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1 **Application of the differential colorimetry and polyphenolic profile to the**
2 **evaluation of the chromatic quality of Tempranillo red wines elaborated in warm**
3 **climate. Influence of the presence of oak wood chips during fermentation**

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25 **ABSTRACT**

26 The effect of adding American oak wood chips during fermentation on
27 Tempranillo red wines elaborates in a warm climate has been studied. Our
28 attention was focused on the tristimulus colorimetry, differential colorimetry and
29 phenolic compounds related to wine colour. This technique was applied as an
30 oenological alternative to the conventional winemaking for avoiding the
31 common fall of colour of red wines elaborated in warm climates. The addition of
32 oak wood chips promoted the colour enhancement and stabilisation, producing
33 wines with a notably darker colour and with more bluish tonality. This fact was
34 also related to the significantly higher content of some phenolic compounds. On
35 the basis of the results, it could be affirmed that the addition of oak wood chips
36 during fermentation induced visually perceptible colour changes (by the analysis
37 of ΔE^*_{ab} , $\% \Delta^2 L$, $\% \Delta^2 C$ and $\% \Delta^2 H$), mainly in a quantitative way, and also a
38 lower percentage of diminution of colour.

39 **KEYWORDS:** Differential colorimetry; polyphenolic compounds; American oak wood
40 chips; Tempranillo red wine; warm climate.

41

42 1. INTRODUCTION

43 Phenolic compounds are the main chemical substances responsible for the quality of the
44 red wines, with regard to the colour, astringency and bitterness. Anthocyanins,
45 flavonols, flavan-3-ols and polymeric compounds play an important role on these
46 sensory characteristics (Robichaud & Noble, 1990; Sarni-Manchado, Cheynier, &
47 Moutounet, 1999). The anthocyanins extracted from the solid parts of the grape (mainly
48 skin) provide the red wine colour, whereas the presence of other compounds (the so-
49 called copigments), normally colourless, allow improving the colour stabilization of
50 aged wines (Pérez-Magariño & González-San José, 2004) by means of copigmentation
51 reactions, which are covalent interactions between anthocyanins and copigments, giving
52 rise polymeric pigments (Ribéreau-Gayón, Dubourdieu, Donéche, & Lonvaud, 2003).
53 Thus, the content of anthocyanins significantly decreases during ageing, contrarily to
54 that observed for polymeric pigments.

55 In warm regions, the stressful climate conditions make difficult to obtain high quality
56 red wines, with high intensity and stable colour. This fact normally occurred since the
57 phenolic maturity does not coincide with the technological (sugars) maturity of the
58 grapes, and so, at the moment of harvesting different levels of both phenolic and sugar
59 maturity exist (López, Sánchez, Díaz, Ramírez, & Morales, 2007; Mori, Sugaya, &
60 Gemma, 2005), so that is the grapes have high sugar content but phenolics unripe. Thus,
61 seeds normally remain unripened while the optimal maturity of skins and pulp is
62 reached. Wines made from these grapes, low in pigments and cofactors, are not able to
63 form much copigmentation in the first steps of the winemaking process (Boulton, 2001)
64 and as a result, the colour stabilisation does not correctly develop and, after several
65 months of storage both in bottle or barrels, fall of colour normally occurred. Thus, in
66 these warm regions the seed are normally scarce in tannins, so an extra contribution of

67 tannins could be necessary to reach colour stabilisation, and hence the ageing period
68 could be long lasting.

69 Several authors have studied how colour stabilisation was increased by the addition of
70 tannins, both derived from grape and wood (Bautista-Ortín, Martínez-Cutillas, Ros-
71 García, López-Roca, & Gómez-Plaza, 2005; Vivas & Glories, 1996; Zamora, 2003). In
72 particular, phenolics extracted from wood have been described as compounds having
73 great influence on the colour, astringency and bitterness of the wine. They are also
74 involved in changes that take place during ageing (Del Alamo, Bernal, & Gomez-
75 Cordoves, 2000). The high variety of phenolic compounds present in wood, such as
76 benzoic and cinnamic compounds, and ellagitanins, among others, has been studied in a
77 large extent regardless of the regions and raw materials employed (Fernández De
78 Simón, Cadahía, Conde, & García-Vallejo, 1996, 1999; Mämmelä, Savolainen,
79 Lindroos, Kangas, & Vartiainen, 2000; Sanz, de Simón, Cadahía, Esteruelas, Muñoz,
80 Hernández, et al., 2012). In this sense, several authors have demonstrated that cinnamic
81 acids (such as caffeic and coumaric acids) play an important role in the copigmentation
82 reactions with the anthocyanins - , & Boulton, 2001), being
83 described colour enhancements at 520 nm (Jurd & Asen, 1966).

84 Currently, the use of wood chips have been widely used in winemaking as alternative
85 system to the classic ageing, mainly because barrels take up a lot of space in the winery,
86 their lifetime is not too long and the elaboration of aged wines is quite expensive. The
87 use of chips in winemaking is a legal practice in EU countries since 2006, when EU
88 approved the use of wood chips come exclusively from the *Quercus* genus
89 (Commission Regulation (EC), 2006). The use of oak wood chips as alternative of
90 barrels, and their effect on phenolic compounds and colour characteristics have been
91 widely studied. However, their addition before alcoholic fermentation and the study on

92 the stabilisation of the colour have been scarcely studied, and even less as alternative in
93 warm climate vinifications. Among those research studies, Gómez García-Carpintero,
94 Gómez Gallego, Sánchez-Palomo, and González Viñas (2012), Rodríguez-Bencomo,
95 Ortega-Heras, and Pérez-Magariño (2009), and Soto Vázquez, Río Segade, and Orriols
96 Fernández (2010)) studied the effect of the pre-fermentative addition of oak wood chips
97 on phenolic composition and chromatic characteristics, and volatile fraction,
98 respectively. However, the addition of oak chips did not favour the reactions involved in
99 anthocyanin stabilisation neither nor in colour increase in bottled wines, suggesting that
100 this technique could be useful for the elaboration of young red wines.

101 Therefore, with the objective of improving the colour stabilisation of red wines from
102 grapes grown in a warm climate, the main goal of this work was to study the effect of
103 adding oak wood chips during fermentation. The study was performed on red wine
104 made from Tempranillo grape variety, one of the most important red grape cultivars
105 grown in Spain. To date, the addition of oak wood chips during the
106 fermentation/maceration stage has been scarcely studied, even less regarding the effect
107 on colour in relation to a considerable number of phenolics studied. Thus, our interest
108 was focused on the study of phenolic composition (anthocyanins, flavonols, flavan-3-
109 ols, hydroxycinnamic acid derivatives and benzoic compounds), chromatic
110 characteristics by applying differential colorimetry.

111 **2. MATERIAL AND METHODS**

112 **2.1. Winemaking**

113 Around 300 kg of grapes of *Vitis vinifera* cv. Tempranillo cultivated in “Condado de
114 Huelva” Designation of Origin, in south-western Spain, were harvested at their optimal
115 ripening stage and in good sanitary conditions. After the grapes were destemmed and
116 crushed, the must was distributed in twelve stainless steel tanks of 220 l. Six tanks were

117 submitted to the addition of 3 g/l of American oak (*Quercus alba*) wood medium-
118 toasted chips of 1 cm² average size (Tonelería Martín y Vázquez, Logroño, Spain) to the
119 must, together with skins, and the other six tanks contained untreated, control wine. For
120 all wines, alcoholic fermentation was spontaneously developed. Skin maceration was
121 developed, manually punching down each tank once a day during 8 days. Subsequently,
122 the malolactic fermentation was induced by inoculation of *Oenococcus Oeni* lactic acid
123 bacteria (>10¹⁰ CFU *O. oeni*/ml, VINIFERM Oe 104, Agrovin, Spain) at the rate of 14
124 ml/hl at the end of alcoholic fermentation. This second fermentation ended in three
125 weeks, which was confirmed by HPLC determination of malic acid and lactic acid
126 contents, and the wines were then racked. Experiments were carried out in triplicate.

127 **2.2 Oenological Parameters**

128 The conventional oenological parameters (pH, total and volatile acidity, free and total
129 SO₂, malic and lactic acids and reducing sugars) were performed according to the
130 Official Methods established by European Union (UE, 2003).

131 **2.3. Spectrophotometric colour measurement**

132 The whole visible spectrum (380-770 nm) was recorded at constant intervals ($\Delta\lambda=2$ nm)
133 with a Hewlett-Packard UV-vis HP8452 spectrophotometer (Palo Alto, CA), using 2
134 mm path length glass cells and distilled water as a reference. The CIELAB parameters
135 (L^* , a^* , b^* , C^*_{ab} , and h_{ab}) were determined by using the original software CromaLab©
136 (Heredia, Álvarez, González-Miret, & Ramírez, 2004), following the Commission
137 Internationale de L'Eclairage's, CIE, recommendations (CIE, 1986): the CIE 1964 10°
138 Standard Observer and the CIE Standard Illuminant D65. Euclidean distance between
139 two points in the three-dimensional space define by L^* , a^* , and b^* were used for
140 calculating colour differences (ΔE^*_{ab}): $\Delta E^*_{ab} = [(\Delta L^*)^2 + (\Delta a^*)^2 + (\Delta b^*)^2]^{1/2}$.

141 The percentage contributions of copigmented anthocyanins to the total wine colour at
142 pH 3.6 were determined following the method proposed by Boulton (1996). Wine
143 samples were first adjusted to pH 3.6.

144 ***2.4. HPLC-DAD analysis of phenolic compounds***

145 HPLC separation, identification and quantification of phenolic compounds were
146 performed in an Agilent 1200 chromatographic system equipped with a quaternary
147 pump, an UV-vis diode-array detector, an automatic injector, and ChemStation software
148 (Palo Alto, CA). Prior direct injection, the samples were filtered through a 0.45 µm
149 Nylon filter (E0034, Análisis Vínicos, Spain). All analyses were made in triplicate.

150 The anthocyanin identification was carried out following the method proposed by
151 Heredia et al. (2010). Anthocyanins were separated using a Zorbax C18 column (250 x
152 4.6mm, 5 µm particle size) maintained at 38 °C. Acetonitrile-formic acid-water
153 (3:10:87) as solvent A and acetonitrile-formic acid-water (50:10:40) as solvent B were
154 used. The elution profile was as follows: 0-10 min 94% A-6% B; 10-15 min 70%A-30%
155 B; 15-25 min 60%A-40%B; 25-35 min 55%A-45%B; 35-40 min50%A-50%B; 40-42
156 min 40%A-60% B; 42-43 min 94% A-6% B. The flow rate was 0.8 mL/min, and the
157 injection volume was 50 µl. UV-Vis spectra were recorded from 200 to 800 nm with a
158 bandwidth of 2.0 nm. The quantification was made at 525 nm by comparing the areas
159 and the retention times with the malvidin 3-glucoside standard, and anthocyanin
160 concentration was expressed as mg/l.

161 The method used for the identification of the phenolic compounds (flavan-3-ols,
162 flavonols, hydroxycinnamic acid derivatives and other low molecular weight phenolic
163 compounds), was a modification of the method described by Castillo-Muñoz, Gómez-
164 Alonso, García-Romero, and Hermosín-Gutiérrez (2007). These individual phenolic
165 compounds were separated using a Zorbax C18 column (250 x 4.6mm, 5 µm particle

166 size) maintained at 40 °C. Acetonitrile-formic acid-water (3:10:87) as solvent A and
167 acetonitrile-formic acid-water (50:10:40) as solvent B were used. The elution profile
168 was as follows: 0-5 min 94% A-6% B; 5-10 min 89%A-11% B; 10-15 min 80%A-
169 20%B; 15-20 min 77%A-23%B; 20-25 min 74%A-26%B; 25-30 min 60%A-40% B;
170 30-35 min 50%A-50% B; 35-38 min 40%A-60%B; 38-46 min 94%A-6%B. The flow
171 rate was 0.63 ml/min, and the injection volume was 50 µl. UV-Vis spectra were
172 recorded from 200 to 800 nm with a bandwidth of 2.0 nm. The quantification was made
173 at 280, 320 and 360 nm by comparing the areas and the retention times with the gallic
174 acid, caffeic acid, and quercetin standards, respectively. Phenolic compounds
175 concentration was expressed as mg/l. Total anthocyanins, flavonols and flavan-3-ols
176 were calculated as sum of individual phenolic compounds identified by HPLC. Folin-
177 Ciocalteau reagent was used for the analysis of total phenolics (Singleton & Rossi,
178 1965).

179 **2.5. Statistical Analysis**

180 Statistical analysis was carried out by using Statistica version 8.0 software (Statistica,
181 2007). Univariate analysis of variance (Tukey test) was applied to discriminate among
182 the means of chemical data and by pairs of control wines and wines with addition of oak
183 wood chips for each studied point. Moreover, multivariate analysis of data (linear
184 discriminant analysis, LDA) was performed in order to classify wine samples according
185 to phenolic compounds and colour parameters. This method was applied to the set of
186 data consisting of 72 rows (wine samples) and 29 columns (individual phenolic
187 compounds and colorimetric variables).

188 **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

189 The effect of the fermentative addition of oak wood chips on the colour (by tristimulus
190 colorimetry), differential colorimetry and polyphenolic composition of Tempranillo red

191 wines elaborated in warm climate has been studied. The study of the changes in the
192 colour and polyphenols occurring along different stages of the vinification process is
193 critical to establish the moment at which the applied technique have a greater impact in
194 the quality of the wines. Therefore, an exhaustive follow-up of the alcoholic
195 fermentation process and subsequent stabilisation stage allows us to acquire valuable
196 information on the changes in colour of the wines and polyphenolic compounds. In this
197 sense, several points were considered: the initial point or grape crushing (day 0),
198 different points of the skin-maceration stage (days 2, 4, 6 and 8) and of the stabilisation
199 stage (days 15, 20, 30, 45, 50 and 60).

200 ***3.1. Conventional Analytical Data***

201 The general composition of control wines (CW) and wines with the addition of oak
202 wood chips (OW) for each tank was determined. For both wines, the pH values were
203 similar and volatile acidity values were below the limit (1.2 g/L) established by EU. The
204 low values of reducing sugars (between 2-3 g/L) denoted the correct development of the
205 alcoholic fermentation. Moreover, the values of malic and lactic acids evidenced the
206 correct development of the malolactic fermentation (malic acid < 0.1; lactic acid around
207 2.2 g/L). Adequate values of free and total SO₂ were obtained for both wines (around 40
208 and 160 mg/L of free and total SO₂, respectively).

209 ***3.2. Identification of Polyphenolic Compounds***

210 In this research, several types of polyphenolic compounds have been identified, like
211 benzoic acids, hydroxycinnamic acid derivatives, flavan-3-ols, flavonols and
212 anthocyanins. The hydroxycinnamic acid and benzoic acid derivatives and flavan-3-ols
213 compounds identified were the expected, well-known, compounds usually present in
214 wine (Gómez-Alonso, García-Romero, & Hermosín-Gutiérrez, 2007). Among the
215 flavonols, conjugated (3-glycosides) forms of myricetin, quercetin, isorhamnetin,

216 syringetin and laricitrin were identified (Castillo-Muñoz, Gómez-Alonso, García-
217 Romero, Gómez, Velders, & Hermosín-Gutiérrez, 2009; Castillo-Muñoz, Gómez-
218 Alonso, García-Romero, & Hermosín-Gutiérrez, 2007). Native grape anthocyanins were
219 detected in Tempranillo red wines (Cejudo-Bastante, Pérez-Coello, & Hermosín-
220 Gutiérrez, 2011; Gordillo, López-Infante, Ramírez-Pérez, González-Miret, & Heredia,
221 2010), including non-acylated, acetylated and *p*-coumarylated anthocyanins of the five
222 expected anthocyanidins (delphinidin, cyanidin, petunidin, peonidin and malvidin).

223 **3.3. Pigment evolution**

224 Regardless of the addition of oak wood chips, the two Tempranillo red wines showed
225 the same polyphenolic profile. However, quantitatively, the results showed that the fact
226 of adding oak wood chips during fermentation provoked a positive effect on the content
227 of anthocyanins, flavonols and phenolic acids. That fact was observed during the first
228 steps of the stabilisation stage.

229 Figure 1 showed the evolution of the content of anthocyanins (as sum of individual
230 anthocyanins by HPLC) and total phenols (by Folin Ciocalteu) in different stages of
231 the vinification process: in must, during fermentation and along the stabilisation stage.
232 As expected since both wines were elaborated under the same extraction conditions
233 (temperature and time), it can be observed that control wines (CW) and wines derived
234 from the addition of oak wood chips (OW) showed the same phenolic pattern evolution:
235 the anthocyanic and total polyphenolic contents appreciably increased during
236 fermentation/maceration, and remains almost constant or slightly decreased during the
237 time of stabilisation studied. While the anthocyanins content was similar for both wines
238 (CW and OW), as can be seen in Figure 1, the total phenols content was higher for OW
239 wine, especially during the maceration stage where the chips transfer their compounds.

240 In order to know the significant differences between both wines, the mean value of all
241 parameters studied was calculated (Table 1), and Tukey test was applied. As can be
242 seen, higher mean contents of all the chemical compounds determined (both individual
243 and total contents) were found for OW wines. Differences were significant ($p < 0.05$) for
244 total phenols (CW=1546.6 mg/L versus OW=2364.2 mg/L), total phenolic acids
245 (CW=139.9 mg/L versus OW=184.0 mg/L) and total flavonols (CW=23.3 mg/L versus
246 OW=34.7 mg/L) contents. Also, the addition of oak wood chips lead to significant
247 ($p < 0.05$) higher content of some individual phenols such as gallic acid, (-)-epicatechin
248 and the glucuronide and glucoside derivatives of myricetin. **These increases could be**
249 **probably due to the release of those compounds (benzoic acids, flavan-3-ols and**
250 **flavonols) from the wood, in agreement with the high content previously described in**
251 **different woods (Alañón, Castro-Vázquez, Díaz-Maroto, Gordon, & Pérez-Coello,**
252 **2011; Alañón, Schumacher, Castro-Vázquez, Díaz-Maroto, Hermosín-Gutiérrez, &**
253 **Pérez-Coello, 2013). In the case of anthocyanins, the total content was widely higher for**
254 **the wines macerated with oak chips (541.95 mg/L for CW and 627.73 mg/L for OW as**
255 **average values), although these differences were not significant in any individual**
256 **anthocyanins identified. The higher levels of anthocyanins and flavonols, and also the**
257 **higher degree of copigmentation found in wines macerated with oak chips (Table 1)**
258 **could be maybe consequence of the ellagitannin protective effect (Cano-López, López-**
259 **Roca, Pardo-Minguez, & Gómez Plaza, 2010), presented those in a large extent in**
260 **wood.**

261 **3.4. Chromatic evolution**

262 The evolution of the CIELAB colour parameters (L^* , C^*_{ab} and h_{ab}) in the course of the
263 vinification process for control wines (CW) and wines with the addition of oak wood
264 chips (OW) was evaluated (Figure 2). Both wines followed similar evolutions during

265 time, i.e., the values of lightness and hue notably decreased after skin-maceration stage
266 (by 35% and 75°, respectively). Later, it was observed a slightly increased during the
267 stabilisation stage. These changes in colour characteristics could be related to the
268 stabilisation by progressive displacement of copigmentation complexes into polymeric
269 pigments, in agreement with other authors (Gao, Girard, Mazza, & Reynolds, 1997;
270 Gordillo, López-Infante, Ramírez-Pérez, González-Miret, & Heredia, 2010). A contrary
271 evolution was observed for chroma, which increased by 85% after skin-maceration.
272 Despite the colour difference provoked as a consequence of the addition of chips was
273 not appreciable during fermentation and skin-maceration, significant differences were
274 observed during the stabilisation stage (Figure 2) when Tukey test was applied by pairs.
275 Wines with the addition of oak wood chips showed a perceptible and significant
276 ($p < 0.05$) darker colour (lower values of lightness, L^* ; 66.2 against 70.8 units CIELAB)
277 and a higher chromatic intensity (higher values of chroma, C^*_{ab} ; 30.9 against 26.2 units
278 CIELAB), and those wines showed slightly more bluish tonalities (lower values of hue,
279 h_{ab} ; -1.60° against 0.47°). These results were in agreement with Soto Vázquez, Río
280 Segade, and Orriols Fernández (2010), who demonstrated that chroma in wines with the
281 pre-fermentative addition of oak wood chips significantly increased after fermentation
282 and bottling. The fact that this tonalities were kept for a longer time in OW could be
283 related to the higher amounts of bluish forms of anthocyanins (glucosides and 3-acetyl-
284 glucosides) (Heredia, Francia-Aricha, Rivas-Gonzalo, Vicario, & Santos-Buelga, 1998).
285 That fact could be clearly shown in the (a^*b^*)-colour diagram (Figure 3). The different
286 location of the wines conventionally elaborated and wines with the addition of oak
287 wood chips, during the stabilisation stage, permits to establish objectively the chromatic
288 characteristics of the wines. It is observed that CW are located in the first quadrant
289 (positive values of a^* and b^*) of the (a^*b^*)-plane, whereas OW are situated in the

290 fourth quadrant (positive values of a^* and negative values of b^*). According to this,
291 wines derived from the addition of chips had a more purple or red-bluish colour than
292 control wines. The Tukey test applied by pairs on a^* and b^* shown significant
293 differences in days 45, 50 and 60 (data not shown). Therefore, wines with the addition
294 of oak wood chips evolve in a positive way, in comparison with wines elaborated
295 conventionally. The addition of oak wood chips provoked a positive effect not only on
296 the colour density (chroma) but also on the colour stability. This fact means that, once
297 skin-maceration finished, the losses of colour density of OW was smaller (around 27%),
298 and stable during the time (lightness decreased by 8%, and hue by 2.6°). **The**
299 **improvement of wine structure by the addition of oak wood chips could be due to the**
300 **several compounds released from the wood chips (especially ellagitannins). Their**
301 **presence might favour the formation of new pigments derived from anthocyanins, that**
302 **ensure colour stability by an increase of blue hues, which in turn leads to a decrease of**
303 **the yellow ones evolution (Vivas & Glories, 1996).**

304 With the aim of evaluating the colorimetric implications of the addition of oak wood
305 chips during skin-maceration stage, the mean colour difference (ΔE^*_{ab}) among both
306 kind of wines in each studied points were calculated (Figure 4). Taking into account that
307 ΔE^*_{ab} of up to 3 CIELAB units indicates colour differences appreciable to the human
308 eyes (Martínez, Melgosa, Pérez, Hita, & Negueruela, 2001), it was confirmed that the
309 presence of oak wood chips during fermentation/maceration did not led to colour
310 differences visually appreciable between both wines ($\Delta E^*_{ab} < 3$). However, once
311 fermentative process finished and during the time of stabilisation studied (20, 30, 45, 50
312 and 60 days), the values of ΔE^*_{ab} progressively increased from 5 to 8 CIELAB units,
313 hence clearly exceeding the visual appreciation threshold. Due to the increase of colour
314 variation was visually appreciable after maceration, the role of each colour attribute

315 respect $\Delta^2E^*_{ab}$ was calculated (as percentage of the quadratic increases of lightness,
316 chroma and hue). Thus, it was proved that the addition of oak wood chips during skin-
317 maceration mainly affected to colour in a quantitative way, with similar quadratic
318 variations of lightness and chroma, and practically negligible of hue ($\% \Delta^2L = 47.4$,
319 $\% \Delta^2C = 50.3$, $\% \Delta^2H = 2.3$).

320 **3.5. Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA)**

321 Linear discriminant analysis was applied with the aim of establishing which of the
322 variables were better for discriminating among samples, and carrying out an exploratory
323 tool to uncover unknown trends in the data. A forward stepwise LDA was performed to
324 differentiate the two sample groups (control wines and wines with the addition of oak
325 wood chips), on the basis of phenolic compounds and colour characteristics. Concretely,
326 the angular coordinates of the CIELAB space (L^* , C^*_{ab} and h_{ab}) and the individual
327 phenolic compounds (monomeric anthocyanins, benzoic acids, hydroxycinnamic acid
328 derivatives, flavan-3-ols and flavonols) were used as discriminant variables. The rest of
329 the colour variables were not included in the LDA in order to avoid redundant
330 information. This statistical analysis was performed according to the Wilks' λ statistic
331 to choose the descriptors that best distinguished the different wines. A F statistic is
332 computed from the partial λ values, leading to a p level. The maximum discriminatory
333 power corresponds to minimum p level values. Due to the major significant differences
334 were observed during the stabilisation stage; as previously commented only samples of
335 this stage were considered for the statistical analysis.

336 According to p -levels and F -values, flavan-3-ols ((+)-catechin and (-)-epicatechin) and
337 some flavonols (3-glucosides of isorhamnetin, laricitrin and kaempferol, and 3-
338 glucuronide of quercetin) were the variables included in the discriminant functions. In
339 addition, the colorimetric characteristic of chroma (C^*_{ab}) was also considered as

340 discriminant function. Therefore, those variables were able to discriminate between both
341 groups of samples (CW and OW) with high levels of significance ($p<0.001$).

342 According to the classification functions, control wine samples were clearly
343 differentiated from those belonged to wines with the addition of oak wood chips (Figure
344 5). 95.8% of the samples were correctly assigned. Moreover, the percentage of
345 prediction was 100% for CW samples and 91.7% for OW samples.

346 **4. CONCLUSIONS**

347 It can be concluded that, a priori, the presence of oak wood chips during fermentation
348 and skin-maceration lead to an increase of the content of phenolics that improves the
349 chemical characteristics of the wines for colour stabilisation. Thus, adding oak chips
350 could represent a useful oenological alternative to prevent the excessive and typical loss
351 of pigments in wines obtained from grapes cultivated in warm climates. As a
352 consequence, an enhancement and stabilisation of the colour are produced and they will
353 be long lasting, increasing in value the wines cultivated in those broad regions of warm
354 climate. However, in order to check the stabilisation of the colour and reflect
355 commercial storage conditions, it would be interesting to carry out further studies about
356 storage of several months or years.

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1 FIGURE CAPTIONS

2 **Fig. 1.** Total anthocyanin (a) and total phenols (b) contents evolution during vinification
3 in control wines (CW) and wines with the addition of oak wood chips (OW).

4 **Fig. 2.** Evolution of CIELAB parameters during vinification: (a), (b) and (c). For each
5 day, asterisks denote significant differences ($p < 0.05$), according to Tukey test, between
6 control wines (CW) and wines with the addition of oak wood chips (OW).

7 **Fig. 3.** CIELAB colour space (a^*b^*)-plane for control wines (CW) and wines with the
8 addition of oak wood chips (OW) during stabilisation stage.

9 **Fig. 4.** Colour variation (ΔE^*_{ab}) between control wines (CW) and wines with the
10 addition of oak wood chips (OW) during vinification.

11 **Fig. 5.** Scatterplot of the canonical variate obtained by LDA: control wines (CW) and
12 wines with the addition of oak wood chips (OW) during the stabilisation stage.

Table 1. Mean values of concentration (mg/L) and standard deviations (n=33) for the polyphenolic compounds identified by HPLC-DAD, and the percentage of copigmentation (%CA), in control wines (CW) and wines with the addition of oak wood chips (OW).

	CW		*	OW	
	Mean	SD		Mean	SD
Total phenolics (Folin Ciocalteu)	1546.6 ±	796.94	*	2364.2 ±	736.82
Total anthocyanins	541.95 ±	170.21		627.73 ±	164.53
Total glucoside derivatives	397.10 ±	117.68		458.61 ±	120.62
Total acetate derivatives	59.91 ±	14.31		69.42 ±	15.41
Total <i>p</i> -coumaric derivatives	84.93 ±	26.19		99.69 ±	27.20
Total phenolic acids	139.92 ±	61.05	*	184.00 ±	55.44
Total flavan-3-ols	13.79 ±	8.35		16.52 ±	7.51
Total flavonols	23.26 ±	15.64	*	34.73 ±	14.28
%CA (Boulton)	21.12 ±	9.41		23.35 ±	10.03
<i>Monomeric anthocyanins</i>					
Delphinidin-3-glucoside	53.05 ±	15.8		54.74 ±	14.21
Cyanidin-3-glucoside	10.98 ±	2.2		10.04 ±	1.83
Petunidin-3-glucoside	62.57 ±	18.32		70.96 ±	18.53
Peonidin-3-glucoside	24.85 ±	5.56		25.06 ±	4.92
Malvidin-3-glucoside	255.33 ±	77.85		297.96 ±	83.44
Petunidin-3-acetyl-glucoside	15.32 ±	3.02		16.91 ±	3.07
Peonidin-3-acetyl-glucoside	9.63 ±	0.90		10.20 ±	1.12
Malvidin-3-acetyl-glucoside	36.78 ±	10.17		42.31 ±	11.52
Petunidin-3- <i>p</i> -coumaroyl-glucoside	17.62 ±	4.43		19.94 ±	4.61
Peonidin-3- <i>p</i> -coumaroyl -glucoside	11.23 ±	1.86		11.35 ±	1.99
Malvidin-3- <i>p</i> -coumaroyl -glucoside	59.19 ±	19.50		68.39 ±	20.95
<i>Benzoic acids</i>					
Gallic acid	97.89 ±	41.07	*	127.48 ±	20.15
<i>Hydroxycinnamic acid derivatives</i>					
GRP	8.10 ±	2.60		8.24 ±	2.36
<i>t</i> -caftaric acid	17.09 ±	5.80		19.29 ±	5.46
<i>t</i> -coutaric acid	29.09 ±	10.39		36.19 ±	10.19
<i>p</i> -coumaric acid	0.50 ±	0.83		1.03 ±	0.80
<i>Flavan-3-ols</i>					
(+)-catechin	21.98 ±	11.19		23.16 ±	12.46
(-)-epicatechin	6.23 ±	3.7	*	10.00 ±	4.16
		±			±
<i>Flavonols</i>					
Myricetin-3-glucuronide	1.71 ±	1.29	*	2.57 ±	1.37
Myricetin-3-glucoside	10.65 ±	6.55	*	15.05 ±	6.03
Quercetin-3-glucuronide	4.16 ±	2.49		5.60 ±	2.53
Quercetin-3-glucoside	5.38 ±	2.87		6.97 ±	2.73
Laricitrin-3-glucoside	1.86 ±	1.67		2.80 ±	1.77
Kaempferol-3-glucoside	0.27 ±	0.28		0.39 ±	0.29
Isorhamnetin-3-glucoside	0.02 ±	0.09		0.13 ±	0.34
Syringetin-3-glucoside	0.76 ±	0.75		1.21 ±	0.84

* Asterisk indicates significant difference according to Tukey test ($p < 0.05$) between control wines (CW) and wines with the addition of oak wood chips (OW); GRP, Grape Reaction Product (2-*S*-glutathionyl-caftaric acid).

Figure 1

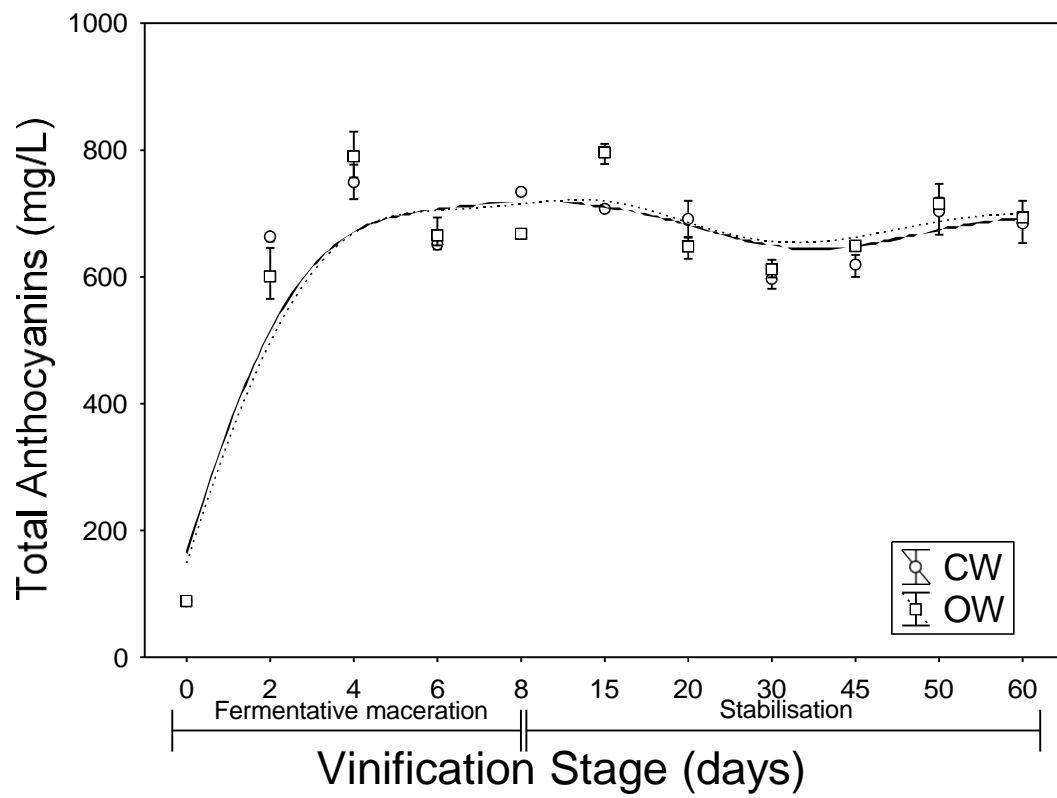


Fig. 1a

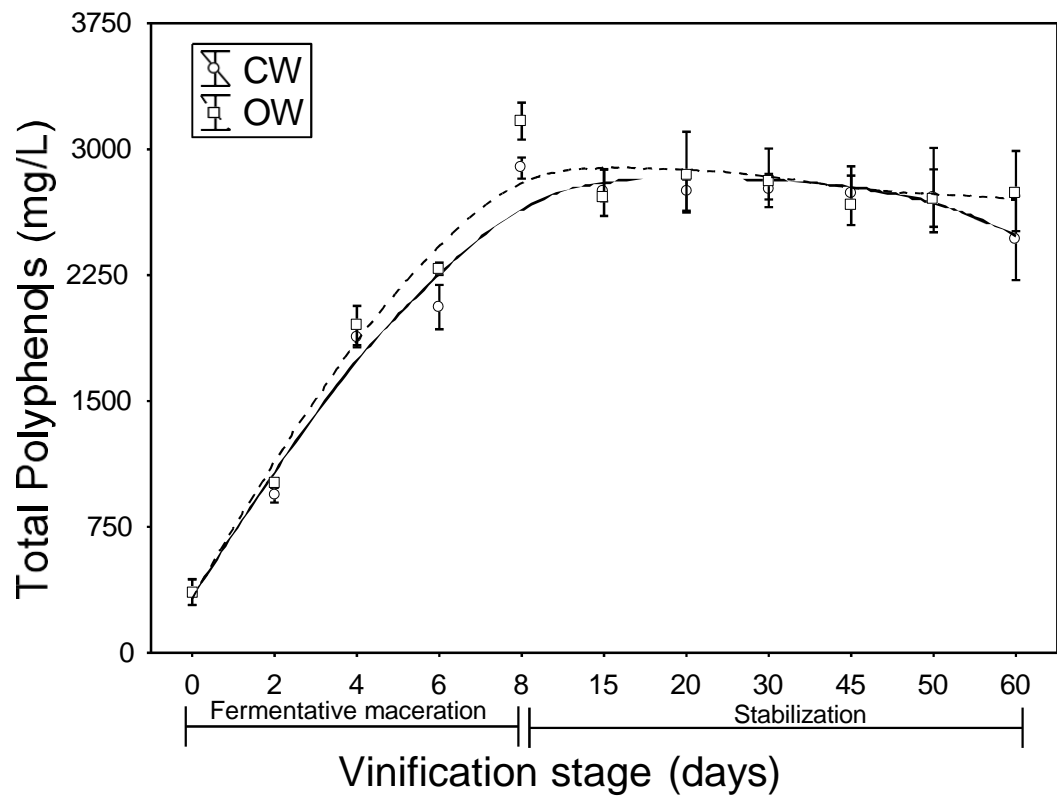


Fig. 1b

Figure 2

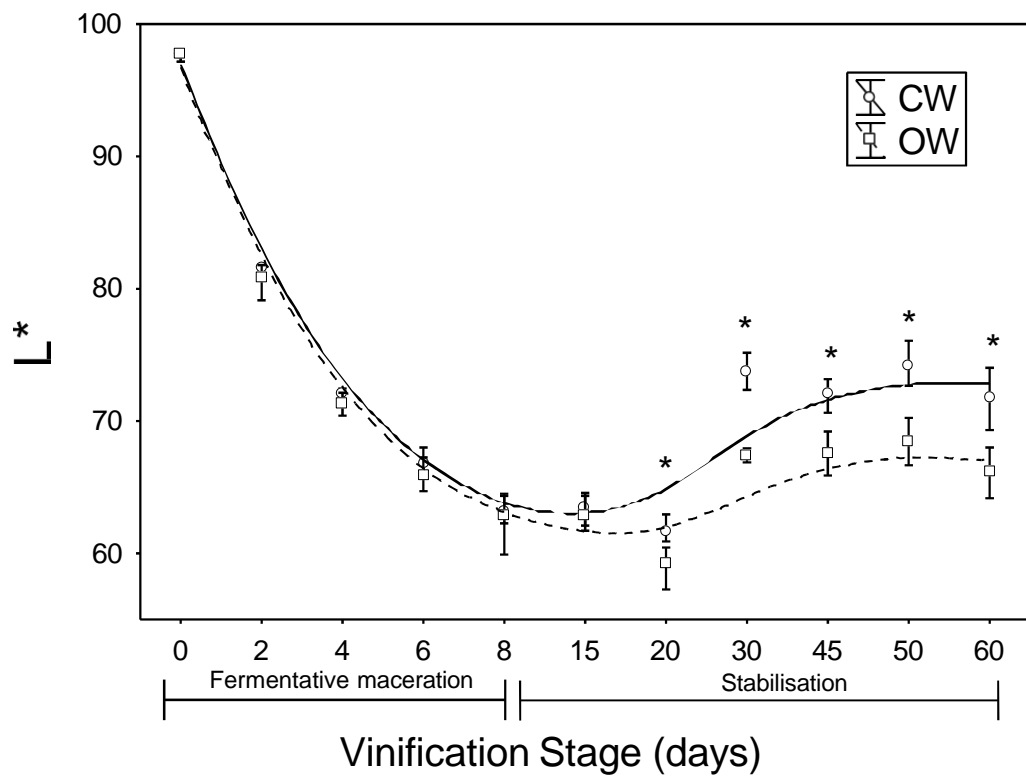


Fig. 2a

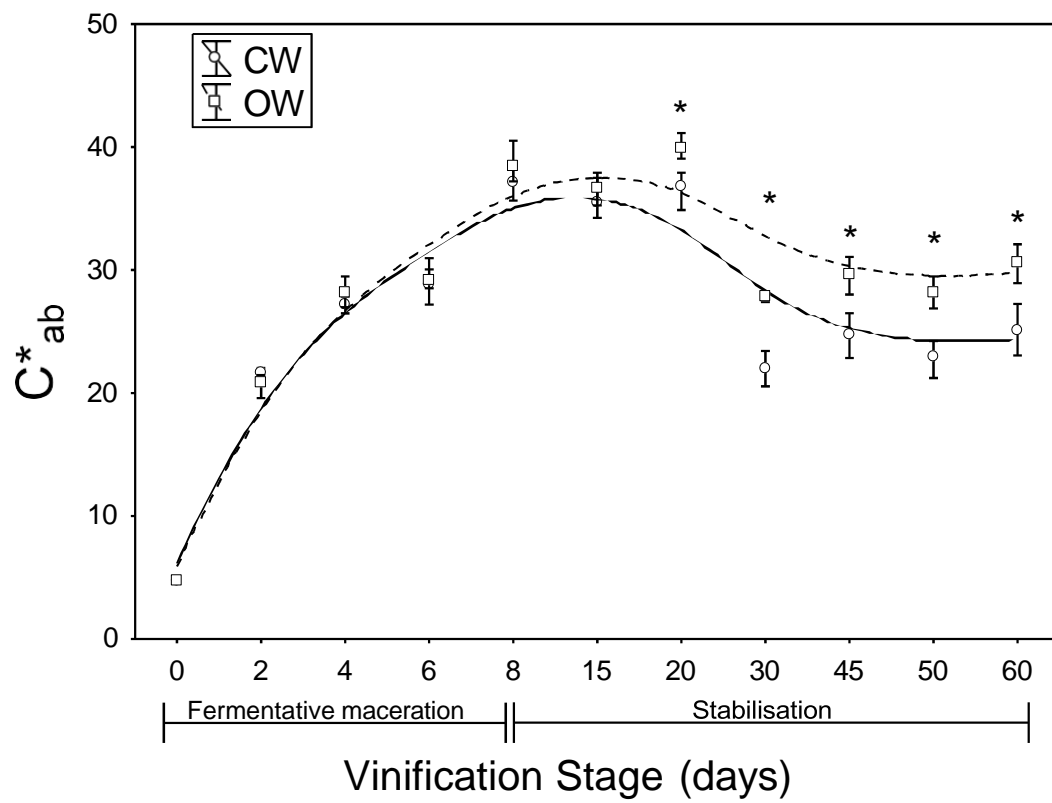


Fig. 2b

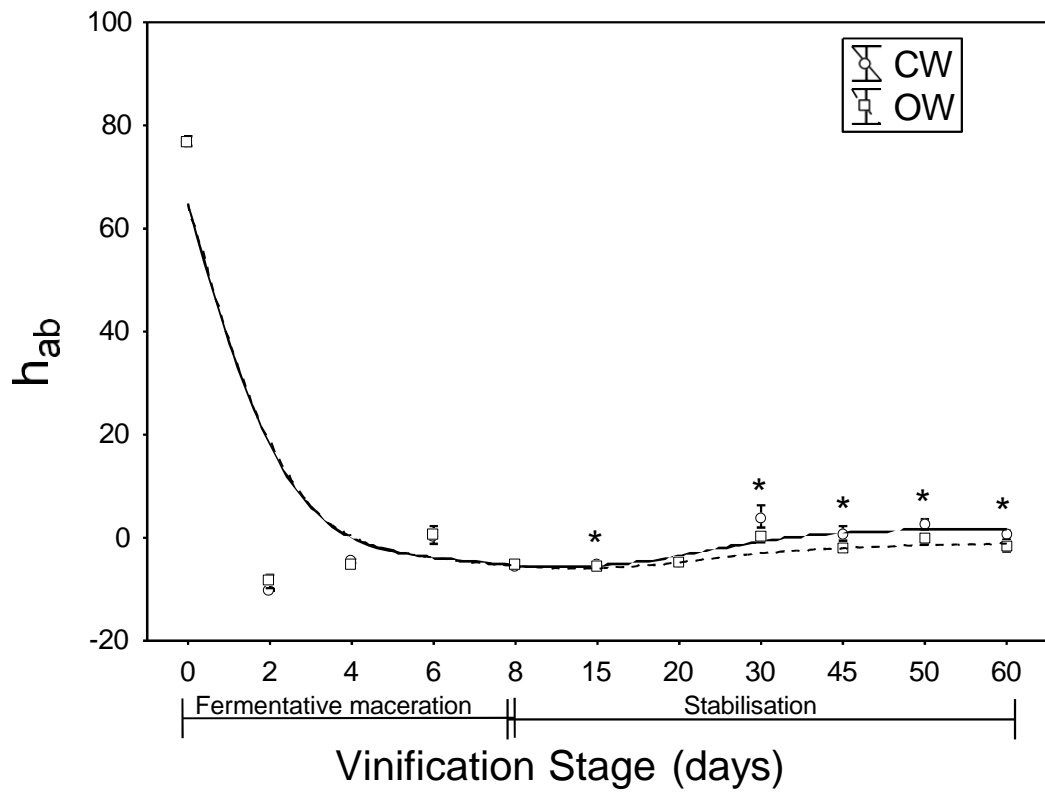


Fig. 2c

Figure 3

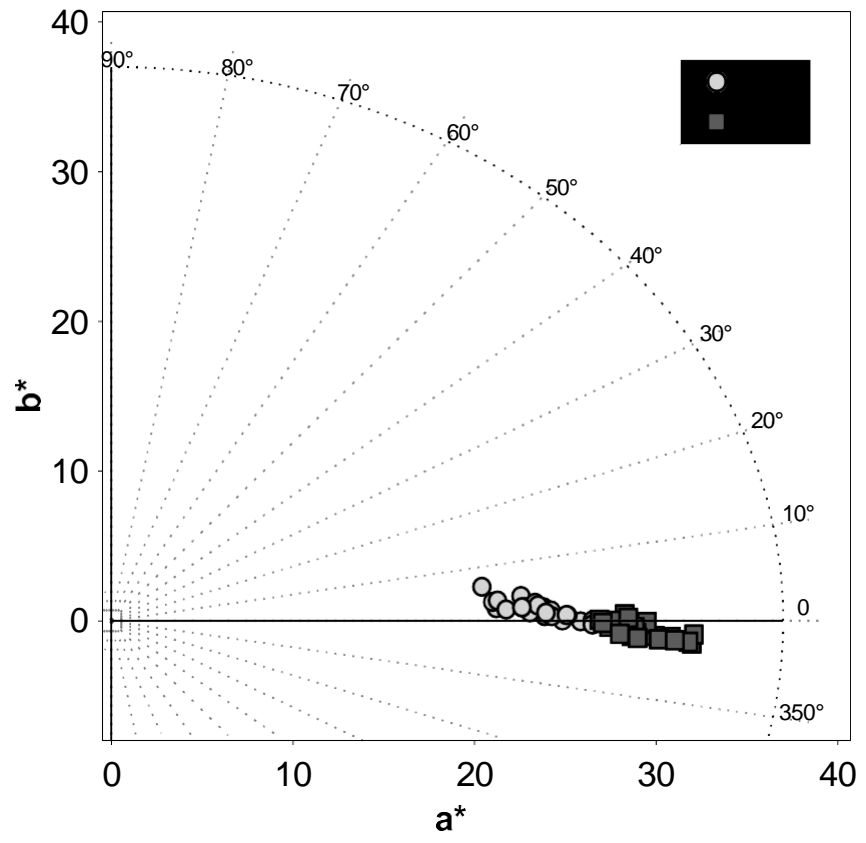


Fig. 3.

Figure 4

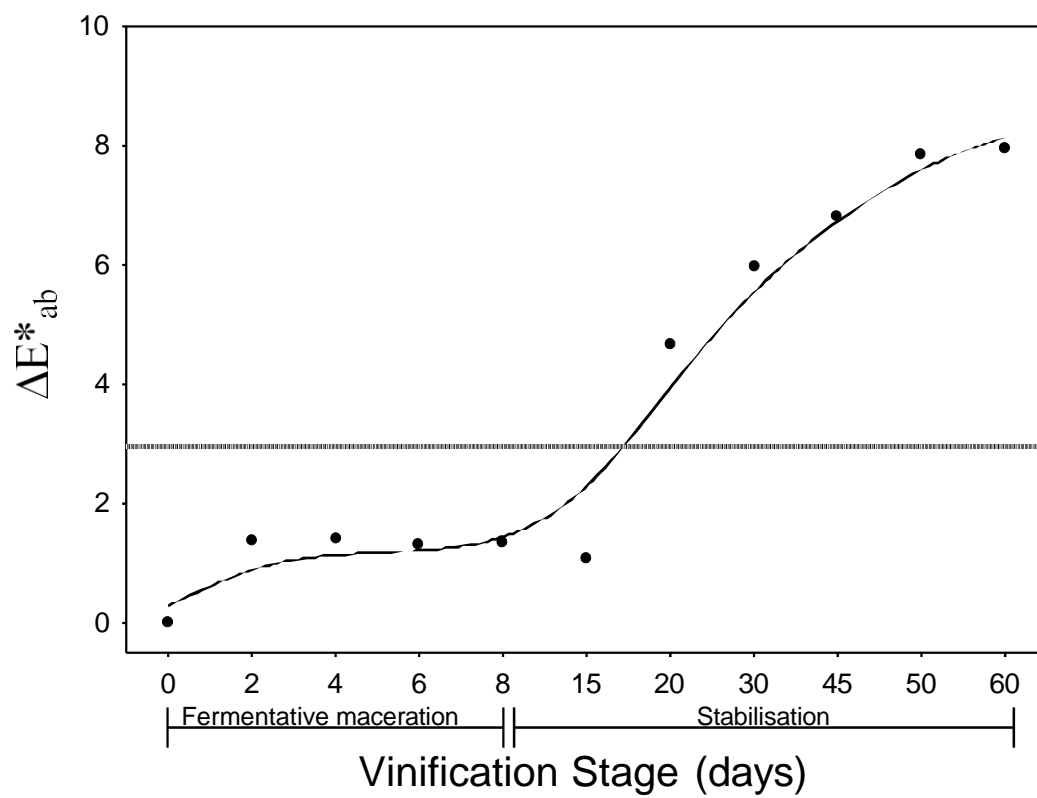


Fig. 4.

Figure 5

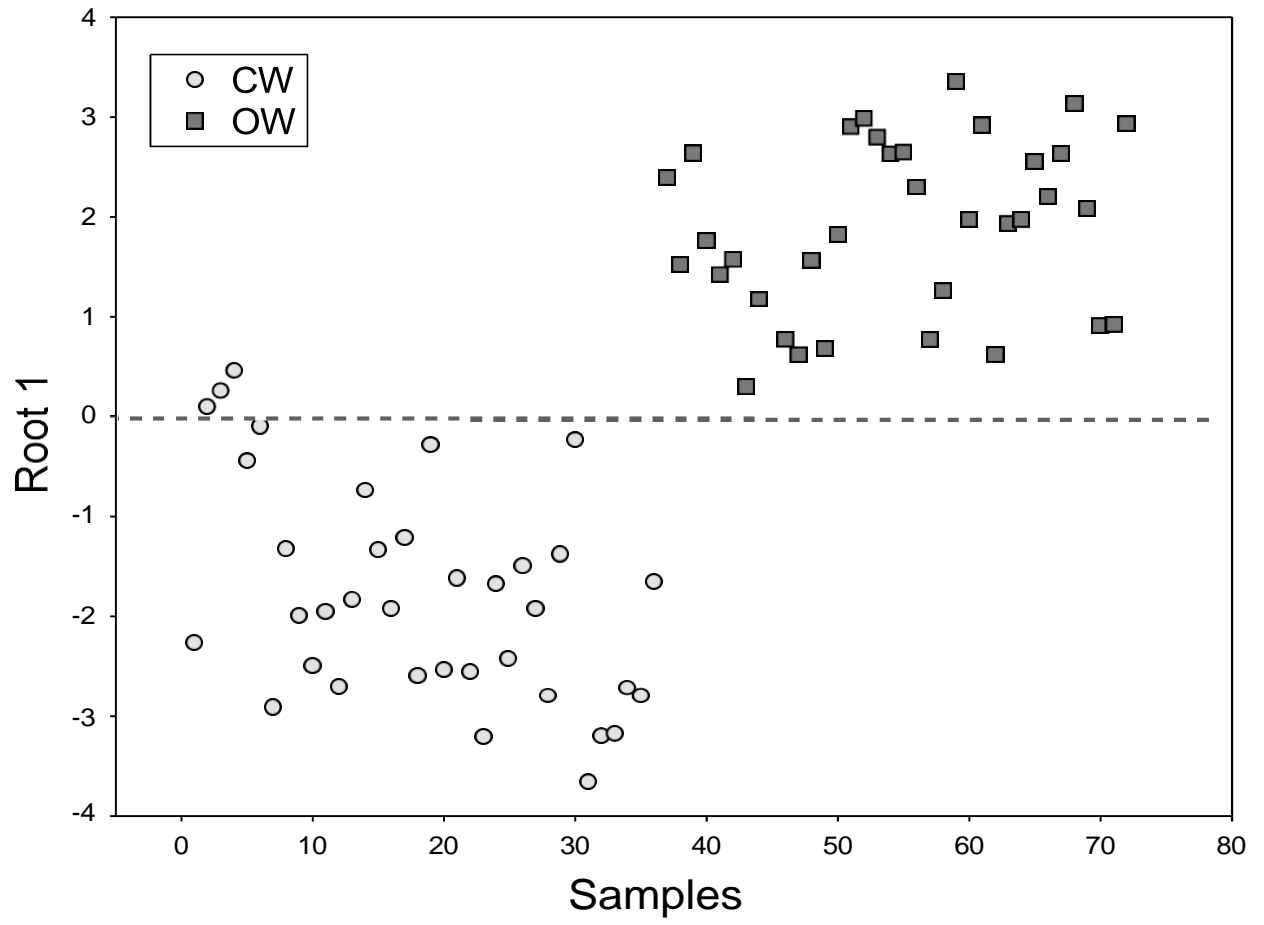


Fig. 5