Comprehensive characterization of the particulate intermediate-volatility and semi-volatile organic compounds (I/SVOCs) from heavy-duty diesel vehicles using two-dimensional gas chromatography time-of-flight mass spectrometry

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Abstract.

Tailpipe emissions from three heavy-duty diesel vehicles (HDDVs), complying with varying emission standards and installed with diverse aftertreatment technologies, are collected at a certified chassis dynamometer laboratory. The HDDV-emitted intermediate-volatility and semi-volatile organic compound (I/SVOC) emission and the gas-particle partitioning of the I/SVOCs are investigated. Over four thousand compounds are identified and grouped into twenty-one categories. The dominant compound groups of particulate I/SVOCs are alkanes and phenolic compounds. For HDDVs without aftertreatment devices, i.e., diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC) and diesel particulate filter (DPF), the emitted I/SVOCs partition dramatically into the gas phase (accounting for ~ 93% of the total I/SVOC mass), with a few exceptional categories: hopane, 4-ring polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH_{4rings}), and PAH_{5rings}. For HDDVs with DPF and DOC, the particulate fractions are reduced to a negligible level, i.e., less than 2%. Nevertheless, 50% of the total 2-ring PAH mass is detected in the particle phase, which is much higher than the high-molecular-weight PAHs, arising from the positive sampling artifact of quartz filter absorbing organic vapours. The positive sampling artifact of quartz filter absorbing organic vapours is clearly observed and uncertainties are discussed and quantified. Particulate I/SVOCs at low-speed, middle-speed, and high-speed phases are collected and analysed separately. Emission factor (EF) distribution of the speciated organic aerosol (OA) on a two-dimensional volatility basis set (2D-VBS) space reveals that the fractions of OA with O:C (oxygen to carbon) ratio > 0.3 (0.4, 0.5) are 18.2% (11.5%, 9.5%), 23% (15.4%, 13.6%), and 29.1% (20.6%, 19.1%) at low-speed, middle-speed, and high-speed stages. The results help to resolve the complex organic mixtures and trace the evolution of OA.

1. Introduction

The chemical composition of fine particle (particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 2.5 micrometre, $PM_{2.5}$) varies both temporally and spatially. Unlike the inorganic portion that has been well studied, the characterization of organic aerosol, which takes up a major faction of $PM_{2.5}$ mass is yet to achieve. Nevertheless, the elevated $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations have been widely recognized to be associated with enhanced mortality by epidemiologic studies (Franklin et al., 2008; Tecer et al., 2008; Sun et al., 2022b; Faridi et al., 2022; Nguyen et al., 2022). For example, exposures to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and the derivatives through inhalation, ingestion, and dermal contact are associated with an increased risk of cancer (Li et al., 2022; Sun et al., 2022a).

Once emitted into the atmosphere, the volatile organic compounds (VOCs), intermediate-volatility and semi-volatile organic compounds (I/SVOCs) are subject to sequences of chemical and physical evolutions to form secondary organic aerosol (SOA) (Alier et al., 2013; Paasonen et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2006; Stewart et al., 2021a; Stewart et al., 2021b). I/SVOCs span a wide range of volatility and partition dynamically between the gas and particle phases (Alam et al., 2019; Presto et al., 2009). The term effective saturation concentration (C^*, μg m^{-3}) is frequently used to categorize IVOCs ($10^3 < C^* < 10^6$ μg m^{-3}), SVOCs ($10^{-1} < C^* < 10^3$ μg m^{-3}), and low volatility organic compounds LVOCs ($C^* < 10^{-1}$ μg m^{-3}) (Gentner et al., 2012). Diesel vehicle exhaust has contributed significantly to the emission of VOCs, IVOCs, SVOCs, and PM on both global and regional scales (Huang et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2021; Ridley et al., 2018). The abundant emission of the precursors and the dynamic interactions under atmospheric conditions impose significant impacts on climate change and huma health (Luo et al., 2022; Poorfakhraei et al., 2017). In view of such importance, the quantitative characterization of the vehicular organic components, spanning the whole volatility range, is highly needed. While on-road vehicle emitted VOCs have been well speciated and accurately quantified, regardless of fuel type, vehicle type, ignition system, and driving condition, the determination of IVOCs and SVOCs is far from adequate (Kawashima et al., 2006; Gentner et al., 2009).

The accurate quantification of I/SVOCs, which composes of thousands of individual compounds, remains a great challenge (Stewart et al., 2021b). They are frequently reported as a few compound categories and leave the majority being unresolved complex mixtures (UCMs) (Qi et al., 2019; Zhao et al., 2014). For instance, alkanes (including *n*-alkanes, *i*-alkanes, and cyclic alkanes) are found to be the dominant fraction in I/SVOCs, contributing to over 60% of total mass, followed by oxygenated and aromatic species (Alam et al., 2019; Lu et al., 2018; He et al., 2022). Crucial structural information, e.g., carbon skeletons and chemical active moieties, is notably missing. The knowledge of structural information at molecular level helps to give a more comprehensive description of the chemical evolution of I/SVOCs from mobile sources and better predict the SOA formation (Chen et al., 2019; Kleindienst et al., 2012; He et al., 2020; Tkacik et al., 2012). Besides, the molecular level composition alters the optical properties of the OA significantly (Li et al., 2018; Li et al., 2021; Harvey et al., 2016).

The gas-particle (g-p) partitioning of vehicle emitted I/SVOCs is determined by the mutual effects of intrinsic nature of the organics, e.g., the sub-cooled liquid vapor pressure, and the environmental conditions, e.g., temperature, bulk OA concentration, and heterogeneous reactions (Lu et al., 2018; Sitaras et al., 2004; Chen et al., 2010; Liu et al., 2015). The scenarios of g-p partitioning of vehicle emissions are described by different vehicle types or driving conditions, and limited compound categories are reported (Lu et al., 2018; May et al., 2013b, a). The lacking of phase distribution by chemical speciation biases the SOA model prediction and hinders a full

77 understanding of chemical fate of vehicle emissions (Li et al., 2018; Grieshop et al., 2007). For example, Zhao et

78 al. (2013) reported the g-p partitioning of individual organic species using a thermal desorption aerosol gas

79 chromatography (TAG) instrument and found that contribution of oxygenated compounds to SOA can be

80 substantially increased through g-p partitioning. However, a comprehensive characterization of speciated g-p

81 partition of vehicle emission is yet to achieve (Alam et al., 2016; Zhao et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2015).

82 Given such significant research gap, particulate I/SVOCs at ascending speed stages are collected and analysed

83 separately. We combine the targeted and non-targeted analysis to speciate and quantify them. The emission

84 characteristics are explored, and the speciation-by-speciation g-p partitioning is fully addressed. We observe

85 unusual absorption of IVOC vapours to the sampling surface (i.e., quartz filter), and provide a systematic

86 discussion on the sampling artifact/bias on g-p partitioning equilibrium. The results clearly demonstrate that the

87 state-of-the-art instruments enable the characterization of the complex organic mixtures and help to trace the

88 evolution of organic aerosol.

89 **2. Materials and methods**

90 **2.1 Vehicles, driving cycles, and sampling**

91 The tailpipe emissions from the three in-use HDDVs are collected at the China Automotive Technology &

92 Research Centre (CATARC) in Tianjin, China. The vehicles are selected to cover a range of aftertreatment

93 technologies. One HDDV (#1) is installed with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) system and two HDDVs (#2

94 and #3) are installed with SCR, diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC), and diesel particulate filter (DPF). The recruited

95 HDDVs are modelled in year of 2016, 2020, and 2020, respectively and the gross weight are 18.7 t, 25 t, and 25

96 t. Vehicle #1 meets with China IV national emission standard which was implemented back to 2010 and vehicles

97 #2 and #3 comply with China VI national emission standard which come into force in 2021.

98 For each HDDV, they were tested on a chassis dynamometer (AIP-ECDM 72H/2AXLE) and operated over the

99 China heavy-duty commercial vehicle test cycle for heavy trucks (CHTC-HT) cold-start and hot-start driving

100 conditions consecutively. CHTC-HT driving cycle (1800 s) simulates the driving conditions for heavy-duty

101 commercial vehicles in China and is divided into three segments: low-speed (phase one (P1), 342 s), middle-speed

102 (phase two (P2), 988 s), and high-speed (phase three (P3), 470 s) and samples were collected separately. Besides,

103 samples were also collected during the whole sampling time (W, 1800 s) under cold-start and hot-start driving

104 conditions and named W_cold and W_hot for short. Prior to cold-start, each vehicle was pre-conditioned overnight

105 to cool the engine completely and the time slot between cold-start and hot-start was approximately 10 min. Each

106 test cycle was repeated for three times.

107 Constant volume sampler (CVS) is equipped with the real-time gas analyser module (MEXA-7400HLE, HORIBA,

108 Japan) to monitor the transient concentration of CO and CO_2. An array of on-line and off-line instruments are

109 deployed to measure the heavy-duty vehicle exhaust in the gas and particle phases. Experimental conditions

110 including temperature, air flow, relative humidity, and pressure and inorganic and organic components are

111 monitored collocated. The details about the sample collection of gaseous I/SVOCs are described elsewhere (He

112 et al., 2022). The particulate I/SVOC collection procedures are given below. Tailpipe emissions from each HDDV

113 is drawn into the CVS system, simultaneously with ambient air which is filtered by high-efficiency particulate air

114 filter. The diluted diesel exhaust is then directed into the second dilution trunk (SDT), where diesel emitted

115 particles are further diluted before entering the PM sampler and being collected by quartz filters. On each test,
116 one 47 mm quartz filter (Grade QM-A, Whatman, UK) is loaded for particle collection. The quartz filters are pre-
117 baked overnight at 550 °C to remove any carbonaceous contamination. The particle sampling probe places at the
118 centre line of the first dilution truck (DT) and 10 times DT inner diameter downstream the emission pipeline to
119 guarantee thorough mixing. The air flows, temperature and humidity control, and dilution ratios within the whole
120 sampling system follow the stipulations of the China VI emission standard (2018). The average temperature in
121 the sampling train is 47 $\pm$ 5 °C. Field blank samples are collected at the upstream of the emission pipeline. The
122 experiment diagram to collect gaseous and particulate emissions and the position of gas monitors are shown in
123 Figure S1.

124 **2.2 Sample treatment and chemical analysis**

125 A total of 36 filter samples plus 3 field blanks were collected and subjected to the determination of I/SVOCs,
126 among which 1/3 were non-(DPF + DOC) vehicle samples and 2/3 (DPF + DOC) vehicle samples. A precious
127 portion of 1 cm^2 (1 cm $\times$ 1 cm) was removed from the quartz filter and cut into strips before placing into the
128 thermal desorption (TD) tube. 2 μL deuterated internal standard (IS) mixing solution was spiked onto the strips
129 through a mild N_2 blow (CSLR, Markes International). The list of IS species is shown in the supporting
130 information (S1). The TD tubes were placed into an automated thermal desorption system (TD100-xr, Markes
131 International), which is connected to a two-dimensional gas chromatograph (GC $\times$ GC) (Agilent 7890B, Agilent
132 Technologies) coupled with a time-of-flight mass spectrometer (ToF-MS) (LECO Pegasus4D, LECO
133 Corporation).
134 The TD, GC $\times$ GC, and ToF-MS parameters are similar to those previously published for the measurement of
135 gaseous I/SVOCs (He et al., 2022). Briefly, the TD tubes are heated to 315 °C for 20 min where the I/SVOCs are
136 vaporized gradually and condense at the cold trap which is kept at 25 °C. Next, the trap is heated to 330 °C for 5
137 min and the re-concentrated compounds are purged into the GC column in a split ratio of 8.7:1. The first Rxi-5ms
138 capillary column (30 m $\times$ 0.25 mm $\times$ 0.25 μm, Restek) and the second Rxi-17Sil MS (0.75 m $\times$ 0.25 mm $\times$
139 0.25 μm, Restek) capillary column are installed to separate the analytes. A modulator is deployed to partition the
140 effluents from the 1st column into cryo-focused segments and inject them into the 2nd column, with a modulation
141 time slot of 4 s. The column flow is set at 1.3 mL min^{-1} and GC oven initial temperature at 50 °C for 5 min,
142 increased to 300 °C at 5 °C min^{-1}, and held for another 5 min. The secondary oven and modulator temperature are
143 5 °C and 30 °C higher than the GC oven temperature, respectively. The complete run time is approximately 3900
144 s. The ToF-MS is conducted in electron impact positive (EI +) mode (70 eV) scanning over an m/z range of
145 35−550 amu. The ion source temperature is kept at 250 °C.

146 **2.3 Data analysis**

147 Particulate I/SVOCs are identified and quantified with their respective authentic standards or surrogates using the
148 three-step approach proposed in He et al. (2022). In short, within one GC $\times$ GC chromatogram, for the peaks of
149 which the authentic standards are available, they are accurately identified based on the retention time of respective
150 authentic standards and their mass spectrum and precisely quantified based on the constructed calibration curves.
151 The list of authentic standards is shown in Table S1. Next, for the peaks of which the authentic standards are not
152 available, they are semi-identified by referring to the elution sequences and extracting mass spectrum patterns via

a self-developed algorithm. The syntax is described in He et al. (2022). Third, for the peaks without clear mass spectrum patterns, they are semi-identified by the physically nearest surrogate within the GC × GC chromatogram. The surrogate is picked out by iterating through all the authentic standards using the self-developed data processing program and comparing the first retention time (RT_1) and second retention time (RT_2) intervals. Basically, thousands of peaks are identified and grouped into twenty-one categories. The classified particulate I/SVOCs include alkane, alkene, cycloalkane, hopane, 2-ring PAHs, 3-ring PAHs, 4-ring PAHs ($PAH_{4rings202}$ and $PAH_{4rings228}$), 5-ring PAHs, biphenyl & acenaphthene, acid, phenol benzylic alcohol, aliphatic alcohol ether, aliphatic ketone ester, benzylic ketone ester, Nitros, C_2 alkyl benzene, C_3 alkyl benzene, C_4 alkyl benzene, C_5 alkyl benzene, and C_6 alkyl benzene.

2.4 Calculation of emission factors (EFs)

Particulate I/SVOC EFs are determined using the following equation by assuming that the CO_2 and CO are the dominant combustion products of diesel fuel.

$$EF = (\frac{\Delta I/SVOCs}{V_S} \times \frac{V_{cvs} \times 10^6}{\Delta[CO_2] \times M_C/M_{CO_2} + \Delta[CO] \times M_C/M_{CO}})w_C$$

where EF is the emission factor of particulate I/SVOCs (mg kg·fuel^{-1}); $\Delta I/SVOCs$ is the mass deposited on the quartz filter in the CVS (mg), which is corrected for the background contamination measured on the field blanks and column bleedings; $\Delta[CO_2]$ and $\Delta[CO]$ are the background-corrected CO_2 and CO masses (mg), respectively; M_{CO_2}, M_{CO}, and M_C are the molar weight of CO_2, CO, and C atom; V_{cvs} and V_S are the air flow monitored in the CVS and particle sampling trunk (L min^{-1}); w_C is the mass fraction of carbon (0.865) in the diesel fuel (Dallmann et al., 2013).

3. Results and discussion

3.1 Emission factors and the chemical speciation and of particulate I/SVOCs

Figure 1 shows the speciated emission factor of the HDDV-emitted I/SVOCs in the particle phase. Generally, over four thousand individual peaks are detected within different tailpipe samples and grouped into twenty-one categories after the three-step data treatment procedure. The average HDDV-emitted particulate I/SVOCs EFs of cold-start and hot-start driving cycles are 147.2 ± 68.3 and 1.7 ± 0.3 mg kg·fuel^{-1} for non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles, 1.6 ± 0.3 and 0.9 ± 0.1 mg kg·fuel^{-1} for (DPF + DOC) vehicles. Substantial removal effect of the aftertreatment devices is confirmed. A category specified EFs for the non-(DOC + DPF) and (DOC + DPF) vehicles are shown in Table S2.

In general, alkane is the most abundant species, taking up 22-63% of the total particulate I/SVOCs followed by 2-ring PAHs (20-33%) and phenol benzylic alcohols (14-17%). The EF of alkane derived from non-(DOC + DPF) vehicles under the cold-start condition averages to 92 ± 42.8 mg kg·fuel^{-1}, which is two orders of magnitude higher than that of hot-start cycle and (DOC + DPF) vehicles, as illustrated by the grey squares in Figure 1. Alkene and cycloalkane show commensurate EFs, with the average values of 2.4 ± 1.1 and 1.8 ± 0.9 mg kg·fuel^{-1} for cold-start and 0.04 ± 0.01 and 0.05 ± 0.02 mg kg·fuel^{-1} for hot-start driving cycle for non-(DOC + DPF) vehicles, accounting for minor parts of the total particulate I/SVOCs. The emission of the two species is further reduced after the installation of aftertreatment devices.

2-ring to 5-ring PAHs are frequently detected in particulate I/SVOCs, which is different from the gaseous I/SVOCs that only 2-ring to 4-ring PAHs were observed (He et al., 2022). The averaged EFs of PAH subgroup vary significantly. For example, for non-(DOC + DPF) vehicles operated under cold-start driving condition, 2-ring PAHs are detected at abundant concentration of 33.8 ± 15.7 mg kg·fuel^{-1}, whereas 3-ring, 4-ring, and 5-ring PAHs are detected at much less concentration of 1.5 ± 0.7, 1.3 ± 0.6, and 0.3 ± 0.1 mg kg·fuel^{-1}, respectively. It was reported that 16 priority PAHs listed by the United States Environment Protection Agency accounted for a minor fraction of the total PAH mass and the non-targeted analysis has highlighted the significance of the un-resolved PAHs (An et al., 2022; Chen et al., 2022). The two isomers, biphenyl and acenaphthene, contribute least (less than 0.2%) within the PAH subgroup, which is consistent with previous findings (Hazarika et al., 2019).

Oxygenated compounds, including phenol benzylic alcohols, aliphatic ketones, benzylic ketones, and acids are routinely detected. The EFs sum up to over 7% of the total mass. Aliphatic alcohols are observed to be abundant in the gas phase but not detectable in particulate I/SVOCs (He et al., 2022). The installation of DPF and DOC reduces the emission of oxygenates by over 93-99%. For instance, the EF of benzylic alcohols of non-(DOC + DPF) vehicles is 2.83 mg kg·fuel^{-1} (cold-start and hot-start averaged) whereas that of (DOC + DPF) vehicles is 0.15 mg kg·fuel^{-1} (cold-start and hot-start averaged).

The EF of Nitros is measured to be 0.4 mg kg·fuel^{-1} on average, taking up of 1.6% of the total mass. The installation of DPF and DOC reduces the emission of Nitros by over 95%, from 1.08 mg kg·fuel^{-1} to 0.05 mg kg·fuel^{-1} (cold-start and hot-start averaged). Mono-aromatic compounds (i.e., C_2-C_6 alkyl-substituted benzenes), which were measured to take up over 10% of the gaseous I/SVOCs, are negligible constituents in the particle phase (He et al., 2022).

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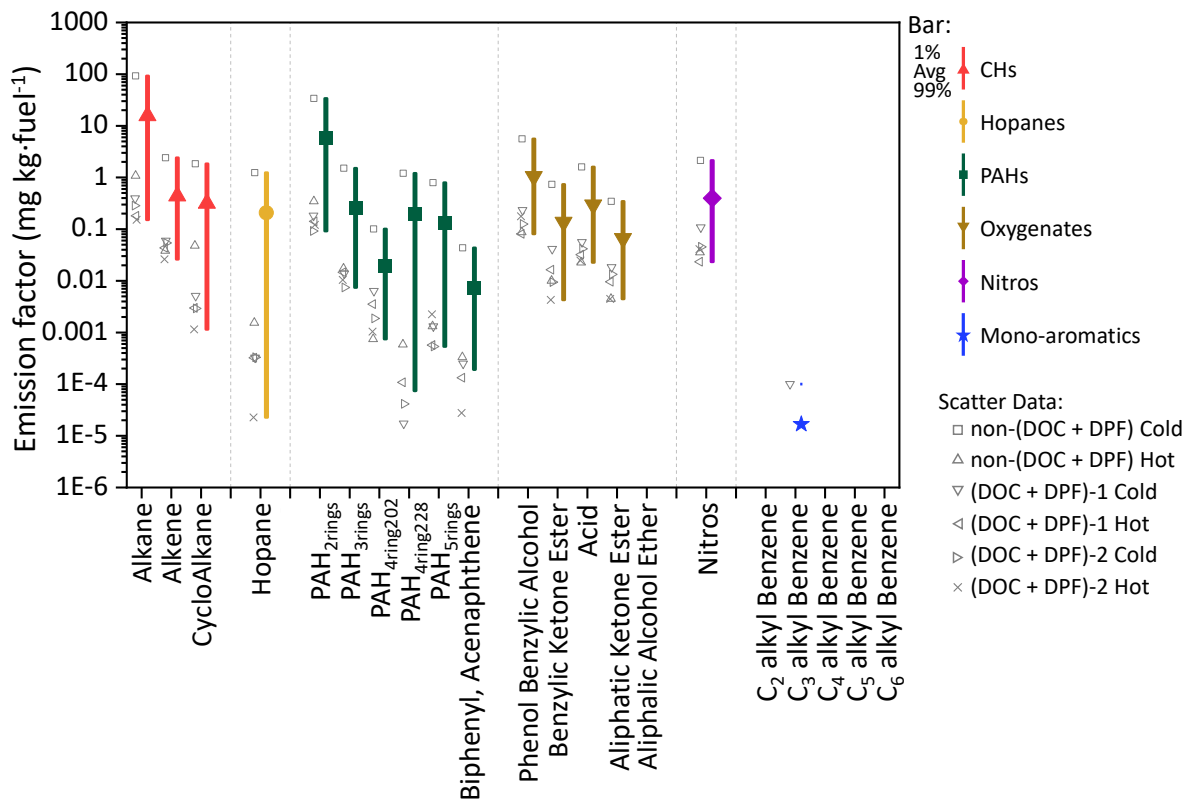
Figure 1. The measured emission factor (mg kg·fuel^{-1}) of the twenty-one categories of the HDDV-emitted I/SVOCs in the particle phase. Coloured-bars and coloured-scatters/shaped-scatters represent different organic species and driving cycles. The scatter points lying in the left side of the bars represent the averaged emission factors measured from different driving conditions or test vehicles. The square dots in the middle of each bar denote the average value and the lower and upper boundaries of the bar denote the 1% and 99% percentile of the values.

3.2 Volatility distribution of the speciated I/SVOCs and the comparison between cold and hot starts

Figure 2 displays the volatility distribution of the speciated I/SVOCs under the cold-start and hot-start driving cycles for non-(DOC + DPF) vehicles and (DOC + DPF) vehicles. Inserted pie charts illustrate the color-labeled mass contributions of each compound category. The absolute values of I/SVOC EFs distributed in each volatility and O:C bin are summarized in Tables S3 - S8. The calculation of the saturation mass concentration is presented in the supporting information (S4). The volatility distributions among the four test conditions, i.e., cold-start non-(DOC + DPF) ($C_{wo}AT$), hot-start non-(DOC + DPF) ($H_{wo}AT$), cold-start (DOC + DPF) ($C_{wi}AT$), and hot-start (DOC + DPF) ($H_{wi}AT$), do not vary much except the two peaks at $\log_{10}C^* = -4\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$ and $\log_{10}C^* = -3\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$ under $C_{wo}AT$ and $H_{wo}AT$ (Figure 2a and 2b). The abnormal abundant emissions indicate intensive incomplete combustion processes, especially under cold-start condition. The high emissions at the low volatility end vanish after the installation of DOC and DPF (Figure 2a vs. Figure 2c, Figure 2b vs. Figure 2d), revealing that the aftertreatment devices eliminate the low volatility compounds, mostly alkanes, efficiently. Great environment benefits are thereby expected with the advancing of the aftertreatment technologies.

The majority of particulate I/SVOCs distribute in the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* = 1$ to $8\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$ while the specified compound categories distribute differently and could be classified into three groups. First, alkanes are observed within the whole volatility range at abundant level. Second, hopanes, PAH_{4rings}, and PAH_{5rings} reside in the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* \leq -2\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$ dominantly. For example, about 44% of hopane mass are measured in the volatility bin of $\log_{10}C^* = -3\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$. Third, light molecular weight PAHs, oxygenated compounds, and Nitros present in the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* \geq 2\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$ substantially. For example, phenol benzylic alcohols, the most abundant oxygenated compounds observed in particulate I/SVOCs, partition into the high volatile range entirely.

The mass fractions of oxygenated-I/SVOCs (O-I/SVOCs) under the cold-start and hot-start driving cycles in the gas and particle phases are shown in Figure S3. The impacts of O-I/SVOCs on SOA formation are complex. On one hand, the formation potential of oxidized components is lower than that of hydrocarbons, for example alkane (Chacon-Madrid and Donahue, 2011; Donahue et al., 2011; Ziemann, 2011). On the other hand, the increasing O:C ratio adds fragmentation on the carbon skeleton which would facilitate SOA formation (Donahue et al., 2012; Kroll et al., 2009). An increasing trend of mass fraction of particulate O-I/SVOCs from low volatility end to high volatility end is clearly demonstrated whereas a bimodal pattern of gaseous O-I/SVOCs is observed. The gaseous O-I/SVOCs were divided into two major groups with one group peaking in the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* = 4$ to $8\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$ and another group prevailing in the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* = -2$ to $3\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$. The two groups possess different chemical structures and functional groups. They were fully addressed in previous work and will not be repeated here (He et al., 2022). By contrast, one compound category, phenol benzylic alcohols, dominates in the particulate O-I/SVOC. The mass fraction of phenol benzylic alcohols is 5% and 6% for non-(DOC + DPF) vehicles under cold-start and hot-start conditions, respectively. The mass ratio increases to 26% and 22% for (DOC + DPF) vehicles. It contributes significantly to the total mass in the high volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* = 6$ to $8\ \mu g\ m^{-3}$.
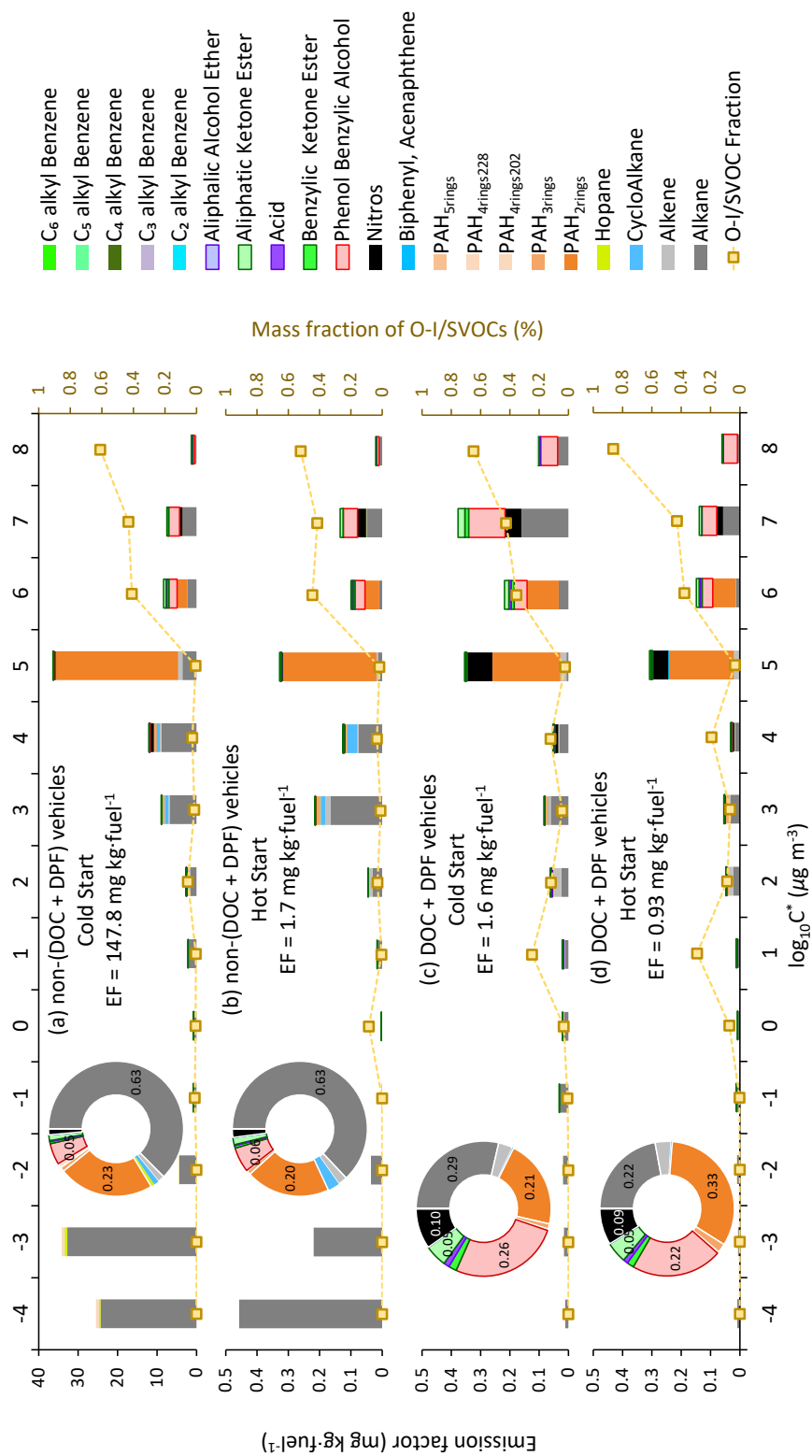
Figure 2. EFs of particulate I/SVOCs under the cold-start and hot-start driving cycles. Different coloured bars represent different compound categories. Mass fraction of the O-I/SVOCs, indicated by the scattered squares, is scaled by the right axis. Embed pie charts are the mass fractions of different compound categories, and the numbers show the mass contributions of the top few species.

3.3 The EF distribution of particulate I/SVOCs

Figure 3 and Figure 4 display the EF distribution of the speciated particulate I/SVOCs on a two-dimensional volatility basis set (2D-VBS) space of P1, P2, P3, and whole (W_cold and W_hot) driving cycles. The absolute values of I/SVOC EFs distributed in each volatility and O:C bin are summarized in Tables S3 – S12.

Distinct distribution patterns are observed between different speed stages. For non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles, peak signals of P1 are detected at low volatility and O:C ratio bins, i.e., $\log_{10}C^* = -3$ to -4 $\mu g\ m^{-3}$ and O:C < 0.3 whereas those of P2 and P3 are measured at $\log_{10}C^* = 3$ to 7 $\mu g\ m^{-3}$ and the fraction of I/SVOCs with higher O:C ratio increases, especially at high-speed stage (P3). For example, the fractions of I/SVOC with O:C > 0.3 (0.4, 0.5) are 18.4% (10.2%, 7.0%), 13.4% (8.3%, 7.6%), and 25.3% (19.4%, 18.6%) for P1, P2, and P3 stages. The fraction of I/SVOCs with higher O:C ratio decreases rapidly to less than 10% for low and middle-speed stages, contrast with which the fraction remains at comparable level for high-speed stage. The emission characteristics of the whole driving cycle combine the patterns of the separate speed phases, and a bimodal trend is observed as displayed in Figure 5d and 5e.

After the installation of aftertreatment devices, the peak signals of P1 are detected at high volatility bins, i.e., $\log_{10}C^* = 3$ to 7 $\mu g\ m^{-3}$ and low O:C range. In comparison with non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles, the EF volatility distribution of P1 resembles that of P2 and P3 whereas the fraction of I/SVOCs with higher O:C ratio of P1 is still lower than that of P2 and P3. The fractions of I/SVOC with O:C > 0.3 (0.4, 0.5) are 18.1% (12.1%, 10.8%), 27.8% (18.9%, 16.6%), and 31.0% (21.2%, 19.3%) for P1, P2, and P3 stages, considering that the O:C ratio of the bulk organic species varies from 0.25 to 0.5.

Comparing the EF distribution of I/SVOCs emitted by different types of vehicles under the same driving conditions, as shown in Figure 5, it is clearly demonstrated that the aftertreatment devices favour the formation of I/SVOCs with higher oxidation state. DOC promotes the oxidation of exhaust gases and the organics filtrated by DPF by oxygen and the I/SVOCs with O:C > 0.3 (0.4, 0.5) under the W_cold condition increase from 0.13 to 0.35 (0.11 to 0.18, 0.08 to 0.16) after the equipment of these aftertreatment devices. The respective fractions under W_hot condition increase from 0.18 to 0.26, 0.09 to 0.25, and 0.07 to 0.23, respectively.

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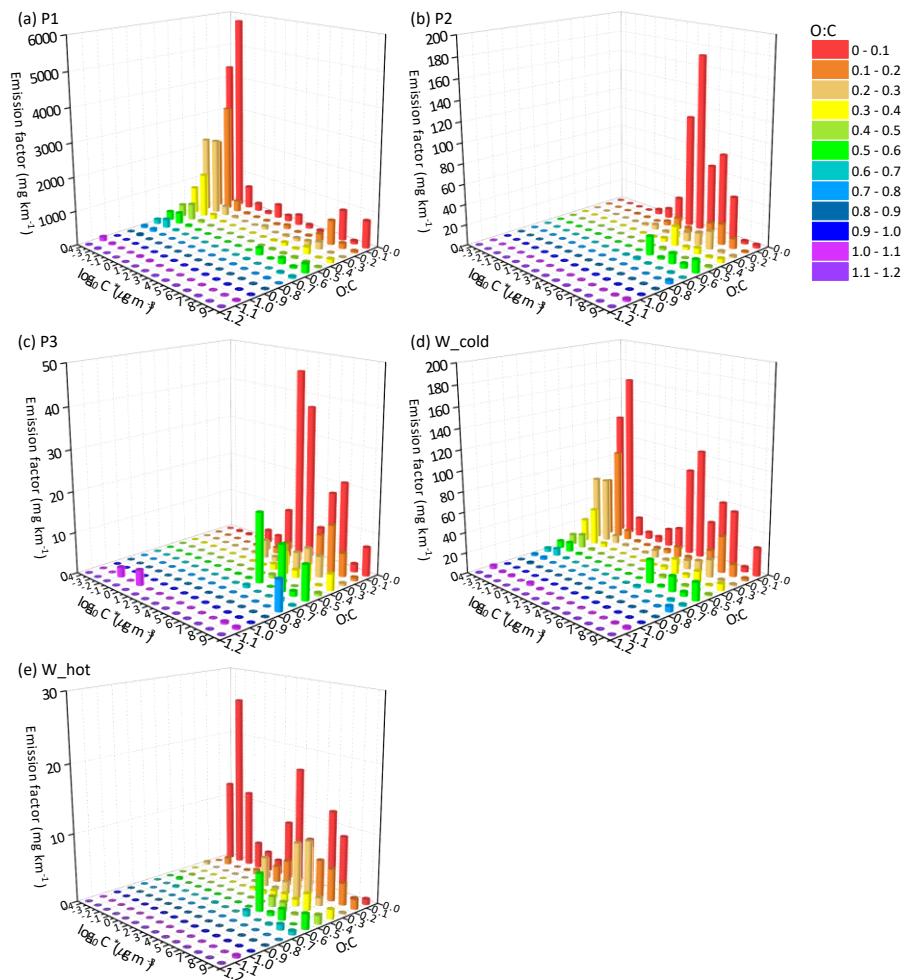
Figure 3. Emission factor distribution of the speciated I/SVOCs of non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles on a 2D-VBS space of (a) low-speed stage (P1), (b) middle-speed stage (P2), (c) high-speed stage (P3), (d) whole (W_cold), and whole (W_hot) driving cycles. Different colours indicate different O:C ratios segmented into 12 bins: 0-0.1, 0.1-0.2, 0.2-0.3, 0.3-0.4, 0.4-0.5, 0.5-0.6, 0.6-0.7, 0.7-0.8, 0.8-0.9, 0.9-1.0, and 1.1-1.2.

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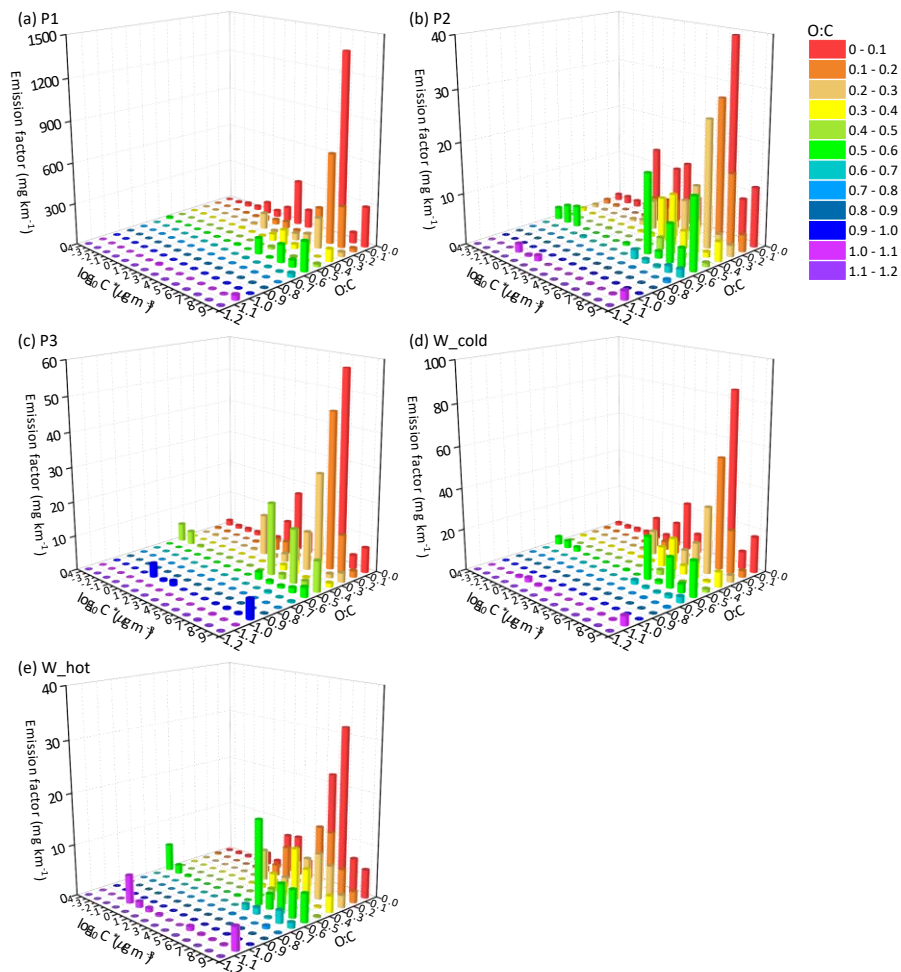
Figure 4. Emission factor distribution of the speciated I/SVOCs of (DPF + DOC) vehicles on a 2D-VBS space of (a) low-speed stage (P1), (b) middle-speed stage (P2), (c) high-speed stage (P3), (d) whole (W_cold), and (e) whole (W_hot) driving cycles. Different colours indicate different O:C ratios segmented into 12 bins: 0-0.1, 0.1-0.2, 0.2-0.3, 0.3-0.4, 0.4-0.5, 0.5-0.6, 0.6-0.7, 0.7-0.8, 0.8-0.9, 0.9-1.0, and 1.1-1.2.

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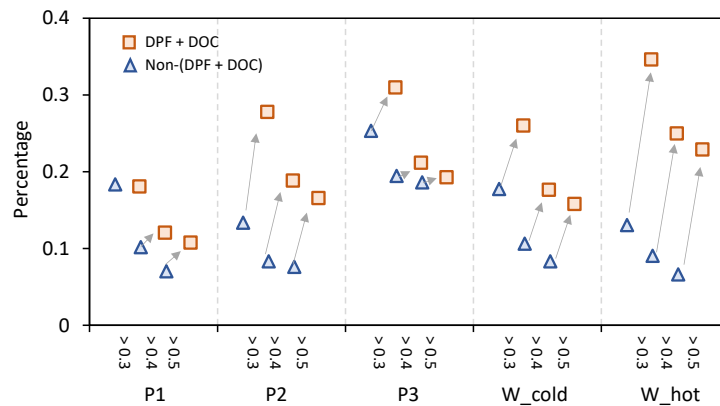


Figure 5. The increment of I/SVOC with O:C > 0.3, 0.4, and 0.5 from non-(DPF + DOC) to (DPF + DOC) vehicles under low-speed stage (P1), middle-speed stage (P2), high-speed stage (P3), and whole (W_cold, W_cold) driving cycles.

3.4 Gas particle partitioning of HDDV-emitted I/SVOCs and the uncertainties/artifacts

Figure 6 shows the g-p partitioning by different compound categories. Generally, the I/SVOCs partition predominantly to the gas phase, with a few exception categories: hopanes, 2ring, 4-ring, and 5-ring PAHs. Distinct patterns are observed between vehicles with and without DPF and DOC. For example, the particle phase contributes 7.4% to the total I/SVOC mass for non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles, whereas it accounts for less than 0.2% for (DPF + DOC) vehicles. Similar mass distributions are observed for alkanes, 3-ring PAHs, and oxygenated species, which confirms the high particle removal efficiency of the aftertreatment devices. The monoaromatic compounds are not detected in the particle phase, regardless of the aftertreatment devices. Over 40% 4-ring PAHs partition to the particle phase for non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles and the portion is reduced to less than 0.1% when DPF and DOC systems are installed. The particle fraction of 2-ring PAHs is 57%, whereas that of 3-ring, 4-ring, and 5-ring PAHs are 8.4%, 43.7%, and 100%, respectively.

The adsorption of gaseous I/SVOCs onto filters causes negative biases in the measured gas phase concentration and positive artifacts in the measured particle phase concentration (Turpin et al., 1994). Compared with quartz filter, which absorbs vapours significantly (May et al., 2013b), teflon has small surface area and is relatively inert. The OA concentration in the tailpipe is orders of magnitude higher than that in the ambient air even after the dilution in the CVS system. With such high OA loadings, the g-p partitioning shift to the particle phase. Although inevitable, the bias should be closely watched. For example, the sampling tube is short enough (less than 50 cm) to minimize the g-p conversion in the sampling system (the residence time is less than the time scale to reach g-p equilibrium) (Saleh et al., 2013) and Teflon filter is deployed instead of a quartz filter. Good news is that there will be a significant pressure drop before and after the Teflon filter, and the lower pressure behind the Teflon drives the g-p portioning to the gas phase, which offsets the vapor loss by some extent (Turpin et al., 1994).

We then quantify the sampling artifacts. As shown in Figure 7, the particle mass fraction increases gradually from $\log_{10}C^* = 8$ μg m^{-3} to $\log_{10}C^* = -4$ μg m^{-3}. Similar trends were observed previously (Lu et al., 2018). There is a peak in the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* = 3$ to 7 μg m^{-3} when the particle mass fraction fluctuates around 10% (Figure 7a). The particle fraction decreases

to less than 1% between the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* = -1$ to 2 μg m^{-3}. It is highly likely that the peak reflects the sampling artifacts originated from the vapor loss to the quartz filter. DOC component oxidizes and removes

322 the exhausted gases efficiently, as a consequent of which the sampling artifacts is reduced, i.e., 10% to 1%. The

323 vapor loss occurs in a certain volatility range instead of the whole volatility range, e.g., $\log_{10}C^* = 3$ to 7 μg m^{-3}

324 and dominant in $\log_{10}C^* = 5$ μg m^{-3} bin in this study. The gaseous IVOCs in $\log_{10}C^* = 8$ μg m^{-3} bin may be too

325 volatile to be absorbed by quartz filter. For non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles, the particle fraction approximates 1% at

326 $\log_{10}C^* = 8$ μg m^{-3} and $\log_{10}C^* = 2$ μg m^{-3} bins (the volatility bins adjacent to the bins with sampling artifacts). If

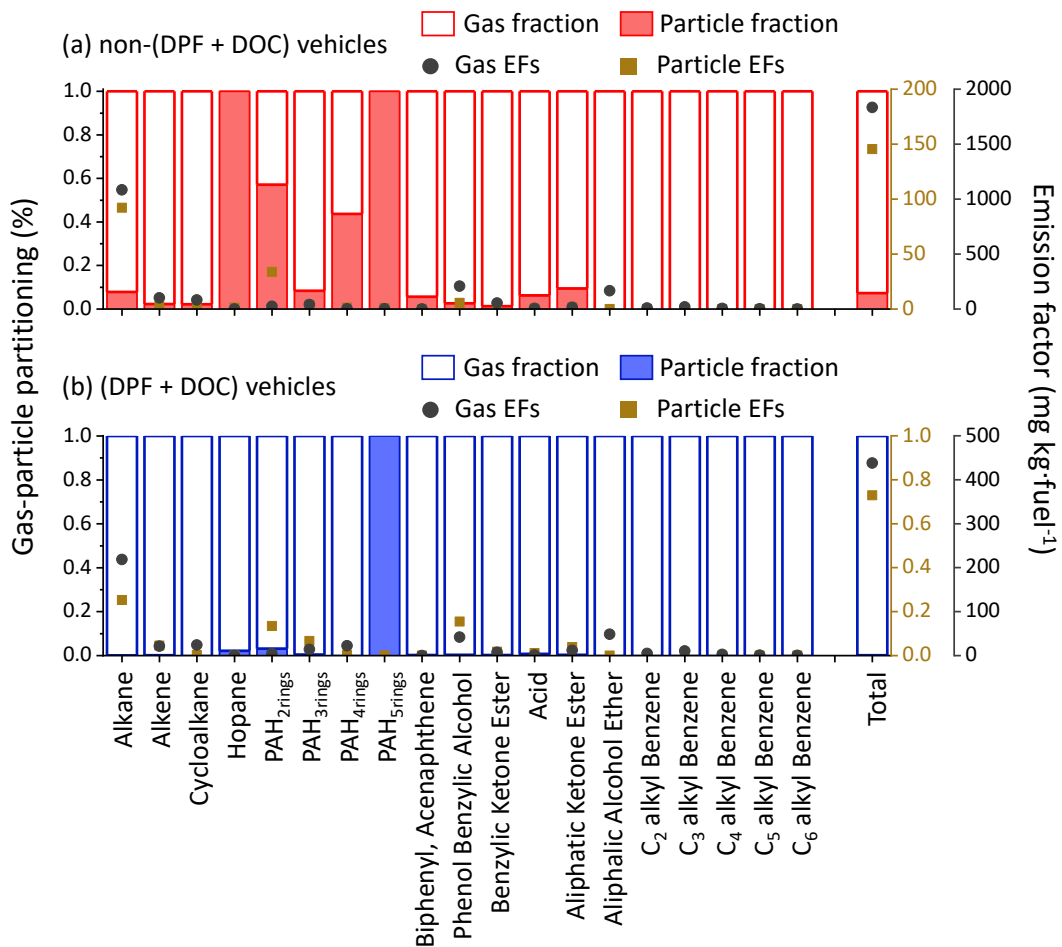
327 we assume that the particle fraction baseline is 1% during the volatility range of $\log_{10}C^* = 2$ to 8 μg m^{-3}, we may

328 deduce that the vapor loss to quartz filter results in a negative bias to the gaseous I/SVOCs mass with an upper

329 limit of 9% and approximate 90% of the particulate I/SVOCs result from sampling artifacts in the volatility range

330 of $\log_{10}C^* = 3$ to 7 μg m^{-3}. It is also worth mentioning that the absorption bias varies significantly for different

331 compound categories. For example, substantial 2-ring PAHs are detected in the particle phase whereas no notable

332 sampling artifacts are observed for phenol benzylic alcohols and benzylic ketone esters.

333

334 **Figure 6. The gas-particle partitioning of speciated I/SVOCs emitted from (a) non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles and (b) (DPF**
335 **+ DOC) vehicles. The hollow and filled columns represent the gas and particle fraction, respectively. The grey dots and**
336 **brown squares represent the emission factors of the gaseous and particulate I/SVOCs.**

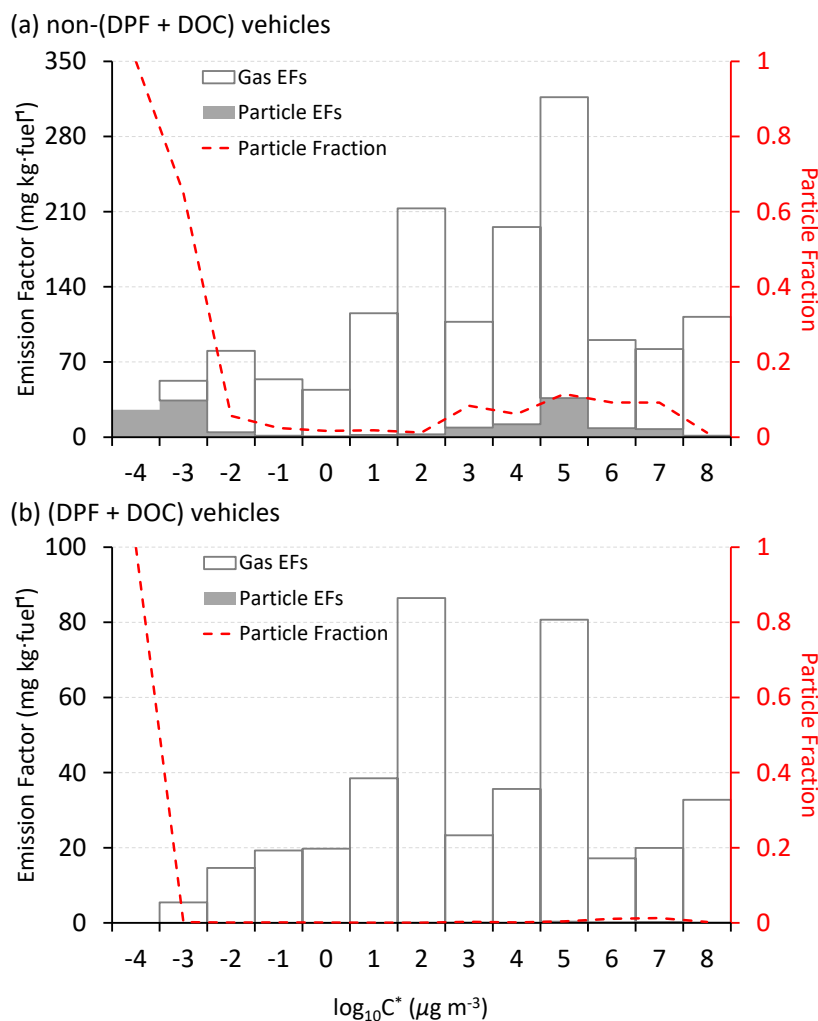



Figure 7. The emission factors of gaseous and particulate I/SVOCs (hollow and filled stack columns) and the particle mass fraction (red dashed line) in each volatility bin computed from (a) non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles and (b) (DPF + DOC) vehicles.

4. Conclusions

Chassis dynamometer tests of HDDVs complying with multiple emission standards are conducted to characterize the particulate I/SVOCs. Thousands of induvial organic compounds are detected and classified, where alkanes and phenolic compounds are observed to be the most abundant groups. The species-by-species g-p partitioning of the I/SVOCs are discussed separately for vehicles with and without aftertreatment devices. Generally, the I/SVOCs partition to the gas phase dominantly. For non-(DPF + DOC) vehicles, the gaseous I/SVOCs account for ~ 93% of the total mass, except for hopane, PAH_{4rings}, and PAH_{5rings}. For (DPF + DOC) vehicles, the particulate fraction of I/SVOCs are further reduced to less than 2%. Sampling artifacts of quartz filter absorbing organic vapours are confirmed by the abnormal high signal of 2-ring PAHs, and the uncertainties are discussed thoroughly. Speciation information is highly needed to better predict the thermodynamics of oxidation chemistry. The application of GC × GC-ToF-MS and self-constructed data processing programs achieve the detailed identification and quantification of particulate I/SVOCs. Although not resolved at molecular level, the speciated information enables us to better characterize the emission scenarios and guides the implementation of control

354 strategies in the future. This approach is versatile and could be applied not only to vehicle emissions but also to

355 other significant sources prevailing in typical environments, e.g., biomass burning and ship emissions, as well as

356 ambient samples collected at receptor sites. Putting the speciated I/SVOC data into atmospheric models and

357 emission inventories, we expect a significantly improved estimation of SOA locally and globally.

358 **Data availability**

359 The measurement data used in this study are available in the data repository:

360 https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/Emission_factor_summary_the_g-

361 p_partition_and_the_removal_effciency_xlsm/19994603.

362 **Author contribution:**

363 Xiao He: Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Investigation, Formal Analysis, Writing-Original Draft,

364 Data Curation, Visualization, Funding Acquisition. Xuan Zheng: Project Management, Validation, Writing-

365 Review & Editing, Funding Acquisition. Shaojun Zhang: Validation, Writing-Review & Editing. Xuan Wang:

366 Validation, Writing-Review & Editing. Ting Chen: Investigation. Xiao Zhang: Investigation. Guanghan Huang:

367 Investigation. Yihuan Cao: Investigation. Liqiang He: Investigation. Xubing Cao: Investigation. Yuan Cheng:

368 Investigation. Shuxiao Wang: Resources, Writing-Review & Editing, Funding Acquisition. Ye Wu: Resources,

369 Supervision, Funding Acquisition

370 **Declaration of Competing Interest**

371 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

372 **Acknowledgements**

373 The authors acknowledge the financial support of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (51978404,

374 41977180, 42105100, and 22188102) and the Basic Research of Shenzhen Science and Technology Innovation

375 Commission (JCYJ20190808145218827). The contents of this paper are solely the responsibility of the authors

376 and do not necessarily represent the official views of the sponsors.

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