

#### FOOD PROVENANCE BY ELEMENTAL AND ISOTOPIC FINGERPRINT METHODS



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## BOKU University and Research Center - Tulln



Research focus: bioresources, renewable resources, biologically based technologies Construction: 2009 - 2011 Lab relocation: April-2011 Opening ceremonies: Sep-2011

#### Analytical Ecogeochemistry





#### Rationals





#### Thuna, made in Austria

## **Global food trade**





## **Food Authenticity/Food Provenance**



#### Rationals

- Consumer protection:
  - Food safety
  - Genuineness (,You get what you pay for')
- Producer protection
  - Competition
  - Proof of provenance (consumer confidence)
- Protection of regionality
  - Diverstiy of production
  - Specific production processes

## **EU regulation**



# New framework for Quality schemes in agriculture enters into force

#### 03/01/2013

Guaranteeing **quality to consumers** and a **fair price for farmers** are the twin aims of the new Quality Regulation that enters into force today.

Based on the proposal tabled by the Commission in 2010 the text is a very balanced compromise between the Council, the Parliament and the Commission.

It encourages the diversification of agricultural production, protect product names from misuse and imitation and help consumers providing information on product characteristics and farming attributes.

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/

## **EU regulation**



The new Regulation on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs achieves a **simplified regime for several quality schemes** by putting them under one single legal instrument.

Furthermore, it creates a more robust framework for the protection and promotion of quality agricultural products.

The key elements of the new Regulation include:

more coherence and clarity to the EU quality schemes,



- a reinforcement of the existing scheme for protected designations of origin and geographical indications (PDOs and PGIs),
- overhauling the traditional specialities guaranteed scheme (TSGs),
- laying down a new framework for the development of optional quality terms to provide consumers with further information, it creates and protects the optional quality term "mountain product".

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/

## **Traceability solutions**





## **Traceability solutions**



Traceability by

- Software solution
- Databases
- www-information platforms

Marking by

- RFID-tags
- Code systems
- Animal passports
- Animal tattoos

....added systems are not fraud-resistent

## Independent solutions



- Information is an intrinsic food property and does not have to be added
- Information is unique for the food commodity
- Information can be identified (simple and cheap)
- Information is fraud resistant

## **Analytical methods (1)**



- Molecular-biological methods
  - 🍮 DNA (e.g. DNA marker in olive ois)
  - ELISA technique (cultivation of specific antibodies for the determination of defined proteins)
  - Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism (AFLP) markers (fish, seafood)
  - Genetic fingerprint analysis (e.g. cereals)
- Identification of specific chemical and physical parameter

(e.g. honey: water content, ash content, sugar content, pH, differential scanning calorimetry; rheology)

Sensory analysis (electronic nose)

(e.g. wine: colour, taste, aroma....)

## **Analytical methods (2)**



- Identification of specific components and evaluation using multivariate statistics
  - IR spectroscopy (e.g. fruits, wine, sugar addition to honey)
  - Raman spectroscopy (e.g. adulteration of oils)
  - Front Face Fluorescence Spectroscopy (measurements of fluorophores e.g. aromatic amino acids; vitamine A and B2, chlorophyll)
  - Chromatographic methods (HPLC; GC) (e.g. beta-lactoglobuline) in milk, organic acids in fruit juices; adulteration of olive oil)



Organic mass spectrometry (non targeted fingerprint)

## **Analytical methods (3)**



Identification of elemental and isotopic fingerprints

specific isotope ratios (isotopic fingerprints)

NMR; SNIF-NMR (H,C)

- IR-MS (GSMS) (H,C,N,O,S)
- TIMS (Sr,Pb)

ICP-MS (Sr,Pb,U,Ca,S,B)

Identification of specific elements and evaluation using multivariate statistics (multielement fingerprints)

AAS

ICP-AES

ICP-MS

#### **Elemental and isotopic fingerprinting**





### **Elemental and isotopic fingerprinting**





#### Nuclide map





succession in the later.

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#### **Elemental and isotopic fingerprint**





Source: Husted et al. J. Anal. Atom. Spectrom. 2011, 26, 52-79

## Elemental fingerprint of REE for proof of authenticity / origin



Determination of elemental fingerprints (e.g. rare earth elements)



#### Natural variation of isotopic systems



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#### Natural variation of isotopic systems



Natural chemical processes
Radioactive decay (e.g. U, Pb)
Redox reactions (e.g. Fe)
Photoreactions (e.g. Hg)
pH dependent reactions (e.g. B)

Natural physical processes
Diffusion (e.g. C, H, O)
Precipitation (e.g. H, O)

Natural biochemical processes
Microbial activities (e.g. S, N)
Plant activities (e.g. C, Si)







### Isotopic Systems Used in Food Provenance Studies





The ,big 7'





#### **Pb** Isotopic Variation





#### Sr Isotopic Variation





#### Sr isotopic system





### Sr/Rb isotopic system





 ${}^{87}\text{Rb} \longrightarrow {}^{87}\text{Sr} + \beta^{-} + \nu + Q$ T<sub>1/2</sub> ... half life(T<sub>1/2</sub> = 48.8\*10<sup>9</sup> a)

λ ... decay constant( $λ = 1.42*10^{-11} a^{-1}$ )

variation of <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr with geological provenance

- geochemical composition
- geological age









## Provenancing of strawberry raw products using elemental and isotopic fingerprints – a pilot study



### **Sample preparation**







2

3

Cutting, freeze drying and homogenization (replicate analysis n=5)

Microwave assisted acid digestion



Measurement of the elemental pattern with ICP- Quadrupol MS 'Nexion 300D'



Sr/matrix separation with a specific resin (elimination of Rb interference)

#### **Sample preparation**





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# Concentration screening with ICP-Quadrupol MS 'Nexion 300D'



Measurement of the isotope ratio <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr with Multicollector-ICP-MS 'Nu Plasma HR'



#### **Data evaluation**

Blank, Rb, Instrumental Isotopic fractionation

#### **Results – elemental pattern**





### **Results – Elemental Pattern**





#### Sr isotopic data





# Sr isotopic fingerprinting



#### **Applicability of Sr isotope ratios**

- Regional signal can be determined via bioavailable fraction from soil
- Direct link from soil to plant
- Annual and seasonal stability

Parameters to be considered

- Change of irrigation
- Influence of fertilizer
- Regional heterogeneity of the soil

# Sr isotopic fingerprinting

# BOKU

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# Marchfeld asparagus





# Marchfeld: Sr range and source









#### Sr isotopic composition

Maternal rock

Wet and dry deposition

20 % weathering

80 % recycled Sr

Miller EK, Blum JD and Friedland AJ, Nature **362**, 1993, 438-441





# Marchfeld: Sr range and source



Traceability

- Marchfeld: hand picked by lab staff (traceable)
- other regions: purchased at the market (not traceable)
- include other signatures
  - multivariate statistics

# Marchfeld asparagus



#### Hungarian sample near Austrian border



# **3D main component analysis**





# **Predicting Provenance**



Complementary approaches for the verification of food provenance

#### **Databases**

Origin is determined by comparison to data wihtin a database

#### Isoscapes

Origin is detemrined by comparing the data within a food to interpolated geoclimatic factors depicted in an isotopic map



- Requires data from all provenances (authentic samples)
- Expensive (large number of datas)
- Stability has to be proven (regular update)

- Prediction of areas with no isotopic data
- Large scale data might overlook regionality
- Annual/seasonal stability has to be proven

 $\delta^{18}$ O in plants





# **Distribution of C3 and C4 plants**





# H and O isoscapes



Weighted Jan. 82H www.waterisotopes.org 180 90W 90E 180 60N 601 30N 30N EQ EQ 305 305 60S 605 90W 90E 180 180 Ö (%) -50 -200 -170 -140 -110-80 -20 10 IAEA (2001). GNIP Maps and Animations, International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna. Accessible at http://isohis.iaea.org

#### **Assessment of ,isoscapes'**



• Continuous maps of isotope ratios for authenticity, migration and more



#### **Sr** isoscapes



- Isoscapes for
  - Bioavailable <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr in soils
  - <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr in rivers and lakes



# Sr – isoscape – definition of a region by the bioavailable Sr





# Sr – isoscape – definition of a region by the bioavailable Sr





# **Sr isoscape work - VIRIS database**



Sample type could be wood, water, fish hard parts, soil,			
	Project         Project category         Project name         Sample site code / ID         Sample date from         to         Sample code, number         Sample type         Sample method	Specific parameters Coordinates Point top, left Lat (X): Long (Y): Point bottom, right Lat (X): Long (Y): Include GZÜV site list	Physical / chemical parameters       Add       Remove         Parameter       Value from       Value to         Measurements       Add       Remove         Parameter       Value from       Value to
	Sampling number, name         Clear result table         Search       Add search         Project category       Project name         Site code         1       Fish         Test Isomark       Fuscher Ache	Geology     -     ·     Fixer name     GZÜV number     GZÜV number     Species type     -     Wood type     -     V     Sample date Sample number Sample code Sample     08.04.2010     O_FuA_1	875r/86Sr         Export         Show in map         le type       Sample methode         32       BF         16.2



- Input via Excel spread sheets in different categories of projects and samples, including quality judgement, instrumental settings, pictures, links to original data, citation etc.
- Searching data possible
  - by a wide variety of requests, including the measured parameter (e.g. <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr)
  - by a geographical window that can be opened from the database and that allows to select a geographical area

# Sr isoscape work - Isoscape Austria Portal



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# **TRACE project (trace.eu.org)**





# **Combining areas of origin**





**Combination of isotopic and elemental information: Determination of the origin of green coffee beans** 









## **Standard protocol ICP-MS**





## **Standard protocol IRMS**





# **Continental origin**



Multielement analysis



# **Regional origin**

(Rodrigues et al., European Food Research and Technology)



■ <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr δ<sup>18</sup>Ο 4 3 Malawi 2 Tanzania Ruanda 1 PC 2: 33.19% 0 Äthopien -1 Kenia -2 -3 -4 -3 -2 -5 -4 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5

#### **Case study: Hawaii**





# Hawaii – origin of islands







- δ<sup>34</sup>S
- Lanthanide, B, Al, Fe, Ni, Cu, Rb, Sr, Mo, Ba

# Hawaii – regions within islands





# Hawaii – regions within islands



#### **Canonical Discriminant Functions**



## **Provenance of Fish**





#### **Fish Hard Parts**

Eye lenses







Scales Fin rays

#### **Sr Isotopes in Fish Otoliths**



- Otolith = ear stone of the fish
  - $\rightarrow$  function: balance, orientation, hearing
  - metabolically inert
  - •Grows in discrete layers
  - Ca  $\leftrightarrow$  Sr
  - Analysis by LA-ICP-MS



#### **Different Areas of the Otolith Represent different age times**



**Otolith – core:** Sr-signature of the juvenile habitat

**Otolith – rim:** Sr –signature of the adult habitat





- Migration pattern
- Fish provenance
- Fish stock management
- Population identification
- Population dispersion
- Age determination
- Biomonitor
  - Temperature
  - Salinity
  - contaminationgen

# **Elemental uptake in the different fish hard parts**



E.g. 80-90 % uptake of Ca in the otolith via the gills



## **Time resolved analysis using LA-ICP-MS**





## **Example: change of habitat (trout)**







#### **genetics** (factorial correspondence analysis)



Achse 1 (4,21%)
#### **Element- and isotopic analysis**





#### **Element- and isotopic analysis**





#### **Element- and isotopic analysis**





# Comparison of fish otoliths of rainbow trout from different fish farms





Juvenile phase: groundwater Adult phase: surface water

Juvenile and adult phase in the same water



*Otolithen:* 100% identification of the habitat clusters

via

<sup>23</sup>Na/<sup>43</sup>Ca, <sup>88</sup>Sr/<sup>43</sup>Ca and <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr

(Discriminant analysis)

#### Water sample clusters:



**Zitek, A., M. Sturm, H. Waidbacher and T. Prohaska** (2010). *Fisheries Management and Ecology, 17, 435-445* 

# Salmonide: chemical life history (age: 12 months)



otolith growths

#### **Comparison of life histories**



- Individual ,chemical curriculum' of fish (<sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr, Sr/Ca)
- Time resolved analysis from the egg to the last months
- Significant difference in the life histories



#### **Elemental and isotopic fingerprinting**





#### **Enriched stable isotope tracer studies**





#### Sr Spiking





To trace element fluxes in an ecosystem

To identify sources and sinks

To mark a specific abiotic or biotic matter in

an ecosystem

To monitor metabolic fluxes of an element

Endithed stable isotopic spikes

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## **Enriched stable isotope tracer studies Basic principle**







#### **Enriched stable isotope tracer studies**





### **Enriched stable isotope tracer studies Isotope pattern deconvolution (IPD)**





### **Enriched stable isotope tracer studies Isotope pattern deconvolution (IPD)**



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### **Enriched stable isotope tracer studies Isotope pattern deconvolution (IPD)**



R

#### **Evaluation of the double isotope tracer Isotope pattern deconvolution**







# molar fraction ratio of $x_{\text{Sp1}}/x_{\text{Sp2}}$ of double spike in central otolith region

J. Irrgeher, A. Zitek, M. Cervicek, T. Prohaska; J. Anal. At. Spectrom., 2014,29, 193-200

# **APPLICATION: Transgenerational marking of fish**





Ecological application

Mass marking of larvae without interfering with natural spawning, dispersal

• Aquaculture (affordable marking method) Quality management (authenticity and origin)

### **Transgenerational marking of fish**



- Maternal transfer of elements to eggs
- Otolith:
  - first hard part developing (within the egg)
  - stores maternal information
- After hatching, uptake of environmental information







# **Maternally derived** area of fish otolith



The **center of the otolith** is **created within the egg**; contains the maternal information

Hatch check: visual clue for the area, where maternal information can be expected



**Transgenerational isotopic marking of** freshwater fish using a <sup>86</sup>Sr/<sup>84</sup>Sr double spike

- Model species:
  - Carp: cyprinids (100.000-300.000 eggs/kg body weight)
  - Brown trout: salmonids (1.500-2.000 eggs/kg body weight)







# LA-ICP-Q-MS of a single carp otolith (ca. 4440 μg <sup>86</sup>Sr kg<sup>-1</sup> fish)



<sup>86</sup>Sr/<sup>88</sup>Sr



<sup>86</sup>**Sr**/<sup>88</sup>**Sr** natural ~0.12

He carrier gas Spot size:  $35 \ \mu m$ Scan speed:  $2 \ \mu m \ s^{-1}$ Rep. rate: 20 Hz



Nexion 300D (ICP-Q-MS) Perkin Elmer



NWR193 Laser Ablation System





<sup>86</sup>Sr/<sup>88</sup>Sr natural ~0.12



Nexion 300D (ICP-Q-MS) Perkin Elmer



NWR193 Laser Ablation System



### Absolute <sup>88</sup>Sr/<sup>84</sup>Sr and <sup>88</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios – Control fish



> No change of natural Sr isotopic signature



A. Zitek, J. Irrgeher, M. Cervicek, M. Horsky, M. Kletztl, T. Weismann, T. Prohaska (*Marine and Freshwater research, in press*)

# Absolute <sup>88</sup>Sr/<sup>84</sup>Sr and <sup>88</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios – Spiked fish



<sup>84</sup>Sr

Significant change of natural Sr isotopic signature in the core region of otoliths:



A. Zitek, J. Irrgeher, M. Cervicek, M. Horsky, M. Kletztl, T. Weismann, T. Prohaska (*Marine and Freshwater research, in press*)













otolith number









#### Requirements





#### **Requirements elements** *l* / isotopic fingerprint







- Instrumentation (multi-elemental fingerprinting)
- ICP-AES (30.000 8.000 U\$) / 5000 10000U\$/year
- ICP-QMS (70.000-40.0000 U\$)/ 10000 15000 U\$/Year
- Instrumentation (isotope ratio analysis)
- (ICP-QMS (70.000-40.0000 U\$)/10000 15000 U\$/Year)
- (ICP-SFMS (300.000 500.000 U\$/10.000 15.000 U\$/year)
- TIMS (250.000 500.000 U\$/ 10.000 15.000 U\$/year)
- MC-ICP-SFMS (500.000-800.0000 U\$)/ 15.000 20.000 U\$/Year



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- ICP-QMS (70.000-40.0000 U\$)/ 10000 15000 U\$/Year
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- TIMS (250.000 500.000 U\$/ 10.000 15.000 U\$/year)
- MC-ICP-SFMS (500.000 800.0000 U\$)/15.000 20.000 U\$/Year



#### Infrastructure / consumables

- Cleaning and chemicals (100.000 200.000) / 10.000 U\$/year
- Sample preparation (100.000 300.000 U\$) / 20.000U\$/year
- Analytical laboratory (500.000 1.000.000 U\$) / 10.000U\$/year

### **Requirements elements**/isotopic fingerprint

#### Collaboration

- Isotopic measurements (light stable isotopes) 50 – 200 U\$ / sample
- Isotopic measurements (heavy stable isotopes) 50 – 200 U\$ / sample
- Elemental fingerprint (multielement) 50 – 250 U\$ / sample
## Acknowledgements



