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1 **Use of Ultra-High Pressure Homogenization processing in winemaking: control of**
2 **microbial populations in grape musts and effects in sensory quality.**

3

4 Iris LOIRA¹, Antonio MORATA^{1*}, M^a Antonia BAÑUELOS², Anna PUIG-PUJOL³,
5 Buenaventura GUAMIS⁴, Carmen GONZÁLEZ¹, José Antonio SUÁREZ-LEPE¹,

6

7 ¹enotecUPM. Chemistry and Food Technology Department, ETSIAAB, Universidad
8 Politécnica de Madrid. Avenida Complutense S/N, 28040 Madrid, Spain.

9 ²Dept. Biotecnología-Biología Vegetal, ETSIAAB, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

10 ³Enological Research Department. Institut of Agrifood Research and Technology –
11 Catalan Institute of Vine and wine (IRTA-INCAVI). Plaça Àgora, 2. 08720 Vilafranca
12 del Penedès, Spain.

13 ⁴Centre d'Innovació, Recerca i Transferència en Tecnologia dels Aliments (CIRTTA),
14 TECNIO, XaRTA, Departament de Ciència Animal i dels Aliments, Facultat de
15 Veterinària, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra, Spain.

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19 *Corresponding author. Tel.: +34 91 336 57 30; Fax: +34 91 336 57 46

20 E-mail address: antonio.morata@upm.es

21

22 **Abstract**

23 Ultra-high pressure homogenization (UHPH) is a fast and efficient technique that can
24 sterilize fluid foods at low temperatures or even under cooling conditions. A white must
25 (*Vitis vinifera* L.) was processed at 300 MPa (inlet temperature 20 °C, in-valve
26 temperature 98 °C, outlet temperature 25 °C, and time in valve 0.02 s) and their
27 performance was compared with two untreated controls, a must that underwent a
28 spontaneous fermentation (without SO₂ addition) and another must that was sulfited with
29 35 mg/L of total SO₂ and inoculated with the same *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* yeast as the
30 UHPH-treated must. UHPH treatment led to the total elimination of grape
31 microorganisms considering an initial population of 1x10⁶ CFU/mL in average of wild
32 yeasts and fungi in must, and approximately 7x10³ CFU/mL of background bacteria. In a
33 parallel assay, UHPH-processed must without yeast inoculation showed absence of
34 fermentation for eight days at 18 °C. The musts treated with UHPH showed a lighter
35 appearance (10%) before fermentation compared to the control. The triangular test
36 verified the existence of sensory differences between the wines obtained and the
37 preference tests showed that the judges found the wine obtained from the UHPH-treated
38 must more fruity (3.5/5 compared with 1.5-2 in controls) and with better aroma.

39

40 **Industrial relevance**

41 UHPH is an interesting way to process the must before fermentation allowing the
42 reduction of sulfite addition while controlling wild and spoilage microorganisms.

43

44 **Keywords:** Ultra-High Pressure Homogenization (UHPH), grape must, wine, sulfites
45 reduction, microbial control

46 **1. Introduction**

47 Pressurization technologies have been used to process must and crushed grapes to control
48 wild grape microorganisms at low temperatures. High hydrostatic pressure (HHP) applied
49 at 400-600 MPa for 10 min eliminates yeast counts of 1×10^4 CFU/mL in grape must;
50 however, it is less efficient in the elimination of lactic acid bacteria (Morata et al., 2017).
51 It also shows some effects on skins that favor the extraction processes during grape
52 maceration (Morata et al., 2015). However, the main drawback is that it is a batch process
53 that is difficult to use in winemaking (Morata et al., 2017). Ultra-high pressure
54 homogenization (UHPH) is also a high pressure technology, but operates in continuous
55 mode. Antimicrobial effect is produced when fluid is pumped at 200-600 MPa and go
56 through a “special valve” before expansion. During the process, microorganisms and
57 colloidal particles suffer both strong shear forces and impact, which not only cause the
58 complete destruction of living microorganisms but also spores (Amador Espejo,
59 Hernández-Herrero, Juan, & Trujillo, 2014), thus producing sterilization. All particles
60 are reduced to a range size of 100-300 nm (Zamora & Guamis, 2015). The mechanical
61 effect due to the hypersonic speed reached in the valve and the subsequent
62 depressurization produce an intense fragmentation of cells and particles. The only
63 requirement for processing by UHPH is that the particles in the fluid must be less than
64 500 μm in size. Both HHP and UHPH can be referred to as cold pasteurization treatments
65 that are sensory-protective because the processes do not affect covalent bonds; pigments,
66 aroma (Bermúdez-Aguirre & Barbosa-Cánovas, 2011; Oey, Van der Plancken, & Van
67 Loey, 2008). In UHPH, the exposure time to the peak process temperature is less than 0.2
68 seconds, and therefore, without significant thermal repercussion (Ypsicon, 2018).

69 Industrial UHPH equipment are currently available with capacities up to 50.000
70 liters/hour based on modular systems. Moreover, power consumption is approximately
71 50% lower than HPP (Ypsicon, 2018).

72 The use of UHPH or HHP in must processing is a clear alternative to the use of sulfites
73 to control wild spoilage microorganisms that can also affect the fermentation performance
74 and sensory quality of the wine (Morata et al., 2015; Puig, Olmos, Quevedo, Guamis, &
75 Mínguez, 2008). That is especially interesting when modern fermentation
76 biotechnologies are used such as fermentation with non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts or co-
77 inoculation using yeast and bacteria mixtures to perform simultaneous malolactic and
78 alcoholic fermentations (Bañuelos et al., 2016).

79 UHPH at 150 MPa has been also described as a way to accelerate biological ageing
80 processes like ageing on lees (Comuzzo et al., 2015, 2017). The homogenization effects
81 by high pressure produce the lysis and de-polymerization of yeast cell walls releasing
82 polysaccharides and mannoproteins that affect mouthfeel improving wine softness.
83 Moreover, UHPH can be used to modulate the autolytic capacity of yeast starters used to
84 age sparkling wines (Patrignani et al., 2013).

85 The aim of this work was to check the effectiveness of UHPH in the control of wild
86 microorganisms in grape musts and evaluate the enological and sensory parameters of the
87 wines obtained after fermentation with *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* compared to control
88 wines produced from sulfited must or spontaneously fermented must.

89

90 **2. Materials and Methods**

91 **2.1 Must preparation**

92 Grapes from *Vitis vinifera* L. variety “Hondarribi zuri” were pressed using a pneumatic
93 press and running must was settled at 4 °C. Clean must was separated in three batches: i)
94 sulfited at 35 mg/L of total SO₂, ii) UHPH processed and iii) untreated. UHPH
95 sterilization was performed using a continuous device (150 L/h) patented by UAB
96 (EP2409583) and manufactured by Ypsicon Advance Technologies (Barcelona, Spain)
97 working at 300±3 MPa, an inlet temperature of 20°C, valve temperature of 98°C reached
98 at 0.02 s, and outlet temperature of 25°C (detailed temperatures and pressures included
99 as supplementary material). Initial must parameters are described in **Table 1**.

100

101 **2.2 Fermentations and microbial counts**

102 Fermentations were performed in 2-L flasks with 1.8 L of must in triplicate at 18 °C.
103 Fermenters were inoculated with 50 mL starters of a 24-hours culture in YPD broth (10
104 g/L yeast extract, 20 g/L peptone, 20 g/L glucose. Supplied by Conda, Madrid, Spain)
105 containing 1x10⁸ CFU/mL. The population in the fermenters after inoculation was
106 checked by plating being 1x10⁵ CFU/mL. The yeast strain used was *Saccharomyces*
107 *cerevisiae* 7VA (enotecUPM, Spain).

108 As control, a parallel assay was performed in which another three batches of each
109 processing method (sulfited, UHPH and non-treated) were placed in 100-mL vials with
110 50 mL of must and allowed to ferment with the wild population. These flasks were sealed
111 with Müller valves and the fermentation development was monitored gravimetrically
112 recording weight losses by the release of CO₂. Each fermentation was performed in
113 triplicate and isothermally controlled at 18 °C.

114 Microbiological analyses were performed in musts after UHPH treatments and in wines
115 at the end of fermentation. Serial decimal dilutions in saline peptone (0.85% NaCl with
116 peptone at 0.1%) were pour-plated (1 mL) in selective media for total aerobic bacteria

117 and lactic acid bacteria and 100 µL were spread-plated for yeasts. The media were:
118 Glucose chloramphenicol agar (GCA) incubated aerobically during 4 days at 25 °C
119 (yeast); synthetic lysine agar (Oxoid, Hampshire, UK) for non-*Saccharomyces* counts
120 (Heard & Fleet, 1986); PCA supplemented with nystatin (50 mg/L) after sterilization, and
121 incubated during 3 days at 30 °C (aerobic bacteria); MRS agar supplemented with nystatin
122 (50 mg/l) after sterilization and incubated during 4 days at 30 °C in anaerobic conditions
123 in a jar under CO₂ atmosphere (lactic acid bacteria). GCA and MRS media were
124 purchased from Pronadisa (Barcelona, Spain).

125

126 **2.3 Enological parameters by Infrared spectroscopy**

127 The equipment OenoFoss™ (FOSS Iberia, Barcelona, Spain) using Fourier transform
128 infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) was used to identify and quantify major compounds such
129 as residual sugars, organic acids, total and volatile acidity (Urbano-Cuadrado, Luque De
130 Castro, Pérez-Juan, García-Olmo, & Gómez-Nieto, 2004). This technique also determines
131 pH value.

132

133 **2.4. Analysis of organic acids and residual sugars**

134 Lactic acid, malic acid and residual sugars were measured enzymatically (Peynaud,
135 Blouin, & Lafon-Lafourcade, 1966) using an Y15 enzymatic autoanalyzer (Biosystems,
136 Barcelona, Spain).

137

138 **2.5. Ethanol quantification**

139 Ethanol was analyzed by liquid chromatography with refractive index detection (LC-RI)
140 using a Waters e2695 apparatus (Milford, Massachusetts, USA) equipped with a 2414
141 Refractive Index Detector. Analyses were performed using a Phenosphere XDB C18

142 column (4.6 x 150 mm, 5- μ m particle size) (Phenomenex, Torrance, CA, USA). The
143 solvent was Milli-Q water (in isocratic mode) at 0.4 mL/min. The temperature was set at
144 30 °C both in the column and in the detector. Calibration was performed using an external
145 ethanol standard (Panreac, Barcelona, Spain). Samples were injected after filtration
146 through 0.45- μ m cellulose methyl ester membrane filters (Tecknokroma, Barcelona,
147 Spain). The injection volume was 2 μ L.

148

149 **2.6. Analysis of volatile compounds by gas chromatography with flame ionization** 150 **detection (GC-FID)**

151 Volatile compounds were determined using an Agilent Technologies 6850 gas
152 chromatograph (Network GC System) equipped with an integrated flame ionization
153 detector (GC-FID). A DB-624 column (60 m x 250 μ m x 1.40 μ m) was used. The
154 following compounds were used as external standards for calibration ($r^2 > 0.999$):
155 acetaldehyde, diacetyl, acetoin, methanol, 1-propanol, 1-butanol, 2-butanol, isobutanol,
156 2-methyl-1-butanol, 3-methyl-1-butanol, hexanol, 2-phenylethyl alcohol, 2-phenylethyl
157 acetate, 2,3-butanediol, ethyl acetate, isoamyl acetate, isobutyl acetate, ethyl butyrate and
158 ethyl lactate. 4-Methyl-2-pentanol was used as internal standard. All compounds were
159 purchased from Fluka (Sigma–Aldrich Corp., Buchs SG, Switzerland). The injector
160 temperature was 250 °C, and the detector temperature 300 °C. The column temperature
161 was 40 °C (5 min), rising linearly by 10 °C/min until 250 °C; this temperature was then
162 held for 5 min. Hydrogen was used as carrier gas. The injection split ratio was 1:10, the
163 in-column flow rate 2.2 L/min, and the detection limit 0.1 mg/L. One-hundred microliters
164 of internal standard (500 mg/L) were added to 1-mL test samples and filtered through
165 syringe membrane filters (pore size 0.45- μ m) (Teknokroma, Barcelona, Spain). They

166 were then placed in 2-mL glass vials sealed with a PTFE/silicon septum. One microliter
167 of this filtrate was injected into the GC apparatus.

168

169 **2.7 Color measurements and phenols**

170 The color of wine has been determined by the use of a UV-visible (UV-Vis)
171 spectrophotometer 8453 from Agilent Technologies™ (Palo Alto, CA, USA) with a
172 photodiode array detector and the use of a 1-cm path length quartz cuvette. The absorption
173 at three different wavelengths (420 nm, 520 nm and 620 nm) was used to compare color
174 intensity and hue in all wines after fermentation was complete.

175 Total polyphenol index (TPI) was measured after dilution 1:10 with milli-Q water in 1-
176 cm path length quartz cuvette at 280 nm. Hydroxycinnamic acids were also estimated by
177 measuring the absorbance at 320 nm in the same conditions.

178

179 **2.8 Determination of Polyphenol oxidase (PPO) activity**

180 Polyphenol oxidase (PPO) activity was determined according to the method described by
181 Cano, Hernandez, & De Ancos (1997) with slight modifications. PPO determination
182 consisted on mixing 3 mL of a solution based on a 0.07 M catechol solution and 0.05 M
183 sodium phosphate buffer (pH 6.5) with 150 µL of the sample. The absorbance change
184 was spectrophotometrically monitored (UV2310, Dinko Instruments Ltd., Barcelona,
185 Spain) at 420 nm during 10 min at 25 °C.

186

187 **2.9 Antioxidant activity: FRAP assay**

188 The reducing antioxidant power by the ferric reducing ability of plasma (FRAP) method
189 was used according to a modified version of Benzie & Strain (1996). A daily FRAP

190 reagent was prepared by mixing 25 mL of 0.3 mM acetate buffer (pH 3.6) with 2.5 mL
191 of 10 mM TPTZ solution in 40 mM HCl and 2.5 mL of 20 mM Ferric chloride
192 ($\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$). After heating the FRAP reagent to 37 °C, 900 μL of the reagent were
193 allowed to react with 30 μL of sample and 90 μL of water. Readings were taken after 8
194 min at 37 °C at the wavelength of 593 nm against an acetate buffer blank. Quantification
195 was based on the standard curve ranged from 0-1000 μM of Trolox. Antioxidant capacity
196 was expressed as mM of TE (Trolox Equivalents).

197

198 **2.10 Sensory evaluation**

199 A preference test was developed to assess the quality of the wines. A panel of nine
200 experienced tasters (age range: from 30 to 60 years old, 4 women and 5 men) evaluated
201 the wines. The blind tasting took place in the tasting room of Chemistry and Food
202 Technology Department, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, provided with fluorescent
203 lighting and presenting samples in random order. The wines (20 mL/tasting glass) were
204 served at 20 ± 2 °C in three different standard odor-free wine-tasting glasses. Briefly, the
205 panelists used a scale from 0 to 5 to rate the intensity of different attributes (0 = attribute
206 not perceptible, 5 = attribute strongly perceptible). Each panelist also provided an overall
207 impression of the wines produced, taking into account olfactory and taste features,
208 including any defect.

209

210 **2.11 Statistical analysis**

211 Means and standard deviations were calculated and differences examined using ANOVA
212 and the least significant difference (LSD) test. All calculations were made using PC
213 Statgraphics v.5 software (Graphics Software Systems, Rockville, MD, USA).

214 Significance was set at $p < 0.05$. Fermentations of each treatment proceeded in triplicate
215 and chemical and microbiological analyses were done of each replicate. These data were
216 used in the statistical treatments.

217

218 **3. Results and discussion**

219 After must treatments, a higher limpidity with very low size colloidal particles in UHPH
220 processed must was observed. However, sulfited must showed bigger colloidal particles
221 and phase separation in a liquid fraction and pectin fragments in the bottom of the
222 fermenters. This is explained because of the intense homogenization by UHPH processing
223 producing nanoparticles lower than 300 nm of molecular size (Zamora & Guamis, 2015).

224

225 **3.1 Antimicrobial effect of UHPH**

226 UHPH has demonstrated higher efficiency in controlling spores (Amador Espejo et al.,
227 2014) and bacteria than discontinuous HHP processes because of the intense shear forces
228 to which the liquid is subjected when it crosses the valve and undergoes a strong
229 decompression. Microbial analyses were focused in wild microorganisms typically found
230 in grapes and must (fungi, *Saccharomyces* and non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts and lactic acid
231 bacteria). Yeast and bacteria counts were similar in sulfited and untreated musts.
232 *Saccharomyces* yeasts were in average 1×10^6 CFU/mL (**Figure 1a**), non-*Saccharomyces*
233 in lysine media in the same value, and the bacterial counts measured in PCA and MRS
234 were in average 7×10^3 CFU/mL. No yeasts were detected in the must processed by UHPH
235 (LOD 10 CFU/mL) (**Figure 1a**). Hence, at the end of fermentation, only the inoculated
236 yeast can be found in UHPH-processed must, with a total absence of non-*Saccharomyces*

237 **(Figure 1b)** which shows the effectiveness of the treatment. Conversely, non-
238 *Saccharomyces* wild yeasts can be found at 2 log CFU/mL in the sulfited must. Therefore,
239 the wild yeasts remain in the must throughout the entire fermentation. The presence of
240 non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts was more noticeable in the non-treated must, being higher
241 than 3 log CFU/mL at the end of fermentation. Vegetative bacteria populations were also
242 eliminated from the must by the UHPH treatment (LOD 1CFU/mL), and remained
243 undetected at the end of fermentation **(Figures 2a, b)**. This result highlights the intense
244 antimicrobial effect of UHPH for all the microbial groups analyzed, even considering the
245 high initial microbial load in the must. HHP treatments have previously demonstrated
246 high efficiency in yeasts control at 400 MPa-10 min, but some residual populations of
247 bacteria still remain even at 550 MPa-10 min (Morata et al., 2015). The use of UHPH
248 allows winemakers to avoid the use of SO₂ to control apiculate yeasts and bacterial
249 populations, but also facilitates the implantation of non-*Saccharomyces* starters when the
250 use of these unconventional yeasts is desired to improve the sensory profile. This agrees
251 with the same application previously described for HHP processing (Bañuelos et al.,
252 2016). By using UHPH processing, it is possible to reduce the SO₂ doses only to the
253 suitable levels to control oxidations due to the total antimicrobial effect produced by
254 continuous pressurization. Moreover, the use of emerging antioxidants such as
255 glutathione (GSH) opens new possibilities to strongly reduce SO₂ in wines (Kritzinger,
256 Bauer, & Du Toit, 2013).

257 To evaluate how is the evolution of these wild populations over time, 50 mL of each must
258 (not inoculated) were left to ferment during 8 days. A fast evolution of the populations in
259 the sulfited must was observed, with strong fermentation on day 3 and reaching
260 approximately 10 % v/v of ethanol in 8 days **(Figure 3)**. The untreated control showed a
261 slower fermentation, probably because the absence of sulfites promoted a greater

262 development of non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts with lower fermentative power, thus reaching
263 only 5 % v/v of ethanol in the same period. The fermentation did not occur in the UHPH-
264 treated must as the weight of the fermenters remained at the initial value during the 8 days
265 of the trial (**Figure 3**). The lack of fermentation for 8 days supports the absence of viable
266 but non-culturable yeasts that sometimes can be detected when microorganisms are
267 processed by discontinuous HHP (Lado & Yousef, 2002)

268

269 **3.2 Enological parameters in must before fermentation**

270 The sugar content in the musts is typical of Txacoli wines (**Table 1**), normally ranging
271 between 9-12 % v/v in alcoholic degree because of the early harvest that gives them their
272 distinctive sensory profile. Consequently, the acidity is high and, correspondingly, the pH
273 is quite low (3.2-3.3) in these musts. The levels of yeast assimilable nitrogen (YAN)
274 compounds, α -amino nitrogen and ammonia, were a little bit lower in the musts dosed
275 with SO₂, but the levels found were enough for a correct fermentation. It has been
276 described that 150 mg/L is a suitable YAN value to avoid sluggish or stuck fermentations
277 (Henschke & Jiranek, 1993). The absence of volatile acidity is considered an indicator of
278 grape health, because normally it increases when undesirable bacteria grow
279 uncontrollably before the alcoholic fermentation. In this case, the grape/must quality is
280 quite good (**Table 1**). Similarly, gluconic acid is not detected, which corroborates the
281 quality of the must. It is used as an indicator of fungal developments, since it is produced
282 by *Botrytis cinerea*'s metabolism (Cinquanta et al., 2015).

283

284 **3.3 Enological parameters in wine after fermentation**

285 After fermentation, wines from sulfited must reached an alcoholic strength of 10 % v/v
286 ethanol and about 9 % v/v in both the UHPH treatment and the untreated control, as
287 expected, according to the initial amount of sugars (**Table 2**). All fermentations finished
288 with very low levels of residual sugars (below 0.2 g/L). The concentrations of malic acid
289 (above 2 g/L) and the absence of lactic acid indicate that malolactic fermentation did not
290 occur. The low levels of acetic acid (0.2 g/L in UHPH and sulfited treatments) indicate
291 the purity of the alcoholic fermentation (Loira et al., 2014). However, in control
292 fermentation without SO₂, the values were a little higher than normal (**Table 2**), probably
293 because of the greater population of bacteria and non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts that remain
294 uncontrolled in absence of SO₂ (**Figures 1b and 2b**). This is a typical situation in
295 spontaneous fermentations with predominance of apiculate yeasts at the beginning of
296 fermentation (Fleet, 2003). The content of glycerol was higher in wines from sulfited
297 must because of the binding effect of SO₂ on acetaldehyde which delays its reduction to
298 ethanol and increases the production of glycerol (Wang, Zhuge, Fang, & Prior, 2001).

299

300 **3.4 Fermentation volatiles by GC-FID**

301 Sulfited wines showed the highest levels of volatile compounds (**Table 3**), mainly due to
302 the concentration of higher alcohols, which are undesirable because they normally
303 produce a winey aroma typical of low quality wines. Non-treated and especially UHPH-
304 processed wines had lower values of higher alcohols, allowing thus to show fruity or
305 varietal smells with better aromatic repercussion. Higher concentrations of esters can be
306 observed in wines from must processed by UHPH or untreated. These compounds
307 commonly produce fruity smells in wines and therefore increase the aromatic complexity.
308 Ethyl acetate is an ester that produces complexity but it can be defective at high

309 concentration. Normal values in wines are between 30-80 mg/L, but it produces spoilage
310 notes when present in concentrations higher than 150 mg/L (Zoecklein, Fugelsang,
311 Gump, & Nury, 1995). All techniques showed suitable values of ethyl acetate, but slightly
312 higher and with a bigger standard deviation in the wines from the untreated must,
313 probably because of the greater populations of bacteria and non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts.
314 Especially interesting were the values of isobutyl acetate and isoamyl acetate related to
315 fruits like pear and banana (Loira et al., 2015) that were undetected in the wines from the
316 sulfited must and with higher concentrations in the wines from the UHPH-treated must.
317 Similar behavior is showed by 2-phenylethyl acetate (rose petal smell) (Molina et al.,
318 2009) with higher concentrations in non-treated fermentations but also in UHPH
319 processed. In non-treated fermentations, the levels of volatile compounds can be favored
320 by the presence of non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts (Ciani, Comitini, Mannazzu, & Domizio,
321 2010; Viana, Belloch, Vallés, & Manzanares, 2011; Viana, Gil, Vallés, & Manzanares,
322 2009). Ethyl butyrate with fruity profile and ethyl lactate with toffee descriptors were also
323 found in higher concentrations in the wines obtained from the UHPH or non-treated
324 musts.

325 It is also remarkable that UHPH processed musts after fermentation showed a lower
326 concentration of hexanol than in the non-treated fermentations and especially in the
327 sulfited musts (**Table 3**). Hexanol is responsible for the herbaceous or grassy hints in
328 wine aroma (Peinado, Moreno, Bueno, Moreno, & Mauricio, 2004) which negatively
329 affect sensory quality. Concerning defective buttery notes, levels of acetoin were similar
330 in all fermentations regardless of the must treatment and within the suitable values.

331

332 **3.5. Enzymatic and antioxidant activity**

333 Enzymatic activities were measured in sulfited and UHPH-treated musts. A higher degree
334 of inactivation for PPO due to UHPH treatment was achieved compared to SO₂ must.
335 Considering 100 % of PPO activity the value given by sulfited must, UHPH sample
336 diminished up to 90 % their activity. Suárez-Jacobo et al., (2012) reported complete
337 inactivation of PPO in apple juice treated at 300 MPa. Grape juices containing PPO
338 enzymes are more prone to suffer oxidative reactions, trigger darkening reactions during
339 winemaking and thus decreasing the quality of the final wine (Hendrickx, Ludikhuyze,
340 Van den Broeck, & Weemaes, 1998).

341 Slight differences were found between sulfited and UHPH musts when determined
342 antioxidant activity by the FRAP assay. Sulfited samples reached values of 1.83 ± 0.36
343 mM of TE (Trolox Equivalents) while UHPH-treated must obtained 2.67 ± 0.41 mM of
344 TE. This indicated better antioxidant capacity in musts with UHPH treatment. The
345 antioxidant activity of a must or a wine is largely dependent on its phenolic content and
346 composition, as different compounds and their combinations exhibit varying degrees of
347 activity (Salaha, Kallithraka, Marmaras, Koussissi, & Tzourou, 2008). Although no
348 differences were observed in TPI data between must with SO₂ and UHPH-processed
349 (**Figure 4**), UHPH treatment could produce changes in the molecules of the matrix (amino
350 acids, peptides, sugars among others) that could affect this activity.

351 **3.6 Color, phenols and sensory evaluation**

352 Higher color intensity was measured in non-treated wine probably by browning oxidative
353 processes because of the absence of SO₂ (**Figure 4a**). As expected, the lowest values were
354 reached in the must processed with sulfites. UHPH wine showed intermediate values with
355 significant differences ($p < 0.05$) regarding non-treated and sulfited wine. No significant
356 differences were found in the tonality of all the wines (**Figure 4a**). Sulfited wine and

357 UHPH-processed wine showed similar values of TPI and a slightly higher value was
358 found in the untreated wine (**Figure 4b**). Higher values of hydroxycinnamic acids
359 (HCAs) were observed in UHPH wine and lower concentrations in untreated samples,
360 probably by the mechanical effect of UHPH processing. Maybe due to inactivation of
361 PPO by UHPH.

362 As for the sensory analysis, UHPH wine was better evaluated in global quality, but
363 especially in aromatic profile, and described as fruitier by the panelists than either
364 untreated or sulfite added wines (**Figure 5**). This is in accordance with the higher values
365 of esters found in UHPH wines (**Table 3**) compared to sulfited wines. Tasters were able
366 to detect lower color intensity in the sulfited wine. However, no significant differences
367 ($p < 0.05$) were detected in tonality between UHPH and sulfited wines in agreement with
368 the spectrophotometric analysis. The sulfited wine was described as more herbaceous
369 than either untreated or UHPH-processed wines, what is also in accordance with the
370 higher hexanol concentrations observed by GC-FID (**Table 3**). The untreated wine
371 showed higher reduction hints.

372

373 **4. Conclusions**

374 UHPH is a fast and effective technique to remove wild microorganisms in grape must
375 facilitating the implantation of yeast starters and the use of new biotechnologies such as
376 the sequential fermentations with non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts. Moreover, compared with
377 previous reported results, UHPH shows better effectiveness against lactic acid bacteria
378 than traditional HHP. The processed must can be fermented with lower sulfite levels.

379

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386

387 **Conflict of interest**

388 The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

389

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513

514 **Tables**

515

Table 1. Enological parameters of musts sulfited, processed by UHPH or untreated before fermentation. Values are means with standard deviations, n=3. Values with the same letter in the same row are not significantly different (p<0.05). Analyses were performed by FTIR.

	Must with SO₂	UHPH processed	Non treated
Sugars (g/L)	169.9 ± 1.1c	151.9 ± 0.3b	147.1 ± 2.2a
TSS (°Brix)	16.1 ± 0.2c	14.6 ± 0.1b	14.2 ± 0.2a
Total acidity (g/L)	5.9 ± 0.1a	6.6 ± 0.1b	6.5 ± 0.2b
pH	3.2 ± 0.0a	3.3 ± 0.0a	3.3 ± 0.0a
Volatile acidity (g/L)	0.1 ± 0.0b	0.1 ± 0.0b	0.0 ± 0.0a
α-amino N (mg/L)	149.9 ± 4.5a	192.3 ± 6.1b	196.8 ± 6.1b
Ammonia (mg/L)	112.6 ± 1.3a	167.4 ± 11.8b	173.4 ± 9.9b
Gluconic acid (g/L)	nd	nd	0.1 ± 0.1

nd: Not detected

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Table 2. Enological parameters of the wines produced from the musts sulfited, processed by UHPH or untreated. Values are means with standard deviations, n=3. Values with the same letter in the same row are not significantly different (p<0.05). Analysis of organic acids, residual sugars and glycerol were made by enzymatic tests. Ethanol was analyzed by LC-RID and pH with a pH-meter.

	Must with SO₂	UHPH processed	Non treated
Malic acid (g/L)	2.3 ± 0.0a	3.1 ± 0.0b	3.1 ± 0.0b
Lactic acid (g/L)	nd	nd	nd
Acetic acid (g/L)	0.2 ± 0.0a	0.2 ± 0.0a	0.6 ± 0.4a
Residual sugars (g/L)	0.1 ± 0.1a	0.2 ± 0.1a	0.1 ± 0.1a
Glycerol (g/L)	9.7 ± 0.1c	7.4 ± 0.1a	8.1 ± 0.1b
Ethanol (% v/v)	10.1 ± 0.1b	8.7 ± 0.1a	8.7 ± 0.1a
pH	3.1 ± 0.0a	3.1 ± 0.0a	3.1 ± 0.0a

nd: Not detected

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Table 3. Fermentative metabolites analyzed by GC-FID produced in musts sulfited, processed by UHPH or untreated after fermentation with *S. cerevisiae* (7VA). Values are means with standard deviations, n=3. Values with the same letter in the same row are not significantly different (p<0.05). Concentrations in mg/L.

	Must with SO ₂	UHPH processed	Non treated
Acetaldehyde	94.43 ± 19.94b	32.89 ± 3.18a	29.92 ± 8.72a
Diacetyl	nd	nd	nd
Acetoin	8.05 ± 0.46a	7.82 ± 0.59a	8.65 ± 1.21a
Methanol	52.86 ± 0.85b	31.30 ± 4.34a	32.68 ± 0.95a
1-Propanol	26.20 ± 0.54a	42.40 ± 3.45c	36.33 ± 0.63b
2-Butanol	nd	nd	nd
Isobutanol	79.88 ± 3.11c	62.27 ± 3.79b	55.91 ± 2.25a
1-Butanol	nd	4.01 ± 0.08	nd
2-Methyl-1-butanol	270.15 ± 9.79c	87.04 ± 4.52a	132.07 ± 0.64b
3-Methyl-1-butanol	68.61 ± 2.04c	22.48 ± 0.53a	30.22 ± 1.01b
Hexanol	7.41 ± 0.11c	5.01 ± 0.63a	6.03 ± 0.32b
2-Phenyl ethanol	49.58 ± 2.89c	22.64 ± 1.95a	27.91 ± 0.46b
2,3 butanediol	466.30 ± 3.17c	383.77 ± 17.16b	344.38 ± 5.39a
Ethyl acetate	27.62 ± 0.88a	61.24 ± 2.84b	69.56 ± 10.78b
Isoamyl acetate	nd	5.05 ± 0.25a	5.25 ± 0.90a
Isobutyl acetate	nd	1.25 ± 0.04a	0.85 ± 0.74a
Ethyl butyrate	nd	1.59 ± 0.05a	1.54 ± 0.01a
Ethyl lactate	4.21 ± 3.65a	6.33 ± 0.09a	6.27 ± 0.14a
2-Phenylethyl acetate	nd	5.52 ± 0.06b	5.37 ± 0.09a
Higher alcohols	501.84 ± 18.24c	245.85 ± 8.59a	288.48 ± 1.00b
Esters	31.84 ± 3.72a	80.98 ± 2.71b	88.84 ± 9.22b
Total volatiles	1,155.32 ± 36.33b	782.61 ± 24.45a	792.96 ± 11.64a

nd: Not detected

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531 **Figure captions**

532 **Figure 1.** Wild yeast counts in musts sulfited, processed by UHPH or untreated before
533 fermentation (A) and 9 days after the beginning of fermentation (B). In B, the observed
534 yeasts are wild species together with the inoculated *S. cerevisiae*. Plating media used were
535 GCA for total yeasts and fungus, Lysine media for non-*Saccharomyces* yeasts. Values
536 are means with SD of 3 independent fermentations. Different letters indicate significant
537 differences between means ($p < 0.05$). nd: not detected, LOD 10 CFU/mL.

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539 **Figure 2.** Wild bacteria counts in musts sulfited, processed by UHPH or untreated before
540 fermentation (A) and 9 days after the beginning of fermentation (B). Plating media used
541 were PCA for aerobic bacteria, and MRS for lactic acid bacteria. Values are means with
542 SD of 3 independent fermentations. Different letters indicate significant differences
543 between means ($p < 0.05$). nd: not detected, LOD 1 CFU/mL.

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545 **Figure 3.** Fermentation kinetics in the musts that were sulfited, processed by UHPH or
546 untreated when evolved under fermentation by grape wild population without yeast
547 inoculation. Values are means with SD of 3 independent fermentations. Fermentation
548 evolution was represented by ethanol formed (% v/v) calculated from the CO₂ losses.

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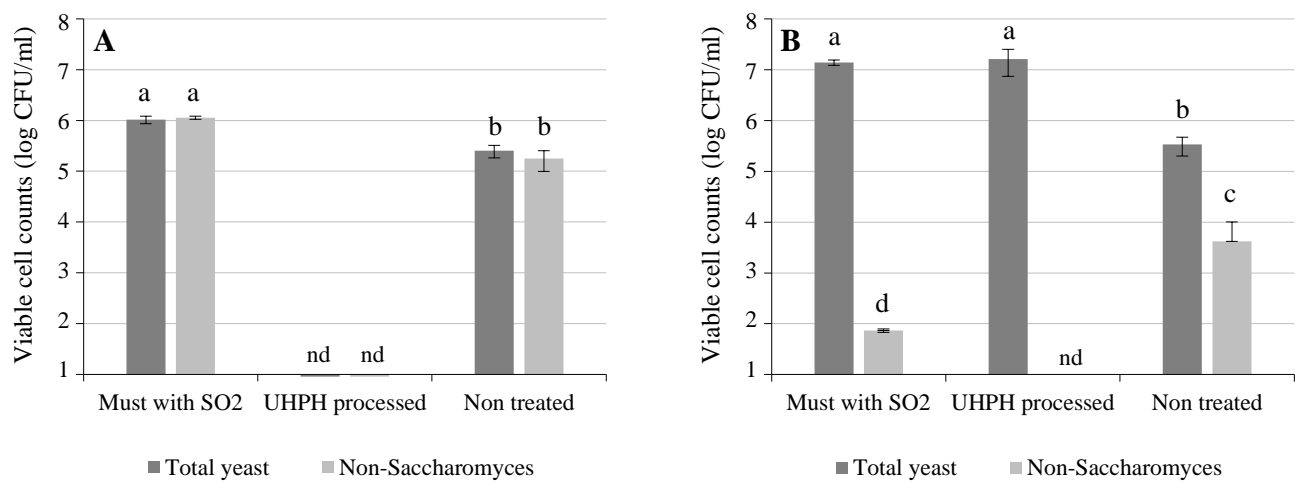
550 **Figure 4. A.** Wine color intensity and hue after fermentation of the musts sulfited,
551 processed by UHPH or untreated. **B.** Total polyphenol index (TPI) and hydroxycinnamic
552 acid index after fermentation of the musts sulfited, processed by UHPH or untreated.

553 Values are means with SD of 3 independent fermentations. Bars of the same parameter
554 with the same letter are not significantly different ($p < 0.05$).

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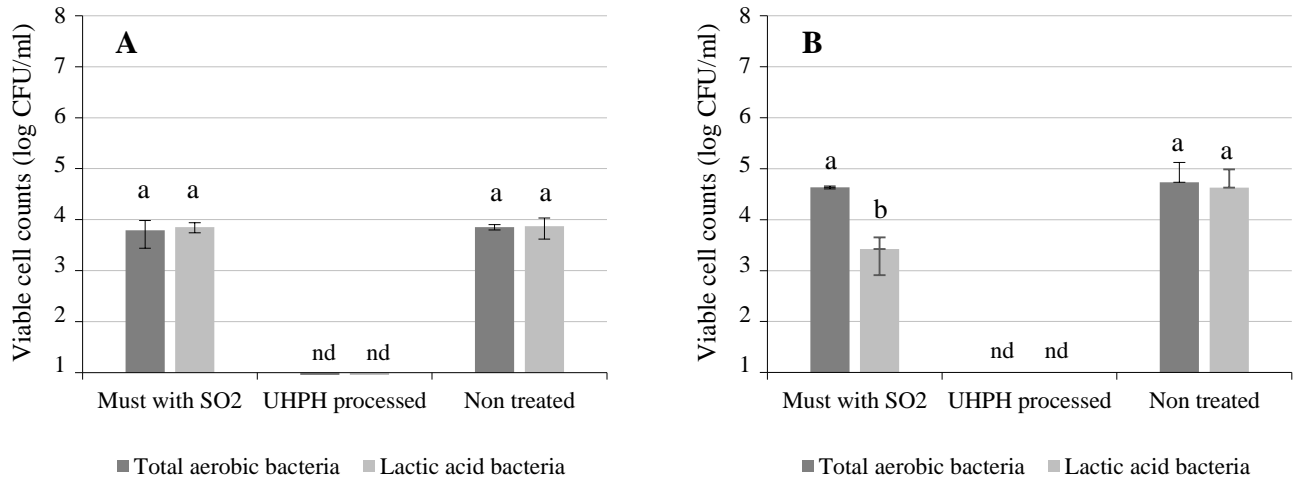
556 **Figure 5.** Sensory analysis of the wines made from the musts that were sulfited, processed
557 by UHPH or untreated. Values are means of 9 tasters. Means in the same axes with the
558 same letter are not significantly different ($p < 0.05$).

559 **Figure 1.**



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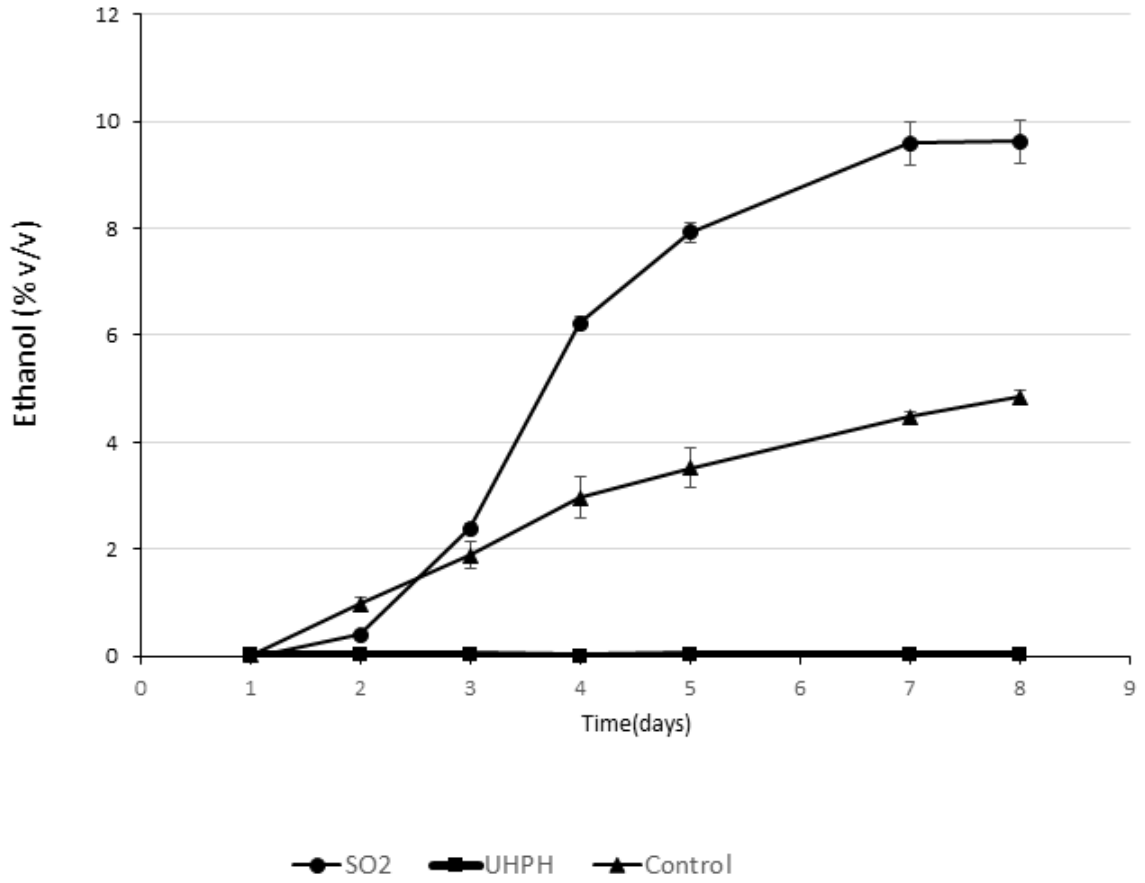


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565 **Figure 3.**

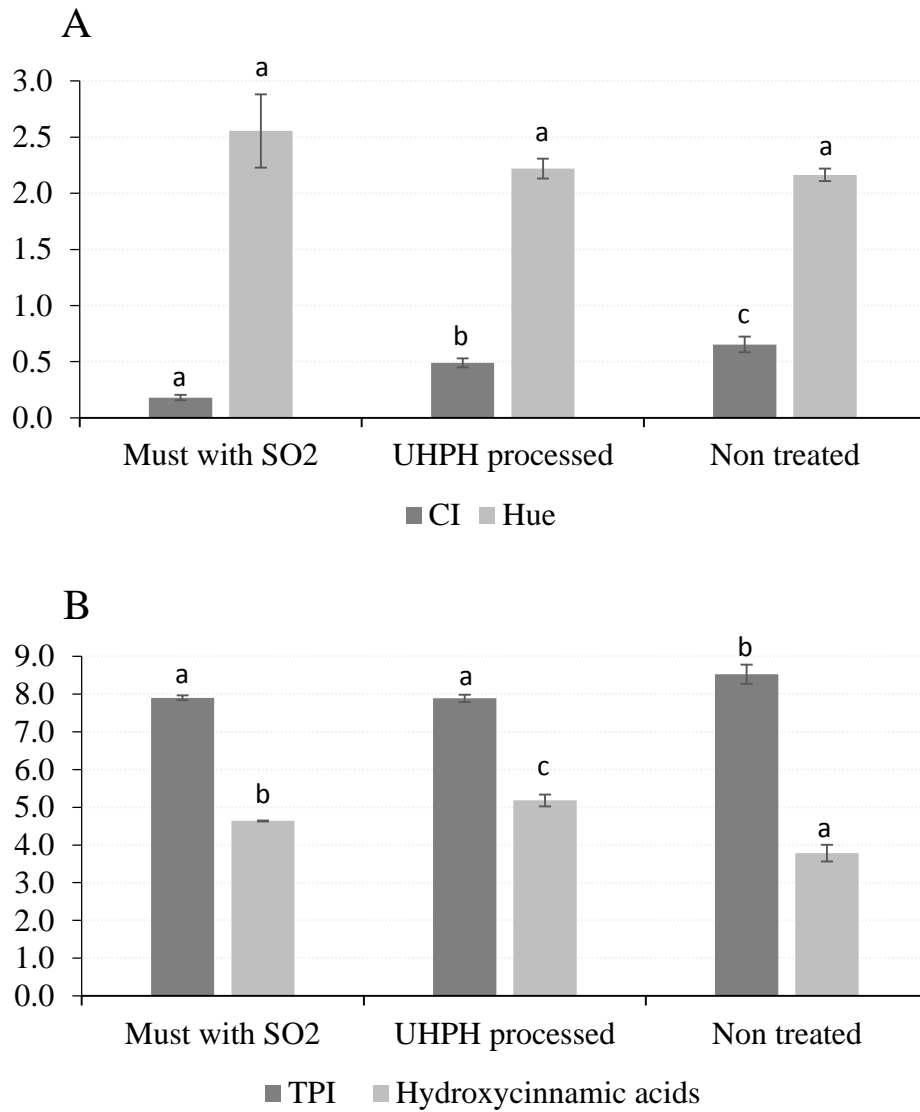
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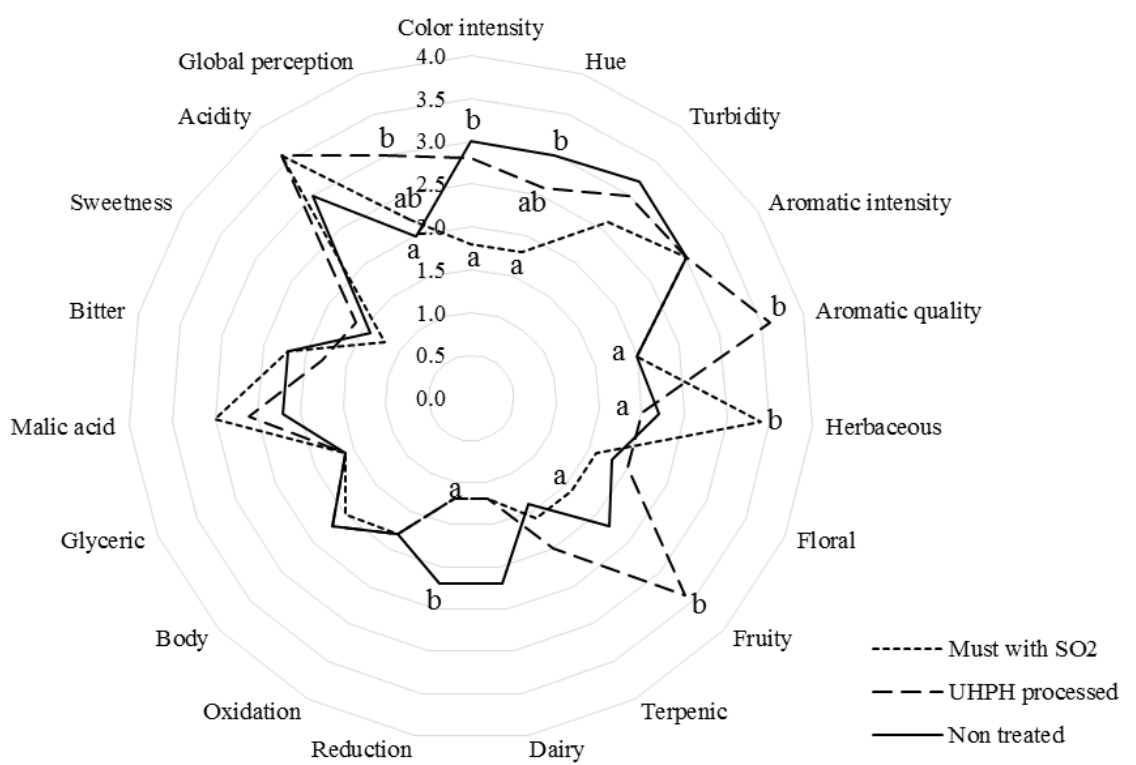
569 **Figure 4.**



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572 **Figure 5.**



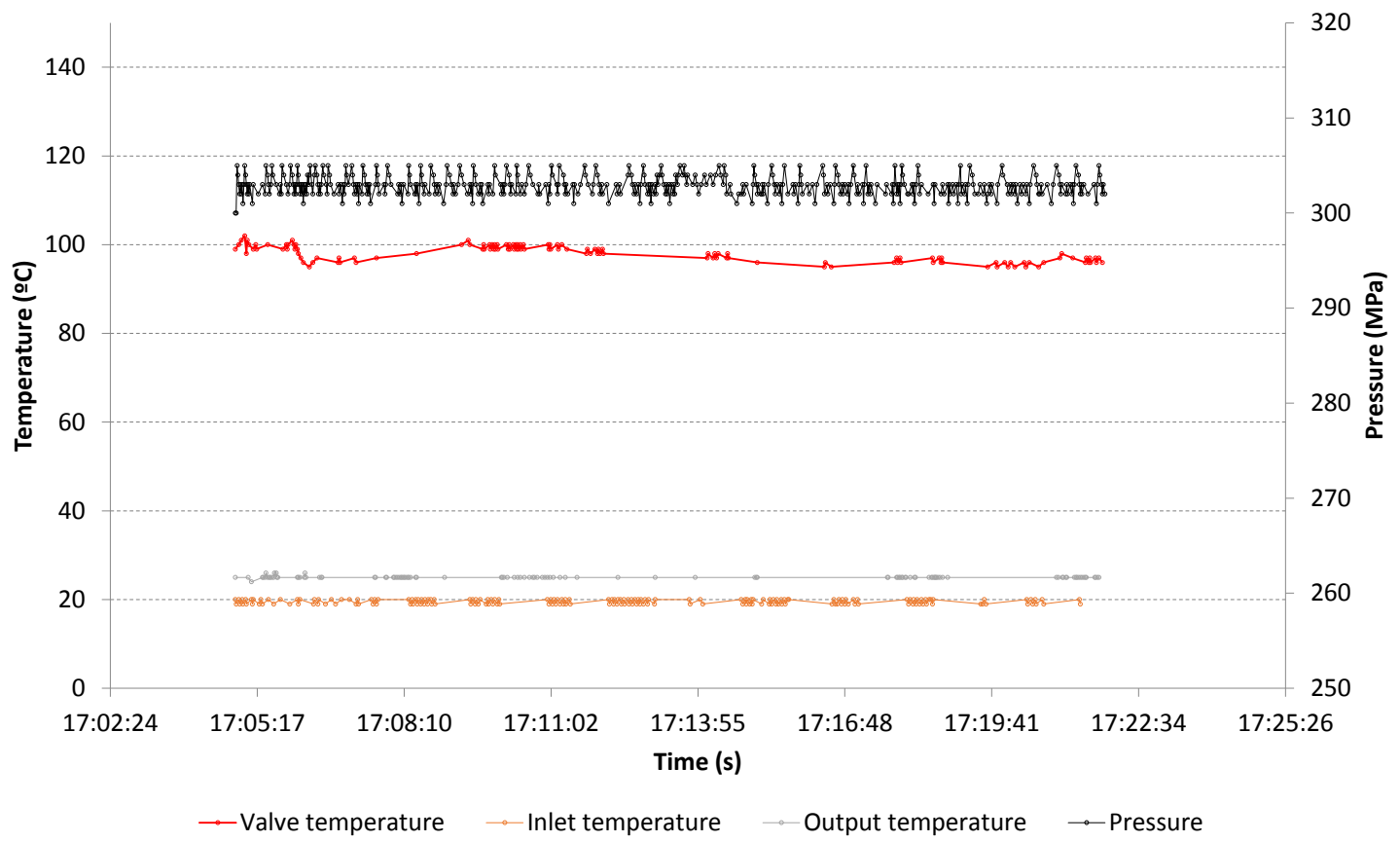
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576 **Supplementary Figure**

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579 Temperature (°C) and pressure (MPa) in the valve during the process

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