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Nutrition of the neonate - How processing of milk powder affects protein digestion?

Dupont D, Boutrou R, Jardin J, Molle D, Tanguy G, Gaucheron F, Schuck P, Léonil J,
Ahmad S & Haab B*

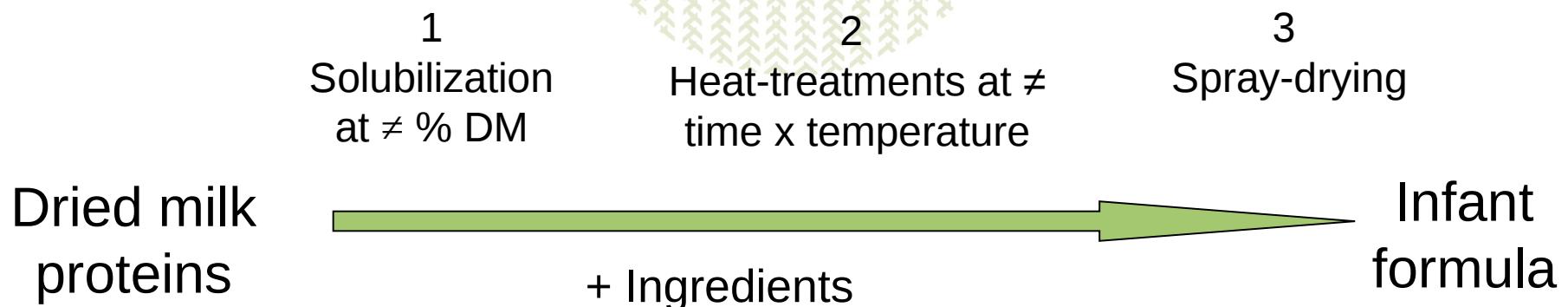
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Infant formula manufacture



↳ Interactions between proteins and other constituents

↳ Neo-formed components (protein aggregates, Maillard compounds...)

Does processing modify caseins digestibility in infant?

Objective

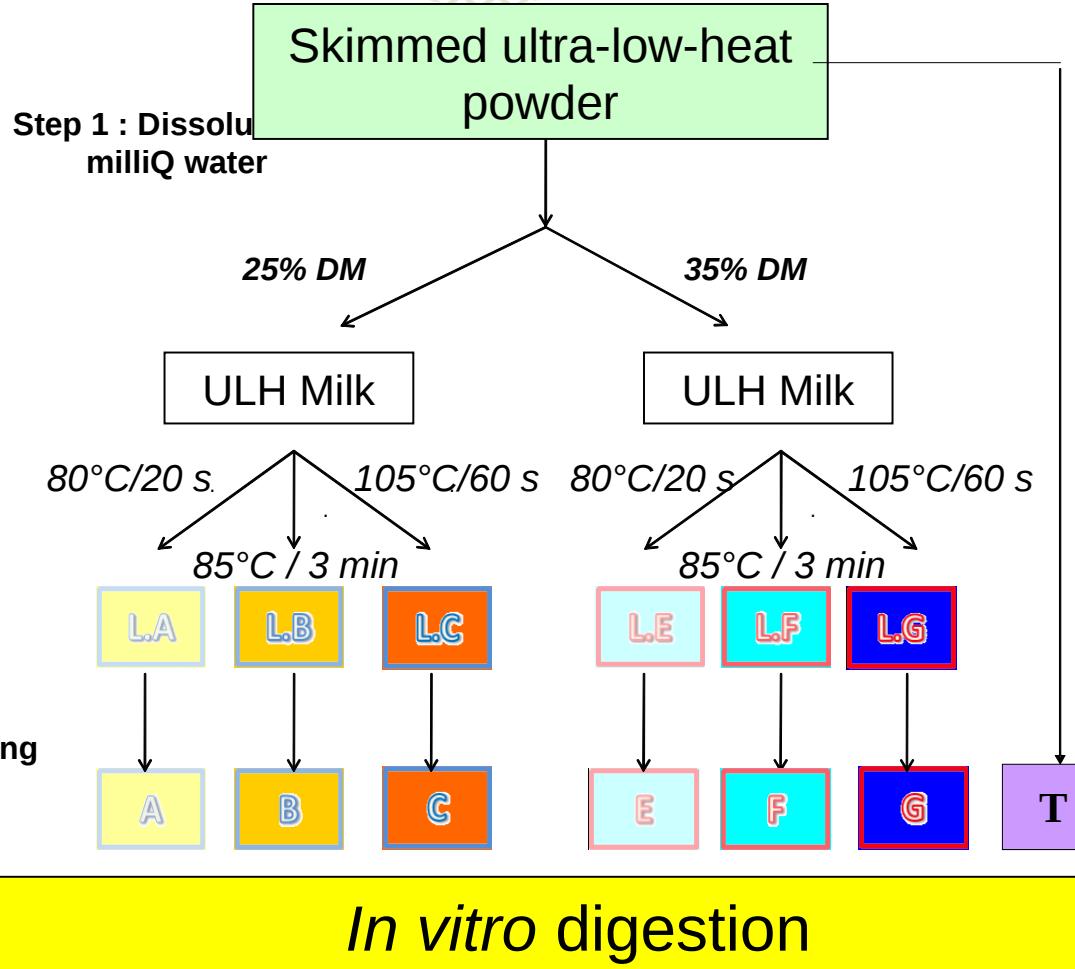
👉 Determine if heat treatment affects casein digestion

👉 Milk powders



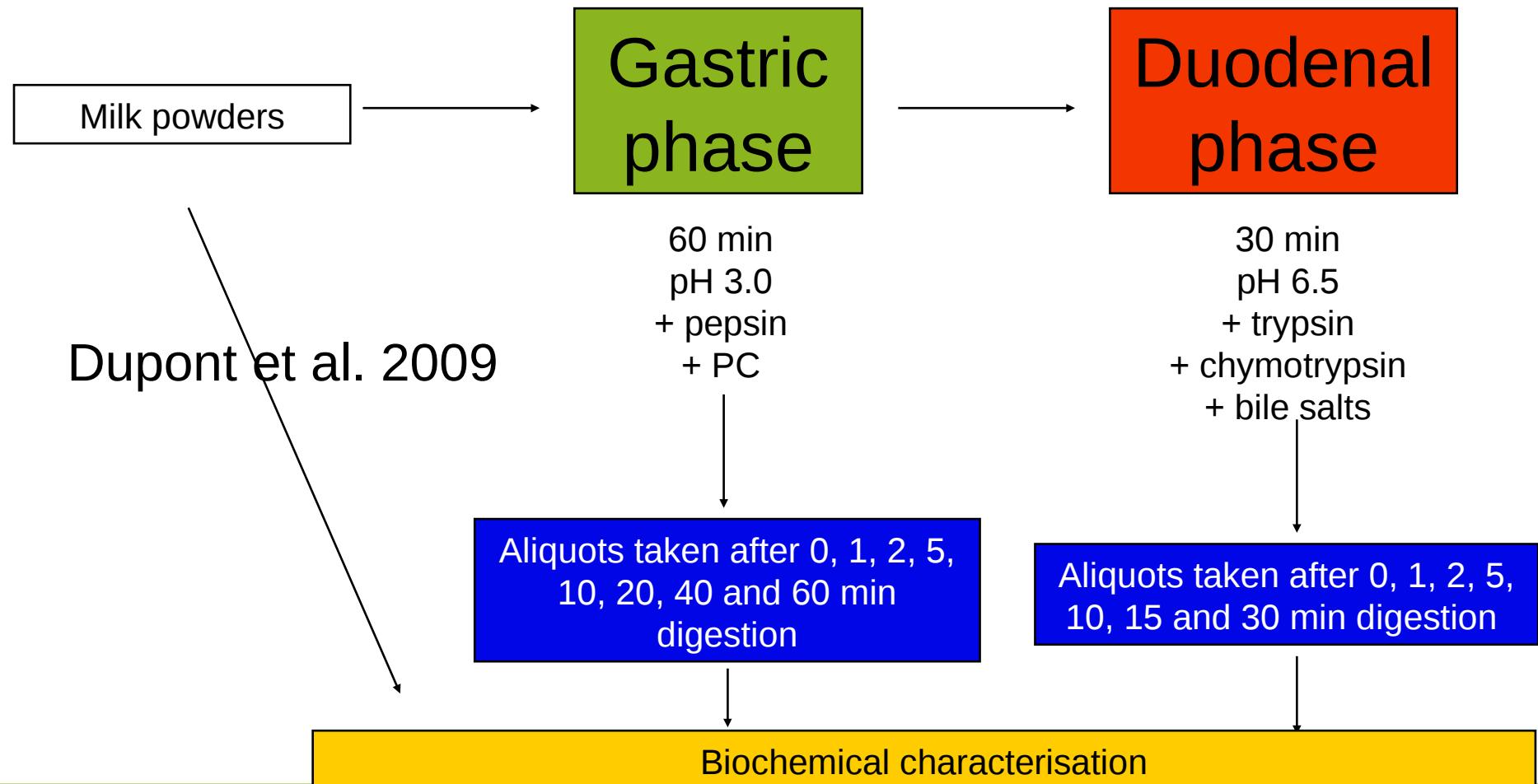
Step 2 :
Heat
treatment

Step 3 :
Spray drying



Infant gut Model

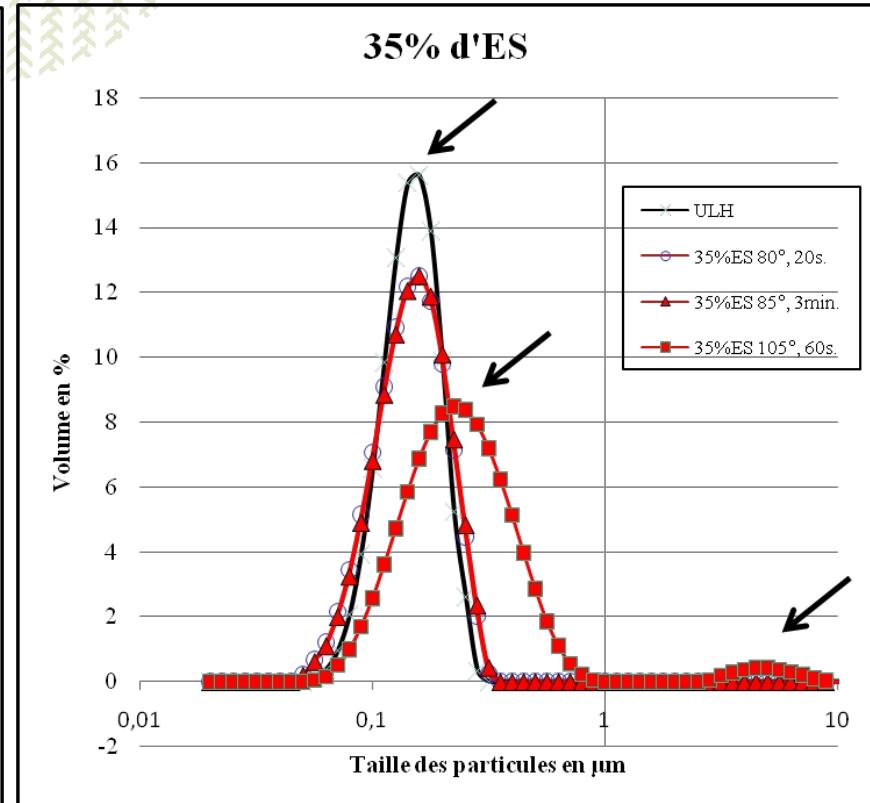
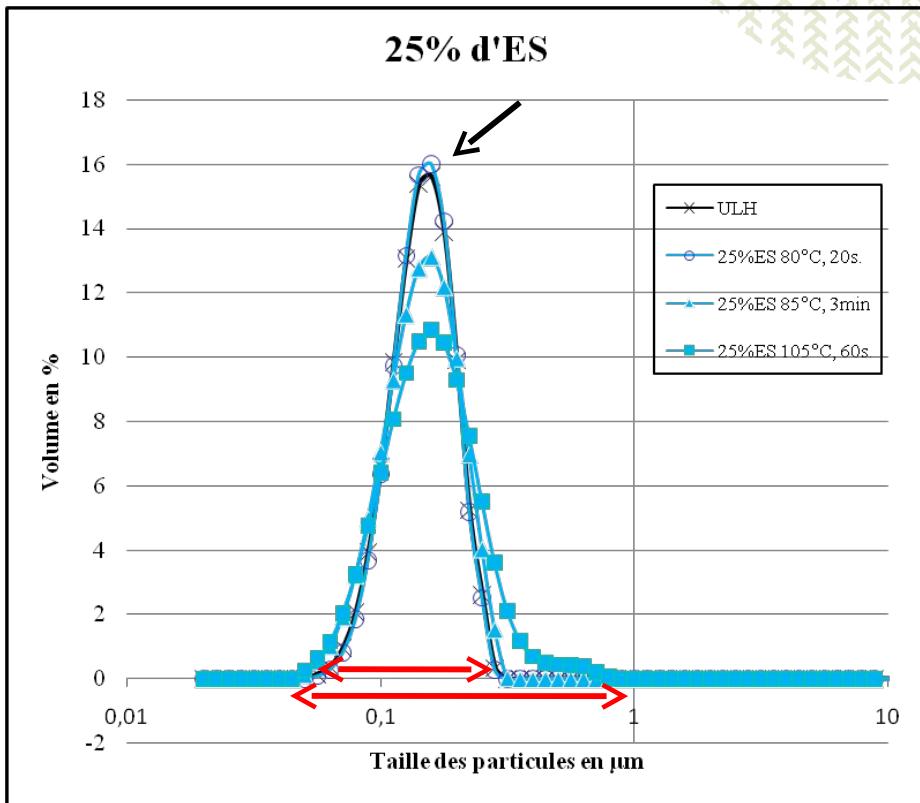
Modification of the adult gut model (Eiwegger et al. 2006)



1. Characterisation of the rehydrated powders



Particle size



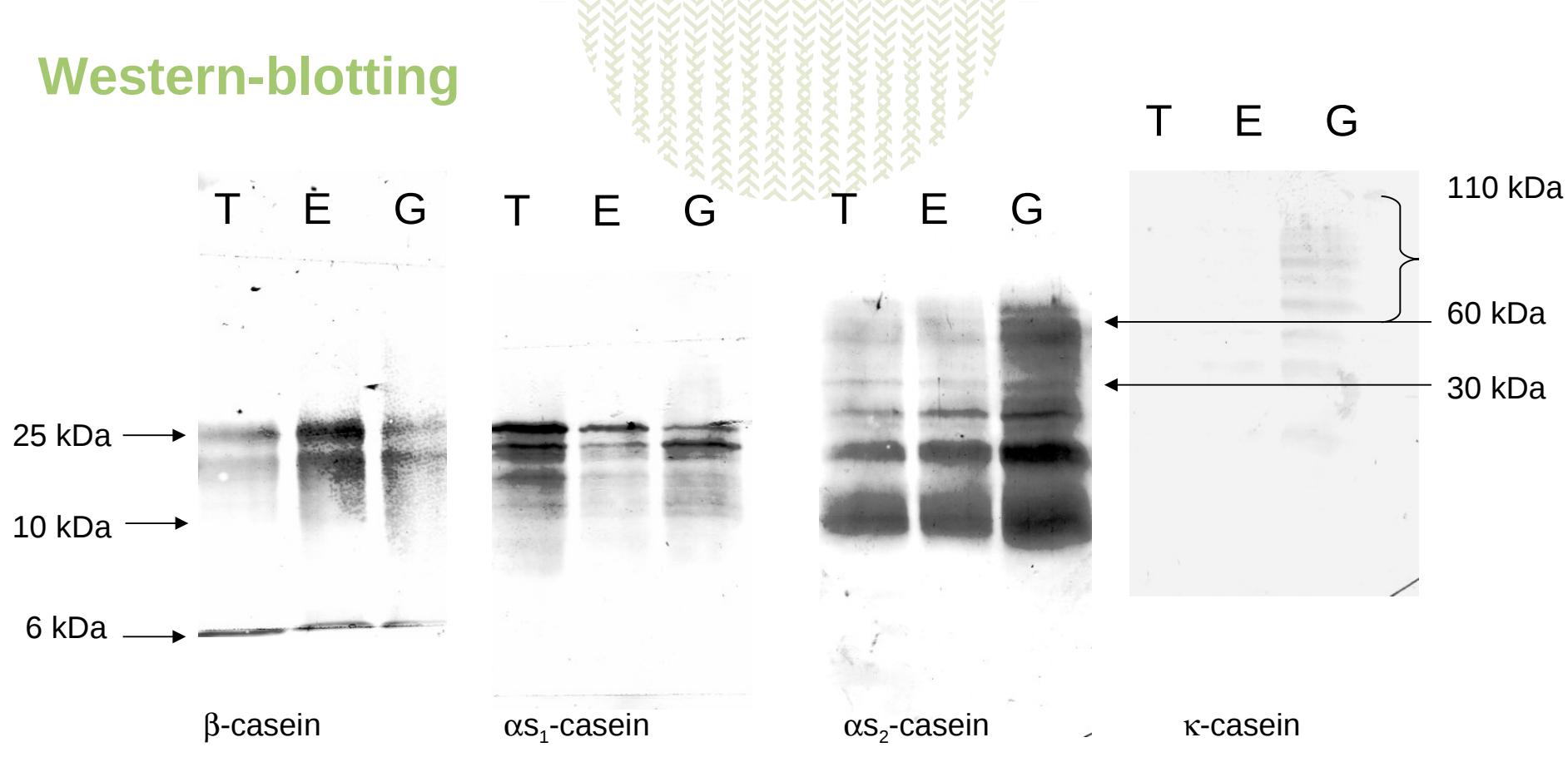
➡ heat-treatment at 105°C during 60s on 35% DM increases particle size



2. Characterisation of the digested samples by Western-blotting using αs_1 - , αs_2 - , β - , κ -casein specific antibodies



Western-blotting



High Mw compounds detected by αs_2 - and κ -casein specific Pabs

Thermal-induced aggregates with β -lactoglobulin resistant to digestion ?
(high Mw compounds observed with β -Ig specific antibodies)

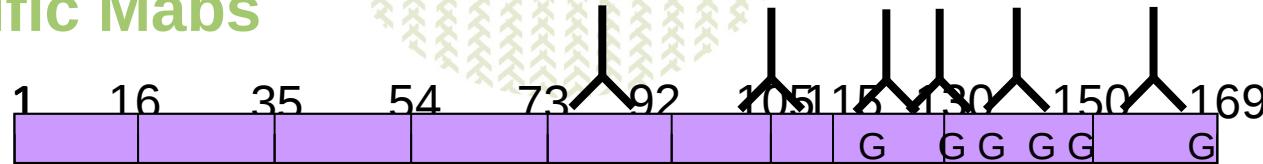


3. Characterisation of the digested samples by ELISA using αs_1 -, αs_2 - β -, and κ -casein specific monoclonal antibodies

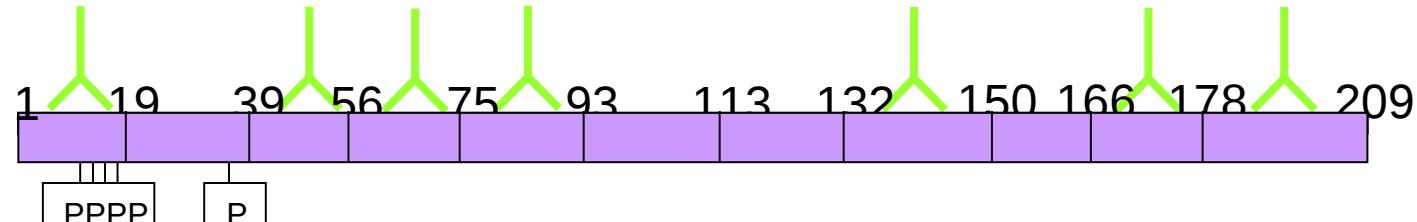


Identification of epitopes resistant to digestion by ELISA using specific Mabs

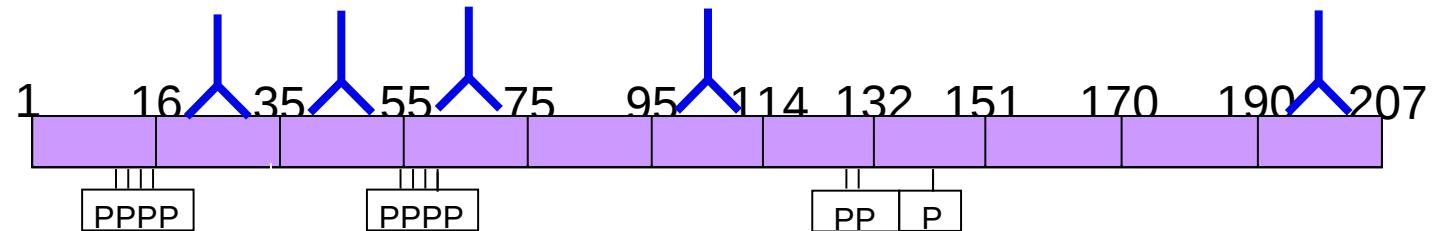
κ -casein



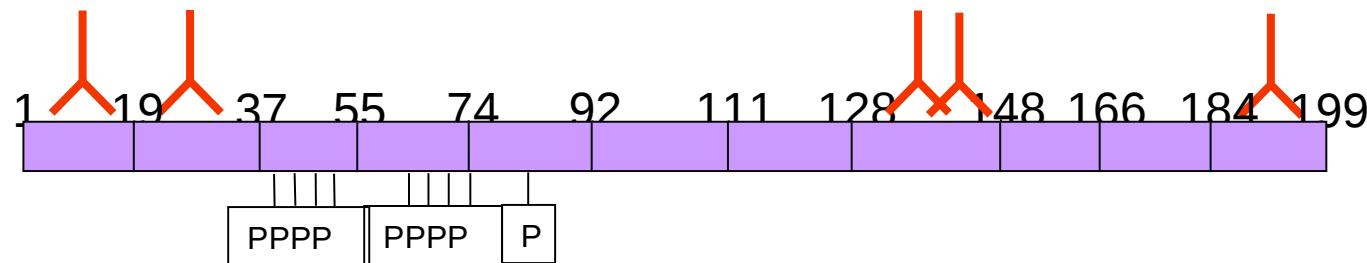
β -casein



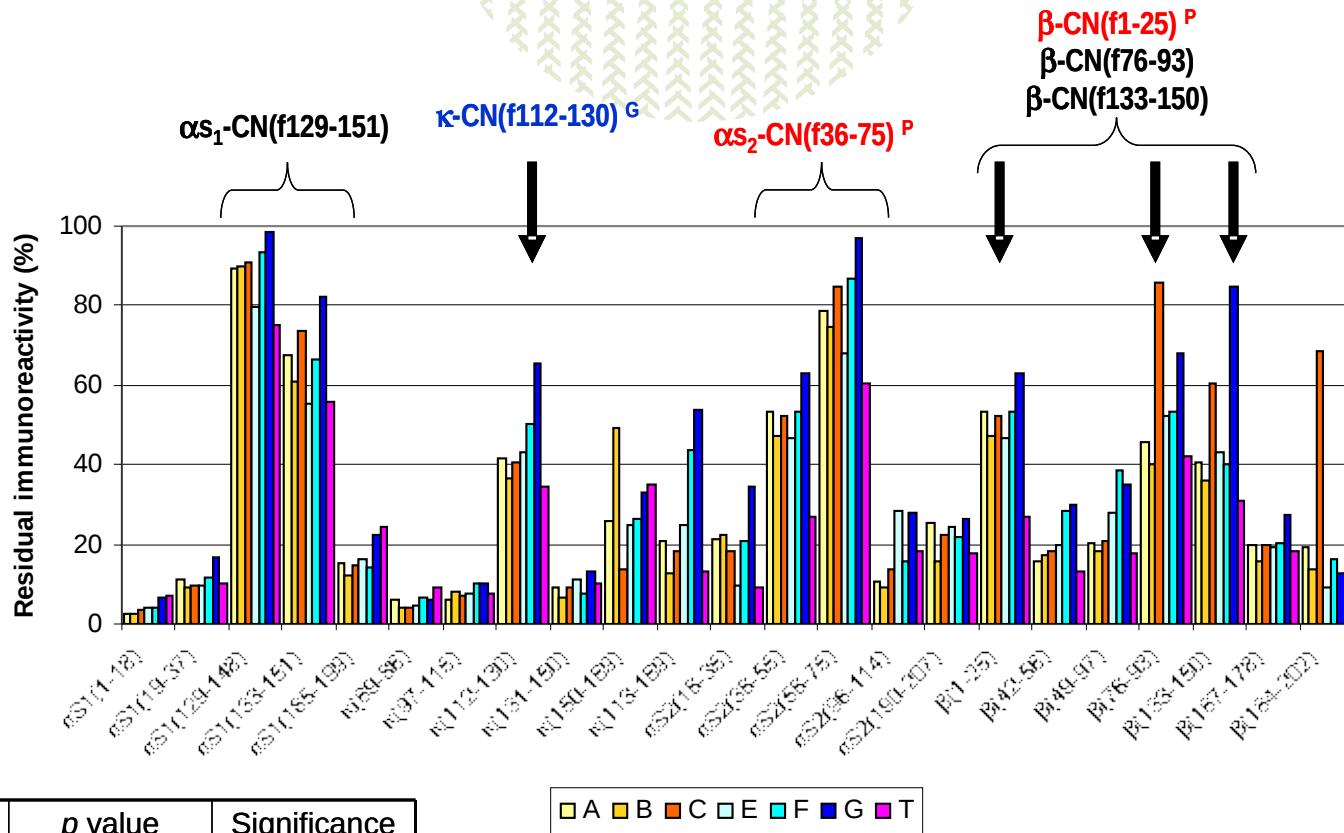
αs_2 -casein



αs_1 -casein



Residual immunoreactivity of casein fragments



Factor	<i>p</i> value	Significance
T	0.00001	***
% DM	0.00555	**
T:%DM	0.03262	*

Highest resistance at 35% DM heated at 105°C /60s



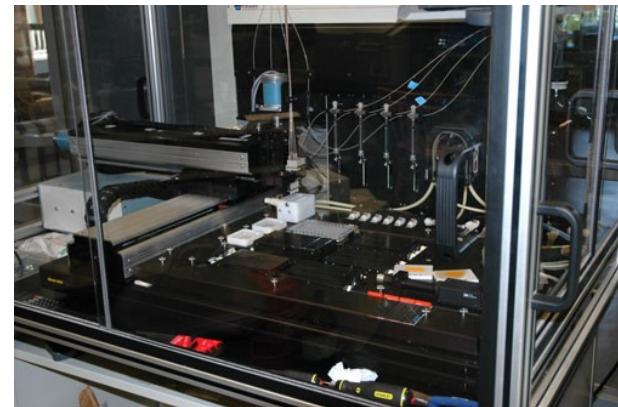
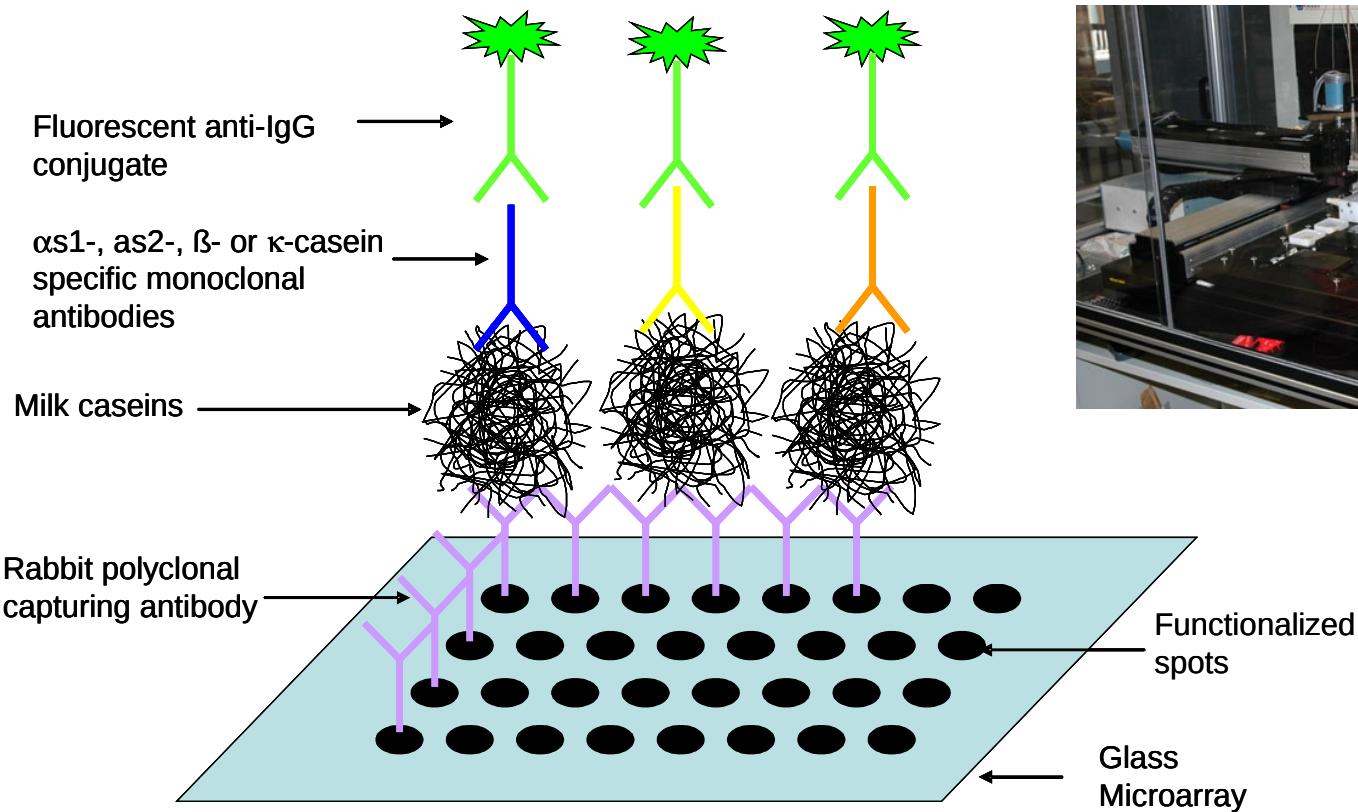
4. Kinetic of β -casein digestion using antibody microarrays



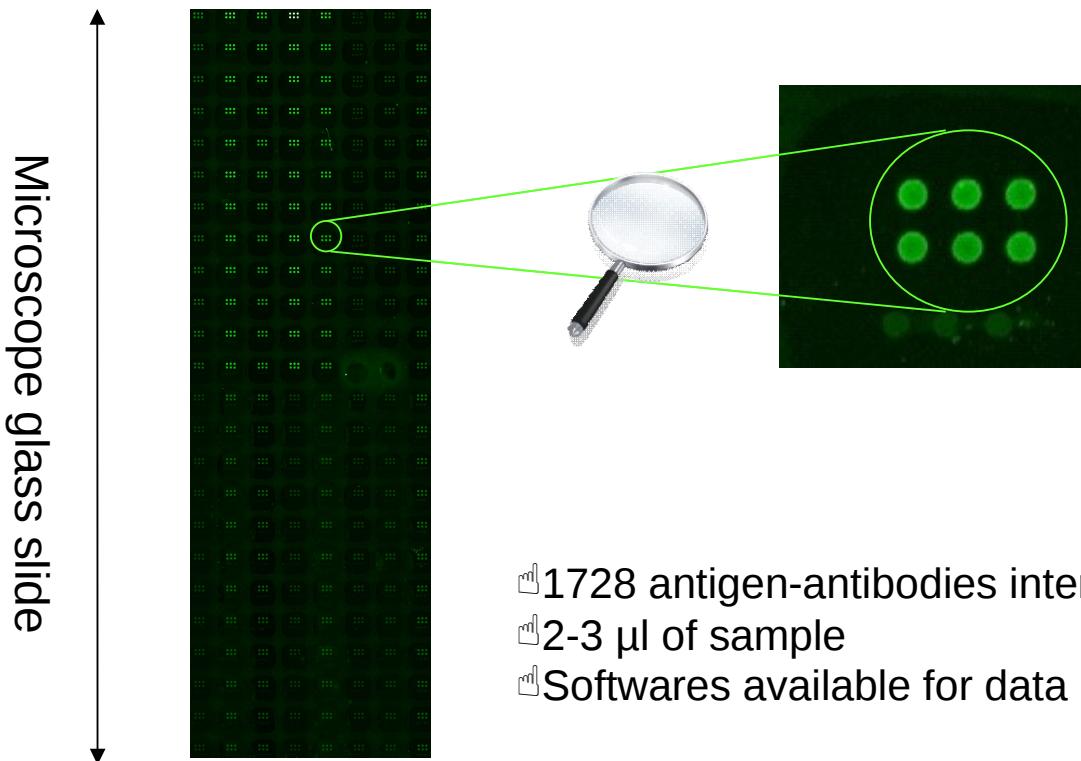
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Principle of the technique

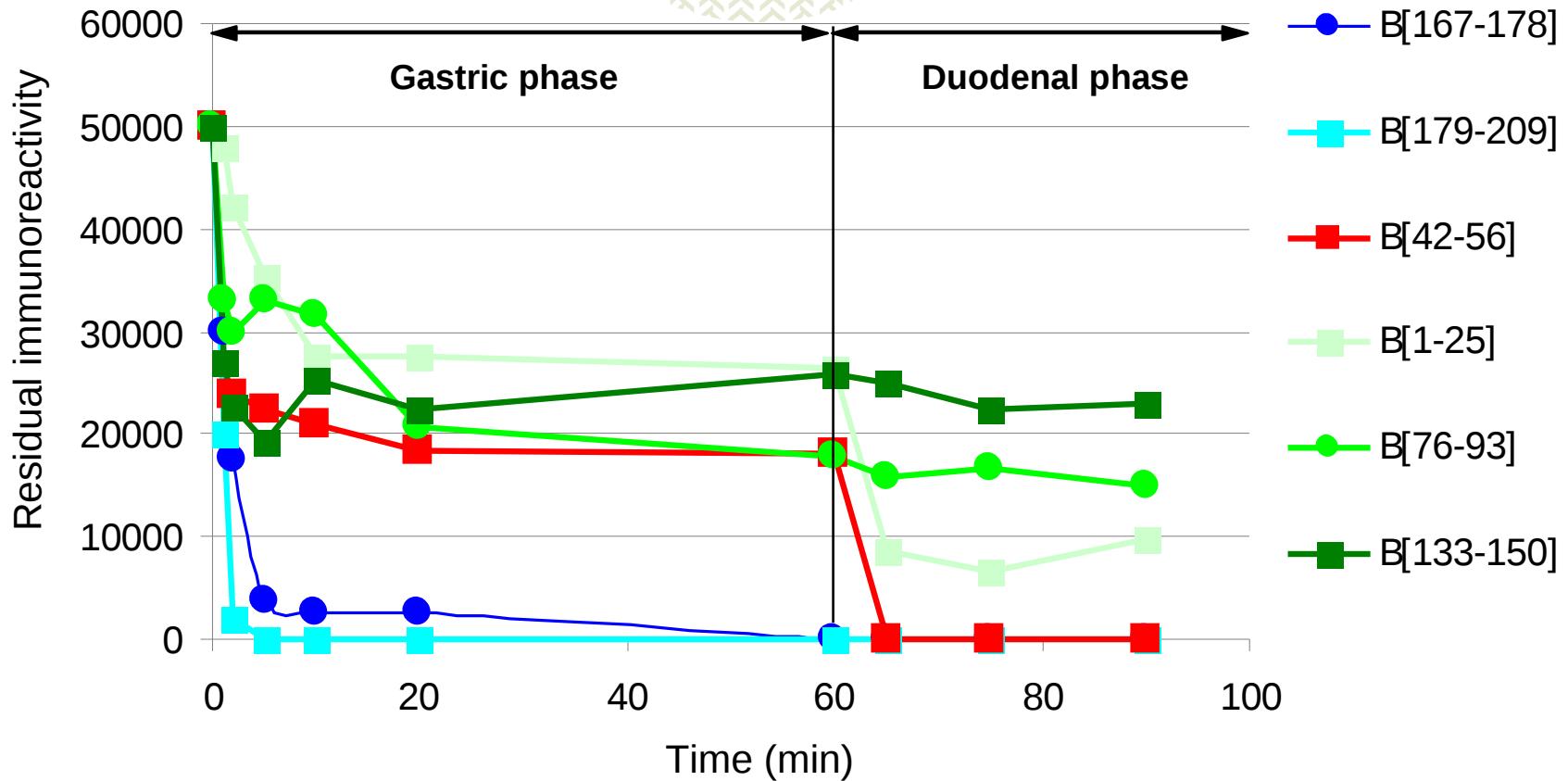


Antibody arrays – an example of results



- ⌚ 1728 antigen-antibodies interactions studied simultaneously
- ⌚ 2-3 µl of sample
- ⌚ Softwares available for data integration

Kinetics of β -casein digestion

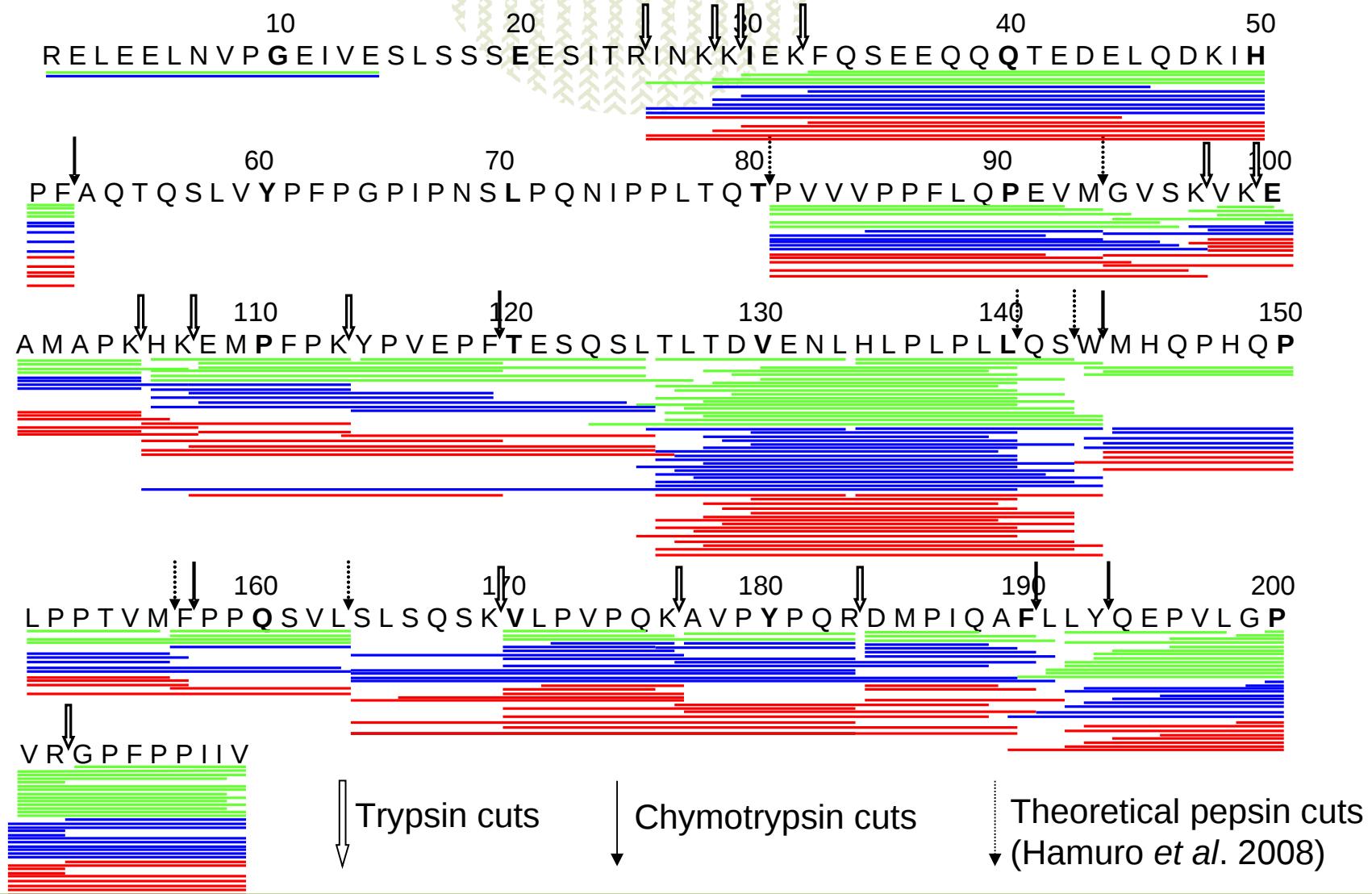


☝ Kinetics of β -casein digestion differ according to the area studied

5. Characterisation of the digested samples by LC-MS-MS



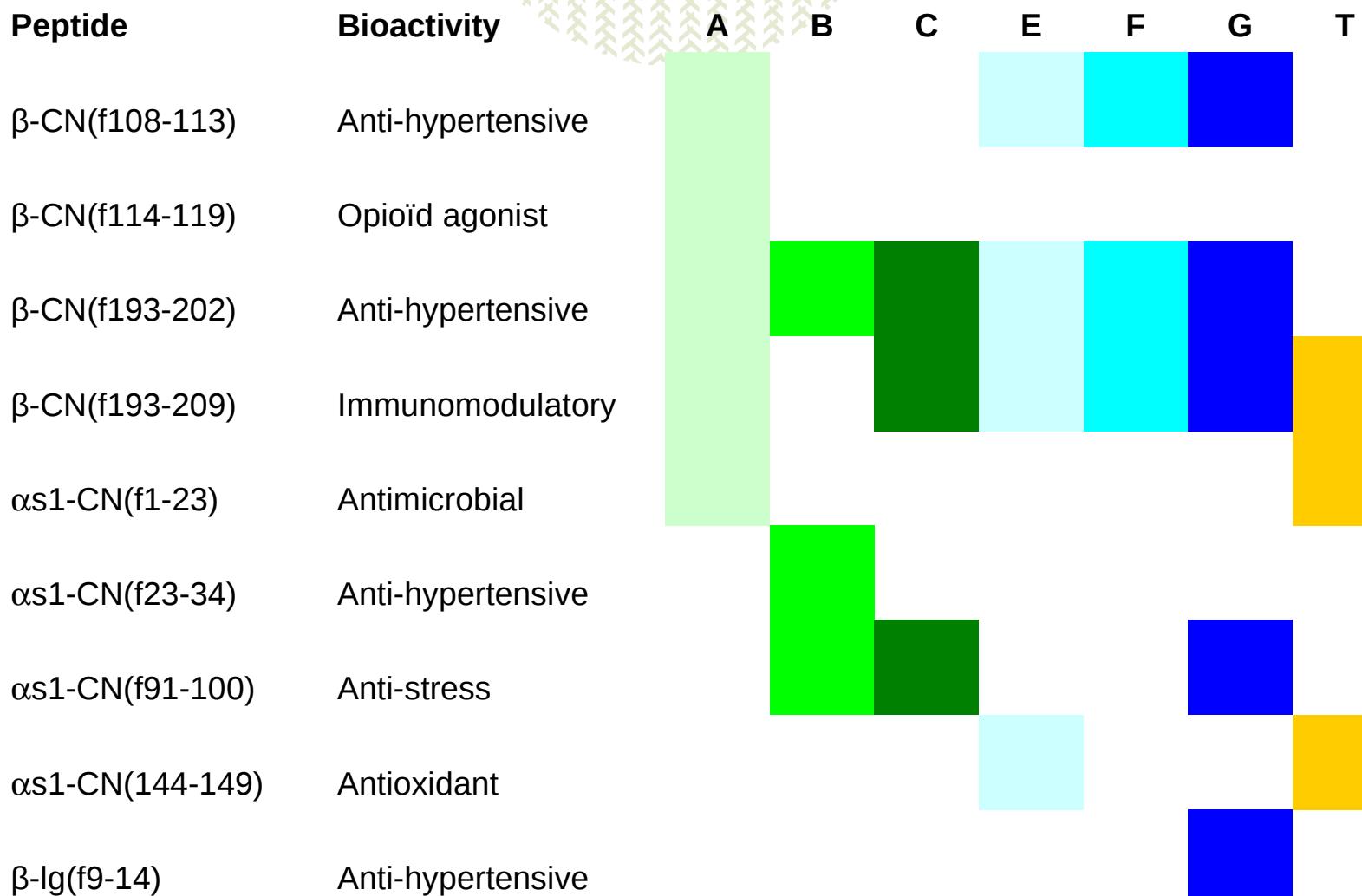
β -casein peptides identified in T, E, G digested samples



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Bioactive peptides detected



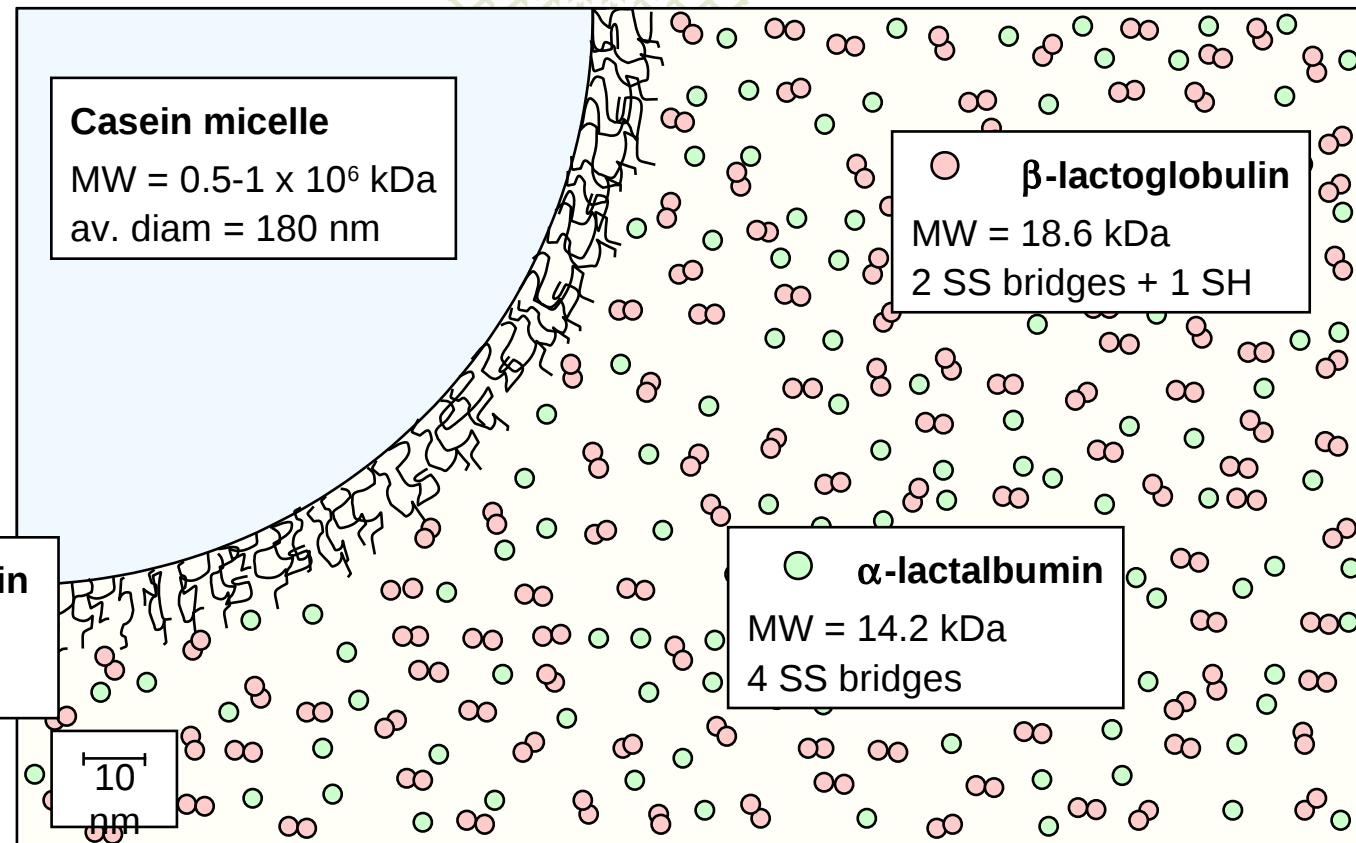
Discussion / Conclusion

- Caseins partly resist to *in vitro* infant digestion model
- Resistant area have been partly identified
- Post-translational modifications and hydrophobicity could explain the resistance of these fragments to digestion
- Bioactive peptides profile can be modified by processing
- Heat treatment has a significant influence on casein immunoreactivity in digested samples (increase)
Why?

Thermal aggregation of whey proteins on the casein micelle

Guyomarc'h
& Famelart

κ Casein
MW = 19.0 kDa
SS bridges

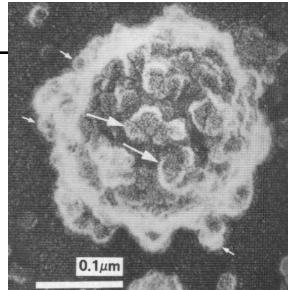


To scale schematic representation of the major whey proteins and of the casein micelle in unheated milk

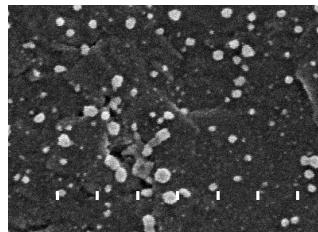
Thermal aggregation of whey proteins on the casein micelle

denatured

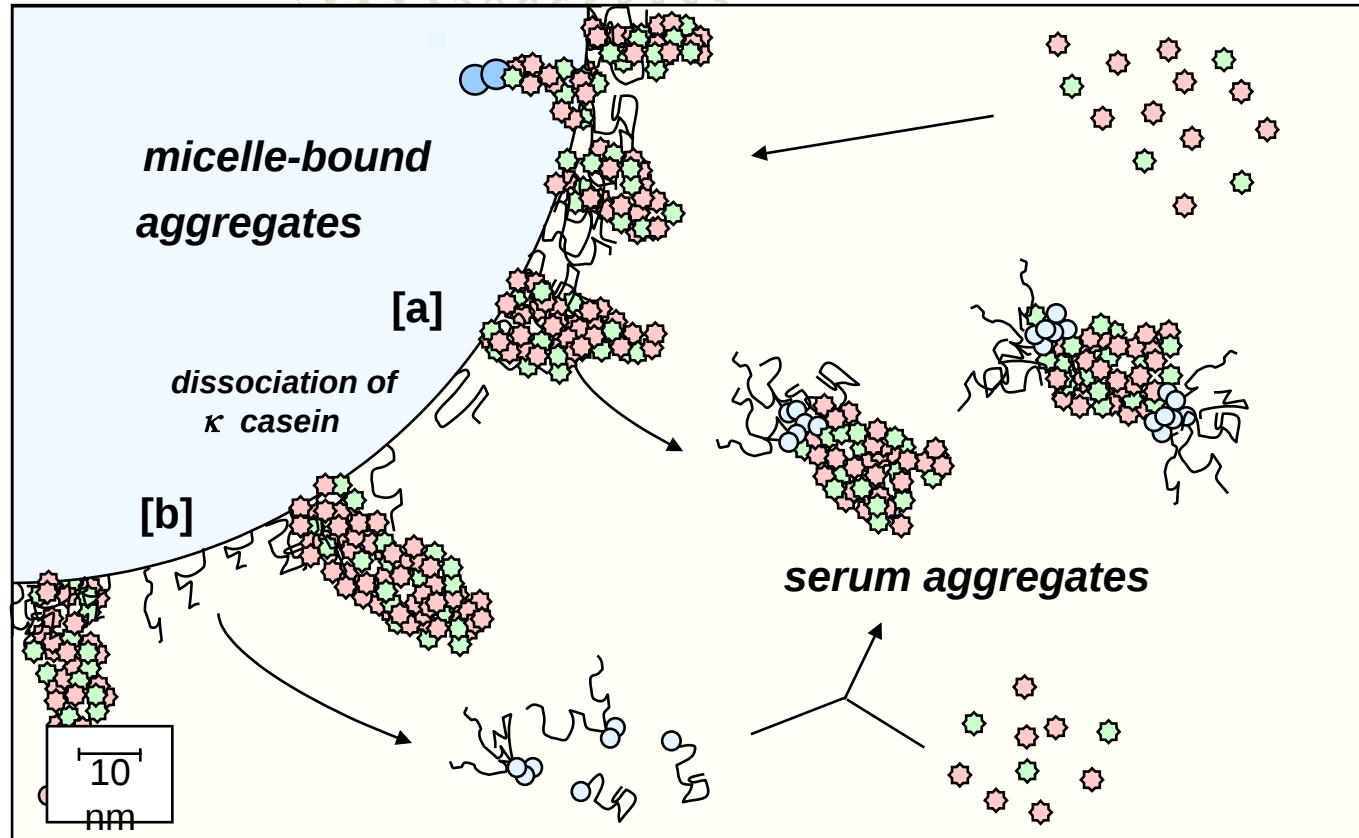
- β-lg
- denatured α-la
- κ casein
- α



a (Harwalkar et al., 1989)



b (Rodriguez del Angel & Dalgleish, 2006)



Micelle-bound and serum aggregates are formed, containing denatured whey proteins, κ casein and possible traces of α_{s2} casein. [a] and [b] indicate the 2 possible ways for the formation of the serum aggregates.

Guyomarc'h & Famelart

Discussion / Conclusion

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 - Why?
 - ? Thermal aggregation of whey proteins on the casein micelle

What's next?

- ➡ Development of a more sophisticated *in vitro* digestion model including the flows and the pH variation in the stomach

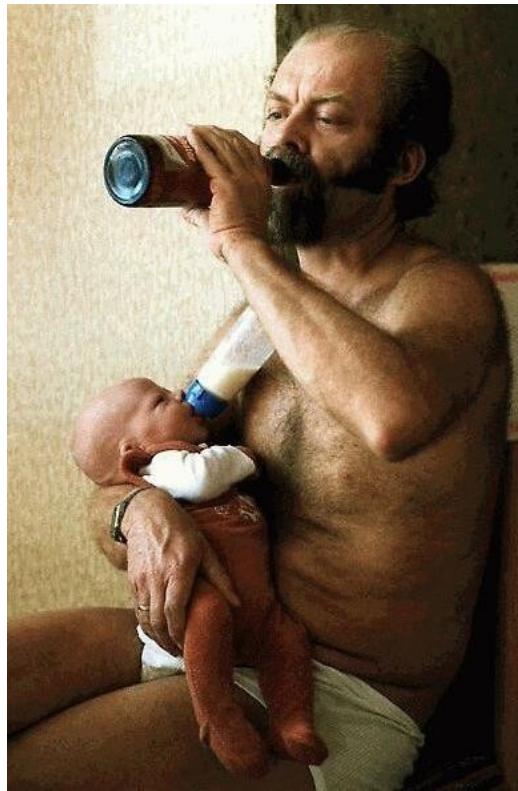


Figure 2 Examples of gastric pH records, six hour intervals: (A) four hourly feeds; (B)

three hourly feeds; (C) two hourly feeds.

- ➡ Comparison of *in vitro* data with those obtained on animal models (piglets)
- ➡ Validation of the gastric phase of the *in vitro* model towards human data (collection of gastric contents in pre-term neonates)
- ➡ Study of the influence of lipid-protein interactions on protein digestion

Improving infant formula for improving human life



Thanks for your kind attention !!!

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