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1           **Detecting Candidate High NO<sub>x</sub> Emitting Light Commercial**  
2           **Vehicles Using Vehicle Emission Remote Sensing**

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7           **Abstract:**

8           Vehicle emission remote sensing devices have been widely used for monitoring  
9           and assessing the real-world emission performance of vehicles. They are also  
10          well-suited to identify candidate high emitting vehicles as remote sensing surveys  
11          measure the on-road, real-driving emissions (RDE) of a high proportion of the  
12          operational vehicle fleet passing through a testing site. This study uses the  
13          Gumbel distribution to characterise the fuel-specific NO<sub>x</sub> emission rates  
14          (grams.kg<sup>-1</sup>) from diesel vans (formally referred to as light commercial vehicles or  
15          LCVs) and screen candidate high emitting vehicles. Van emission trends of four  
16          European countries (Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK) from Euro 3 to  
17          Euro 6a/b have been studied, and the impact of road grade on candidate Euro  
18          6a/b high-emitters is also evaluated. The measurements of Euro 6a/b fleets from  
19          four countries are pooled together, and a consistent 4% of candidate high-  
20          emitters are found in both class II and class III Euro 6a/b vans, accounting for an  
21          estimated 24% and 21% total NO<sub>x</sub> emissions respectively. The pooled four  
22          country data is differentiated by vehicle models and manufacture groups. Engine  
23          downsizing of Euro 6a/b class II vans is suspected to worsen the emission  
24          performance when vehicles are driven under high engine load. The VW Group is  
25          found to be the manufacture with cleanest NO<sub>x</sub> emission performance in the Euro  
26          6a/b fleets. By distinguishing high-emitters from normally behaving vehicles, a  
27          more robust description of fleet behaviour can be provided and high-emitting  
28          vehicles targeted for further testing by plume chasing or in an inspection garage.  
29          If the vehicle is found to have a faulty, deteriorated or tampered emission after-  
30          treatment system, the periodic vehicle inspection safety and environmental  
31          performance certificate could be revoked.

32          **Keywords:** remote sensing, vans, NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, high-emitters identification

## 33 1 Introduction

34 Road transport is a major contributor to nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) concentrations,  
35 which has negative effects on public health and the environment ([Pastorello and](#)  
36 [Melios 2016](#)). Knowledge of the real-world vehicle emissions is important to  
37 assess the effectiveness of current control measures and substantiate future  
38 policy decisions. The discrepancy between real-world driving and type-approval  
39 emissions for passenger cars has been made clear, where real-world emissions  
40 can exceed emission limits several times for different Euro standards ([Weiss et](#)  
41 [al. 2011](#); [Chen and Borken-Kleefeld 2014](#); [DfT 2016](#)). However, only a limited  
42 amount of research ([ICCT 2019a](#); [Chen, Sun and Borken-Kleefeld 2020](#)) has  
43 studied the real-world emission performance of vans, even though vans saw a  
44 106.2% rise in traffic over the last 25 years (compared with 29.8% for cars and  
45 12.8% for lorries) ([DfT 2020](#)), and was estimated to contribute 36.1% of NO<sub>x</sub>  
46 emissions from the road traffic sector in 2019 in the UK ([NAEI 2021](#)).

47 Researchers have been developing different methods to monitor the real-world  
48 NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from vehicles using laboratory (chassis dynamometer) tests  
49 ([Demuyne et al. 2012](#); [Moody and Tate 2017](#)), on-board tests (portable  
50 emissions measurement systems — PEMS) ([O'Driscoll et al. 2016](#); [Luján et al.](#)  
51 [2018](#)), plume chasing ([Wang et al. 2011](#); [Lau et al. 2015](#)) and remote sensing  
52 instruments ([Carslaw et al. 2011](#); [Chen and Borken-Kleefeld 2016](#)). Unlike  
53 laboratory tests, PEMS or plume chasing that provide second by second emission  
54 rates (grams.sec<sup>-1</sup>) over a whole driving cycle or journey for a limited number of  
55 test vehicles, remote sensing instruments un-intrusively takes a snap-shot  
56 sample of fuel-specific emission rates (grams.kg<sup>-1</sup>) from a large number of  
57 vehicles in a single day ([Beaton et al. 1995](#); [Huang et al. 2018](#)). This makes  
58 remote sensing a powerful approach for monitoring fleet emission characteristics  
59 ([Carslaw et al. 2011](#); [Carslaw et al. 2013](#); [Chen and Borken-Kleefeld 2016](#);  
60 [Grange et al. 2019](#)) and detecting candidate high-emitting vehicles ([Borken-](#)  
61 [Kleefeld 2013](#); [Pujadas, Domínguez-Sáez and De la Fuente 2017](#); [Huang et al.](#)  
62 [2019](#)).

63 When analysing remote sensing measurements some form of data aggregation  
64 is needed as a single record is insufficient to derive meaningful, statistically  
65 significant insights. The most common way to aggregate remote sensing data is  
66 to calculate the mean emission rates classified by Euro standard and fuel type  
67 ([Carslaw et al. 2011](#); [Chen and Borken-Kleefeld 2014](#)), based on an assumption  
68 that the distribution of vehicle emissions is symmetrical, such as following a  
69 normal distribution. However, previous remote sensing studies ([ICCT 2018](#);  
70 [AWEL 2019](#); [Chen, Zhang and Borken-Kleefeld 2019](#)) have shown that vehicle

71 NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are not normally distributed, rather skewed-right, making mean  
72 emission statistics less appropriate to represent a group of remote sensing  
73 measurements. Moreover, early studies often use arbitrary predetermined cut  
74 points to identify high-emitters ([Pujadas, Domínguez-Sáez and De la Fuente  
2017](#); [Huang et al. 2019](#)), regardless of the fact that the normal emission  
75 performance may differ in a certain campaign site. Therefore further research is  
76 considered to be needed to develop a more robust method to describe the fleet  
77 behaviour and effectively distinguish high NO<sub>x</sub> emitters from normally behaving  
78 vehicles.  
79

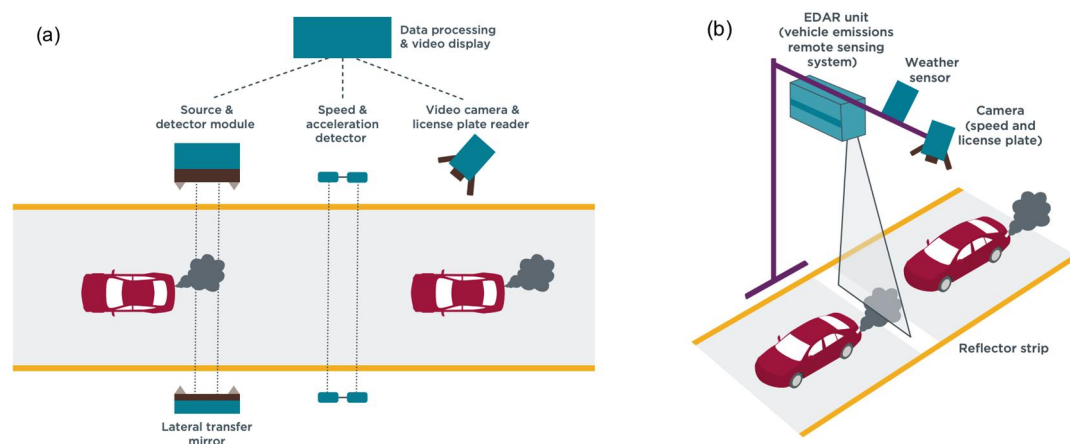
80 This paper uses the Gumbel distribution (explained in section 2.3) to analyse the  
81 remote sensing measurements of diesel vans. Vehicles that follow the fitted  
82 Gumbel distribution (referred to as 'on-model' vehicles) are selected to represent  
83 the emission performance of the normally behaving vehicles in the operational  
84 fleet, while the smaller and more highly emitting population which do not follow  
85 the Gumbel distribution (referred to as 'off-model' vehicles) are regarded as  
86 candidate high-emitters ([Rushton, Tate and Shepherd 2021](#)). Four European  
87 countries' (Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK) remote sensing  
88 campaigns during 2011-2019 have been selected from the CONOX project  
89 ([Borken-Kleefeld et al. 2018a](#)) database and an overall fleet emission trend of  
90 each country is studied. The impact of road grade on Euro 6a/b fleet in the Swiss  
91 fleet is evaluated as this dataset includes a number of measurement sites with  
92 relatively steep road gradients. Euro 6a/b fleet data from the four EU countries  
93 are then combined based on two sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, and a more  
94 differentiated degree of analysis by manufacture groups and models is conducted.

## 95 2 Materials and methods

### 96 2.1 The measurement principle

97 A vehicle emission remote sensing instrument is a monitoring system that has  
98 been widely used to estimate the real-world vehicle emissions ([Beaton et al. 1995](#);  
99 [Carslaw et al. 2011](#)). As shown in Figure 1-a, a remote sensing system positioned  
100 at a roadside includes:

- 101 • A source & detector module which passes infrared and ultraviolet light  
102 beams through the exhaust plume of passing vehicles and together with a  
103 reflecting mirror measure the attenuation of light wavelengths. The  
104 absorption of light is directly proportional to the concentration of pollutant  
105 in the atmosphere, which includes the pollutant in the plume of the vehicle  
106 crossed and in the background. After the background pollution is  
107 subtracted, only the ratio of certain pollutant to CO<sub>2</sub> is reported ([Bishop  
108 and Stedman 1996](#)), as the amount of plume seen is dependent on the  
109 height of the tailpipe. Fuel-specific NO<sub>x</sub> emission rates (in g/kg fuel burned)  
110 can then be generated based on the fuel burnt in the engine ([Burgard et  
111 al. 2006](#); [Carslaw et al. 2011](#)).
- 112 • A speed & acceleration detector which records the instantaneous speed  
113 and acceleration of the vehicle passing by.
- 114 • A camera to capture the vehicle's number plate so that technical  
115 characteristics (fuel type, Euro standard, make, model, etc.) of the vehicle  
116 can be retrieved from national vehicle registration databases.



**Figure 1 Schematics of a typical remote sensing deployment: (a) cross-road remote sensing system [left]; (b) top-down remote sensing system (EDAR) [right] ([Borken-Kleefeld and Dallmann 2018](#))**

117 An alternative configuration is the EDAR instrument which emits a sheet of laser-  
118 based infrared light in a top-down orientation, with a reflector strip mounted on  
119 the road surface scattering back the laser light (see Figure 1-b). This deployment  
120 means the measurements are less sensitive to the vehicle lane position, exhaust  
121 position and wind speed ([Ropkins et al. 2017](#)).

## 122 **2.2 Data acquisition and preparation**

123 Remote sensing campaigns have been conducted in Europe since the early  
124 1990's. In 2016, the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) founded  
125 the CONOX (COmbining, COmparing and COllaborating on NO<sub>x</sub> real driving  
126 emission measurements) project, focusing on pooling, sharing, and analysing  
127 European remote sensing data collected in a range of European cities over the  
128 past 5 to 10 years ([Borken-Kleefeld et al. 2018b](#); [Sjödin et al. 2018](#); [Borken-  
129 Kleefeld et al. 2018a](#)). The remote sensing data analysed in this paper are from  
130 the CONOX project and include several remote sensing sampling campaigns  
131 carried out during 2011-2019 across Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK.  
132 As diesel vans account for 94% of van market in Europe ([ICCT 2019b](#)), this paper  
133 only considers the emission performance of vans powered by diesel. A detailed  
134 summary of fleet characteristics by country, Euro standard and class type<sup>1</sup> is  
135 listed in Table A. 1 in the Appendix. The number of observations from Euro 3, 4,  
136 5 and 6a/b diesel vans accessed and analysed is 106,662.

137 Remote sensing data also include measurements of the testing conditions  
138 including ambient temperature, the road grade and the instantaneous speed and  
139 acceleration of each passing vehicle. The test conditions differ between countries  
140 as they are influenced by the characteristics of sample sites (road gradient,  
141 vicinity of junctions etc), driver behaviour and prevailing meteorological  
142 conditions. Based on the passing vehicles' speed/acceleration and campaign  
143 site's road grade, equation and parameters provided by [Davison et al. \(2020\)](#), a  
144 metric informing the instantaneous engine load called vehicle specific power  
145 ([Jiménez-Palacios 1999](#)) is calculated. Vehicle Specific Power (VSP) value is a  
146 useful metric when analysing remote sensing measurements as it characterises  
147 the power demands on the engine and associated NO<sub>x</sub> emissions ([Carslaw et al.  
148 2013](#)). It can identify vehicles under high load (where high emissions are  
149 expected) or at very low load (where fuel injection is disabled and plume sizes

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<sup>1</sup> Van can be further classified into three sub-categories by reference mass, where class I are vans less than 1305kg, class II are those between 1305kg and 1760kg, and class III are those above 1760kg.

150 insufficient for valid remote sensing measurements) ([ICCT 2018](#)). As shown in  
151 Table A. 1 in the Appendix, the average VSP value of each fleet is much higher  
152 than the type approval NEDC<sup>2</sup> VSP value (around 4 kW/ton for vans). In other  
153 words, most of the vehicles (Euro 3, 4, 5 and 6a/b) being measured have higher  
154 engine load with either higher speed/acceleration or steeper road grade than the  
155 test cycle. It is hypothesised that these vehicles have been designed to have  
156 cleaner emission performance in NEDC-test-type conditions and less so for real-  
157 world conditions ([Chen and Borken-Kleefeld 2014](#); [Triantafyllopoulos et al. 2019](#)).

158 Four remote sensing instruments, or generations of instrument, were used to  
159 conduct the remote sensing campaigns being analysed, namely the RSD series  
160 (RSD 4600 and RSD 5000) developed by Opus<sup>3</sup>, FEAT developed by University  
161 of Denver<sup>4</sup>, and EDAR developed by HEAT<sup>5</sup>. The RSD series and FEAT are  
162 cross-road remote sensing systems (shown in Figure 1-a) while EDAR is top-  
163 down remote sensing system (shown in Figure 1-b). 35.0% Switzerland samples  
164 and 22.8% UK samples were recorded by the RSD 4600 instrument which  
165 doesn't have a NO<sub>2</sub> measurement capability, in which case estimated NO<sub>x</sub>  
166 (NO+NO<sub>2</sub>) emission rates (grams.kg<sup>-1</sup>) are generated from the measured NO and  
167 an estimated contribution from NO<sub>2</sub>. The measurement of primary NO<sub>2</sub> in the  
168 exhaust has significant uncertainty and varies across remote sensing devices  
169 ([Carslaw and Rhys-Tyler 2013](#); [Chen and Borken-Kleefeld 2014](#); [HBEFA 2019](#)).  
170 However, in order to include samples measured by the RSD 4600 in this study,  
171 a fixed ratio of NO<sub>2</sub>: NO<sub>x</sub> needs to be proposed. Among two of the devices (FEAT  
172 and RSD 5000) that share the same measurement principle with RSD 4600, the  
173 FEAT device is considered to have a more robust record of NO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
174 compared with RSD 5000 ([Carslaw et al. 2019](#)), and it's measurement of NO has  
175 been proven to have a strong correlation with the RSD 4600 ([Rushton et al. 2018](#)).  
176 Therefore the fraction of primary NO<sub>2</sub> in NO<sub>x</sub> ( $f_{NO_2}$ ) is directly derived from the  
177 average ratio of NO<sub>2</sub> to NO<sub>x</sub> emissions measured by FEAT in remote sensing  
178 campaigns in the UK (detailed data for  $f_{NO_2}$  by Euro standard and class type are  
179 listed in Table A. 2 in the Appendix) and applied to RSD 4600 measurements.  
180 Density plots of the fuel-specific NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (grams.kg<sup>-1</sup>) from both with and  
181 without NO<sub>2</sub> measurement capability instruments are presented in Figure 2 (Euro  
182 6a/b is not included because all Euro 6a/b samples were measured by devices  
183 with NO<sub>2</sub> measurement capability). The different instruments are found to provide

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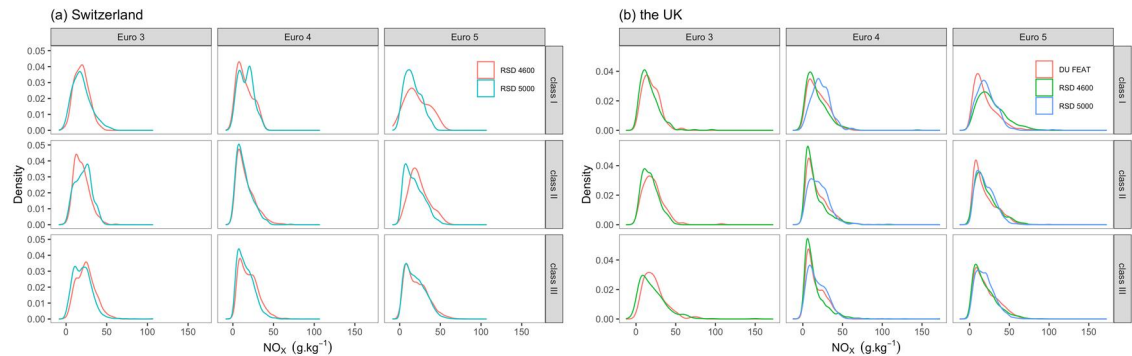
<sup>2</sup> The New European Driving Cycle (NEDC) is a driving cycle used in European type-approval test. Average VSP value of NEDC cycle is also uniformly developed using the same equation and parameters, based on driving cycle's speed profile.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.opusrse.com/rsd-technology/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.feat.biochem.du.edu/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.heatremotesensing.com/edar>

184 comparable NO<sub>x</sub> emissions within the same Euro standard and class type, which  
 185 suggests it is appropriate to combine records measured by different instruments  
 186 into a single dataset.



**Figure 2 Density plot of NO<sub>x</sub> emission rates (g/kg) for class I to class III vans by Euro standard and instrument in (a) Switzerland [left]; (b) the UK [right]**

### 187 **2.3 The Gumbel distribution and maximum $R^2$ value method**

188 Figure 2 also demonstrates that the distribution of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions measured in  
 189 Switzerland and the UK has a skewed-right character and includes a proportion  
 190 of extreme high emitting records. [Bishop et al. \(2016\)](#) and [Huang et al. \(2018\)](#)  
 191 estimate that a small number of high-emitting vehicles could contribute a  
 192 significant amount of total emissions, indicating that the emissions of the normally  
 193 behaving vehicles would be elevated if simply using the mean emission statistics  
 194 of a fleet. An accurate description of the remote sensing data distribution is  
 195 essential in understanding the vehicle fleet behaviour. It does not only describe  
 196 the average performance of the normally-behaving vehicles, but also identify  
 197 candidate high-emitting vehicles.

198 The Gumbel distribution (Type-I Generalised Extreme Value distribution)  
 199 ([Gumbel 1935](#)) is a right-skewed distribution function commonly used and widely  
 200 adopted to model populations with a small number of extreme values that would  
 201 not be captured by a normal distribution ([Sherif et al. 2014](#); [Ouarda et al. 2015](#);  
 202 [Bhagat 2017](#); [Loucks and Beek 2017](#)). [Rushton, Tate and Shepherd \(2021\)](#)  
 203 proposes using the Gumbel distribution to characterise passenger cars' remote  
 204 sensing data. As diesel vans have similar emission characteristics to diesel  
 205 passenger cars ([Chen, Sun and Borken-Kleefeld 2020](#)), the Gumbel distribution  
 206 has also been applied to vans in this paper. The probability density function (*pdf*)  
 207  $f(x)$  and cumulative density function (*cdf*)  $F(x)$  of a Gumbel distribution are given  
 208 as:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b} e^{-\left(\frac{x-a}{b} + e^{-\frac{x-a}{b}}\right)} \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$



$$F(x) = 1 - e^{-e^{\frac{x-a}{b}}} \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

209 Where  $a$  is the location parameter and represents the highest observation  
210 frequency in a dataset; and  $b$  is the scale parameter and represents the spread  
211 of the dataset.

212 When describing remote sensing measurements, the Gumbel distribution is  
213 considered superior to other commonly used skewed-right distributions (Weibull,  
214 Gamma, log-normal) as:

- 215 • The parameters in the Gumbel distribution are easy to interpret. The  
216 location parameter  $a$  describes the emission rates that have been  
217 recorded with the most frequency and scale parameter  $b$  determines the  
218 statistical dispersion of the probability distribution; and
- 219 • The Gumbel distribution can be applied to negative values. In remote  
220 sensing campaigns, small negative values are sometimes recorded  
221 because of measurement noise and inaccurate determination of the  
222 background concentration (e.g. a clean vehicle with very low emissions of  
223 NO<sub>x</sub> emissions follows with a short headway a high NO<sub>x</sub> emitting vehicle)  
224 ([Huang et al. 2018](#); [Smit et al. 2021](#)). These negative measurements  
225 should be included and not rounded to zero ([Bishop, Burgard and  
226 Stedman 2006](#); [McClintock 2011](#); [Gruening et al. 2019](#)), as this would  
227 artificially uplift the negative values to zero and would inflate the average  
228 values of the whole fleet.

229 It is hypothesised that the majority of the fleet follow the Gumbel distribution  
230 except some extreme values, and these outliers are interpreted as candidate high  
231 emitting vehicles ([Rushton, Tate and Shepherd 2021](#)). To test this hypothesis in  
232 diesel vans, the distribution is cut successively by percentile, from 99% (vehicles  
233 with the highest 1% NO<sub>x</sub> emissions is removed from the whole fleet) to 1%  
234 (vehicles in the top 99% NO<sub>x</sub> emissions range is removed), and the Gumbel  
235 distribution is re-applied to each sub-fleets. Then a goodness of fit test is used to  
236 calculate  $R^2$  value of observed and theoretical quantiles for each sub-fleet after  
237 cutting. The sub-fleet with the maximum  $R^2$  value is regarded as the 'on-model'  
238 vehicle subset, and its corresponding Gumbel location parameter  $a$  is used to  
239 represent the typical emission rate of the normally behaving vehicles in the whole  
240 fleet, while scale parameter  $b$  determines the dispersion of the data. The  
241 percentage of vehicles that do not follow Gumbel distribution are regarded as 'off-  
242 model' percentage, and these vehicles are considered as candidate high emitting  
243 vehicles. The detailed algorithm is given in Table 1.

**Table 1 Algorithm for identifying the 'off-model' vehicles**

---

Step 1: Apply the Gumbel distribution to the whole fleet  $F_{100}$

Step 2: Calculate  $R^2$  value of the observed and theoretical quantiles for fleet  $F_{100}$

Step 3: Cut the fleet at each integer percentile starting from 99, apply the Gumbel distribution to  $F_i, i = 99, 98, \dots, 1$

Step 4: Calculate  $R^2$  value of observed and theoretical quantiles for fleet  $F_i (F_{99}, F_{98}, \dots, F_1)$

Step 5: Repeat step 3-4 until there is no vehicle left in the fleet

Step 6: Create a dot plot of the cutting percentiles vs. the  $R^2$  values

Step 7: Sub-fleet with the maximum  $R^2$  value is regarded as the 'on-model' vehicle subset, and the fit parameters for the 'on-model' vehicles are the best description of the normally behaving vehicles in the whole fleet; the rest of the vehicles that do not follow Gumbel distribution are regarded as 'off-model' vehicles.

---

244 This method requires the original fleet to have a relatively large sample size,  
245 because vehicles being regarded as 'off-model' vehicles usually only make up a  
246 very small percentage of the whole fleet ([Rushton, Tate and Shepherd 2021](#)), if  
247 the sample size is too small, no useful insight would be derived from the 'off-  
248 model' vehicles. To ensure the statistical validity, the application of Gumbel  
249 distribution to class I vans is not discussed in this paper as the Class I vans only  
250 take account of 4.6% of the total measurements.

## 251 **2.4 A merged dataset**

252 Remote sensing data is often further segmented by VSP value ([Carslaw et al.](#)  
253 [2013](#)), road grade ([Costagliola, Costabile and Prati 2018](#)), ambient temperature  
254 ([Grange et al. 2019](#)) and make/model ([ICCT 2019a](#)) to study different factors'  
255 impact on vehicle emissions. As each single country has only a relatively limited  
256 number of samples, data from different countries needs to be combined together  
257 to conduct analysis at a higher level of granularity. Here, the consistency of the  
258 NO<sub>x</sub> emission performance across fleets is checked before pooling data from  
259 different countries. The two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (K-S test) is  
260 applied to investigate whether the NO<sub>x</sub> emission data from the four countries  
261 share a statistically similar distribution. The two-sample K-S test is a  
262 nonparametric hypothesis test that compares empirical distributions of two  
263 samples and evaluates the largest absolute difference between the two  
264 cumulative density functions ([Massey Jr 1951](#)) ([Lopes, Reid and Hobson](#)  
265 [2007](#)). The test statistic  $D^*$  is given as:

$$D^* = \max(|\hat{F}_1(x) - \hat{F}_2(x)|) \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

266 Where  $\hat{F}_1(x)$  is the empirical cumulative density function of NO<sub>x</sub> of sample 1, and  
 267  $\hat{F}_2(x)$  is the empirical cumulative density function of NO<sub>x</sub> of sample 2.

268 For sufficiently large sample size, the critical value  $D_\alpha$  at a 95% significance level  
 269 is given as:

$$D_\alpha = 1.36 \sqrt{\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2}} \quad \text{Eq. 4}$$

270 Where: The 1.36 value is obtained from the Kolmogorov-Smirnov table ([Massey](#)  
 271 [Jr 1951](#)).  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the sizes of sample 1 and sample 2 respectively.

272 The null hypothesis is: both samples come from a population with the same  
 273 distribution. The null hypothesis is retained at significance level  $\alpha$  if  $D^* < D_\alpha$ .  
 274 However, when the sample size is too large (e.g.  $n \geq 900$ ), the null hypothesis  
 275 would be constantly rejected because its corresponding critical value  $D_\alpha$  would  
 276 be very small. In other words even extremely small difference between the  
 277 estimate and the null hypothesis can be statistically significant ( $p - \text{values} < 0.05$ )  
 278 ([Lin, Lucas Jr and Shmueli 2013](#)). To illustrate this 'large-sample, small  $p - \text{values}$ '  
 279 problem, Monte Carlo simulation was introduced into K-S test when testing  
 280 whether two sample come from the same distribution. The detailed procedure is  
 281 described in Table 2.

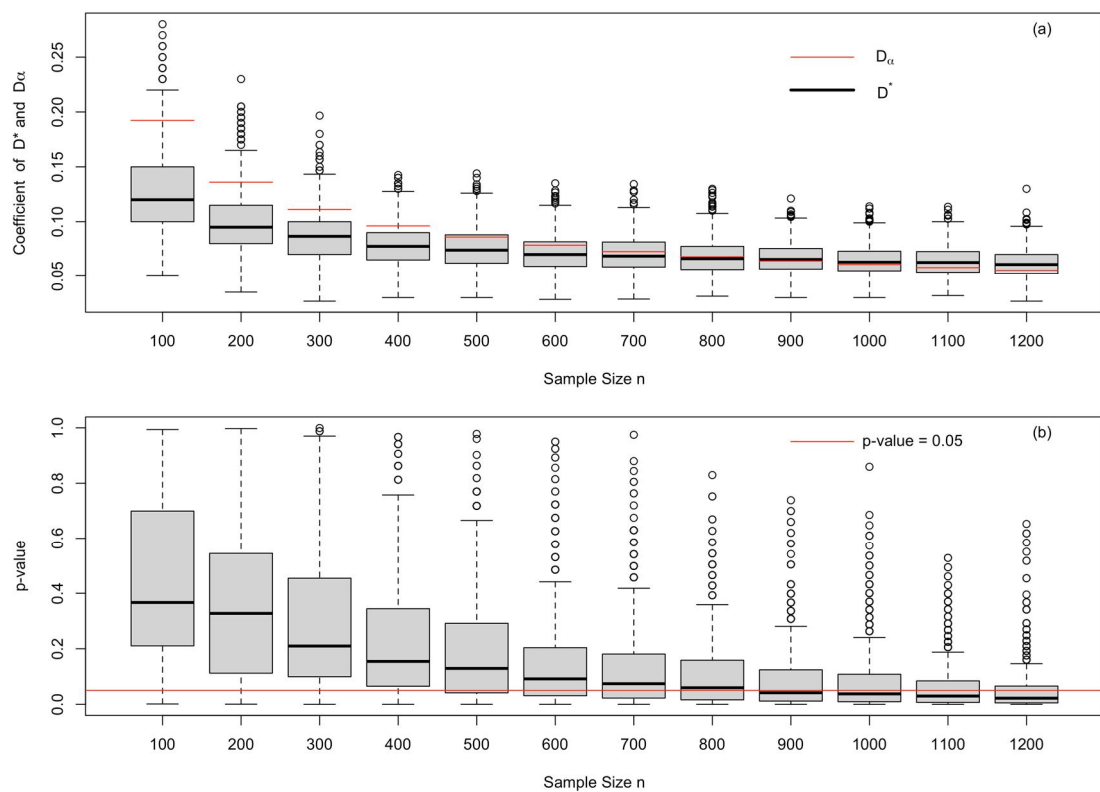
**Table 2 Algorithm for illustrating 'large-sample, small  $p - \text{values}$ ' problem in K-S test**

- 
1. Select two fleets, randomly sample  $n$  data points ( $n = n_1 = n_2 = 100$ ) from each fleet, apply K-Stest to generate the maximum difference  $D_{100(1)}^*$  between these 2 fleets
  2. Repeat step 1 for 1000 times,  $D_{100}^*$  can be obtained as  $\{D_{100(1)}^*, D_{100(2)}^*, \dots, D_{100(1000)}^*\}$
  3. Identify the theoretical distribution of  $D_{(100)}^* \{D_{100(1)}^*, D_{100(2)}^*, \dots, D_{100(1000)}^*\}$ , estimate the typical value of  $D_{100}^*$  based on the distribution
  4. Compare the typical value of  $D_{100}^*$  with its corresponding critical value  $D_\alpha$
  5. Increase the last sample size  $n$  by 100, ( $n_1 = n_2 = n = 200, 300, \dots, 1200$ ), repeat step 1-5 until the sample size  $n$  gets to 1200
- 

282 Data from the Belgium and Switzerland Euro 6a/b class III fleets were taken as  
 283 an example to demonstrate the relationship between sample size and test results.  
 284 Figure 3-a shows the median value of  $D^*$  (the black line in each boxplot) is higher  
 285 than its corresponding  $D_\alpha$  value (the red line) when  $n \geq 900$ , and Figure 3-b  
 286 shows  $p - \text{value}$  is constantly below 0.05 when  $n \geq 900$ . In other words, the null

287 hypothesis would be constantly rejected when the sample size  $n$  is larger than or  
288 equal to 900.

289 Figure 3-a shows the median  $D^*$  value is stable when the sample size  $n \geq 500$ .  
290 To avoid the 'big sample' issue, a Monte Carlo simulation at a sample size of 500  
291 was applied on K-S test when testing if two fleets are likely from the same  
292 distribution and can be combined to one. As  $D^*$  follows a lognormal distribution  
293 ([Wang, Zeng and Shao 2011](#)), the mode value of  $D^*$  is compared with its  
294 corresponding  $D_\alpha$ . Once confirmed that data from the two countries follow the  
295 same distribution, the two data subsets are combined and compared with the next  
296 country's data.



**Figure 3 Distribution of (a)  $D^*$  [top panel] and (b)  $p$ -value [bottom panel] as a function of sample size  $n$**

298 **3.1 Comparison of van emission performance in four countries**

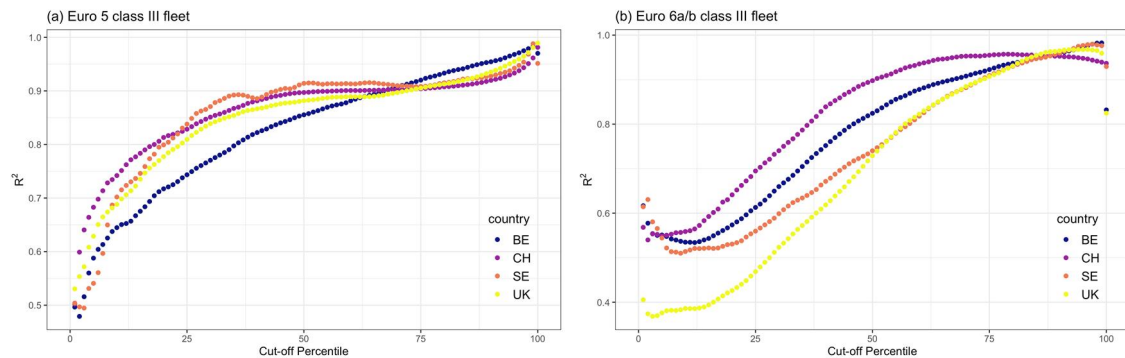
299 The algorithm listed in Table 1 has been applied to each Euro standard and class  
 300 type across four countries to identify candidate high-emitting ('off-model')  
 301 vehicles and estimate the emission performance of normally behaving vehicles  
 302 ('on-model') in each fleet. 'Off-model' percentage, 'on-model' vehicles' location  
 303 and scale parameters derived from the fitted distributions for each fleet are  
 304 documented in Table 3. An illustrative class III Euro 5 and Euro 6a/b fleets'  $R^2$   
 305 value plot for each cut-off percentile is shown in Figure 4.

**Table 3 'Off-model' percentage and Gumbel distribution fit parameters of 'on-model' vehicles in Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden and the UK**

	Country	class II				class III			
		E3	E4	E5	E6a/ b	E3	E4	E5	E6a/ b
'Off-model' percentage	BE	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	CH	0%	0%	0%	36%	0%	0%	0%	21%
	SE	NA	0%	1%	8%	NA	0%	1%	3%
	UK	1%	0%	0%	3%	1%	1%	0%	4%
Location (g/kg)	BE	9.25	7.98	8.82	3.34	10.66	9.00	10.66	3.23
	CH	15.24	10.18	13.88	1.32	17.57	12.91	13.98	1.95
	SE	NA	9.96	12.60	2.72	NA	10.81	12.33	2.83
	UK	13.91	11.38	14.09	3.94	14.29	10.64	14.16	3.01
Scale (g/kg)	BE	5.61	5.90	6.62	4.31	6.90	6.45	7.92	4.40
	CH	7.97	7.62	9.65	2.17	9.93	8.67	10.07	2.47
	SE	NA	8.81	9.68	4.30	NA	8.66	10.43	4.92
	UK	8.67	9.25	9.67	5.31	11.24	8.69	10.13	4.62

306 The majority of the Euro 3, Euro 4 and Euro 5 van fleets follow the Gumbel  
 307 distribution, with only 1% or 0% of 'off-model' vehicles identified in these fleets.  
 308 The explanation for this is that the bulk of the Euro 3~5 diesel vans have high  
 309 emissions, so the measurements are fitted to Gumbel distributions with relatively  
 310 high location and scale parameters, as also reported for diesel cars by [Rushton,  
 311 Tate and Shepherd \(2021\)](#). For Euro 6a/b vans, more outliers have been  
 312 identified, with 'off-model' shares ranging from 1% to 8% for Belgium, Sweden  
 313 and the UK, while Switzerland is identified to have 36% and 21% 'off-model'  
 314 vehicles for class II and class III respectively. The majority of the Euro 6a/b fleet  
 315 of vehicles are relatively clean in comparison with their predecessors, with a  
 316 proportion of outliers that cannot be fitted into the Gumbel distribution and are  
 317 therefore regarded as candidate high-emitting ('off-model') vehicles. The steep  
 318 road grade at the Swiss monitoring sites is proposed as an explanation for the

319 high share of candidate high-emitting ('off-model') in the Euro 6a/b fleet detected  
320 at these sites, and the details are provided in section 3.2.



**Figure 4 Variation in  $R^2$  value as a function of cut-off percentile for (a) Euro 5 class III diesel vans [left]; (b) Euro 6a/b [right] class III diesel vans**

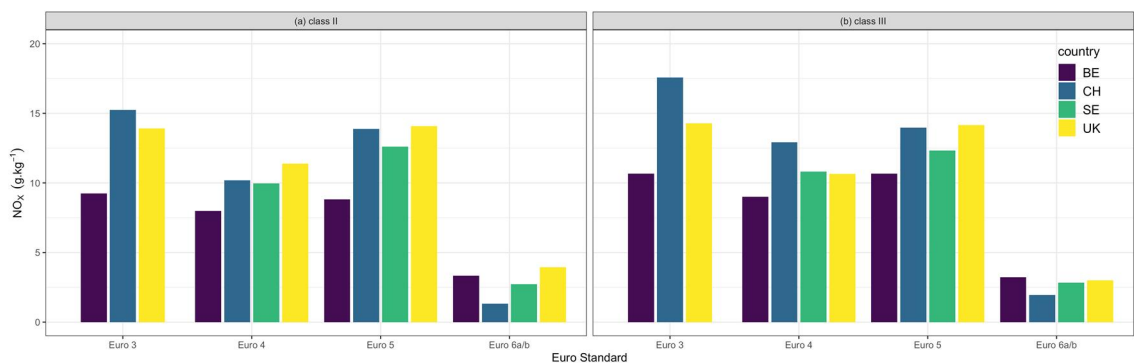
321 The location parameter of Euro 3, 4, 5 and 6ab 'on-model' vehicles in the four  
322 countries are shown in Figure 5 i.e. the emission rates that have been recorded  
323 with the highest frequency in the deemed normally behaving fleet. The results for  
324 the four countries follow broadly the same trend, with the  $\text{NO}_x$  emission  
325 performance of typical vans remaining broadly stable through Euro standards 3  
326 to 5, with emissions from Euro 5 vans slightly higher than their Euro 4  
327 predecessors. These findings are in-line with other studies ([Chen and Borken-](#)  
328 [Kleefeld 2014](#); [ICCT 2019a](#)). There is observed to be a significant improvement  
329 for Euro 6a/b, with an average 76.4% decrease in the fleet weighted location  
330 parameter for class III Euro 6a/b vehicles over Euro 5. The Euro 6 emission  
331 standard is more stringent with regard to the limit of  $\text{NO}_x$  (declines from 0.28 g/km  
332 (Euro 5) to 0.125 g/km (Euro 6a/b) for class III diesel vans, a reduction of 55%<sup>6</sup>).  
333 The implementation of Euro 6 is also directing manufactures to use more effective  
334 after-treatment system for  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions, such as selective catalytic reduction  
335 (SCR), lean  $\text{NO}_x$  trap (LNT), and exhaust gas recirculation (EGR). The integration  
336 of these  $\text{NO}_x$  control systems is observed to be leading to a considerable  
337 reduction in real-world  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions. The scale parameter fitted to Euro 6a/b is  
338 also approximately half that of Euro 5 vans' (see Table 3), demonstrating that  
339 there is not only a significant decrease in the typical  $\text{NO}_x$  emission rates, but also  
340 that the emission rates in this sub-fleet are becoming more centralized  
341 (consistent).

342 Test conditions (road grade, ambient temperature and VSP) have been found  
343 important to diesel van emission performance.  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions of Euro 3 to 5  
344 vehicles in Switzerland are relatively high as the remote sensing campaigns

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<sup>6</sup> Regulation (EC) 715/2007

345 carried out during 2011 to 2015 were at a site with a steep road grade (9%), and  
 346 higher road grade is known to elevate NO<sub>x</sub> emissions ([Costagliola, Costabile and](#)  
 347 [Prati \(2018\)](#)). The Euro 6a/b ‘on-model’ van emissions in Switzerland are however  
 348 low in comparison with other countries, on account of only two third of the vehicles  
 349 are regarded as ‘on-model’ vehicles (reason discussed in section 3.2). The typical  
 350 NO<sub>x</sub> emissions of Euro 5 and Euro 6a/b in the UK are considered relatively high  
 351 and it may be associated with their low ambient temperatures. Remote sensing  
 352 campaigns carried out in the UK in 2017 and 2018 were in wintertime (around  
 353 10°C), during which 63% and 100% of Euro 5 and Euro 6a/b vehicles were  
 354 measured. Studies ([Sjödin et al. 2017](#); [Grange et al. 2019](#); [ICCT 2019a](#)) have  
 355 found out that light-duty diesel NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are highly dependent on ambient  
 356 temperature, with low temperature elevating NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. However, these  
 357 studies also indicate that the temperature dependence is significant for Euro 5  
 358 and Euro 4, but less so for Euro 6a/b fleet. Belgium has relatively low NO<sub>x</sub>  
 359 emissions despite its high VSP values and high certificated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The  
 360 Belgium measurements were all made on a highway with an average vehicle  
 361 speed of more than 70km/h, hence high VSP levels for drive-through  
 362 measurements associated with aerodynamic drag and rolling resistance at these  
 363 speeds. This finding is also observed in PEMS tests of Euro 5 and Euro 6a/b  
 364 diesel cars, where vehicles in motorway driving conditions emit less NO<sub>x</sub> than  
 365 those on sections of urban areas ([O’Driscoll et al. 2018](#)). It is hypothesised that  
 366 high and sustained speed would also provide enough temperature for the NO<sub>x</sub>  
 367 emission control system (e.g. EGR and SCR) commonly deployed to maintain  
 368 their high efficiency operating temperature ([Yang et al. 2021](#); [Ntziachristos et al.](#)  
 369 [2016](#)).



**Figure 5. Typical NO<sub>x</sub> emission rates (g/kg) for normally behaving (a) class II [left] and (b) class III [right] diesel vans by Euro standard and country**

370 **3.2 Impact of road grade on candidate high NO<sub>x</sub> emitting vans**

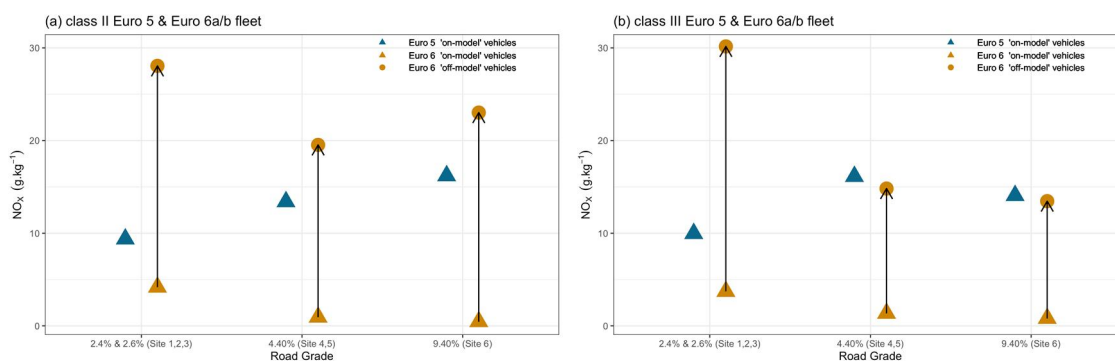
371 Recent remote sensing campaigns in Switzerland (year 2016~2019) were carried  
372 out at six sites with road grades ranging from 2.4% to 9.4%. It is hypothesised  
373 that the high percentage of 'off-model' vehicles found in Swiss Euro 6a/b fleet  
374 may be related to the steep road grade at some of the campaign sites. Data from  
375 Euro 6a/b class II and class III fleet in the Switzerland are classified by road grade  
376 and Gumbel distributions fitted and 'off-model' fractions estimated using the  
377 maximum  $R^2$  value method (see Table A. 3 in the Appendix). The results illustrate  
378 that sites with steeper road grade (4.4% and 9.4%) have a much higher  
379 percentage of 'off-model' vehicles, which may partly explain why there are more  
380 'off-model' vehicles identified in the Swiss Euro 6a/b fleet.

381 Figure 6 presents the 'on-model' vehicles in Euro 6a/b class II and class III fleets  
382 (see the orange triangular dots in Figure 6-a and Figure 6-b).  $\text{NO}_x$  emission rates  
383 in sites with relatively gentle slopes (site 1, site 2 and site 3) are higher than uphill  
384 sites (site 4, site 5 and site 6). The trend is contrary to findings for Euro 5 vehicles  
385 (refer to the blue triangular dots in Figure 6-a and Figure 6-b), where higher road  
386 grade would lead to elevated  $\text{NO}_x$  emissions ([Costagliola, Costabile and Prati 2018](#)).  
387 This is considered to be because SCR system equipped on Euro 6a/b  
388 vans can achieve better  $\text{NO}_x$  reductions when the exhaust temperature is high  
389 enough ([Moody and Tate 2017](#)). When Euro 6a/b vehicles are driven on steep  
390 road grade site, the consequent high engine load would result in better effective  
391 conversions and catalytic reductions in the SCR system and that may offset the  
392 emission increase caused by higher engine load (higher road grade).

393 [Rushton, Tate and Shepherd \(2021\)](#) found that candidate high-emitting vehicle  
394 sub-fleets also follow the Gumbel distribution, so vans being classified as 'off-  
395 model' vehicles in Swiss Euro 6a/b fleet are also fitted to the Gumbel distribution  
396 (results documented in Table A. 3 in the Appendix). The location value of each  
397 sub-fleet are regarded as the typical  $\text{NO}_x$  emission rates of the high emitting  
398 vehicles, and illustrated as orange circle dots in Figure 6-a and Figure 6-b (Euro  
399 5 fleet doesn't have 'off-model' vehicles). In steep road grade (4.4% and 9.4%),  
400 the difference between 'on-model' vehicles and 'off-model' vehicles for Euro 6a/b  
401 class II vehicles is larger than Euro 6a/b class III vehicles. The results therefore  
402 suggest that the  $\text{NO}_x$  performance of class II Euro 6a/b vans deemed high-  
403 emitters are more sensitive to road grade compared with their class III  
404 counterparts. Considering these class II and class III fleets were measured in the  
405 same driving conditions, the difference in emission performance may be caused  
406 by different vehicle characteristics and performance of their respective exhaust  
407 after-treatment systems. However, based on the vehicle make/model information  
408 in the remote sensing database and further after-treatment system information



409 (documented in Table A. 4 in the Appendix) extracted from the ADAC<sup>7</sup> vehicle  
 410 catalogue or corresponding van brochures, it is found that the almost all popular  
 411 models (the top-ten most commonly observed ) in Euro 6a/b class II and class III  
 412 vans in Switzerland are equipped with SCR systems, so the relatively poorer  
 413 emission characteristics of class II vans is not found to be attributed to the type  
 414 of after-treatment technology, rather their performance in the driving  
 415 characteristics at this site. Further analysis of the difference between class II and  
 416 class III in Euro 6a/b fleets is conducted in the next section.



**Figure 6 Impact of road grade on the typical NO<sub>x</sub> emission rates (g/kg) of ‘on-model’ and ‘off-model’ vehicles as a function of road grade in Switzerland for sub-fleets (a) class II Euro 5 & Euro 6a/b [left]; (b) class III Euro 5 & Euro 6a/b [right] (note there are no ‘off-model’ vehicles in Euro 5 fleet)**

417 It’s more likely that these ‘off-model’ vehicles only temporarily emit high rates of  
 418 NO<sub>x</sub> at sites with steep uphill road gradients, rather than they are indeed high-  
 419 emitters and can be more effectively identified on a steeper road, otherwise the  
 420 same percentage of ‘off-model’ vehicles would probably be identified at other  
 421 sites with lower road grade. Accordingly, if the purpose is to have an emission  
 422 evaluation of typical vehicles in more normal operating conditions, it is advised  
 423 that remote sensing campaigns be conducted at sites with a gentle slope.

### 424 **3.3 The NO<sub>x</sub> performance of normally behaving Euro 6a/b vans** 425 **by vehicle model and manufacture group**

426 To further investigate Euro 6a/b vans’ emission performance, remote sensing  
 427 data can be segmented by models or manufacturing groups (“families”) ([ICCT](#)  
 428 [2019a](#)). However, further breaking down the fleets within one country and  
 429 analysing its characteristics will not derive any useful conclusion as the sample  
 430 size is too small, rather the remote sensing data across different countries needs

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.adac.de/>

431 to be combined together. To test if the four countries' data can be merged into  
 432 one bigger dataset, a two sample K-S test explained in section 2.4 is applied. The  
 433 result shows that for Euro 6a/b class II vans' remote sensing measurements:  
 434 Belgium, Sweden and the UK follow the same distribution and can be combined  
 435 into a single dataset. For Euro 6a/b class III vans' remote sensing measurements:  
 436 all four countries are found to be from the same distribution and can be combined  
 437 to a single dataset. After combining data from three countries in class II fleet and  
 438 four countries in class III fleet, the Gumbel distribution and maximum  $R^2$  method  
 439 is applied to two fleets. A 4% of 'off-model' vehicles is found for each fleet. For  
 440 class II Euro 6a/b vans, the 4% 'off-model' vehicles accounts for 24% of total NO<sub>x</sub>  
 441 emission, while the 4% 'off-model' vans in Euro 6a/b class III fleet accounts for  
 442 21% of total NO<sub>x</sub> emission. The Gumbel distribution fitted to both the 'on-model'  
 443 and 'off-model' vehicles is documented in see Table 4. The typical emission rate  
 444 (location value) for class II vans are slightly higher than class III vans, with a  
 445 greater spread in the distribution (higher scale value). When analysing the vehicle  
 446 characteristics, no significant difference is found between 'on-model' and 'off-  
 447 model' vans (shown in Table 4), except that the average engine size of class II  
 448 'off-model' vans is lower than the 'on-model' vans.

**Table 4 Gumbel distribution fit parameters and fleet characteristics of 'on-model' and 'off-model' vans in merged Euro 6a/b dataset**

	Class II (BE, SE, UK)		Class III (BE, CH, SE, UK)	
	'On-model'	'Off-model'	'On-model'	'Off-model'
Sample size (n)	5120	214	15777	658
Location parameter(g/ kg)	3.30	33.24	3.00	29.36
Scale parameter (g/ kg)	4.50	5.87	4.33	4.34
Fit $R^2$	97.51%	97.97%	97.23%	97.98%
Vehicle age (year)	1	1	1	1
Certificated CO <sub>2</sub> emission (g/ km)	130	131	185	184
Engine size (cm <sup>3</sup> )	1698	1554	2106	2083
Rated power (kW)	77	76	107	105
Curb weight (kg)	1505	1493	2139	2169

449 Engine downsizing is a technology to improve fuel efficiency for lighter vehicles  
 450 by reducing the frictional losses and relative weight of the engine (and total kerb-  
 451 weight), while the turbocharger helps provide the levels of power demanded

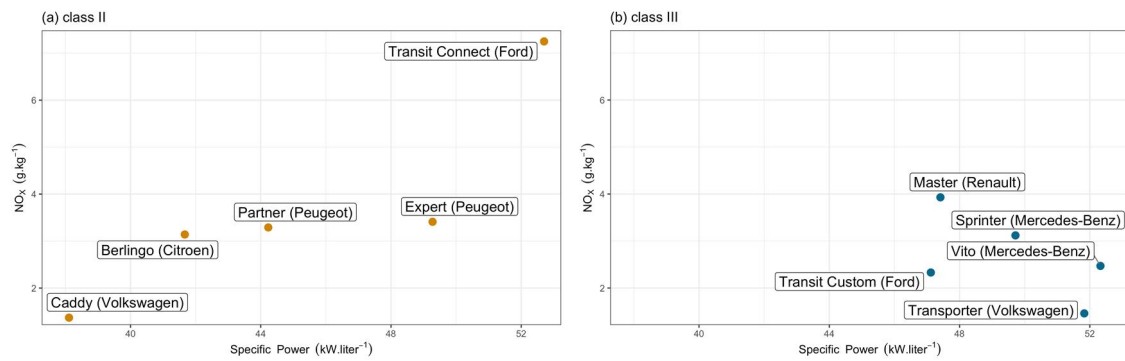
452 (Manzie 2010). While reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a downsized diesel engine is  
453 found to increase NO<sub>x</sub> (Johnson 2009). Payri et al. (2014) assesses the diesel  
454 engine downsizing limitation related to heat losses and turbocharger efficiency  
455 reduction, which suggests it might be associated with excessive emissions.  
456 However, there is no research related to engine downsizing problem of Euro 6a/b  
457 light-duty vehicles.

458 To test whether engine size has an impact on NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, the merged class  
459 II and class III fleet are split into different sub-fleet by models and makes. Table  
460 A. 5 in the Appendix listed the top 5 popular models for class II and class III Euro  
461 6a/b vans, and its corresponding Gumbel distribution fit parameters for the 'on-  
462 model' vehicles, as well as every model's engine size and vehicle rated power.  
463 All the models listed are equipped with SCR after-treatment system<sup>8</sup>, which  
464 indicates that the type of NO<sub>x</sub> control system is not the reason for the different  
465 emission performance between models. kW/litre specific power is introduced to  
466 represent the power density, with a higher kW/litre being characteristic of a  
467 downsized engine. Figure 7 demonstrates that the kW/litre specific power of top  
468 5 models in class II Euro 6a/b fleets are more spread over compared with models  
469 in class III fleets. Transit Connect with the highest kW/litre specific power in class  
470 II fleet has much higher NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. However, that's not the case for large  
471 class III Euro 6a/b vans, where both NO<sub>x</sub> emissions and the kW/litre specific  
472 power of class III Euro 6a/b vans are relatively stable.

473 It is suspected that when the engine gets too small relative to the vehicle size and  
474 weight, and is driven in a relatively aggressive manner, the engine turbo-charging  
475 may not be capable of maintaining the engine power, resulting in worse fuel  
476 economy and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. Given the complexity of engine specifications,  
477 further investigation is required by conducting additional laboratory tests to fully  
478 appreciate the reasons behind the suspected excessive NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from  
479 engine down-sizing. During the test NO<sub>x</sub> emissions will be measured using a  
480 constant volume sampling system connecting with a gas analyser while engine  
481 load being tested in an engine test bench (Gao et al. 2019).

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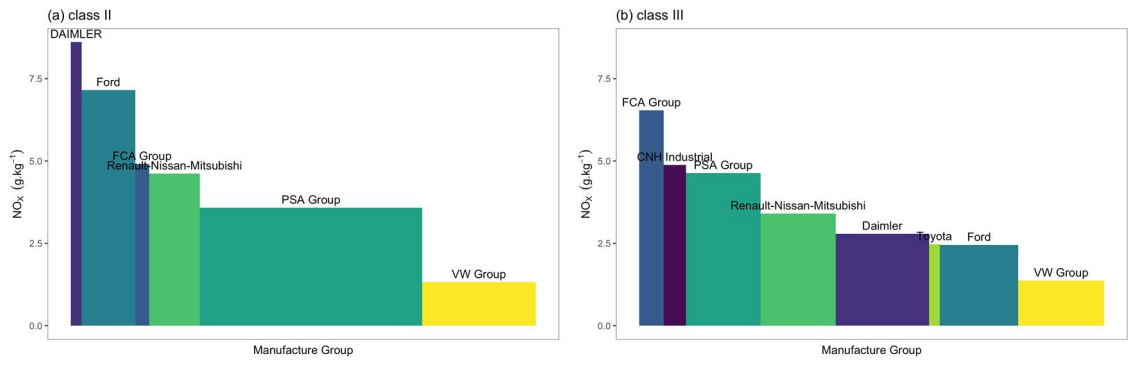
<sup>8</sup> <https://www.adac.de/>



**Figure 7 Relationship between kW/litre specific power and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (g/kg) for popular models in Euro 6a/b merged fleet: (a) class II [left]; (b) class III [right]**

482 Merged class II and class III Euro 6a/b diesel vans are also segmented by  
 483 manufacture groups, and then applied to the Gumbel distribution and maximum  
 484  $R^2$  value cutting method. Table A. 6 in the Appendix lists 8 popular manufacture  
 485 groups and their respective brands, which cover over 98% of the remote sensing  
 486 measurements. Table A. 7 in the Appendix lists the detailed results of the Gumbel  
 487 distribution fit parameters of ‘on-model’ vehicles for all the popular manufacture  
 488 groups. Figure 8 presents the fuel-specific NO<sub>x</sub> emissions of ‘on-model’ vehicles  
 489 in each manufacture group, ordered by descending NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. The width of  
 490 the bar is the corresponding sample size of a specific manufacture group.

491 For the most part, manufacture group performance of class III vans is in line with  
 492 the [ICCT \(2019a\)](#) report, as the number of class III vans outnumber class II vans  
 493 by 3 times. The emission contribution from Class III van therefore dominates the  
 494 overall trend of the van fleet. NO<sub>x</sub> emissions vary considerably by manufacture  
 495 group, and even within the same manufacture group between the performance  
 496 of class II and class III vans. Daimler and Ford are found to have the worst NO<sub>x</sub>  
 497 emission performance in class II vehicles, while their class III vehicles emissions  
 498 are within the average range. On the other end of the scale, the PSA Group  
 499 vehicles are relatively clean in class II vehicles but are identified as the third-  
 500 highest emitting manufacture in class III vehicles. The VW Group is the  
 501 manufacture with cleanest NO<sub>x</sub> emission performance of both class II and class  
 502 III vehicles.



**Figure 8 NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (g/kg) by popular manufacture groups in Euro 6a/b merged fleet: (a) class II [left]; (b) class III [right] (the width of the bar is the corresponding sample size)**

## 503 **4 Summary and conclusions**

504 The distribution of diesel van fuel-specific NO<sub>x</sub> emissions in g/kg measured by  
505 remote sensing is skewed-right. To accurately characterize van emission  
506 performance and find the cut-off point for candidate high-emitters, the Gumbel  
507 distribution is applied to vehicle emission remote sensing data from four  
508 countries. Vehicles that follow the Gumbel distribution are selected to represent  
509 the emission performance of the normally behaving vehicles in a fleet, while the  
510 vehicles that do not follow the Gumbel distribution are regarded as candidate high  
511 emitting vehicles. Euro 5 and older vehicles can be fully described by the Gumbel  
512 distribution while a proportion of candidate high-emitters are identified in the Euro  
513 6a/b fleets. The emphasis of this paper is examining the emission performance  
514 of the normally behaving vehicles and candidate high-emitters in Euro 6a/b fleet,  
515 and the key findings are:

- 516 • When comparing the fuel-specific NO<sub>x</sub> emissions of the normally behaving  
517 vans, a reduction of emissions has only been seen since the introduction  
518 of Euro 6a/b standard vehicles, where the emissions is less than one third  
519 of the emissions from Euro 5 vans.
- 520 • A much higher percentage of 'off-model' Euro 6a/b vans has been  
521 observed at the measurement sites in Switzerland that had a steeper road  
522 grade, and it's more likely that vehicles at these sites only temporarily emit  
523 high rates of NO<sub>x</sub>. Based on this it is recommended to conduct remote  
524 sensing campaigns at a site with a gentle slope, so the assessment of the  
525 vehicles' emission performance surveyed is in typical driving/operating  
526 conditions across a city/region/country.
- 527 • Euro 6a/b vans with improved NO<sub>x</sub> after-treatment system (e.g. SCR) can  
528 offset the emission increasing caused by high VSP or steep road grade,  
529 as high engine load can provide enough exhaust emission temperature for  
530 the after-treatment system to work efficiently.
- 531 • After combining data from three countries in class II fleet and four countries  
532 in class III fleet, a consistent 4% of candidate high-emitters are found in  
533 both class II and class III merged Euro 6a/b vans, estimated to account for  
534 24% and 21% total NO<sub>x</sub> emissions respectively.
- 535 • Differentiating the cross-country merged data by models and analysing the  
536 relationship of kW/litre and emissions, illustrates that Euro 6a/b Class II  
537 vans are more sensitive to engine size. Rather than attributing the reason  
538 to different application and design of emission after-treatment systems, it's  
539 considered more likely to be due to the engine downsizing of smaller class  
540 II vans.

- 541       • The merged data are also segmented by manufacture group. The VW  
542       Group is identified as the manufacture with the cleanest emission  
543       performance in both class II and class III Euro 6a/b vehicles. Daimler and  
544       FCA Group emit most in class II and class III Euro 6a/b fleet respectively.

545 This paper analyses the real-world emission performance of diesel Euro 6a/b  
546 vans, whose type approval test were being conducted under the NEDC drive  
547 cycle. The NEDC drive cycle has many cruise and mild acceleration driving  
548 conditions, which cannot represent the more dynamic driving that occur when  
549 vehicles are recorded by remote sensing device. To establish a more  
550 representative pollution test for light-duty vehicles (cars and vans), a new real-  
551 driving emissions (RDE) test procedure was introduced in 2017, and will apply to  
552 all new vans by the beginning of 2022<sup>9</sup>. [ICCT \(2019a\)](#) found the vast majority of  
553 remote sensing measurements are within normal operating conditions defined in  
554 the European RDE regulation. As a result the new Euro 6d-temp and Euro 6d  
555 vans with on-road testing are expected to have lower NO<sub>x</sub> emissions where  
556 emission control systems can operate properly. It is recommended the analytical  
557 approach presented in this to identify candidate high-emitters is applied to  
558 emerging remote sensing datasets that have significant shares of Euro 6d-temp  
559 and Euro 6d vans, to ascertain whether this generation of vehicles have  
560 consistently low NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, or whether a share of these vehicles with poorer  
561 emission performance make a substantial contribution to the total emissions from  
562 this sub-fleet.

563 The EU has founded a project called CARES<sup>10</sup> focusing on using contactless and  
564 un-intrusive technologies to monitor and enforce improvements in road vehicle  
565 emissions, this includes the application of roadside sampling (remote sensing  
566 and point sampling devices) and plume chasing ([Pöhler et al. 2019](#)). In the future,  
567 measurement data from a remote sensing device may communicate with other  
568 systems and technologies<sup>11</sup> for market surveillance and enforcement purposes,  
569 working towards maintaining a fleet that are in compliance with emission  
570 standards. It is suggested the Gumbel distribution could help to characterize the  
571 emission performance of the normally-behaving vehicles as well as screen high-  
572 emitting vehicles. At local levels, authorities could use the Gumbel distribution to  
573 determine the 'cut-points' that will help to identify high-emitting vehicles and clean  
574 vehicles. For example, a single, high instantaneous recording may not  
575 necessarily mean a vehicle consistently emits at an excessive rate but if a vehicle  
576 has two remote sensing recordings above threshold, it may be identified as a

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<sup>9</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1151

<sup>10</sup> <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/814966>

<sup>11</sup> <https://cares-project.eu/>

577 candidate high-emitter and further investigated by plume chasing ([Pöhler et al.](#)  
578 [2019](#)) and/or the registered keeper is directed to get the vehicle tested at an  
579 authorized emission testing centre such as garage inspection ([Huang et al. 2018](#)).  
580 At a state level, the government could use the Gumbel distribution to characterize  
581 the emission performance of a vehicle family, and identify high-emitting vehicle  
582 manufactures or models.



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## 5 Appendix A. Supplementary data

**Table A. 1 Summary of remote sensing fleet characteristics and test conditions in Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden and the UK**

		Class I				Class II				Class III			
		E3	E4	E5	E6a/ b	E3	E4	E5	E6a/ b	E3	E4	E5	E6a/ b
<b>Fleet characteristics</b>													
Measurement instrument and year	BE	EDAR: 2019											
	CH	RSD 4600: 2011~2015; RSD 5000: 2016~2019											
	SE	RSD 5000: 2016, 2018											
	UK	RSD 4600: 2013,2015; RSD 5000: 2017,2018; FEAT: 2012,2013,2017,2018											
Sample size(n)	BE	106	414	484	434	263	1016	2257	2700	389	2040	7812	7361
	CH	137	135	122	164	576	1288	2427	883	3894	9956	16616	4233
	SE	12	24	22	NA	91	243	1035	1212	132	422	1772	1919
	UK	305	866	1513	201	599	3478	7030	1422	392	3227	12098	2940
Average vehicle age (years)	BE	15	10	5	1	14	10	5	1	15	10	5	1
	CH	13	10	4	2	12	8	5	2	13	8	5	2
	SE	12	7	4	NA	12	7	3	1	12	7	3	1
	UK	9	6	3	1	9	6	3	1	9	6	3	1
Certificated CO2 emission (g/ km)	BE	146	135	121	113	210	183	149	132	252	228	207	186
	CH	154	136	117	115	147	158	140	129	221	234	212	185
	SE	NA	131	111	NA	155	151	140	118	232	226	204	173
	UK	128	129	122	101	155	168	156	130	219	219	207	184
<b>Test conditions</b>													
Ambient temperature (°C)	BE	22.5	22.7	23.0	22.2	22.5	22.6	22.9	23.2	22.5	22.5	22.9	23.0
	CH	22.8	21.2	23.6	24.5	20.7	22.3	23.4	25.1	21.2	22.0	23.4	25.2
	SE	19.2	19.9	22.9	NA	20.4	19.4	19.6	21.2	21.7	21.4	20.7	21.6

	UK	17.1	14.2	12.1	10.5	17.9	14.6	11.5	10.3	17.2	14.1	11.4	10.2
Road grade (%)	BE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0
	CH	8.0	7.8	6.0	8.9	8.6	7.5	6.5	4.8	8.5	7.7	6.5	4.5
	SE	3.6	3.6	3.1	NA	3.3	3.3	3.3	1.6	3.2	3.2	3.2	1.2
	UK	2.6	2.2	2.1	1.4	2.4	2.3	1.9	1.8	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.6
VSP (kW/ton)	BE	18.8	15.1	14.4	16.3	16.1	17.2	16.0	15.4	15.2	17.6	15.5	15.6
	CH	16.6	15.7	14.7	17.7	15.5	14.8	14.2	12.6	15.5	14.7	13.7	11.6
	SE	9.4	12.5	11.0	NA	11.1	10.6	10.7	12.0	10.1	11.7	10.6	12.0
	UK	9.0	8.8	8.4	11.4	7.9	7.6	7.9	9.0	7.3	7.1	8.1	8.5

**Table A. 2 The fraction of primary NO<sub>2</sub> in NO<sub>x</sub> (f<sub>NO2</sub>) by Euro standard and class type**

	Class I	Class II	Class III
Euro 3	12.96%	11.36%	13.53%
Euro 4	27.94%	25.68%	28.12%
Euro 5	25.25%	21.06%	19.10%

**Table A. 3 Gumbel distribution fit parameters and VSP values for ‘on-model’ and ‘off-model’ Euro 6a/b and Euro 5 vehicles by road grade in Switzerland**

Road grade and Site	Class II					Class III				
	Off-model percentile	Vehicle status	Sample size (n)	NO <sub>x</sub> (g/ kg)	VSP (kW/ ton)	Off-model percentile	Vehicle status	Sample size (n)	NO <sub>x</sub> (g/ kg)	VSP (kW/ ton)
	Euro 6a/ b									
2.2% & 2.4% (site 1,2,3)	11%	‘On-model’	215	4.18	9.8	2%	‘On-model’	728	3.72	9.0
		‘Off-model’	26	28.06	11.7		‘Off-model’	15	30.16	9.4
4.4% (site 4,5)	30%	‘On-model’	245	0.94	11.0	32%	‘On-model’	1623	1.36	11.8
		‘Off-model’	105	19.53	13.0		‘Off-model’	764	14.82	11.6
9.4% (site 6)	45%	‘On-model’	95	0.46	17.3	16%	‘On-model’	318	0.81	16.3
		‘Off-model’	78	23.02	19.2		‘Off-model’	61	13.46	15.7
	Euro 5									
2.2% & 2.4% (site 1,2,3)	0%	‘On-model’	387	9.38	9.6	0%	‘On-model’	2058	9.97	8.8
4.4% (site 4,5)	0%	‘On-model’	555	13.4	12.3	0%	‘On-model’	4795	16.13	11.9
9.4% (site 6)	0%	‘On-model’	1146	16.2	16.8	0%	‘On-model’	7220	14.07	16.3

**Table A. 4 Popular models in Swiss Euro 6a/b class II and class III vans and corresponding after-treatment system information**

Class II			Class III		
Model (make)	Sub-fleet Share	Equipped with SCR or not	Model (make)	Sub-fleet Share	Equipped with SCR or not
Caddy (Volkswagen)	40.32%	SCR	Transporter (Volkswagen)	14.85%	SCR
Kangoo (Renault)	11.33%	SCR	Vito (Mercedes-Benz)	12.10%	SCR
Transit Connect (Ford)	9.97%	SCR	Transit Custom (Ford)	10.19%	SCR
Partner (Peugeot)	7.25%	SCR	Trafic (Renault)	9.39%	SCR
Nv200 (Nissan)	5.89%	No SCR	Daily (Iveco)	6.15%	Some with SCR, some not
Doblo (Fiat)	5.66%	SCR	Master (Renault)	5.58%	SCR
Citan (Mercedes-Benz)	4.42%	No SCR	Crafter (Volkswagen)	5.25%	SCR
Combo (Opel)	4.19%	SCR	Ducato (Fiat)	5.22%	SCR
Berlingo (Citroen)	2.94%	SCR	Vivaro-B (Opel)	4.96%	SCR
Proace (Toyota)	2.15%	SCR	Transit (Ford)	2.86%	SCR

**Table A. 5 ‘On-model’ Gumbel distribution fit parameters and fleet characteristics by top 5 Euro 6a/b models**

	Model (make)	Sample size (n)	Sub-fleet share	Off-model percentile	Fit $R^2$	Location (g/ kg)	Scale (g/ kg)	Engine size (cm <sup>3</sup> )	Engine power (kW)
Class II	Caddy (Volkswagen)	1267	21.97%	1%	98.77%	1.37	2.96	1968	75
	Partner (Peugeot)	782	13.56%	2%	98.07%	3.29	4.55	1560	69
	Berlingo (Citroen)	694	12.04%	1%	97.40%	3.14	4.52	1560	65
	Transit Connect (Ford)	582	10.09%	2%	98.54%	7.25	6.80	1499	79
	Expert (Peugeot)	423	7.34%	1%	99.28%	3.41	4.31	1867	92
Class III	Transit Custom (Ford)	1812	10.79%	3%	96.86%	2.33	4.42	1995	94
	Transporter (Volkswagen)	1573	9.36%	8%	97.25%	1.46	3.17	1968	102
	Sprinter (Mercedes-Benz)	1554	9.25%	1%	98.96%	3.12	3.95	2293	114
	Vito (Mercedes-Benz)	1358	8.08%	4%	98.08%	2.47	3.40	2064	108
	Master (Renault)	1207	7.18%	1%	97.63%	3.93	5.08	2299	109

**Table A. 6 List of manufacturer groups and brands**

<b>Manufacture Group</b>	<b>Make Name</b>	<b>Manufacture Group</b>	<b>Make Name</b>
CNH Industrial	Iveco	PSA Group	Citroen, Opel, Peugeot, Vauxhall
Daimler	Mercedes-Benz	Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi	Mitsubishi, Nissan, Renault
FCA Group	Fiat	Toyota	Toyota
Ford	Ford	VW Group	Man, Volkswagen

**Table A. 7 ‘On-model’ Gumbel distribution fit parameters by popular Euro 6a/b manufacture group**

	<b>Manufacture group</b>	<b>Sample size (n)</b>	<b>Off-model percentile</b>	<b>Fit <math>R^2</math></b>	<b>Location (g/ kg)</b>	<b>Scale (g/ kg)</b>
Class II	PSA Group	2499	1%	98.09%	3.58	4.69
	VW Group	1277	2%	98.74%	1.32	2.90
	Ford	601	2%	98.36%	7.15	6.71
	Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi	569	7%	97.38%	4.62	5.53
	FCA Group	158	4%	98.25%	4.91	4.53
	DAIMLER	122	1%	97.64%	8.61	8.93
Class III	Daimler	3239	2%	98.50%	2.79	3.76
	VW Group	2985	6%	97.41%	1.37	3.03
	Ford	2721	4%	97.01%	2.45	4.28
	Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi	2608	3%	96.96%	3.40	4.52
	PSA Group	2583	1%	98.33%	4.63	5.40
	FCA Group	847	1%	98.19%	6.54	6.37
	CNH Industrial	779	1%	97.53%	4.88	6.22
	Toyota	375	12%	97.74%	2.47	3.39



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