

Response to Reviewers

Reviewer #1

Overview

This manuscript characterizes gaseous emissions from a number of vehicles meeting a wide range of Chinese emissions standards, to include gasoline, diesel, and liquified petroleum gas (LPG), as measured using a chassis dynamometer setup. Measurements are primarily presented for those using a PTR-ToF-MS, and included canister sampling with GC-MS/FID analysis and a few species by Iodide CIMS, along with common measurements (CO₂, etc.) using a portable emissions measurement system. Oxygenated VOC's (OVOC) are indicated to be molecules with less than 18 carbons.

This work shows the strong influence of OVOC in diesel exhaust (>50% by mass) compared to a much smaller influence in gasoline vehicles (~15%). Clear differences between cold-start and hot-start emissions are also observed, notably they are much more significant for gasoline vehicles than for diesel vehicles, and aromatics and OVOC had similar temporal profiles. Some ratios of emissions (e.g. toluene to larger aromatics) are unique between gasoline and diesel vehicles, and are suggested as potentially useful for emissions attribution.

Overall the work as presented is quite thorough, and the intended goals of the work are clearly made. The insights from the work are a good contribution to the field. There are a few details that should be addressed, however prior to suitability for publication, notably quality control.

[Reply: We would like to thank the reviewer for the insightful comments, which helped us tremendously in improving the quality of our work. Please find the response to individual comments below.](#)

General Comments

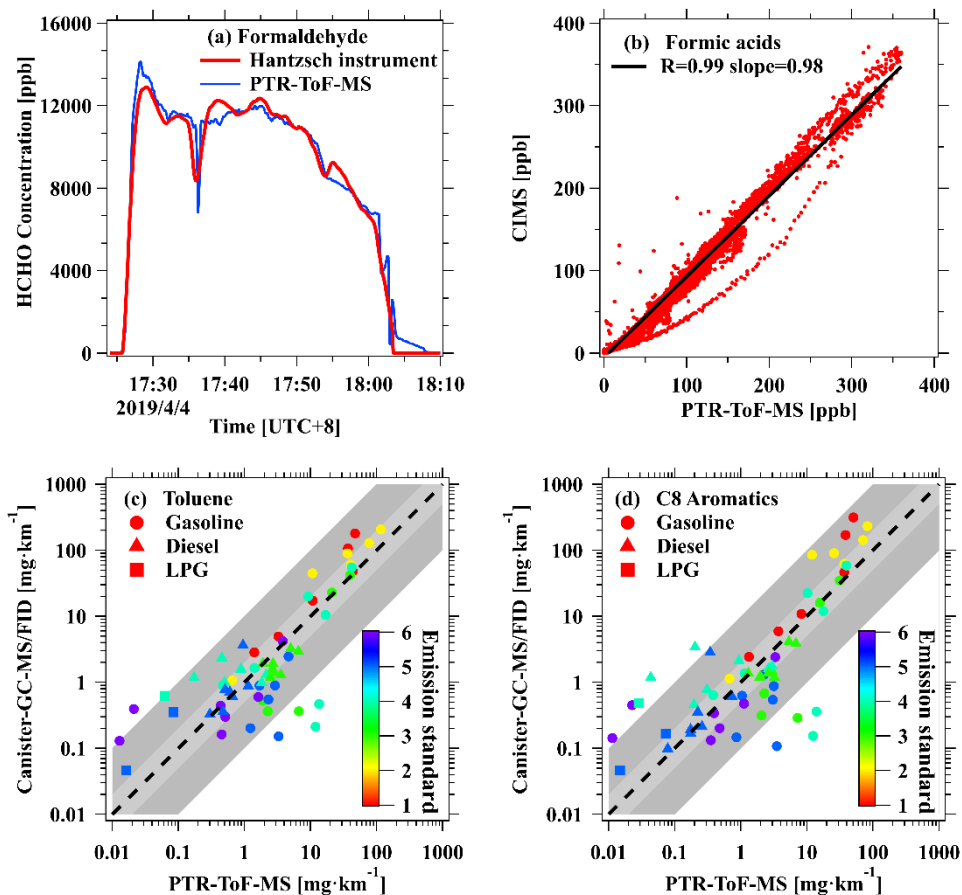
1. It is concerning that the agreement between canister with GC-MS/FID and PTR-ToF measurements for toluene are so disparate in more than 20% of the tested vehicles, as shown in Figure S6c. These discrepancies are essentially ignored in the manuscript.

30 *How can canister measurements be near-zero while PTR-ToF measurements are 250*
31 *mg/km, and vice versa? Perhaps this might cold occur for more exotic species, but for*
32 *toluene I would expect agreement at least within a factor of 2 in all cases, as it is a high*
33 *volatility species that is easily ionized in PTR and observed with GC-MS/FID. Perhaps*
34 *in some cases one or the other measurement was not made and simply reported as zero?*
35 *This issue should be clarified. Furthermore, agreement between generally accepted*
36 *canister measurements and PTR-ToF measurements must be reported for a wider*
37 *variety of species, to include oxygenated species and larger aromatics.*

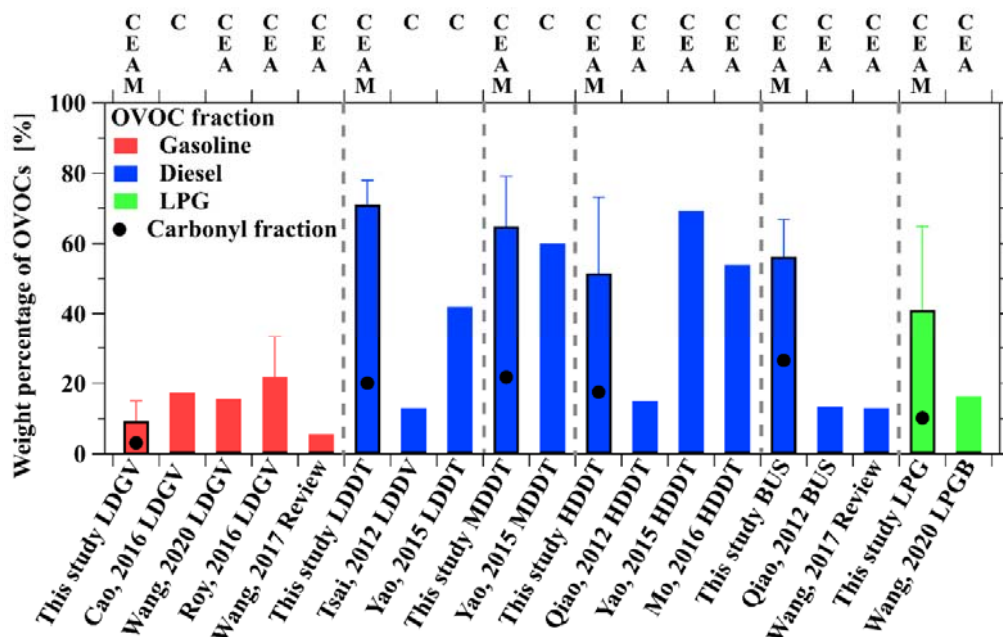
38 Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. We also found this issue when
39 we analyzed data for preparing the original manuscript, but we did not pay enough
40 attention to it. We re-checked all the data and found a mistake in alignment of data
41 points between offline canister-GC-MS/FID and PTR-ToF-MS for several gasoline
42 vehicles and diesel vehicles. We have modified the corresponding data points, and
43 added comparison of C₈ aromatics between two measurements (Fig. S6), obtaining
44 generally consistent results, considering large variations of VOC emissions for driving
45 conditions and the difficulty to control the fill time for canisters. We also revised related
46 figures (Fig. 12 and Fig. S12) and description in the manuscript on the fractions of
47 OVOCs in total VOC emissions in various types of vehicles. These modifications do
48 not change any conclusion in the manuscript.

49 The sentence in the Section 2.3 (line 194-197) is modified to:

50 **We compared emission factors from PTR-ToF-MS and the offline canister-**
51 **GC-MS/FID (Fig. S6c-d), obtaining generally consistent results, considering the**
52 **large variation of VOC emissions for driving conditions and the difficulty to**
53 **control the fill time for canisters.**



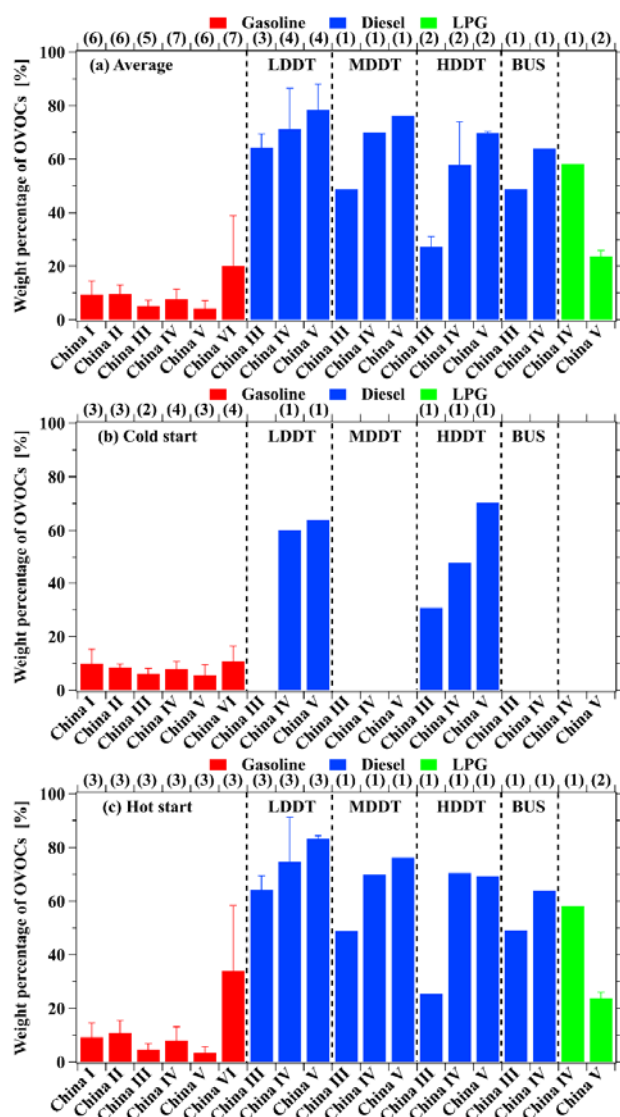
54
 55 **Figure S6. (a) Time series of formaldehyde measured by PTR-ToF-MS and the**
 56 **Hantzsch instrument. (b) Scatterplot of the concentration of formic acid between**
 57 **PTR-ToF-MS and the CIMS. Scatterplot of the emission factor of (c) toluene and**
 58 **(d)C₈ aromatics calculated by the data detected by PTR-ToF-MS and Canister-**
 59 **GC-MS/FID. The black dashed lines represent 1:1 ratio, and the shaded areas**
 60 **represent ratios of a factor of 2 and 10 in (c) and (d).**



61

62 **Figure 12. Comparison of OVOCs fractions determined in this study and those in**
 63 **previous studies. Error bars represent the standard deviations of the weight**
 64 **percentage of OVOCs. The C, E, A, M above the top axis represent the four groups**
 65 **of OVOCs measured in this study or previous studies, including Carbonyl: C,**
 66 **Ester/Ether: E, Alcohol: A, Multiple-functional: M.**

67



68

69 **Figure S12. (a) Average OVOC fractions for vehicles with different emission**
 70 **standards, and some difference between (b) cold start and (c) hot start. Error bars**
 71 **represent the standard deviations of the fraction of OVOCs.**

72

73 *2. The mileage of the vehicles tested is quite variable, are there any correlations in your*
 74 *data with mileage, are these different for gasoline vs. diesel?*

75

76 Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. The mileage of the vehicles is
 77 one of determining factors of emissions from the vehicles. We also found that the
 78 emission factors for the representative VOC species in China II gasoline vehicles are
 79 higher than other emission standards, which may be explained by the higher mileage of
 them than other vehicles (Fig. 3). Strong positive correlations between emission factors

80 and mileage are obviously for both gasoline and diesel vehicles. We added some
81 description in the Section 3.1 and Fig. 3 with scatterplot of the emission factor of (a)-
82 (b) toluene and (c)-(d) acetone during the hot start based on the odometer for each
83 gasoline and diesel vehicle.

84 The sentences in the Section 3.1(line 258-270) are modified to:

85 **In general, we observe a downward trend for emissions factors of gasoline**
86 **vehicles from China I to China VI emission standards for the four representative**
87 **VOC species. This is consistent with the results in previous studies with lower**
88 **emissions for newer emission standards (Wang et al., 2017;Sha et al., 2021). In**
89 **addition, the dependence of VOCs emission versus emission standard may also be**
90 **attributed to the history of vehicle usage, i.e., the mileage traveled by the vehicles,**
91 **as lower mileages of vehicles are usually associated with vehicle with newer**
92 **emission standards. As shown in Fig. 3, we observe strong positive relationship**
93 **between toluene emission factors and vehicle odometers for both gasoline and**
94 **diesel vehicles, indicating the mileages of vehicles can significantly affect VOCs**
95 **emission factors for vehicles tested in this study. Intestinally, the emission factors**
96 **of the representative VOC species are highest for China II gasoline vehicles rather**
97 **than China I vehicles, coincidence with largest mileage of the test vehicles.**

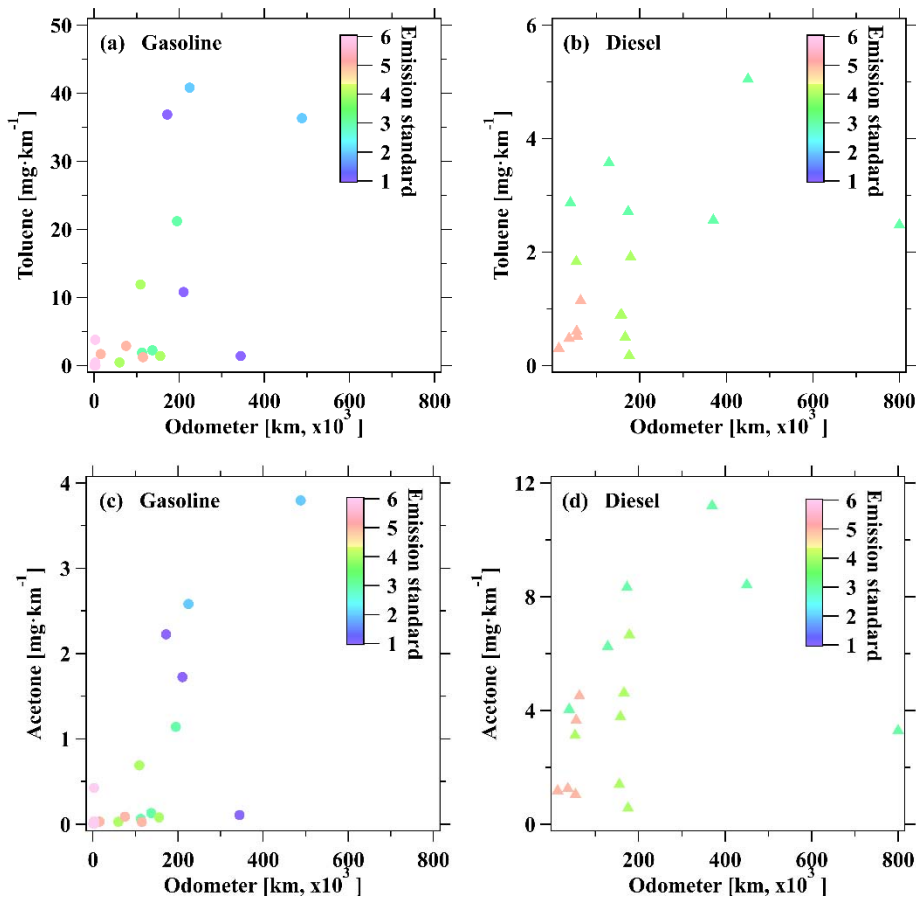


Figure 3. Scatterplot of the emission factor of toluene in (a) gasoline and (b) diesel vehicles, and acetone in (c) gasoline and (d) diesel vehicles during the hot start based on the odometer for each vehicle.

3. Was any analysis of the fuels done? To make clear sense of the emissions, the compositions of each fuel type, in terms of saturates (linear and cyclic), aromatics (BTEX and others), and oxygenates should be given. This is especially important for the diesel fuel, which can vary significantly in terms of aromatic content. Were the fuels summer or winter blends? The results presented have much narrower significance without clearer information on the fuel composition. Did the gasoline fuel have any ethanol content, as might be expected for gasoline in China after 2017? Ethanol content will have significant effects on small OVOC emissions. The discussion beginning on line 377 is well explained by the difference in aromatic content of the two fuels.

Reply: Thanks for the reviewer's advice. Fuel composition is one of determining factor for VOCs emissions from vehicles (Gentner et al., 2017). However, the

114 compositions of fuel were not measured during the tests, as most of the test vehicles are
115 mainly from the local automobile quality supervision test center in this study. A fraction
116 of vehicles is from a car rental company, with full tank of fuel before the test. In
117 response to the reviewer's comment, we conducted some literature review and added a
118 discussion in Section 1 in the Supplement to provide some information about chemical
119 compositions of gasoline and diesel fuel in China, and added some description of
120 difference in aromatic content of the two fuels in the Section 3.3. Furthermore, gasoline
121 and diesel fuel are summer blends, and the gasoline fuel does not content ethanol in this
122 study.

123 The sentence in the Section 2.1 (line 126-127) is modified to:

124 **The detailed information for test vehicles is summarized in Sect. 1 in the**
125 **Supplement, Table S2 and Table S3.**

126 The Section 1 in the Supplement is modified to:

127 **Fuel composition is one of determining factor for VOCs emissions from**
128 **vehicles (Gentner et al., 2017). The gasoline fuel used in China is mainly comprised**
129 **of C₄-C₇ hydrocarbons. The chemical compositions of gasoline fuel are alkanes**
130 **(55%-62%), alkenes (12%-17%), aromatics (27%-32%), and methyl tert-butyl**
131 **ether (MTBE, 1%-4%) (Tang et al., 2015;Sun et al., 2021;Qi et al., 2021;Huang et**
132 **al., 2022). Heavy hydrocarbons, namely C₈-C₁₀ alkanes and aromatics,**
133 **contributed most in diesel fuel. The chemical compositions of diesel are alkanes**
134 **(70%-79%), alkenes (1%-7%), and aromatics (21%-25%) (Wang et al., 2015;Yue**
135 **et al., 2015;Hou and Jiang, 2018;Liu and Zhang, 2015). Gasoline and diesel fuel**
136 **are summer blends, and the gasoline fuel does not content ethanol in this study.**

137 The sentences in the Section 3.3(line 416-420) are modified to:

138 **This interesting behavior is the result of different variations of emission**
139 **factors for gasoline and diesel vehicles as carbon number increases. This may be**
140 **attributed to the differences of chemical compositions of gasoline and diesel fuel,**
141 **such as higher fractions of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in the diesel**
142 **fuel (Yue et al., 2015;Gentner et al., 2017).**

143

144 4. When considering the usefulness of ratios between emitted species as diagnostic for
145 diesel vs. gasoline species, you should also consider their atmospheric lifetimes for
146 oxidation.

147 Reply: We thank the reviewer for the suggestion. It is necessary to consider the
148 atmospheric lifetime of C₁₄ aromatics and toluene for oxidation when used the C₁₄
149 aromatics/toluene ratio as diagnostic for diesel versus gasoline vehicles. Here, we
150 consider the change of C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio with the OH reaction in the
151 atmosphere (de Gouw et al., 2005) (Figure R1):

152
$$\frac{[C_{14} \text{ aromatics}]}{[Toluene]} = ER \times \exp[-(k_{C_{14}} - k_{Toluene})[OH] \times t] \quad (6)$$

153 Where [C₁₄ aromatics] and [Toluene] are the concentrations of C₁₄ aromatics
154 and toluene, respectively. ER is the emission ratio of C₁₄ aromatics versus toluene (1.42
155 in diesel vehicles and 3.7E-4 in gasoline vehicles). [OH] is the concentration of OH
156 radicals (mole·cm⁻³). k is the rate constant of the OH reaction with toluene (5.63 × 10⁻¹²
157 cm³·mole⁻¹·s⁻¹) (Atkinson and Arey, 2003) and C₁₄ aromatics, respectively. t is the
158 photochemical age. Here, an averaged OH concentration in the PRD, China with
159 1.5×10⁶ mole·cm⁻³ is used (Wang et al., 2020; Tan et al., 2019). Due to the rate constant
160 for C₁₄ aromatics did not report in previous study, we used the averaged rate constant
161 for C₁₂ aromatics (hexamethylbenzene) to estimate the reaction rate (1.33 × 10⁻¹⁰
162 cm³·mole⁻¹·s⁻¹) (Alarcon et al., 2015; Berndt and Böge, 2001), which may be a little
163 lower than the real value of C₁₄ aromatics rate constant.

164 Based on the Equation (6), the C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio emitted from diesel
165 vehicles will be higher than emission ratio of gasoline vehicles for photochemical
166 reactions shorter than 12 h. Therefore, the C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio could be applied
167 to the ambient measurements in urban or downwind regions, especially for roadside
168 measurements or tunnel study to distinguish the emission of diesel and gasoline
169 vehicles. Therefore, we conclude that the C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio should be applied
170 for distinguishing emissions of gasoline and diesel vehicles in ambient measurements
171 of urban or downwind regions, especially for roadside measurements or tunnel study to

172 distinguish the emission of diesel and gasoline vehicles.

173 The sentence in the Section 3.3 (line 457-461) is modified to:

174 **The enormous difference of C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio (and also other**
175 **higher aromatics/toluene) between gasoline and diesel vehicles indicate these**
176 **ratios could potentially provide good indicators for separation of gasoline and**
177 **diesel vehicles in ambient or tunnel studies (see discussion in Sect. 5 in the**
178 **Supplement for details about the feasibility of the ratio using in ambient air).**

179 We added a discussion in Section 5 in the Supplement and Fig. R1 to provide the
180 feasibility of the C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio used as diagnostic parameter for diesel
181 versus gasoline vehicles. The Section 5 in the Supplement is modified to:

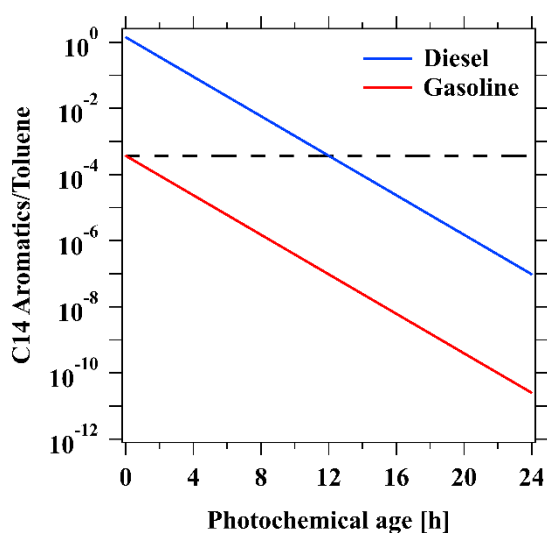
182 **It is necessary to consider the atmospheric lifetime of C₁₄ aromatics and**
183 **toluene for oxidation when used the C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio as diagnostic for**
184 **diesel versus gasoline vehicles. Here, we consider the change of C₁₄**
185 **aromatics/toluene ratio with the OH reaction in the atmosphere (de Gouw et al.,**
186 **2005):**

187
$$\frac{[C_{14} \text{ aromatics}]}{[Toluene]} = ER \times \exp[-(k_{C_{14}} - k_{Toluene})[OH] \times t] \quad (6)$$

188 Where [C₁₄ aromatics] and [Toluene] are the concentrations of C₁₄
189 aromatics and toluene, respectively. ER is the emission ratio of C₁₄ aromatics
190 versus toluene (1.42 in diesel vehicles and 3.7E-4 in gasoline vehicles). [OH] is the
191 concentration of OH radicals (mole·cm⁻³). k is the rate constant of the OH reaction
192 with toluene (5.63 ×10⁻¹² cm³·mole⁻¹·s⁻¹) (Atkinson and Arey, 2003) and C₁₄
193 aromatics, respectively. t is the photochemical age. Here, an averaged OH
194 concentration in the PRD, China with 1.5×10⁶ mole·cm⁻³ is used (Wang et al.,
195 2020;Tan et al., 2019). Due to the rate constant for C₁₄ aromatics did not report in
196 previous study, we used the averaged rate constant for C₁₂ aromatics
197 (hexamethylbenzene) to estimate the reaction rate (1.33 ×10⁻¹⁰ cm³·mole⁻¹·s⁻¹)
198 (Alarcon et al., 2015;Berndt and Böge, 2001), which may be a little lower than the
199 real value of C₁₄ aromatics rate constant.

200 Based on the Equation (6), the C₁₄ aromatics/toluene ratio emitted from

201 diesel vehicles will be higher than emission ratio of gasoline vehicles for
202 photochemical reactions shorter than 12 h. Therefore, the C₁₄ aromatics/toluene
203 ratio could be applied to the ambient measurements in urban or downwind regions,
204 especially for roadside measurements or tunnel study to distinguish the emission
205 of diesel and gasoline vehicles. Therefore, we conclude that the C₁₄
206 aromatics/toluene ratio should be applied for distinguishing emissions of gasoline
207 and diesel vehicles in ambient measurements of urban or downwind regions,
208 especially for roadside measurements or tunnel study to distinguish the emission
209 of diesel and gasoline vehicles.



210
211 Figure R1. The volume mixing ratios of C₁₄ aromatics/toluene in diesel vehicles and
212 gasoline vehicles versus the photochemical age. The black line represents emission
213 ratio of C₁₄ aromatics versus toluene in gasoline vehicles.

214

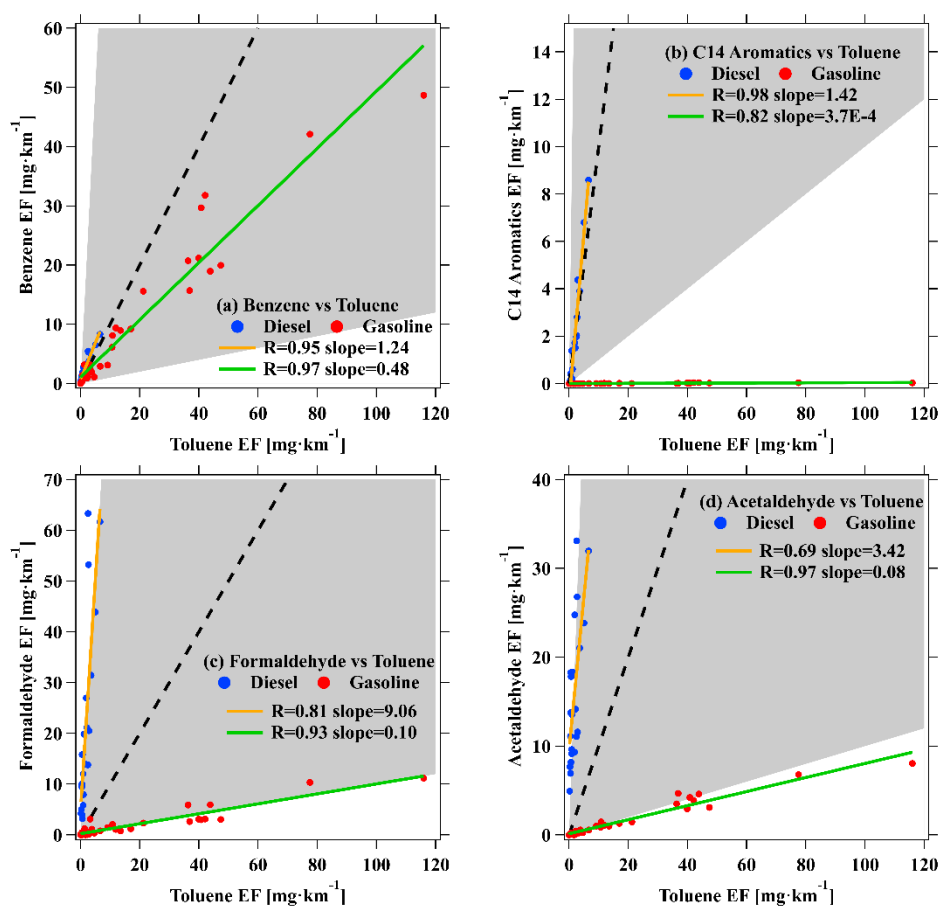
215 *Specific Comments*

216 1. Figure 9. The fits to your data are poorly presented this way, either for predicting the
217 values through the whole range or for giving physical insight. Perhaps you should make
218 the axes linear rather than logarithmic. At the very least, you should explain that the
219 strange curves to these linear fits in log-log space are due to the y-intercept, or perhaps
220 only plot these fits in the region where they appear linear (where the intercept is small
221 compared to the fit value) and note that you plot only in the region of reasonable fit.

222 Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. Many previous studies have used

223 the logarithmic axes in plots to better demonstrating the large variability in emission
 224 factors for different organic compounds (Gentner et al., 2013;Gentner et al., 2017;Zhao
 225 et al., 2016). We also tried to change the plot with linear axes (Fig. R2), with much poor
 226 performance for the data points associated with lower emission factor. We added some
 227 description in the caption of Fig. 10 in the revised manuscript (Fig. 9 in the original
 228 manuscript) about the counterintuitive non-linear curves for a line with non-zero y-
 229 intercept in log-log space.

230 **The green and orange line are the fits to gasoline and diesel points in each plot.**
 231 **Note that these linear fits are shown in curves in log-log space as the result of non-**
 232 **zero y-intercept.**



233
 234 Figure R2. Scatterplots of the determined mileage-based emission factors of (a)
 235 benzene versus toluene, (b) C₁₄ aromatics versus toluene, (c) formaldehyde versus
 236 toluene, and (d) acetaldehyde versus toluene for gasoline and diesel vehicles. Each data
 237 point represents each test vehicle in this study. The green and orange lines are the fitted
 238 results for gasoline and diesel vehicle. The black line represents 1:1 ratio, and the

239 shaded areas represent ratio of a factor of 10.

240

241 *2. Please review again thoroughly for grammar. A few corrections are:*

242 *Line 224 “species emitted by vehicles”*

243 *Line 377 “Comparing gasoline and diesel vehicles,”*

244 *Line 445. “can be determined”*

245 *Line 486. “Substantially larger”*

246 **Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. We corrected all these comments**

247 **and checked the grammar throughout the manuscript.**

248

249 **Reviewer #2**

250 *Wang et al. present an analysis of VOC emissions measured from vehicle dynamometer*
251 *testing for vehicles designed under different emission standards (China I - IV). The*
252 *authors evaluate total and speciated VOC emissions from both gasoline, diesel, and*
253 *LPG under a variety of conditions (cold start, warm start, speed, etc). The authors*
254 *detail the different emission factors between each vehicle, and observe a distinct*
255 *difference between the OVOCs emitted by gasoline and diesel engines. The latter*
256 *produces significantly higher fraction of OVOCs than by gasoline, which appears to be*
257 *at least partly associated with the pollution control technology.*

258 *I found the paper to be very well-written, well-reasoned, and full of good information.*
259 *I appreciated the study as a nice piece of work describing fossil fuel emissions from*
260 *motor vehicles in China.*

261 *My only substantive comment is that I don't have a sense of the fuel composition and*
262 *how this might contribute to the high OVOCs observed in diesel exhaust. And how do*
263 *the OVOC emissions compare against diesel exhaust studies reported elsewhere?*
264 *Gentner et al. (2013) also see elevated OVOC emissions in diesel compared to gasoline.*
265 *Are these differences comparable to what is observed here, or is there something*
266 *different between the aftertreatment or fuels that could contribute to any differences?*

267 *Reply: We would like to thank the reviewer for the insightful comments, which*
268 *helped us tremendously in improving the quality of our work. Fuel composition is one*
269 *of determining factor for VOCs emissions from vehicles (Gentner et al., 2017). We*
270 *conducted some literature review and added a discussion in Section 1 in the Supplement*
271 *to provide some information about chemical compositions of gasoline and diesel fuel*
272 *in China. We also appreciate the reviewer for providing the useful reference. We added*
273 *some discussions in the Section 3.1 to compare with the result of them.*

274 *We also used the fractions of OVOCs in total VOC emissions to compare against*
275 *diesel exhaust studies reported elsewhere (Fig.12). If only considering carbonyls among*
276 *various types of OVOCs measured by PTR-ToF-MS, the OVOC fractions determined*
277 *in this study are more comparable with previous studies. We also discussed higher*

278 OVOC emissions in diesel vehicles and impact on after-treatment devices, please find
279 the response to individual comments below.

280 The sentence in the Section 2.1 (line 126-127) is modified to:

281 **The detailed information for test vehicles is summarized in Sect. 1 in the**
282 **Supplement, Table S2 and Table S3.**

283 The Section 1 in the Supplement is modified to:

284 **Fuel composition is one of determining factor for VOCs emissions from**
285 **vehicles (Gentner et al., 2017). The gasoline fuel used in China is mainly comprised**
286 **of C₄-C₇ hydrocarbons. The chemical compositions of gasoline fuel are alkanes**
287 **(55%-62%), alkenes (12%-17%), aromatics (27%-32%), and methyl tert-butyl**
288 **ether (MTBE, 1%-4%) (Tang et al., 2015;Sun et al., 2021;Qi et al., 2021;Huang et**
289 **al., 2022). Heavy hydrocarbons, namely C₈-C₁₀ alkanes and aromatics,**
290 **contributed most in diesel fuel. The chemical compositions of diesel are alkanes**
291 **(70%-79%), alkenes (1%-7%), and aromatics (21%-25%) (Wang et al., 2015;Yue**
292 **et al., 2015;Hou and Jiang, 2018;Liu and Zhang, 2015). Gasoline and diesel fuel**
293 **are summer blends, and the gasoline fuel does not content ethanol in this study.**

294 The sentences in the Section 3.1 (line 284-289) are modified to:

295 **As the largest OVOCs emitted from gasoline vehicles (4.6 ± 5.1 mg·km⁻¹),**
296 **methanol is found to be the only common OVOC species, with lower emission**
297 **factors from diesel vehicles than gasoline vehicles. The emission factor of other**
298 **OVOCs (e.g., formaldehyde, acetone) from diesel vehicles are higher than gasoline**
299 **vehicles, which is consistent with previous results (Gentner et al., 2013).**

300

301 *Comments:*

302 *1. Line 70-71 Based on the reference, I presume that the authors are specifically noting*
303 *the decline of VOCs in urban regions in China? For clarity, I would suggest re-writing*
304 *this sentence to say “Furthermore, VOC emission significantly decreased in China due*
305 *to stricter emission standards.”*

306 **Reply:** We thank the reviewer for the comment. We corrected this sentence as

307 **“Furthermore, VOC emissions from vehicles significantly decreased in China due**
308 **to stricter emission standards (Liu et al., 2017;Sha et al., 2021)”.**

309

310 *2. Line 76: Could the authors provide some context on the China VI emission standard?*
311 *I recognize that the standard is dependent on power ranges, but a few sentences on*
312 *VOC emissions at max power output would be useful. This would also be useful in the*
313 *methods (lines 112 - 122) to give readers context as to what the China I - IV standards*
314 *represent in terms of VOC emissions.*

315 **Reply:** We thank the reviewer for the comment. China VI emission standard is
316 the newest emission standard for vehicles. Limits on exhaust emissions of gasoline
317 vehicles are tightened by 30% to 50% from China V to China VI for different pollutants
318 (Lyu et al., 2020). China VI emission standard is mainly reflected in the requirements
319 for the emission limits of pollutants (e.g. CO, NO_x, THC, etc.). In response to the
320 reviewer’s question, power ranges and max power outputs are not directly reflected in
321 China VI emission standard, and rarely reported in previous studies.

322 We added a discussion in Section 1 in the Supplement to provide some
323 information about the China VI emission standard of vehicles. We added Table S7 with
324 the different emission standards (China I - China VI) for light-duty vehicles (LDV) in
325 gasoline and diesel as fuel, and Table S8 for heavy-duty diesel engines (HDDE) in
326 different emission standards (China I - China V). We also added some discussion in the
327 Section 2.1 to provide the averaged fractions of gasoline and diesel vehicles with
328 different emission standards for the vehicle fleet in China, which is shown in the Table
329 S1 in the revised manuscript (Table S6 in the original manuscript).

330 The sentences in the Section 1(line 76-78) are modified to:

331 **The emission limits for various air pollutants emitted by vehicles are**
332 **significantly lower under the China VI emission standard (see details in the**
333 **Supplement) (Wu et al., 2017).**

334 The Section 1 in the Supplement is modified to:

335 **The limits and measurement methods for emissions of light-duty vehicles**

336 (GB18352.6-2016; known as the China VI standard) are introduced in the recent
337 years in China, which applies to light-duty vehicles by gasoline or diesel as the fuel.
338 The China VI emission standard continued the EU standard system as the
339 reference with various regulation details integrated from US emissions standards
340 (Lyu et al., 2020). Vehicle emission limits are significantly lower for the China VI
341 standard (Table S7, Table S8). For example, limits on gasoline vehicle exhaust
342 emissions were tightened by 30 to 50% from China V to China VI, and a new
343 particulate number (PN) limit was added in gasoline vehicles (Lyu et al., 2020).

344 The sentence in the Section 2.1 (line 123-124) is modified to:

345 **The averaged fractions of gasoline and diesel vehicles with different emission**
346 **standards for the vehicle fleet in China are shown in Table S1 (MEEPRC, 2019;Li**
347 **et al., 2021).**

348

349 *3. Line 81: Would suggest modifying “group” to say “class of compounds”*

350 *Reply: We replaced “group” with “class of compounds”.*

351

352 *4. Line 80-83: Are the authors primarily discussing VOC measurements from*
353 *dynamometer studies, or tunnel studies, or ambient studies? I think the distinction*
354 *matters given that results from laboratory, tunnel, or ambient measurements can be*
355 *interpreted differently given differences in co-emitted sources that can convolute the*
356 *measured signal from tailpipe emissions*

357 *Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. We modified this sentence in the*
358 *Section 1 to make it clearly in different vehicle measurement methods.*

359 *The sentence in the Section 1(line 82-86) is modified to:*

360 **Oxygenated volatile organic compounds (OVOCs) were found to be an**
361 **important class of compounds in vehicle exhausts, accounting for more than 50%**
362 **of the total VOC emissions for diesel vehicles from both chassis dynamometer tests**
363 **(Schauer et al., 1999;Mo et al., 2016) and on-road mobile measurements (Yao et**
364 **al., 2015).**

365

366 *5. Lines 268-271: Are there also differences in the aftertreatment that might lead to*
367 *higher OVOC emissions? The authors note the temperature of the device at line 240,*
368 *and I'm curious if previous work has looked at VOC speciation under different*
369 *aftertreatment conditions.*

370 **Reply:** We thank the reviewer for the comment. After-treatment devices in
371 vehicles have been improved associated with the upgrading of emission standards.
372 According to the #8 comment of the reviewer, our results (Fig. 7c-d in the revised
373 manuscript) actually can answer the question of the reviewer in this comment. The two
374 graphs show that the chemical compositions of VOC emissions are comparable between
375 different emission standards for both gasoline and diesel vehicles ($R=0.98$ and 0.89),
376 indicating after-treatment devices may not affect the relative fraction of VOC
377 components. We added some description and reference in the section 3.2, and added a
378 discussion in Section 1 in the Supplement to provide some information about the after-
379 treatment devices in gasoline and diesel vehicles.

380 The sentence in the Section 3.2 (line 363-366) is modified to:

381 **Fig. 7c-d show that the chemical compositions of VOC emissions are**
382 **comparable between different emission standards for both gasoline and diesel**
383 **vehicles ($R=0.98$ and 0.89), indicating after-treatment devices may not affect the**
384 **relative fractions of VOC components.**

385 The sentence in the Section 3.2 (line 379-383) is modified to:

386 **These results indicate the after-treatment device for diesel vehicles (see Sect.**
387 **1 in the Supplement for details.) may effectively reduce emissions of some heavier**
388 **VOC species, though the after-treatment devices do not aim for VOCs control**
389 **(Gentner et al., 2017).**

390 The Section 1 in the Supplement is modified to:

391 **After-treatment devices commonly used in light-duty gasoline vehicles are**
392 **three-way catalyst (TWC) and gasoline particulate filter (GPF). They have been**
393 **improved with the upgrading of emission standard. For diesel vehicles, typical**

394 after-treatment devices include diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC), diesel particulate
395 filter (DPF), and selective catalyst reduction (SCR) (Zhou et al., 2019;Lyu et al.,
396 2020;Shen et al., 2021). The diesel vehicles for China III or prior do not have any
397 after-treatment devices. Light-duty-diesel-truck (LDDT) used DOC and
398 DOC+DPF as after-treatment devices in China IV and V diesel vehicles,
399 respectively. SCR devices are mainly used for heavy-duty-diesel-truck (HDDT)
400 with China IV and V as after-treatment devices.

401

402 6. Figure 1: It would be useful to see the acronyms (LDDT, MDDT, HDDT, and BUS)
403 defined in the caption as a reminder to the reader.

404 Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. We added some description in
405 the caption of Fig. 1 about the acronyms (LDDT, MDDT, HDDT, and BUS). We also
406 checked throughout the manuscript, and corrected the caption of Fig.2.

407 The caption of Fig.1 is modified to:

408 **Figure 1. Real-time concentrations of acetaldehyde, acetone, benzene,**
409 **toluene, and CO₂ for (a) a gasoline vehicle with emission standard of China I and**
410 **(b) a light-duty diesel vehicle (LDDV) with emission standard of China IV. The**
411 **two vehicles were both cold started. The gray shadows represent the speed of the**
412 **vehicles on the chassis dynamometer.**

413 The caption of Fig.2 is modified to:

414 **Figure 2. The determined average mileage-based emission factors (mg·km⁻¹)**
415 **for (a) benzene, (b) toluene, (c) acetaldehyde, and (d) acetone for vehicles with**
416 **different emission standards. The numbers above the top axis represent the**
417 **number of all experiments (including multiple measurements for individual test**
418 **vehicle) for each emission standard. LDDT, MDDT, HDDT, and BUS represent**
419 **light-duty-diesel-truck, middle-duty-diesel-truck, heavy-duty-diesel-truck, and**
420 **bus, respectively. Error bars represent standard deviations of emission factors for**
421 **the specific emission standard.**

422

423 7. Title of Section 3.2: The title doesn't quite reflect the discussion that follows. Might I
424 suggest "Analysis of PTR-ToF-MS mass spectra to evaluate VOC speciation"?

425 Reply: We corrected this title in "Analysis of PTR-ToF-MS mass spectra to
426 evaluate VOCs speciation".

427

428 8. Lines 320-323: This is a nice result, and partially addresses my question at lines 268-
429 271. Could the authors point to this figure and discussion to demonstrate that the
430 changes to the VOC distribution isn't significantly different between cold start and
431 normal operation?

432 Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. After-treatment devices have
433 been improved with the upgrading of emission standard. Our results (Fig. 7c-d in the
434 revised manuscript) show that the chemical compositions of VOC emissions are
435 comparable between different emission standards in gasoline and diesel vehicles
436 (R=0.98 and 0.89), indicating after-treatment devices may not affect the relative
437 fraction of VOC components.

438 Cold start is a major emission source of gasoline vehicles, which occurs after
439 several hours of non-operation of vehicles (Gentner et al., 2017;George et al., 2015).
440 Our results (Fig. 7a-b in the revised manuscript) demonstrate that variation behaviors
441 are similar for different species and thus chemical compositions of VOC emissions are
442 comparable between different start conditions. As cold start emissions are richer in
443 unburned fuel than other hot-running conditions, the observation in Fig. 7a-b also infer
444 that unburned fuel are the major contributor for vehicle exhaust emissions, which has
445 been previously shown in California, US (Gentner et al., 2013). We added some
446 discussions in 3.2 and Section 1 in the Supplement to provide some information about
447 cold start in gasoline and diesel vehicles.

448 The sentence in the Section 3.2 (line 247-249) is modified to:

449 **It might be a combined effect of cold engine and operation temperature of**
450 **the after-treatment device (Gentner et al., 2017;George et al., 2015).**

451 The sentences in the Section 3.2 (line 345-353) are modified to:

452 **We observe strong correlation between emission factors from cold start and**
453 **hot start tests (R=0.99 and 0.92) and generally consistent ratios between cold start**
454 **and hot start for different types of VOC species for both gasoline and diesel**
455 **vehicles, indicating that variation behaviors are similar for different species and**
456 **thus chemical compositions of VOC emissions are comparable between different**
457 **start conditions. As cold start emissions are richer in unburned fuel than other**
458 **hot-running conditions, the observation in Fig. 7a-b also infer that unburned fuel**
459 **are the major contributor for vehicle exhaust emissions, which has been previously**
460 **shown in California, US (Gentner et al., 2013).**

461 The Section 1 in the Supplement is modified to:

462 **Cold start, which occurs after several hours of nonoperation for vehicles**
463 **(Drozd et al., 2016), is a major source of emissions for gasoline vehicles and have**
464 **greater emissions due to two issues: (1) low engine temperatures lead to incomplete**
465 **combustion that allow non/partially combusted fuel compounds to exit engine**
466 **cylinders. (2) Effective operation of the catalytic converter requires a warm-up**
467 **period to reach sufficient catalyst operating temperatures (Gentner et al.,**
468 **2017;George et al., 2015). Due to diesel emissions have emphasized control of**
469 **primary PM_{2.5} and NO_x emissions, the after-treatment devices of diesel vehicles**
470 **(e.g. DOC, DPF, SCR etc.) do not aim for VOCs control.**

471

472 *9. Lines 424-425: I like the discussion in this section on using the aromatics to delineate*
473 *between diesel and gasoline. I agree with the authors that these ratios might be difficult*
474 *to assess in the ambient owing to additional sources of aromatics (e.g. solvent emissions)*
475 *and secondary production of formaldehyde and acetaldehyde. Are there any unique*
476 *masses, with high enough signal in ambient air, that could be used to more definitively*
477 *separate gasoline vs diesel emissions? I also wonder if ratios to CO or other*
478 *combustion markers might be insightful.*

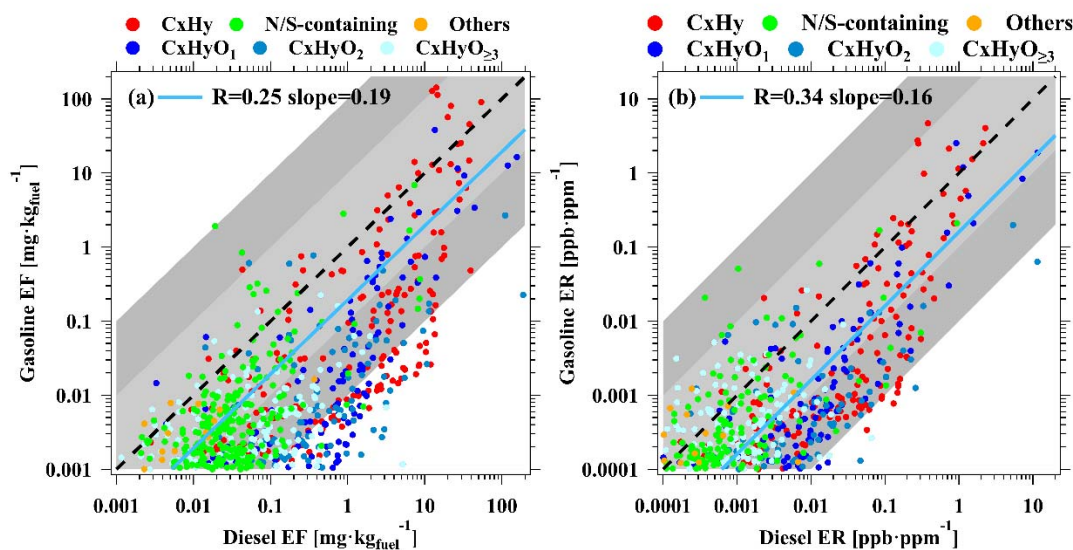
479 **Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. Per the reviewer's comment, we**
480 **have not found any other unique masses with high enough signals in gasoline or diesel**

481 vehicles that can be used for distinguish the two types of vehicles.

482 Furthermore, we added a Figure (Fig. S11b) with the emission ratios to CO
483 ($\text{ppb}\cdot\text{ppm}^{-1}$) between gasoline and diesel vehicles. The result ($\text{slope}=0.16$) is similar to
484 the plot of emission factors between gasoline and diesel vehicles. A limited number of
485 VOC species, including C_6 - C_{10} aromatics are associated with higher emission ratios
486 from gasoline vehicles, whereas the obtained emission ratios of most VOC species
487 emitted from diesel vehicles are higher, especially most OVOC species.

488 The sentences in the Section 3.3 (line 405-408) are modified to:

489 Generally, similar variability is obtained except the determined slope of the
490 data points, with higher slopes determined from the scatterplot based on fuel-
491 based emission factor (0.19 versus 0.15). The emission ratios to CO between
492 gasoline and diesel vehicles (Fig. S11b) show similar results.



493
494 **Figure S11. Scatterplot of (a) the determined average fuel-based emission factors**
495 **($\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}_{\text{fuel}}^{-1}$) and (b) the emission ratios to CO ($\text{ppb}\cdot\text{ppm}^{-1}$) of VOCs between**
496 **gasoline and diesel vehicles. Each data point indicates a VOC species measured by**
497 **PTR-ToF-MS. The blue line is the fitted result for all data points. The black line**
498 **represents 1:1 ratio, and the shaded areas represent ratios of a factor of 10 and**
499 **100.**

500

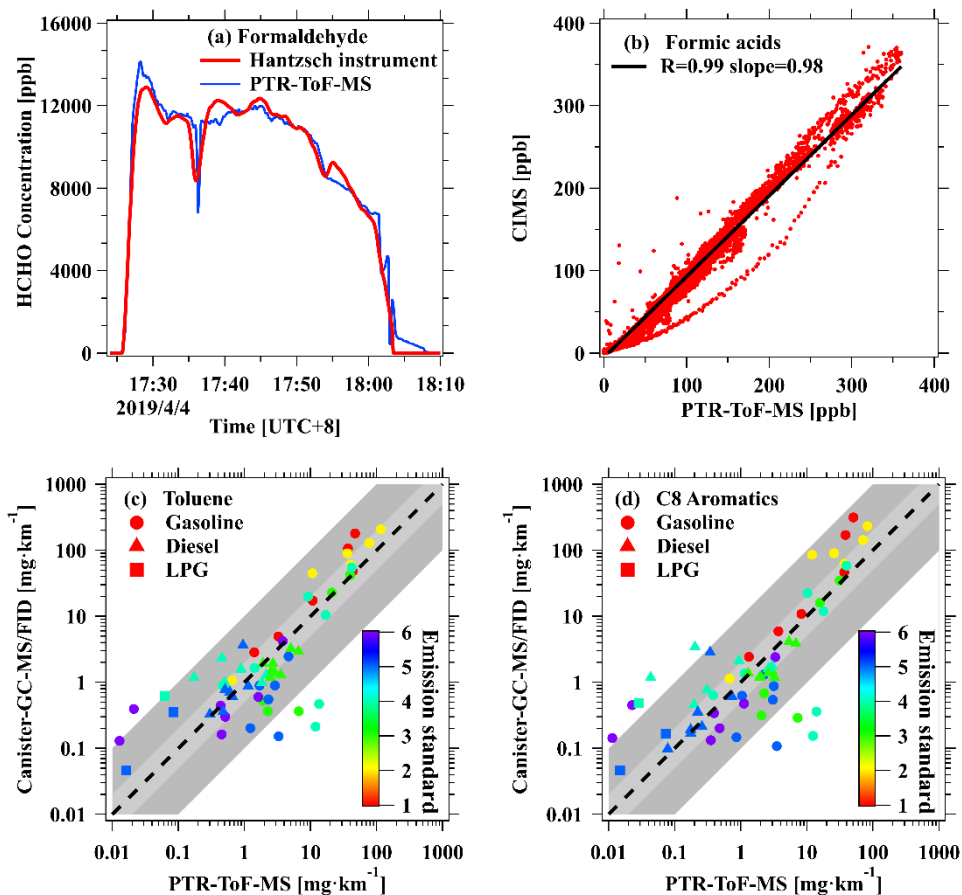
501 *10. Figure S6. The intercomparisons are nice for the fast time-resolution systems, but*

502 *there are significant differences between the GC and PTR for toluene - is this due to*
503 *differences in sampling techniques (e.g., grab sampling artifacts vs real-time sampling),*
504 *or something due to fragmentation in the PTR to produce a signal at m/z 93? I believe*
505 *the other reviewer also commented on this, and I agree that some explanation is*
506 *warranted here.*

507 Reply: We thank the reviewer for the comment. In replying to the comments from
508 the two reviewers, we found an issue in data analysis for preparing the original
509 manuscript. The alignment of data points between offline canister-GC-MS/FID and
510 PTR-ToF-MS for several gasoline vehicles and diesel vehicles was not correct. We have
511 modified the corresponding data points, and added comparison of C₈ aromatics between
512 two measurements (Fig. S6), obtaining generally consistent results, considering large
513 variations of VOC emissions for driving conditions and the difficulty to control the fill
514 time for canisters. We also revised related figures (Fig. 12 and Fig. S12) and description
515 in the manuscript on the fractions of OVOCs in total VOC emissions in various types
516 of vehicles. These modifications do not change any conclusion in the manuscript.

517 The sentence in the Section 2.3 (line 194-197) is modified to:

518 **We compared emission factors from PTR-ToF-MS and the offline canister-**
519 **GC-MS/FID (Fig. S6c-d), obtaining generally consistent results, considering the**
520 **large variation of VOC emissions for driving conditions and the difficulty to**
521 **control the fill time for canisters.**



522

523

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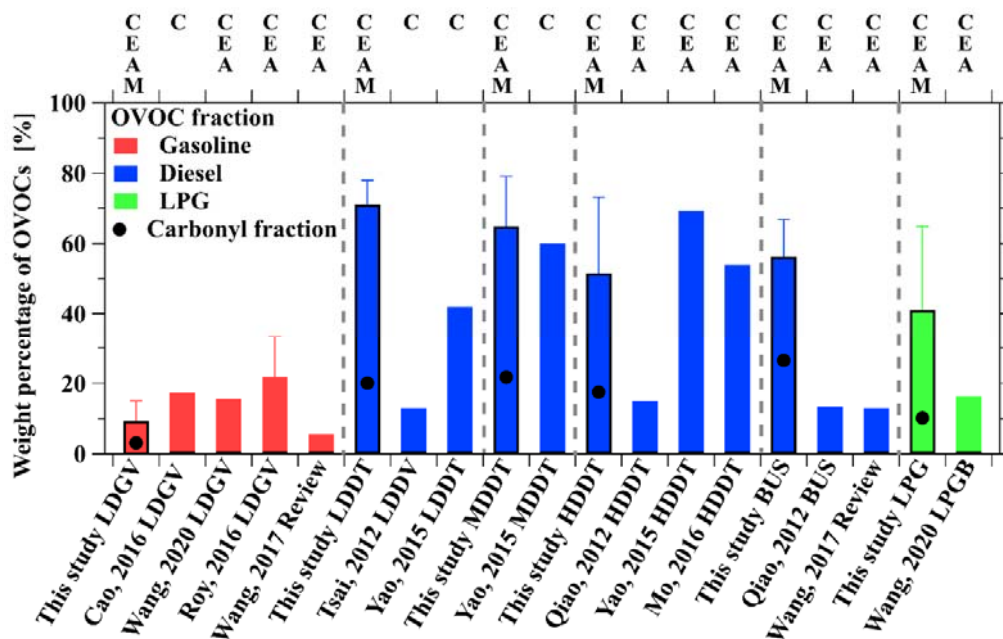
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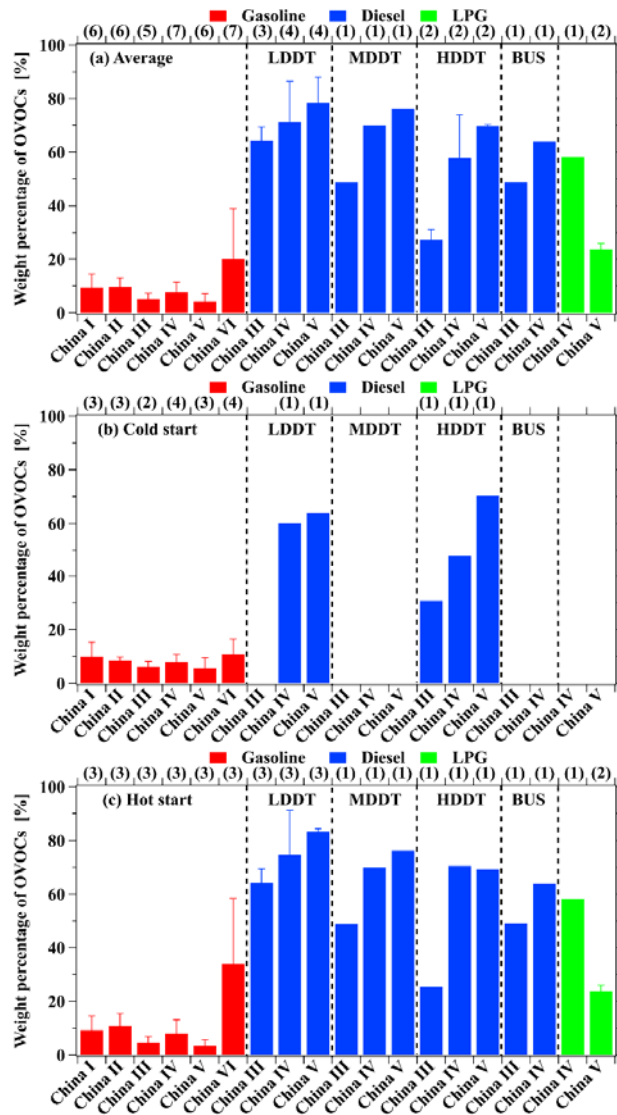
Figure S6. (a) Time series of formaldehyde measured by PTR-ToF-MS and the Hantzsch instrument. (b) Scatterplot of the concentration of formic acid between PTR-ToF-MS and the CIMS. Scatterplot of the emission factor of (c) toluene and (d) C₈ aromatics calculated by the data detected by PTR-ToF-MS and Canister-GC-MS/FID. The black dashed lines represent 1:1 ratio, and the shaded areas represent ratios of a factor of 2 and 10 in (c) and (d).



529

530 **Figure 12. Comparison of OVOCs fractions determined in this study and those in**
 531 **previous studies. Error bars represent the standard deviations of the weight**
 532 **percentage of OVOCs. The C, E, A, M above the top axis represent the four groups**
 533 **of OVOCs measured in this study or previous studies, including Carbonyl: C,**
 534 **Ester/Ether: E, Alcohol: A, Multiple-functional: M.**

535



536

537 **Figure S12. (a) Average OVOC fractions for vehicles with different emission**
 538 **standards, and some difference between (b) cold start and (c) hot start. Error bars**
 539 **represent the standard deviations of the fraction of OVOCs.**

540

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