

Characterization of odorant patterns by comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography: Challenges, strategies and pleasure behind chemistry

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Foreword

Approaching food compositional complexity to unveil chemical dimensions and functional properties

Strategies

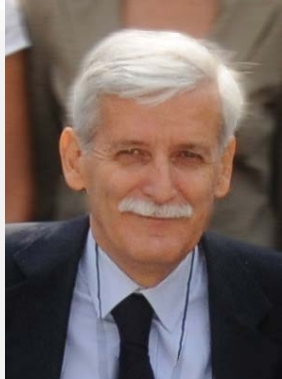
Multidimensional chromatography and its potential for untargeted-targeted comprehensive investigations

Academic research meets Industrial needs

Example I: hazelnuts and storage quality

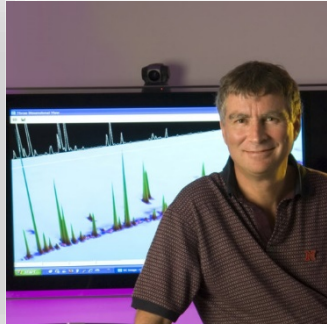
Example II: cocoa aroma blueprint

Conclusive remarks

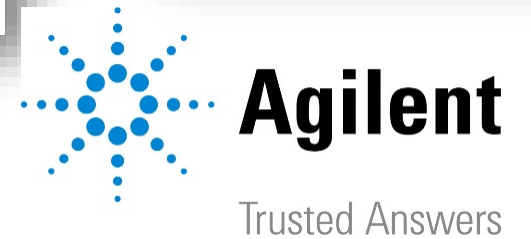


Prof. Carlo Bicchi

Prof. Stephen E. Reichenbach



Prof. Peter Schieberle

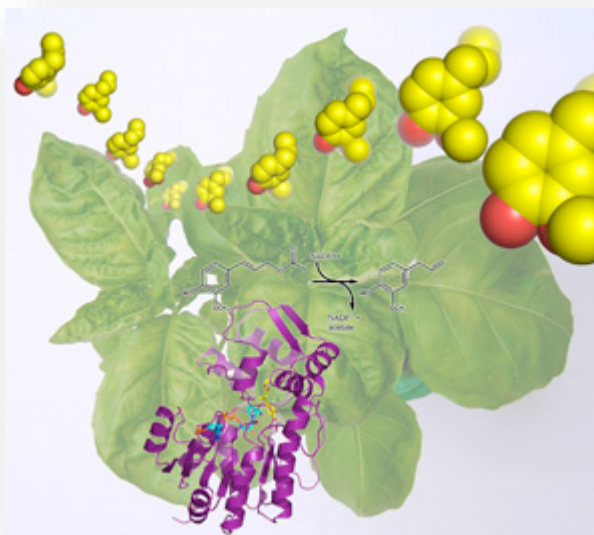


... the lab Team





Plant volatilome



Food sensometabolome



Sharing experience and competences
Advanced investigation strategies and Data interpretation approaches

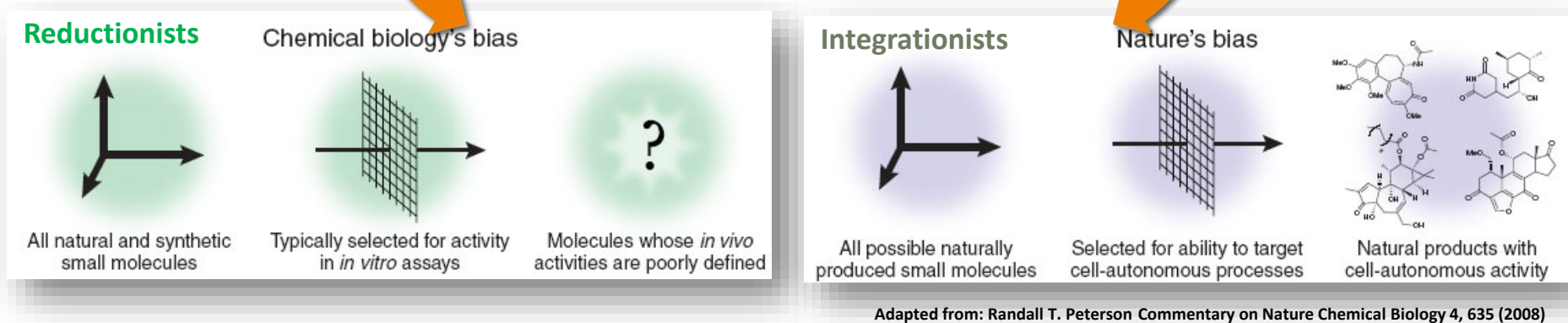
Both disciplines deal with complex biological phenomena

Chemistry is the language

Decoding needs advanced and original analytical approaches

Strategies

Decoding complex phenomena



Profiling¹
 detailed analysis of the chemical pattern
 sample constituents are studied
 by complementary techniques

Fingerprinting¹
 general and rapid high-throughput
 screening mainly applied
 to discriminate and classify samples

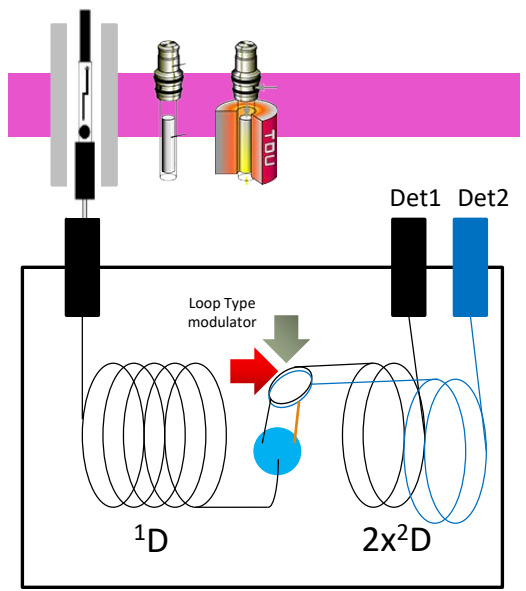
Targeted - Untargeted profiling²
 multidimensional platforms provide
 data on analytes identity (MS signatures)
 and amount in the sample

Chromatographic fingerprinting²
 based on pattern recognition principles
 extends samples comparison
 to all detectable analytes



Comprehensive 2D chromatography
 unified multi-dimensional platforms

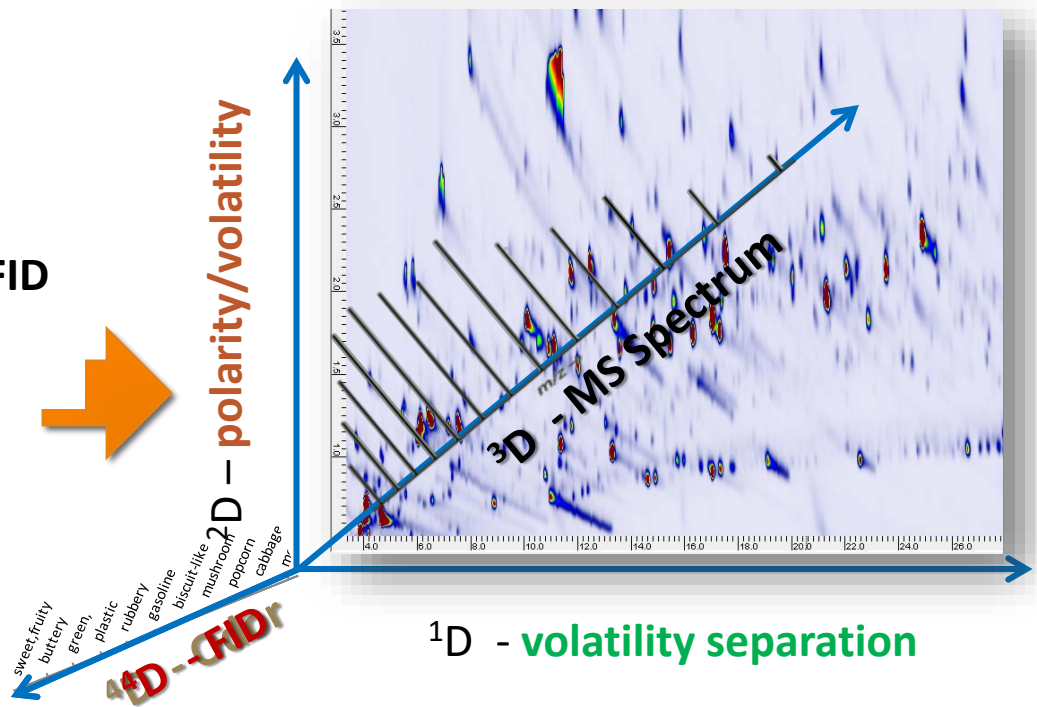
Platforms



Sample prep - GCx2GC-MS/FID
 Sample prep - GC(O)xGC-MS



Information dimensions
 spectral signature (identity)
 volatility/polarity
 sensory descriptor (bio-assay)



Comprehensive 2D GC
 unified multi-dimensional platform

[1] J.C. Giddings, Sample dimensionality: a predictor of order-disorder in component peak distribution in multidimensional separation, J. Chromatogr. A 703(1995) 3–15.

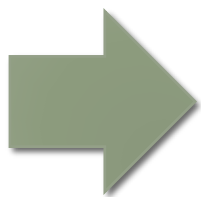
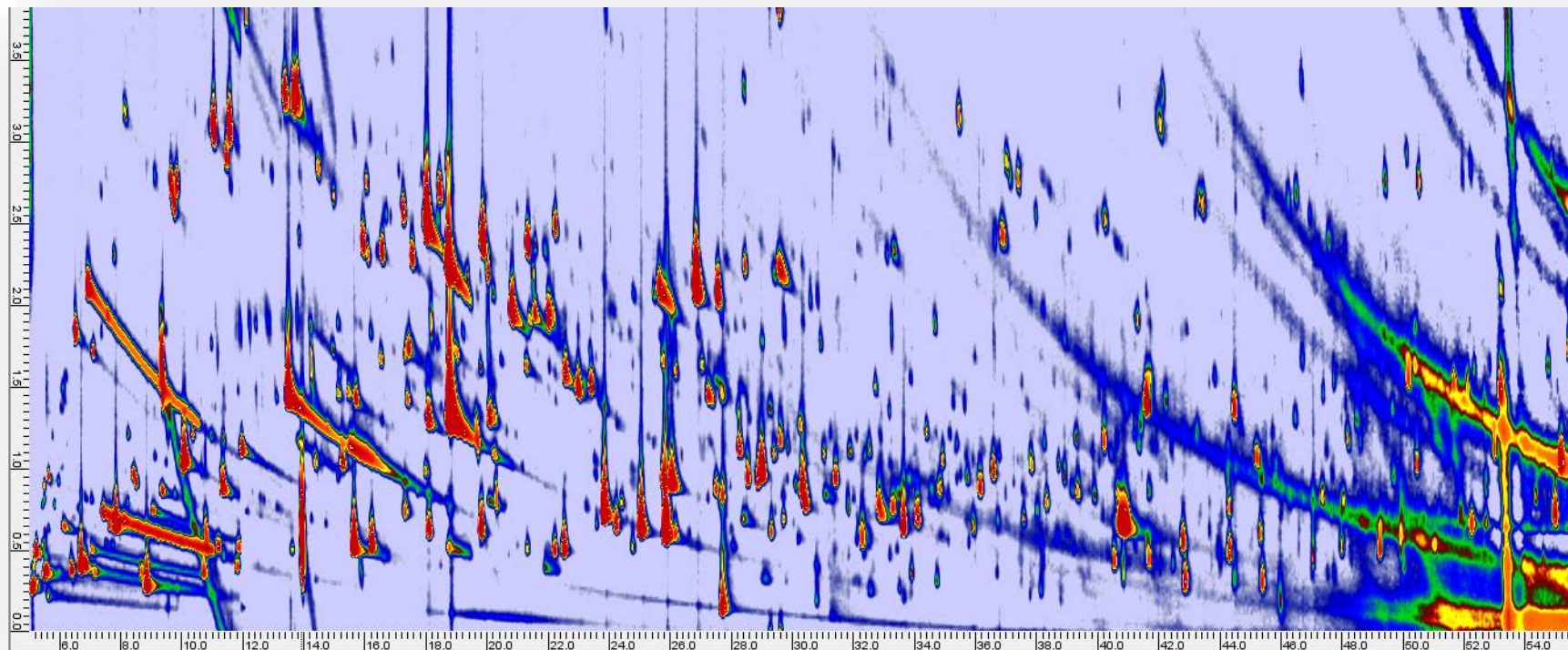


Rational information space



Extra Virgin Olive oil **volatiles** - Italian origin
HS-SPME (CAR/PDMS/DVB) - 500 mg - 50°C/50 min

Chemical dimensions



Targeted peaks over more than 800 detectable analytes

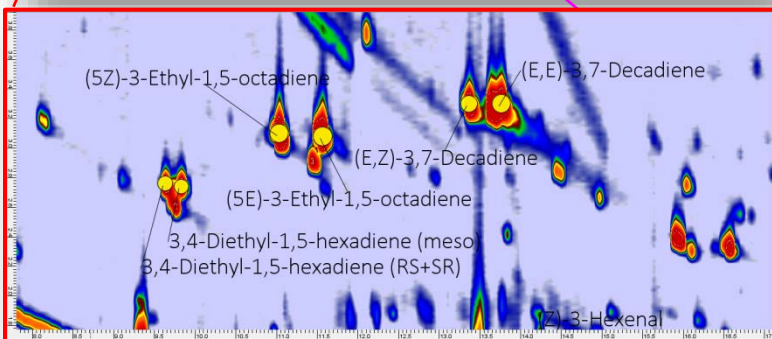
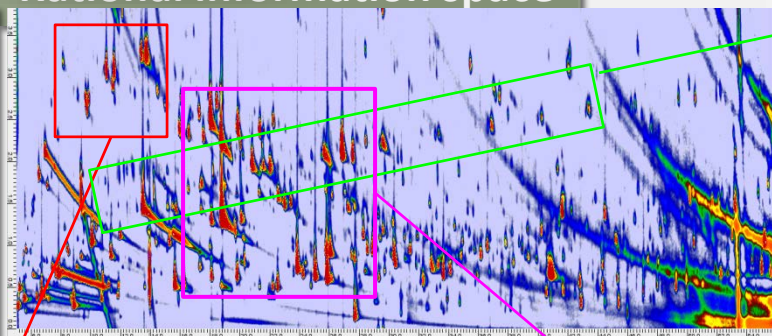
255 reliably identified by 70 eV spectrum and I^T coherence

Various chemical classes highly correlated with autoxidation processes, enzymatic peroxidation, aroma compounds and potent odorants

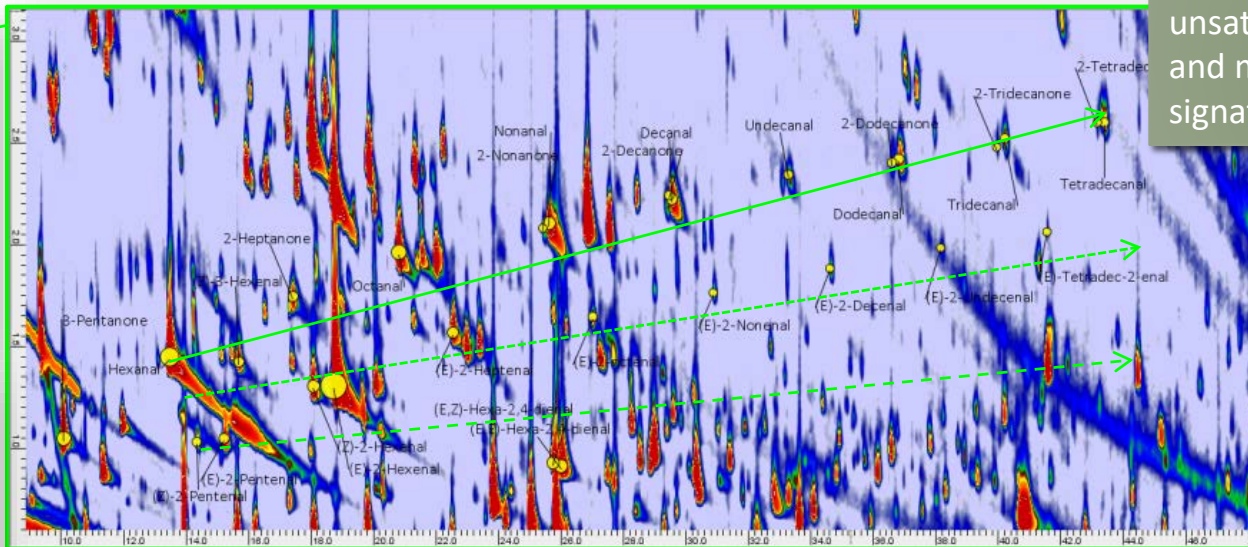


Rational information space

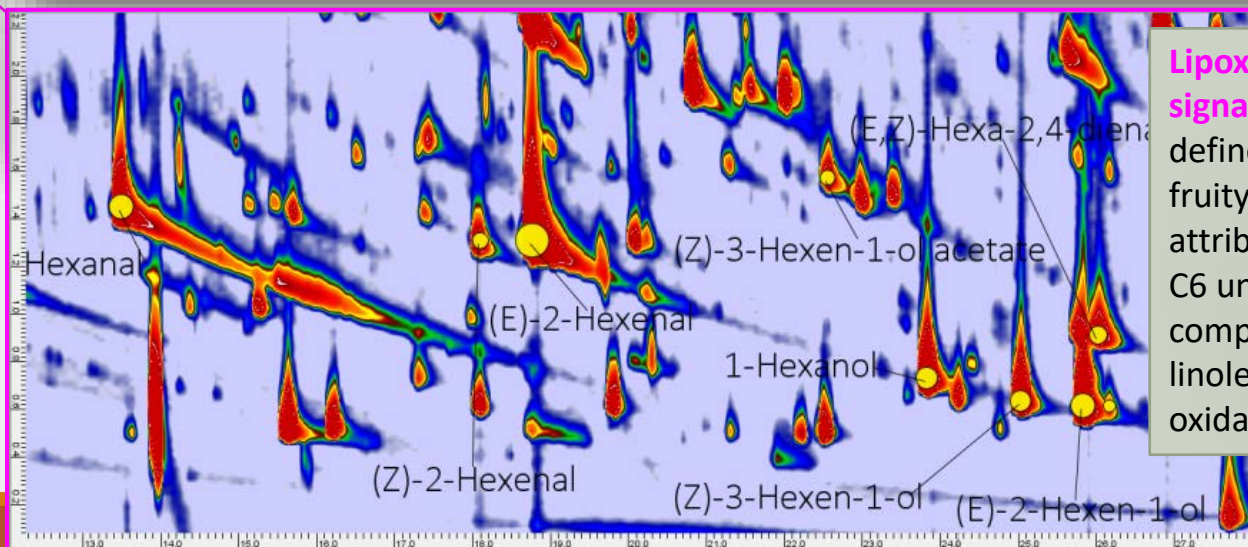
Chemical dimensions



Unsaturated hydrocarbons: distinctive for earlier harvest stages: 3,4-diethyl-1,5-hexadiene (RS þ SR), 3,4-diethyl-1,5-hexadiene (meso), (5Z)-3-Ethyl-1,5-octadiene, (5E)-3-Ethyl-1,5-octadiene, (E,Z)-3,7-decadiene, (E,E)-3,7-decadiene, and (E)-4,8-Dimethyl- 1,3,7-nonatriene.



Linear saturated and unsaturated aldehydes and methyl-ketones signatures

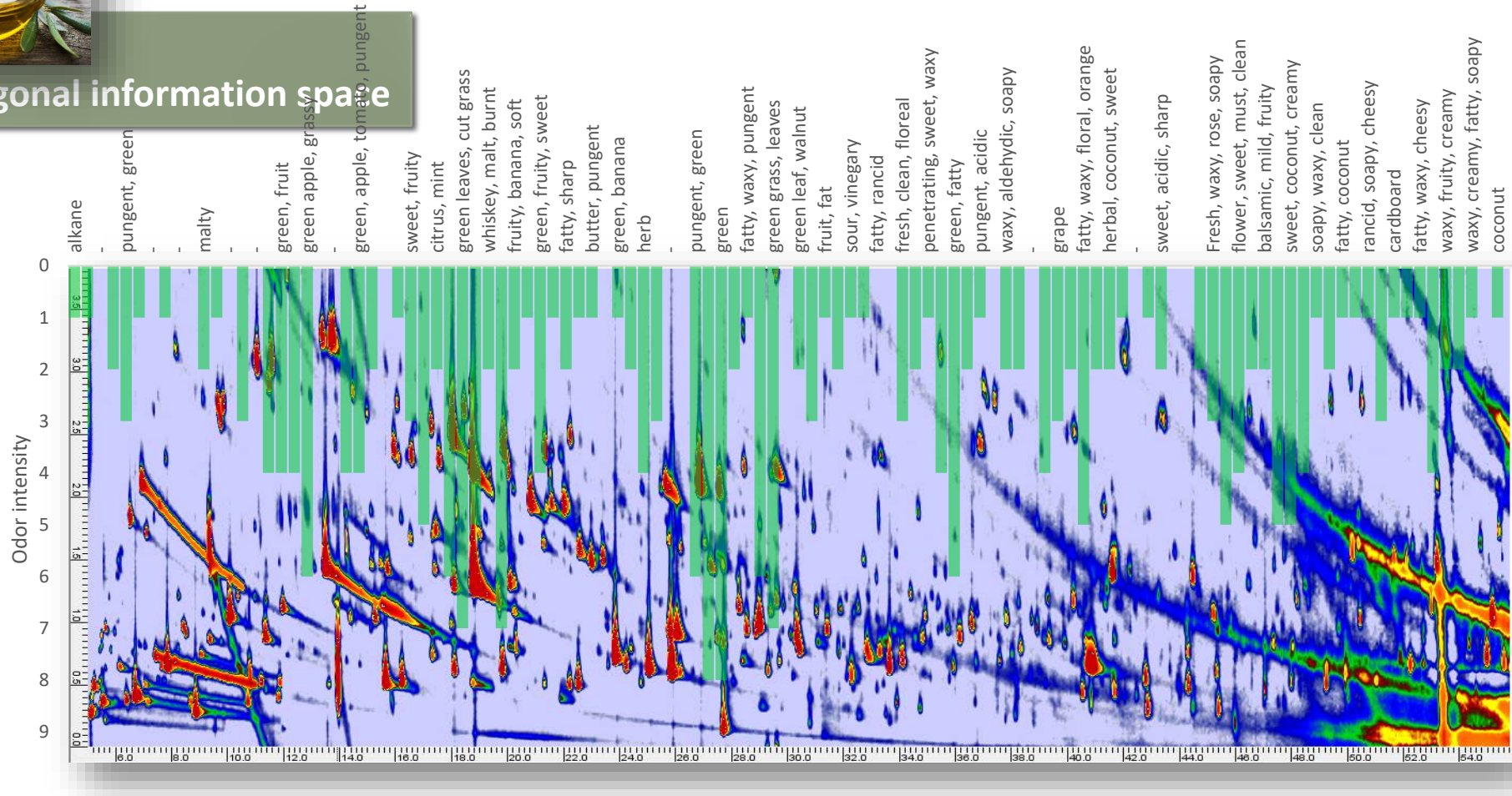


Lipoxygenase (LOX) signature: fundamental to define fresh-green and fruity notes (positive attributes) -> biogenesis of C6 unsaturated compounds derived from linoleic and linolenic acids oxidative cleavage.

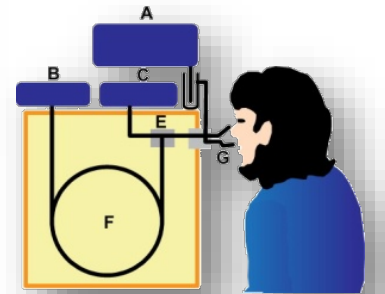


Orthogonal information space

2D - volatility separation



1D - polarity/volatility separation



Picture from:
TrAC (2011) 30(11) :1756–1770

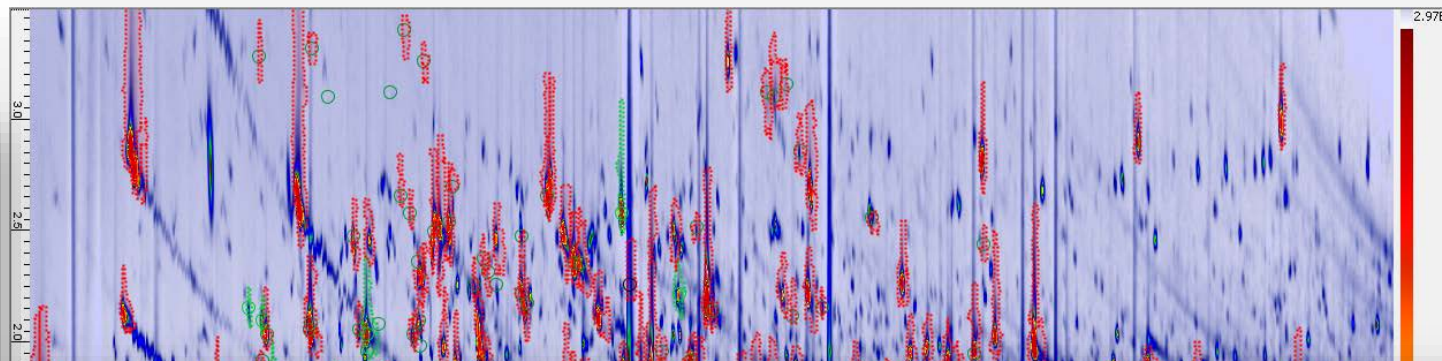
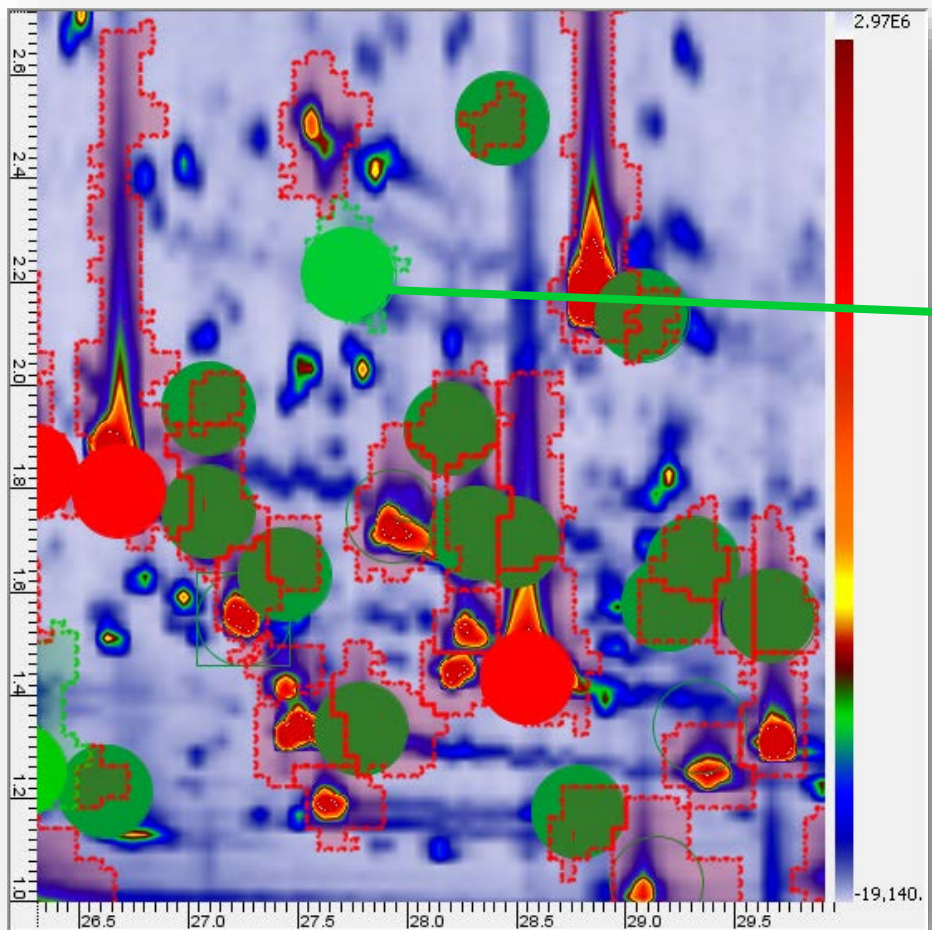


STEP 1

Untargeted/Targeted Fingerprinting - comprehensive mapping



UT Fingerprinting strategy



Labels

Compound Name: 3,5-Diethyl-2-methylpyrazine

Compound Library: [Dropdown]

Group Name: odorants II

Constellation Name: High-rank

Compound Description: potent odorant
LRI (WAX) 1496±7 (26) NIST 2014

Auto Fill

Flags

Include Add Text Object

Internal Standard Add Chemical Structure

Exclude Set Color Custom Color

Statistics Analysis Qualifier/Quantifier Ions

Analysis CLIC (aCLIC) [Dropdown]

Qualifier CLIC (qCLIC) 30.0) & (RMatch("<ms>") >= 700.0 [Dropdown]

Reference MS 2.0;291.0,2.0;292.305,19.0;293.0,4.0

Reference Peak [Dropdown]

CC1=CC=C(C=C1)N(C)C



STEP 2

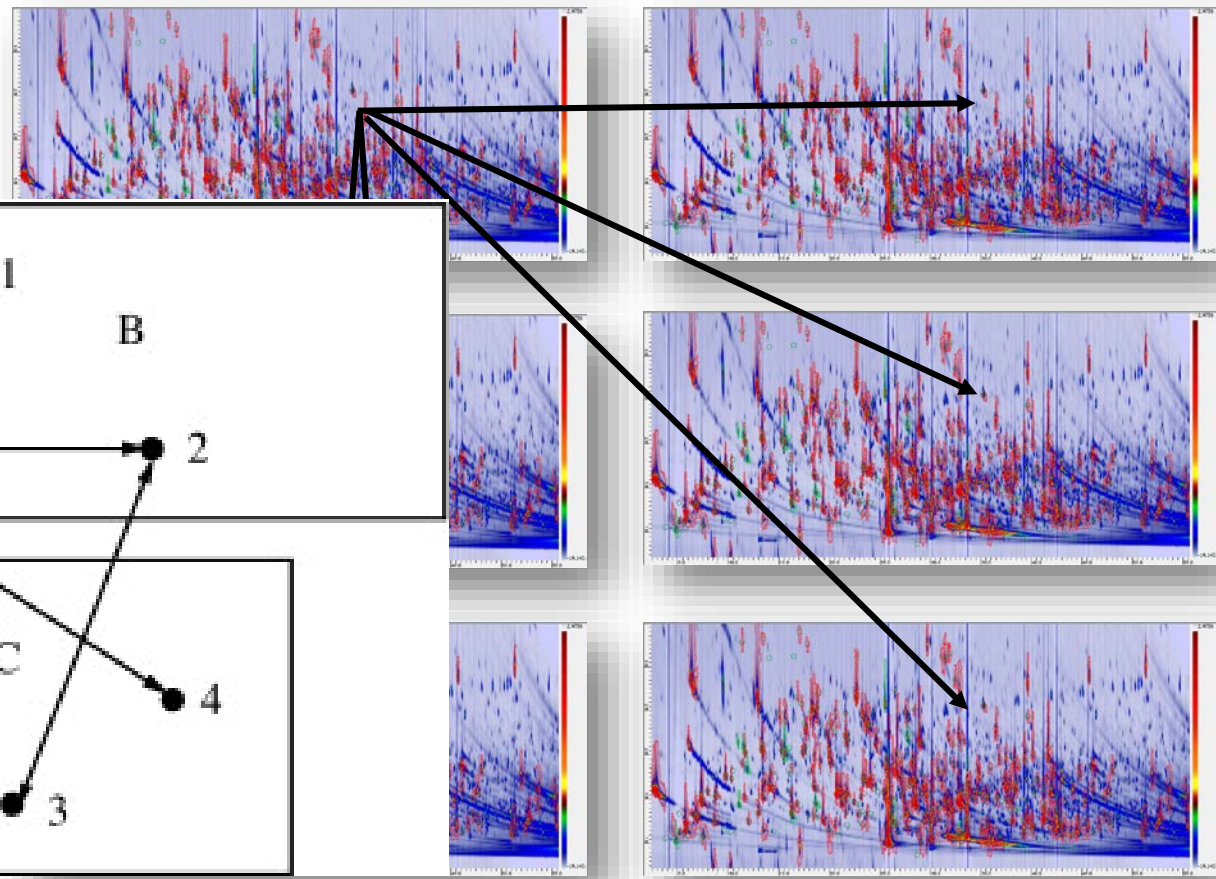
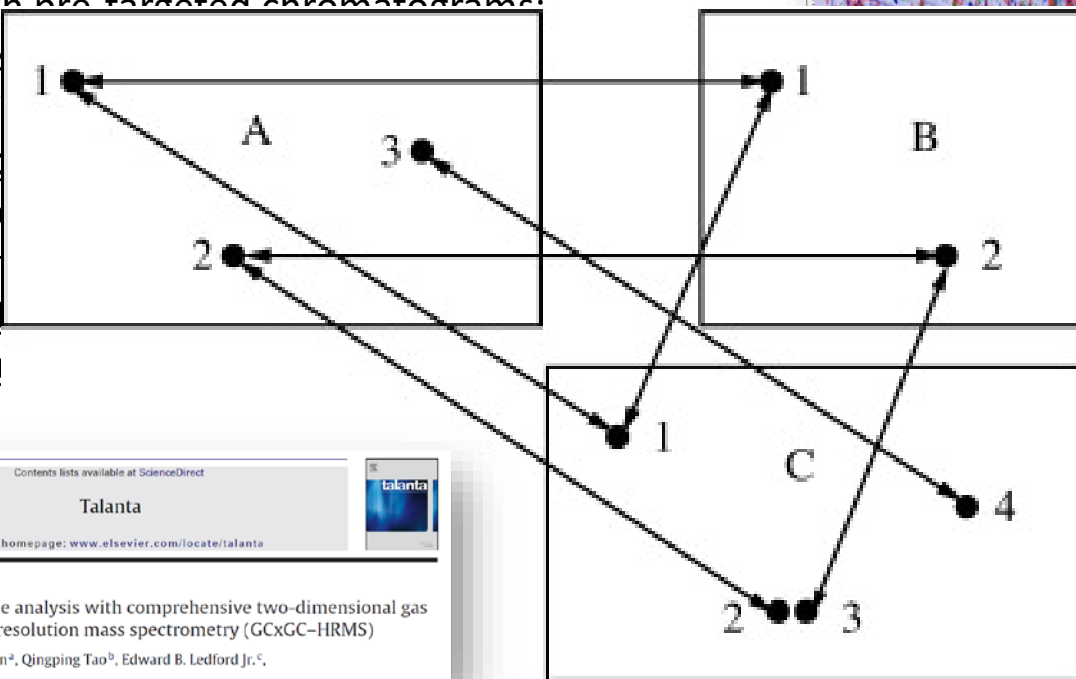
UT Fingerprinting strategy



Untargeted Template Construction (GC Investigator™)

Beginning with pre-targeted chromatograms:

- comprehensive
- determination
- **alignment**
- generation
- definition of
- building of
- **and peak-r**

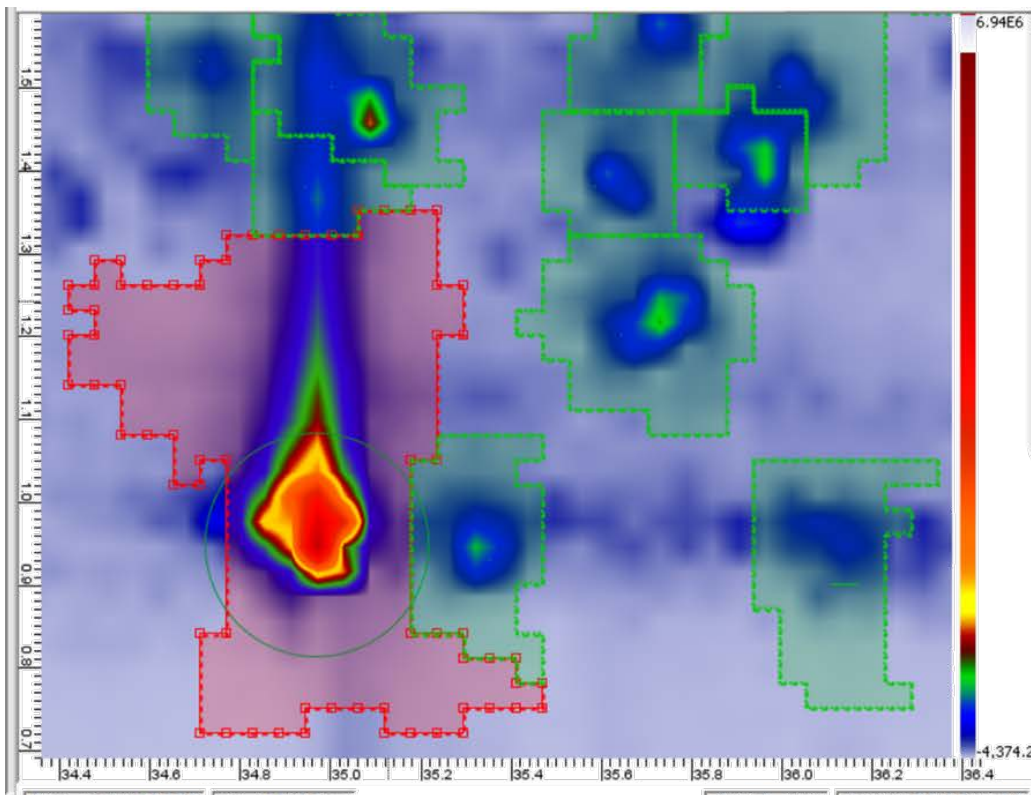


Informatics for cross-sample analysis with comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography and high-resolution mass spectrometry (GCxGC-HRMS)
 Stephen E. Reichenbach^{a,*}, Xue Tian^a, Qingping Tao^b, Edward B. Ledford Jr.^c, Zhanpin Wu^c, Oliver Fiehn^d



STEP 2

UT Fingerprinting strategy



Geometry Properties Area Properties

Properties

ID: 390

Name: Pentanoic acid (53)

Group Name:

Type: Polygon

Qualifier CLIC (qCLIC): <ms> >= 800.0

Reference MS: .0, 163.0; 299.0, 140.0;

Area Add Text Object

Include Set Color

Close Default Color

Exclude Color Blobs

Auto Fill

OK Cancel

Known - targeted
analytes distribution

Geometry Properties Area Properties

Properties

ID: 995

Name: (325)

Group Name: Unknowns

Type: Polygon

Qualifier CLIC (qCLIC):

Reference MS: 36.0, 0.0639853747714

Area Add Text Object

Include Set Color

Close Custom Color

Exclude Color Blobs

Auto Fill

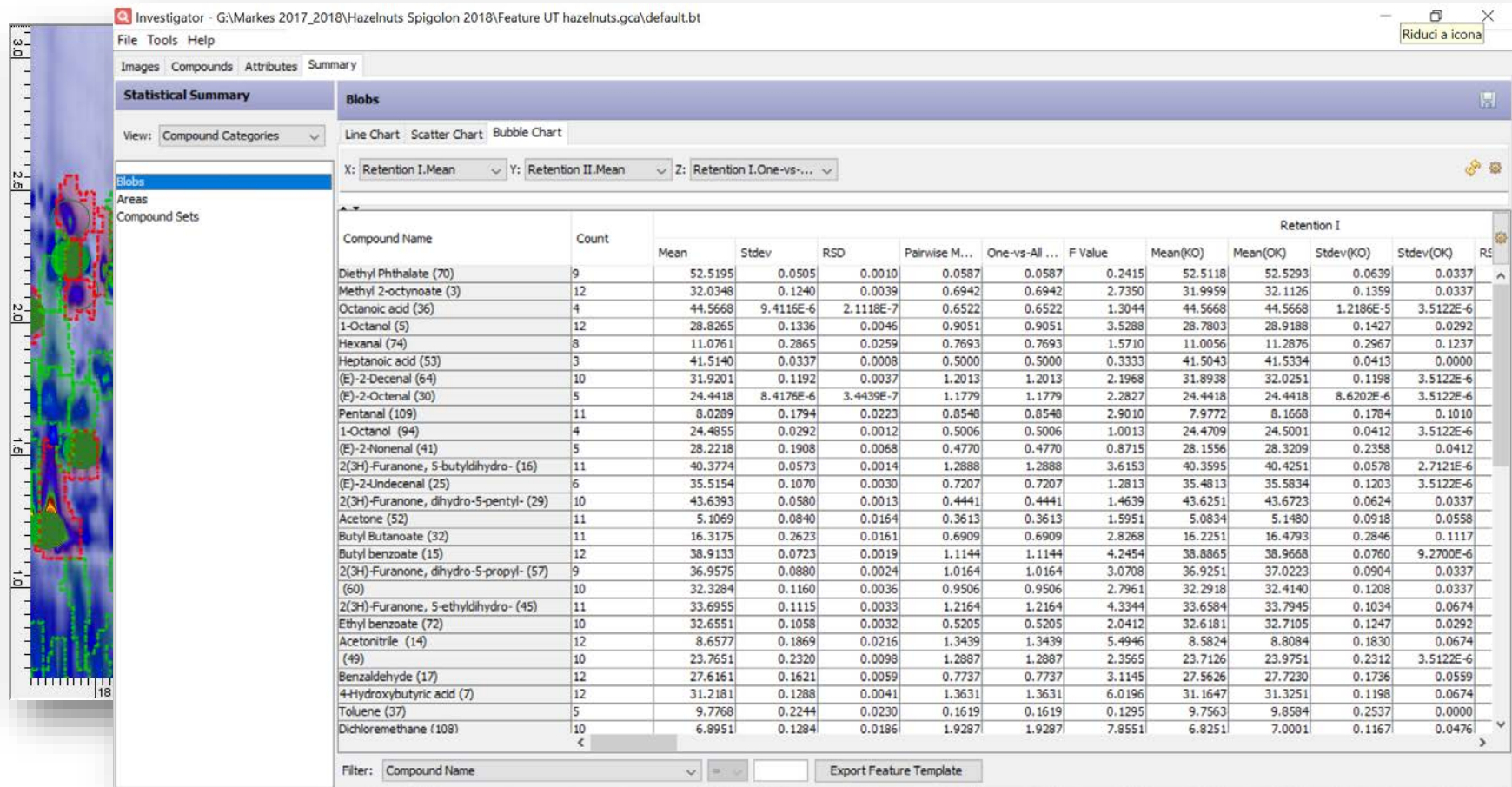
OK Cancel

Unknowns - untargeted
analytes distribution



STEP 2

UT Fingerprinting strategy



Targeted and **untargeted** peak features are cross-aligned between all samples and metadata collected for further processing

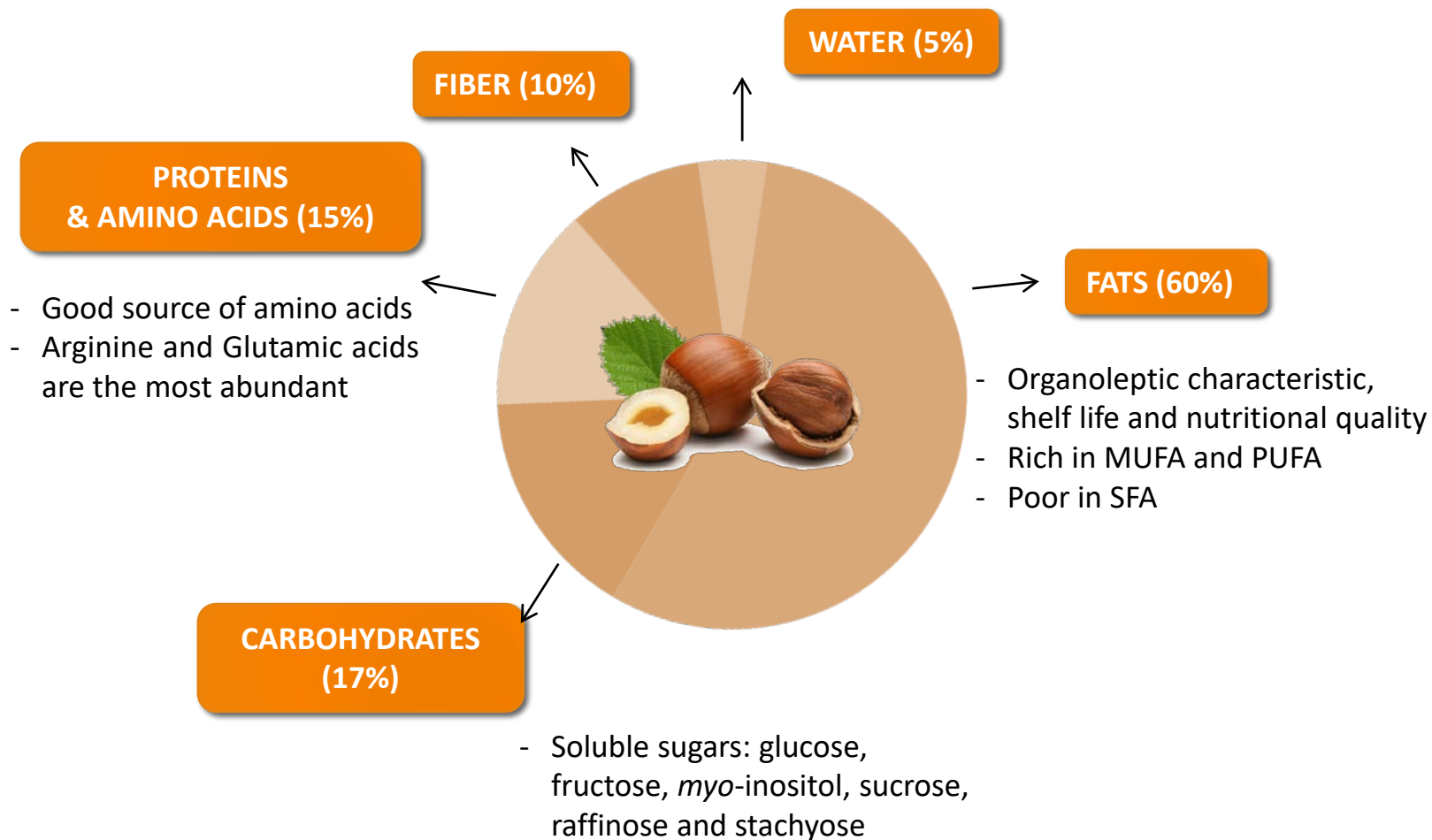
4E6

374.2

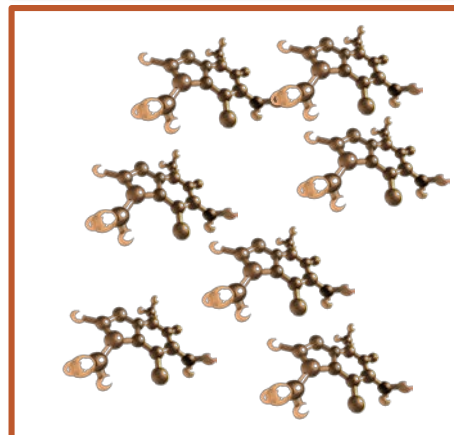


Hazelnuts composition

- Dietary fiber → positive effects on blood sugar and cholesterol levels.



Volatiles < 0.1%



Encrypts a lot of information about hazelnut quality



Volatile fraction

Chemical dimensions

- ✓ Hydrocarbons (linear, branched, aromatics)
- ✓ Terpenoids (isoprenoid derivatives C10-C15) hydrocarbons and oxygenated
- ✓ Alcohols (linear and branched)
- ✓ Carbonyl derivatives (aldehydes, ketones)
- ✓ Carboxylic acids (short chain highly volatiles pKa)
- ✓ Esters (FAs and alcohols from aa degradation)
- ✓ Lactones (cyclic esters from hydroxy acids)
- ✓ Heterocycles from Maillard reaction (furanones, pyranones)
- ✓ ...

Information dimensions

- ✓ geographical origin and pedoclimatic variations
- ✓ phenotyping and chemotyping
- ✓ multitrophic interactions (plants-insects)
- ✓ presence of bacteria and molds
- ✓ scent and odorous compounds

Roasted hazelnuts

- ✓ distinctive aroma blueprint
- ✓ thermal processes
- ✓ presence of nutrients and non-nutrients





Example I

Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00216-017-0832-6>

RESEARCH PAPER

Evolution of potent odorants within the volatile metabolome of high-quality hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana* L.): evaluation by comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry

Marta Cialliè Rosso¹ · Erica Liberto¹ · Nicola Spigolon² · Mauro Fontana² · Marco Somenzi² · Carlo Bicchi¹ · Chiara Cordero¹



Industry trajectory Post-harvest and storage



- ✓ Origin - botanical / geographical
- ✓ Post-harvest drying (traditional in field, under controlled conditions and at low temperature)
- ✓ Storage 0-12 months at different conditions: normal or modified atmosphere, 5 and 18°C

Volatiles formed by lipid oxidation and enzymatic activity (endogenous or exogenous - bacteria, molds)





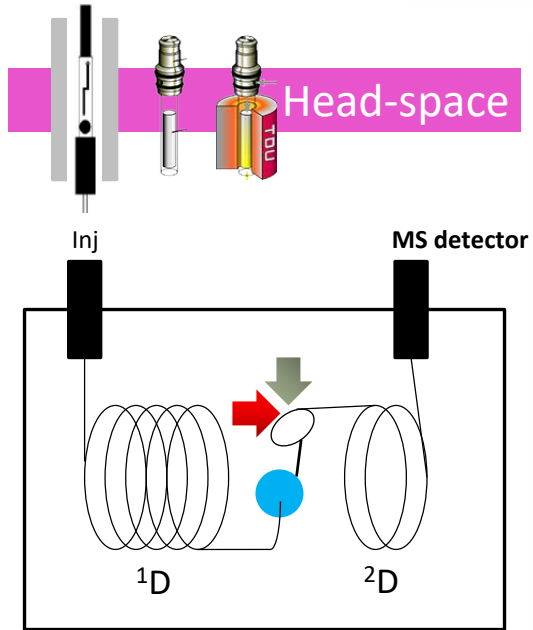
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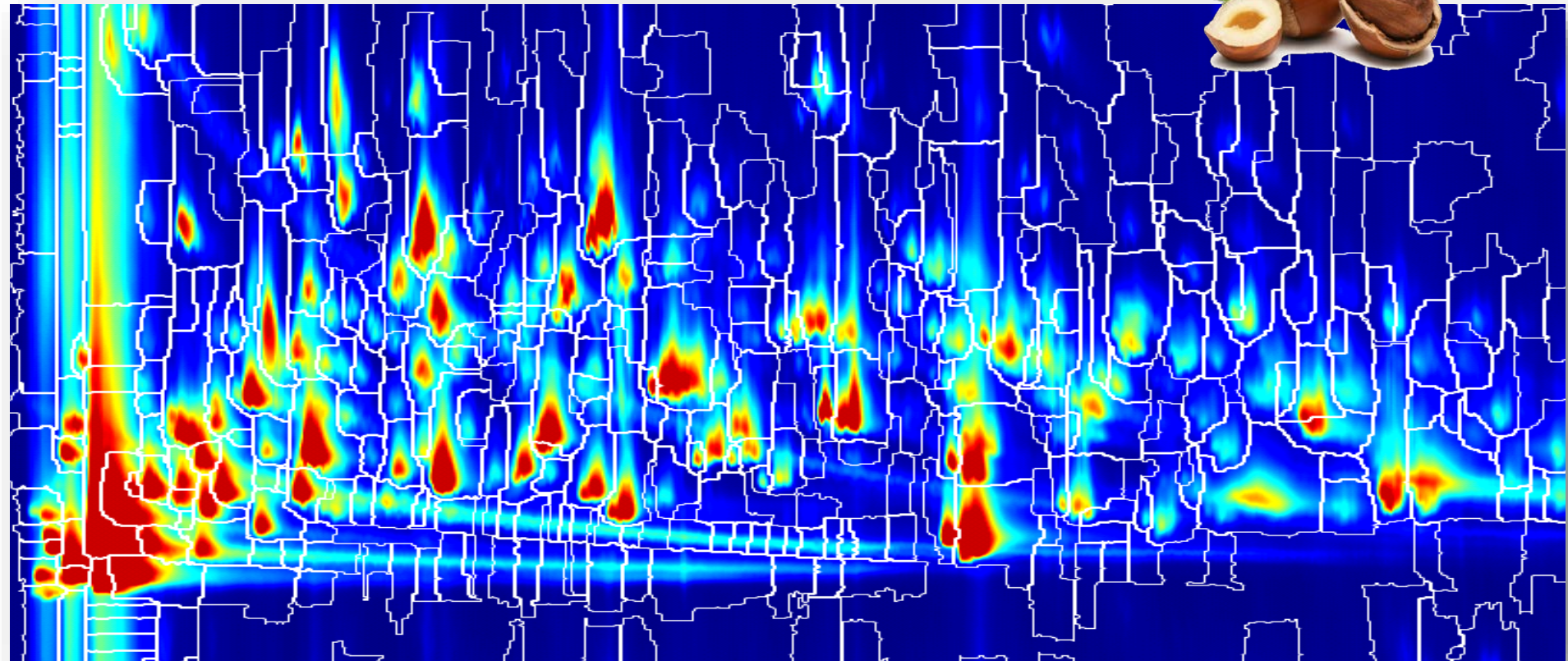
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GCxGC-MS

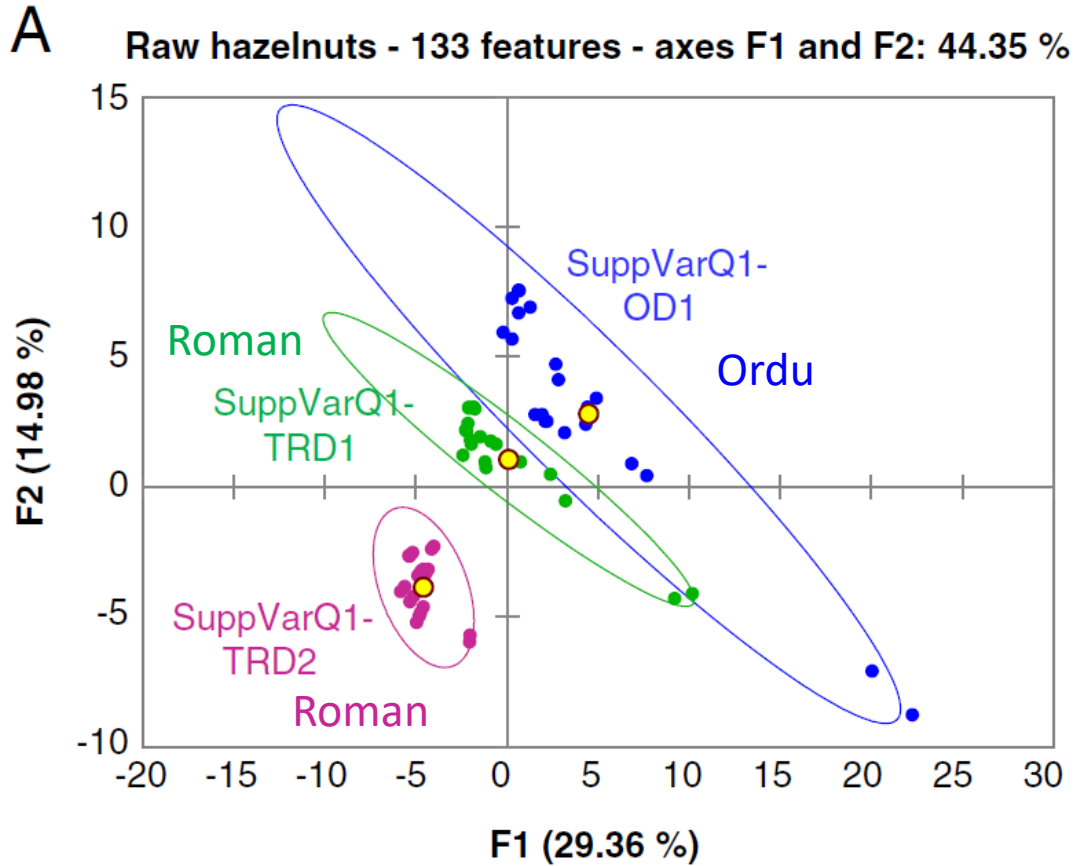




Example I

Ordu D1- traditional drying
Roman D1 - traditional drying
Roman D2 - low temperature drying

Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry
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Evolution of potent odorants within the volatile metabolome of high-quality hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana* L.): evaluation by comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry
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133 volatiles - targeted fingerprinting
Enable a clear clusterization of samples according to origin and post-harvest treatment



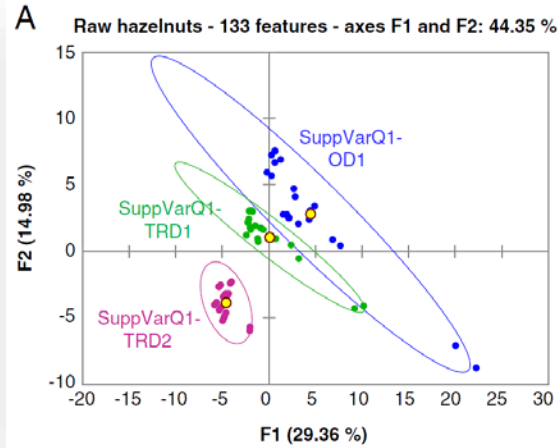
Fisher ratio (F), driven by post-harvest drying (D1 vs. D2).
Fisher critical value at the 95% of confidence level ($\alpha = 0.05$ Fcrit) for the data matrix dimensions was 2.16.

Most informing variables (F value 202 -22):
series of linear and branched alcohols (2-heptanol, 2-methyl-1-propanol, 3-methyl-1-butanol, 2-ethyl-1-hexanol, benzyl alcohol), esters (ethyl acetate, butyl butanoate, 2-methyl-butyl propanoate) and acetic acid.





Example I



- Ordu D1 - traditional drying
- Roman D1 - traditional drying
- Roman D2 - low temperature drying



Fruit viability
Enzymatic inactivation

Exploring the information dimensions

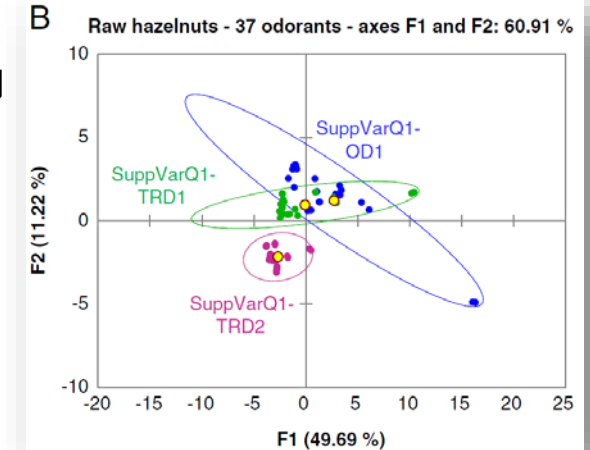
Most of the informative compounds have been correlated with nut **ripening** and/or **fermentation processes** occurring in vegetables

3-Methyl-1-butanol (i.e., isoamyl alcohol) is a fermentation product formed from L-leucine

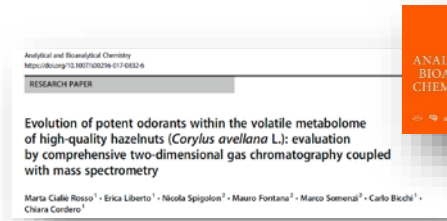
2-Methyl-1-propanol - L-valine as precursor

2-Heptanol is formed from β -ketoacids hydrolysis and subsequent decarboxylation

2-Ethyl-1-hexanol found in fermented soybean foods

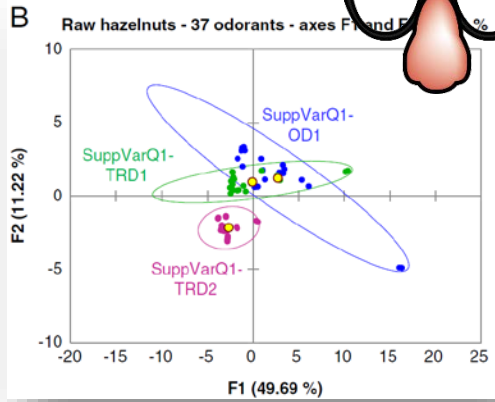


The **most potent odorants** (OT values up to 2500 $\mu\text{g/L}$) correlated closely (> 0.800) with storage time: 1-heptanol (*green, chemical*), 2-octanol (*metal, burnt*), 1-octen-3-ol (*mushroom*), (E)-2-heptenal (*fatty, almond*), hexanal (*leaf-like, green*), heptanal (*fatty*), octanal (*fatty*) and nonanal (*tallowy, fruity*)





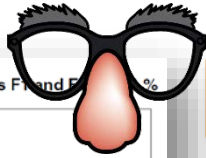
Example I



Ordu D1- traditional drying
 Roman D1 - traditional drying
 Roman D2 - low temperature drying



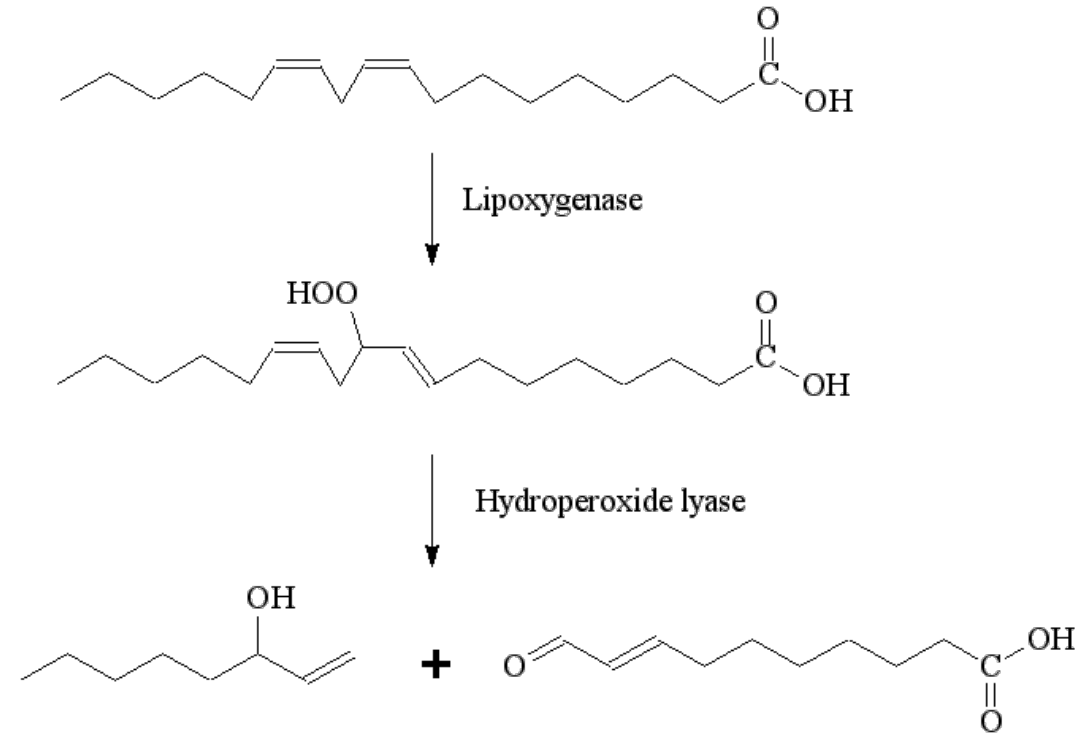
Fruit viability
 Enzymatic inactivation



Exploring the information dimensions

2-octanol and 1-octen-3-ol
 known products of linoleic acid
 cleavage, which are generally
 promoted by fungal
 lipoxygenase/hydroperoxide liase
 enzymes

The increasing trend of these alcohols
 might be correlated to the occurrence
 of **off-odors** related to *metallic* and
mushroom-like notes



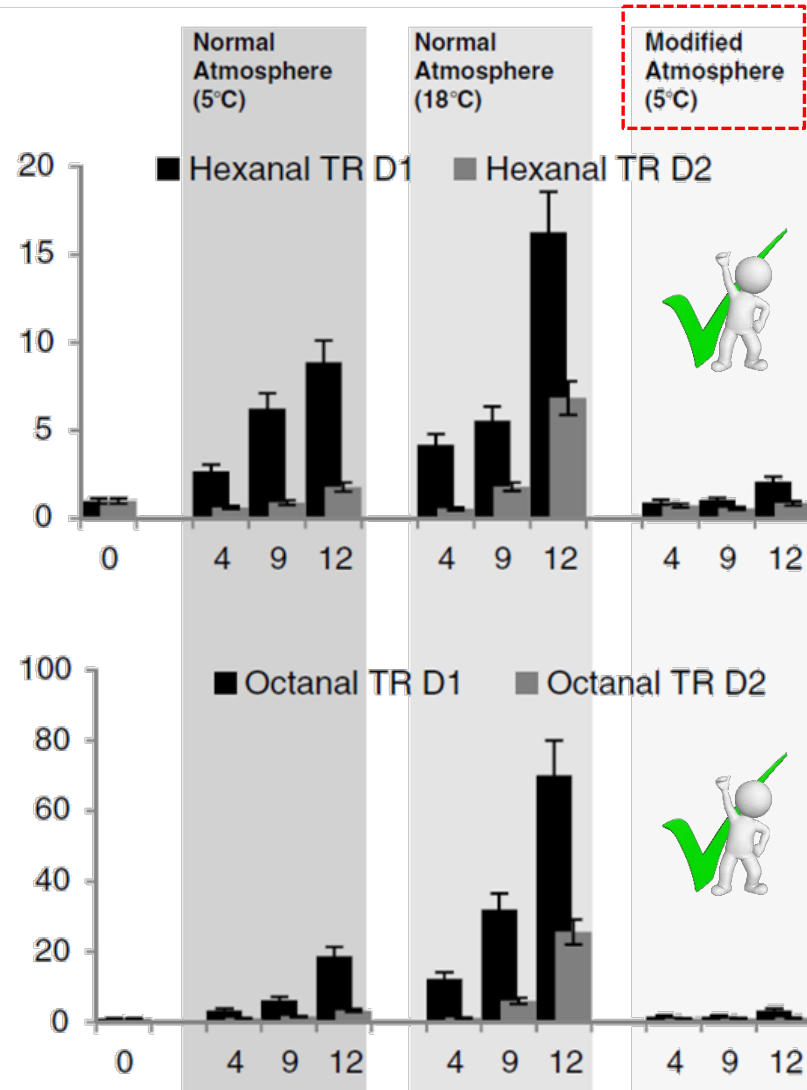
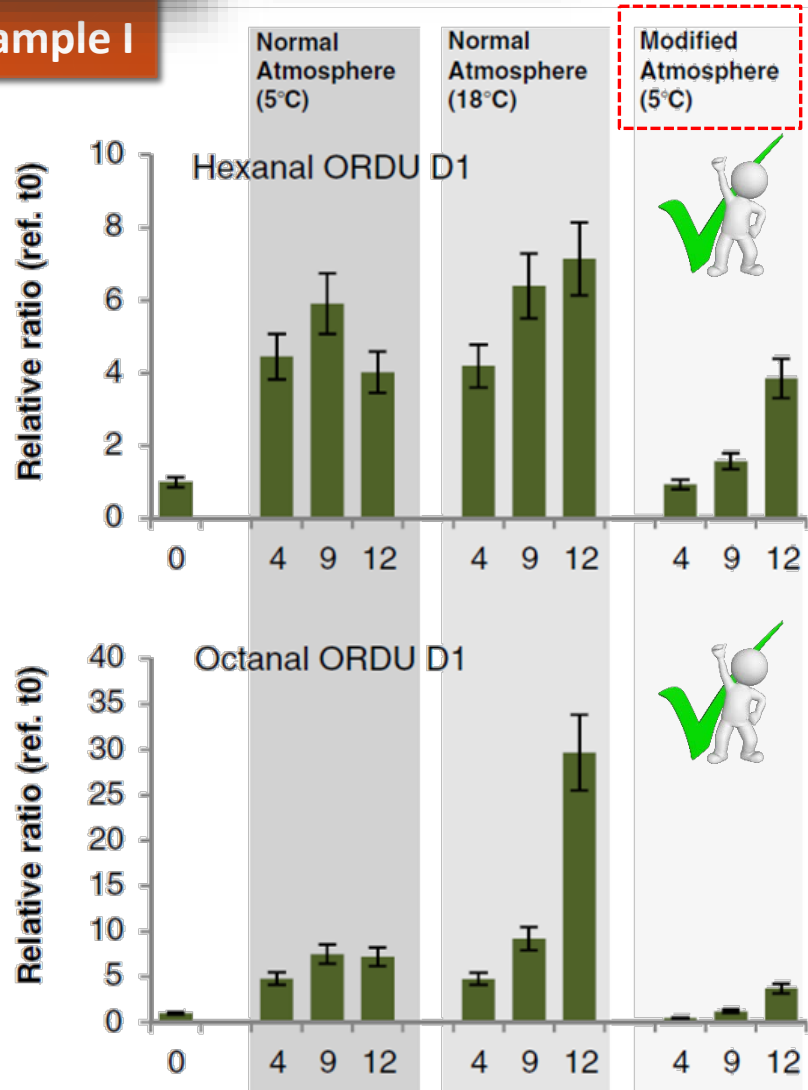


ANALYTICAL & BIOMANAGERIAL CHEMISTRY
RESEARCH PAPER

Evolution of potent odorants within the volatile metabolome of high-quality hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana* L.): evaluation by comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry

Maria Celia Reyes¹, Erica Liberto¹, Nicola Supplis¹, Maria Somenzi¹, Carlo Bucci¹, Chiara Corbelli¹

Example 1



leaf-like, green



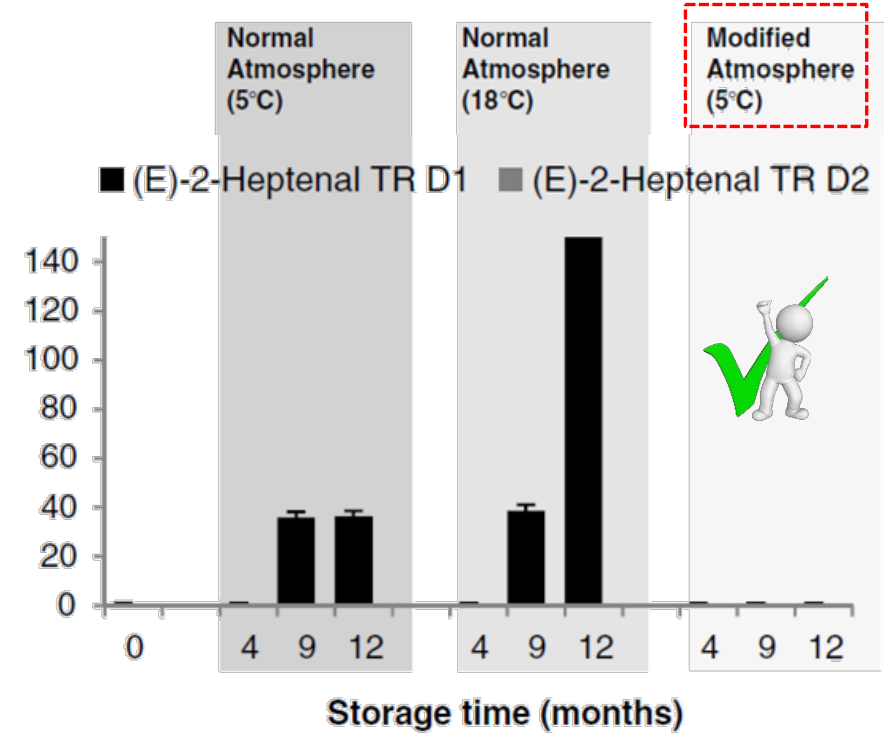
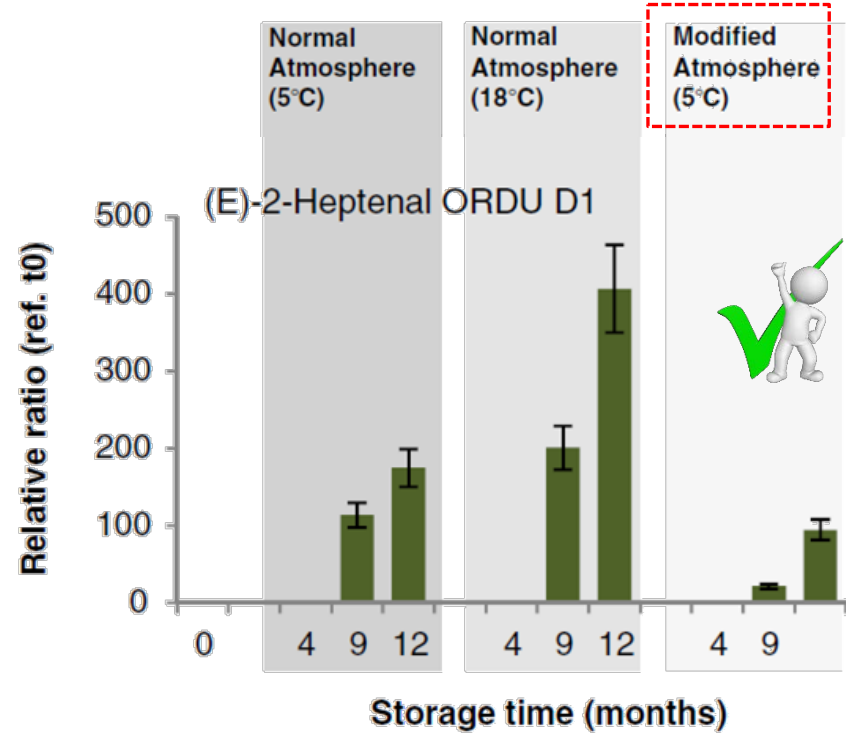
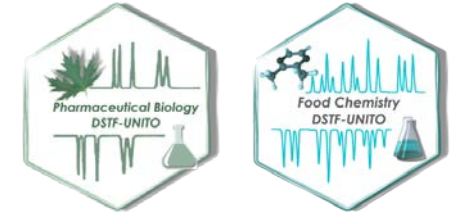
fatty





ANALYTICAL & BIOMANUFACTURAL CHEMISTRY
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Example 1



fatty, almond

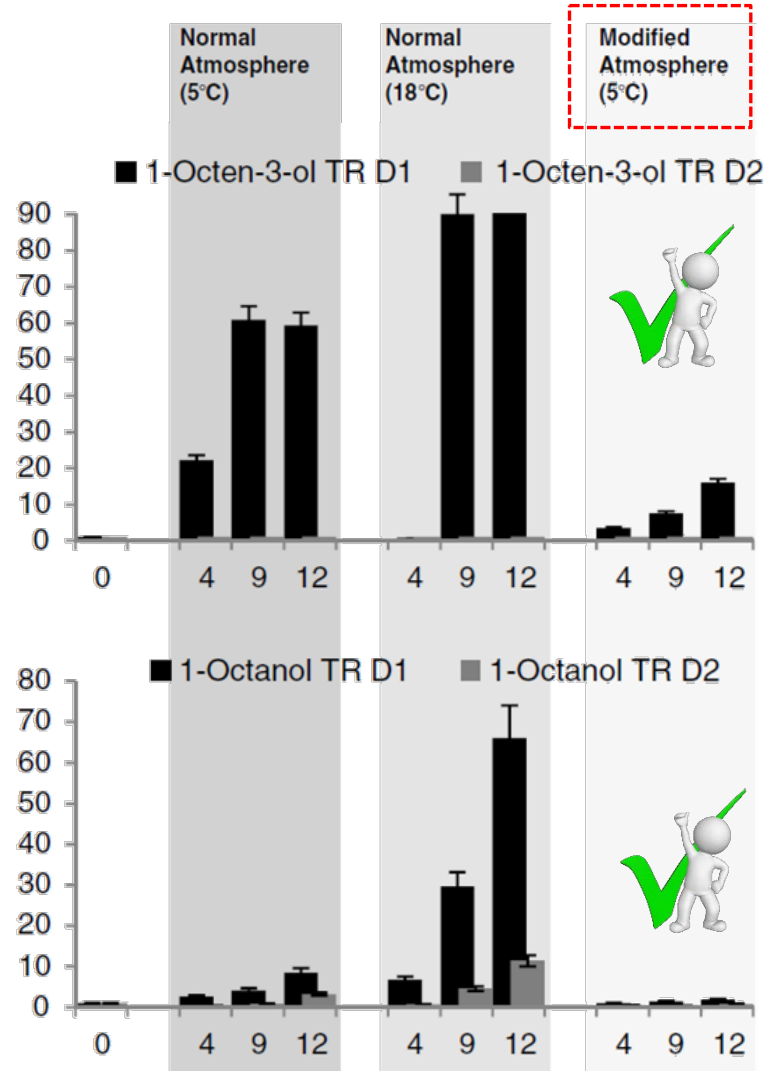
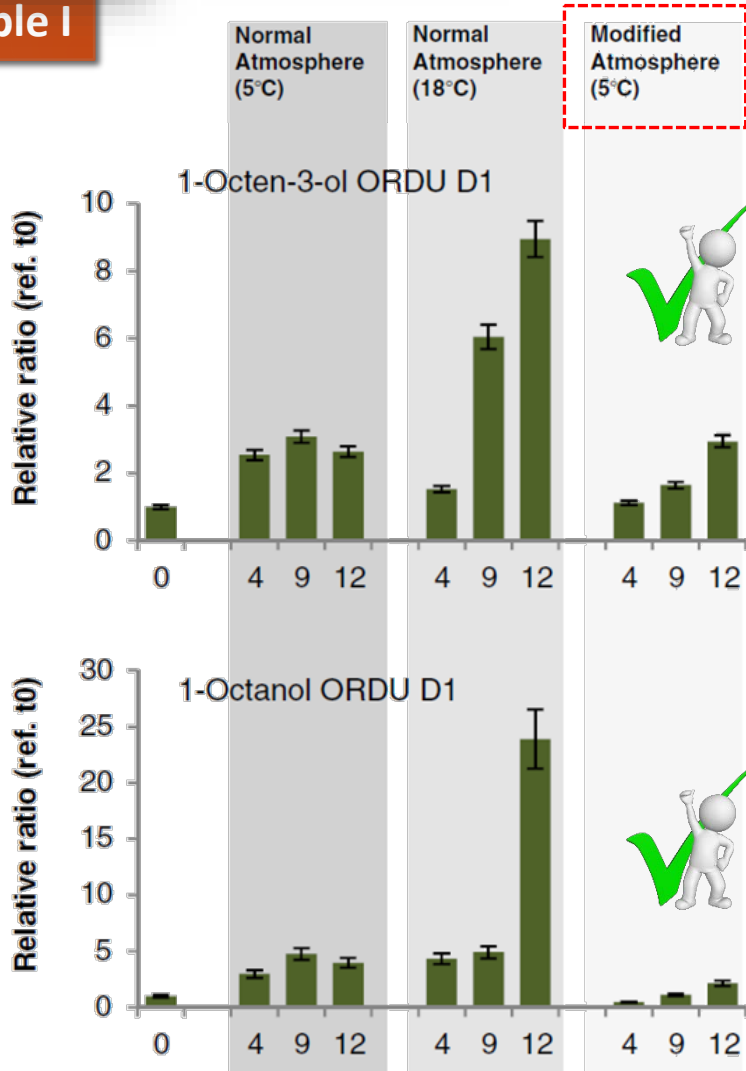




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Example I

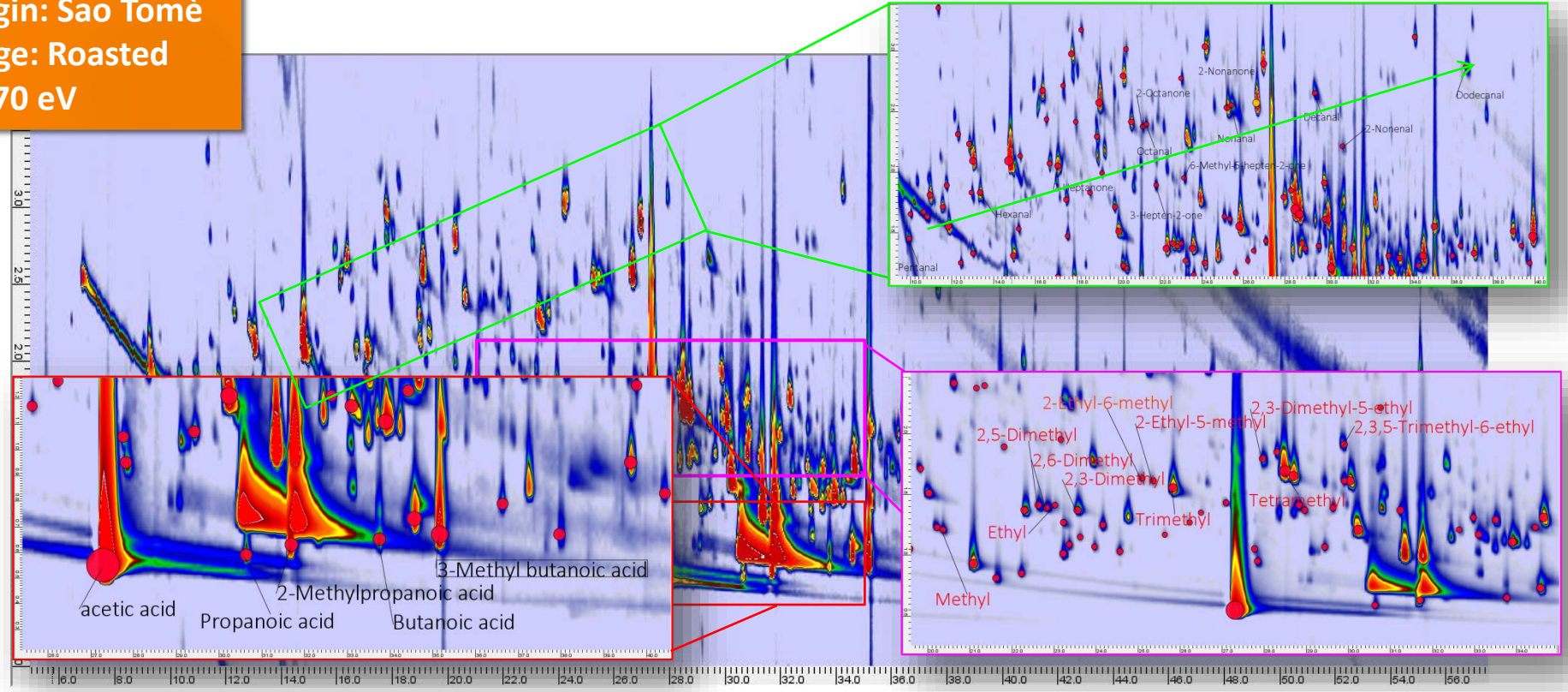




Origin: Sao Tomè
Stage: Roasted
EI: 70 eV



Industry trajectory
How capture cocoa
aroma blueprint
from high-quality
origins?



Short chain fatty acids signature: linear and branched chain FAs derived from beans fermentation during post-harvest

Pyrazines signature: this chemical group of volatiles, formed through Maillard reaction of di-carbonyls and aminoacids, is informative about geographical oringing of cocoa. Pyrazines are also key-odorants imparting earthy and roasty notes

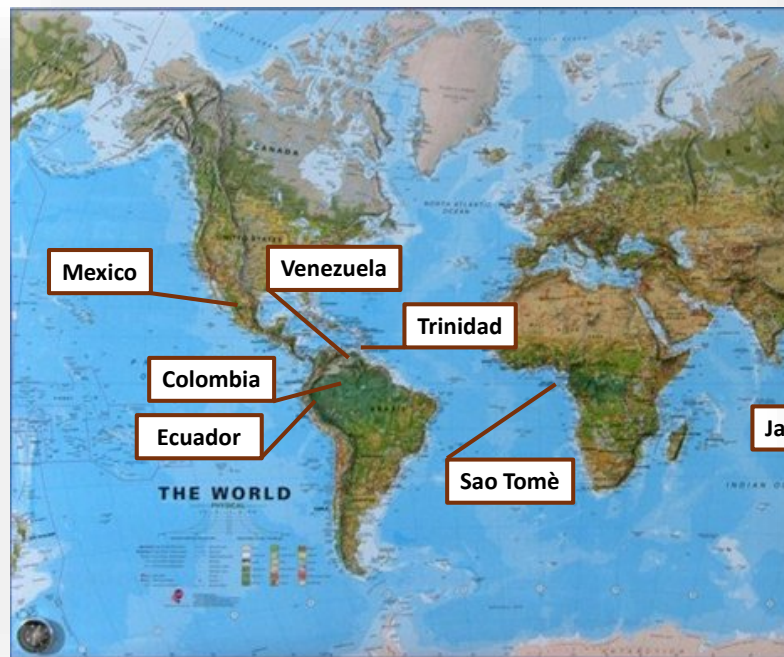




Geographical origins:
Central/South America,
Africa, Asia

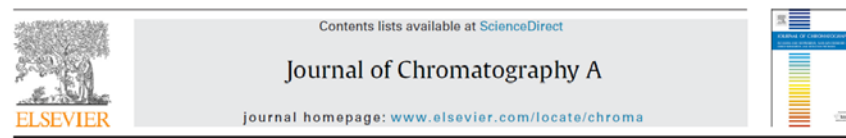
Harvest year 2014
Genetic differences
Commercial Samples

Technological stages:
raw, roasted, steamed
and nibs



Comprehensive Chemical Fingerprinting of High-Quality Cocoa at Early Stages of Processing: Effectiveness of Combined Untargeted and Targeted Approaches for Classification and Discrimination

Federico Magagna,[†] Alessandro Guglielmetti,[†] Erica Liberto,[†] Stephen E. Reichenbach,[‡] Elena Allegrucci,[§] Guido Gobino,[§] Carlo Bicchi,[†] and Chiara Cordero^{*,†,¶}



Advanced fingerprinting of high-quality cocoa: Challenges in transferring methods from thermal to differential-flow modulated comprehensive two dimensional gas chromatography

Federico Magagna^a, Erica Liberto^a, Stephen E. Reichenbach^b, Qingping Tao^c, Andrea Carretta^d, Luigi Cobelli^d, Matthew Giardina^c, Carlo Bicchi^a, Chiara Cordero^{a,*}



Comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography coupled with time of flight mass spectrometry featuring tandem ionization: Challenges and opportunities for accurate fingerprinting studies[☆]

Chiara Cordero^{a,*}, Alessandro Guglielmetti^a, Carlo Bicchi^a, Erica Liberto^a, Lucie Baroux^b, Philippe Merle^b, Qingping Tao^c, Stephen E. Reichenbach^{c,d}



Example II

“Comprehensive” fingerprinting

data matrix 595 peak-regions × 168 runs

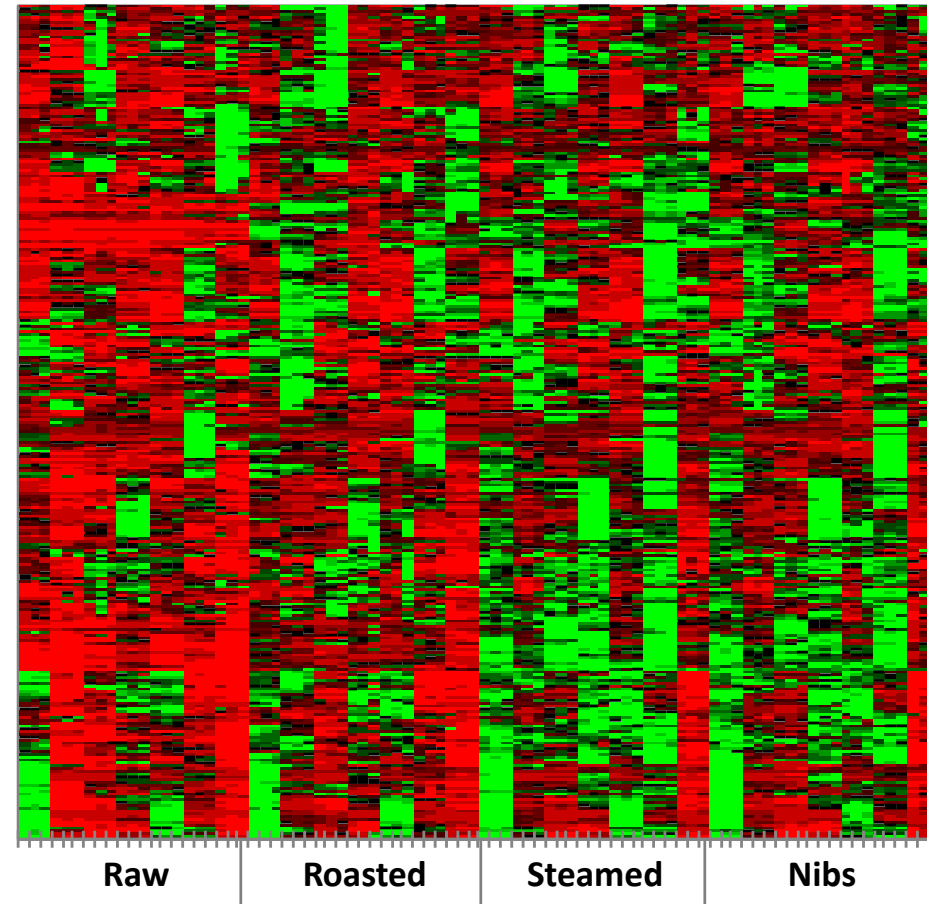
7 origins × 4 step of processing × 3 batches × 2 replicates



Heat-map (mean and centering normalization) based on Normalized 2D volumes of **595 peak-regions** including **130 targeted analytes** and **17 key-odorants** eliciting characteristic cocoa notes.

Combined Untargeted and Targeted (UT) fingerprinting[§]

Coloring from red (low abundance) to green illustrates the evolution of volatiles from raw beans (predominance of red spots) to nibs where most of the volatiles reach their maximum abundance.

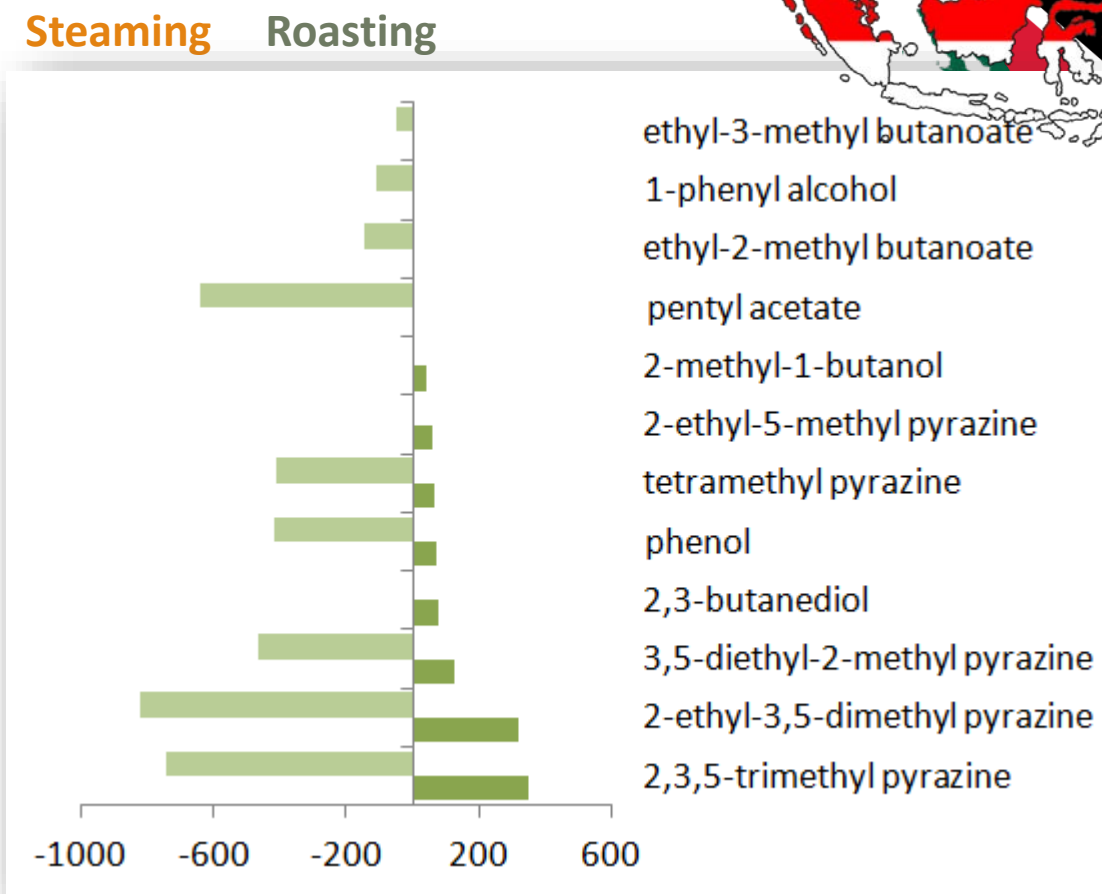




Supervised approaches inform about those analytes capable of discriminating samples
 Which is the impact of roasting and/or steaming?

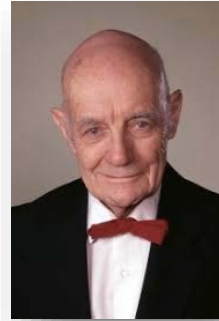


Fisher ratios are used to measure class separation for individual features relative to the variance within classes.
For more than 20 samples
a Fisher ratio of 6.45 exceeds 99% confidence



Fisher ratio values (one vs. all)

Conclusive remarks



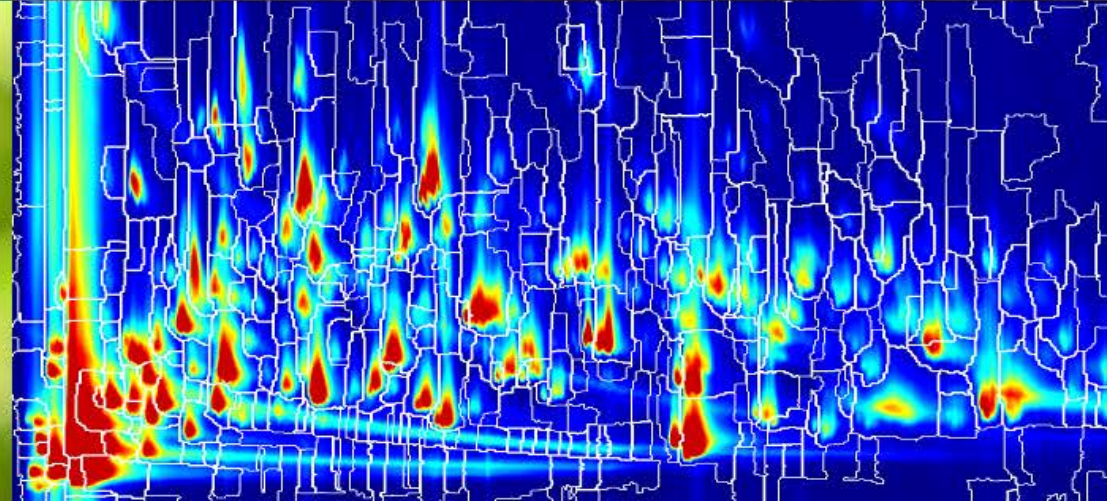
John B. Fenn Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 2002

"You can say that you feel fulfilled as a scientist when, and only when, your scientific achievements help somebody else to solve his problem(s)"



Advancements in analytical chemistry should be exploited to solve practical problems from real-life and to improve our knowledge on complex phenomena (e.g., sensory perception).

OMICs measurement concepts and investigation strategies may accelerate innovation and improve products quality - define new concepts of quality - synergies with industrial research



Thank you for your attention

Prof. Chiara Emilia Cordero
University of Turin - chiara.cordero@unito.it