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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES – A CASE STUDY

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#### ABSTRACT

Releasing and measurement of green house gases were from vehicles and engines operating on a range of different fuels like diesel, biodiesel, compressed natural gas (CNG). Emission rates of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O are reported.

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#### INTRODUCTION

Releasing of green house gases such as CH<sub>4</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, NF<sub>3</sub>, CFC etc were monitored and measured [1]. Formation of Nitrous oxide from light-duty gasoline vehicle were takes place [2][3][4][5][6] over the three-way catalyst at lower exhaust temperatures[7][8]. Literature study shows that emissions of nitrous oxide from diesel vehicles depend on the basis of fuel consumption (FC) [9]. One other study [10] reports N<sub>2</sub>O factors for heavy-duty diesel vehicles of Euro 1, 2, and 3 emission standards as well as vehicles equipped with selective catalytic NO<sub>x</sub> reduction. Concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, and THC in the dilute exhaust were determined using the technique non dispersive infrared (NDIR) analyzers. Fuel consumption was calculated on the basis of carbon balance procedures. NO<sub>x</sub> emissions (both NO and NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter emissions were also measured for each study. Separate samples of dilute exhaust and dilution air for determination of CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O were collected over each test.

#### EXPERIMENTAL METHODOLOGY

Emission and measurement of N<sub>2</sub>O is made from exhausts samples using either FTIR or chromatographic analysis / technique with in 24 hrs of collection [10][11]. Using gas chromatograph with FID, methane concentration was determined and its detection limit is 10 mgL<sup>-1</sup>. Emission of Nitrous oxide from engine was determined using a gas chromatograph with an electron

capture detector. The sample is passed through Ascarite™ and sodium sulphate traps to reduce the levels of CO<sub>2</sub> and water vapor if present, respectively, as both gases interfere with the detection of N<sub>2</sub>O by electron capture. The limit of detection for N<sub>2</sub>O analysis using this instrument is 10 ppb in the dilute exhaust.

#### RESULTS

The IPCC Third Assessment Report [12] suggests revised GWPs of 23 for CH<sub>4</sub> and 296 for N<sub>2</sub>O, but IPCC mandated inventory development practices have not been updated to reflect these new GWPs as of December 2010. The distance based on mass emission rates of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O along with fuel consumption are for clean diesel and CNG are 1612 gm/km, 1040 gm/km; 1.53 gm/km, 8.21 gm/km; 0.15 gm/km, 0.07 gm/km; 76.2 gm/km, 66.4 gm/km (Diesel fuel); 83.4 gm/km, 10.4 gm/km (gaseous fuel) respectively. The number of individual vehicles (n) and the number of repeat tests per vehicle (r) that contribute to the reported average emission rates and fuel consumption are for clean diesel n=4 r= 4; For CNG n= 3, r=2. Oxidation catalysts have no measurable effect on methane emissions but increases nitrous oxide emissions by approximately 50-60% compared to no after treatment. The catalyzed diesel particle filter has no measurable effect on methane emissions but increases nitrous oxide.

#### Conclusions

The active regeneration event resulted in a 20% increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a 36–72% increase in N<sub>2</sub>O emissions, and no change in CH<sub>4</sub> emissions. Results from

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a single vehicle equipped with an oxidation catalyst suggest that cold temperature operation (10°C vs. 20°C) shows an average CO<sub>2</sub> emissions increase of 5%, a CH<sub>4</sub> emissions decrease of 40%, and an N<sub>2</sub>O emissions increase of 40%. Results from this same vehicle operating over different driving cycles also suggest that CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions increase for driving cycles that produce lower exhaust temperatures.

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