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# Black carbon, particle number concentration and nitrogen oxide emission factors of random in-use vehicles measured with the on-road chasing method

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## Abstract

The chasing method was used in an on-road measurement campaign, and emission factors (EF) of black carbon (BC), particle number (PN) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) were determined for 139 individual vehicles of different types encountered on the roads. The aggregated results provide EFs for BC, NO<sub>x</sub> and PN for three vehicle categories: goods vehicles, gasoline and diesel passenger cars. This is the first on-road measurement study where BC EFs of numerous individual diesel cars were determined in real-world driving conditions. We found good agreement between EFs of goods vehicles determined in this campaign and the results of previous studies that used either chasing or remote sensing measurement techniques. The composition of the sampled car fleet determined from the national vehicle registry information is reflective of Eurostat statistical data on the Slovenian and European vehicle fleet. The median BC EF of diesel and gasoline cars that were in use for less than 5 years, decreased by 60 and 47% from those in use for 5–10 years, respectively, the median NO<sub>x</sub> and PN EFs, of goods vehicles that were in use for less than five years, decreased from those in use for 5–10 years by 52 and 67%, respectively. The influence of engine maximum power of the measured EFs showed an increase in NO<sub>x</sub> EF from least to more powerful vehicles with diesel engines. Finally a disproportionate contribution of high emitters to the total emissions of the measured fleet was found; the top 25% of emitting diesel cars contributed 63, 47 and 61% of BC, NO<sub>x</sub> and PN emissions respectively. With the combination of relatively simple on-road measurements with sophisticated post processing individual vehicles EF can be determined and useful information about the fleet emissions can be obtained by exactly representing vehicles which contribute disproportionately to vehicle fleet emissions; and monitor how the numerous emission reduction approaches are reflected in on-road driving conditions.

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## 1 Introduction

Traffic is a diverse and important source of air pollution and is complex to describe in terms of per vehicle emissions. The amount of emitted pollutants depends on individual vehicle parameters, the engine type and displacement, the type of exhaust after-treatment system, fuel quality, maintenance status, traffic situations, topography, driver behavior and weather conditions. Owing to the large number of variables, different statistical analyses and measurement approaches have been employed in order to evaluate traffic emissions. These vary in complexity in terms of describing traffic activity and emission factor (EF) determination. Franco et al. (2013) define EFs as different empirical functional relations of emitted pollutants to the activity that causes them. Most standardized and robust EFs were found to be produced in laboratories using dynamometer tests with prescribed driving cycles. These tests can produce: (a) aggregated or bag results with respect to the mean speed or some other kinematic parameter (e.g. mean acceleration) of a driving cycle; or (b) instantaneous emission data, where the emissions values measured can be related to recorded instantaneous kinematic or engine covariates (Perrone et al., 2014). But the nature and conditions of the tests limits both the number of vehicles tested and the application to many on-road or so-called “real world” conditions. In order to validate the emission model predictions and to compare their performance to actual vehicle emissions, “real world” EF measurement techniques have been developed (Franco et al., 2013). These employ different techniques for measuring numerous vehicles in use in actual traffic situations: the measurements were performed through the use of remote sensing next to the roads, following vehicles on the roads, the use of on-board diagnostics data, or from data taken in tunnels (some of the first such experiments may be found in Bishop et al., 1996; Hansen and Rosen, 1990; Weingartner et al., 1997).

The various “real world” methods have been described as being less precise than the dynamometer studies because the tests are not as repeatable as their dynamometer counterparts owing to the absence of standard cycles and the presence of additional

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uncontrolled parameters introducing variability, such as environmental or traffic conditions, driver behavior or highly transient operations (Franco et al., 2013). The on-road measurements have some inherent drawbacks. Two possible shortcomings are that the remote-sensing method can provide only a snapshot of the vehicle emissions and not how the emissions vary during the trip (Franco et al., 2013) and that the on-road chasing method cannot be used in a dense traffic situations, where emissions from other vehicles' would disturb the background measurements (Ježek et al., 2015; Wang et al., 2011). Their advantage over laboratory measurements is that, over a short period of time, a large number of in-use vehicles can be measured and a representative emission factor distribution for different vehicle categories can be obtained. Most of the previous on-road BC emission factor measurements for individual vehicles were performed on diesel fueled trucks and on cars with the spark ignition engine, henceforth referred to as gasoline cars (Ban-Weiss et al., 2009; Dallmann et al., 2011, 2012, 2014; Hansen and Rosen, 1990; Wang et al., 2011, 2012). Many of these studies revealed that a small percentage of vehicles – the so-called super emitters; contribute disproportionately to total vehicle emissions. Ban-Weiss et al. (2009) demonstrated that 10 % of the trucks contributed 40 % of the BC and PN emissions. Wang et al. (2011) showed that, in their measured fleet, 20 % of the trucks contributed 50 % of the carbon monoxide (CO) and  $PN_{0.5}$  emissions, 60 % of the  $PM_{0.5}$  (the particle number concentration – PN; and particulate mass concentration (PM) subscripts denote here the largest mobility diameter [ $\mu\text{m}$ ] of aerosol particles measured, in this case aerosol particles of 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and smaller) and over 70 % of black carbon (BC) emissions. Bishop and Stedman (2008) report the same trend for nitrogen oxides ( $NO_x$ ), CO and hydrocarbons (HC). The advantage of individual vehicle measurements over average fleet emission factors, as is often expressed by dynamometer or portable emission measurement system (PEMS) studies, is the ability to detect and express the distribution of emissions from many vehicles as well as to identify “super emitters” and their contributions within the vehicle population, serving as a basis for the implementation of improved emission data, more efficient abatement strategies and monitoring of progress on controls.



440 on-road trucks, measuring the EF of NO<sub>x</sub> and BC. They found that the measures taken in Beijing were effective for the BC emissions of trucks that were from that area, but they did not observe such a trend for NO<sub>x</sub> emissions.

An extensive on-road measurement study was performed in the UK by Carslaw and Rhys-Tyler (2013). They employed a remote sensing technique to measure the emissions of NO, NO<sub>2</sub> and NH<sub>3</sub> on a fleet of almost 70 000 individual vehicles which included also vans, passenger cars with a compression ignition engine (henceforth referred to as diesel cars), and gasoline cars. Matching these to vehicle registration data, they found that only gasoline fuelled vehicles had shown an appreciable reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> emissions over the past 15–20 years, whereas diesel fuelled vehicles have not. They found that there was an influence of vehicle manufacturer for Euro 4/5 vehicles and that Euro 4/5 diesel vehicles with smaller displacements emit less NO than those with larger displacements.

According to the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) the motorization in Europe is increasing for passenger cars and the commercial vehicle fleet – by about 50 % in two decades (1990–2010). Fleet trends show that the percentage of diesel cars is also rising from about 30 % in 2000 to about 60 % in 2011, and that most popular passenger cars by segment are small and lower medium cars which respectively represent 34.2 and 22.1 % of all new cars sold in Europe in 2011 (ACEA, 2012). A slightly smaller percentage of diesel cars (55 %) was reported by the European Environment Agency (EEA, 2013a) who, in their report titled “Monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from new passenger cars in the EU”. They state that the average car weight was at its highest in the last nine years, the average engine capacity had decreased by 5 % since 2007, and, despite of these changes, the improved vehicle technology has led to greater fuel efficiency and lower average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per kilometer travelled (EEA, 2013b). This report was based on data provided by the manufactures who were obliged to measure CO<sub>2</sub> emissions using the type approved test cycle (NEDC) in laboratory conditions. The statement was refuted by International Council on Clean Transportation in their 2013 white paper (Mock et al., 2013); in which they compared official and

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to their hazardous effects on health and environment and for the comparison purposes to previous studies. We used the chasing technique (Wang et al., 2011) and the running integration approach to calculate individual vehicles EF (Ježek et al., 2015), because it enables us to measure not only EFs of numerous individual in-use vehicles, but also how their EFs change in time, giving us individual vehicle's EF distribution. We analyze EF distribution within the vehicle category by using the median EF value of individual vehicle's EF distribution and compare our results to those of other chasing and remote sensing studies. We obtained registration information of the chased vehicles to demonstrate the effects of vehicle age, vehicle maximum engine power, the ratio of maximum power to vehicle size, and finally, the contribution of high emitters to the total emissions of our measured fleet. We report the first on-road determination of BC, NO<sub>x</sub> and PN EFs of passenger cars measured with the chasing method and the first BC EFs of individual diesel cars measured in real driving conditions.

## 2 Methodology

We performed our measurements in December 2011 over the course of 7 days on Slovenian highways and regional roads, measuring predominantly the Slovenian vehicle fleet (stills from the measurement campaign are presented in Supplement Fig. S1). Slovenia is a country positioned south of the Alps, next to the Adriatic and opening to the Balkan and East European region Slovenian highways are part of the V. (Venice–Trieste/Koper–Ljubljana–Budapest–Kiev) and X. (Salzburg–Ljubljana–Zagreb–Belgrade–Thessaloniki) trans-European corridors and are thus an important connection between central and east European states, especially for the transport of goods. As a result, foreign vehicles were also encountered and measured in our campaign.

In EF analysis we included any vehicle which emissions and background concentrations we could capture without interference of other on-road vehicles (vehicles that would drive in front of the chased vehicle). The inclusion of the measurement in further



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analysis was determined on-road and confirmed with video recordings of each chase. For most vehicles we measured the background concentrations before and after the chase, in few instances we used only one – measured before or after the chase. On average each chase lasted for two minutes and a half, with the shortest chase lasting for 47 s and the longest for 396 s. In the final analysis we excluded 10 cars because we could not obtain registration information needed to categorize them as a diesel or a gasoline car.

The mobile measurement platform used for the on-road chasing measurements is described in detail in Ježek et al. (2015). We used instruments with high time resolution (1 to 10 s) the Carbocap GMP343 (Vaisala) to measure  $\text{CO}_2$ , the Aethalometer AE33 prototype version  $\beta$  (Aerosol d.o.o.), the Fast Mobility Particle seizer (TSI), for the on-road campaign we added also a Nitric Oxide Monitor and an  $\text{NO}_2$  converter (models 410 and 401, 2B Technologies). For the Nitric Oxide Monitor the sampling line was a Teflon tube, while for the rest we used static-dissipative tubing. The instrumental details and measurement uncertainties are summarized in Table 1. The Aethalometer data was compensated for the loading effect using the Drinovec et al. (2015) compensation algorithm.

### 2.1 Emission factor calculation

We calculated the emission factor as the pollutant ( $P$ ) per kg of fuel consumed, assuming the equal dilution of all emitted pollutants and complete combustion of the fuel, where almost all the carbon in the fuel is oxidized to  $\text{CO}_2$  (Ban-Weiss et al., 2009; Dallmann et al., 2011; Hansen and Rosen, 1990), the fuel consumption can be estimated by measuring the  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions.

$$EF_P = \frac{\int_{t_j}^{t_i} (P_{t_j} - P_{t_i}) dt}{a \cdot \int_{t_j}^{t_i} (\text{CO}_{2t_j} - \text{CO}_{2t_i}) dt} \cdot w_c \quad (1)$$



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Infrastructure and Spatial Planning; contained information about each vehicle category according to the Directive 2001/116/EC (2002), the fuel used, the date the vehicle first entered into service, curb weight, engine displacement and the maximum net power, where the maximum net power is defined as the maximum value of the net power measured at full engine load (UNECE Regulation No 85, 2013) and the curb weight is the weight of the vehicle without the driver or any other additional load (Regulation No. 540/2014 of the European parliament, 2014).

For 2011 (the year our measurement study was conducted) we used the Eurostat vehicle feet statistics (for Europe and Slovenia); Slovenian National Interoperability (NIO) portal (<http://nio.gov.si/>), where we gained detailed information on Slovenian car fleet; and compared them to our measured fleet. The Eurostat statistics for cars in Europe include countries that reported not only the total number of cars but also the information on which fuel they used and their respective engine displacements (the countries included are listed in the Supplement S2). Of the 207 185 950 passenger cars in-use, 61 % used gasoline fuels and 34 % used diesel.

Our vehicle classification to categories was based on that of vehicle registration information, according to the Commission Directive 2001/116/EC (European Communities, 2002). In Europe vehicles with more than four wheels are organized according their purpose to categories M, N and O, on the first level. Category M includes vehicles for the transport of passengers, category N comprises commercial vehicles for the transport of goods, and category O includes trailers (and semi-trailers). Further categorization of category M pertains to the number of passenger seats and the vehicle's maximum allowed weight, whereas the N and O categories are further segmented regarding to the vehicle's maximum allowed weight. This classification, with further sub categories, is then, among other things, also used for prescribing emission standards to new vehicles. Passenger cars (category M1) and light commercial vehicles weighing less than 1305 kg (category N1-I) have the same emission standards, even though the corresponding Euro 1 and Euro 2 standards came into force in different years. Light commercial vehicles have two more categories of Emission standards: N1-II (1305–

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1760 kg); and N1-III (> 1760) together with N2 (light commercial vehicles with a maximum mass exceeding 3500 kg but below 12 000 kg). Depending on the vehicle's use, the same vehicle can be registered as an M1 or N1. Similar categorization is used in the Eurostat data. There are also many other classifications of vehicles, that depend mostly on the purpose of their use.

We set up three main categories: diesel cars, gasoline cars and goods vehicles. In the gasoline cars category we included only M1 vehicles with spark ignition engines; in diesel cars category we included M1 cars with compression ignition engine and light goods vehicles categorized as N1; other vehicles categorized as N2, N3, M2 or M3 were all in the goods vehicle category. The categorization is summarized in Table 2, where it is also indicated how it overlaps with the classification in Directive 2001/116/EC.

For some heavy goods vehicles, buses and light goods vehicles, we were unable to obtain the vehicle verification data (foreign vehicles and vehicles for which we were unable to note their license plates). These vehicles were only included in the results when more detailed information (age, engine displacement or power) about the vehicle was not needed and the vehicle's category could be determined solely from their visual appearance. Thus, we kept the heavy goods vehicles and vans for which we did not have registration information but could categorize them as N1, N2 or N3, based on their appearance. Emission factor measurement results

Our total vehicle fleet sample was 139 vehicles; it consisted of 75 passenger cars (M1) of which 51 were diesel and 24 gasoline cars; 6 buses (M3); 1 mini bus (M2); 26 light goods vehicles, of which 17 were category N1 and 8 were category N2; and 32 heavy goods vehicles (N3). We were unable to obtain the registry data for 2 buses, 4 of the light goods vehicles (2 categorized as N1 and 2 as N2), and 15 of the heavy goods vehicles (N3). The fleet sample is summarized in Table 2.

We compared our measured fleet composition on the vehicles' age and size with the information on the Slovenian and European vehicle fleet statistics (Sect. 2.3). We present our results as BC, PN and NO<sub>x</sub> EF distributions for the vehicle categories and





of this study than there are in Europe or Slovenia in general and therefore the age of our total passenger car fleet does not match the total Slovenian nor European passenger car age groups. By analyzing the age distribution within diesel and gasoline cars separately we have shown that our two subcategories do indeed match the Slovenian fleet from which we sampled from and are thus representative for the Slovenian vehicle fleet, and most likely also for the European car fleet, as the two are very similar.

### 2.3.2 Goods vehicles

Eurostat does not report the number of heavy goods vehicles as N1, N2 and N3, rather it reports the number of lorries (defined as: rigid road motor vehicle designed, exclusively or primarily, to carry goods) by their load capacity (defined as: maximum weight of goods declared permissible by the competent authority of the country of registration of the vehicle). The data thus includes vehicles with a gross weight of not more than 3500 kg but excludes tow trucks. From Table 5 we can see that lorries with load capacity less than 1500 kg are most numerous in both Slovenian and European fleet and that the vehicles with load capacity over 10 000 kg are fewest. With Tables 5 and 6 (where we report Eurostat data for the European and Slovenian fleet), we demonstrate that the Slovenian vehicle fleet from which we sampled the most vehicles from is representative of European average both regarding the size segregation and vehicle age. We could not make an indirect comparison of Eurostat data to our sample fleet because we did not get the load capacity reported for most of our measured vehicles, and because the number of license plates we could collect was low. Nonetheless, we used the NIO database and found that in the Slovenian fleet there were 72 % of N3 goods vehicles weighing less than 12 000 kg that were not road tractors or special purpose vehicles, while in our fleet there were 57 % of such vehicles. We binned the vehicles according to their age: those that were in use for less than 10 years, 5 to 10, and less than 5 years. The Slovenian fleet consisted of 38, 38 and 24 % vehicles in each categories, respectively, while the measured vehicles consisted of 21, 50 and 29 % respectively. Here the size of the sample was only 14 vehicles for which we had registry information. The

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discrepancy is larger because of the larger diversity in vehicle size among the goods vehicles than for personal cars, and because our sample size is small.

## 2.4 Emission factors distributions and comparison to other studies

We determined EFs of different type vehicles, grouped them into three categories: gasoline cars, diesel cars and goods vehicles (as described in Sect. 2.2.), and present their BC, NO<sub>x</sub> and PN EF distributions in Fig. 2. Because the formation paths for the three pollutants differ (see Supplement S1) and technological solutions for the three vehicle categories differ, also their EF distributions show different tendencies. The median BC EF for diesel cars (0.79 g kg<sup>-1</sup>) is the highest of the three vehicle groups, followed by goods vehicles (median 0.47 g kg<sup>-1</sup>), and gasoline cars (0.28 g kg<sup>-1</sup>), where also the lowest BC EFs are to be found. The median of NO<sub>x</sub> EF distribution is highest for goods vehicles (27.71 g kg<sup>-1</sup>), followed by diesel cars (15.43 g kg<sup>-1</sup>), and again lowest for gasoline cars (6.34 g kg<sup>-1</sup>). We can observe similar trend with PN EF distribution – highest median value for goods vehicles (11.49 × 10<sup>15</sup> kg<sup>-1</sup>), followed by diesel cars (4.4 × 10<sup>15</sup> kg<sup>-1</sup>), and gasoline cars (1.95 × 10<sup>15</sup> kg<sup>-1</sup>). The shapes of the PN distributions are different from the shapes of the NO<sub>x</sub> EF distributions. NO<sub>x</sub> EF distributions have the narrowest range of the three investigated pollutants for all three vehicle groups, while PN EF distributions are broad and in the case of goods vehicles even bimodal. They would remain bimodal even if buses and light goods vehicles (N2) would be excluded from the analysis.

In Table 7 we compare the results of our study to other chasing and remote sensing studies that measured the same species (Ban-Weiss et al., 2009; Carslaw and Rhys-Tyler, 2013; Dallmann et al., 2011; Hudda et al., 2013; Schneider et al., 2008; Shorter et al., 2005; Wang et al., 2011, 2012). Remote sensing studies were included because good agreement between the results of the remote sensing and chasing techniques was found by Ježek et al. (2015) where it has been shown that with multiple measurements of the same vehicle with the stationary method, we can obtain a similar distribution as when measuring the same vehicle with the chasing method, and that

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the median value, of both techniques, is similar. We did not compare our results to other study types such as tunnel measurements, chassis dynamometer tests or measurements with portable emission measurement systems, as they have already been discussed in other studies (e.g. Shorter et al., 2005; Wang et al., 2012).

The BC EF median of goods vehicles we measured ( $0.47 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) resembles the mean value of HGV fleet reported by Dallmann et al. in their 2011 study after additional emission control was implemented ( $0.49 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ); compares well to the results of Wang et al. (2012) for HGVs from the Beijing area ( $0.40 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ), where there are also more strict emission control standards implemented as compared to surrounding provinces; and to the results of Hudda et al. (2013) who report  $0.41 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$  BC EF for high cargo route in California (I-710). While BC EFs of these studies (including ours) agree,  $\text{NO}_x$  EFs do not. While  $\text{NO}_x$  EFs were high in the Chinese study (47.3 and  $40 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$  for Beijing and Chongqing respectively), they were much lower in the two US studies ( $\sim 15 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ). The lower EF for the US studies may be due to a different mix of vehicles due to promotion of the purchase of newer vehicles. The median value of the  $\text{NO}_x$  EF distribution ( $27.7 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) observed for goods vehicles resembles more the average HDV fleet value reported by Dallmann et al. (2011) before the active replacement rule was implemented ( $25.9 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ), and to the results of another US study (Shorter et al., 2005) where they report  $\text{NO}_x$  EF for buses equipped with CRT ( $27.8 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ). The two European studies (Carslaw and Rhys-Tyler, 2013; Schneider et al., 2008) report similar  $\text{NO}_x$  EF for different vehicle types – while Schneider et al. (2008) measured 18 trucks in Germany by chasing them on the road, and report  $\text{NO}_x$  EF of their measured fleet to be  $18 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ . Carslaw and Rhys-Tyler (2013) report similar values  $18.9 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$  for vans (N1), but much higher for goods vehicles (average of HGV:  $37.88 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ). The reason only BC or  $\text{NO}_x$  EF between our measured fleet and other studies match may be related to the different age of the investigated vehicle fleets. We will address this again in Sect. 2.5, where we investigate the dependency of the determined EFs to vehicle age in their respective category.

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are commonly used in the post Euro 5 cars. We can also observe a 55 % decrease in median BC EF of gasoline cars from the oldest (10 or older) to the newest group (5 years or less). These vehicles are less critical regarding PM emission as diesel cars, whereas due to increased PM and especially PN emissions of direct injection gasoline cars both are limited in recent Euro emission standards. Our results show that compared to newest diesel cars category the gasoline cars have lower BC EF medians in all three age groups. We can observe a 41 % decrease in BC EF median from goods vehicles older than 10 years to the 5–10 year category. Worryingly, the newest goods vehicles median BC EF increased by 34 % in comparison to the 5–10 year old group. Emission standards from Euro III to Euro IV for goods vehicles demanded PM emissions (in  $\text{g kW}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ ) to reduce 5 fold. Unlike with passenger cars, the emission reduction of goods vehicles was achieved with SCR not with (DPF), and thus the soot emissions were not limited as efficiently.

In Fig. 3 we observed a 67 % decrease in goods vehicles PN EFs (in  $10^{15} \text{ kg}^{-1}$ ) from 5–10 year old vehicles to those that were in use for less than 5 years. This may indicate that either more agglomerated soot particles were being emitted or emissions of some of the particulate precursors had been reduced. Median PN EFs reduced by 67 % from the oldest to the newest diesel car group. For gasoline cars the PN EFs varied the most within individual age group, where individual vehicles with high emissions skewed the distribution.

In Fig. 3 we can observe the gradual decrease of  $\text{NO}_x$  EFs from gasoline cars to diesel cars to goods vehicles, as it is also shown in Fig. 2, where also vehicles for which we did not get more detailed information were included. Goods vehicle  $\text{NO}_x$  EFs are showing an appreciable decrease in average and median values from oldest to newest age group (50 and 70 % respectively), which we postulate is due to increased use of SCR in newer post Euro V vehicles, which can effectively reduce  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions. When separated by age, we can see that now both  $\text{NO}_x$  and BC EF correlate better to some of the previously published studies (Table 7). The 10 year or older goods vehicles (BC and  $\text{NO}_x$  EF respectively 0.7,  $43.95 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ ) relate better with Wang et al. (2012)



## 2.6 Emission factors according to maximum net engine power and maximum net engine power to vehicle weight ratio

In addition to the information about the vehicle engine type, their category and the date of first use, the registration database also provided information about the engine's maximum net power and vehicle curb weight. We present in this section the EFs sorted according to the engine maximum net power and the ratio of engine's maximum net power to vehicle's curb weight. Here, we do not use the same vehicle groups as in the previous subchapter. Rather we separated the vehicles to gasoline and diesel engines and then further according to different size bins for both engine maximum net power and maximum net power to weight ratio. The sizes of the bins were determined in a way that a single bin size would not include a disproportionately large number of vehicles and that each bin would have enough vehicles for a statistical presentation. There are also some gaps between the adjacent bins; this is because there were no vehicles in that range. The results are shown in Fig. 4.

When EF are sorted by vehicle's engine maximum net power, we can see that diesel engines in the lowest maximum net power bin (less than 70 kW) feature highest median BC EFs and that the more powerful diesel engines feature lower BC EFs. The trend is reversed for  $\text{NO}_x$  EF, where more powerful larger vehicles feature higher  $\text{NO}_x$  EF. There is an exception for  $\text{NO}_x$  EF in the least powerful diesel group, which feature relatively high  $\text{NO}_x$  EF compared to the adjacent engine power bins.

The ratio of maximum engine power to vehicle curb weight can give a rough estimate of the engine load under which the vehicle has to operate in normal driving conditions. Large trucks have high vehicle mass but low maximum net power to vehicle mass ratio. Smaller vehicles have smaller mass but higher maximum net power to vehicle mass ratios, and for the smallest vehicles the ratio again decreases. A vehicle with lower maximum net power to mass ratio driven in similar driving conditions and with a similar driver behavior would have its engine operating at higher loads leading to higher in-cylinder temperatures. Operation at higher in-cylinder temperatures would

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result in more thermic  $\text{NO}_x$ . This trend in  $\text{NO}_x$  can be observed in Fig. 4 for both diesel and gasoline engines, where we can see that vehicles with low power to mass ratio produce higher  $\text{NO}_x$  EF and vehicles with high power to mass ratio produce lower  $\text{NO}_x$  EF. For BC and PN EF the trend is not as clear as it is for  $\text{NO}_x$ , it could be described as a gradual increase of EF from low to high power to mass ratios but in the highest power to mass ratio bin the median BC and PN EF drop.

We separated the gasoline vehicles into two groups for each observed parameter. The differences between gasoline vehicle categories are difficult to observe. We postulate this is because we were only operating with cars and the change in the vehicle mass and mass to power ratio was smaller than it was for the vehicles with diesel engines which included trucks.

## 2.7 Contribution of high emitters to our measured fleet

The contribution of high emitters to the measured vehicle fleet was calculated as cumulative emissions. To exclude large differences in fuel consumption between trucks and cars, we calculated high emitter contribution separately for goods vehicles, gasoline cars and diesel cars. The cumulative emission distribution of our vehicle fleet were calculated arranging the vehicles from highest to lowest emitters as it was previously done in similar studies (Ban-Weiss et al., 2009; Dallmann et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2011, 2012). The results in Fig. 5 show that 25 % of highest emitting vehicles in each vehicle category produce 50 to 65 % of BC emissions, 47 to 55 % of  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions and 61–87 % of PN emissions. Excluding high emitting vehicles or improving their emission rates by retrofitting them with additional after treatment devices, such as was the case in Port of Oakland, US, (Dallmann et al., 2011) can decrease traffic emissions.

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vehicles. PN EF median values decreased for vehicles in use for less than 5 years in all three vehicle groups compared to older ones, but unfortunately the span of PN EFs of goods vehicles and gasoline cars increased. We attribute the decreases to advances made in engine operation and exhaust after treatment devices.

The contribution of highly emitting vehicles was calculated and, as in previous studies (e.g. Ban-Weiss et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2015, 2012), a small number of vehicles (25%) was found to disproportionately contribute to the total fleet emissions (47 to 87%). The exclusion of high emitters by retrofitting old vehicles with after-treatment devices and encouraging the sale of new vehicles through the exchange of older vehicles, has shown to be an effective measure to reduce vehicle emission rates (Dallmann et al., 2011) locally. Unfortunately, the older vehicles might be sold in countries beyond the reach of the EU regulations, and would still have a negative impact on air quality and the climate elsewhere.

The methodology used in this study is a relatively simple and efficient approach for monitoring emissions of the in-use vehicle fleet, and investigating the effectiveness of emission reduction measures (also shown in Dallmann et al., 2011, and Wang et al., 2011). Real world measurements are important because individual vehicle emissions depend not only on the vehicle type approval at the time it is put on the market, but also on their maintenance and the driving conditions.

**The Supplement related to this article is available online at doi:10.5194/acpd-15-15355-2015-supplement.**

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and G. Močnik were employed in Aerosol d.o.o. where the Aethalometer was developed and is manufactured.

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**Table 1.** Measurement instruments, their time resolutions, sampling flows and measurement uncertainties.

Instrumentation	Species measured	Time resolution	Instrument flow	Measurement uncertainty
Mobile platform (A)				
Carbocap GMP343 (Vaisala)	CO <sub>2</sub>	2 s	7 Lmin <sup>-1</sup>	3 ppm
Aethalometer AE33 (Aerosol d.o.o.)	BC	1 s	7 Lmin <sup>-1</sup>	30 ng m <sup>-3</sup>
FMPS (TSI)	PN	1 s	10 Lmin <sup>-1</sup>	±10 to 20 %*
Nitric Oxide Monitor and an NO <sub>2</sub> converter (models 410 and 401 of 2B Technologies)	NO <sub>x</sub>	10 s	0.7 Lmin <sup>-1</sup>	1.5 ppb

\* The uncertainty of PN measurements is calculated for each particle size stage and varies within different stages. It is dependent on the measurement conditions and PN concentrations.

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**Table 2.** Number of vehicle types in the sampled fleet, according their assigned categories.

Category	Vehicle type	2001/116/EC	# in our fleet sample	# missing registry information
Gasoline cars	Gasoline cars	M1	24	
Diesel cars	Diesel cars	M1	51	
	Light goods vehicles 1	N1	17	2
Goods vehicles	Light goods vehicles 2	N2	8	2
	Mini buss	M2	1	
	Buses	M3	6	2
	Heavy goods vehicles	N3	32	15



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**Table 3.** Passenger car fleets according the fuel used and engine displacement at the end of the year 2011.

Fleet	Total	Gasoline				Diesel			
		Of total	Less than 1400 cm <sup>3</sup>	From 1400 to 1999 cm <sup>3</sup>	2000 cm <sup>3</sup> or over	Of total	Less than 1400 cm <sup>3</sup>	From 1400 to 1999 cm <sup>3</sup>	2000 cm <sup>3</sup> or over
Europe	207 185 950	61 %	49 %	44 %	7 %	34 %	5 %	76 %	19 %
Slovenia	1 089 335*	63 %	61 %	37 %	3 %	36 %	4 %	79 %	17 %
Our fleet	75	32 %	50 %	42 %	8 %	68 %	0 %	75 %	25 %

\* The Slovenian fleet in Eurostat (total vehicles 1 066 490) slightly differs from the NIO database, which is reported in this table, but overall reports almost the same percentages of the vehicle composition.

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**Table 4.** Passenger car fleets according to their age, at the end of the year 2011.

		10 years or over	From 5 to 10 years	From 5 to 2 years	Less than 2 years
Europe	Total	42 %	28 %	19 %	11 %
Slovenia	Total	39 %	34 %	18 %	9 %
	Gasoline	50 %	25 %	15 %	9 %
	Diesel	18 %	48 %	23 %	11 %
This study	Total	27 %	47 %	29 %	7 %
	Gasoline	50 %	25 %	17 %	8 %
	Diesel	16 %	49 %	29 %	6 %

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**Table 5.** Statistics on lorries size in 2011 for Europe and Slovenia. For the list of countries included in the statistics for Europe see Supplement S2.

	total	Less than 1500	From 1500 to 4999 kg	From 5000 to 9999 kg	10 000 kg or over
Europe	17 994 007	79 %	14 %	3 %	4 %
Slovenia	75 508	71 %	14 %	7 %	8 %

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**Table 6.** Statistics on lorries age in year 2011 for Europe and Slovenia. For the list of countries included in the statistics for Europe see Supplement S2.

	total	Less than 2 years	From 2 to 5 years	From 5 to 10 years	10 years or over
Europe	17 995 713	10 %	20 %	26 %	43 %
Slovenia	75 508	11 %	25 %	32 %	32 %

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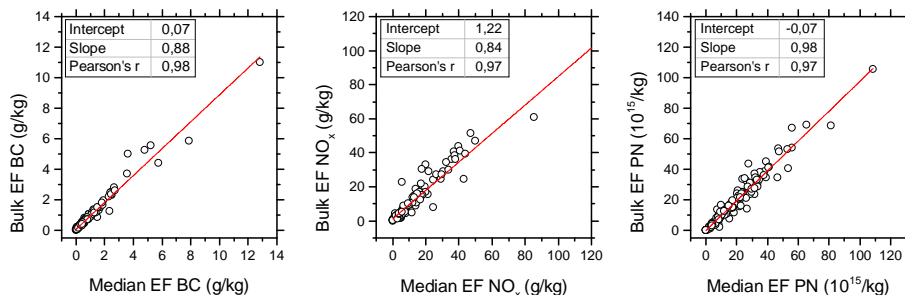
**Table 7.** Comparison of EF with other similar on-road studies.

Study	Study type	Vehicle type	EF BC (g kg <sup>-1</sup> )	EF PN (10 <sup>15</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup> )	EF NO <sub>x</sub> (g kg <sup>-1</sup> )
Shorter (2005)	Chasing <sup>a</sup>	Diesel buses CRT			34.5 (8.1–117.1) 27.8 (±6.3)
Schneider (2008)	Chasing <sup>b</sup>	HGV	0.22 ± 0.14	8.3 ± 5.8	18 ± 14
Ban-Weiss (2009)	Remote s. <sup>a</sup>	HGV	1.7 (0.1–20)	4.7 (0.2–40)	
Dallmann (2011)	Remote s. <sup>d</sup>	HGV (2009) HGV (2010)	1.07 ± 0.18 0.49 ± 0.08		25.9 ± 1.8 15.4 ± 0.9
Dallmann (2013)	Remote s. <sup>d</sup>	HGV	0.62 ± 0.17		
Hudda (2013)		LDG HDD I-710 HDD freeways	0.07 ± 0.05 0.41 ± 0.21 1.33 ± 0.33	0.43 ± 0.26 4.2 ± 3.4 5.2 ± 3.1	3.8 ± 1.4 15 ± 9.2 16 ± 10
Wang (2012)	Chasing <sup>c</sup>	HGV Beijing HGV Chongqing	0.4 (0.2–0.8) 1.1 (0.7–1.6)		47.3 (38.1–62.5) 40.0 (31.7–48.1)
Carshaw and Rhys-Tyler (2013)	Remote s. <sup>e</sup>	Petrol cars  Diesel cars Van (N1) HGV (all)			5.6 (1.6–28.1)  16.37 (15.7–21.6) 18.9 (17.6–24.7) 39.8 (36.7–50.6)
This study	Chasing <sup>c</sup>	Petrol cars Diesel cars Goods vehicles LGV (N2) Buses	0.28 (0.15–0.46) 0.79 (0.36–1.36) 0.47 (0.24–0.72) 0.64 (0.37–0.96) 0.4 (0.24–0.65)	1.95 (1.08–4.88) 4.4 (2.62–9.03) 11.49 (2.55–19.76) 16.8 (8.22–19.01) 9.99 (1.91–19.23)	6.34 (3.77–10.6) 15.43 (8.82–22.63) 27.71 (17.89–38.24) 23.16 (17.89–27.46) 55.88 (39.09–55.9)

<sup>a</sup> mean (range); <sup>b</sup> mean ± standard deviation; <sup>c</sup> median (1st and 3rd quartile); <sup>d</sup> mean ± 95% confidence interval; <sup>e</sup> emission ratios from Carshaw and Rhys-Tyler (2013) paper were converted to EFs using the same molecular weights and carbon fraction as in Eq. (1), for HGV we the average of both HGV groups they report HGV(3.5–12 t) and HGV(> 12 t); presented are average values for all Euro standards in a group, in parenthesis are the smallest and largest mean value of emission standards.

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**Figure 1.** Comparison of two integration approaches to calculate individual vehicle's emission factor (EF). With the bulk integration the EF is calculated by integrating the plume from the beginning to the end of the chase; the median EF is calculated with the running integration approach with 10 s integration windows, from the EF distribution the median value is then calculated.

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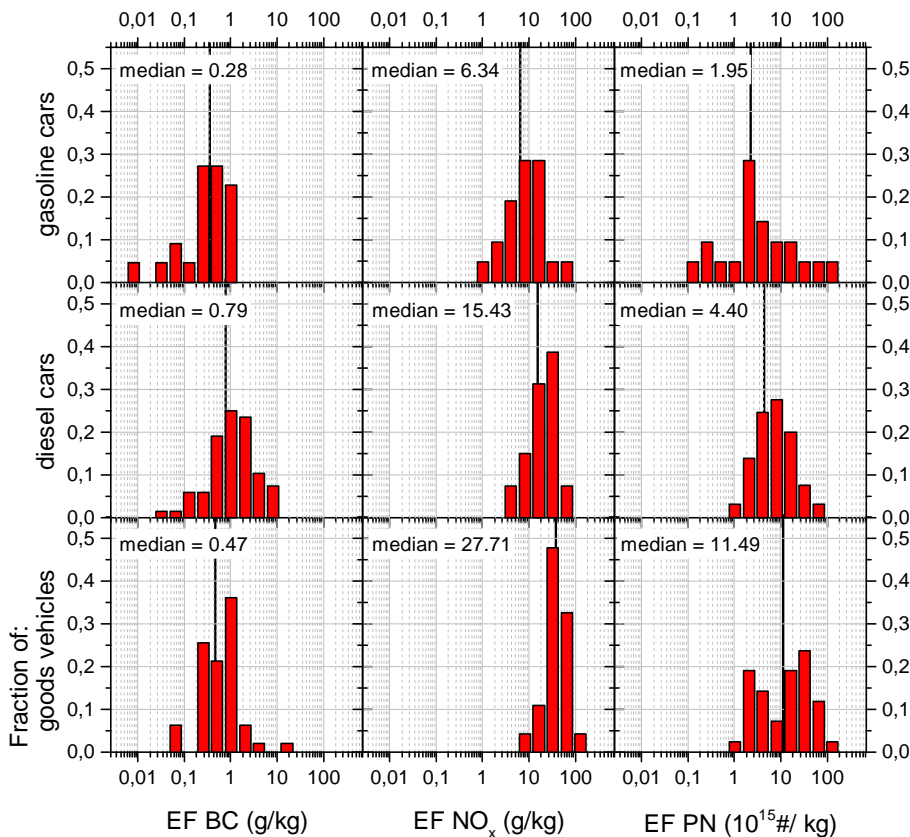
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**Figure 2.** Black carbon (BC), particle number concentration (PN) and NO<sub>x</sub> emission factor (EF) distributions for gasoline and diesel cars, light and heavy goods vehicles. Note the EF logarithmic scale.

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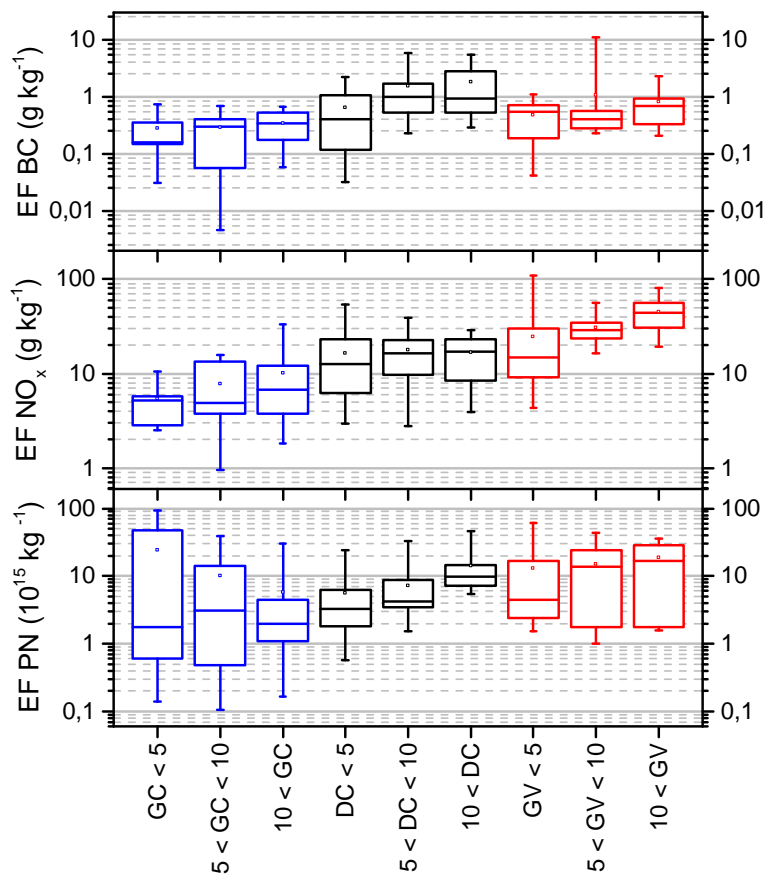
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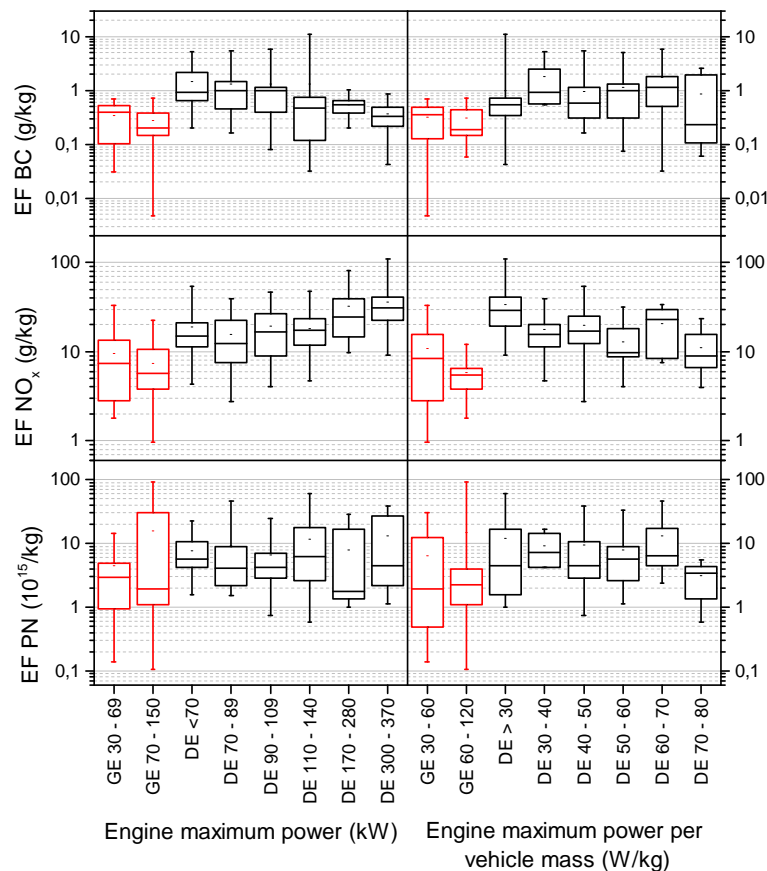


**Figure 3.** BC and NO<sub>x</sub> EF according to different vehicle categories and age (in years) group subcategories: gasoline passenger cars (GC, blue), diesel passenger cars (DC, black), and goods vehicles (GV, red). Note the EF logarithmic scale.



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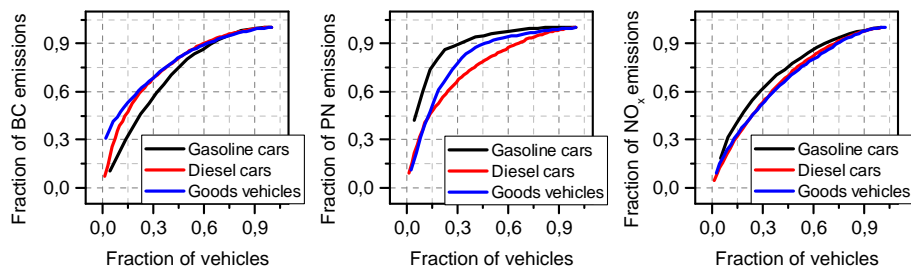
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**Figure 4.** BC and NO<sub>x</sub> EFs according engine power (left) and size (right); red boxes for gasoline engines (GE) and black boxes for all diesel engines (DE) regardless of their vehicle category. Note the EFs are on logarithmic scale.

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**Figure 5.** Cumulative distribution of all vehicles emissions. Fractions of vehicles are distributed from highest to lowest emitting vehicles. The result shows that 10 % of vehicles contribute about a half of total BC and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions.

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