



1 **Elucidating real-world vehicle emission factors from mobile**
2 **measurements over a large metropolitan region: a focus on isocyanic**
3 **acid, hydrogen cyanide, and black carbon**

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10



1 Abstract

2 A mobile laboratory equipped with state-of-the-art gaseous and particulate instrumentation
3 was deployed across the Greater Toronto Area during two seasons. A high-resolution time-of-flight
4 mass spectrometer (HR-TOF-CIMS) measured isocyanic acid (HNCO) and hydrogen cyanide (HCN),
5 and a high-sensitivity laser-induced incandescence (HS-LII) instrument measured black carbon
6 (BC). Results indicate that on-road vehicles are a clear source of HNCO and HCN, and that their
7 impact is more pronounced in the winter, when influences from biomass burning and secondary
8 photochemistry are weakest. Plume-based and time-based algorithms were developed to calculate
9 fleet-average vehicle emission factors (EF); the algorithms were found to yield comparable results,
10 depending on the pollutant identity. With respect to literature EFs for benzene, toluene, C2 benzene
11 (sum of m,p,o-xylenes and ethylbenzene), nitrogen oxides, particle number concentration (PN), and
12 black carbon, the calculated EFs were characteristic of a relatively clean vehicle fleet dominated by
13 light-duty vehicles. Our fleet-average EF for BC (median: 25 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹, interquartile range: 10 – 76
14 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹) suggests that overall vehicular emissions of BC have decreased over time. However, the
15 distribution of EFs indicates that a small proportion of high-emitters continue to contribute
16 disproportionately to total BC emissions. We report the first fleet-average EF for HNCO (median:
17 2.3 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹, interquartile range: 1.4 – 4.2 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹) and HCN (median: 0.52 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹,
18 interquartile range: 0.32 – 0.88 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹). The distribution of the estimated EFs provides insight
19 into the ‘real-world’ variability of HNCO and HCN emissions, and constrains the wide range of
20 literature EFs obtained from prior dynamometer studies. Our results demonstrate that although
21 biomass burning is a dominant source of both air toxics on a national scale, vehicular emissions
22 play an increasingly important role at a local scale, especially in heavily-trafficked urban areas. The
23 impact of vehicle emissions on urban HNCO levels can be expected to be further enhanced if
24 secondary HNCO formation from vehicle exhaust is considered.

25



1 1. Introduction

2 In urban areas, traffic-related air pollution (TRAP) is associated with adverse impacts on human
3 health, air quality, climate change, and the environment (Pope and Dockery, 2006;Grahame et al.,
4 2014;HEI Panel, 2010). Studies of TRAP, from both the emission and exposure perspective, have
5 often focused on criteria air pollutants such as nitrogen oxides (NO_x), carbon monoxide (CO) and
6 particulate matter (PM) (Jerrett et al., 2009;Beckerman et al., 2008). However, it is not established
7 if these species are directly responsible for negative outcomes associated with TRAP, or if they act
8 in tandem with, or as proxies for, other compounds in the pollutant mixture (Brook et al.,
9 2007;Mauderly and Samet, 2009;Dominici et al., 2010). For that reason, it is imperative that other
10 components of TRAP are characterized, including the near-road exposures and vehicle emission
11 factors of additional air toxics. In the current study we focus on vehicle emissions of black carbon
12 (BC), isocyanic acid (HNCO) and hydrogen cyanide (HCN).

13 Although particulate mass is often used as an indicator for health risks associated with
14 combustion, it has been suggested that black carbon may be a more effective metric (Janssen et al.,
15 2011;Grahame et al., 2014). Black carbon particles pose a significant health risk due to their
16 chemical stability, large surface area, and small mode diameter, with the smallest (i.e., 'ultrafine')
17 BC particles able to penetrate the lung lining and enter the blood stream (Highwood and
18 Kinnersley, 2006). However, it is not established whether it is the compounds associated with BC
19 (such as particle bound polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) or the BC itself that are responsible for
20 negative effects (Janssen et al., 2011). The dominant sources of BC are combustion-related and
21 include open biomass burning (BB) and residential, industrial and transportation-related fossil-fuel
22 burning. Anthropogenic BC emissions have been closely linked to vehicle emissions, particularly
23 those associated with heavy-duty diesel vehicles (HDDV) (Bahadur et al., 2011;Ban-Weiss et al.,
24 2008). Although, BC emissions from light-duty gasoline vehicles (LDGV) have been considered to be
25 quite low by comparison, their exact magnitude is not well constrained, with recent studies
26 suggesting that they may both be underestimated (Liggio et al., 2012;Krecl et al., 2017) and
27 overestimated (Wang et al., 2016). Furthermore, improvements in emissions control technologies
28 have seen HDDV BC emissions decrease significantly (Dallmann et al., 2012;Krecl et al., 2017). As a
29 result, the relative importance of gasoline versus diesel engines as sources of BC is not well
30 established, leading to uncertainties in present-day on-road inventories (Liggio et al., 2012;Krecl
31 et al., 2017). Given the rapid pace of change of fuel injection and emission control technologies,
32 establishing current, fleet-average BC emission factors (EF) is important for evaluating bottom-up
33 inventories, which are necessary from both a health/air quality and climate perspective (Bond et
34 al., 2013).

35 Only recently has it been suggested that HNCO (Wentzell et al., 2013;Brady et al., 2014;Link et
36 al., 2016;Suarez-Bertoa and Astorga, 2016;Jathar et al., 2017) and HCN (Crounse et al.,
37 2009;Moussa et al., 2016;Harvey et al., 1983) can be emitted by on- and off-road vehicles. Isocyanic
38 acid is a highly toxic gaseous acid which dissociates at physiological pH to form cyanate anions
39 (NCO⁻) which in turn participate in damaging carbamylation reactions, thereby leading to adverse
40 health outcomes such as cataracts, atherosclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, cardiovascular disease,
41 and renal failure (Roberts et al., 2011 and references therein). Roberts et al. (2011) used the



1 physical properties of HNCO to estimate that ambient mixing ratios as low as 1 ppbv could be
2 harmful to humans. Similar to HNCO, hydrogen cyanide is a highly toxic gas with known negative
3 effects on human health due to its interference in aerobic metabolism (Logue et al., 2010; Barillo,
4 2009; U.S. EPA, 2010).

5 Historically, biomass burning was considered to be the dominant global source of both
6 HNCO (Veres et al., 2010; Roberts et al., 2011; Young et al., 2012) and HCN (Li et al., 2000; Li et al.,
7 2003; Li et al., 2009; Shim et al., 2007). Global HCN (Li et al., 2003) and HNCO (Young et al., 2012)
8 models have hitherto considered vehicle sources of these compounds to be negligible. As such, past
9 measurements of these species have focussed on regions heavily influenced by biomass burning, or
10 in the case of HCN, on the upper troposphere or total tropospheric column. Although the advent of
11 chemical ionization mass spectrometers has allowed for real-time measurements of
12 atmospherically relevant concentrations of these species (Roberts et al., 2011; Veres et al.,
13 2008; Woodward-Massey et al., 2014; Le Breton et al., 2013; Knighton et al., 2009), there remain
14 relatively few measurements of ambient HNCO (Roberts et al., 2011; Roberts et al., 2014; Wentzell et
15 al., 2013; Zhao et al., 2014; Woodward-Massey et al., 2014; Sarkar et al., 2016; Chandra and Sinha,
16 2016; Kumar et al., 2018). Measurements of ground-level HCN in both rural and urban
17 environments with minimal BB influence are more limited (Ambrose et al., 2010). However, given
18 the recent studies suggesting that HCN and HNCO emissions from vehicles could be significant,
19 especially at a local scale, a better understanding of on-road emissions of these species is necessary.
20 Moreover, ambient measurements are suggestive of a secondary source of HNCO (Roberts et al.,
21 2011; Wentzell et al., 2013; Roberts et al., 2014; Zhao et al., 2014; Sarkar et al., 2016; Kumar et al.,
22 2018) – formed photochemically by the photooxidation of precursors such as alkyl amines and
23 amides (Borduas et al., 2013; Borduas et al., 2015; Sarkar et al., 2016). Recent studies (Jathar et al.,
24 2017; Link et al., 2016) show that diesel engine exhaust itself contains precursors leading to
25 enhanced photochemical production of HNCO, even further underscoring the need to quantify
26 vehicular emissions of HNCO in dense, urban environments.

27 Existing literature values for HNCO and HCN emission factors have been exclusively
28 obtained from chassis or engine dynamometer studies on a limited number of engines/vehicles.
29 While the strength of dynamometer studies is control over factors such as vehicle age, fuel
30 composition, type of after-treatment technologies, temperature, and driving mode, they have
31 limitations with respect to yielding representative emission factors, for the precise reason that
32 mobile emissions have been shown to be sensitive to such factors (Franco et al., 2013). It is
33 important that the accuracy of emission inventories derived from dynamometer results are verified
34 against in-use vehicle emissions (Parrish, 2006), since emission inventories are often used to
35 constrain regional budgets and exposure estimates for traffic-related air pollutants. This is
36 particularly relevant for HNCO and HCN, where there are large discrepancies in reported emission
37 factors. Although real-world EF measurements can suffer from their own shortcomings (namely
38 lower precision and repeatability), they are essential in identifying gaps and providing insight into
39 actual emission behaviour of on-road vehicles (Franco et al., 2013).

40 In the present study, we deploy a mobile laboratory over a large metropolitan region in two
41 seasons, with the goal of characterizing near-road exposure and fleet-average emission factors for



1 black carbon, HNCO, and HCN. These species are discussed alongside benzene, a regulated traffic
2 pollutant of interest due to its carcinogenic nature, and whose behaviour has been more thoroughly
3 characterized. The focus in this paper is on the development of plume-based and time-based
4 methodologies to calculate fuel-based vehicle emission factors. We assess their performance
5 against each other and in comparison to available literature EFs for a wide range of pollutants:
6 benzene, toluene, C2 benzenes (sum of m,p,o-xylenes and ethylbenzene), NO_x (=NO + NO₂), particle
7 number concentration (PN), and black carbon. We report, to our knowledge, the first real-world,
8 fleet-average HNCO and HCN vehicle emission factors and use them to help assess dynamometer
9 results relative to real-world conditions. Finally, the estimated fleet-average emission factors are
10 scaled-up to determine the relative importance of vehicle emissions of HNCO and HCN.

11 2. Materials and Methods

12 2.1. Mobile laboratory measurements – CRUISER

13 2.1.1. Overview of mobile measurements

14 Air quality and meteorological measurements were made from Environment and Climate
15 Change Canada's mobile laboratory: Canadian Regional and Urban Investigation System for
16 Environmental Research (CRUISER) (Levy et al., 2014). CRUISER was deployed during two seasons
17 over the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), a metropolitan area encompassing the city of Toronto and
18 four regional municipalities with a population of over 6 million. The Summer Campaign took place
19 over 9 days in July, 2015 (July 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28) as part of the Environment Canada
20 Pan and Parapan American Science Showcase (ECPASS) (Joe et al., 2018). The Winter Campaign
21 took place over 8 days in January, 2016 (January 11, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21) as part of a health
22 exposure mapping study. Driving took place on weekdays only, with the majority of measurements
23 occurring between 09:00 and 17:00 local time. Driving routes were chosen to pass along highways,
24 major roadways, and local streets, and to visit residential, commercial, and industrial areas; the
25 driving routes for the Summer and Winter Campaign are shown in Supplement Fig. S1. In 2016 the
26 Ontario vehicle fleet was composed of approx. 97% light-duty (LD) vehicles (vehicles < 4500 kg and
27 motorcycles/mopeds) and 4% heavy-duty (HD) vehicles (for this paper, the HD category includes
28 both medium-duty vehicles 4500 – 14 999 kg and heavy-duty trucks > 15 000 kg, and buses)
29 (Statistics Canada); the composition of the GTA vehicle fleet is assumed to be similar.

30 Several gas phase and particle phase instruments were housed on-board CRUISER as listed
31 in Table 1. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) was measured with 2 s time resolution by cavity-enhanced laser
32 absorption spectroscopy (PICARRO). All gas phase instruments sampled from a common inlet with
33 the exception of the high-resolution time-of-flight chemical ionization mass spectrometer (HR-TOF-
34 CIMS) which sampled off a dedicated inlet located on the roof of CRUISER towards the rear right-
35 side. The common gas phase inlet was located 3.6 m a.g.l. and oriented near the front left side.
36 Ambient air was sampled through a 2 m long PFA tube with 0.61 cm ID followed by a 30 cm long
37 PFA tube with 0.52 cm ID at a rate of 13.6 slpm; inlet lines for various instruments were connected
38 downstream of this common inlet. All particle phase instruments sampled off a common stainless
39 steel inlet located adjacent to the gas phase inlet. During the Winter Campaign, CO₂ was sampled
40 from the same inlet as the HR-TOF-CIMS. Relative wind speed and wind direction was measured
41 using an ultrasonic anemometer located on the roof at the front of CRUISER. Periods of potential



1 self-sampling were identified and removed using an algorithm which is described in the
2 Supplement.

3 **2.1.2. Proton-transfer reaction time-of-flight mass spectrometry (PTR-TOF-MS)**

4 Volatile organic compounds (VOC) were measured using a proton transfer reaction time-of-
5 flight mass spectrometer (PTR-TOF-8000, Ionicon Analytik). The operating principles of the PTR-
6 TOF-MS instrument have been described elsewhere (Jordan et al., 2009; Li et al., 2017); further
7 details can be found in the Supplement. The PTR-TOF-MS sampled off the common gas inlet with a
8 time resolution of 1 s and the response of the PTR-TOF-MS to specific VOCs was determined using a
9 home-built zero/calibration unit and a custom VOC gas standard (Ionicon). The sensitivities and
10 detection limits are listed in Table S1.

11 **2.1.3. High resolution time-of-flight chemical ionization mass spectrometer (HR- 12 TOF-CIMS)**

13 HNCO and HCN were measured using a high-resolution time-of-flight chemical ionization
14 mass spectrometer (HR-TOF-CIMS, Aerodyne Research, Inc.). The design, operation and mobile
15 deployment of the HR-TOF-CIMS has been previously described (Veres et al., 2008; Roberts et al.,
16 2011; Wentzell et al., 2013; Liggio et al., 2017a). Additional details can be found in the Supplement.
17 Briefly, the HR-TOF-CIMS is a differentially pumped time-of-flight mass spectrometer configured to
18 use iodide ion as the reagent ion, with a time-resolution of 1 s (Woodward-Massey et al., 2014; Le
19 Breton et al., 2013). Details regarding the calibration, sensitivities, and detection limits can be
20 found in the Supplement.

21 **2.1.4. High-sensitivity laser-induced incandescence (HS-LII) for Black Carbon**

22 Black carbon measurements were made with a high-sensitivity laser-induced
23 incandescence (HS-LII) instrument (Atrium Technologies Inc., CA, USA) developed in collaboration
24 with the National Research Council Canada (NRC). The particular instrument on CRUISER is a
25 research-grade prototype capable of ultra-low BC measurements at 1 s resolution. Here, black
26 carbon is operationally defined by its high thermal stability (Petzold et al., 2013). The principle of
27 operation of this instrument, as well as its use during ambient studies, has been described
28 elsewhere (Snelling et al., 2005; Chan et al., 2011; Liggio et al., 2012). Briefly, ambient particles
29 within a set volume are rapidly heated by a pulsed laser beam (1064 nm; 7 ns FWHM, 200
30 mJ/pulse) to just below the soot sublimation temperature (~4000 K). The absolute incandescence
31 and temperature of the BC particles are measured by collection optics and photomultipliers. After
32 appropriate calibration and analysis, these two parameters are used to determine the soot volume
33 fraction, which is converted to a BC mass concentration with knowledge of the particle material
34 density (ρ) and the absorption function (E_m), both of which are well-established for BC (Coderre et
35 al., 2011; Choi et al., 1994; Wu et al., 1997). Previous studies have shown that the HS-LII can detect
36 laboratory generated particles < 7 nm in diameter (Stirn et al., 2009). The HS-LII was only in
37 operation for the Summer Campaign.

38 **2.2. Calculating fleet-average emission factors from a mobile platform**



1 Mobile measurements (Jiang et al., 2005;Canagaratna et al., 2004;Zavala et al., 2006;Zavala
2 et al., 2009;Park et al., 2011;Liggio et al., 2012;Hudda et al., 2013;Jimenez et al., 2000) of individual
3 tailpipe emissions (i.e. plumes) have proven to be an effective approach for determining fleet
4 emission factors, with the advantage of covering a large geographical region, while measuring
5 emissions in real-time over a range of driving modes. Hence they are able to evaluate the
6 applicability of EF measurements made at a fixed location to the entire region, providing insight
7 into the degree of emissions variability and identifying the presence of high-emitting vehicles.

8 Plume-based emissions measurements can be made in two ways: a targeted approach in
9 which individual vehicles are ‘chased’ (Canagaratna et al., 2004;Zavala et al., 2009;Zimmerman et
10 al., 2016), or a ‘catch-all’ approach in which all intercepted plumes are treated as potential exhaust
11 plumes (Jimenez et al., 2000;Jiang et al., 2005;Zavala et al., 2009;Hudda et al., 2013;Wang et al.,
12 2015). The advantage of the ‘catch-all’ approach is that a large number of plumes can be
13 encountered, leading to improved statistics for characterizing the fleet on the road in the domain of
14 study (Zavala et al., 2009;Wang et al., 2015). Alternatively, emission factors from mobile
15 measurements can be determined using a time-based or road segment-based approach in which
16 pollutant concentrations above background are evaluated at fixed time or distance intervals (Hudda
17 et al., 2013;Westerdahl et al., 2009;Zavala et al., 2006;Zavala et al., 2009). Here, we calculate fleet
18 emission factors using both a ‘catch-all’ mobile plume-based approach and a time-based approach.

19 **2.2.1. Definition of background (BKG) and local (LOCAL) concentrations**

20 Pollutant and CO₂ time series were averaged to 2 s and then further smoothed using a 3
21 point boxcar (5 s). The background (BKG) was subsequently defined as the rolling 2nd percentile
22 over a 90 point (180 s) window, with additional boxcar smoothing over the same window. Similar
23 approaches for estimating background concentrations from mobile monitoring studies have been
24 employed by others (Jiang et al., 2005;Jimenez et al., 2000;Hudda et al., 2013;Park et al.,
25 2011;Bukowiecki et al., 2002;Larson et al., 2017). Since the background is calculated over a 3 min
26 window, corresponding to approximately 2 km of CRUISER travel, it is assumed to be
27 representative of a neighbourhood scale background (Larson et al., 2017). The “on-road” or LOCAL
28 concentrations are defined as the background-corrected (i.e., above-background) mixing ratios.
29 Figure S2 shows sample time series for the Summer (CO₂, benzene, BC, HNCO, HCN) and Winter
30 Campaigns (CO₂, benzene, HNCO, HCN) and demonstrates that the LOCAL pollutant plumes were
31 frequently correlated with increases in CO₂, suggesting a combustion (i.e. vehicular) source.

32 **2.2.2. Plume-based emission factor determination**

33 An emission factor algorithm was written using Igor Pro (Wavemetrics Inc.) to identify CO₂
34 plumes based on the first and second derivatives of the CO₂ time series, similar to the approach of
35 Wang et al. (2015). The details of the algorithm can be found in the Supplement. Briefly, the first
36 derivative of the CO₂ time series was used to identify peak boundaries and locations (peak
37 maxima). Two types of plumes were identified: single peak plumes (SPP) and multi-peak plumes
38 (MPP). Multi-peak plumes contain one or more CO₂ peaks (and include the SPP set). Plumes less
39 than 10 s in duration or with an average background-corrected CO₂ response of < 5 ppmv s⁻¹ over
40 the integration period were rejected as erroneous or uncaptured (Wang et al., 2015). Emission



1 factors (EF) expressed as mg kg-fuel⁻¹ for a given pollutant X and plume i were calculated using a
2 carbon mass balance approach:

$$3 \quad EF_{X,i} = \frac{[X]}{[CO_2]} \times \frac{MW_X}{F_C \cdot MW_C} \times C_{fuel} \times 10^3 \quad [1]$$

4 Where [X] and [CO₂] are the integrated amounts of LOCAL (background-corrected) X and CO₂ over
5 the boundaries of plume *i* in units of ppmv and ppbv respectively, MW_X and MW_C are the molecular
6 weights of pollutant X and carbon in g mol⁻¹, F_C is the molar ratio of carbon in CO₂, C_{fuel} is the carbon
7 mass fraction in the fuel in kg C kg_{fuel}⁻¹, and 10³ is the necessary unit conversion factor. A value of
8 C_{fuel} = 0.86 was used here, which is the average of the C_{fuel} for gasoline (0.85) and diesel (0.87)
9 (Wang et al., 2015). Strictly, the denominator in Eq. 1 should contain the sum of all emitted carbon
10 species (CO₂, CO, total hydrocarbons); however, emissions of CO₂ have been shown to account for >
11 90% of fuel consumption (Jathar et al., 2017; Yli-Tuomi et al., 2005). Plumes associated with the
12 highest EFs were visually inspected and in some instances were deemed to have been 'erroneously
13 captured' based on poor correlation between the pollutant and CO₂ time series; these plumes were
14 removed from the final dataset. Further details regarding the background calculation and peak
15 removal processes can be found in the Supplement.

16 Emission factors for benzene, toluene, C2 benzenes, NO, NO₂, NO_x, PN, and BC were obtained
17 during the Summer Campaign. EFs for HCN and HNCO were obtained during the Winter Campaign,
18 when the PICARRO measuring CO₂ shared the same inlet as the HR-TOF-CIMS. Statistics on the
19 number of plumes, plume duration, and number of peaks per plume can be found in Table S2 and
20 S3 at various stages of analysis for the Summer and Winter Campaigns.

21 **2.2.3. Time-based emission factor determination**

22 Emission factors were also calculated using the time-based approach, which considers the
23 entire data set, in contrast to the plume-based approach which only considers periods of elevated
24 CO₂ as defined by peaks (Westerdahl et al., 2009). The LOCAL (background-corrected) CO₂ and
25 pollutant mixing ratios were integrated in consecutive intervals of 30, 60, 90, and 120 s and fuel-
26 based emission factors were calculated according to Eq. 1.

27 This approach assumes that LOCAL mixing ratios are solely due to vehicle emissions (in reality,
28 they may also contain point sources or other types of emissions, including those not associated with
29 combustion). The purpose of this calculation was two-fold. First, we were interested in determining
30 whether this computationally simple approach could yield realistic fleet-average emission factors
31 comparable to those obtained using the plume-based approach. Second, we were interested in
32 determining EFs for pollutants not sharing a common inlet with CO₂ (i.e., for benzene/BC during the
33 winter, and HNCO/HCN during the summer), which would allow for a seasonal comparison. Here,
34 the assumption is that when integrating over a sufficiently long interval of time, the majority of
35 vehicle plumes are captured by both inlets (i.e., both the CO₂ and pollutant X are detected), and that
36 meteorology/turbulence affects the dilution of the pollutant and CO₂ equally.

37 **3. Results and Discussion**

38 **3.1. Overview of mobile pollutant measurements**



1 Ambient pollutant concentration statistics for the Summer Campaign (benzene, toluene, C2
2 benzenes, NO₂, NO, CO₂, PN, BC, HNCO, HCN) and Winter Campaign (benzene, HNCO, HCN, and CO₂)
3 are shown in Table 1. The BC concentrations reported in this study are comparable to the range
4 (0.10 – 1.7 µg m⁻³) previously reported for Toronto (Knox et al., 2009; Chan et al., 2011).

5 The ambient HNCO concentrations measured during this study are similar in magnitude to
6 those measured by others (Roberts et al., 2011; Roberts et al., 2014; Woodward-Massey et al.,
7 2014; Zhao et al., 2014; Wentzell et al., 2013) for urban locations with minimal BB influence, which
8 range from *ca.* 10 – 85 pptv. Recently, a much higher average summertime HNCO concentration of
9 1.7 ± 0.06 ppbv was measured at a suburban site in the Indo-Gangetic Plain (Kumar et al., 2018).
10 Our measurements for both the summer and winter periods are slightly lower than the
11 summertime mean mixing ratio of 85 pptv previously reported for a fixed location in Toronto
12 (Wentzell et al., 2013). However we note that the authors found that HNCO was generally highest
13 between the hours of 18:00 and 22:00. In the present study, the measurements are limited to the
14 driving period, which could explain the slightly lower mean HNCO concentration.

15 The HCN mixing ratios measured in this study are two orders of magnitude lower than the
16 mean HCN mixing ratios of 3.45 ± 3.43 ppbv (continuous sampling from a near-road location) and
17 1.57 ± 0.33 ppbv (mobile measurements in heavy traffic) previously reported for Toronto (Moussa
18 et al., 2016). Long-path FTIR measurements of HCN (1 min time resolution) were made above the
19 busy HWY 401 in Toronto concurrent to the present study (July – Aug 2015) (You et al., 2017).
20 Consistent with our low HCN measurements, the authors found that HCN mixing ratios only spiked
21 above the FTIR method detection limit of 3.2 ppbv on 3 occasions (isolated 1 min data points).
22 Although prior measurements (Moussa et al., 2016) seem exceptionally high, our measurements are
23 also on the low end of those reported for ground level, ambient HCN in a rural region with little
24 forest fire impact, which are on the order of a few hundred pptv (Ambrose et al., 2012). No
25 significant long-term changes have been observed or expected for tropospheric HCN (Zhao et al.,
26 2002) so it is unclear as to why the present measurements are so low. However, the vast majority of
27 HCN measurements have focused on regions influenced by biomass burning and have been made
28 aloft; measurements of HCN at ground level in urban areas are severely lacking. More
29 measurements of HCN in urban environments are required in order to better characterize HCN
30 concentration gradients and population exposure in regions with minimal biomass burning
31 influence.

32 **3.1.1. Local (“on-road”) and background contributions: A seasonal comparison**

33 Figure 1 shows histograms as a function of season for the measured ambient concentrations
34 as well as for the background (BKG) and “on-road” (LOCAL) contributions for (a) HNCO and (b)
35 HCN; Fig. S4 shows similar histograms for (a) benzene and (b) black carbon. Figure 2 shows the
36 mean BKG and LOCAL contributions to the measured ambient concentration for the four pollutants,
37 as a function of season. For both benzene and BC, the LOCAL contribution is dominant, indicating
38 strong traffic sources for these pollutants. We observed a small seasonal dependence in ambient
39 benzene, with overall higher concentrations in the winter than in the summer, as observed by
40 others (Tan et al., 2014; Lough et al., 2005). Separation of the observations into the BKG and LOCAL
41 contributions reveals that the shift is largely in the LOCAL contribution rather than the BKG



1 contribution, consistent with an enhanced wintertime emission factor for benzene (Tan et al.,
2 2014;Lough et al., 2005), attributed to higher cold-start emissions and changes in fuel composition.
3 An enhancement in wintertime benzene concentrations may also be partially attributed to an
4 increase in benzene emissions from residential wood combustion (e.g., wood stoves, fireplaces).
5 This enhancement would manifest in the BKG contribution (which is indeed slightly higher in the
6 winter than the summer). On a national scale, this source is significant (Canada-Wide Standard for
7 Benzene 2010 Final Report , 2012), however, in urban areas, wood heating is the primary home
8 heating fuel for <0.1% of residences (Matz et al., 2015), and so it is unlikely that this source is
9 significant within the GTA. A seasonal comparison is not available for black carbon.

10 To our knowledge, our dataset represents the first seasonal comparison of ambient HNCO
11 measurements made at the same location. Figure 2c illustrates a shift in HNCO concentrations from
12 the summer to the winter. Further inspection of Fig. 1a and 2c reveals that the seasonal difference
13 is largely in the BKG contribution rather than the LOCAL contribution. The lower HNCO mixing
14 ratios in the winter could be due to a reduction in photochemical activity and/or source strength of
15 secondary HNCO precursors (e.g., biogenic amines) (Woodward-Massey et al., 2014;Roberts et al.,
16 2014), or due to decreased influence from biomass burning. However, the extent to which wildfires
17 contribute to summertime HNCO concentrations is not well established and may be less significant
18 given HNCO's relatively short lifetime and the distant location of major Canadian wildfire events
19 relative to Toronto. Although residential wood burning could also contribute to HNCO across the
20 GTA in the winter, a recent study by Coggon et al. (2016) showed that common residential wood
21 fuels (e.g., heartwood and sapwood) have low nitrogen content and thus lower emissions of
22 nitrogen-containing VOCs such as HNCO and HCN. Consistent with this finding and the low
23 incidence of residential wood burning in the GTA (Matz et al., 2015), the HNCO BKG component is
24 low in the winter. Rather, the LOCAL component dominates the contribution to the measured HNCO
25 in the winter, indicating the significance of on-road emissions as an HNCO source. The similarity in
26 the magnitude of the LOCAL component between seasons suggests that the primary on-road HNCO
27 emissions remain relatively constant.

28
29 Similar to HNCO, we observe a strong seasonal dependence for HCN. The histogram in Fig.
30 1b shows a much broader distribution and higher mean for the summer compared to the winter
31 (Fig. 2d). Separation of the observations into BKG and LOCAL contributions in Fig. 1b reveals a
32 strong seasonal difference for both components, although the difference is more striking for the
33 BKG component. The same arguments regarding the potential impact of residential wood burning
34 on wintertime HNCO emissions apply to HCN. The large increase in BKG in the summer is consistent
35 with the wildfire season in Canada, and that biomass burning is thought to be the major source of
36 HCN to the atmosphere. Given the relatively long lifetime of HCN (~2-5 months) (Li et al., 2003)
37 compared to HNCO (~days to weeks, or even hours in clouds) (Borduas et al., 2016;Barth et al.,
38 2013;Zhao et al., 2014), biomass burning episodes in other parts of Canada would be expected to
39 have a greater potential to influence background HCN in Toronto compared to HNCO. A strong
40 seasonal pattern for HCN has previously been observed for tropospheric HCN column
41 measurements (Zhao et al., 2002); seasonal measurements of HCN at an urban location have not
42 been made. Unlike the other pollutants in this study, the bulk of the total measured HCN
43 concentration is in the BKG component rather than the LOCAL component, especially in the



1 summer, suggesting that in relative terms, on-road HCN sources may be less significant than other
2 regional or global sources. Interestingly, examination of Fig. 1b also reveals a strong seasonal
3 dependence in the LOCAL component, suggesting a possible seasonal dependence in the on-road
4 HCN emissions, as discussed below (Sect. 3.3.3).

5 **3.2. Comparison of plume-based vs time-based emission factor methodologies**

6 A discussion of trends within the plume-based and time-based emission factors, as well as a
7 thorough comparison of the two methodologies can be found in the Supplement for all species
8 (Tables S6 and S7). Median EFs calculated using both the plume-based SPP approach and time-
9 based approach (120 s interval) are also compared graphically in Fig. 3 for benzene, HNCO, and
10 HCN. We find the time-based approach yields much higher (> 80%) median EFs for black carbon
11 and NO than the plume-based approach. As discussed in the Supplement, the exact reason for the
12 discrepancy is not known. However we note that both BC and NO are strongly associated with
13 HDDV vehicles and thus exhibit highly skewed EF distributions, and that the time-based approach
14 does not appear to adequately capture the small EF end of these distributions (Fig. S6). In contrast,
15 we find that the two approaches yield median EFs within 25% for species associated with LDGV
16 emissions (benzene, toluene, C2 benzenes, NO₂, PN, HNCO, and HCN) (see Fig. 3, Table S6, and Table
17 S7). The ability of the time-based methodology to capture similar EF trends (Fig. S7) and
18 magnitudes as the plume-based approach for the majority of pollutants shows that this
19 computationally simple analysis can provide basic insight regarding fleet-average emissions,
20 although more work is required to fully understand the conditions/pollutants which are best suited
21 to this approach. In the current study, the advantage of the time-based methodology is its ability to
22 reveal seasonal trends in emission factors, which are reflections of the changing LOCAL (“on-road”)
23 contributions. However, this method could potentially have useful applications for monitoring long-
24 terms trends in vehicle emissions using near-road surveillance data or data from instruments with
25 insufficient time resolution for a plume-based analysis.

26 Ultimately, periods of vehicle exhaust are defined with the highest confidence using the plume-
27 based SPP approach and so we expect that this methodology yields the most accurate EFs. Because
28 individual plumes are more likely to be associated with specific vehicles using this methodology, it
29 also provides insight as to the variability of vehicle EFs and the presence of high-emitters within the
30 fleet. Since the mean and standard deviation are sensitive to distortion by the presence of high-
31 emitting vehicles in our modest sample sizes, we, and others (Westerdahl et al., 2009), suggest that
32 the median and interquartile range (IQR) are more representative metrics for comparison with
33 literature emission factors and for estimating inventories. Therefore all further discussion focuses
34 on median EFs obtained using the plume-based SPP methodology unless stated otherwise. The
35 distribution histograms of plume-based EFs are shown in Fig. 4 for benzene, BC, HNCO, and HCN
36 and in Fig. S5 for others traffic pollutants (toluene, C2 benzenes, NO, NO₂, NO_x, and PN).

37 **3.3. Plume-based fleet emission factors for common traffic pollutants**

38 Our results are now compared to literature EFs for common traffic pollutants (benzene,
39 toluene, C2 benzenes, NO_x, PN, BC). In the subsequent sections, the fleet-average EFs estimated for
40 black carbon, HNCO, and HCN are discussed in further detail.



1 Plume-based median, mean, and interquartile range SPP EFs for a number of traffic pollutants
2 are listed in Table 2, along with literature EFs obtained from tunnel, mobile, near-road or remote-
3 sensing studies. The median/mean plume-based EFs calculated here are consistent with, but
4 generally fall on the lower-end of, the EFs reported in the literature. The lower EFs obtained here
5 may also be a result of the study location: fleet-average EFs are highly sensitive to the make-up of
6 the vehicle fleet (i.e., vehicle age, proportion of gasoline vs diesel vehicles, after-treatment
7 technologies in use), which is in turn location dependent (Kristensson et al., 2004;Zavala et al.,
8 2006). Furthermore, EFs from previous studies may no longer be relevant due to improvements in
9 emissions control technologies, removal of high-emitting vehicles, fleet-turnover, and changes in
10 regulations. Significant multidecadal decreases in vehicle emissions of CO, VOC, NO_x, PM_{2.5} and BC
11 have been observed previously (Jiang et al., 2005;McDonald et al., 2012;McDonald et al., 2013;Ban-
12 Weiss et al., 2008;Bishop and Stedman, 2008;Dallmann et al., 2013).

13 Thus, the low fleet-average EFs obtained in this study indicate that the GTA fleet is clean
14 relative to some of those listed for comparison in Table 2. In 1999, the government of Ontario
15 introduced a vehicle testing program (“Drive Clean”) aimed at improving air quality by identifying
16 and removing/repairing high-emitting vehicles and resulting in a considerable decrease in smog-
17 causing pollutants (NO_x and total hydrocarbons) of about 16% from program inception to 2010
18 (McCarter, 2012). Coincident with changes in gasoline regulations for benzene and other
19 technology improvements, Canada introduced a Canada-Wide Standard for Benzene in 2010. Since
20 then, the transportation sector has led a dramatic reduction in national average ambient
21 concentrations of benzene, particularly in urban locations (Canada-Wide Standard for Benzene
22 2010 Final Report, 2012). Our relatively low EFs are hence consistent with the successful
23 implementation of these and other policies, such as reduction in fuel sulfur content.

24 The most recent emission factor measurements for comparison were made at a near-road
25 location in Toronto in 2013/2014 (Wang et al., 2015). The mean and median EFs for the VOCs, NO_x,
26 PN, and BC obtained here are in excellent agreement with those reported by Wang et al. (2015) (see
27 Fig. 4 and Fig. S5). The approach for determining EFs presented here differs in a) its mobile nature,
28 covering a wide geographical area and range of road-types and b) its short time period (i.e., limited
29 number of captured plumes). However, the mobile nature of our study results in a higher likelihood
30 of sampling exhaust from a larger spectrum of vehicle types (including HDDVs) under a greater
31 range of real-world driving conditions. The good agreement between the two studies for a wide
32 range of pollutants gives confidence that our methodology provides representative fleet-average
33 emission factors despite a smaller sample size. In this way the current study compliments the
34 stationary study (Wang et al., 2015), demonstrating that the EFs obtained at their fixed location are
35 applicable across a large region.

36 3.3.1. Black carbon emission factors

37 We obtained plume-based median and mean black carbon emission factors of 24.9 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹
38 and 85.6 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹ respectively (IQR: 10.3 – 76.4 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹). BC emission factors obtained by
39 prior tunnel, near-road, and mobile studies are listed in Table S9 for comparison. Literature
40 emission factors for HD diesel vehicles range from 160 – 2400 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹, one to two orders of
41 magnitude higher than the literature emission factors for LD gasoline vehicles, which range from



1 ~1 – 300 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹. LDGV emission factors at the high end of this range are from older studies in
2 more polluted environments (Westerdahl et al., 2009). In many of the earlier studies, BC emission
3 factors were obtained using aethelometers with a 1 min time resolution, which may not have been
4 fast enough to accurately quantify BC emission factors. In the current study, the poor performance
5 of the time-based approach with respect to yielding BC EFs in agreement with the plume-based
6 approach may also indicate that high time-resolution measurements of BC and good plume
7 definition are required to accurately estimate BC EFs from mobile measurements. However, more
8 comparisons are needed to determine if and how calculated BC EFs depend upon the BC
9 measurement method.

10 As was observed for the other pollutants (benzene, NO_x, PN etc.), the BC emission factors
11 obtained in this study are on the lower end of the reported literature range. Two studies have made
12 recent measurements of the mixed vehicle fleet in Toronto. Wang et al. (2015) made BC EF
13 measurements from their near-road stationary site in downtown Toronto using a photoacoustic
14 soot photometer and report a mean EF of (35 – 55) mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹. Liggio et al. (2012) obtained BC EFs
15 from transect driving downwind, and perpendicular to, a major Toronto highway (mean HDDV
16 fraction ~3.3%). The authors report fleet-average median emission factors of 59.3 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹ (IQR:
17 27.0 – 148.4 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹) using a HS-LII instrument and 29.4 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹ (IQR: 11.8 – 66.0 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹)
18 using a single-particle soot photometer. The values from these two studies (Wang et al., 2015; Liggio
19 et al., 2012) lie between the median and mean obtained in the current study.

20 The lower values obtained in this study compared to Liggio et al. could be reflective of
21 overall changes in the vehicle fleet over the past 5 years leading to reductions in BC emissions,
22 consistent with observations at other locations (Ban-Weiss et al., 2008; Dallmann et al., 2012). The
23 discrepancy between our study and the other two Toronto studies could also be related to location:
24 their fixed/limited sites may not be representative of the full fleet across the GTA. Given the
25 difference in LDGV and HDDV BC EFs, the emission factor calculation will be quite sensitive to the
26 frequency at which each vehicle type is sampled, which will be location-dependent. This sensitivity
27 can be quite dramatic: a recent study (Dallmann et al., 2013) found that due to their higher
28 associated BC emissions, even a small fraction (<1%) of heavy duty trucks can significantly bias the
29 calculated LDGV emission factors (by over 40%). For a pollutant exhibiting wide inter- and intra-
30 vehicle variation in EFs, obtaining measurements that capture the full fleet make-up over a range of
31 driving conditions is critical. Although we did not record the number of HDDVs (expected fraction ~
32 4%), the mobile design and scope of our study helps to mitigate location-specific results. Overall,
33 we found that the top 4% of plumes had vehicle emissions greater than 320 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹ which are
34 typical of heavy-duty vehicles.

35 3.3.2. HNCO emission factors

36 As previously mentioned, literature HNCO EFs have been obtained exclusively from a limited
37 number of dynamometer studies (on both gasoline and diesel vehicles) and so a comprehensive
38 understanding of the real-world magnitude and variability of HNCO EFs is lacking. Here we obtain
39 the first fleet-average EFs for HNCO. Table 3 compares the HNCO emission factors available in the
40 literature with the wintertime plume-based HNCO median EF obtained in this study (2.3 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹).



1 Our time-based analysis (Fig. 3b) suggests that HNCO EFs are similar in the summer and winter
2 (with slightly higher EFs in the summer, contrary to the behaviour of benzene).

3 Only two previous dynamometer studies (Suarez-Bertoa and Astorga, 2016; Brady et al., 2014)
4 obtained HNCO emission factors from gasoline vehicles and the average EFs reported from those
5 studies differ by more than an order of magnitude. The plume-based median EF obtained in this
6 study is about a factor of two higher than that obtained by the earlier study (fleet average of
7 $0.91 \pm 0.58 \text{ mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$ for 8 LDGV) (Brady et al., 2014), but significantly lower than that obtained
8 more recently (fleet average of $93 \text{ mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$ for 3 LDGV, or $29 \text{ mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$ if the anomalously high
9 LDGV is omitted) (Suarez-Bertoa and Astorga, 2016).

10 Interestingly, emission factors ranging from $0.21 - 3.96 \text{ mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$ were recently obtained from
11 an engine dynamometer study on a single light duty diesel engine, in agreement with the results
12 from the current study (Wentzell et al., 2013). This may suggest that HNCO emissions from gasoline
13 and diesel vehicles are of similar magnitude. In contrast, HNCO emission factors for an off-road
14 diesel engine have been found to be an order of magnitude higher, and it has been suggested that
15 the magnitude and range of HNCO emissions, as well as their dependence on operating conditions,
16 could be different for this type of engine (larger, off-road diesel engine) (Link et al., 2016; Jathar et
17 al., 2017). Much of the early work on HNCO vehicle emissions was prompted by the finding that
18 selective-catalytic reduction (SCR) systems could constitute an important source of HNCO (Kröcher
19 et al., 2005; Heeb et al., 2012; Heeb et al., 2011), but the impact of SCR systems (or other control
20 technologies such as the diesel particulate filter, DPF, or diesel oxidation catalyst, DOC) is disputed
21 (Jathar et al., 2017).

22 In addition to a wide range of emission factors, the available literature revealed conflicting
23 information on the conditions leading to elevated HNCO emissions, as well as high inter-vehicle
24 variability. HNCO emissions have been observed to vary by as much as an order of magnitude
25 depending on the driving cycle, but the influence of hard acceleration and cold engine starting is
26 contested (Brady et al., 2014; Suarez-Bertoa and Astorga, 2016). Similarly, studies have
27 demonstrated opposite trends for idle vs active operating conditions (Link et al., 2016; Wentzell et
28 al., 2013). For all these reasons, a direct comparison of the EF obtained in this study to reported EFs
29 is challenging. The current study cannot reveal the mechanism of HNCO production from diesel or
30 gasoline vehicles, or its dependence on factors such as driving condition and the presence of
31 various after-treatment technologies. However, a key strength of our study is that it is based upon a
32 large number of vehicles operating on-road in real-world conditions, thus implicitly reflecting a
33 range of these factors. Therefore, we suggest that the IQR reported here ($1.37 - 4.15 \text{ mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$)
34 along with the overall distribution of measured HCN EFs (Fig. 4c) provides the most realistic
35 constraint to date on the magnitude and variability of HNCO emissions.

36 3.3.3. HCN emission factors

37 As with HNCO, EFs for HCN have been obtained exclusively from a limited number of
38 dynamometer studies. Table 4 lists HCN emission factors obtained in this study along with those
39 obtained from prior dynamometer studies; here distance-based units (mg km^{-1}) are used for ease of
40 comparison. The seasonal dependence of HCN vehicle emissions has not been previously studied.



1 Interestingly, Fig. 3c shows that the HCN EFs obtained using the time-based approach exhibit a
2 strong seasonal dependence, with the median summertime EF almost a factor 5 higher than the
3 median wintertime EF. This behaviour is opposite that of benzene, which has higher wintertime EFs
4 by about a factor of 2 due to enhanced cold-start emissions and changes in gasoline composition
5 (Lough et al., 2005). Although the mechanisms for HCN and benzene formation are different (the
6 former involving chemistry on high temperature catalysts), the reasons for the higher HCN EFs in
7 the summer are not known.

8 Early studies on some of the first generation three-way catalysts yielded very high HCN
9 emission factors, typically under abnormal or malfunctioning operating conditions (Bradow and
10 Stump, 1977;Keirns and Holt, 1978;Cadle et al., 1979;Urban and Garbe, 1979, 1980). The magnitude
11 of the HCN emissions exhibited high car-to-car variability and a strong dependence on operating
12 condition, as well as the presence and composition of the catalysts. An average LDGV HCN EF of
13 12.1 mg km^{-1} was estimated from a review (Harvey et al., 1983) of these early studies – over two
14 orders of magnitude greater than the EFs obtained here. However, those EF estimations were
15 obtained for all driving modes for both normal and abnormal operating conditions.

16 Given the significant improvements in catalyst and emissions reduction technologies since the
17 1970s and 1980s, the applicability of these early studies to current HCN emission is questionable.
18 Certainly, more recent studies (Karlsson, 2004;Baum et al., 2006;Becker et al., 1999;Moussa et al.,
19 2016) suggest that present-day HCN EFs are much lower with individual vehicle EFs ranging from 0
20 – 11.7 mg km^{-1} (see Table 4). However, these limited dynamometer studies also reveal a large inter-
21 vehicle variability in HCN EFs, with no clear pattern between emissions and vehicle characteristics
22 (e.g. age). The most recent study (Moussa et al., 2016) also showed that intra-vehicle EFs are highly
23 sensitive to fuel injection technology (e.g. gasoline direct injection, GDI vs. port-fuel injection, PFI),
24 after-treatment technology (presence and absence of a particulate filter), and operating conditions
25 (e.g., aggressiveness of driving cycle, hot vs. cold-starts).

26 The median winter HCN EF obtained in this study (using either the plume-based or time-based
27 approach) is over an order of magnitude lower than the average EF obtained by the most recent
28 dynamometer study (Moussa et al., 2016). The higher summer HCN EF obtained by the time-based
29 analysis is in better agreement, although it is still low. However, due to the aforementioned
30 variability in the dynamometer results, a direct comparison is not straightforward. As with H₂CO,
31 our study provides the most comprehensive HCN emission factors available to date since the
32 mobile design allows us to obtain EFs for a large number of vehicles, thereby capturing the real-
33 world inter- and intra-vehicle variability of emissions. Similarly, the IQR ($0.32 - 0.88 \text{ mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$) and
34 distribution of measured EFs (Fig. 4d) give new insight into the range of on-road HCN emission
35 factors.

36 **3.4. Emission factor distributions: contributions from high-emitters**

37 The spread in the EFs for all measured pollutants is wide, consistent with prior mobile studies
38 (Park et al., 2011;Hudda et al., 2013;Zavala et al., 2009). Such variability is expected given the
39 differences in speed, acceleration, grade, and inter-vehicle variability occurring on-road. As
40 illustrated by Fig. 4 and Fig. S5, the EFs are log normally distributed, with the degree of skewness



1 dependent on pollutant. Skewness in EF distributions is typically attributed to the presence of
2 'high-emitting' vehicles among the fleet, but may also arise from the range and transient nature of
3 driving conditions experienced in the real-world (e.g., hard acceleration). The distributions provide
4 insight into the strategy for emission reductions. From a policy perspective, pollutants exhibiting a
5 more normal distribution may be most effectively targeted by tightening fleet-wide regulations
6 while those exhibiting a more skewed distribution may be most effectively targeted, initially, by the
7 removal of high-emitters (Hudda et al., 2013).

8 Cumulative emission factor distributions for several pollutants are presented in Fig. 5. These
9 plots highlight the relative skewness of EFs for each pollutant by displaying the fraction of total
10 emissions as a function of the fraction of vehicles, sorted from largest to smallest EF. The
11 distributions are highly skewed for NO and PN, and exceptionally skewed for BC, as observed by
12 others (Jiang et al., 2005;Hudda et al., 2013;Liggio et al., 2012). This behaviour is expected given
13 that these pollutants are emitted in large quantities from diesel-powered vehicles, which represent
14 a small fraction of the fleet (Jiang et al., 2005;Ban-Weiss et al., 2008;Jimenez et al., 2000;Dallmann
15 et al., 2012;Liggio et al., 2012;Wang et al., 2015;Ban-Weiss et al., 2010;Dallmann et al., 2013;Tan et
16 al., 2014) and hence were encountered by CRUISER less often. For NO, it is also likely that an
17 unknown quantity of emitted NO is being converted to NO₂ before plume capture (hence the high
18 frequency of EFs in the lowest bin, < 0.15 g kg_{fuel}⁻¹), further exacerbating the skewness. For BC, the
19 top 25% worst emitters, likely all diesel vehicles, contribute to more than 80% of the total
20 emissions, while the top 5% contribute to almost 50%. At a near-road site in Toronto, the top 25%
21 worst emitters were found to contribute to 100% of the total BC emissions, with the top 5%
22 contributing > 60% (Wang et al., 2015). As more heavy-duty vehicles become equipped with
23 particulate filters and advanced NO_x abatement technologies (i.e., SCR systems) the overall EF
24 distributions for pollutants such as BC and NO may shift, but the skewness could actually increase
25 unless high-emitters, such as the older, legacy diesel vehicles, are specifically targeted (McDonald et
26 al., 2013).

27 The EF distributions for the VOCs were less skewed (Jiang et al., 2005;Hudda et al.,
28 2013;Wang et al., 2015). The benzene, HNCO, and HCN profiles in Fig. 5 are similar, with the top
29 25% worst emitters contributing to 55-60% of the total emissions and the top 5% contributing 20-
30 30%. The less skewed distributions for HNCO and HCN may indicate that their HDDV EFs are not
31 significantly higher than their corresponding LDGV EFs. The least skewed pollutant in this study is
32 NO₂ – the top 25% worst emitters only contribute to ~50% of total emissions and the top 5%
33 contribute to ~15%. As suggested above, post-tailpipe conversion of NO to NO₂ is likely occurring
34 prior to measurement. The cumulative emission factor distribution for NO_x (=NO + NO₂) more
35 closely resembles the distribution for VOCs and NO₂ than NO.

36 3.5. Vehicle emission estimates for Canada

37 Annual emissions for Ontario and Canada can be estimated using the fuel-based EFs and from
38 annual sales of gasoline and diesel. The assumption here is that the gasoline and diesel sales are
39 proportional to the number of gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles on the road, and that the EFs
40 obtained from the mobile measurements reflect this distribution. A summary of total vehicle
41 emissions of NO_x, benzene, BC, HNCO, and HCN calculated using the median plume-based emission



1 factors are given in Table 5. Nationwide inventory estimates for NO_x (Air Pollutants Emissions
2 Inventory), benzene (Canada-Wide Standard for Benzene 2010 Final Report, 2012), and BC
3 emissions (Canada's Black Carbon Inventory: 2017 Edition, 2017) by the transportation sector are
4 also listed in Table 5 for comparison. For all three pollutants, the scaled up emissions were more
5 than a factor of 2 lower than the inventory estimates. Using the mean EFs rather than median
6 reduces this discrepancy. Our results suggest that the inventories may be overestimated but more
7 work is required to understand the reasons for the difference.

8 We estimate that on a national scale, 104 tonnes of HNCO and 24 tonnes of HCN are emitted
9 annually by on-road vehicles. These values are lower than the recent nationwide estimates of 250 –
10 770 tonnes HNCO for 2010 (Wentzell et al., 2013) and 703 tonnes HCN for 2012 (Moussa et al.,
11 2016), owing to the lower fleet-average EFs obtained in this study. These vehicle emissions can be
12 placed in the context of their respective biomass burning emissions. Total wildfire emissions of CO
13 during the 2015 wildfire season (May 31, 2015 – Nov 2, 2015) were calculated using FireWork-
14 GEM-MACH (Pavlovic et al., 2016). These total CO emissions were then scaled by literature
15 emission ratios (ER) expressed as mol of pollutant per mol of CO to estimate biomass burning
16 emissions (Table 5). Only a few studies have investigated HNCO ERs (Veres et al., 2010; Roberts et
17 al., 2011). Biomass burning emissions of HCN have been the subject of a greater number of studies,
18 but a recent review notes that the HCN/CO ER can be different for different fire types and that even
19 within single or similar fire types there is a high variability in HCN emissions (Akagi et al., 2011).

20 In 2015, HNCO emissions from forest fires were estimated at 5377 tonnes and 40 tonnes for
21 Canada and Ontario respectively. Although on a national scale the HNCO vehicle emissions are over
22 an order of magnitude lower than the biomass burning emissions, in urban areas the vehicle source
23 becomes relatively more significant. This is seen in the provincial comparison, where the greater
24 population density and lower frequency of forest fires in Ontario results in HNCO vehicle emissions
25 comparable in magnitude to biomass burning emissions. When secondary formation of HNCO from
26 precursors in vehicle exhaust is also taken into account (Link et al., 2016; Liggio et al., 2017b), the
27 significance of vehicle emissions as a source of HNCO will likely be further enhanced.

28 In 2015, the HCN emissions from forest fires were estimated at $(1.2-5.8) \times 10^4$ tonnes and
29 (87-431) tonnes for Canada and Ontario respectively. At the national scale, the biomass burning
30 emissions are about 3 orders of magnitude greater than the vehicle emissions. Even at the
31 provincial scale, the biomass burning emissions are about an order of magnitude greater than the
32 vehicle emissions. This result is consistent with the large BKG component to the ambient
33 measurements made in the study. If the summertime EF obtained using the time-based approach is
34 used ($2.7 \text{ mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$) then the total vehicle emissions of HCN are estimated at 125 tonnes and 44
35 tonnes for Canada and Ontario respectively, still lower than previous estimates (Moussa et al.,
36 2016). Although biomass burning emissions continue to be the dominant source of HCN in this
37 estimation, the potential significance of vehicles as a source of HCN, especially in urban areas with
38 minimal BB influence, is non-negligible.

39 4. Conclusions and Implications



1 We deployed a mobile laboratory over a large metropolitan area, capturing exhaust emissions
2 from a large number of vehicles under a range of operating conditions and driving environments.
3 Plume-based and time-based algorithms were developed to estimate EFs from the on-road
4 measurements. The plume-based method avoids cumbersome cross-reference with recorded
5 vehicle plumes (i.e., as in ‘vehicle chase’ methods) and shows potential for obtaining real-world EFs
6 from limited-term mobile studies with minimal computational effort. The time-based method was
7 found to perform well for pollutants with less skewed EF distributions (i.e., not associated with high
8 HDDV emissions), and best for pollutants with minimal local sources (i.e., H₂CO and HCN). Further
9 studies are required to fully validate the time-based method, but this approach could potentially be
10 used to calculate EFs from near-road sites with lower time-resolution datasets. Both methodologies
11 could thus be efficient ways of rapidly monitoring trends in emission factors, especially for
12 pollutants whose emissions are likely to be influenced by emerging technologies or policies. Hence,
13 this approach could be valuable for documenting accountability.

14 Based on good agreement of the plume-based EFs with reported literature EFs for common
15 traffic pollutants, and the more precise definition of vehicle exhaust for this methodology, the
16 plume-based EFs are considered to be superior to the time-based EFs. Due to the broad range of
17 vehicles and real-world conditions captured by the measurements, the plume-based algorithm
18 applied to the mobile study provides a better average EF for use in scaling-up emissions or for
19 assessing general exposure than a limited number of dynamometer studies. We thereby obtain the
20 first, and most representative fleet-average emission factors for H₂CO and HCN, and insight into
21 their real-world variability.

22 The plume-based EF obtained for black carbon in this study (median: 25 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹, IQR: 10
23 – 76 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹) is consistent with decreases in vehicular BC emissions over time (Ban-Weiss et al.,
24 2008; Dallmann et al., 2013). Despite this improvement, our work, like that of others, shows that a
25 small number of vehicles (predominantly HDDV) are responsible for a disproportionate amount of
26 the on-road BC emissions. As a result, BC concentrations, and hence exposure, are highest near
27 highways and major roadways, and efforts to target these emissions will likely have a strong impact
28 on local air quality. In North America, GDI vehicles are replacing PFI vehicles, which currently
29 dominate the light-duty fleet (Chan et al., 2014). GDI vehicles promise advantages such as lower
30 fuel consumption, but have been shown in recent studies to emit more BC than their PFI
31 counterparts (Saliba et al., 2017) – although introduction of gasoline particulate filters could
32 mitigate this effect (Chan et al., 2014; Saliba et al., 2017). Similarly future decreases in diesel
33 emission of BC are predicted (Dallmann et al., 2012) as the fleet turns over and more diesel trucks
34 on the road are equipped with diesel particulate filters. Therefore, it is critical that fleet emissions
35 of BC are monitored in the future, with careful attention to the relative contributions from heavy-
36 duty vs light-duty vehicles. Since BC also impacts global climate change (Highwood and Kinnersley,
37 2006; Bond et al., 2013), mitigating vehicle emissions of BC has the dual benefit of meeting air
38 pollution and climate targets (Bahadur et al., 2011; Bond et al., 2013).

39 Overall, our results indicate that a vehicle fleet dominated by light duty gasoline vehicles is a
40 source of H₂CO and HCN to the atmosphere, with plume-based median EFs under wintertime, ‘real-
41 world’, driving conditions of 2.3 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹ (IQR: 1.4 – 4.2 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹) and 0.52 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹ (IQR: 0.32 –



1 0.88 mg kg_{fuel}⁻¹) respectively. Given our poor understanding of how emerging emission control
2 technologies (e.g., SCR systems, diesel oxidation catalysts) influence HNCO emissions, it is
3 imperative that fleet emissions of HNCO are studied over time. The impact of vehicle emissions on
4 secondary HNCO production in urban areas should also be investigated.

5 Our work demonstrates that HCN emission factors obtained in out-dated dynamometer studies
6 for LDGVs equipped with first-generation three-way-catalysts under abnormal operating conditions
7 (Harvey et al., 1983) are not applicable to the present day. However, they indicate that the most
8 recent dynamometer studies (Moussa et al., 2016; Karlsson, 2004) may also overestimate real-
9 world HCN emissions. Overall, the relatively small vehicle emission factor obtained in this study
10 suggests that vehicles are not likely a significant source of HCN on a regional and larger scale.
11 However, in view of the discrepancies between this study and others (Moussa et al., 2016), and the
12 paucity of HCN measurements in urban locations, more work is required to establish the
13 atmospheric significance of vehicle emissions of HCN at the neighbourhood and smaller scale. In
14 particular, the extent and cause of variation in HCN concentrations and emission factors, which
15 appear to vary widely in ambient measurements and dynamometer studies respectively, should be
16 further constrained and understood. Future research should also seek to understand the reasons
17 for the observed seasonal variation in HCN concentrations and emission factors.

18 **Supplement**

19 Supplementary material related to this article is available.

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28 **Competing Interests**

29 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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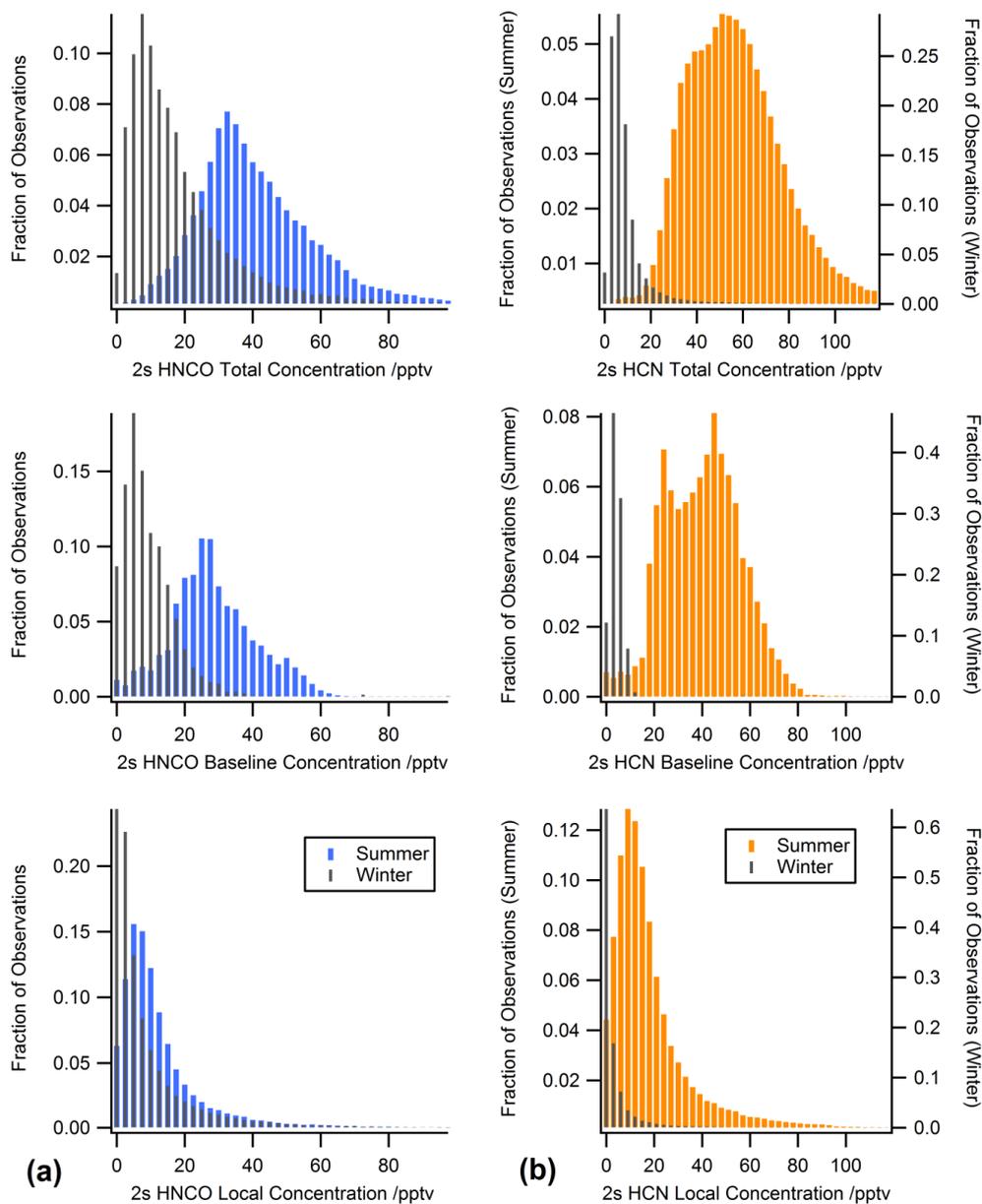
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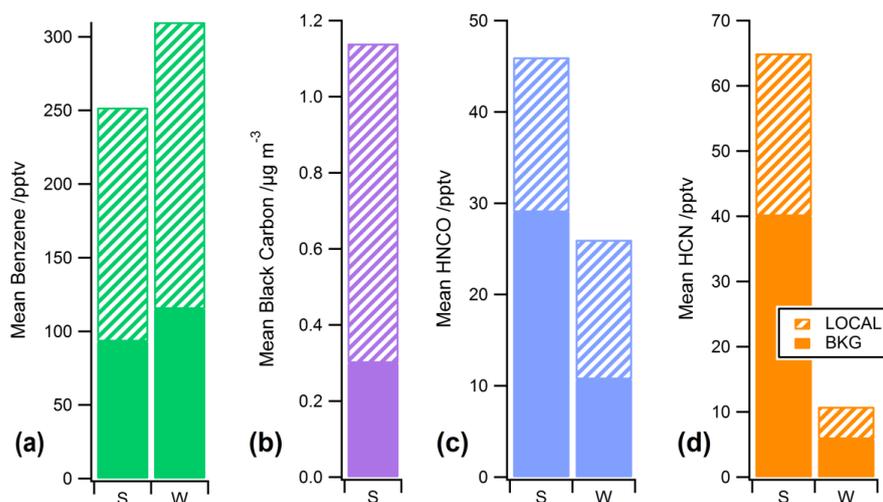


1 Figures



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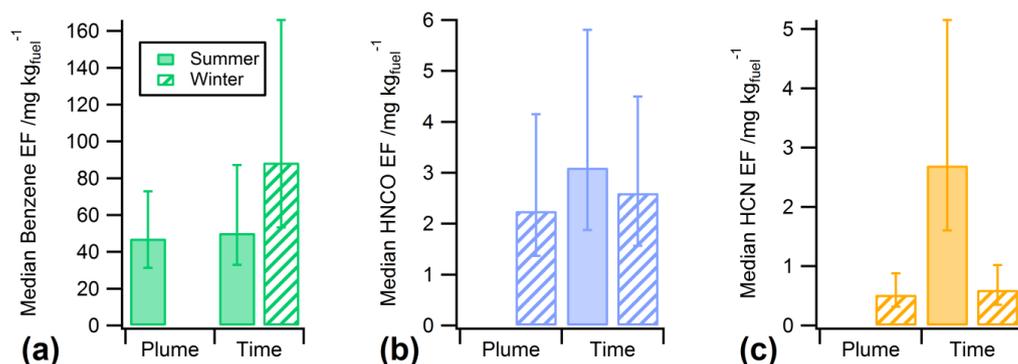
3 **Figure 1.** Distribution of ambient mixing ratios for (a) HNCO and (b) HCN. Top panel: total
4 concentration. Middle panel: background (BKG) concentration. Bottom panel: background-
5 corrected (LOCAL) concentration. Summer Campaign (July 2015) shown as colored bars, Winter
6 Campaign (Jan 2016) shown as grey bars.



1

2 **Figure 2.** Mean on-road (LOCAL, patterned) and background (BCK, solid) mixing ratios for the
 3 Summer (S) and Winter (W) Campaigns. (a) benzene, (b) BC, (c) HNCO, and (d) HCN.

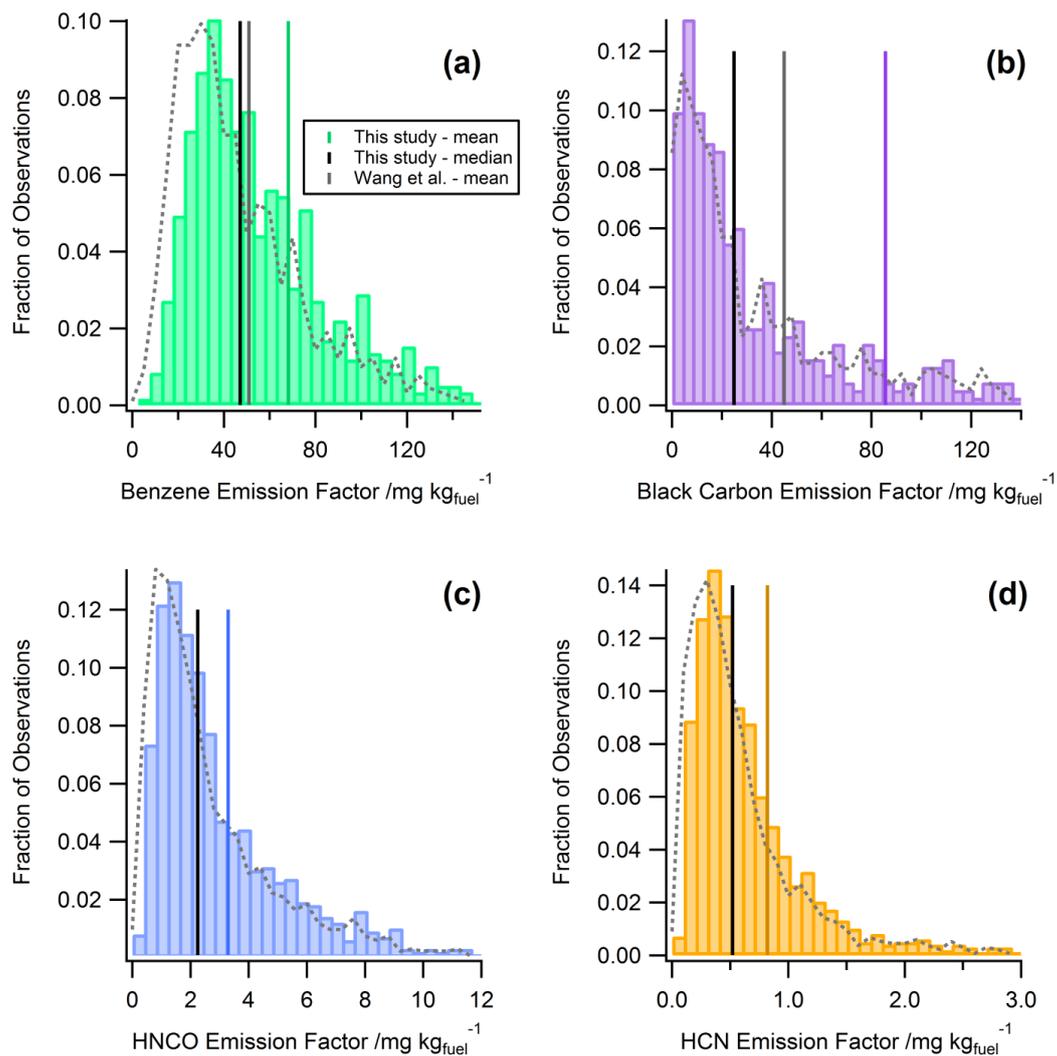
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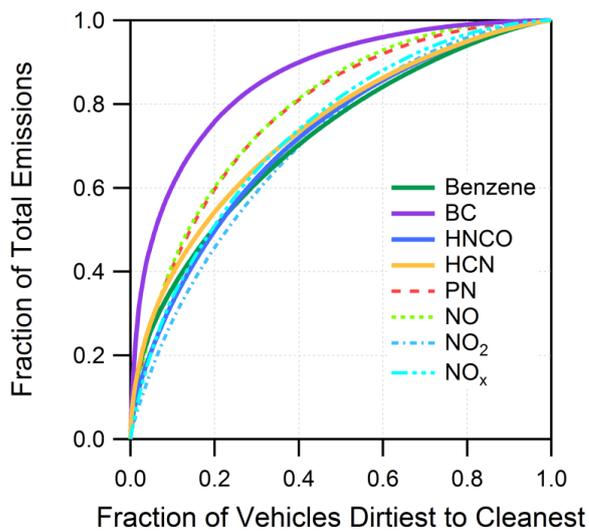
6 **Figure 3.** Median emission factors for (a) benzene, (b) HNCO, and (c) HCN calculated using the SPP
 7 plume-based approach (Plume) or the time-based approach with an integration period of 120 s
 8 (Time). The error bars show the interquartile range. Values obtained from the Summer Campaign
 9 (solid bars) and Winter Campaign (patterned bars).

10



1

2 **Figure 4.** Plume-based emission factors obtained by CRUISER for (a) benzene, (b) BC, (c) HNCO,
3 and (d) HCN for the SPP case (colored bars) and the MPP case (grey, dashed line). The median and
4 mean EF values are indicated by the vertical black and colored lines respectively. Where available,
5 the mean EF obtained by Wang et al. (2015) is indicated by the vertical grey line.



1

2 **Figure 5.** Cumulative emission factor distributions for SPP plume-based measurements: benzene
3 (solid, green), BC (solid, purple), HNCO (solid, blue), HCN (solid, yellow), NO (dotted, light green),
4 NO₂ (dotted, light blue), NO_x (dotted, light teal), particle number (dotted, pink). A 1 to 1 line would
5 indicate that all vehicles have the same emission factor.

6

7



1 Tables

2 **Table 1.** Method of detection and ambient concentration statistics for selected pollutants on 3 CRUISER

Pollutant and Units	Instrument	N	Mean (1 σ)	Median	25 th Percentile	75 th Percentile	Max
Summer Campaign							
C6H6 /pptv	PTR-TOF-MS	112156	293 (1043)	170	91	320	170000
C7H8 /pptv	PTR-TOF-MS	113760	913 (3210)	382	198	757	395525
C8H10 /pptv	PTR-TOF-MS	112156	605 (224)	237	123	468	191205
NO ₂ /ppbv	LGR ^a	99041	12.7 (13.3)	8.5	4.2	17.5	552
HNCO /pptv	HR-TOF-CIMS	103951	45.1 (39.0)	39.3	28.4	53.8	2168
HCN /pptv	HR-TOF-CIMS	103951	63.8 (52.4)	56.6	41.0	75.4	2429
NO /ppbv	TECO (42iTL) ^b	98036	20.9 (39.7)	6.2	2.0	21.2	998
CO ₂ /ppmv	PICARRO ^c	59275	415 (33)	408	392	435	1893
PN ^f /1000# cm ⁻³	CPC ^d	98888	42.0 (87.4)	24.7	15.5	45.6	9230
Black Carbon / $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	HS-LII ^e	106075	1.06 (2.32)	0.38	0.16	0.97	43.4
Winter Campaign							
C6H6 /pptv	PTR-TOF-MS	131882	315 (294)	262	169	388	18500
HNCO /pptv	HR-TOF-CIMS	119642	25.7 (54.7)	15.5	8.8	27.1	2985
HCN /pptv	HR-TOF-CIMS	119642	10.6 (15.7)	7.7	5.4	11.2	1579
CO ₂ /ppmv	PICARRO ^c	78683	439 (30)	408	419	449	1250

Principles of Operation: ^aCavity-enhanced laser absorption spectroscopy, ^bThermo Scientific (42iTL) Chemiluminescence, ^cCavity ring-down spectroscopy, ^dLight scattering, ^eLaser-induced incandescence. ^fPN=Ultrafine Particle Number Counts. Statistics obtained after self-sampling algorithm was applied to the high-time resolution data with N data points. All instruments operated at 1s resolution except PICARRO (2 s). The mean daily temperature was *ca.* 25 °C during the Summer Campaign and *ca.* -5 °C during the Winter Campaign.

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- 1 **Table 2.** Plume-based median and mean emission factors calculated using single-peak plumes
 2 (SPP) for the Summer and Winter Campaigns. Interquartile range (25th – 75th percentile) shown in
 3 brackets. Units for numerator given in the pollutant column, units for denominator given in the
 4 header.

Pollutant and Units	Fuel-based units $/\text{kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$	Distance-based units ^a $/\text{km}^{-1}$	Literature Range Fuel-based units ^b $/\text{kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$	References
SUMMER				
Benzene /mg	47.2, 68.2 (31.3 - 72.8)	3.7, 5.7	28 - 650	Gentner et al., 2013; Hwa et al., 2002; Wang et al., 2015; Araizaga et al., 2013; Ho et al., 2009; Zavala et al., 2009; Kristensson et al., 2004
Toluene /mg	101.6, 179.5 (62.5 - 194.6)	8.4, 14.9	50 - 2075	Hwa et al., 2002; Gentner et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2015; Araizaga et al., 2013; Ho et al., 2009; Zavala et al., 2009; Kristensson et al., 2004
C2 Benzenes ^c /mg	76.8, 147.6 (44.8 - 149.7)	6.4, 12.2	74 - 1455	Hwa et al., 2002; Gentner et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2015; Araizaga et al., 2013; Ho et al., 2009; Zavala et al., 2009; Kristensson et al., 2004
NO ₂ ^d /g	1.15, 1.39 (0.56 - 1.85)	0.095, 0.115		
NO ^d /g	1.03, 1.79 (0.38 - 2.20)	0.086, 0.148		
NO _x (=NO + NO ₂) /g	2.27, 3.13 (1.16 - 4.23)	0.188, 0.259	1.4 - 42	Wang et al., 2015; Kristensson et al., 2004; Hwa et al., 2002; Jiang et al., 2005; Hudda et al., 2013; Park et al., 2011; Dallmann et al., 2013; Kirchstetter et al., 1999; Ban-Weiss et al., 2008
Particle Counts /10 ¹⁴ #	8.3, 15.9 (3.7 - 20.0)	0.69, 1.32	3.9 - 57.4	Wang et al., 2015; Kristensson et al., 2004; Hudda et al., 2013; Ban-Weiss et al., 2010
Black Carbon /mg	24.9, 85.6 (10.3 - 76.4)	2.1, 7.1	10 - 2400	Literature Comparison in Table S9
WINTER				
HNCO /mg	2.25, 3.30 (1.37 - 4.15)	0.126, 0.274		Literature Comparison in Table 5
HCN /mg	0.52, 0.82 (0.32 - 0.88)	0.043, 0.068		Literature Comparison in Table 6

^aConversion from fuel-based units to distance-based units based on a fleet composed of 96% LDV with a fuel consumption rate of 10.6 L/100 km and 4% HDV (vehicles > 4.5 tonnes) with a fuel consumption rate of 28.5 L/100 km (based on the 2009 Canadian Vehicle Survey, and combining MDV with HDV) (Natural Resources Canada, 2012). Fuel densities at 15 °C of 730 kg m⁻³ (gasoline/LDV) and 840 kg m⁻³ (diesel/HDV) were used in all cases.

^bFor EFs reported in distance-based units, conversion to fuel-based units using stated distribution of gasoline and diesel vehicles and fuel consumption rates where available. When not stated, fuel consumption rates of 10.6 L/100 km for gasoline vehicles and 33.4 L/100 km for diesel vehicles were used (based on 2009 Canadian Vehicle Survey) (Natural Resources Canada, 2012). If the distribution of vehicles in the study was not stated or unclear the conversion was done assuming 96% gasoline and 4% diesel. Fuel densities at 15 °C of 730 kg m⁻³ (gasoline/LDV) and 840 kg m⁻³ (diesel/HDV) were used in all cases.

^cC2 Benzenes corresponds to the sum of m-, p-, and o-xylene and ethylbenzene (protonated formula C₈H₁₁⁺). For literature reporting EFs for the individual species, the individual EFs were summed together.

^dComparison to literature made for NO_x and not NO or NO₂ due to a) unknown conversion of NO to NO₂ post-tailpipe in our study and b) reporting of NO_x rather than NO or NO₂ in the literature.



1 **Table 3.** Comparison of literature HNCO emission factors from the exhaust of various gasoline and
 2 diesel fueled engines in fuel-based units ($\text{mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$).

Reference	Type of study	HNCO detection	Range / $\text{mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$	Average / $\text{mg kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$	Description of vehicle and fuel
This study	Mobile	HR-TOF-CIMS	1.4 – 4.2 ^a	2.3, 3.3 ^b 2.6, 4.0 3.1, 5.4	Winter fleet, plume-based (SPP) Winter fleet, time-based (120 s) Summer fleet, time-based (120 s)
Wentzell et al., 2013	Engine Dynamometer	Acetate-TOF-CIMS	0.21-3.96	NA	2011 Jetta equipped with turbo diesel injection (TDI) and diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC)
Brady et al., 2014	Chassis Dynamometer	Acetate-TOF-CIMS	0.45 – 1.70 (fleet averages for the 4 phases)	0.91±0.58 (full fleet, entire drive cycle)	8 LDGVs equipped with three way catalyst (TWC)
Suarez-Bertoa & Astorga, 2016	Chassis Dynamometer	FTIR	NA	30 (23 °C) ^c 140 (-7 °C) ^c 93 (23 °C) ^d 29 (23 °C) ^e	10 LDVs: 3 LDGV, 4 LDDV, 2 flex-fuel LDV, 1 electric LDV. Varying after-treatment
Heeb et al., 2011	Engine Dynamometer	Offline LC-MS analysis, after derivatization	NA	29 (with combined DPF-SCR system) 32 (with V ₂ O ₅ -based SCR system)	Diesel engine with a turbo charger and direct fuel engine, with and without selective catalytic reduction (SCR) and without diesel particulate filter (DPF)
Jathar et al., 2017	Engine Dynamometer	Acetate-TOF-CIMS	31 – 56	NA	John Deere PowerTech Plus (off-road) diesel engine with DOC and DPF, with and without SCR; diesel and biodiesel
Link et al., 2016	Engine Dynamometer	Acetate-TOF-CIMS	NA	54±3 (Idle) 17±2 (50% Load)	Same engine as above, with no DOC, DPF or SRC; diesel and biodiesel

^aInterquartile range

^bMedian, Mean

^cFleet median for all 10 vehicles (all other values in the paper are reported in distance-based units mg km^{-1})

^dMean for the 3 gasoline vehicles (LDGVs)

^eMean for the gasoline vehicles omitting GV3 (anomalously high EFs)

3

4



1 **Table 4.** Comparison of literature HCN emission factors from the exhaust of various gasoline and
 2 diesel fueled engines in distance-based units (mg km^{-1}).

Reference	Type of Study	HCN detection	Range $/\text{mg km}^{-1}$	Average $/\text{mg km}^{-1}$	Description of vehicles and fuel
This study	Mobile	HR-TOF-CIMS	0.03-0.07 ^a	0.043, 0.068 ^b 0.046, 0.069 0.21, 0.37	Winter fleet, plume-based (SPP) Winter fleet, time-based (120 s) Summer fleet, time-based (120 s)
Bradow and Stump, 1977	Chassis and Engine Dynamometer	Offline after trapping by NaOH	<LOD (normal operation) 0.0 – 75.6 (malfunctioning)	NA	3 LDGVs w/ TWC (1977) 5 LDGVs w/o TWC (1976)
Keirns and Holt, 1978	Chassis Dynamometer	Offline after trapping by NaOH	< 1.4 (LOD) (normal operation) 0.8 – 11.8 (malfunctioning)	NA	1 LDGV w/ and w/o TWC of varying composition (1977)
Cadle et al., 1979	Chassis Dynamometer	Trapping by NaOH with colorimetric detection	0-14.4	6.9 (no catalyst) 0.6 (oxidation catalyst) 3.1 (dual or three-way catalyst) 8.1 (rich malfunction with TWC)	26 LDGVs (production and experimental, 1967-1978)
Urban and Garbe, 1979	Chassis Dynamometer	Trapping by NaOH, GC-ECD	0.0 – 2.4 (normal) 0.3 - 2.3 (malfunctioning)	0.2 (normal, excluding LDV w/o catalyst)	5 LDGVs (1977-1978), 1 w/o catalyst, 4 w/ oxidation catalyst
Urban and Garbe, 1980	Chassis Dynamometer	Trapping by NaOH, GC-ECD	0.1 – 1.1 (normal) 0.0 – 112.3 (malfunctioning)		4 LDGVs with TWC (1978-1979)
Harvey et al., 1983	Review	NA	1.0 – 12.1 (weighted normal and malfunctioning averages for LDVs w/ different catalyst cases)	7.1	206 LDVs (non-catalyst, oxidation catalyst, TWC), 11 HDVs, gasoline and diesel
Becker et al., 1999	Chassis Dynamometer	FTIR	NA	< 2 (below LOD)	21 LDGVs (1996-1997)
Karlsson, 2004	Chassis Dynamometer	Trapping by NaOH with colorimetric detection	0.0 – 11.7	2.2 ± 4.2	5 LDGVs (1989-1998)
Moussa et al., 2016	Chassis Dynamometer	PTR-TOF-MS	0.0 – 5.6	1.4 ± 1.7	3 LDGV (2008-2011)

^aInterquartile range

^bMedian, Mean

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5



1 **Table 5.** Annual traffic pollutant emissions from the transportation sector and biomass burning for
 2 Canada and Ontario

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		NO _x	Benzene	BC	HNCO	HCN
Canada 2015	Vehicle Emissions ^a (tonnes)	1.05×10^5	2180	1150	104	24
	Forest Fires ^b (tonnes)				5377 ^c	$(1.2^d - 5.8^e) \times 10^4$
	Vehicle Emissions Inventory Estimates (tonnes)	4.26×10^{5f}	6600 ^g	6401 ^h		
Ontario 2015	Vehicle Emissions ^a (tonnes)	5.29×10^4	775	1410	37	9
	Forest Fires ^b (tonnes)				40 ^c	87 ^d -431 ^e

^aIn 2015, net sales for gasoline and diesel in Canada were 4.26×10^{10} L and 1.80×10^{10} L respectively (Statistics Canada). The total mass of fuel is calculated assuming a fuel density at 15 °C of 730 kg m⁻³ and 840 kg m⁻³ for gasoline and diesel respectively, for a nationwide total of 4.62×10^7 tonnes of fuel. In 2015, net sales of gasoline and diesel in Ontario were 1.63×10^{10} L and 5.43×10^9 L respectively, for a provincial total of 1.64×10^7 tonnes (Statistics Canada). Vehicle emissions calculated using the plume-based SPP emission factors.

^bWildfire CO emissions were calculated to be 5003 ktonnes and 37.3 ktonnes for Canada and Ontario, respectively

^cHNCO emission calculated using HNCO/CO ER for Oak Woodland of 0.7 mmol HNCO mol CO⁻¹ (Veres et al., 2010)

^dHCN emission calculated using HNCO/CO ER of 0.00242 mol HCN mol CO⁻¹ (Rinsland et al., 2007)

^eHCN emission calculated using HNCO/CO ER of 0.012 mol HCN mol CO⁻¹ (Akagi et al., 2011)

^fEstimated NO_x emissions for 2015 from light and heavy duty diesel and gasoline vehicles, trucks and motorcycles (Air Pollution Emission Inventory: <https://pollution-waste.canada.ca/air-emission-inventory>)

^gEstimated on-road transportation benzene emissions for 2008 (Canada Wide Standard for Benzene: 2010 Final Report)

^hEstimated BC emissions for 2015 from diesel (5679 tonnes) and gasoline (722 tonnes) on-road vehicles (Canada's Black Carbon Inventory: 2017 Edition)

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