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# Emissions and performance with diesel and waste lubricating oil : a fundamental study into cold start operation with a special focus on particle number size distribution

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.enconman.2020.112604>

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<b>Publication title</b>	Energy Conversion and Management
<b>Publisher</b>	Elsevier
<b>Type</b>	Article
<b>USIR URL</b>	This version is available at: <a href="http://usir.salford.ac.uk/id/eprint/56716/">http://usir.salford.ac.uk/id/eprint/56716/</a>
<b>Published Date</b>	2020

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1 **Emissions and performance with diesel and waste lubricating oil: A fundamental**  
2 **study into cold start operation with a special focus on particle number size**  
3 **distribution**  
4

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30 **Abstract**

31 This study investigates the effect of engine temperature during cold start and hot start engine  
32 operation on particulate matter emissions and engine performance parameters. In addition to a  
33 fundamental study on cold start operation and the effect of lubricating oil during combustion,  
34 this research introduces important knowledge about regulated particulate number emissions  
35 and particulate size distribution during cold start, which is an emerging area in the literature.  
36 A further aspect of this work is to introduce waste lubricating oil as a fuel. By using diesel and  
37 two blends of diesel with 1 and 5% waste lubricating oil in a 6-cylinder turbocharged engine  
38 on a cold start custom test, this investigation studied particle number (PN), friction losses and  
39 combustion instability with diesel and waste lubricating oil fuel blends. In order to understand  
40 and explain the results the following were also studied: particle size distribution and median  
41 diameter, engine oil, coolant and exhaust gas temperatures, start of injection, friction mean  
42 effective pressure (FMEP), mechanical efficiency, coefficient of variation (CoV) of engine  
43 speed, CoV of indicated mean effective pressure (IMEP) and maximum rate of pressure rise  
44 were also studied. The results showed that during cold start the increase in engine temperature  
45 was associated with an increase in PN and size of particles, and a decrease in FMEP and  
46 maximum rate of pressure rise. Compared to a warmed up engine, during cold start, PN, start  
47 of injection and mechanical efficiency were lower; while FMEP, CoV of IMEP and maximum  
48 rate of pressure rise were higher. Adding 5% waste lubricating oil to the fuel was associated  
49 with a decrease in PN (during cold start), decreased particle size, maximum rate of pressure  
50 rise and CoV of IMEP and was associated with an increase in PN and nucleation mode particles  
51 (during hot start) and FMEP.

52 **Keywords:** Cold-start; engine warm up; waste lubricating oil; Particulate matter; PN;  
53 particle size distribution.

## 54 **1. Introduction**

55 There are a number of studies in the literature on using waste materials as a fuel instead of  
56 fossil fuels [1-5], owing to some negative aspects of using fossil fuels such as environmental  
57 aspects, cost and their depletion [6], and also due to the fact that some alternative fuels from  
58 wastes can improve the engine emission and performance parameters [7]. For example, Amid  
59 et al. [8] investigated the effects of waste-derived ethylene glycol diacetate on performance  
60 and emission characteristics of a diesel engine fueled with diesel/biodiesel blends and reported  
61 that the selected fuel blends could significantly mitigate carbon dioxide emission; however,  
62 NO<sub>x</sub> and unburned hydrocarbons increased and it also negatively affected engine performance  
63 parameters such as fuel consumption and thermal efficiency. Verma et al. [9] investigated the  
64 possibility of using waste tyre oil as a fuel in internal combustion engines looking at engine  
65 performance and emissions parameters and reported that it adversely affected the thermal  
66 efficiency and fuel consumption and increases the CO and HC. It has been reported that using  
67 waste cooking oil as a fuel can reduce particulate matter emissions. Nabi et al. [10] used  
68 biodiesel derived from waste cooking oil as a fuel in a diesel engine and reported a substantial  
69 reduction in particulate matter emissions (maximum 88% in PN and 84% in PM). Using waste  
70 cooking oil derived biodiesel (due to its fuel oxygen content) was also reported to be the reason  
71 for a reduction in PM and PN emissions under steady-state [11] and transient engine operations  
72 [12]. In terms of engine performance parameters, Zare et al. [13] reported that using 100%  
73 biodiesel derived from waste cooking oil can increase the thermal efficiency and decrease the  
74 friction power in a diesel engine. Another example of using waste material as a fuel in a diesel  
75 engine could be the use of triacetin as a fuel additive which led to a significant reduction in PM  
76 and PN emissions [14, 15].

77 This study also introduces the waste lubricating oil as a fuel. Between waste materials,  
78 lubricating oil represents 60% of residual oils which are produced massively every year

79 worldwide (24 million tonnes/year) [16]. Given the amount produced every year and the  
80 availability, waste lubricating oil can potentially be used as a fuel, however, the effect of using  
81 such a fuel needs to be investigated under different engine operating conditions such as cold  
82 start.

83 It is common for many vehicles to be started in the morning when it is cold, driven from home  
84 to work, parked for some hours, started in the afternoon when it is again cold, driven back  
85 home and then parked overnight. In cities, this is the daily norm for the majority of vehicles  
86 [17] and many trips start and finish before the engine fully warms up [18]. A studying on 55  
87 vehicles over 1000 trips (71000 km with the total duration of 1260 hours) showed that one third  
88 of the trips occurred within cold start [17]. Modelling of excess emissions during cold start in  
89 a study, which used the data of 1,766 passenger cars (35,941 measurements) estimated 5.2 km  
90 to be the average cold start distance in which the exhaust emissions stabilise [19].

91 Cold start can be defined from the engine start either for 5 minutes or until the engine coolant  
92 temperature reaches 70 degC (EU Directive 2012/46/EU). During cold start the engine  
93 temperature is not optimal, which can adversely affect the engine performance parameters such  
94 as fuel consumption and thermal efficiency [20], and emission parameters such as NO<sub>x</sub> [21].

95 One of the reasons is the sub-optimal temperature of the cylinder walls and engine block. For  
96 example, Robert et al. [22] reported that the low temperature of the cylinder wall increased the  
97 emissions and also impacted fuel economy. A study by Cao [23] showed that the low  
98 temperature of the engine block caused incomplete combustion and therefore could be  
99 attributed to increased emissions. During cold start, the low temperature of the fuel and engine  
100 can also impact the fuel atomisation and evaporation process, which also adversely affect  
101 engine performance and emissions [24].

102 Cold start emissions have been reported to be a significant portion of the total emissions [18,  
103 25]. For example, around 30% of the total PM from the LA92 Unified Driving Cycle was  
104 related to Phase 1, which represents only 12% of the total distance in that cycle. Also comparing  
105 Phase 1, which was cold start, to Phase 3, where the engine was hot, showed that the PM from  
106 Phase 1 was 7.5 times higher than from Phase 3 [26]. Bielaczyc et al. [27] reported that PM  
107 emissions from the first three minutes of cold start were much higher than that of hot start  
108 contributing more than 40% of the total emissions. Another study used the FTP test cycle and  
109 showed that cold start NO<sub>x</sub> emissions can be up to two times higher than those of hot start [28].

110 Cold start operation affects the engine performance as well [29, 30]. Increased friction losses  
111 and decreased thermal efficiency were also the result of sub-optimal engine temperature. This  
112 is because during cold start, the viscosity of the engine lubricating oil is higher than during hot  
113 start [22, 31]. Will and Boretti [32] reported 2.5 times higher friction losses during cold start  
114 when compared to hot start. The higher friction losses during cold start leads to higher fuel  
115 consumption. A study by Samhaber et al. [33] showed a 13.5% increase in fuel consumption  
116 as a result of cold start, when compared to hot start. Zare et al. [20] showed that during cold  
117 start the indicated torque, fuel consumption, engine instability and friction losses are higher  
118 than during hot start.

119 The literature states that the efficiency of after-treatment systems during cold start is one of the  
120 main reasons for higher emissions [22]. While understanding the impact of cold start on after-  
121 treatment is critically important, there is also a need for fundamental studies showing how the  
122 engine temperature can be influential on the feedgas emissions. Currently, there is no  
123 fundamental study in the literature investigating how a transient increasing engine temperature  
124 influences the total concentration of particles and also the size of particles during cold start at  
125 constant engine load and speed. The current work here will investigate this.

126 Most of the literature on cold start operation used a driving cycle which includes the cold start  
127 section at the start. Given that driving cycles are characterised by various speed and load  
128 changes, cold start emissions and performance within cycles are significantly influenced by  
129 such changes, which consequently affects the fuel injection strategy and other engine  
130 parameters [34]. Given that under different operating conditions, the engine performance and  
131 emission parameters can be affected by different factors reinforcing or cancelling the effect of  
132 one another, having different variables over a cycle when it comes to data analysis can limit  
133 the fundamental study into the pure effect of engine temperature change. In most of the  
134 literature, cold start data is presented as an average value over the cold start section, which  
135 limits the value of the study given that cold start has different stages, which will be discussed  
136 and addressed in this study.

137 Outside of the fundamental cold start investigation, this study looks into the effect of  
138 lubricating oil which exists inside the cylinder during combustion. It is reported in the literature  
139 that the presence of lubricating oil in addition to the injected fuel during combustion can  
140 influence engine performance and emissions [35]. This study artificially adds lubricating oil  
141 into the cylinder with the fuel through blending, therefore facilitating a study into the effect of  
142 lubricating oil on engine performance parameters (such as mechanical efficiency and  
143 combustion stability) and exhaust emissions (such as PN and PN size distribution). This study  
144 is significantly important from the particle size distribution point of view given that smaller  
145 particles are more toxic [36]. The current literature has related some small particles to the  
146 existence of lubricating oil during combustion [35]. Presently, the authors were not able find a  
147 fundamental study in the literature looking at the effect of engine lubricating oil on PN and PN  
148 size distribution during cold start.

149 This study serves as a reference for engine researchers and car manufacturers when it comes to  
150 new emissions regulations, in which, in addition to PN, the size of the particles will also be

151 important. In the most recent European emissions regulation, Euro 6.2, the current method  
152 which is called the particle measuring program (PMP), only considers solid particles with a  
153 size above 23 nm [37]. However, for the upcoming regulation, there is a plan to include sub-  
154 23 nm particles in the PN measurement [38]. Currently, different research groups are working  
155 on that. For example, the SUREAL-23 project received funding from the European Union's  
156 Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 724136 to work  
157 on sub-23 nm particles. Therefore, this study is of importance given that the existence of  
158 lubricating oil in the combustion significantly affects the sub-23 nm particles.

159 In the literature, there are some studies evaluating waste lubricating oil as a fuel [32, 35, 39-  
160 41]. However, the authors could not find any study investigating the influence of using this  
161 fuel on PN, PN size distribution, friction losses and combustion instability parameters during  
162 different stages of cold start in comparison to hot start; cold start operation is of significant  
163 importance owing to the fact that during this period the after-treatment systems do not perform  
164 well.

## 165 **2. Experimental facilities**

### 166 **2.1 Engine specifications**

167 Meeting the emissions limit of new regulation such as Euro IV-VI forces car manufacturers to  
168 use exhaust after-treatment systems such as the Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF) for their new  
169 vehicles. With such engines, emissions will be dependent on the type and performance of the  
170 after-treatment system, therefore using such engines for research purposes can limit the  
171 fundamental study on the pure effect of engine temperature or the fuel properties on engine  
172 emissions during cold start, which are the aims of this study. Therefore, in order to gain better  
173 insight into the actual engine dependent particulate matter emissions, avoiding the mentioned  
174 limitations, it was opted to conduct the experiment on a Euro III engine, as specified in Table



175 1. The engine in this study was a 6-cylinder turbocharged common-rail diesel engine which  
176 was coupled to a hydraulic dynamometer to control the speed and load.

177

178 Table 1 Engine specifications

Model	Cummins ISBe220 31
Emission standard	Euro III
Capacity ( <i>l</i> )	5.9
Aspiration	Turbocharged
Maximum power	162 kW at 2500 rpm
Maximum torque	820 Nm at 1500 rpm
Fuel injection	High pressure common rail
Cylinders	6 in-line
Bore × stroke (mm x mm)	102 × 120
Compression ratio	17.3:1
Dynamometer type	Electronically-controlled water brake dynamometer

179

## 180 **2.2 Fuel selection**

181 Apart from D100 (100% diesel), this investigation used 1% (by volume) waste lubricating oil  
182 with 99% diesel (D99W1), and 5% waste lubricating oil with 95% diesel (D95W5). The fuel  
183 properties of diesel waste lubricating oil are shown in Table 2. A GC/MS instrument (model  
184 ISQ, single quadrupole MS, Trace 1310 Gas chromatograph) was used for D100, D99W1 and  
185 D95W5 fuel analysis and the analysis result is shown in Table 3. As can be seen, D100 has the  
186 highest aromatic and aliphatic compounds and no cyclic hydrocarbons, while D99W1 and  
187 D95W5 had cyclic hydrocarbons. Waste lubricating oil and D100 have similar calorific values,  
188 therefore the blends with 1 and 5% waste lubricating oil have a similar heating value to D100  
189 [40]. The higher viscosity of the waste lubricating oil can adversely affect the fuel atomisation  
190 and evaporation during cold start (owing to the low temperature) which consequently impacts  
191 engine performance and emissions parameters [42]. It is known that high sulfur content

192 increases particulate emissions, therefore the higher sulfur content of the lubricating oil can  
 193 potentially increase the number of particles [35].

194 Given that the current literature has related some small particles to the existence of lubricating  
 195 oil during combustion [35], artificially adding 1% lubricating oil into the cylinder with the fuel  
 196 through blending can facilitate the study by highlighting the changes in PN. Using 5% blend  
 197 can confirm the result and also evaluate the possibility of using it as an alternative fuel.  
 198 However, due to high viscosity and sulfur content of lubricating oil, it is decided not to use a  
 199 higher portion of this fuel at this stage.

200

201 Table 2 Diesel and waste lubricating oil properties [40, 43]

	Diesel	Waste lubricating oil
Density (g/cc)	0.84	0.89
Viscosity (mm <sup>2</sup> /s)	2.64	30.3
Heating value (MJ/kg)	41.77	43.07
Flash point (degC)	71	98
Sulfur (ppm)	5.9	7500
Ash (ppm)	1	7400

202

203 Table 3 Fuel analysis with GC/MS

	Area%		
	aromatic	aliphatic	cyclic hydrocarbons
D100	1.43-5.66	1-12.24	-
D99W1	0.04-0.10	0.05-0.69	0.07-0.13
D95W5	0.03-0.07	0.03-0.12	0.03-0.07

204

### 205 **2.3 Design of experiment**

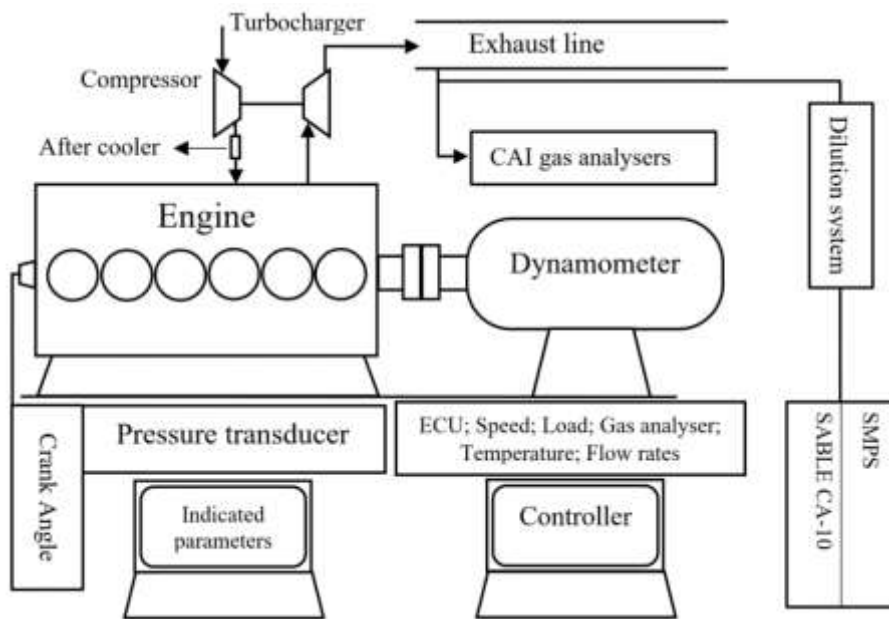
206 There are different methods of running a cold start test. In most of the literature, cold start data  
207 is related to the first section of a driving cycle in which the engine coolant temperature is less  
208 than 70 degC or the first 5 minutes of the cycle. For example, in WLTC (worldwide harmonised  
209 light vehicles test cycle) the cold start section is related to the first 5 minutes of the test or  
210 similarly in the NEDC, the urban section contains cold start. According to the aim of this study,  
211 which is the evaluation of engine emissions and performance during different stages of cold  
212 start and hot start, using a driving cycle may not be effective. The reason is that driving cycles  
213 contain frequent speed and load changes (such as ESC, NEDC, WLTC and RDE test route [44,  
214 45]) which adds more effective parameters to the cold start data analysis and makes the  
215 judgment more difficult, consequently, it limits the fundamental study into cold start.  
216 Therefore, this study uses a constant engine speed of 1500 rpm under 25% load in order to  
217 decrease the number of influential parameters aiding a better judgment about the direct effect  
218 of engine temperature.

### 219 **2.4 Test set-up procedure**

220 A schematic diagram of the experimental facility is shown in Figure 1. To measure PN and PN  
221 size distribution, this study used a Scanning Mobility Particle Sizer (SMPS) which consists of  
222 a TSI 3071A classifier—to preselect particles within a size range, and a TSI 3782 condensation  
223 particle counter (CPC)—to grow particles making them optically detectable. During the  
224 experiments, raw exhaust gas was diluted with HEPA-filtered ambient air in a dilution tunnel  
225 and then directed to the SMPS. In order to calculate the dilution ratio, CO<sub>2</sub> was sampled before  
226 the dilution tunnel with a CAI-600 CO<sub>2</sub> (with repeatability > 1% of full scale and linearity >  
227 0.5% of full scale [46]) and after the dilution tunnel with a SABLE CA-10 Carbon CO<sub>2</sub> gas  
228 analyser (with an accuracy of 1% of reading within the range of 0-10% [47]). In order to  
229 measure the in-cylinder data, a Kistler 6053CC60 piezoelectric transducer (manufactured

230 stated sensitivity of  $\approx -20$  pC/bar) was used to measure the in-cylinder pressure, a Kistler type  
 231 2614 (manufacture stated resolution= 0.5 crank angle degree) was used to measure the crank  
 232 angle, the fuel injection signal was directly interrogated by measuring the voltage applied to  
 233 the first injector. Refs. [48, 49] can provide more information about the experimental facility  
 234 used in this study.

235



236

237 Figure 1 Experimental facility schematic diagram

238

## 239 2.5 Experimental procedure

240 Cold start tests were conducted every day morning after an overnight (minimum 12 hours)  
 241 engine-off at ambient temperature. Engine coolant and oil temperatures were checked before  
 242 each test (temperatures were  $23 \pm 3$  degC). The engine for each test was started at 1500 rpm  
 243 under a quarter load and ran for at least 30 minutes to fully warm up and stabilise. Before  
 244 running each test, the engine fuel lines were flushed to make sure there was no leftover fuel  
 245 from the previous test in the lines.

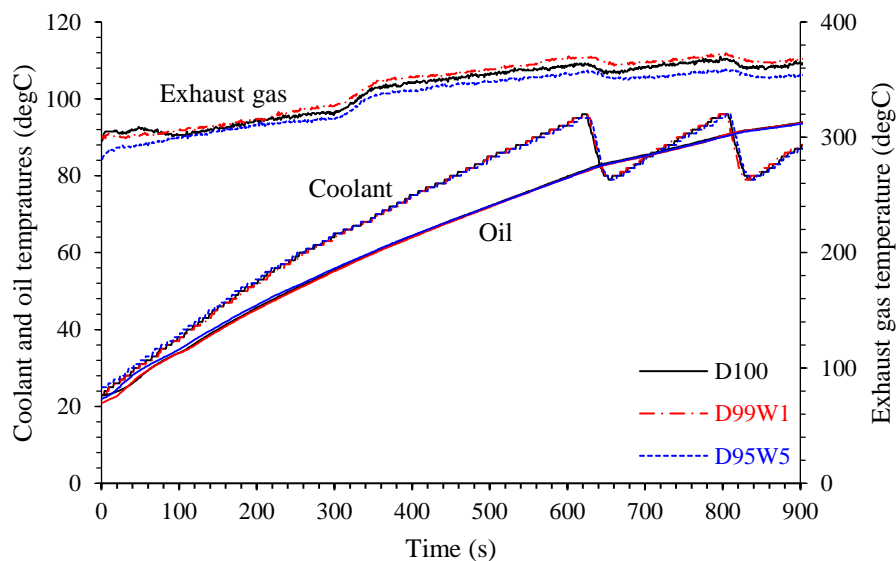
### 246 **3. Results and discussion**

247 This section studies PN concentration, and to better explain the observed phenomena, it uses  
248 PN size distribution and median diameter and also some of the engine performance parameters  
249 such as start of injection and engine oil, coolant and exhaust gas temperatures. This section  
250 also studies friction losses using friction mean effective pressure (FMEP) and mechanical  
251 efficiency; and the combustion instability using CoV of engine speed and CoV of indicated  
252 mean effective pressure (IMEP) supporting the results with the maximum rate of pressure rise  
253 data. Results in each sub-section will be analysed from two aspects; the effect of cold start and  
254 engine temperature and the effect of fuel properties under different engine operating conditions.

255 Before moving to the next section, it is worth mentioning about the engine coolant and oil  
256 temperature profiles during cold start, which can be the indicators of engine warm up. Figure  
257 2 shows the how the exhaust gas, oil and coolant temperatures change during cold start. As  
258 mentioned before, cold start can be defined from the engine start either for 5 minutes or until  
259 the engine coolant temperature reaches 70 degC (EU Directive 2012/46/EU). In order to meet  
260 the formal definition of cold start, the engine needs to be started after at least 12 hours soak  
261 (engine-off) without forced cooling or 6 hours with forced cooling at ambient temperature (EU  
262 Directive 2012/46/EU). The definition of cold start in the regulation might give the impression  
263 that outside the mentioned boundary, the engine operates as hot start and normal. However, a  
264 study by Zare et al. [20] showed that even after the engine coolant temperature reaches 70  
265 degC, the engine still produces sub-optimal exhaust emissions and performance. For example,  
266 there is a period in which the engine coolant temperature reached to 70 degC, therefore, it is  
267 not cold start anymore; however, the coolant temperature is still sub-optimal and increasing  
268 which consequently affects the engine performance and emissions. There can also be another  
269 situation in which the engine coolant temperature is optimal, however, the engine oil  
270 temperature is still sub-optimal and increasing. The reasons is the lag between the engine

271 coolant and oil temperatures optimal value [20, 50]. In such a situation the operation is not cold  
 272 start as per the definition of cold start in EU Directive 2012/46/EU, therefore it is classified as  
 273 hot start; however, the operation is not yet optimal. As can be seen in Figure 2, when the coolant  
 274 temperature reaches the steady state value—which consequently leads to the thermostat  
 275 opening and dissipating heat to the environment through the radiator—the oil temperature is  
 276 still increasing. This is due to the different temperature rise rate profiles of engine oil and  
 277 coolant, given that they have different properties [20]. The lag between oil and coolant  
 278 temperatures to reach the optimal point, which depends on the engine operating condition [20]  
 279 also has a significant effect on inefficiencies during cold start [51, 52], is not confined to one  
 280 type of engine [53], and has been frequently reported by other researchers [54-56].

281



282

283 Figure 2 Coolant, oil and exhaust gas temperature within the custom test for all the tested fuels

284

### 285 3.1 Particulate matter

286 Particulate matter—liquid and solid mixtures in the exhaust gas emissions—is a complicated  
 287 pollutant which is not a chemically well-defined substance in terms of how it forms, what it is

288 composed of and how it can be controlled. Particulate matter emissions depend on various  
289 factors such as fuel properties, engine speed, engine load, temperature, and after-treatment  
290 systems [57]. Particulate matter can negatively impact our ecosystem; it has been recognised  
291 as a global risk factor for diseases as small particles are associated with cardiorespiratory health  
292 issues [58]. It is also reported that prolonged exposure to particulate matter, which can be  
293 associated with reactive oxygen species, can lead to adverse health effects [59-64]. Vaughan  
294 et al. [62] studied the effect of organic content from diesel exhaust particles on oxidative stress  
295 and inflammation and reported that inflammatory responses may be a key mechanism of  
296 response to diesel emissions, more so than oxidative stress. Using an alternative fuel, a study  
297 on cytotoxic, inflammatory and oxidative potential caused by engine emissions, Vaughan et al.  
298 [64] reported that compared to diesel, using a low fraction of a fuel derived from coconut oil  
299 decreased the inflammation and increased antioxidant expression. Stevanovic et al. [59] studied  
300 the oxidative potential of combustion emissions and reported that the fuel oxygen content has  
301 a positive correlation with the particle phase oxidative potential. A similar result was reported  
302 by Hedayat et al. [61] when they studied the effect of fuel oxygen content on particulate  
303 oxidative potential using biodiesel.

304 The count of individual particles, PN, has gained a lot of attention recently as it was recognized  
305 that measurement of the particulate mass only is not sufficient and informative enough to report  
306 on the potential health impact of particulate pollution. It is hypothesized that smaller particles  
307 can penetrate deeper in lungs and have larger surface area to react within lungs, and the toxicity  
308 of particles increases as the particle size decreases [36].

309 Many of the techniques used to mitigate particulate mass (PM) cause of increase in PN, this  
310 increase is primarily in the nucleation mode. Apart from the PM limit, which is already part of  
311 the current emissions standard regulations [65], PN emissions have become regulated for  
312 emissions certification tests in many countries. For example, China's CN5 regulation included

313 the limit of  $6 \times 10^{11}$  (#/km) for PN emissions, the EU Commission added a limit of  $6 \times 10^{11}$  (#/km)  
314 for PN emissions to the Euro 5b regulation for the type approval of diesel light-duty vehicles  
315 in 2011 and to Euro 6 regulation for the type approval of gasoline direct injection light-duty  
316 vehicles in 2014 [65]. PN emission has become more dominant in the most recent emissions  
317 regulation such as WLTP. For example, in real driving emission (RDE) type approval tests for  
318 compression ignition vehicles, which is a part of WLTP implemented from Sep 2017, only PN  
319 needs to be measured and not PM [65]. This could be owing to the fact that after-treatment  
320 systems, such as the diesel particulate filter (DPF) can significantly reduce PM, but it is not  
321 very effective at reducing the small particles which are very light with no considerable mass  
322 (but are significantly more toxic than their larger counterparts). However, there has been a  
323 number of research conducted to improve DPFs recently, such as optimisation of microwave  
324 energy consumption in the heating process of composite regeneration [66] or performance  
325 enhancement of microwave assisted regeneration in a wall-flow diesel particulate filter or  
326 diesel soot continuous regeneration performance based on field synergy theory and model [67-  
327 69].

328 In the current method of PM measurement in the recent regulation (Euro 6), which is called  
329 PMP (Particle Measuring Program), only solid particles with a size of 23 nm and above are  
330 measured [37]. However, sub-23 nm particles are more toxic compared to bigger particles;  
331 therefore, this study has a special focus on smaller particles (sub-23 nm).

332 PN emissions are influenced by a number of different factors which may cancel or reinforce  
333 the effect of one another under different conditions. The following analysis will first look at  
334 the effect of cold start and then the effect of fuel on PN emissions during the custom test.

335 This study used an SMPS particle analyser to sample the exhaust emissions. Each sample took  
336 2 min, hence the first and second samples (Stage #1 and #2) are from engine start until the



337 engine coolant temperature (shown in Figure 2) reaches to ~65 degC, the next three samples  
338 (Stage #3, #4 and #5) correspond to the duration in which engine coolant temperature is above  
339 ~70 degC (shown in Figure 2) but less than its optimum value, therefore these stages cannot be  
340 considered as cold start as per the regulation and also not as steady-state owing to the fact that  
341 the engine temperature is still increasing. The data of these stages are of importance as it can  
342 show that these sections (which are not cold start) are different to steady-state results. The last  
343 two samples (Stage #6 and #7) correspond to steady-state condition as the engine coolant  
344 temperature is stable, and therefore can be considered steady state. The findings will be  
345 discussed in detail first from the cold start effect point of view and then from the fuel properties.

### 346 **3.1.1 Cold start effect**

347 Figure 3 shows the PN concentration for all of the tested fuels through the custom test measured  
348 by an SMPS. In general, the figure shows that PN increases as the engine warms up, which  
349 means that the cold start section has lower PN compared to hot start. As explained, there are 7  
350 consecutive stages (each corresponds to the average of two minutes) from the beginning of the  
351 cold start test; and PN emissions during each stage will be discussed.

352 **Stages #1 and # 2** fall in the cold start period. As per the regulation, cold start is defined from  
353 the engine start (after a proper soak) until 5 minutes or until the engine coolant temperature  
354 reaches 70 degC. As can be seen, Stages #1 and #2 had a similar PN concentration for all the  
355 fuels. For example, with D100, PN concentration from Stages #1 and #2 were 1.50E7 and  
356 1.52E7; and the difference was less than 1.5%. With D95W5 the difference between Stages #1  
357 and 2 was less than ~1.7%. These two stages correspond to the first 300 s of the test where the  
358 engine coolant temperature (shown in Figure 2) increased from ~23 to ~65 degC. During these  
359 two stages the engine injection strategy did not change. This can be seen by analysing the start  
360 of injection parameter which is a part of injection strategy commanded by the engine  
361 controlling unit (shown in Figure 4). As can be seen in Figure 4, during this period, the start of

362 injection was constant which could be one of the reasons for the insignificant change in PN  
363 concentration during this period.

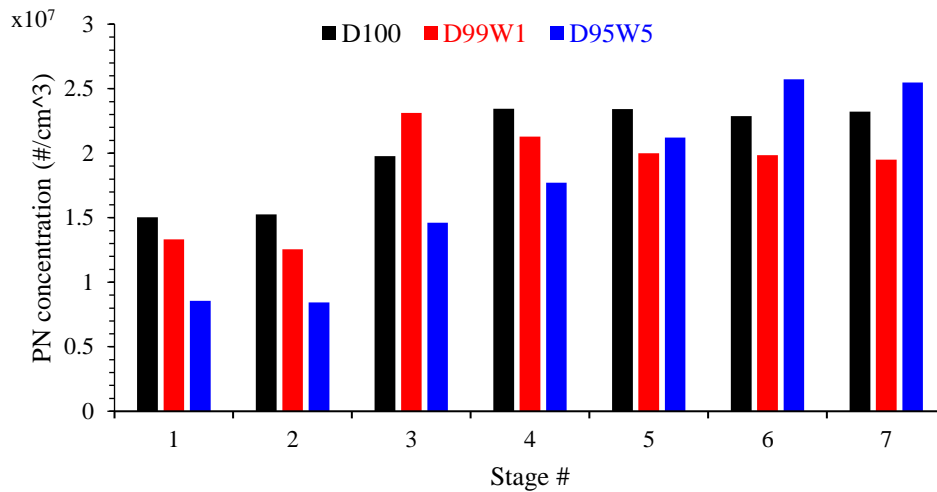
364 **Stage #3** has a significantly higher PN when compared to cold start (Stages #1 and #2). For  
365 example, in Stage #3, D100, D99W1 and D95W5 had 32, 74 and 70% higher PN compared to  
366 Stage #1. This stage cannot be considered as cold start according to the regulation as it  
367 corresponds to a time that the engine coolant temperature has already reached 65 degC (shown  
368 in Figure 2) and the injection strategy is changing. This stage is related to an unsteady warm  
369 condition. Figure 4 shows a slight change in the start of injection in Stage #3 when compared  
370 to Stages #1 and #2. However, Figure 4 cannot show a significant change owing to the fact that  
371 it shows the average value over 2 minutes. But, inspecting further showed that during this stage,  
372 the start of injection increased (commanded by engine injection strategy) providing the reason  
373 for the unsteady condition during this stage.

374 **Stages #4 and #5** are not cold start as per the regulation because the coolant temperature shown  
375 in Figure 2 is above 70 degC. However, this duration cannot represent the steady state  
376 condition; as the engine exhaust gas, oil and coolant temperatures are still increasing (Figure  
377 2). As shown in Figure 4, in this period, the start of injection is stable; however, it changed  
378 compared to Stage #1 and #2 because of the increase in engine temperature. As shown in Figure  
379 3, PN for Stages #4 and #5 are higher than cold start (Stages #1 and #2) for all of the fuels. For  
380 example, Stage 4 shows that D100 with  $2.34E7$  has 56% higher PN than Stage #1 and also 56%  
381 than Stage #2.

382 **Stages #6 and #7** represent the hot start steady state condition as they were collected in a  
383 duration in which the engine coolant temperature was above 70 degC and also optimal, as  
384 shown in Figure 2. These two stages represent the steady-state condition owing to the engine  
385 being stable as the start of injection (Figure 4); and coolant, oil and exhaust gas temperatures

386 (Figure 2) are stable. As can be seen in Figure 3, PN concentration for all the fuels are higher  
 387 during these steady state stages when compared to during cold start. PN with D100, D99W1  
 388 and D95W5 during steady state (Stage #7) is 54%, 46% and 197% higher than cold start (Stage  
 389 #1), respectively.

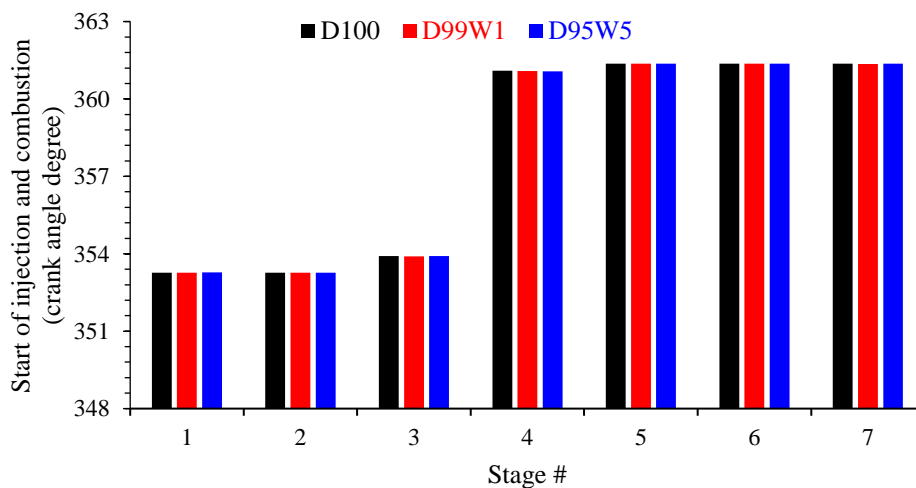
390



391

392 Figure 3 PN concentration within the custom test for all the tested fuels

393



394

395 Figure 4 Start of injection within the custom test

396

397 Nanoparticles are the main contributor of PN emissions. A study in the literature reported that  
398 nanoparticles increase as the exhaust gas temperature increases [35]. Figure 5, which shows  
399 the size distribution of the particles for all the tested fuels through the custom test, indicates  
400 that the number of nucleation mode particles increases as the engine warms up. To better  
401 understand the effect of temperature on PN, this study looks at the size of particles in each  
402 stage.

403 Based on the size distribution, particles can fall into two main categories: nucleation mode and  
404 accumulation mode. Nucleation mode particles have a diameter of 3-30 nm. The particles in  
405 this mode consist of sulfur, volatile organic compounds and also small portion of solid  
406 compounds from carbon and metal [70]. These small particles which are significantly affected  
407 by dilution parameters and sampling systems typically contribute 0.1 to 10% of PM and up to  
408 90% of PN [70]. The other category is the accumulation mode, which covers particles with a  
409 diameter of 30-500 nm. Adsorbed materials and carbonaceous agglomerates compose the  
410 particles in this mode [70]. Condensation of volatile materials which can lead to the  
411 agglomeration of particles in the nucleation mode can form accumulation mode particles [71].

412 As mentioned, PN in **Stages #1 and #2** were similar, shown in Figure 3. Having a similar trend  
413 for all of the fuels may conclude that during this period increasing the engine temperature did  
414 not affect the PN concentration. As can be seen in Figure 5, separately for each fuel, the PN  
415 size distribution of Stage #1 seems similar to Stage #2; however, looking in detail shows that  
416 particles are slightly bigger in Stage #2 than Stage #1. This can be better presented by  
417 evaluating the median diameter of the particle size from the size distribution graph (there are  
418 other ways of looking into this such as analysing the primary particle size [72]). Figure 6 shows  
419 the median diameter in the PN size distribution graph within the custom test for all of the tested  
420 fuels. As shown, the median diameter increment from Stage #1 to Stage #2 for D100, D99W1  
421 and D95W5 are 82.8 to 90 nm, 78.7 to 83.5 nm and 82.1 to 82.2 nm, respectively. Given that

422 the start of injection remained constant, increasing engine temperature through these two stages  
423 could be the reason for that.

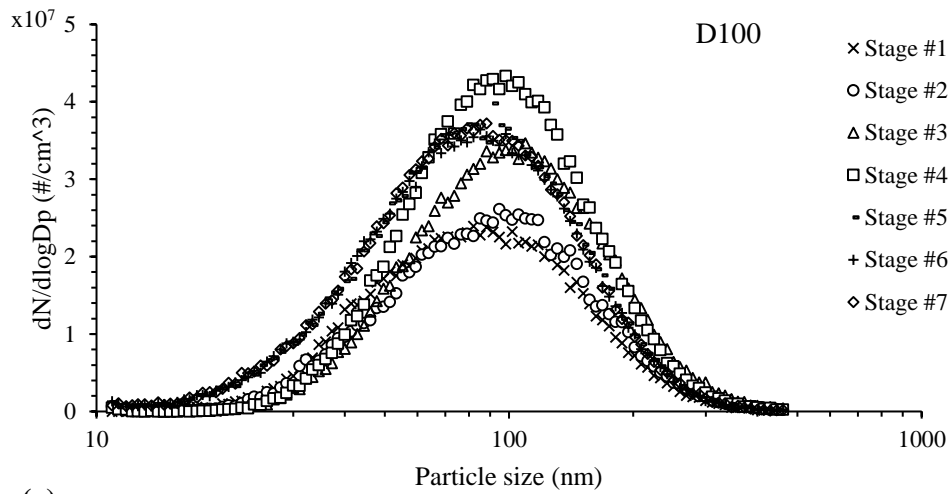
424 Comparing Stage #2 to **Stage #3** in Figure 6 shows that the median diameter for D100 and  
425 D99W1 increased from 90 and 83.5 nm (in Stage #2) to 99 nm and 97 nm (in Stage #3),  
426 respectively. While, for D95W5 the median diameter did not change significantly; it slightly  
427 decreased from 82.2 to 80.9 nm. Figure 4 shows that for Stage #3, compared to Stages #1 and  
428 #2, the start of injection slightly increased as within Stage #3, the injection strategy of the  
429 engine changes the start of injection, and given that Figure 4 shows the average value over 2  
430 minutes, the conclusion about the correlation between injection parameters and particle size  
431 might not be very accurate.

432 Figure 6 shows that with D100 and D99W1, **Stage #4** has bigger particles than cold start  
433 (Stages #1 and #2), while, D95W5 has smaller particles. Figure 6 also shows that **Stages #4**  
434 **and #5** have smaller particles compared to Stage #3. The figure also shows that the median  
435 diameter after Stage #3 started decreasing; this can be owing to the increasing number of  
436 particles in the nucleation mode shown in Figure 5. This increase is more significant when it  
437 comes to D95W5, which has more waste lubricating oil in it. This is because of the fuel  
438 properties which will be discussed further in the fuel effect sub-section, Section 3.1.2. Looking  
439 at Figure 4 and further analysis of the injection parameters showed that the ignition delay  
440 during these two stages are higher than Stage #3, consequently there will be more time for fuel  
441 atomisation and evaporation.

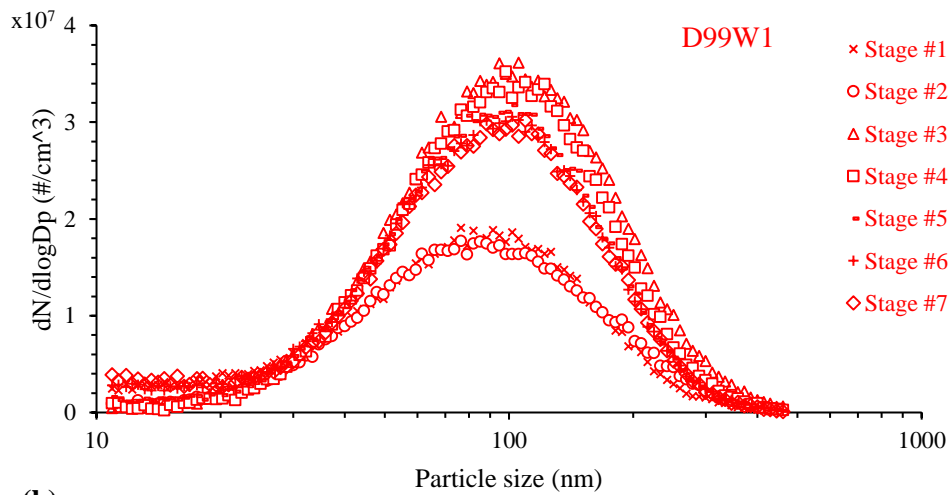
442 With D100 and D95W5, **Stages #6 and #7** have smaller particles compared to cold start and  
443 also other stages. With D95W5, the nucleation mode particles increase gradually as the engine  
444 warms up, this could be the reason for the higher PN emissions as nucleation mode particles  
445 are the main contributor. Figure 4 and further analysis of the injection parameters showed that

446 the ignition delay during these two steady state stages are higher than cold start stages,  
447 therefore, there will be better fuel atomisation during these stages which can be another reasons  
448 for smaller particles. However, despite this, the driving force for this increase is likely to be  
449 the fuel properties.

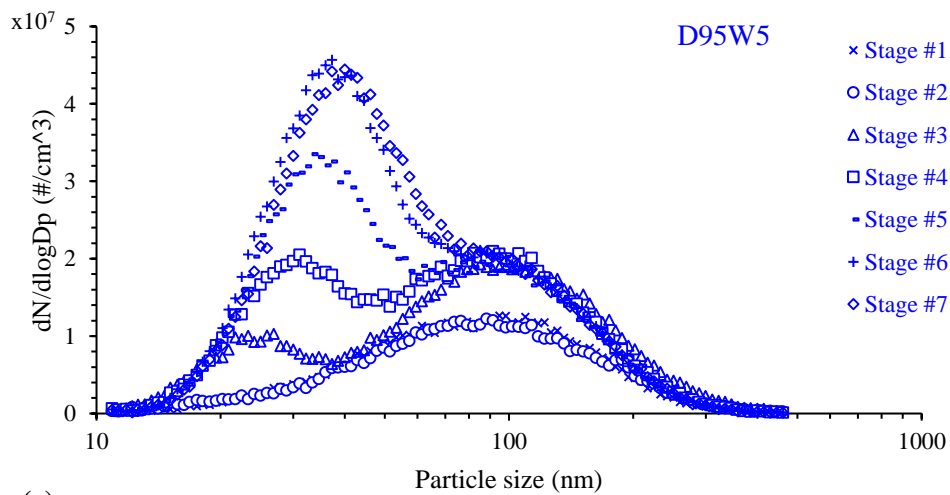
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451 (a)



452 (b)

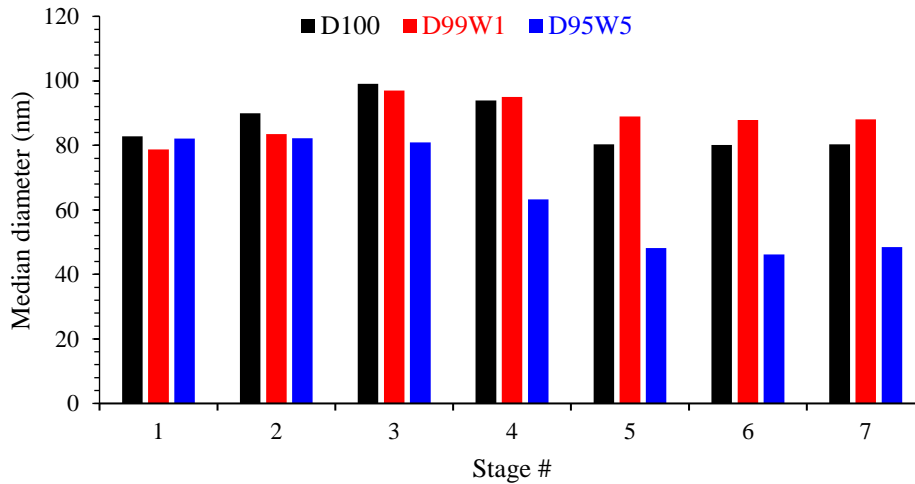


453 (c)

454 Figure 5 PN size distribution within the custom test for all the tested fuels

455

456



457

458 Figure 6 Median diameter in PN size distribution within the custom test for all the tested fuels

459

### 460 3.1.2 Fuel effect

461 In terms of the fuel effect, Figure 3 shows that D95W5 has the highest PN when the engine is  
462 fully warmed up; while, during cold start it has the lowest PN and D100 has the highest value.

463 With D95W5, as the engine was warming up, the PN size distribution moved toward a bimodal  
464 distribution with an increasing nucleation mode particle domination due to the presence of  
465 waste lubricating oil. It is shown in the literature that the sulfur content of fuel or lubricating  
466 oil can cause a significant increase in nucleation mode particles which have a size of less than  
467 30 nm [35, 73, 74].

468 **Stages #1 and #2** indicate that during cold start D100 has the highest PN and increasing the  
469 share of waste lubricating oil decreases PN emissions, as shown in Figure 3. For example,  
470 during Stage #1, PN was  $1.5E7$  with D100 and adding 1 and 5% waste lubricating oil decreased  
471 PN by 11 and 43%, respectively. Similarly, for Stage #2, the decrease was 18 and 45%,  
472 respectively. In terms of the fuel effect on size distribution, Stages #1 and 2 in Figures 5 and 6  
473 show that adding waste lubricating oil to the blend decreases the size of the particles. This



474 weakens the effect of temperature rise on the size of particles. This can be seen from the median  
475 diameter change from Stage #1 to Stage #2, where the start of injection (shown in Figure 4)  
476 was constant and the increase in the engine temperature—which itself was associated with an  
477 increase in median diameter for each fuel—will be less effective when the share of waste  
478 lubricating oil in the fuel increases. For example, for D100, the increase from Stage #1 to Stage  
479 #2 was ~7 nm while for D99W1 and D95W5 the increase were ~4 nm and 0 nm, respectively.

480 During **Stage #3**, D95W5 has the lowest PN, similar to Stages #1 and #2; however, the  
481 difference between PN with D95W5 and the fuel with the highest PN decreased through these  
482 three stages. **During Stage #4**, D95W5 has the lowest PN, similar to Stages #1, #2 and #3;  
483 however, the difference between PN with D95W5 and the fuel with the highest PN decreased  
484 through these four stages and eventually PN with D95W5 from **Stage #5** onward was not the  
485 lowest value compared to the other fuel. This is because of the increasing trend of nucleation  
486 mode particles (shown in Figure 5) owing to the presence of waste lubricating oil, which  
487 significantly affects the PN emissions.

488 Figure 3 shows that in **Stages #6 and #7**, D95W5 has the highest PN between the fuels. For  
489 example, in Stage #6, D95W5 has 2.6E7 PN which is ~13% higher than D100. The reason can  
490 be better explained by looking at the size of the particles. Smaller particles typically have a  
491 greater contribution to the total PN and particles with bigger median diameter contributes more  
492 to larger particles [75]. Figure 6 shows that the median diameter of particles with D95W5 in  
493 Stages #6 and 7 is less than 50 nm while for the other two fuels it is above 80 nm. This  
494 significantly lowers the median diameter compared to the other two fuels and explains the  
495 higher PN. Figure 5 shows that with D95W5, from Stage #1 to Stage #7 the number of particles  
496 in the nucleation mode increases, making a more visible bimodal size distribution. An increase  
497 in the nucleation mode particles decreases the median diameter as shown in Figure 6. This is  
498 owing to the presence of 5% waste lubricating oil in the fuel, which increases the nucleation

499 mode particles consequently decreasing the median diameter. As mentioned before, PN and  
500 PN size distribution are affected by different parameters cancelling or reinforcing the effect of  
501 one another under different condition.

502 A study by Kittelson et al. [35] showed that the sulfur content of lubricating oil increased the  
503 nanoparticles. Nucleation mode particles—which mainly form during the exhaust gas cooling  
504 and dilution process—are composed of soluble and volatile organic fractions formed from the  
505 portion of fuel and evaporated lubricating oil which escaped from the oxidation process [76].  
506 Therefore, higher evaporated lubricating oil can potentially increase the nucleation mode  
507 particles. During cold start, the low temperature of the cylinder wall leads to a lower  
508 temperature of the charged air in the cylinder. This, and also the low temperature of the fuel,  
509 will negatively impact the fuel and lubricating oil vaporization, leading to less nucleation mode  
510 particles during cold start; however, by increasing the engine temperature the charged air  
511 temperature in cylinder increases, leading to better fuel vaporization and increased evaporated  
512 lubricating oil which consequently increases nucleation mode particles. Given that the presence  
513 of lubricating oil during combustion affects the nucleation mode particles, compared to D100  
514 the fuel blends with waste lubricating oil (D99W1 and D95W5) have more nucleation mode  
515 particles as the engine warms up. This can be seen in Figure 5 where the nucleation mode  
516 particles with D95W5 increases significantly as the engine warms up.

517

### 518 **3.2 Friction losses and mechanical efficiency**

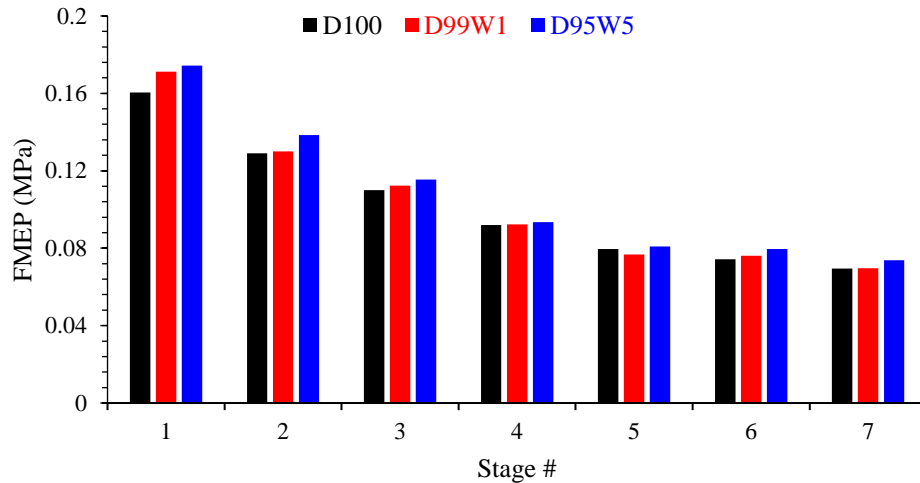
519 FMEP is the difference between indicated mean effective pressure (IMEP) and brake mean  
520 effective pressure (BMEP). This parameter indicates the engine friction losses from different  
521 parts of the engine, such as pumps (fuel, water and oil pumps) and mechanical friction. Figure  
522 7 shows the FMEP within the custom test through 7 stages, each corresponds to the average of

523 two minutes from the beginning of the cold start test. As can be seen, FMEP during cold start  
524 is higher than during the hot section. For example, with D100, FMEP from Stage #1 which is  
525 related to the first two minutes of the test is 146% higher compared to Stage #7 in when the  
526 engine is warmed up. As can be seen from Figure 7, FMEP decreases as the engine warms up.  
527 For example, compared to Stage #1, the FMEP reduction with D100 in Stage #2 to #7 was  
528 24.6, 35.7, 46.3, 53.6, 56.6, and 59.4%, respectively. Or with D95W5, the decrease compared  
529 to Stage #1 was 20.6, 33.7, 46.4, 53.6, 54.3 and 57.7% for Stage #2 to #7, respectively. The  
530 reason for the higher FMEP during cold start is due to the higher viscosity of the lubricating  
531 oil because of its low temperature. As the engine warms up, the engine oil temperature  
532 increases and consequently the lubricant viscosity decreases which leads to less friction losses,  
533 therefore less FMEP. Comparing Figure 2 to Figure 7 shows the correlation between FMEP  
534 and engine oil temperature. As can be seen from Stage #1 to Stage #4, the FMEP decrease was  
535 significant corresponding to a significant increase in engine oil temperature through these  
536 stages; while, from Stage #4 to Stage #7 the FMEP decreased gradually with a lower rate,  
537 similar to the lower lubricating oil temperature rise rate when compared to the rate from Stages  
538 #1 to #4.

539 FMEP is affected by other parameters as well. As can be seen in Figure 7, by adding waste  
540 lubricating oil to the fuel FMEP increases. For example, in Stage #7, FMEP with D100 is 69.5  
541 kPa, but adding 1 and 5% waste lubricating oil increased FMEP to 69.7 and 73.7 kPa, or in  
542 Stage #3 in which FMEP with D100, D99W1 and D95W5 was 110, 112 and 116 kPa,  
543 respectively. It can be also be seen that difference between D95W5 (with 5% waste lubricating  
544 oil) and D100 on FMEP is more significant during cold start, compared to when the engine is  
545 fully warmed up. For example, in Stages #1 and #2, FMEP with D95W5 is ~8% higher than  
546 with D100, while in Stage #7 the difference in 6%. The reason could be due to the lower

547 viscosity of the waste lubricating oil when the engine is fully warmed up compared to cold  
548 start.

549



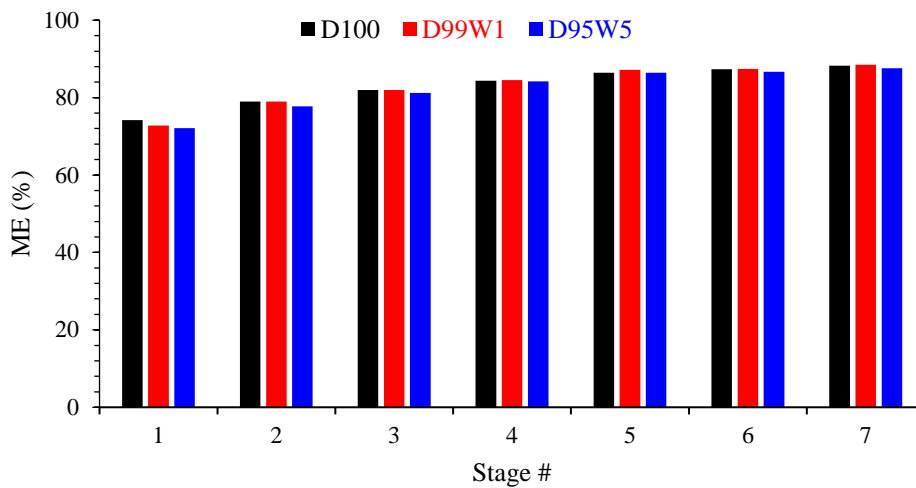
550

551 Figure 7 FMEP within the custom test for all the tested fuels

552

553 Mechanical efficiency is another parameter which can indicate friction loss in an engine. As  
554 can be seen in Figure 8, the mechanical efficiency during cold start is lower than during hot  
555 start. For example, in Stage #1, the mechanical efficiency with all of the tested fuels was  
556 between 72 to 74%, while in Stage #7, it was ~88%. This parameter also strongly depends on  
557 engine oil temperature. As can be seen in Figure 8, the mechanical efficiency increases as the  
558 engine warms up. This is because an engine oil temperature increase leads to lower viscosity,  
559 less friction, and consequently to less difference between the indicated power and brake power,  
560 which increases the mechanical efficiency. Similar to FMEP, this parameter has a strong  
561 correlation with engine oil temperature. As can be seen, the increase from Stage #1 to #4 is  
562 higher when compared to the increase from Stage #4 to #7, similar to the engine oil temperature  
563 increase rate during these two periods. For example, with D100, the mechanical efficiency  
564 increased from 73% in Stage #1 to 84% in Stage #4, while in Stage #7, the mechanical

565 efficiency was 88%. Regarding the effect of fuel on mechanical efficiency, it can be seen from  
566 the figure that the difference is not significant, however, in most of the stages D95W5 with 5%  
567 waste lubricating oil in the blend had a slightly lower efficiency (nearly 1%) compared to D100  
568 and the other fuel. This aligns with FMEP, as these two parameters have an inverse correlation.  
569



570

571 Figure 8 Mechanical efficiency within the custom test for all the tested fuels

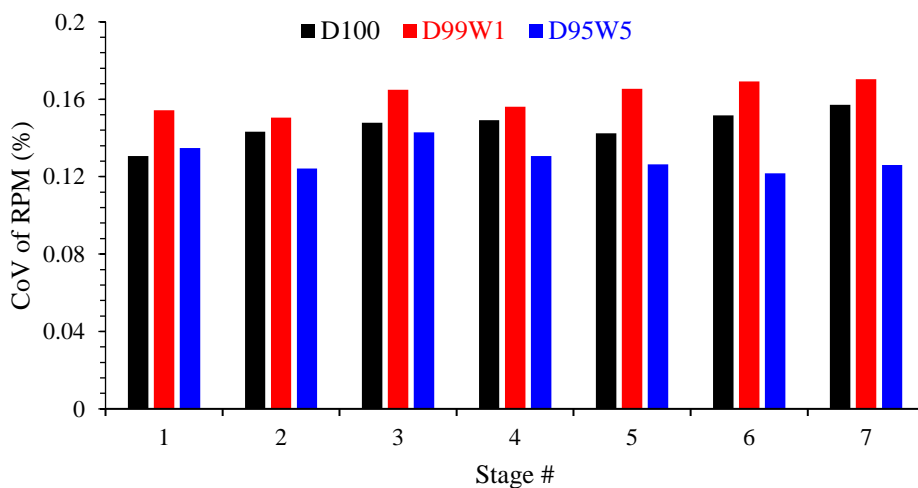
572

### 573 3.3 Cyclic variability

574 Cyclic variability in combustion can have a negative impact on exhaust emissions and engine  
575 performance parameters [77]. The reasons behind this instability could be due to different  
576 factors such as fuel properties, fuel injection timing and pressure, air/fuel mixture in premixed  
577 combustion phase, air-to-fuel ratio, in-cylinder mixture motion, engine operating condition and  
578 engine temperature [20, 77, 78]. There are different ways of presenting the combustion  
579 instability [79, 80]. This study uses engine speed and indicated mean effective pressure to study  
580 the combustion instability.

581 Given that the cold start test was at constant speed, the first study will be on engine speed by  
582 calculating the CoV—standard deviation divided by average—over 2 min stage (which will be  
583 ~1440 engine cycles) during the custom test for all the tested fuels. In terms of engine speed  
584 stability during the test, the CoV for engine speed was calculated for 7 stages (each two  
585 minutes) from the start of the cold start test until the engine was warmed up for all of the tested  
586 fuels, shown in Figure 9. As can be seen, the CoV for all of the tested fuels during the test was  
587 less than 0.2% which shows the stability of the engine speed during the test. D99W1 had the  
588 highest CoV in all of the stages; while, D95W5 had the lowest CoV (except for Stage #1 in  
589 which D95W5 was slightly higher than D100). The figure also shows that CoV with D95W5  
590 was slightly higher during cold start (the first three stages) compared to when the engine was  
591 warmed up (Stages #6 and #7). As mentioned, the changes are insignificant (less than 0.2%)  
592 and the difference seen in the figure might not be meaningful in terms of cold start or fuel  
593 effects.

594



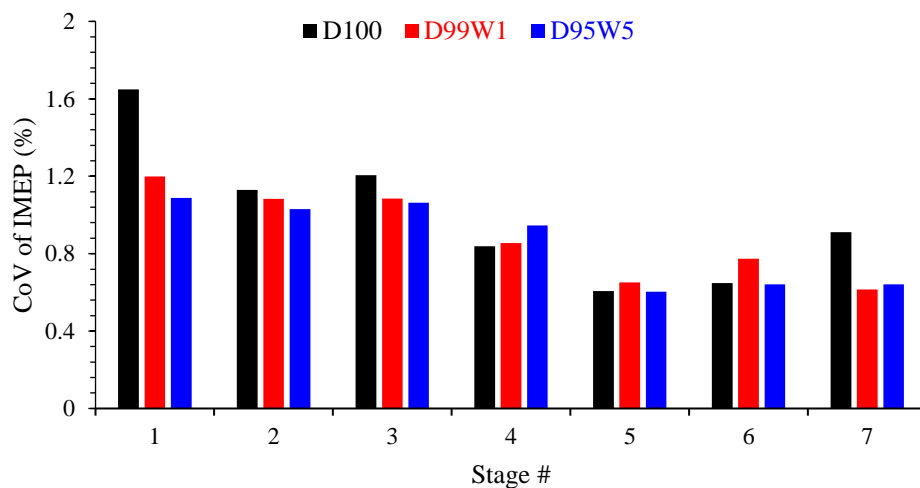
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596 Figure 9 Engine speed coefficient of variation within the custom test for all the tested fuels

597

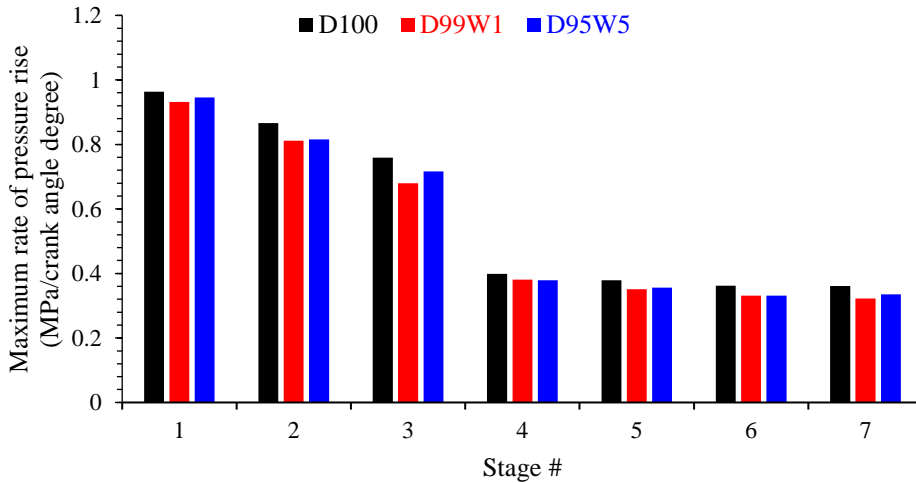
598 Figure 10 shows the CoV of IMEP within the custom test for all the tested fuels. As can be  
 599 seen, the CoV of IMEP during cold start (Stage #1) is significantly higher when compared to  
 600 Stage #7 in which the engine is warmed up. For example, in Stage #1, the CoV of IMEP with  
 601 D100, D99W1 and D95W5 are 1.7, 1.2, and 1.1%, respectively; while, in Stage #7 are 0.9, 0.6  
 602 and 0.6%. Also, it can be seen that this parameter has a decreasing trend as the engine warms  
 603 up through Stages #1 to #7. The reason for the higher CoV of IMEP during cold start could be  
 604 the low temperature of the cylinder wall during cold start, which can adversely influence the  
 605 fuel vaporisation and fuel ignition making the in-cylinder pressure gradient steeper. This can  
 606 be seen in Figure 11 where the maximum rate of pressure rise is significantly higher during  
 607 cold start and decreases with increasing engine temperature. For example, with D100, the  
 608 maximum rate of pressure rise during cold start (Stage #1) is 1.7 times higher than when the  
 609 engine is warmed up (Stage #7). Generally, noise and instability in diesel engines highly  
 610 depend on the premixed combustion phase [81], and maximum rate of pressure rise highly  
 611 depends on the premixed combustion phase.

612



613

614 Figure 10 Coefficient of variation of IMEP within the custom test for all the tested fuels



615

616 Figure 11 Maximum rate of pressure rise within the custom test for all the tested fuels

617

#### 618 4. Conclusions

619 This study investigated the particulate matter emissions and engine performance parameters  
 620 within cold start and hot engine operation using a custom cold start test running on a 6-cylinder  
 621 turbocharged diesel engine. It also studied the influence of lubricating oil on the combustion  
 622 process as well as evaluating the possibility of using waste lubricating oil as a fuel by using  
 623 two blends of diesel with 1 and 5% waste lubricating oil. The parameters studied in this  
 624 research were PN, friction losses and combustion instability. In this study, in order to better  
 625 explain the observed trends, other parameters such as engine oil, coolant and exhaust gas  
 626 temperatures; start of injection; FMEP; mechanical efficiency; CoV of engine speed; CoV of  
 627 IMEP; and maximum rate of pressure rise were studied. Following conclusions were drawn:

- 628 • During the first two stages of cold start, PN concentration did not change considerably  
 629 owing to the fixed injection strategy.



- 630 • During Stage #3, which was after the cold start threshold (defined by the engine  
631 strategy), PN increased up to 74% due to the injection strategy change and unstable  
632 condition.
- 633 • Stages #4 and #5, which are not cold start and also not steady state, had a similar PN  
634 but higher than cold start stages.
- 635 • Stage #7, which was related to the steady state condition, had 54% higher PN than cold  
636 start when diesel was used. With 5% waste lubricating oil in the fuel blend, this PN  
637 increase was 197%.
- 638 • Nucleation mode particles increased as the engine warmed up. During cold start, an  
639 increase in engine temperature was associated with an increase in particle size, while  
640 during hot operation and steady state, an increase in engine temperature was associated  
641 with a decrease in particle size. This was owing to an increase in nucleation mode  
642 particles.
- 643 • During cold start, adding 5% waste lubricating oil to the blend decreased PN by 43%,  
644 while during steady state it increased PN by ~13%.
- 645 • Adding waste lubricating oil significantly increased the number of nucleation mode  
646 particles and decreased the size of the particles during steady state.
- 647 • Compared to steady state, during cold start FMEP was higher (~146%) and  
648 mechanical efficiency was lower (~15%).
- 649 • Adding waste lubricating oil to the fuel increased the FMEP and slightly decreased  
650 the mechanical efficiency.
- 651 • The CoV of IMEP and maximum rate of pressure rise during cold start were higher than  
652 steady state. Adding waste lubricating oil to the fuel during cold start decreased the  
653 CoV of IMEP and the maximum rate of pressure rise.

654

655 **5. Acknowledgement**

656 This research was supported by the Australian Research Council Linkage Projects funding  
657 scheme (project number LP110200158). Authors would like to acknowledge Prof. Jochen  
658 Mueller, Mr. Andrew Elder the software developer from DynoLog Dynamometer Pty Ltd and Mr.  
659 Noel Hartnett for their assistance.

660

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## 905 **7. Appendix**

906 Test repeatability was ensured by conducting the cold and hot start tests two times. The  
907 statistical analysis—average, standard deviation (SD) and coefficient of variation (CoV)—of  
908 different engine performance and emissions parameters further confirmed the repeatability of  
909 the tests. For example, Table A1 presents the statistical analysis of the two repeated tests for  
910 engine torque, speed and CO<sub>2</sub>. As can be seen, the difference between two cold start tests for  
911 engine torque, speed and CO<sub>2</sub> were 0.82, 0.02 and 0.12%, respectively, which clearly  
912 demonstrate the repeatability of the test. In addition to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the repeatability of the  
913 engine speed and torque between the tests were also evaluated given that these two parameters  
914 can be the indicative of any change in engine operation between the tests.

915

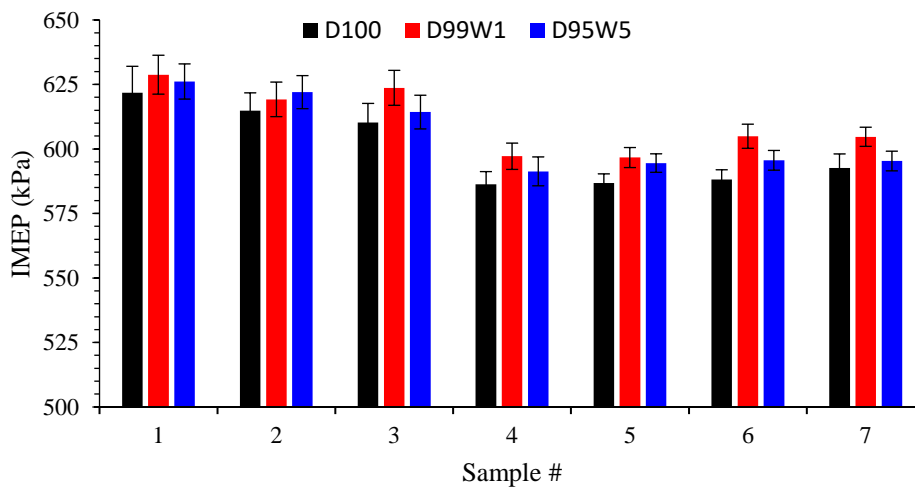
916 Table A1 Test repeatability statistical analysis

		Engine torque (Nm)			Engine speed (rpm)			CO <sub>2</sub> (%)		
		Average	SD	CoV (%)	Average	SD	CoV (%)	Average	SD	CoV (%)
Cold start	Test 1	225.28	8.43	3.74	1498.87	2.22	0.15	6.36	0.06	0.97
	Test 2	227.20	12.32	5.42	1499.19	1.95	0.13	6.51	0.15	2.27
	Difference	0.82%		0.02%		0.12%				
Hot start	Test 1	238.28	3.2	1.34	1498.94	2.20	0.15	6.47	0.03	0.51
	Test 2	242.02	2.42	1.00	1499.49	2.16	0.14	6.64	0.02	0.36
	Difference	1.5%		0.04%		0.17%				

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918 As a validation step and to show the test-to-test variation and its influence, Figure A1 shows

919 the IMEP and the error bar representing the standard deviation on each experimental points.



920

921 Figure A1 IMEP within the custom test for all the tested fuels

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