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1 Field measurements of gasoline direct injection
2 emission factors: spatial and seasonal variability

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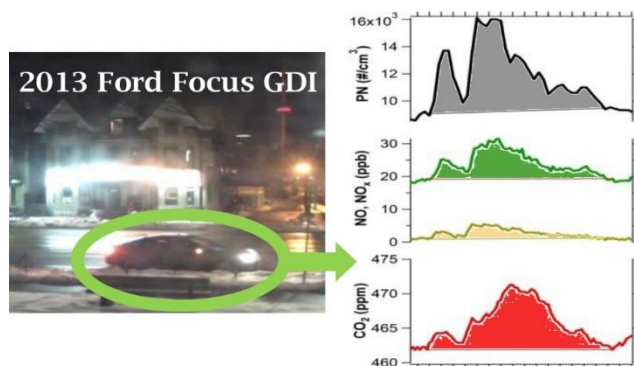
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18 **KEYWORDS**

19 Gasoline direct injection, real-world, fuel-based, vehicle, emission factors, ultrafine particles,
20 black carbon, volatility, size distribution

21

22 **TOC/Abstract Art:**



23

24 **ABSTRACT**

25 Four field campaigns were conducted between February 2014 and January 2015 to measure
26 emissions from light-duty gasoline direct injection (GDI) vehicles (2013 Ford Focus) in an urban
27 near-road environment in Toronto, Canada. Measurements of CO₂, CO, NO_x, black carbon (BC),
28 benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene-xylenes (BTEX), and size-resolved particle number (PN) were
29 recorded 15 m from the roadway and converted to fuel-based emission factors (EFs). Other than
30 for NO_x and CO, the GDI engine had elevated emissions compared to the Toronto fleet, with BC
31 and BTEX EFs in the 80-90th percentile, and PN EFs in the 75th percentile during wintertime
32 measurements. Additionally, for three campaigns, a second platform for measuring PN and CO₂
33 was placed 1.5-3 m from the roadway to quantify changes in PN with distance from point of
34 emission. GDI vehicle PN EFs were found to increase by up to 240% with increasing distance
35 from the roadway, predominantly due to an increasing fraction of sub-40 nm particles. PN and BC
36 EFs from the same engine technology were also measured in the laboratory. BC EFs agreed within
37 20% between the laboratory and real-world measurements; however, laboratory PN EFs were an
38 order of magnitude lower due to exhaust conditioning.

39 **1. INTRODUCTION**

40 In the United States, the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards have specified a
41 minimum fuel economy of 37.8 mpg by 2016^{1,2}, with similar fuel economy regulations set in
42 Canada and Europe. The CAFE standard will continue to increase by 5% per year until 2025, when
43 minimum fuel economy must exceed 55 mpg. In response to these stringent regulatory
44 requirements on passenger vehicle fuel economy, automobile manufacturers have been
45 increasingly turning to gasoline direct injection (GDI) engines, which offer up to a 25%
46 improvement in fuel economy compared to port fuel injection (PFI) engines³. Market share of GDI
47 vehicles is increasing rapidly; between model years 2009 and 2014 there was a ten-fold increase
48 in GDI engine sales⁴, and it is projected that in 2016 the market share of new light-duty vehicles
49 with this technology will exceed 50%⁵.

50

51 Compared to PFI-equipped vehicles, GDI-equipped vehicles emit substantially more particulate
52 matter (PM)⁶⁻⁹ due to incomplete fuel volatilization causing fuel impingement on cylinder and
53 piston surfaces and incomplete fuel mixing with air resulting in pockets of fuel rich combustion.
54 Particle size distributions from GDI engine exhaust have generally been observed to be either
55 bimodal¹⁰⁻¹³, unimodal^{9,14-16}, or vary^{7,17} depending on factors such as engine operation, ethanol
56 fuel content, and fuel injection system. Of the observed bimodal size distributions, the smaller
57 mode is typically <25 nm and has been proposed to be dominated by soot cores^{11,18} or semi-volatile
58 nucleation particles^{13,19}; however, their composition remains highly uncertain. There is stronger
59 consensus that the larger mode, typically 40-100 nm, is composed of agglomerated soot particles
60 with adsorbed semi-volatile material that has condensed.

61

62 Accurately characterizing GDI PM also presents a measurement challenge; compared to diesel,
63 the large aromatic fraction in gasoline is expected to produce PM with a larger organic mass
64 fraction and with higher volatility²⁰⁻²². As such, GDI PM mass loadings and chemical composition
65 may vary depending on the measurement environment or exhaust conditioning. For example, two
66 laboratory measurements of GDI organic carbon (OC) using the same measurement technique but
67 different dilution systems resulted in measured organic carbon mass fractions (OC:PM ratios)
68 ranging from <0.25 to 0.57^{9,23}.

69
70 Recent computational fluid dynamic models of diesel exhaust behaviour in exhaust plumes have
71 suggested that as the plume dilutes in the “tailpipe-to-road” region, the combination of sulfuric
72 acid, water vapor, condensable organics and soot particles results in rapidly growing particles
73 within the exhaust plume.²⁴⁻²⁶ This growth may also occur in GDI exhaust plumes, since particle
74 number (PN) emissions have been shown to be influenced by sulfur content in lubricating oil²⁷,
75 but the time scales for these growth processes are unknown and this effect has not yet been directly
76 measured. Given the projected increase in GDI vehicle market share in the coming years, an
77 improved understanding of the characteristics and variability of GDI emissions in both laboratory
78 and real-world near-road environments is needed to guide legislation and support emissions
79 models and inventories. Additionally, gas phase organic emissions from gasoline vehicles are
80 known precursors to secondary organic aerosol (SOA) in urban areas²⁸⁻³⁰, thus measuring GDI
81 emissions in near-road environments may contribute to our understanding of how GDI vehicles
82 impact PM in urban environments.

83

84 In this study, GDI emissions, expressed as fuel-based emission factors (EFs), were evaluated in an
85 urban near-road environment during four campaigns conducted between February 2014 and
86 January 2015 spanning a broad range of meteorological conditions. PN EFs were also measured
87 at distances ranging from 1.5-15 m from the roadway to quantify spatial variability. Additionally,
88 particle number (PN) and black carbon (BC) EFs were compared to laboratory measurements
89 performed in a manner similar to the European Union Particle Measurement Program (PMP)³¹
90 (i.e., removal of volatile fraction through heated dilution) to quantify the differences between the
91 two measurement environments.

92

93 **2. METHODS**

94 **2.1 Measurement Site**

95 Emission factor measurements were made during four campaigns carried out between February
96 2014 and January 2015 at the Southern Ontario Centre for Atmospheric Aerosol Research
97 (SOCAAR) Field Measurement Facility in downtown Toronto, Canada. The sampling site is
98 located north of a four-lane roadway that experiences relatively high traffic volumes ranging from
99 16,000 – 25,000 cars per day³². Due to the high traffic volumes, all measurements were taken from
100 3:00AM – 6:00AM when traffic volume was at a minimum to isolate the signal from the GDI
101 vehicle and eliminate the effects of photochemistry. Measurements were taken across a total of 11
102 days and grouped by season: winter 2014, spring 2014, summer 2014, and winter 2015. During
103 each set of measurements, wind speed, wind direction, temperature, and relative humidity were
104 also recorded concurrently with a Vaisala WXT520 Weather Transmitter located 3 m above
105 ground. The measurement campaigns captured a broad range of meteorological conditions, with

106 temperatures and relative humidity ranging from -7.5°C to +17.5°C and 53.2 to 93.7%,
107 respectively. Specific details of measurement dates, times, and meteorological conditions are
108 provided in the Supporting Information.

109

110 **2.2 Field research vehicles and operation**

111 Field measurements were taken from 2013 Ford Focus light-duty SE sedans equipped with
112 gasoline direct injection (GDI) engines fuelled with commercially-available gasoline. A single
113 vehicle model was used as a control to explore the impacts of season, meteorology, vehicle
114 operation, and distance from roadway on emissions. While measurements from additional GDI-
115 equipped vehicles would be beneficial, this was outside the scope of this specific study and will
116 be explored in future work. The vehicles were rented from a local car sharing service. To ensure
117 emissions from the vehicle were not affected by poor engine tuning or the need for vehicle
118 maintenance, a total of seven unique 2013 Ford Focus vehicles were used across the 11
119 measurement days. For the winter 2014 and spring 2014 campaigns a 2000 Honda CR-V equipped
120 with a PFI engine was also deployed to compare GDI and PFI PN emissions. The vehicles were
121 operated under three conditions: 1) engine idle, 2) cruising at 40 km/h, and 3) acceleration from
122 20 km/h to 50 km/h. Emissions from braking were not considered due to the possibility of PN
123 emissions occurring independent of CO₂ emissions.³³ Vehicle speed and location were recorded
124 with an on-board diagnostics (OBD2) data logger (Mini ELM327 V1.5) and driveway reflector
125 rods were installed at the roadside to ensure the vehicle was stopping, starting, and idling at a
126 consistent location across all measurement days. Prior to recording any emissions from the test
127 vehicles, the vehicles were warmed up for a minimum of 20 minutes. During the measurement

128 periods, the vehicles remained on at all times to ensure the engine remained at its set operating
129 temperature. Emissions measured from City of Toronto garbage trucks (predominantly diesel fleet)
130 passing the measurement site during the campaigns were also recorded. A graphical representation
131 of the measurement site is provided in the Supporting Information (Figure S1).

132

133 **2.3 Measurement Techniques**

134 A detailed description of the instrumentation at the SOCAAR field measurement facility has been
135 reported previously³², but is summarized briefly here. At the SOCAAR measurement site (“near-
136 road site”), inlets sampling ambient air were located 15 m from the roadway and 3 m above ground
137 to measure NO, NO_x, CO, CO₂ (Thermo Scientific 42i, 48C, and 410i), benzene, toluene, and
138 ethylbenzene-xylenes (BTEX, IONICON Analytik PTR-TOF-MS), particle number (PN)
139 concentration (TSI CPC 3788) and size distribution (TSI FMPS 3090), and black carbon (BC,
140 Droplet Measurement Technologies PASS-3). For the spring 2014, summer 2014, and winter 2015
141 measurement campaigns, a second measurement station to measure CO₂ and PN concentration and
142 size distribution was constructed 3 m from the roadway and 1 m above ground (“roadside site”) to
143 measure any spatial variability in particle phase emissions during plume dilution. During the
144 winter 2015 campaign, a 1.5 m inlet line was added to the secondary measurement station and
145 extended forwards enabling an additional measurement 1.5 m from the roadway. A summary of
146 the instrumentation and deployment is provided in the Supporting Information.

147

148 **2.4 Data Analysis**

149 The algorithm and validation protocols developed in Wang et al.³² were applied in IGOR Pro v6.34
150 to automatically identify vehicle exhaust plumes based on inflection points in the CO₂ time series

151 and to calculate vehicle EFs. As part of this protocol, pollutant signals were time synchronized,
152 and we considered only plumes with a minimum time-integrated peak area of 20 mg C-s m⁻³.
153 Plumes shorter than 10 s or with an average carbon content less than 2 mg C m⁻³ were rejected.
154 Instrument sensitivities were calculated from the measured signal during vehicle-free periods.
155 Measured plumes with pollutant signals below this sensitivity (i.e., CO₂ signal but no significant
156 pollutant signal) were classified as “below threshold” (BT) and were calculated using the effective
157 sensitivity in the numerator of Equation (1). A detailed discussion of calculating instrument
158 sensitivity and applying instrument sensitivity to EF calculations is provided in Wang et al.³² For
159 above threshold (AT) pollutant signals, fuel-based EFs were calculated according to Equation (1).

$$160 \quad EF_P = \left(\frac{\Delta[P]}{\Delta[CO_2] + \Delta[CO]} \right) w_C \quad (1)$$

161 Where EF_P is the fuel-based emission factor of pollutant P (in g, mg, or particle number) per kg of
162 fuel burned assuming ambient conditions (25°C, 101.325 kPa). In equation (1), ΔP, ΔCO₂, and
163 ΔCO are the background subtracted concentrations integrated across the plume duration, and w_c is
164 the weight fraction of carbon in gasoline fuel (assumed w_c = 0.86).³⁴ For the “roadside site” no CO
165 measurement was available, and as such the CO term was removed from equation (1); however,
166 the bulk of the fuel carbon is assumed to be converted to CO₂ and the calculated CO₂:CO ratio at
167 the near-road site exceeded 1000. Additionally, the GDI vehicles were recent models all with very
168 low mileage (<50,000 km) expected to produce a very low CO signal because of the young catalyst.
169 While the Honda CR-V was not a recent model, near-road (15 m) CO emissions were detected
170 from less than 30% of the plumes at levels at or below the fleet average calculated in Wang et al.³²
171

172 Prior to calculating emission factors, some post-processing of the particle number and size
173 distribution measurements was performed. As measurements of vehicle exhaust with an FMPS or

174 EEPS instrument have been shown to result in over counting of PN and misclassification of particle
175 size³⁵, the correction protocol described in Zimmerman et al.³⁶ was applied here. Additionally,
176 the data were corrected for line losses, thermodenuder transmission efficiency (where applicable),
177 and differences in CPC cut-off diameters. Further information on the instrument time resolution,
178 detection limits, and data correction are included in the Supporting Information.

179

180 **2.5 Laboratory Measurement of Particle Phase Emissions**

181 Elemental carbon (EC) and PN EFs were also calculated from laboratory measurements taken
182 using a 2012 Ford Focus 2.0L displacement wall-guided naturally aspirated GDI engine coupled
183 to an engine dynamometer. While the laboratory engine was one model year older than the vehicles
184 used for the real-world testing, they are nominally the same engine. The laboratory engine was
185 operated at a steady-state highway cruise condition (2600 rpm, 41 ft-lb) representative of highway
186 driving at approximately 100 km/h in top gear. The engine was fuelled with commercially-
187 available premium gasoline (91 anti-knock index / 95 research octane number) containing no
188 ethanol, denoted E0, and commercially-available premium gasoline splash blended with
189 anhydrous ethanol to make a 10% (v/v) ethanol blend, denoted E10. An E10 fuel was tested
190 because in Ontario, regular gasoline (87 anti-knock index) must contain at least 5% (v/v) ethanol³⁷,
191 with many suppliers selling fuel containing up to 10% (v/v) ethanol.

192 Details of engine operation, tests fuels, a schematic of the engine laboratory sampling
193 configuration, details of the thermal-optical transmittance protocol and calculation of EC
194 concentration, and details of EF calculations with the laboratory data set is provided in the
195 Supporting Information.

196 **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

197 **3.1 Emission Factor Detection and Classification**

198 Plume capture was defined based on total CO₂ within the plume. If a pollutant concentration in a
199 captured plume was below the effective instrument thresholds (see Table S3, Supporting
200 Information) then the pollutant EF was designated “below threshold” (BT). Across the
201 measurement campaigns, a plume was captured (i.e., CO₂ signal detected) at the near-road (15 m)
202 and roadside (3 m) sites 46% and 71% of the time the GDI vehicle passed the site, respectively.
203 This amounted to a total of 93 plumes detected at the near-road site and 61 plumes at the roadside
204 site. The absolute number of captured roadside plumes was less than near-road plumes as the
205 roadside site was not deployed during the winter 2014 campaign. The percentage of plumes below
206 threshold varied by pollutant, but in general ranged from 20-40% for NO_x, PN, BC, and VOCs and
207 ranged from 65-90% for CO. From the meteorological data, EFs were only detected when ground
208 level winds were blowing towards the inlet, which was located north of the roadway. A summary
209 of capture rate by pollutant and by driving condition, and the wind rose of detected plumes is
210 provided in the Supporting Information.

211 Seasonal differences in EFs were found to be of greater significance than differences in vehicle
212 operation and vehicle ID, thus EFs were averaged across all driving conditions. A Welch’s two-
213 sided t-test for differences between driving conditions (see Supporting Information, Table S7)
214 indicated that differences in emission factors by driving condition were largely statistically
215 insignificant. While there is consensus that driving condition should impact vehicle emission
216 factors, the small sample size for each driving condition and high degree of variability from the
217 single vehicle real-world measurement method did not allow for a meaningful assessment of the

218 impact of vehicle operation. Additionally, there was little difference in the shape of the plume-
219 averaged particle size distributions for each of the vehicle operating conditions (provided in the
220 Supporting Information).

221 **3.2 Emission Factors at the Near-Road (15 m) Site**

222 The above threshold and combined (above threshold and below threshold) EFs from the near-road
223 (15 m) site were averaged seasonally. Pollutants which varied seasonally included PN and BTEX,
224 whereas NO_x, CO, and BC showed no distinct seasonality (Welch's t-test $p > 0.1$, all p-values
225 reported in Supporting Information). Furthermore, CO was not detected in significant quantities
226 in the GDI exhaust, as expected for a relatively new vehicle with a young catalyst.

227

228 The combined PN EFs ranged from 4.13 – 11.3 x10¹⁴ particles kg-fuel⁻¹ and were inversely
229 correlated with outdoor air temperature; average near-road (15 m) PN EFs in winter 2015 were 2.7
230 and 1.8 times larger than the EFs measured in spring and summer 2014, respectively. Average
231 temperature vs. average PN EF is provided in the Supporting Information. Cooler outdoor
232 temperature may impact PN emissions in two ways: increased gas-to-particle partitioning of low
233 volatility gases³⁸⁻⁴⁰ and a prolonged cold start condition increasing PN emissions^{7,41,10}. An
234 exception to this trend was observed during the summer 2014 campaign. While temperatures
235 during the summer 2014 campaign exceeded those during the spring 2014 campaign, the detected
236 PN EFs were 48% higher in summer 2014. This is potentially due to the seasonal changes in fuel
237 formulation (i.e., summer grade vs winter grade) to achieve a target Reid vapor pressure. In
238 summer grade fuel, the volatility is reduced by replacing n-butane with heavier alkanes and
239 aromatic hydrocarbons including toluene.^{42,43} Increasing gasoline fuel aromatic content has been

240 shown to increase soot formation in engine laboratory studies. For example, doping commercially-
241 available fuel with 10% toluene resulted in a 112% increase in BC concentration⁴⁴ and increasing
242 fuel aromatic content from 15% to 25% resulted in a 78% and 169% increase in BC and PN
243 emissions, respectively.⁴⁵ In this study, BTEX emissions, especially ethylbenzene-xylenes, were
244 elevated in the exhaust in summer 2014 relative to spring 2014 and above detection threshold
245 levels of toluene were detected in the plumes 20% more often relative to other seasons (see
246 Supporting Information). The broad range of BTEX emissions likely reflects variability in the
247 aromatics found in commercial gasoline blends, which vary by supplier and season. The test
248 vehicles came pre-fuelled, thus variability is expected to be maximized.

249
250 Figure 1 shows the GDI vehicle EFs overlaid on a cumulative probability distribution of the
251 Toronto fleet EFs from the same measurement site originally reported in Wang et al.³² from four
252 month-long continuous campaigns performed between November 2013 and September 2014. For
253 NO_x, the campaign-averaged EFs from the GDI were in line with the Toronto fleet average (NO_x:
254 52nd percentile of the fleet). Compared to the Toronto fleet, on average the GDI vehicle produced
255 PN emission factors in the 52nd percentile of the fleet; however, this varied by season (range: 45th
256 percentile in spring 2014 to 75th percentile in winter 2015). For BC, compared to the Toronto fleet
257 the campaign-averaged GDI vehicle EFs were in the 85th percentile, suggesting that as GDI
258 vehicles penetrate the market, ambient BC levels may rise substantially. As of late 2014, only 17%
259 of the Toronto fleet had detectable BC emissions³², and these emissions have been largely
260 attributed to heavy-duty diesel vehicles. Within the above detection threshold fleet emissions, the
261 GDI vehicle BC EFs were in the 18th percentile, suggesting that the GDI vehicle has BC emissions
262 slightly lower than the on-road diesel fleet. This is in agreement with laboratory studies, which

263 have measured BC EFs from diesel vehicles as 3-7 times higher than GDI vehicles⁴⁶⁻⁵¹. However,
264 as the share of on-road diesel vehicles with diesel particulate filters increases, it is expected that
265 GDI vehicles may become the dominant source of ambient BC and PN. The BTEX EFs from the
266 GDI vehicle were also substantially higher compared to the Toronto fleet (range: 58th to 98th
267 percentile) suggesting that GDI vehicles may also increase ambient BTEX levels; these species
268 are soot precursors and may be incomplete combustion products from the vehicle. Furthermore,
269 fuel-rich operation during vehicle transients or fuel-rich pockets within the cylinder, noted issues
270 with GDI vehicles^{10,52,53}, have been shown to increase BTEX emissions⁵⁴, potentially explaining
271 the elevated emissions relative to the Toronto fleet. An important caveat to this analysis is that
272 both Toronto fleet and GDI vehicle EFs were calculated on a fuel burned basis. On a distance
273 travelled basis, the relative impact of GDI emissions would be reduced due to the improvement in
274 fuel economy. For example, by comparing the reported city driving fuel economies of first
275 generation (2004, PFI), second generation (2008, PFI) and third generation (2013, GDI) Ford
276 Focus vehicles, it can be estimated that replacing a first generation and second generation Ford
277 Focus with a third generation GDI vehicle would result in a 23% and 13% improvement in city
278 driving fuel economy, respectively⁵⁵⁻⁵⁷. However, the observed increases in BC, BTEX, and in
279 some seasons PN with the GDI vehicle used in this study relative to the current Toronto fleet is
280 expected to outweigh the benefits from improved fuel economy.

281

282 **3.3 Near-road vs. Roadside Particle Number Emission Factors**

283 For the GDI vehicle, PN emission factors were found to exhibit a strong degree of spatial
284 variability. Mean PN EFs at 15 m from the roadway were up to 300% higher than EFs at 1.5 m
285 from the roadway (Figure 2). This micro-scale spatial variability was highest in the winter and

286 smallest in the summer, indicating that the relative increase in particle emissions is influenced by
287 ambient temperature. In comparison, based on the spring 2014 campaign measurements of the port
288 fuel injected CRV, the average PN EFs exhibited less spatial variability, with mean PN EFs 15 m
289 from the roadway 17% lower than those measured 3 m from the roadway (all PN EFs are available
290 in the Supporting Information).

291 The EFs in Figure 2 are average values across all driving and meteorological conditions, and thus
292 the confidence intervals are large due to the range of PN EFs measured. To further explore the
293 micro-scale spatial variability, the ratio of the PN EFs at 15 m and 3 m was calculated on a plume-
294 by-plume basis for the spring 2014, summer 2014, and winter 2015 measurement campaigns
295 (Figure 3). Only plumes where PN emissions were above the detection threshold at both the
296 roadside site and then subsequently the near-road site were considered. To determine if spatial
297 variability in PN emissions in the near-road environment was unique to GDI PM, plume-by-plume
298 ratios were also calculated for the PFI vehicle in spring 2014 and for detected garbage truck plumes
299 across all the measurement campaigns; garbage trucks are predominantly diesel vehicles which
300 typically emit a strong PN signal.

301
302 On a plume-by-plume basis, GDI PN EFs were 130 – 240% higher 15 m than 3 m from the
303 roadside, depending on season. Differences were at a minimum during the summer campaign
304 (warmest campaign) and at a maximum during the winter 2015 campaign (coldest campaign)
305 indicating that condensation may play an important role in GDI exhaust PM dynamics. In the near-
306 road (15 m) region, nucleation, condensation/evaporation, coagulation, and pollutant dilution may
307 all affect the measured PN EF at different distances from the roadway. As CO₂ and particles have
308 different diffusion coefficients, assuming PN EFs are constant in the near-road environment

309 requires advection to be the dominant mass transport process. This was verified by calculating
310 Peclet numbers for wind speeds ranging from 0.25 – 10 m/s and for 1.5 – 15 m from the roadway
311 (details in Supporting Information). In all cases, Peclet numbers were several orders of magnitude
312 above unity, indicating that advection is indeed dominant and spatial/temporal changes in PN EFs
313 are likely due to chemical or physical processing of the exhaust aerosol in the atmosphere.
314 Additionally, for the garbage trucks and the PFI vehicle, no spatial variability was observed, i.e.,
315 differences in PN emission factors at 3 and 15 m were statistically insignificant using a Welch's t-
316 test (garbage trucks: $p = 0.64$, PFI: $p\text{-value} = 0.65$). Size resolved PFI PN EFs, as well as a complete
317 discussion of the garbage truck plumes used as a control in this study, are provided in the
318 Supporting Information.

319

320 Size-resolved GDI PN EFs for each of the campaigns are shown in Figure 4. These size
321 distributions were bimodal, consistent with several previous studies¹⁰⁻¹³, and the distributions from
322 the 2014 and 2015 winter campaigns were broader than those measured in the spring and summer
323 2014 campaigns. Further, the upper mode was larger in the winter; 100 nm in winter vs 40-55 nm
324 in spring and summer campaigns, likely due to increased condensation in the colder outdoor
325 temperatures and limited nighttime mixing conditions. Comparing the PN EF size distributions
326 from the near-road (15 m) and the roadside (1.5 – 3 m) measurement sites, it was observed that
327 across all measurement campaigns there was a net increase in PN EF and growth in the mode
328 diameter in the lower sub-40 nm mode region. Additionally, the increase in sub-40 nm particles
329 15 m from the roadway was less pronounced during the summer 2014 campaign, possibly due to
330 the competing effects of evaporation in the warmer weather. This is in contrast to the upper mode
331 region (40-100 nm), where the near-road PN EFs were higher between 3 and 15 m from the

332 roadway for the spring and summer campaigns but with no net change in the shape of the
333 distribution. This could be affected by seasonal differences in background semi-volatile compound
334 concentrations; however, these were not measured and thus this finding remains unclear.
335 Thermodenuded particle size distributions (Supporting Information Figure S7) were generally
336 bimodal with modes at 10 and 25 nm, suggesting the semi-volatile components within the exhaust
337 or in the background air may strongly influence the final measured size distribution.

338

339 Considering the sub-40 region separately there may be two possible effects on PN EFs: (1) rapid
340 growth of small particles below instrument detection limits (<5 nm) via condensation of low
341 volatility gases to form new sub-40 nm particles and (2) coagulation of particles resulting in
342 particle growth and a less distinct bimodality. The latter mechanism is unlikely due to the small
343 coagulation coefficient between two sub-6 nm particles; while these very small particles have high
344 velocities, the probability of collision is low due to their limited cross-sectional area.⁵⁸ In order for
345 the former effect to be true, a substantial concentration of exhaust particles below the instrument
346 cut off (6 nm) are required as a core for condensational growth. A recent study demonstrated that
347 2 nm amorphous carbon particles are readily formed at flame temperatures in the GDI combustion
348 chamber⁵⁹, potentially acting as condensation nuclei and influencing gas-particle partitioning.

349

350 Increasing PN EFs in the 15 m near-road region were not observed for the PFI vehicle, which is
351 also expected to produce low volatility organic vapours capable of condensing onto existing soot
352 cores. Here, we suggest two reasons for this observation: a lower concentration of soot cores from
353 the tailpipe of PFI vehicles and a volatility distribution of PFI vehicles shifted towards higher
354 vapour pressure compounds (i.e., more volatile). In GDI vehicles, there is less time for fuel

355 vaporization and air-fuel mixing, resulting in a less homogeneous fuel charge (i.e., fuel rich
356 pockets in the combustion chamber) and greater liquid fuel impingement on cylinder surfaces
357 compared to PFI vehicles.^{60,61} These areas of rich combustion are expected to result in the
358 formation of incomplete combustion products including soot and SVOCs⁶². While May et al.⁶³
359 conclude that all gasoline vehicles emit primary organic aerosol with a similar volatility
360 distribution, the GDI vehicle included in their study was excluded from the reported volatility
361 distribution due to contamination of the dynamic blanks, thus the differences in volatility
362 distribution between PFI and GDI vehicles remains unclear. In this study, comparing winter 2014
363 and spring 2014 near-road PN EFs, there was a statistically significant increase from spring to
364 winter of 125% for the GDI vehicle ($p=0.022$), while the observed increase in PN EF from the PFI
365 vehicle was not statistically significant ($p=0.18$). Assuming this increase is primarily due to
366 condensation, the larger relative increase with the GDI vehicle suggests a greater degree of gas-
367 particle partitioning for the GDI vehicle in the near-road region compared to PFI. In the Supporting
368 Information, the concentration of organic vapor needed to achieve the observed GDI PM growth
369 rates is explored; however, the mechanism for the observed near-road dynamics remains unclear.
370 As such, future studies of GDI PM particle formation and growth mechanisms are recommended
371 to better understand our findings.

372

373 **3.4 Laboratory and Real-World Comparison**

374 PN EFs measured in the real-world were observed to exceed those measured in the laboratory by
375 approximately an order of magnitude (Figure 2 vs. Figure 5). Measurements in real-world
376 environments are diluted naturally in the atmosphere, where the volatile fraction can contribute
377 significantly to the PN concentration. The large discrepancy between the real-world and laboratory

378 particle number emissions has important regulatory implications, since the sub-23 nm fraction of
379 the PM is not considered in European regulations, but may have significant air quality implications
380 or contribute to the formation of secondary organic aerosol.

381

382 Removing the volatile fraction of the real-world exhaust PM with a thermodenuder ($T=250^{\circ}\text{C}$)
383 should result in PN EFs that can be directly compared to the laboratory, as the exhaust will have
384 undergone similar pretreatment. Comparing thermodenuded real-world PN EFs to the laboratory
385 PN EFs resulted in particle number emission factors that agreed with laboratory measurements
386 within approximately 30% (Figure 5). As the engine was operated at a simulated highway cruise
387 condition in the laboratory, PN EFs in the laboratory may be slightly higher due to the higher
388 engine load and speed as compared to driving in an urban environment.

389

390 Laboratory and real-world BC emission factors were also compared as an internal control for the
391 real-world-based method. Exhaust conditioning and meteorology are expected to have minimal
392 impacts on black carbon, which is atmospherically stable, and as such, laboratory and real-world
393 measurements should be in agreement. Black carbon (real-world) and elemental carbon
394 (laboratory) emission factors were also comparable (Figure 5); compared to the summer 2014
395 campaign, real-world BC EF agreed with the E10 laboratory elemental carbon emission factors
396 within 10%. This is consistent with the requirement in Ontario that regular gasoline (87 anti-knock
397 index) contain at least 5% (v/v) ethanol and with many suppliers providing fuel with up to 10%
398 (v/v) ethanol. While differences between laboratory elemental carbon and real-world BC can be
399 affected by the thermal-optical and photoacoustic methods^{64,65}, we used site-specific mass
400 absorption cross-section (MAC) values to ensure close agreement between the two methods.

401

402 **3.5 Implications**

403 From this study, it can be concluded that particles in GDI vehicles have PN, BC, and BTEX EFs
404 in the upper end of the fleet distribution and the exhaust plumes exhibit dynamic behaviour in the
405 near-road (15 m) region, with increasing PN EFs at increasing distance from the roadway. This
406 suggests that as GDI vehicle market penetration increases, there may be negative impacts on local
407 air quality, especially in urban environments near roadways. The observed near-road PN dynamics
408 were unique to GDI vehicles, as the same effects were not observed for heavy-duty diesel garbage
409 trucks or a PFI-equipped vehicle. From comparing GDI vehicle size distributions at different
410 distances from the roadway, rapid particle growth of sub-5 nmcores due to condensation of low
411 volatility organic gasses is proposed to be the dominant growth mechanism in GDI vehicle exhaust.
412 Given the rapid integration of GDI-equipped vehicles, understanding the impacts of GDI vehicles
413 on local and regional air quality presents a significant measurement challenge, because exhaust
414 PN and BTEX concentrations were found to be strongly influenced by meteorological conditions.
415 Additionally, the current European regulatory practice for quantifying exhaust PN, which only
416 considers non-volatile PN larger than 23 nm, appears to be ill-suited to this exhaust type; PN EFs
417 with no thermal pretreatment were approximately an order of magnitude larger than non-volatile
418 PN laboratory measurements. Furthermore, the dynamics investigated in this study were limited
419 to 15 m from the roadway. Understanding the fate of GDI vehicle exhaust beyond 15 m remains
420 an important research question, and the potential for GDI vehicle exhaust to form secondary
421 organic aerosol relative to PFI vehicle exhaust is currently unknown. Going forward, there is a
422 need to explore GDI emissions from more vehicles to better quantify the effect on vehicle fleet
423 emissions, and to understand the longer term behaviour of GDI vehicle exhaust in real-world
424 settings through more detailed experiments, aerosol aging studies, and micro-scale modelling.

425 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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431 monitoring the roadside instruments.

432

433 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

434 Further details on the study methodology, instrumentation and method validation, statistical
435 testing, tabulated emission factors, size distributions and an analyses of emissions growth
436 dynamics are provided.

437

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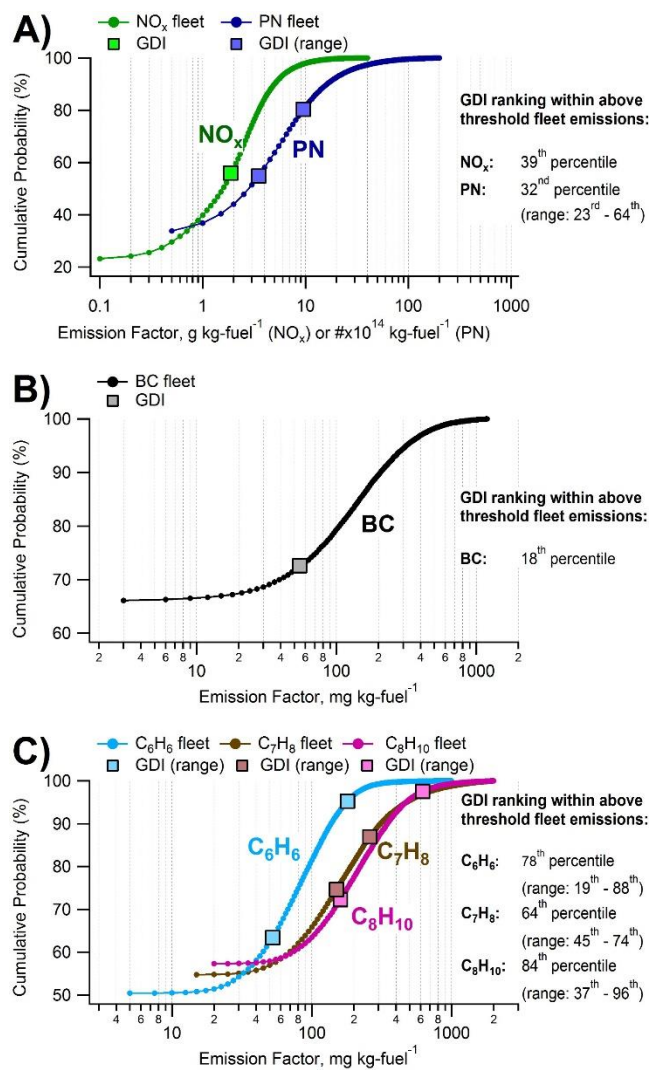
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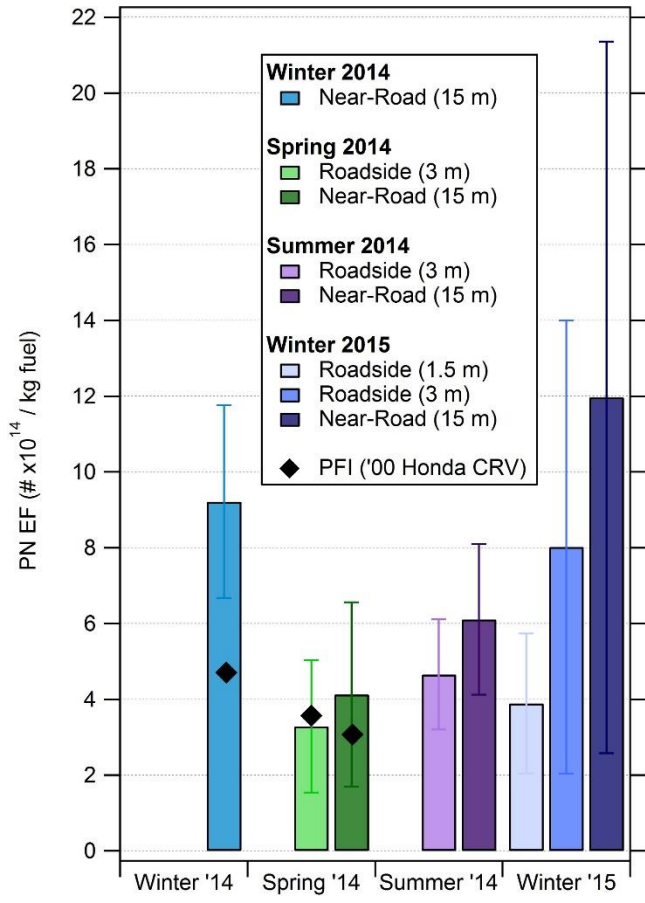
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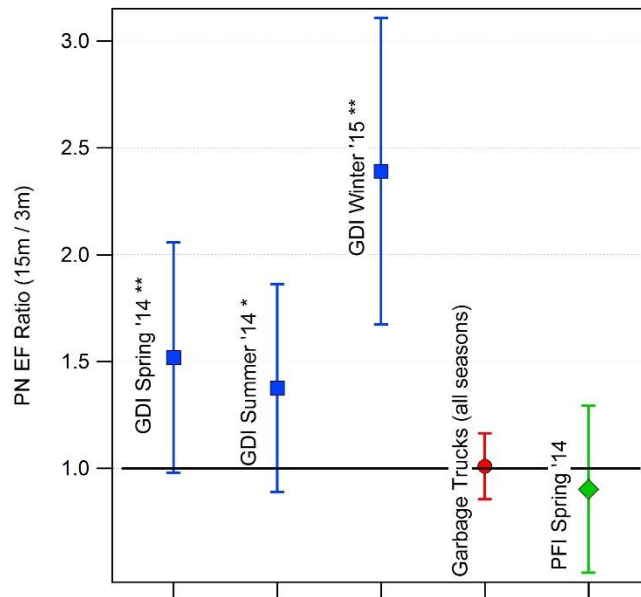
696
 697 **Figure 1:** Cumulative probability distribution of Toronto fleet emission factors for PN and NO_x (A), BC (B) and for
 698 VOCs (C) from Wang et al.³². The starting point of the distribution represents the fraction of below detection plumes.
 699 Overlaid on the fleet distributions are the GDI EFs from this study. To the right of each distribution the GDI ranking
 700 within the above threshold emissions (i.e., rank on the curve). If statistically significant differences between the
 701 seasons were observed, two markers indicating the range are shown, otherwise one average GDI EF is shown.
 702 Tabulated mean fleet and GDI EFs are provided in the Supporting Information. Fleet PN cut-off: 7 nm (Teledyne
 703 651), GDI PN cut-off: 3 nm (TSI 3788).

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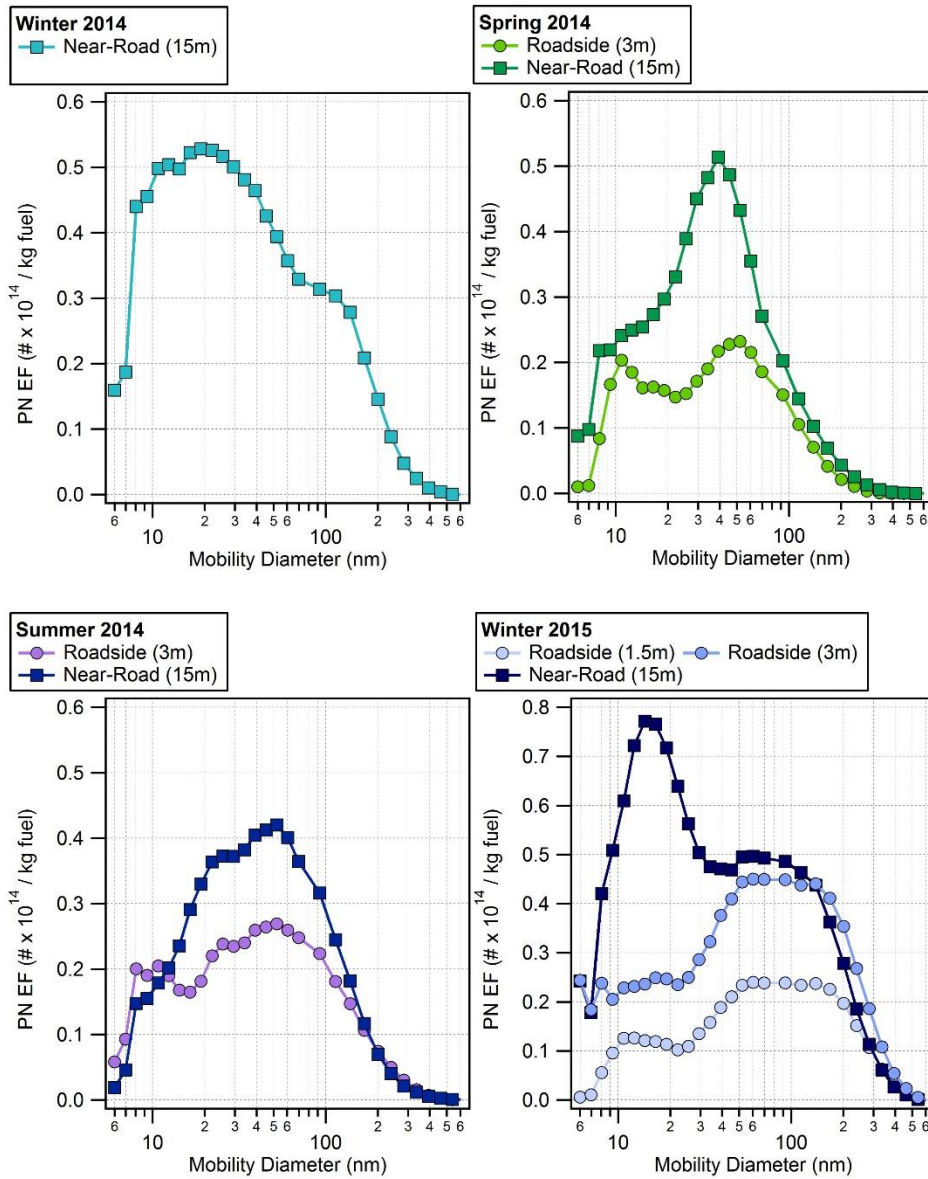
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707 **Figure 2:** Average GDI particle number (PN) emission factors measured by the 3788 CPC (> 3nm) at the near-road
 708 (15 m) and roadside (1.5 – 3 m) sites during the four measurement campaigns with 95% confidence intervals.



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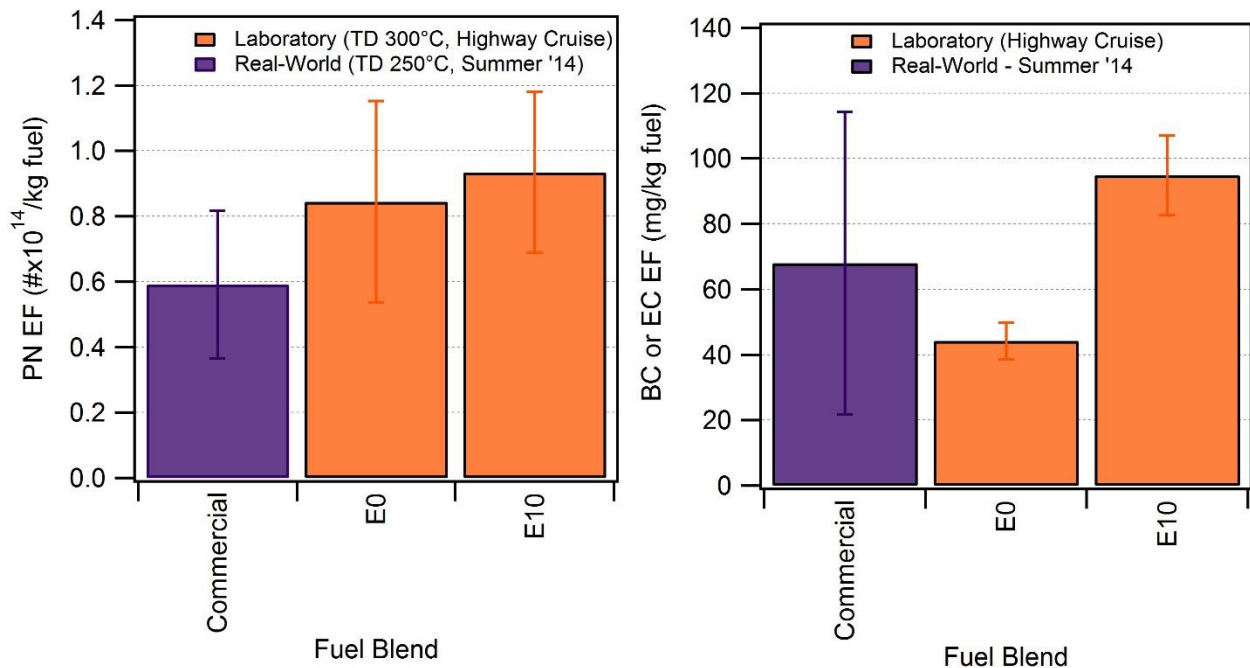
710 **Figure 3:** Average ratio of particle number emission factors measured by the 3788 CPC (> 3 nm) at the near-road (15
 711 m) and roadside (3 m) site on a plume-by-plume basis for the spring 2014, summer 2014, and winter 2015 campaigns
 712 (with 95% confidence intervals). Results were compared to diesel garbage truck plumes measured across the
 713 measurement campaigns and PFI plumes measured in the spring 2014 campaign. Asterisks indicate p-values from a
 714 one sample t-test with the null hypothesis $\mu_0 = 1$. **: $p < 0.05$, *: $p < 0.1$



715

716 **Figure 4:** Size-resolved PN EFs at the near-road (15 m) and roadside (1.5 – 3 m) sites.

717



718

719 **Figure 5:** Average particle number emission factors measured in the laboratory for E0-E10 summer-grade fuels
 720 (orange) during a simulated highway cruise operation (diluter T=300°C) (EEPS 3090, > 6 nm) and average
 721 thermodenuded (250°C) particle number emission factor (CPC 3788, >3 nm) measured during the real-world in
 722 summer 2014 (purple) (left panel), and average elemental carbon (EC) emission factors measured in the laboratory
 723 for E0-E10 fuels (orange) during a simulated highway cruise operation and average black carbon (BC) emission
 724 factors during the real-world in summer 2014 (purple) (left panel).

725