

# Multi-scale characterisation of in vitro and in vivo digested foods

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# Multi-scale characterization of in vitro and in vivo digested foods

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#### Context

## **Objectives**

Digestion of nutrients is an essential function for human to allow normal growth and development.

During digestion, the structure of the ingested food evolves and detailed characterization of the digestion products is essential for a better understanding on how food is disintegrated in the gastrointestinal tract.



Development of tools which allows the characterization of the components of the matrix during the disintegration that occurs in the human gastro-intestinal tract.

Why opting for a multi-scale characterization?

#### Molecular scale

Macro & Mesoscopic scale

- to identify and/or quantify molecules released during digestion
- to estimate the rate and the kinetic of hydrolysis of the protein and lipids
- to understand how the structure of the matrix evolves in the gastro-intestinal tract

#### **Methods**

#### Macroscopic scale



#### Rheology:

Oscillation procédure Simulation of a gastric digestion (decrease of pH + gastric enzymes) in a rheometer to predict the food gastric behaviour

#### Microscopic scale



#### Confocal microscopy:

Using different fluorescent probes, the evolution of the structure of proteins and lipids can be evaluated

# Molecular





#### Elisa by inhibition:

Quantification of intact proteins. measurement of the proteolysis kinetic

#### Mass spectrometry:

Identification of the peptides

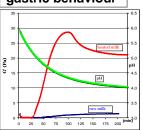
#### SDS-Page:

Qualitative monitoring of the proteins digestion:

-decrease of intact proteins -appearence of peptides

# **Applications**

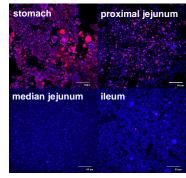
#### in vitro milk gastric behaviour



Monitoring of G' (solid resistant of the gel) on a skim milk during a simulated digestion

> Discrimination of different processed milks based on their potential gastric behaviour

## in vivo digestion of milk formula by piglets



Laser light scattering:

Measurement of the

(at different stages of

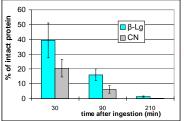
particles sizes

distributions

the digestion)

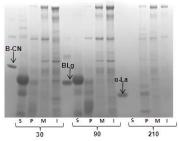
Microscopy confocal 2 fluorophores: Nile red for lipids and Nile blue for proteins (X 40)

**Evaluation of the** disintegration in the gut



Elisa: quantification of the 2 differents milk proteins during gastric digestion

> Quantitative evaluation of the proteolysis



SDS-PAGE on effluents from: S (stomach, P (proximal jejunum), M (median jejunum and I (ileum) at 30, 90 and 210 min after the last meal.

> Qualitative evaluation of the proteolysis

#### Conclusion

By combining methods, disintegration of the food and kinetics of hydrolysis are evaluated. This multiscale approach allows a better understanding of the mechanisms of digestion of complex food matrices











