

Fluorescence Spectroscopy Measurement for Quality Assessment of Food Systems

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Abstract

From the present review, it was shown that fluorescence spectroscopy is able to determine several properties without the use of chemical reagents. This is due to the use of chemometric tools (descriptive and predictive methods). Our study focuses on the use of fluorescence spectroscopy for the determination of the quality of dairy and meat products.

Introduction

- Public interest in food quality and production has increased in recent decades
- The demand for high quality and safety in food production obviously calls for high standards for quality and process control.
- Fluorescence spectroscopy is an analytical technique whose theory and methodology have been extensively exploited for studies of molecular structure and function in the discipline of chemistry and biochemistry
- FFFS: Front-face Fluorescence Spectroscopy
- SFS: Synchronous Fluorescence Spectroscopy

Fluorescence Spectroscopy

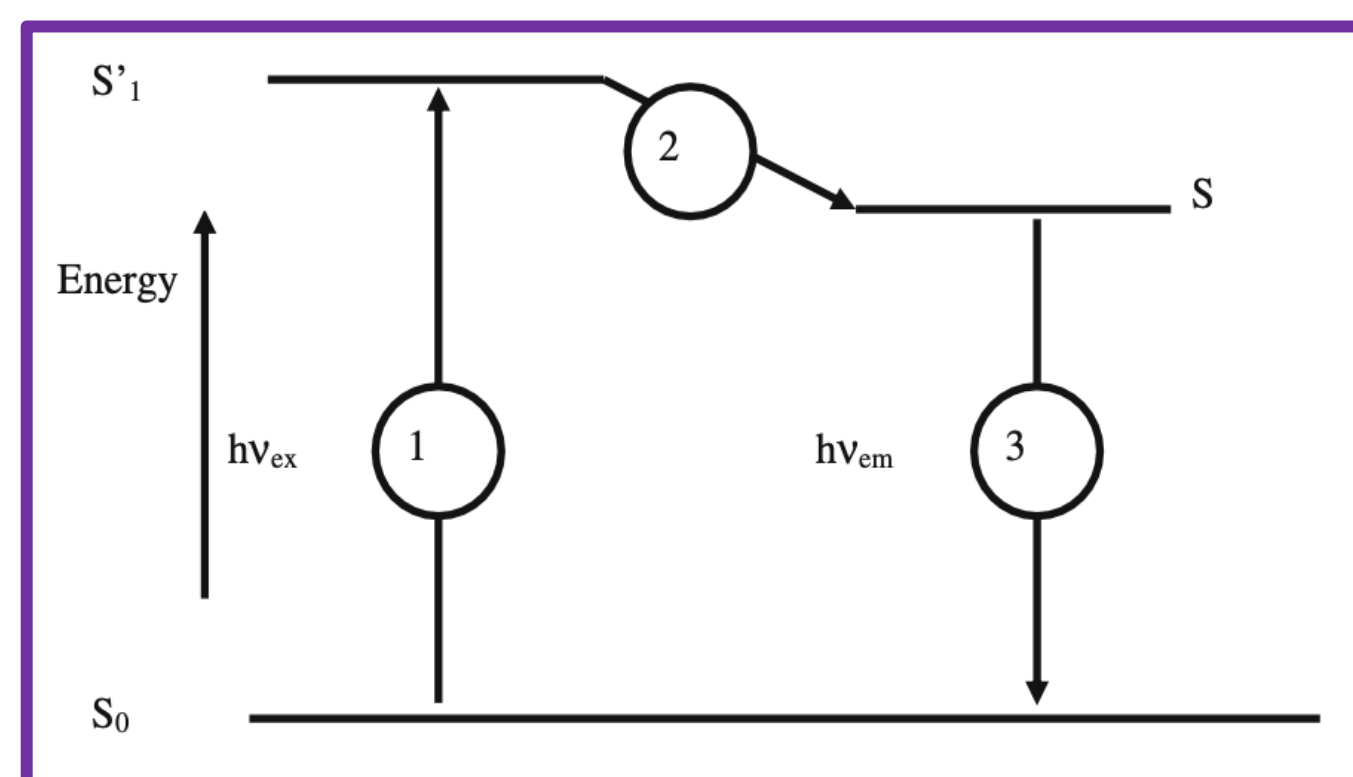


Fig.1 the basic principle in fluorescence spectroscopy

- $S_0 \rightarrow S'_1$: light is absorbed by the molecule, which is transferred to an electronically excited state
- $S'_1 \rightarrow S$: A vibrational relaxation or internal conversion
- $S'_1 \rightarrow S_0$: the electron returns to its more stable ground state S_0 , emitting light at a wavelength according to the difference in energy between the two electronic states.

Instrumentation

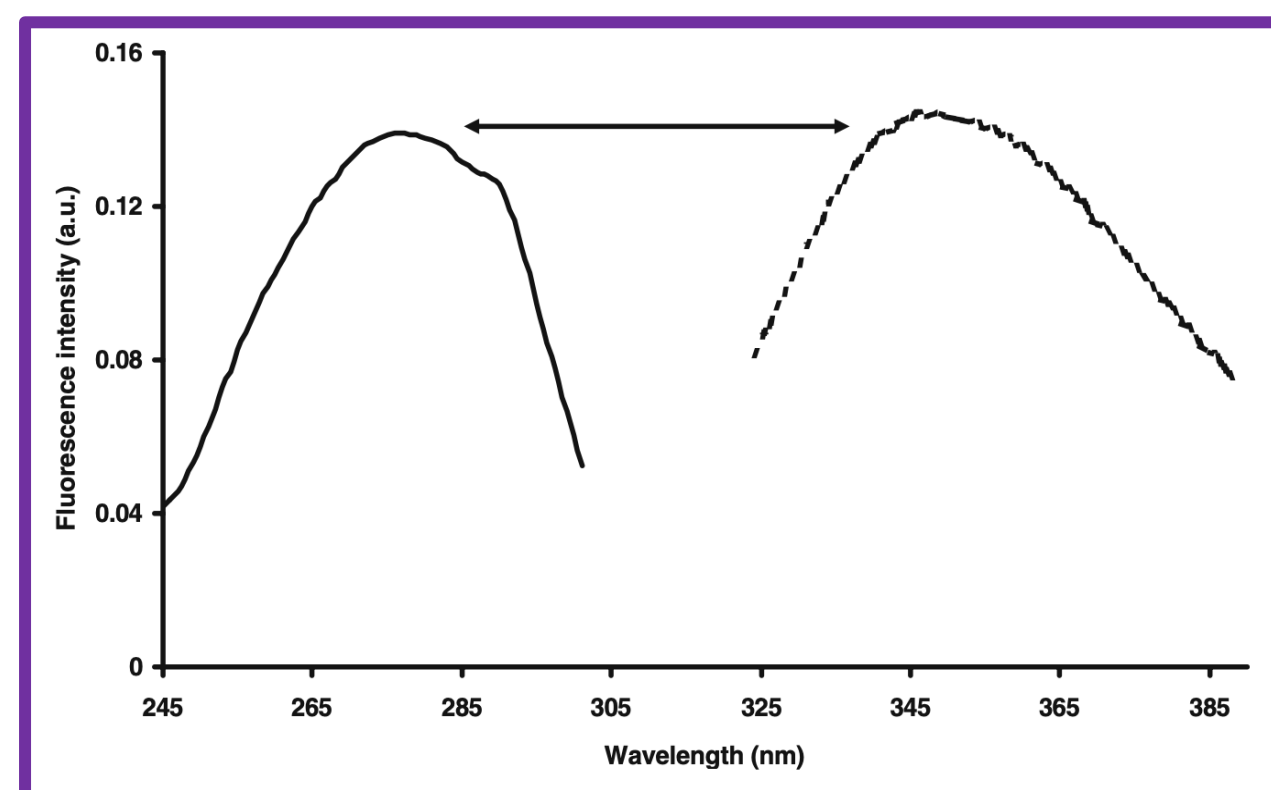


Fig.2

- The difference** between the excitation and emission wavelengths: marking the difference between the excitation and emission spectrum of tryptophan fluorescence spectra scanned on milk submitted
- The mirror image**: The emission spectrum for a given fluorophore is a mirror image of the excitation spectrum

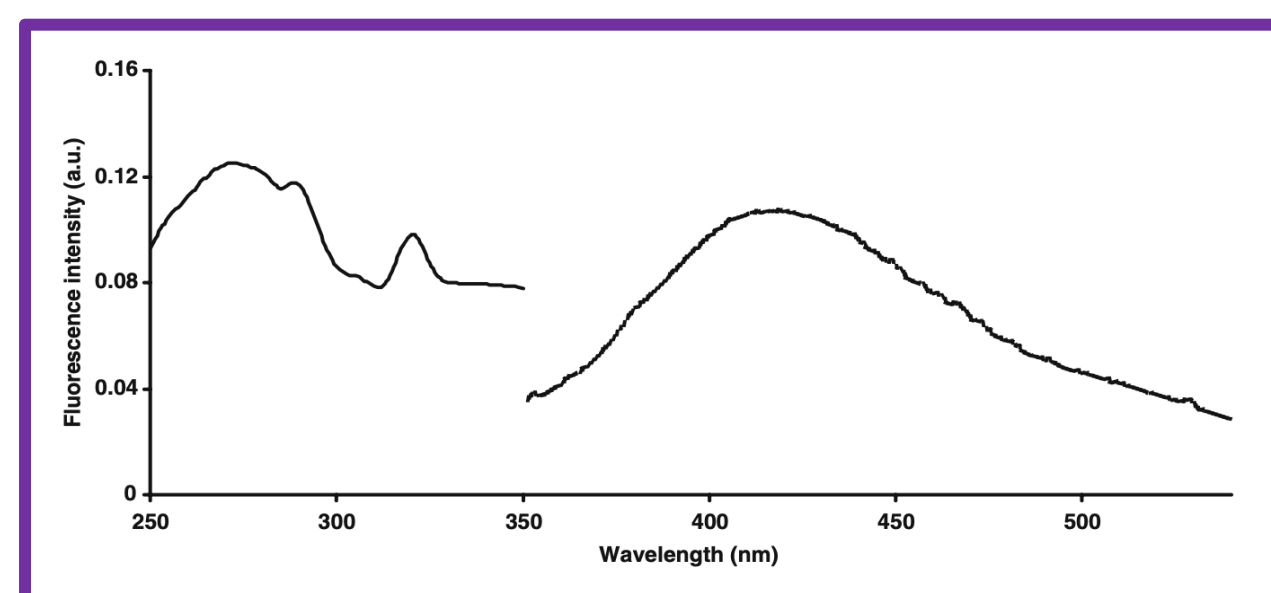


Fig.3

- The fluorescence of vitamin A, as seen in Fig. 3, with **3 absorption peaks** and **only 1 emission peak**.

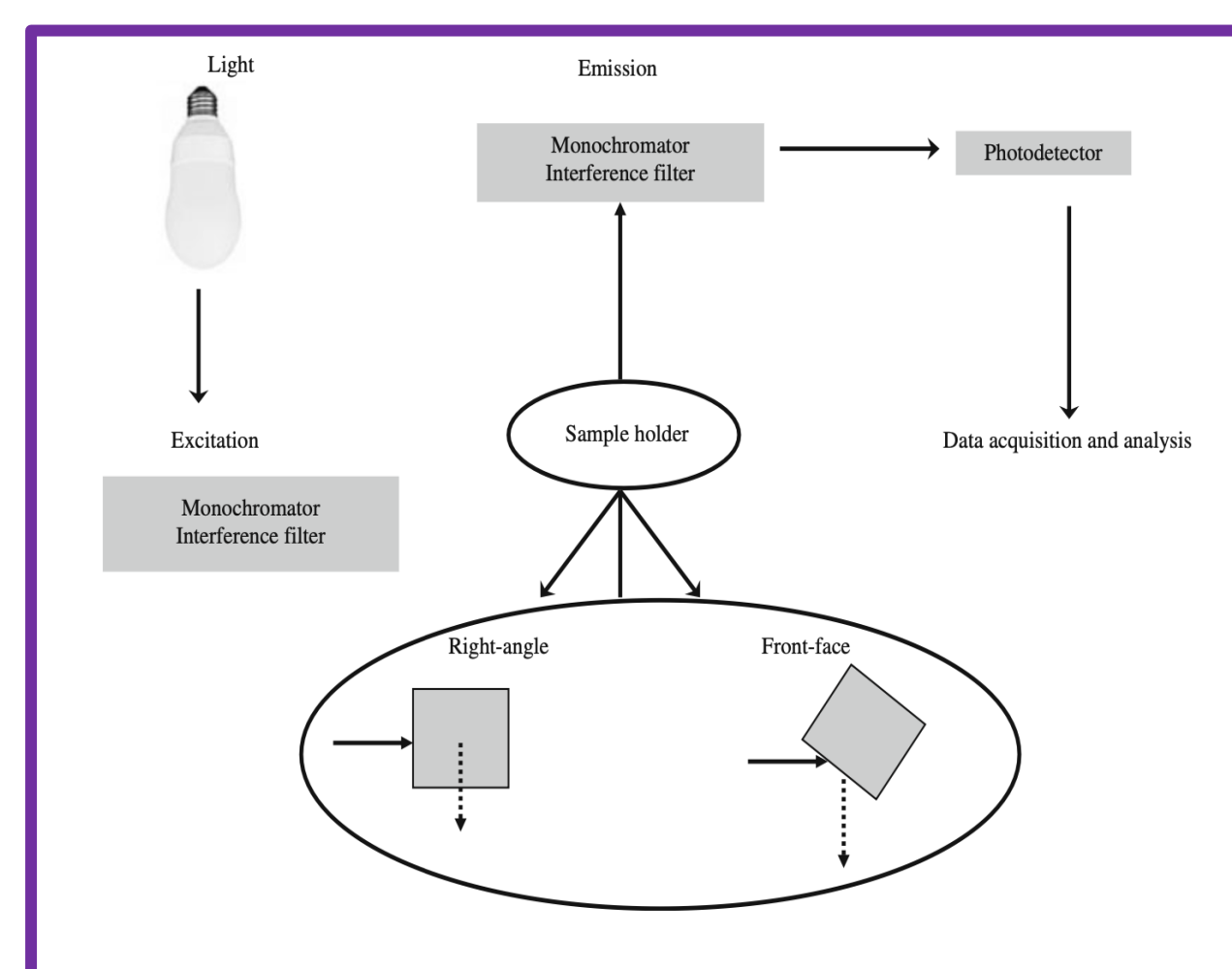


Fig.4

- The excitation light travels into the sample from one side
- The detector is positioned at right angles to the center of the sample.
- FFFS: measure more turbid or opaque samples, since the signal becomes more independent
- The sample is placed with its surface at an angle of $30^\circ/60^\circ$ to the light source and the detector.

Data Analysis

- PCA: Principal Component Analysis
- CCSWA: Common Component and Specific Weights Analysis
- PLS: Partial Least Squares Regression
- FDA: Factorial Discriminant Analysis
- PARAFAC: Parallel Factor Analysis

Applications

Dairy Products

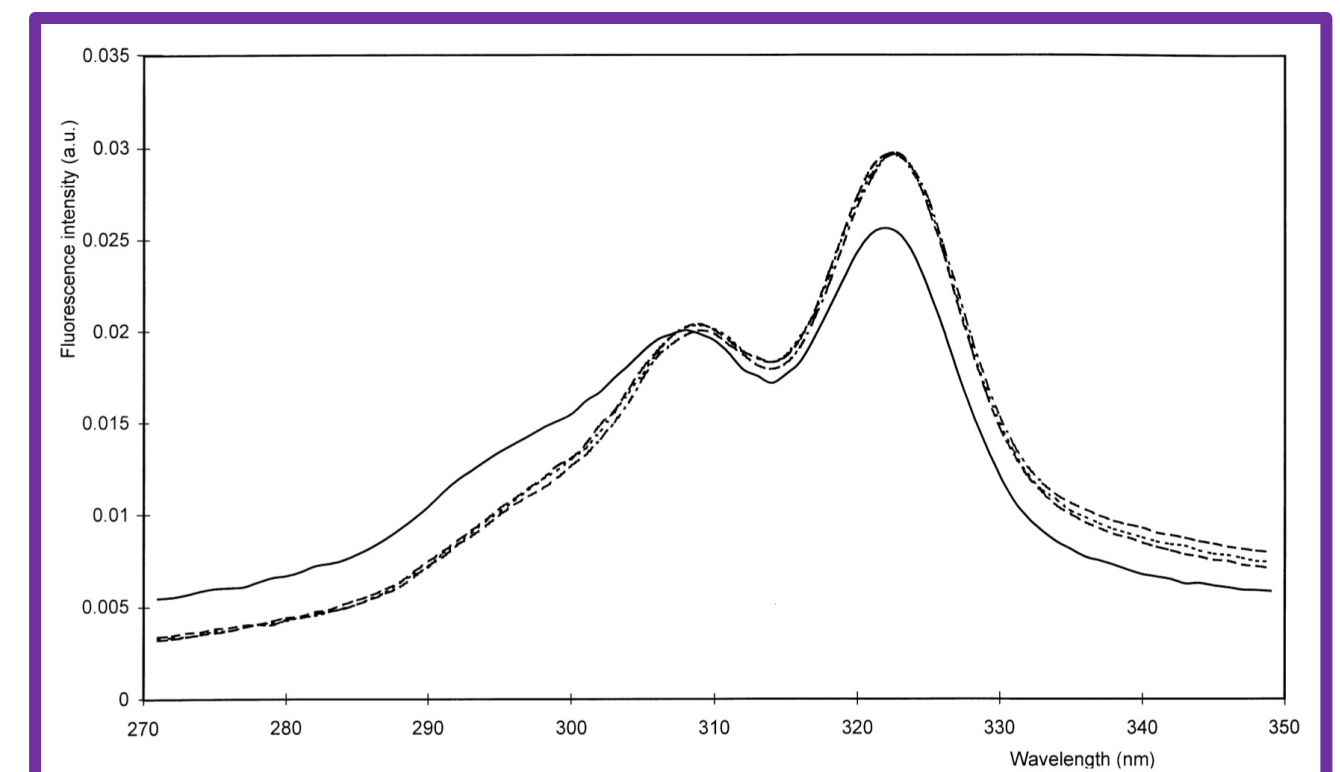


Fig.5 FFFS of cheeses recorded at 4 times during ripening:
1 day (*)
21 days {}
51 days (---)
81 days (---)

- A max at 322 nm and two shoulders at 305 and 295 nm
- The shape of the spectra changed with time.
- The changes of fat structure tally with the conclusions derived from infrared data.

Meat and Meat Products

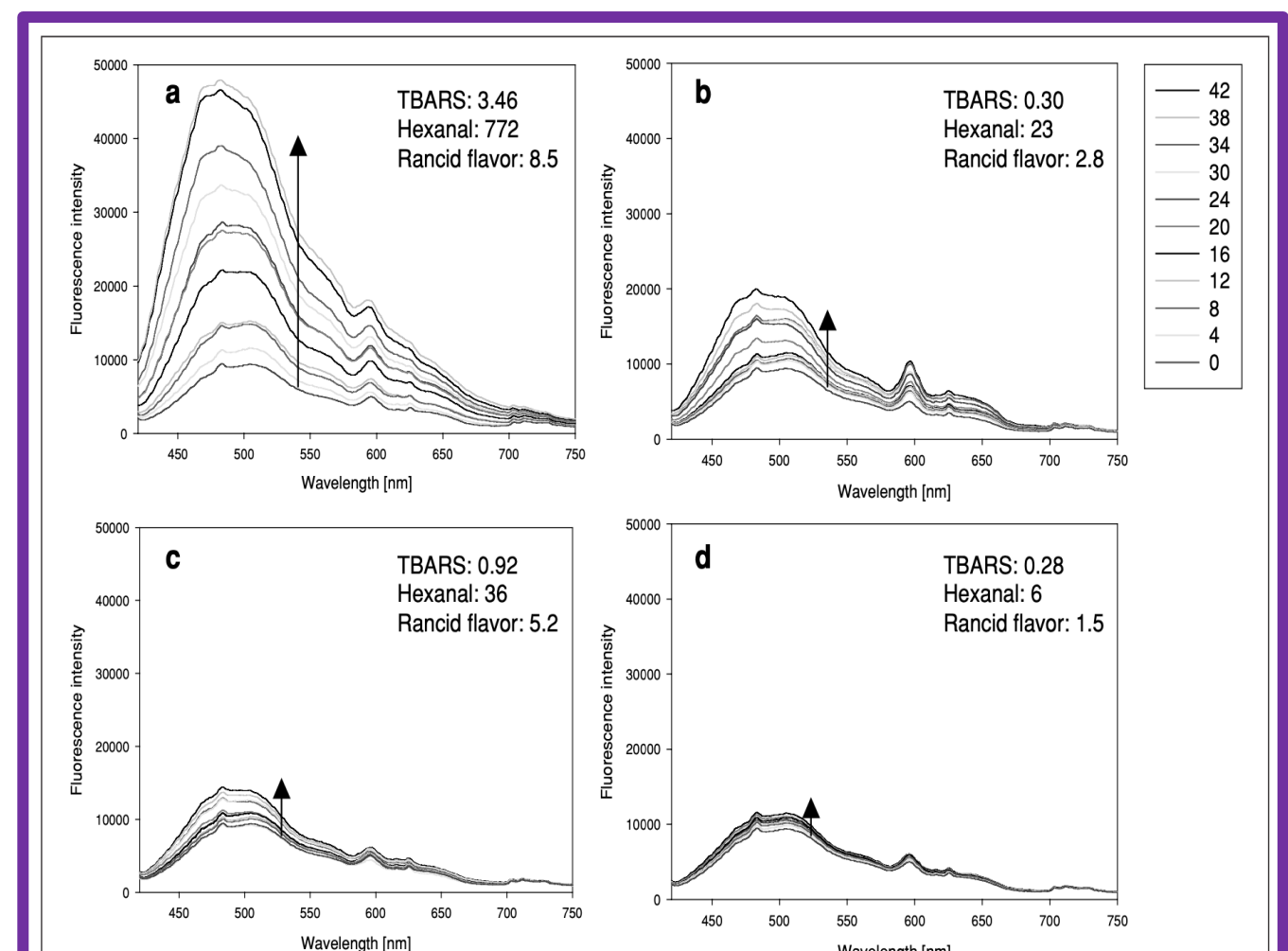


Fig.6 Fluorescence emission spectra of turkey meat stored in air at -10°C (a)
in vacuum at -10°C (b)
in air at -20°C (c)
in vacuum at -20°C (d)

- A significant increase** in fluorescence intensity for all 4 storage conditions
- The fluorescence intensities increased most** for stored in air at -10°C , followed by in vacuum at -10°C , in air at -20°C , and in vacuum at -20°C .
- More fluorescent compounds were formed in the turkey meat stored in vacuum at -10°C compared to meat stored in air at -20°C .