

1 Reversed Phase High Performance Liquid
2 Chromatography-Fluorescence detection for the analysis
3 of glutathione and its precursor γ -glutamyl cysteine in
4 wines and model wines supplemented with oenological
5 inactive dry yeast preparations

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22 **Abstract**

23 A Reverse Phase- High Performance Liquid Chromatography-Fluorescence detection
24 (RP-HPLC-FL) methodology involving a pre-column derivatization procedure using
25 2,3- naphthalenedialdehyde (NAD) in presence of 5 and 0.5 mM of dithiothreitol (DTT)
26 to determine total and reduced glutathione (GSH) and γ -glutamyl-cysteine (γ -glu-cys) in
27 musts and wines has been set up and validated. The proposed method showed good
28 linearity ($R^2 > 99$ % for reduced and total GSH, and $R^2 > 98$ % for γ -glu-cys) in
29 synthetic wines, over a wide range of concentration (0-10 mg L⁻¹). The limits of
30 detection (LODs) for reduced GSH in synthetic and real wines were almost the same
31 (0.13 and 0.15 mg L⁻¹ respectively) and slightly higher for γ -glu-cys (0.24 mg L⁻¹). The
32 application of the method allowed knowing for the first time, the amount of total and
33 reduced GSH and γ -glu-cys released into synthetic wines by oenological preparations of
34 commercial inactive dry yeast (IDY). In addition, the evolution of these three
35 compounds during the winemaking and shelf-life (0-9 months) of an industrially
36 manufactured rosé wine supplemented with a GSH enriched IDY showed that although
37 GSH is effectively released from IDY, it is rapidly oxidized during alcoholic
38 fermentation, contributing to the higher total GSH content determined in wines
39 supplemented with GSH enriched IDYs compared to control wines.

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43 **Key words:** RP-HPLC-FL; glutathione; γ -glutamyl-cysteine; inactive dry yeast
44 preparations; wine

45

46 **1. INTRODUCTION**

47 Currently, the use of winemaking Inactive Dry Yeast preparations (IDY) is gaining
48 interest within the wine industry because of their large amount of potential applications
49 during winemaking. Although they have been mainly used for the improvement of
50 alcoholic and malolactic fermentations, the use of IDY for enhancing wine's sensory
51 characteristics, is one of the most promising and interesting applications ¹.

52 The impact of IDY in wine's sensory properties is due to the ability of yeast
53 components to modify wine chemical composition. As a matter of fact, it has been
54 shown that yeast polysaccharides are able to protect wine colour, because of the
55 interaction of yeast mannoproteins with tannins and anthocyanins, therefore, avoiding
56 or minimising polyphenol aggregation and precipitation ^{2,3}. In addition, recent research
57 performed in our group have shown that some yeast macromolecules released from IDY
58 may affect the volatility of important wine aroma compounds ⁴, which could be related
59 to the sensory differences observed in wines supplemented with these preparations
60 compared to control wines ⁵. Moreover, the ability of IDY to release nitrogen
61 heterocyclic volatile compounds, likely formed as a consequence of the thermal
62 reactions accounted for in the last steps during their production has been also shown ⁶.

63 Besides of the above mentioned effects of IDY on wine aroma, there are currently in
64 the market other types of IDYs, which have been claimed to specifically preserve aroma
65 composition during wine storage. The protective effect of these preparations has been
66 associated to the presence of a relatively large amount of glutathione (GSH). This
67 compound is a yeast intracellular tripeptide (γ -L-glutamyl-L-cysteinylglycine) from non
68 proteic origin of known antioxidant properties, which it is formed from the precursor γ -
69 glutamyl-cysteine (γ -glu-cys) ⁷. GSH represents above 1% of the total weight of the
70 yeast, although this concentration depends on the composition of the growth media ^{8,9}.

71 GSH in musts and wines seems to have an important effect in wine quality, affecting the
72 occurrence of aroma compounds and the prevention of wine oxidation by avoiding must
73 browning and the decreasing of volatile compounds during wine aging ^{10,11,12,13,14}.
74 Differences in concentrations of GSH in wines seem to be related to the type of wine,
75 and also to different factors during winemaking, such as the pressing conditions ¹⁵ and
76 the presence of oxygen ¹⁶.

77 Due to the increasing importance of determining the occurrence of GSH in musts and
78 wines, different analytical methodologies have been developed for this purpose. HPLC-
79 FL has been previously employed to determine GSH by using precolumn derivatization
80 with *o*-phthaldialdehyde (OPA) ^{17,18} or 2,3 naphthalenedialdehyde (NDA) ¹⁹. In addition,
81 other methods imply the use of capillary electrophoresis ²⁰ and LC-MS/MS ¹⁶. In most
82 of the cases, GSH has been determined in its reduced form, which seems to be the most
83 active against oxidation. However, total GSH has also been proposed as a good
84 indicator of GSH contained in wines ¹⁹, underlining the necessity of sensitive, robust
85 and versatile methods allowing to determine the different forms of GSH present in
86 wines.

87 On the other hand, although the effect of exogenous addition of GSH to musts and
88 wines before bottling has been already explored ^{10,14}, the impact of using commercial
89 glutathione-enriched IDY preparations (G-IDY) during winemaking on the pool of GSH
90 in wines, has not been study so far.

91 Therefore, the objectives of this work were to optimise and validate a RP-HPLC-FL
92 method allowing the determination of reduced and total GSH and the precursor γ -glu-
93 cys in wines and synthetic wines, and secondly, the application of the method to
94 determine the ability of commercial IDY and G-IDY preparations to release glutathione
95 into synthetic wines, and to study the stability and evolution of this compound during

96 the winemaking and shelf-life of an industrially manufactured *rosé* wine from Grenache
97 grapes.

98

99 **2. MATERIAL AND METHODS**

100 **2.1. IDY preparations**

101 Eight IDY preparations were selected for being representative of the current
102 preparations in the oenological market and because they are widely used in
103 winemaking. Four of them: G-IDY-1, G-IDY-4, G-IDY-5 and G-IDY-8 are claimed in
104 reducing the oxidation of wine aroma compounds because of the presence of higher
105 amounts of glutathione. Another four preparations: IDY-2, IDY-3, IDY-6 and IDY-7
106 were chosen because of their high polysaccharide content, which following
107 manufacturer's information can be used as nutrients and to preserve wine colour. All of
108 them, were supplied by different manufacturers (Agrovin S.A., Lallemand and
109 Oenofrance).

110 **2.2. Synthetic model wines**

111 Model wines were prepared by adding ethanol at 120 mL L⁻¹ (VWR, Leuven, Belgium)
112 and 4 g L⁻¹ tartaric acid (Panreac, Barcelona, Spain). The pH was adjusted at 3.5 using a
113 5 M NaOH solution (Panreac). IDY preparations were added to 100 mL of model wines
114 at the same dosage recommended by the manufacturer, 0.3 g L⁻¹, and stirring during 10
115 minutes. Model wines were kept at 20 °C during 9 days. Sampling was carried out at 0
116 days (just 30 minutes after stirring) and 9 days after filtering 1 mL of wine using 0.45
117 µm Millipore filters (Millipore, Bedford, MA). Samples were kept frozen until the
118 analysis was made.

119 **2.3. Description of the wines**

120 Two different types of monovarietal Grenache rosé wines from the 2008 vintage, a
121 control wine (Cont-W) and a wine manufactured by using a glutathione enriched IDY
122 preparation (G-IDY-W), were industrially manufactured in a cellar from the O.D.
123 Navarra, Spain. To do so, 10,000 L tanks were filled with the same must. G-IDY wine
124 was prepared by adding (20 g HL⁻¹) of G-IDY-1 to the must. A control wine was also
125 made from the same must without IDY addition. To carry out the alcoholic
126 fermentation, the same *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* active dry yeast was inoculated in
127 both types of wines. All the wines were stabilised and clarified in the own cellar. Wines
128 of the same type but from independent fermentation tanks were bottled together and
129 sent to our laboratory. General parameters during winemaking (probable alcohol degree
130 in musts, total acidity, volatile acidity, alcohol degree in wines) were determined
131 according to the official methods of wine analysis. From these determinations, it can be
132 concluded that finished wines had values considered in the normal range for this type of
133 wines (Table 1). After winemaking, wines were kept at 12 °C during 9 months.
134 Sampling was made in the must, in the wines once alcoholic fermentation was
135 completed, and during the shelf-life of the wines (after 1, 2, 3 and 9 months of aging in
136 the bottle).

137 **2.4. Determination of γ -glu-cys, reduced and total GSH in synthetic wines and** 138 **industrial wines supplemented with IDY preparations**

139 In order to determine γ -glu-cys, reduced and total GSH, a first step consisted in
140 developing a protocol by optimizing the conditions described in a previous work ¹⁹. To
141 do so, a reversed-phase HPLC using a liquid chromatograph consisting of a Waters 600
142 Controller programmable solvent module (Waters, Milford, MA), a WISP 710B
143 autosampler (Waters) and a HP 104-A fluorescence detector (Hewlett-Packard, Palo
144 Alto, CA) were used. The mobile phase was composed of methanol (Lab-Scan,

145 Sowinskiego, Poland) and phosphate buffer (15:85 v:v). The phosphate buffer was
146 prepared by dissolving $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4 \cdot 12 \text{ H}_2\text{O}$ (10 mM) in highly purified water and
147 afterwards adjusting the pH to 8.5 using 5 M NaOH solution. Finally, the mobile phase
148 was filtered using a vacuum filtration system through 0.45 μm membrane filter. Thirty
149 μL of the filtered sample were placed in a 1 mL vial. For the derivatization of the
150 samples dithiothreitol (DTT) (Sigma-Aldrich) dissolved in borate buffer and 2,3-
151 naphthalenedialdehyde (NDA) (Sigma-Aldrich, Steinheim, Germany) dissolved in
152 ethanol were used. NDA was prepared by dissolving it in ethanol (Panreac) at a final
153 concentration of 5 mg mL^{-1} . DTT solutions were prepared at 5 mM and 0.5 mM in
154 borate buffer to determine total GSH or reduced GSH, respectively. Borate buffer was
155 prepared at 0.2 M H_3BO_4 (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) adjusting the pH at 9.2. Both
156 solutions were filtered and properly aliquoted in 1 mL vials and kept frozen at $-20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.
157 Different amounts of sample and DTT were previously assayed in order to obtain the
158 highest response, which corresponded to a relation sample:DTT:NDA of 2:7:1.
159 Precolumn derivatization was automatically made in the autosampler of the HPLC at a
160 constant temperature of $12 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ as follows: firstly, 105 μL from the DTT vial were placed
161 in the sample vial; secondly, 15 μL of NDA were also placed in the sample vial; then,
162 two mixtures cycles of the total content of the insert, 150 μL , were carried out. Next,
163 100 μL of the mixture were injected into the HPLC system. Separation was carried out
164 on a Nova Pack C18 (150 mm x 3.9 mm i.d., 60 A, 4 μm) column (Waters) in isocratic
165 mode, with a flow at 1 mL min^{-1} from 0 to 8 minutes, and 1.5 mL min^{-1} from 8 to 20
166 minutes. Detection was performed by fluorescence ($\lambda_{\text{excitation}} = 467 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{emission}} = 525$
167 nm) and chromatographic data were collected and analysed with an Empower 2-2006
168 system (Waters). The derivatization conditions for the determination of γ -glu-cys were
169 the same previously described for the total glutathione analysis. To do the calibration

170 curves, solutions of GSH and γ -glu-cys were prepared by dissolving the peptides in
171 water at 1 mg mL^{-1} , and from these solutions, serial dilutions were prepared in a range
172 of concentrations from 1 to 10 mg mL^{-1} , according to those usually found in wines. The
173 analysis of the samples was made in duplicate.

174 **2.5. Chemical composition of industrially manufactured rosé wines**

175 *2.5.1. Free amino acids and peptides*

176 Free amino acids and peptides were determined according to the protocols proposed by
177 Doi and co-workers ²¹. Free amino acids were determined by the reaction of
178 ninhydrin/Cd with the free amino group (method 5) ²¹, whereas free amino acids plus
179 peptides were determined by the reaction of the amino group with ninhydrin/Sn
180 (method 1) ²¹. Free amino acids, and amino acids plus peptides were determined by
181 measuring the absorbance at 507 and 570 nm, respectively, by using a DU 70
182 spectrophotometer (Beckman Coulter, Fullerton, CA, USA). To do the calibration
183 curves, leucine was used as standard, and results were expressed as mg N L^{-1} . To obtain
184 the peptide content of the samples, differences between results obtained with Doi's
185 method 1 and method 5 were calculated. Wines were analysed by duplicate.

186 *2.5.2. High Molecular Weight Nitrogen (HMWN) compounds*

187 The concentration of HMWN compounds was determined following the Bradford
188 method ²², based on the reaction of the HMWN compounds with a reagent that contains
189 Coomassie blue (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA). The absorbance was determined at 595
190 nm, 15 min after the addition of the reactant in a DU 70 spectrophotometer (Beckman
191 Coulter, Fullerton, CA, USA). To do the calibrations curves, bovine serum albumin
192 (Sigma-Aldrich) was used. Wines were analysed by duplicate, and final results were
193 expressed in mg N L^{-1} .

194 *2.5.3. Analysis of amino acids by RP-HPLC-FL*

195 Amino acids were analysed following the protocol proposed by Moreno-Arribas and
196 collaborators²³ by means of reversed-phase HPLC using the same liquid chromatograph
197 mentioned above. Briefly, samples were submitted to an automatic derivatization with
198 *o*-phthaldialdehyde (OPA) (Sigma-Aldrich) in the presence of 2-mercaptoethanol
199 (Sigma-Aldrich). Separation was carried out on a Nova Pack C18 (150 mm x 3.9 mm
200 i.d., 60 Å, 4 µm) column (Waters) and detection was performed by fluorescence
201 ($\lambda_{\text{excitation}} = 340 \text{ nm}$, $\lambda_{\text{emission}} = 425 \text{ nm}$). All the wines were analysed in duplicate.

202 2.5.4. *Statistical Analysis*

203 Data from the analysis of reduced, total GSH and γ -glu-cys released by the eight
204 preparations into model wines were submitted to one-way ANOVA to test the effect of
205 the type of IDY. STATISTICA for Windows (version 7.1) was used for data processing
206 (StatSoft, Inc., 2005, www.statsoft.com).

207

208 **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

209 **3.1. Determination of GSH and γ -glu-cys using RP-HPLC-FL**

210 *3.1.1. Optimization of the derivatization procedure*

211 The methodology employed for the determination of γ -glu-cys and GSH was based on
212 that proposed by Marchand and de Revel¹⁹ with several modifications. The most
213 important difference was the use in the present work of dithiothreitol (DTT) instead of
214 ethanethiol employed in the above mentioned work. DTT is a potent reductor agent, that
215 has been shown to increase the fluorescence signal in the determination of GSH in
216 wines, that otherwise, can be reduced due to the influence of quinones and trace metals
217 in wine under basic conditions²⁰. In addition, DTT can be used to determine both
218 reduced and total GSH. Using low concentration of DTT allows to determine reduced
219 GSH, but at higher concentration of DTT, oxidized glutathione (GSSG) is converted

220 into GSH ²⁰. This implies an easier methodology compared to that proposed by
221 Marchand and de Revel ¹⁹, which involves the use of the enzyme GSH reductase to
222 determine total GSH, and also a dilution of the wines in PBS (1:20), which might
223 provoke a decrease in the signal.

224 To know the optimal concentration of DTT necessary for the determination of total and
225 reduced GSH, different concentrations of DTT were essayed in wines supplemented
226 with GSH, GSSG, and both of these compounds at a fix concentration of 10 mg L⁻¹.
227 Table 2 shows the areas corresponding to these compounds obtained by adding different
228 concentrations of DTT. The optimal concentration of DTT to determine total GSH was
229 considered as that in which the ratio (wine + GSSG) / (wine + GSH) was similar to 1, so
230 all GSSG will be transformed into GSH by reduction. With a concentration of 5 mM
231 this ratio was 1.01 being, so this concentration of DTT was chosen for total GSH. By
232 decreasing of DTT concentration (from 5 to 0.5 mM), the optimal concentration of DTT
233 for the analysis of reduced GSH were chosen. The optimal concentration corresponds
234 with a DTT concentration that produced a minimum reduction of GSSG and enough to
235 stabilize the reduced GSH during derivatization step. Thus, similar areas of Wine +
236 GSH and Wine + GSH + GSSG (or a ratio near to 1) satisfy the conditions for the
237 analysis of reduced GSH. 0.5 mM of DTT (ratio = 1.11) was chosen to the analysis of
238 reduced GSH, although it is important to notice, that approximately 10 % of GSSG was
239 converted into GSH. In conclusion, DTT at 5 mM and 0.5 mM were used to
240 respectively determine total and reduced GSH in our synthetic and industrial wine
241 samples.

242 *3.1.2. Analytical Quality of the RP-HPLC-FL method*

243 Linearity of the RP-HPLC-FL method was evaluated in both, synthetic and industrially
244 manufactured wines by addition of different concentrations of reduced GSH from 1 to

245 10 mg L⁻¹. In the whole tested range, the responses were linear when peak area was used
246 for signal evaluation. Determination coefficients (R²) for reduced and total GSH were
247 higher than 99 % in synthetic wines, while they were slightly minor, 97.4% and 98 %
248 for both compounds respectively in real wines (Table 3). In addition, γ -glu-cys showed
249 adequate R² in synthetic wines (98.7 %). The limits of detection (LOD) (concentration
250 for signal / noise =3) and quantification (LOQ) (concentration for signal/noise =10) are
251 also shown in Table 3. The LODs for reduced GSH in synthetic and real wines were
252 almost the same (0.13 and 0.15 mg L⁻¹ respectively). In addition, they were very similar
253 to those determined for total GSH (0.18 and 0.13 mg L⁻¹ for synthetic and rosé wines
254 respectively). The LODs determined for γ -glu-cys in synthetic wines was slightly higher
255 (0.24 mg L⁻¹) compared to the values determined for GSH. In general, all the calculated
256 limits were low enough to determine reduced, total GSH and γ -glu-cys in wines. The
257 LOQ of reduced GSH was however, lower than that obtained by Du Toit and co-
258 workers¹⁶, but higher than the LOQ reported by other authors^{18,20}. In addition, the
259 LOQ for γ -glu-cys (0.43 mg L⁻¹) was very similar than that found by Marchand and de
260 Revel¹⁹. Therefore, one of the advantages of the methodology developed in this work,
261 is that it allowed to easily determine total GSH with lower quantification limits than that
262 reported in previous works¹⁹.

263 To evaluate the reproducibility of the method six identical samples of synthetic wines
264 with the G-IDY-1 preparation and rosé wines were analysed in 5 consecutive days. As
265 can be seen, the reproducibility for γ -glu-cys, reduced and total GSH was below 10%
266 which could be considered as good.

267 **3.2. Determination of GSH and γ -glu-cys in synthetic model wines supplemented**
268 **with commercial IDY preparations**

269 The amount of reduced and total GSH, and their corresponding precursor γ -glu-cys was
270 determined in synthetic wines supplemented with eight commercial IDY preparations
271 widely used during winemaking. Four of them have been recommended by the
272 producers to prevent aroma losses because of their high content in GSH (G-IDY-1, G-
273 IDY-4, G-IDY-5, G-IDY-8) and the other four are mainly used as fermentative nutrients
274 and to prevent the colour losses in wines (IDY-2, IDY-3, IDY-6, IDY-7). Results
275 showed that, from the eight preparations assayed, five of them (G-IDY-1, IDY-3, G-
276 IDY4, G-IDY5 and G-IDY8) were able to release GSH and/or γ -glu-cys into the
277 synthetic wines (Table 4). In general, preparations released very similar amounts of
278 reduced and total GSH. All of them, with the exception for IDY-3, corresponded to
279 preparations specifically recommended to enhance wine aroma in white and rosé wines
280 because of the presence of GSH. In general, these preparations released between 1 mg
281 L⁻¹ to 2 mg L⁻¹ of reduced GSH in the case of G-IDY-4 and G-IDY-1 respectively,
282 which correspond to the 0.33 and 0.67 % of the total amount of IDY preparations added
283 to the synthetic wines (0.3 g L⁻¹). Papadopoulus and Roussis¹⁰ showed a reduction in
284 the oxidation of some volatile compounds after the addition of GSH (between 2 and 5
285 mg L⁻¹) into synthetic wines. In the present work, the differences in the manufacturing
286 processes among IDY preparations might be implied in the different ability of IDY to
287 release GSH into the medium. Such differences might comprise the nature of the carbon
288 and nitrogen sources and other nutrients^{8,24} in the medium where yeasts grow, or
289 specifically the amount of cysteine, which has been shown to be a limiting factor for
290 GSH biosynthesis^{8,25}.

291 From the non-G-IDY preparations, only IDY-3, showed the ability to release reduced
292 GSH into the wines at a concentration of 0.46 mg L⁻¹ (corresponding to the 0.15% of
293 the total amount of IDY added to the wine). This amount was significant lower

294 compared to the amounts of GSH released by the G-IDY preparations. This could be
295 due to the naturally occurring GSH present in all the yeast, which in the case of
296 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* might represent about 0.1 to 1% of the dry cell weight²⁶. The
297 absence of GSH released for the rest of IDY might be related to the yeasts strains they
298 belonged and/or to their manufacturing conditions, in which the formation of GSH has
299 not been promoted. In addition, the thermal processing to which these preparations are
300 submitted could influence the final concentration of GSH in the IDY preparation
301 obtained from yeast. In fact, it has been shown that high temperatures can degrade GSH
302²⁷. Even during the drying step that undergo during the manufacturing of these
303 preparation, Maillard reaction can be produced⁶ and GSH could also react with
304 reducing sugars²⁸, thus, disappearing from the final IDY preparation.

305 On the other hand, by comparing the amounts of reduced GSH released into the medium
306 between the first and the ninth day after their addition, it is possible to see that the
307 content of GSH remained quite stable, and only a slight decrease in its concentration
308 was noticed in the synthetic wines supplemented with the preparations G-IDY-1, G-
309 IDY-4 and G-IDY-5 (Table 4). However, the content of total GSH experienced a slight
310 reduction along the essayed time for all the G-IDY preparations.

311 In addition, important differences in the content of γ -glu-cys released by the IDY
312 preparations were also found (Table 4). While this compound was not detected in the
313 wines supplemented with IDY-3, wines supplemented with G-IDY-1 and G-IDY-4
314 showed the highest values of γ -glu-cys (2.62 and 1.60 mg L⁻¹, respectively). The
315 concentration of γ -glu-cys also slightly decreased during the studied time (9 days),
316 although the reasons for this reduction remain unclear. Neither the effect of γ -glu-cys
317 during winemaking has been well established. However, the differences in the release of

318 γ -glu-cys among preparations seem to be also related to the different conditions
319 employed for their manufacturing.

320 **3.3. Evolution of total GSH, reduced GSH and γ -glu-cys during winemaking and** 321 **aging in the bottle**

322 The concentration of total GSH, reduced GSH and γ -glu-cys was determined in the must
323 and in the industrially manufactured rosé wines (control and G-IDY wines) immediately
324 after the alcoholic fermentation and along their shelf-life (at 1, 2, 3 and 9 month of
325 aging in the bottle). Figure 1 shows these results. The compound γ -glu-cys was not
326 identified in the must or either in the wines. In fact, this compound has not been
327 previously described in musts, and only has been reported in some white Sauvignon
328 Blanc wines, although at low concentrations (0.6-1.3 mg L⁻¹)¹⁹. Peptides can be easily
329 consumed by yeast during the alcoholic fermentation which might explain the absence
330 of γ -glu-cys in the wine²⁹. However, the content of total GSH greatly increased after
331 alcoholic fermentation in both types of wines (Figure 1). It has been suggested that
332 actively fermenting yeast can produce and release high amounts of reduced GSH during
333 fermentation³⁰. However, in other studies a decrease in the total GSH during alcoholic
334 fermentation has been also observed¹⁶. It seems that depending on the yeast strain used,
335 the evolution of GSH during alcoholic fermentation can be different²⁰. In addition, total
336 GSH after alcoholic fermentation was much higher in the wine supplemented with G-
337 IDY-1 than in the control wine, which could be explained by the supplementation of
338 GSH provided by the IDY preparation. Interestingly, the differences in total GSH
339 between the control and G-IDY wine after the alcoholic fermentation were much higher
340 than those expected taking into consideration the amount of total GSH released by the
341 G-IDY-1 preparation, as was previously noticed (Table 4). This could be due, to the
342 additional supplement in nitrogen compounds, and mainly amino acids, provided by the

343 G-IDY-1 preparation, which have been described to be important contributors for the
344 production of GSH by yeast³⁰. To check this hypothesis, the nitrogen composition of
345 the control and G-IDY wines was determined (Table 5). As can be seen, important
346 differences between both types of wines were found. The content of peptides and amino
347 acids was much higher in the G-IDY wine than in the control wine. In the case of amino
348 acids, this effect was mainly due to some amino acids such as glutamic acid, asparagine,
349 glutamine, glycine, arginine, γ -aminobutyric acid, tryptophan and ornithine. The ability
350 of G-IDY-1 preparation to release significant amounts of amino acids into synthetic
351 wines has been already shown⁴. Among all of these amino acids, glycine, arginine and
352 glutamic acid, together with methionine and cysteine, have been described to have a
353 stimulating effect on the production of GSH by *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*²⁵. Therefore,
354 during the alcoholic fermentation, the higher nitrogen content in the G-IDY wine might
355 be responsible for the higher formation of reduced GSH.

356 On the other hand, the reduced GSH was the predominant form of glutathione in the
357 must, although the initial concentration was rather low, above 0.5 mg L⁻¹. Other works
358 have also pointed out the low concentration of GSH in musts compared to that found in
359 grapes¹⁸. This has been explained by the oxidative reaction of GSH with
360 hydroxycinnamates during grape crushing, yielding the “grape reaction product”, 2-S-
361 glutathionyl tartaric acid¹⁸. In addition, other factors during winemaking such as the
362 pressing conditions to obtain the must¹⁵ and/or the must oxygenation might also be
363 involved¹⁶.

364 Surprisingly, after the alcoholic fermentation, none statistical difference was found in
365 the concentration of reduced GSH between the control and G-IDY wine (Figure 1).
366 This seems to indicate that the reduced GSH released by G-IDY-1 preparation might be
367 rapidly oxidized during the alcoholic fermentation. In fact, this effect has been

368 previously observed in the study from Patel and collaborators ¹⁵, in which a must added
369 with a high content of GSH (67 mg L⁻¹) decreased considerably its concentration until
370 few milligrams per litre after alcoholic fermentation. In spite of that, it has also been
371 shown that wines from musts supplemented with GSH experienced slighter oxidation
372 symptoms and exhibited better sensory characteristics than control wines (without GSH
373 added to the must) ³¹. Finally, the progressive reduction in reduced GSH observed
374 during the shelf-life of the wine (Figure 1b), was higher that observed for the total GSH
375 (Figure 1a) and similar for both types of wines, which is in agreement with the decrease
376 of glutathione during the aging of the wines observed by Lavigne and collaborators ²⁰.

377

378 In summary, the methodology set up in the present work, which involves a precolumn
379 derivatization by using NDA and different amounts of DTT, is a sensitive, robust and
380 versatile method to determine the different forms of GSH and its precursor (γ -glu-cys)
381 present in musts and wines. Its application to oenological IDY preparations has
382 confirmed that all the commercial G-IDY assayed present concentration of GSH (total
383 and reduced) higher than other non G-IDY oenological preparations. However, although
384 GSH is effectively released from IDYs, it is rapidly oxidized during alcoholic
385 fermentation, contributing to the higher total GSH content determined in wines
386 supplemented with G-IDYs compared to control samples. Moreover, nitrogen
387 compounds released by these preparations seem to have an outstanding role on the
388 formation of glutathione *de novo* by yeast during the alcoholic fermentation. In general,
389 it has been also shown that the total pool of glutathione decreases during wine aging.
390 Therefore, these results underline the necessity for a deeper research in order to
391 elucidate the impact of alcoholic fermentation on the formation/degradation of GSH in
392 wines supplemented with IDY.

393

394

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399

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447

448 **FIGURE AND TABLES LEYENDS**

449

450 **Figure 1.** Evolution of total (a) and reduced (b) GSH in the control wines (Cont-W) and in the
451 wines produced with G-IDY-1 preparation (G-IDY-W) during the winemaking and aging in the
452 bottle

453

454 **Table 1.** Global composition parameters determined in must, control wine (Cont-W) and wine
455 supplemented with the glutathione enriched IDY preparation (G-IDY-W).

456

457 **Table 2.** Areas obtained by using different concentrations of DTT in the reaction mixture during
458 the derivatization procedure in wines supplemented with reduced (GSH) and oxidized (GSSG)
459 glutathione

460

461 **Table 3.** Analytical performance of the RP-HPLC-FL method for the determination of reduced
462 and total GSH and γ -glu-cys in synthetic and rosé wines

463

464 **Table 4.** Reduced, total GSH and γ -glu-cys released by the commercial IDY preparations into
465 synthetic model wines at 0 (30 minutes) and 9 days after their addition into the wines

466

467 **Table 5.** Nitrogen compounds determined in the control wine (Cont-W) and in the wine
468 produced with the preparation G-IDY-1 (G-IDY-W) after alcoholic fermentation.