

Results of on-line measurement of organic compounds adsorbed on diesel exhaust particles by PTR-TOFMS

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Abstract

Organic compounds in particle-phase of diesel emission are of interest in view of particle nature and origin. In this work, particle-phase organic compounds from a modern diesel engine were analyzed using on-line PTR-TOFMS (Proton Transfer Reaction – Time of Flight Mass Spectrometer). To analyze particle-phase organic compounds, sampled exhaust was passed through a heating tube upstream of PTR-TOFMS. The results show that higher molecular weight compounds had higher portion in particle-phase and concentration changes corresponded to operating condition change of the engine.

Introduction

Diesel exhaust is composed of a large number of gaseous and particle-phase compounds. Diesel exhaust particles are known to be toxic, so it is important to analyze chemical composition of particles as well as gaseous compounds. Size distributions of diesel particles are shown in Fig.1. Diesel particle filter (DPF) reduces particles in entire size range.

In this work PTR-TOFMS was used to analyze exhaust emissions from a modern diesel engine. Transient behavior of gaseous organic compounds (i.e. volatile organic compounds VOCs), such as benzene, toluene, and acetaldehyde were detected at as low as 1ppb level (Fig.2). In order to analyze particle-phase compounds by PTR-TOFMS, a heating tube was installed upstream of PTR-TOFMS. This paper shows results of analysis of particle-phase volatile compounds of engine out emission measured by PTR-TOFMS.

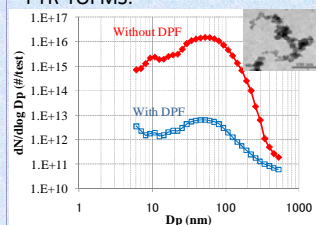


Fig.1 Size distributions of diesel particles with and without DPF

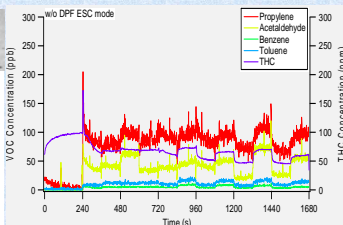


Fig.2 Concentration change of gaseous compounds from diesel engine measured by PTR-TOFMS.

Experimental Methods

A LD diesel engine (displacement 3L with turbo-intercooler) was used to analyze diesel particles by PTR-TOFMS. Experimental setup is shown Fig.3. To measure engine out emission, DPF was not installed the engine. Exhaust was sampled from an exhaust pipe to a partial flow dilution system. In the dilution system the sampled exhaust was mixed with dilution air and the dilution ratio (DR) was kept constant (15:1). The diluted exhaust was then split into 2 flows, one for PTR-TOFMS and the other for particle filter.

Experimental Methods (Continued)

The diluted exhaust for PTR-TOFMS was passed through a heating tube which enables particle-phase compounds to evaporate. Thus PTR-TOFMS is capable of analysis of particle-phase compounds in addition to gaseous compounds. Additional measurements were conducted by exhaust gas analyzers (THC, NOx etc.) and particle sizing instrument (EEPS).

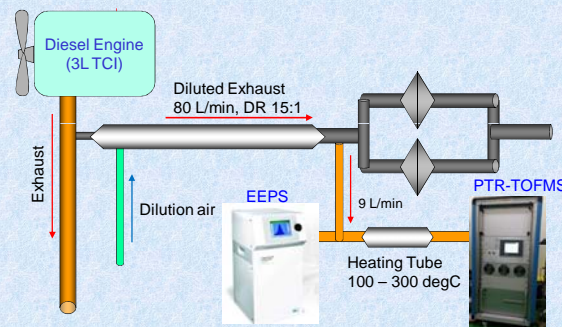


Fig.3 Experimental setup of diesel exhaust measurement by PTR-TOFMS.

Table 1 Measurement conditions of PTR-TOFMS

	Measurement conditions
Ionization method	Proton Transfer Reaction by H_3O^+ $H_2O + e^- \rightarrow H_3O^+ + OH^- + e^-$ $VOC + H_3O^+ \rightarrow VOC \cdot H^+ + H_2O$ (2 mbar, 80 deg C)
Mass spectrometer	High resolution Time of Flight type
Mass range & resolution	1 to 600, Ca. 3500
Averaging time	1 sec

Results and Discussion

The engine operating conditions (speed and torque) and THC and particle number concentrations are shown in Fig.4. The engine was operated in a stepwise operation test cycle (World Harmonized Stationary Cycle - WHSC). THC and particle concentrations raised sharply around 200s, and THC concentration was higher at lower torque.

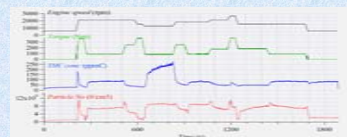


Fig.4 THC and particle number concentrations during WHSC test.

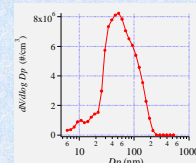


Fig.5 Size distribution of particles of WHSC.

The diluted exhaust was measured using PTR-TOFMS with the heating tube upstream. The exhaust was sampled into the partial dilution system. The diluted exhaust was cooled to lower temperature than 52 degC. Averaged size distribution of particles of WHSC is shown in Fig.5.

Results and Discussion (Continued)

To investigate particle-phase organic compounds, 2 experiments were conducted. First, the heating tube was kept at lower temperature (100 degC) to analyze gaseous organic compounds. Second, the heating tube was kept at higher temperature (300 degC) to analyze gaseous and particle-phase organic compounds. The 2 TOF mass spectra are shown in Fig.6. The difference between 2 mass spectra corresponds to particle-phase compounds.

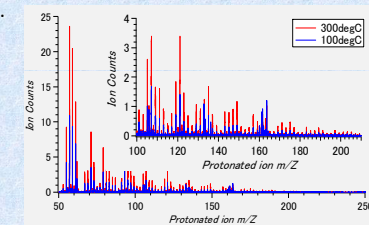


Fig.6 Averaged TOF mass spectra of gaseous compounds and compounds evaporated from particles of WHSC.

Concentration change of selected hydrocarbon compounds are shown in Fig.7. Higher molecular weight compounds had higher portion in particle-phase and concentration changes corresponded to operating condition change of the engine.

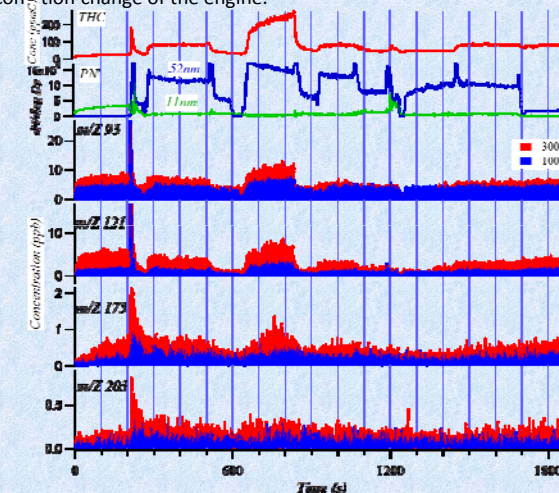


Fig.7 Concentration change of organic compounds during WHSC test.

Reference

1. Nobuhiro Yanagisawa, Keiko Shibata, Kenji Enya, Kaoru Satou, Transient Behavior of VOCs Emission and Particle Size Distribution during Active Regeneration of Diesel Particulate Filter Equipped Diesel Engine, SAE paper 2011-01-2087 (2011).