



# Apport de la méthode d'analyse SNIF-NMR pour la détection des fraudes dans les produits alimentaires

**Eurofins Authenticity Competence Center**

**Nantes, France**

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**Business Development Manager**

## About Eurofins : Good to know!



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Created in Nantes - France in 1987 as a spin-off of Nantes Univ

Detection of sugar addition in wines using SNIF-NMR analysis: analytical method invented by Prof G. and M. Martin at Nantes University, the parents of Eurofins' CEO, Dr. Gilles Martin

**SNIF-NMR** is the acronym of **Site-Specific Natural Isotope Fractionation** studied by **Nuclear Magnetic Resonance**

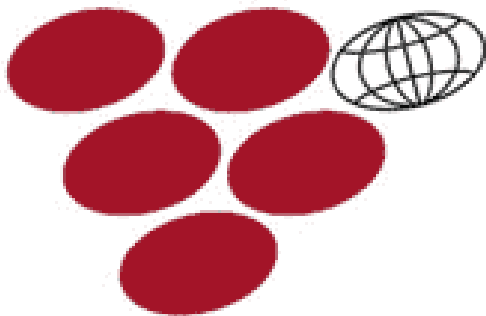
in French = **FINS-RMN**

from this comes the name of our company : Euro**FINS**!



**EC Regulation N°2676/90 determining EU methods for the analysis of wines : detecting enrichment of wines by application of SNIF-NMR**

***OIV***  
*International Organisation  
of Vine and Wine*





**Early 90's : SGF (1) has contacted Eurofins to develop the SNIF-NMR method for fruit juice authenticity testing**



**Mid 90's: SNIF-NMR parameters are listed in the AIJN CoP (2) (3) as criteria for evaluation of identity and authenticity of fruit juices**

**(1) SGF – German Fruit Juice Industry Self-Control Association**

**(2) Association of the Industry of Juices and Nectars from Fruits and vegetables of the EU**

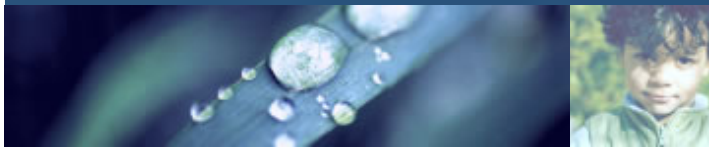
**(3) CoP = Code of Practice**

## Global leader in the bioanalytical testing market:

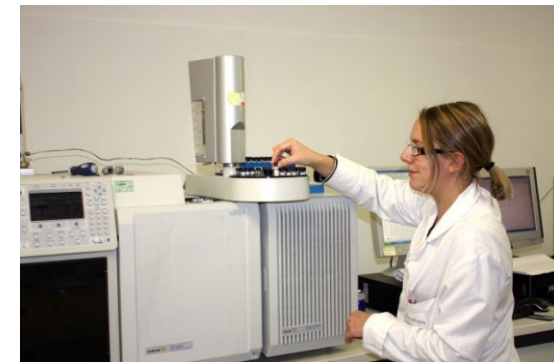
- More than **900 laboratories** with **> 61 000 employees**
- Presence in **61 countries**
- **>130,000** different analytical methods
- **>150 million assays** performed each year to establish the safety, identity, composition, authenticity, origin, traceability, and purity of biological substances and products, as well as carry out human diagnostic services.
- In-depth **Industry expertise** and rapid reaction capabilities
- Investment in **R&D** and state-of-the-art equipment



# Food integrity pioneers

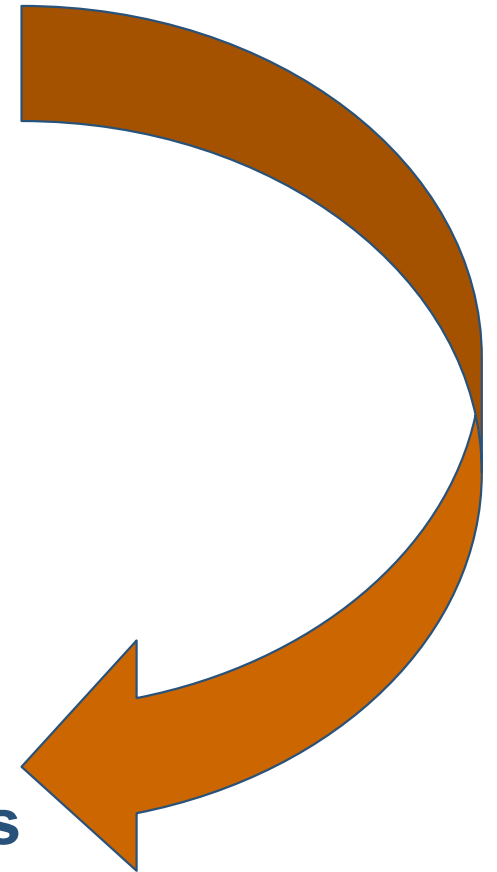


**Group authenticity competence centre** based in Nantes (France):  
Experience in food authenticity testing since 1987!



## Authenticity check requires a combination of:

- **compositional analyses**  
(wet chemistry & chromatographic methods)
- **isotopic analyses**  
(SNIF-NMR and IRMS methods)
- **DNA analyses**  
(fruits species or varieties identification)
  
- **$^1\text{H}$  NMR screening** can help to optimize costs and testing speed

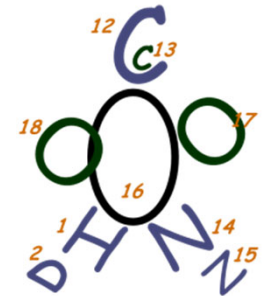




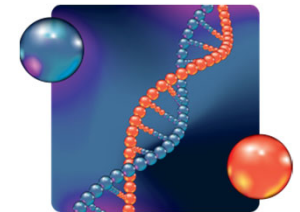
- **Chemical composition methods (e.g. chromatography)**
  - Identification & quantification of defined compounds



- **Stable isotopes**
  - Molecules origin



- **Molecular Biology**
  - Identification of species, varieties, etc.

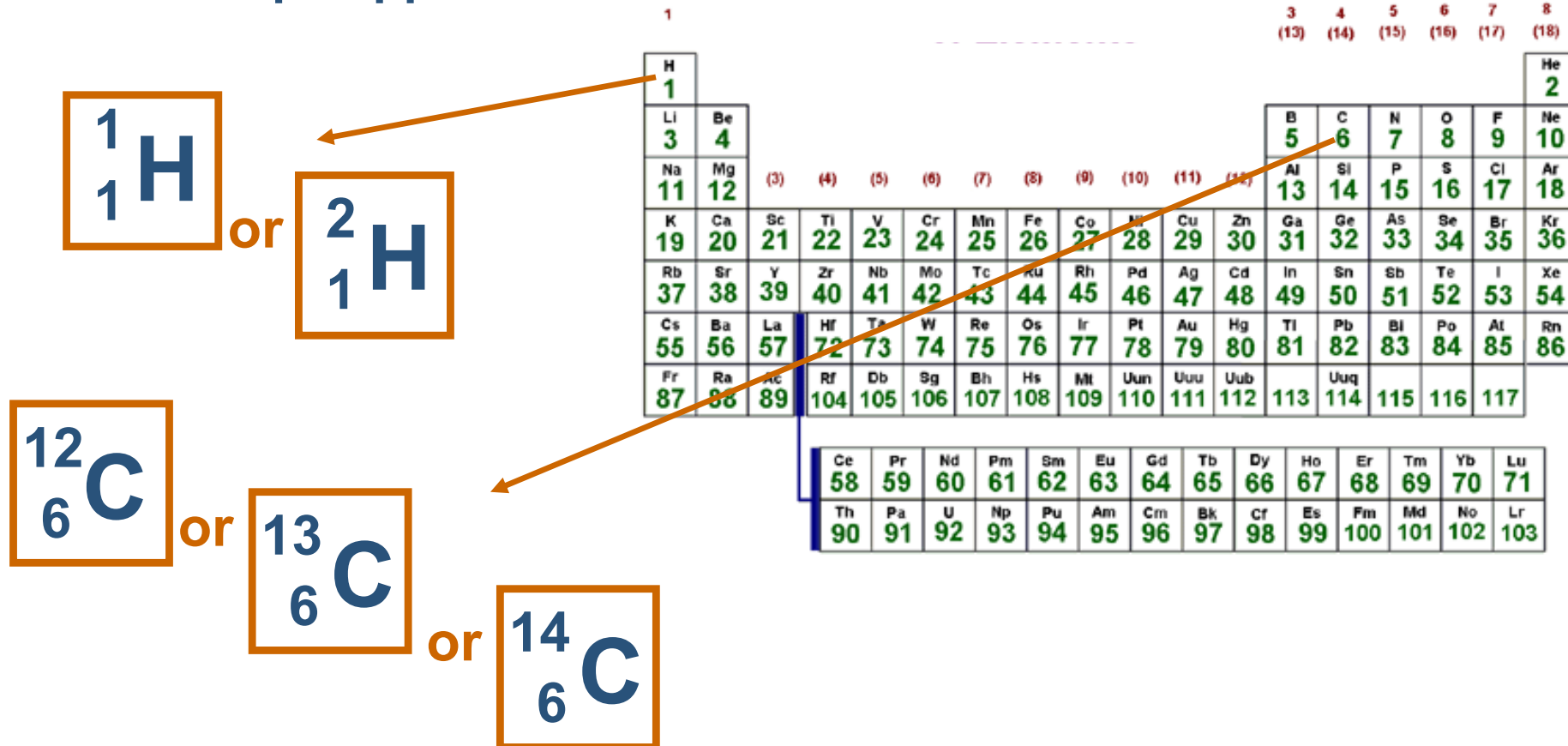


- **Profiling methods**
  - Whole matrices fingerprint





## Stable isotope approach



The diagram shows a periodic table with callouts for stable isotopes of hydrogen and carbon. Arrows point from the isotopes to their respective positions in the periodic table.

**Hydrogen isotopes:**

- ${}^1_1\text{H}$  (Protium)
- ${}^2_1\text{H}$  (Deuterium)

**Carbon isotopes:**

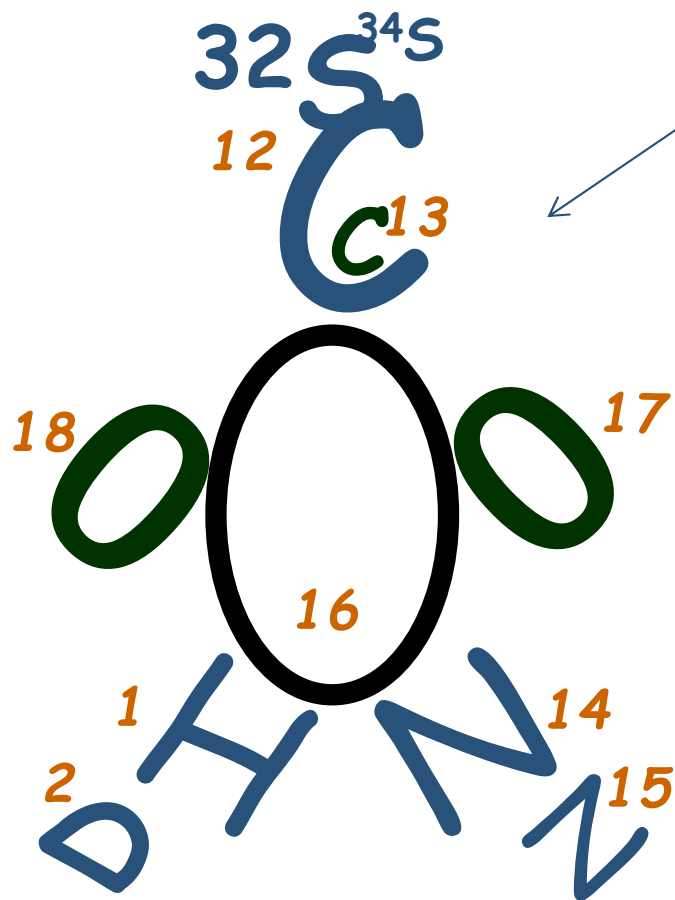
- ${}^{12}_6\text{C}$  (Carbon-12)
- ${}^{13}_6\text{C}$  (Carbon-13)
- ${}^{14}_6\text{C}$  (Carbon-14)

The periodic table shows the following elements and their atomic numbers:

1																	3	4	5	6	7	8
(1)																	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)
H 1																	He 2					
Li 3	Be 4											B 5	C 6	N 7	O 8	F 9	Ne 10					
Na 11	Mg 12	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	Al 13	Si 14	P 15	S 16	Cl 17	Ar 18					
K 19	Ca 20	Sc 21	Ti 22	V 23	Cr 24	Mn 25	Fe 26	Co 27	Ni 28	Cu 29	Zn 30	Ga 31	Ge 32	As 33	Se 34	Br 35	Kr 36					
Rb 37	Sr 38	Y 39	Zr 40	Nb 41	Mo 42	Tc 43	Ru 44	Rh 45	Pd 46	Ag 47	Cd 48	In 49	Sn 50	Sb 51	Te 52	I 53	Xe 54					
Cs 55	Ba 56	La 57	Hf 72	Ta 73	W 74	Re 75	Os 76	Ir 77	Pt 78	Au 79	Hg 80	Tl 81	Pb 82	Bi 83	Po 84	At 85	Rn 86					
Fr 87	Ra 88	Ac 89	Rf 104	Db 105	Sg 106	Bh 107	Hs 108	Mt 109	Uun 110	Uuu 111	Uub 112	Uuq 113	Uuq 114	115	116	117						
Ce 58	Pr 59	Nd 60	Pm 61	Sm 62	Eu 63	Gd 64	Tb 65	Dy 66	Ho 67	Er 68	Tm 69	Yb 70	Lu 71									
Th 90	Pa 91	U 92	Np 93	Pu 94	Am 95	Cm 96	Bk 97	Cf 98	Es 99	Fm 100	Md 101	No 102	Lr 103									

Isotopes are different forms of a single element : **the same number of protons, but differing numbers of neutrons**

Natural products are composed of 5 main elements C, H, O, N and S



These elements are **naturally present in several isotopic forms** (same atomic number, different weights),

**Isotopes distribution is influenced by natural phenomena and human processes:**

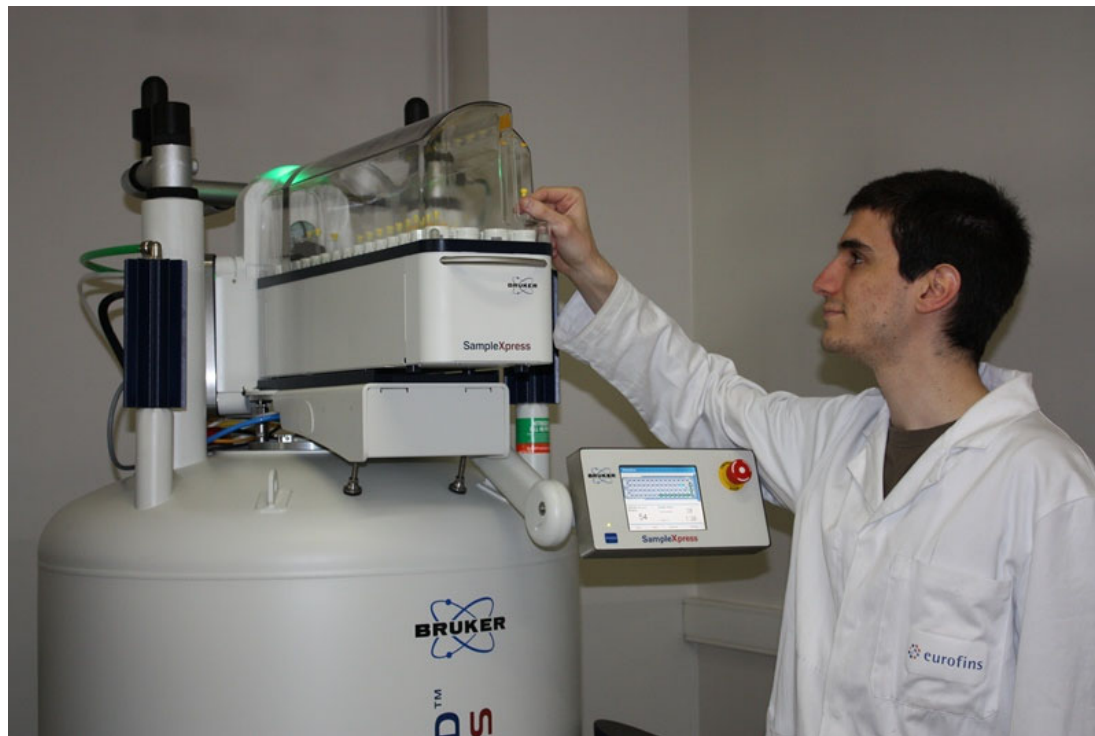
- Precursors (natural / synthetic)
- Metabolism (botanical origin, regime)
- Environment (geographical origin)

## (1) IRMS : Isotopic Ratio Mass Spectrometry

- Combustion or Pyrolysis of the organic product to a gas
- Access to overall isotope ratios of a product or isolated compound
- Can be coupled to Chromatography



## (2) SNIF-NMR <sup>®</sup>

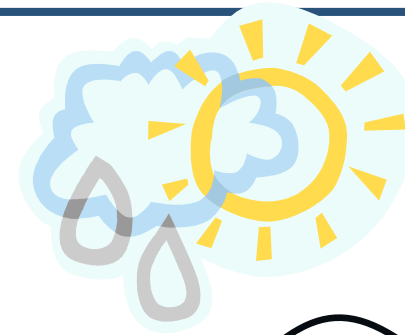


- method pioneered by Eurofins Scientific
- measures isotopic distributions within a given molecule

Site-specific Natural Isotopic Fractionation studied by deuterium Nuclear Magnetic Resonance. FINS in French!

# Isotopic fractionation due to metabolism & physiology: example of plant primary metabolism

Where does the sugar in a plant come from :



Carbon dioxide  
 $\text{CO}_2$   
(-8 ‰)



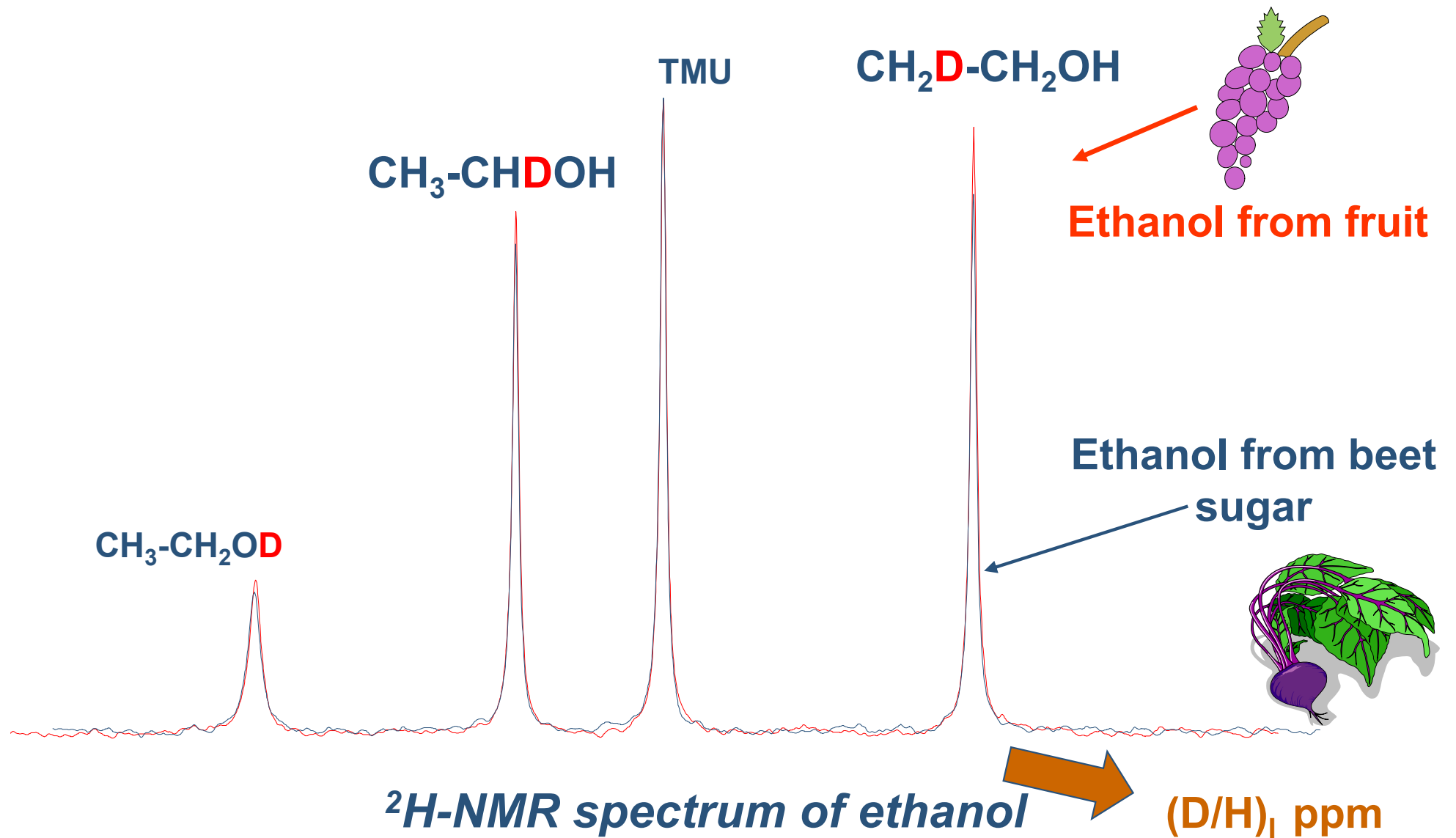
$\text{C}_3$

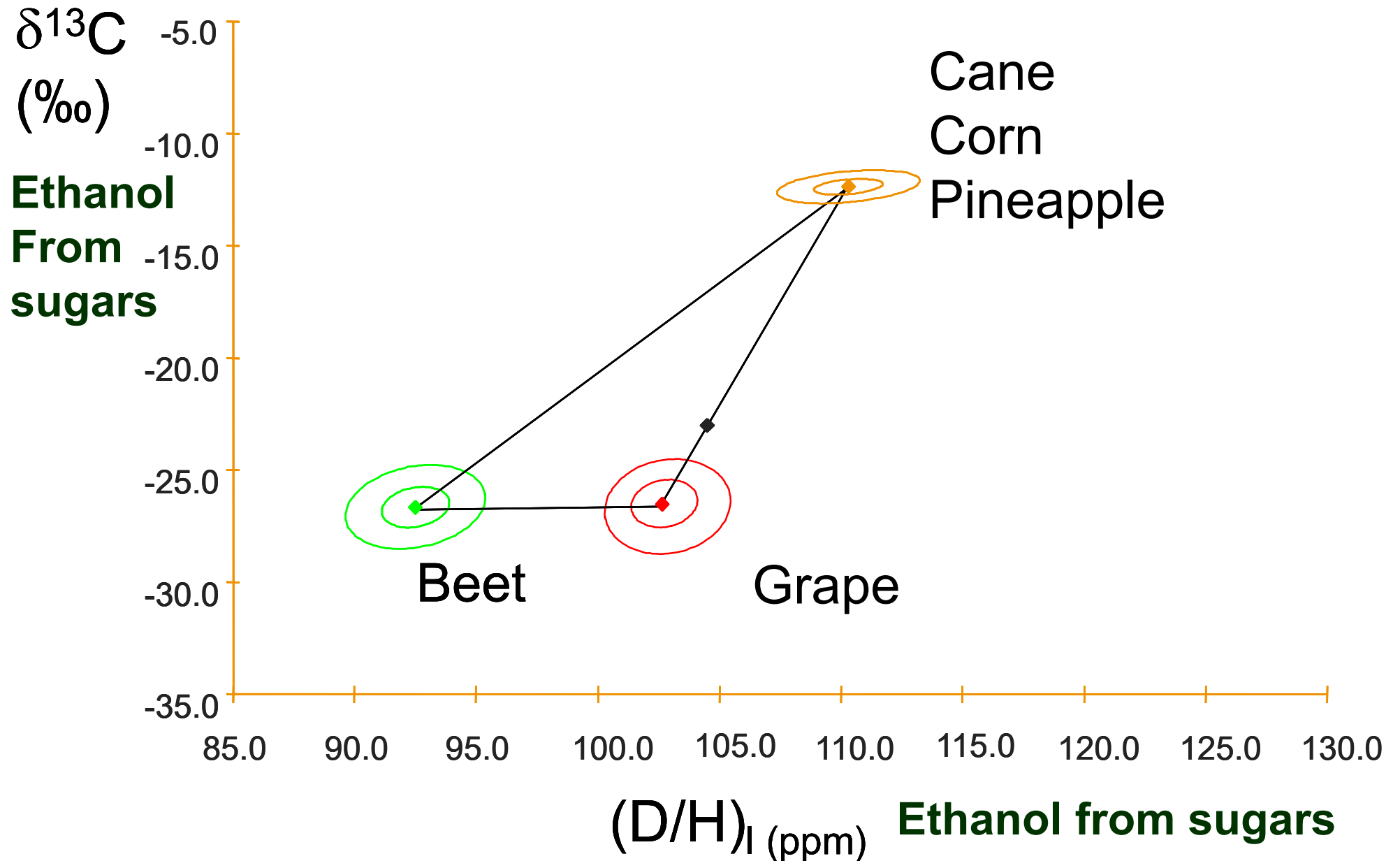
most plants  
values around -25‰



$\text{C}_4$

Gramineae family e.g. sugarcane,  
maize, values around -10‰







# Isotopic methods recognition



year	Method	Product	Fraction	Techniques	Isotope ratios
1987	OIV, recueil des méthodes d'analyse	wine	Ethanol	SNIF-NMR	(D/H) <sub>I</sub> , (D/H) <sub>II</sub> ,R
1990	EC regulation 2676/90, annex 8	wine	Ethanol	SNIF-NMR	(D/H) <sub>I</sub> , (D/H) <sub>II</sub> ,R
1991	AOAC method 991.41	honey	honey & proteins	IRMS	<sup>13</sup> C/ <sup>12</sup> C
1993	CEN (TC174 N108, ENV 12140)	fruit juice	Sucre	IRMS	<sup>13</sup> C/ <sup>12</sup> C
1995	AOAC Official method 995.17	fruit juice	Ethanol (from fermentation)	SNIF-NMR	(D/H) <sub>I</sub> , (D/H) <sub>II</sub> ,R
1996	OIV resolution ENO 2/96	wine	water	IRMS	<sup>18</sup> O/ <sup>16</sup> O
1997	EC regulation 822/97	wine	water	IRMS	<sup>18</sup> O/ <sup>16</sup> O
1997	CEN (TC174 N109, ENV 12141)	fruit juice	water	IRMS	<sup>18</sup> O/ <sup>16</sup> O
2000	AOAC Official method 2000.19	maple syrup	Ethanol (from fermentation)	SNIF-NMR	(D/H) <sub>I</sub> , (D/H) <sub>II</sub> ,R
2001	OIV resolution ENO 17/2001	wine	Ethanol	IRMS	<sup>13</sup> C/ <sup>12</sup> C
2003	EC regulation 440/ 2003, annex 2	wine	Ethanol	IRMS	<sup>13</sup> C/ <sup>12</sup> C
2004	AOAC method 2004.01	fruit juice & maple syrup	Ethanol (from fermentation)	IRMS	<sup>13</sup> C/ <sup>12</sup> C
2006	AOAC method 2006.05	Vanillin	Vanillin	SNIF-NMR	(D/H) <sub>i</sub>

Wine Databank

(EC Reg. N° 2729/2000 \*)



Portugal  
50



France  
400



Germany  
200



Italy  
400



Spain  
200



U. Kingdom  
4



Austria  
50



Maintenance of databank  
 Arbitration of disputes  
 Analysis of samples  
 Development and validation of methods  
 Validation of data  
 Training




Greece  
50



Luxembourg  
4

(EC Reg. N° 2120/2004 \*)



Cyprus  
10



Malta  
4



Slovakia  
15



Slovenia  
20



Hungary  
50



Czech Rep.  
20



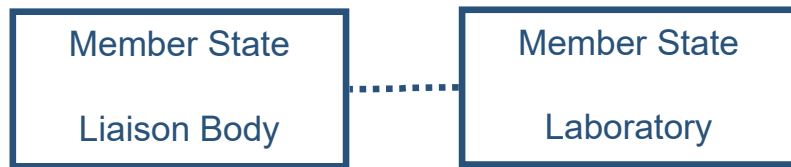
Romania  
70

(EC Reg. N° 2030/2006 \*)

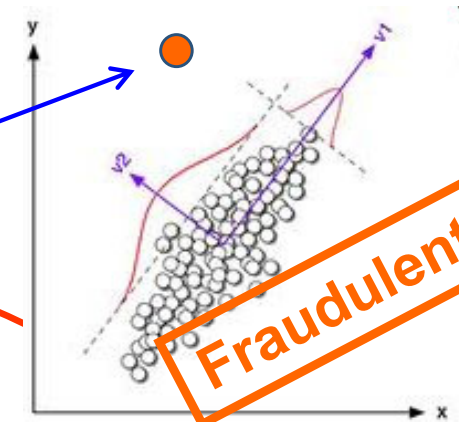


Bulgaria  
30

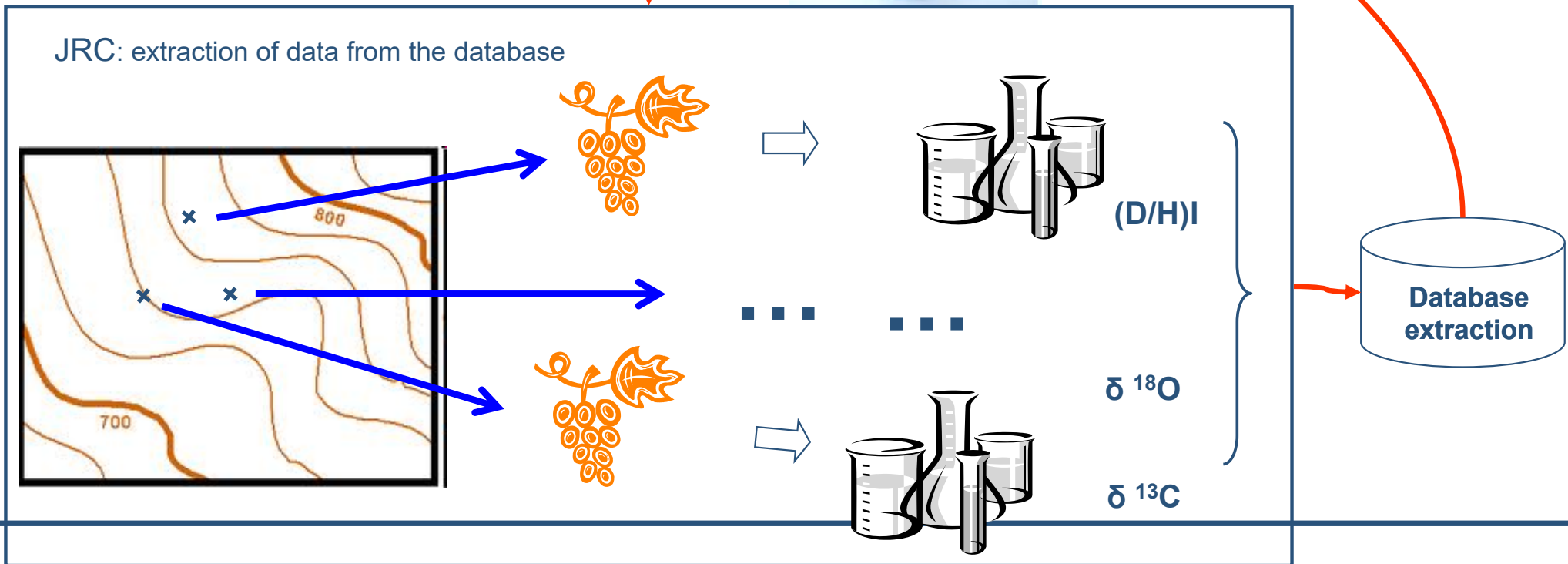
# Use of official data for control



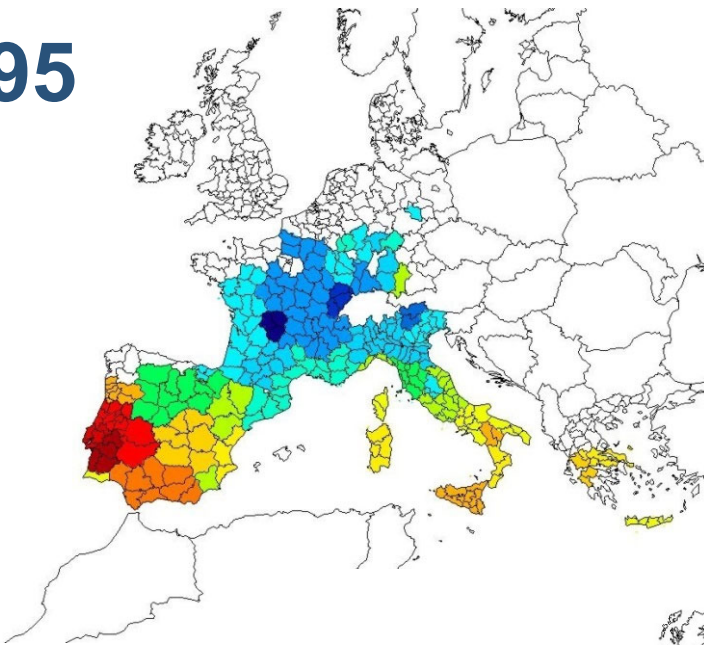
Official request



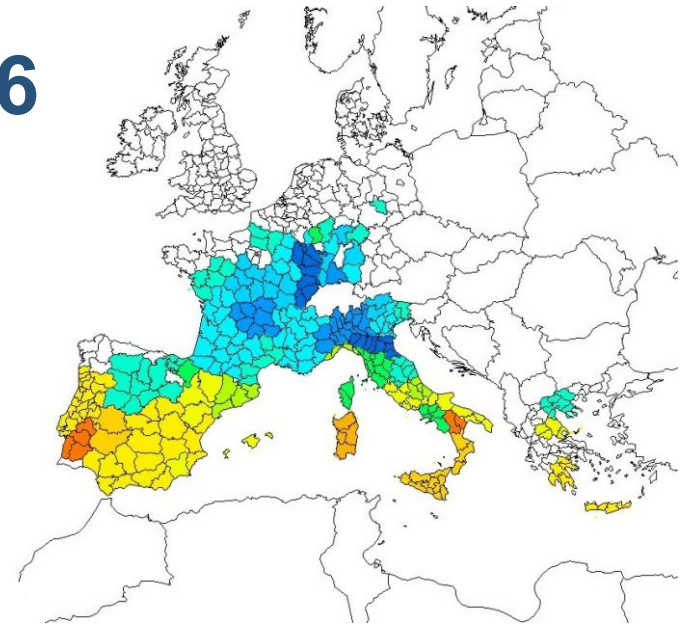
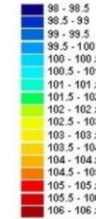
**Fraudulent**



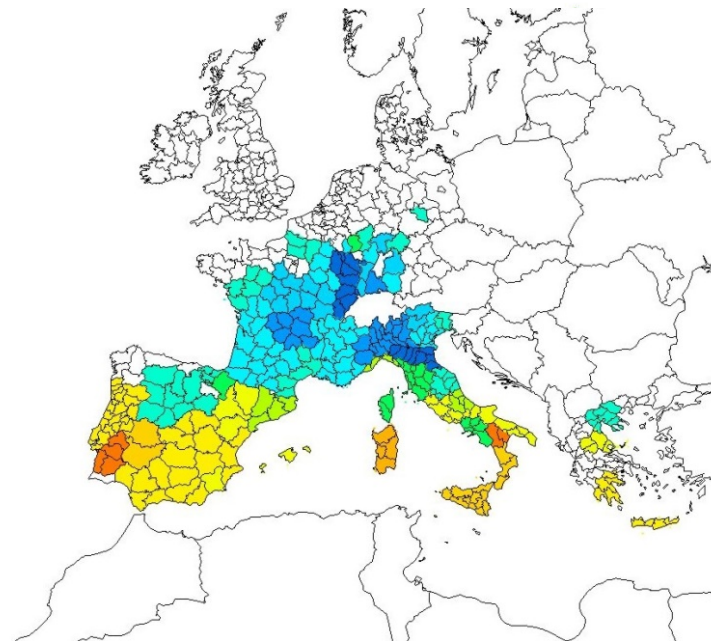
1995



1996



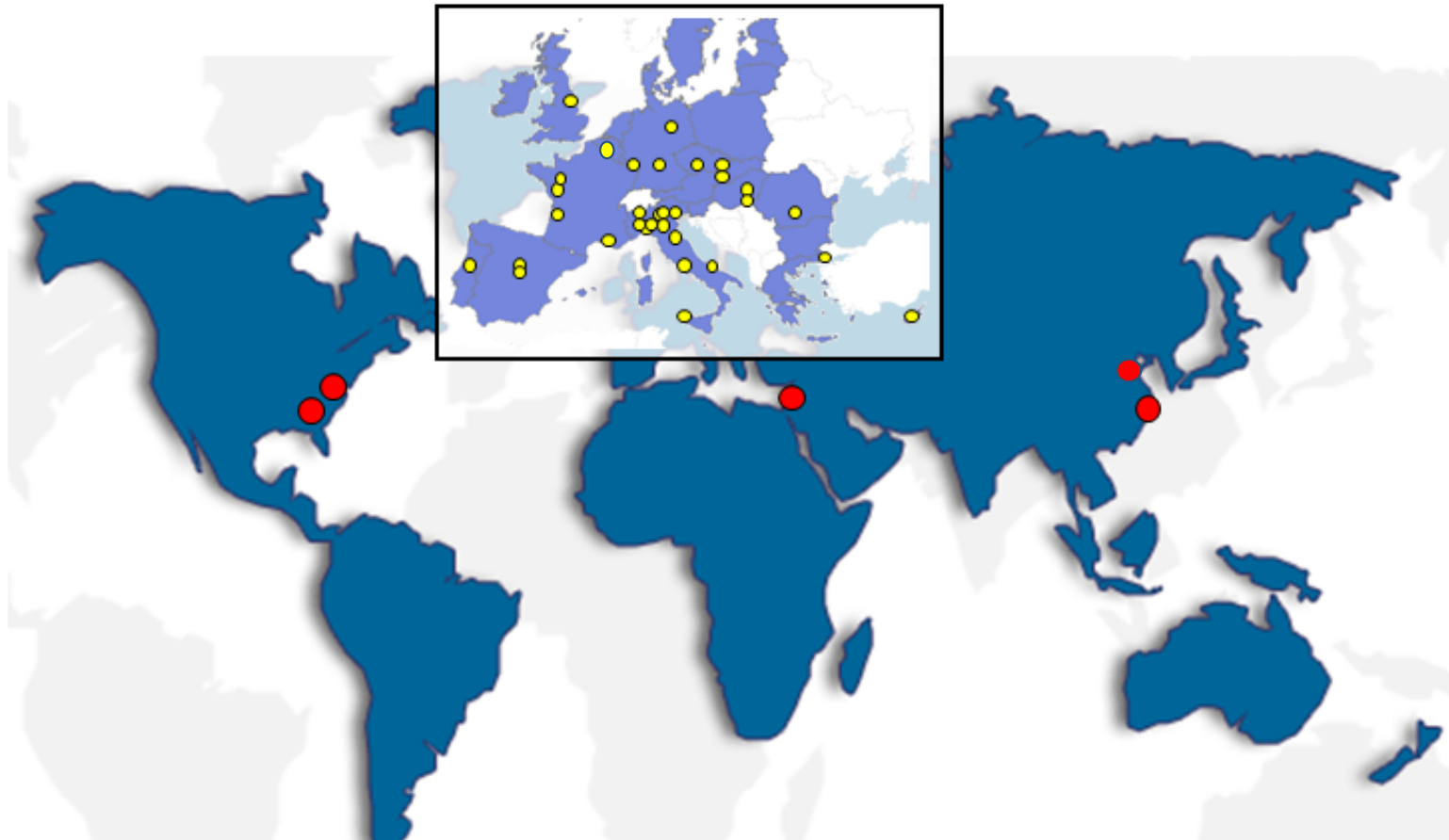
1997



Wine data base  
(D/H)<sub>1</sub>

C. Guillou, BEVABS  
JRC Geel Belgium

# 36 SNIF labs around the world :



# Examples of adulterations tracked by isotope testing in fruit juices

- Undeclared addition of cheaper sugar
- Undeclared addition of water (or NFC/FC juice blending)
- Undeclared addition of artificial organic acids (citric, malic, tartaric)
- Undeclared addition of artificial vitamin C in natural products
- Undeclared addition of artificial flavour compounds
- Geographical origin mislabelling



# Recent improvements addressed by isotope testing

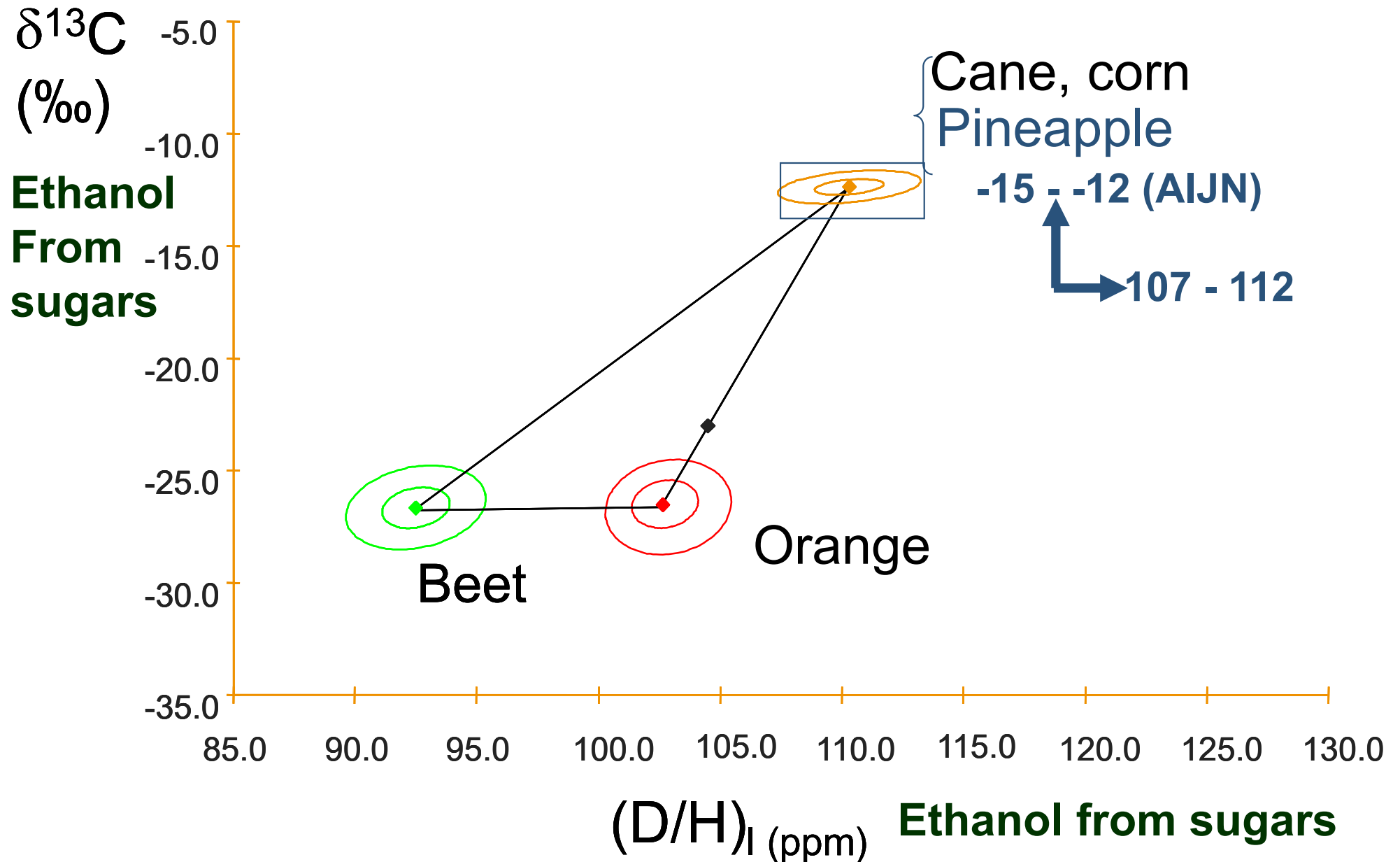
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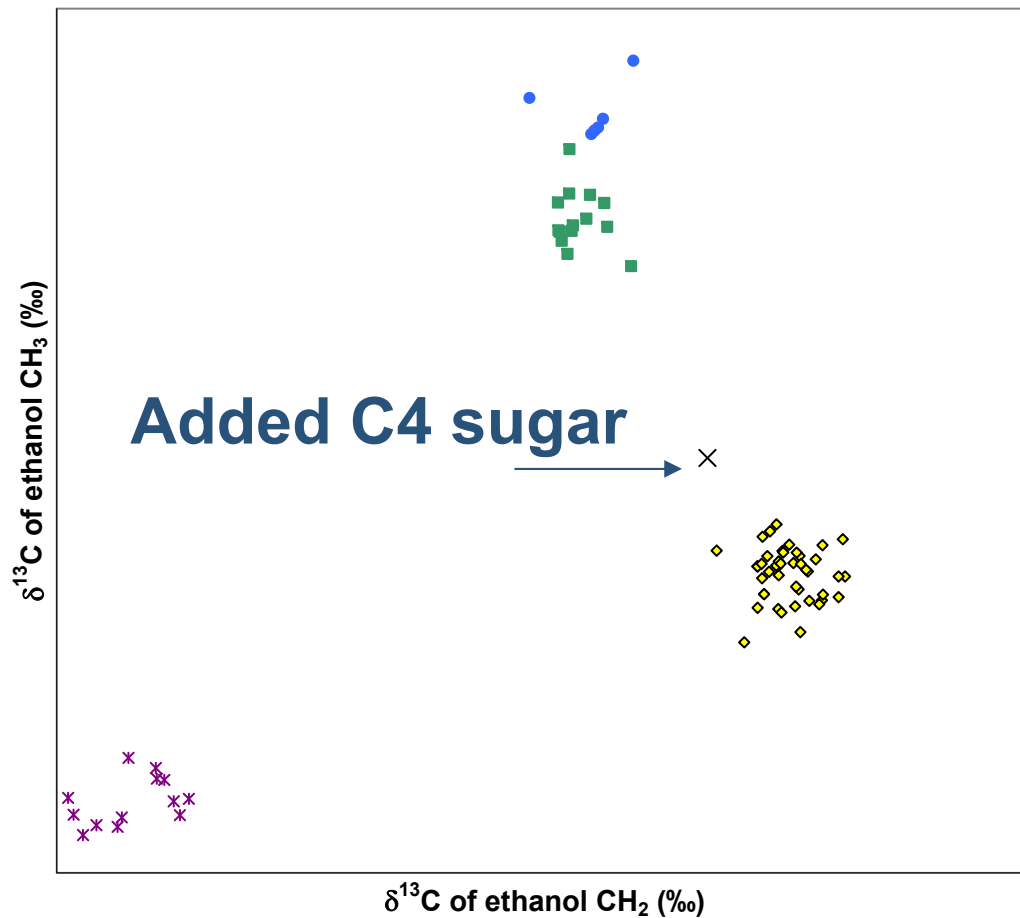
- **Undeclared addition of sugar in pineapple**
- **Undeclared addition of water (all fruits)**
- **Undeclared addition of vitamin C**



# SNIF-NMR applied to Deuterium : The pineapple « gap »



# NEW application of $^{13}\text{C}$ SNIF-NMR to pineapple: improved detection of sugar addition



Also applicable to:  
Dragon fruit  
Agave juice, syrup, and inulin

- ◆ PINEAPPLE
- CANE
- MAIZE
- \* BEET
- × test



*J. Agric. Food Chem.* 2010, 58, 11580-11585  
DOI:10.1021/jf102983v

JOURNAL OF  
**AGRICULTURAL AND  
FOOD CHEMISTRY**  
ARTICLE

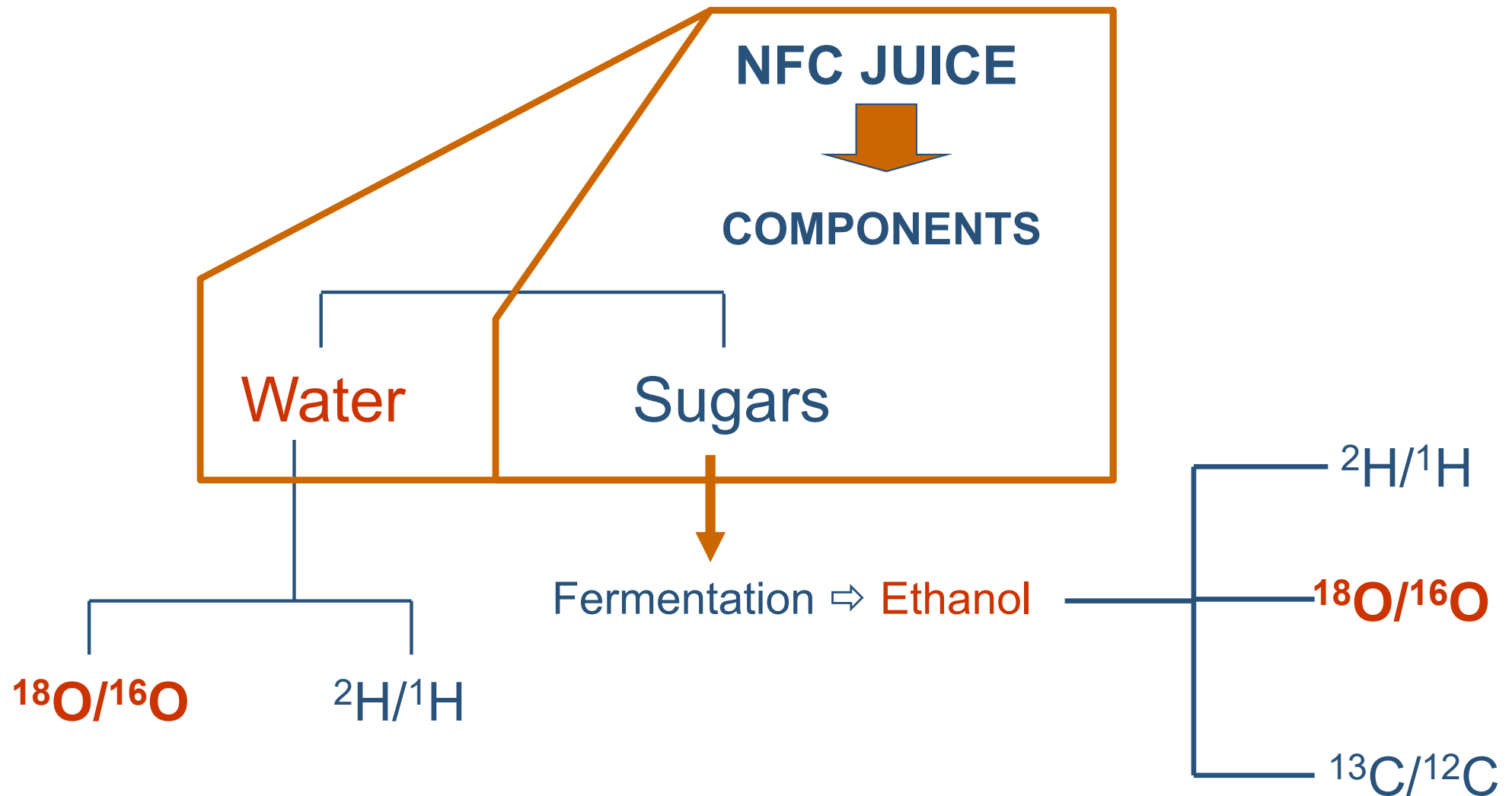
Improved Characterization of the Botanical Origin of Sugar by  
Carbon-13 SNIF-NMR Applied to Ethanol

FREDDY THOMAS,<sup>\*,†</sup> CELIA RANDET,<sup>†</sup> ALEXIS GILBERT,<sup>†</sup> VIRGINIE SILVESTRE,<sup>†</sup>  
ERIC JAMIN,<sup>†</sup> SERGE AKOKA,<sup>‡</sup> GERALD REMAUD,<sup>‡</sup> NICOLAS SEGEBARTH,<sup>§</sup> AND  
CLAUDE GUILLOU<sup>§</sup>

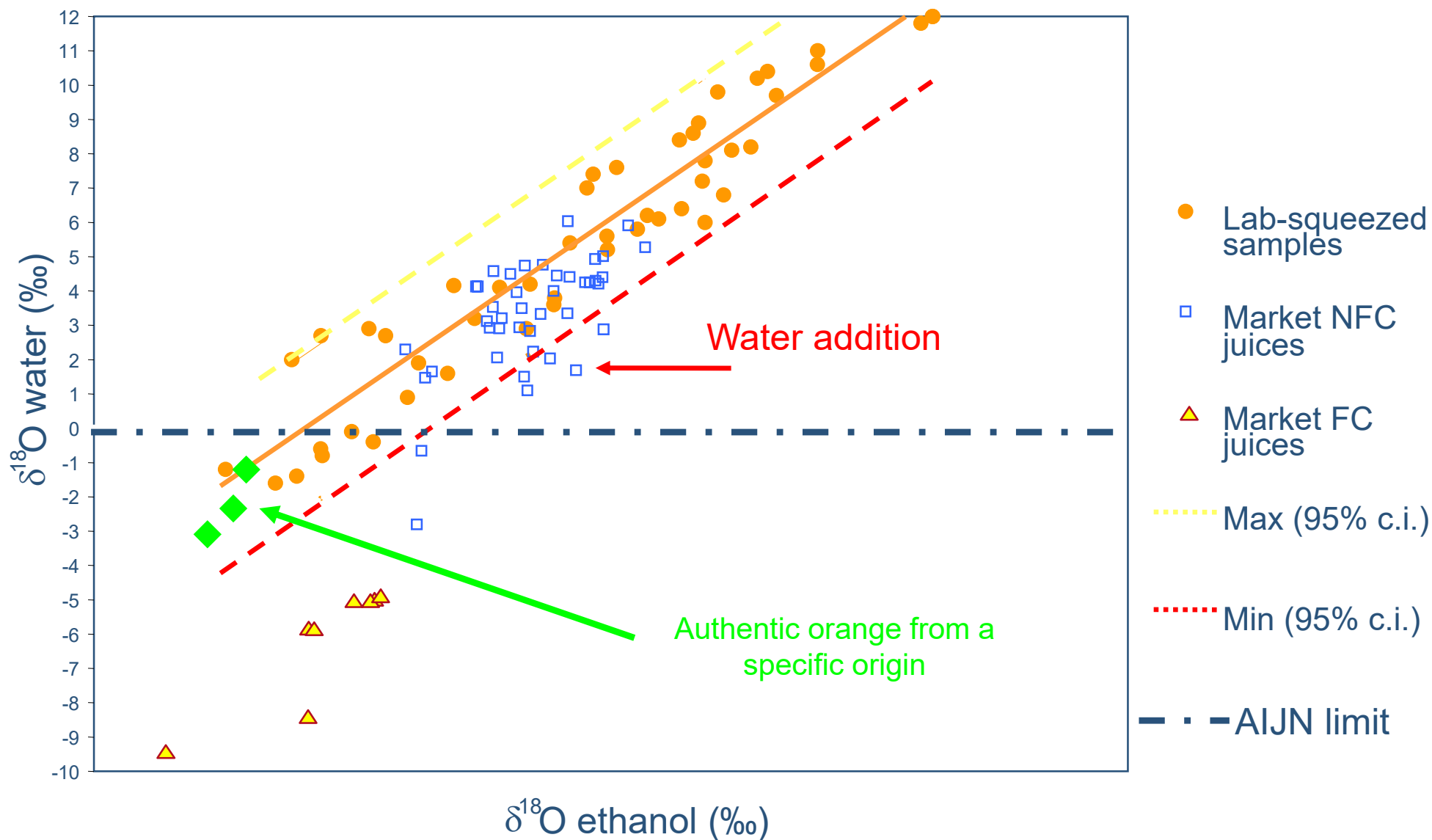
**IFU recommendation**

- Undeclared addition of sugar in pineapple
- Undeclared addition of water (all fruits)
- Undeclared addition of vitamin C

# Isotopic analyses in direct fruit juice: Improved detection of water addition

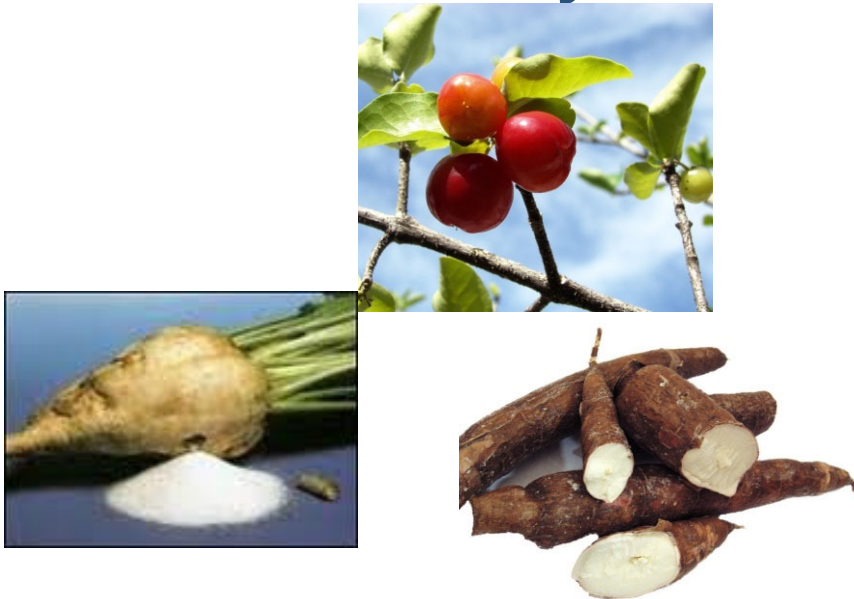


# Application of $^{18}\text{O}$ internal referencing: e.g. orange juice NFC authenticity control



- Undeclared addition of sugar in pineapple
- Undeclared addition of water (all fruits)
- Undeclared addition of vitamin C

- Industrial ascorbic acid is derived from sugar sources  
Global  $^{13}\text{C}$  only detects C4 sources in fruit juices



**C<sub>3</sub> plants**

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$  around -25‰



**C<sub>4</sub> plants**

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$  around -10‰



# Site-specific $^{13}\text{C}$ -IRMS analysis via selective chemical cut:



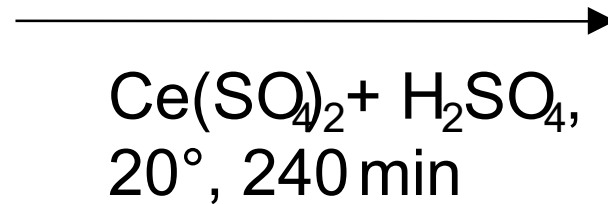
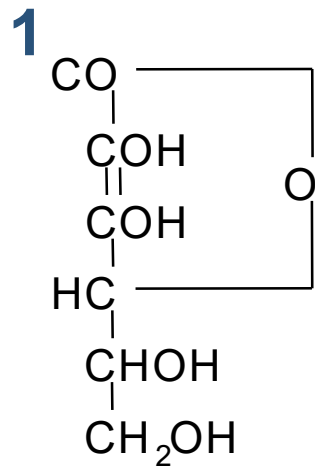
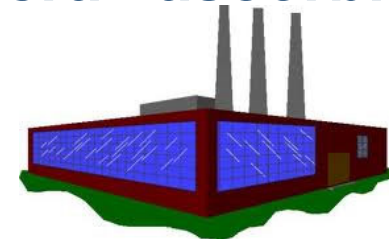
$\delta^{13}\text{C}$  C1 ~  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  overall ascorbic acid

Natural

$\text{CO}_2$  from Carbon 1

Artificial

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$  -7‰ lower than overall ascorbic acid

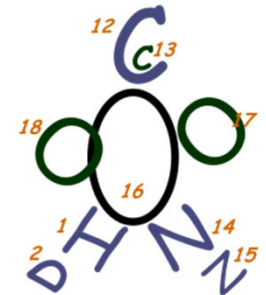




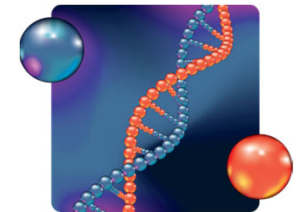
- **Chemical composition methods (e.g. chromatography)**
  - Identification & quantification of defined compounds



- **Stable isotopes**
  - Molecules origin



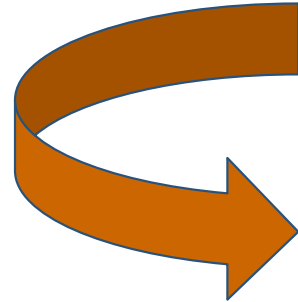
- **Molecular Biology**
  - Identification of species, varieties, etc.



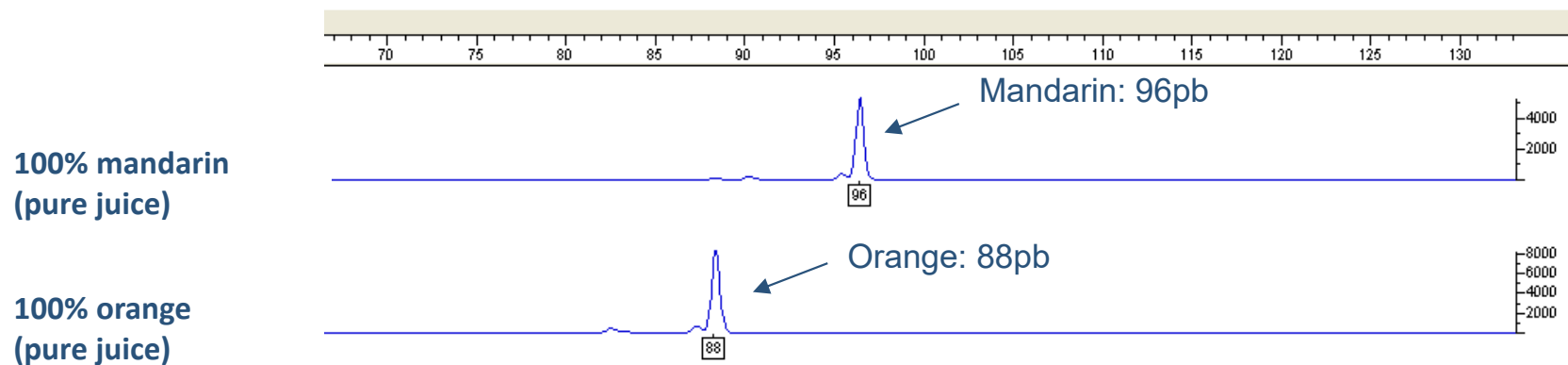
- **Profiling methods**
  - Whole matrices fingerprint



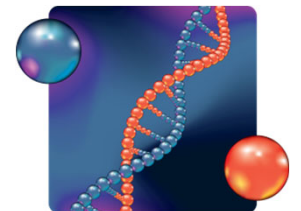
# DNA testing methods: example: Detection of mandarin in orange, LOD 2%



## PCR amplification of the DNA target / capillary electrophoresis



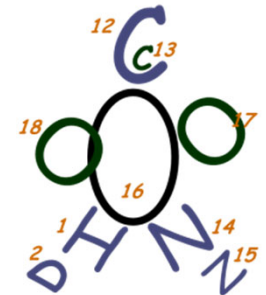
Also applicable to check fruit **varieties**



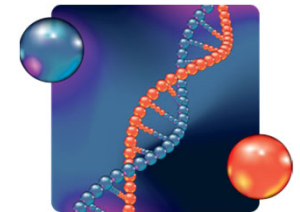
- **Chemical composition methods (e.g. chromatography)**
  - Identification & quantification of defined compounds



- **Stable isotopes**
  - Molecules origin



- **Molecular Biology**
  - Identification of species, varieties, etc.



- **Profiling methods**
  - Whole matrices fingerprint





**Conclusion / Perspectives**  
**Lutte contre la francisation**  
**Fruits et Légumes**  
**Plumes et duvets**





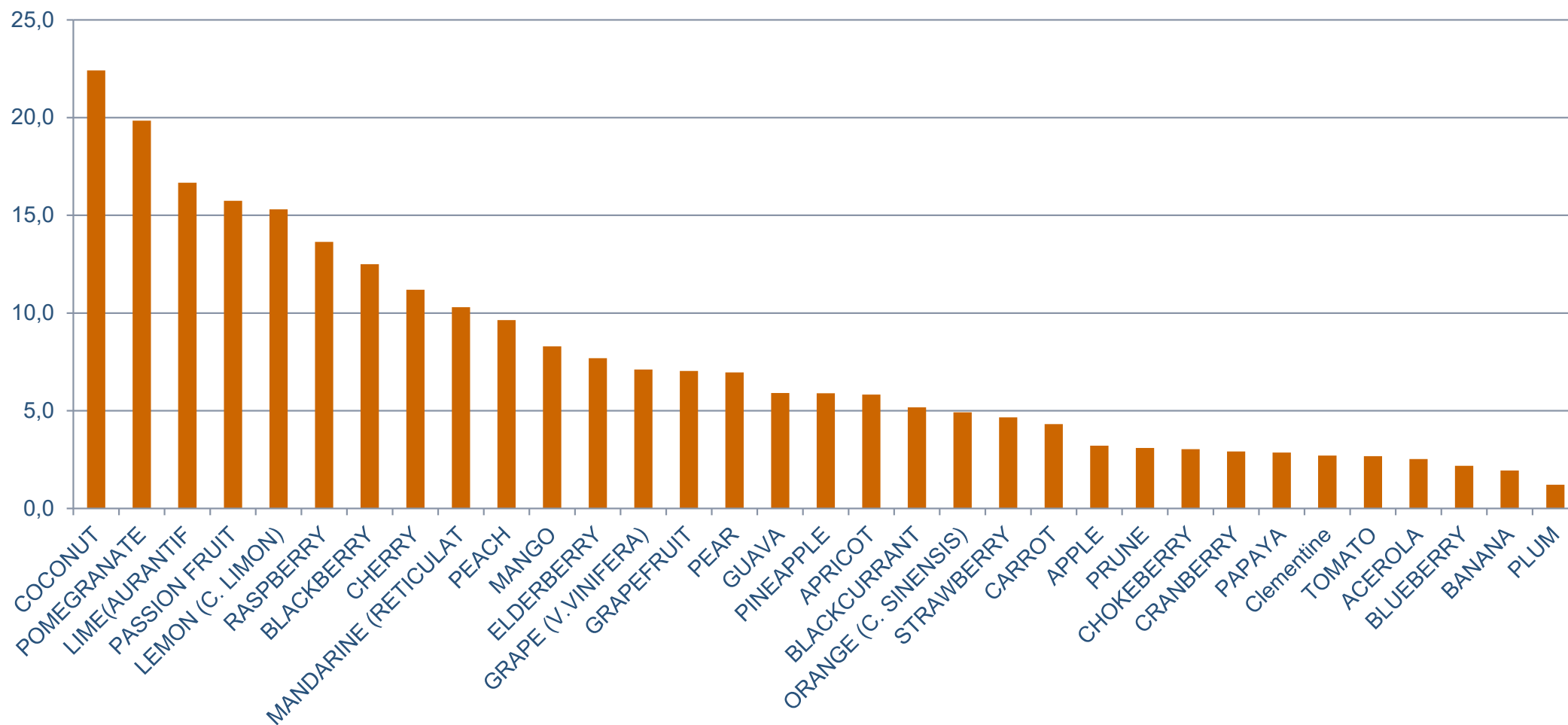
## Disclaimer :

*Non compliance rates presented below are global (all kind of samples send by customers and analyzed in Eurofins Analytics) and may not reflect accurately the market situation in each country  
But they can be used as qualitative indications for **major risks for each fruit on a worldwide basis.***

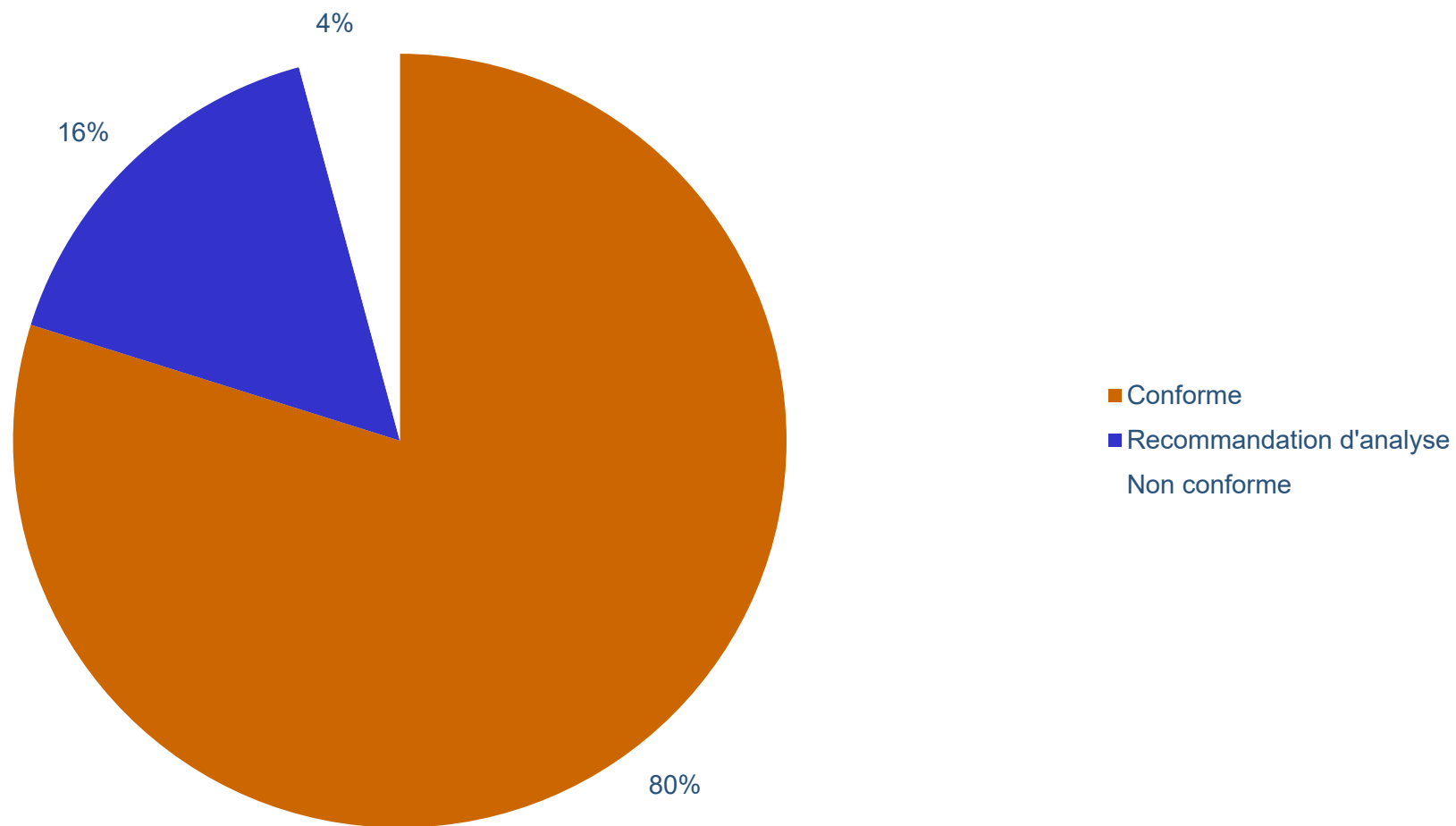


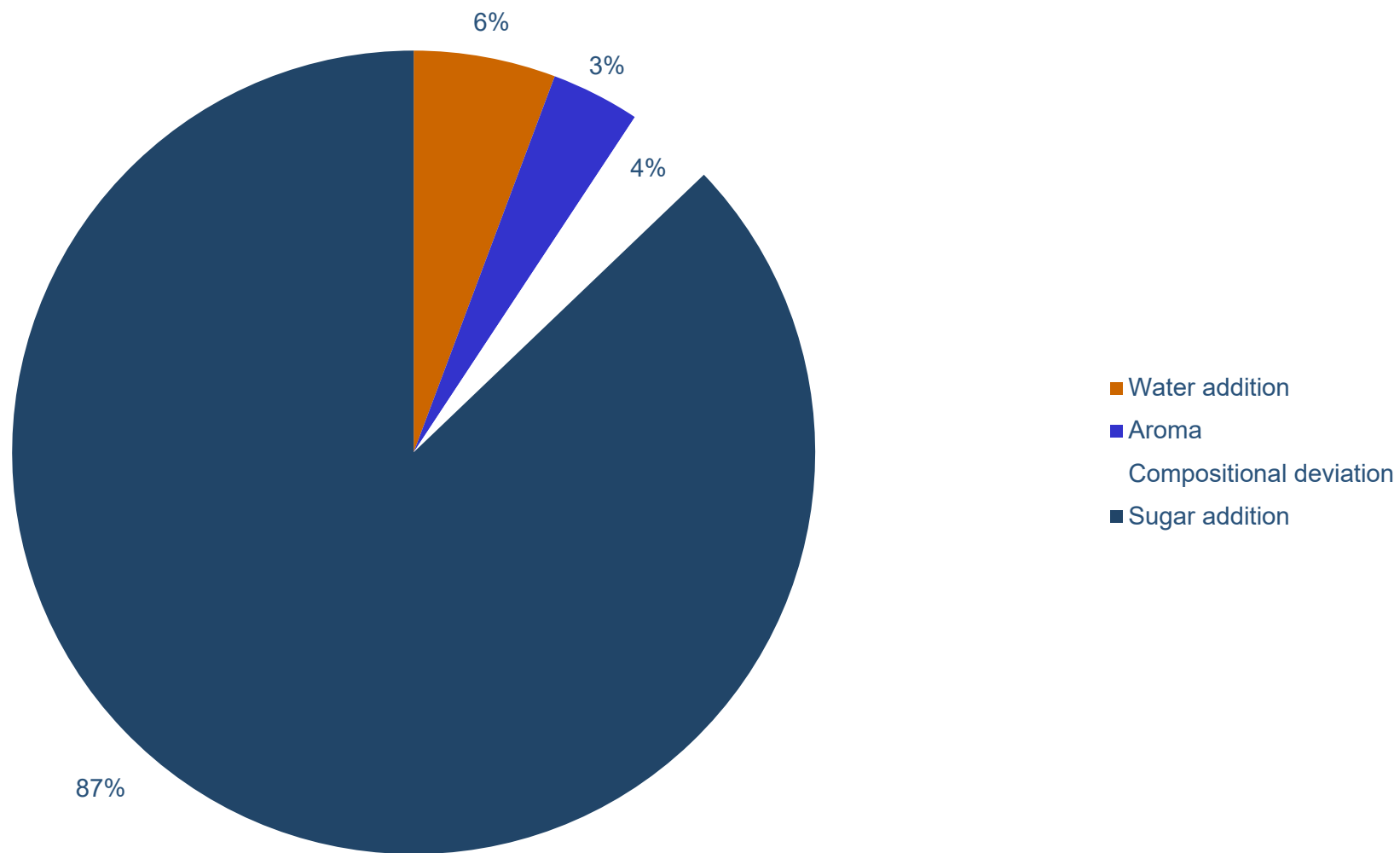
# Non compliance rate per fruit

## % Non Compliance

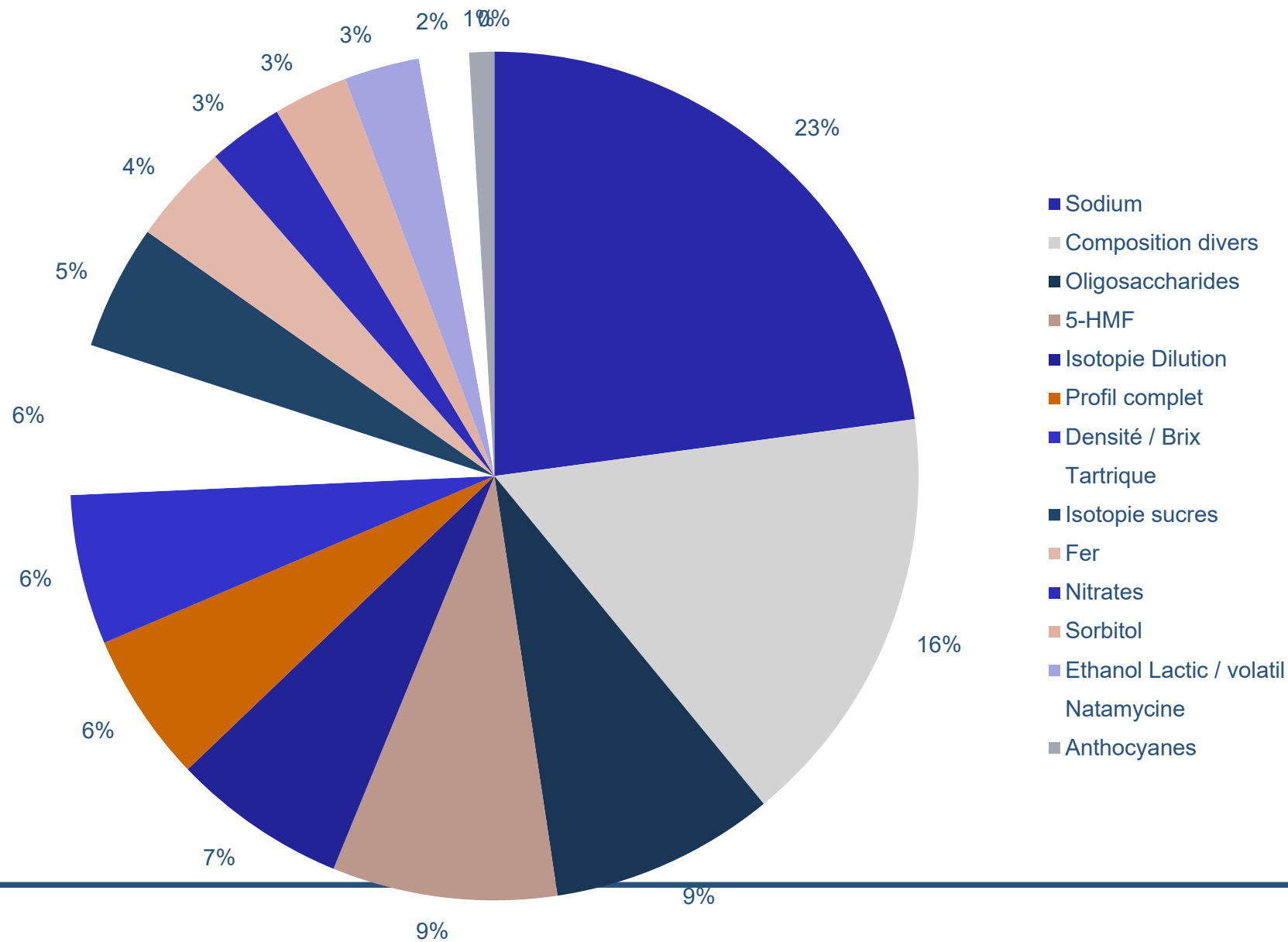


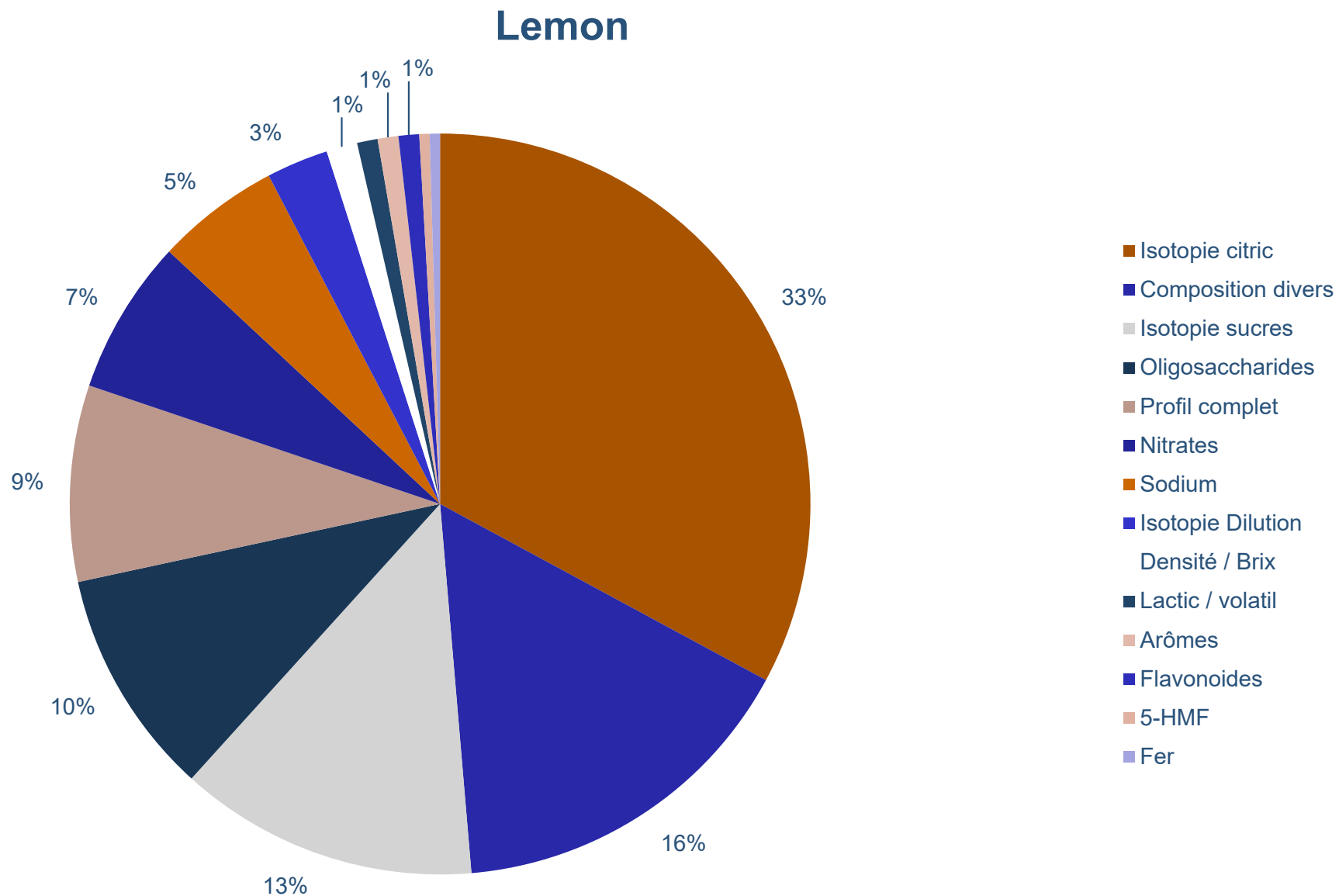
## NMR Profiling





## Pomegranate





# Merci pour votre attention!



**Division Alimentaire France**  
eurofins.fr