

DIFFA23

DIRECT INJECTION FOOD FLAVOUR ANALYTICS

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Fondazione Edmund Mach San Michele all'Adige (TN), Italy 20 - 22 September 2023

1st International Symposium on Direct Injection Food Flavour Analytics (DIFFA)

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Proceedings of the DIFFA23 - 1st International Symposium on Direct Injection Food Flavour Analytics

Fondazione Edmund Mach – San Michele All'Adige (TN) Italy 20-22 September 2023

This book collects the conference proceedings of the 1st International Symposium on Direct Injection Food Flavour Analytics, held at the Fondazione Edmund Mach from 20th to 22nd September 2023.



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FOREWORD

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), particularly flavour compounds, represent an invaluable noninvasive metric to follow the multi-faceted journey of food, from the farm to the fork and beyond, such as relating to the human microbiome after consumption or in addressing reduction strategies for food waste. VOCs thereby serve as a direct and swift means of measurement and notably act as a main driver of the perceived quality of food.

Mass spectrometry (MS) is an established yet increasingly pivotal tool in food and beverage characterization with a broad range of applications. When coupled with gas chromatography (GC), it stands as the predominant analytical method for exploring many aspects of food, from safety to traceability and nutritional aspects, and equally facilitates control measures in quality and process monitoring.

Recent remarkable advancements in both technology and methodology have paved the way for highly sensitive, specific, rapid, robust, and validated MS-based techniques that have become indispensable in food science and technology research and application. A subgroup of these technologies has been devised over the past two decades in the form of analytical approaches that enable the analysis of VOCs through direct injection. These methods have gained attention for their rapid, highly sensitive and high-throughput analytical capabilities.

A leading technology in this area is proton transfer reaction-mass spectrometry (PTR-MS), which has driven many innovative applications for direct flavour/food analysis. Commencing 2003, the University of Innsbruck, Austria, has organized a biennial event dedicated specifically to PTR-MS and its applications, including a focused session on food science and technology.

The 1st International Symposium on Direct Injection Food Flavour Analytics (DIFFA23) was conceived with the backdrop of the PTR-MS conference but with a different aim, namely to embrace a broader community beyond PTR-MS uses, encompassing similar direct injection mass spectrometry (DIMS) technologies, such as atmospheric pressure chemical ionization-mass spectrometry (APCI-MS) and selected ion flow tube-mass spectrometry (SIFT-MS), with a primary emphasis on flavor compounds. It was also not exclusive to MS-based analytical techniques, but welcomed the inclusion of complementary non-MS approaches, such as solid-state sensors, fast gas chromatographic direct approaches and ion mobility spectrometry (IMS), amongst others, to ensure a wider reach and broader engagement. The meeting was established to foster scientific discussions of common interest and facilitate scientific collaborations. This book of abstract highlights the details of the event and contains the contribution summaries of both the oral and poster presentations.

The conference featured one plenary and four keynote lectures delivered by distinguished guests, as well as numerous invited and contributed talks and 25 poster presentations, with 97 attendees from different EU states, the USA, the UK, Israel and New Zealand. The event provided valuable insights into direct injection food/flavour analytics, with reviews from pioneering scientists who played key roles in developing and advancing DIMS methods in its early days, such as Andy Taylor, Patrik Španěl and Jean-Luc Le-Quéré, showcasing both historical developments and recent advancements in analytical performance and novel applications. Topics discussed included nose-space analysis of composite foods, rapid and high-throughput phenotyping, fermentation monitoring, both as an

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innovative technological tool and for investigating the human microbiota, advanced data analysis and data mining tools. These are just a few examples of the themes explored during the conference.

Numerous partners contributed to the success of the event: the sponsors, whose engaging presentations and financial support sustained the quality of the meeting and ensured that the conference fees were kept to a minimum, as well as various supporting institutions and patronages. Special thanks go to the Fondazione Edmund Mach (FEM) for its scientific contributions and for hosting the conference at the Research and Innovation Centre, as well as the Division of Mass Spectrometry of the Italian Chemistry Society (DSM-SCI) for their organizational support and creation and hosting of the conference website. The invaluable support from these companies and institutions are further acknowledged through inclusion of their logos on the back cover of this book.

The conference started a fruitful exchange of results, ideas and issues amongst scientists working with direct tools to monitor VOCs in food science and technology, with broad attendance from sensory and applications scientists from academia and industry.

We would like to thank all those who, through their participation and support, made this event possible, which exceeded our most ambitious expectations.

Thank you all, and we look forward to seeing you at the next edition.

On behalf of the Scientific Committee

Franco Biasioli, Jonathan Beauchamp, Pat Silcock

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

20th September 2023

12.30-14.00 Registration and welcome buffet

Conference opening

Welcome addresses
Fulvio Magni - Società Chimica Italiana-Divisione Spettrometria di Massa
Mario Pezzotti - Fondazione Edmund Mach
Why DIFFA23?
Franco Biasioli - Fondazione Edmund Mach
Plenary lecture: <i>DI-MS – A game changer for flavour research?</i>
Andy Taylor - University of Nottingham

$Session \ 1 \ | \ Unlocking \ Flavour \ with \ DIMS$

Chairs: Pat Silcock & Nina Cleve

15.05-15.35	Jonathan Beauchamp - Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV
	The long and winding road: a flavoursome tale of PTR-MS
15.35-15.55	Graham Eyres - University of Otago
	What is Flavour and how can DIMS help untangle the puzzle?
15.55-16.15	Andreas Mauracher - IONICON
	Advantages of Next-Gen PTR-ToF instruments for food and flavour sciences

16.15-17.00 Tea break and poster session

Session 2 | DIMS in Health and Wellbeing

Chairs: Donatella Caruso & Eirini Pegiou

17.00-17.20	Josep Rupert - Wageningen University & Research
	Signalling volatile compounds in the human gut microbiota: new avenues offered by direct analytical methods.
17.20-17.40	Chris Mayhew - University of Innsbruck
	Real-Time Trace Analysis of Breath Volatiles using Proton Transfer Reaction Mass Spectrometry: implications for in-vivo flavour release measurements
17.40-18.00	Enrico Davoli - Istituto Mario Negri
	Direct analysis of sex-wellness products using a field deployable MS equipped with a Direct Sampling Atmospheric Pressure (DSAP) source
18.00-18.20	Corrado Di Natale - University of Rome Tor Vergata
	Direct injection mass spectrometry and gas sensors: a teacher-pupil relationship
18.20-18.40	Luca Cappellin - University of Padua
	Improved compound identification in direct VOC analysis using an EI&CI-TOFMS

19.00 Welcome cocktail - cloister of the monastery and historical cellar

21st September 2023

Session 3 | Linking DIMS Data to Sensory Perception

Chairs: Graham Eyres & Iuliia Khomenko

9.00-9.30	Jean-Luc Le-Quéré - INRAE-CSGA Dijon
	Twenty years of Direct Injection Mass Spectrometry for aroma research in Dijon
9.30-9.50	Catrienus De Jong - Wageningen University & Research
	Exploring new in vivo and in vitro methods to integrate sensory and instrumental analysis to get insight and improve the flavour of plant-based food products during oral processing and drinking
9.50-10.10	Markus Stieger - Wageningen University & Research
	In vivo aroma release and sensory perception of composite foods
10.10-10.20	Michele Pedrotti - Wageningen University & Research
	Characterization of plant-based milks by combining sensory analysis with headspace and nose-space direct injection mass spectrometry
10.20-10.30	Karina Gonzalez-Estanol - Wageningen University & Research
	In vivo analysis of nose-space concentration by direct injection mass spectrometry to study the effect of chewing rate on aroma release during food consumption
10.30-10.40	Laura Hill - University of Nottingham
	Understanding the relationship between lipids, capsaicin and aroma release in confectionery
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10.40-11.10 Coffee break and poster session

Session 4 | Flavour Complexity and Cooking

Chairs: Fulvio Magni & Caroline Perltier

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	Development of fast-GC PTR-MS method for coffee VOCs analysis
11.30-11.45	Nina Cleve - Fraunhofer Institute for Process Engineering and Packaging IVV
	Milk matters: Unraveling retronasal aroma release and perception of coffee by combining in vivo nosespace analytics with dynamic sensory methods
11.45-12.05	Tomasz Majchrzak - Gdansk University of Technology
	What happens when food goes into oil during deep frying? Monitoring the first minutes of frying using PTR-MS
12.05-12.20	Gregory Schmauch - Rational F&E GmbH
	Influence of product quantity, cooking parameter and flow tube pressure on the measurement with Sift-MS in a cooking oven
12.20-12.40	Vaughan Langford - Syft Technologies
	Application of SIFT-MS to chemical and sensory screening of packaging materials

12.40-14.00 Conference group photo and lunch

Session 5 | Latest DIMS Showcasing

Chairs: Jonathan Beauchamp & Karina Estanol-Gonzalez

14.00-14.15	Terry Bates - Cornell University
	Rapid headspace solid-phase microextraction with sheets with direct analysis in real time mass spectrometry (SPMESH-DART-MS) of derivatized volatile phenols in grape juices and wines
14.15-14.30	Matteo Tonezzer - University of Cagliari
	PTR-MS as a tool to understand and improve the performance of electronic noses
14.30-14.45	Andrea Warburton - University of Otago
	Application of PTR-ToF-MS to monitor development of flavour in sourdough
14.45-15.05	Paolo Redegalli - Shimadzu Italia S.r.l.
	Characterization of isoflavones and its metabolites in foods by direct probe ionization mass spectrometer (DPiMS) with high resolution detection
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	GC-IMS instruments and their use in food and flavour analysis

15.25-16.15 Tea break and poster session

Session 6 | Microbial, Fermentation and Modelling

Chairs: Riccardo Flamini & Michele Pedrotti

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16.45-17.05	Vittorio Capozzi - Institute of Sciences of Food Production - National Research Council of Italy (CNR)
	DIMS techniques and the study on microbial VOCs in food: flavour attributes, fermentation monitoring and emerging trends
17.05-17.20	Eirini Pegiou - Wageningen University & Research
	Easy and fast detection of abnormal olive brine fermentation – A showcase of SPOTDETECT.
17.20-17.40	Caroline Peltier - INRAE
	Automatic pretreatment and multiblock analysis of flavor release and sensory temporal data simultaneously collected in vivo
17.40-18.00	Ana Rita Monforte - AFB INTERNATIONAL
	Modelling the kinetics of flavour formation & relaese as a function of ingredients addition in real food systems
18.00-18.20	Pietro Franceschi - Fondazione Edmund Mach
	Mining datasets from untargeted direct analytical methods: a data analyst point of view
18.20-18.35	Mickael Le Bechec - Institute of Analytical Sciences and Physico-Chemistry for Environment and Materials (IPREM)
	Volatile fingerprints of food thanks to the untargeted use of SIFT-MS raw data

20.00 Social dinner - cloister of the Museo Etnografico Trentino

22nd September 2023

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Chairs: Catreinus de Jong & Brian Farneti

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10.00-10.15	Antonella Grosso - University of Bolzano
	Monitoring autoxidation of vegetable oils by proton transfer reaction mass spectrometry
10.15-10.30	Pedro Martinez Noguera - University of Copenhagen
	Using PTR-ToF-MS to quantify microbial off-flavors geosmin and 2-methylisoborneol in water. Method development, performance assessment and comparison with established GC-MS methods
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	Supporting sustainable energy production by PTR-MS: a review on the work accomplished on biofuel production from food waste to SOFC systems
10.45-11.05	Rupert Holzinger - Utrecht University
	Using SI traceable gas standards to improve the accuracy of untargeted PTR-MS measurements

11.05-11.45 Coffee break and Poster Session

Session 8 | Floral, Biogenics and Phenotyping

Chairs: Rupert Holzinger & Vittorio Capozzi

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	DI-MS as high performing VOC phenotyping tool to support the horticultural production chain management
12.25-12.40	Alberto Roncone - Fondazione Edmund Mach
	Validation of gas chromatographic methods for the botanical characterization and authentication of lavender essential oil by stable isotope analysis of its organic volatile compounds
12.40-12.55	Eugenio Aprea - University of Trento
	Contribution of volatile organic compounds to multifloral honey flavor
12.55-13.15	Daniele Zatta - University of Padua
	Comparative analysis of VOC purification techniques in complex cooking emission: adsorption, photocatalysis and combined systems.
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P.10 Preliminary screening of elderly gut microbiota metabolites of pea protein enrich-bread

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Summary: The ageing process affects the human gut microbiota composition and its metabolite production. This research effort intends to provide a preliminary screening on how gut microbiota metabolize food components during *in vitro* batch fermentation. By continuing to optimize and refine these results, it is possible to consider using DIMS techniques.

Keywords: elderly, gut microbiota, bread

1 Introduction

As known, gut metabolism is a key factor in maintaining host homeostasis, and imbalances in this community can lead to diseases. Ageing is associated with a decline in physiological functions that can impact life quality, and nutritional status and changes in the gut community. Therefore, gut microbiota functions have recently become a major focus in the study of elderly health. In the elderly, progressive changes in gut microbiota composition [1], such as the decreased ratios of Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes, are associated with modification of metabolite production, such as shortchain fatty acids (SCFA), branched-chain fatty acids (BCFA), ammonia and catabolites from amino acids, i.e., tryptophan (Trp). In this regard, the decrease of SCFA-producing bacteria may favor the ageing process in the colon and contribute to the onset of malnutrition and sarcopenia in the elderly. Similarly, the colonic tryptophan (Trp) metabolism is associated with ageing and produces metabolites that positively impact elderly health. Microbiota-derived catabolites from Trp are suggested to be able to activate the intestinal immune system by enhancing the intestinal barrier functions and stimulating the secretion of gut hormones, the activation of aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AhR) pathway. Moreover, the Trp metabolism along the kynurenine (Kyn) pathway regulates inflammation, energy homeostasis, and brain functioning. Kyn prevents hyperinflammation and induces long-term immune tolerance. A malfunction of Trp catabolism could guide aging and subject to the pathophysiology of age-related diseases such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, and sarcopenia [2]. The aim of this study is to provide preliminary information about the development of gut microbiota metabolites of pea protein-enriched bread during colonic fermentation with elderly fecal output as compared with adult one. To mimic the physiological conditions the bread was first digested in vitro and then fermented in an in vitro batch model of colon fermentation.

2 Experimental

Wheat bread was prepared according to the following dough formulation: 60.5 g/100 g wheat flour, 30.0 g/100 g water, 5.9 g/100 g sunflower oil, 2.0 g/100 g sugar, 1.0 g/100 g yeast and 0.6 g/100 g salt. Pea protein enrich-bread was obtained by substituting type '00' wheat flour with 5 g/100 g of pea protein concentrate.

Samples were in vitro digested mimicking adult gastrointestinal conditions by applying the INFOGEST static protocol [3] as well as elderly gastrointestinal condition by using a modification of the INFOGEST protocol [4]. At the end of in vitro digestion, the digesta was centrifuged at 4,500 × g for 10 min at 4 °C to separate solid residue and supernatant. The solid pellet (undigested fraction) was used as the main substrate for the microbiota of in vitro batch fermentations that were carried out for 24 h at 37 °C under anaerobic conditions as described by Pérez-Burillo et al. (2021) [5] and using fecal samples obtained from three adult and three elderly healthy volunteers. At the end of fermentation, the production of microbial metabolites was characterized for SCFA and Trp-derived catabolites. The supernatants of the fermentations were centrifuged and filtered. SCFA measurement at 0, 2, 8 and 24 h was performed using a Shimadzu GC-2014 (Kyoto, Japan) equipped with a flameionization detector, a capillary fatty acid-free Stabil wax-DA column (Restek, Bellefonte, PA, USA) and a split injector. Supernatants were combined with the internal standard (of 2-ethylbutyric acid in 0.3 M HCl and 0.9 M oxalic acid) for SCFA quantification. Trp-derived catabolites in supernatants were quantified at the end of fermentation via a Shimadzu Nexera XR LC-20ADxr UPLC system coupled with a Shimadzu LCMS-8050 mass spectrometer (Kyoto, Japan). Chromatographic separations were accomplished on a Phenomenex Kinetex 1.7 µm EVO C18 100 Å LC column (100 × 2.1 mm) maintained at 45 °C. Mobile phase A was 0.1% v/v formic acid in water and mobile phase B was 0.1% v/v formic acid in methanol. Mass spectrometer was operated using an electrospray ionization source under the positive mode in the multiple reaction monitoring mode with a spray voltage of 4.5 kV [6].

3 Results

A 10% reduction in proteolysis was observed for both bread types digested under elderly conditions compared to adult ones, indicating that ageing significantly compromises (p < 0.05) protein digestibility.

During *in vitro* batch fermentation, there were limited differences (p > 0.05) in SCFAs produced among the bread types. Acetate and propionate were the two major SCFA produced during colonic fermentation. Their production gradually increased (p < 0.05) over time under adult gut condition, from 0.3 to 4.0 mg/mL after 24 h for acetic acid and from 0.1 to 4.0 mg/mL for propionic acid. No differences (p > 0.05) were detected between bread types and between adult and elderly microbiota conditions at any fermentation time point. Moreover, Trp concentration increased with incubation time under elderly gut conditions, probably due to the proteolytic activity of microbial and digestive enzymes. Trp metabolism results in increased Kyn production, from 5 to 120 mg/L and from 9 to 78 mg/L under adult and elderly gut conditions, respectively. The role of Kyn in the regulation of inflammation is largely mediated through its function as a ligand of the AhR. Some detected Trp catabolites were documented as AhR ligands, such as indole-3-acetic acid and indole-3-aldehyde. Their concentration was statistically higher (p < 0.05) under adult gut condition.

These results can be used to further understand the effect of protein-enriched bread on the host by assessing alterations of gut microbiota and aging-associated diseases.

4 Conclusions

This study provides a preliminary screening of pea protein enrich-bread microbial catabolism, potentially representing a starting point for future research directions in the field of age-tailored foods

to improve gut health. The evidence gathered pointed out that the colonic fermentability of pea protein enrich-bread is deeply interrelated and reasonably relies on food matrix integrity and physiological conditions.

Moreover, for future perspectives, it would be interesting to identify key volatile organic compounds (VOC) biomarkers indicative of metabolic processes influenced by specific nutrients and dietary components. The combination of the techniques used with other analytical approaches, *i.e.*, directinjection mass spectrometry (DIMS) techniques, to integrate the information of interest is of high interest.

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