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Laccases 2 & 3 as biomarkers of Botrytis cinerea infection in sweet white

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Abstract

Botrytized sweet wines are made with berries infected by the fungus *Botrytis cinerea*. The aim of this study was to identify biomarkers of *B. cinerea* infection in sweet wines with a focus on laccases which are exocellular oxidase enzymes produced by this fungus during fruit contamination. Total proteins from six commercial sweet wines, including three naturally botrytized wines and three non-botrytized wines were analysed by LC-QTOF-MS. Five laccases, namely laccase-1-BcLCC1, laccase-2-BcLCC2, laccase-3-BcLCC7, laccase-8-BcLCC8 and laccase-12-BcLCC12, were identified in both types of wine. Then, a targeted proteomic approach by LC-MRM was used to semi-quantify laccase-2-BcLCC2 and laccase-3-BcLCC7, in the six samples. LC-MRM targeted analysis of the two enzymes allowed the discrimination of botrytized *versus* non-botrytized sweet white wines.

KEYWORDS

Botrytized white wines, *Botrytis cinerea*, noble rot, laccases

1. Introduction

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Botrytized wines are sweet wines which are made with overripe berries from Vitis vinifera infected by the fungus Botrytis cinerea which are rich in aroma compounds (Tosi et al., 2012). They are produced in different countries in the world such as Hungary (Tokaji Aszu), Germany (Trockenbeerenauslese and Beerenauslese wines) and France (Sauternes) (Magyar, 2011; Teissedre & Donèche, 2013). Recently, the production of botrytized wines has increased in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and California (Magyar, 2011). Botrytis cinerea (Botryotinia fuckeliana) is a filamentous and phytopathogenic fungus with a wide host range since it can infect more than 220 eudicot plants (Fournier, Gladieux, & Giraud, 2013). B. cinerea is notably the main pathogen infecting grapevines. Contamination of grape berries by B. cinerea was well compared to "Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde" since its infection may take two very distinctive pathways, namely "noble rot" or "bunch rot", closely depending on weather conditions (Fournier et al., 2013). The development of B. cinerea under mild climatic conditions (i.e. dry days followed by moisty nights) and a late grape harvest promotes noble rot development which induces favourable changes in berry composition. During the natural noble rot process, water evaporation through grape skin leads to a decrease of berry water content. Besides this process, many metabolic and physicochemical changes occur in the berries: an increase of sugar content due to berry dehydration, changes in sugar profile, changes in acid concentrations (Ribéreau-Gayon, Dubourdieu, & Donèche, 2006). Blanco-Ulate et al. (2015) reported an activation of the stilbene, flavonoid and anthocyanin biosynthesis in noble rot berries (Blanco-Ulate et al., 2015). The noble rot process impacts the berry aroma composition (Sarrazin, Dubourdieu, & Darriet, 2007) and especially its volatile thiol content (Thibon et al., 2010; Tominaga, Niclass, Frérot, & Dubourdieu, 2006), providing botrytized wines with a distinctive sensory profile with more grapefruit and passion fruit notes. By contrast, a cool weather associated with heavy rainfalls favours B.cinerea development as bunch or grey rot in grape clusters. This leads to unwanted organoleptic properties in musts and wines such as the appearance of earthy mushroom aromas and other off-flavor compounds (Lopez Pinar,

Rauhut, Ruehl, & Buettner, 2016; Steel, Blackman, & Schmidtke, 2013). In addition, the oxidation of

phenolic compounds by *B. cinerea* laccase enzymes leads to a decline of must and wine colour stability (Claus, 2017; Ribéreau-Gayon et al., 2006; Steel et al., 2013).

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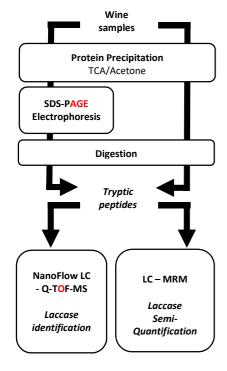
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B. cinerea also impacts the grapes and wine proteomes as it secretes some enzymes and exhibits a high proteolytic activity leading to grape protein degradation (Cilindre, Castro, Clément, Jeandet, & Marchal, 2007; Kupfer, Vogt, Ziegler, Vogel, & Niessen, 2017; R. Marchal et al., 1998). This alteration of grape proteins affects wine properties and quality such as gushing (Kupfer et al., 2017) and foaming properties (Cilindre et al., 2007; Richard Marchal, Warchol, Cilindre, & Jeandet, 2006). Infection is also characterised by production of *B. cinerea* proteins that can be found in berries and resulting wines, such as ATP synthase, hydroxysteroid dehydrogenases (Lorenzini et al., 2015), glycoside hydrolase, beta-1,3-gucanase (Perutka, Šufeisl, Strnad, & Šebela, 2019) and laccases (Kupfer et al., 2017; Perutka et al., 2019). Laccases (EC 1.10.3.2) are well-known and the most studied proteins of B. cinerea since they are responsible for major organoleptic problems and alteration of wine stability. They are highly glycosylated extracellular enzymes that belong to the family of polyphenol oxidase (PPO) (Claus, 2004). These multi-cooper oxidases are responsible for oxidative reactions in plants, using oxygen to oxidise a wide range of aromatic and non-aromatic substrates by a radical-catalysed reaction mechanism (Claus, 2004). In the case of grey mould contamination, the oxidation of phenolic compounds into highly reactive quinones that polymerize into brownish polymers responsible for wines colour alteration (Ribéreau-Gayon et al., 2006). The effect of laccase activity on organoleptic properties of musts and wines during noble rot infection is less clear. Even though laccase activity was detected in noble rot berries, its implication in the gold colour of botrytized wines was not elucidated and might be caused by glucose-oxidase activity more than laccase activity (Vivas et al., 2010). A recent study reported the presence of a single laccase in hazy white wines produced with partially botrytized grapes (Perutka et al., 2019). However, two laccases were identified by our research group from in vitro cultures of B. cinerea for three different strains (Quijada-Morin et al., 2017). To our knowledge, there was no study on laccases produced by B. cinerea in sweet white wines. The aim of our study is then to identify laccases present in botrytized white wines. First, a bottom-up qualitative proteomic approach was used to identify laccases present in

- 78 botrytized or non-botrytized sweet wines. Then, a targeted semi quantitative approach by LC-MRM
- 79 was developed to semi-quantify the main laccases present in sweet white wines (Figure 1).



81 FIGURE 1: Workflow

2. Material & Methods

2.1. Wine samples

Three commercial non-botrytized sweet white wines (SWs) and 3 commercial botrytized wines (BWs) were used in this study. Samples are listed in table 1. After bottles opening, wines were divided into 15 ml tube aliquots and kept at -80° C.

TABLE 1: List of wine samples used in the study, years, wine origin

	Sample name	Year	Appellation		
	SW1	2016	Jurançon		
Non-Botrytized	SW2	2015	Alsace		
Sweet Wins (SWs)	SW3	2014	Beaumes de Venise		
	BW1	2013	Sauternes		
Botrytized Wins (BWs)	BW2	2015	Sauternes		
(D 113)	BW3	2015	Sauternes		

2.2. Chemicals

Acetone (analytic grade), trifluroroacetic acid (TFA) and dithiothreitol (DTT) were purchased from Sigma (Saint Quentin Fallavier, France). Trichloroacetic acid (TCA) was purchased from Acros Organics (Thermo Fisher). The reagents for sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) were purchased from Invitrogen. Urea was purchased from Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany) and ammonium bicarbonate (ABC) was purchase from Fluka Analytical (Bucharest, Romania). Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane (Tris) and iodoacetic acid (IAA) were purchased from VWR (Fontenay-sous-Bois, France). Water ULC-MS, formic acid ULC-MS (FA), acetonitrile ULC-MS (ACN), methanol ULC-MS (MeOH) were all from Biosolve (Dieuze, France). Trypsin Gold, Mass Spectrometry Grade, was purchased from Promega (Charbonnières-les-Bains, France).

2.3. Trichloroacetic acid/acetone wine proteins extraction

Total proteins from 10 ml of wines were precipitated overnight by adding 40 ml of 10% TCA/chilled acetone (-20°C). After precipitation, samples were centrifuged at 10 000 g for 20 min at 4°C. Proteins

pellets were washed twice with 1 ml of cold acetone and centrifuged at 10 000 g for 20 min at 4° C. Pellets were stored at -80° C until use for Q-TOf and MRM analysis.

2.4. Sample preparation

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2.4.1. SDS-PAGE and in-gel protein digestion for Q-TOf protein identification

Wine protein pellets were separated by SDS-PAGE electrophoresis using à 4-12 % Tris-Acetate Protein Gels (Invitrogen, Illkirch, France). Briefly, pellets were suspended in 50 µl of milliQ water, 26 μl of the samples were mixed with 10 μl Novex NuPAGE LDS (4X) buffer (Invitrogen, Illkirch, France) and 4 µl of reducting agent NuPAGE10X (Invitrogen, Illkirch, France). Denaturation was performed 5 min at 90°C. Finally, samples were centrifuged to remove insoluble particles and loaded in SDS-PAGE gel with ready-to-use molecular-weight marker (SeeBlue® Plus 2 Prestained Standard 1X (Invitrogen, Illkirch, France). Electrophoresis was carried out at 200 mA. Gel was stained with Blue Coomassie Instant Blue (Expedeon, San Diego, USA). For each wine sample, 8 bands were excised from the gel on a molecular weight range from 30 to 190 kDa. In gel digestion of bands was performed as following. Bands were washed successively twice with 150 µL of 50% ethanol in 50mmol/L ABC (pH 8.4) and were dried using a Speedvac (Labconco, Kansas City, MO, USA). Then, the bands were successively reduced (10 mmol/L of DTT, 56°C;1 h), alkylated (55 mmol/L of IAA, 37°C, 45 min), dehydrated (50% ethanol in 50 mmol/L ABC (pH 8.4)) and dried using a Speedvac. Bands were digested overnight at 37°C in 12.5 mg/mL of tryspin solution in 25 mmol/L ammonium carbonate. The digestion was stopped by adding 15 μL of pure FA (pH < 4). The tryptic peptides were desalted on BRAVO AssayMap (Agilent Technologies, Les Ulis, France) with C18 Tips conditioned with 50 μL of 70% ACN/0.1% FA and equilibrated with 50 μL of 0.1% FA. Loaded samples were washed twice with 50 μL of 0.1% FA and eluted with 50 μL of 70% ACN/0.1% FA. Samples were dried using a Speedvac (Labconco, Kansas City, MO, USA) and resuspended in 10 μL of phase A (0.1% formic acid, 2% ACN in water) for LC-MS/MS injections.

2.4.2. Sample preparation for MRM analyses

Protein pellets were obtained as described above. All the following steps were performed on Amicon Ultra 4, 30kDa centrifugal filter units (Merck Millipore, Molsheim, France). Protein pellets were

suspended and washed twice by 8 M urea in Tris-HCl (pH 8.5) and successively reduced in 10 mM of DTT in Tris-HCl (pH 8.5), alkylated in IAA in 0.1 M in Tris-HCl (pH 8.5), washed twice with 50 mM ABC buffer and then digested overnight (37°C) with trypsin at 1 μ g/ml in 50 mM ABC buffer. Tryptic peptides were dried using a Speedvac (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Villebon sur Yvette, France) and resuspended in 30 μ l ACN with 0.1% FA.

2.5. Mass Analyses

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2.5.1. Nano-Q-TOF-MS analyses for protein identification

Seven microliters of the samples were injected in an HPLC NanoElute (Bruker, Billerica, USA) system coupled to a Q-TOF-MS instrument (Impact II, Bruker Daltonics, Champs sur Marne, France). Analyses were operated in nanoflow mode (400nL/min) NanoFlow LC. Samples were desalted and pre-concentrated on a PepMap u-precolumn (300 µm × 5 mm, C18 PepMap 100, 5 µm, 100 Å) (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Illkirch, France). The capillary pump was set at 20 μL/min and the mobile phase was 0.05% TFA, 2% ACN in water. Peptides were separated on a C18 analytical column (75 μm × 500 mm; Acclaim Pepmap RSLC, C18, 2 μm, 100 Å). The peptides were eluted with a gradient consisting of 5-26% B for 45 min and 90% B for 4 min (A, 0.1% formic acid, 2% ACN in water; B, 0.1% formic acid in ACN) at 400 nL/min. The temperature was set at 50°C. Peptides were identified by data-dependent acquisition (DDA). A lock-mass [m/z 1222, Hexakis (1H, 4Hhexafluorobutyloxy) phosphazine] was used as the internal calibrator. Instant Expertise software (Bruker Daltonics) selected as many as possible of the most intense ions per cycle of 3 seconds and active exclusion was performed after one spectrum for 2 minutes only if the precursor ion exhibited an intensity three times greater than the previous scan. MS/MS spectra were searched against a SwissProt 2017 07 28 database and against a home-made laccase short database adapted from Simon and Viaud (2018) (Simon & Viaud, 2018). Mascot v 2.4.1 algorithm (Matrix Science, http://www.matrixscience.com/) was used with the following settings: enzyme: trypsin; variable modifications: oxidation (M) and deamidated (N,Q); fixed modifications: carbamidomethyl (C); missed cleavages: 1; instrument type CID: ESI-QUAD-TOF; peptide tolerance: 10.0 ppm; MS/MS tolerance: 0.05 Da; peptide charge: 1+, 2+ and 3+; mass: monoisotopic; C13: 1; minimum peptide length: 5; peptide decoy: ON; adjust FDR (%): 2.5; percolator: ON; ions score cut-off: 12; ions score threshold for significant peptide IDs: 12.

2.6. LC-MRM analyses for laccase targeted detection

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The two following peptides, YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR (laccase 2) and YTTNTITAGK (laccase 3) were purchased from Eurogentec (Angers, France). Linearity of the two peptides was assessed. Synthetic standards were mixed and diluted in 0.1% FA (Phase A) at 1.4, 0.14 and 0.014 pmol/µL for YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR and 0.14, 0.014 and 0.0014 pmol/µL for YTTNTITAGK. Each dilution was then injected at 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 µL in duplicates. Analyses were performed on LC (1290, Agilent Technologies, Les Ulis, France) - QqQ MS (6490, Agilent) system equipped with an AdvanceBio Peptide Plus column (2.1 x 150mm, 2.7µm) (Agilent Technologies, Les Ulis, France) maintained at 56°C. The mobile phase was composed of 0.1% FA (Phase A) and ACN (Phase B). 20 μl were injected and separated on 30 minutes' run with a non-linear gradient of 2.7 to 81 % of phase B at a flow rate of 400 µl/min. The column was then washed for 1 min with 100% solvent B and reequilibrated for 3 min with 15% solvent B. The ESI source was set as follows: capillary tension 3500 V, nozzle voltage 300 V, nebulizer 30 psi, gas flow rate 15 l/min, gas temperature 150°C, sheath gas flow rate 11 l/min, sheath gas temperature 250°C. The MS was performed in dynamic MRM mode with a retention window of 1.5 min and a maximum cycle time fixed at 700 ms. Skyline software (v. https://skyline.gs.washington.edu/) was used to create MRM transition YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR peptide (MRM transition: 884.42 -> 913.51, fragmentor voltage: 380 V; Collision energy: 32 V; Cell accelerator voltage: 5 V; Retention time: 4 min) was monitored to detect the laccase-2-BcLCC2. YTTNTITAGK peptide (MRM transition: 535.28 -> 805.44, fragmentor voltage: 380 V; Collision energy: 12 V; Cell accelerator voltage: 5 V; Retention time: 4 min) was monitored to detect the laccase-3-BcLCC3. MS signal was integrated, manually checked, and exported to an Excel file with Skyline 4.1 (University of Washington). Analyses were performed on the same day in order to avoid inter-day variability on 3 biological replicates.

2.7. Statistical analysis

For MRM analyses, mean values of peak area are reported with their standard deviation. For each laccase, peptide peak area of the two groups BWs and SWs were compared by a Student t-test (α = 0.05) using XLSTAT 2018.4 (Addinsoft, Paris, France).

3. Results & Discussion

3.1. Identification of laccases present in sweet wines by nano-LC-Q-TOF-MS

Total proteins of a botrytized wine sample (BW1) and a non-botrytized wine sample (SW1) were isolated by TCA/acetone precipitation and separated by SDS-PAGE electrophoresis. Tryptic digests were analysed by nano-LC-MS and peptides were compared against two distinct databases with a focus to identify laccases. In the molecular weight range studied (*i.e.* 30 to 190 kDa) fifteen proteins were identified in the UniprotKB/SwissProt global protein database, mainly yeast protein from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and enzymes from *B. cinerea* (Supp. Material S1).

A short homemade laccase database was established using laccase genes data collected by Simon and Viaud (2018) to specifically identify laccases present in BW1 and SW1. Results are listed in Table 2. Five different laccases were detected in the samples. Laccase-2-BcLCC2, laccase-3-BcLCC7 and laccase-8-BcLCC8 were identified in both SW1 and BW1 samples. BcLCC12 was detected only in SW1 while laccase-1-BcLCC1 was detected only in BW1.

TABLE 2: MS identification table of laccases in sweet botrytized (BWI) or non-botrytized (SWI) wines using Laccase short database (adapted from Simon & Viaud, 2018). Gene name, protein description, theoretical molecular weight (Th. MW), Isoelectric point (pI), Mascot score (M. score), number of identified peptides, and sequence coverage (SC) are reported.

Sample	B0510- BROAD gene name	Usual gene name	Protein	Th. MW [kDa]	pI	M. Scores	#Peptides	SC [%]
	BC1G_08553.1	BcLcc2	Laccase-2-BcLCC2	63.4	4.5	1101.5	18	26.7
SW1	BC1G_10329.1	BcLcc7	Laccase-3-BcLCC7	71.1	5.7	64.6	1	1.5
5W1	BC1G_14349.1	BcLcc8	Laccase-8-BcLCC8	76.4	5.4	23.6	1	1.3
	BC1G_15514.1	BcLcc12	Laccase-12- BcLCC12	67.1	5.2	15.5	1	2.6
	BC1G_08553.1	BcLcc2	Laccase-2-BcLCC2	63.4	4.5	2074.0	23	26.7
BW1	BC1G_10329.1	BcLcc7	Laccase-3-BcLCC7	71.1	5.7	407.6	9	16
	BC1G_14349.1	BcLcc8	Laccase-8-BcLCC8	76.4	5.4	51.6	1	1.3
	BC1G_00138.1	BcLcc1	Laccase-1-BcLCC1	60.8	5.9	30.8	1	1.8

Laccases were identified as isoenzymes in more than 115 fungus species (Baldrian, 2006). From a genetic point of view, 13 genes (*BcLcc1 to BcLcc13*) encoding for laccases were identified in *B. cinerea* genome (Simon & Viaud, 2018).

Laccase-2-BcLCC2 is a 581 amino acids protein encoded by the *BcLcc2* gene. The molecular weight calculated for the enzyme is 63.4. A higher apparent molecular weight around 94 kDa was observed by SDS-PAGE electrophoresis likely due to glycosylation of these enzymes (Quijada-Morin et al., 2017). Laccase-2-BcLCC2 is the main laccase identified in *B. cinerea* cultures independently of the strain since studies reported its secretion by B0510 (González-Fernández et al., 2014; Quijada-Morin et al., 2017; Schouten, Wagemakers, Stefanato, van der Kaaij, & van Kan, 2002), RM344 and VA612 (Quijada-Morin et al., 2017) and T4 (González-Fernández et al., 2014) strains. Laccase-2-BcLCC2 was recently detected in hazy white wine (Perutka et al., 2019) and gushing sparkling white wine (Kupfer et al., 2017) produced with partially infected grapes. Laccase-2-BcLCC2 could be involved in detoxification of compounds contained in the plant, that are responsible for fungus development inhibition such as resveratrol (Schouten et al., 2002). Its ability to degrade the phenolic antibiotic 2,4-diacetylphloroglucinol was also demonstrated in vitro (Schouten, Maksimova, Cuesta-Arenas, van den Berg, & Raaijmakers, 2008).

Laccase-3-BcLCC7 is a 663 amino acids protein of 71.1 kDa encoded by the gene *BcLcc7* (Simon & Viaud, 2018). The expression of this laccase was reported for the first time by Quijada-Morin et al (2017) for three different *B. cinerea* strains, with slight differences in the amino acid sequence for the strains RM344 and VA612 compared to the reference strain B0510 (Quijada-Morin et al., 2017). In both cases, a lower number of peptides and a lower sequence coverage was observed compared to laccase-2-BcLCC2. To our knowledge, it is the first time that the laccase-3-BcLCC3 was identified in a wine matrix.

As far as we know, there are no proteomic study that report the presence of other three laccases in *B. cinerea* secretome. *BcLcc1* and *BcLcc8* genes expression was investigated by transcriptomic studies. *BcLcc1* transcriptome was not detected in *B. cinerea* cultures, even after

induction by phenolic compounds (Schouten et al., 2002). Regarding laccase-8-BcLCC8, an upregulation of *BcLcc8* gene during inoculation of tomatoes by *B. cinerea* was reported, but no protein expression was evidenced (Petrasch et al., 2019).

The abundance of MS fragments suggests that the amount of laccase-2-BcLCC2 is higher than other laccases in both wines. However, the Q-TOF results did not allow to discriminate both wines. Thus, a second approach was developed to provide a semi quantitative measurement of laccases in sweet white wines. Considering the high M. scores obtained for the identification of laccase-2-BcLCC2 and laccase-3-BcLCC7 (i.e. up to 400 for laccase-3-BcLCC7 and up to 2000 for laccase-2-BcLCC2 in BW, compared to values under 100 for laccase-1-BcLCC1, laccase-8-BcLCC8 and laccase-12-BcLCC12), we chose to focus on laccases-2-BcLCC2 and -3-BcLCC7 for the MRM semi-quantitative study.

3.2. Multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) analysis for targeted detection of laccases-2-

BcLCC2 & laccase-3-BcLCC7

The relative abundance of both laccase-2-BcLCC2 and laccase-3-BcLCC7 was investigated in three botrytized and three non-botrytized wines. Two peptides with a specific sequence for each enzyme were chosen: YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR for laccase-2-BcLCC2 and YTTNTITAGK for laccase-3-BcLCC7. These peptides were then monitored by LC-MRM after tryptic digestion of the protein extracts.

Linearity of the MS signal of the two peptides was confirmed ($R^2 > 0.99$) by using analytical standards in ACN. The peptide linearity ranges from 0.141 to 28.16 pmol for YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR (Figure 2A) and from 0.0028 to 2.816 pmol for YTTNTITAGK (Figure 2B). For YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR (laccase 2), the LOD and LOQ calculated were 0.014 pmol/ μ L and 0.14 pmol/ μ L, respectively. For YTTNTITAGK (laccase 3), the LOD and LOQ calculated were 0.0014 pmol/ μ L and 0.0028 pmol/ μ L, respectively.

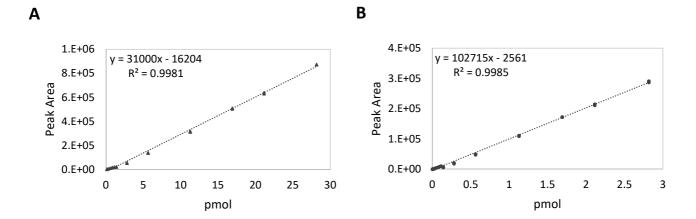


FIGURE 2: Linearity of signals of the peptides (A) YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR (transition 884.42 -> 913.51) and (B) YTTNTITAGK (transition 535.28 -> 805.44).

The abundance of laccase-2-BcLCC2 and laccase-3-BcLCC7 peptides in three botrytized and three non-botrytized wines are presented in figure 3 (A) and (B) respectively. Laccase-2-BcLCC2 was detected in all samples BWs and SWs. The peak areas range from 3.30.10⁵ AU to 7.70.10⁵ AU in the BWs and from 0.16.10³ AU to 1.04.10³ AU in the 3 SWs, indicating a significant greater laccase 2 concentration (p-value < 0.0001) in the 3 BWs compared to the 3 SWs.

Similarly, laccase-3-BcLCC7 was detected in the six wines samples. A significant difference (p-value < 0.0001) was observed between BWs and SWs for their laccase 3 content. Peak areas were significantly higher in BWs with value up to 1.36.10³ AU than in SWs, were peak area did not exceed 0.05.10³ AU. That represents more than a factor 27 for the intensities of the signals. Nevertheless, the presence of both laccases in non-botrytized SWs could indicate a very minor contamination of grapes used for their winemaking.

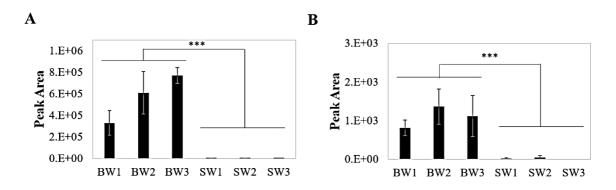


FIGURE 3: Semi-quantification of laccase-2-BcLCC2 peptide (transition 884.42 -> 913.51) (A) and laccase-3-BcLCC7 peptide (transition 535.28 -> 805.44) (B) in botrytized sweet white wines (BWs) and non-botrytized sweet white wines (SWs). Significant difference between the two groups evaluated by Student t-test *** p-value < 0.0001 (Values are given in Supp. Material S2).

The relative abundance of each peptide suggests that laccase-2-BcLCC2 was the major laccase present in all the wines. Generally, the composition of the growing environment of the fungus influences laccase production and some compounds may act as inducers of laccase secretion that can impact the laccase substrate specificity, molecular weight, glycosylation level and sugar pattern (Marbach, Harel, & Mayer, 1983). A previous study reported that laccase-2-BcLCC2 production was induced by gallic acid (Quijada-Morin et al., 2017). An increase of *BcLcc2* gene transcriptome was also evidenced in *B. cinerea* culture in presence of resveratrol and tannic acid (Schouten et al., 2002), that belong to the stilbenes and the tannins families, respectively, and in presence of cooper (Udugama Vithanage, Savocchia, Strappe, Schmidtke, & Steel, 2016). In accordance with our results, laccase-3-BcLCC7 seemed also to be minor in culture media in presence of gallic acid, suggesting the phenolic acid is not the main inducer of this laccase (Quijada-Morin et al., 2017).

4. Conclusion

Using an untargeted proteomic approach, five different laccases (laccase-1-BcLCC1, laccase-2-BcLCC2, laccase-3-BcLCC7, laccase-8-BcLCC8 and laccase-12-BcLCC12) were identified in sweet and botrytized wines. To our knowledge, this is the first time that the presence of laccase-1-BcLCC1, laccase-3-BcLCC7, laccase-8-BcLCC8 and laccase-12-BcLCC12 is reported in grape or wine.

Two laccases, namely laccase-2-BcLCC2 and laccase-3-BcLCC7 were semi-quantified in sweet and botrytized wines. Laccase-2-BcLCC2, which was also detected in bunch rot wines (Perutka et al., 2019) and culture media (Quijada-Morin et al., 2017; Schouten et al., 2002) seemed to be the main laccase produced by the fungus during grape infection. The second targeted laccase, laccase-3-BcLCC7, was detected in much lower amount.

This study revealed that laccase-2-BcLCC2 and laccase-3-BcLCC7 are still detectable in wines made with noble rot infected berries after several years of bottle ageing. Targeted detection by LC-MRM of the two laccases allowed the discrimination of botrytized from non-botrytized sweet white wines. These proteins are then very good quantitative biomarkers of *Botrytis* infection and are suitable for high throughput analysis of white wine quality in future studies.

302 Conflict of interest statement

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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306 FIGURE CAPTIONS 307 FIGURE 1: Workflow 308 FIGURE 2: Linearity of signals of the peptides (A) YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR (transition 884.42 -> 913.51) 309 and (B) YTTNTITAGK (transition 535.28 -> 805.44). 310 FIGURE 3: Semi-quantification of laccase-2-BcLCC2 peptide (transition 884.42 -> 913.51) (A) and laccase-311 3-BcLCC7 peptide (transition 535.28 -> 805.44) (B) in botrytized sweet white wines (BWs) and non-botrytized 312 sweet white wines (SWs). Significant difference between the two groups evaluated by Student t-test *** p-313 *value* < 0.0001 314 TABLE 1: List of wine samples used in the study, years, wine origin 315 TABLE 2: MS identification table of laccases in sweet botrytized (BW1) or non-botrytized (SW1) wines using 316 Laccase short database (adapted from Simon & Viaud, 2018). Gene name, protein description, theoretical 317 molecular weight (Th. MW), Isoelectric point (pI), Mascot score (M. score), number of identified peptides, 318 and sequence coverage (SC) are reported. 319 SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL S1: Total protein identification table 320 SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL S2: Transition results peptides YDSSSTVDPTSVGVTPR (transition 321 884.42 -> 913.51) and YTTNTITAGK (transition 535.28 -> 805.44).

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