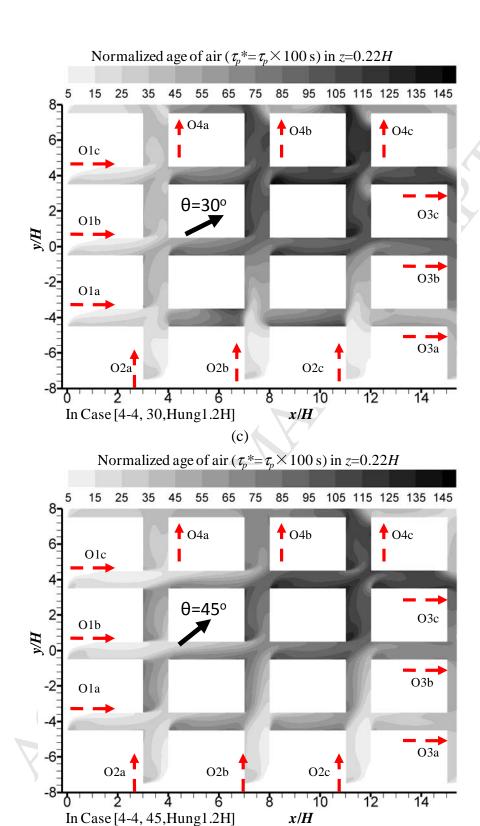


Fig. 7 Hang et al.









(d)

Fig. 10. Hang et al.