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Time-resolved NIRS and non-destructive assessment of food quality

Lorenzo Spinelli, Alessandro Torricelli

Dipartimento di Fisica – Politecnico di Milano
Istituto di Fotonica e Nanotecnologie – CNR

Winter College on Applications of Optics and Photonics in Food Science

20 February 2016, Trieste



Non-destructive optical characterisation of internal optical properties and correlation with quality parameters

- Basic studies in apples, kiwifruits, nectarines, tomatoes, ...
- Changes in optical properties during growth in Elstar apples and Tophit plums
- Texture in Jonagored apples, Braeburn apples and Pink Lady apples during storage

Non-destructive assessment of fruit maturity at harvest and correlation with quality parameters

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- Sensory attributes, aroma composition, ethylene production Ambra nectarines
- Softening prediction (based on biological age) in Spring Belle nectarines and in Tommy Atkins mangoes

Non-destructive detection of internal disorders and defects

- Browning in Granny Smith apples, Braeburn apples and Conference pears
- Watercore in Fuji apples
- Mealiness in Braeburn apples and Jonagored apples
- Chilling injuries in Jubileum plums and Morsiani 90 nectarines



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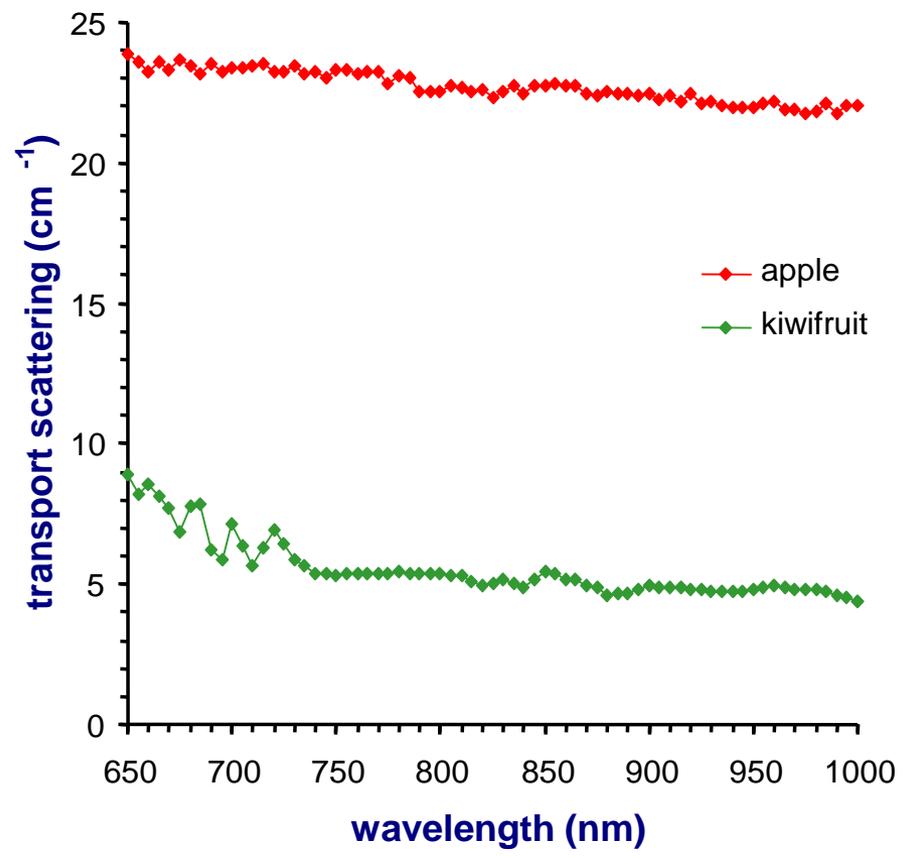
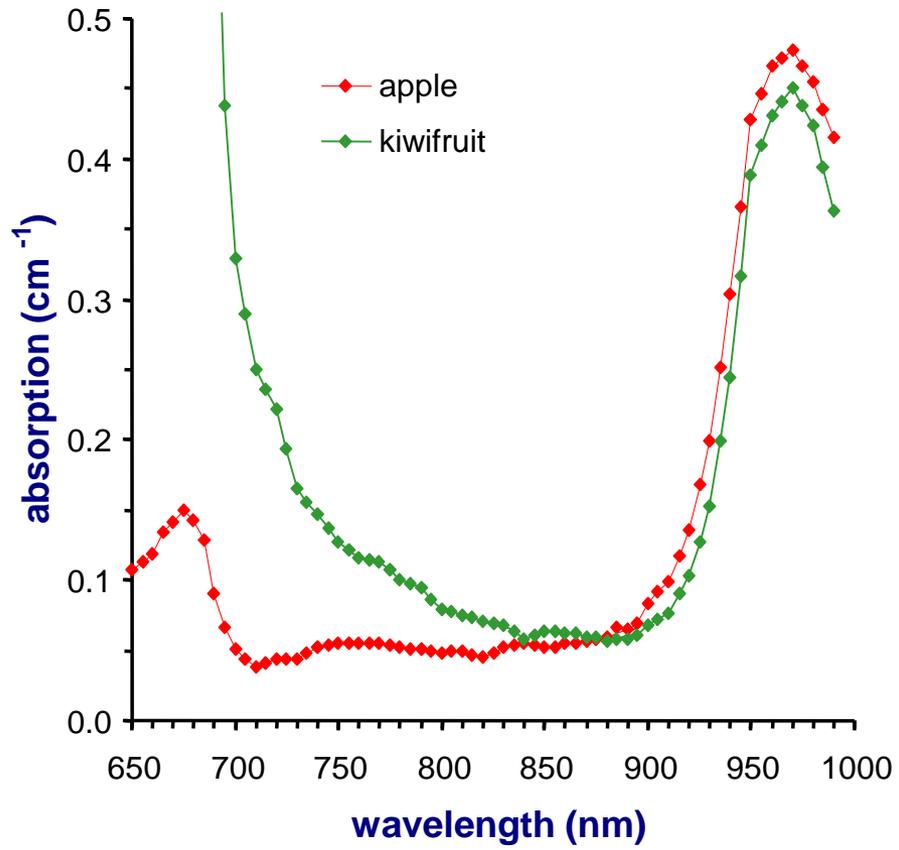
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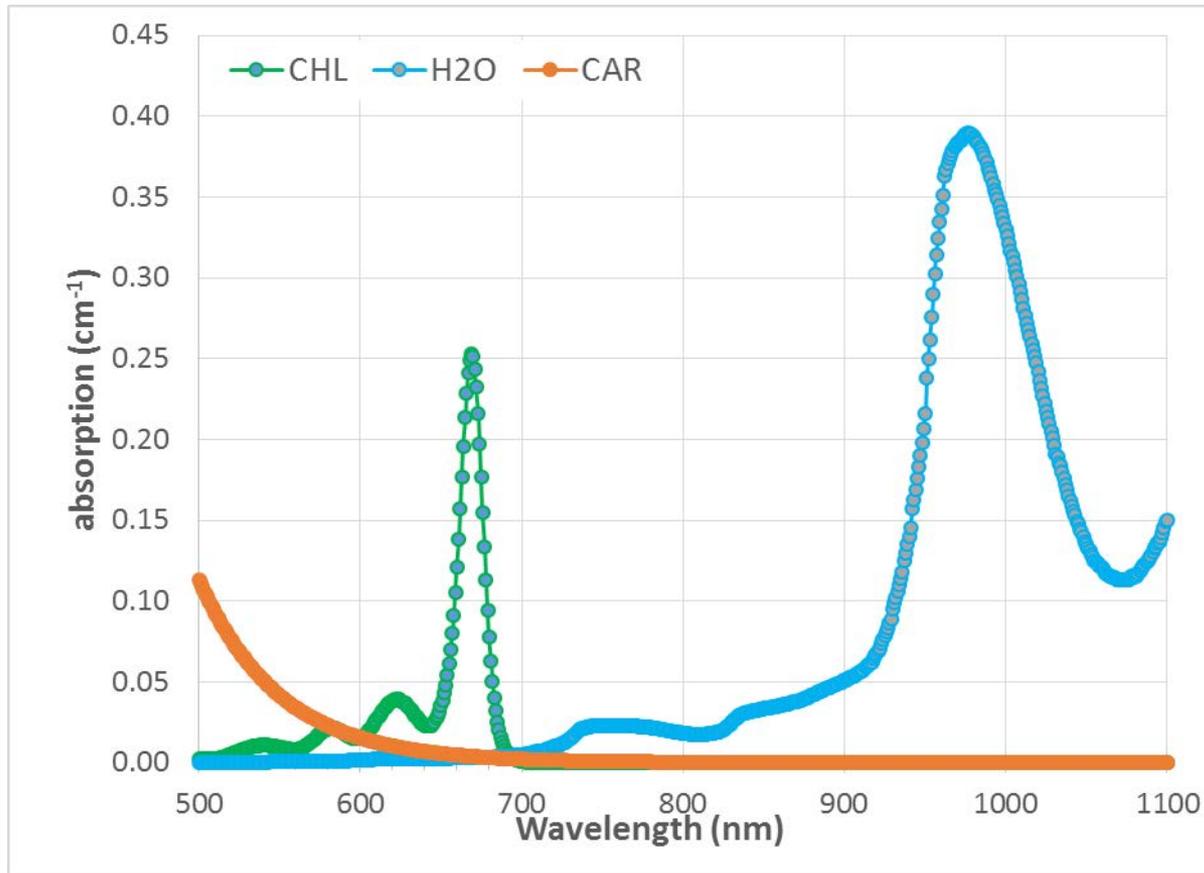
Optical characterization of foods absorption and scattering spectra



Cubeddu *et al.*, Applied Optics 40:538-543 (2001)



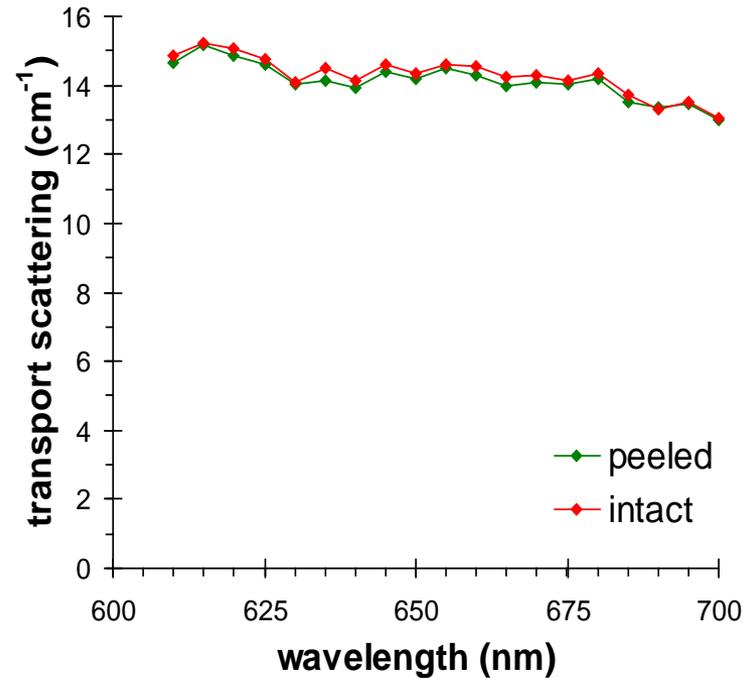
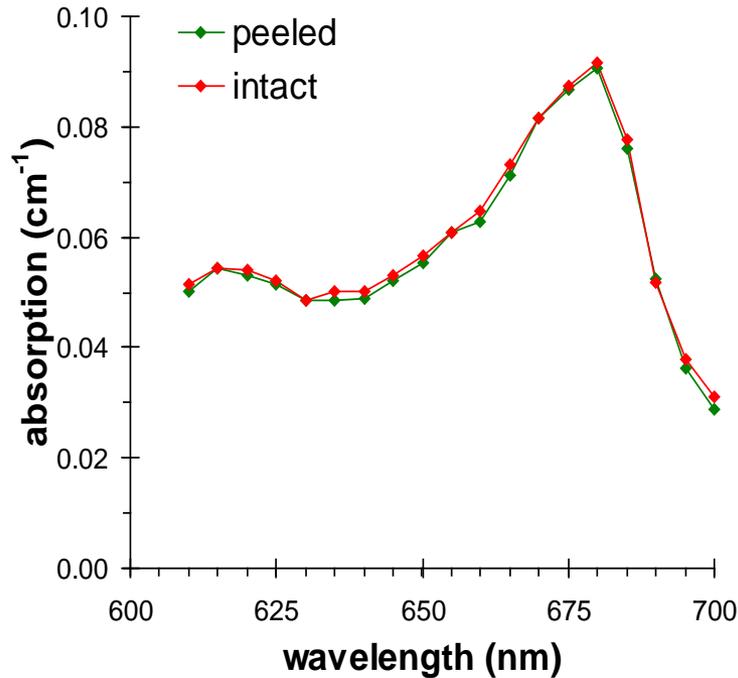
Light absorption in the NIR fruit





Optical characterization of foods

effect of skin: Apple (cv. Golden Delicious)



No effect of the skin on the spectra of absorption and reduced scattering coefficients

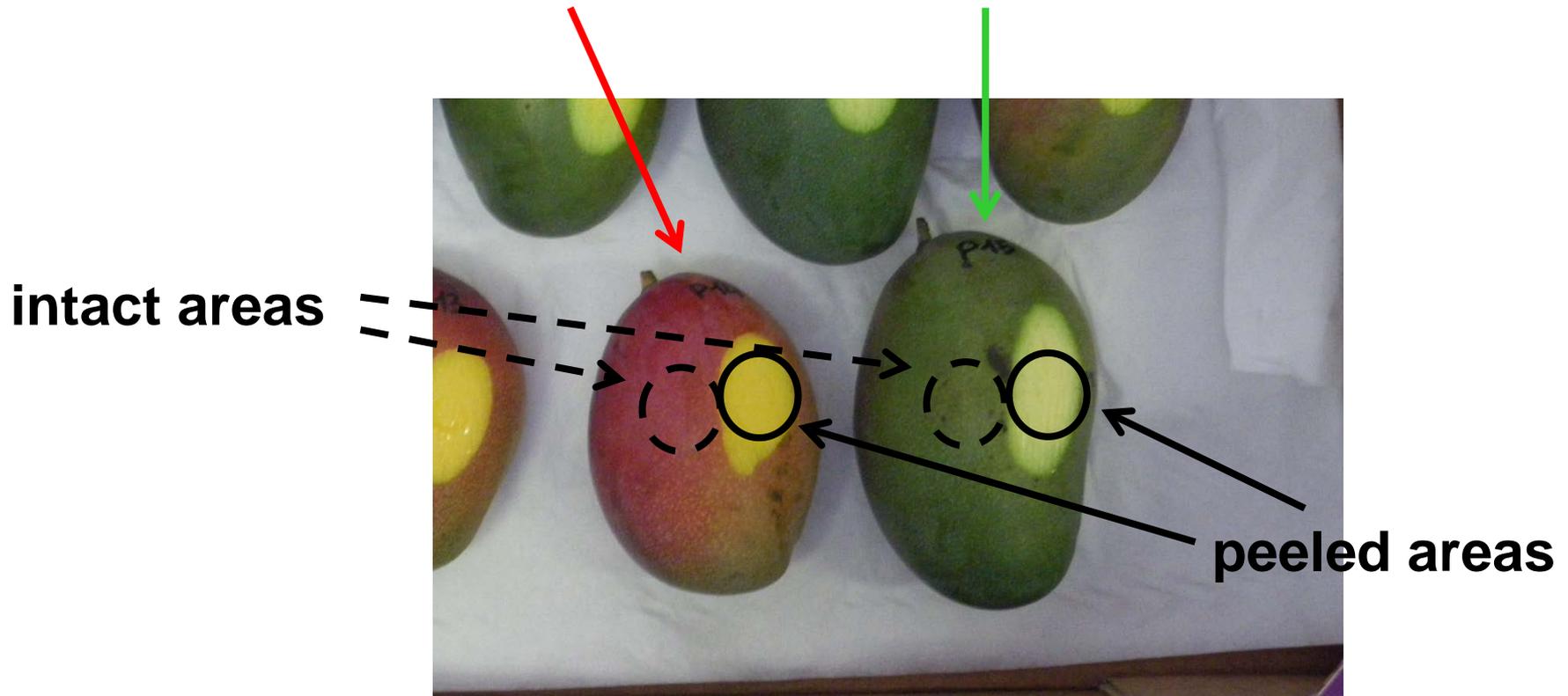


Optical characterization of foods

effect of skin: Mango (cv. Palmer)



- **Mangoes** (cv **Palmer**) harvested in **Minas Gerais** (Brazil) and transported by plane to Milan (Italy)
- **20 mangoes** selected
- 2 nearby regions on **red** (10 fruit) and **green** (10 fruit) side





Experimental protocol

Measurements performed on both **pulp** and **skin**

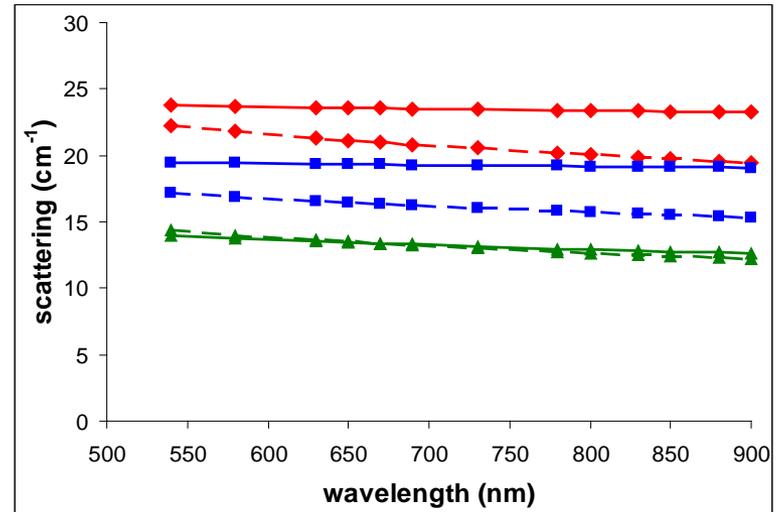
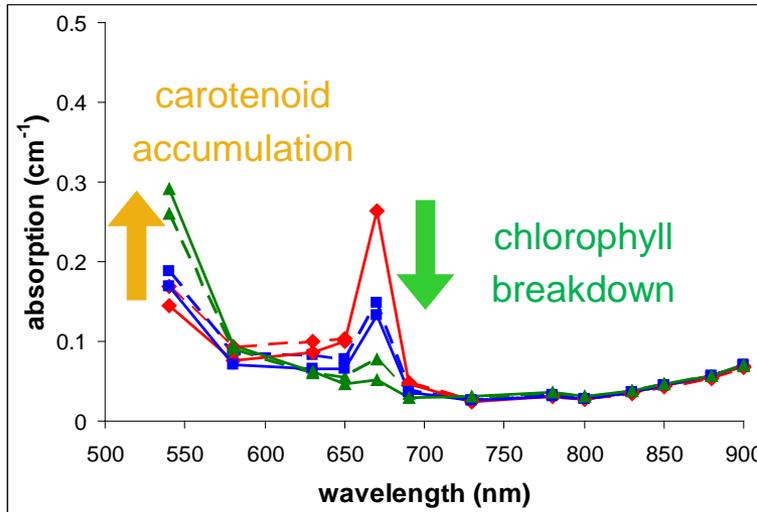
- **TRS: 13 wavelengths** in the spectral range 540-900 nm
- **color measurements** with spectrophotometer (CM-2600d, Minolta):
 - spectral range: 360-740 nm;
 - color parameters: L^* , a^* , b^* values → $C^* = [(a^*)^2 + (b^*)^2]^{-2}$
→ $H^\circ = \arctan(b^*/a^*)$.
→ absorbance
- **days 1, 4 and 11** of shelf life: temperature → $20 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$; RH → $75 \pm 5\%$



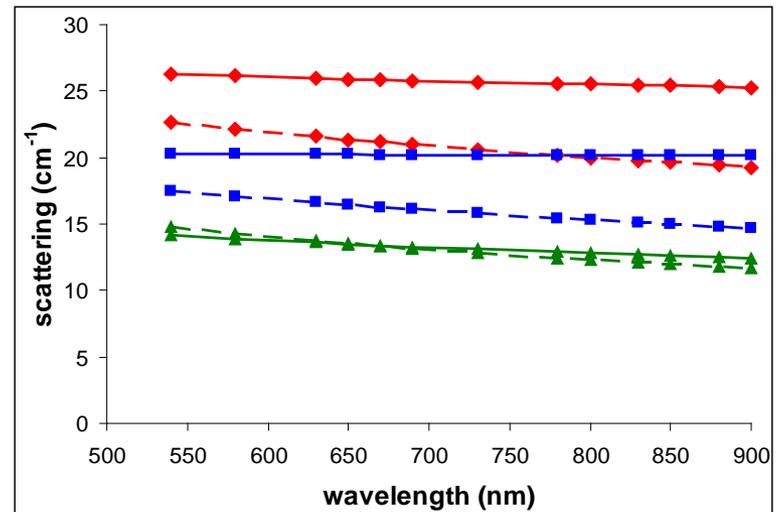
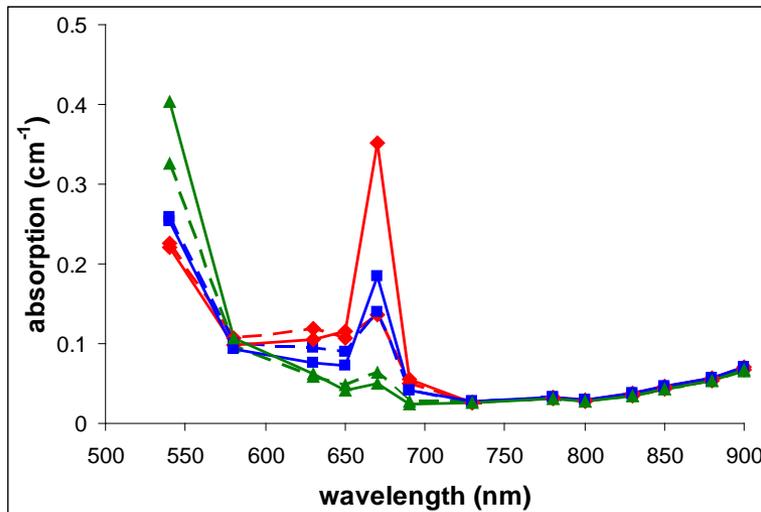
TRS measurements: Absorption and scattering spectra



green side



red side



pulp
skin



day 1



day 4

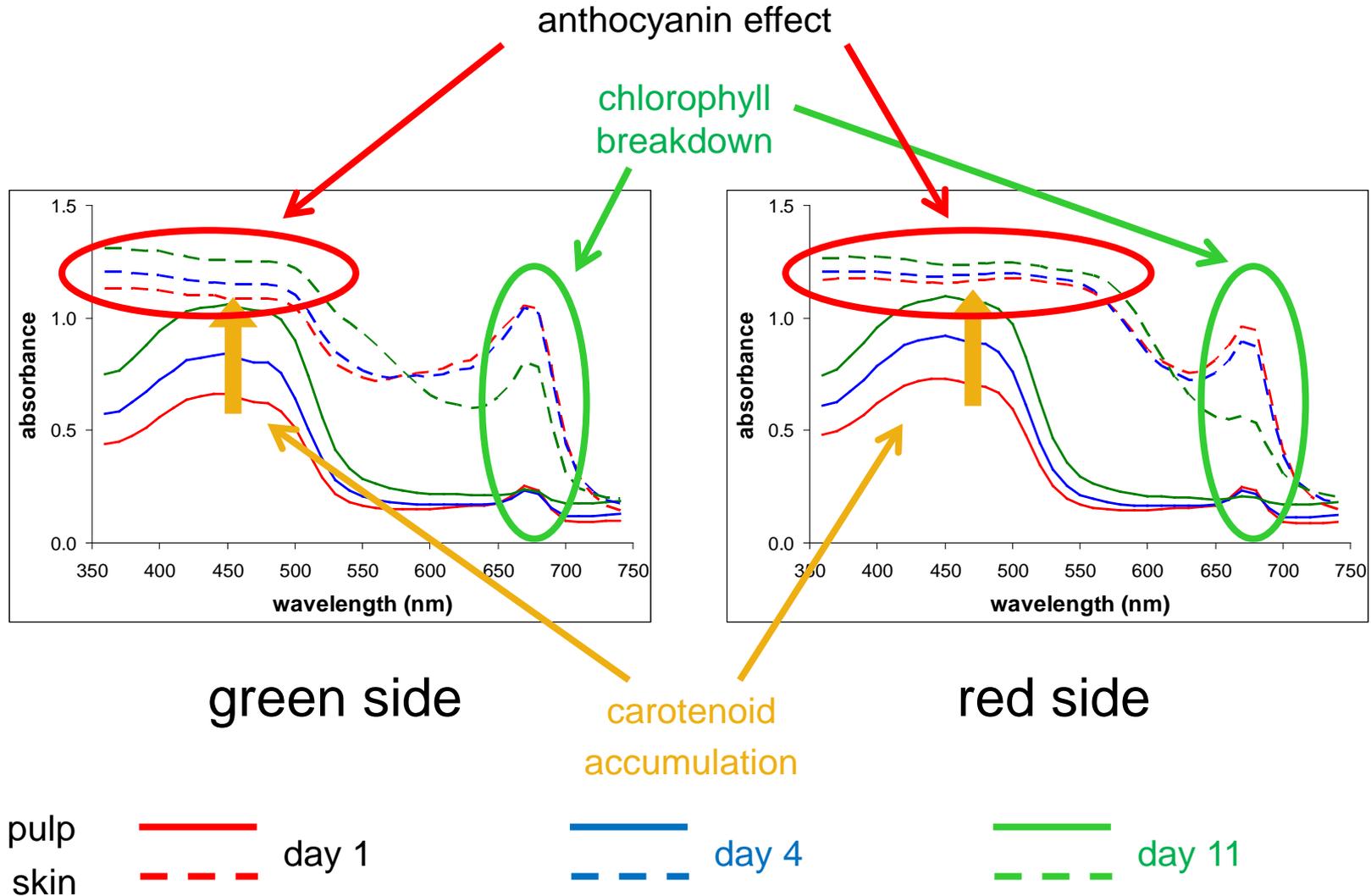


day 11





Color measurements: Absorbance





Correlations: absorption coefficients vs color parameters



Pigment-related wavelengths: **540, 580 nm → carotenoids**
630, 650, 670, 690 nm → chlorophyll

good correlations between pulp color and μ_a from pulp and skin

	μ_a540p	μ_a580p	μ_a630p	μ_a650p	μ_a670p	μ_a690p	μ_a540s	μ_a580s	μ_a630s	μ_a650s	μ_a670s	μ_a690s
L^* pulp	-0.798	-0.597	0.313	0.438	0.566	0.431	-0.708	-0.009	0.560	0.600	0.452	0.541
a^* pulp	0.914	0.493	-0.565	-0.702	-0.725	-0.702	0.871	-0.041	-0.682	-0.742	-0.582	-0.717
b^* pulp	0.800	0.399	-0.563	-0.697	-0.689	-0.660	0.812	0.005	-0.573	-0.677	-0.282	-0.632
C^* pulp	0.816	0.416	-0.555	-0.689	-0.689	-0.659	0.825	0.012	-0.579	-0.682	-0.309	-0.635
H° pulp	-0.860	-0.417	0.620	0.763	0.749	0.724	-0.833	0.069	0.670	0.754	0.593	0.717
L^* skin	-0.378	-0.338	-0.012	0.036	-0.033	0.024	-0.354	-0.245	-0.096	0.036	0.198	0.075
a^* skin	0.702	0.556	-0.189	-0.263	-0.228	-0.248	0.555	0.128	-0.272	-0.321	-0.289	-0.354
b^* skin	-0.096	-0.203	-0.245	-0.221	-0.310	-0.246	-0.111	-0.320	-0.366	-0.243	0.006	-0.180
C^* skin	0.387	0.135	-0.429	-0.427	-0.510	-0.459	0.286	-0.339	-0.652	-0.578	-0.426	-0.509
H° skin	-0.494	-0.472	0.002	0.084	0.003	0.031	-0.492	-0.265	-0.008	0.087	0.194	0.108

$p = \mu_a$ measured on the pulp; $s = \mu_a$ measured through the skin

poor correlations between skin color and μ_a



Conclusions

From measurements on **exposed pulp** and on **skin**, it results that:

- **skin attenuates the TRS signal intensity**
- **skin does not affect the estimate of pulp optical properties**

Absorption spectrum features:

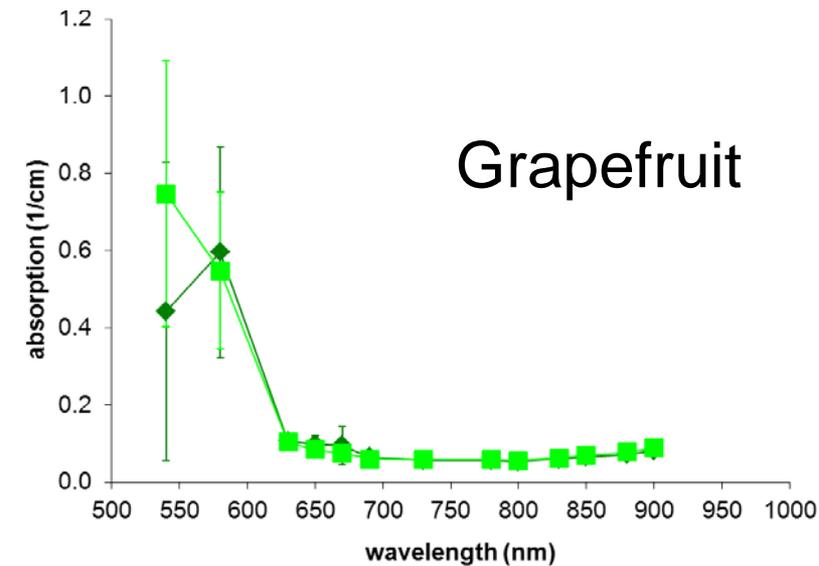
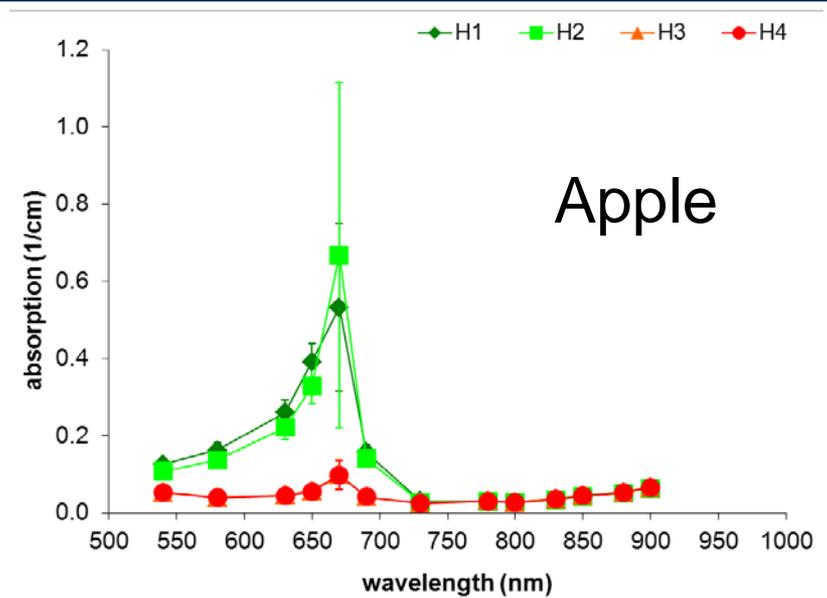
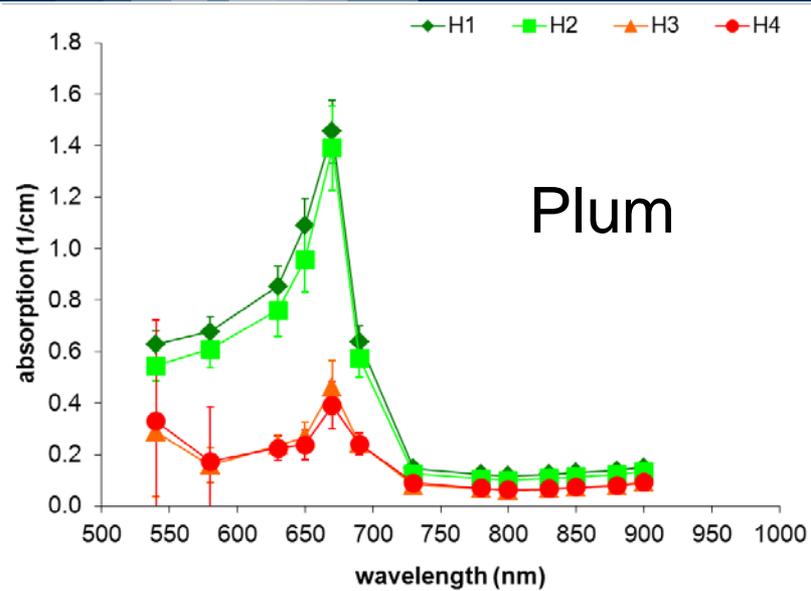
- **increase in the 540–600 nm range**
 - changes in the carotenoid content
 - **skin color measures are affected by other pigments**
- **decrease at 670 nm**
 - changes in the chlorophyll content

TRS non-destructive characterization of mango during ripening



Optical properties during growth

Absorption spectra



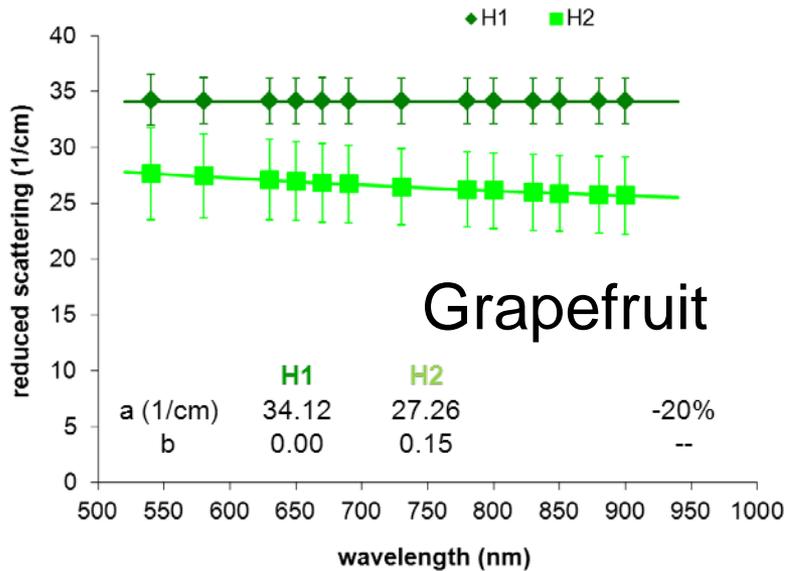
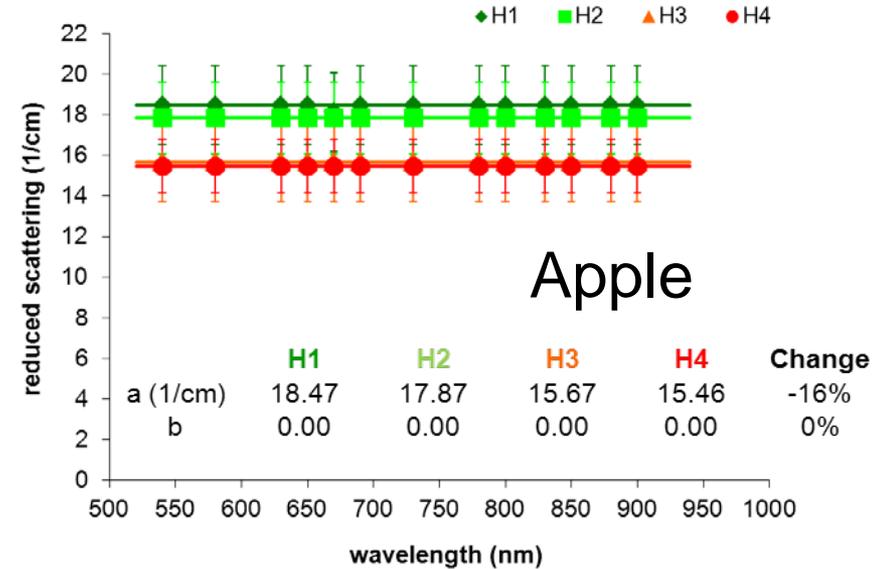
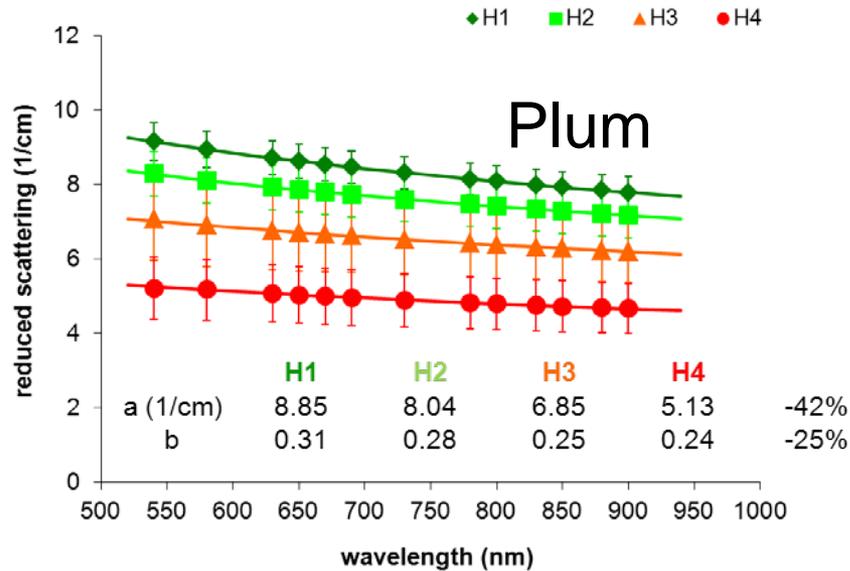
Chlorophyll breakdown in plum and apple, almost no changes in grapefruit.

Seifert *et al.* *Physiologia Plantarum* 53(2):327–336 (2015)



Optical properties during growth

Scattering spectra

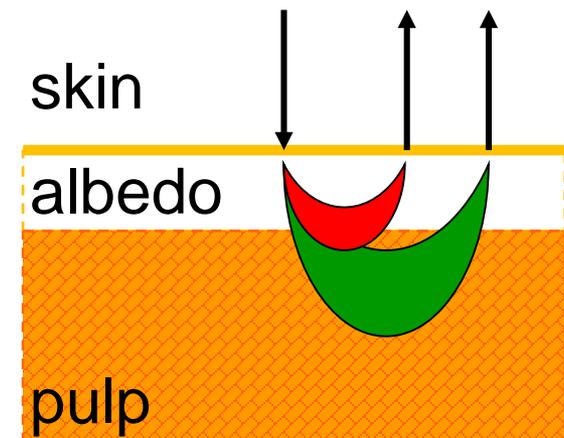
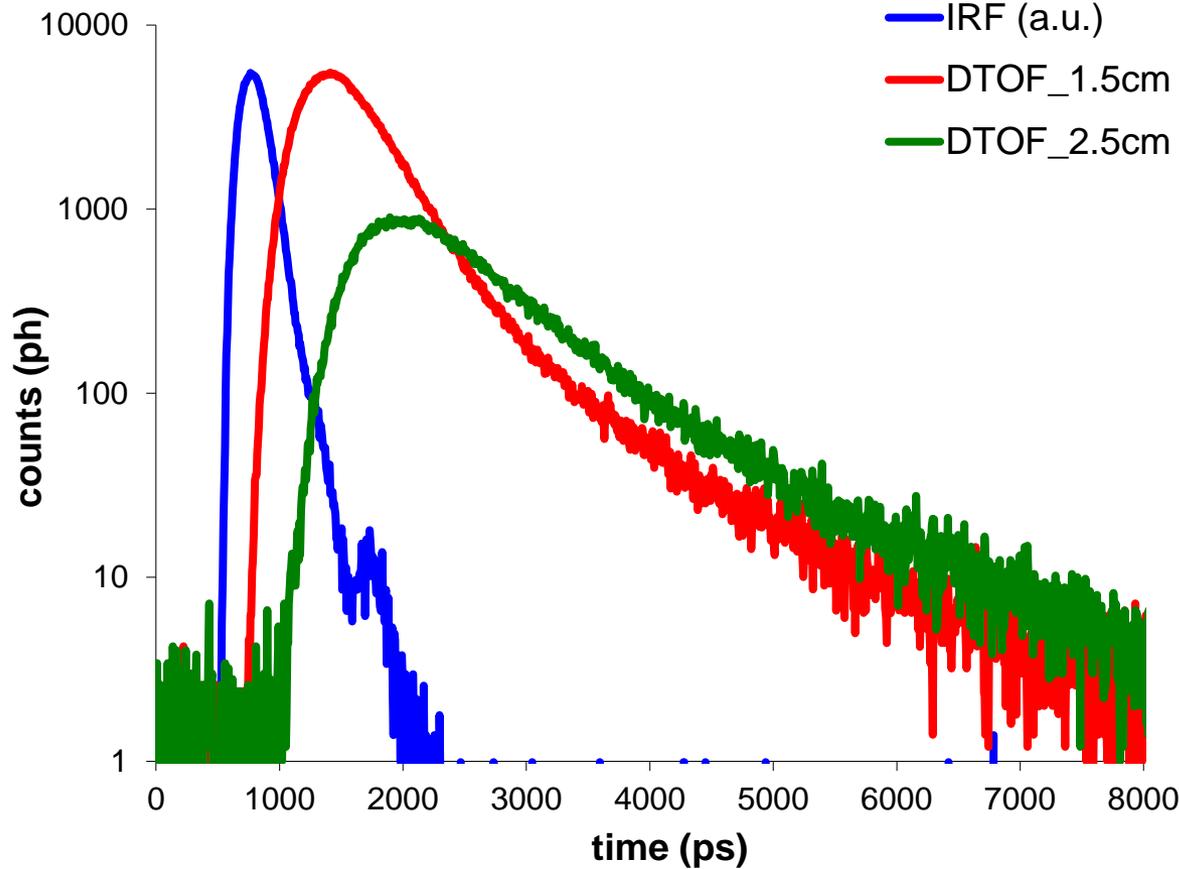


Large changes during growth in the scattering properties for plum and grapefruit, minor changes for apple.

Seifert *et al.* *Physiologia Plantarum* 53(2):327–336 (2015)

Optical properties

Effect of layered structure in grapefruit



Shorter distance: early photons travel in the albedo, late photons in the pulp

Longer distance: photon-path is mainly in the pulp



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Nondestructive assessment of maturity at harvest

Softening prediction in 'Spring Belle' nectarines



Kinetic model linking μ_a at 670 to firmness allowing softening prediction of individual fruit from μ_a measurement at harvest

$$F = \frac{F_{\max} - F_{\min}}{1 + e^{k_f \cdot (F_{\max} - F_{\min}) \cdot t + \Delta t_F^*}} + F_{\min}$$

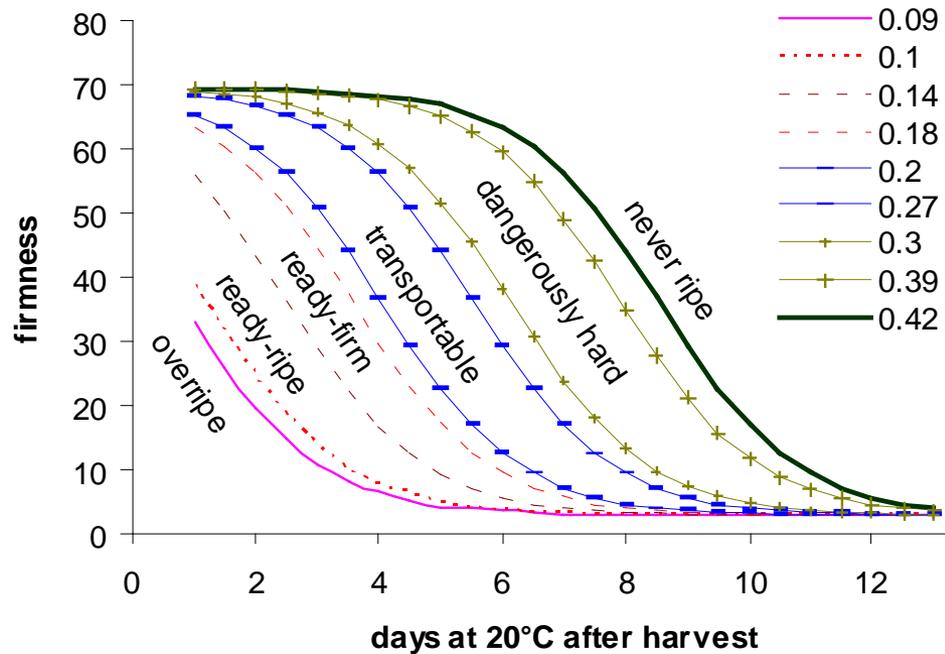
$$\Delta t_F^* = \alpha \left(\log \left(\frac{\mu_{a,\max}}{\mu_a} - 1 \right) + \beta \right)$$

Biological shift factor



'Spring Belle' nectarines

μ_a at 670 is an effective maturity index



Eccher Zerbini *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 39, 223-232 (2006)
 Tijssens *et al.*, Int. J. Postharvest Technology and Innovation 1, 178-188 (2006)
 Tijssens *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 45, 204-213 (2007)

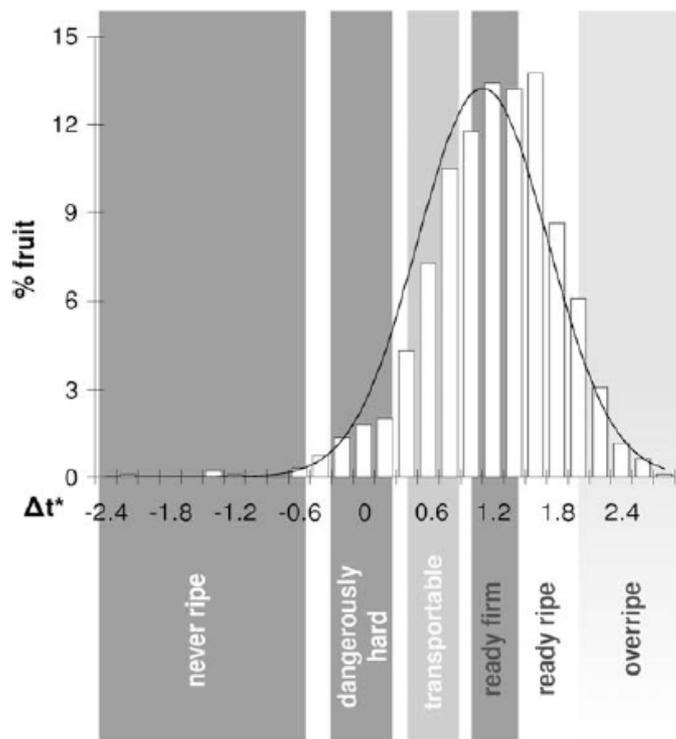


Nondestructive assessment of maturity at harvest

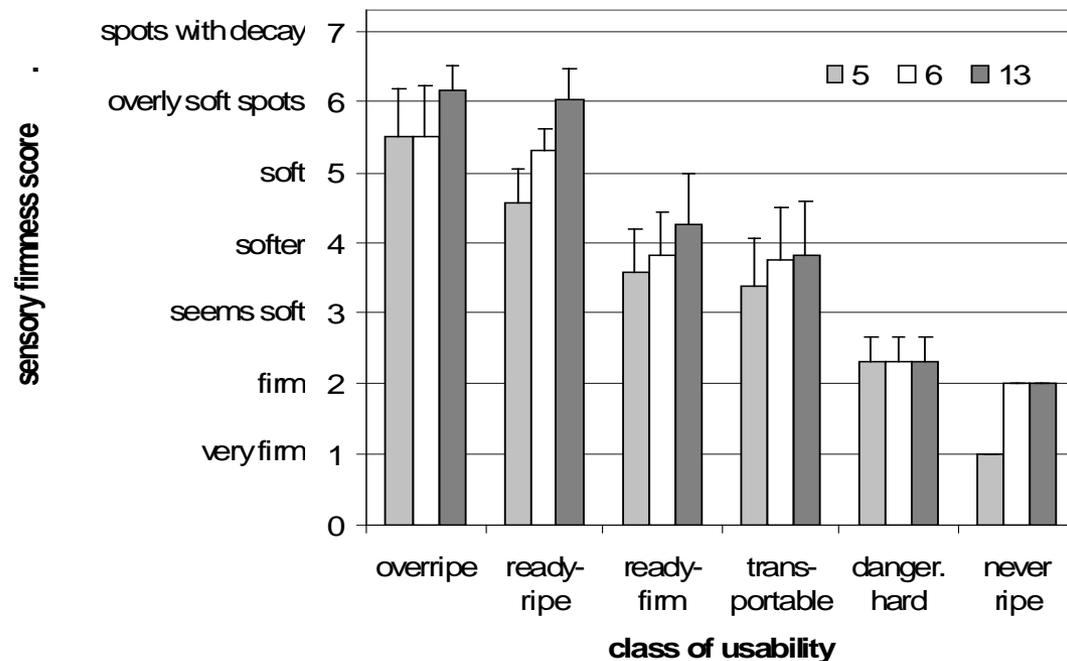
Softening prediction in 'Spring Belle' nectarines



Distribution of biological shift factor at harvest with **Classes of usability**



Softness scores after transport and 5, 6, 13 days of shelf-life



Classes of usability successfully tested in an export trial from Italy to Netherlands

Eccher Zerbin *et al.*, Biosystems Engineering 102, 360-363 (2009 in press)

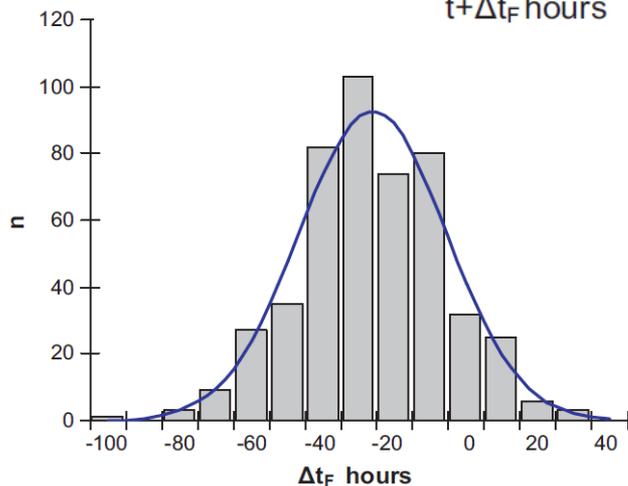
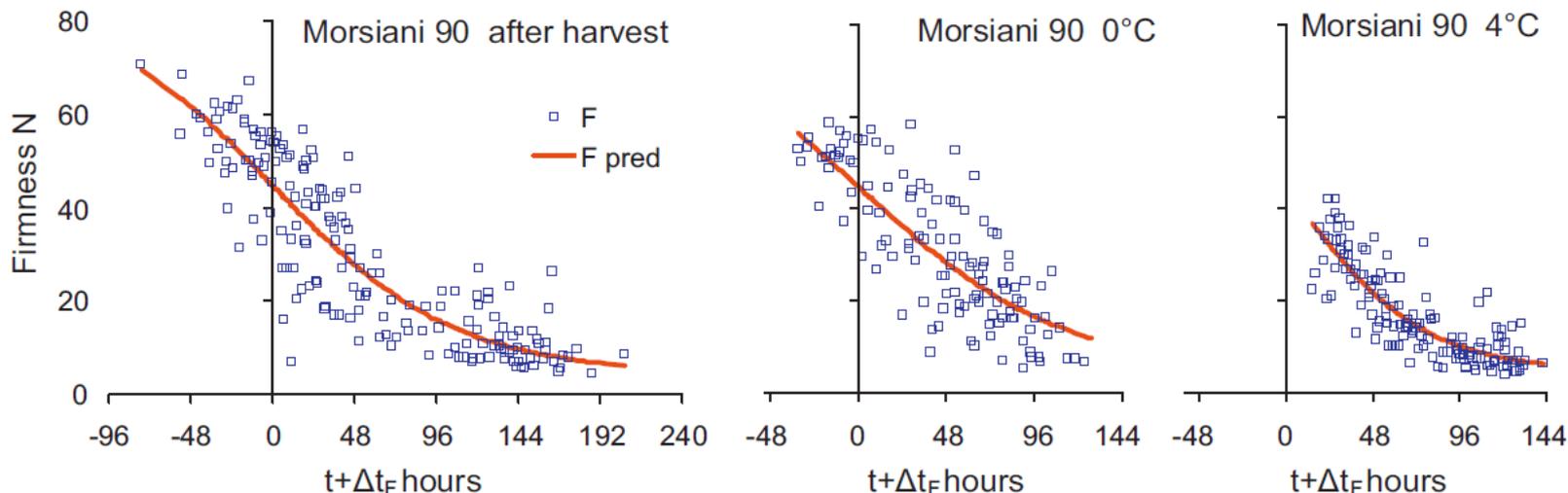


Nondestructive assessment of maturity at harvest

Softening prediction in 'Morsiani 90' nectarines



Predicted firmness and measured firmness according to **the biological shift factor model**



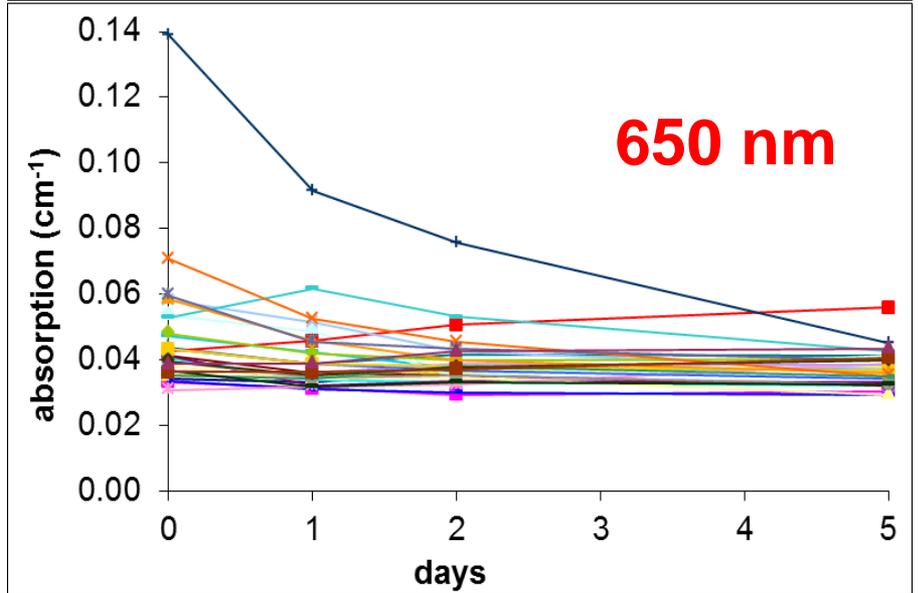
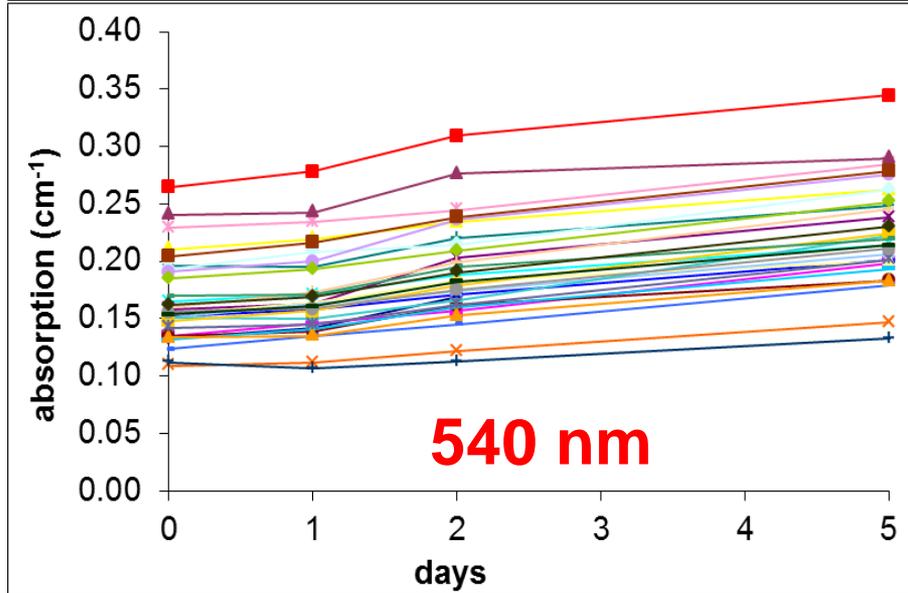
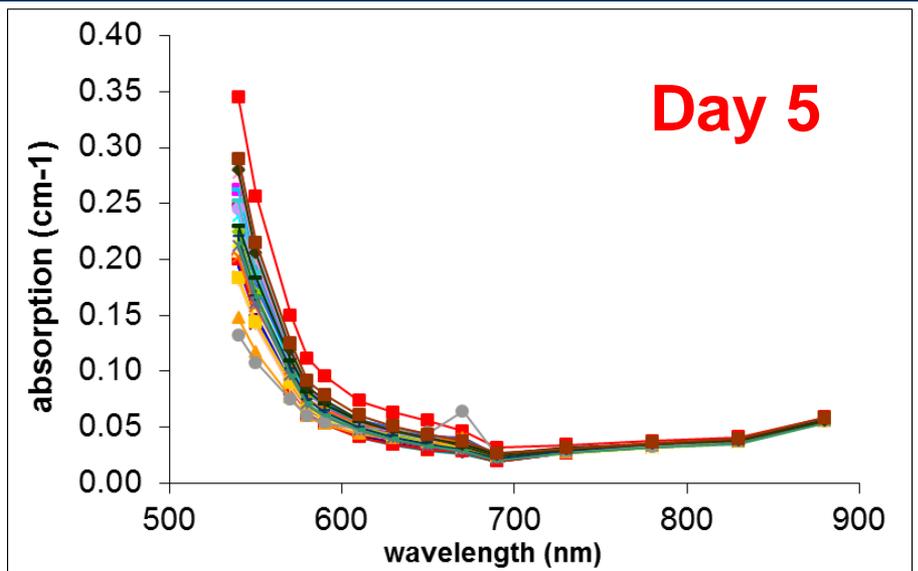
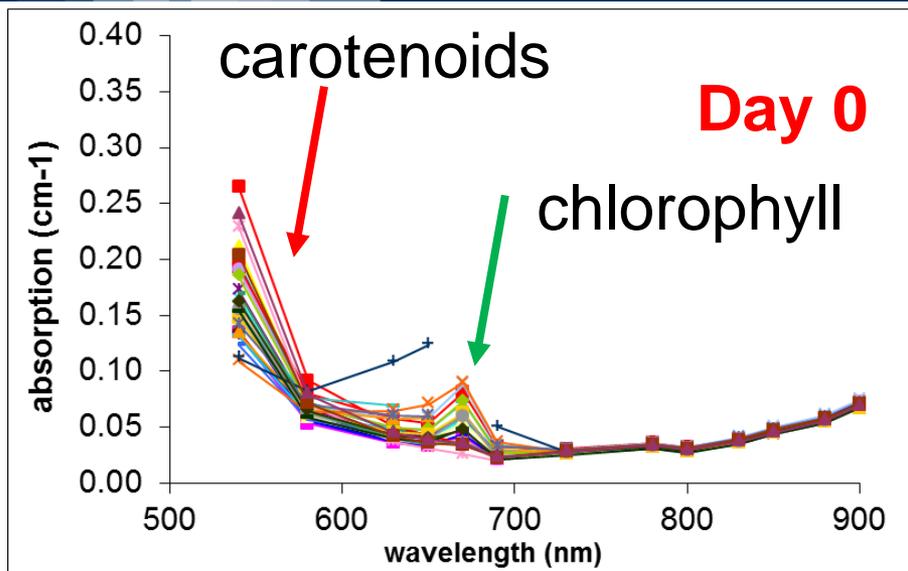
The measured points are shifted in time according to the biological shift factor based on μ_a at harvest

Distribution of biological shift factor

Eccher Zerbinì *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 62, 275-281 (2011)



Maturity at harvest and shelf life in Tommy Atkins mangoes



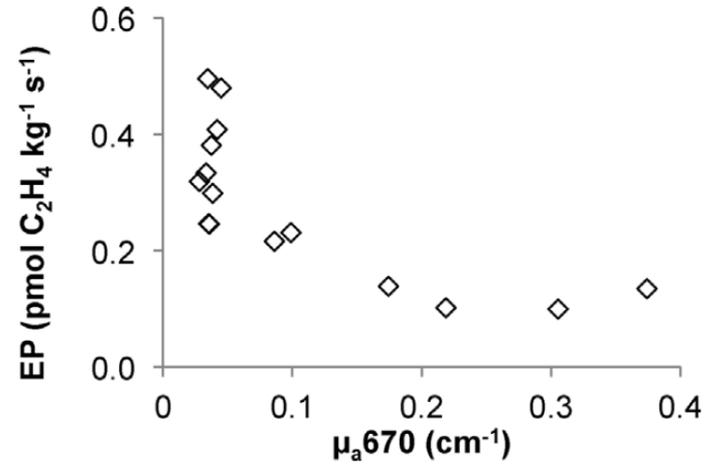
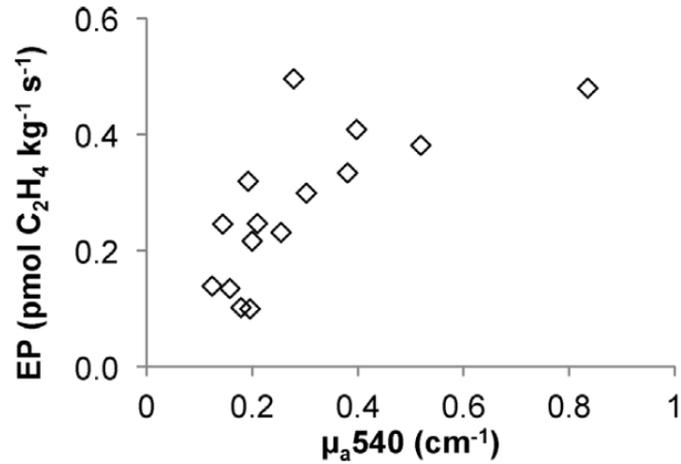


Nondestructive assessment of maturity at harvest

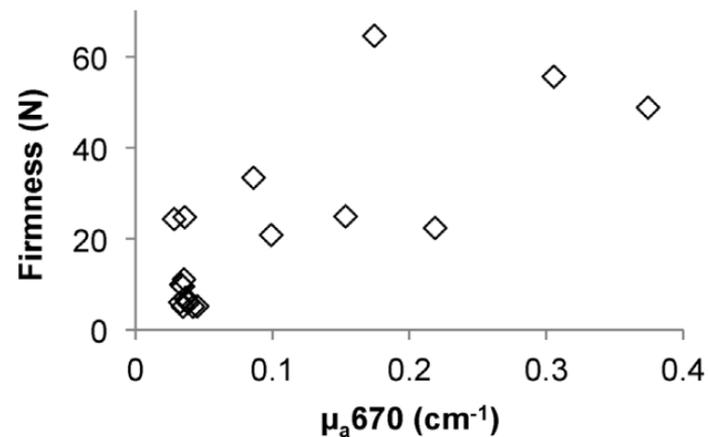
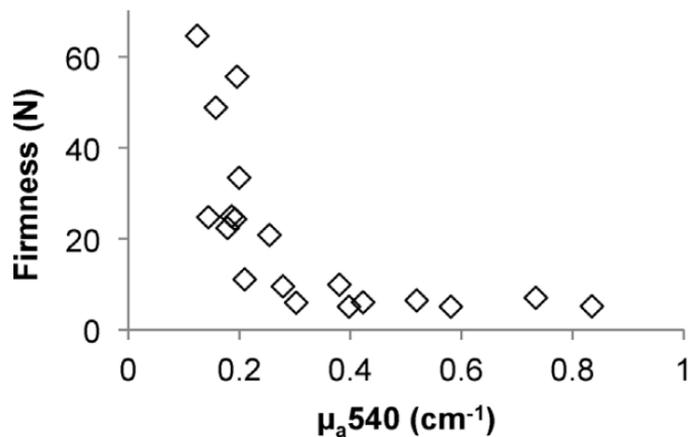
Ethylene production in “Haden” mangoes



Ethylene production at harvest



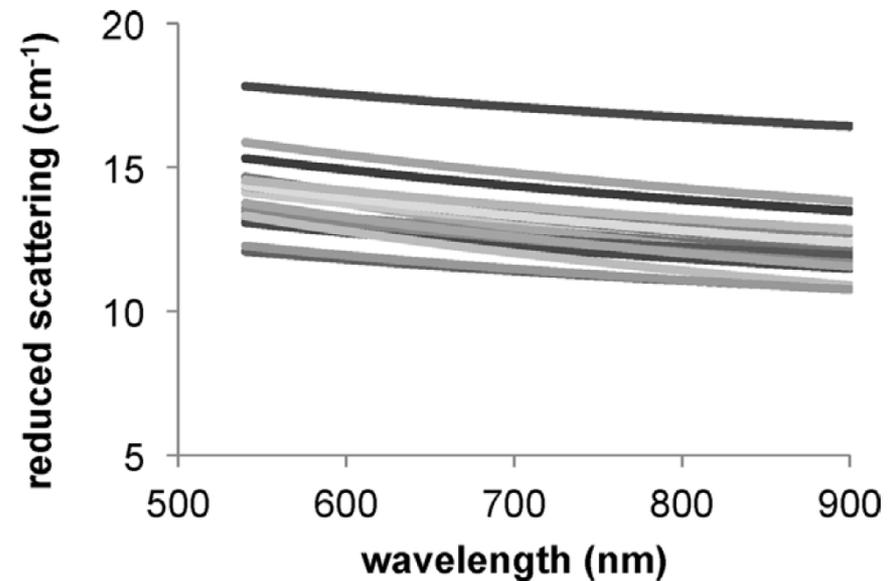
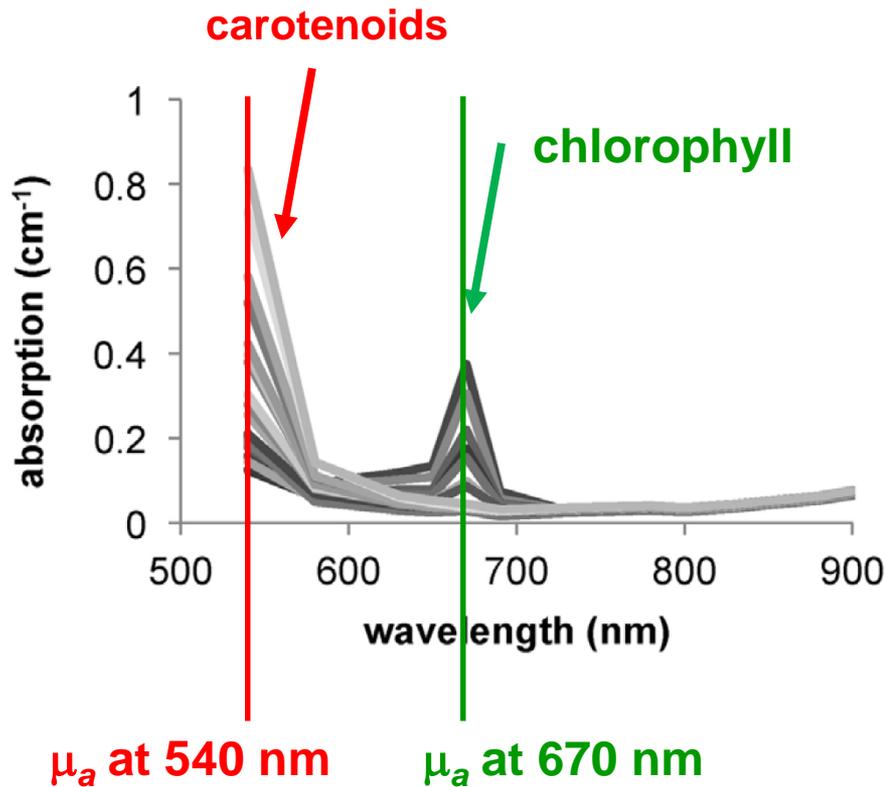
Firmness at harvest



Eccher Zerbini *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 101, 58-65 (2015)



Optical properties at harvest



Eccher Zerbin *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 101, 58-65 (2015)



Nondestructive assessment of maturity at harvest

Ethylene production in “Haden” mangos



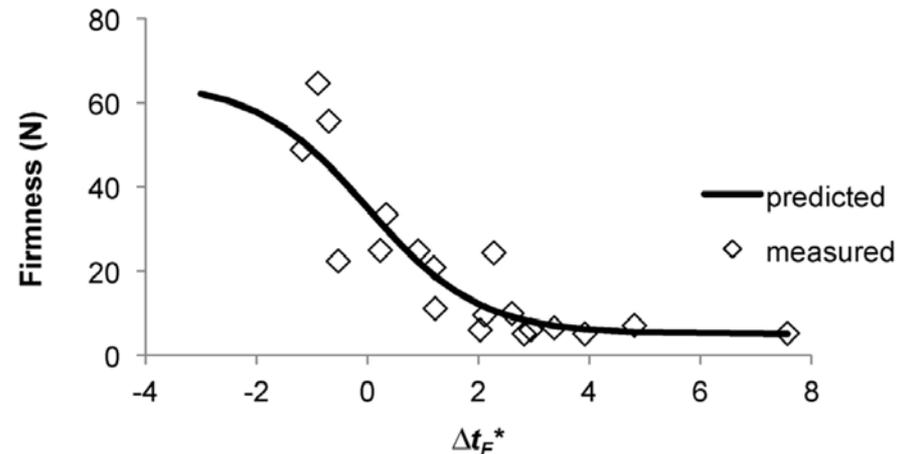
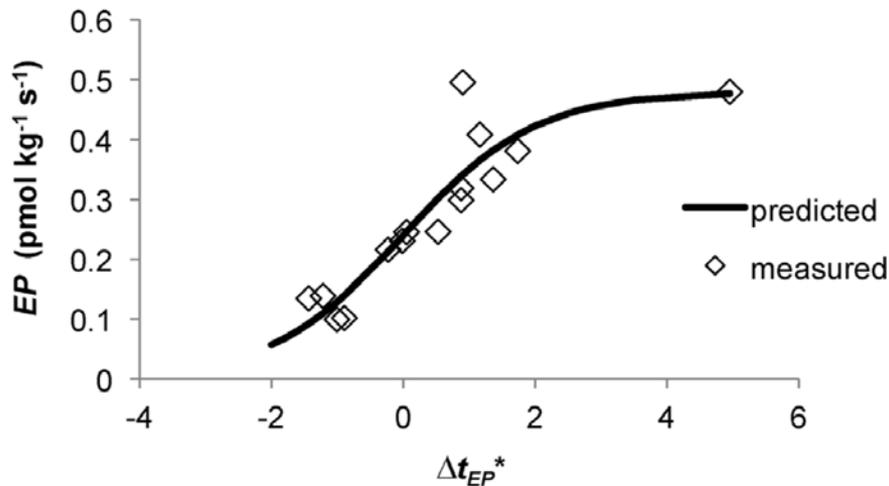
Biological shift factor model

$$EP = \frac{EP_{\max}}{1 + \exp(-\Delta t_{EP}^*)}$$

$$F = F_{\min} + \frac{F_{\max} - F_{\min}}{1 + \exp(\Delta t_F^*)}$$

$$\Delta t_{EP}^* = \alpha_{540} \left(\log \frac{\mu_{a, \max}^{540} - \mu_{a, 0}^{540}}{\mu_{a, 0}^{540} - \mu_{a, \min}^{540}} \right) + \alpha_{670} \left(\log \frac{\mu_{a, \max}^{670} - \mu_{a, 0}^{670}}{\mu_{a, 0}^{670} - \mu_{a, \min}^{670}} \right) + \beta$$

$$\Delta t_F^* = \alpha_{F,540} \left(\log \frac{\mu_{a, \max}^{540} - \mu_{a, 0}^{540}}{\mu_{a, 0}^{540} - \mu_{a, \min}^{540}} \right) + \alpha_{F,670} \left(\log \frac{\mu_{a, \max}^{670} - \mu_{a, 0}^{670}}{\mu_{a, 0}^{670} - \mu_{a, \min}^{670}} \right) + \beta_F + k_A A + k_B B$$



Ethylene production and firmness predicted by biological shift factor

Eccher Zerbin *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 101, 58-65 (2015)



Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

Texture prediction in apples



Differently from nectarines and mangoes **apples ripening is not correlated only to chlorophyll content**

Many factors are involved in the ripening process in apples

A more complex model is need to describe the maturity

An important parameter for quality in apples is **fruit texture**

- The apple texture is linked to fruit structure at molecular, micro and macroscopic levels
- Crispiness, juiciness and mealiness are bound to mechanical and acoustic properties of the pulp
- Different apple texture are characterized by different pulp optical properties

**Pulp optical properties
measured by TRS**



**Fruit texture measured
through mechanical-acoustic
and sensory analysis**



Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

Experimental protocol for season 2015/2016



- Cultivar '**Gala**':
 - 270 apples
 - Measurements during shelf-life at harvest, after 2 and 4 months of CA storage
- Cultivar '**Kanzi**':
 - 270 apples from Laimburg + 270 apples from Schludern
 - Measurements during shelf-life at harvest, after 3 and 6 months of CA storage
- Cultivar '**Braeburn**':
 - 1320 apples
 - Harvested for 7 weeks (ripening on the tree) from inner and outer parts of the canopy
 - Measurements at harvest and after 2 of CA storage



MONALISA Project:

Monitoring key environmental parameters in the alpine environment involving science, technology and application



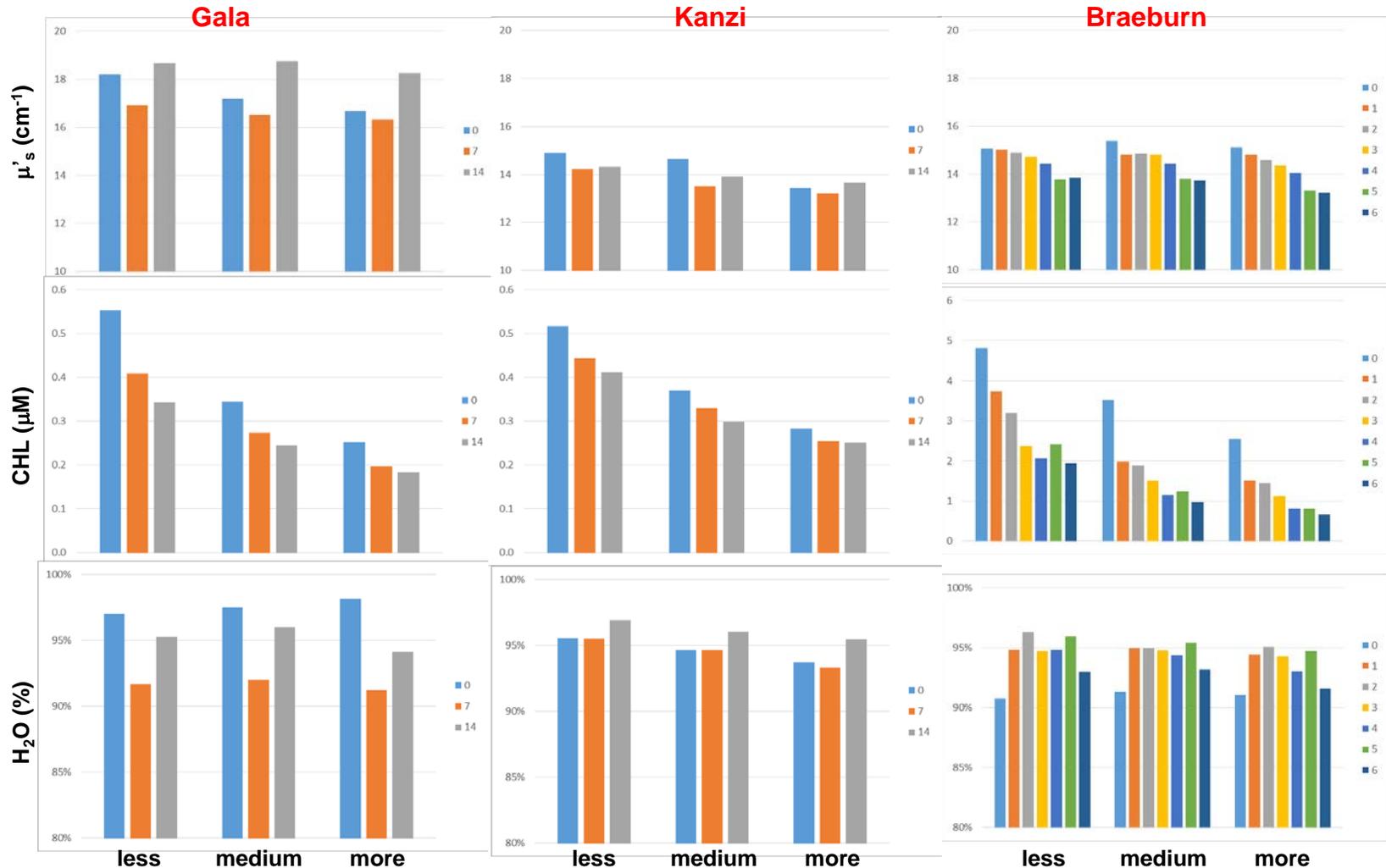


Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

TRS measurements



- 3 maturity levels according to the chlorophyll content: less, medium, more
- Measurements of shelf-life at harvest





Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

Texture Analysis



- **SENSORY PROFILES** (firm, juicy, mealy, crispy)
- **Relative intercellular space volume (RISV)** computed according to:

$$\text{RISV} = 100 \times [1 - (df/dj)]$$
 where df=fruit density and dj=fruit juice density.
- **MECHANICAL and ACOUSTIC PROPERTIES**
 measured by using a TA-XT plus Texture Analyzer equipped with an acoustic emission detector (AED) which simultaneously profile a mechanical force displacement together with the corresponding acoustic response



MECHANICAL parameters		ACOUSTIC parameters	
Fmax	Maximum Force	MEAN	Average sound
St	Stiffness	LD	Linear distance
W	Work	PK	N°peaks
		acMAX	Max value of ac. peaks
		acFmax	Value of ac.peaks at Fmax

- **NON destructive compression test:** each apple was compressed between two steel parallel plates to a fixed deformation of 1 mm (speed of 25 mm/min) and the modulus of deformability (E_d) was computed according to:

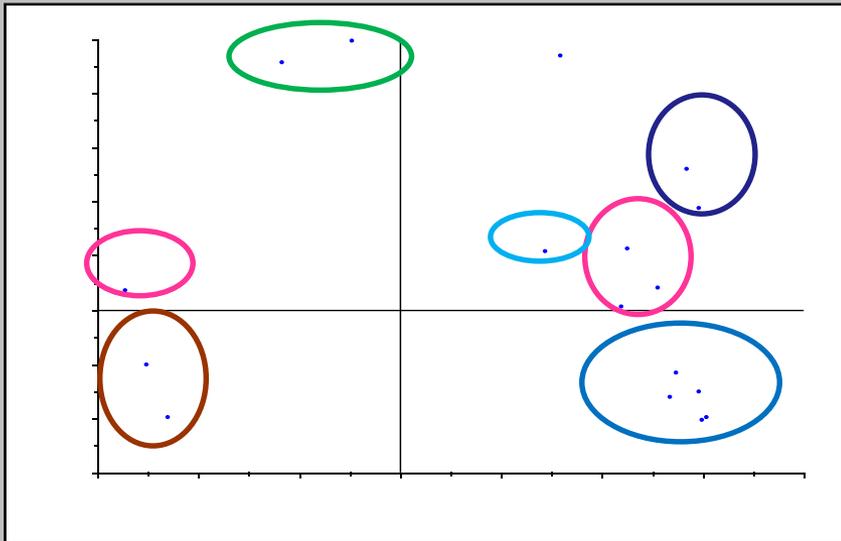
$$\frac{E_d}{1-\mu^2} = \frac{F}{(d_L/2)^{3/2} D^{1/2}}$$

where: F is the force at 1 mm of compression (N),
 d_L is the total deformation (mm),
 D is the fruit diameter (mm);
 μ is the Poisson's ratio (0.3)



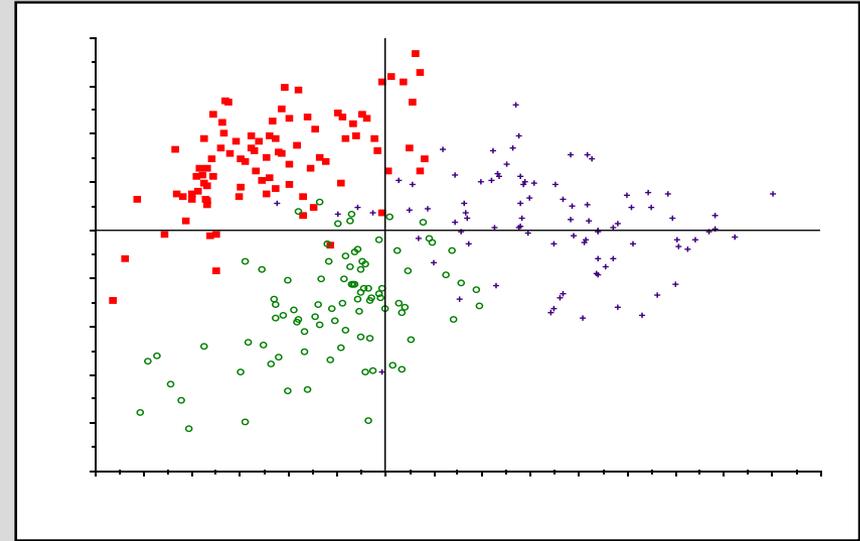


TRS optical properties and fruit texture



In the PCA plot:

- **CHL content** measured by TRS is positively related to Ed
- μ'_s (**MUS**) measured by TRS is positively related to RISV and mealiness and negatively to mechanical and acoustic parameters and to **water content (H2O)** measured by TRS
- sensory firmness, crispness and juiciness are positively related to mechanical and acoustic parameters



- PC1 distinguished Kanzi from Braeburn and Gala
Kanzi had a compact, firm and crispy texture with higher H2O content and lowest MUS and RISV
- PC2 distinguished Braeburn from Gala
Braeburn had higher CHL content, lowest acoustic parameters and a mealy texture
Gala had higher MUS and RISV, easily deformable, moderately firm and crisp



Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

Main results



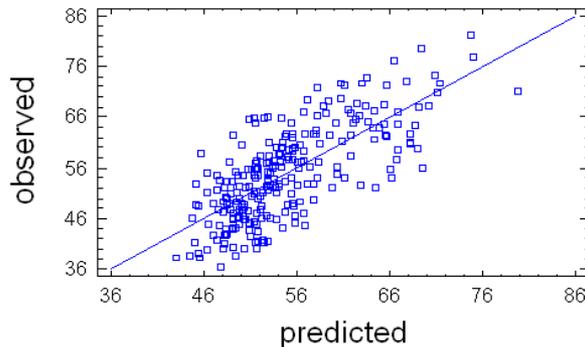
Firmness prediction from TRS optical properties

Multiple Linear Regression model

(MUS=scattering value; CHL=chlorophyll content; H₂O=water content; μ_a670H = μ_a670 at harvest)

Gala

Plot of FIRMNESS

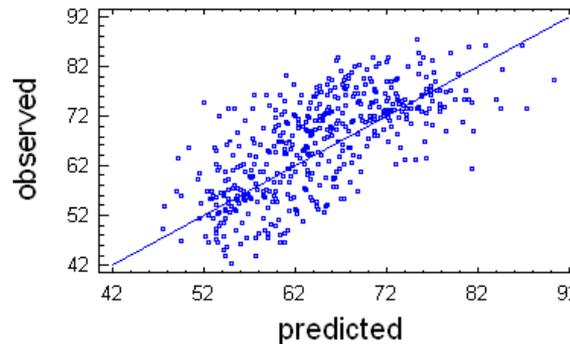


$$\text{firmness} = 2.35 - 1.58 \cdot \text{MUS} + 42.96 \cdot \text{CHL} + 69.82 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$$

$$R^2 \text{ adj} = 0.53$$

Kanzi after storage

Plot of FIRMNESS

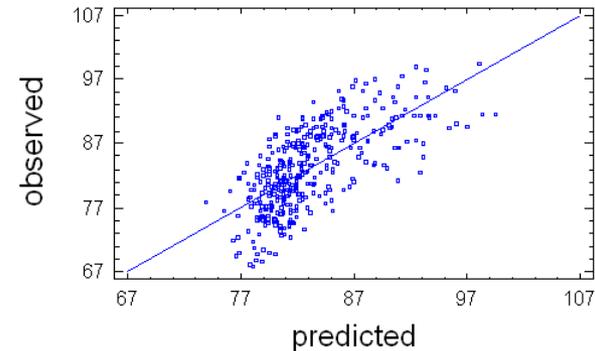


$$\text{firmness} = 161.77 + 16.50 \cdot \text{CHL} - 110.6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} - 1.30 \cdot \text{MUS} + 482.1 \cdot \mu_a670H$$

$$R^2 \text{ adj} = 0.58$$

Braeburn

Plot of FIRMNESS



$$\text{firmness} = 59.82 + 1.18 \cdot \text{MUS} + 3.24 \cdot \text{CHL}$$

$$R^2 \text{ adj} = 0.47$$

These models are significant at $P < 0.0001$ but explain **only about 47-58%** of the variability of the three cultivars



Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

Main results



Relationships between apple texture and TRS optical properties – Gala

• CLUSTER ANALYSIS ON SENSORY ATTRIBUTES

Cluster number and sensory profiles	firm	juicy	mealy	crispy	Nobs
W1 - very firm, juicy and crispy. Not mealy	76	68	19	59	53
W2 - firm and juicy	65	46	24	45	72
W3 - quite firm, juicy, crispy, mealy	43	44	32	31	69
W4 - mealy	27	32	46	17	76

• TRS PARAMETERS DIFFERED WITH SENSORY PROFILES

	CHL μM-1	H2O %	μ's cm-1
W1	0.395 a	93.9 a	17.3 a
W2	0.382 ab	92.3 b	16.8 a
W3	0.325 bc	92.1 b	17.1 a
W4	0.270 c	92.1 b	17.4 a

• DISCRIMINANT ANALYSIS

Non-destructive TRS parameters (chlorophyll and water contents, scattering) were used as explanatory variables to discriminate the sensory profiles obtained by Cluster Analysis

CLASSIFICATION TABLE at harvest

actual CLUSTER	Group Size	Predicted Cluster			
		W1	W2	W3	W4
W1	36	86.1	0.0	5.6	8.3
W2	14	28.6	28.6	35.7	7.1
W3	24	25.0	4.2	62.5	8.3
W4	16	12.5	6.3	37.5	43.8

At harvest: only 63.3% well-classified fruit, even if very firm and juicy apples were well-classified in 86.1% of the cases

After storage: the performance of the model worsened (34.4%%)

All data: the performance of the model was 41.1%



Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

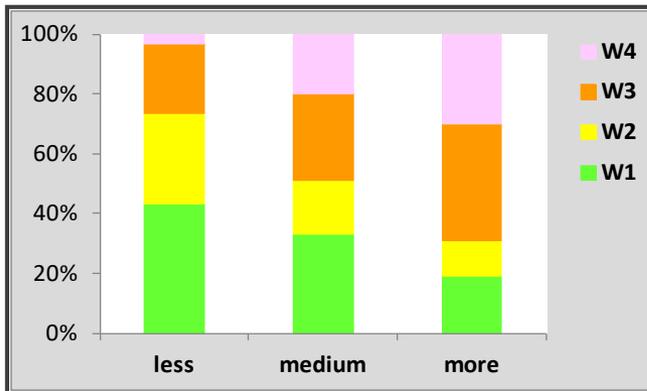
Main results



Relationships between apple texture and TRS maturity class

•GALA

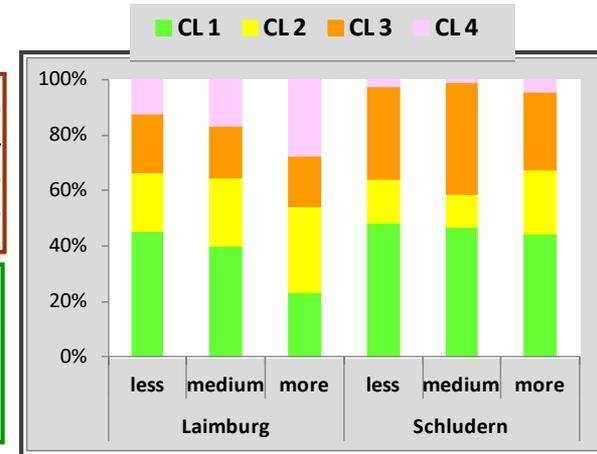
	$\mu'a670$ cm-1	firmness N	acPK n°	Ed N/mm2
less	0.045 a	61.5 a	40.2 a	6.8 a
medium	0.026 b	54.5 b	38.7 a	6.6 ab
more	0.017 c	49.8 c	28.5 b	6.1 c



•KANZI

Laimb	$\mu'a670$ cm-1	firmness N	acPK n°	RISV %
less	0.038 a	61.0 a	57.4 a	15.5 c
medium	0.027 b	57.1 b	55.0 ab	16.0 b
more	0.019 c	54.8 b	49.0 b	16.4 a

Schlud	$\mu'a670$ cm-1	firmness N	acPK n°	RISV %
less	0.054 a	75.3 a	66.7 ab	17.1 b
medium	0.042 b	74.6 a	70.8 a	17.6 ab
more	0.031 c	71.5 b	65.4 b	18.0 a



Cluster number and sensory profiles	firm	juicy	mealy	crispy	Nobs
CL1 - very firm, juicy and crispy	78	73	18	68	223
CL2 - quite firm and juicy but less crispy	52	60	23	41	115
CL3 - firm but quite crispy and less juicy	70	48	20	58	143
CL4 - mealy	30	41	42	26	58

Both for Gala and Kanzi, fruit classified at harvest according to μ_a670 had different firmness, crispness (acPK) deformability and RISV and developed different sensory profiles.

Gala: less mature apples were characterized by high % of firm and very firm texture;
more mature apples had the highest % of mealy texture

Kanzi – Laimburg: less mature apples had the highest % of firm and crispy texture (CL1) and the lowest of mealy
more mature apples had the highest % of mealy texture and of apples with low crispyness (CL2);

Schludern: the % of very firm, juicy and crispy apples (CL1) was evenly distributed among the 3 classes;
more mature apples showed the highest % of low juicy texture (CL3) and of mealy.



Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

TRS perspectives



- **Feasibility** (now)

- we demonstrate the possibility to perform spectral TRS measurements on apples with a **portable instrumentation**
- **non-destructive assessment of flesh chlorophyll content and scattering properties**
- Outcome for optical properties:
 - **low correlation with firmness: ~50%** (Magness Taylor)
 - **better correlations with sensory profiles in some cases: contrasted results**

- **Potential** (future)

- **instrumental viewpoint**: there is room for smaller (more portable) instrument with reduced number of wavelengths (probably 2)

- **Gaps to be covered** (technological)

- measurements speed: now TRS measures are too slow for inserting TRS in a sorting line. Instrument developments and feasibility test are needed

- **Alternatives**

- possibility to non-destructively predict sensory characteristics of apples



Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality TRS measurements in the orchards



Development of a transportable TRS set-up for **measurements in the orchards**



Photo of the TRS set-up



USER-PA Project:
Usability of environmentally sound and
reliable techniques in precision agriculture





Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

TRS measurements in the orchards

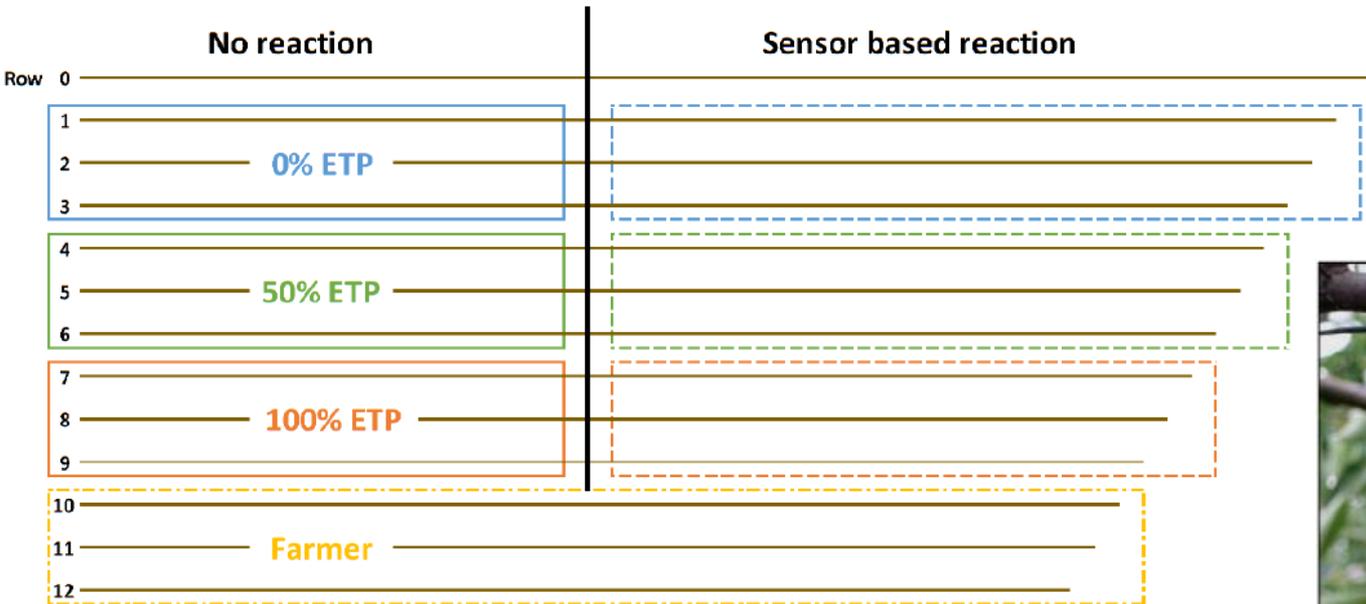


Experimental protocol

- Apple, cv. "Gala Brookfield"
- Orchards in Changins (Switzerland)
- 21 trees = 3 trees x 7 irrigation sectors
(at least 4 apples from each tree)



	25/06/2014	22/07/2014	03/09/2014
# fruit	108	105	126



ETP = potential evapotranspiration





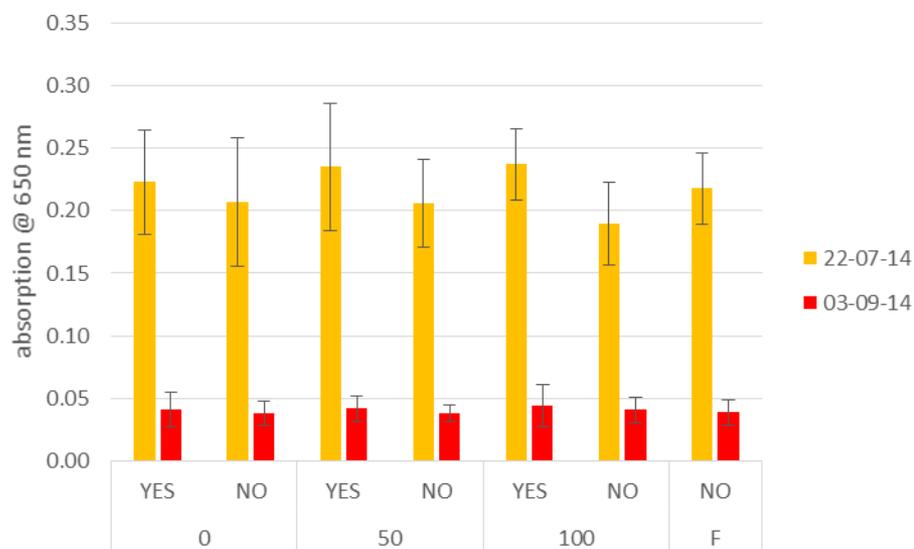
Non-destructive evaluation of apple quality

TRS measurements in the orchards

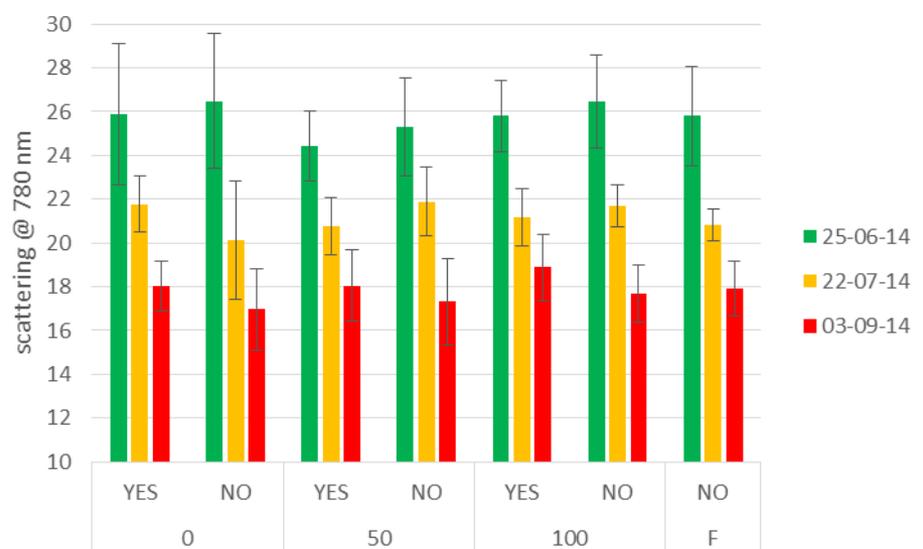


Preliminary results of field trials 2014

Absorption coefficient



Scattering coefficient



Chlorophyll absorption and scattering decrease during fruit growth
(agreement with Seifert *et al.* *Physiologia Plantarum* 53(2):327–336 (2015))

No changes with irrigation due to excess raining in season



Conclusions

A portable TRS setup was developed to allow TRS measurements in the orchards

TRS measurements in the orchards are feasible

- need to shield the fruit from sun light during measurement
- June seems too early for reliable chlorophyll absorption measurements

Results are in agreement with previous measurements on harvested fruits

- chlorophyll absorption in the fruit pulp decreases during growth
- scattering changes may affect readings by continuous wave optical sensors



Non-destructive optical characterisation of internal optical properties and correlation with quality parameters

- Basic studies in apples, kiwifruits, nectarines, tomatoes, ...
- Changes in optical properties during growth in Elstar apples and Tophit plums
- Texture in Jonagored apples, Braeburn apples and Pink Lady apples during storage

Non-destructive assessment of fruit maturity at harvest and correlation with quality parameters

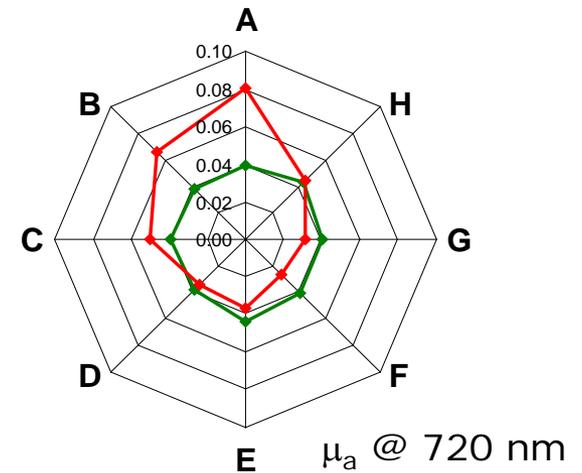
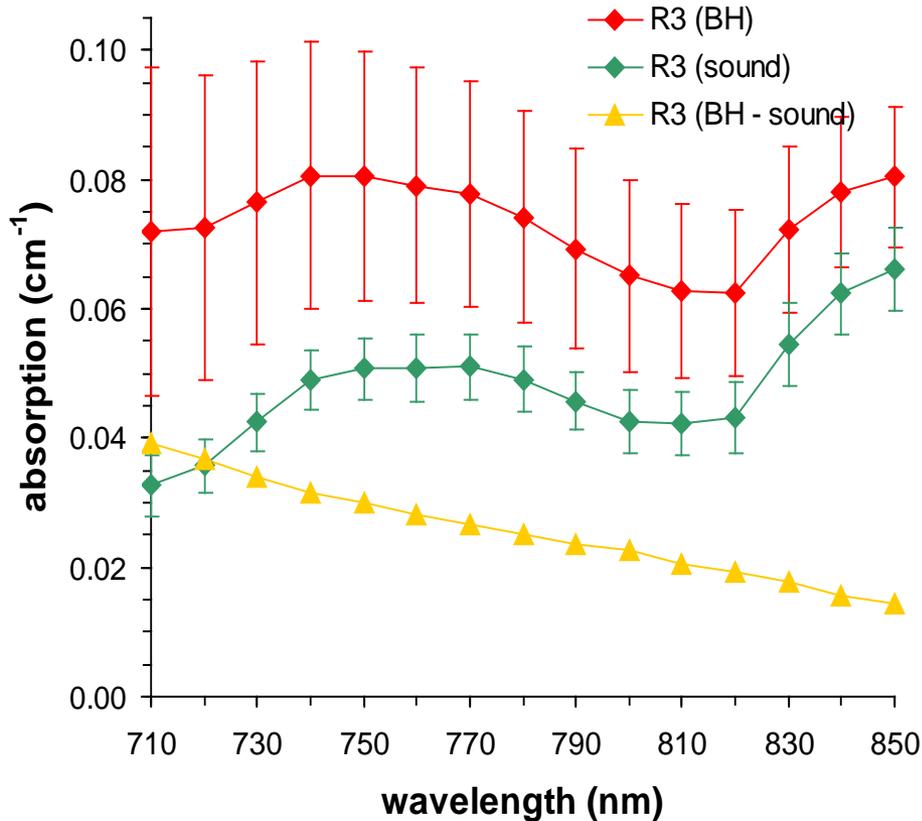
- Basic studies in apples, kiwifruits, nectarines, peaches, mangoes, ...
- Sensory attributes, aroma composition, ethylene production Ambra nectarines
- Softening prediction (based on biological age) in Spring Belle nectarines and in Tommy Atkins mangoes

Non-destructive detection of internal disorders and defects

- Browning in Granny Smith apples, Braeburn apples and Conference pears
- Watercore in Fuji apples
- Mealiness in Braeburn apples and Jonagored apples
- Chilling injuries in Jubileum plums and Morsiani 90 nectarines



Nondestructive detection of internal defects Brown heart in Conference pears



Brown heart for μ_a @ 720 nm > 0.04 cm⁻¹

Eccher Zerbinì *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 25:87-99 (2002)



Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Internal browning in “Braeburn” apples



HEALTHY



SLIGHT

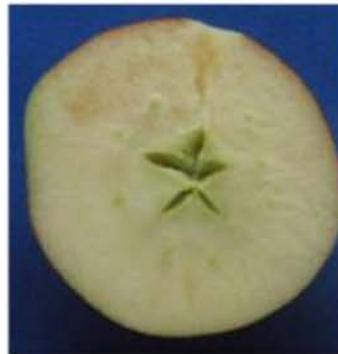


MODERATE



SEVERE

BROWN CORE



BROWN PULP

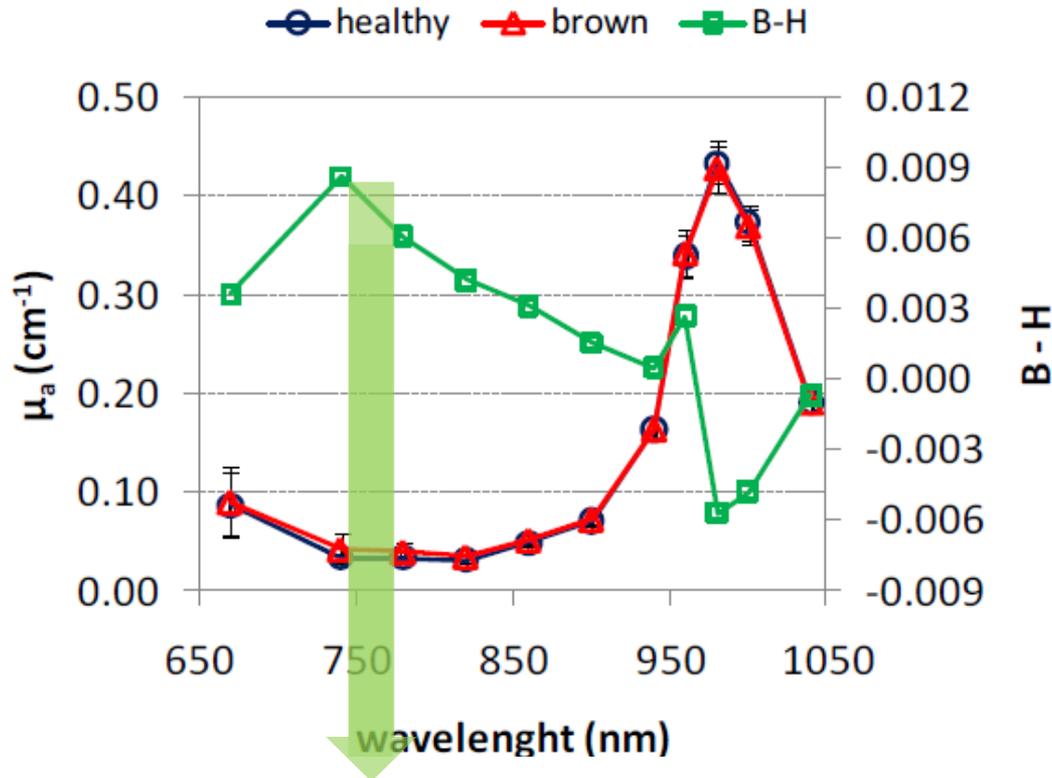


Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Internal browning in “Braeburn” apples



Absorption coefficient



Largest differences between healthy and browned apples at 740-780 nm

μ_a @ 740-780 nm can be selected to distinguish healthy from browned apples



Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Internal browning in “Braeburn” apples



Classification table according to internal browning presence

Year	TRS variables	Classification table				
		Actual class	Group size	Healthy	Brown core	Brown pulp
2009	$\mu_a 670, \mu_a 740-1040, \mu_s 780$	Healthy	140	56.4	43.6	0.0
		Brown core	72	20.8	66.7	12.5
		Brown pulp	27	7.4	18.5	74.1
	$\mu_a 780, \mu_s 780$	Healthy	140	44.3	55.7	0.0
		Brown core	72	19.4	61.1	19.4
		Brown pulp	27	7.4	18.5	74.1
2010	$\mu_a 780, \mu_s 780$	Healthy	39	89.7	10.3	0.0
		Brown core	89	53.9	42.7	3.4
		Brown pulp	112	9.8	15.2	75.0

Classification models

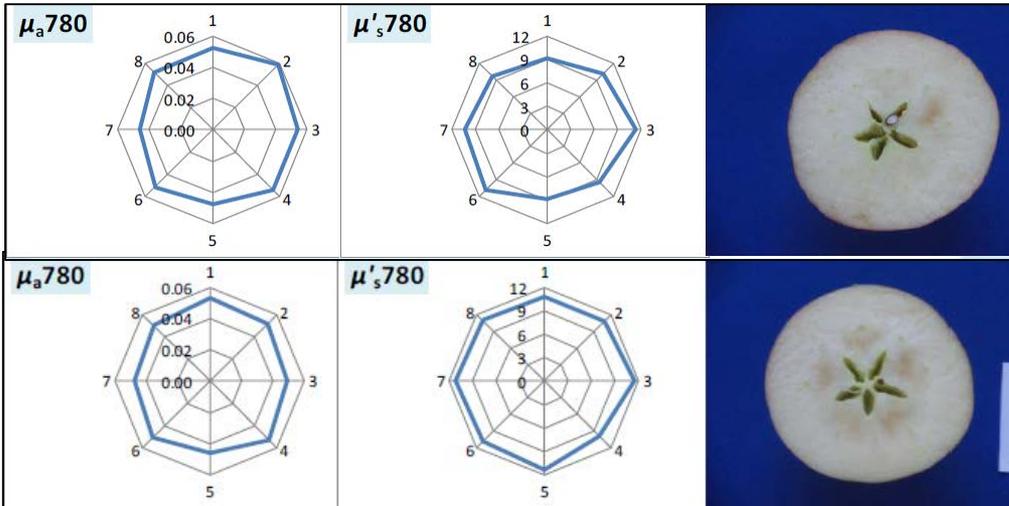
Percentage of well classified apples

Overall, healthy apples and apple with internal browning are classified well in **about 70%** of the cases



Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Internal browning in “Braeburn” apples

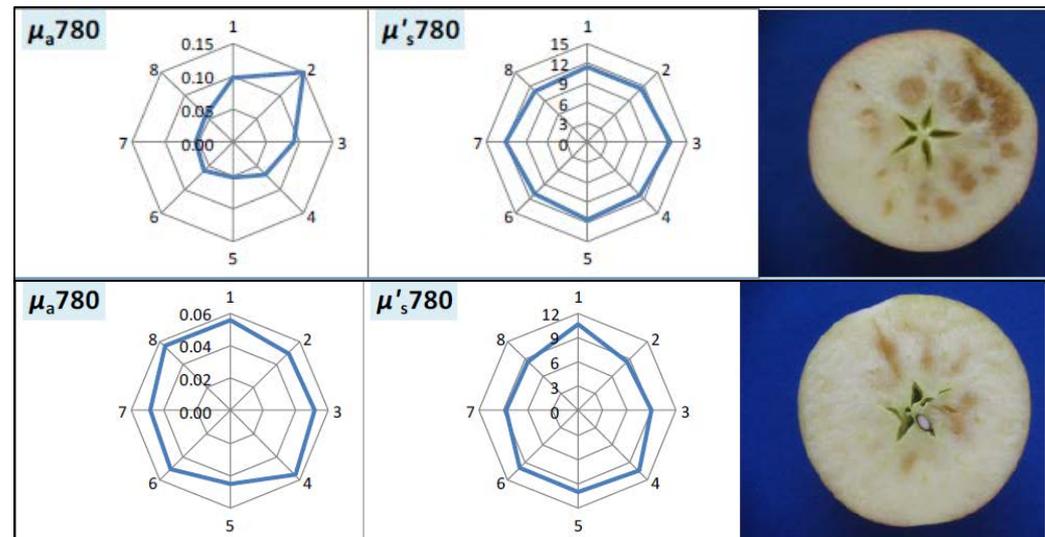


Brown core – **well classified**

Brown core – **misclassified**

Brown pulp – **well classified**

Brown pulp – **misclassified**





Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Chilling injury in stored peaches and nectarines



Low temperature disorders limit the storage life of peaches and nectarines under refrigeration.

Chilling injury (CI) is classified as **internal breakdown**

Wooliness



Internal browning



Internal bleeding (flesh reddening)





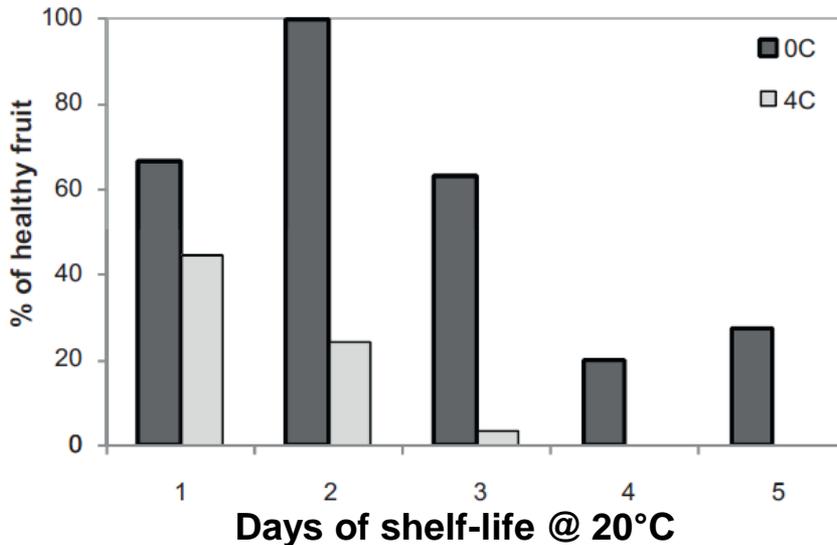
Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Chilling injury in “Morsiani 90” nectarines



Fruit stored @ 0°C and 4°C for 4 weeks

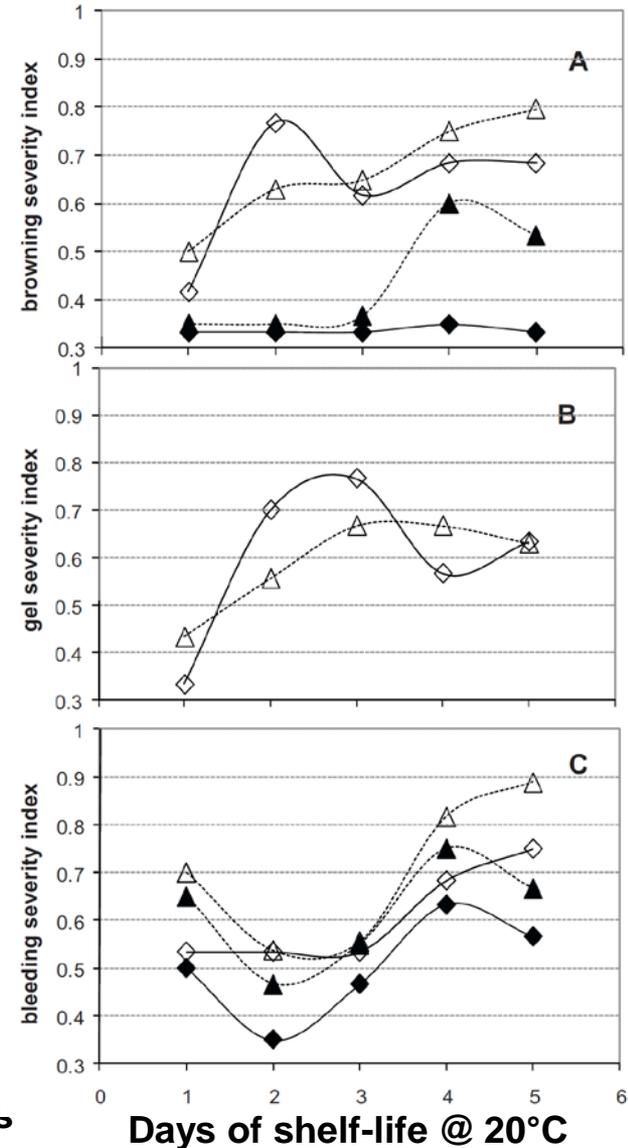
Percentage of healthy fruit during shelf life



In fruit stored @ 4°C after 4 days there were no healthy fruit

Severity index
 0.3 → no fruit with defect
 1.0 → all fruit with defects

Close symbols → 0°C
 Open symbols → 4°C





Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Chilling injury in “Morsiani 90” nectarines

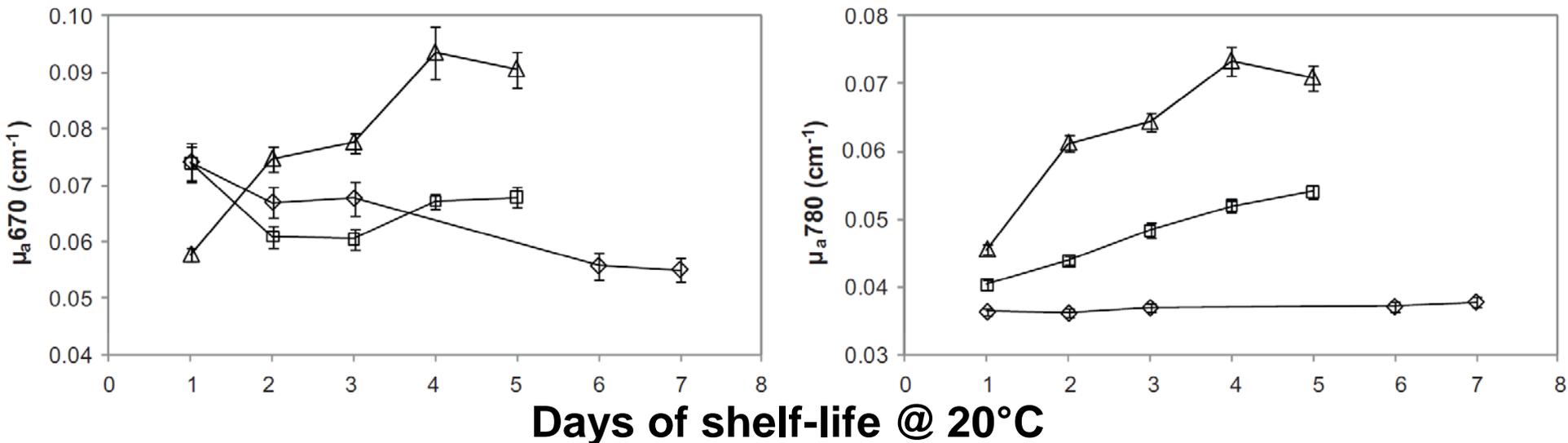


Absorption coefficients

Diamonds → after harvest

Squares → after 0°C

Triangles → after 4°C



At harvest, μ_a @ 670 nm decreases due to fruit ripening

After storage @ 0°C, μ_a @ 780 nm increases

After storage @ 4°C, μ_a @ 670 nm and μ_a @ 780 nm increase

Lurie *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 59:211-218 (2011)



Non-destructive detection of internal defects

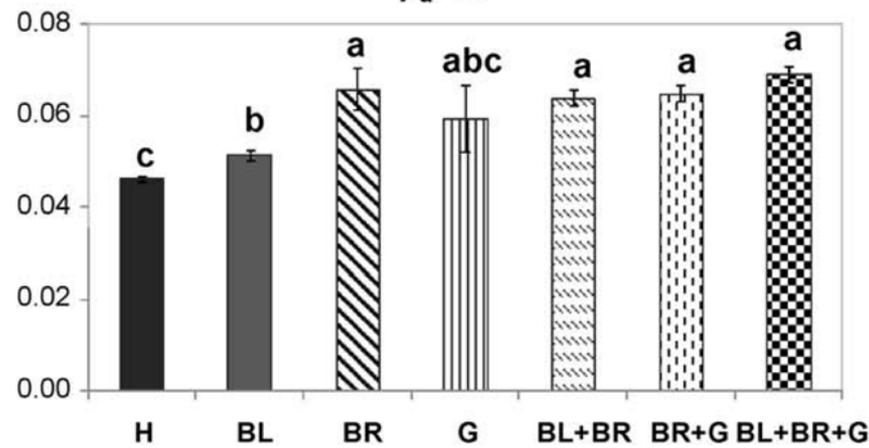
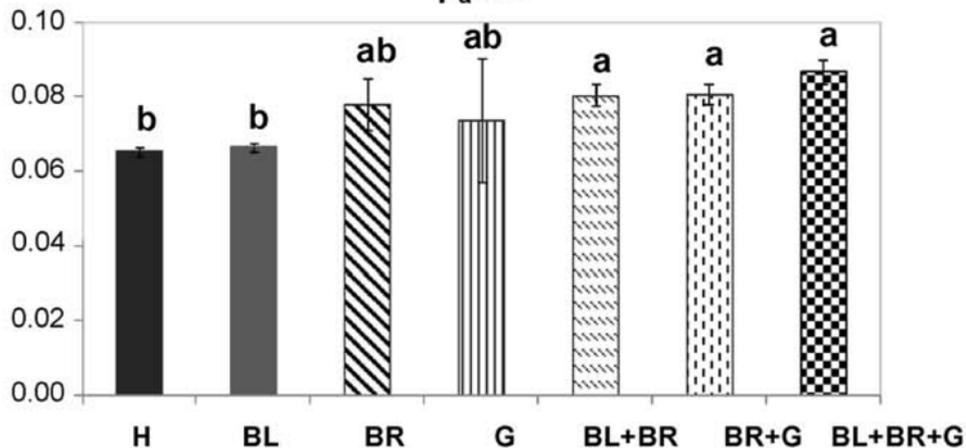
Chilling injury in “Morsiani 90” nectarines



Absorption coefficients @ 670 and 780 nm

μ_a670

μ_a780



N_{fruit} 104 77 5 2 43 16 48

N_{fruit} 104 77 5 2 43 16 48

H – Healthy BR – Internal browning
 BL – Internal bleeding G – Gel breakdown

μ_a @ 780 nm can distinguish healthy fruit from chilling injured ones

Lurie *et al.*, Postharvest Biology and Technology 59:211-218 (2011)



Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Chilling injury in stored plums



During cold storage plums are susceptible to developing **internal disorders**:

- **Flesh browning**
- **Jellying** (gel-like glassy structure)

CI depends on cultivar, fruit maturity, orchard factors and storage temperature.

Healthy “Jubileum” plums



Flesh browning

Jellying



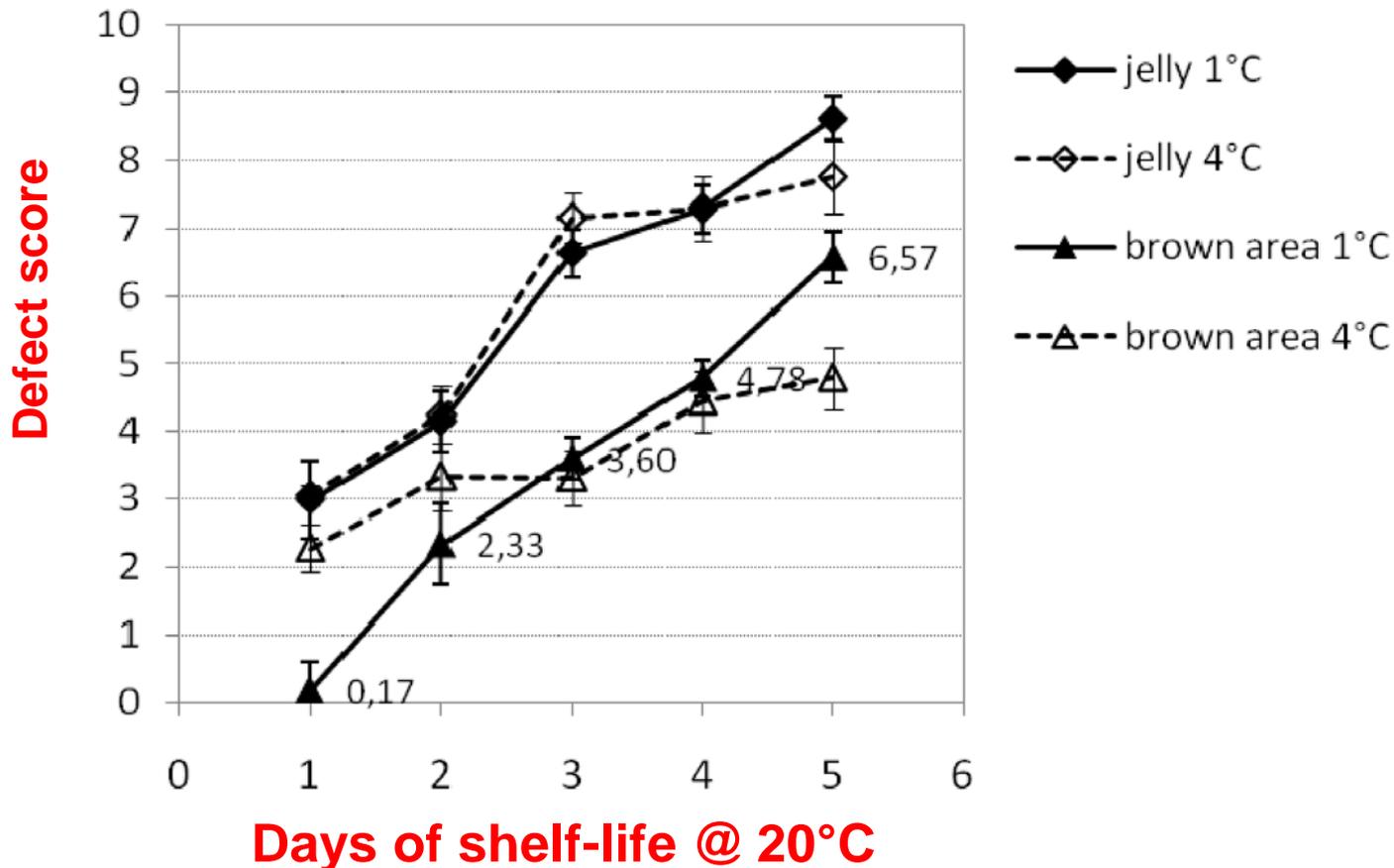


Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Chilling injury in “Jubileum” plums



Fruit stored @ 1°C and 4°C for 3 weeks



The amount of jellying and internal browning was graded on a scale ranging from **0 = healthy** to **10 = 100%** of affected area.

Vangdal *et al.*, Acta Horticulturae 945:197-203 (2012)

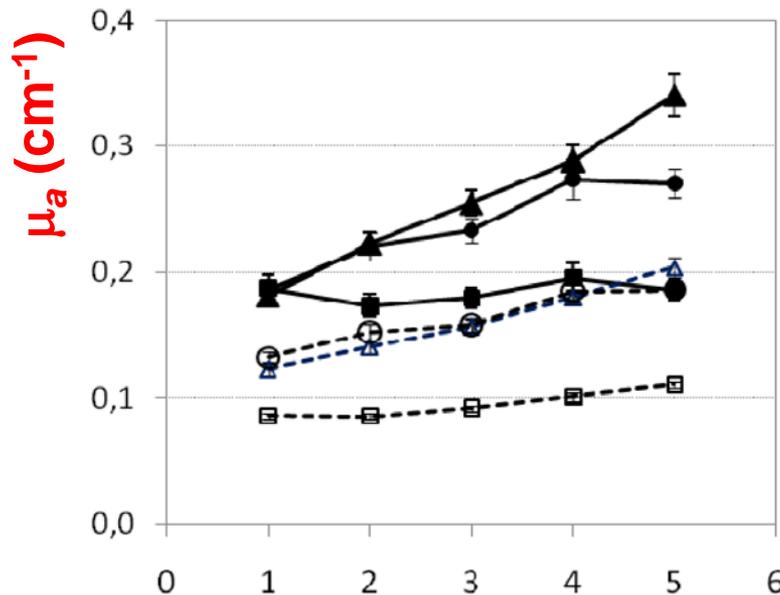


Non-destructive detection of internal defects

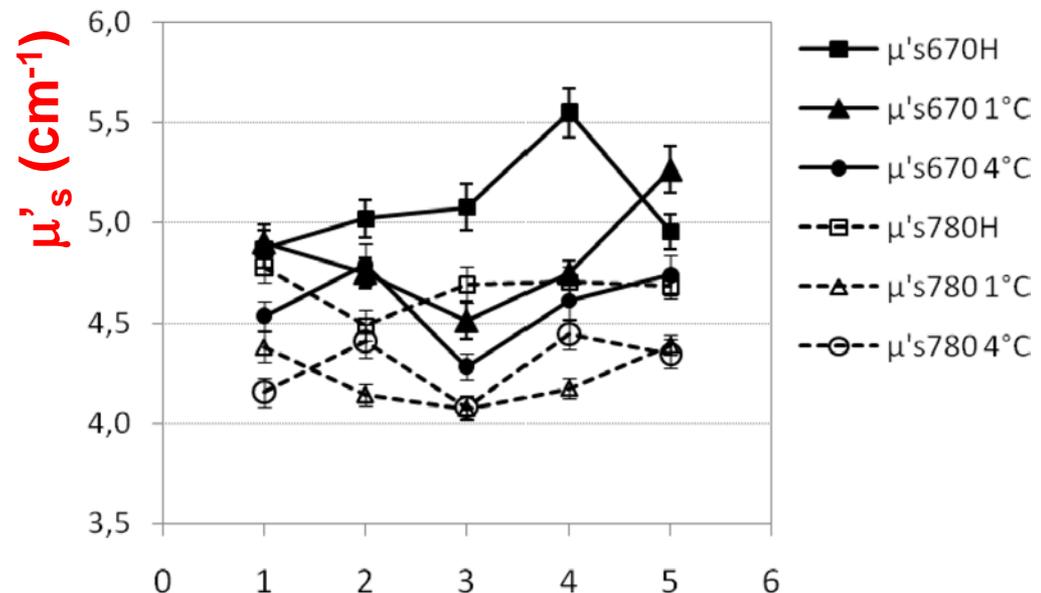
Chilling injury in “Jubileum” plums



Absorption coefficient



Scattering coefficient



Days of shelf-life @ 20°C

After storage, μ_a @ 670 nm and μ_a @ 780 nm increase during shelf life

This trend reflects the development of CI

Vangdal *et al.*, Acta Horticulturae 945:197-203 (2012)



Non-destructive detection of internal defects

Chilling injury in “Jubileum” plums



Correlation coefficients between internal disorders and TRS parameters after storage at 1°C and 4°C ($n = 275$).

Parameters		Jellying (0-10 scale)	Browning area (0-10 scale)
TRS parameters	μ_a 670	0.68***	0.77***
	μ_a 780	0.70***	0.76***
	μ'_s 670	-0.01 ^{n.s.}	0.03 ^{n.s.}
	μ'_s 780	-0.06 ^{n.s.}	-0.09 ^{n.s.}

*** $p < 0.001$; n.s.=Not significant correlation at 5% level.

- μ_a @ 670 nm and μ_a @ 780 nm can distinguish healthy fruit from those affected by internal disorders
- Reduced scattering coefficients not influenced by CI development

Vangdal *et al.*, Acta Horticulturae 945:197-203 (2012)



- Projects**
- DIFFRUIT, EU FP4, 1996-1999
 - TRS APPLE, MAFF (UK), 2000
 - AGROTEC, MIUR (I), 2000-2002
 - CUSBO, LASERLAB, EU FP5+FP6+FP7, 2004-2014
 - INSIDEFOOD, EU FP7 2009-2013
 - TROPICO, Regione Lombardia (I), 2010-2012
 - 3D Mosaic, EU ICT-AGRI, 2011-2013
 - USER-PA EU ICT-AGRI 2013-2016
 - MONALISA 2014-2016
- Publications (2001-2013)**
- >30 papers published on peer reviewed international journals
 - >30 papers on international books and proceedings
 - >30 talks on international conferences
- Collaborations**
- CREA-IT, Milan (I), Anna Rizzolo, Maristella Vanoli, Maurizio Grassi
 - Laimburg (I), Angelo Zanella
 - Agricultural Research Organization, Bet Dagan (Israel), Susan Lurie, Victor Alchanitis
 - Wageningen Universiteit (NL), Pol Tijskens, Olaf Van Kooten, Rob Schouten
 - Planteforsk, Lofthus (N), Eivind Vangdal
 - Potsdam (D), Manuela Zude-Sasse
 - Leuven (B), Bart Nicolai, Bert Verlinden, Wouter Sayes, Pieter Verboven, Maarten Hertog
 - UPM, ETSI Agronomos Madrid (E), Margarita Ruiz-Altisent, Constantino Valero
 - Horticulture Research International, East Malling, (UK) - David Johnson, Colin Dover



- **Politecnico di Milano - Dipartimento di Fisica, Milan (Italy)**

- Antonio Pifferi
- Davide Contini
- Alberto Dalla Mora



**POLITECNICO
DI MILANO**

- **CREA-IT (ex CRA-IAA, ex IVTPA), Milan (Italy)**

- Anna Rizzolo
- Maristella Vanoli
- Maurizio Grassi
- (Paola Eccher Zerbini)



- **Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry, Laimburg (Italy)**

- Angelo Zanella

