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Supplement of

Liquid–liquid phase separation and viscosity within secondary organic aerosol generated from diesel fuel vapors

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1 **Section S1. Simulations of fluid flow for experiments described in Sect. 3.2.1 of the main**
2 **text**

3 For these simulations, a quarter-sphere model was used with one of the flat faces of the quarter
4 sphere in contact with the substrate. This model has been described and validated in Renbaum-
5 Wolff et al. (2013). The diameter of the quarter sphere was based on the geometry observed in
6 the experiments. The viscosity in the simulations was adjusted until the amount of movement
7 of the sharp edge of the quarter sphere varied by $0.5 \mu\text{m}$ in 5 h. As mentioned in the main text,
8 a distance of $0.5 \mu\text{m}$ corresponds to the minimum amount of movement that could be discerned
9 with in our experiments. Listed in Table S1 are the physical parameters (slip length, surface
10 tension, density, and contact angle) used in the simulations. Viscosities determined in these
11 simulations should be lower limits to the true viscosity for the following reasons: a) the physical
12 parameters using in the simulations were chosen to return conservative lower limits to the
13 viscosities, b) the amount of movement in the experiments was $\leq 0.5 \mu\text{m}$, while in the
14 simulations we used $0.5 \mu\text{m}$, and c) the particles may have had a higher water content than
15 based on equilibrium with the gas phase due to the relatively short amount of time (1 h) allowed
16 for the particles to condition with the surrounding relative humidity (RH) prior to poking.

17
18 **Section S2. Simulations of fluid flow for experiments described in Sect. 3.2.2 of the main**
19 **text**

20 For these simulations, a half-torus geometry was used. This model has been described and
21 validated previously (Renbaum-Wolff et al., 2013; Grayson et al., 2015). The viscosity of the
22 material in the simulations was varied until model flow time, $\tau_{model, flow}$, agreed within 1 % of
23 the experimental flow time, $\tau_{exp, flow}$. Listed in Table S2 are the physical parameters used in
24 these simulations. The viscosities from these simulations should be lower limits to true
25 viscosities for the following reasons: a) the physical parameters used in the simulations were
26 chosen to return conservative lower limits to the viscosities, b) due to the relatively short
27 amount of time used to condition the particles to the experimental RH, the particles may have
28 had a higher water content than expected based on equilibrium with gas-phase water. If diesel
29 fuel secondary organic aerosol (SOA) is similar to sucrose-water particles in terms of viscosity
30 and diffusion of water, the time used to condition the particles would be sufficient for near
31 equilibrium conditions with gas-phase water (Grayson et al., 2015). However, since the
32 similarity between diesel fuel SOA and sucrose-water particles cannot be guaranteed *a priori*,

1 we assumed that the diesel fuel SOA may not have reached equilibrium with gas-phase water,
2 and the water content of the diesel fuel SOA may have been higher than based on equilibrium
3 with gas-phase water.

4 **Section S3. Simulations of fluid flow for experiments described in Sect. 3.2.3**

6 For these simulations, a two dimensional semicircle with a triangular-shaped crack was used
7 for the initial conditions (Fig. S4a). The bottom of the semicircle (which represented the contact
8 between the particle and the hydrophobic substrate) could deform in the x direction but not the
9 y direction. The other interface (which represented the interface between air and the particle)
10 could deform in both x and y directions. The diameter of the semicircle used in the simulations
11 was chosen to be consistent with the diameter observed in the experiments. The angle, θ , in the
12 crack of the semicircle (Fig. S4a) was set to values ranging from 14 and 20°. Bigger angles
13 were needed for bigger semicircles to ensure the simulations converged. A separate set of
14 simulations showed that changing θ from 8° to 34° resulted in a change in the simulated
15 viscosity of only ~10 %.

16 Parameters used in these simulations are given in Table S4. During the simulations, the material
17 flowed to reduce the surface energy of the system (e.g., Fig. S4). The model recovery time,
18 $\tau_{model, recovery}$, was defined as the time when the depth of the crack was 75% of the final height
19 of the initial half circle used in the simulations. The viscosity of the material in the simulations
20 was varied until the depth of the crack was 75 % of the final height when using a simulation
21 time equal to the experimental recovery time, $\tau_{exp, recovery}$. Results from these simulations should
22 be upper limits to the true viscosity for the following reasons: a) we used parameters in the
23 simulations that give conservative upper limits to viscosities, b) the model recovery time, $\tau_{model,}$
24 $recovery$ was defined as the time when the depth of the crack was 75% of the final height of the
25 initial half circle, whereas the $\tau_{exp, recovery}$, was defined as the time required for the for the particle
26 to return to a spherical cap shape, and c) the water content of the particles may have been lower
27 than expected based on the stabilized gas-phase RH used in the experiments due to the short
28 amount of time that the particles were exposed to the stabilized gas-phase RH in the
29 experiments and due to the particles initially being exposed dry conditions (0 % RH) for 1 h.

30 To confirm that these simulations gave upper limits to particle viscosity, we carried out separate
31 tests using sucrose-water particles. First, a sucrose-water solution (20 wt % sucrose) was

1 nebulized onto a hydrophobic glass slide to generate sucrose-water particles with diameters of
2 40 - 100 μm . Experiments were carried out using the same approach as discussed in Sect. 3.2.3,
3 and simulations were carried out in the same manner as discussed above. Shown in Fig. S5 are
4 the upper limits to the viscosities of sucrose-water particles at 40 and 50 % RH determined
5 using this approach. These upper limits are consistent with viscosities of sucrose-water
6 particles measured by Power et al. (2013) using optical tweezers (Fig. S5).

7

1 **Tables.**

2 Table S1. Physical parameters used to simulate lower limits of viscosity for poke-and-flow
3 experiments when particles cracked and no flow was observed over 5 h.

Slip length ^a (nm)	Surface tension ^b (mN m ⁻¹)	Density ^c (g cm ⁻³)	Contact angle ^d (°)
5	29	1.4	100

4 ^aThe value of slip length, which is related to the interactions between fluids and solid surfaces,
5 is based on a lower limit to the slip length reported in the literature (Craig et al., 2001; Jin et
6 al., 2004; Joseph and Tabeling, 2005; Joly et al., 2006; Zhu et al., 2012; Li et al., 2014).
7 Viscosity increases in the simulations as the slip length is increased.

8 ^bThe lower limit of the surface tension of diesel fuel-derived SOA were determined as 29 mN
9 m⁻¹, the surface tension of diesel fuel at 296 K (Wang et al., 2006). Viscosity increases in the
10 simulations as the surface tension increases.

11 ^cDensity was assumed based on the density of SOA derived from benzene (Ng et al., 2007).

12 ^dThe contact angle of toluene-derived SOA on a hydrophobic substrate is 80-100° based on 3-
13 D fluorescence confocal microscopy (Song et al., 2015). Based on these measurements we
14 assumed an upper limit of 100° for the contact angle for diesel fuel-derived SOA. In the
15 simulations viscosity increases as the contact angle decreases.

16

17 Table S2. Physical parameters used to simulate lower limits to the viscosity at 31 and 50 % RH
18 for poke-and-flow experiments.

Slip length ^a (nm)	Surface tension ^b (mN m ⁻¹)	Density ^c (g cm ⁻³)	Contact angle ^d (°)
5	29	1.4	20

19 ^aThe value of slip length, which is the interactions between fluids and solid surfaces, is based
20 on a lower limit to the slip length reported in the literature data (Craig et al., 2001; Jin et al.,
21 2004; Joseph and Tabeling, 2005; Joly et al., 2006; Zhu et al., 2012; Li et al., 2014). Viscosity

1 increases in the simulations as the slip length increases.

2 ^bThe lower limit of the surface tension of diesel fuel-derived SOA were determined as 29 mN
3 m⁻¹, the surface tension of diesel fuel at 296 K (Wang et al., 2006). Viscosity increases in the
4 simulations as the surface tension increases.

5 ^cDensity was assumed based on the density of SOA derived from benzene (Ng et al., 2007).

6 ^dThe contact angle of toluene-derived SOA on a hydrophobic substrate is 80-100° based on 3-
7 D fluorescence confocal microscopy (Song et al., 2015). Based on these measurements we
8 assumed an upper limit of 100° for the contact angle for diesel fuel-derived SOA. In the
9 simulations viscosity increases as the contact angle decreases.

10

11 Table S3. Physical parameters used to simulate an upper limit of viscosity for poke-and-flow
12 experiments at 38 and 60 % RH.

Slip length ^a (nm)	Surface tension ^b (mN m ⁻¹)	Density ^c (g cm ⁻³)	Contact angle ^d (°)
10000	75	1.4	80

13 ^aThis slip length is an upper limit to the slip length reported in the literature based on previously
14 measured water and organic compound slip lengths on hydrophobic surfaces (Schnell, 1956;
15 Neto et al., 2005; Tretheway and Meinhart, 2002; Choi and Kim, 2006). The viscosities in the
16 simulations decreases as the slip length decreases.

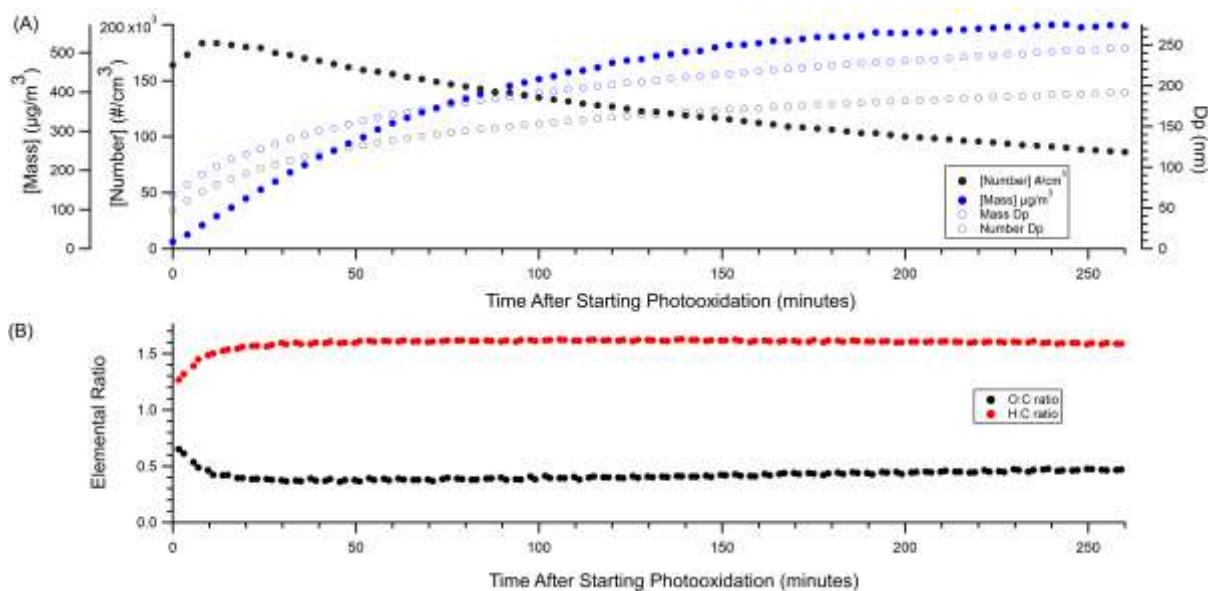
17 ^bThe surface tension was used the surface tension of pure water at 293 K (Engelhart et al.,
18 2008), which should be an upper limit to the surface tension in the experiments. Viscosities
19 decreases in the simulations as the surface tension decreases.

20 ^cDensity was assumed based on the density of SOA derived from benzene (Ng et al., 2007)

21 ^dThe contact angle of toluene-derived SOA on a hydrophobic substrate is 80-100° based on 3-
22 D fluorescence confocal microscopy (Song et al., 2015). Based on these measurements we
23 assumed a lower limit of 80° for the contact angle for diesel fuel-derived SOA. In the
24 simulations viscosity decreases as the contact angle increases.

25

1 **Figures.**



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4 Figure S1. (a) Typical particle number concentration, mass concentration, geometric mean
5 volume equivalent diameter estimated from mass concentration (Mass D_p), and geometric
6 mean volume equivalent diameter estimated from particle number concentration (Number D_p)
7 during diesel fuel photooxidation. Values determined using a scanning mobility particle sizer.
8 (b) Average elemental ratios measured with a ToF-AMS.

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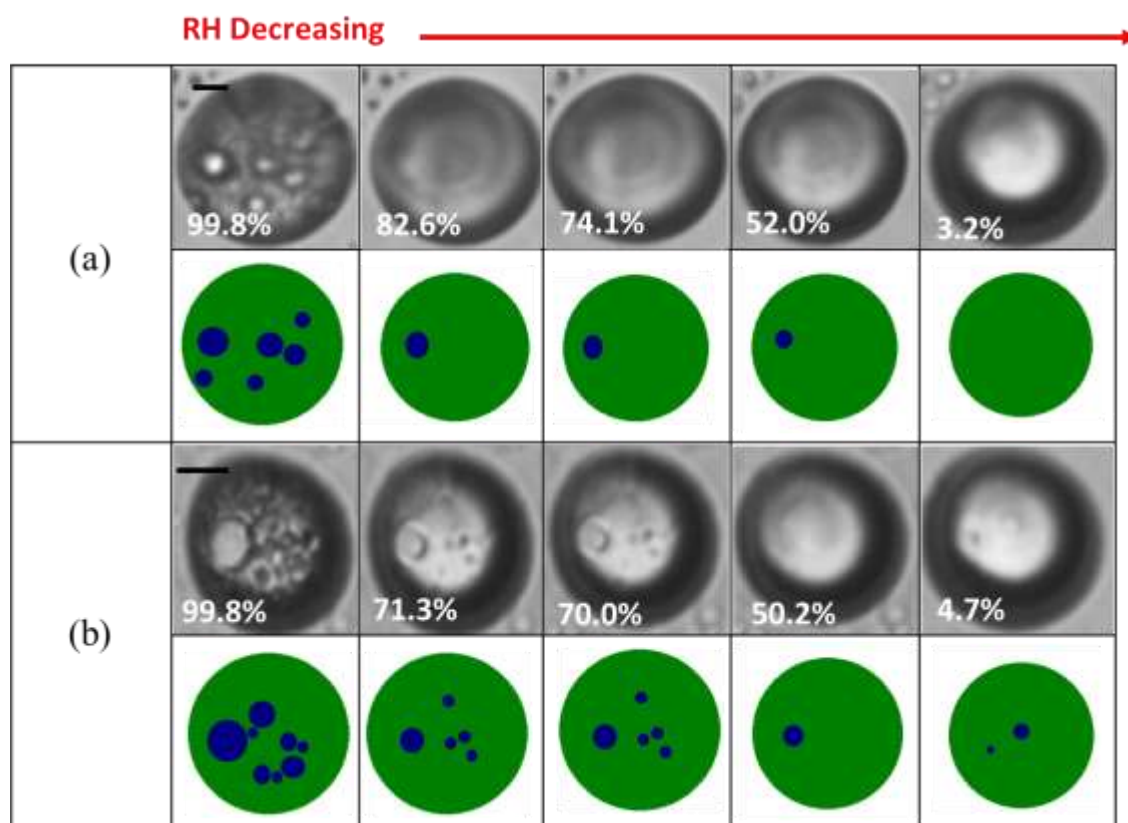
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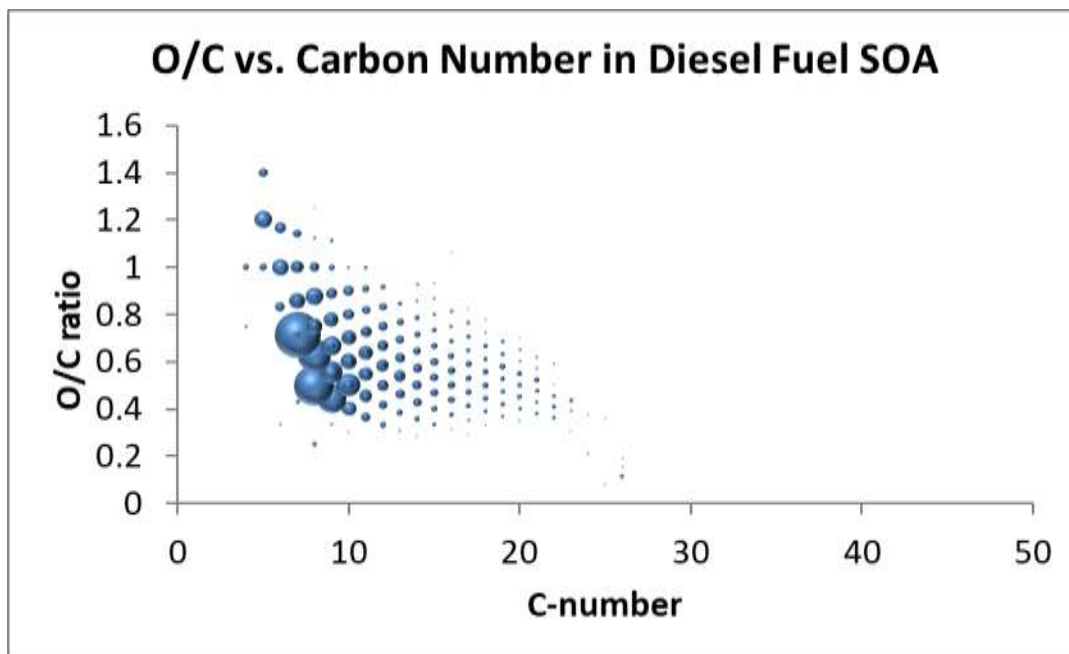


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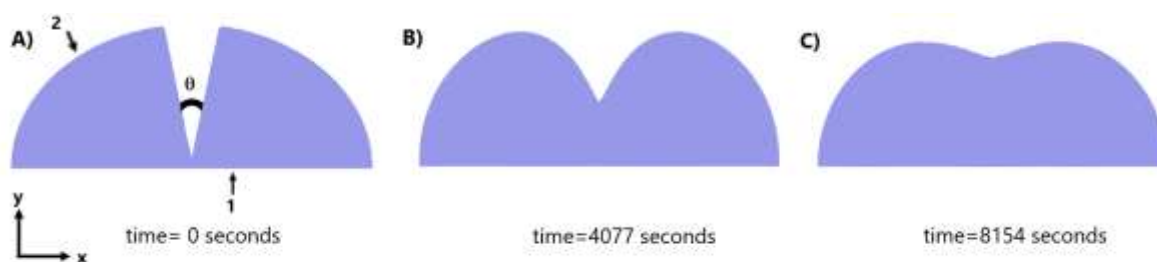
3 Figure S2. Optical images and illustrations of three different diesel fuel SOA particles for
 4 decreasing RH. The illustrations are shown for clarity. Green: Organic-rich phase. Blue: Water-
 5 rich phase. The scale bar is 10 μm .

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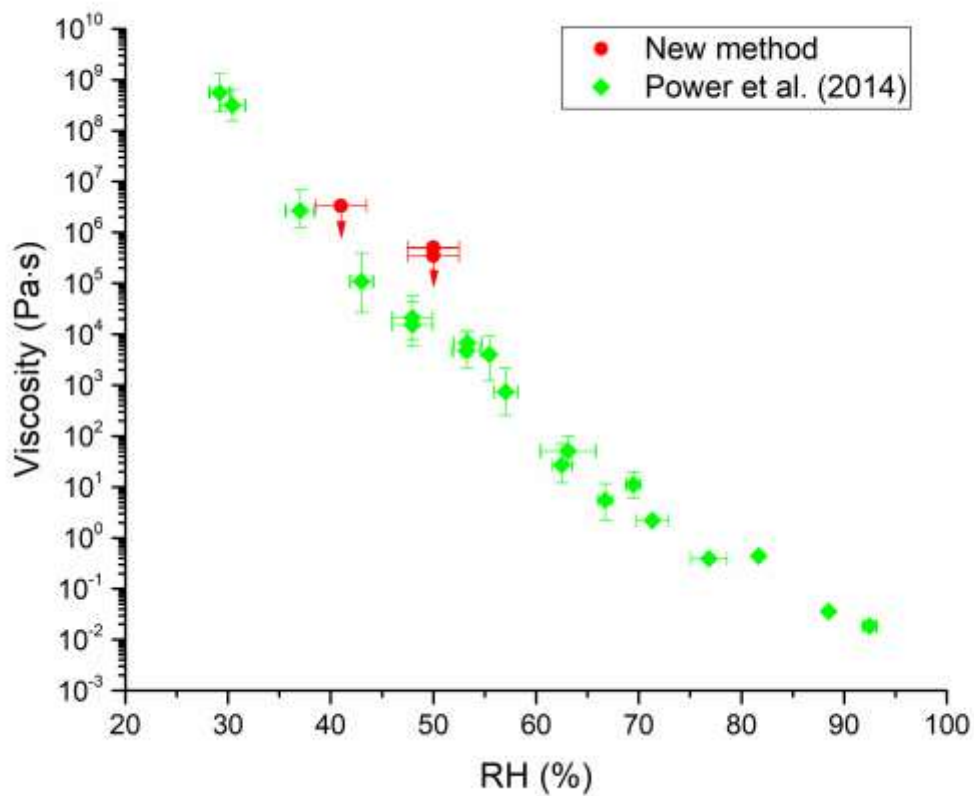
Figure S3. Distribution of O:C values and carbon numbers of the organic molecules in the diesel fuel SOA studied. The size of the symbols indicates the relative amount of the organic molecules in the SOA based on the ion current in the mass spectrum.



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10 Figure S4. Side view of the geometries from the fluid dynamics simulations at A) the beginning
11 of an experiment, B) after 4077 s, and C) when 75 % of the crack has filled in. In Panel A,
12 interface 1 is the particle-substrate interface and interface 2 is the particle-air interface.

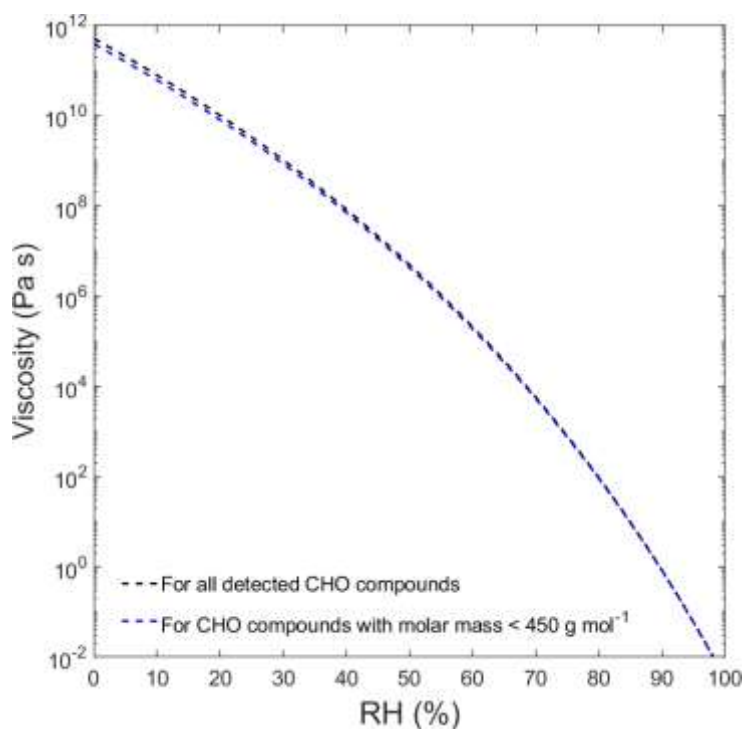
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3 Figure S5. Viscosity as a function of RH for sucrose-water particles. Red dots repre-
4 sent viscosities determined using the new method described in Sections 3.2.3 and S4. E-
5 ach data point corresponds to a separate experiment. Green dots represent viscosities
6 determined from Power et al. (2013).



1

2

3 Figure S6. Predicted viscosities of the diesel-derived SOA using Eq. (2) for all the detected
 4 CHO compounds (black dashed line, same as that shown in Fig. 3b), and CHO compounds
 5 with molar mass < 450 g mol⁻¹ (blue dashed line).

6

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