

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

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1	Quantitative fingerprinting by headspace - two-dimensional comprehensive gas
2	chromatography - mass spectrometry of solid matrices:
3	some challenging aspects of the exhaustive assessment of food volatiles
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Abstract

The study proposes an investigation strategy that simultaneously provides detailed profiling and quantitative fingerprinting of food volatiles, through a "comprehensive" analytical platform that includes sample preparation by Head Space Solid Phase Microextraction (HS-SPME), separation by two-dimensional comprehensive gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry detection (GC×GC-MS) and data processing using advanced fingerprinting approaches.

Experiments were carried out on roasted hazelnuts and on *Gianduja* pastes (sugar, vegetable oil, hazelnuts, cocoa, nonfat dried milk, vanilla flavorings) and demonstrated that the information potential of each analysis can better be exploited if suitable quantitation methods are applied. Quantitation approaches through Multiple Headspace Extraction and Standard Addition were compared in terms of performance parameters (linearity, precision, accuracy, Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantitation) under headspace linearity conditions. The results on 19 key analytes, potent odorants, and technological markers, and more than 300 fingerprint components, were used for further processing to obtain information concerning the effect of the matrix on volatile release, and to produce an informative chemical blueprint for use in sensomics and flavoromics. The importance of quantitation approaches in headspace analysis of solid matrices of complex composition, and the advantages of MHE, are also critically discussed.

KEY-WORDS

- two-dimensional comprehensive gas chromatography-mass spectrometry , multiple headspace extraction,
- 38 quantitative fingerprinting, sensomics, Corylus avellana L., detailed profiling

1. INTRODUCTION

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The detailed profiling of volatiles from food is informative, not only to assess botanical and geographical origins, but also to classify and qualify samples on the basis of sensory profile (aroma and taste), technological impact or, more in general, quality attributes [1-4]. However, the volatile fraction of foods of plant origin is often a complex mixture of chemicals already present in the raw matrix, and compounds whose formation is mainly due to a number of reactions, primarily those promoted by thermal treatments (i.e., Maillard reaction, Strecker's degradation of amines, thermal degradation of carbohydrates) and/or enzymatic catalysis (i.e., oxidation, hydrolysis, fermentation, etc.). In addition, common pathways underlying the formation of these compounds lead to components having similar physicochemical properties (volatility and polarity); this is challenging for one-dimensional gas chromatographic separation (1D-GC), not least because some components present poorly-diagnostic MS fragmentation patterns, limiting the effectiveness of EI-MS in providing univocal component identification. In this context, headspace sampling on-line combined with two-dimensional GC-MS can be a successful platform to overcome these limits thanks to the orthogonality of the involved techniques. In particular, headspace-solid phase microextraction (HS-SPME) and two-dimensional gas chromatographic separation (GC×GC) enable to sample and separate volatiles (including aroma active compounds) on the basis of their physicochemical properties (volatility, polarity, partition coefficient, solubility, etc.) while mass spectroscopy (MS) enables reliable identification (exact mass assignment, fragmentation pattern, multiple reaction monitoring), as well as quantitation (true concentration and/or relative abundance). Such a strategy can provide for reliable and detailed profiling (untargeted and targeted) and fingerprinting of the volatile fraction from food [5]. However, to the best of the authors' knowledge, little has been done to develop comprehensive approaches to exploit the full information potential of multidimensional techniques, in terms of both qualitative distribution of volatiles, and quantitative determination of key compounds related to food sensory properties or technological treatments. In the light of this deficiency, the present paper reports and critically discusses the possibility of carrying out detailed profiling and quantitative fingerprinting simultaneously, through the well-known investigation approaches typical of the

"omics" disciplines, on a complex thermally-processed solid food matrix of vegetable origin [6-10], i.e., roasted hazelnuts from different botanical and geographical origins, and a food end-product, *Gianduja* paste, consisting of hazelnuts, cocoa and other ingredients (sugar, nonfat dry milk, and fats of vegetable origin). An analytical strategy is proposed for profiling the volatile fraction sampled by headspace solid phase microextraction (HS-SPME) and quantifying selected target analytes of the investigated matrices, whose aroma profiles are characterized by a peculiar distribution of key odorants (aroma blueprint),

In particular, the effectiveness of two quantitation approaches (Standard Addition–SA, and Multiple Headspace Extraction-MHE) was evaluated by validating method performance parameters (accuracy, precision, limit of quantitation-LOQ and limit of detection-LOD) and examining the informative potential of GC×GC-MS results; information was also derived on odorant release from the sample. The performance of the two approaches was examined in terms of providing a detailed profile of targeted and untargeted features of the complete pattern of the volatiles analyzed, through the number of reliably matched features and the target analytes undetectable when headspace linearity conditions are adopted.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Reference compounds and solvents

Pure reference compounds for quantitative determinations were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Milan, Italy); these are listed in **Table 1**, together with their CAS Registry Number, purity, Target Ion (Ti) and Qualifiers (Q1 and Q2) adopted for quantitation. The homologue series of n-alkanes (from n-C9 to n-C25) for Linear Retention Index (I^{T}_{s}) determination were also from Sigma-Aldrich (Milan, Italy). Solvents were all HPLC-grade, from Riedel-de Haen (Seelze, Germany).

2.2 Reference solutions and calibration mixtures

Standard stock solutions at 1 μ g/mL, containing pure reference compounds, were prepared in dibutyl phtalate (DBP) and stored in a sealed vial at -18°C. Standard spiking solutions, to be adopted for standard addition and external standard calibration, were prepared by diluting standard stock solutions in DBP at final concentrations of 10, 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 ng/mL for all analytes, with some exceptions, where

further dilutions (150, 200 and 250 ng/mL) were included to cover the real-world samples concentration interval (cf. **Table 1**) and in order to avoid any headspace formation. Standard spiking solutions were stored at -18°C.

For MHE external calibration, a series of calibrating solutions in cyclohexane was also prepared to obtain full evaporation of reference compounds [11] in order to estimate the contribution made by the analyte partition coefficient (*K*) between solvent (i.e. DBP) or matrix, and headspace in the sampling conditions.

2.3 Hazelnut samples and Gianduja paste

Raw hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana* L.) from the 2011 harvest, with a selected caliber of 12-13 mm, were kindly supplied by Ferrero S.p.A. (Alba-CN, Italy). Samples included the mono-cultivar named *Tonda Gentile Trilobata* (*TGT*), also known as Nocciola del Piemonte (EU Quality registration code IT/PGI/0217/0305), and a Turkish blend harvested in the Ordu region made up different cultivars: *Tombul, Palaz and Kalinkara*.

Samples were roasted in a lab scale ventilated oven, using standardized protocols [4] for mild (170°C for 20 minutes – *170-20*) and medium roasting (170°C for 35 minutes – *170-35*) compatible respectively with the preparation of confectionary and ice-cream topping, or of hazelnut paste. Roasting was conducted in two replicate batches (batch #1 and #2) and samples immediately analyzed to avoid any possible variation due to the release of highly volatile compounds or to shelf-life degradation. Hazelnuts were frozen before milling, using liquid nitrogen, to ensure homogeneous particle size distribution. *Gianduja* paste samples (ingredients: sugar, vegetable oil, hazelnuts, cocoa, nonfat milk, vanilla flavorings) were from two manufactures; Samples#1 to #4 were different formulations of the same product, while

2.4 Headspace Solid Phase Microextraction (HS-SPME) devices and sampling conditions

117 SPME sampling devices and fibers were from Supelco (Bellefonte, PA, USA). A
118 Divinylbenzene/Carboxen/Polydimethylsiloxane d_f 50/30 μm, 2 cm long fiber was chosen, and conditioned
119 before use as recommended by the manufacturer.

Sample preparation varied depending on the approach adopted for quantification (SA or MHE) and was applied to different amounts of ground material, up to the appropriate amount for correct quantification (from 1.500 g to 0.100 g) that is 0.100 g, to achieve headspace linearity for target analytes.

In particular, for SA quantification, aliquots of 0.100 grams of ground hazelnuts were sealed in a 20 mL headspace vial and spiked with suitable volumes of standard spiking solutions for each calibration level (cf. **Table 1**). Before extraction, the vial was vortexed for 60 seconds in a Whirlimixer (Fisons- CE Instruments Rodano – Milan Italy) to homogenize the sample. The fiber was then exposed to the headspace for 20 minutes at 50°C before analysis.

For MHE quantification carried out with the External Standard approach, aliquots of 0.100 grams of ground hazelnuts were sealed in a 20 mL headspace vial and submitted to multiple consecutive extractions (up to four times) exposing the fiber to the headspace for 20 minutes at 50°C before analysis. MHE external calibration was run on suitable volumes of standard spiking solutions at different concentration levels (cf.

Table 1) and submitting the resulting sample to multiple consecutive extractions (up to four times) before

2.5 GC×GC-MS instrument set-up

sampling (20 minutes at 50°C) and analysis.

GC×GC analyses were run on an Agilent 6890 GC unit coupled with an Agilent 5975C MS detector operating in EI mode at 70 eV (Agilent, Little Falls, DE, USA). The transfer line was set to 260° C. A *Standard Tune* was used and the scan range was set to m/z 35-240 with a scanning rate of 10,000 amu/s, to obtain an appropriate number of data points for the reliable identification and quantitation of each chromatographic peak. The system was provided with a two-stage KT 2004 loop thermal modulator (Zoex Corporation, Houston, TX) cooled with liquid nitrogen; the hot jet pulse time was set at 250 ms with a modulation time of 4 s, adopted for all experiments. Fused silica capillary loop dimensions were 1.0 m length and 100 μ m inner diameter. The column set was configured as follows: 1 D SolGel-Wax column (100% polyethylene glycol) (30 m × 0.25 mm d_o, 0.25 μ m d_f) coupled with a 2 D OV1701 column (86% polydimethylsiloxane, 7% phenyl, 7% cyanopropyl) (1 m × 0.1 mm d_c, 0.10 μ m d_f). The 1 D Column was from SGE (Melbourne, Australia) whereas the 2 D column was from Mega (Legnano, Milan, Italy).

The determination of the Linear Retention Indexes (I_s) on the first dimension was achieved by injecting 2 micro liters of the *n*-alkanes solution into the GC instrument with an Agilent ALS 7683B injection system. The conditions used were the following: split/splitless injector, split mode, split ratio 1:50, injector temperature 260°C. Analytes were thermally desorbed from the SPME fiber into the GC injector for 10 min under the following conditions: split/splitless in split mode, split ratio 1:20, injector temperature 260°C. The carrier gas was helium, at a constant flow rate of 0.7 mL/min (initial head pressure 260 KPa). The oven temperature program was: 50°C (1 min) to 170°C at 2.0°C/min and to 260°C at 50°C/min (10 min).

Data were acquired by an Agilent MSD ChemStation version D.02.00.275 and processed using GC Image GC×GC Software version 2.1b1 (GC Image, LLC Lincoln NE, USA).

2.6 HS-SPME-GC×GC-MS validation

Method validation was run on a three-week protocol, over three-months, and the following parameters were characterized: precision, linearity, accuracy, Limit of Detection (LOD) and Limit of Quantitation (LOQ). Precision data (intra and inter-week precision on retention times and 2D Peak Volumes on analytes *Ti*) were evaluated by replicating analyses during three months, while linearity was assessed through linear regression analyses within the working range, over at least six different concentration levels and for each quantification approach (i.e., SA and MHE). Experimental results on linearity assessment are in **Table 1** (calibration ranges referred to analytes concentration in the matrix, regression curves and Determination Coefficients R²); precision is expressed as RSD% on analytes concentration, and is reported as Uncertainty % in **Table 1**. Accuracy was assessed by cross-comparison of quantitative results obtained by SA and MHE (correlation function) and through the absolute error.

The Limit of Quantification (LOQ) was determined experimentally by analyzing decreasing concentrations of standard calibrating solutions in DBP by the MHE approach; each sample was analyzed in triplicate, and the LOQ was the lowest concentration for which instrumental response (2D Peak Volume on *Ti*) reported an RSD%, across replicate analyses, of below 30 %; for the Limit of Determination (LOD) the minimum

acceptable RSD% was set at 40%. LOD and LOQ are also reported in Table 1.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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3.1 Quantitation challenges in headspace analysis

The number of volatiles effectively contributing to the aroma of a food, i.e. the key odorants, is relatively small, and complex analytical procedures are required to detect, identify, and quantify odor-active components occurring at trace levels, in some cases below pg/g [12]. Exhaustive, classical approaches based on liquid-liquid extraction, or more effective processes such as Solvent Assisted Flavour Evaporation (SAFE), closely meet the needs of fundamental studies to isolate-identify-quantify key odorants [13], but they are not compatible with high-throughput screenings, detailed profiling, and fast fingerprinting. Headspace sampling (HS) plays a crucial role in this respect because it enables volatiles to be recovered from the vapor phase, in equilibrium (or not) with the condensed (solid or liquid) phase of a sample, in a process based on analytes' partition coefficients between matrix and vapor phase [11] and to analyze them directly and on-line by GC×GC. HS performance can be implemented with the so-called High Concentration Capacity Headspace Techniques (HCC-HS) [14], which are the elective route to satisfy headspace sampling throughput and automation requirements, and that are useful to increase selectivity and sensitivity by selecting appropriate sorbents/adsorbents suitable for the application need. In particular, Solid Phase Microextraction (HS-SPME) [15] is the most widely-used HCC-HS technique; it is based on multiple equilibria that are predictable, provided that a suitable number of analyte physicochemical constants are known; it is also easy to standardize and to combine on-line or off-line with the separation system. Although quantitation by HS techniques is of great interest, only a limited number of food-volatile profiling applications report data based on true quantitation [16-19], the common practice being cross-sample comparisons through relative quantitation, based on Peak Area %, 2D Peak Volume % or Internal Standard normalization. Although accepted by the scientific community for several application fields, these approaches may result inaccurate [20,21] and misleading, if the aim of profiling and fingerprinting is to correlate chemical composition and sensory properties, or process kinetics [9]. This consideration is of special significance when a solid matrix is investigated.

The following sections will present some practical aspects of HS-SPME-GC×GC-MS quantitative chemical profiling based on Multiple Headspace Extraction and on Standard Addition, together with a critical discussion of the advantages, limits and versatility of each approach, in terms of the usability of data for additional investigations based on an extended profiling of targeted and untargeted sample features.

3.2 Quantitation strategies: experimental approach and data handling

Two different approaches were evaluated and their performance parameters compared, taking into consideration the challenging aspects of HS quantitation with solid samples, and the need to perform detailed (untargeted and targeted) profiling and accurate targeted quantitation, contemporarily.

Standard Addition is a well-established approach, and was taken as reference technique for comparative purposes, while Multiple Headspace Extraction, now receiving increasing attention in the food analysis field [17,22-24], was chosen for its ability to provide rapid, reliable, and consistent quantitation of analytes, in both matrix and the related headspace.

Quantitation was performed on a series of analytes present in the hazelnut volatile fraction, which are highly informative for the aroma profile [25] and/or to qualify roasting treatment [2,26]. Nineteen analytes were investigated: 2,3-pentanedione, hexanal, 1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole, heptanal, pyridine, 2-methylpyrazine, 3-hydroxy-2-butanone, octanal, 5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one (filbertone), nonanal, (E)-2-octenal, 3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine, furfural, 2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine, phenylacetaldehyde, (E)-2-decenal, 3-

3.2.1 Standard Addition by HS-SPME-GC×GC-MS

methylbutanoic acid, 2-phenylethanol, and acetylpyrrole.

The standard addition procedure, widely used in headspace quantitation, consists of a series of experiments in which the original sample, and a suitable number (at least six concentration levels) of aliquots of the sample spiked with increasing and known amounts of reference compounds, are submitted to the analytical process.

When using the single addition method, the analyte concentration in the sample can be estimated from

Equation 1:

 $A_{(0+a)} = (A_0 / W_0) W_a + A_0$ Eq.1

where: W_0 is the amount of analyte in the matrix, W_a the amount of analyte added to the sample, A_0 the instrumental response obtained from analysis of the original sample, and $A_{(0+a)}$ the instrumental response of the analyte obtained from analysis of the spiked sample.

A preferable method, which was applied in this study, includes multiple standard additions, up to 6 levels; in this case, a linear regression analysis evaluates the terms W_a and $A_{(0+a)}$ so that the amount of analyte in the matrix (W_0) is given by the ratio between the intercept and the slope:

 $b/a = A_0/(A_0/W_0)$ Eq. 2

SA is a quantitation approach that can be carried out in different ways: (a) by spiking the target analyte(s), in a gaseous state, into the sample headspace (Gas Phase Addition - GPA); (b) by spiking the analyte(s) dissolved in a suitable solvent, directly onto the sample (Sample Phase Addition - SPA) or (c) by spiking the stable-isotope-labeled analyte(s) dissolved in a suitable solvent (Stable Isotope Dilution Analysis - SIDA) onto the sample. This study adopted the Sample Phase Addition protocol, as being suitable for its ease of implementation and automation, and its cost, despite its limits with solid matrix samples (ground hazelnuts) and the resulting well-known matrix effect. In particular, the selection of an appropriate solvent for spiking solutions, and the possibility to suspend ground particles in water to minimize concurrent adsorption/sorption of analytes, were investigated. A series of experiments (data not shown) indicated that dibutyl phtalate (DBP) guarantees full solubilization of all the target analytes, homogeneous dispersion of the spiked volumes, and absence of interfering compounds, that were detected in the other lipophilic media tested (sunflower oil and degassed oleic fraction of vegetable fats).

3.2.2 Multiple Headspace Extraction by HS-SPME-GC×GC-MS

MHE was applied as External Standard quantitation approach; it consists of two experimental steps:

(a) exhaustive extraction of representative samples and method calibration, and (b) real-world sample analysis. The first step aims to define a cumulative instrumental response function, through a series of repeated and consecutive extractions of appropriate amounts of the same sample from the headspace, up to complete (exhaustive) extraction of the analytes under study.

The analyte peak area/volume decreases exponentially with the number of extractions, while the partition coefficient (K) between the matrix and the headspace remains constant, provided headspace linearity is achieved [11]. The sum of the areas from each extraction step corresponds to the total area (A_T) of the analyte originally present in the matrix. The cumulative instrumental response is obtained from **Equation 3**:

$$A_T = \sum_{i=1}^{-\infty} A_i = A_1 \frac{1}{\left(1 - e^{-q}\right)} = \frac{A_1}{\left(1 - \beta\right)}$$
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where A_T is the total estimated area, A_1 is the area detected after the first extraction, and q is a constant describing the exponential decay of the area with successive extractions. The term q can be obtained by plotting the logarithm of chromatographic areas as a function of the number of extractions. From this, a linear regression equation can be calculated as y=ax+b, where $y=\ln A_i$, x=(i-1), b is the intercept on the y axis, and *a* is the slope. The value of β is in general constant (or, at least, within an acceptable range fixed a priori) for each quantified analyte, if calculated in a series of relatively homogeneous representative samples of the same matrix, i.e. samples showing comparable matrix effect [24 and references cited therein]. The same procedure, repeated in parallel with a standard mixture at different known concentrations (six calibration points covering the expected concentration range in the sample), enables an external calibration curve to be built up. Under these conditions, the calibration curve can be used to determine the analyte amount in the sample, from its area obtained from a single analysis. The second step, application of MHE to real-world samples of the same matrix, does not require further experiments, unless different matrix effects from those of the representative samples used in the training set (resulting in different θ values) are produced. Experiments on hazelnuts from different geographical origins and that had undergone different thermal processing showed that they had comparable matrix effects, resulting in a very limited dispersion of β values (Table 2), as expected on the basis of the distribution of primary and secondary metabolites in the nuts (lipids, proteins, soluble carbohydrates and fiber). The same applied to Gianduja paste from different manufacturers, although, as expected, they were different from that of ground hazelnuts (Table 3). This difference is negligible in term of quantitation accuracy with the MHE approach, but it is a limit for SA on

solids, where partition/equilibration of spiked analytes takes time and requires appropriate homogenization and equilibration before sampling, prior to calibration.

The following paragraphs report quantitative results and method performance parameters, while critically discussing the potentials and limits of each approach from the perspective of exhaustive volatiles assessment (profiling and fingerprinting).

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3.3 Quantitation Results

Table 4 summarizes quantitation results, obtained by MHE, on key odorants and technological markers for hazelnuts (Tonda Gentile and Ordu) at two commercially-applied degrees of roasting, while Table 5 reports results for Gianduja paste with different formulations (Samples #1 to #4) and manufacturers (Samples #1-4 and #5); data are expressed as ng/g in the original product. The results on hazelnuts, from both approaches, are consistent with those recently published by Kiefl et al [27], which were obtained with a well-established technique, i.e. Stable Isotope Dilution Analysis (a Standard Addition approach) on Solvent Assisted Flavor Evaporation extracts from hazelnut. Mild roasting produces lower concentrations of both key odorants and technological markers, and different cultivars perform differently, as was expected on the basis of previous studies [28]. Roasting markers (3hydroxy-2-butanone and furfural) required an extended calibration interval, while several key odorants in mildly roasted products fell below the method LOQ ((E)-2-octenal and (E)-2-decenal). For Gianduja paste, the results are relatively uniform, the first four samples being formulation tests from the same manufacturer, with minimal changes in the main ingredients (sugar, fats of vegetable origin, hazelnut paste, cocoa, nonfat dry milk), while Sample #5 was a commercial product (made by a different manufacturer) purchased in a local supermarket. The distribution of analytes consistently followed the profile of roasted hazelnuts, although with marked differences due to their concurrent presence in the other ingredients, such as cocoa, fats and vanilla flavoring. Several observations can be drawn from the method performance parameters. Firstly, both SA and MHE

methods showed good consistency in quantification results between roasting batches (#1 and #2) (data not

shown), confirming that lab-scale roasting is reproducible and provides consistent results for model studies

[4]. Secondly, MHE performs better than SA in terms of precision; Relative Standard Deviation % (RSD %) on replicated determinations (n=3) over the two batches (for a total of six quantifications) remain below 20% with few exceptions (50.5 % for hexanal in Ordu 170-35 and 36.7 % for the 2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine in Ordu 170-20). One-Way ANOVA, applied to the quantitative results for the two batches from three replicate extractions for MHE, or spiked aliquots for SA, showed (95% interval of confidence) that a single cumulative RSD% value can be adopted to describe intermediate precision as major contributor to quantitation uncertainty (reported as Relative Uncertainty % for each method in Table 1). Linearity was evaluated by running multiple extractions (in triplicate) on increasing concentrations of analyte standard calibrating solutions in DBP, within the working interval (MHE), and on spiked aliquots (in triplicate) of roasted hazelnuts (SA). The average values of instrumental response (expressed as Ti Normalized Peak Volume) recorded over at least six calibration levels were used for linear regression analyses, and linearity was evaluated by calculating the coefficient of determination (R²). Results referred to the Ordu 170-35 sample for SA, and to the cumulative response of calibrating solutions in DBP within the working interval for MHE, are reported in Table 1 and show very good linearity, with an average R² value of 0.975 for SA, and 0.978 for MHE. Accuracy was verified by regression analyses on quantitative data obtained by SA and MHE, results for selected samples (TGT 170-35 and Ordu 170-35) are shown in **Figure 1** and indicate appropriate performances (R^2 = 0.966). There was an increased quantification error for linear aldehydes, (E)-2-octenal and (E)-2-decenal, and furfural, due to greater dispersion of the results (RSD above 25%) from SA. These exceptions were expected, because of the critical re-equilibration of spiked aldehyde standards, also reported in other studies [23]; for furfural, the quantification error in SA was caused by its wide concentration range in the samples studied.

3.4 Additional information provided by Multiple Headspace Extraction

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The quali-quantitative composition of the vapor phase that reaches the *regio olfactoria* through retronasal and/or orthonasal pathways is extremely informative of the sensory characteristics of a food. This is confirmed by the ever-increasing interest in developing fast, non-invasive, sensitive, and highly specific methods for monitoring volatiles in real-time, during food consumption [29,30]. Conversely, recent studies

on wine aroma [23] report significant differences in liquid-gas transfer rates of key odorants from wines, which exert different matrix effects due to their specific compositions. For instance, the presence of sulfur dioxide decreases the release of carbonyl compounds, while polyphenols and tannins may reduce the gasphase distribution of alcohols [23]. In this respect, a suitable investigation strategy is necessary to establish the absolute concentration of key analytes, both in the matrix itself and in the headspace, to reveal the aroma and the technological blueprint of a product [31]. Multiple Headspace Extraction offers the possibility to evaluate both aspects contemporarily; β values and the logarithmic decrease of analyte chromatographic area, along with successive extraction steps, provide information about their relative release into the headspace and their distribution in the solid matrix. Figure 2 shows the different behaviors of three key odorants:5-methyl-(E)-hepten-4-one (filbertone), 2ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine and 2-phenylethanol. The graph is based on equal terms of cumulative response (A_7) , arbitrarily fixed at 100 counts for comparative purposes. The red and black lines depict the logarithmic decay of analytes from calibration solutions in DBP-red and in cyclohexane-black (corresponding to calibrants in the gas phase approach); filbertone apparently does not present significant partition with DBP, whereas partition for 2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine and for 2-phenylethanol were significant. The blue and green lines indicate analyte behavior in hazelnuts and in the Gianduja paste; in this case, a comparable matrix effect is evident (β values are close to one another) with a general tendency of the matrix to retain analytes (higher partition coefficients), delaying their release into the headspace. As recently shown by Ferreira et al. [23], MHE enables the pseudo distribution constant (K) to be estimated, giving analyte mass ratio between headspace (C_G) and condensed-phase (C_O), and thus providing a quantitative indication of the average compound mass transferred to volume units of headspace per concentration unit of compound remaining in the condensed phase. This information can be useful to evaluate the different release rates of key odorants from food formulae that differ for their actual matrix effect and/or to optimize doses of flavorings. In the present study, interesting evidence was revealed by comparing β values of a set of analytes from different matrices (real-world samples, DBP and cyclohexane) at the same temperature and headspace volume. Within the selected targets, less volatile analytes with vapor pressure values below unity (i.e. 2-

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ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine, 3-methylbutanoic acid, (E)-2-octenal, nonanal, phenylacetaldehyde, acetylpyrrole, 2-phenylethanol and (E)-2-decenal) showed marked differences between MHE β values in gas phase and those estimated in lipophilic media (DBP) and in real-world samples (cf. **Table 1**). For these analytes, a crucial role is played in their release from the food matrix by partition, rather than by volatility. Conversely, high-volatility components with vapor pressure values above 10 (i.e., 2,3-pentanedione, 1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole, pyridine and hexanal) showed a negligible partition effect in DBP, and higher retention in hazelnut samples, where solid particles presumably exert absorption phenomena.

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3.5 Detailed profiling and quantitative fingerprinting

The results obtained from the above experiments are fundamental for further advancements on profiling and fingerprinting analysis based on 2D pattern similarity for sample comparison and classification. In particular, markers involved with geographical origin and technological treatment of roasted hazelnuts are here investigated [19,20]. The Comprehensive Template Matching fingerprinting approach is here applied: it establishes consistent correspondences for all the untargeted peaks with coherent retention times and whose fragmentation pattern referred a fixed degree of similarity with a corresponding template spectrum. The higher the number of consistent features compared across samples is, the higher specificity and sensitivity of the process are. The possibility to perform a simultaneous targeted quantitative assessment on selected informative peaks and an extended untargeted screening over the complete 2D peak pattern is a key-aspect to extend the informative potential of GC×GC-MS. MHE offers the possibility to approach both investigation steps, although some limits may arise from the amount of processed sample, that must give adequate decay through successive extractions. Only analytes whose concentrations in sample (C_0) and headspace (C_G) follow a linear relationship, generally corresponding to concentrations below 0.1-1%, can adequately be quantified [11]. Four different aliquots (i.e., 1.500, 1.000, 0.500 and 0.100 g) of Tonda Gentile Trilobata (TGT 170-35) were sampled by HS-SPME, to test the feasibility of overall assessment of volatiles, the resulting volatiles were analyzed by GC×GC-MS and peak features from each pattern collected in a Consensus template. The template consisted of 335 2D peaks, with 137 known and 198 unknowns. Analytes were identified on the

basis of their linear retention indexes and MS-EI spectra compared with those of authentic standards (when available) or tentatively identified through their MS-EI fragmentation patterns and retention indexes. The list of peak features (i.e. Compound Name, ¹D Retention time (min), ²D Retention time (sec), ¹D Linear Retention Index (I_s^T) , Normalized 2D Peak Volume, and Reference MS) is provided as a supplementary table (Supplementary Table ST1) while Figure 3 summarizes the results, together with the 2D peak patterns obtained by analyzing the different aliquots. As may be seen, the number of matched peaks within the set of chromatograms (average 3 replicate analyses) decreased, from 100% with the 1.500 g sample to 73% with the 0.100 g sample, the latter corresponding to the sample amount for which target analytes submitted to MHE quantitation showed a linear response. More precisely, 73 unknown and 17 known analytes were lost by sampling 0.100 g; within the group of targets; only a few odor-active compounds, and one key aroma compound (i.e., 2-acetyl-1-pyrroline) fell below the method LOD; other informative features, discriminating botanical and geographical origins, as well as the extent of technological treatment [17,22,23], were consistently matched, thus providing detailed profiling. In addition, untargeted features, whose decay along through successive extraction steps demonstrates adequate linearity, could be investigated in terms of actual release from the sample matrix through their β value, and additional information on their extraction rate added to the global assessment, as shown in Figure 4 for the compounds trimethylpyrazine, furfuryl alcohol, and 2,5-dimethyl-4-hydroxy-3(2H)furanone. In the example given, the first two compounds, characterized by faster decay, would be more rapidly released into the headspace than would 2,5-dimethyl-4-hydroxy-3(2H)-furanone (furaneol™). The latter, being a key odorant in roasted hazelnuts, although not quantified in the present study, provides further information on sample sensory quality. It should be stressed that the sensitivity of GC×GC plays a crucial role for these investigations, which cannot, with comparable effectiveness, be achieved by onedimensional approaches, because of the higher LODs that can be achieved with the latter.

411 **4. CONCLUSIONS**

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The study presents a successful investigation strategy implemented on a "comprehensive" analytical platform; in particular, the advantages of quantitative headspace analysis are discussed from the

perspective of a complete and informative assessment of complex food sample volatiles. Emphasis is placed on the potential of each analytical step in term of the dimensionality of the information provided. Thus also sample preparation by HS-SPME is included, as is separation by GC×GC, detection by EI-MS and data elaboration by advanced fingerprinting approaches [2,33]. In order to be considered as a further dimension of the analysis system, HS-HCC sampling techniques, and in particular HS-SPME, are the key step to provide a consistent (quantitative aspects) and meaningful (qualitative aspects) picture of the sample/fraction under study. Experiments carried out on food volatile fractions demonstrate that the information potential of each analysis can better be exploited, thanks to: (a) the method's adoption of multiple and orthogonal extraction principles (adsorption and sorption) combined on the SPME fiber, (b) the minimization of artifact formation, by keeping sampling temperature and time controlled, (c) the headspace linearity conditions applied, and (d) the adoption of versatile and reliable quantitation protocols (in particular MHE). A crucial role is undoubtedly played by the separation technique adopted; GC×GC provides detailed profiling of volatiles even when the sample matrix to be analyzed must be reduced tenfold or more, to comply with quantitation requirements, thanks to its high selectivity and efficiency, due to the orthogonal combination of separation mechanisms, and also to its sensitivity, which is achieved by appropriate column selection. The two quantitation methods applied were found to be adequate for accurate quantitative determination of the selected target analytes in the sample matrix (with the exception of aldehydes for SA), but revealed different aptitudes, in terms of information potential and ease of execution. In particular, MHE was more versatile, providing information on the sample matrix effect, which is important to evaluate the release of volatiles from the food matrix, and on their relative distribution between gas and condensed phases. MHE carried out with an External Standard approach does not requires equilibration or partition of spiked analytes, which is the critical step of SA for solid samples; further, it also makes possible concurrent quantitative investigation of the complete set of selected volatiles. The present strategy is a useful approach from the perspective of sensomics and flavoromics, since it

comprises an integrated analytical platform able to provide information on the qualitative and quantitative

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- distribution of sensory active compounds, through a fully-integrated system including multiple dimensions
- of analysis: sample preparation-separation-identification/quantitation-advanced data elaboration.

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494 **Caption to Figures** 495 Figure 1: Results of accuracy assessment. Regression analysis on estimated concentrations for target 496 analytes (ng/g) in TGT 170-35 and Ordu 170-35 samples. Outliers (linear and unsaturated aldehydes and 497 furfural) are excluded. 498 499 Figure 2: MHE slopes (β) for selected target analytes (5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one, 2-ethyl-3,5-500 dimethylpyrazine and 2-phenylethanol). The graphs are based on equal terms of cumulative response (A_T) 501 arbitrarily fixed at 100 counts. Red and black lines show the logarithmic decay from calibration solutions in 502 DBP-red and in cyclohexane-black (corresponding to calibrants in the gas phase approach) whereas blue 503 and green lines indicate analyte behavior in hazelnuts and in the Gianduja paste, respectively. 504 505 Figure 3: HS-SPME-GC×GC-MS patterns from different aliquots of TGT 170-35 together with fingerprinting 506 results: Number of template peaks present in the consensus template (see text for details), Number of 507 reliably matched peaks, % of matching, and identity of unmatched target peaks. Key odorants are underlined. 508

Figure 4: MHE slopes (β) for selected analytes not included in the pool of quantified targets.

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512 **Caption to Tables** 513 Table 1: List of target analytes considered in the quantitative fingerprinting, together with their CAS 514 Registry Number, Purity % of the reference compound used for calibration, calculated physicochemical properties (Vapor Pressure - Vp and octanol/water partition coefficient - LogP), Target Ion and Qualifiers 515 516 adopted for quantitation. Validation parameters include: calibration ranges (ng/g), regression curves for SA 517 and MHE calculated over six calibration points, coefficients of determination (R²), Uncertainty % (Unc.%), 518 Limit of Determination (LOD) and Limit of Quantitation (LOQ). See text for details. 519 520 **Table 2**: Multiple Headspace Extraction calibration parameters. β values and coefficients of determination 521 (R²) for target analytes in hazelnut samples differing for geographical origins (Tonda Gentile Trilobata TGT 522 and Ordu) and roasting conditions. The two right-hand columns report calibration slopes in different media: 523 Dibutyl Phtalate DBP and Cyclohexane (equivalent to Gas Phase). 524 525 Table 3: Multiple Headspace Extraction calibration parameters. β values and coefficients of determination 526 (R²) for target analytes in Gianduja samples differing in formulation and manufacturer (Samples # 1-4 and 527 Sample #5, respectively). The two right-hand columns report average values and precision (Relative 528 Standard Deviation %). 529 530 Table 4: MHE quantitation results of hazelnut samples for accuracy assessment. Concentration is expressed 531 in ng/g in the matrix, precision data is referred to replicate determination over three months (see text for 532 validation details). 533 534 Table 5: MHE quantitation results in Gianduja paste. Concentration and corresponding uncertainty are 535 expressed in ng/g in the matrix (see text for details).

Table 1

								Standard Add	dition		Multiple Headspace	e Extract	ion		
ID	Compound name	CAS RN	Purity	Vp ^a (Torr, 25°C)	Log P ^b	Target Ion Qualifiers	Calibration range (ng/g)	Regression curve (n=6)	R ²	Unc.%	Regression curve (n=6)	R ²	Unc.%	LOD ng/g	LOQ ng/g
1	2,3-pentanedione	600-14-6	97%	26.40	-0.831±0.297	<i>43</i> , 57, 100	10-2500	y = 3700.7x + 188647	0.991	10.8	y = 8015.6x + 37875	0.948	9.6	9.45	50.56
2	hexanal	66-25-1	98%	10.90	1.932±0.223	44, 56, 82	10-1500	y = 2642x + 297645	0.969	29.1	y = 5856.7x + 120348	0.999	15.0	2.60	11.48
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	96-54-8	98%	25.60	1.351±0.251	81, 80, 53	10-1500	y = 567.92x + 39891	0.993	10.3	y = 1047.2x - 21952	0.974	10.5	12.19	51.89
4	heptanal	111-71-7	92%	3.85	2.442±0.223	44, 70, 55	10-1500	y = 967.76x + 58880	0.923	14.6	y = 2683.4x + 4197.7	0.999	5.0	1.12	5.64
5	pyridine	110-86-1	98%	22.80	0.836±0.178	<i>79,</i> 52, 51	10-1500	y = 821.45x + 49360	0.993	9.8	y = 2021x - 36590	0.979	2.1	10.58	50.34
6	2-methylpyrazine	109-08-0	99%	9.69	0.342±0.236	94, 67, 53	100-2500	y = 5582.8x + 989884	0.947	5.8	y = 14211x - 103899	0.997	5.6	5.02	22.36
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	513-86-0	96%	1.92	-0.299±0.287	<i>45,</i> 43, 88	100-2500	y = 1772.9x + 195105	0.984	23.5	y = 16032x - 241081	0.955	6.7	2.22	11.21
8	5-methyl-(<i>E</i>)-2-hepten-4-one	102322-83-8	98%	1.25	2.023±0.252	<i>69,</i> 98, 111	100-2500	y = 10184x + 721440	0.997	9.5	y = 24400x - 62922	0.983	9.7	2.05	10.36
9	octanal	124-13-0	99%	2.07	2.951±0.223	<i>43</i> , 56, 84	10-1500	y = 1045.3x + 61668	0.993	11.5	y=2343.7x - 29123	0.978	5.4	6.24	27.58
10	nonanal	124-19-6	95%	0.53	3.461±0.223	<i>57</i> , 41, 70	10-4000	y = 1590.5x + 142268	0.981	63.6	y = 3339.4x + 5118.2	0.993	5.5	0.23	0.91
11	(<i>E</i>)-2-octenal	2548-87-0	94%	0.55	2.809±0.282	41, 55, 70	100-2500	y = 1582.3x + 23986	0.995	13.1	y = 6291.8x - 91734	0.953	7.1	11.45	49.46
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	13360-65-1	98%	1.21	1.457±0.318	<i>135</i> , 136, 108	10-1500	y = 622.15x + 67165	0.966	6.1	y = 3596.5x + 68708	0.999	4.5	0.38	1.50
13	furfural	98-01-1	99%	2.23	0.712±0.264	<i>96,</i> 95, 39	100-10000 ^c	y = 5694.8x + 3E+06	0.998	7.6	y = 12439x - 72625	0.989	5.5	6.10	24.46
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	13925-07-0	98%	0.81	1.457±0.318	<i>135</i> , 136, 108	10-1500	y = 1225.6x + 25489	0.941	11.7	y = 4537x + 1419.7	0.974	18.8	0.37	0.90
15	phenylacetaldehyde	122-78-1	95%	0.37	1.760±0.224	<i>91</i> , 120, 65	10-1500	y = 3996.1x + 75391	0.986	12.3	y = 15521x - 362929	0.987	11.5	5.73	25.55
16	(E)-2-decenal	3913-81-3	92%	0.07	3.828±0.282	41, 55, 70	10-1500	y = 77.653x + 2728	0.941	7.9	y = 3324.4x - 68279	0.975	5.0	4.70	23.57
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	503-74-2	99%	0.55	1.051±0.193	60, 74, 87	10-1500	y = 2653x + 50140	0.991	15.5	y = 12958x - 242712	0.959	5.6	1.75	5.28
18	2-phenylethanol	60-12-8	98%	0.07	1.504±0.186	<i>91</i> , 122, 65	10-1500	y = 1886.7x + 14875	0.971	14.7	y = 20548x - 136118	0.971	2.8	5.47	24.36
19	acetylpyrrole	1072-83-9	99%	0.11	0.911±0.312	94, 109, 66	10-1500	y = 1188.7x + 55489	0.957	4.9	y = 11349x - 166508	0.974	7.2	1.59	5.35

a.b.: Calculated using Advanced Chemistry Development (ACD/Labs) Software V11.02 (© 1994-2013 ACD/Labs)(Toronto, ON, Canada)
c: calibration was performed in two intervals (100-2500 and 2500-10000)— MHE and SA calibration curves reported are referred to 100-2500 ng/g

Table 2

		TGT 1	70-20	TGT 1	.70-35	Ordu	170-20	Ordu	170-35	Sum	mary	Calibration	on slopes
ID	Compound name	β	R ²	β	R ²	β	R ²	β	R ²	βav	RSD%	β_{DBP}	β_{GP}
1	2,3-pentanedione	0.67	0.979	0.76	0.995	0.61	0.935	0.66	0.979	0.62	9.00	0.42	0.39
2	hexanal	0.70	0.998	0.71	0.929	0.54	0.987	0.65	0.964	0.66	8.69	0.31	0.32
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	0.63	0.981	0.77	0.971	0.55	0.909	0.60	0.889	0.57	12.44	0.19	0.13
4	heptanal	0.58	0.884	0.56	0.997	0.57	0.962	0.65	0.989	0.60	6.13	0.19	0.18
5	pyridine	0.45	0.989	0.50	0.959	0.39	0.908	0.51	0.973	0.48	12.72	0.48	0.50
6	2-methylpyrazine	0.62	0.901	0.63	0.982	0.52	0.979	0.62	0.995	0.60	9.32	0.21	0.19
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	0.70	0.945	0.87	0.929	0.72	0.950	0.89	0.967	0.79	9.93	0.65	0.75
8	5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one	0.64	0.994	0.76	0.969	0.69	0.987	0.70	0.997	0.70	6.39	0.23	0.21
9	octanal	0.77	0.926	0.66	0.906	0.67	0.927	0.80	0.992	0.70	8.54	0.15	0.12
10	nonanal	0.81	0.904	0.85	0.929	0.82	0.925	0.63	0.767	0.80	10.36	0.48	0.31
11	(<i>E</i>)-2-octenal	< LOD	-	< LOD	-	0.95	0.988	0.83	0.914	0.84	14.46	0.41	0.26
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.86	0.993	0.87	0.983	0.60	0.963	0.92	0.903	0.82	14.18	0.40	0.19
13	furfural	0.61	0.975	0.70	0.985	0.66	0.976	0.74	0.995	0.68	8.45	0.11	0.09
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.74	0.936	0.88	0.948	0.76	0.969	0.90	0.948	0.81	11.05	0.44	0.22
15	phenylacetaldehyde	0.90	0.932	0.80	0.998	0.79	0.992	0.79	0.967	0.83	5.52	0.49	0.23
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOD	-	< LOD	-	0.79	0.992	0.79	0.954	0.82	5.72	0.76	0.26
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	0.90	0.982	0.85	0.904	0.66	0.987	0.85	0.974	0.82	9.27	0.57	0.81
18	2-phenylethanol	0.90	0.932	0.89	0.957	0.89	0.998	0.88	0.980	0.85	6.71	0.79	0.33
19	acetylpyrrole	0.86	0.990	0.92	0.993	0.88	0.992	0.95	0.899	0.89	7.21	0.77	0.31

Table 3

		Samp	le #1	Samp	le #2	Samp	le #3	Samp	le #4	Samp	le #5		
ID	Compound name	β	R ²	β	R ²	β	R^2	β	R ²	β	R^2	βav	RSD%
1	2,3-pentanedione	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-
2	hexanal	0.81	0.988	0.77	0.982	0.79	0.966	0.85	0.954	0.83	0.996	0.81	3.88
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-
4	heptanal	0.58	0.985	0.38	0.848	0.49	0.971	0.44	0.958	0.60	0.879	0.54	12.65
5	pyridine	0.59	0.994	0.28	0.822	0.28	0.822	0.48	0.985	0.48	0.989	0.42	12.26
6	2-methylpyrazine	0.66	0.961	0.56	0.974	0.80	0.982	0.74	0.978	0.52	0.933	0.66	12.63
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	0.86	0.976	0.65	0.992	0.90	0.925	0.82	0.963	0.62	0.956	0.81	9.19
8	5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one	0.59	0.999	0.51	0.962	0.51	0.985	0.58	0.984	0.63	0.967	0.56	9.06
9	octanal	0.53	0.851	0.53	0.851	0.60	0.979	0.69	0.984	0.81	0.974	0.61	13.85
10	nonanal	0.76	0.809	0.32	0.940	0.77	0.859	0.78	0.962	0.78	0.962	0.76	3.29
11	(E)-2-octenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.60	0.910	0.60	0.944	0.66	0.886	0.72	0.993	0.86	0.953	0.67	10.57
13	furfural	0.71	0.953	0.57	0.930	0.58	0.945	0.53	0.996	0.53	0.978	0.58	12.35
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.54	0.928	0.78	0.989	0.72	0.999	0.72	0.993	0.83	0.929	0.74	9.69
15	phenylacetaldehyde	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	0.81	0.981	0.49	0.930	0.63	0.982	0.69	0.978	0.69	0.994	0.66	7.75
18	2-phenylethanol	0.92	0.966	0.49	0.844	0.87	0.998	0.88	0.993	0.75	0.962	0.84	8.25
19	acetylpyrrole	0.84	0.976	0.74	0.935	0.78	0.990	0.84	0.982	0.70	0.985	0.78	7.82

Table 4

		TGT 170-20 conc (ng/g)				Т	GT 170-35	conc (ng/	g)	OF	RDU 170-2	0 conc (ng	/g)	OF	RDU 170-3	5 conc (ng	,/g)
ID	Compound name	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%
1	2,3-pentanedione	111	17.97	152	5.14	2379	4.08	2487	20.93	27	20.17	92	11.23	513	0.86	628	1.22
2	hexanal	246	4.89	256	0.81	1343	52.00	54	2.07	444	14.2	1400	6.76	736	45.16	601	50.48
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	278	7.38	305	5.72	1370	4.70	1283	18.30	82	15.68	258	13.59	1030	10.38	1072	4.54
4	heptanal	32	5.05	15	2.11	29	20.69	21	6.97	47	20.41	52	4.78	560	12.11	168	6.06
5	pyridine	168	17.79	239	2.07	663	13.28	730	2.51	113	1.5	215	0.85	375	6.52	409	2.84
6	2-methylpyrazine	318	11.54	429	5.47	1884	0.58	1926	4.03	129	7.87	216	8.36	736	3.08	810	4.35
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	399	16.15	447	1.14	1565	41.98	1838	6.57	117	25.7	306	4.28	390	10.04	478	14.8
8	5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one	987	6.38	898	10.32	1267	4.21	1299	0.65	336	9.93	403	4.66	525	17.41	441	23.29
9	octanal	92	23.17	167	3.23	132	0.88	183	3.23	192	14.01	238	4.16	750	7.89	408	10.95
10	nonanal	603	74.70	87	6.26	594	41.00	105	9.43	920	90.8	198	2.06	3407	48.00	327	4.08
11	(E)-2-octenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	108	14.15	214	12.87	166	11.97	190	1.3
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	342	7.37	209	5.35	1127	5.94	1386	5.22	95	7.62	110	13.81	364	3.34	468	2.85
13	furfural	251	22.24	331	3.17	5461	0.49	9393	7.09	310	7.18	365	11	4744	0.49	4178	0.7
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	97	8.16	55	23.33	245	13.70	342	11.13	23	11.99	10	36.7	290	13.14	375	4.11
15	phenylacetaldehyde	41	12.86	251	1.38	1219	7.77	1383	12.07	32	10.18	249	-	267	18.23	362	21.03
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ		< LOQ	-	351	7.89	244	4.96
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	191	4.50	238	7.64	85	19.87	290	8.48	34	12.11	202	2.04	230	25.40	202	0.77
18	2-phenylethanol	107	2.66	77	1.36	91	16.89	82	6.54	127	21.61	82	2.73	90	17.78	77	0.47
19	acetylpyrrole	273	2.92	181	9.03	448	6.09	647	13.75	227	2.42	176	2.17	519	8.06	396	3.78

Table 5

		Samp	le #1	Samp	le #2	Samp	le #3	Samp	le #4	Samp	le #5
ID	Compound name	(ng/g)	+/-								
1	2,3-pentanedione	< LOQ	-								
2	hexanal	79	12	46	7	65	10	119	18	91	14
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	< LOQ	-								
4	heptanal	25	1	169	8	8	0	42	2	0	0
5	pyridine	206	4	192	4	189	4	188	4	189	4
6	2-methylpyrazine	106	6	88	5	99	5	101	6	106	6
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	257	17	187	13	242	16	210	14	285	19
8	5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one	73	7	42	4	42	4	49	5	53	5
9	octanal	144	8	124	7	132	7	136	7	164	9
10	nonanal	94	5	3	0	12	1	11	1	0	0
11	(E)-2-octenal	< LOQ	-								
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	< LOQ	-								
13	furfural	98	5	79	4	75	4	79	4	79	4
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	4	1	3	0	1	0	2	0	7	1
15	phenylacetaldehyde	< LOQ	-								
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOQ	-								
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	537	30	465	26	422	24	474	27	373	21
18	2-phenylethanol	163	5	72	2	77	2	81	2	74	2
19	acetylpyrrole	100	7	85	6	85	6	87	6	86	6

Figure 1: accuracy assessment results. Regression analysis on estimated concentrations for target analytes [ng/g] in TGT 170-35 and Ordu 170-35 samples. Outliers (linear and unsaturated aldehydes and furfural) are excluded.

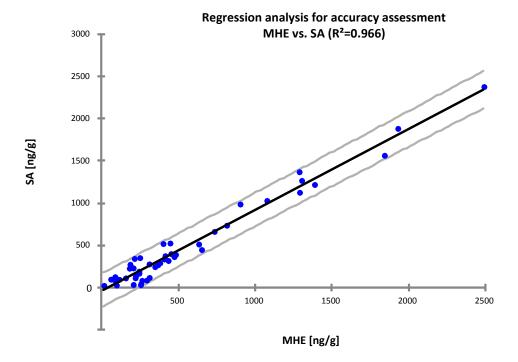
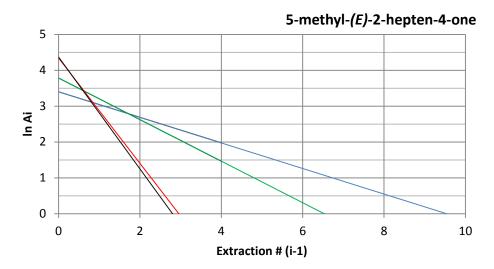
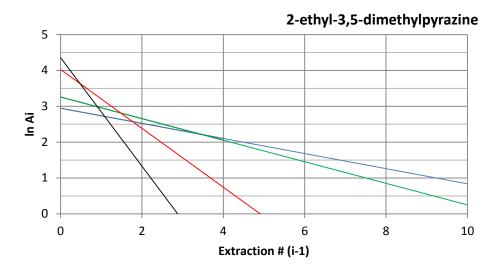


Figure 2: MHE slopes (β) for selected target analytes (5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one, 2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine and 2-phenylethanol). The graphs are based on equal terms of cumulative response (A_7) arbitrarily fixed at 100 counts. Red and black lines show the logarithmic decay from calibration solutions in DBP-red and in cyclohexane-black (corresponding to calibrants in the gas phase approach) whereas blue and green lines indicate analyte behavior in hazelnuts and in the Gianduja paste, respectively.





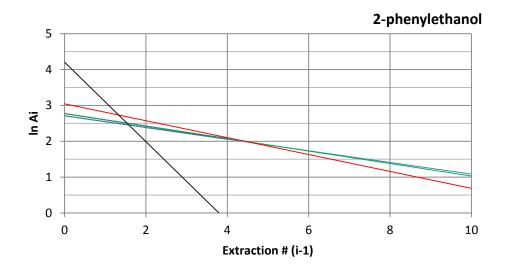


Figure 3: HS-SPME-GC×GC-MS patterns from different aliquots of TGT 170-35 together with fingerprinting results: Number of template peaks present in the consensus template (see text for details), Number reliably matched peaks, % of matching and identity of unmatched target peaks. Key-odorants are underlined.

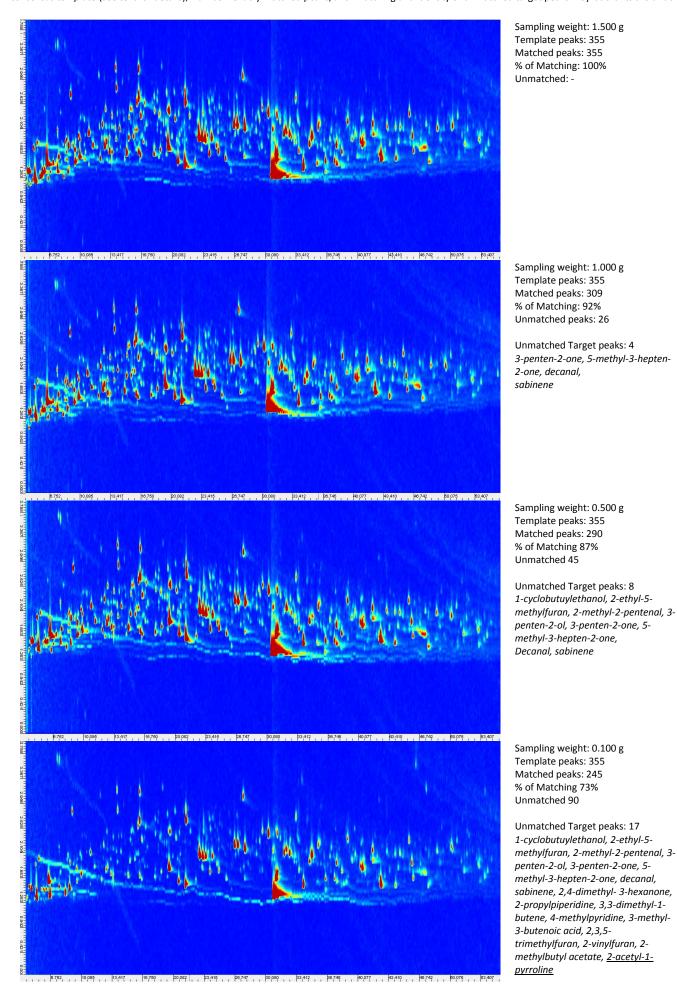
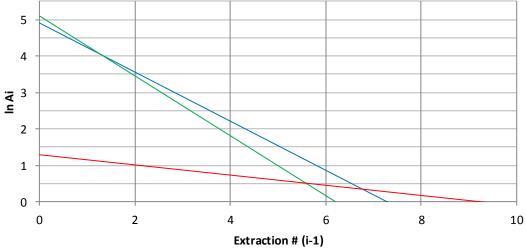


Figure 4: MHE slopes (β) for selected analytes not included in the pool of quantified targets.

trimethylpyrazine
furfuryl alcohol
2,5-dimethyl-4-hydroxy-3(2H)-furanone (furaneol)



Tables

Table 1: List of target analytes considered in the quantitative fingerprinting, together with their CAS Registry Number, Purity % of the reference compound used for calibration, calculated physicochemical properties (Vapor Pressure – Vp and octanol/water partition coefficient – LogP), Target Ion and Qualifiers adopted for quantitation. Validation parameters include: calibration range, regression curves for SA and MHE calculated over six calibration points, coefficients of determination (R²), Uncertainty % (Unc.%) and Limit of Determination (LOD) and Limit of Quantitation (LOQ). See text for details.

								Standard Add	dition		Multiple Headspace	e Extract	ion		
ID	Compound name	CAS RN	Purity	Vp ^a (Torr, 25°C)	Log P ^b	Target Ion Qualifiers	Range (ng/g)	Regression curve (n=6)	R ²	Unc.%	Regression curve (n=6)	R ²	Unc.%	LOD ng/g	LOQ ng/g
1	2,3-pentanedione	600-14-6	97%	26.40	-0.831±0.297	43, 57, 100	10-2500	y = 3700.7x + 188647	0.991	10.8	y = 8015.6x + 37875	0.948	9.6	9.45	50.56
2	hexanal	66-25-1	98%	10.90	1.932±0.223	44, 56, 82	10-1500	y = 2642x + 297645	0.969	29.1	y = 5856.7x + 120348	0.999	15.0	2.60	11.48
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	96-54-8	98%	25.60	1.351±0.251	<i>81</i> , 80, 53	10-1500	y = 567.92x + 39891	0.993	10.3	y = 1047.2x - 21952	0.974	10.5	12.19	51.89
4	heptanal	111-71-7	92%	3.85	2.442±0.223	44, 70, 55	10-1500	y = 967.76x + 58880	0.923	14.6	y = 2683.4x + 4197.7	0.999	5.0	1.12	5.64
5	pyridine	110-86-1	98%	22.80	0.836±0.178	<i>79</i> , 52, 51	10-1500	y = 821.45x + 49360	0.993	9.8	y = 2021x - 36590	0.979	2.1	10.58	50.34
6	2-methylpyrazine	109-08-0	99%	9.69	0.342±0.236	<i>94</i> , 67, 53	100-2500	y = 5582.8x + 989884	0.947	5.8	y = 14211x - 103899	0.997	5.6	5.02	22.36
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	513-86-0	96%	1.92	-0.299±0.287	<i>45</i> , 43, 88	100-2500	y = 1772.9x + 195105	0.984	23.5	y = 16032x - 241081	0.955	6.7	2.22	11.21
8	5-methyl-(<i>E</i>)-2-hepten-4-one	102322-83-8	98%	1.25	2.023±0.252	69, 98, 111	100-2500	y = 10184x + 721440	0.997	9.5	y = 24400x - 62922	0.983	9.7	2.05	10.36
9	octanal	124-13-0	99%	2.07	2.951±0.223	<i>43</i> , 56, 84	10-1500	y = 1045.3x + 61668	0.993	11.5	y=2343.7x - 29123	0.978	5.4	6.24	27.58
10	nonanal	124-19-6	95%	0.53	3.461±0.223	<i>57</i> , 41, 70	10-4000	y = 1590.5x + 142268	0.981	63.6	y = 3339.4x + 5118.2	0.993	5.5	0.23	0.91
11	(E)-2-octenal	2548-87-0	94%	0.55	2.809±0.282	41, 55, 70	100-2500	y = 1582.3x + 23986	0.995	13.1	y = 6291.8x - 91734	0.953	7.1	11.45	49.46
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	13360-65-1	98%	1.21	1.457±0.318	135, 136, 108	10-1500	y = 622.15x + 67165	0.966	6.1	y = 3596.5x + 68708	0.999	4.5	0.38	1.50
13	furfural	98-01-1	99%	2.23	0.712±0.264	<i>96,</i> 95, 39	100-10000°	y = 5694.8x + 3E+06	0.998	7.6	y = 12439x - 72625	0.989	5.5	6.10	24.46
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	13925-07-0	98%	0.81	1.457±0.318	135, 136, 108	10-1500	y = 1225.6x + 25489	0.941	11.7	y = 4537x + 1419.7	0.974	18.8	0.37	0.90
15	phenylacetaldehyde	122-78-1	95%	0.37	1.760±0.224	<i>91</i> , 120, 65	10-1500	y = 3996.1x + 75391	0.986	12.3	y = 15521x - 362929	0.987	11.5	5.73	25.55
16	(E)-2-decenal	3913-81-3	92%	0.07	3.828±0.282	41, 55, 70	10-1500	y = 77.653x + 2728	0.941	7.9	y = 3324.4x - 68279	0.975	5.0	4.70	23.57
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	503-74-2	99%	0.55	1.051±0.193	60, 74, 87	10-1500	y = 2653x + 50140	0.991	15.5	y = 12958x - 242712	0.959	5.6	1.75	5.28
18	2-phenylethanol	60-12-8	98%	0.07	1.504±0.186	<i>91</i> , 122, 65	10-1500	y = 1886.7x + 14875	0.971	14.7	y = 20548x - 136118	0.971	2.8	5.47	24.36
19	acetylpyrrole	1072-83-9	99%	0.11	0.911±0.312	94, 109, 66	10-1500	y = 1188.7x + 55489	0.957	4.9	y = 11349x - 166508	0.974	7.2	1.59	5.35

a,b.: Calculated using Advanced Chemistry Development (ACD/Labs) Software V11.02 (© 1994-2013 ACD/Labs)(Toronto, ON, Canada)

c: calibration was performed in two intervals (100-2500 and 2500-10000) – MHE and SA calibration curves reported are referred to 100-2500 ng/g

Table 2: Multiple Headspace Extraction calibration parameters. β values and coefficient of determination (R²) for target analytes in hazelnut samples differing for geographical origin (Tonda Gentile Trilobata TGT and Ordu) and roasting conditions. Last two columns report calibration slopes in different media Dibutyl Phtalate DBP and Cyclohexane (equivalent to Gas Phase).

		TGT 1	70-20	TGT 1	170-35	Ordu	170-20	Ordu	170-35	Sum	mary	Calibrati	on slopes
ID	Compound name	β	R ²	β	R ²	β	R ²	β	R ²	βav	RSD%	β_{DBP}	β_{GP}
1	2,3-pentanedione	0.67	0.979	0.76	0.995	0.61	0.935	0.66	0.979	0.62	9.00	0.42	0.39
2	hexanal	0.70	0.998	0.71	0.929	0.54	0.987	0.65	0.964	0.66	8.69	0.31	0.32
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	0.63	0.981	0.77	0.971	0.55	0.909	0.60	0.889	0.57	12.44	0.19	0.13
4	heptanal	0.58	0.884	0.56	0.997	0.57	0.962	0.65	0.989	0.60	6.13	0.19	0.18
5	pyridine	0.45	0.989	0.50	0.959	0.39	0.908	0.51	0.973	0.48	12.72	0.48	0.50
6	2-methylpyrazine	0.62	0.901	0.63	0.982	0.52	0.979	0.62	0.995	0.60	9.32	0.21	0.19
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	0.70	0.945	0.87	0.929	0.72	0.950	0.89	0.967	0.79	9.93	0.65	0.75
8	5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one	0.64	0.994	0.76	0.969	0.69	0.987	0.70	0.997	0.70	6.39	0.23	0.21
9	octanal	0.77	0.926	0.66	0.906	0.67	0.927	0.80	0.992	0.70	8.54	0.15	0.12
10	nonanal	0.81	0.904	0.85	0.929	0.82	0.925	0.63	0.767	0.80	10.36	0.48	0.31
11	(E)-2-octenal	< LOD	-	< LOD	-	0.95	0.988	0.83	0.914	0.84	14.46	0.41	0.26
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.86	0.993	0.87	0.983	0.60	0.963	0.92	0.903	0.82	14.18	0.40	0.19
13	furfural	0.61	0.975	0.70	0.985	0.66	0.976	0.74	0.995	0.68	8.45	0.11	0.09
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.74	0.936	0.88	0.948	0.76	0.969	0.90	0.948	0.81	11.05	0.44	0.22
15	phenylacetaldehyde	0.90	0.932	0.80	0.998	0.79	0.992	0.79	0.967	0.83	5.52	0.49	0.23
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOD	-	< LOD	-	0.79	0.992	0.79	0.954	0.82	5.72	0.76	0.26
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	0.90	0.982	0.85	0.904	0.66	0.987	0.85	0.974	0.82	9.27	0.57	0.81
18	2-phenylethanol	0.90	0.932	0.89	0.957	0.89	0.998	0.88	0.980	0.85	6.71	0.79	0.33
19	acetylpyrrole	0.86	0.990	0.92	0.993	0.88	0.992	0.95	0.899	0.89	7.21	0.77	0.31

Table 3: Multiple Headspace Extraction calibration parameters. β values and coefficients of determination (R^2) for target analytes in *Gianduja* samples differing in formulation and manufacturer (Samples # 1-4 and Sample #5, respectively). The two right-hand columns report average values and precision (Relative Standard Deviation %).

		Samp	le #1	Samp	ole #2	Samp	le #3	Samp	le #4	Samp	le #5		
ID	Compound name	β	R ²	β	R^2	βav	RSD%						
1	2,3-pentanedione	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-						
2	hexanal	0.81	0.988	0.77	0.982	0.79	0.966	0.85	0.954	0.83	0.996	0.81	3.88
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-						
4	heptanal	0.58	0.985	0.38	0.848	0.49	0.971	0.44	0.958	0.60	0.879	0.54	12.65
5	pyridine	0.59	0.994	0.28	0.822	0.28	0.822	0.48	0.985	0.48	0.989	0.42	12.26
6	2-methylpyrazine	0.66	0.961	0.56	0.974	0.80	0.982	0.74	0.978	0.52	0.933	0.66	12.63
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	0.86	0.976	0.65	0.992	0.90	0.925	0.82	0.963	0.62	0.956	0.81	9.19
8	5-methyl-(<i>E</i>)-2-hepten-4-one	0.59	0.999	0.51	0.962	0.51	0.985	0.58	0.984	0.63	0.967	0.56	9.06
9	octanal	0.53	0.851	0.53	0.851	0.60	0.979	0.69	0.984	0.81	0.974	0.61	13.85
10	nonanal	0.76	0.809	0.32	0.940	0.77	0.859	0.78	0.962	0.78	0.962	0.76	3.29
11	(E)-2-octenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-						
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.60	0.910	0.60	0.944	0.66	0.886	0.72	0.993	0.86	0.953	0.67	10.57
13	furfural	0.71	0.953	0.57	0.930	0.58	0.945	0.53	0.996	0.53	0.978	0.58	12.35
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	0.54	0.928	0.78	0.989	0.72	0.999	0.72	0.993	0.83	0.929	0.74	9.69
15	phenylacetaldehyde	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-						
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	-	-						
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	0.81	0.981	0.49	0.930	0.63	0.982	0.69	0.978	0.69	0.994	0.66	7.75
18	2-phenylethanol	0.92	0.966	0.49	0.844	0.87	0.998	0.88	0.993	0.75	0.962	0.84	8.25
19	acetylpyrrole	0.84	0.976	0.74	0.935	0.78	0.990	0.84	0.982	0.70	0.985	0.78	7.82

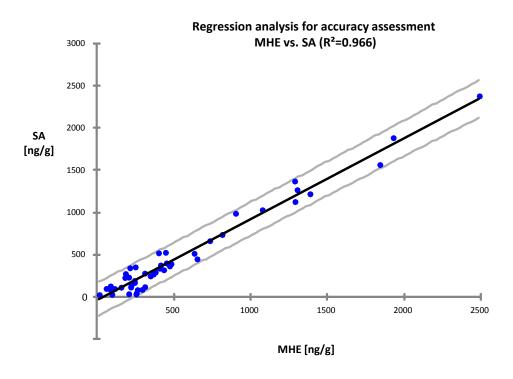
Table 4: Quantitation results in hazelnut samples for accuracy assessment. Concentration is expressed in ng/g in the matrix, precision data is referred to replicate determination over three months (see text for validation details).

		TGT 170-20 conc (ng/g)				T	GT 170-35	conc (ng/g	g)	OF	RDU 170-2	0 conc (ng	/g)	OF	RDU 170-3	5 conc (ng	/g)
ID	Compound name	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%	SA	RSD%	MHE	RSD%
1	2,3-pentanedione	111	17.97	152	5.14	2379	4.08	2487	20.93	27	20.17	92	11.23	513	0.86	628	1.22
2	hexanal	246	4.89	256	0.81	1343	52.00	54	2.07	444	14.2	1400	6.76	736	45.16	601	50.48
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	278	7.38	305	5.72	1370	4.70	1283	18.30	82	15.68	258	13.59	1030	10.38	1072	4.54
4	heptanal	32	5.05	15	2.11	29	20.69	21	6.97	47	20.41	52	4.78	560	12.11	168	6.06
5	pyridine	168	17.79	239	2.07	663	13.28	730	2.51	113	1.5	215	0.85	375	6.52	409	2.84
6	2-methylpyrazine	318	11.54	429	5.47	1884	0.58	1926	4.03	129	7.87	216	8.36	736	3.08	810	4.35
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	399	16.15	447	1.14	1565	41.98	1838	6.57	117	25.7	306	4.28	390	10.04	478	14.8
8	5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one	987	6.38	898	10.32	1267	4.21	1299	0.65	336	9.93	403	4.66	525	17.41	441	23.29
9	octanal	92	23.17	167	3.23	132	0.88	183	3.23	192	14.01	238	4.16	750	7.89	408	10.95
10	nonanal	603	74.70	87	6.26	594	41.00	105	9.43	920	90.8	198	2.06	3407	48.00	327	4.08
11	(E)-2-octenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	108	14.15	214	12.87	166	11.97	190	1.3
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	342	7.37	209	5.35	1127	5.94	1386	5.22	95	7.62	110	13.81	364	3.34	468	2.85
13	furfural	251	22.24	331	3.17	5461	0.49	9393	7.09	310	7.18	365	11	4744	0.49	4178	0.7
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	97	8.16	55	23.33	245	13.70	342	11.13	23	11.99	10	36.7	290	13.14	375	4.11
15	phenylacetaldehyde	41	12.86	251	1.38	1219	7.77	1383	12.07	32	10.18	249	-	267	18.23	362	21.03
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ	-	< LOQ		< LOQ	-	351	7.89	244	4.96
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	191	4.50	238	7.64	85	19.87	290	8.48	34	12.11	202	2.04	230	25.40	202	0.77
18	2-phenylethanol	107	2.66	77	1.36	91	16.89	82	6.54	127	21.61	82	2.73	90	17.78	77	0.47
19	acetylpyrrole	273	2.92	181	9.03	448	6.09	647	13.75	227	2.42	176	2.17	519	8.06	396	3.78

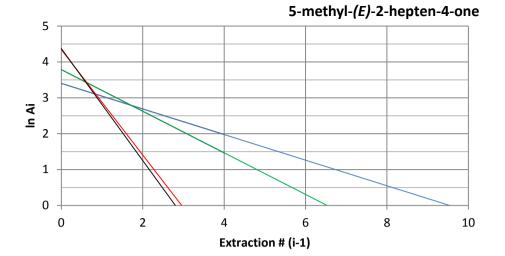
 Table 5: Quantitation results in Gianduja paste. Concentration and corresponding uncertainty are expressed in ng/g in the matrix (see text for details)

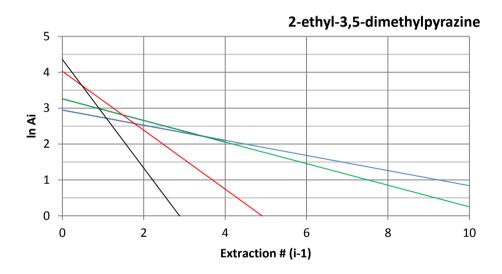
		Samp	le #1	Samp	le #2	Samp	le #3	Samp	le #4	Samp	le #5
ID	Compound name	(ng/g)	+/-								
1	2,3-pentanedione	< LOQ	-								
2	hexanal	79	12	46	7	65	10	119	18	91	14
3	1-methyl-1(H)-pyrrole	< LOQ	-								
4	heptanal	25	1	169	8	8	0	42	2	0	0
5	pyridine	206	4	192	4	189	4	188	4	189	4
6	2-methylpyrazine	106	6	88	5	99	5	101	6	106	6
7	3-hydrox-2-butanone	257	17	187	13	242	16	210	14	285	19
8	5-methyl-(E)-2-hepten-4-one	73	7	42	4	42	4	49	5	53	5
9	octanal	144	8	124	7	132	7	136	7	164	9
10	nonanal	94	5	3	0	12	1	11	1	0	0
11	(E)-2-octenal	< LOQ	-								
12	3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine	< LOQ	-								
13	furfural	98	5	79	4	75	4	79	4	79	4
14	2-ethyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazine	4	1	3	0	1	0	2	0	7	1
15	phenylacetaldehyde	< LOQ	-								
16	(E)-2-decenal	< LOQ	-								
17	3-methylbutanoic acid	537	30	465	26	422	24	474	27	373	21
18	2-phenylethanol	163	5	72	2	77	2	81	2	74	2
19	acetylpyrrole	100	7	85	6	85	6	87	6	86	6

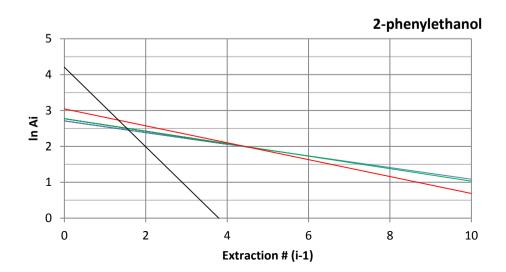
Figure 1



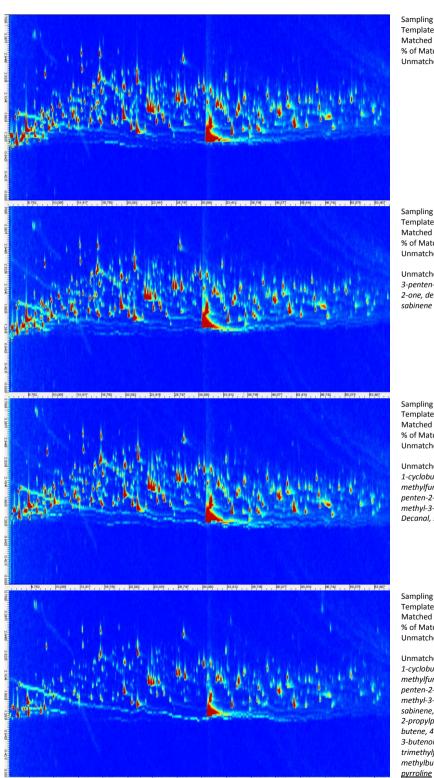
gare .







54.6.5



Sampling weight: 1.500 g Template peaks: 355 Matched peaks: 355 % of Matching: 100% Unmatched: -

Sampling weight: 1.000 g Template peaks: 355 Matched peaks: 309 % of Matching: 92% Unmatched peaks: 26

Unmatched Target peaks: 4 3-penten-2-one, 5-methyl-3-hepten-2-one, decanal, sabinene

Sampling weight: 0.500 g Template peaks: 355 Matched peaks: 290 % of Matching 87% Unmatched 45

Unmatched Target peaks: 8 1-cyclobutuylethanol, 2-ethyl-5methylfuran, 2-methyl-2-pentenal, 3penten-2-ol, 3-penten-2-one, 5methyl-3-hepten-2-one, Decanal, sabinene

Sampling weight: 0.100 g Template peaks: 355 Matched peaks: 245 % of Matching 73% Unmatched 90

Unmatched Target peaks: 17
1-cyclobutuylethanol, 2-ethyl-5methylfuran, 2-methyl-2-pentenal, 3penten-2-ol, 3-penten-2-one, 5methyl-3-hepten-2-one, decanal,
sabinene, 2,4-dimethyl-3-hexanone,
2-propylpiperidine, 3,3-dimethyl-1butene, 4-methylpyridine, 3-methyl3-butenoic acid, 2,3,5trimethylfuran, 2-vinylfuran, 2methylbutyl acetate, 2-acetyl-1-

Figure 4

