

# Real-world emissions of volatile organic compound species between different gasoline formulations

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# Our Belief

When it comes to the pursuit of emissions reduction, we believe in the power of clarity, transparency and integrity. With real -world data we can meet emissions challenges – instilling trust and confidence in our industry partners and public.

It's with our commitment and independence we are able to make a significant contribution toward positive change and to achieve enduring results.

# Introduction

- Founded in 2011, headquartered in the UK
- Operations in UK, Germany, USA and South Korea
- Independent testing house specialising in real -world emissions testing
- Over 2,500 vehicles/machines tested across passenger, commercial and off -road
- >100 tyre tests, >100 vehicle interior air quality tests
- Largest commercially available database of real -world emissions data
- Work with regulators, OEMs, Tier 1/2 suppliers, fuel and chemical companies, fleets
- Chair of EU CEN Workshops 90 and 103
- Honorary Research Fellow, Imperial College London

# Agenda

1. The fuel and emissions challenge
2. Innovative test methodology
3. Renewable gasoline formulations
4. Regulated and unregulated emissions
5. Fuel chemical composition and provenance



A white car is shown on an assembly line, with its front door open. The car is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the background is a blurred factory setting. A purple rectangular overlay is positioned in the center-right of the image, containing the text "Emissions problem" in white. Below this, the words "ASSURED | INDEPENDENT | RESPONSIVE" are written in white. The bottom right corner of the image features a pattern of white dots on a dark background.

# Emissions problem

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# What is the environmental issue?

- Renewable fuels exist primarily to reduce lifecycle CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- How much do they reduce CO<sub>2</sub> in practice?
- Can they be a material contributor to decarbonisation?
- Do they lead to increases in regulated tailpipe emissions?
- Can increases take emissions above limit values?
- What unregulated emissions may they increase?
- Can these have an impact on air quality and directly on health?



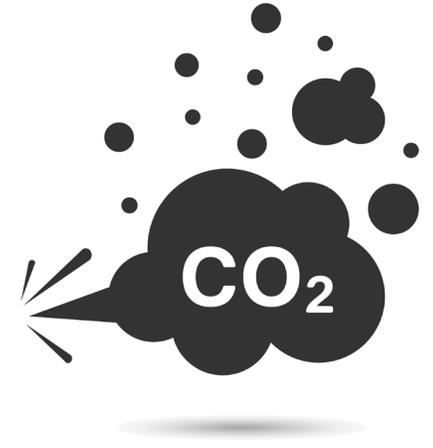
# What is a renewable fuel?

- Produced from renewable resources rather than fossil fuels
- Bioethanol, blended into gasoline
- Biodiesel – substitute fats processed using transesterification
- Biomethane/biogas from breakdown of organic matter, e.g. anaerobic digestion
- Advanced biofuels, e.g. HVO  
Hydrotreated/Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil
- Green hydrogen – electrolysis
- Synthetic/e -fuels, e.g. methanol-to-gasoline



# What is the fuels challenge?

- 'Bio' components may change the combustion characteristics
- Often lower energy density
- Difference in efficiency of combustion
- Different chemical composition leads to alternative mix of tailpipe pollutants
- Bio components may not be as low CO<sub>2</sub> as portrayed, depending on supply chain
- Verification of embedded carbon difficult
- Scalability
- Economics



# Our proposition: holistic+comprehensive

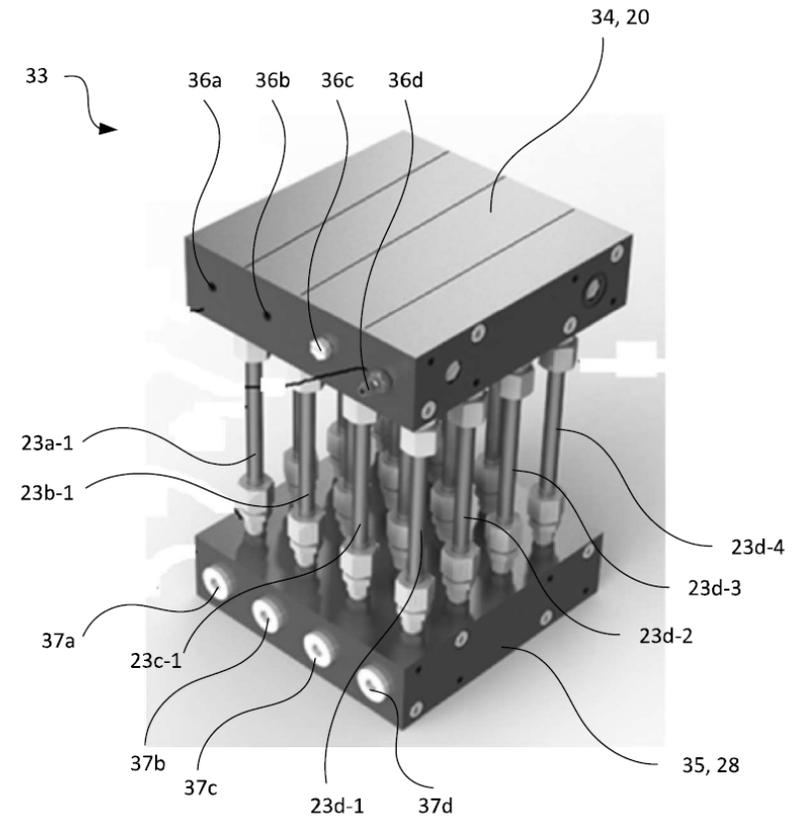
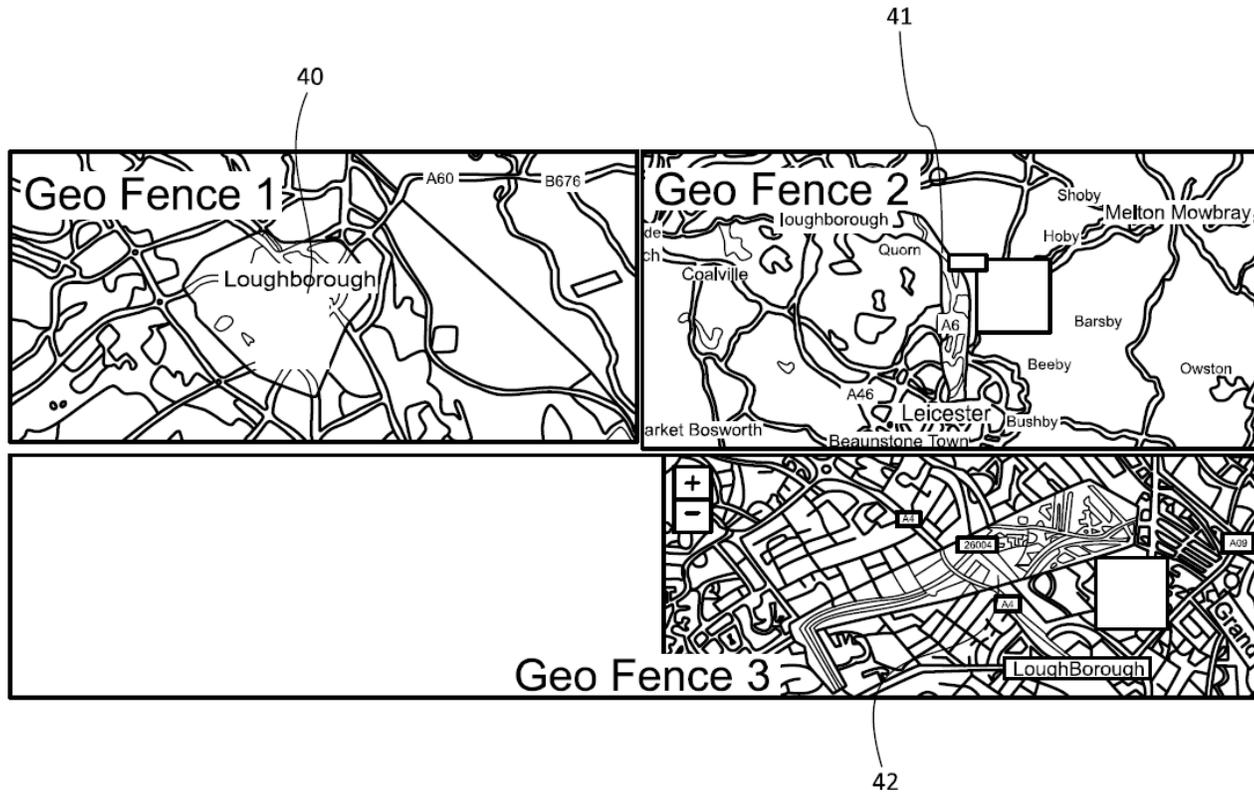


# Measurements – PEMS

- Core: CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, exhaust temperature
- Using regulatory -grade PEMS from Sensors, Inc
- Measurements at 1Hz
- Weather station: temperature, humidity, pressure
- OBD: typically speed, rpm, coolant temperature, engine load, throttle position, manifold pressure
- PN, particularly for EU gasoline and hybrids
- Custom integrated NH<sub>3</sub> sensor



# Integrated sample collection on tubes



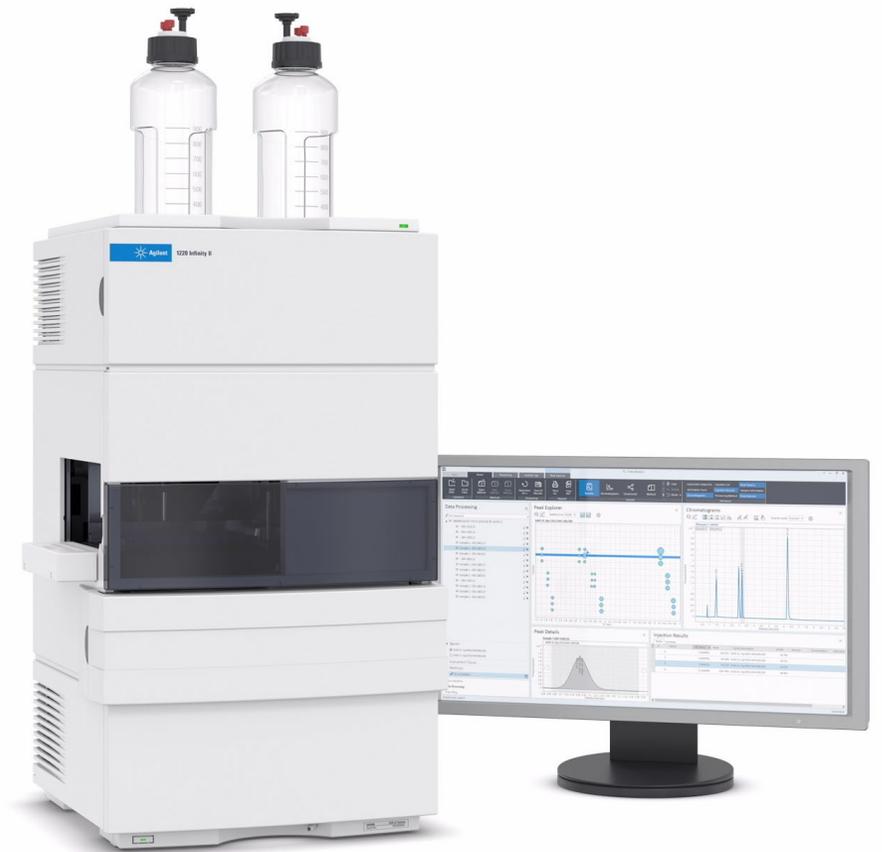
# Measurements – volatile organic compounds

- Two-dimensional gas chromatography with mass spectrometry from Markes International
- INSIGHT flow modulator from SepSolve Analytical for separation
- BENCH-TOF time-of flight mass spectrometer
- Thermal desorption

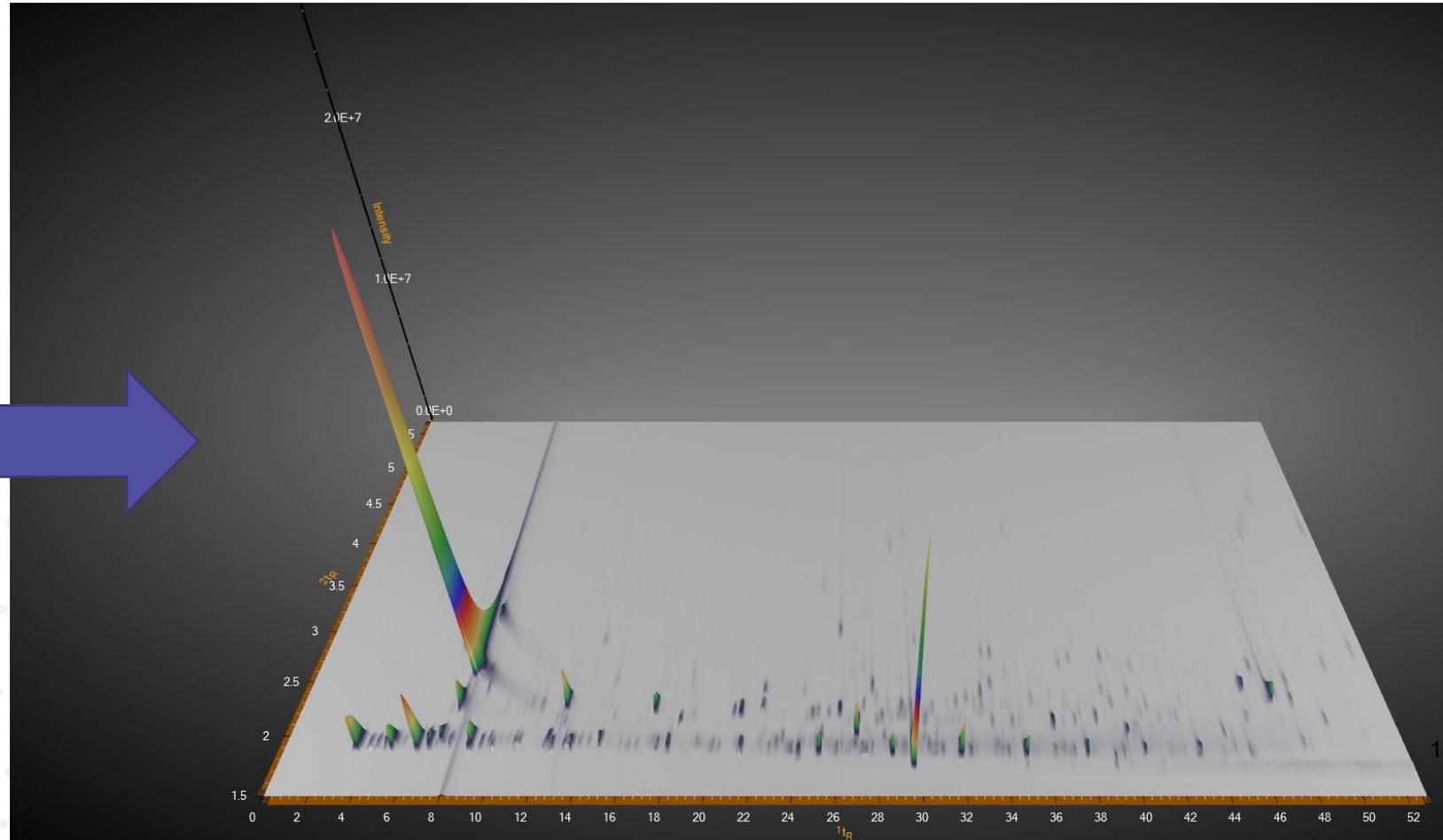


# Measurements – formaldehyde

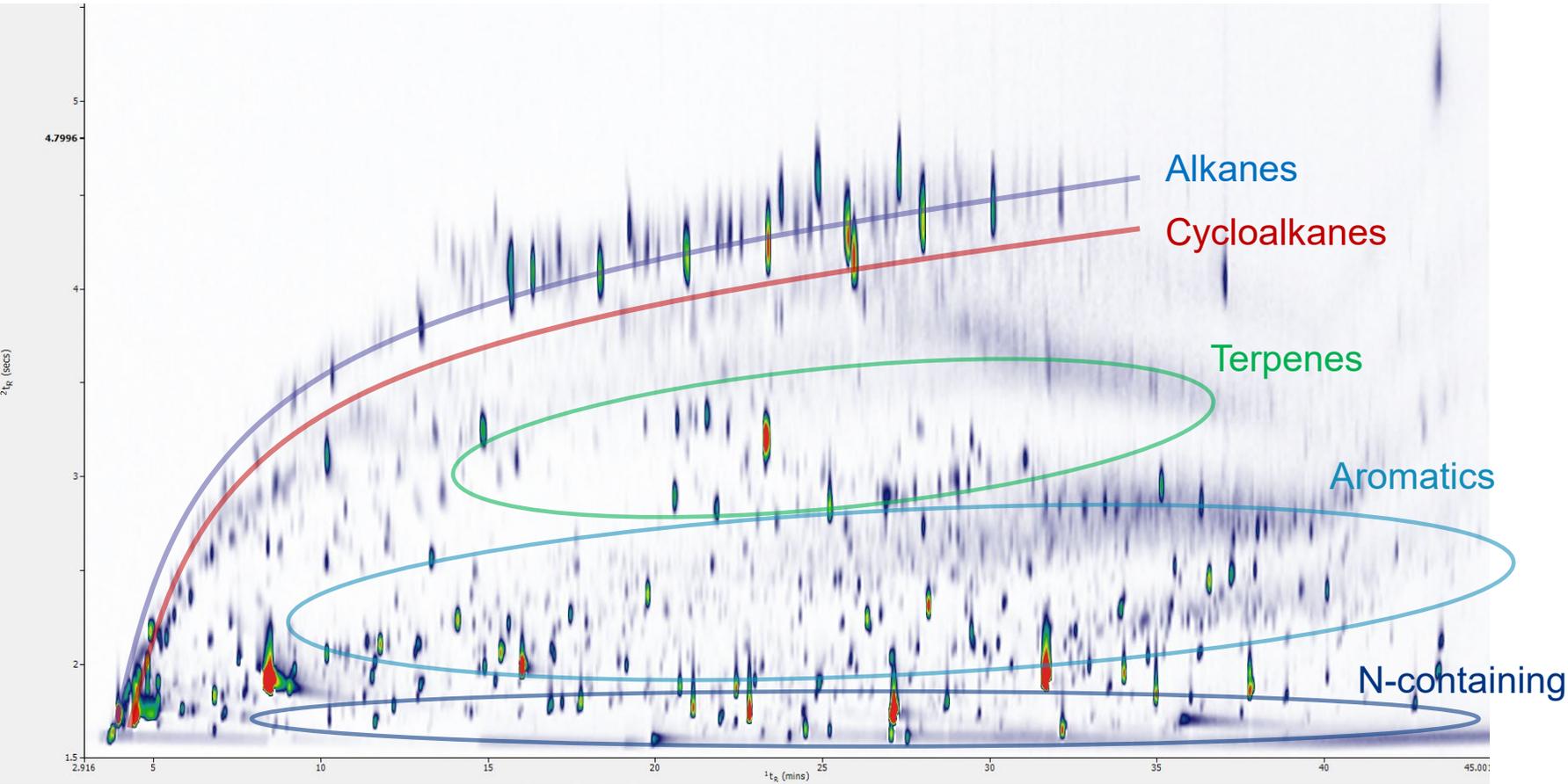
- High performance liquid chromatography
- Agilent 1220 Infinity II LC
- DNPH cartridges



# Two-dimensional chromatogram



# Functional group classification



- Wide-ranging analytes identified
- Alkanes: lungs, liver, kidney, brain
- Cycloalkanes: headaches, dizziness
- Terpenes: aromas
- Aromatics: carcinogens
- N-containing: carcinogens

# Renewable gasoline

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**PEMS**

real-world  
emissions testing

# Different gasoline blends

- What impact is adding ethanol to gasoline having in real-world driving?
- E0 vs E10
- Blended by Coryton Fuels to EN228
- Four small/medium cars
- Tested in the UK, October 2022
- EQUA test route: cold start, urban, rural and motorway



# Regulated pollutants – by vehicle

- Highly consistent results between vehicles
- Average 31% reduction in CO, but 21% increase in NO<sub>x</sub> (small absolute increase)
- Both well below regulated limit on both fuels

	CO (mg/km)				NO <sub>x</sub> (mg/km)			
	E0	E10	Δ	E10 EF*	E0	E10	Δ	E10 EF*
2020 Kia Sportage 1.6L	201	130	(35%)	0.13	4	5	25%	0.08
2022 Peugeot 2008 1.2L	333	205	(38%)	0.21	5	5	0%	0.08
2022 Citroen C3 1.2L	326	318	(2%)	0.32	3	4	33%	0.07
2022 Renault Clio 1.0L	153	79	(48%)	0.08	8	10	25%	0.17
<b>Mean</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>(31%)</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>0.10</b>

\* Exceedance Factor = real-world emissions / regulated limit

# Why unregulated pollutants matter

- Ozone formation potential of hydrocarbons
- Secondary organic aerosol formation potential of hydrocarbons

Pollutant	Human potential health effects	Other environmental effects
Formaldehyde (CH <sub>2</sub> O)	Irritation of nose, mouth, throat; lung damage; carcinogenic	Biodegrades; not accumulative
Other aldehydes*	Damage organs; acute pain; inflammation; carcinogenic; heart disease	Can inhibit plant growth
Toluene (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> )	Irritation to skin, eyes, throat; liver, kidney damage; possible neuro and reproductive toxin	Moderately toxic to fish; damages plant leaves
Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	Dizziness, unconsciousness; long-term fertility effects	Powerful greenhouse gas; pollutant in upper atmosphere

\* Benzaldehyde, butanal, heptanal, hexanal, propanal, pentanal

# Unregulated pollutants – by vehicle

- Significant variances between vehicles at combined cycle level
- Lowered powered C3 (82 bhp) saw generally lower emissions compared to higher powered 2008 (129 bhp)

	Formaldehyde (CH <sub>2</sub> O, mg/km)			Other aldehydes* (µg/km)			Toluene (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> , µg/km)			Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O, mg/km)		
	E0	E10	Δ	E0	E10	Δ	E0	E10	Δ	E0	E10	Δ
2020 Kia Sportage 1.6L	0.24	0.42	75%	18.0	5.7	(68%)	44.3	74.7	69%	5.6	5.1	(9%)
2022 Peugeot 2008 1.2L	0.32	0.36	13%	3.1	3.8	21%	43.9	64.9	48%	5.3	5.1	(3%)
2022 Citroen C3 1.2L	0.39	0.35	(12%)	3.0	1.7	(42%)	53.9	27.6	(49%)	5.9	7.2	21%
2022 Renault Clio 1.0L	0.29	0.27	(6%)	3.3	3.5	8%	39.1	152.7	290%	5.9	5.4	(8%)
<b>Mean</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>(20%)</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>80.0</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>0%</b>

\* Benzaldehyde, butanal, heptanal, hexanal, propanal, pentanal

# Unregulated pollutants – by cycle

- Consistent increases in all pollutants, especially in toluene
- Except in aldehydes under cold start

	Formaldehyde (CH <sub>2</sub> O, mg/km)			Other aldehydes* (µg/km)			Toluene (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> , µg/km)			Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O, mg/km)		
	E0	E10	Δ	E0	E10	Δ	E0	E10	Δ	E0	E10	Δ
Cold start	1.00	1.27	27%	81.8	14.4	(82%)	295.9	433.5	47%	7.8	8.0	2%
Urban	0.39	0.43	10%	3.9	4.0	4%	47.1	82.0	74%	0.8	1.2	42%
Rural	0.38	0.41	8%	5.7	7.1	25%	52.3	119.4	128%	2.7	2.7	0%
Motorway	0.17	0.19	12%	1.7	2.3	32%	15.7	30.5	94%	1.0	1.2	18%
<b>Mean</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>(5%)</b>	<b>102.8</b>	<b>166.4</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>16%</b>

\* Benzaldehyde, butanal, heptanal, hexanal, propanal, pentanal

# Alternative gasoline blends

- Four types of gasoline tested
- With Volkswagen
- On-road route around Stuttgart, Germany
- Summer 2022
- Different proportions of ethanol and base fuels
- Testing for effect on CO<sub>2</sub>, and regulated and unregulated pollutants



Vehicle Description:	2021 Volkswagen Nivus FULL
Euro Stage:	Euro 6d-TEMP-EVAP-ISC
Power	110 kW
Engine Size	1.5 L

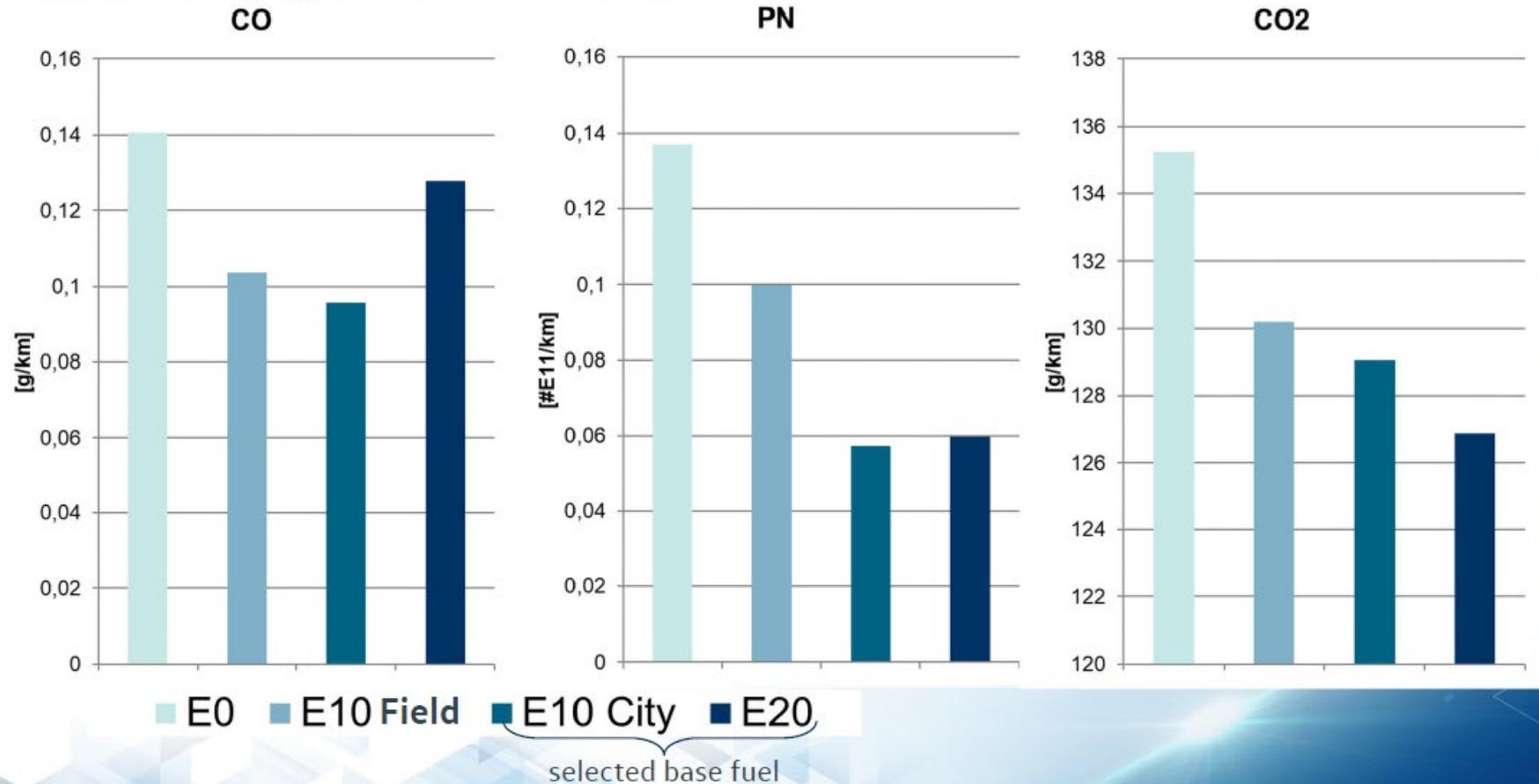
E0	E10 field	E10 „City“	E20
„standard test fuel“	Taken from Gas station	Base fuel sufficient for proposed E20 standard	Fulfills DIN Proposal
Ethanol free	X% Ethanol	10% Ethanol	20% Ethanol

# Regulated emissions – different ethanol levels

## CO, PN and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

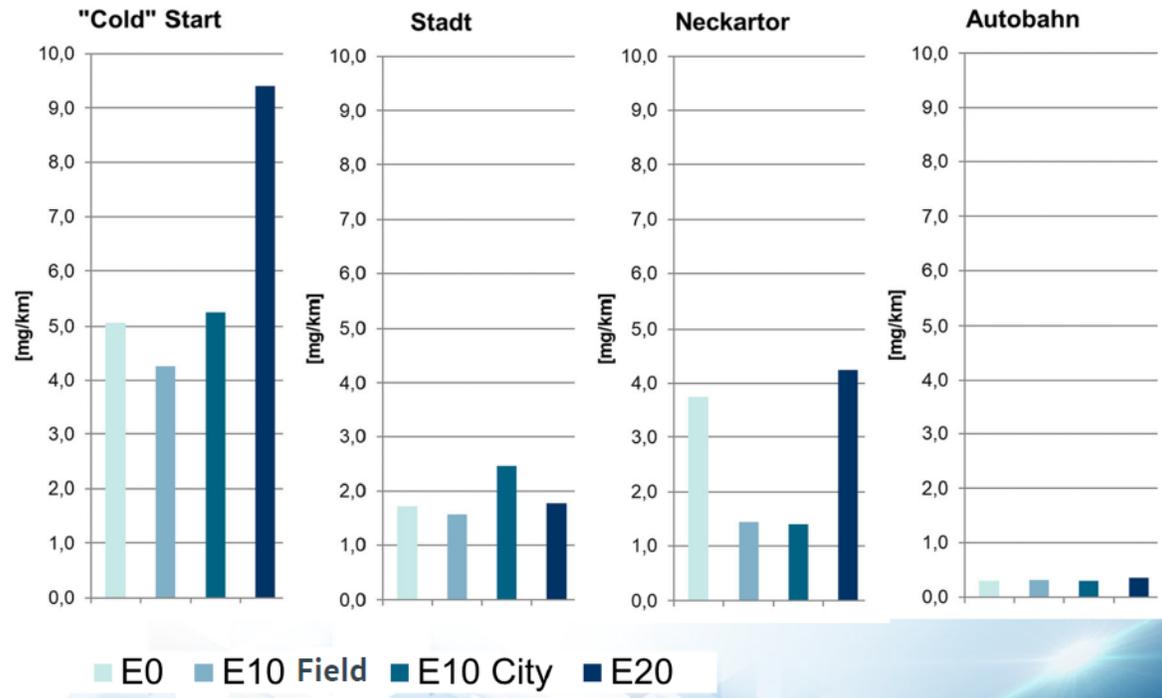
Limits: CO 1,0g/km / PN 6E11/km

- Lower CO<sub>2</sub> and PN emissions as ethanol proportion increases
- CO emissions rise slightly with E20

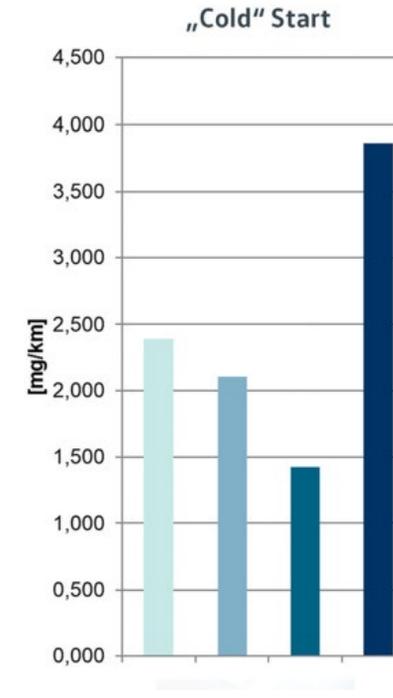


# Unregulated emissions – different ethanol levels

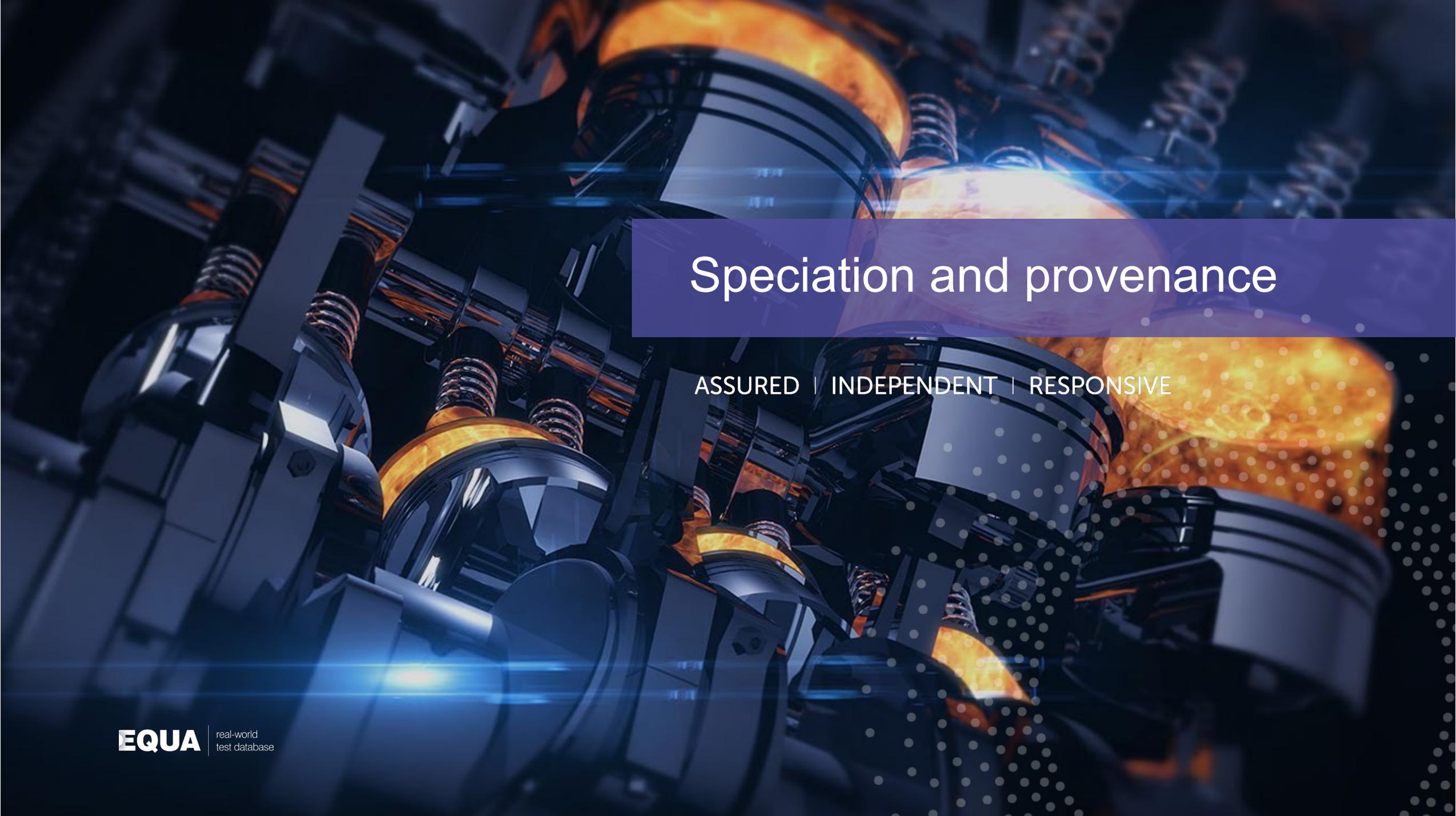
## Formaldehyde Emissions



## Oxygenates (excluding formaldehyde)



- Formaldehyde tends to rise with higher ethanol blends

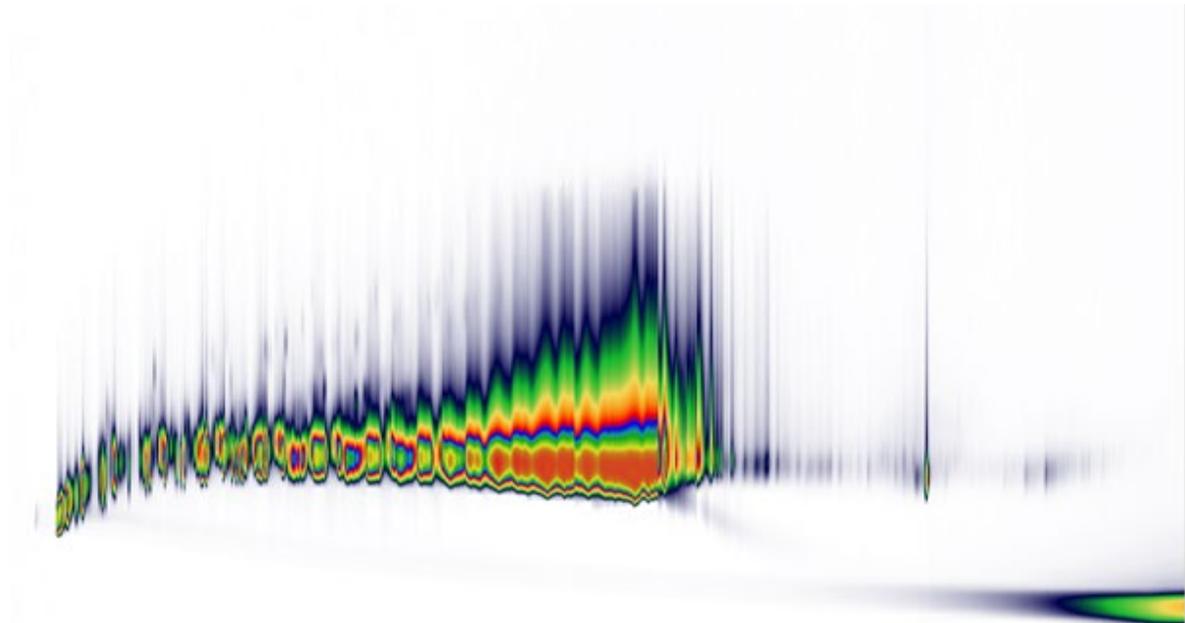


# Speciation and provenance

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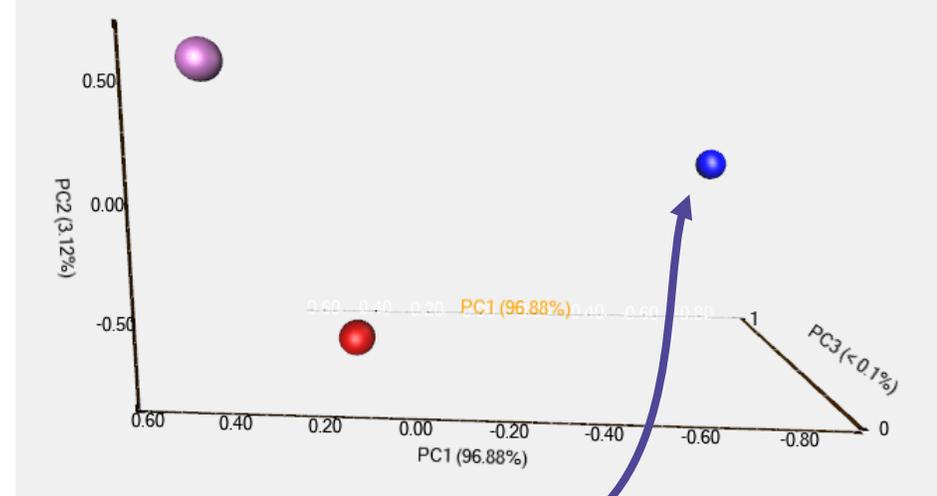
# Carbon benefits of HVO

- Benefits are primarily upstream rather than at tailpipe
- Provenance is therefore vital
- Risk of fraud as demand exceeds supply
- Fuel analysis can help fingerprint



# Provenance verification

- One HVO source is dissonant
- Much closer in composition to regular road diesel
- Cyclododecanol is differentiator – aquatic toxin



Peak area %	HVO 1	HVO 2	HVO 3	HVO 4	B7 diesel reference
Number of organic compounds	385	522	378	262	669
Aromatics/PAHs	0.14	13.23	0.09	0.04	0.04
Alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, alcohols, acids, cyclo	99.86	86.77	99.91	99.96	88.46
Oxygenated	0.30	13.97	1.30	0.73	43.31

# Summary

- Combination of standard PEMS and two dimensional GC -MS is powerful in understanding fuel properties and tailpipe emissions
  - Renewable fuels can make some reduction in regulated pollutants
  - Ethanol in gasoline may lead to increases in certain aldehydes and hydrocarbons
  - Supply pressures will create a fraud risk
  - Fuel fingerprinting can be used to check CO<sub>2</sub> reduction credentials
- Renewable fuels must be shown to be genuinely low emissions to thrive

# Database and testing

The screenshot shows the Emissions Analytics website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the logo and 'Home' link. Below it, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Cars - Europe / Air Quality Ranking'. There are filters for 'All Tests', 'Euro 5 Only', and 'Euro 6 Only'. On the right, there are flags for 'Europe', 'UK', and 'US'. The main content area is divided into car segments: Mini Car (A), Executive Car (E), Small Car (B), Luxury Car (F), Medium Car (C), Sport Utility/Off-road Vehicle (J), Large Car (D), and Multi-purpose Car (M). A 'All Segments' button is visible. Below the segments, there are tabs for 'Urban fNO<sub>2</sub>', 'Rural fNO<sub>2</sub>', 'Motorway fNO<sub>2</sub>', 'Combined fNO<sub>2</sub>', 'Cold Start Uplift', and 'DPF Regen Uplift'. The 'Diesel' and 'Hybrid' sections are expanded, showing a table of manufacturers with their NO<sub>x</sub> levels, MoM (Month-over-Month) changes, and YoY (Year-over-Year) changes. The 'Plug-in Hybrid' section is also visible at the bottom.

Included Tests						
Award	Test Date	Test Description	Regulatory Stage	Real-world Fuel Economy	Official Fuel Economy	Variance
				MPG (UK)	MPG (UK)	%
>	2017-02-14	Mazda Mazda3 2.0L Super 5DR	Euro 6	42.0	55.4	-24.3
>	2015-08-20	Mazda MX-5 1.5L Unleaded 2DR	Euro 6	43.4	47.1	-7.9
>	2015-08-13	Mazda MX-5 2.0L Unleaded 2DR	Euro 6	38.1	40.9	-6.9
>	2015-06-23	Mazda CX-3 2.0L Unleaded 5DR	Euro 6	41.9	47.9	-12.5
>	2014-11-28	Mazda Mazda2 1.5L Unleaded 5DR	Euro 6	47.3	62.7	-24.5
>	2014-07-21	Mazda Mazda3 2.0L Unleaded 5DR	Euro 5	36.2	48.7	-25.6
>	2013-10-15	Mazda Mazda3 2.0L Unleaded 5DR	Euro 5	39.0	55.4	-29.6
>	2013-02-05	Mazda MX-5 2.0L Unleaded 2DR	Euro 5	32.4	36.2	-10.4
>	2012-09-21	Mazda CX-5 2.0L Unleaded 5DR	Euro 5	38.5	47.0	-18.1
>	2012-09-14	Mazda Mazda2 1.3L Unleaded 5DR	Euro 5	39.2	56.0	-30.0
>	2012-08-07	Mazda MX-5 1.8L Unleaded 2DR	Euro 5	30.3	39.8	-23.8
>	2012-03-07	Mazda MX-5 1.8L Unleaded 2DR	Euro 5	32.9	39.8	-17.2

- Vehicle and fuel fingerprinting database now available
- For performance benchmarking, provenance analysis, and R&D

Thank you.

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## Assured

Emissions testing in real-world conditions brings challenges that experience anticipates and expertise overcomes. We deliver.

## Independent

Objectivity and candour are the driving forces in all our work, so you know the facts.

## Responsive

We're fast on our feet so we can conduct emissions testing when and where we're needed.