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Impact of well-watered trees on the microclimate inside a canyon street scale model in outdoor environment

S. Mballo^{1,*}, S. Herpin^{1,2}, M. Manteau^{1,2}, S. Demotes-Mainard³ and P.E. Bournet^{1,2}

¹*EPHOR, Institut Agro, SFR 4207 QuaSaV, 49045 Angers, France*

²*IRSTV, FR CNRS 2488, 44321 Nantes Cedex 3, France*

³*Univ Angers, Institut Agro, INRAE, IRHS, SFR QUASAV, F-49000 Angers, France*

**souleymane.mballo@agrocampus-ouest.fr*

Abstract – Cities experience overheating due to factors such as urban form and materials, concentration of human activities, reduction in the amount of vegetation and water surfaces. Vegetation is one of the ways to reduce temperature peaks in the city during heat waves. The objectives of this paper are twofold: first, to study the impact on the microclimate of a north-south oriented canyon street at reduced-scale (1/5), then to study the impact of well-watered trees on the street microclimate. This study provides a highly integrated view of climatic mechanisms through the measurement of a set variables, including air temperature, relative humidity, wall temperature, conductive and radiation fluxes as well as tree transpiration and thus allows a better understanding of the physical phenomena at stake. It shows that the canyon street created an urban overheating of up to 2.8 °C during the night, and up to 2.4 °C during the day, and that trees reduced the air temperature in the street by up to 2.7 °C during the day. Finally, trees improved human thermal comfort with a reduction of 8 °C of the Universal Thermal Climate Index at midday.

Keywords: Energy balance, Radiation, water balance, transpiration, thermal comfort, urban environment

1 Introduction

Urbanization is the process of migration of people from rural area to urban area for the improvement of their lives (Kuddus and Rahman, 2015). At the beginning of the twentieth century, 15 % of the world population lived in cities (Susca et al., 2011). In 2018, 55 % of the world's population resided in urban areas, and by 2050, 68 % of the world's population is projected to be urban (United Nations, 2018). In Europe, the urbanization rate was already 74.5 % in 2018 and a projection indicates that this rate will reach 83.7 % in 2050 (United Nations, 2018). The trend towards urbanization leads to the expansion of cities and the replacement of vegetation, natural soil, and water surface by impervious surfaces such as asphalt. The effect of urbanization on the urban thermal environment has attracted increasing research attention for its significant relationship to local climatic change and habitat comfort (Xiong et al., 2012). Among the consequences of urbanization on the urban microclimate is the Urban Heat Island (UHI) phenomenon, which is a heat accumulation process within an urban area due to urban buildings and human activities (Yang et al., 2016). According to Rizwan et al. (2008), UHI is one of the biggest environmental problems of the 21st century caused by the urbanization and industrialization of our society. Extensive studies of the characteristics of UHI effect were carried out in recent decades by authors such as Aboelata (2020); Arnfield (2003); Cantat (2004); Chen et al. (2006); Ridha (2017); Rizwan et al. (2008); Santamouris et al. (2001); Weng et al. (2004) and Yang et al. (2016). They showed that the UHI effects (in terms of intensity in particular) vary from one place to another as they are closely related to urban heat release, surface properties, vegetation coverage, population density. Measured air temperature in UHI can exceed 10 °C compared with the neighboring rural areas for the city of Athens (Santamouris et al., 2001) and 11.4 °C in Paris (Cantat, 2004).

Among the different existing urban topologies, canyon streets are a classical downtown configuration and therefore deserve a particular attention. A canyon street is a straight street continuously bordered by tall buildings. Since the pioneering work of Oke (1988), canyon streets are an emblematic configuration

44 of urban microclimate research on which many data are available. They are generally defined by their
45 aspect ratio which is the ratio between the height of the buildings and the width of the street (or the
46 inverse depending on the authors) and the orientation of their main axis. Canyon streets are ideal places
47 to observe different phenomena at stake in the UHI such as wind sheltering effect (when the wind blows
48 perpendicularly to the street), and radiative trapping (resulting from absorption and reflection of solar
49 radiation during daytime, and retention of long-wave radiation at night). They are also often considered
50 as a geometry of reference in modelling tools. The TEB (Town Energy Budget) model for instance is
51 able to simulate the climate of an entire city from the prediction of the climate inside a set of canyon
52 streets (Lemonsu et al., 2004; Redon, 2017; Redon et al., 2020). Many outdoor experimental studies on
53 canyon street focused on aerualics and turbulence phenomena (Andreou, 2014; DePaul and Sheih, 1986,
54 1986; Georgakis and Santamouris, 2006; Louka et al., 2002; Najjar et al., 2005; Nakamura and Oke,
55 1988; Niachou et al., 2008; Rotach, 1995; Rotach et al., 2005) and will not be further commented here.
56 In the following, we will focus our attention on studies dedicated to urban microclimate inside canyon
57 streets, including thermal effects, without (Table 1) or with (Table 2) vegetation.

58 We have listed in Table 1 the main studies carried out on non-vegetated urban full-scale or reduced-
59 scale canyon streets. The aspect ratio in this table is calculated as the ratio of building height to street
60 width. The scales for the reduced-scale canyon streets are determined from a reference height of 10 m.
61 Table 1 shows that prior to the 2000s, experimental studies on canyon streets were essentially full-scale.
62 Indeed, full-scale outdoor experimental studies make it possible to assess several physical phenomena
63 at the same time with fewer hypotheses. In particular for full-scale studies, Najjar et al. (2005) studied
64 a canyon street in Strasbourg Eastern France oriented north north-east/south south-west with an aspect
65 ratio of 0.9. The experiment was focused on the radiation balance of the street, but also looked at sensible
66 and latent heat flux. Many authors have also been interested in the impact of canyon street orientation
67 on the microclimate (Andreou, 2014; Eliasson, 1996). They have found that for the same aspect ratio,
68 the interception of solar radiation by the solid walls, and thus the wall and air temperatures, depended
69 on both the orientation of the street and the inclination of the sun. Andreou (2014) showed, for example,
70 that the ground of north-south oriented streets, in comparison to east-west oriented streets, is more
71 shaded during summertime, and less shaded during wintertime. As for the wall façades, north-south
72 oriented streets receive more solar radiation than east-west oriented streets in summer. This was
73 observed for aspect ratios within the range [0.6; 3]. The author also showed that the larger the aspect
74 ratio, the more important the shading in the street, especially for North-South oriented streets.

75 However, more and more outdoor canyon street experimental studies now tend to be conducted at a
76 reduced-scale despite the difficulties associated with the transposition of results to full-scale. To our
77 knowledge, there are for the moment only 4 models of purely mineral canyon streets that have been built
78 outdoors at reduced-scale, with scale reduction factor ranging from 1/2 to 1/8. Athamena et al. (2018)
79 studied a reduced-scale (1/2) canyon street in an outdoor environment in Nantes, looking at phenomena
80 coupling aerualics and thermics. Idczak et al. (2007) conducted micrometeorological measurements at
81 an experimental site (scale 1/2) located in the industrial area of Guerville (48°56'N, 1°44'W) in France.
82 Idczak et al. (2007) observed that thermal effects were significant only in areas close to walls, and that
83 buoyancy forces were generally negligible in the canyon street. Wang et al. (2017) carried out field
84 experiments in an east-west 1/8 scale canyon street built in Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China
85 (23°4'N, 113°23'E) to study the impact of thermal mass of walls on air and wall temperatures. Their
86 measurements show that during the daytime, walls with the lowest thermal mass reach their peaks earlier
87 than walls with the highest thermal mass and that the opposite results occur after sunset. Chen et al.
88 (2020) used the same experimental facility with various aspect ratios of the streets. Their studies showed
89 that thermal storage capacity and aspect ratio are two essential factors that determine the urban

90 microclimate. On the aspect ratio, they found that the wider the street, i.e., the lower the ratio between
91 the height of the buildings and the width of the street, the higher the wall and air temperatures during
92 daytime. On the contrary, during the night, the street with lower aspect ratio cools down faster.

93 As far as urban vegetation is concerned, Bowler et al. (2010) and Jamei et al. (2016) conducted a state-
94 of-the-art review on studies focusing on the effect of green spaces on temperature and thermal comfort.
95 Bowler et al. (2010) found that authors were more interested in the effect of parks and trees than in the
96 effect of green roofs. All studies with urban green spaces show that they have an impact on the
97 environment, at least locally. In canyon streets, trees can have cooling or warming effects on the air
98 depending on their position on the street, prevailing wind conditions and time of day. During the day,
99 the effects of trees are more noticeable in shallow streets because, in deep streets, their effects are
100 masked by buildings (Bowler et al., 2010; Jamei et al., 2016). During the night, the air temperature
101 beneath trees in deep canyons is slightly higher than the surrounding air temperature due to the low sky
102 view factor that blocks infrared cooling (Jamei et al., 2016). In Table 2, we have listed studies dedicated
103 to vegetation inside canyon streets, both at full-scale and reduced-scale. As it can be seen, most studies
104 were conducted in temperate climate, as already pointed out by Bowler et al. (2010). In spite of the
105 diversity of tree species used, it can be seen that trees organized in two lateral rows is the most frequently
106 considered configuration. Table 2 also shows that information about vegetation such as LAI (Leaf Area
107 Index, defined as the ratio of the cumulated leaf surfaces to the projected area of the crown to the ground),
108 LAD (Leaf Area Density, defined as the ratio of cumulated leaf surfaces to crown volume) and part of
109 ground covered vegetation vary from one study to another. Therefore, configurations are often not easy
110 to compare to one another, and a very broad range of air temperature reduction by trees (from 0.4°C to
111 6°C) has been reported in the literature, depending on the authors. To date, most of the studies on the
112 impact of vegetation on the microclimate in a canyon street have been carried out at full-scale. In
113 Dresden, Gillner et al. (2015) showed that, thanks to the shading effects, vegetation can reduce surface
114 temperatures by 5.5 to 15.2 °C and air temperature by 0.7 to 2.2 K depending on the tree species used.
115 The authors also showed that trees can reduce asphalt temperatures by up to 4.6 °C per unit of LAD
116 Gebert et al. (2019) are some of the few authors to have measured the water content by volume in soil.
117 Their results showed that stomatal conductance (and thus tree transpiration) was closely related to soil
118 water availability. On the impact of trees on human thermal comfort, Coutts et al. (2016) found that,
119 during heat events, trees in East-West oriented Canyons with average aspect ratio comprised between
120 0.27 and 0.76 had a low impact on air temperature (0.9 °C at mid-morning) but a significant impact on
121 diurnal index in summer, largely due to a reduction in the mean radiant temperature, reducing heat stress
122 from a very high level (UTCI > 38°C) to a high level (38 °C > UTCI > 32 °C). We found only three
123 studies in the literature (Djedjig et al., 2013, Ouldboukhitine et al., 2011; Park et al., 2012) that were
124 conducted in reduced-scale street. The first two studies focused only on green walls and roofs and Park
125 et al. (2012) were the only ones to consider trees in their street. Park et al. (2012) conducted a study in
126 Japan (39°04', 139°07'E) on a small-scale (1/10) urban model on the effect of urban vegetation on the
127 outdoor thermal environment. They found that trees, in comparison with a non-vegetated modality,
128 could reduce the globe temperature (which incorporates the effects of radiation, so this magnitude is
129 different from the air temperature) by 0.6 to 2.2 °C depending on the street orientation and sensors
130 position.

131 In this paper, we propose to study the impact of a canyon street on the microclimate, and then to study
132 the impact of trees on the microclimate within the canyon street. To reach this goal, we first present the
133 1/5 scale canyon used for experiments, the instrumentation, and the method of calculation of several
134 quantities of interest. Second, in addition to the variables classically studied in the literature such as air
135 temperatures, wall temperatures, relative and absolute humidities, we analyze other variables such as tree

136 transpiration, radiation and its interception by buildings and trees both in areas without or with trees. An
137 originality of the present study also relies on the fact that the soil was instrumented, which gave access
138 to the soil water status, whereas this information is very rarely available in urban studies. We also
139 investigate the thermal comfort inside the street in the vegetated and non-vegetated modalities and
140 compare it to a control rural-like environment outside the street. A discussion including considerations
141 on the representativeness of the reduced-scale street and on the limitations and perspectives of the present
142 work is also provided.

References	Place	Köppen-Geiger climate type	Orientation	Model	Scale	Aspect ratio (H/W)	Measured variables ¹
Chen et al. (2020)	Guangzhou, China	Cwa, Cfa	E-W	Reduced	1/8	1.0, 2.0, 3.0	WS, AT, ST, SHF, RAD
Athamena et al. (2018)	Nantes, France	Cfb	NE-SW	Reduced	1/2	1.4	WS, AT
Liang et al. (2018)	Guangzhou, China	Cwa, Cfa	NW-SE	Reduced	1/8	1.0, 2.0, 3.0	WS, AT
Wang et al. (2017)	Guangzhou, China	Cwa, Cfa	E-W	Reduced	1/8	1.0	WS, AT, ST, HF, RAD
Andreou (2014)	Island of Tinos, Greece	Csa	Many	Full	-	2.0, 0.7, 0.9	WS, AT, ST, RAD
Doya et al. (2012)	La Rochelle, France	Cfb	N-S	Reduced	1/8	1.1	AT, ST
Niachou et al. (2008)	Athens, Greece	Csa	ESE-WNW	Full	-	1.7	WS, AT, ST
Idczak et al. (2007)	Guerville, France	Cfb	NE-SW	Reduced	1/2	2.2	WS, AT, ST, HF, RAD
Georgakis and Santamouris (2006)	Athens, Greece	Csa	NW-SE	Full	-	3.3	WS, AT, ST
Najjar et al. (2005)	Strasbourg, France	Cfb	NNE-SSW	Full	-	0.9	SHF, LHF, RAD
Rotach et al. (2005)	Basel, Switzerland	Cfb	-	Full	-	-	WS, AT, SHF, LHF, RAD
Bourbia and Awbi (2004)	El-Oued, Algeria	BWh	E-W, N-S	Full	-	1.3, 4.0, 2.0	AT, ST
Louka et al. (2002)	Nantes, France	Cfb	N-S	Full	-	1.4	WS, AT, ST
Santamouris et al. (1999)	Athens, Greece	Csa	NW-SE	Full	-	2.5	WS, AT, ST
Eliasson (1996)	Göteborg, Sweden	Dfb	ENE-WSW, NNW-SSE	Full	-	1.4-2.1	AT, ST
Nakamura and Oke (1988)	Kyoto, Japan	Cfa	E-W	Full	-	1.0	WS, AT, ST
DePaul and Sheih (1986)	Chicago, USA	Dfa	N-S	Full	-	1.4	WS

Table 1: Main studies carried out on canyon streets in outdoor environment. The scale of the street in a reduced environment is determined in relation to a reference height of 10 m. The orientation refers to the direction of the main axis of the street. Variable names are AT: Air Temperature, Emax: Evapotranspiration maximum, Gs: Stomatal conductance, HF: Heat Flux, LHF: Latent Heat Flux, LT: Leaf Temperature, RAD: Radiation, RH: Relative Humidity, SHF: Sensible Heat Flux, ST: Surface Temperature, UTCI: Universal Thermal Climate Index, WS: Wind Speed. Climate characteristics refer to the Köppen-Geiger classification: BWk: Semi-arid climate, BWh: Arid climate, Cfa: Humid subtropical climates, Cfb: Oceanic climate, Csa: Mediterranean hot summer climates, Cwa: Dry-winter humid, subtropical climate, Dfa: Hot summer continental climates, Dfb: Warm summer continental or hemiboreal climates.

References	Place	Köppen-Geiger	Orientation	Model	Scale	H/W	Type of vegetation	Other information about vegetation ²	Measured or calculated variables ³
Aboelata (2020)	Cairo, Egypt	BWh	NW-SE	Full	-	1.0	Trees (<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> Microcapa, <i>Delonix regia</i> Regia), Grass	2 side rows, Percentage of the ground covered by vegetation = {20%; 50%; 70% }	WS, AT
Gebert et al. (2019)	Melbourne, Australia	Cfb	N-S	Full	-	0.25 – 0.55	Trees (<i>Olea europaea</i> , <i>Eucalyptus olivacea</i> oltvacea)	2 side rows; Leaf Area Index = {1.13, 2.36}	AT, RH, VPD, LF, RAD, Gs, θ_v
Coutts et al. (2016)	Melbourne, Australia	Cfb	E-W	Full	-	0.27, 0.32, 0.76	Trees (<i>Platanus</i> , <i>Ulmus</i>)	2 side rows, Percentage of the ground covered by vegetation = {31%, 12%, 45% }	WS, AT, RH, RAD, UTCI
Gillner et al. (2015)	Dresden, Germany	Dfb	-	Full	-	-	Trees (<i>Aesculus × carnea</i> , <i>Corylus corluna</i> , <i>Ginkgo biloba</i> , <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> , <i>Tilia cordata</i> , <i>Ulmus x hollandica</i>) Trees (Aca, Cco, Gbi, Ltu, Tco, Uho)	Leaf Area Density = [0.90; 2.56]	AT, ST, RH, Gs, Emax
Andreou (2014)	Island of Tinos, Greece	Csa	Many	Full	-	Many	Trees	Height of Trees / Height of Building = [0.3; 1.0]	WS, AT, ST, RAD
Vailshery et al. (2013)	Bangalore, India	Cwa, Cfa	Many	Full	-	Many	-	Canopy cover = [30%;90%]-	AT, RH, ST
Djedjig et al. (2013)	La Rochelle, France	Cfb	N-S	Reduced	1/8	1.1	Green roofs and walls (sedum, mint, thyme...)	-	AT, RH, RAD, ST, HF
Correa et al. (2012)	Mendoza, Argentina	BWk	W-E	Full	-	0.16 – 0.31	Trees (<i>Platanus acerifolia</i> , <i>Morus alba</i> , <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	2 side rows	WS, AT, RH, ST, RAD
Park et al. (2012)	Saitama, Japan	Cfa	-	Reduced	1/6	0.8	Trees	2 sides rows and 1 central row	WS, AT, GT
Ouldboukhutine et al. (2011)	La Rochelle, France	Cfb	N-S	Reduced	1/8	1.1	Green roofs (Tundra, Pampa)	-	AT, RH, LT, RAD
Shashua-Bar and Hoffman (2003)	Tel-Aviv, Israel	Csa	N-S, E-W	Full	-	0.3	Trees (<i>Ficus</i>)	2 sides rows, Percentage of the ground covered by vegetation = {63%; 74% }	WS, AT, LT, RAD

Table 2: Some studies carried out on vegetated canyon streets in outdoor environment. The scale of the street in a reduced environment is determined in relation to a reference height of 10 m. Variable names are AT: Air Temperature, Emax: Maximum evapotranspiration, Gs: Stomatal conductance, HF: Heat Flux, LHF: Latent Heat Flux, LT: Leaf Temperature, RAD: Radiation, RH: Relative Humidity, SHF: Sensible Heat Flux, ST: Surface Temperature, UTCI: Universal Thermal Climate Index, WS: Wind Speed. Climate characteristics refer to the Köppen-Geiger classification: BWk: Semi-arid climate, BWh: Arid climate, Cfa: Humid subtropical climates, Cfb: Oceanic climate, Csa: Mediterranean hot summer climates, Cwa: Dry-winter humid, subtropical climate, Dfa: Hot summer continental climates, Dfb: Warm summer continental or hemiboreal climates.

168 2 Materials and methods

169 2.1 Experimental site

170 For the purpose of the study, a canyon street was built at Institut Agro in Angers (47°28'N, 0°33'E), in
171 north-western France. Angers has a temperate oceanic climate, considered as Cfb according to the
172 Köppen-Geiger classification. The experimental installation consists of a 1/5 scale canyon street (Figure
173 1). The street is oriented north-south and prevailing winds are mainly from west, meaning that they blow
174 perpendicular to the street. The street has nominal dimensions of 16 m long and 2 m wide. The two
175 buildings which border it are 2 m high and 2 m wide. It can therefore be described as a “regular Canyon”
176 since its aspect ratio (ratio of the height of the buildings to the width of the street) is 1. The floor on the
177 ground of the canyon street consists, from top to bottom, of a 0.04 m thick layer of asphalt, a 0.25 m
178 thick layer of gravel and a layer of brown soil beyond 0.25 m in depth. The walls are made of 0.1 m
179 thick concrete and are insulated with 0.12 m thick expanded polystyrene and covered with white paint
180 on the street-side. The roofs and external walls of the buildings were built with wooden frames and
181 covered with steel pans to ensure rain proofness of the buildings.



182
183 Figure 1 : Canyon street at 1/5 scale built at Institut Agro, in Angers (France). (a): top view, (b): front
184 view Photo credit: INRAE, OPAALE research unit.

185 The street is divided into three modalities organized from north to south: a treed modality at the northern
186 side of the street, a treed modality in the middle of the street and a treeless modality at the southern side
187 of the street (see Figure 2). The existence of two vegetated modalities will enable us, in a future
188 experiment, to grow the trees located in the middle of the street in condition of water restriction, in order
189 to study the impact of the soil water availability on the climatic services provided by trees. However, in
190 the present study, trees of both modalities were grown identically, in well-watered conditions. For this
191 reason, in the present study only the Northern modality will be exploited for the vegetated condition and
192 compared with the Southern non-vegetated modality. Each vegetated modality counts five trees, and all
193 measurements were taken at the level of the three central trees, to avoid border effect.

194 The plant species used is the ornamental apple tree *Malus coccinella*[®] ‘Courtarou’. The studied trees are
195 issued from cuttings, grown in a nursery (Briant Jeunes Plants) for 1 year. At the time of the experiment,
196 the trees were 3-years old. They had been transferred one year earlier in the street in 80 L containers.
197 The containers were filled with a layer of 0.25 m of topsoil/compost mixture in a 60/40 % volume ratio,
198 followed at the bottom with a 0.1 m thick mixture of topsoil-compost/stone in a 65/35 % volume ratio.
199 A layer of concrete with a slight slope was installed at the bottom of the containers to facilitate drainage.
200 The total effective volume of the topsoil-compost mixture was finally 44.5 L. In cities, the trees are
201 planted in pits with a volume of 10 m³ (10,000 L), with 65 % of topsoil-compost mixture in volume ratio
202 (the remaining 35 % corresponding to stones). This yields an effective volume of topsoil-compost of
203 6.5 m³ at full-scale. Applying a geometrical reduction factor of (1/5)³ gives an effective volume at

204 reduced-scale of 52 L. We can therefore see that the effective volume in our containers (44.5 L) is
205 consistent with the value used in real cities. As for the choice of the 60/40 % proportions of the mixture
206 of topsoil-compost, it is based on the common practices of green space planners (Bacholle et al., 2006).
207 From a more scientific point of view, this ratio provides guarantees of the sustainable agronomic quality
208 of urban soils supporting plantation trees. We have worked for several years on the effect of different
209 doses of compost on soil structural properties (Cannavo et al., 2018, 2014; Vidal-Beaudet et al., 2012)
210 showing that a proportion of 40 % compost by volume was the best compromise between the agronomic
211 quality of the soil and tree growth.

212 **2.2 Instrumentation**

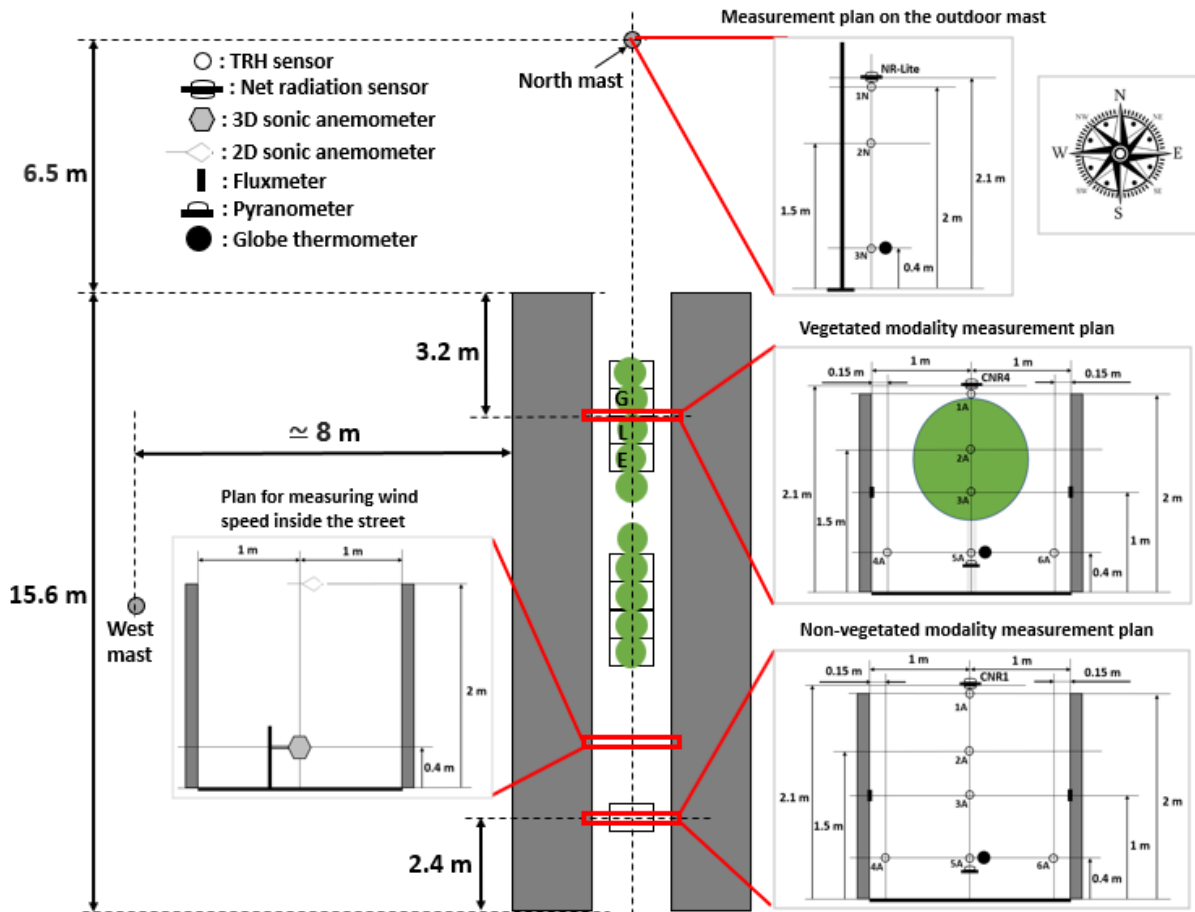
213 A scheme of the experimental facility with its equipment is shown in Figure 2. The experimental
214 measurement campaign took place from June 8 to September 18, 2020. Sensors were installed inside the
215 street in both vegetated and non-vegetated modalities and outside the street to measure a set of climatic
216 variables: air temperature (in °C), relative air humidity (in %), wall temperatures (in °C), heat flux
217 through walls (in $W m^{-2}$) and radiation (in $W m^{-2}$). Measurements of the climatic variables were also
218 carried out outside the street using two meteorological masts. A 10 m high mast, located approximately
219 8 m west from the western building of the street, was equipped with sonic wind sensors at 2 m, 5 m, and
220 10 m from the ground to measure incident wind conditions on the street (recall that prevailing winds are
221 coming from the west). A 2 m high mast, located approximately 6.5 m north from the northern end of
222 the street, was used to measure temperature, humidity (at 0.4 m, 1.5 m, and 2 m from the ground) and
223 radiation (at 2.1 m from the ground) conditions outside the street. The position of this Northern mast
224 was chosen so that it benefits from the same incident insolation as the street. A Météo-France weather
225 station is located about 400 m from the canyon street site. The trends of the data provided by this station
226 and those of the data recorded next to the canyon street on the northern mast have been compared and
227 show good consistency.

228 To quantify the impact of trees on the radiation budget of the street, 4-component net radiometer sensors
229 were installed above each modality at 2.1 m from the ground. These radiation sensors provide access to
230 the short and long wavelengths of ingoing and outgoing radiation. A net radiation sensor was also placed
231 on the north mast at 2.1 m from the ground to measure the net radiation outside the street. Upward
232 pointing pyranometers were placed in the center of the street, at 0.4 m from the ground, respectively in
233 the non-vegetated modality and in the vegetated modality. These sensors measure the global radiation
234 transmitted at 0.4 m and will allow to calculate, from the global radiation measured at 2.1 m, the rate of
235 solar radiation intercepted by the buildings on the street on the one side, and by the walls and trees on
236 the other side. Fluxmeters were installed 1 m from the ground on the east and west walls in each of the
237 vegetated and non-vegetated modalities to measure both conductive heat flux through the walls and wall
238 temperatures.

239 To measure the air temperature and relative humidity, temperature, and humidity sensors (TRH) sensors
240 were installed in the vegetated and non-vegetated modalities as shown in Figure 2. A preliminary field
241 survey revealed that a vertical gradient of air temperature and relative humidity develops, while
242 gradients on the horizontal transverse axes only exist near the ground. For these reasons, the TRH
243 sensors were placed on a vertical axis at 0.4 m, 1 m, 1.5 m, and 2 m from the ground. We also plan to
244 evaluate thermal comfort at human being's height which, on the scale of the canyon street, corresponds
245 to a height of 0.4 m. To do this, three TRH sensors were installed on the horizontal axis at 0.4 m from
246 the ground respectively at 0.15 m from the west wall, in the middle of the street and at 0.15 m from the
247 east wall. The air temperature and relative humidity data provided by the TRH sensors made it possible
248 to calculate the absolute humidity.

249 To evaluate the heat stress felt outside the street and inside the street in both the vegetated and non-
250 vegetated modalities, the UTCI (Bröde et al., 2012) comfort index was retained because compared to

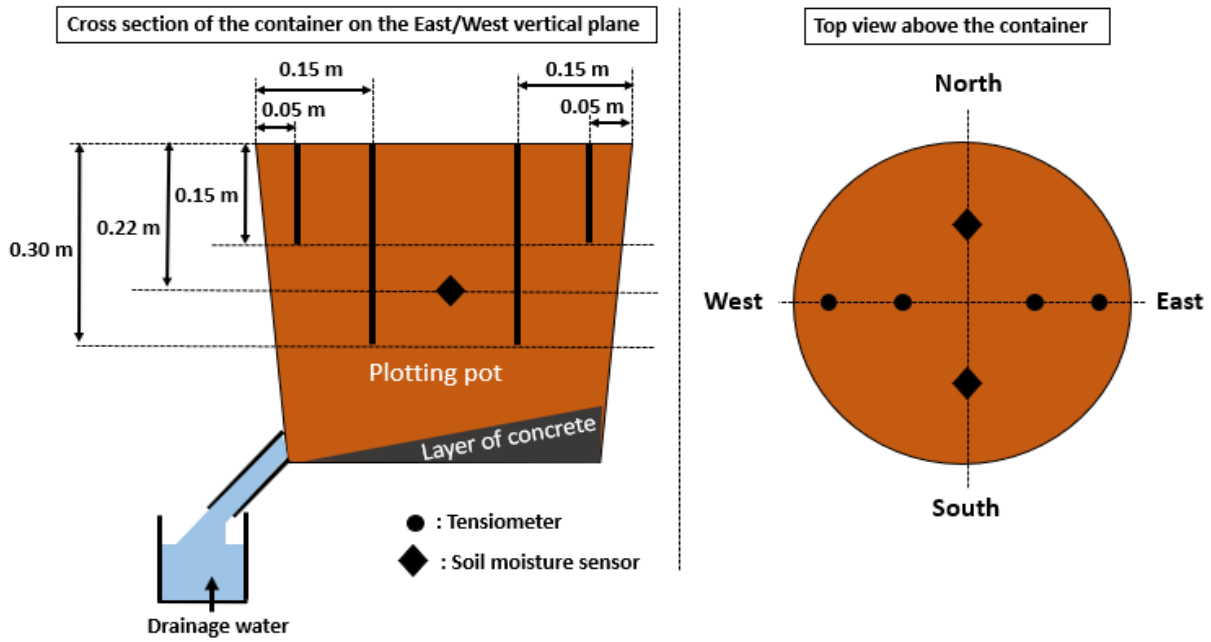
251 other thermal comfort indices, it has the particularity of taking account of all climatic variables, to make
 252 use of an advanced human physiological model (Fiala, 2010), and to be valid for a wide range of climatic
 253 conditions. A globe temperature sensor was therefore installed at 0.4 m from ground outside the street
 254 (near the north mast) and inside the street in the non-vegetated and vegetated modalities. Together with
 255 the air temperature, humidity and wind speed respectively measured at the same height, the globe
 256 temperature will make it possible to evaluate the human comfort indices at 0.4 m, corresponding to a
 257 height of 2 m at full-scale, which is relevant for the evaluation of the thermal comfort.



258
 259 Figure 2 : Sketch of the street with the different modalities, the different measurement plans, the location
 260 of the different sensors and the outside masts. The positions of the trees are shown by green discs. Only
 261 tree marked G, L et E are investigated.

262 Each container was covered with an appropriate lid to prevent any water input from a rain event, and
 263 irrigation was ensured by sets of 4 drippers of 1 L per hour installed in each container. This arrangement
 264 makes it possible to control the water intake of the trees, which could be adjusted depending on the
 265 weather demand and on the tree development. In order to be able to carry out the water balance and
 266 monitor the soil water status, soil moisture sensors and tensiometers were installed in the three central
 267 containers of each modality to measure the soil volumetric water content and the soil water potential
 268 respectively. The location of those sensors is shown in Figure 3. Water potential measurements were
 269 performed at two depths (0.15 m and 0.3 m) and on both sides of the trees, to correctly evaluate water
 270 availability in the container. Water volumetric content was assessed at mid-depth (at 0.22 m) using
 271 capacitive ECH2O sensors located in the North and South of the containers. The sensors were calibrated
 272 in the lab using the same soil mixture as in the container. The data from the soil sensors were analyzed
 273 and confirmed that all the trees were well-watered during all the measurement campaign: indeed, soil
 274 water potential was often close to field capacity (-330 hPa), and always stayed above -800 hPa, ensuring

275 well-watered conditions. Moreover, a daily observation of drainage confirmed that irrigation was
 276 abundant enough to ensure trees were well-watered. The characteristics of the sensors we used are
 277 provided in Table 3.



278

279 Figure 3 : Location of soil sensors in the three central containers of the vegetated modality.

Measured variable	Sensor type	Measurement range	Accuracy	Reference, manufacturer
Wind speed & wind direction (street: z = 0.4 m)	3D sonic anemometer	0 to 30 m s ⁻¹ 0-359°	0.08 m s ⁻¹ ±0.7° à 1 m s ⁻¹	CSAT3, Campbell Scientific Ltd
Wind speed & wind direction (west mast, z = 10 m)	2D sonic anemometer	0 to 60 m s ⁻¹ 0-359°	± 2% à 12 m s ⁻¹ +/- 3° à 12 m s ⁻¹	Wind Sonic, Gill instrument
Wind speed & wind direction (west mast: z = 2 m and z = 5 m; street: z = 2 m)	2D sonic anemometer	0.25 to 40 m s ⁻¹	± 0.13 m s ⁻¹ ± 1.5°	CV7, LCJ
Solar and long wavelength radiation	Net radiometer		10 %	CNR1, CNR4, and NR-Lite, Kipp & Zonen,
Surface temperature	Flat platinum probe	-	0.1 °C	PT100, TC ONLINE
Surface temperature	Fluxmeter	-30 to 70 °C	n.c.	Captec
Heat flux	Fluxmeter	Up to 150 kW	+/- 3 %	Captec
Air temperature (vegetated modality)	Platinum probe	-40 to 60 °C	±0.2 °C	Pt1000 HMP110, Vaisala
Relative humidity (vegetated modality)	Capacitive probe	0 to 100 %	±1.5 % for HR ≤ 90 % ±2.5 % for HR > 90 %	Pt1000 HMP110, Vaisala
Air temperature (non-vegetated modality)	Platinum probe	-70 to 180 °C	±0.2 °C	Pt100 HMP337, Vaisala
Relative humidity (non-vegetated modality)	capacitive	0 to 100 %	± (1.0 + 0.008 x indicated value) % HR	Vaisala HMP337
Volumetric Water content	capacitive	0 to 100 %	±0.03 m ³ m ⁻³	ECH20 EC-5, Decagon

280 Table 3: Characteristics of the sensors used for experiments.

281 2.3 Methods

282 A description of the criteria and the method that were retained to choose the days for which collected
283 data were analyzed is provided here. The way tree transpiration and street energy balance were operated
284 are also described here. These preliminary calculations will then be used for data analysis.

285 2.3.1 Choice of investigated sunny and cloudy days

286 To choose these days, we first determined the relative sunshine on all days of the measurement campaign
287 by calculating the ratio between the daily integral of the global radiation reaching the top of canyon
288 street site, $R_{top-street}$ and the daily integral of solar radiation above the atmosphere, $R_{top-atm}$:

$$289 \quad ratio = \frac{R_{top-street}}{R_{top-atm}} \quad (1)$$

290 The daily integral of global radiation reaching the top of the canyon street is measured using the 4
291 components net radiometer located at 2.1 m from the ground of the street. The daily integral of solar
292 radiation above the atmosphere, $R_{top-atm}$, is given by:

$$293 \quad R_{top-atm} = \frac{24 \times 60}{\pi} G_{sc} d_r [\omega_s \sin(\varphi) \sin(\delta) + \cos(\varphi) \sin(\delta) \sin(\omega_s)] \quad (2)$$

294 $R_{top-atm}$ is expressed in $\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$. $G_{sc} = 0.0820 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{minute}^{-1}$ is the solar constant. φ is the
295 latitude of the position in radian d_r , δ and ω_s are respectively the inverse of the relative (no unit)
296 Earth-Sun distance, the solar declination in radian and the sunset angle in radian. These variables are
297 respectively determined by:

$$298 \quad d_r = 1 + 0.033 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{365} J\right) \quad (3)$$

$$299 \quad \delta = 0.409 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{365} J - 1.39\right) \quad (4)$$

$$300 \quad \omega_s = \arccos[-\tan(\varphi) \tan(\delta)] \quad (5)$$

301 J is the number of the day in the year ($J = 1$ for January 1st and $J = 365$ or $J = 366$ for December 31st).
302 The latitude φ of the city of Angers is 47.47°N or 0.828 radian.

303 Based on the analysis of the measured global radiation during several days of the experiment, it was
304 established that days with a sunshine ratio above 0.65 were sunny days, and that days with a sunshine
305 ratio below 0.45 were cloudy days.

306 2.3.2 Richardson number and flow convection regime

307 Regarding the stability and the wind convection regime, the relative importance of the inertial forces
308 and buoyancy forces can be assessed using the Richardson number, which is given by the following
309 formula:

$$310 \quad Ri = -gH \frac{(T_w - T_0)}{T_0} \frac{1}{U_0^2} \quad (6)$$

311 T_w and T_0 are the wall and free-stream temperature in K respectively, U_0 is the free stream velocity
312 in m s^{-1} , g is the acceleration of the gravity in m s^{-2} , and H is the building height in m.

313 Here, T_w is the average of the 6 temperatures measured on the walls and on the ground in the vegetated
314 modality and in the non-vegetated modality, T_0 is the air temperature measured at a height of 2 m on
315 the north mast, U_0 is the wind speed measured on the outside mast at 10 m from the ground. When the
316 Richardson number is close to zero, the flow conditions are neutral, and the flow regime is forced

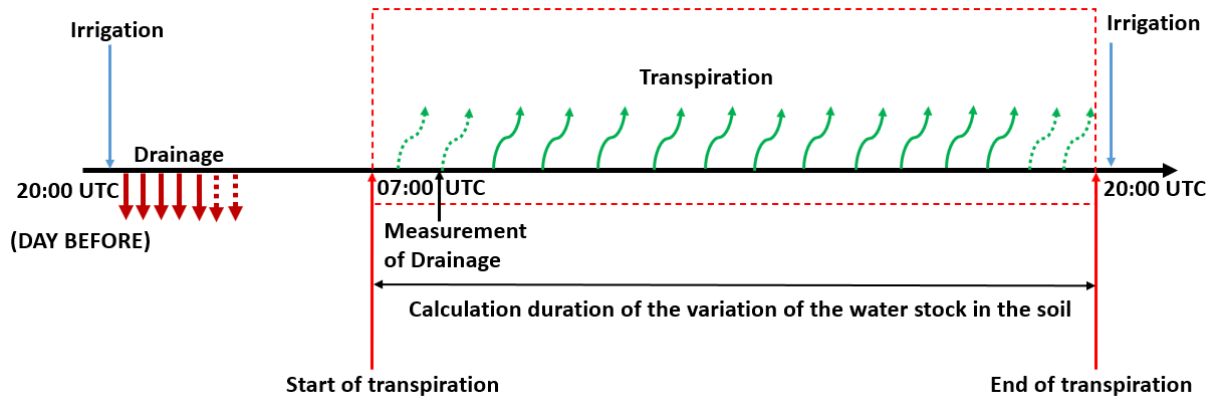
317 convection. When the Richardson number is above zero, the flow is stable. When the Richardson number
 318 is negative, the flow conditions are unstable, with forced convection when $-1 \leq Ri \leq 0$, mixed convection
 319 when $-10 \leq Ri \leq -1$ and natural convection when $Ri \leq -10$.

320 2.3.3 Tree transpiration calculation

321 Since tree transpiration is one of the means by which trees modify the microclimate, it was investigated
 322 in the present study. A water balance was done to estimate the tree transpiration (Figure 4). The water
 323 balance equation in volume of water per unit time is written as follows:

$$324 \quad P + I - \Delta S - ETR - D \pm R = 0 \quad (7)$$

325 P is the total rainfall, I is the irrigation applied to the soil, ΔS is the change in water stock in the soil,
 326 ETR is effective evapotranspiration, D is drainage and R is runoff. Here, the containers are protected
 327 from the rain, and moreover the days selected for analysis in the present study were not rainy, therefore
 328 the rainfall and runoff are zero and evaporation from the ground is negligible. Evapotranspiration is then
 329 equal to tree transpiration. Transpiration occurs during daytime, according to the climatic demand.



330

331 Figure 4 : Representation of the different stages of water inputs and outputs considered for the
 332 calculation of the water balance and transpiration amount.

333 The calculation period for tree transpiration was adjusted according to the sunlight duration and climatic
 334 demand of the day in order to match with the beginning and end of the transpiration period. Since
 335 irrigation occurs at 20:00 UTC, we can consider that drainage is finished before the sunrise and the start
 336 of the transpiration calculation. The water balance equation during the calculation period for
 337 transpiration then reduces to:

$$338 \quad ETR = -\Delta S = -\Delta\theta \cdot V_{soil} \quad (8)$$

339 $\Delta\theta$ is the change in volumetric water content computed using the two ECH2O sensors in each tree
 340 container, and V_{soil} is the volume of soil in each tree container. This time interval also presents the
 341 advantage of being free from possible uncertainties on irrigation or drainage measurement.

342 This real evapotranspiration, measured using the above-mentioned methodology, can be compared to a
 343 reference evapotranspiration ET_{ref} , which corresponds the evapotranspiration of a reference surface,
 344 defined as an extensive well-watered grass crop of 0.12 m height, with an albedo of 0.23, fully exposed
 345 to incident radiation. The reference evapotranspiration depends only on the climatic demand, and its
 346 expression is given by the so-called Penman-Monteith equation which results from the energy balance
 347 of the reference surface:

$$ET_{ref} = \frac{0.408\Delta (R_n - G) + \gamma \frac{900}{T + 273} u_2 (e_s - e_a)}{\Delta + \gamma(1 + 0.34 u_2)} \quad (9)$$

With ET_{ref} : the reference evapotranspiration in mm day^{-1} , Δ : slope of the water vapor saturation curve in $\text{kPa } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$, R_n : daily net radiation in $\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$, G : conductive heat flux density in the ground in $\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{day}^{-1}$ usually considered as zero on a daily basis, γ : psychrometric constant in $\text{kPa } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$, T : mean daily air temperature in $^\circ\text{C}$, u_2 : mean daily wind velocity at 2 m from the ground in m s^{-1} , e_s : mean daily saturation pressure of water vapor in kPa, e_a : mean daily water vapor pressure in kPa.

A Meteo-France weather station provided daily values of ET_{ref} . Climatic variables measured on our meteorological masts also allow to compute a reference evapotranspiration for our experimental site.

The crop coefficient k_c of a given crop (other than grass) is given by the ratio of the ETR of that crop in well-watered conditions to ET_{ref} . The FAO-56 provides tabulated value of crop coefficients, for a wide range of agricultural crop, and at different growing stages. A common value is given for apple, cherry, and pear fruit trees. A mid-stage of growing season (which corresponds to the period of interest for this experiment), it reads: $k_{c0} = 0.90$. This value is valid for standard conditions of wind velocity and relative humidity over grass, namely $u_2 = 2 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ and $RH_{min} = 45 \%$. Away from these conditions, the crop coefficient must be adjusted using the following formula:

$$k_{cb} = k_{cb0} + [0.04(u_2 - 2) - 0.004(RH_{min} - 45)] \left(\frac{h}{3}\right)^{0.3} \quad (10)$$

Where k_{cb0} : crop coefficient under standard conditions, k_{cb} : crop coefficient under actual conditions, u_2 : the mean value for daily wind speed at 2 m height over grass (m s^{-1} , for $1 \text{ m s}^{-1} \leq u_2 \leq 6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$), RH_{min} : the mean value for daily minimum relative humidity in (%) for $20 \% \leq RH_{min} \leq 80 \%$, h : the mean plant height in (m).

A different approach, the WUCOLS (Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species) approach, was proposed by the University of California Cooperative extension and the California department of water resources for estimating irrigation need of landscape planting (WUCOLS, 2000). Indeed, the FAO methodology is designed for food production, with the intention to maximize yield. In urban greening, the plant species may be different, and they are not grown with the same objective. In WUCOLS approach, the crop coefficient k_c is replaced by a landscape coefficient k_L , taking into account three factors through specific coefficients: the plant species coefficient (k_{plant}), the microclimate coefficient (k_{mc}), and the planting density coefficient ($k_{density}$). In well-watered conditions, we thus have:

$$ETR = k_L ET_{ref} \quad (11)$$

$$k_L = k_{plant} k_{mc} k_{density} \quad (12)$$

Different categories, each associated to a range of values, are proposed for each coefficient. Over 2700 landscape species are referenced, including crabapple tree, for which the plant factor is in the medium category, with an average value of 0.5.

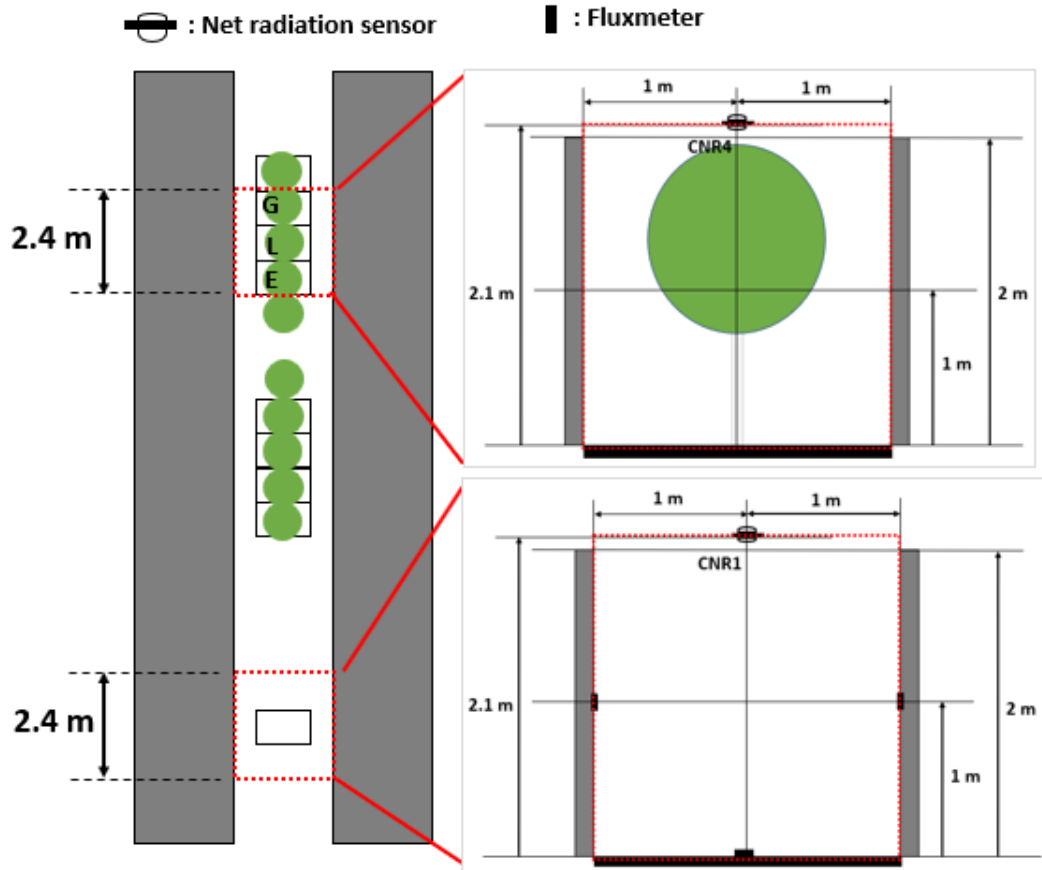
2.3.4 Street energy balance

The energy balance was carried out over a 2.4 m long (corresponding to the sum of the width of the three pits containing the 3 central trees), 2 m wide (corresponding to the width of the street) and 2.1 m high (corresponding to the height of the net radiometer) volume inside the street deprived of trees (see Figure 5). The cumulated net radiation and conductive flux were calculated from the experimental values using the radiation and heat flux sensors installed in the non-vegetated modality. This energy balance may be written in the general form as:

388

$$R_n = G + H + L \quad (13)$$

389 Where R_n is the net radiation, G the conductive flux density, H the sensible heat flux density and
 390 L the latent heat flux density (evapotranspiration). Since we perform the balance in the non-vegetated
 391 modality of the street, the latent term is therefore zero. The net radiation was computed using
 392 measurements from the net radiometer at $z = H$. The conductive heat flux density was computed as the
 393 sum of the conductive heat flux of the two walls and the ground. The sensible heat flux density can then
 394 be evaluated as the difference between the net radiation and the conductive heat flux. It must be stated
 395 that this estimation of the sensible heat flux as the residue of the energy balance is subject to caution as
 396 it can also be affected by uncertainties in the evaluation of the other terms.



397

398 Figure 5 : Considered domains for the calculation of the energy balance in the non-vegetated modality
 399 and the transpiration of the 3 central trees in the vegetated modality.

400 3 Results

401 The results are analyzed according to two objectives:

- 402 - To study the impact of the canyon street on the microclimate by comparing the data acquired inside
 403 the street in the non-vegetated modality to those acquired outside the street using the north mast.
- 404 - To study the impact of trees on the microclimate inside the canyon street by comparing results
 405 acquired in the vegetated modality to those acquired in the non-vegetated modality of the canyon
 406 street.

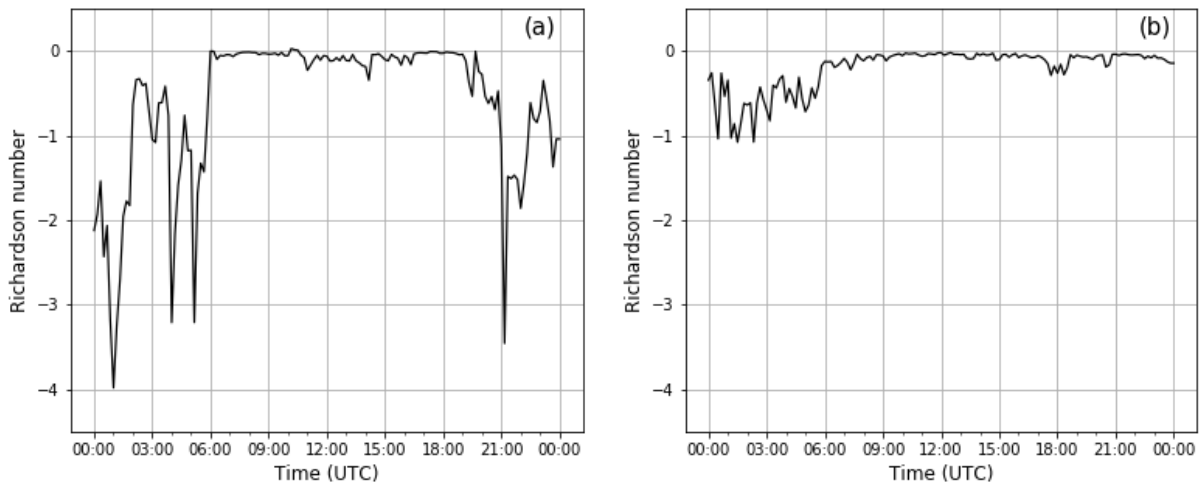
407 3.1 Meteorological conditions during the selected days

408 For the purpose of the study, we will focus on two contrasting days in terms of solar radiation, but
 409 sufficiently close in time to have similar daylight duration and a stable leaf area for each tree. According

410 to the methodology described in section 2.3.1, July 25, 2020 presents a rather low value of this ratio
 411 ($ratio = 0.243$) and is therefore considered as a cloudy day. July 29, 2020 shows a relatively high ratio
 412 value ($ratio = 0.655$) and is therefore considered as a sunny day. July 29, 2020 was preceded by a very
 413 sunny day ($ratio = 0.719$), but July 25, 2020 was preceded by a moderately sunny day ($ratio = 0.558$).
 414 For the two studied days, the sunrise and sunset times were respectively 04:32 - 19:44 UTC for July 25,
 415 2020 and 04:37 - 19:39 UTC for July 29, 2020.

416 The incident wind was analyzed using wind roses (not shown). For the two studied days, the direction
 417 of the incident winds was variable, but the wind speeds were very low on the experimental site (mostly
 418 lower than 2 m s^{-1} at 10 m from the ground). More specifically, the cloudy day direction (July 25, 2020)
 419 had clearly established southwesterly direction and a mean wind speed at 10 m of 1.3 m s^{-1} , and the
 420 sunny day (July 29, 2020) had a rotating northwesterly to northeasterly wind, with an average speed of
 421 1.5 m s^{-1} . Regarding the flow convection regime, the daily evolution of the Richardson number,
 422 computed according to formula (6) in section 2.3.2. for the sunny day and for the cloudy day are shown
 423 in Figure 6. For the sunny day, we are in a mixed convection regime during the night (presence of
 424 thermal effects, negative values of Ri, down to -4) and in a forced convection regime during the day
 425 (close to thermal neutrality). On a cloudy day, we are almost always in forced convection and close to
 426 thermal neutrality.

427 Finally, the Penman Monteith reference evapotranspiration (ET_{ref}) (Allen et al., 1998) could also be
 428 calculated using the data from our meteorological mast (Eq. 9). It was 5.2 mm day^{-1} on July 29, 2020
 429 and 1.7 mm day^{-1} on July 25, 2020.



430
 431 Figure 6 : Daily evolution of the Richardson number. (a): for the sunny day, (b): for the cloudy day.

432 3.2 Characteristics of the trees during the selected days

433 As far as the trees are concerned, the two selected days of investigation are sufficiently close in time to
 434 consider identical tree characteristics for the two days. The dimensions of the tree crowns were measured
 435 and the crown extended between 0.6 m and 1.7 m from the ground vertically, over 0.6 m on each side
 436 of the trunk laterally, and over 0.87 m longitudinally for each tree along the main axis of the street. This
 437 resulted in an average volume of 1.15 m^3 for each tree crown, and in a projected area of the tree crown
 438 of 1.04 m^2 per tree. The percentage of ground covered by vegetation, defined as the ratio of the projected
 439 area of the tree crowns by the total area of the street in the vegetated modality, is 60 %. One-sided leaf
 440 areas of the three trees in the center of the row in the vegetated modality were estimated on July 23,
 441 2020 just before the studied days. The cumulated leaf surface area per tree was estimated using a leaf
 442 area allometric relationship and a coefficient of leaf surface area per unit length of branch (both

443 calibrated on our trees using reference leaves and reference branches), and then the measurement of all
 444 branches length for each tree. The total leaf areas values were 3.11; 2.53 and 2.14 m² for trees E, L and
 445 G, respectively, with an average value of 2.59 m² per tree (tree positions are shown in Figure 2 and
 446 Figure 5). Compiled together with the crown dimensions, this yields an average Leaf Area Index (LAI)
 447 of 2.49 m² m⁻² and an average Leaf Area Density (LAD) of 2.26 m² m⁻³. The main parameters of interest
 448 are compiled in Table 4.

Projected area of crown (m ²)	Ground covered by vegetation (%)	LAI (m ² m ⁻²)	LAD (m ² m ⁻³)
1.04	60	2.49	2.26

449 Table 4: average characteristics of the street trees.

450 3.3 Radiation balance of the street

451 Quantifying the radiative phenomena that occur within the street is essential for the analysis of the urban
 452 over-heating and of the impact of trees on the microclimate. The daily evolutions of the different
 453 radiation components at 2.1 m high inside the canyon street in the vegetated and non-vegetated
 454 modalities are shown in Figure 7. The temporal dynamics of the different radiation components are
 455 similar in both modalities, both for the sunny and the cloudy day. Not surprisingly, the incident
 456 radiations (short and long wavelengths) are very similar.

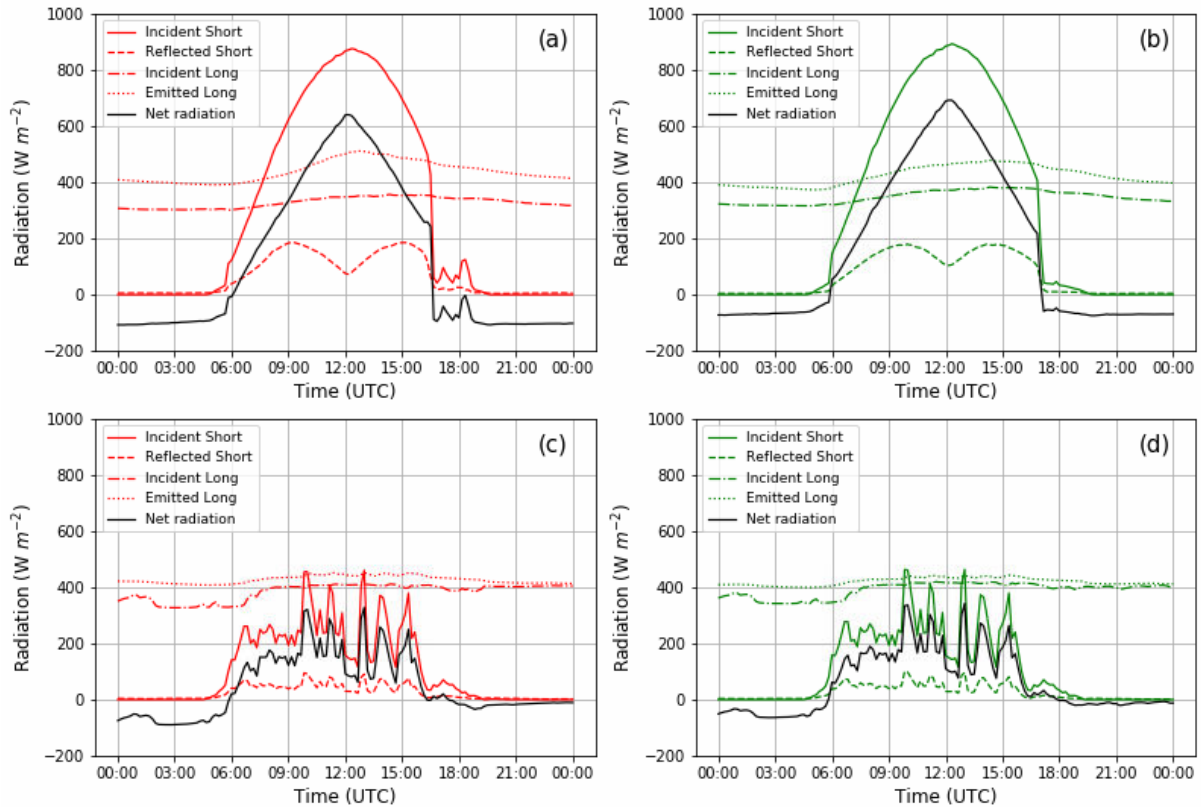
457 On the sunny day, the "M" shape of the daily evolution of the reflected short wavelength radiation can
 458 be explained as follows:

- 459 - In the morning, the sun is in the East and the West wall mainly intercepts the solar radiation.
 460 The share of reflected short wavelength radiation is therefore important because of the rather
 461 high albedo of the white walls.
- 462 - Around midday, the sun is near the Zenith and it is the asphalt and the tree leaves (for the
 463 vegetated modality) that intercepts most of the incident solar radiation. As their albedo is lower
 464 than that of the white walls, the reflected short wavelength radiation is therefore less important.
 465 For the sunny day, the total albedos (ratio between reflected and incident short wavelength
 466 radiation for the street which combines reflection from the walls and depending on the modality
 467 from the ground and/or the trees) at 12:00 UTC in the non-vegetated and vegetated modality are
 468 0.09 and 0.12 respectively. These quite low values can be explained by the fact that the sunny
 469 day at midday the reflected radiation comes mainly from the ground and/or the trees rather than
 470 from the white walls. These albedo values are consistent with the values between 0.1 and 0.12
 471 for a sunny day found by Najjar et al. (2005) at the top of a canyon street in Strasbourg, with
 472 characteristics close to our experimental facility (aspect ratio of 0.9, north-east/south-west
 473 orientation, with very sparse vegetation) and also with the albedos of 0.12 without vegetation
 474 and between 0.11 and 0.12 with trees for a North-South oriented canyon modeled using TEB-
 475 Surfex in Redon (2017). In our study as well as in Redon (2017), the trees thus tend to increase
 476 the absorption of solar radiation in the canyon, thus slightly decreasing its albedo.
- 477 - In the afternoon, the sun is in the west direction and it is the east wall that is mainly exposed to
 478 the sun. The reflected short wavelength radiation increases due to the albedo of the wall.

479 For the cloudy day, the albedo values at 12:00 UTC are 0.19 and 0.18 in the non-vegetated and vegetated
 480 modality, respectively. These values are higher than during the sunny day because the radiation is more
 481 diffuse, and therefore a larger part is directed towards the white walls than during the sunny day.

482 On both the sunny and the cloudy days, the emitted long-wave radiation is larger than the incident long
 483 wave radiation, indicating that the street materials release their heat through long-wave radiation
 484 exchanges. Since the absorption of radiation is greater in the non-vegetated modality than in the
 485 vegetated modality, the emitted long wavelength radiation is greater in the non-vegetated modality

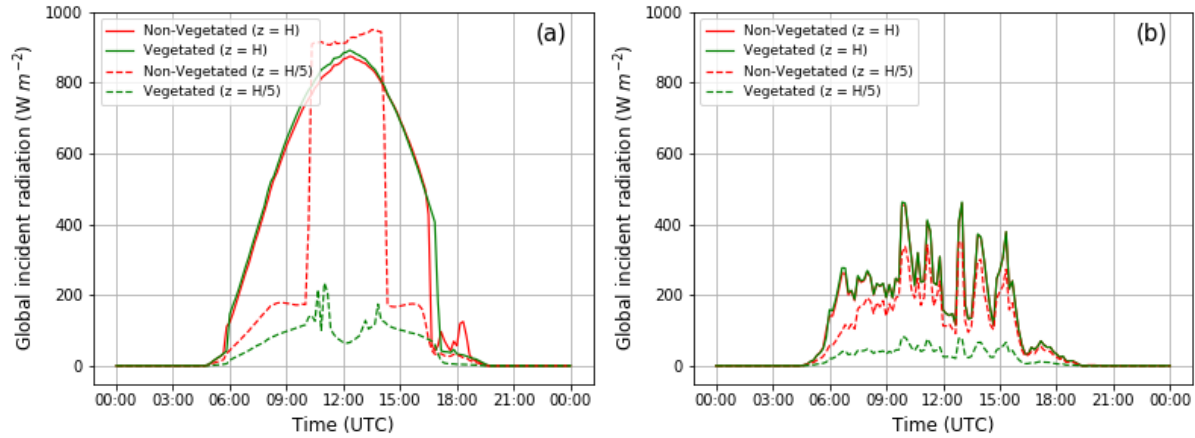
486 (37.88 MJ m⁻² day⁻¹ for the sunny day) than in the vegetated modality (36.56 MJ m⁻² day⁻¹). This is also
 487 coherent with the surface temperatures that will be analyzed further. Finally, it can be seen for the sunny
 488 day that in the middle of the day (at 12:00 UTC), the net radiation in the vegetated modality is 49 W m⁻²
 489 higher than the net radiation in the non-vegetated modality. At the same time, the net radiation
 490 measured outside of the street on the north mast is approximately 124 W m⁻² higher than the net radiation
 491 in the non-vegetated modality (data not shown).



492
 493 Figure 7 : Daily evolution of the different components of the radiation at 2.1 m height. (a): for the sunny
 494 day in the non-vegetated modality, (b): for the sunny day in the vegetated modality, (c): for the cloudy
 495 day in the non-vegetated modality, (d): for the cloudy day in the vegetated modality.

496 3.4 Interception of global incident radiation by the street and by the trees

497 The daily evolution of the incident global solar radiation inside the street (in the non-vegetated modality
 498 and in the vegetated modalities) at 2.1 m and 0.4 m from the ground is presented in Figure 8.
 499 Measurements of the overall incident solar radiation at 2.1 m confirm that the non-vegetated and
 500 vegetated modality of the street receive the same solar radiation. The measurement made at 0.4 m from
 501 the ground in the non-vegetated modality reflects the fact that the east and west walls of the street cause
 502 shading to the center of the street respectively during the morning (between 05:00 and 10:00 UTC) and
 503 during the afternoon (between 14:30 and 19:00 UTC). Andreou (2014) showed that north-south
 504 orientation provides indeed about 70 % of shading of the ground during summertime, for streets with an
 505 aspect ratio of 1. In the non-vegetated modality at 12:00 UTC, there is no more shading from the walls,
 506 and the global incident radiation measured at 0.4 m from the ground becomes slightly higher than the
 507 global incident radiation on the street (measured at 2.1 m from the ground), due to multiple reflections
 508 by the walls of the diffuse component of solar radiation (Kastendeuch et al., 2006). On a cloudy day,
 509 there is also an interception of the incident global radiation by the walls and trees, but this process is
 510 less pronounced than for the sunny day, mainly due to the diffuse character of the solar radiation.



511
 512 Figure 8 : Daily evolutions of global incident radiation in the non-vegetated and vegetated modalities of
 513 the street at $z = H$ and $z = H/5$ (a): for the sunny day, (b): for the cloudy day.

514 The values of the one-day integrals of the incident global radiation at 2.1 m and 0.4 m respectively from
 515 the ground in the vegetated and non-vegetated street modalities are shown in Table 5. In the vegetated
 516 modality, the integral over the whole sunny day of the incident short wavelength radiation measured at
 517 0.4 m from the ground (just below the trees) is 6.7 times lower than that measured at 2.1 m from the
 518 ground (just above the trees).

	At $z = H$ ($\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$)	Non-vegetated modality at $z = H/5$ ($\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$)	Vegetated modality at $z = H/5$ ($\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$)	Difference at $z = H/5$ ($\text{MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$)
Sunny day	25.27	17.09	3.75	13.34
Cloudy day	9.52	6.88	1.66	5.22

519 Table 5: Daily integral of incident global radiation at 2.1 m ($z = H$) and 0.4 m ($z = H/5$) from the ground
 520 in the vegetated and non-vegetated canyon street modalities for the sunny day and for the cloudy day.

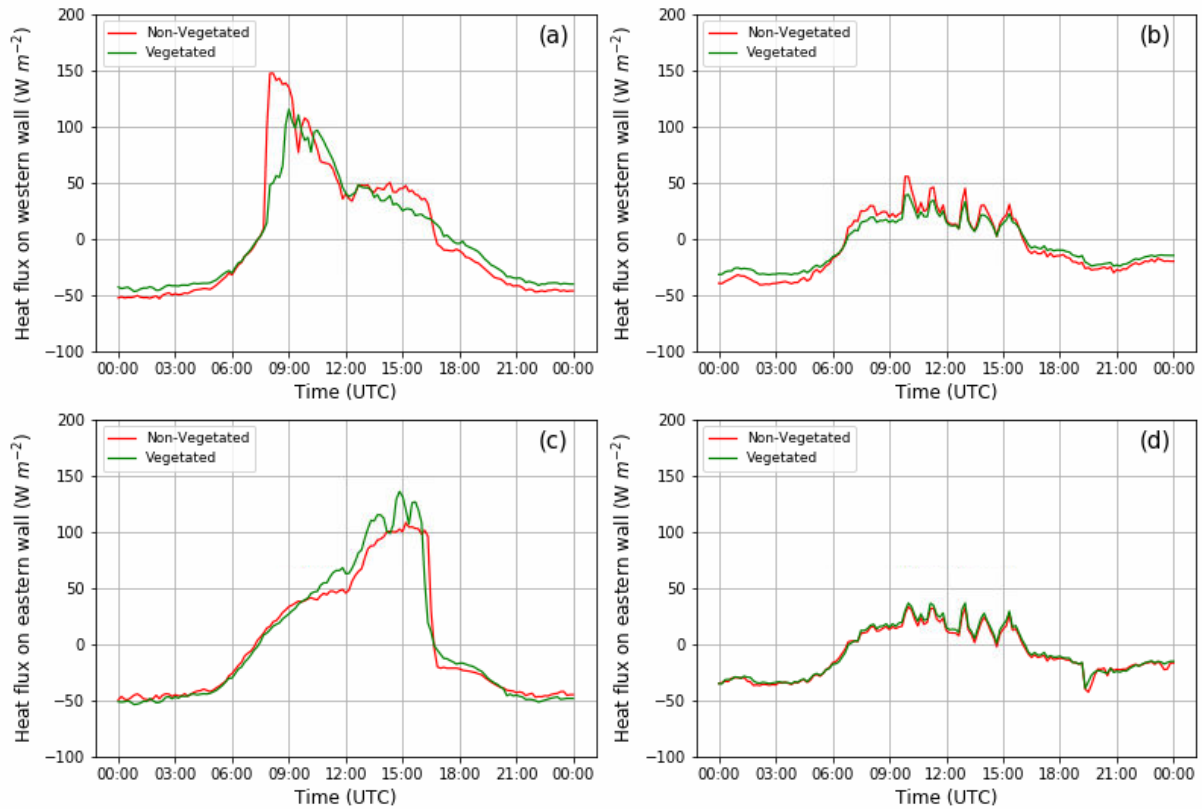
521 For the sunny day, only 68 % of the energy arriving at the top of the street reaches the H/5 level in the
 522 non-vegetated modality, as a consequence of the shade provided by the walls, and only 15 % in the
 523 vegetated modality due to the combined interception of radiation by both walls and trees. 32 % of the
 524 energy arriving above the street is therefore intercepted by the walls ($8.18 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ of energy
 525 decrease) and 85 % of the incident energy is intercepted by the walls and trees. On a cloudy day, 28 %
 526 of the energy from the sun is intercepted by the walls but 83 % is intercepted by the walls and trees.
 527 Global incoming radiation at $z = H$ is decreased at $z = H/5$, thanks to the tree shading, by $13.34 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$
 528 on the sunny day, and by $5.22 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ on the cloudy day. The parts of the incident energy
 529 intercepted by the trees for the sunny day and for the cloudy day is therefore 53 % and 55 %, respectively,
 530 meaning, from the energetic point of view, that the shading effect of the trees is therefore larger than
 531 that of the walls at H/5. These results also reveal very similar behaviors in terms of proportions of
 532 intercepted radiation by the trees both for the sunny and cloudy days.

533 3.5 Impact of the trees on wall fluxes and wall temperatures

534 The daily evolution of the heat fluxes on the east and west walls is presented in Figure 9. It can clearly
 535 be seen that the sun course has an impact on the heat fluxes. Trees reduced the heat flux on a sunny day
 536 by 99 W m^{-2} (maximum value) on the west wall and 76 W m^{-2} (maximum value) on the east wall.

537 Similar daily evolutions in wall temperatures are observed between the non-vegetated and vegetated
 538 modalities (Figure 10). For the sunny day, in the morning, the sun is in the east and therefore the west
 539 wall heats up rapidly to about $26.5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. The east wall temperature increases progressively during the

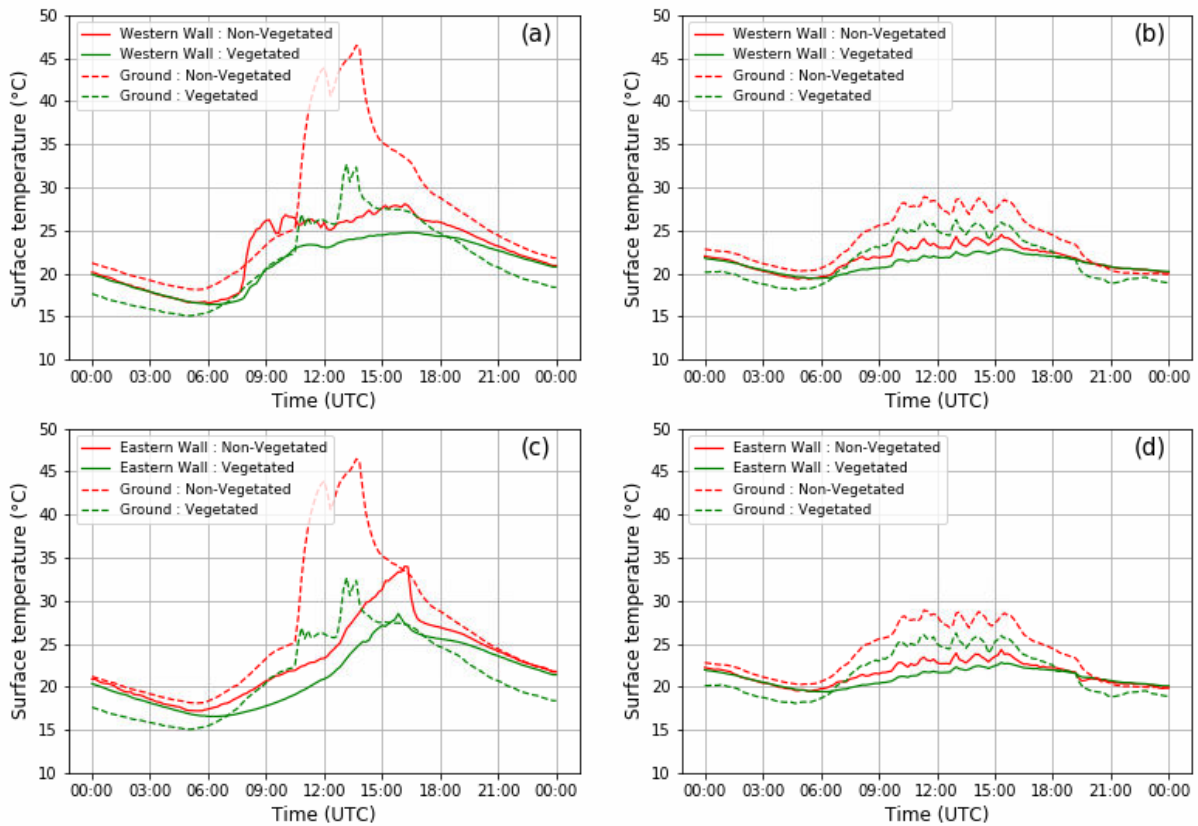
540 morning, and the reflection of incident solar radiation by the west wall probably contributes to this
 541 increase. In the afternoon, the sun is in the west and the temperature of the east wall, which is exposed
 542 to the sun, increases to about 34 °C. Thanks to the reflection of the radiation intercepted by the eastern
 543 wall, the western wall heats up again and its temperature reaches a second peak of about 27.5 °C.



544
 545 Figure 9 : Daily evolution of wall heat fluxes. (a): for the sunny day, western wall (b): for the cloudy
 546 day, western wall (c): for the sunny day, eastern wall (d): for the cloudy day, eastern wall.

547 As for the ground, it is observed that the more it faces the sun, the higher its temperature rises. The soil
 548 temperature in the non-vegetated modality rises up to 47 °C on the sunny day. These daily evolution of
 549 wall and ground temperature are very similar to that found by Najjar (2005). In their study, the ground
 550 temperature is the same (47 °C), while the wall temperatures are 2 °C higher for the eastern wall and
 551 7 °C higher for the western wall. This difference on the walls may be due to the walls being less
 552 reflective in Najjar's street than in our experiment, and also to the street orientation which is 35° to the
 553 North in Najjar (2005). In contrast, the values of wall temperature obtained in Doya et al. (2012) in their
 554 North-South oriented canyon facility at the 1/8 scale in La Rochelle, France reach much higher values
 555 (60 °C for the eastern wall and 45 °C for the western wall), due to a dark paint on the wall with a very
 556 low albedo value (0.145). On a cloudy day, the temperatures of the east and west walls follow almost
 557 the same trend but are less impacted by the sun course, which is due, by the very low level of the direct
 558 component of the global radiation, as the sun radiation is mainly diffuse. We can finally notice that
 559 during the night, the ground cools down more during the sunny day (minimum of about 16 °C than
 560 during the cloudy day (minimum of about 19 °C). This is related to the fact that the sky is clearer on
 561 sunny days and that cooling by infrared radiation is more important. The effect of the interception of
 562 part of the incident global radiation by the trees is clearly visible on the wall temperatures. Indeed,
 563 Figure 10 shows that the trees contributed to maintain the east and west walls at temperatures lower by
 564 up to 7 °C and the ground at temperatures lower by up to 18 °C compared to the non-vegetated modality.
 565 These values correspond to differences at the time of temperature peaks. In their study, Gillner et al.

566 (2015) showed that, thanks to the shading effects, vegetation can reduce surface temperatures by 5.5 to
 567 15.2 °C depending on the plant species used. The authors also showed that trees can reduce asphalt
 568 temperatures by up to 4.6 °C per unit of LAD (Leaf Area Density).



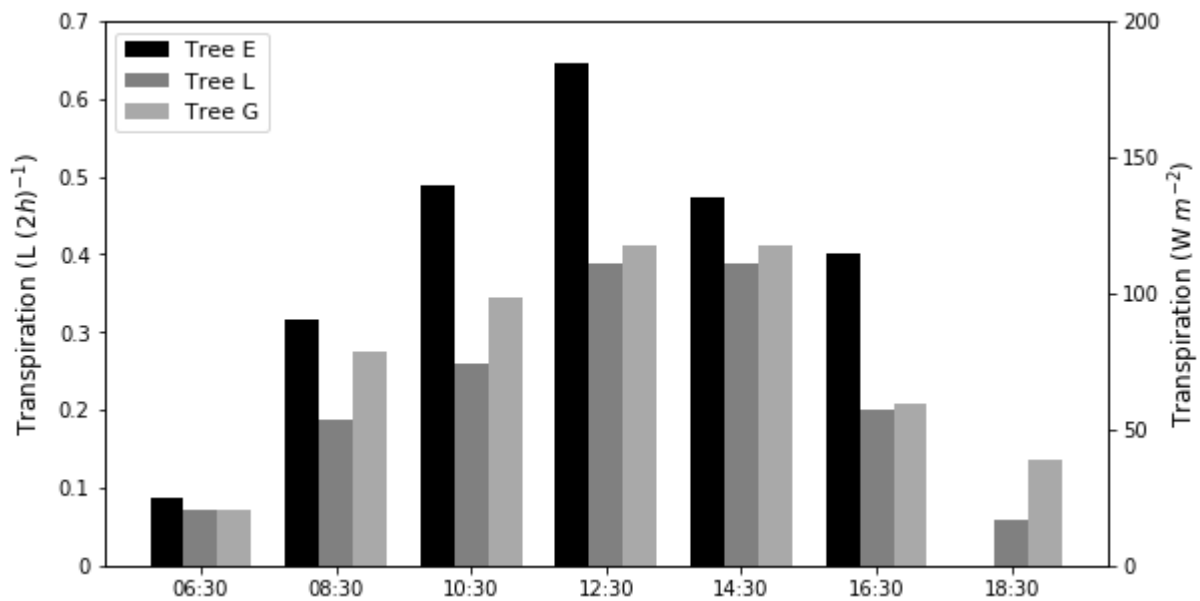
569
 570 Figure 10 : Daily evolution of surface temperatures in the non-vegetated and vegetated modalities. (a):
 571 for the sunny day, west wall, and ground (b): for the cloudy day, west wall and ground (c): for the sunny
 572 day, east wall and ground (d): for the cloudy day, east wall and ground.

573 3.6 Tree transpiration

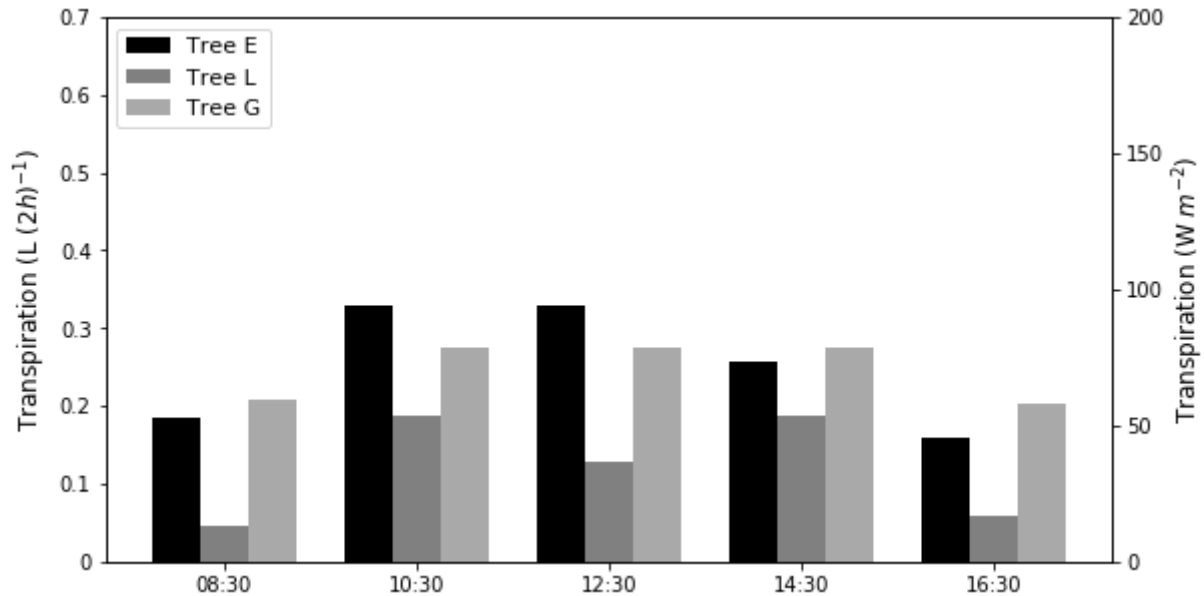
574 The daily evolution of the transpiration (Eq. 8) of the three central trees of the vegetated modality for
 575 the sunny day and for the cloudy day are respectively given in Figure 11 and Figure 12. The transpiration
 576 was calculated using the methodology described in section 2.3.3, with a transpiration period of
 577 05:30-19:30 UTC for the sunny day and of 07:30-17:30 UTC for the cloudy day, because of the lower
 578 climatic demand in early morning and evening. For all trees, the daily evolution of evapotranspiration
 579 follows that of the incident global radiation, but with a certain delay for the sunny day, with a peak of
 580 transpiration at 14:00 UTC. This is probably due to the peak of air temperature occurring in the afternoon,
 581 and impacting the water vapor pressure deficit, which is another driver of transpiration. The daily
 582 cumulated transpiration of trees E, L and G is 2.4, 1.6 and 1.9 L day⁻¹ respectively, for the sunny day
 583 (average value of 1.97 L day⁻¹) and 1.3, 0.6 and 1.2 L day⁻¹, respectively, for the cloudy day (average
 584 value of 1.03 L day⁻¹). Besides the indication already given in the Material and methods section on soil
 585 water potential during the whole experiment, the daily cumulated transpiration of the different trees also
 586 confirms that the irrigation of 4 L day⁻¹ per tree for these two specific days was largely sufficient to
 587 maintain well-watered conditions for the two studied days. Using the projected area of the tree crown
 588 given in section 3.2, the tree transpiration can also be expressed in L m⁻² day⁻¹, that is in mm day⁻¹: the
 589 average value is 1.9 mm day⁻¹ for the sunny day and 0.99 mm day⁻¹ for the cloudy day. Recall that
 590 reference evapotranspiration was 5.2 mm day⁻¹ and 1.7 mm day⁻¹ on the sunny and cloudy day,

591 respectively. The ratio of real to reference transpiration gives a crop coefficient of 0.37 (for the sunny
 592 day) and 0.58 (for the cloudy day) for our ornamental apple trees. The FAO-56 crop coefficient for the
 593 apple tree is 0.9 during mid-season under standard conditions. Adjusted for the weather conditions of
 594 the specific days investigated, it reads 0.93 for the sunny day and 0.83 for the cloudy day. It is of interest
 595 to note that the transpiration of our trees in urban condition is therefore lower than the theoretical one
 596 predicted by FAO. Two main reasons can be invoked: first of all, the FAO deals with agricultural crop,
 597 with the aim to maximize yields. Here, we are in a different perspective: our apple trees are young
 598 ornamental trees, the fruits are not edible, and for this reason the FAO crop coefficient may be
 599 overestimated here. Secondly, the growing conditions are not optimal in our street in terms of solar
 600 access of the trees. As reported in the literature (Andreou 2014), the north-south orientation in summer
 601 provides a lot of shade inside canyon streets; and the sun global radiation is the main driver for
 602 transpiration. This may also explain why the crop coefficient we obtain is higher for the cloudy than for
 603 the sunny day: being already in the shade from the cloud cover of the sky, the street does not bring
 604 additional shade to the street during the cloudy day. Therefore, the crop coefficient based on our
 605 transpiration measurements during the cloudy day is closer to that of FAO-56 than the one for the sunny
 606 day.

607 When applying the WUCOLS method proposed in WUCOLS (2000) (see section 2.3.3) for landscape
 608 planting, we consider an average planting density with a value $k_{density} = 1$. The crabapple tree has a
 609 lower plant coefficient ($k_{plant} = 0.5$) than that of orchard tree in FAO. For the cloudy day, considering
 610 that the shading effect of the walls is reduced, the microclimate falls into the higher end of the "low"
 611 category, with $k_{mc} = 0.9$. This gives for the cloudy day a landscape coefficient $k_L = 1 \times 0.5 \times 0.9 =$
 612 0.45 . This value is quite close to the one we obtain for cloudy day (0.58). During the sunny day, due to
 613 the shading from the walls, our street falls into the middle of the "low" category for the microclimate
 614 coefficient, with $k_{mc} = 0.7$. According to the WUCOLS approach, the landscape coefficient thus reads
 615 $k_L = 1 \times 0.5 \times 0.7 = 0.35$, which is close to our value for the sunny day (0.37). Therefore, the
 616 WUCOLS (2000) approach present a better match to our results than that of FAO approach, by taking
 617 into account the ornamental species investigated (crabapple tree), the landscape application, and the
 618 microclimate of the street.



619
 620 Figure 11 : Transpiration of the three central trees (E, L and G) of the vegetated modality for the sunny
 621 day.



622

623 Figure 12 : Transpiration of the three central trees (E, L and G) of the vegetated modality for the cloudy
624 day.

625 From the energetic point of view, multiplying by the latent heat of vaporization of water at 20 °C
626 ($L_v = 2.46 \text{ MJ kg}^{-1}$) yields a transpiration of $4.66 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ and $2.44 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ during the sunny
627 and the cloudy day, respectively. These figures will be compared in the discussion section (section 4.)
628 to the reduction of global radiation provided by the trees, in order to compare the relative impact of
629 shading and transpiration in climatic benefits of the trees.

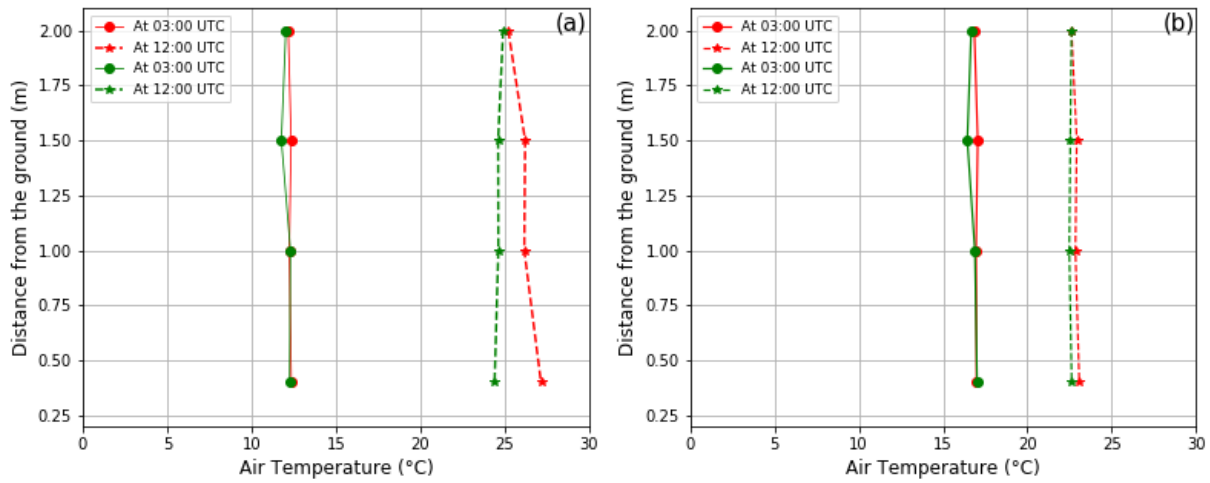
630 3.7 Impact of the street and trees on air temperature

631 The spatial distribution of air temperature along the central vertical axes of the non-vegetated and
632 vegetated canyon street modalities is presented in Figure 13. It is generally observed that the distribution
633 of the air temperature is almost uniform during the night (at 03:00 UTC) for both sunny day and cloudy
634 day. On the central vertical axis, for both the sunny day and the cloudy day, it is observed that, for the
635 sunny day, the air temperature measured under the canopy at $z = 0.4 \text{ m}$ during the day (12:00 UTC) is
636 lower by 2.7 °C than that measured in the non-vegetated modality at the same height thanks to shading
637 caused by the trees.

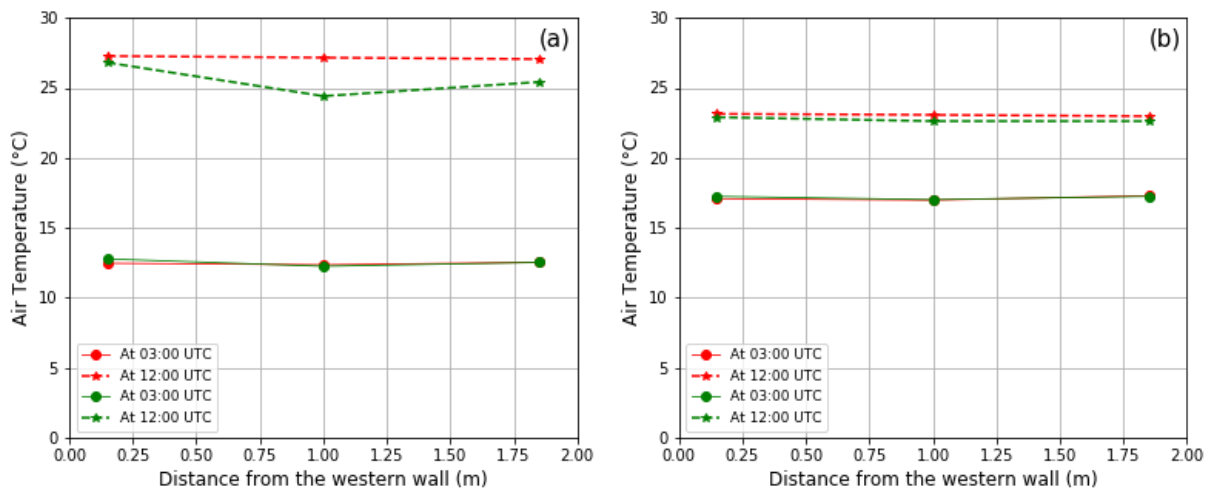
638 Since the impact of trees on air temperature appears to be greater under the canopy than at other locations
639 inside the street on the sunny day, we now turn our attention to the spatial distribution of air temperature
640 on the transverse horizontal axis located 0.4 m from the ground as shown in Figure 14. This height is
641 also of interest for the evaluation of thermal comfort. Again, for the sunny day and for the cloudy day,
642 we observe almost no difference between the two modalities of the street during the night (at 03:00
643 UTC). The spatial distribution of air temperature is almost uniform. At 12:00 UTC, we notice that it is
644 cooler (by 2.7 °C) in the vegetated modality compared with the non-vegetated one in the sunny day,
645 especially under the tree crown in the middle of the street ($x = 1 \text{ m}$).

646 The daily evolution of air temperatures outside the street and inside the street at $z = 0.4 \text{ m} = H/5$ from
647 the ground (in vegetated and non-vegetated modalities) and at mid-distance from the walls, are presented
648 in Figure 15. Globally, it can be noted that for both types of studied days, the air temperature at $z = H/5$
649 follows almost similar temporal evolutions. It increases from around 05:00, shortly after sunrise, reaches
650 a maximum around 14:00 and decreases from 18:00 onwards because of reduced solar radiation. Under
651 the effect of solar radiation, which heats up the walls and the air more during the day, and of a clearer
652 sky at night, which allows a more important cooling by long wavelength exchange, the sunny day shows

653 a daily amplitude of the variation of the air temperature (approximately 18 °C over the day) much larger
 654 than for the cloudy day (approximately 8 °C over the day).



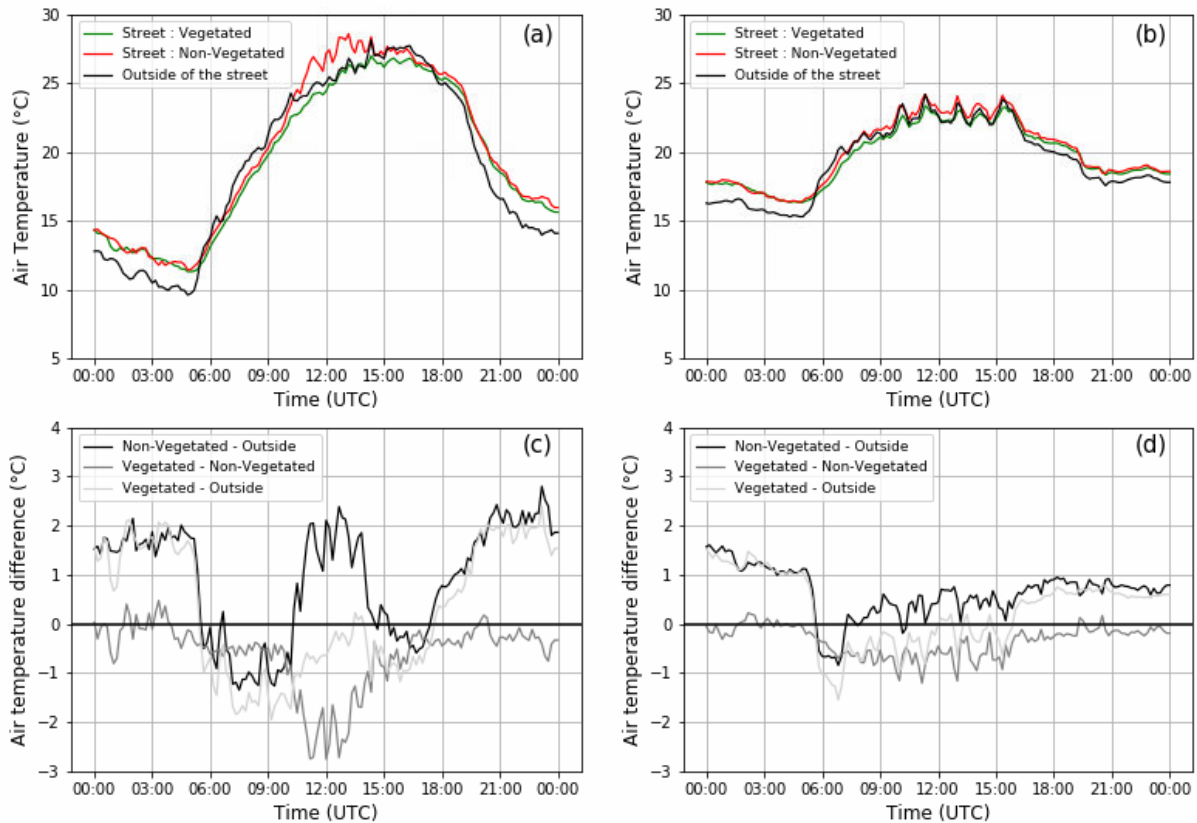
655
 656 Figure 13 : Vertical distribution of air temperature on the central vertical axis. (a): for the sunny day,
 657 (b): for the cloudy day. The non-vegetated modality and vegetated modalities are represented in red and
 658 green color respectively.



659
 660 Figure 14 : Horizontal distribution of air temperature on the transverse horizontal axis at 0.4 m from the
 661 ground. (a): for the sunny day, (b): for the cloudy day. The non-vegetated modality and vegetated
 662 modalities are represented in red and green color respectively.

663 In order to better visualize the impact of the street on the microclimate on the one hand, and the impact
 664 of trees on the microclimate in the street on the other hand, the temperature differences between
 665 modalities are also presented in Figure 15. Concerning the sunny day, at 0.4 m from the ground, the air
 666 temperature in the street remained higher than outside the street by up to 2.1 °C (maximum value) during
 667 the night until 06:00 due to the release of the heat that had been stored by the street materials during the
 668 day, thus highlighting the phenomenon of urban overheating at night. In the early morning, from 06:00
 669 to 10:00 UTC, the inertia of the materials in the street causes the air inside the street to heat up slower
 670 than the air outside the street, creating an island of coolness inside the street of 0.9 °C (maximum value).
 671 From 11:00, the phenomenon of urban overheating occurred again (with a maximum overheating of
 672 2.4 °C). But the temperature of the outside air became slightly higher (by 0.5 °C) than that inside the
 673 street from 15:00 to 18:00 UTC, due to the shading produced by the west wall at 0.4 m (Table 5). We
 674 can see that the intensity of urban overheating gradually increases with the arrival of night before

675 reaching a level around 2 °C, very close to the value obtained the night before. We can also observe that
 676 the trees reduced the temperature inside the street and that this reduction is greater on a sunny day than
 677 on a cloudy day, thus highlighting the trees' ability to cool the air through the phenomenon of
 678 transpiration and shading. At 0.4 m above the ground level, trees reduced the air temperature inside the
 679 street by 2.7 °C (maximum value at 12:00 UTC) on a sunny day and by 1.2 °C (maximum value at
 680 13:00 UTC) on a cloudy day.



681
 682 Figure 15 : Daily evolution of air temperatures outside and inside the street at 0.4 m from the ground
 683 and at mid-distance from the walls. (a) and (c): for the sunny day, (b) and (d): for the cloudy day.

684 The air temperatures presented in Figure 15 indicate that the street creates urban overheating.
 685 Experimental data also showed that the street is cooler in the morning. The morning coolness observed
 686 in the street on sunny days is a phenomenon that is not well known in the literature but has also been
 687 observed by Oke et al. (2017) and in the city of Lyon by Lauzet (2019). On the impact of the urban
 688 environment on the microclimate, we noted for the sunny day a maximum difference of 2.1 °C between
 689 the air temperature inside the non-vegetated street measured at 0.4 m from the ground (at $z = H/5$) and
 690 the air temperature outside the street measured at the same height. A difference of about 2.5 °C during
 691 daytime between the air temperature at the center (at $z = H/2$) of a canyon street (Scale = 1/8; Aspect
 692 Ratio = 1) and the air temperature above the street (at $z = 2H$) was measured by Wang et al. (2017),
 693 which is very close to our result (2.4 °C) for the sunny day. Surprisingly, Wang et al. (2017) do not
 694 measure any significant urban overheating at night. Doya et al. (2012) observed a maximum difference
 695 of about 5 °C during daytime and a difference of about 1.5 °C during nighttime between the air
 696 temperature in the street (which they called "Control Street") and the air temperature measured above a
 697 16 m high building. Therefore, the urban overheating obtained by Doya et al. (2012) is much higher
 698 during the day, but slightly lower during the night. This difference in day-time overheating is linked to
 699 differences in the wall temperatures, which reach up much higher values in Doya et al. (2012) (60 °C)

700 due to a very low albedo value of the paint on the walls (0.145). Moreover, in Doya et al. (2012), the air
701 temperature in the street is measured near a warm wall (at a height of $H/2$). Finally, regarding the strong
702 decrease in urban over-heating observed in our street between 15:00 and 18:00 UTC that we explained
703 with the shading provided by the east wall, we can question whether it would be as strong at full-scale
704 in a real city. Indeed, our experimental facility consists in an isolated street oriented north-south, and
705 shading from the building walls is reputed important for this orientation during summer time (Andreou,
706 2014). In a full city, the temperature inside a street is also influenced by the temperature in the
707 surrounding streets, and the different street orientations can therefore in part compensate each other.

708 On the impact of trees on the air temperature inside the canyon street, the analysis of our experimental
709 data clearly showed that trees help fight against overheating in the street, since they reduce the air
710 temperature up to $2.7\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (maximum value), thus allowing to do more than compensate for the
711 overheating (whose maximum value was $2.1\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ during the night). The benefits of trees in terms of air
712 temperature reduction that we observed are of the same order of magnitude as those reported in the
713 literature. Indeed, a synthesis study carried out by Qiu et al. (2013) shows that vegetation can reduce the
714 air temperature of the surrounding environment by $0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ depending on the season, the
715 vegetalization solution and the plant species. It has also been shown that, compared to a non-vegetated
716 surrounding area, vegetation can reduce air temperature by 0.4 to $6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ according to Coutts et al. (2016),
717 up to $2.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ according to Bowler et al. (2010), by 0.7 to $2.2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ according to Gillner et al. (2015), by 1.5
718 to $5.6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ according to Jamei et al. (2016) and up to $1\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ according to Shashua-Bar and Hoffman (2003).

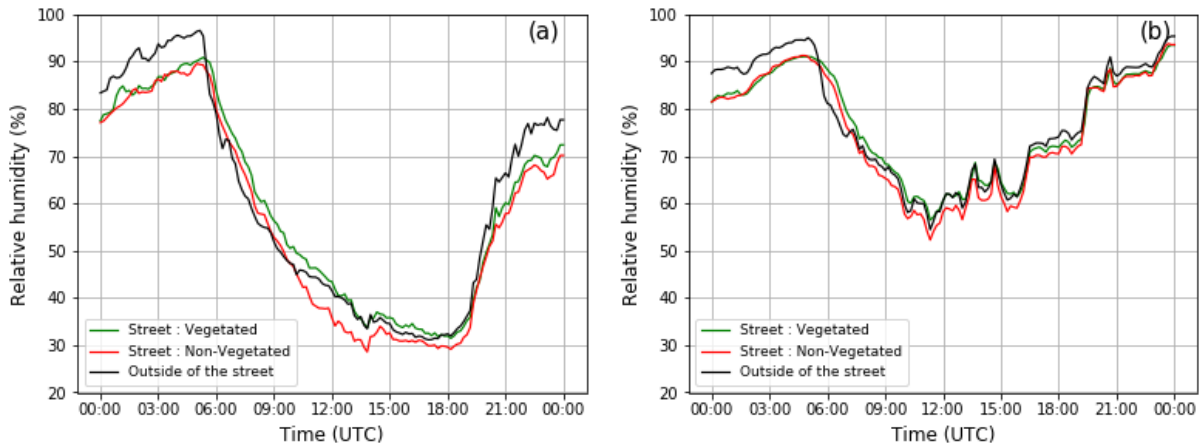
719 **3.8 Impact of the street and trees on air relative and absolute humidity**

720 The daily evolution of relative humidities outside the street and inside the street (in vegetated and non-
721 vegetated modalities) are presented in Figure 16. Again, as for air temperatures, relative humidities show
722 globally similar evolutions at 0.4 m from the ground for both sunny and cloudy days. They decrease
723 from 06:00 UTC (just after sunrise), reach their minimum around 18:00 UTC and then increase again
724 with the effect of sunset. This evolution is coherent with that of air temperature (see Figure 15), given
725 the fact that the saturation pressure increases with air temperature. The range of relative humidity
726 variations is from 30 to 95 % for the sunny day and from 60 to 95 % for the cloudy day. It can be
727 observed that, overall, the canyon street decreases relative humidity compared to the outside air. As for
728 trees, it can clearly be observed that they play a role in the increase of the relative air humidity in the
729 canyon street, but only during daytime, which is the period when transpiration occurs.

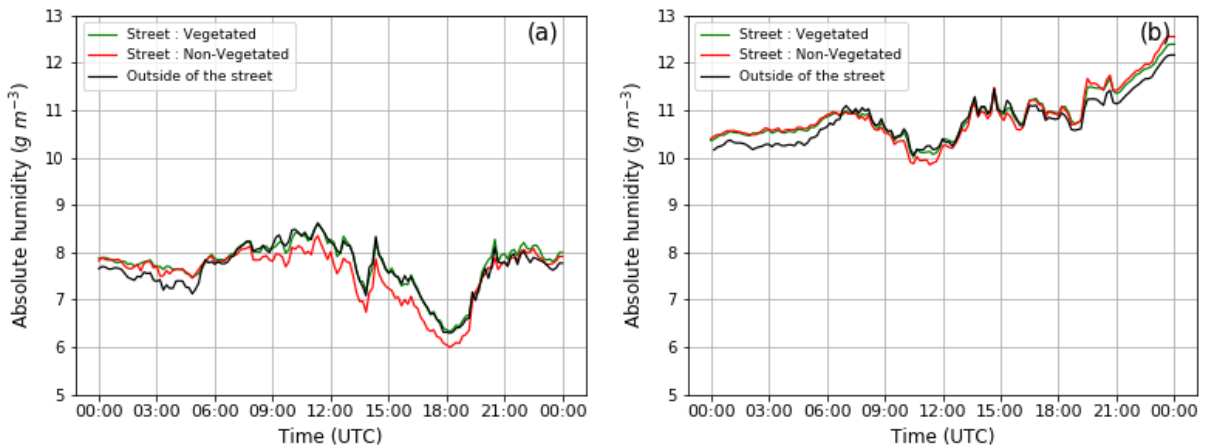
730 The analysis that was done on the spatial distribution of relative humidity and absolute air humidity
731 (data not shown) with that of air temperature led to the conclusion that spatial variations in relative air
732 humidity are mostly due to variations in absolute humidities. Figure 17 shows that the daily evolutions
733 of absolute humidity outside the street and inside the street (in vegetated and non-vegetated modalities)
734 are also similar at 0.4 m from the ground. Absolute humidity changes along the day from 6 to 8.5 g of
735 water per cubic meter of dry air on the sunny day and from 10 to 12.5 g of water per cubic meter of dry
736 air on a cloudy day. For the sunny day, the absolute humidity increases in the morning to reach a
737 maximum at 11:20 UTC, then decreases in the afternoon with a slight stall from around 14:20 UTC.
738 This temporal evolution is consistent with the expected daily evolution of reference evapotranspiration
739 (Allen et al., 1998), and the dynamics of the measured tree transpiration (cf Figure 11 and Figure 12 in
740 section 3.6), which explains well this evolution for the outside the street and in the treed modality of the
741 street. It can be noticed that the non-vegetated modality of the street follows the same overall evolution,
742 but with milder gradients across the day. This can be explained by the mixing of ambient air between
743 the different modalities of the street and the outside of the street, which bring some part of absolute
744 humidity produced by transpiration into the non-vegetated modality.

745 During the sunny day, the absolute humidity is higher during the day by up to 0.5 g of water per cubic
746 meter of dry air in the vegetated modality of the street and outside the street, compared to the non-

747 vegetated modality of the street, highlighting the effect of trees (inside the street) and grass (outside the
 748 street transpiration). In all three spaces, the absolute air humidity in the vegetated modality remains
 749 almost stable during the night, but it is noticeably higher (by up to 0.3 g of water per cubic meter of dry air)
 750 inside the street than outside the street. This trend towards an urban excess of humidity at night can
 751 be surprising, but it has been in fact consistently reported by several authors (Holmer and Eliasson,
 752 1999; Tapper, 1990) as analyzed by Pigeon (2007), and could be attributed to a lower condensation at
 753 night in cities. Overall, the differences observed between the different modalities and time of the day
 754 remain small.



755
 756 Figure 16 : Daily evolution of air relative humidities outside and inside of the street at 0.4 m from the
 757 ground. (a): for the sunny day, (b): for the cloudy day.

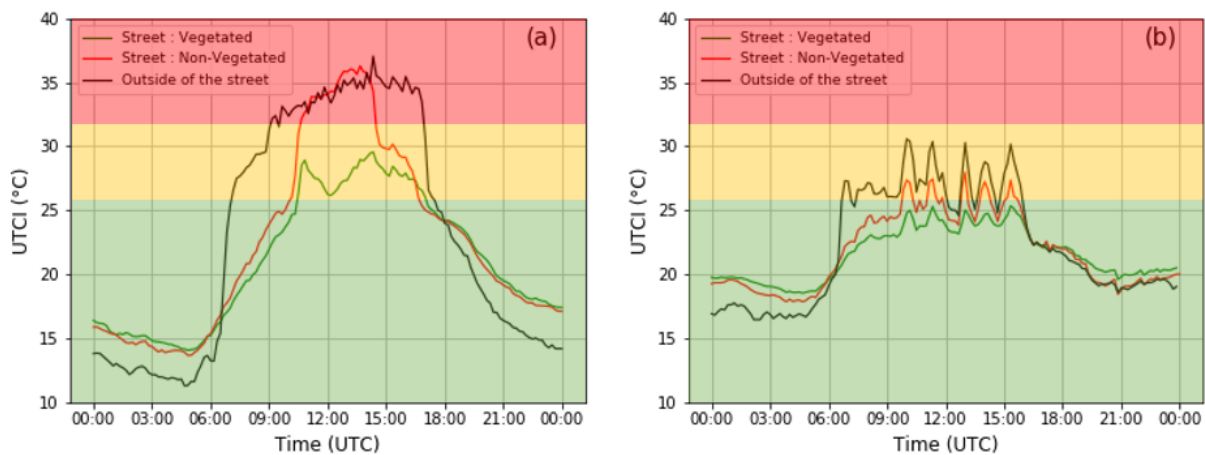


758
 759 Figure 17 : Daily evolution of air absolute humidity outside and inside the street in the non-vegetated
 760 and vegetated modalities at 0.4 m from the ground. (a): for the sunny day, (b): for the cloudy day.

761 3.9 Impact of the street and the trees on Universal Thermal Climate Index (UTCI)

762 We used the Universal Thermal Climate Index to calculate the heat stress felt outside as well as inside
 763 the street in the vegetated and non-vegetated modalities. The different heat stress categories based on
 764 the UTCI may be found in Bröde et al. (2012). The daily changes in UTCI outside and inside the street
 765 calculated at $z = 0.4$ m (corresponding to human height at full-scale i.e. ~ 2 m) are given in Figure 18.
 766 During the night, the UTCI is 2.5 °C higher in the street than outside the street for the sunny day, and
 767 about 1.5 °C higher during the cloudy day. At this period of the day, there is very little difference
 768 between the vegetated and non-vegetated modality. Indeed, at night, the trees do not provide cooling
 769 through shading and transpiration. However, trees are sometimes reported to prevent longwave radiation

770 cooling at night due to a reduced sky-view-factor. In our results, the UTCI value of the vegetated
771 modality at night is slightly higher than in the non-vegetated modality, but the difference is very small
772 (less than 1 °C) and may not be significant. In any case, we see that, for the two days of interest, the
773 UTCI values at night are all comprised between 9 and 26 °C, which corresponds to the “no heat stress”
774 UTCI band. Solar radiation is an important factor for human thermal comfort. During the morning (until
775 10:00 UTC) the shading caused by the east wall prevents heat stress inside the street while the outside
776 of the street is in a situation of moderate heat stress ($26\text{ °C} \leq \text{UCTI} < 32\text{ °C}$): the inside of the street is
777 actually 8.5 °C cooler in terms of UTCI than the outside of the street at 09:30 UTC. From 10:30 UTC,
778 the position of the sun on the sunny day is such that there is no more shading in the street at human
779 height (Figure 5) in the non-vegetated modality of the street. Consequently, the UTCI values increase
780 abruptly (from 25 °C at 09:30 up to 34 °C at 11:00) and enter the zone corresponding to high heat stress
781 with a peak of 36 °C at 14:00 UTC. In the vegetated street modality, the UTCI values also increase with
782 radiation but this increase is strongly attenuated as the UTCI remains below 29.5 °C all day, keeping
783 the street in a moderate heat stress condition at mid-day. The trees therefore reduce the UTCI by up to
784 8 °C at midday (between 10:30 and 14:00 UTC), reducing the heat stress category from high to moderate
785 inside the vegetated street. From 14:00 UTC, the shading caused by the west wall reduces the heat stress
786 felt in the street (moderate heat stress) while outside the street, the heat stress remains in a zone of high
787 level until 17:00 UTC. For the cloudy day, there is no heat stress felt inside the vegetated street, neither
788 during the night nor during the day. Outside the street, there is no heat stress during the night, but a
789 moderate heat stress during the day. The UTCI is intermediate between that outside the street and in the
790 vegetated street.



791
792 Figure 18 : Daily evolutions of UTCI outside of the street and inside the street at 0.4 m from the ground.
793 (a): for the sunny day, (b): for the cloudy day. Red bands refer to strong heat stress ($32\text{ °C} \leq \text{UCTI} < 38\text{ °C}$), yellow
794 bands refer to moderate heat stress ($26\text{ °C} \leq \text{UCTI} < 32\text{ °C}$), green
795 bands refer to no thermal stress ($9\text{ °C} \leq \text{UCTI} < 26\text{ °C}$).

796 Concerning the impact of trees on human thermal comfort, the results shown in Figure 18 disclose trends
797 similar to those reported in the literature (Błażejczyk et al., 2014; Cheung and Jim, 2018; Coutts et al.,
798 2016; Redon et al., 2020). Błażejczyk et al. (2014) have shown in their study that during the summer
799 period, the UTCI in rural areas could be up to 9.4 °C lower than the UTCI in urban areas at midnight.
800 During daytime, they also found that in the morning and afternoon, the urban area could actually be
801 cooler than the rural area, due to shading provided by street canyons. However, the degree of cooling in
802 the urban area was less intense than in our study, probably due to the fact that at the city scale, streets
803 have different orientations with different degrees of shading (while our north-south street has the
804 shadiest orientation in summer) and the whole city has more inertia than an isolated street.
805 Coutts et al. (2016) also estimated the UTCI in three canyon streets in Melbourne City. The east-west

806 orientation of their streets shows some differences in temporal evolution compared with our street,
807 especially in the morning and afternoon when shading effects from the walls are less important than in
808 our north-south orientated street. When averaging all measurement positions within each street, the
809 maximum reduction values in UTCI by trees compared to areas free of trees, also obtained at midday,
810 was between 2 and 3 °C, lowering heat stress from a very high level ($UTCI > 38\text{ °C}$) to a high level
811 ($38\text{ °C} > UTCI > 32\text{ °C}$). For the measurement station located right under a tree crown, the reduction in
812 UTCI could reach 7 °C, in good agreement with our results. Coutts et al. (2016) also found that, during
813 heat events, trees in east-west oriented canyons with average aspect ratio between 0.27 and 0.76 had a
814 low impact on air temperature (0.9 °C at mid-morning) but a significant impact on diurnal UTCI index
815 in summer, largely due to a reduction in the mean radiant temperature, reducing heat stress from a very
816 high level to a high level. In their study on the comparison of the cooling effects of a tree and a concrete
817 shelter conducted in Hong Kong (22.32° N, 114.20° E), in China, during the summer period of 2017,
818 Cheung and Jim (2018) have shown that the tree can reduce the heat stress index by up to 10.3 °C – this
819 maximum cooling effect of the trees was also observed around midday, when the solar radiation was the
820 strongest. Our observations on the daily evolutions of UTCI can also be compared to those obtained
821 numerically with the TEB model by Redon et al. (2020) with similar orientation (12° angle to the north),
822 and percentage of ground covered by trees (70 %), but with a different aspect ratio (0.55) and with bare
823 soil under the trees (whereas in our study it is sealed asphalt soil). In Redon et al. (2020), the UTCI of
824 the treeless canyon reaches a maximum of 35 °C with a strong heat-stress sensation at midday which is
825 similar to our results, but the strong shadowing effect of the walls in early morning and late afternoon
826 is not visible, due to the canyon lower aspect ratio. The trees only reduce by 3 °C the UCTI, which is
827 lower than the reduction we obtain. This may be due to the fact that the ground under the tree in the
828 TEB study is bare soil rather than asphalt; therefore, it has a higher albedo, and hence the benefit of the
829 trees may not be as marked.

830 **3.10 Energy balance in the non-vegetated modality of the canyon street**

831 An energy balance (Eq. 13) was carried out in the non-vegetated street mode, over 24 hours during the
832 selected sunny and cloudy days considering the volume (see Figure 5) and methods described in section
833 2.3.4. The sensible heat flux was deduced from radiation and conductive heat fluxes measurements.
834 Results show that the dissipation of energy in the street modality occurs more through convection than
835 through conduction (Table 6). Indeed, over a 24 hours period, the conductive heat flux changes sign
836 (from positive during the day to negative during the night, see Figure 9), which can in part cancel out
837 the cumulated value. Here, on a sunny day, only 16 % of the energy is dissipated by conduction, the
838 remaining amount being dissipated by convection.

839 The daily totals of net radiation and transpiration for the three central trees of the street vegetated
840 modality are provided in Table 7. To convert tree transpiration from $L\text{ day}^{-1}$ to $MJ\text{ m}^{-2}\text{ day}^{-1}$, we used
841 the density of water, the latent heat of vaporization of water and a reference surface corresponding to
842 the surface of the street occupied by the 3 central trees (see Figure 5). We estimated the reference surface
843 of the street equal to 4.8 m². The corresponding values of the transpiration per m² are lower than those
844 obtained in section 3.6 for which the reference area was the projected area of the crown only (1.04 m²
845 per tree i.e. 3.12 m² for three trees). For this case, the conductive heat flux could not be calculated, as
846 we only have fluxmeters on the vertical walls but not on the ground in this part of the street. As it can
847 be seen, the total net radiation is larger by 34 % in the vegetated modality than in the non-vegetated one
848 due to the absorption of solar radiation by the trees and to the presumably high albedo of the white walls.
849 Therefore, there is less absorption of solar radiation during the morning and the afternoon in the non-
850 vegetated modality than in the vegetated modality. In a real city, the walls, after some years, become
851 more greyish and this may not be as marked. Transpiration accounts for 22 % of the net radiation for
852 the sunny day and 32 % of the net radiation for the cloudy day. In the vegetated modality, the energy

853 dissipated by transpiration does not fully compensate the increase in net radiation. However, the excess
 854 of the energy is absorbed by the trees at crown height. The lower part of the street, at human height,
 855 benefits from the shading of the trees with a large improvement of UTCI at midday (see Figure 18).

	Net radiation (MJ m ⁻² day ⁻¹)	Conductive heat flux (MJ m ⁻² day ⁻¹)	Sensible heat flux (MJ m ⁻² day ⁻¹)
Sunny day	10.19	1.63	8.55
Cloudy day	3.69	-2.27	5.95

856 Table 6: Accumulation of the different terms of the energy balance (computed over the whole day) on
 857 the non-vegetated modality of the canyon street.

	Net radiation (MJ m ⁻² day ⁻¹)	Transpiration (MJ m ⁻² day ⁻¹)	Ratio Transpiration/Net radiation (%)
Sunny day	13.72	3.02	22
Cloudy day	4.97	1.59	32

858 Table 7: Accumulation of the net radiation (computed over the whole day) and of the transpiration of
 859 the three central trees in the vegetated modality of the canyon street.

860 4 Discussion

861 The present study is probably among the first to use alignment trees as a vegetation solution in a canyon
 862 street in a reduced-scale outdoor environment, hence the difficulty of being able to compare our results
 863 with those of the literature. The trends we observed on the climatic variables and impact of the vegetation
 864 are however in agreement with those identified in the synthesis of studies on the cooling effects of
 865 vegetation on the urban heat island published by Qiu et al. (2013). Their paper points out that the climatic
 866 benefits that trees can provide depend on several factors such as the scale of the study, the aspect ratio,
 867 the orientation of the street, the type of vegetation used, the rate of vegetation cover and the local climatic
 868 conditions. In the following, we will first discuss the possible influence of our experimental
 869 configuration (isolated reduced-scale street, North-South orientation, absence of human activity) on the
 870 street microclimate. Then, we will analyze and discuss the trees climatic benefits, with special emphasis
 871 on the partitioning between shading and transpiration.

872 4.1 Impact of the canyon street scale reduction on the energy balance

873 Our canyon street is an isolated canyon street, at reduced-scale (1/5), north-south oriented with white
 874 painting on the walls and an aspect ratio of 1. We will first discuss the impact of the street geometrical
 875 reduction factor on the energy balance of the street, given in Eq. 13. Provided the urban materials are
 876 the same (in terms of surface optical factor, thermal conductivity, and material thickness), and the
 877 geometrical aspect ratio of the street is conserved, then the radiation and conductive fluxes are conserved
 878 and are not directly impacted by the scale reduction.

879 Regarding the sensible heat flux (convective heat transfer), it can be affected by the wind speed, the
 880 temperature gradient between the surfaces and the air, and the type of convection regime (through
 881 different formulae of the convection coefficients). We have shown earlier in the results that the surface
 882 temperatures were correctly represented (given our configuration, with a north-south orientation and a
 883 light painting on the walls). As far as the wind speed is concerned, our site is quite sheltered from the
 884 wind, but so are urban spaces. Reynolds number independence is achieved thanks to the characteristic
 885 dimension of the street which remains large ($H = 2$ m) and ensures a flow in the fully turbulent regime.
 886 Indeed, with a wind velocity of $U = 1$ m s⁻¹, this yields a Reynolds number of $Re = UH/\nu \approx 130000$,
 887 (with ν the kinematic viscosity of air) which is largely above the critical number $Re_c = 11000$ for

888 atmospheric flows around sharp-edges obstacle bodies (Snyder, 1972).

889 The main discussion here lies on the type of convection regime. The non-dimensional number of interest
890 here is the Richardson number (Eq. 6 in section 2.3.2), which gives the relative importance of inertial
891 forces and buoyancy forces (due to air temperature gradient) on the flow field. Eq. 6 shows that, for the
892 same free stream velocity and wall and free stream temperatures, the importance of the buoyancy forces
893 will be reduced by the same factor as the geometrical scale reduction factor on the building height which
894 here is equal to 5. Hence it can be expected that on the reduced-scale model, the thermal effects on the
895 flow field will be reduced by 5 compared to the inertial forces. Natural convection regimes are therefore
896 difficult to reproduce, and our facility is better suited for the investigation of flows in the forced or mixed
897 convection regimes. Indeed, we saw here that during the investigated sunny day, the Richardson number
898 reached a value of -4 for our experiment (Figure 6) corresponding to a mixed convection regime. In
899 comparison, Louka et al. (2002) obtained a Richardson number of the order of -10 (in the natural
900 convection regime) on a sunny summer day in their full-scale study in Nantes (computed here from their
901 results of air and surface temperature, wall height and wind speed); in their reduced-scale study, Idczak
902 et al. (2007) obtained a Richardson number of -0.9, at the beginning of the mixed convection regime
903 (with weaker thermal effect than us, possibly owing to a higher wind speed). Hence the sensible heat
904 flux can be affected by the above-mentioned considerations on the flow field and Richardson number,
905 but this impact is expected to be small provided the wall temperatures are the same and the flow remains
906 in the same type of convection regime (where the same convection coefficient formula applies). This
907 assumption is made (explicitly or not) by most authors working on reduced-scale models (Chen et al.,
908 2020; Djedjig et al., 2015).

909 Finally, regarding the latent heat flux density, corresponding to the tree transpiration, it depends on the
910 tree species, the LAI, the street area covered by the trees, the water availability in the ground and the
911 climatic conditions. We show below (section 4.3) that the tree LAI in our facility is representative of
912 other urban studies at full-scale. Therefore, the latent heat flux density can be expected to be comparable
913 to a full-scale situation in well-watered conditions, with same LAI and tree coverage area.

914 The benefit of working on a scale-model in outdoor environment is to mimic a canonical urban
915 environment at a lower experimental cost, while benefiting from realistic climatic conditions (including
916 radiation and wind). It also makes it possible to use a more extensive and dense instrumentation than in
917 real cities.

918 **4.2 Impact of the canyon street configuration and its environment on urban overheating**

919 We will discuss here the impact of our experimental configuration on urban overheating, in relation with
920 factors other than scale reduction (that we just discussed above). Compared to the outside of the street,
921 we measured a maximum urban overheating of 2.8 °C at night and of 2.4 °C during daytime. The
922 north-south orientation of our canyon street is the one for which the shading effects of the building walls
923 are more important during the summer period (Andreou et al., 2014). In addition, our walls are quite
924 reflective (white painting). Altogether, this is likely to induce moderate wall surface temperatures and
925 hence air temperatures increase in the canyon during daytime, compared to other configurations (Doya
926 et al., 2012; Najjar et al., 2005). At nighttime, one may question whether an isolated street may cool
927 down more quickly than an ensemble of several neighboring streets, resulting in a lower urban
928 overheating at night. But the comparison with the results from of the facilities of Wang et al. (2017) and
929 Doya et al. (2012) consisting of several adjacent reduced-scale canyons, does not show any effect of the
930 number of canyons and in fact our urban overheating at night was actually larger than theirs (see section
931 3.7).

932 Regarding the fact that our street is not in a real dense city center, it may surely affect the intensity of

933 measured urban overheating. First of all, inside a real city, the air temperature in a street is impacted by
934 the air temperatures in the surrounding streets, which may have different orientations leading to different
935 sun exposure and sheltering effect from the wind. Therefore, it is expected that the impact of the street
936 orientation inside a full city would not be as strong as in an isolated street such as ours. In addition, over
937 consecutive days of heat waves, the whole city having more inertia than an isolated street, the heat may
938 accumulate more over the days. Therefore, our difference in air temperature between the inside and the
939 outside of the canyon cannot directly be compared with the maximum urban heat island effect in real
940 city. The air temperature difference we measured at the scale of the street corresponds to urban
941 overheating, as defined by ADEME (French Ecological Transition Agency), while Urban Heat Island
942 (UHI) refers to the larger city scale.

943 Another difference that may arise between our street configuration (as in other mock-up streets) and a
944 real city is of course linked to the human activity and the associated anthropogenic heat, caused by
945 industrial activity, road traffic or heat release by the buildings (due to heating or air conditioning). The
946 amplitude of anthropogenic heat can be impacted by the population density, the climate (in connection
947 with heating/air-conditioning demand), the building insulation, and the degree of use of air conditioning
948 (Pigeon et al., 2007; Sailor and Lu, 2004). It has been measured on a city scale by Pigeon et al. (2007)
949 in Toulouse, France. Toulouse is a medium size city in the south west of France with a larger population
950 than Angers, a comparable climate (both cities have temperate climate without dry season, classified as
951 Cf according to the Köppen-Geiger classification, but Toulouse has a 2.5 °C warmer summer) and
952 limited domestic use of air-conditioning in summer, like the majority of French or to a larger extent of
953 European cities. Pigeon et al. (2007) established that the anthropogenic heat flux in Toulouse was
954 variable over the year but that it was lower in summer (of the order of 30 W m⁻²) because the heating
955 demand is less important during this period. In Angers, with a lower population and slightly cooler
956 summer, the anthropogenic heat flux is expected to be even less. Besides, 30 W m⁻² represents less than
957 5 % of the net radiation that we measured on our street (which is of the order of 650 W m⁻² at 12:00 UTC).
958 We can therefore assume that not reproducing the anthropogenic heat flux in our street did not
959 significantly affect the results. Of course, for cities where the energetic demand is higher in summer due
960 to a warmer climate in conjunction with a broader use of air-conditioning (or conversely in winter due
961 to heating), neglecting the anthropogenic heat flux could be more problematic.

962 4.3 Climatic benefits of the trees

963 In our Canyon street, the ground has a vegetation cover ratio of 60 % in the vegetated modality, and the
964 trees have a LAI of 2.49 m² m⁻² and a LAD of 2.26 m² m⁻³. It has been identified in Table 2 that the street
965 vegetation cover ratio varies from one study to another from 30 to 90 %. In the study from Gebert et al.
966 (2019), the LAI of the different trees were comprised between 1.13 and 2.36 m² m⁻², whereas in their
967 meta-analysis on trees in urban situations Rahman et al. (2020) report average LAI of 3.19 ± 1.13 m² m⁻²
968 on the basis of 49 studies devoted to cooling by shading and 4.08 ± 1.47 m² m⁻² on the basis of 23 studies
969 devoted to cooling by transpiration. Gillner et al. (2015) got a LAD comprised between 0.9 and 2.56
970 m² m⁻³ in their study. The trees in our street thus have tree cover ratio, LAI and LAD within the range
971 of the literature.

972 We have shown that in our north-south oriented canyon, the strongest impact of the central row of trees
973 on thermal comfort occurs at midday, from 10:30 to 14:00 UTC, with a reduction up to 8 °C in UTCL.
974 This is in good agreement with the results of Błażejczyk et al. (2014) and Coutts et al. (2016). Earlier in
975 the morning and later in the afternoon, the orientation and aspect ratio of the street are such that the
976 walls provide enough shading to stay in the no-heat stress comfort zone. The central row of trees,
977 although not so commonly found in cities is therefore very adequate for north-south oriented street. At
978 night, we found no benefit of the trees on thermal comfort.

979 The extensive instrumentation has allowed to quantify, from the energetics point of view, the total

980 benefits of the trees, and the relative part of transpiration and shading in the improvement of thermal
981 comfort. Taking as a reference area the projected area of the tree crown, the trees allow to reduce global
982 radiation during the sunny day by $13.34 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ at $z = H/5$ (human height) through shading, while
983 their transpiration dissipates $4.66 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$, out of an incident global radiation of $25.5 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$
984 at $z = H$. The walls also participate in reducing by $8.18 \text{ MJ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ incident global radiation at the
985 center of the street, through shading in the morning and in the afternoon. In total, between $z = H$ and
986 $z = H/5$ under their crown, the trees therefore reduce by 53 % the incoming energy flux density. Shading
987 represents 74 % of the benefit and transpiration 26 % of the benefit. Shading is therefore almost 3 times
988 more important than transpiration from the energetics point of view. For human thermal comfort, the
989 impact of shading may be even more important, since heat dissipation through transpiration occurs at
990 crown height, rather than at human height. It must also be reminded that our trees are well-watered.
991 Therefore, under water restriction, as it frequently occurs during the summer, the benefit of tree
992 transpiration may be less important. However, it should be reminded that tree transpiration also
993 contributes to keep the leaves surface cool, thus preventing an excess of heat due to long-wave radiation.
994 As a matter of fact, a study by Kántor et al. (2017) has shown that trees were more effective than sun
995 sails in improving thermal comfort.

996 **5 Conclusion**

997 This work consisted in comparing the climate inside and outside a small-scale canyon street on the one
998 hand and assessing the impact of well-watered trees on the microclimate inside the canyon street on the
999 other hand. The results were analyzed during a sunny and a cloudy day in the summer season. Almost
1000 all the variables on which the microclimate depends as well as their spatial distributions were recorded.
1001 An originality of this study is to provide in a unique study an overview of many variables and phenomena
1002 that are often split over several studies. This makes it easier to assess their relative magnitude and will
1003 thus contribute to progress in the understanding of the urban climate as influenced by the street structure
1004 and the vegetation. In summary, the experimental results showed that, at human height ($z = H/5$), in the
1005 non-vegetated modality, the street and its buildings:

- 1006 - intercepted 32 % of the solar incident energy on the street during the sunny day and 28 % of the
1007 solar incident energy on the cloudy day, thanks to the shading effects of the walls.
- 1008 - were responsible for an urban overheating on air temperature of $2.8 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ during the night and
1009 $2.4 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ during daytime (maximum values for the sunny day), compared to the outside
1010 environment.
- 1011 - generated a morning cooling of $1.2 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ on air temperature (maximum value for the sunny day)
1012 compared to outside environment, due to the shading from the east wall and to the thermal
1013 inertia of the urban materials.
- 1014 - reduced the UTCI by up to $8 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ (maximum value for the sunny day) in the early morning and
1015 late afternoon thanks to the shading of the walls.

1016 As for the trees, we observed that they:

- 1017 - intercepted through their crown 53 % of the incident solar energy on the street during the sunny
1018 day and 55 % on the cloudy day.
- 1019 - increased the total net radiation (measured at $z = H$) over a 24 hours period by 34 % (in relation
1020 with the above-mentioned interception), and dissipated about 22 % of the total net radiation
1021 through to their transpiration during the sunny day.
- 1022 - diminished the air temperature at $z = H/5$ from the ground (equivalent to 2 m at full-scale, that
1023 is at human height) at mid-day by up to $2.7 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ during the sunny day, and by up to $1.2 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ during
1024 the cloudy day, thus cancelling out the urban overheating in the street.
- 1025 - reduced the conductive heat flux on western wall by 99 W m^{-2} and by 76 W m^{-2} on the eastern
1026 wall for the sunny day.

- 1027 - reduced by about 18 °C the peak of ground temperature and by about 7 °C the peak of
1028 temperatures of the eastern and western walls thanks to shading for the sunny day.
1029 - reduced the UTCI by up to 8.0 °C (at 13:00 UTC) in the street during the day, thus reducing the
1030 heat stress from strong to moderate for the sunny day.

1031 In spite of sometimes different areas of study or vegetalization solutions, the effects of the street and
1032 trees on the microclimate observed during the two studied days are globally of the same order of
1033 magnitude as those observed in the literature. It suggests that our reduced-scale model is able to correctly
1034 reproduce the main physical and ecophysiological processes occurring inside a street.

1035 Regarding recommendations to urban planners, this study shows that a central row of trees, although
1036 not so commonly found in cities, is especially well adapted for North-South oriented streets with an
1037 aspect ratio of 1, which can be considered as intermediate between deep and shallow canyons. Indeed,
1038 the daily temporal evolution of UTCI values shows that, in this configuration, the street benefits from
1039 shading through the whole day: in the morning and afternoon, thanks to the building walls, and at mid-
1040 day (when the solar radiation reaches its maximum), thanks to the street trees.

1041 Finally, in this work, we took care to maintain and check the well-watered status of the trees through
1042 the measurement of soil water potential, whereas this status is usually unknown or not reported in urban
1043 studies. In this sense, the above-mentioned climatic benefits of the urban trees should be understood as
1044 an upper limit (for our configuration), and trees in water-restriction (as it can frequently happen in
1045 summer) could provide lower benefits due to a reduced transpiration and, on the long run, a weaker
1046 development that could reduce total leaf surface area and hence shading effects. In this prospect, this
1047 work will be followed by a study of the impact of water restriction on the climatic services provided by
1048 trees within a canyon street. The use of these experimental results for the implementation of a CFD
1049 (computational Fluid Dynamics) numerical model is planned in a future publication. CFD is a numerical
1050 technique making it possible to assess the distributed climate inside the street, by solving the
1051 conservation equations for mass, momentum, and energy. Specific submodels may be also activated to
1052 solve the radiative transfers and to simulate the interactions of the trees with local climate conditions
1053 (light interception, transpiration). Once validated using experimental data, the CFD numerical model
1054 can then be used to study the influence of various parameters such as the physical properties of the
1055 materials (thermal conductivity, specific heat ...), the surface radiative properties (albedo), or the
1056 properties of the vegetation cover (leaf area, LAI ...) on the urban overheating and climatic benefits of
1057 the trees, so as to help in the decision making of urban planners. The CFD model can also be used to
1058 test a range of climatic boundary conditions such as the incident wind speed, the incident radiation (short
1059 and long wavelength), the outdoor relative humidity and the air temperature, which could be of interest
1060 in the context of climate change.

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1071

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