

23 portion of smoother high speed driving; and (ii) early morning express routes and mid-night

23 routes connecting remote residential areas and urban areas. These cycles highlighted the unique
24 low speed and aggressive driving characteristics of bus transport in Hong Kong with frequent stop-
25 and-go activities. The findings from this study would definitely be helpful in assessing the exhaust
26 emissions, fuel consumptions as well as energy consumptions of bus transport. The bottom-up
27 clustering approach adopted in this study would also be useful in identifying specific driving
28 patterns based on vehicle speed trip data with mixed driving characteristics. It is believed that this
29 approach is especially suitable for assessing fixed route public transport modes with mixed driving
30 characteristics.

31
32 **Keywords:** Bus Driving Patterns, Driving Cycles, Vehicle Specific Power (VSP), GPS Data
33 Collection, Cluster Analysis, Vehicle Emissions and Energy Consumption

34 35 **Declarations**

36
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48 reviewing and editing of the manuscript. Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

49
50

51 **1. Introduction**

52

53 Research on the development and applications of driving cycles has been increasingly getting more
54 attention in recent years. A number of large scale studies on driving cycles have been undergoing
55 in different part of the world in the past decade such as the Worldwide Harmonised Light Duty
56 Driving Test Cycles (WLTC) for light duty vehicles (Tutuian, et al., 2014) as well as in different
57 cities in Europe, Brazil, Thailand, India and different parts of the mainland China. These driving
58 cycles have also been developed for different uses ranging from traditional purposes such as
59 vehicle emissions and fuel consumption estimation, vehicle certification to accident analysis
60 (Mongkonlerdmanee, and Koetniyom, 2019) and electric vehicle performance evaluations
61 (Feroldi, and Carignano, 2016; Gong, et al., 2018; Zhang, et al., 2017). In order to achieve these
62 objectives, individual studies have been focusing on collecting data for a specific vehicle type or
63 a specific driving condition (Han, 2012, Seers, et al. 2014; Zamboni, et al., 2015). For these types
64 of studies, test routes would be selected based on specific criteria so as to achieve the objectives
65 of individual studies. Data analysis would be relatively straight forward as the collected data
66 would generally be able to reflect the driving characteristics of the specific driving conditions
67 being investigated. However, for studies involving more complicated driving conditions, the

68 collected data may exhibit mixed driving characteristics. Classification techniques such as
69 Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and k-means clustering analysis might therefore be
70 necessary. In the literature, these techniques were mainly employed for classifying the micro-trips
71 at the driving cycle constructions stage. This approach is useful to analyse data collected from
72 specific test route(s). For driving cycles developed for vehicles with fixed route or network (e.g.
73 public transport modes), each route would have different structures and specific operational
74 considerations. This approach of data analysis (i.e. using clustering techniques to analyse speed
75 data with mixed driving characteristics) may not be appropriate as it completely ignored the
76 structure of individual routes (e.g. express routes with limited stops, routes running along different
77 districts (or across different districts) with different characteristics during different periods of a
78 day).

79
80 In Hong Kong, driving cycles developed were all for light duty vehicles (Tong, et al., 1999; Hung,
81 et al., 2007), so the purpose of this paper is to develop a set of driving cycles for the franchised
82 bus transport sector in Hong Kong. Since the Hong Kong bus transport system is responsible for
83 31.5% (i.e. about 4.05 millions) of the total daily passenger trips in 2018 (TD, 2019), the bus
84 network is very complicated and comprehensive. Therefore, the previous approaches of selecting
85 just a single or a few test routes to collect speed data would probably be insufficient to reflect the
86 overall driving conditions of the whole network. As such, this study would adopt another approach
87 to collect bus speed data which is capable of covering a wide range of bus driving conditions. A
88 bottom-up approach of speed data analysis would then be devised in identifying and defining the
89 bus driving patterns in Hong Kong. This method would make use of statistical classification
90 techniques to classify the trip data and then develop the corresponding bus driving cycles.

91
92 The remainder of this paper is organised as follows. Section 2 starts by reviewing relevant driving
93 cycle studies, and then based on it to introduce the proposed “bottom-up” approach for driving
94 cycle development for a complicated bus route network. In particular, the proposed
95 “bottom-up” approach is compared with the traditional “top-down” approach with the major
96 differences highlighted. In Section 3, details of the franchised bus route network are described.
97 Section 4 then depicts the data collection campaign which is capable of collecting bus speed data
98 covering a wide range of bus routes. In Section 5, a clustering method is proposed to identify the
99 bus route driving patterns using the collected bus speed data. According to the identified clusters,
100 corresponding bus driving cycles is then synthesized in Section 6. The synthesized bus driving
101 cycles in this study are then compared with other international bus cycles in Section 7 and
102 eventually come up with a conclusion in Section 8 to highlight the unique bus driving
103 characteristics in Hong Kong.

104

105 **2. Literature Review and the Proposed Methodology**

106

107 As mentioned earlier, one of the largest driving cycle studies worldwide was the WLTC in 2012
108 with an aim to represent typical driving characteristics round the world for light duty vehicles
109 (Tutuian, et al., 2014). This project collected data from 14 countries in five different regions
110 namely USA, ~~UE~~-EU and Switzerland, Korea, Japan and India covering a wide range of traditional
111 vehicle categories under different driving conditions (e.g. urban vs highways, peak vs off-peaks,
112 etc.). Eventually, separate sets of driving cycles were developed for 3 vehicle categories according
113 to the vehicle’s power mass ratio and maximum speed for type-approval applications. In different

114 parts of the mainland China, different driving cycles have also been developed for different cities
115 (including Beijing, Fuzhou, Hefei, [Jinan](#), Nanjing, Shanghai, Tianjing, Xi'an, etc.) for different
116 vehicles types (e.g. passenger cars, electric vehicles, [traditional](#) buses, BRT [buses](#), etc.). The major
117 purposes were to understand local driving characteristics and to develop corresponding driving
118 cycles for local uses. In India, there were also a series of studies in Bangalore (Mayakuntla and
119 Verma, 2018), Chennai (Arun, 2017; [Desineedi et al., 2020](#)), Delhi (Kumar, et al., 2013), Dhanbad
120 (Adak, et al., 2016) and New Delhi (Maurya and Bokare, 2012) to develop local driving cycles for
121 different purposes. There were also some other driving cycles developed in other locations for
122 different uses including traditional purposes such as vehicle emissions and fuel consumption
123 estimation, vehicle certification, accident analysis (Mongkonlerdmanee, and Koetniyom, 2019) as
124 well as electric vehicle performance evaluations (Feroldi, and Carignano, 2016; Gong, et al., 2018;
125 Zhang, et al., 2017; [Zhao, et al., 2020](#)).

126
127 Based on the [purposes](#) of developing the driving cycles, individual studies would then be focusing
128 on collecting data for a specific vehicle type or a specific driving condition, normally known as
129 stratification (Tong and Hung, 2010[a](#); [2010b](#)). Test route(s) would then be selected according to
130 the stratification for data collection. For example, Han (2012) developed a driving cycle for the
131 military areas in Korea. Seers et al. (2014) and Zamboni et al. (2015) produced driving cycles for
132 a utility vehicle at an airport in Montreal and for container vehicles at port areas respectively. For
133 these types of studies, test routes would be selected based on specific criteria so as to achieve the
134 objectives of individual studies (e.g. for urban driving during peak periods, for highway driving,
135 etc.). For example, Maurya and Bokare (2012) collected data for a specific bus route travelling
136 through a specific highway in Delhi. Analysis of the collected speed data would then be relatively

137 straight forward as the data collected should be representative of the corresponding driving
138 conditions. The resultant driving cycles developed would also be able to reflect the driving
139 characteristics of the specific driving conditions being investigated.

140
141 However, for studies with more complicated driving conditions under multiple factors (e.g. peak
142 versus non-peak, weekdays versus weekends, urban versus highway, etc.), the collected driving
143 data would definitely exhibit mixed driving characteristics which is not easily separable or
144 identifiable. Therefore, composite driving cycles would normally be developed to represent the
145 overall driving characteristics of the region or city concerned. Should driving cycles for specific
146 driving conditions be developed, classification techniques would be necessary to clearly classify
147 the collected data and thus to define specific driving conditions based on their statistical properties.
148 In the literature, statistical classification techniques have been commonly adopted in the
149 development of driving cycles (Abas, et al., 2018; Berzi, et al., 2016; [Desineedi, et al., 2020](#);
150 Fotouhi and Montazeri, 2013; Jing, et al., 2017; Li, et al., 2016; Ma, et al., 2019; Peng, et al., 2019;
151 Shen, et al., 2018; Tong and Hung, 2008, 2010a, 2010b; [Yan, et al., 2020](#); Yang, et al., 2019;
152 Zhang, et al., 2017; Zhao, et al., 2018). However, these techniques are mainly employed for
153 classifying the micro-trips into different categories for candidate driving cycle constructions.
154 None of them has used them to classify the originally collected trip data and to define the
155 corresponding driving conditions. For example, Yang, et al., (2019) used PCA and cluster analysis
156 methods to classify the micro-trips into three clusters representing three different driving
157 conditions. Representative micro-trips were then selected to construct candidate driving cycles to
158 determine the final cycle. Peng et al., (2019) classified the micro-trips into three clusters based
159 on PCA and k-means cluster analysis. The results were then incorporated into a Markov model to

160 develop sub-cycles for each cluster and then combined together to become the final cycle.
161 Desineedi, et al., (2020) categorised micro-trips into 6 clusters using k-means clustering and then
162 applied to a one-chain Markov modelling process to develop driving cycles for peaks and off-peak
163 periods. Yan, et al., (2020) developed a k-MPSO (modified particle swarm optimization)
164 clustering algorithm to cluster the micro-trips and then constructed a typical driving cycle. This
165 analysis approach decomposes the whole trip into small segments (i.e. the micro-trips) and then
166 categorises those with common characteristics. It is useful to analyse the driving characteristics
167 for speed data collected from specifically selected test route(s) as the structure of the test routes
168 are intentionally selected to cover driving conditions concerned. For driving cycles developed for
169 vehicles with fixed route or network (e.g. public transport modes such as buses and minibuses),
170 each route would have different structures and is designed for different operational purpose in
171 fulfilling the passenger travel demand but not for speed data collection. Therefore, some routes
172 might only travel within the urban areas while some others might involve cross districts travel via
173 highways. This approach of data analysis (i.e. clustering micro-trips) by decomposing the original
174 structure of the routes may not be appropriate as it completely ignored the structure of individual
175 routes.

176
177 In the literatures, there are relatively less studies concerning driving cycles for buses or bus routes.
178 Among these studies, bus speed data were collected for a single bus route or a small number of
179 selected bus routes. Studies with data collected for only a single bus route (Gunther, et al., 2017;
180 Kivekas, et al., 2018a; 2018b; Kumar, et al., 2013; Li, et al., 2016; Liu, et al., 2020; Maurya and
181 Bokare, 2012; Mongkonlerdmanee and Koetnuyom, 2019; Nguyen, et al., 2016; Shen, et al., 2018)
182 usually aimed at investigating the specific driving conditions along those particular test routes.

183 Therefore, use of just one route to collect data was deemed satisfactory. For studies that intended
184 to examine the composite driving characteristics of the whole bus network, more test routes were
185 employed for on-road data collection (Lai, et al., 2013;
186 Nesamani and Subramanian, 2011; Nguyen, et al., 2018; Peng, et al., 2019; Quirama, et al.,
187 2020;). The selection of test routes in these studies was based on the researchers' local
188 understanding of the driving conditions and structures of the bus routes. This approach might be
189 appropriate for cities or regions with a relatively simple bus network. For a city like Hong Kong,
190 with a very complicated bus network, selection of just a few bus routes might not be able to cover
191 different driving characteristics and structures of the bus route network. Data collection has to be
192 conducted on a much wider coverage of bus routes. Therefore, statistical classification techniques
193 are necessary to identify the driving patterns concerned and thus to develop the corresponding
194 driving cycles.

195
196 To sum up the review, the traditional approach of driving cycle development can be viewed as a
197 “Top-Down” approach as the whole process starts from pre-defined stratification criteria (Tong
198 and Hung, 2010**b**). Test routes selection and data collection are then based on the stratification.
199 Speed data analysis and type of cycles to be developed are also according to the stratification.
200 Clustering technique may be used in classifying the micro-trips or trip segments during the cycle
201 construction stage. However, this study has adopted a “Bottom-Up” approach in which data
202 containing mixed driving characteristics are to be collected without prior stratification criteria.

203 The method adopted to collect bus speed data is capable of covering a wide range of bus routes
204 across the whole territory of Hong Kong as well as their corresponding driving conditions during

205 different time periods of a day on both weekdays and weekends. Undoubtedly, the data collected
206 using this approach would exhibit mixed driving characteristics that may not be easily identifiable
207 through simple and direct groupings. Specific bus route driving patterns and types of driving
208 cycles to be developed would be determined using cluster analysis and then be defined on the basis
209 of a list of quantitative assessment parameters. A comparison of the two approaches is shown in
210 Figure 1 and Table 1. Therefore, the main objectives of this paper are: (1) to use statistical
211 classification techniques to classify the collected trip data (instead of classifying micro-trips only)
212 into clusters exhibiting similar statistical driving properties; (2) to define different driving patterns
213 of franchised bus services in Hong Kong on the basis of the identified clusters; and (3) to develop
214 a set of bus driving cycles representative of and corresponding to the identified bus driving patterns
215 (i.e. the identified clusters).

216

217 [Figure 1]

218 [Table 1]

219

220 **3. Bus Network in Hong Kong**

221

222 Hong Kong is a city having the largest citywide public transport modal share around the world.
223 Everyday, over 12 million passenger trips are made by different transport modes in Hong Kong
224 which exceeds 90% of the total daily passenger trips (THB, 2017). Apart from the backbone
225 railway system, the franchised bus transport system plays a very important role in enabling the
226 extremely high public transport modal share in Hong Kong. Of all the daily public transport
227 passenger trips, 31.5% (i.e. about 4.05 millions) are taken-up-made by the franchised bus transport

228 system (TD, 2019). There are 5 franchised bus operators in Hong Kong operating 6 franchises
229 regulated by the Transport Bureau. The franchised bus network contains over 600 routes and more
230 than 6000 buses in which a majority of them are double deckers (TD, 2019). Detailed information
231 of the franchised bus route network (such as the distribution of different route types across different
232 bus operators and their geographical coverage) is also shown in Table 2. Kowloon Motor Bus
233 (1933) Co. Ltd. (KMB), as the operator with the longest history in providing public bus services
234 in Hong Kong, is mainly operating routes in Kowloon Peninsula (Kln) and New Territories (NT)
235 while City Bus (CTB) and New World First Bus (NWFB) focus more on developing their bus
236 networks on Hong Kong Island (HKI). For cross-harbour routes connecting Kln and HKI, KMB
237 would collaborate with either CTB or NWFB to provide crossharbour bus services. On the other
238 hand, New Lantau Bus Co. (1973) Ltd. (NLB), Long Win Bus Company (LW) and the second
239 franchise of CTB are operating Tung Chung and airport routes. Tung Chung is a newly developed
240 district on the Lantau Island. Theise information shows that the franchised bus network in Hong
241 Kong is very comprehensive and complicated. To develop a set of driving cycles capable of
242 reflecting the characteristics of the whole bus network requires data covering different route
243 structures.

244

245 [Table 2]

246

247 **4. Data Collection**

248

249 Speed data in this study were collected using the GPS positioning capability of smartphones. The
250 accuracy and sensitivity of the GPS device within smartphones have been well researched and

251 have adopted in many transportation applications to track the vehicle dynamics. In this study, an
252 iPhone 6 was the major mobile device used for the surveyors to conduct on-board bus speed data
253 collection. Previous assessment of different versions of iPhones indicated that the relative spatial
254 accuracy of its internal GPS devices was up to 99% (Garnett and Stewart 2015; Menard, et al.,
255 2011) and was identified as reliable when compared to other more expensive vehicle tracking
256 devices (Menard and Miller, 2010, 2011). In another study, the GPS sensor of iPhones also
257 performed satisfactorily for transport navigation and safety applications (Gikas and Perakis, 2016).
258 These results showed that the positioning capability of iPhones were very sensitive, reliable and
259 suitable for collecting vehicle movement data.

260
261 Voluntary surveyors were employed to use their own smartphones with a data collection APP
262 “MyTrack” to collect bus speed data during their daily commuting activities for a period of 4
263 months in 2017. The surveyors were carefully selected with an aim to cover travel patterns at and
264 across different districts in Hong Kong. The plan was to let the surveyors did their daily travelling
265 activities as usual so as to capture different activity patterns across different time periods on
266 weekdays and weekends. During the data collection process, ~~T~~the surveyors were only required to
267 turn on the APP while they were travelling on buses. Bus position and speed data would then be
268 collected at one second intervals. Time for every stop and start activity was also recorded by the
269 surveyors for cross-checking purpose in confirming the exact period of idling in the trip data. A
270 total of 91 bus trips data were finally collected covering more than 30 bus routes across the whole
271 territory of Hong Kong (Table 3). Among all the data collected 58% and 42% of the trips were
272 for weekdays and weekends respectively. At the same time, around 8%, 12%, 43% and 37% of
273 the trips were collected during the AM Peak, PM Peak, Inter-Peaks, and After Peaks periods

274 respectively. It is understood that this dataset did not provide a complete coverage of the franchised
275 bus routes in Hong Kong, however, the above statistics showed that the collected dataset did cover
276 different time periods of a day, different days of a week (i.e. weekdays vs weekends) and more
277 importantly across different districts (Table 1). It represents an improvement over similar bus
278 driving cycle studies in the literature.

279
280 [Table 3]
281

282 As part of this large scale bus driving cycle development study, a driving cycle for a supercapacitor
283 bus route in Hong Kong was developed using a separate set of 16 bus trip data obtained using the
284 same data collection method. More details of the data collection process and the validity of this
285 data collection approach can be found from a separate paper (Tong, 2019). It is believed that this
286 approach of data collection could guarantee a good coverage of various kinds of bus routes. A
287 wide range of mixed driving characteristics should have been captured in this dataset. Direct
288 groupings of the collected bus trip data could be done based on the background information of the
289 collected bus trips, however, use of statistical classification technique could also be another
290 quantitative approach to identify the special driving patterns concerned.

291
292 To make sure that the speed dataset are ready for detailed analysis, the collected trip speed-time
293 profiles were first screened for any abnormality such as sudden high or low speeds, occasional
294 short time gaps, exceptional accelerations / decelerations exceeding the physical limits of buses,
295 as well as unreasonably long zero speed period (through ~~the~~ double-checking with the stop and go

296 records ~~of~~by the surveyors on-board of the bus). The exact procedures of the data cleaning process
297 are not going to be described here but further details can be found in a separate paper (Tong, 2019).

298

299 **5. Identification of Bus Driving Patterns**

300

301 After the data set were cleaned up, summary statistics were then derived for each of the 91 trip
302 data. The set of commonly used assessment parameters are summarised in Table 4. It is important
303 to note that this list of assessment parameters is consistent with those parameters being used
304 elsewhere to analyse vehicle driving characteristics.

305

306 [Table 4]

307

308 As mentioned earlier, the collected dataset should contain ~~s~~ mixed characteristics for a wide range
309 of bus routes ~~s~~ structures in terms of different time periods of a day, different days of a week as well
310 as districts covered. Therefore, a cluster analysis technique was employed to classify the 91 trip
311 datasets into clusters based on the 13 assessment parameters. Cluster analysis is a statistical
312 technique to group a pool of subjects into significantly different groups on the basis of a list of
313 variables. The groupings are built to be as statistically different as possible between groups, and
314 as statistically homogeneous as possible within a group. The method begins with an $N \times k$ database.
315 Then, an $N \times N$ matrix is generated using the k variables to indicate the level of similarity (or
316 dissimilarity) of every group to every other group. There are a number of measures

321 of similarity or difference, such as squared Euclidean distance, Euclidean distance, and cosine of
 322 vector variables. The subjects are then sorted into significantly different groups by one of the
 323 several clustering methods available so that (1) within the group subjects are as homogeneous as
 324 possible, and (2) across the groups are as different as possible. It is important to note that
 325 different clustering methods can come up with different cluster solutions. There is a number of
 326 clustering methods available depending upon two factors: (1) the metrics used to measure the
 327 similarity or distance between subjects; and (2) the clustering algorithm used. The method
 328 employed in this study is called the Ward's Method, which is an agglomeration method that
 329 combines two clusters at each stage until all subjects are finally combined into clusters. The
 330 procedures adopted to classify the 91 cleaned trip speed time data are summarised as follows:

331

332 **Step 1** Normalise the 13 assessment parameters for each trip data set.

333

334 **Step 2** Construct a dissimilarity matrix indicating the differences among all pairs of subjects
 335 using Squared Euclidean Distances of the 13 assessment parameters:

336

$$337 \quad \text{Squared Euclidean Distance} = \sum_{k=1}^n (x_{ik} - x_{jk})^2$$

338

339 where: x_{ik} = value (normalised) of parameter k of subject i
 340 x_{jk} = value (normalised) of parameter k of subject j
 341 n = number of parameters

342

343 **Step 3** Calculate the agglomeration schedule by the Ward's Method. The Ward's Method forms
344 cluster by selecting the subject which minimises the within cluster sum of squares (i.e. Sum
Squares Error, SSE).

346

$$347 \quad SSE = \sum_{k=1}^n (x_{ik} - \bar{x}_k)^2$$

348

349 where: x_{ik} = value (normalised) of parameter k of subject i

350 \bar{x}_k = mean value (normalised) of parameter k

351 n = number of parameters

352

353 It includes the following procedures:

354 (1) Starts with each subject in its own cluster (i.e. N subjects will start with N clusters);

355 (2) Next, locates the two subjects that are closest to each other and a cluster is built with two
356 subjects (i.e. the N subjects now become $N-1$ clusters, one with two subjects, and $N-2$ with
one subject each);

358 (3) Then, locates the next two closest subjects and a two-subject cluster is built. (i.e. the $N-1$
359 clusters now become $N-2$ clusters, two with two subjects each, and $N-4$ with one subject
360 each);

361 (4) As Ward's algorithm progresses, it will start to combine a single subject with a pre-existing
362 cluster or to combine one pre-existing cluster with another. This process is continued until
all 363 N subjects are eventually combined into one cluster.

364

364 As a result of the cluster analysis, the trips were classified into 3 distinct clusters, in which 54%,
365 20% and 26% of the trips were fallen into Clusters 1 to 3 respectively. The detailed clustering
366 results are shown in Tables 5 to 8. The summary statistics in Table 8 indicated obvious differences
367 in the driving patterns represented by these three clusters. Cluster 1 showed the lowest average
368 speed and proportion of cruising, the highest proportion of idling, and the shortest average micro-
369 trip length. Among the three clusters, it also had the highest values for all the acceleration related
370 parameters (including average acceleration and deceleration rates, RMS and PKE) and the highest
371 proportion of creeping. These implied that this driving pattern was characterised by the slowest
372 speed and the most aggressive driving with frequent stop-and-go activities. Therefore, Cluster 1
373 resembled typical congested driving conditions at the urban areas. Bus speeds were constrained
374 by the closely spaced bus stops and traffic junctions as well as the congested traffic. From the
375 perspective of the bus services, Cluster 1 should represent routes running within one district during
376 peak and congested periods. Tables 6 to 7 showed that Cluster 1 comprised of nearly all the trips
377 collected during peak periods and routes running within only one district. This further **affirms**
378 **affirmed** the characteristics of urban congested driving conditions during the peak periods.

379
380 For Cluster 2, all the 13 assessment parameters were located at the median position among the
381 three clusters. It implied that Cluster 2 represented the conditions between very congested driving
382 and relatively smooth highway driving. This condition was signified by some stop-and-go activities
383 due to the bus stops at individual districts but the traffic conditions were not as congested as in the
384 urban areas. These characteristics were similar to the structure of interdistrict bus routes which
385 was composed of a section with multiple short micro-trips (i.e. representing typical urban driving
386 with frequent stop-and-go due to closely spaced bus stops and traffic junctions at individual

387 district) and another section containing very long high speed driving (i.e. representing driving
388 along high speed road sections with just a few stops).

389

390 Cluster 3 was the fastest and least aggressive among the three identified clusters. It was
391 characterised by the highest proportion of cruising, the smallest proportion of idling (only about
392 5.7%) and all other acceleration parameters, as well as the longest mean micro-trip length. These
393 implied that this driving pattern was much smoother and relatively stable. Thus, Cluster 3
394 represented bus routes with significant portions of travelling on smoother (i.e. possibly highway
395 sections) and/or uncongested road sections (i.e. possibly during early morning or late night traffic
396 conditions) with fewer stops (including stops due to bus stops, traffic junctions and congestions).
397 These characteristics were similar to the structure of two special bus route types in Hong Kong.
398 The first type is special express routes operating only a few trips during early morning and they
399 are mainly taken by home-to-work (or home-to-school) travellers from remote residential areas to
400 the urban areas. Characteristics of express routes are having only a few stops at the residential
401 areas and the urban areas to pick-up and drop-off passengers respectively. In between the two
402 areas, normally there would be a significant portion of relatively smooth and high speed travelling
403 with limited stops (normally a highway section). The second type is midnight bus routes running
404 after regular bus service hours. This type of route normally connects the urban areas with the
405 residential areas as well, but under much smoother driving conditions at mid-night. Tables 5 to 7
406 also indicated that Cluster 3 was constituted by significantly higher percentages of trips under
407 smoother driving conditions (i.e. (1) nearly 60% of Cluster 3 trips were less congested weekend
408 trips (Table 5); (2) had the highest proportion of night time after the peak trips (Table 6); and (3)
409 more than half of the inter-district trips were classified under Cluster 3; (Table 7)).

410

411 For visual investigation of the clustering results, scatter plot between two well-known vehicle
412 driving variables (i.e. the average speed and positive kinetic energy) of the trip data are shown in
413 Figure 2. Trip average speed is an important variable for emission and fuel consumption
414 estimations while PKE is related to acceleration and energy consumption. The scatter plot between
415 these two variables can help identifying the characteristics of specific driving patterns.
416 The scatter plot shows a reasonable inversely proportional pattern between these two variables.
417 Higher trip average speed implies smoother driving and thus smaller PKE. Distinct groups of trip
418 data are clearly shown as three clusters on the scatter plot.

419

420 [Figure 2]

421 [Table 5]

422 [Table 6]

423 [Table 7]

424 [Table 8]

425

426 On the whole, three distinct driving patterns were identified representing three types of bus routes
427 in Hong Kong and were summarised below. In the next section, corresponding driving cycles
428 would be developed for each of these three patterns.

429

430 Cluster 1: Routes running within typical congested urban areas with closely spaced bus stops and
431 traffic junctions.

432 Cluster 2: Inter-district routes comprising a number of stop-and-go activities at individual district
433 and a significant portion of smoother high speed driving.

434 Cluster 3: Early morning express routes and mid-night routes connecting remote residential areas

435 and urban areas.

436

437 **6. Development of Bus Driving Cycles in Hong Kong**

438

439 For each of the three bus driving patterns represented by the three clusters, separate driving cycles
440 would be developed ([Figure 3](#)). For Clusters 1 and 2, the trip data contains considerable amount of
441 stop-and-go driving as well as a series of micro-trips. Therefore, the following microtrip random
442 selection method would be directly applied to generate driving cycles for these two clusters.

443

444 [\[Figure 3\]](#)

445

446 To begin with, the mean values of the 13 assessment parameters for each cluster were set as target
447 statistics. Candidate driving cycles were constructed by first identifying the micro-trips which ~~are~~
448 ~~were~~ defined as speed profiles bounded by two consecutive idling periods. The microtrips together
449 with the preceding idling portion ~~came immediately before it~~ were then selected at random to
450 constitute a driving cycle until the required cycle length was achieved. The number of micro-trips
451 constituting the candidate cycle depended on different driving patterns. The assessment
452 parameters of the candidate cycle were then matched with the target statistics. Cycles with all the
453 assessment parameters within 5% of the target statistics became an acceptable cycle. If not, another
454 candidate cycle would be constructed and matched in the same manner. Eventually, 10 acceptable
455 cycles would be developed for the selecting the best cycle. The acceptable cycles would then be
456 ranked to determine the best cycle according to the average absolute percentage error (AAPE)
457 across all the 13 assessment parameters. Speed acceleration probability distributions (SAPD) and

458 vehicle specific power (VSP) distributions were also derived for the acceptable cycles and for the
459 whole data set under each cluster. Comparisons between those distributions would also be
460 referenced for determining the best cycle for each cluster. The formula used for calculating VSP
461 was as follows (Chen, et al., 2019).

462

$$463 \text{ VSP} = v (1.1 \times a + 0.132) + 0.0000745 v^3$$

464

465 where v is the speed (in m/s) and a is the acceleration (m/s^2)

466

467 For Cluster 3, most of the trips comprised at least one relatively long micro-trip reflecting highway
468 driving conditions. Therefore, the corresponding driving cycle would be constructed by selecting
469 the single trip with values of the 13 assessment parameters closest to the target statistics. This
470 approach was also consistent with some other studies (Achour and Olabi, 2016; Atiq et al., 2017;
471 Knez et al., 2014; Kumar et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2016; Mansour et al., 2018; Zomboni et al., 2015).

472

473 The resultant driving cycles for each cluster are shown in Figure [3-4](#) and the comparison of
474 summary statistics between the synthesized cycle and the target statistics are also summarised in
475 Table 9. Cycles for the three clusters were characterised by cycle durations of 1889, 1907 and
476 2074 seconds and average speeds of 13.8 km/h, 38.8 km/h and 56.8 km/h respectively. This was
477 consistent with the characteristics of these three driving patterns. Figure 3 also showed that the
478 Cluster 1 cycle consisted of a series of relatively low speed and short micro-trips separated by
479 idling periods. For the Cluster 2 cycle, it was composed of high speed and long micro-trip together
480 with a series of low speed and short micro-trips. These characteristics were consistent with inter-

481 district routes described earlier. Cluster 3 contained two very long and high speed micro-trips
482 reflecting the corresponding high speed and smooth driving conditions.

483

484 [Table 9]

485 [Figure 34]

486

487 The SAPD and VSP distributions derived for the synthesized cycles and the whole dataset are
488 compared in Figures 45 to 56. The resolutions of the SAPDs are 5 km/h and 0.2 m/s². Both the
489 SAPD and VSP distributions also presented very good agreements between the whole dataset and
490 the synthesized cycle.

491

492 [Figure 45]

493 [Figure 56]

494

495 **7. Comparison with Worldwide Bus Driving Cycles**

496

497 The major parameters of the synthesized driving cycles and other worldwide bus driving cycles
498 are summarised in Table 10. The comparisons between the synthesized cycles and the
499 corresponding international cycles are basically consistent. Cluster 1 cycle can be matched with
500 international cycles developed for urban areas while Cluster 2 cycle (i.e. inter-district routes)
501 generally agrees with international cycles involving highways. When looking at the acceleration
502 parameters, the driving characteristics for bus routes in Hong Kong are quite different from other
503 bus driving cycles. Cycles developed in this study exhibit significantly higher acceleration and

504 deceleration rates, as well as much shorter cruising periods than most of the other international bus
505 cycles. These driving characteristics have highlighted a very unique bus driving pattern in Hong
506 Kong.

507

508 [Table 10]

509

510 These results reflect some unique bus driving characteristics in Hong Kong. First, the extremely
511 high demand of franchised bus services in Hong Kong significantly increases the dwell times at
512 bus stops for picking up and dropping off passengers, and thus exhibit long idle proportions in the
513 driving pattern. On the same token, bus routes are also designed to have closely spaced bus stops
514 at the urban and residential areas. Together with the closely spaced junctions, there would be
515 frequent stop-and-go driving. The identified patterns also indicate that bus drivers in Hong
516 Kong are more aggressive (in terms of the relatively higher acceleration and deceleration rates)
517 than elsewhere possibly because of the tight bus schedules, short bus stops spacing and frequent
518 stop-and-go operations.

519

520 **8. Conclusions**

521

522 In this paper, a set of bus driving cycles representative of different bus route driving conditions in
523 Hong Kong have been developed. On-road speed-time data were collected using a cost effective
524 data collection approach utilising the GPS capability of smartphones. This approach is particularly

525 useful for developing economies in which significant amount of bus speed data covering different
526 types of bus routes and driving conditions could be collected within a relatively low budget.
527 Cluster analysis was employed to classify the collected trip data into 3 distinct clusters reflecting
528 the driving patterns of (i) congested urban bus routes with closely spaced bus stops and junctions;
529 (ii) inter-district bus routes with a relatively smoother and high speed driving section; and (iii)
530 early morning express routes and mid-night routes with much smoother traffic conditions.
531 Separate synthesized driving cycles were then developed by using the micro-trips random selection
532 approach to match the overall summary statistics as well as the SAPD and VSP distributions. The
533 three developed driving cycles showed characteristics that matched well with the corresponding
534 bus route patterns. The findings from this study would definitely be helpful in assessing the
535 exhaust emissions, fuel consumptions as well as energy consumptions of bus transport. The
536 bottom-up clustering approach adopted in this study would also be useful in identifying specific
537 driving patterns based on vehicle speed trip data with mixed driving characteristics. It is believed
538 that this approach is especially suitable for assessing fixed route public transport modes with mixed
539 driving characteristics.

540

541 **Acknowledgement**

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544

545 **References**

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Figure Captions

Figure 1 Comparison of the Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approaches of Driving Cycle Development

Figure 2 Trip Average Speed versus Trip Positive Kinetic Energy of the three Clusters

Figure 3 Driving Cycle Development Process

Figure 4a Synthesized Bus Driving Cycle for Cluster 1

Figure 4b Synthesized Bus Driving Cycle for Cluster 2

Figure 4c Synthesized Bus Driving Cycle for Cluster 3

Figure 5 Comparisons of SAPDs for the Synthesized Cycles and the Whole Clusters

Figure 6 Comparisons of VSP Distributions for the Synthesized Cycles and the Whole Clusters

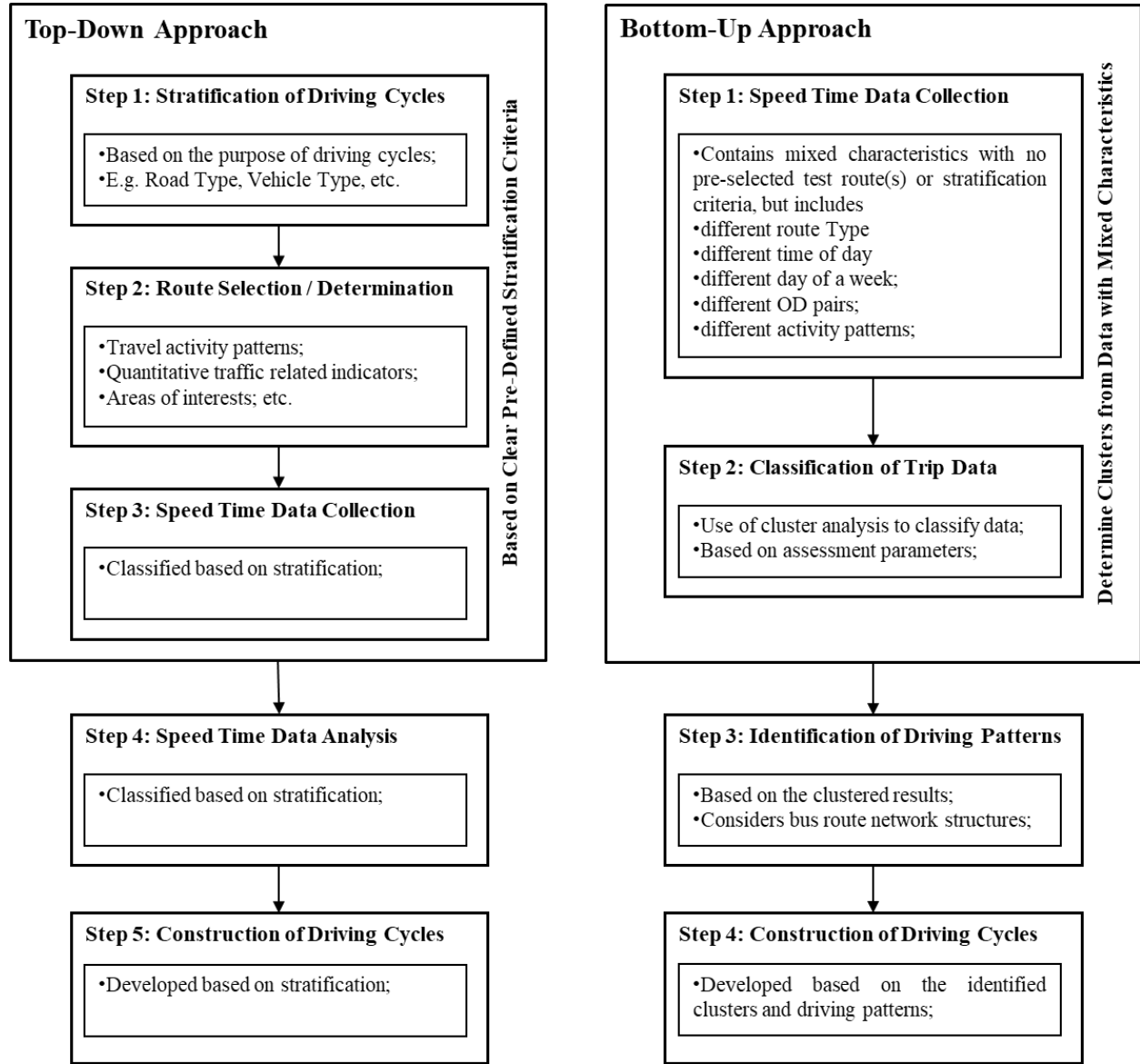


Figure 1 Comparison of the Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approaches of Driving Cycle Development

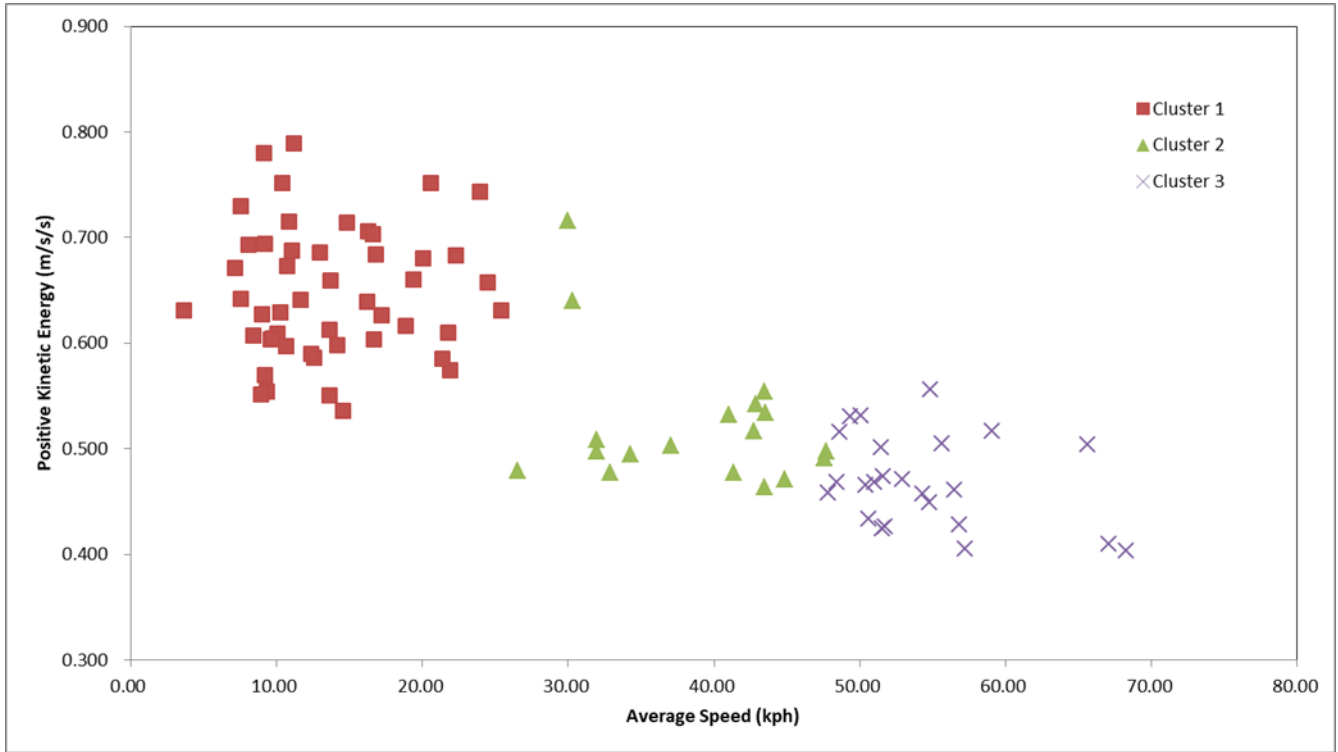


Figure 2 Trip Trip Average Speed vs Trip Positive Kinetic Energy of the three Clusters

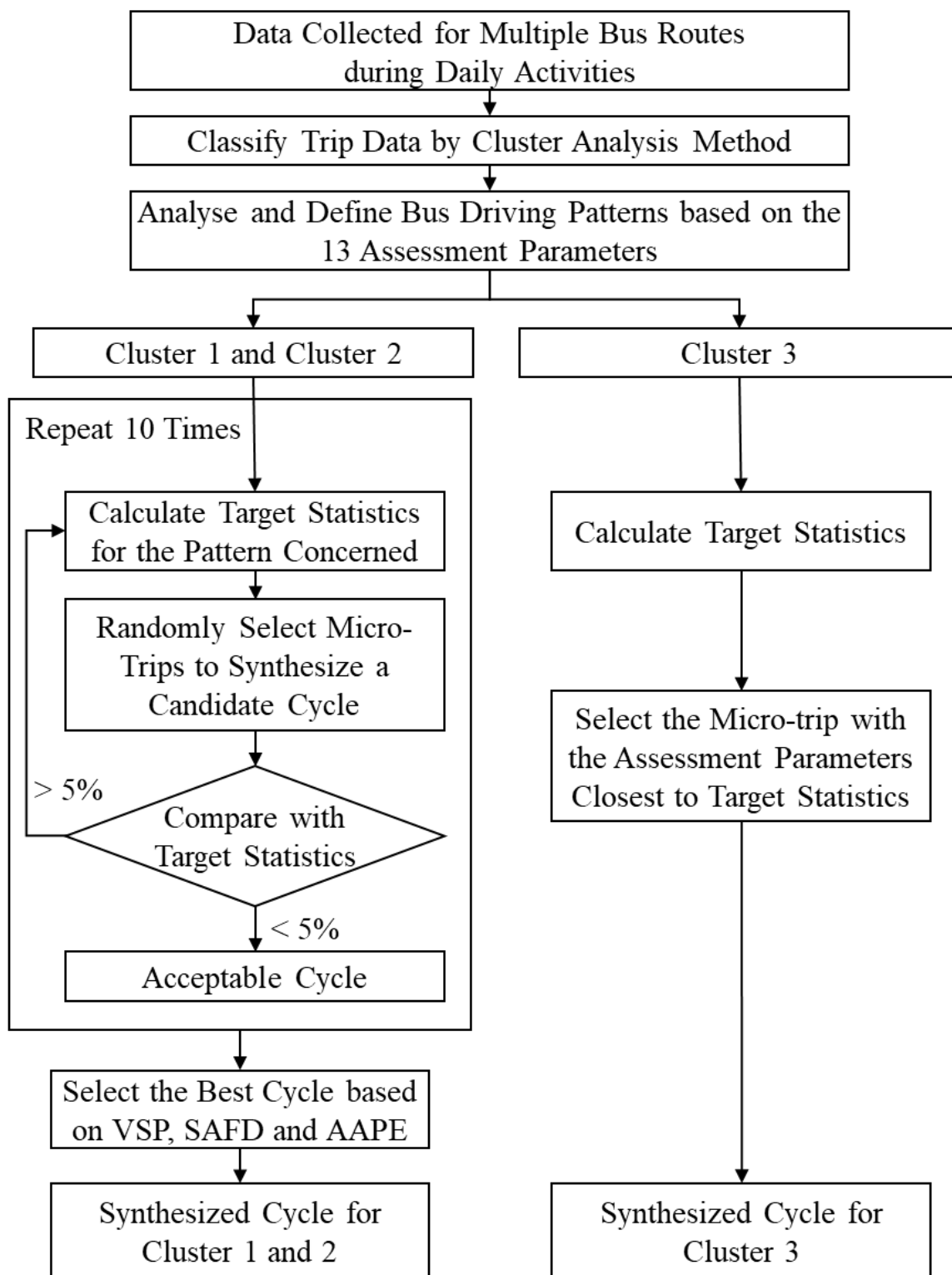


Figure 3 Driving Cycle Development Process

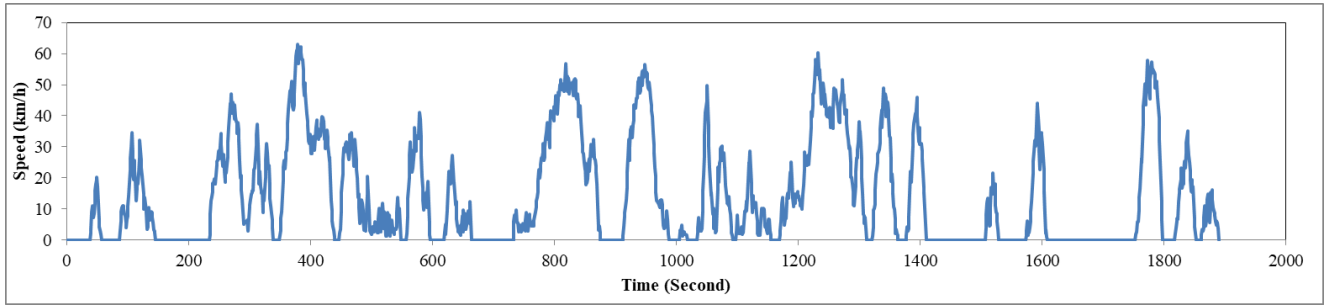


Figure 4a Synthesized Bus Driving Cycle for Cluster 1

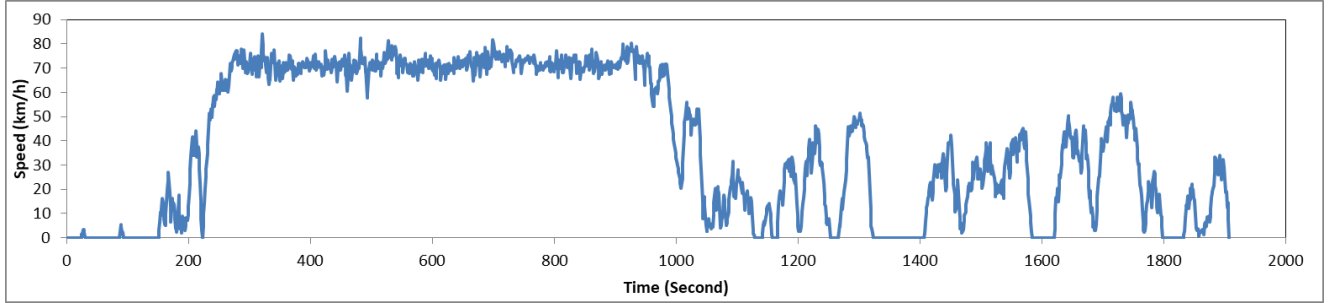


Figure 4b Synthesized Bus Driving Cycle for Cluster 2

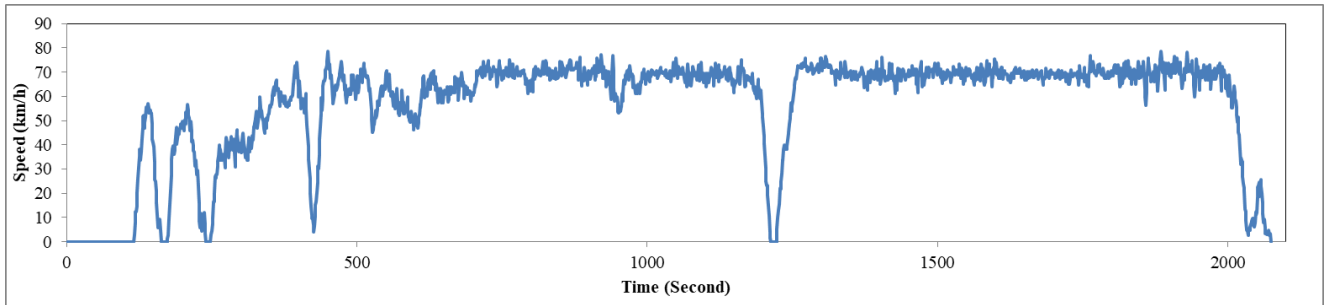
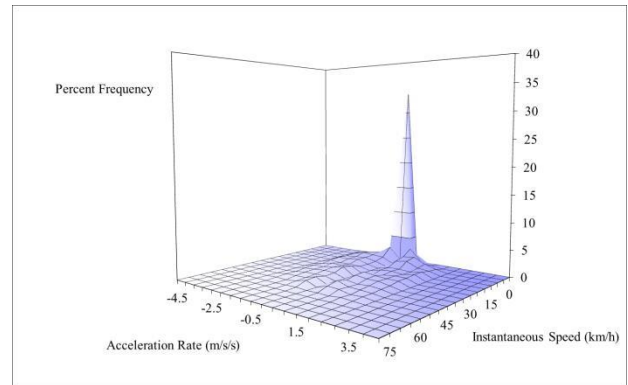
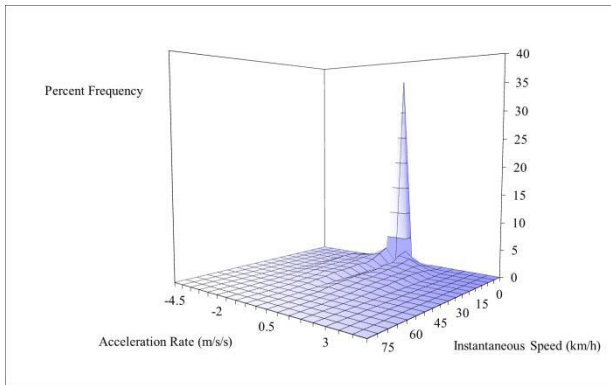
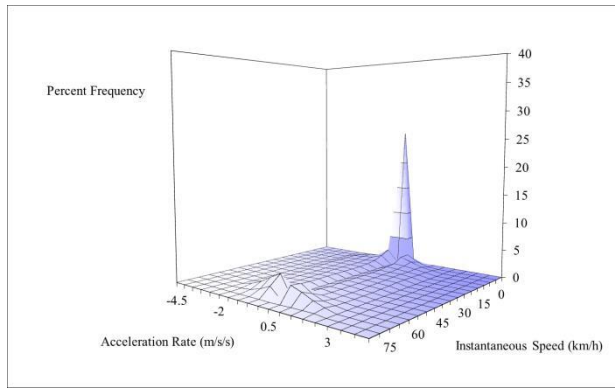


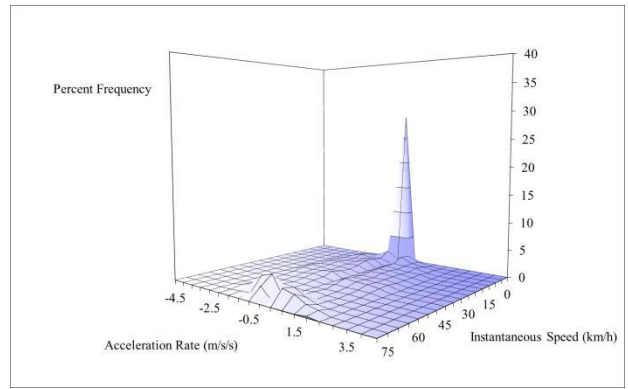
Figure 4c Synthesized Bus Driving Cycle for Cluster 3



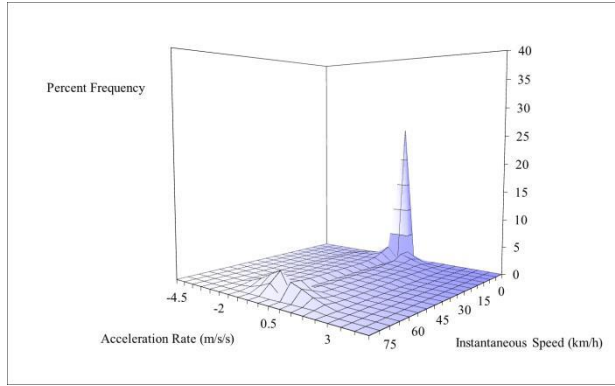
(a) All Data (Cluster 1)



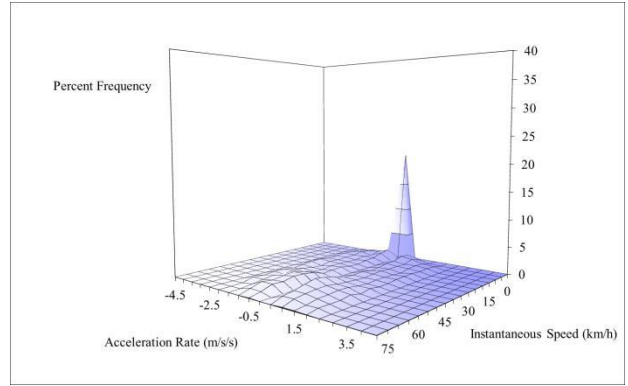
(b) Synthesized (Cluster 1)



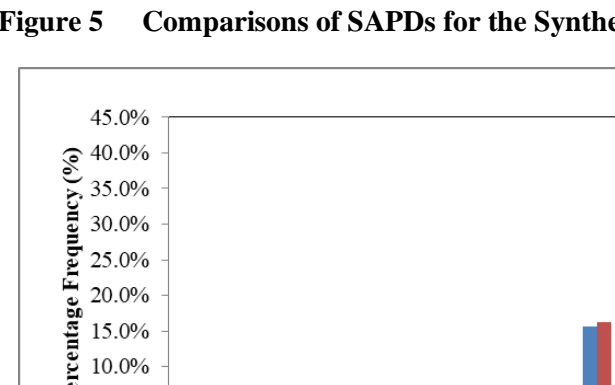
(a) All Data (Cluster 2)



(b) Synthesized (Cluster 2)



(a) All Data (Cluster 3)



(b) Synthesized (Cluster 3)

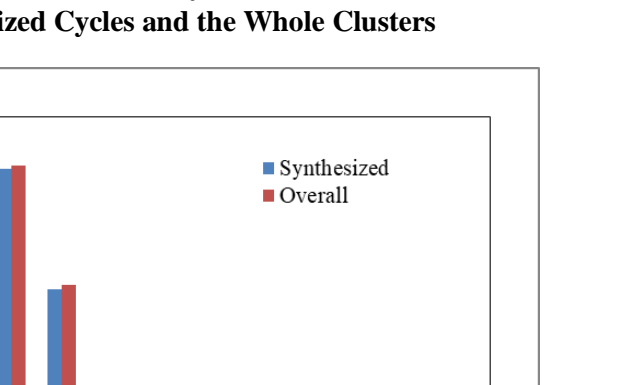
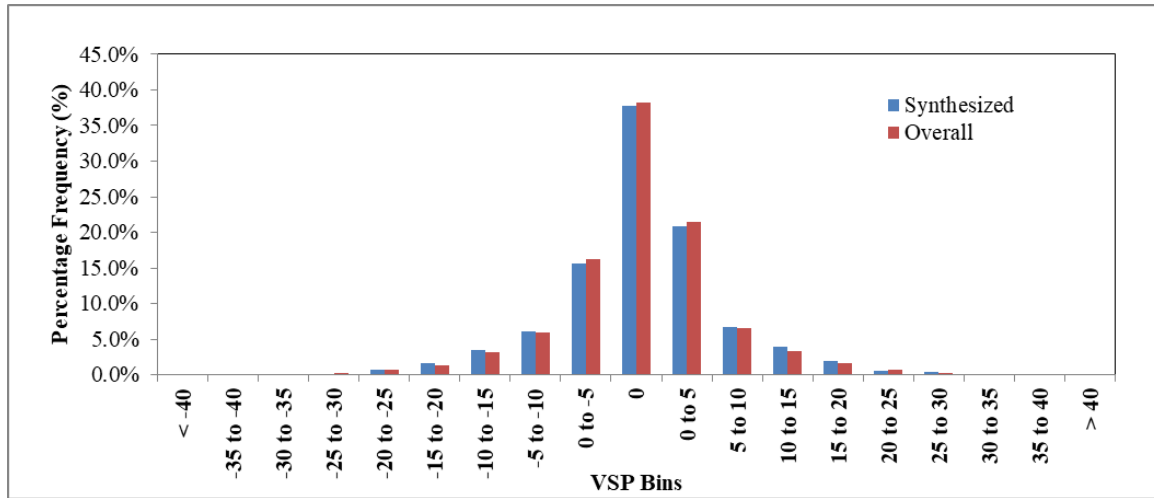
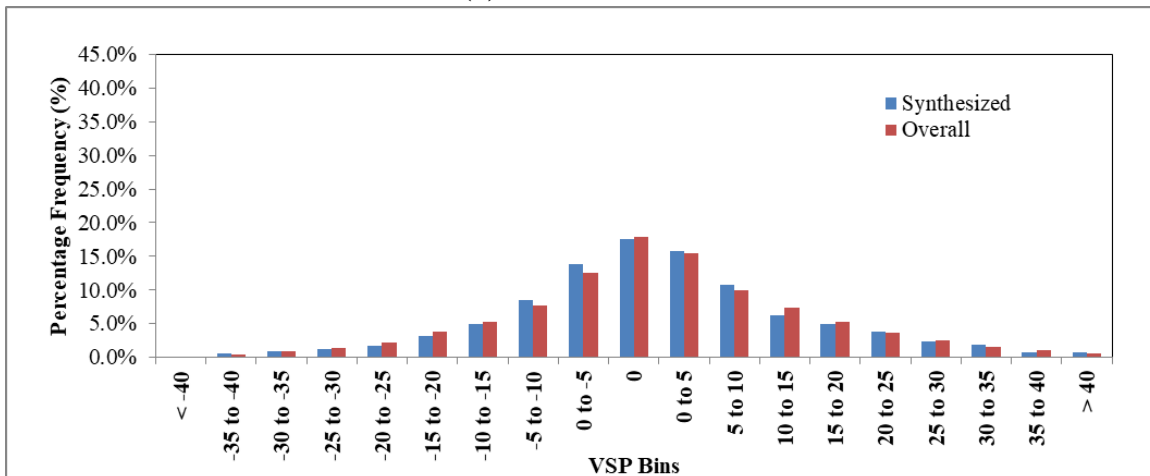


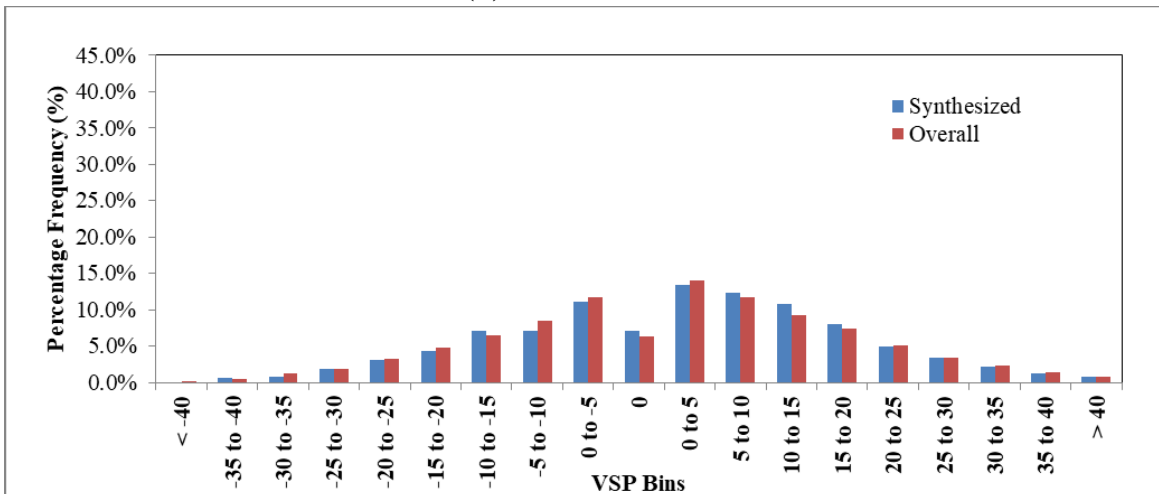
Figure 5 Comparisons of SAPDs for the Synthesized Cycles and the Whole Clusters



(a) For Cluster 1



(b) For Cluster 2



(c) For Cluster 3

Figure 6 Comparisons of VSP Distributions for the Synthesized Cycles and the Whole Clusters

Table Captions

Table 1 Characteristics of Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approaches for Driving Cycle Development

Table 2 Information on the Franchised Bus Route Network in Hong Kong

Table 3 Distribution of Bus Journeys Collected

Table 4 The List of 13 Assessment Parameters Adopted for Quantitative Analysis

Table 5 Clustered Statistics by Day of a Week

Table 6 Clustered Statistics by Time of a Day

Table 7 Clustered Statistics by Districts

Table 8 Summary Statistics of the Three Clusters

Table 9 Summary Statistics of Driving Cycles for the Three Clusters

Table 10 Comparison of International Bus Driving Cycle Characteristics

	Top-Down Approach (Traditional)	Bottom-Up Approach (Proposed)
Stratification	<input type="checkbox"/> Define based on purpose of driving cycle	<input type="checkbox"/> No pre-defined stratification criteria
Test Route	<input type="checkbox"/> Select based on stratification criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> No pre-selected test route(s)
Data Collection	<input type="checkbox"/> According to stratification criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> Containing mixed characteristics
Analysis of Driving Characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/> According to stratification criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> Determine driving patterns by cluster analysis
Driving Cycle Development	<input type="checkbox"/> According to stratification criteria	<input type="checkbox"/> According to the identified clusters

Table 1 Characteristics of Top-Down and Bottom-Up Approaches for Driving Cycle Development

Operator	Number of Routes					No. of Buses	Daily Pax (in 1000)
	HKI	Kln	NT	Lantau/Airport	Cross-Harbour		
CTB	52	2	1	28	33	992	611
KMB	0	354		0	64	4065	2800
LW	0	0	0	36	0	279	125.5
NLB	0	0	1	26	0	156	96.5
NWFB	47	13		0	33	685	458
Total	99	369	2	88	132	6151	4091

Table 2 Information on the Franchised Bus Route Network in Hong Kong (as of 31 December 2019)

	HKI	Kln	Island and NT
HKI	6.3%	-	-
Kln	7.2%	21.6%	-
Island and NT	1.0%	18.3%	45.7%

Table 3 Distribution of Bus Journeys Collected

Abbr.	Name	Unit	Abbr.	Name	Unit
v_1	Average speed of the entire driving cycle	km/h	P_{idle}	Time proportions of idling modes	%
v_2	Average running speed	km/h	P_{acce}	Time proportions of acceleration modes	%
a	Average acceleration of all acceleration phases	m/s^2	P_{cruise}	Time proportions of cruising modes	%
d	Average deceleration of all deceleration phases	m/s^2	P_{dece}	Time proportions of deceleration modes	%
RMS	Root mean square acceleration	m/s^2	P_{creep}	Time proportions of creeping modes	%
PKE	Positive acceleration kinetic energy	m/s^2	M	Average number of acceleration/deceleration changes (and vice versa) within one micro-trip	<i>number of times</i>
c	Mean length of a micro-trip	sec			

Table 4 The list of 13 Assessment Parameters Adopted for Quantitative Analysis

Cluster	Weekends	Weekdays	Total
1	30.6%	69.4%	100.0%
2	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
3	58.3%	41.7%	100.0%

Table 5 Clustered Statistics by Day of a Week

Cluster	AM Peak (07:00 – 10:00)	Inter-Peaks (10:00 – 17:00)	PM Peak (17:00 – 21:00)	After Peak (21:00 – 07:00)
1	85.7%	56.4%	100.0%	29.4%
2	0.0%	17.9%	0.0%	32.4%
3	14.3%	25.6%	0.0%	38.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 6 Clustered Statistics by Time of a Day

Cluster	HKI	Inter-District	NT and Island	Kln
1	66.7%	11.1%	100.0%	97.1%
2	33.3%	35.6%	0.0%	2.9%
3	0.0%	53.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 7 Clustered Statistics by Districts

	P_{idle} (%)	P_{acce} (%)	P_{cruise} (%)	P_{dece} (%)	P_{creep} (%)	RMS (m/s ²)	PKE (m/s ²)	a (m/s ²)	d (m/s ²)	v_1 (km/h)	v_2 (km/h)	C (s)	M (time)
Cluster 1	36.81	29.27	3.98	28.34	1.60	1.018	0.648	0.874	0.902	13.79	21.63	58.7	22.2
Cluster 2	17.57	37.93	6.41	37.33	0.75	0.968	0.518	0.827	0.838	38.57	46.59	161.5	76.6
Cluster 3	5.71	43.04	8.46	42.53	0.26	0.921	0.469	0.779	0.789	54.41	57.63	407.1	226.4

Table 8 Summary Statistics of the three Clusters

	P_{idle} (%)	P_{acce} (%)	P_{cruise} (%)	P_{dece} (%)	P_{creep} (%)	RMS (m/s ²)	PKE (m/s ²)	a (m/s ²)	d (m/s ²)	v_1 (km/h)	v_2 (km/h)	C (s)	M (time)	AAPE	SSD
Cluster 1															
Synthesized	36.68	29.32	3.86	28.53	1.58	0.984	0.619	0.851	0.873	13.80	21.79	59.79	23.1	38.35	5.50

Target	36.81	29.27	3.98	28.34	1.60	1.018	0.648	0.874	0.902	13.79	21.63	58.70	22.2	–	–
Cluster 2															
Synthesized	16.99	37.72	6.66	37.88	0.73	0.964	0.506	0.838	0.835	38.82	46.78	158.19	75.0	23.91	43.51
Target	17.57	37.93	6.41	37.33	0.75	0.968	0.518	0.827	0.838	38.57	46.59	161.50	76.6	–	–
Cluster 3															
Synthesized	6.89	43.00	9.25	40.59	0.24	0.848	0.427	0.708	0.750	56.82	61.03	482.75	268.00	120.51	29.49
Target	5.71	43.04	8.46	42.53	0.26	0.921	0.469	0.779	0.789	54.41	57.63	407.10	226.40	–	–

Table 9 Summary Statistics of Driving Cycles for the three Clusters

Location	v_l (km/h)	a (m/s ²)	d (m/s ²)	P_{idle} (%)	P_{aece} (%)	P_{cruise} (%)	P_{dece} (%)	P_{creep} (%)	Source
Cluster 1 (Urban Congested)	13.8	0.851	0.873	36.7	29.3	3.9	28.5	1.6	This Study
Cluster 2 (Inter-district)	38.8	0.838	0.835	17.0	37.7	6.7	37.9	0.7	This Study
Cluster 3 (Express and Mid-Night)	56.8	0.708	0.750	6.9	43.0	9.3	40.6	0.2	This Study
Maharashtra Highway AM	37.7	0.280	0.370	5.2	26.0	46.6	21.5	-	Maurya and Bokare, 2012
Maharashtra Highway Off-Peak	44.1	0.330	0.310	4.3	27.0	53.5	15.5	-	Maurya and Bokare, 2012
Maharashtra Highway PM	31.0	0.280	0.600	9.6	38.2	38.5	18.5	-	Maurya and Bokare, 2012
Maharashtra Urban AM	15.1	0.500	0.470	35.9	28.3	-	27.4	-	Maurya and Bokare, 2012
Maharashtra Urban PM	18.6	0.600	1.500	39.9	29.2	-	29.3	-	Maurya and Bokare, 2012
Route 11	20.4	0.540	0.510	16.7	32.4	15.1	34.4	1.5	Kivekas et al., 2018a
Route 11	23.8	0.380	0.390	13.3	-	22.2	-	0.1	Kivekas, et al., 2018b
Route 24	17.3	0.680	0.730	15.9	-	9.3	-	0.1	Kivekas, et al., 2018b
Route 550	30.5	0.500	0.500	14.1	-	16.8	-	0.1	Kivekas, et al., 2018b
Route 03	18.2	0.650	0.680	18.5	-	10.6	-	0.3	Kivekas, et al., 2018b
Route 25	20.4	0.710	0.770	16.3	-	8.9	-	0.2	Kivekas, et al., 2018b

Kanchanaburi DC	-	-	-	-	52.1	1.8	46.2	-	Mongkonlerdmanee, 2019
Hanoi Bus DC	17.3	0.480	0.510	5.3	34.5	-	32.4	-	Nguyen, et al., 2016
HBDC 2018	16.8	0.500	0.520	7.6	34.2	14.1	32.7	11.4	Nguyen, et al., 2018
Chennai Bus DC	14.0	0.650	0.710	32.2	29.8	3.5	29.6	4.9	Nesamania, et al., 2011
Delhi AM DC	26.6	-	-	14.6	39.9	8.1	37.4	-	Kumar, et al., 2013
Delhi OffPeak DC	26.3	-	-	16.1	39.2	8.4	36.3	-	Kumar, et al., 2013
Delhi PM DC	27.8	-	-	14.0	39.7	9.7	36.6	-	Kumar, et al., 2013
XiBUS Arterial	18.4	0.509	0.504	10.8	40.3	16.8	32.3	-	Li, et al., 2016
XiBUS Composite	16.9	0.420	0.460	12.8	38.2	15.7	32.9	-	Li, et al., 2016
XiBUS Urban	15.8	0.404	0.580	18.3	35.5	22.0	24.3	-	Li, et al., 2016
XiBUS Highway	32.9	0.422	0.590	2.3	45.8	15.0	37.0	-	Li, et al., 2016
Xi'an Bus DC	18.2	-	-	23.6	27.8	25.3	23.3	-	Liu, et al., 2020
Shanghai HEB DC	23.0	0.710	0.830	34.0	33.0	5.0	28.0	-	Shen, et al., 2018
Fuzhou Bus DC	13.8	0.740	-	34.4	27.0	15.5	23.1	-	Peng, et al., 2019a
Mexico City Urban 1 DC	7.30	0.500	0.500	15.5	32.9	22.7	29.3	-	Quirama, et al., 2020
Mexico City Urban 2 DC	10.0	0.400	0.500	13.6	33.8	25.9	29.1	-	Quirama, et al., 2020

Table 10 Comparison of International Bus Driving Cycle Characteristics