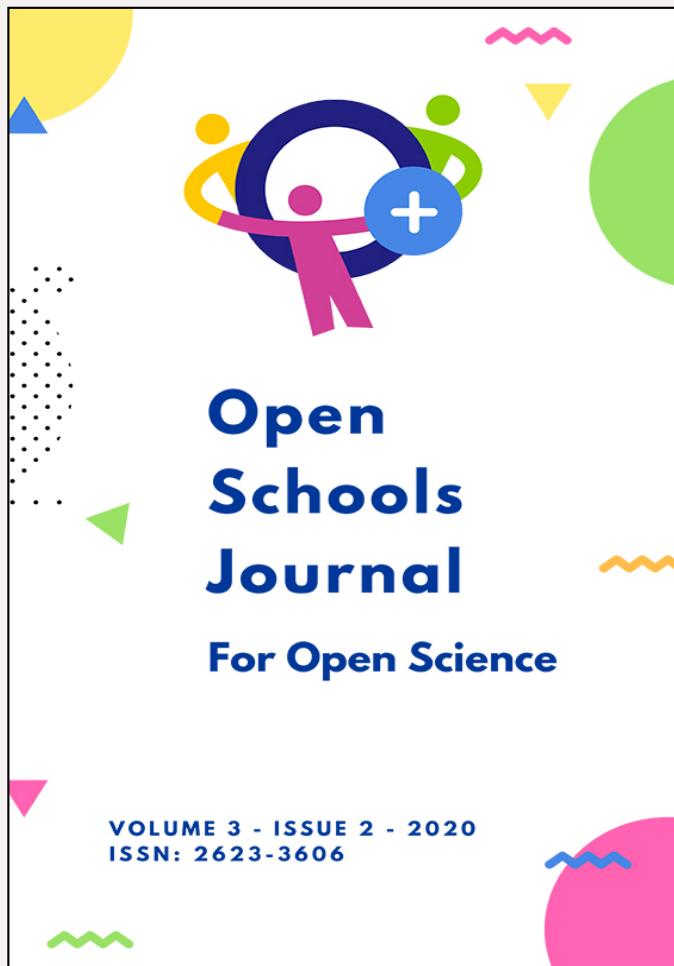


## Open Schools Journal for Open Science

Vol. 3, 2020



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- <https://doi.org/10.12681/osj.22600>

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### To cite this article:

Staudinger, M., Punz, E., Joubert, I.A., Himly, M., & Geppert, M. (2020). Nanotechnology and azo-dyes in sweets. *Open Schools Journal for Open Science*, 3(2). doi:<https://doi.org/10.12681/osj.22600>

# Nanotechnology and azo-dyes in sweets

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## Abstract of poster presented orally in the moderated poster session at the International Open NanoScience Congress, 26.2.2019, Salzburg ([www.uni-salzburg.at/ONSC](http://www.uni-salzburg.at/ONSC))

Nanotechnology is a fast growing field and considered as a key-technology of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Nanoparticles are not only used in high-tech products or medical devices but are also more and more incorporated in food products, for example in sweets. In addition, for food-coloring, azo-dyes are frequently used which makes an encounter of azo-dyes and nanoparticles unavoidable. The aim of this work was the isolation and characterization of these dyes without including nanoparticles in a selected sweet product.

Haribo® "Wummis" were chosen for the investigation of their containing dyes. The product was dissolved using different organic solvents (acetone, glycerol, acetic acid) and the containing dyes were adsorbed onto lamb's wool. Then, the dyes were extracted using alkaline solution and separated by thin-layer chromatography. As a reference, pure azo-dyes were used. The results showed the successful isolation and separation of different dyes present in the food-product. Additional spectrophotometric characterization of the red dye Azorubin revealed a maximal absorbance at around 630 nm and a slight change of the absorbance spectrum at acidic pH values (especially in the region between 400 and 500 nm).

To sum up, it could be shown that azo-dyes can be isolated from sweets and then separated and characterized. These results represent an important base for future investigations in this field, especially when it comes to the interactions of such compounds with nanoparticles.

## Keywords

Nanotechnology; Food; Azo-dyes; Extraction; Chromatography

## Acknowledgment

This work was supported by the Sparkling Science project Nan-O-Style (SPA 06/270) of the Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF).

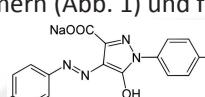
# Nanotechnologie in Süßigkeiten

Michael Staudinger, BRG Schloss Wagrain, Vöcklabruck

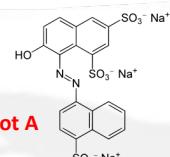
## Hintergrund

Heutzutage werden sehr viele Lebensmittel, im Speziellen Süßigkeiten, mit Azofarbstoffen gefärbt. Das Interesse galt deswegen dem Nachweis der Azofarbstoffe in Süßigkeiten und dem möglichen Einsatz in Kombination mit Nanopartikeln in der Praxis. Die chemischen Analysen erfolgten an Gummiwürmern (Abb. 1) und färbigen Zuckerdragees.

Tartrazin (Abb. 3)

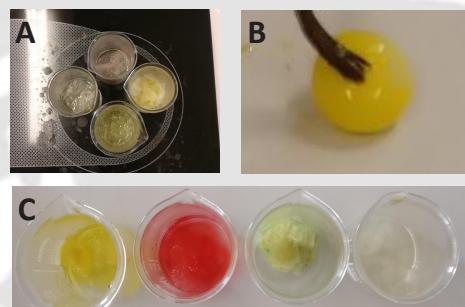
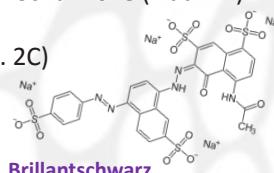
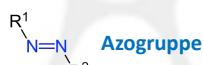


Cochenillerot A



## Lösungsversuche der Azofarbstoffe

- Ansetzen der Lösung in diversen organischen Lösungsmitteln (Aceton, Glycerin, Essigsäure) (Abb. 2A)
- Adsorption der Azofarbstoffe an Schafwolle (Abb. 2B)
- Extrahieren der Farbstoffe mit ammoniakalischer Lösung (Abb. 2C)



## Dünnschichtchromatographie

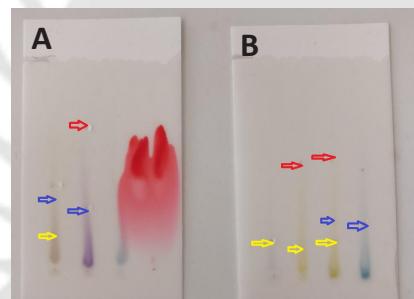
- Auftragen der Reinstoffe als Referenzsubstanzen auf Kieselgel-DC-Platten; Laufmittel: Natriumcitrat und Ammoniak
- Referenzfarben wie Allurarot (Abb. 3, roter Fleck, *tailing*)
- Auftragen der Zuckerdrageefarben (3A) direkt mit dem Pinsel
- Auftragen der extrahierten Mischfarbstoffe der Gummiwürmer (3B) mit Glaskapillaren (Abb. 3, roter, blauer und gelber Bestandteil mit entspr. Pfeilen markiert).



Allurarot



Brilliantblau



## Photometrische Analyse der Farbstoffe an der Schule und an der Universität

- Photometrische Untersuchungen der reinen Farbstoffe bei verschiedenen pH Werten an der Universität mittels Spektralphotometer
- Die Resultate behandeln nur Azorubin. Wie man in Abb. 4 erkennen kann, verändert sich die Farbe nur ganz leicht in alkalischer Umgebung.
- Extraktion der Farbstoffe aus Gummiwürmern und Zuckerdragees und anschließende photometrische Analysen im visuellen Bereich an der Schule.

