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1 **Black tea volatiles fingerprinting by two-dimensional comprehensive gas**
2 **chromatography - mass spectrometry combined with high concentration capacity**
3 **sample preparation techniques: toward a fully automated sensomic assessment**

4
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20

21 **Abstract**

22 The present research implements the principles of *sensomics* into advanced and integrated
23 multidimensional platforms based on comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography (GC×GC)
24 coupled with Mass Spectrometry (MS) and High Concentration Capacity (HCC) sample preparation (Head
25 Space Solid Phase Microextraction, Headspace Sorptive Extraction, Dynamic-Headspace, Stir Bar Sorptive
26 Extraction and In-solution SPME). The focus is on black tea volatiles and their informative role as key-
27 indicators of tea aroma profile; insights on post-harvesting practices, climate variations and technological
28 manipulations are also tackled due to: (a) high information power of the approach; (b) possibility of apply
29 advanced fingerprinting methodologies on 2D patterns and (c) effective scripting functions on MS
30 signatures.

31 The approach demonstrates to be effective and reliable covering up to 95% of key-aroma compounds
32 described for black-teas suggesting that a fully automated and highly informative screening of the volatiles
33 could be possible by combining all the analytical dimensions in a single platform.

34

35

36

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38 **Keywords**

39 black tea volatiles; advanced fingerprinting; comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography; high
40 concentration capacity sampling techniques; head space solid phase microextraction; Stir bar sorptive
41 extraction; Dynamic Headspace; sensomics

42

43 1. Introduction

44 Tea, prepared by infusion of dried leaves of *Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze is the second world's most
45 popular beverage, after water. Its consumption may be associated with potential health benefits because
46 of the relatively high amount of polyphenols (Del Rio et al 2004) made bio-available by colonic gut
47 microflora (Del Rio, Calani, Scazzina, Jechiu, Cordero and Brighenti, 2010; Del Rio, Calani, Cordero,
48 Salvatore, Pellegrini and Brighenti, 2010). Tea chemical composition is thus an important attribute, related
49 not only to its sensory quality and consumption pleasure, but also to nutritional facts thus influencing
50 quality, market value and consumer preferences.

51 While phenolic compounds and xantines condition tea taste and color, volatiles are not only fundamental
52 to define its peculiar aroma (Hofmann and Schieberle, 2011; Yang, Baldermann and Watanabe, 2013) but
53 are also informative of several other characteristics such as cultivar, geographical origin, storage and
54 processing (i.e., withering, rolling, fermentation and firing).

55 Tea volatiles belong to different chemical classes such as hydrocarbons, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, acids,
56 esters, lactones, aromatic derivatives, sulfur compounds and many others (Yang et al, 2013). Volatiles origin
57 and formation pathways have been the objective of extensive researches since early thirties (Coggon,
58 Romanczyk and Sanderson 1977; Gohain et al, 2012; Mick and Schreier, 1984; Ravichandran and Parthiban,
59 1998; Sanderson and Graham, 1973; Selvendran, Reynolds and Galliard, 1978; Takeo, 1981; Yang et al,
60 2013) and nowadays their peculiar quali-quantitative distribution is considered as a distinctive chemical
61 signature encrypting a number of information about botanical/geographical origin, post-harvest
62 treatments, technological manipulations and aroma quality.

63 Advanced multidimensional analytical platforms based on GC×GC-ToFMS combined with multivariate data
64 analysis have recently been applied to characterize the volatile fraction of tea extracts (Zhang, Zeng, Zhao,
65 Kong, Lu and Xu, 2013). In this study, green, oolong and black tea extracts (obtained with Simultaneous
66 Distillation Extraction SDE) were compared and classified as a function of fermentation/oxidation degree on
67 the basis of volatile distribution.

68 In general, the potentials of such informative platforms in revealing subtle (compositional) differences
69 within more homogeneous samples is of interest also for commercial purposes and industrial production of
70 ready-to-drink products, where the overall quality of the herbal infusion has to be kept constant and
71 coherent/comparable to a reference standard over time.

72 Therefore, the focus of the present research, that implements the principles of sensomics (Schieberle and
73 Hofmann, 2011) to advanced and integrated multidimensional platforms, is a deep and meaningful
74 investigation on the different chemical signatures within the volatile fraction of black tea. In particular,
75 extraction-separation-identification of analytes is obtained combining the separation power of two
76 dimensional comprehensive gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry (GC×GC-MS) with
77 miniaturized and/or automated sample preparation techniques (Cordero et al, 2013). This last step is
78 crucial to provide a consistent, representative and meaningful picture of informative analytes (sensory or
79 technologically-related) in a fully automated work-flow.

80 Over the past years, many conventional extraction techniques, including SDE (Chaintreau, 2001), steam
81 distillation under reduced pressure (SDR) (Kumazawa and Masuda, 2002), direct organic solvent extraction,
82 solvent-assisted flavor evaporation (SAFE) (Hofmann and Schieberle, 2011; Schieberle and Hofmann, 2011)
83 etc., have been used to characterize the tea volatile fraction. These conventional methodologies afford to
84 obtain reliable overview of the components of a sample although some drawbacks cannot be avoided. In
85 particular, the use of solvents as extraction media may modify sample characteristics by producing artifacts
86 or causing analytes degradation (Chaintreau, 2001); moreover, oxidation (oxygen effect) and temperature
87 triggered reactions may occur. Furthermore, solvent properties (boiling-point, solvation properties etc.) can
88 affect extraction efficiency and selectivity causing losses of highly volatile compounds or exerting
89 discriminations related to analytes physico-chemical properties.

90 Miniaturized-high concentration capacity (HCC) sampling techniques (Solid Phase Microextraction, SPME,
91 Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction, SBSE, Head Space Sorptive Extraction, HSSE and Dynamic Headspace technique)
92 may be of great help (Bicchi, Cordero and Rubiolo, 2004) to limit artifacts occurring in traditional extraction
93 methods and to match the recent analytical requirements of automation.

94 HS-SPME and Headspace Sorptive Extraction are the most widely-used high concentration capacity-
95 headspace static (HCC-HS) techniques, where analytes are recovered through multiple partition (or
96 adsorption) equilibria between sample, headspace and extraction polymer or adsorbent. Dynamic
97 Headspace technique, designed to trap volatiles and semi-volatiles by a stream of inert gas through or
98 above a solid or liquid media, can either be a valid alternative to static approaches or a complement when a
99 medium-to-low volatility compounds have to be effectively extracted from sample. HS Stir Bar Sorptive
100 Extraction (SBSE) and in-solution-SPME are also of potential interest for liquid samples since they produce
101 a sample profile complementary to HS and bring further information about analytes distribution between
102 infusion (liquid phase) and its headspace.

103 This study aimed at obtaining a chemical fingerprint with a high information potential having as a
104 reference benchmark key-analytes considered as markers of tea production chain and “cup” sensory
105 quality. In this perspective, commercial grade blends of black tea from Sri-Lanka (Ceylon) representative of
106 the production of two years (2012 and 2013) were submitted to different extraction approaches known for
107 their selective and extensive capabilities. Volatiles were extracted from the headspace of dry plant material
108 (as it is or after addition of water to improve volatile distribution in the headspace) or directly from
109 infusions (standard and strong infusions).

110 Sampling parameters (time/temperature/phase ratio β) were varied depending on the approach (static or
111 dynamic sampling, headspace or in-solution etc..) and set to obtain the highest information content in
112 terms of both number of detected compounds and absolute amount transferred to the analytical system.
113 The aroma blueprint was defined within the investigated analytes that contribute to obtain a
114 “comprehensive” chemical signature, and method(s) effectiveness critically evaluated in a perspective of
115 aroma quality classification/characterization.

116

117 2. Experimental

118 2.1 Reference compounds and samples

119 Pure reference standards for identity confirmation (key-aroma compounds and informative volatiles) of
120 acetone, (*E*)-2-heptenal, (*E*)-2-hexen-1-ol, (*E*)-2-hexenal, (*E*)-2-nonenal, (*E,E*)-2,4-decadienal, (*E,E*)-2,4-
121 nonadienal, (*E,Z*)-2,6-nonadienal, (*Z*)-2-hexenal, (*Z*)-3-hexen-1-ol, (*Z*)-4-heptenal, 1-butanol, 1-heptanol, 1-
122 hexanol, 1-octen-3-ol, 1-pentanol, 2-heptanone, 2-methyl butanal, 2-methyl propanal, 2-phenyl ethanol, 3-
123 methyl butanal, 6-methyl-5-hepten-2-one, acetic acid, benzaldehyde, benzyl alcohol, butanal, butanoic
124 acid, caffeine, decanal, ethyl acetate, furfural, geranial, geraniol, heptanal, hexanal, hexanoic acid,
125 limonene, linalool, methyl salicylate, nonanal, octanal, pentanal, pentanoic acid, phenyl acetaldehyde,
126 propanoic acid, vanillin, α -ionone, β -damascenone, β -ionone and *n*-alkanes (*n*-C9 to *n*-C25) for Linear
127 Retention Index (I_s^T) determination were from Sigma-Aldrich (Milan, Italy).

128 Internal Standards for analytes response normalization and method validation were α - and β -thujone from
129 Fluka (Milan, Italy); a standard stock solution of ISTDs at 1 μ g/L was prepared in dibutylphthalate (Sigma-
130 Aldrich, Milan, Italy) and stored in a sealed vial at -18°C.

131 Premium quality fermented black tea leaves of homogeneous particle size from Ceylon (Flowery Orange
132 Pekoe) were kindly supplied by Soremartec Italia srl (Alba, CN, Italy).

133

134 2.2 Sample Preparation

135 2.2.1 Preparation of tea samples for headspace analysis and in-solution sampling

136 Dried plant material were exactly weighted (1.500 g) in headspace glass vials (20 mL) and submitted to
137 headspace extraction following the different approaches listed in **Table 1**.

138 Some experiments were also run by adding 2.000 mL of ultrapure water to the dry material to test the
139 resulting headspace sensitivity.

140 Tea infusions were prepared according to European Medicine Agency – EMA (EMA, 2010) indications by
141 suspending 3.00 g of dried plant material in 300 mL of ultrapure boiling water. Static extraction was run for

142 5 minutes, particulate was thus removed through cellulose paper filtration and the resulting solution
143 immediately transferred to headspace vials (20 mL) for in-solution sampling.

144 “Strong” infusions were also prepared (9.00 g of dried plant material in 50 mL of ultrapure boiling water -
145 extraction time 5 minutes) to evaluate the effects of solute/solvent proportions on quali-quantitative
146 distribution of volatiles. Concentrates, based on water extraction, are commonly used to prepare ready-to-
147 drink teas (Cordero, Canale, Del Rio and Bicchi 2009).

148

149 **2.2.2 Automated Solid Phase Microextraction and Headspace Solid Phase Microextraction**

150 Automated SPME for in-solution sampling and HS-SPME for headspace analysis were performed using a
151 MPS-2 multipurpose sampler (Gerstel, Mülheim a/d Ruhr, Germany) installed on the GC×GC-MS system.
152 SPME fibers, Divinylbenzene/Carboxen/ Polydimethyl siloxane (DVB/CAR/PDMS) d_f 50/30 μm - 2 cm were
153 from Supelco (Bellefonte, PA, USA). Fibers were conditioned before use as recommended by the
154 manufacturer. Sampling conditions and parameters are summarized in **Table 1**.

155 ISTDs (α - and β -thujone) used for peak response normalization were pre-loaded into SPME fibers. ISTDs
156 loading procedure was run before samples’ extraction by exposing the SPME fiber to 5 μL of ISTDs standard
157 stock solution for 20 minutes at 50°C.

158

159 **2.2.3 Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction and Headspace Sorptive Extraction**

160 SBSE for in solution-sampling and HSSE for headspace sampling were performed with commercial Twister™
161 devices. 100% PDMS d_f 500 μm - 2 cm twisters were supplied by Gerstel (Mülheim a/d Ruhr, Germany).
162 Sampling was carried out in a thermostatic bath with constant stirring; HSSE twisters were suspended in
163 the vapour phase with a stainless steel wire (Sgorbini et al, 2012), volatiles were thus transferred to GC×GC-
164 MS by a MPS-2 multipurpose sampler (Gerstel, Mülheim a/d Ruhr, Germany) equipped with a Thermo
165 Desorption Unit (TDU) and a CIS-4 PTV injector (Gerstel, Mülheim a/d Ruhr, Germany). Sampling conditions
166 and parameters are reported in **Table 1**.

167 ISTDs loading procedure was run before tea samples' extraction by exposing Twister™ devices to 2 µL of
168 ISTDs standard stock solution for 10 minutes at 50°C.

169

170 **2.2.4 Dynamic Headspace sampling**

171 Dynamic headspace sampling was performed with trapping devices assembled in the authors laboratory
172 with characteristics suitable to obtain comparable data, a combination head-to-tail of 100% PDMS foams
173 (15 mm length – 30 mg ± 2) and 20 mg (±2) 100% PDMS particles supplied by Gerstel (Mülheim a/d Ruhr,
174 Germany). Extractants were packed on inert, single taper, glass liners to be directly desorbed into the TDU
175 unit.

176 During sampling, traps were gas-tight connected to the outlet of a 20 mL sampling vial kept at 50°C,
177 analytes were trapped with a nitrogen flow-rate of 10 mL/min for an extraction time of 50 min (200 mL of
178 total volume). Traps were maintained at room temperature during sampling to increase extraction
179 efficiency, sampling time/volume were extended to improve the extraction of medium-to-low volatility
180 analytes known to be discriminated by static sampling (e.g. HS-SPME). Detailed conditions and parameters
181 are given in **Table 1**.

182

183 **2.3 GC×GC-MS instrument set-up and analytical conditions**

184 GC×GC analyses were performed on an Agilent 6890 GC unit coupled with an Agilent 5975C MS inert
185 detector operating in the EI mode at 70 eV (Agilent, Little Falls, DE, USA). The transfer line was set at 270°C.
186 An *Auto Tune* option was used and the scan range was set at m/z 35-250 with a scan rate of 12,500 amu/s
187 to obtain a 30Hz of sampling frequency. The system was equipped with a two-stage KT 2004 loop thermal
188 modulator (Zoex Corporation, Houston, TX) cooled with liquid nitrogen controlled by Optimode™ V.2 (SRA
189 Instruments, Cernusco sul Naviglio, MI, Italy). Hot jet pulse time was set at 250 ms, modulation time was 4 s
190 and cold-jet total flow progressively reduced with a linear function from 40% of Mass Flow Controller (MFC)
191 at initial conditions to 8% at the end of the run. A deactivated fused silica capillary loop (1 m × 0.1 mm d_c)
192 was used. The column set was configured as follows: ¹D SE52 column (95% polydimethylsiloxane, 5%

193 phenyl) (30 m × 0.25 mm d_c, 0.25 μm d_f) coupled with a ²D OV1701 column (86% polydimethylsiloxane, 7%
194 phenyl, 7% cyanopropyl) (1 m × 0.1 mm d_c, 0.10 μm d_f). Columns were from Mega (Legnano, Milan, Italy).
195 One microliter of the *n*-alkane sample solution for Linear Retention Index (*I*_s^T) determination was
196 automatically injected with an Agilent ALS 7683B injection system under the following conditions:
197 split/splitless injector, split mode, split ratio 1:50, injector temperature 280°C.
198 Volatiles extracted by in-solution or headspace sampling were injected as reported in **Table 1**. For all
199 experiments, carrier gas was helium kept at a constant flow with an initial head pressure 298 kPa. The
200 temperature program was 50°C (1 min) to 280°C (10 min) at 2.5°C/min.

201

202 **2.4 Data acquisition and 2D data automatic processing**

203 Data were acquired by Agilent MSD ChemStation ver D.02.00.275 and processed by GC Image® GC×GC
204 Edition Software, Release 2.5 (GC Image, LLC Lincoln NE, USA).
205 Statistical analysis was performed with SPSS 14.0 (SPSS Inc. Chicago, Illinois, USA) and heat map
206 visualization by GENE-E v 3.0.77 (Broad Institute, Inc. Cambridge, MA, USA).

207

208 **2.5 Method performance parameters**

209 To establish method performance in terms of precision for quantitative descriptors (i.e. 2D Normalized
210 Peak Volumes measured on analytes Target Ion (*Ti*), a simple validation protocol was designed, including
211 experiments on HS-SPME with DVB/CAR/PDMS, HSSE and SBSE with 100% PDMS Twister™ and D-HS
212 sampling with PDMS foam/particles. Precision data on retention times and 2D Peak Volumes (response
213 referred to Target Ions *Ti*) on a selection of key-odorants and informative analytes were evaluated by
214 replicating analyses (three replicates) during a period of one month. Results on analytes 2D Normalized
215 Peak Volumes referred of an acceptable precision and CVr% never exceeded 20%. Detailed information is
216 provided as Supplementary information - **Supplementary Table 1 - ST1-**

217

218 **2.6 Analytes identification**

219 Analytes were identified on the basis of their linear retention indices (I_s^T) and EI-MS spectra compared to
220 those of authentic standards (see paragraph 2.1) or tentatively identified through their EI-MS
221 fragmentation patterns and database available retention indices (see Table 2 for details).

222

223 **3. Results and Discussion**

224 This study investigates the informative potential of tea volatiles fingerprints obtained by combining
225 headspace and in-solution high-concentration capacity (HCC) extraction techniques and dynamic headspace
226 (D-HS) with GC×GC-MS in a unified analytical platform. The informative role of samples' fingerprint is
227 evaluated through a selection of key-analytes for which is known: (a) the biosynthetic pathway
228 (monoterpenoids, phenylpropanoids, carotenoid and fatty acid derivatives), (b) their relationship with
229 technological treatments (as for example products of glycosides hydrolysis) or, (c) because of their relevant
230 sensory impact to define the aroma blueprint (Christbauer and Schieberle, 2009).

231 The following paragraphs illustrate experimental results and discuss investigation strategies peculiar of
232 GC×GC data set resulting in a productive exploitation of the information collected by combining multiple
233 analytical dimensions in a single analysis.

234

235 **3.1 Effectiveness and informative potential of sampling approaches**

236 The volatiles detected and identified with authentic standard confirmation and or by combination
237 of linear retention index (I_s^T) and EI-MS spectrum are listed in **Table 2** together with their absolute
238 retention times (¹D min and ²D sec), experimental I_s^T and those reported in commercial databases (Adams,
239 2007), percent of normalized 2D Peak Volumes resulting from three analytical replicates and referred to
240 two commercial lots. Key-odorants in black teas from different origin (Darjeeling from India (Kawakami,
241 Ganguly, Banerjee and Kobayash1, 1995; Schuh and Schieberle, 2006), Chinese Keemun and Sri-Lanka
242 clones DT-1 and 2025 (Wang, Lee, Chung, Baik, So and Park, 2008)) are indicated and reported together

243 with odor quality and odor threshold (mg/Kg in water) as reported in reference papers (Schieberle and
244 Hofmann, 2011; Wang et al, 2008; Kawakami et al, 1995).

245 A group of 123 target analytes was defined and matched through the sample set by the *comprehensive*
246 *template matching* approach (Reichenbach, Carr, Stoll and Tao, 2009). The approach is classified as *peak*
247 *feature* methodology and enables establishing reliable correspondences between 2D peaks from the same
248 chemical entity across multiple chromatograms (Kiefl, Cordero, Nicolotti, Schieberle, Reichenbach and
249 Bicchi, 2012). **Figure 1A** shows the 2D chromatogram from volatiles sampled by HS-SPME on dry leaves and
250 water addition of a black tea sample from Lot#A. Analytes quali-quantitative distribution across samples is
251 visualized as heat-map in the **Supplementary Figure 1 - SF1**.

252

253 **Insert here Figure 1**

254 Within headspace approaches, the multi-polymer SPME fiber, combining polar adsorption phases (DVB and
255 Carboxen) with sorptive apolar material (PDMS), gave satisfactory results in term of number of detected
256 analytes. A 78/73 over 123 targets were detected above method Limit of Detection (LOD) from the
257 headspace of dry leaves (from Lot #A and Lot #B respectively). The number of analytes increased to 88/78
258 when 2.00 mL of water were added to the plant material, since it promotes the headspace vaporization of
259 analytes with lower water solubility. Interestingly, HSSE and D-HS with higher amounts of sorptive material
260 (100% PDMS), although effective in terms of absolute amount of analytes extracted, showed
261 complementary sampling attitudes when compared to HS-SPME. Medium-to-low volatility analytes were
262 better recovered from sample headspace by HSSE and D-HS, in terms of both number of detected analytes
263 and absolute abundance (predominance of dark brown spots in the region of high I_s^T values in
264 **Supplementary Figure 1**). The information capabilities of sorptive extraction towards medium-to-low
265 volatility/low polarity analytes were confirmed by SBSE sampling results. In-solution sampling enables to
266 characterize directly the infusion chemical signature matching the objective of a fingerprinting
267 methodology directed to a product ready for consumption or as intermediate at the basis of industrial
268 production of ready-to-drink teas. Based on the experiment set-up, complementary information for a

269 comprehensive chemical signature of the sample volatiles was expected by combining the results from the
270 different approaches and sample types.

271 Unsupervised approach, i.e. Principle Component Analysis - PCA, was applied to map the natural
272 conformation of sample groups (dry leaves, leaves to which ultrapure water was added and tea infusion)
273 and to confirm the information provided by each sampling technique.

274 **Figure 2A** shows the scores plot on the first and the third principal components (F3-F1 plane). The variance
275 explained from the first principal component (F1) was 38.79% while that of the third principal component
276 (F3) was 13.78%. In this case, the second component (F2) was not enough informative in terms of
277 discrimination potential of target analytes as a function of the different sampling approaches. Autoscaling
278 and mean centering were applied as pre-processing steps, baseline correction was already applied for 2D
279 data elaboration by GC Image. The corresponding loadings plot is shown in **Figure 2B**.

280

281 **Insert Figure 2 here**

282 The PCA carried out on experimental data (e.g., 123 target analytes), shows a fairly good clustering
283 between in-solution sampling of tea infusions (normal and strong infusion - upper part of the Cartesian
284 plane) and headspace sampling of dry plant material (lower section of the Cartesian plane). Watered dried
285 leaves are located in the right intermediate part of the plane. Samples distribution clearly indicate that the
286 addition of water impacts on volatiles partition and consequently influences the information potential of
287 each 2D plot. Water enhances the headspace sensitivity for less polar analytes: saturated and unsaturated
288 aldehydes from C3/C4 (2-methyl propanal, 2 and 3-methyl butanal) to C9 ((E)-2-nonenal, (E,Z)-2,6-
289 nonadienal) and short chain alcohols are better recovered by HS-SPME on wet plant material. Loading plot
290 (**Fig. 2B**) indicates the compounds responsible for this discrimination. Interestingly, all these compounds
291 are connoted by a relatively low water solubility accompanied by an incremental vapor pressure as a
292 function of the molecular weight.

293 On the other hand, D-HS and HSSE are characterized by a good recovery of less polar and low volatility
294 analytes such as C10-C18 saturated aldehydes, C11 to C15 methyl ketones and some medium chain
295 alcohols (1-dodecanol, 1-tetradecanol, 1-hexadecanol).

296 In-solution sampling better recovers jasmonic acid esters (methyl-(Z)-jasmonate, cis-methyl dihydro
297 jasmonate and trans-methyl dihydro jasmonate) and carotenoid derivatives. This class of secondary
298 metabolites class also include some potent flavour components that characterize the aroma of black tea
299 infusions: β -ionone with *violet-like* odour and β -damascenone, which contributes with its *fruity* note to the
300 overall perception.

301

302 **3.2 Insights in the tea volatile fraction and its chemical signatures**

303 Within the identified compounds, it is worth mentioning the class of plant secondary metabolites
304 from both the shikimate pathway (benzaldehyde, benzyl alcohol, phenyl acetaldehyde and 2-phenyl
305 ethanol) and mevalonate - MVA/ methylerythritol phosphate - MEP pathways (limonene, geraniol,
306 hotrienol, linalool and its oxidized derivatives *cis*- and *trans*-linalool-3,6-oxide, *cis*- and *trans*-linalool-3,7-
307 oxide). Their quali-quantitative distribution can define botanical/geographical origin as well as seasonal
308 variations and harvest periods (Yang et al, 2013).

309 Linalool, the most abundant monoterpene in black tea leaves, mainly occurs in its free form, whereas
310 linalool oxides are present as glycosides (Sakata, Mizutani, Cho, Kinoshita and Shimizu, 2008) (β -
311 primeverosides) in young and old tea leaves and stems, they are liberated by specific enzymes
312 (primeverosidases) during harvest and post-harvest treatments (Mizutani et al 2002). The non-enzymatic
313 hydrolysis due to hot water during the infusion process is also well documented (Schuh and Schieberle,
314 2006). The glycosidic precursors of damascenone, a nor-isoprenoid derived from enzyme-catalyzed
315 cleavage of carotenoids (Carotenoid Cleavage Enzymes CCDx) (Kinoshita et al, 2010), undergoes to
316 hydrolysis during pasteurization producing an unpleasant off-flavor (Kumazawa and Masuda, 2001).

317 **Figure 3A** shows the distribution (Normalized 2D Peak Volumes) of glycoside aglycones in the headspace of
318 dry leaves with and without water addition.

319

320 **Insert Figures 3A-B here**

321 The effect of water on the headspace sensitivity with these analytes is evident, although it cannot be
322 excluded that other concurrent effects (e.g. water solubility and osmotic pressure on plant cells and stems)
323 may promote their release and, as a consequence, higher headspace concentration. In particular, β -
324 damascenone was detected only in presence of water, being its headspace concentration below method
325 LOD when dry leaves were directly sampled without treatment. The increase for the other compounds
326 ranges from about 4 (+385%) of benzyl alcohol and *cis*-linalool-3,7-oxide, to a maximum of about 90 folds
327 (+9125%) of methyl salicylate. Results based on absolute abundances are corroborated by the relative
328 distribution counterparts based on Normalized 2D peak Volume % (data not shown) with the only
329 exception of benzyl alcohol whose percent distribution does not markedly change.

330 Another group of informative volatiles for black tea qualification, mainly because of their intense
331 odor, is that of carotenoids derivatives. As mentioned, this group of volatiles is formed from enzymatic
332 cleavage by CCDs, a superfamily of polyene chain oxigenases. In particular, 6-methyl-5-hepten-2-one and
333 geranial are formed by 5,6 or 7,8 double bond cleavage of lycopene (Zhang et al, 2013; Vogel, Tan, McCarty
334 and Klee, 2008) while β -ionone and β -damascenone (C-13 apocarotenoids) have β -carotene and
335 neoxanthin respectively as precursors. These components may reflect seasonal variations; the
336 phosphorylation status of oxigenase enzymes increases from spring to autumn impacting on the chemical
337 fingerprint of this volatiles (Vogel et al, 2008). Their distribution between samples will be discussed in the
338 next paragraph (Section 3.3) focused on odor active compounds.

339 The group of volatiles derived from saturated and unsaturated fatty acids oxidation is the most represented
340 and counts 55 analytes belonging to different chemical classes: alcohols, carbonyl derivatives, acids and
341 esters including some lactones. They are formed through a primary reaction catalyzed by region-selective
342 lipoxygenases (9-LOX and 13-LOX) that forms dioxygenated intermediates (hydroperoxides) from
343 unsaturated fatty acids. The hydroperoxides are thus cleaved by hydroperoxide lyases (HPLs) to oxo-acids
344 (precursors of cyclic esters - lactones) and C6-aldehydes. The picture is thus completed by β -, γ -unsaturated

345 carbonyls isomerization, enzymatically or non-enzymatically mediated, and reduction to the corresponding
346 alcohols catalyzed by alcohol dehydrogenases (ADHs).

347 This complex formation pathway is highly sensitive to enzymatic activity changes mostly induced by shifts in
348 environmental temperatures than by maturity of the leaves (Sekiya, Kajiwara and Hatanaka, 1984); the
349 chemical fingerprint of these volatile derivatives can in consequence be adopted as informative signature
350 of climate variations. It is therefore interesting to observe hydroperoxide derivatives distribution from
351 dried tea leaves as a function of the different HS approaches investigated.

352 **Figure 3B** shows the distribution (Normalized 2D Peak Volume) of saturated and unsaturated aldehydes,
353 sorted by molecular weight, as they were recovered from sample headspace by: HS-SPME (dark
354 colorization), HSSE (medium intensity colorization) and D-HS (light colorization).

355 As expected, HS-SPME reached the highest sensitivity with highly-volatile aldehydes (from C5 to C7) while
356 D-HS, settled-up to enrich the medium-to-low volatility fraction, provides information about aldehydes with
357 a carbon skeleton above 10/11 C units. These analytes are connoted by quite low odor thresholds,
358 especially if unsaturated, making their contribution to the overall sensory perception of tea infusions not
359 negligible. The extraction capability of HSSE has to be stressed: it provides a rather complete picture of this
360 analyte group and, compared to D-HS, its optimization is easier.

361 The transferability of the method to routine and high-throughput controls takes advantages by the
362 fingerprinting capabilities of HCC-HS techniques to sample directly dry leaves and might also be speeded up
363 at the data elaboration step by applying suitable scripting functions. Scripting on 2D metadata enables to
364 isolate and visualize the response of certain analytes' group or classes as a function of the spectral
365 signature and/or relative retention (position) on the 2D separation space. This operation is usual in the
366 petrochemical field for the "group-type" analysis (Jennerwein, Eschner, Gröger, Wilharm and Zimmermann,
367 2014), and was also successfully adopted in a previous study on milk volatiles (Cordero et al, 2013),
368 although limited to a few chemical groups (i.e. saturated aldehydes and lactones) because of the high
369 sample chemical dimensionality (Giddings, 1995) and limited presence of homologue series.

370 **Figures 1B** and **1C** show the resulting 2D images after scripting: *normal* and *iso*-alkanes (**Fig.1B**) and
371 saturated and unsaturated aldehydes (**Fig. 1C**).

372 The function was implemented by the Computer Language for Identifying Chemicals (CLIC - GC-Image™)
373 and adopts functions, arithmetic operators, logical operators, relational operators combined in specific
374 expressions that can be applied to single image pixels to produce an image in which pixels where the
375 expression is verified (evaluated to true) are unchanged and pixels that are evaluated as false are set to
376 zero (i.e. masked).

377 The expression for *normal* and *iso*-alkanes was built on the basis of the fragmentation pattern
378 characteristics of this chemical class and corresponds to:

379 `(Relative(43)>0.98)&(Relative(57)>0.78)&(Relative(71)>0.68)&(Relative(85)>0.50)`

380 Saturated aldehydes are characterized by some common fragments (41, 44 and 56/57 *m/z*) while the
381 unsaturated ones by 41, 55, 68/69/70 and 83 *m/z*. The expression was built to include both series and was
382 as follows:

383 `AND((Relative(41)>0.70)&(Relative(44)>0.70)&(Relative(57)>0.50)),((Relative(41)>`
384 `0.90)&(Relative(55)>0.70)&(Relative(69)>0.40)&(Relative(83)>0.40)).`

385 The resulting filtered 2D plot is shown in **Figure 1C**.

386 *Normal* and *iso*-alkanes deserve to be considered because of their informing role about the impact of both
387 fermentation on long chain fatty acids and mineral oil saturated hydrocarbons (MOSH) contamination
388 during the processing chain. The latter is of increasing interest for food safety, and has found in GC×GC-
389 FID/MS one of the most performing platforms for reliable characterization and quantitation (Biedermann
390 and Grob, 2015).

391

392 **3.3 Definition of black teas Chemical Odor Code**

393 The complex phenomenon of aroma perception is triggered by volatile molecules, mostly
394 hydrophobic, interacting with Odor Receptors (ORs) expressed in the olfactory epithelium (Fleischer, Breer
395 and Strotmann, 2009). The perception, activated by multiple and simultaneous ligand-receptor
396 interactions, is the result of a complex pattern of signals (i.e., the Receptor Code) that is integrated by

397 peripheral and central nervous system (Dunkel et al, 2014). The comprehensive chemical characterization
398 of the mixture of potential ligands (i.e., the Chemical Odor Code) is fundamental to understand and
399 objectify food aroma perception (Schieberle and Hofmann, 2011).

400 The investigation approach adopted in this study can therefore help for an accurate and rational
401 characterization of sensory active compounds within samples providing also the analyst of an effective tool
402 for their classification.

403 Apart from quality control aspects, changes of the chemical fingerprint of aroma active compounds may be
404 of interest also for post-harvesting treatments and processing practices optimization. Therefore, ideally,
405 the entire set of key odorants has to be measured without any discrimination between the highly abundant
406 and chromatographically well-resolved peaks. GC×GC has proven to be a valuable tool to perform quickly a
407 comprehensive assessment of odorants (Cordero, Kiefl, Schieberle, Reichenbach and Bicchi, 2015) as it is
408 clearly confirmed with tea aroma active compounds.

409 Within the group of volatiles identified and listed in **Table 2**, volatile fatty acids derivatives (above all
410 hexanol, (*Z*)-2-hexenol, (*Z*)-3-hexenol, hexanal, (*E*)-2-hexenal) significantly contribute to the typical tea
411 aroma with their *fresh-green* odors; in particular these compounds are associated with different sensory
412 descriptors, i.e. *flowery, violet-like, grassy, fresh, sweet*. The same pathway also originate higher molecular
413 weight derivatives, such as saturated and unsaturated aldehydes above 7/8 carbon units that are
414 responsible for *fatty, fishy* and *oat-flake-like* notes ((*Z*)-4-heptenal, (*E,E*)-2,4-heptadienal, (*E,E*)-2,4-
415 heptadienal, (*E*)-2-nonenal, (*E,E*)-2,4-octadienal, (*E,E*)-2,4-nonadienal, (*E,E*)-2,4-decadienal) (Schuh and
416 Schieberle, 2006).

417 Strecker aldehydes (2-methylpropanal, 2-methylbutanal and 3-methylbutanal), formed during
418 fermentation, impress *malty* and *buttery* notes while phenylacetaldehyde, derived from L-phenylalanine (L-
419 Phe), is responsible the pleasant *honey-like* note. L-Phe is also precursor of benzylalcohol and
420 phenylethanol, major contributors to the *fruity, floral* smells as well as benzaldehyde, benzylalcohol and
421 coumarin with *sweet, fruity* and *almond-like* notes. Carotenoid derivatives (β -ionone and damascenone)

422 and terpenoids (linalool, linalool-oxides and geraniol) complete the *floral* bouquet with their characteristic
423 notes.

424 Looking at the chemical odor code encrypted in the 2D patterns and assuming as reference benchmark, the
425 list of potent odorants identified by Kawakami et al (1995) and by Schuh and Schieberle (2006), who also
426 considered their impact relative to the odor threshold (OT), the most meaningful sampling approach results
427 HS-SPME of the watered dry leaves. HS-SPME detects 39 compounds from Lot#A with the exception of
428 methyl jasmonate that was below method LOD; and 34 from Lot#B over forty key-aroma compounds. In
429 Lot#B six compounds were lost: (E,E)-2,4-nonadienal, methyl-(Z)-jasmonate, β -damascenone, decanoic
430 acid, 3-methyl butanoic acid and vanillin.

431

432 **Insert Figure 4 here**

433 **Figure 4** visualizes as heat-map the combination of chemical data (analyte quantitative distribution across
434 samples/sampling approaches) and sensory descriptors. General descriptors (first column) were based on
435 the aroma profile delineated by descriptive sensory analysis (DSA) reported by Schuh and Schieberle
436 (2006). For potent odorants (third column, right side) most common odor descriptor(s) are also reported
437 (second column, central). The heat-map quantitative descriptors (normalized 2D volumes) are reported in
438 logarithmic scale to give a quick and effective indication on the potential of each single sampling technique
439 and its informative role. With HS-SPME on watered leaves dark colored spots prevail for all classes of
440 odorants. Interestingly, the two tea Lots shows a different distribution of key-odorants indicating that,
441 although their overall sensory profile was evaluated from a panel as compliant with a reference
442 benchmark, harvest year influences the relative distribution of some key-flavors.

443

444

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447

448

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554 chromatography-time-of-flight mass spectrometry and multivariate data analysis. *Journal of*
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- 556

557 **Figure Captions:**

558

559 **Figures 1A-C:** (1A) Pseudocolored GC×GC chromatogram of volatiles sampled by HS-SPME on dry leaves
560 and water addition of a black tea sample from Lot#A. (1B) pink-colored circles highlight 2D peaks where the

561 scripting function :

562 [Relative(43)>0.98)&(Relative(57)>0.78)&(Relative(71)>0.68)&(Relative(85)>0.50]

563 was verified - *normal* and *iso*-alkanes. (1C) green and cyano colored circles highlight 2D peaks where the

564 scripting function :

565 [AND((Relative(41)>0.70)&(Relative(44)>0.70)&(Relative(57)>0.50)),((Relative(41)

566 >0.90)&(Relative(55)>0.70)&(Relative(69)>0.40)&(Relative(83)>0.40))]

567 was verified - *saturated* and *unsaturated*-aldehydes.

568

569 **Figures 2A-B:** PCA results: (2A) scores plot on the first and the third principal components (F3-F1 plane)
570 based on volatiles distribution across all samplings/samples (14 × 123 matrix - samples × analytes). (2B)
571 corresponding loadings plot.

572

573 **Figures 3A-B:** (3A) histogram illustrating the effect of water addition on a selection of volatiles known to be
574 present in black tea leaves as both free and glycosidically bounded forms. Percentages indicate the effect of
575 water on HS-SPME recovery estimated on Normalized 2D Peak Volumes. (3B) graphical rendering showing
576 the distribution (Normalized 2D Peak Volumes) of *f* saturated and unsaturated aldehydes, sorted by
577 molecular weight, as they were recovered from sample headspace by: HS-SPME (dark colorization), HSSE
578 (medium intensity colorization) and D-HS (light colorization)

579

580 **Figure 4:** heat-map showing the combination of chemical data (analyte quantitative distribution across
581 samples/sampling approaches) and sensory descriptors. General descriptors (first column) are based on the
582 aroma profile delineated by descriptive sensory analysis (DSA) reported by Schuh and Schieberle (2006).
583 Potent odorants (third column, right side) are listed together with most common odor descriptor(s) (second
584 column, central). The heat-map quantitative descriptors (Normalized 2D Peak Volumes) are reported in
585 logarithmic scale.

586

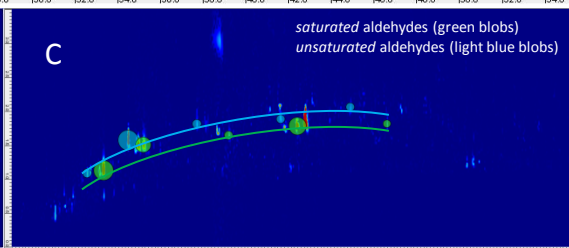
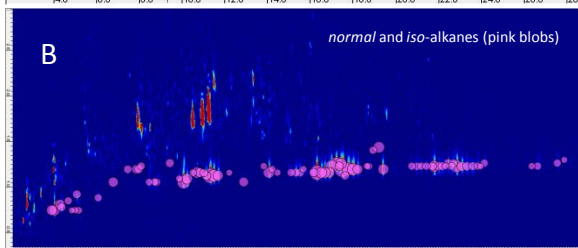
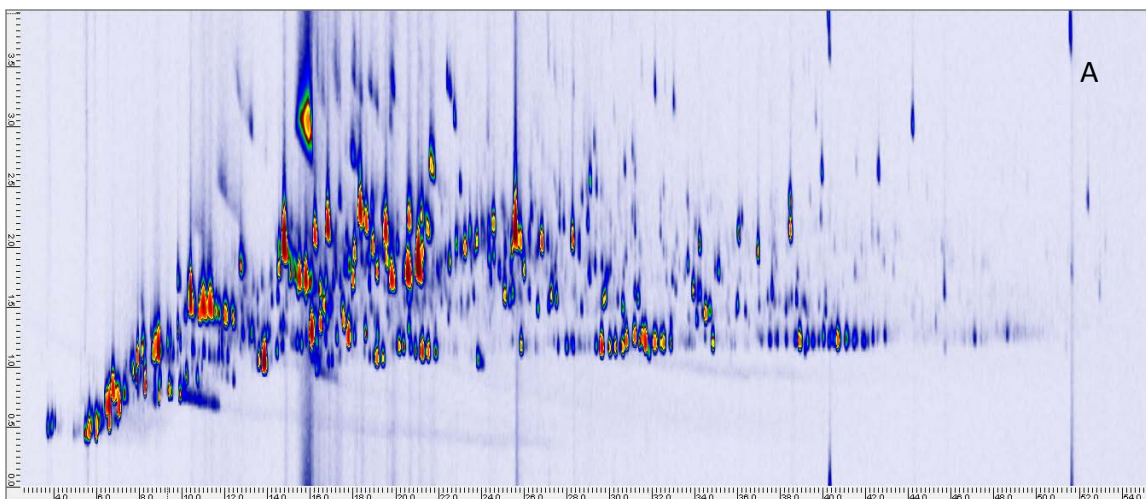
587 **Table Captions:**

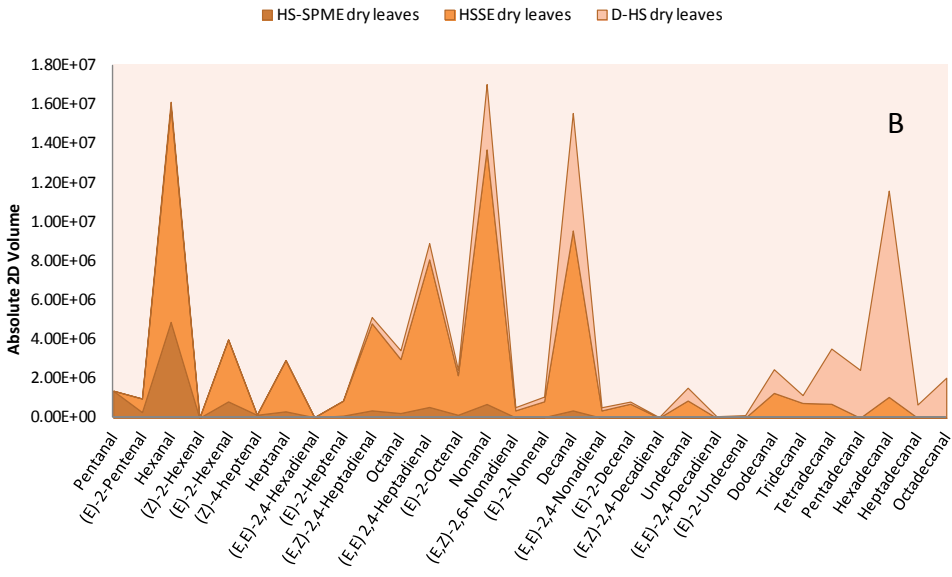
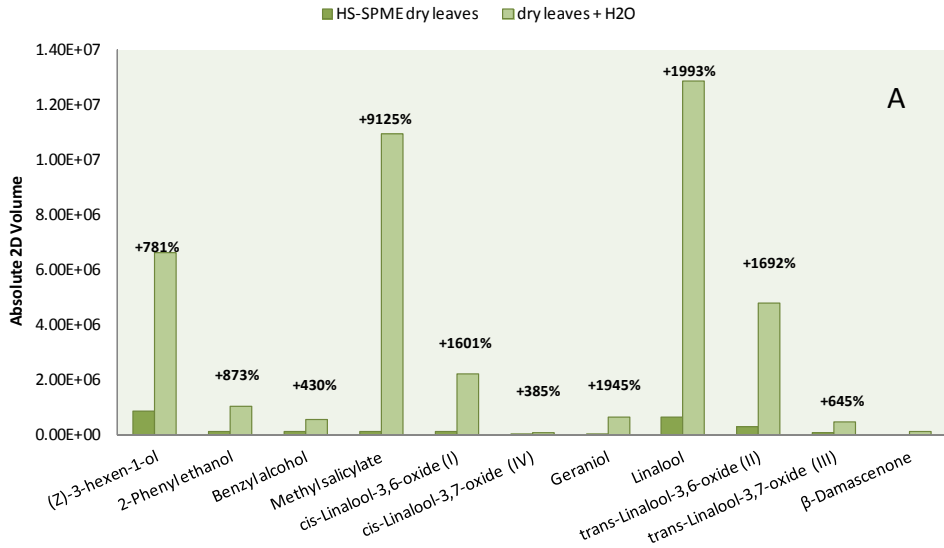
588 **Table 1:** List of analyzed samples and sampling conditions.

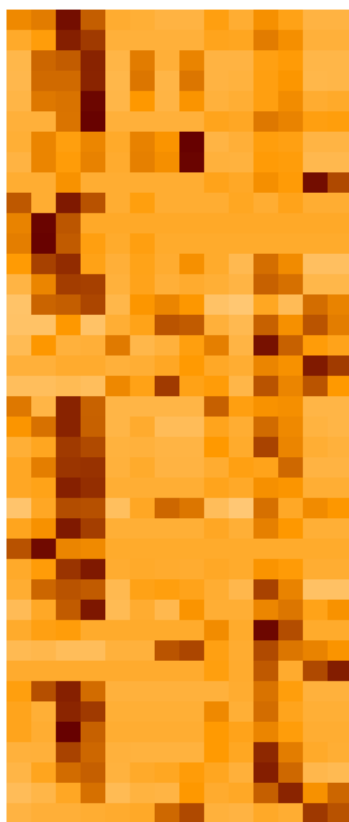
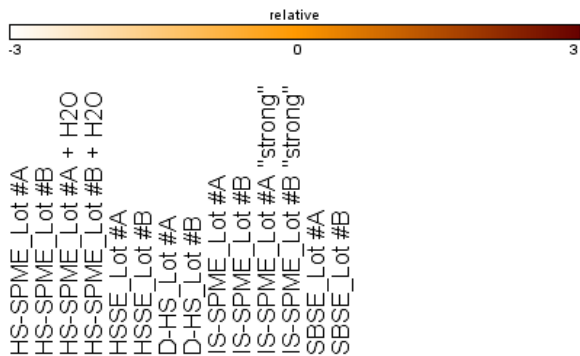
589

590 **Table 2:** List of the target analytes together with ¹D and ²D retention times, t_s^T (experimental, reference
591 form authentic standards analysis (\$) or reported in literature (£)), and sensory descriptors as reported in
592 reference literature. The 2D Peak Volume data is provided for all sampling approaches and Lots#. Values
593 are means of two analytical replicates. Analytes that were confirmed by the analysis of reference standards
594 are reported in italics.

595







Citrus/Fruity	Fruity	1-Pentanol
Citrus/Fruity	fruity, banana, soft	1-Hexanol
Citrus/Fruity	Sweet floral, citrus, fruity	cis-Linalool-3,6-oxide (I)
Citrus/Fruity	Sweet floral, citrus, fruity	trans-Linalool-3,6-oxide (II)
Citrus/Fruity	Citrus	Linalool
Citrus/Fruity	Tropical	Hotrienol
Citrus/Fruity	Sweet floral, citrus, fruity	cis-Linalool-3,7-oxide (IV)
Citrus/Fruity	Sweet floral, citrus, fruity	trans-Linalool-3,7-oxide (III)
Citrus/Fruity	Fruity	β -Damascenone
Fatty	Wet earth	1-Penten-3-ol
Fatty	Sweaty	3-Methyl butanoic acid (isovaleric acid)
Fatty	Sweaty	Pentanoic acid (valeric acid)
Fatty	Goat-like, sweaty	Hexanoic acid
Fatty	Fatty, rancid	(E,E)-2,4-Heptadienal
Fatty	Fatty, green	(E)-2-Nonenal
Fatty	Fatty, green	(E,E)-2,4-Nonadienal
Fatty	Sweaty, waxy	Nonanoic acid
Fatty	Fatty, fried	(E,E)-2,4-Decadienal
Fatty	Soap-like, fatty	Decanoic acid
Green/grassy	Green, pungent	2-Methyl propanal
Green/grassy	green, grassy	Hexanal
Green/grassy	Bitter almond, green	(E)-2-Hexenal
Green/grassy	green	(Z)-3-hexen-1-ol
Green/grassy	green grass, leaves	(E)-2-hexen-1-ol
Green/grassy	Cucumber-like	(E,Z)-2,6-Nonadienal
Sweet	Sweet	Furfural
Sweet	Sweet	Dihydro-2(3H)-furanone (γ -butyrolactone)
Sweet	Almond, burnt sugar	Benzaldehyde
Sweet	Sweet, fruity	Benzyl alcohol
Sweet	Sweet	Methyl salicylate
Sweet	Vanilla-like, sweet	Vanillin
Sweet	Sweet, tea-like	Dihydroactinidiolide
Sweet	Floral, sweet, fruity	Methyl-(Z)-jasmonate
Fishy	Fishy	(Z)-4-heptenal
Malty	Malty	3-Methyl butanal
Malty	Malty	Vanillin
Rose-like/honey-like	Honey-like	Phenyl acetaldehyde
Rose-like/honey-like	Honey-like	2-Phenyl ethanol
Rose-like/honey-like	Rose-like/honey-like	Geraniol
Violet-like	Violet-like	β -Ionone

Samples	Sampling approach	Sample weight/volume	Temperature and time	Other	Replicates	Acronym
Dry plant material Lot #A and Lot #B	HS-SPME - DVB/CAR/PDMS	1.500g dry leaves	Temperature: 50°C Sampling time: 50 min	Constant stirring -Desorption time: 5 (min) S/SL injector: 270 °C -Split ratio 1:10	3 +3	HS-SPME_Lot#
		1.500g dry leaves 2.000 mL of water	Temperature: 50°C Sampling time: 50 min		3 +3	HS-SPME_Lot# +H2O
	HSSE -Twister™ 100% PDMS	1.500g dry leaves	Temperature: 50°C Sampling time: 50 min Sample incubation: 50°C Trap: room temperature	TDU conditions: from 30°C to 270°C (5 min) at 60°C/min; flow mode: splitless -Transfer line: 270°C. CIS-4 PTV injector temp: -50°C -coolant: liquid CO ₂ ;	3 +3	HSSE_Lot#
	D-HS 100% PDMS*	1.500g dry leaves	Carrier: nitrogen Sampling flow: 10 mL/min Sampling time: 50 min	Injection temp program: from -50°C to 270°C (10 min) at 12°C/s. Inlet operated in split mode: split ratio 1:10.	3 +3	D-HS_Lot#
Tea infusion Lot #A and Lot #B	SPME - DVB/CAR/PDMS	Sample volume 20 mL	Temperature: 50°C Sampling time: 50 min	Constant stirring -Desorption time: 5 (min) S/SL injector: 270 °C -Split ratio 1:10	3 +3	IS-SPME_Lot#
	SBSE -Twister™ 100% PDMS	Sample volume 20 mL	Temperature: 50°C Sampling time: 50 min	TDU conditions: from 30°C to 270°C (5 min) at 60°C/min; flow mode: splitless -Transfer line: 270°C. CIS-4 PTV injector temp: -50°C -coolant: liquid CO ₂ ; Injection temp program: from -50°C to 270°C (10 min) at 12°C/s. Inlet operated in split mode: split ratio 1:10.	3 +3	SBSE_Lot#

* 100% PDMS particles + foam

Analyte*	¹ D (min)	² D (sec)	Exp. I _s	Ref. I _s ^E	Odour descriptor	Odour threshold (mg/Kg)	Key- aroma	HS-SPME Lot #A	HS-SPME Lot #A + H ₂ O	HSSE Lot #A	D-HS Lot #A	IS-SPME Lot #A	IS-SPME Lot #A "strong"	SBSE Lot #A	HS-SPME Lot #B	HS-SPME Lot #B + H ₂ O	HSSE Lot #B	D-HS Lot #B	IS-SPME Lot #B	IS-SPME Lot #B "strong"	SBSE Lot #B
Acetone	3.42	0.56	746	750 ^S	pungent	500		1.52	0.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.61	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-Methyl propanal	3.62	0.10	750	751 ^S	green, pungent	0.0023	x	0.54	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.09	0.00
Acetic acid	3.89	0.49	755	754 ^S	sour, vinegary	50		15.80	0.48	1.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Butanal	3.89	0.21	755	756 ^S	pungent, green	0.018		0.40	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ethyl acetate	4.02	0.21	758	757 ^S	pineapple	0.94		1.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1-Butanol	4.49	0.42	768	769 ^S	winey	0.15		0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3-Methyl butanal	4.55	0.31	769	770 ^S	malty	0.013	x	0.63	1.18	0.00	0.00	1.17	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00
2-Methyl butanal	4.62	0.31	770	771 ^S	malty	0.01	x	1.15	2.93	0.00	0.00	1.37	0.99	0.00	0.00	1.31	0.00	0.00	0.59	0.48	0.00
1-Penten-3-ol	4.82	0.45	774	775 ^S	wet earth	0.4	y	4.58	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.68	0.00	0.24	0.16	0.00
Propanoic acid	4.89	1.15	776	776 ^S	fruity, pungent	20		1.80	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pentanal	5.09	0.42	780	781 ^S	pungent, almond-like	0.04		4.29	1.44	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.39	0.50	0.00
2-Methyl propanoic acid	6.02	1.43	799	793 ^E	sweaty	8.10		0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(E)-2-Pentenal	6.15	0.70	801	-	green, apple, tomato, pungent	0.3		0.91	1.10	0.30	0.00	0.48	0.87	0.00	0.95	0.85	0.16	0.00	0.22	0.51	0.00
1-Pentanol	6.42	0.77	807	807 ^S	fruity	3	y	2.09	1.24	0.56	0.00	0.64	0.43	0.00	1.03	0.67	0.19	0.00	0.18	0.23	0.00
(Z)-2-Penten-1-ol	6.49	0.87	808	783 ^E	-	-		2.58	1.45	0.79	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	1.99	1.19	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.00
Butanoic acid	6.75	1.74	813	813 ^S	sweaty, rancid	0.24		0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hexanal	7.29	0.77	824	823 ^S	green apple, grassy	0.08	xy	15.20	8.14	4.72	0.29	5.47	5.99	1.51	9.52	4.98	4.53	0.29	3.20	4.28	1.55
Furfural	8.42	1.33	847	848 ^S	sweet	3	y	0.36	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.33	0.00	0.39	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.00
3-Methyl butanoic acid	8.62	2.13	851	834 ^E	sweaty	0.7	y	0.15	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(Z)-2-Hexenal	8.89	1.05	857	855 ^S	-	-		0.00	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.07	0.00
2-Methyl butanoic acid	8.95	2.09	858	832 ^E	sweaty, sweet	0.7		0.17	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(E)-2-Hexenal	9.15	1.12	862	863 ^S	bitter almond, green	0.42	y	2.60	8.46	1.36	0.00	7.53	9.85	1.09	2.75	7.06	0.90	0.00	2.42	4.74	0.68
(Z)-3-hexen-1-ol	9.22	1.22	864	864 ^S	green	1.5	x	2.62	3.81	0.84	0.00	0.86	0.82	0.00	3.85	3.72	1.27	0.00	2.17	3.03	0.00
(E)-2-hexen-1-ol	9.62	1.22	872	872 ^S	green grass, leaves	5	xy	0.58	1.71	0.00	0.00	0.49	0.57	0.00	0.38	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.51	0.00
1-Hexanol	9.75	1.19	874	873 ^S	fruity, banana, soft	0.4	y	0.66	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.66	0.97	0.00	0.74	1.51	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.69	0.00
Pentanoic acid	10.35	2.55	887	888 ^S	sweaty	3	y	0.76	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.97	0.04	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-Heptanone	10.35	1.12	887	888 ^S	sweet, fruity	0.3		0.41	1.07	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.28	0.07	0.48	0.77	0.26	0.00	0.10	0.21	0.09
(Z)-4-heptenal	10.95	1.15	899	898 ^S	fishy	0.00006	x	0.48	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.75	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.12	0.00
Heptanal	11.09	1.08	901	901 ^S	oily, fatty, woody	0.5		1.02	1.43	1.12	0.00	0.56	0.63	0.24	1.29	0.85	0.96	0.00	0.23	0.35	0.32
Dihydro-2(3H)-furanone (γ-butyrolactone)	11.49	2.97	909	908 ^S	-	-	y	0.63	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(E,E)-2,4-Hexadienal	11.55	1.53	911	907 ^E	green	0.010		0.09	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.37	0.49	0.00	0.24	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.25	0.00
(E)-2-Heptenal	13.75	1.47	955	955 ^S	fatty, almond-like	0.005		0.34	0.45	0.33	0.00	0.15	0.27	0.07	0.21	0.28	0.11	0.00	0.08	0.16	0.00
Benzaldehyde	14.09	1.64	962	962 ^S	almond, burnt sugar	0.35	y	1.97	7.40	1.58	0.45	1.64	2.61	0.21	3.23	8.46	1.42	0.40	0.90	1.95	0.26
1-Heptanol	14.35	1.43	968	968 ^S	herb	0.003		0.11	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.29	0.13	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00
1-Octen-3-ol	14.89	1.40	978	977 ^S	mould, earthy	0.05		0.40	0.96	0.00	0.11	0.23	0.37	0.00	0.90	1.04	0.35	0.18	0.14	0.32	0.06
6-Methyl-5-hepten-2-one	15.09	1.43	983	984 ^S	pungent, green	1		1.51	2.28	2.46	1.03	0.40	0.68	0.00	2.67	2.23	2.56	0.84	0.29	0.65	0.44
2-Octanone	15.22	1.36	985	988 ^E	mould, green	0.51		0.00	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00
Hexanoic acid	15.35	2.90	988	987 ^S	goat-like, sweaty	3	y	4.62	2.60	2.74	0.86	1.43	1.95	0.00	4.81	0.65	2.35	2.05	0.40	1.40	0.00
2-Pentyl furan	15.42	0.98	989	984 ^E	buttery, green bean-like	0.006		1.06	3.01	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.83	2.74	0.93	0.00	0.07	0.09	0.00
(E,Z)-2,4-Heptadienal	15.82	1.78	997	996 ^E	fatty, rancid	10		1.17	1.48	1.91	0.36	1.75	3.33	0.59	1.44	1.32	1.07	0.34	0.99	1.91	0.60
(Z)-3-Hexen-1-ol acetate	15.95	1.19	1000	1004 ^E	sweet	0.008		0.00	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.09	0.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.12
Octanal	16.09	1.33	1003	1002 ^S	fatty, sharp	0.32		0.75	0.59	1.18	0.51	0.20	0.13	0.28	0.62	0.39	0.56	0.36	0.07	0.08	0.21
(E,E)-2,4-Heptadienal	16.55	1.81	1011	1005 ^E	fatty, rancid	0.36	y	1.72	3.39	3.24	0.95	1.53	3.22	0.45	3.66	3.18	3.17	1.24	0.87	2.81	0.56
2-Ethyl-1-hexanol	17.49	1.53	1028	-	-	-		0.23	0.29	0.00	3.26	0.10	0.27	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	1.97	0.03	0.17	0.00
Limonene	17.55	0.94	1030	1030 ^S	citrus, mint	0.01		1.62	0.76	1.26	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.74	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3-Octen-2-one	17.82	1.64	1035	1030 ^E	-	-		0.23	0.59	0.35	0.13	0.10	0.20	0.00	0.36	0.51	0.30	0.00	0.05	0.13	0.08
2,2,6-Trimethyl cyclohexanone	17.89	1.43	1036	-	-	-		0.40	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.16	0.18	0.82	0.45	1.06	0.39	0.07	0.13	0.26
Benzyl alcohol	17.89	2.48	1035	1036 ^S	sweet, fruity	10	y	0.39	0.31	0.23	0.25	0.22	0.44	0.00	0.57	0.28	0.40	0.21	0.09	0.25	0.00
Phenyl acetaldehyde	18.35	1.99	1046	1046 ^S	honey-like	0.0063	x	0.44	3.66	0.74	0.09	3.37	5.64	0.80	0.25	2.50	0.19	0.10	1.47	2.52	0.56
(E)-2-Octenal	19.15	1.71	1059	1049 ^E	green, nut, fat	0.004		0.47	0.79	0.87	0.33	0.29	0.47	0.50	0.64	0.64	0.59	0.28	0.14	0.27	0.51
3,5,5-Trimethyl-2-cyclohexen-1-one	19.22	1.50	1061	-	-	-		0.26	0.30	0.51	0.15	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.74	0.30	0.88	0.30	0.05	0.11	0.13

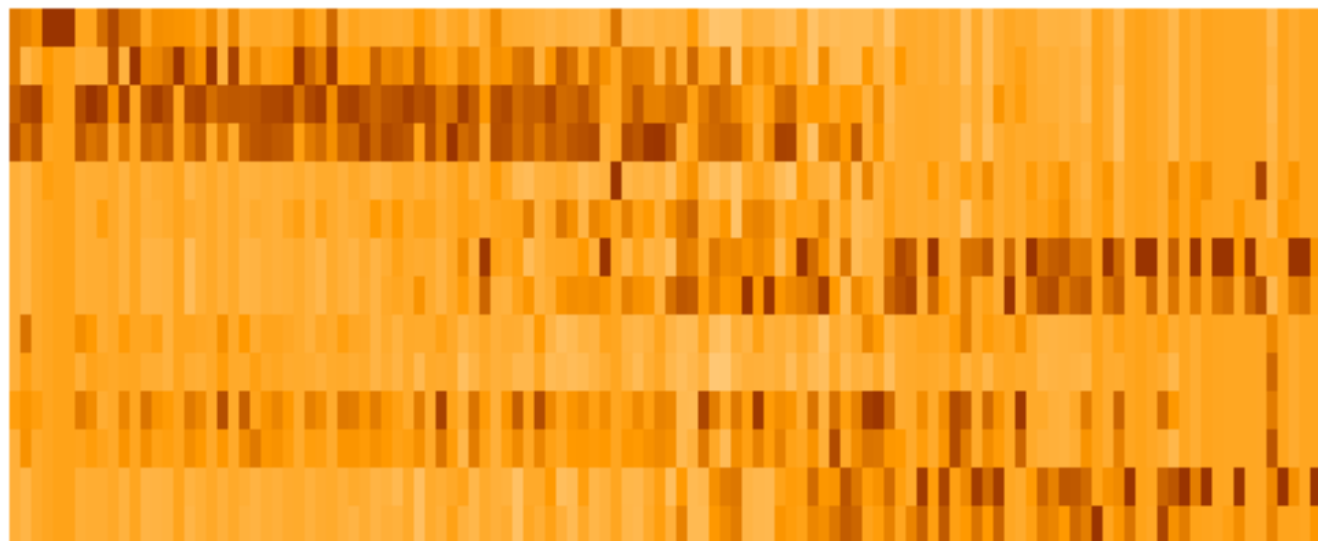
Dihydroactinidiolide	44.29	3.52	1534	1539 ^E	sweet, tea-like	-	y	1.37	0.09	5.89	10.16	5.56	6.88	6.14	0.84	0.08	2.76	11.25	3.03	4.67	6.18
Dodecanoic acid	45.82	2.27	1567	1565 ^E	fatty	10		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
2-Tetradecanone	47.22	1.60	1597		-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tetradecanal	48.02	1.54	1615	1611 ^E	fatty, waxy, citrus odor	0.060		0.00	0.00	0.31	3.24	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.11	1.78	0.00	0.00	0.00
Methyl-(Z)-jasmonate	49.35	2.37	1645	1648 ^E	floral, sweet, fruity	-	y	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.12	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40
cis-Methyl dihydro jasmonate	49.69	2.30	1652	1654 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.50	0.28	0.05	0.06	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.15
Tridecanoic acid	50.15	2.13	1663	1678 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13
trans-Methyl dihydro jasmonate	50.89	2.23	1679	1682 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1-Tetradecanol	50.89	1.54	1679	1671 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.60	0.88	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.29	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.09
2-Pentadecanone	51.75	1.57	1698	1697 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pentadecanal	52.49	1.54	1716	1710 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	2.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.28	0.00	0.00	0.19
Tetradecanoic acid	54.62	2.16	1767	1768 ^E	fatty	10		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.69	0.00	0.00	7.04	0.00	0.00	1.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.80
Hexadecanal	56.82	1.57	1820	1819 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.46	12.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
Isopropyl myristate	57.02	1.33	1825	1825 ^S	-	-		0.00	0.00	1.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
Caffeine	58.02	3.70	1849	1848 ^S	-	-		0.60	0.25	17.12	13.94	45.00	23.37	28.12	2.94	1.14	3.85	0.53	67.40	38.12	38.61
Pentadecanoic acid	58.69	2.06	1866	1866 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.68	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1-Hexadecanol	59.22	1.54	1879	1874 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.57	0.87	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.06
Heptadecanal	60.69	1.50	1916	1897 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hexadecanoic acid	62.69	2.09	1968	1959 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	2.21	0.00	0.00	14.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.77	0.00	0.00	2.18
Octadecanal	64.55	1.50	2018	2021 ^E	-	-		0.00	0.00	0.00	2.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.38	0.00	0.00	0.00

* Analytes confirmed by reference standards analysis are reported in italics

‡: experimental index from standard reference compound analyzed with the current column configuration

E: R. P. Adams, Identification of Essential Oil Components by Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry, 4th ed. (Allured Publ., Carol Stream, IL,2007).

Rows are ordered according with $1D I^T_5$ (apolar-medium polarity column combination) from left to right the retention index increases, and 2D Peak Volumes are normalized by dividing by column standard deviation; headspace (HS) and in-solution (IS) sampling are clustered together to make easier their comparison.



HS-SPME_Lot #A
HS-SPME_Lot #B
HS-SPME_Lot #A + H2O
HS-SPME_Lot #B + H2O
HSSE_Lot #A
HSSE_Lot #B
D-HS_Lot #A
D-HS_Lot #B
IS-SPME_Lot #A
IS-SPME_Lot #B
IS-SPME_Lot #A "strong"
IS-SPME_Lot #B "strong"
SBSE_Lot #A
SBSE_Lot #B

