

# 1 Nondestructive measurement of squalene in olive oil by near infrared 2 spectroscopy

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## 9 **ABSTRACT**

10 This study sets the basis for developing a rapid technique for measuring olive oil  
11 squalene, which is a healthy compound. This technique, based on near infrared  
12 spectroscopy, is environmentally friendly. The most suitable wavelength ranges were  
13 defined, studying the possible contribution from the visible spectra. For this purpose,  
14 Partial Least Squares analysis was independently set up using two optical arrangements,  
15 with wavelengths 350-2500 nm and 1100-2300 nm. Models from only near infrared  
16 wavelengths gave the best outcomes. The external validation exercise for estimating  
17 olive oil squalene was satisfactory, with  $r^2$  0.83 and residual predictive deviation 2.31.  
18 The results suggest the proposed technique is useful for estimating olive oil squalene  
19 content. A sorting test of olive oil in two classes according to its squalene content was  
20 carried out, with threshold in 5.0 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>, using the model built. The success of this  
21 classification was 90%.

22 **Keywords:** classification; environment friendly; NIR; PLS model; ; threshold.

23

## 24 **1. Introduction**

25 Squalene (Figure 1) is a triterpene aliphatic hydrocarbon, and it was named because of  
26 its profusion in shark liver oil, its richest source, where it reaches 900 g.kg<sup>-1</sup>. Shark liver  
27 oil has long been used as a traditional health food in Japan, with a particular benefit for  
28 vascular health (Hamadate et al., 2015). Squalene is widely distributed in nature,  
29 especially in vegetable oils such as olive oil, palm oil, wheat-germ oil, amaranth oil, or  
30 rice bran oil (Huang, Lin, & Fang, 2009). Therefore, by using different extraction

31 methods, vegetables or marine animals can be suitable squalene sources (Vázquez,  
32 Torres, Fornari, Senorans, & Reglero, 2007).

33 The main part of virgin olive oil is the saponifiable fraction, a lipid matrix of  
34 triglycerides, diglycerides and monoglycerides accounting for 985-995 g·kg<sup>-1</sup>  
35 (Civantos, 1999). Squalene is in relatively high quantities within the olive oil minor  
36 fraction. Eisner, Iverson, Mazingo, & Firestone (1965) stated that squalene makes up  
37 around 85-90% of the hydrocarbon fraction of olive oils. Besides, it makes up 60–75%  
38 of the olive oil unsaponifiable fraction, in concentrations between 0.2 and 7.5 g·kg<sup>-1</sup>  
39 (Tiscornia, & Evangelisti, 1982).

40 Figure 1

41 One of the most important differences between olive oil and plant seed oils is squalene.  
42 Compared to seed oils, olive oil is an important source of squalene. In other edible  
43 vegetable oils, squalene makes up only 0.02–0.3 g·kg<sup>-1</sup> (Rao, Newmark, & Reddy,  
44 1998). Thus, olive oil contains 7 to 300 fold more squalene than other vegetable oils and  
45 up to 5000 fold more than some vegetable foods (Liu, Ahrens, Schreiber, & Crouse,  
46 1976). Therefore, virgin olive oil may be a part of the human diet especially rich in  
47 squalene.

48 Besides, the squalene content varies widely depending on the olive oil product with a  
49 range of 2 to 7 g·kg<sup>-1</sup> (Rao, Newmark, & Reddy, 1998). A significant difference  
50 between the extra virgin class (EVOO) and the virgin class (VOO) has been reported,  
51 with the latter having more squalene than the refined olive oils (Owen, Mier, Giacosa,  
52 Hull, Spiegelhalder, & Bartsh, 2000). Nergiz & Çelikkale (2011) showed that refining  
53 reduces the squalene content. Furthermore, they pointed out that the major decrease in  
54 squalene in vegetable oils within the refining steps occurs during oils' deodorization.  
55 Olive growing techniques (Psomiadou & Tsimidou, 1999), olive fruit variety (Nergiz, &  
56 Ünal, 1990) and extraction (Nergiz, & Ünal, 1990; Samaniego-Sánchez, Quesada-  
57 Granados, López-García de la Serrana, & López-Martínez, 2010) influence the level of  
58 squalene. Squalene acts as a weak antioxidant in olive oil (Owen, Mier, Giacosa, Hull,  
59 Spiegelhalder, & Bartsh, 2000). Thus, Psomiadou and Tsimidou (1999) proposed that  
60 squalene contributes to olive oil stability in a small quantity, even at low temperatures.

61 There is multiple scientific evidence on the beneficial effects that the intake of squalene  
62 from food has on health (Newmark, 1997; Lasekan, Clayton, Gendron, & Ney, 1990;  
63 Smith, 2000; Ostlund, Racette, & Stenson, 2002; Strandberg, Tilvis, & Miettinen, 1990;  
64 Smith, 2000; He, & Corke, 2003). However, this feature of olive oil has received little  
65 attention in the market so far, since most consumers are unaware on this fact.

66 The olive oil industry has great interest on determining the quality of olive oil, using  
67 fast and reliable techniques. Besides, developing non-destructive techniques to reduce  
68 the expense of solvents and reagents is increasingly important in an international  
69 context of convergence towards environmental sustainability. Among the various non-  
70 destructive solutions to these needs, near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) has made major  
71 achievements. NIRS is based on multivariate models in which the spectral data correlate  
72 with the analyzed feature. It provides several important advantages, as NIRS needs no  
73 solvents or reagents, thus avoiding a major expense, while being environmentally  
74 friendly. Additionally, NIRS is a rapid, non-destructive, and potentially multi-parameter  
75 method.

76 Several articles on the use of NIRS and chemometrics for the analysis of different olive  
77 oil features have been published in the recent years (Nenadis & Tsimidou, 2017). Stand  
78 out studies directed to characterizing intact olives and olive paste for optimizing the  
79 milling process (Giovenzana et al., 2017), to control the quality of olive pomace oil  
80 blended with palm oil used for deep-frying (Ben Hammouda, Zribi, Ben Mansour,  
81 Matthaus, & Bouaziz, 2017), as well as for the authentication and detection of fraud  
82 (Karunathilaka, Kia, Srigley, Chung, & Mossoba, 2016). Sorting olive oil based on  
83 alpha-tocopherol and total tocopherol content using NIRS has been recently reported  
84 (Cayuela & García, 2017). The NIRS ability to analyze the major olive oil quality  
85 features has been the subject of several studies (Armenta, Garrigues, & De la Guardia,  
86 2007; Bendini, Cerretani, Di Virgilio, Belloni, Lercker, & Gallina-Toschi, 2007; Conte,  
87 Brussolo, Pizzale, Carazzolo, Meurens, & Pavan, 2003; Costa, Coelho, Gambarra,  
88 Bezerra, Harrop, & Ugulino, 2008; Cayuela, Moreda & García, 2013). In fact, NIRS  
89 techniques are methods for these routine analyses in a growing number of laboratories.  
90 However, the possibility of measuring squalene in olive oil by NIRS has never been  
91 reported up to date. Besides, squalene NIR absorption bands have not yet been  
92 described, to the best of our knowledge.

93 Since the concentration of squalene varies widely among different olive oils, there is an  
94 interest in the development of rapid techniques to distinguish olive oils according to its  
95 content. In fact, the industry might have an interest in separating olive oils according to  
96 different squalene contents. The traditional method for the analysis of squalene in olive  
97 oil is GC. However, it is not usually performed in the olive oil industry, since squalene  
98 is not considered in the regulation to characterize the quality or purity of olive oil  
99 (European Commission, 1991). Therefore, there is a challenge on characterizing olive  
100 oil regarding squalene. This work sets up the basis for developing new rapid NIRS  
101 techniques for measuring olive oil squalene content. It was convenient to clarify if there  
102 are any regions from the olive oil's visible spectrum contributing to model performance,  
103 since pure squalene is a pale yellow liquid. The wavelengths that contribute to  
104 predictive models have been defined.

## 105 **2. Material and Methods**

### 106 *2.1. Olive Oils*

107 A total set of 180 olive oil samples was made up from different origins. High quality  
108 Extra Virgin Olive Oils (EVOO) were bought at olive oil specialized shops; this group  
109 contributed with 32 samples, of which 27 were varietal and the remaining 5 were  
110 mixtures from different varieties. These EVOO were used to elaborate 17 additional  
111 coupage samples. Olive oils normally found in the market were also used; this group  
112 was composed of 10 EVOOs, 40 Current Olive Oils and 25 Pomace Olive Oils. Olive  
113 oil samples were provided also from a collaborator industry, contributing with 14  
114 EVOOs, 25 Virgin Olive Oils and 14 Lampante Olive Oils. The characteristics of the  
115 olive oil samples are shown in Table S1.

### 116 *2.2. Reference Analysis*

117 Squalene analysis were carried out by Gas Chromatography (GC) according to Lanzón,  
118 Albi, Cert, & Gracián (1994), modified according to Moreda, Pérez-Camino, & Cert  
119 (2004), at the Instituto de la Grasa (CSIC). Briefly, 0.1 mg of olive oil sample was  
120 disposed in a 4 mL screw vial, adding 1 mL of squalane  $5 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{mL}^{-1}$  as the internal  
121 pattern. This was dissolved in heptane to complete a volume of 3 mL and shaken gently  
122 by hand. Then 200  $\mu\text{L}$  of methanolic  $2 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$  KOH was added, separating the aqueous  
123 and lipid phases. The upper phase was collected into a 2 mL chromatography vial and

124 then injected into the GC instrument. A GC HP-5890 (Hewlet Packard Enterprise, Palo  
125 Alto, USA) equipped with a split/splitless injection system was used with a SP-5  
126 capillary column 5% phenylmethylsilicone fused silica, 30 m long, 0.25 mm internal  
127 diameter and 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  phase thickness, (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany). Flame ionization  
128 detector (FID) and software Chem Station for the recording and processing of data were  
129 used. The analyses were conducted with two replicates. The results were given with one  
130 significant digit.

### 131 2.3. *Near infra-red spectroscopy*

132 Optical arrangements NIRS and VIS/NIRS were used for defining the wavelengths  
133 contributing to the predictive models, especially for clarifying the contribution from  
134 visible spectra. Besides, using two different instruments allowed checking their results,  
135 beyond their comparison.

136 The samples' spectra were recorded directly from olive oils without any other treatment.  
137 The temperature of a body has an important influence on NIR radiation. Therefore, the  
138 samples were taken from 4 °C storage and placed at room temperature in the laboratory  
139 18h before processing. A thermostatic bath fixed at 33 °C for 30 min held the 20 mL  
140 sample containers to ensure temperature stability. The averaged spectrum from two  
141 measurements of 50 spectra each was registered, with each sample. The same procedure  
142 was used with both optical configurations.

143 For NIRS, the measuring mode was post dispersive transreflectance. A Luminar  
144 (Brimrose Inc., Maryland, USA) spectrometer was used. This instrument consists of an  
145 acousto-optic tunable filter (AOTF) with InGaAs detector (1100-2300 nm). The  
146 reference is automatically taken, the scanning speed is 60 ms. The spectrometer is  
147 composed of a hand-held unit, equipped with a base for laboratory use. A transreflectance  
148 probe accessory was used. The probe is in stainless steel, with threaded interchangeable  
149 optical path. The spectra were registered as a whole, the spectral variables matching at 2  
150 nm intervals. The repeatability of the instrument, expressed as the standard deviation of  
151 the average absorbance of five measurements of a white tile, is  $6.76 \cdot 10^{-4}$ . The signals  
152 were captured using Acquire software (Brimrose Corp., Maryland).

153 The VIS/NIRS was carried out using a Labspec (Analytical Spectral Devices Inc.,  
154 Boulder, USA) spectrometer, with transmittance optical mode consisting of a liquid

155 accessory (Ocean Optics, Largo, USA). A quartz spectrophotometric cuvette (Hellma  
156 Analytics, Müllheim, Germany) with 10 mm path length held the samples. The whole  
157 VIS/NIRS spectrum (350–2500 nm) was registered, with each spectral variable  
158 corresponding to a 2 nm interval. The configuration for 50 spectra in continuous  
159 acquisition was used. Indico Pro software (Analytical Spectral Devices Inc., Boulder,  
160 USA) was used for this purpose. The spectrometer was equipped with three detectors.  
161 The detector for the visible range (350-1000 nm) was a fixed reflective holographic  
162 diode array with a sensitivity of 512 pixels. A holographic fast scanner InGaAs detector  
163 cooled at -25°C covered the wavelength range of 1000-1800 nm. The same device  
164 coupled with a high order blocking filter was used for the interval 1800-2500 nm. The  
165 scanning speed was 100 ms, and the acquisition processing time is less than a minute  
166 for each sample, all steps included. The repeatability, expressed as the standard  
167 deviation of the average absorbance of five measurements of a white tile between 350  
168 and 2500 nm, is  $6.00 \cdot 10^{-4}$ .

#### 169 2.4. *Squalene spectrum*

170 Squalene of 98% purity (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) was used as pattern to  
171 characterize the squalene VIS/NIR absorption bands. The pattern spectrum was  
172 registered only once using the Labspec spectrometer, by averaging four replicates. The  
173 rest of the procedure was the same as previously described for olive oil samples.

#### 174 2.5. *Chemometry*

175 Possible olive oil groups were analyzed by Principal Component Analysis (PCA),  
176 which was also used for detecting possible spectral outliers. It was carried out from the  
177 olive oils spectra of both optical configurations using The Unscrambler 9.7 (CAMO  
178 Software AS, Oslo, Norway).

179 Multivariate Partial Least Squares (PLS) analysis was performed from the spectral  
180 variables of near infrared (NIRS) and visible-near-infrared (VIS/NIRS), using the  
181 squalene reference analysis as a dependent variable. Transmittance spectral data were  
182 averaged to 8 nm intervals and transformed into absorbance, then, mean normalization  
183 (MN), standard normal variate normalization (SNV), and first (D<sub>1</sub>SG) and second  
184 (D<sub>2</sub>SG) Savitzsky–Golay derivatives treatments were carried out. The PLS models for  
185 squalene were built from the averaged and treated spectrum using The Unscrambler 9.7.

186 The full cross internal validation (FCV) procedure was used. The outliers were  
187 identified as samples showing significant high residuals, according to The Unscrambler  
188 9.7. Scores plot were displayed from the regression overview plot, then selecting the  
189 warning list option. The outlier list was displayed by clicking the outliers button. The  
190 residuals are the differences between the predicted and the analyzed values.

191 Two independent multivariate calibration models for squalene prediction ( $M_1$  and  $M_2$ )  
192 were established from the spectra obtained with NIRS and VIS/NIRS. The models'  
193 principal components (PCs) were fixed after the tests using 10 PCs at first.

194 The calibration set for PLS models excluded the external validation set. It was defined  
195 as one third from the 180 olive oil samples available, counting from the first. Sixty  
196 samples were taken by including one of each three, from the data base of The  
197 Unscrambler 9.7., in the same order as the samples were included. This validation set  
198 was randomly formed, since each sample was randomly registered from a completely  
199 independent olive oil batch, even when the mechanical selection by the software it was  
200 not random. The squalene concentrations range in the validation set were similar to that  
201 range of the calibration, as it is shown forward. Those wavelengths whose correlation  
202 with squalene content was closer to zero were removed in successive PLS cycles, using  
203 The Unscrambler 9.7. The variable selection ended in the last cycle that improved the  
204 squared coefficient of cross validation of the calibration ( $R^2_{CV}$ ). This procedure  
205 provided the spectral variables selected for the PLS models. To assess model's fitness,  
206 the standard error of calibration (SEC) and the closeness between their squared  
207 coefficient of calibration ( $R^2$ ) and  $R^2_{CV}$  were considered.

## 208 2.6. *Model Performance Assessment*

209 Calibration models were assessed by external validation exercises. For this purpose,  
210 squalene content was predicted in a previously reserved set formed by 60 olive oil  
211 samples which did not participate in the multivariate models. The model performance  
212 was assessed according to the  $r^2$  from the external validation exercises, which  
213 corresponds to the simple linear regression between the analyzed and predicted values.  
214 At the same time, the residual predictive deviation (RPD) from the external validation  
215 exercise was considered. The RPD was defined (Fearn, 2002) as the ratio between the  $\sigma$   
216 from the reference data of the validation set and the standard error of performance

217 (SEP). Also, the separate analysis of the calibrations of NIRS and VIS/NIRS allowed  
218 confirming their predictive ability.

### 219 2.7. *Classification Tests*

220 Classification tests of olive oil according to their squalene content were conducted by  
221 using the PLS model as a qualitative discrimination technique. The spectral data from  
222 only the configuration providing the best yields were used for this purpose. Two classes  
223 of olive oils, High Squalene (HS), with squalene concentration above  $5.0 \text{ g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ , and the  
224 other one Low Squalene (LS), with squalene concentration below or equal to  $5.0 \text{ g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ ,  
225 were fixed for classification tests into two squalene levels. These two classes were  
226 defined according to the squalene mean of the total sample set analyzed, whose value  
227 was this threshold. The technique performance assessment was by its success grade.  
228 This was expressed as the percentage of samples in which the predicted and actual  
229 classifications coincided.

## 230 **3. Results and Discussion**

### 231 *3.1. Olive Oil Spectrum*

232 Near-infrared spectra show various overlapping bands, due to the first and second  
233 overtones and a combination of the fundamental vibrations, mainly carbon–hydrogen  
234 (Shenk, Workman, & Westerhaus, 2001). Assigning the major visible absorption bands  
235 of olive oil was done by Moyano, Meléndez, Alba, & Heredia (2008). Olive oil spectra  
236 from the samples analyzed in this work, shown in Figure 2, are consistent with the  
237 previously indicated reports. A first minor peak occurred near 415 nm. This area suits  
238 the wavelengths of oil absorption for dark blue colored light. It could be due mainly to  
239 carotenoids, as well as to pheophytin A, pheophorbide A and pyropheophytin A. A  
240 second peak was near 450 nm, which corresponds to blue light absorption, a  
241 characteristic of carotenoids. A third peak appeared around 670 nm, which coincides  
242 with chlorophylls absorption (Moyano, Meléndez, Alba, & Heredia, 2008). A broad  
243 absorbance band showed around 1220 nm, probably due to second overtones of C–H  
244 and CH=CH– stretching vibrations of oil. A high intensity absorbance peak occurred  
245 around 2300 nm, caused by a combination of fundamental vibrations of the C–H groups  
246 (Hourant, Baeten, Morales, Meurens, & Aparicio, 2000). The squalene VIS/NIR spectra  
247 registered in this study are shown in Figure 3. The major differences in the spectrum of



248 squalene with respect to olive oil correspond to the visible zone, since squalene is  
249 almost colorless. On the contrary, in the NIR region the peaks with squalene were  
250 practically the same as in olive oil, without remarkable differences. As a hydrocarbon  
251 molecule, a part of the squalene C–H and CH=CH– stretching vibrations may be  
252 overlapping those of triglycerides, whose structure is also carbon–hydrogen. However,  
253 the spatial configuration of the squalene molecule is clearly different from that of  
254 triglycerides due to its specific bonds. Moreover, the latter have oxygen, while squalene  
255 lacks this chemical element. Therefore, NIR absorption intensities may reflect such  
256 differences among different olive oils, despite the fact that they maybe not explicit in  
257 the spectrum shape.

258 Figure 2 –Figure 3

### 259 *3.2. Population Characterization*

260 The values of the squalene reference analysis of the calibration and external validation  
261 sets are gathered in Table 1. As can be seen, a wide squalene variation integrates into  
262 the calibrations, ranging from 1.01 g·kg<sup>-1</sup> to 10.15 g·kg<sup>-1</sup>. The statistical mean of the  
263 calibration sets analyzed was 5.02 g·kg<sup>-1</sup> of squalene. The squalene content in the olive  
264 oils analyzed in this work showed a range even wider than those described in the  
265 literature (Tiscornia & Evangelisti, 1982; Rao, Newmark & Reddy, 1998; Owen, Mier,  
266 Giacosa, Hull, Spiegelhalder, & Bartsh, 2000). This range reflects the extent of  
267 variation of squalene in this product, which accounts for the interest of distinguishing  
268 olive oils that are helpful to health due to their high squalene content.

269 Table 1

### 270 *3.3. Principal Component Analysis*

271 The olive oils spectra PCA analysis of both spectrometers showed the absence of  
272 sample groups. The PCA of NIRS, shown in Figure 4, stands out for showing three  
273 samples widely separated from the major group. Two more samples appeared separated  
274 from the major group, both consistent with the HS class. The remaining samples did not  
275 show any consistent grouping trend. In the PCA of the VIS/NIRS spectra, shown in  
276 Figure 5, only two samples appear clearly separated. One of these samples matches the

277 high squalene class and the other one matches the low squalene class. Therefore, the  
278 PCA analysis of spectra did not show sample groups.

279

280 Figure 4

281 Figure 5

### 282 3.4. Squalene PLS Models

283 The absorbance data treated by MN and D<sub>1</sub>SG provided the best performance for  
284 squalene content calibrations with both configurations, whose statistics are gathered in  
285 Table 2. The same three samples which stood out in the PCA of the NIR spectra due to  
286 their wide separation from the major group, they were identified as outliers in each  
287 calibration and removed. The procedure for selecting the spectral variables provided a  
288 wide range of contributing wavelengths. However, many of them did not contribute  
289 positively to the PLS models, since their removal improved the calibration. The model  
290  $M_1$  provided  $R^2$  0.86,  $R^2_{CV}$  0.83 and SEC 0.88, while  $M_2$  calibration statistics were  $R^2$   
291 0.76,  $R^2_{CV}$  0.72 and SEC 1.19. The spectral windows and single wavelengths shared in  
292 the  $M_1$  model are shown in Figure 6. It is worth mentioning the matching among several  
293 major wavelengths of  $M_1$  with the major absorption area of the squalene spectra (Figure  
294 3), corresponding to the 1700-1850 nm spectral window.

295 Figure 7 represents the regression for  $M_1$ . In these graphs, the horizontal line within a  
296 certain wavelength shows zero contribution to the model.

297 Table 2

298 Figure 6

299 Figure 7

### 300 3.5. External Validation Exercises Using $M_1$

301 One of the two samples separated from the major group in the PCA (Figure 4)  
302 belonged to the validation set. This was separated, since it appeared in the validation as  
303 an aberrant point, according to the criterion for outliers.. The statistics of the validation

304 exercise are shown in Table 2. The dispersion plot of  $V_1$  is shown in Figure 8. The  
305 squalene models performance is shown by the  $r_1^2$  and  $r_2^2$  values, 0.83 and 0.74, from  $V_1$   
306 and  $V_2$ , respectively. The RPD values were 2.31 and 1.94 respectively for the same.  
307 According to Fearn (2002), predictive models with RPD values between 2 and 10 are  
308 suitable depending on the use they must carry out. Considering this, the  $V_1$  prediction  
309 exercise using  $M_1$  suggests that this model is suitable for estimating the squalene  
310 content in olive oils. Routine analysis of hydrocarbons in the olive oil industry is not  
311 frequent, as it is not compulsory, thus the prediction technique here proposed is useful  
312 for a preliminary characterization of olive oil on its squalene content.

313 Figure 8

### 314 3.6. Classification Tests

315 The  $M_1$  PLS model was tested to distinguish two olive oil classes, HS and LS, according  
316 to the threshold  $5.0 \text{ g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ . This technique provided 89.8% success in distinguishing  
317 both classes. The results of this sorting test are shown in Table 3.

318 Table 3

## 319 4. Conclusions

320 The wavelengths that contribute to a PLS model for squalene prediction have been  
321 defined. The NIRS technique based on this PLS model has been proved useful for the  
322 rapid estimation of olive oil squalene content. This model was used successfully to  
323 separate olive oil into two classes according to squalene content. The new technique  
324 proposed here provides an opportunity for characterizing olive oils based on their  
325 squalene content. This information has nutritional interest for the consumers. Besides, it  
326 constitutes a diversification opportunity for the olive oil industry. The wavelengths  
327 defined may allow choosing a suitable instrument for this purpose.

328 According to the test results, an error of about 10% can be expected in the separation of  
329 olive oil into two classes. The use of the proposed technique for estimating the squalene  
330 content of olive oil requires the calibration of a specific spectrophotometer, as well as  
331 establishing a periodic validation protocol. The proposed technique is to be used with

332 olive oil directly, without neither solvents nor reagents, which makes it environmentally  
333 friendly.

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449

#### 450 **Figure captions**

451 Figure 1. Squalene structure.

452 Figure 2. Olive oil visible and near infrared spectra from the samples analyzed.

453 Figure 3. Visible and near infrared spectra of the squalene pettern (purity 98.0%).

454 Figure 4. Principal Component Analysis of the near infrared spectra (1100-2300 nm)  
455 from the analyzed olive oils.

456 Figure 5. Principal Component Analysis of the visible and near infrared spectra (350-  
457 2500 nm) from the analyzed olive oils.

458 Figure 6. Spectral variables contributing to the squalene near infrared model ( $M_I$ ).

459 Figure 7. Partial Least Squares quantitative squalene model ( $M_I$ ).

460 Figure 8. Prediction exercise of the olive oil squalene content ( $V_I$ ).

461



Figure 1

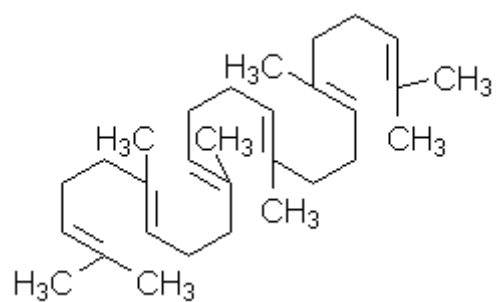


Figure 2

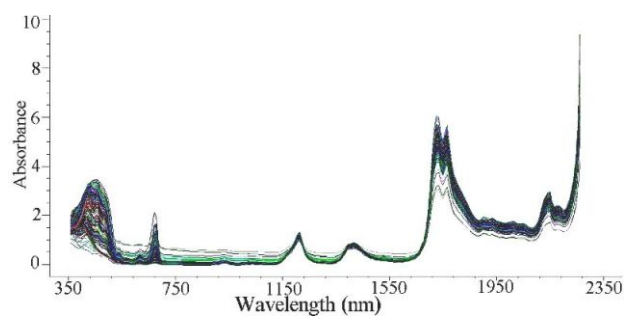


Figure 3

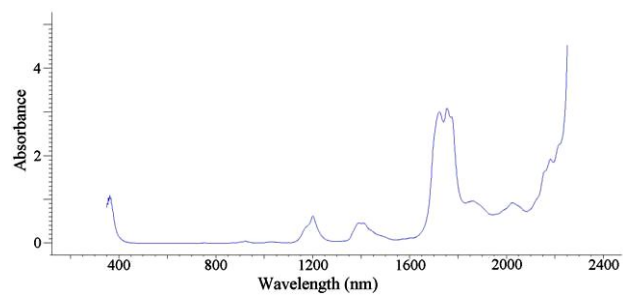


Figure 4

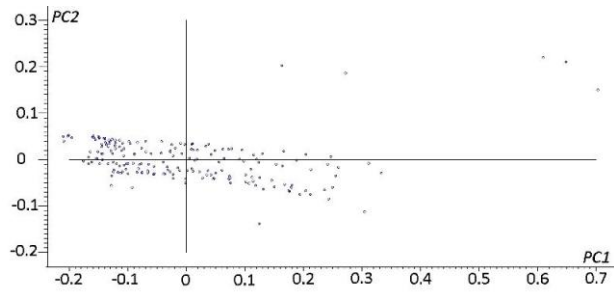


Figure 5

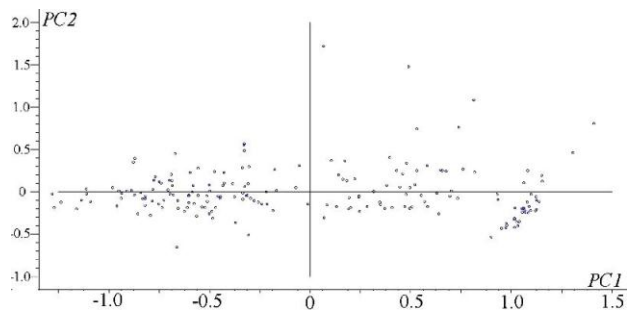


Figure 6

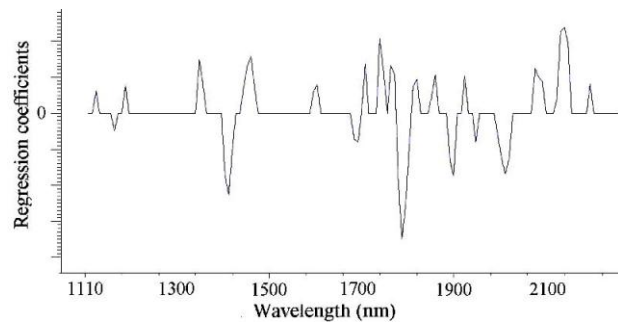


Figure 7

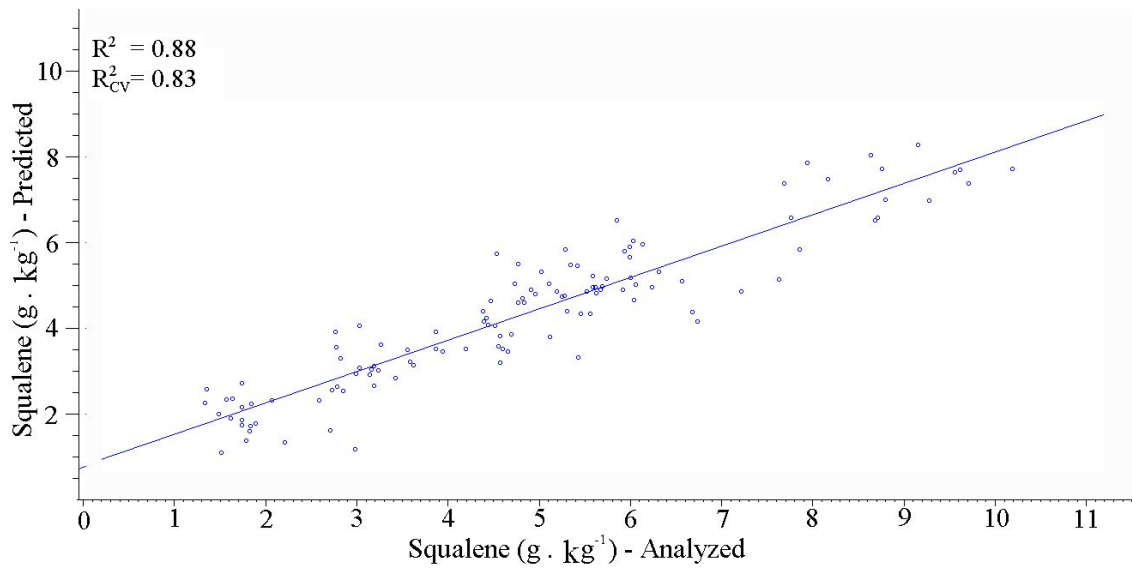


Figure 8

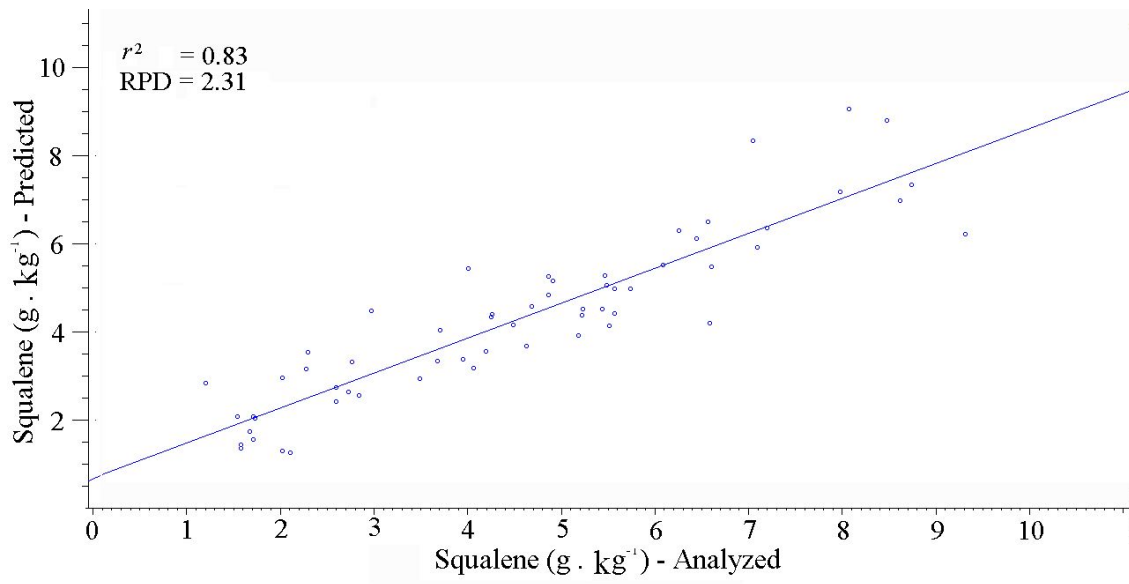




Table 1

<b>N</b>	<b><math>\bar{x}</math></b>	<b><math>\sigma</math></b>	<b>Range</b>
<i>Calibration</i>			
118	5.10	2.19	1.01-10.15
<i>Validation</i>			
59	4.88	2.33	1.22-10.02

Table 1. Statistics of the olive oil squalene content ( $\text{g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ ) of the calibration and external validation sets. N, sample set size;  $\bar{x}$ , mean;  $\sigma$ , standard deviation.

Table 2

	<i>Calibrations</i>		<i>External validations</i>		
	NIRS - $M_1$	VIS/NIRS - $M_2$		NIRS - $V_1$	VIS/NIRS - $V_2$
N	118	118	N	59	59
PC	6	4	SEP	1.01	1.20
$R^2$	0.86	0.76	$r^2$	0.83	0.74
$R^2_{CV}$	0.83	0.72	RPD	2.31	1.94
SEC	0.88	1.19			

Table 2. Statistics of PLS models of the olive oil squalene content

NIRS, near infrared (1100-2300 nm); VIS/NIRS, visible and near infrared (350-2500 nm);  $M_1$ , NIRS model;  $M_2$ , VIS/NIRS model;  $V_1$ , NIRS model validation;  $V_2$ , VIS/NIRS model validation; N, size; PC, principal components;  $R^2$ , squared calibration regression coefficient;  $R^2_{CV}$ , squared calibration coefficient of cross validation; SEC, standard error of calibration; SEP, standard error of performance;  $r^2$ , squared validation regression coefficient; RPD, residual predictive deviation.

Table 3

<b>Class</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Predicted</b>
HS	30	31
LS	29	28
Total	59	59

Table 3. Olive oil sorting test according to squalene content using  $M_1$  model (number of samples actual and predicted of each olive oil class).

HS, olive oil 'High squalene' (squalene  $> 5 \text{ g.kg}^{-1}$ ); LS, olive oil 'Low squalene' (squalene  $\leq 5 \text{ g.kg}^{-1}$ ).

Table S1

Nº	Olive oil class	Commercial names	Variety, blend, coupage, or acidity
1		Acanto	
2		Castillo de Canena	
3		Ñ Organic	
4		Castillo de Tabernas	
5		Melgarejo Picual	Picual
6		Spirito Santo	
7		Rincón de la Subbética	
8		La Solana 2	
9		Marqués de Griñón	
10		Románico	
11		Alma Oliva	
12		L'Estornell	Arbequina
13		Basilipo	
14		Melgarejo Arbequina	
15		La Torre	
16		La Cultivada	Hojiblanca
17		Melgarejo Hojiblanca	
18		La Española	
19		Vega Oliva	Manzanilla
20		El Lagar del Soto	Manzanilla Cacereña
21		Changlot Real	Changlot Real
22		Acrópolis	Koroneiki
23	EVOO	Supremo	Arbosana
24		Morellana	Picudo
25	Gourmet trade	De Ortegas	Cornicabra
26		Melgarejo Frantoio	Frantoio
27		Oleo Aureo	Pico Limón
28		Duque de Baena	Undefined
29		Almenara Premium	Undefined
30		Molino de Gines	Undefined
31		Acanto + Supremo	
32		Spirito Santo + Rincón de la Subbética	
33		Spirito Santo + La Solana 2	Picual blend (½+½)
34		Castillo de Canena + La Torre	
35		Castillo de Tabernas + Castillo Canena	
36		L'Estornell +Alma Oliva	
37		L'Estornell + Basilipo	
38		L'Estornell + Melgarejo Arbequina	Arbequina blend (½+½)
39		L'Estornell + Románico	
40		La Torre + La Cultivada	
41		La Torre + Melgarejo Hojiblanca	Hojiblanca blend (½+½)
42		La Cultivada + Melgarejo Hojiblanca	
43		La Española + Vega OLiva	Manzanilla blend (½+½)
44		El Lagar del Soto + La Española	Manzanilla blend (½+½)
45		Núñez de Prado + Acrópolis	Picual+Picuda+Hojiblanca+Manzanilla

46		Changlot Real + Acrópolis	Changlot Real + Koroneiki ( $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$ )
47		Melgarejo Frantoio + Oleo Aureo	Frantoio + Pico Limón( $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$ )
48		Molino de Gines + Almenara	Undefined ( $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$ )
49		Morellana + Melgarejo	Picudo + undefined ( $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$ )
50		De Ortegas + Oleo Aureo	Cornicabra + Pico Limón ( $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{2}$ )
51		Núñez de Prado	Picual, Picuda, and Hojiblanca
52		Melgarejo Coupage	Coupage (undefined)
53		La Masía	
54		Carrefour	
55		La Española	Undefined
56		Carrefour Picual	
57	EVOO	5 Aceitunas	
58-62		La Masía, Carrefour, La Española, Carrefour Picual and 5 Aceitunas in different proportions	Blends
63-76	EVOO <i>Industry</i> (In bulk)	Undefined	Undefined
77-101	VOO <i>Industry</i> (In bulk)	Undefined	Undefined
102-142		Alcampo	Acidity $\leq$ 0.4
		Alcampo	Acidity $\leq$ 1.0
		Abaco	Acidity $\leq$ 0.4
	OO	Abaco	Acidity $\leq$ 1.0
		Ybarra	Acidity $\leq$ 0.4
		Alcampo, Abaco and Ybarra in different proportions	Blends
143-156	LOO <i>Industry</i> (In bulk)	Undefined	Undefined
157-180	POO	5 Aceitunas Capicua (1 s) Capicua (2 s) La Masia (1 s) La Masia (2 s)	Undefined
		5 Aceitunas, Capicua (1 s), Capicua (2 s), La Masia (1 s) and La Masia (2 s). In different proportions.	Blends

Table S1. Characteristics of the olive oil samples.

EVOO, extra virgin olive oil; VOO, virgin olive oil; OO, olive oil; LOO; lampante olive oil; POO, pomace olive oil; s, samples.