

Determination of total polyphenol index in wines employing a voltammetric Electronic Tongue

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Abstract

This work reports the application of a voltammetric Electronic Tongue system (ET) made from an array of modified graphite-epoxy composites plus a gold microelectrode in the qualitative and quantitative analysis of polyphenols found in wine. Wine samples were analyzed using cyclic voltammetry without any sample pretreatment. The obtained responses were preprocessed employing Discrete Wavelet Transform in order to compress and extract significant features from the voltammetric signals, and the obtained approximation coefficients fed two multivariate calibration methods (ANN and PLS) which accomplish the quantification of total polyphenol content. External test results were compared with the ones obtained with the Folin-Ciocalteu method and UV absorbance polyphenol index (I_{280}) as reference values, with highly significant correlation coefficients of 0.979 and 0.963 in the range from 50 to 2400 mg L⁻¹ gallic acid equivalents, respectively. In a separate experiment, qualitative discrimination of different polyphenols found in wine was also assessed by Principal Component Analysis.

Keywords: voltammetric sensors; electronic tongue; Artificial Neural Network; wine analysis; Folin-Ciocalteu; polyphenol

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33 **1. Introduction**

34 Wine is an important analytical field, taking special attention to new
35 methodologies for its characterization and elaboration control [1]. One important wine
36 parameter, determining some organoleptic and sensorial properties, is its polyphenol
37 content [2]. Phenolics in plants may act as phytoalexins, antifeedants, attractants for
38 pollinators, contributors to plant pigmentation, antioxidants and protective agents
39 against UV light, among others [3]. Meanwhile in food, phenolics may contribute to the
40 bitterness, astringency, color, flavor, odor and oxidative stability of food. In addition to
41 health-protecting capacity and some properties other than nutritional of plants,
42 phenolics are of great importance to both consumers and producers.

43 In grapes, synthesis of polyphenols is induced by factors such as grape cultivar,
44 developmental stage of the berry and maturation, climatology and UV radiation and
45 viticultural practices; it can also be affected by fungal infection (*Botrytis cinerea*) and
46 injuries [4-6]. In wine, phenolics are responsible of pigmentation (in red but also in
47 white wines), aging, oxygen-depleting compounds and bitter and stringent components,
48 which are determinant for the wine taste and character.

49 Several methods to quantify total phenols and polyphenols have been described
50 in the literature [7]. The Folin-Ciocalteu (FC) method is widely employed in the wine
51 industry [8]. This spectrophotometric method measures the sample reducing capacity.
52 As a faster alternative to this method, the use of what is known as polyphenol index
53 (I_{280}) is now arising [9]; in this case wine absorbance is measured directly at 280 nm
54 and straightly correlated with phenolic content. Another spectrophotometric method
55 widely used is the reaction with 4-aminoantipyrine [10], a generic reaction for phenols.
56 On the one hand, these methods yield a total phenol content value, and therefore do not
57 allow for the discrimination between individual constituents. However there are some
58 spectrophotometric methods, developed for quantification of phenolics in plants, that
59 brings some specificity; these assays are based on differential reactivity principles and
60 are used to determine different structural groups concomitant in phenolic compounds
61 [11]. On the other hand, there is also the use of chromatographic techniques such as
62 HPLC [12] or GC [13], which are able to perform individual determination of phenolic
63 compounds; however these methods need complex and time-consuming sample pre-
64 treatment procedures, and are not suitable for on-site analyses. Nowadays, biosensors
65 are arising as an alternative to the traditional techniques given their low cost and their

66 ease of use to carry out on field analyses. Therefore, biosensors represent an attractive
67 alternative also for the detection of polyphenolic compounds. For this aim, biosensors
68 have been developed incorporating enzymes such as Laccase [14], Tyrosinase [15] or
69 Peroxidase [16], and even by the coimmobilization of two enzymes in the same
70 biosensor [17].

71 The present work reports the application of an Electronic Tongue (ET) in the
72 analysis of polyphenols. The ET is a recent trend from the sensory field, which entails
73 the use of an array of sensors capable of giving a wide and complete response of the
74 analyzed species, plus a chemometric processing tool able to interpret the chemical
75 signals and extract meaningful data from the complex readings [18, 19]. Although there
76 are only a few number of papers related to ETs and wine, they have been previously
77 applied to distinguish different wine varieties and tastes [20-22], to quantify some
78 analytical parameters of wines [23-25] or even to detect wine adulterations [26, 27].
79 Potentiometric sensors have been used as well, and their signal correlated to polyphenol
80 content of wines [28].

81 The ET is, in this sense, the hybrid formed between sensors and the use of
82 chemometrics, such as Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs); these advanced signal
83 processing variants allows the interpretation, modelling and calibration of complex
84 analytical signals [29, 30]. Despite great advantages provided by the use of ANNs,
85 when voltammetric sensors are used, the high complexity of the generated data matrix
86 hinders their treatment. The straightforward solution is the use of multiway processing
87 methods (samples x sensors x polarization potential), but the complexity of this
88 technique is also critical [31, 32]. One solution when dealing with a set of
89 voltammograms is to employ a preprocessing stage for data reduction; this option
90 permits to gain advantages in training time, to avoid redundancy in input data and to
91 obtain a model with better generalization ability. This compression stage may be
92 achieved by the use of methods such as Principal Component Analysis (PCA), “kernels”
93 [33] or Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) [34]. In this sense the last one, is
94 particularly interesting because of its ability to compress and denoise data.

95 Here we report a multidimensional ET aimed for the determination of the total
96 polyphenol content, formed by an array of six voltammetric sensors: a Au
97 microelectrode plus five epoxy-graphite composite sensors, four of them bulk-modified
98 with cobalt phtalocyanine, different nanoparticles (Pt and Cu) and polypyrrole powder
99 (a conducting polymer). This array is designed in this manner to produce differentiated

100 catalytic responses to specific phenolic compounds present in the wines [27]. Obtained
101 responses were preprocessed employing DWT in order to extract the significant
102 information present and the resulting approximation coefficients fed the different
103 multivariate calibration methods (ANN and PLS-2 models), specially trained to predict
104 the total polyphenol indexes, in what might be considered a bioinspired analytical
105 method that uses artificial intelligence tools.

106

107

108 **2. Experimental**

109

110 ***2.1 Samples under study***

111 A total of 20 wine samples of different varieties from 2008 and 2009 vintage
112 were analyzed; all of them were from the Penedès region (Catalonia, Spain). Samples
113 were selected as to obtain a set with sufficiently differentiated total polyphenol indexes
114 and grape varieties, with values ranged from 54 to 2374 mg L⁻¹ gallic acid equivalents.
115 Table 1 summarizes detailed information about the wines used.

116

117 <TABLE 1>

118

119 ***2.2 Reagents and solutions***

120 All reagents used were analytical reagent grade and all solutions were prepared
121 using deionised water from a Milli-Q system (Millipore, Billerica, MA, USA). Gallic
122 acid, catechin, *p*-coumaric acid, caffeic acid, catechol, *m*-cresol, copper and platinum
123 nanoparticles (<50nm), polyniline and polypyrrole were purchased from Sigma-
124 Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA). KCl was purchased from Merck KGaA (Darmstadt,
125 Germany). Folin-Ciocalteu's Reagent and Sodium Carbonate were purchased from
126 Panreac Química (Barcelona, Spain). A solution containing 0.1 M KNO₃ (Fluka) was
127 used to activate the gold (Au) microelectrode.

128

129 ***2.3 Determination of polyphenol content by Folin-Ciocalteu method and*** 130 ***spectrophotometric measurements***

131 For comparison purposes, Folin-Ciocalteu (FC) index of the wines was also
132 analyzed spectrophotometrically [35]. The FC test was carried out according to the

133 following procedure: 1mL of sample (wines were diluted 1:100 or 1:50), 6mL of
134 deionized water, 0.5 mL of Folin-Ciocalteu reagent and 2mL of a 20% sodium
135 carbonate solution were added in this order to a 10mL beaker and diluted to volume
136 with deionized water. The resulting solution was stirred and allowed to react for half an
137 hour at room temperature in darkness. The absorbance was then read at 760nm by a
138 spectrophotometer Perkin Elmer Lambda 20 UV/VIS. Total phenolic content, expressed
139 in gallic acid equivalents, was evaluated from the absorbance value by interpolation into
140 the calibration plot obtained with gallic acid standard solutions, multiplying the
141 resulting value by 10 and by the proper dilution rate. Different dilution factors were
142 applied given when carrying out spectrophotometric measurements absorbance must
143 be around 0.3 [35].

144 For the determination of the total content of polyphenolic compounds in wines
145 the polyphenol index I_{280} was also considered: wine was diluted with water (1:100 or
146 1:50) and the absorbance was measured directly at 280 nm. The value of I_{280} for each
147 sample was given as the absorbance multiplied by the proper dilution rate. In both
148 methods the blank solution was a hydro-alcoholic solution (12%, v/v ethanol) of tartaric
149 acid 3 g/L.

150

151 ***2.4 Electrochemical measurements***

152 Samples were analysed with two types of amperometric sensors: an array of 5
153 graphite-epoxy voltammetric sensors made with different modifiers added to the bulk
154 mixture, selected according with previous experiments in our laboratory [27, 36], and a
155 microfabricated Au microelectrode [37, 38]. Electroanalytical experiments were carried
156 out at room temperature (25 °C) under quiescent conditions, and without any pre-
157 treatment or dilution of the sample. Electrodes were cycled in saline solution in order to
158 get stable voltammetric responses before performing the measurements with real
159 samples.

160

161 ***2.4.1 Composite electrodes***

162 Working electrodes were prepared following the conventional methodology
163 previously established in our research Group [39]. A resin EpoTek H77 (Epoxy
164 Technology, Billerica, MA, USA) and its corresponding hardener compound were
165 mixed in the ratio 20:3 (w/w); afterwards a 15% of graphite (w/w) and a 2% of the
166 modifier (w/w) were added to the previous mixture before hardening, obtaining the

167 composite. Then, it was manually homogenized for 60 min, and afterwards composite
168 paste was allowed to harden during 3 days at 80 °C. Finally, electrode surface was
169 polished with different sandpapers of decreasing grain size, with a final electrode area
170 of 28 mm².

171 In this manner, an array of 5 different graphite-epoxy voltammetric sensors were
172 prepared using bare graphite C, adding different modifiers such as cobalt phthalocyanine,
173 conducting polymer as polypyrrole and nanoparticles of copper and platinum to the bulk
174 mixture – one component per electrode.

175

176 *2.4.2 Gold microelectrode*

177 Also a conventional Au microelectrode fabricated according to standard
178 photolithographic techniques was used [40]. The Au microelectrode was firstly
179 chemically cleaned successively with ethanol 96%, H₂SO₄ 6.0 M and de-ionized water.
180 Next, an electrochemical activation was carried out in 0.1 M KNO₃, where the electrode
181 was cycled from +0.8 to -2.2 V for at least 20 times.

182

183 *2.4.3 Amperometric measurements*

184 Amperometric measurement cell was formed by the 6-sensor voltammetric array
185 and a reference double junction Ag/AgCl electrode (Thermo Orion 900200, Beverly,
186 MA, USA) plus a commercial platinum counter electrode (Model 52–67, Crison
187 Instruments, Barcelona, Spain). Cyclic Voltammetry measurements were taken using a
188 6-channel AUTOLAB PGSTAT20 (Ecochemie, Netherlands), in a multichannel
189 configuration, using GPES Multichannel 4.7 software package.

190 Potential was cycled between -1.0 V and 1.3 V vs Ag/AgCl (-0.5 V and 1.6 V
191 for the Au microelectrode), with a scan rate of 100 mV s⁻¹ and a step potential of 9 mV.
192 Apart, all experiments were carried out without performing any physical surface
193 regeneration of the working electrodes. In order to prevent the accumulative effect of
194 impurities on the working electrode surfaces, an electrochemical cleaning stage was
195 done between each measurement applying a conditioning potential of +1.5 V during 40
196 s after each experiment, in a cell containing 25 ml of distilled water [36].

197

198 *2.5 Spiked samples*

199 Beyond wine samples summarized in Table 1, some spiked samples were
200 prepared in order to assess the discrimination ability shown by the sensor array. For

201 this, a reference wine was spiked with different quantities of a stock solution of certain
202 polyphenols. Polyphenols considered were selected according to major polyphenols
203 found in wine [41, 42]; gallic acid, catechin, *p*-coumaric acid, caffeic acid, catechol and
204 *m*-Cresol were the ones tested. It must be reckoned that average total polyphenol
205 content measured by the Folin method is higher than the individual content of each
206 polyphenol [41, 43]. For example, total polyphenol content is around 2160 mg L⁻¹ for
207 red wine, 820 mg L⁻¹ in rosé wine and 320 mg L⁻¹ for white wines; however individual
208 polyphenol concentration is much lower with values under 300 mg L⁻¹ for red wine and
209 50 mg L⁻¹ for white wines [43].

210 In this manner, a rosé wine was chosen as the one to which phenolic
211 compounds will be added given their lower polyphenolic content. Then, from it, 35
212 different samples were prepared based on 7 groups (one for each of the 6 polyphenols
213 under study plus another for the unspiked wine). To confirm that differentiation
214 between compounds was not due to different amount of phenolic compounds being
215 added, in all the cases the same amount was added. Thus, for each class 5 μmols of
216 polyphenolic compound were added to 25 mL of wine, which represents approximately
217 an increase of 36 mg L⁻¹ (200 μM).

218

219 **2.6 Data processing**

220 Chemometric processing was done by specific routines in MATLAB 7.0
221 (MathWorks, Natick, MA) written by the authors, using Neural Network and Wavelet
222 Toolboxes (v.4.0). Partial Least Squares (PLS) regression was done employing The
223 Unscrambler (CAMO Software AS, Oslo, Norway) informatics package. Sigmaplot
224 2000 (Systat Software Inc, California, USA) was used for graphic representations of
225 data and results.

226 The whole cyclic voltammograms obtained from each sensor were included in
227 the data processing stage. In order to reduce the multidimensional data matrix generated
228 in each measurement, a preprocessing stage employing the Discrete Wavelet Transform
229 (DWT) was used [44]. In this way, and using the proposed sensor array, the
230 corresponding compressed voltammograms were processed employing either an
231 Artificial Neural Network (ANN) or Partial Least Squares (PLS-2). Both models
232 allowed carrying out the quantification of the FC index and the I₂₈₀ values.

233 In order to find the appropriate ANN model, significant effort is needed to
234 optimize the configuration details that determine its operation. Normally, this is a trial-

235 and-error process, where several parameters (training algorithms, number of hidden
236 layers, transfer functions, etc.) are fine-tuned in order to find the best configuration to
237 optimize the performance of the model.

238 Given the complexity of the data set, also a linear model like PLS-2 was
239 evaluated; PLS-2 was chosen given its ability to model several variables together,
240 unlike PLS-1 or PCR. Therefore obtained model would be equivalent to the one built
241 with ANN. In this case, the parameter that must be taken into account are the number of
242 PCs used to build the PLS-2 model; to optimize this parameter, it was taken into
243 account the model that gives the lower total Normalized Root Mean Square Error
244 (NRMSE) for predicted values. Also, as done in the case of ANN voltammetric signals
245 were preprocessed employing DWT before adjusting PLS, given this data reduction
246 improves model prediction and generalization abilities [45].

247 Given the reduced size of the data set, a jack-knife method was used [46, 47].
248 Jack-knife method was suggested for use in statistics to describe a general approach for
249 testing hypotheses and calculating confidence intervals in situations where apparently
250 no better methods can be used. With this procedure, standard errors are calculated from
251 different resampling with random distribution and repeating the modelling stage. In this
252 manner, it could be used either leaving one sample out each timer or even many samples
253 out each time [47].

254 In our case, it was applied using 15 samples for training process and leaving 5
255 samples out each time which were used to evaluate model's response; then, this
256 subdivision of the original data set was repeated 25 times leaving 5 different samples
257 out each time, which were selected randomly. Once all the responses from the models
258 were obtained, data was grouped depending if it was intervening in the training process
259 or used as external test.

260 Also Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was used to visualize the
261 discrimination capability derived from the voltammetric signals acquired, and combined
262 with cluster analysis tools to build a preliminary recognition model. PCA allows to
263 project the information carried by the original variables onto a smaller number of
264 underlying ("latent") variables called principal components (PCs) with new coordinates
265 called scores, obtained after data transformation. Then by plotting the PCs, one can
266 view interrelationships between different variables, and detect and interpret sample
267 patterns, groupings, similarities or differences [27]. Moreover, PCA is a useful method
268 to reduce the dimensionality of large data sets, such as those from arrays of

269 voltammetric sensors. Cluster analysis tools allow constructing clusters from data using
270 pairwise distance between observations (usually Euclidean distance), as linkage to
271 construct the hierarchical cluster tree.

272

273 **3. Results and Discussion**

274

275 ***3.1 Voltammetric responses and feature extraction***

276 Different voltammetric responses are observed for each kind of sensor, as shown
277 in Figure 1. These signals presumably contribute in different manner with the data
278 needed for model quantification. Differentiated signals are obtained for each type of
279 sensor used. Catalytic oxidative signals seem to originate from the sensors using metal
280 nanoparticles, which may be due to a catalytic oxidation of saccharides and/or
281 polyphenols. Similarly, sensors modified with conducting polymers bring new
282 information with completely different waveforms. Gold electrode would provide the
283 most generic redox behaviour of the sample. At the same time, it can be seen how
284 currents increase in the same way as FC index increases and with different behaviour
285 for each sensor; meanwhile each sensor shows its distinctive profile, generating very
286 rich data that is very useful as departure point. For developing an ET, the first necessary
287 condition is to have analytical signals responding to the phenomena to which the
288 objective is aimed, with variability among them and the different sensors forming the
289 sensor array. As demonstrated, bulk modification of voltammetric electrodes is an easy
290 way to enrich the cross-response of the sensor array to different aspects of the solution
291 under study [27]. Even the extreme complexity of the generated signals (the set of
292 voltammograms) hinders the processing step. As already commented, all these data is
293 used performing a compression step, required to gain advantages in training time, to
294 avoid redundancy in input data and to obtain a model with better generalization ability.
295 An additional reason is the need to extract reduced and significant information
296 compatible with the ANN structure [44]. This was accomplished by use of the DWT.

297

298 <FIGURE 1>

299

300 ***3.2 Estimation of the polyphenol indexes***

301 A DWT preprocessing stage was performed employing Daubechies wavelet and
302 a sixth decomposition level, the best choice from preliminary tests and previous
303 experience [34, 44]. The DWT allowed compressing the original data set information up
304 to 97.27% without any loss of relevant information. From the proposed 6-sensor array,
305 the corresponding voltammograms were compressed, and the obtained coefficients were
306 fed into multivariate calibration methods in order to predict the total polyphenol content
307 in wines. In this sense, two different methods were evaluated: an ANN as a non-linear
308 data modelling tool and PLS-2 as a linear one. A simplified scheme of the procedure
309 followed for data treatment and ANN architecture can be observed in Figure 2.

310

311 <FIGURE 2>

312

313 After a systematic evaluation of topologies, the final DWT-ANN architecture
314 model had 84 input neurons (corresponding to the 14 wavelet approximation
315 coefficients obtained from wavelet analysis of each of the 6 sensor signals), 10 neurons
316 and *logsig* function in the hidden layer and 2 output neurons and *purelin* function in the
317 output layer corresponding to FC and I_{280} indexes. Although, individual ANN models
318 to predict separately these two indexes may also be developed. Bayesian regularization
319 was used to train the network, this algorithm has the advantage of avoiding overfitting
320 without the need of an internal validation subset [44], then this precaution is not
321 performed.

322 For the optimization of PLS model only two considerations were taken into
323 account: the differences obtained when using the 84 DWT coefficients instead of the
324 raw voltammetric data and the number of PCs used to build the model. Despite PLS has
325 no need of a preprocessing stage, it was found that better models were obtained when
326 this was performed (total NRMSE improved from 0.31 to 0.20 for predicted values).
327 Thus, the final model was a DWT-PLS2 with 7 PCs, which has a total explained
328 variance ca. 95.2%.

329 After building the models, which were evaluated for training with 75% of the
330 data and tested with the remaining 25%, a jack-knife method was employed to visualize
331 dependence of predictions from the specific subdivision of data. Then, in order to
332 characterize the accuracy of the identification models and obtain unbiased data,
333 train/test data division was repeated randomly 25 times using a 5-fold cross validation

334 process; this precaution ensured that performance indicators were independent of the
335 subsets used.

336 Comparison graphs for each model were built grouping the replicas for each
337 individual sample, differentiating when it was intervening in the training process and
338 when used as external test. The predicted indexes were then plot against the expected
339 ones and fitted with linear least-squares regression. To give the same weight to all
340 points, weighed regression was used. The obtained results for the ANN model can be
341 seen on Figure 3 for the Folin-Ciocalteu Index and Figure 4, for the I_{280} index. In the
342 same way, results from the DWT-PLS2 model can be seen in Figure 5 for the FC index,
343 and Figure 6 for the I_{280} index. In both cases, an estimation of prediction errors
344 (intervals calculated at the 95% confidence level) corresponding to the average of the 25
345 jack-knife calculations, taken from the dispersion of the replicas, can be also visualized.

346

347 <FIGURE 3>

348 <FIGURE 4>

349 <FIGURE 5>

350 <FIGURE 6>

351

352 As usual in multivariate calibration methods work, training stage behaviour
353 shows better agreement and reduced errors than testing stage. The general behaviour is
354 also good in both cases, although individual prediction errors are largely increased,
355 especially for certain samples that were more dependant on the specific data used in
356 training. Despite the good trend in both cases, larger uncertainties were obtained with
357 the DWT-PLS2, thus meaning ANN model is slightly more robust. Regardless of this,
358 Table 2 presents the results of the weighed regressions, where the good correlation
359 coefficients and the small associated errors stand out (intervals calculated at the 95%
360 confidence level). The obtained comparison results are close to the ideal values, with
361 intercepts near to 0 and slopes and correlation coefficients around 1, meaning that there
362 are no significant differences between the values predicted by the multivariate
363 calibration methods and the reference ones.

364

365 <TABLE 2>

366

367 ***3.3 Classification of polyphenols***

368 Employing the same ET and following equivalent procedure for the data
369 treatment, spiked wine samples with typical polyphenolic compounds present in wine,
370 as described in Section 2.5, were measured as before but in random order. An extract of
371 the results is shown on Figure 7, corresponding to the polypyrrole sensor; which was
372 selected for being the one where the most clearly differentiated cathodic response is
373 obtained for each compound. Then the information obtained from the complete set of
374 voltammograms was evaluated using PCA and groups were formed using cluster
375 analysis tools.

376

377 <FIGURE 7>

378

379 The PCA analysis was done, and with the two first PCs, the explained variance
380 accumulated was ca. 95 %; a large value which means that nearly all the variance
381 contained in the original data is explained. By plotting them, different clusters were
382 obtained as can be seen in Figure 8; patterns in the figure evidence that wine samples
383 are grouped based on which polyphenol was added. These well established clusters
384 clearly separate the main classes of samples corresponding to: (I) Wine, (II) Gallic acid,
385 (III) Catechin, (IV) *p*-Coumaric acid, (V) Caffeic acid, (VI) Catechol and (VII) *m*-
386 Cresol.

387

388 <FIGURE 8>

389

390 The fact that gallic acid and catechin clusters were so close one to the other, and
391 also from the wine cluster, is due to the fact that these two compounds are the ones
392 present in higher concentration in wine. As expected, *p*-Coumaric and caffeic acids
393 clusters were more separated to the wine cluster and close between them, given both are
394 hydroxycinnamic acids differing only by one alcohol group. Finally, *m*-Cresol and
395 Catechol were clearly far away from the rest of clusters and mainly represented by PC2.
396 The position of these clusters could be explained by the fact that these components are
397 found in less proportion in wine and their chemical structure is quite different from the
398 others.

399

400 In this interpretation of polyphenol identification, we could see that individual
401 groups were obtained for each phenolic compound; moreover, compounds with
structural similarity arranged closely between them, meaning there is some background

402 relationship. Although the good results obtained with those spiked samples, it should be
403 taken into account that the quantification of individual polyphenols in a complex sample
404 such as wine is very difficult, but the results obtained suggest this possibility. In
405 essence, the study demonstrates the capabilities of the proposed ET, both in the
406 quantification of total polyphenol content and in the differentiation of different
407 polyphenols found in wine.

408

409

410 **4. Conclusions**

411 An electronic tongue based on voltammetric sensors with different modifiers
412 (metallic nano-sized particles, conducting polymers and cobalt phtalocyanine) was
413 developed in order to create a tool capable of quantifying total polyphenol content in
414 wines. Complex voltammetric data required the use of a preprocessing stage that was
415 achieved by the use of DWT, which provides a good compression of data preserving
416 relevant information. While the use of ANN or PLS-2 allowed predicting phenolic
417 content indexes obtained with two different reference methods (Folin-Ciocalteu and I₂₈₀
418 indexes). In a more qualitative application of the technique, we have been also able to
419 differentiate between different polyphenols found in wine samples by the use of PCA,
420 clearly discriminating them in an application comparable to much more complex
421 analytical techniques such as HPLC.

422 Finally, superior performance of ET combined with the use of chemometric
423 tools as ANN in tasks multivariate calibration or pattern recognition has been again
424 demonstrated, presenting the proposed ET as an alternative to traditional methods for
425 polyphenols quantification and even distinction of different polyphenols present in
426 wine.

427

428

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436

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518
519

520 **Table 1.** Detailed information of the wine samples under study.
 521

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Variety</i>	<i>FC Index (mg L⁻¹)</i>	<i>I₂₈₀ (arb.unit)</i>
S1	Trepat	149	7.53
S2	Trepat	54	3.78
S3	Ull de llebre	1199	27.25
S4	Picapoll negre	933	31.28
S5	Marselan	1598	30.64
S6	Ull de llebre	1239	37.39
S7	Cabernet sauvignon	1467	42.47
S8	Merlot	1583	41.08
S9	Cabernet sauvignon	1366	46.97
S10	Petit verdot	1645	45.72
S11	Cabernet sauvignon	1468	46.27
S12	Cabernet sauvignon	1392	46.44
S13	Malbec	1351	48.51
S14	Sumoll	1613	59.61
S15	Merlot	1358	47.46
S16	Merlot	1355	46.10
S17	Cabernet sauvignon	1913	58.58
S18	Cabernet sauvignon	2054	63.73
S19	Petit verdot	2153	69.80
S20	Calldoc	2374	72.91

522

523 **Table 2.** Fitted regression lines of the comparison between obtained vs. expected results
 524 provided by the proposed ET, both for Folin-Ciocalteu and I_{280} indexes, averaging each
 525 value per sample as pertaining to the training or external test subsets for the 25
 526 replicated calculations.
 527

<i>Folin-Ciocalteu Index</i>								
	<i>ANN</i>				<i>PLS2</i>			
	<i>Correlation</i>	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Intercept</i>	<i>RMSE</i>	<i>Correlation</i>	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Intercept</i>	<i>RMSE</i>
Train subset	0.998	0.959±0.029	53.0±30.6	89	0.999	1.006±0.020	-11.8±3.6	92
Test subset	0.979	0.952±0.093	-43.6±28.7	366	0.932	1.017±0.184	-149±162	404

<i>I₂₈₀ Index</i>								
	<i>ANN</i>				<i>PLS2</i>			
	<i>Correlation</i>	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Intercept</i>	<i>RMSE</i>	<i>Correlation</i>	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Intercept</i>	<i>RMSE</i>
Train subset	0.994	0.965±0.049	1.24±1.68	3.5	0.995	0.983±0.047	0.30±0.71	3.8
Test subset	0.963	0.914±0.119	0.87±3.77	10.1	0.968	0.974±0.118	-2.64±0.69	9.5

528

529

530 **Figure captions**

531

532 **Figure 1.** Some cyclic voltammograms obtained with the sensor array for some of the
533 wine samples with different Folin-Ciocalteu index: (S1) 149 mg L⁻¹, (S4) 933 mg L⁻¹,
534 (S11) 1468 mg L⁻¹ and (S18) 2054 mg L⁻¹ gallic acid equivalents. Also the signals with
535 different sensors are shown: (A) Graphite-epoxy sensor, (B) Platinum nanoparticle
536 sensor, (C) Copper nanoparticle sensor and (D) Au microelectrode.

537

538 **Figure 2.** Processing scheme for building the quantification model. After optimization
539 of the ANN, the final model has 84 approximation coefficients obtained from wavelet
540 analysis of the sensor signals in the input layer, 10 neurons and *logsig* transfer function
541 in the hidden layer and 2 neurons and *purelin* transfer function in the output layer.

542

543 **Figure 3.** Modelling ability of the optimized ANN. Comparison graph of expected vs.
544 obtained concentrations for Folin-Ciocalteu indexes, both for (A) training and (B)
545 testing subset. Dashed line corresponds to theoretical diagonal line.

546

547 **Figure 4.** Modelling ability of the optimized ANN. Comparison graph of expected vs.
548 obtained concentrations for polyphenol indexes (I₂₈₀), both for (A) training and (B)
549 testing subset. Dashed line corresponds to theoretical diagonal line.

550

551 **Figure 5.** Modelling ability of the PLS model. Comparison graph of expected vs.
552 obtained concentrations for Folin-Ciocalteu indexes, both for (A) training and (B)
553 testing subset. Dashed line corresponds to theoretical diagonal line.

554

555 **Figure 6.** Modelling ability of the PLS model. Comparison graph of expected vs.
556 obtained concentrations for polyphenol indexes (I₂₈₀), both for (A) training and (B)
557 testing subset. Dashed line corresponds to theoretical diagonal line.

558

559 **Figure 7.** Example of cyclic voltammograms obtained with polypyrrole sensor (from
560 the sensor array) for some of the spiked samples.

561

562 **Figure 8.** Score plot of the first two components obtained after PCA of the spiked
563 samples. A total of 35 samples were analysed. As can be seen, clear discrimination is
564 obtained for the different polyphenols: (I) Wine, (II) Gallic acid, (III) Catechin, (IV) *p*-
565 Coumaric acid, (V) Caffeic acid, (VI) Catechol and (VII) *m*-Cresol.

Figure 1
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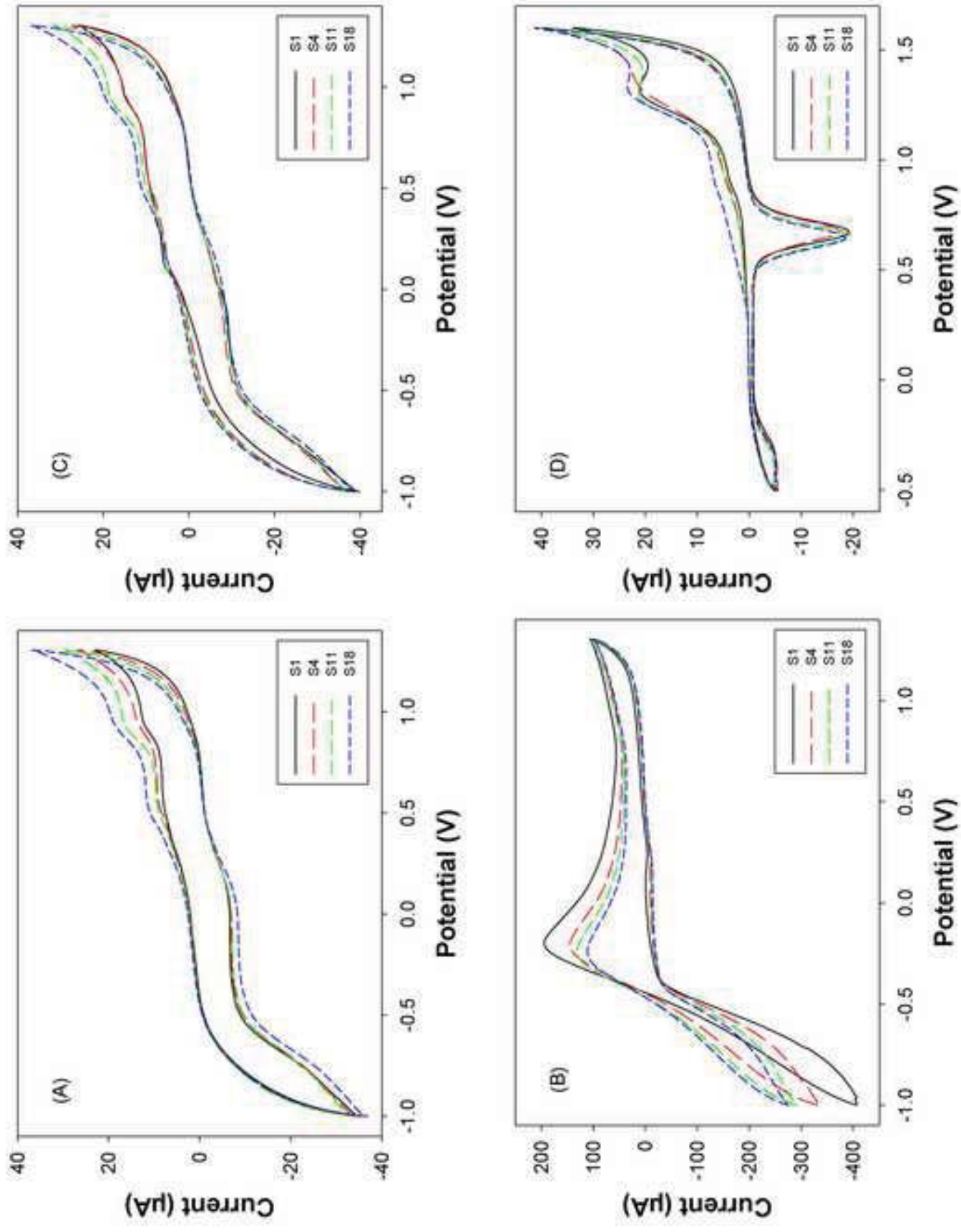


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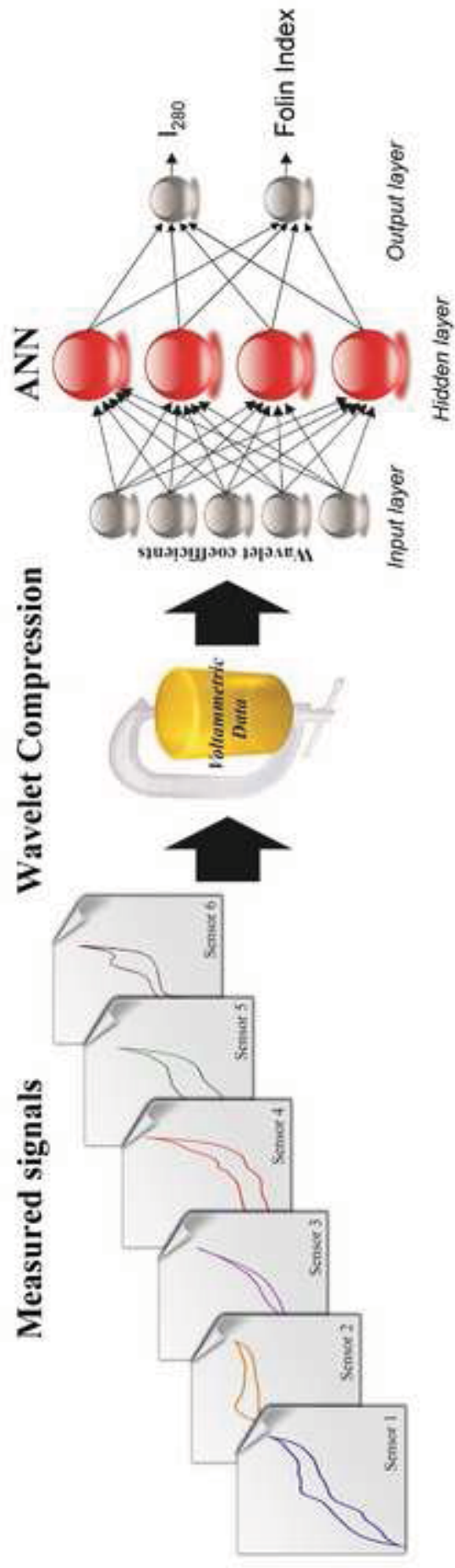


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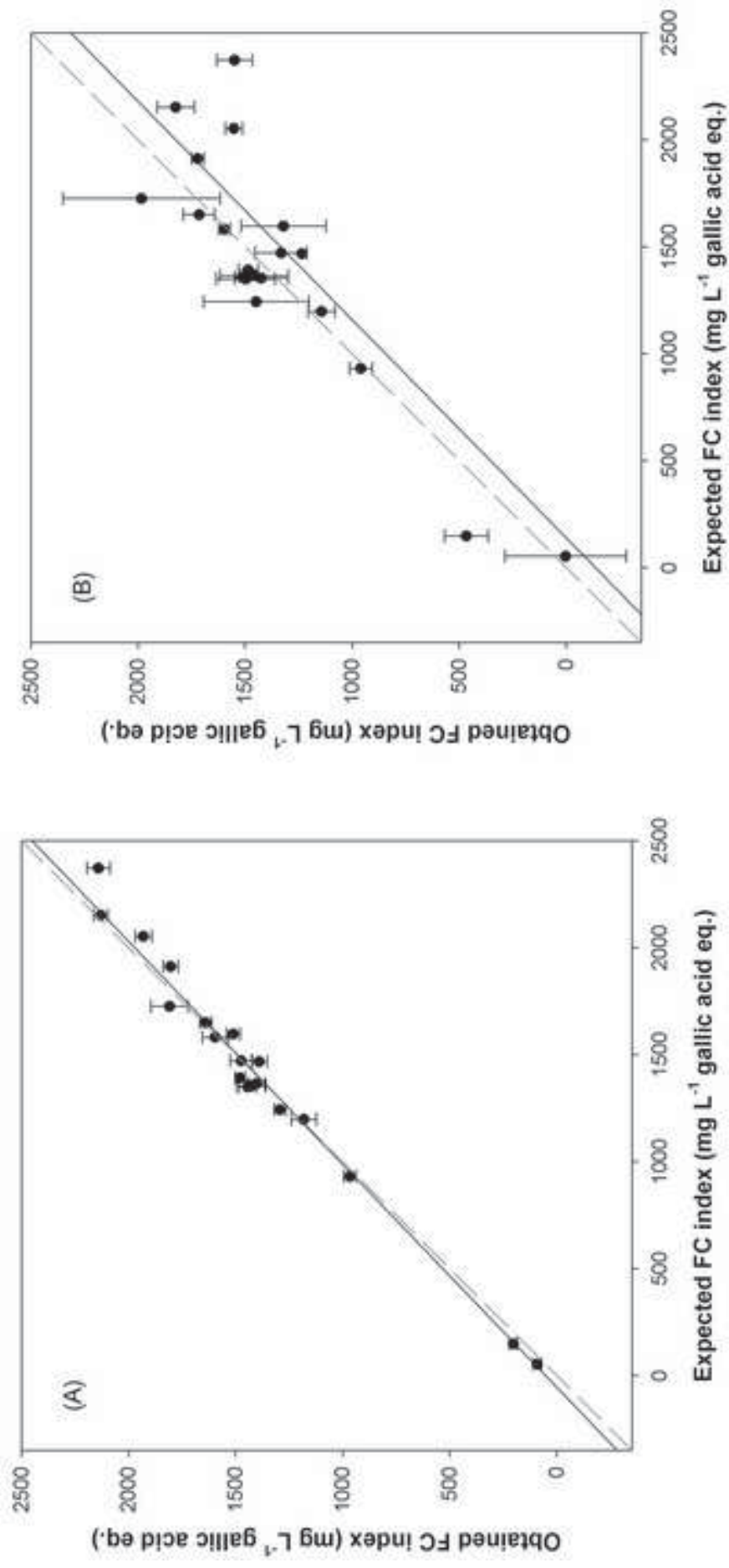


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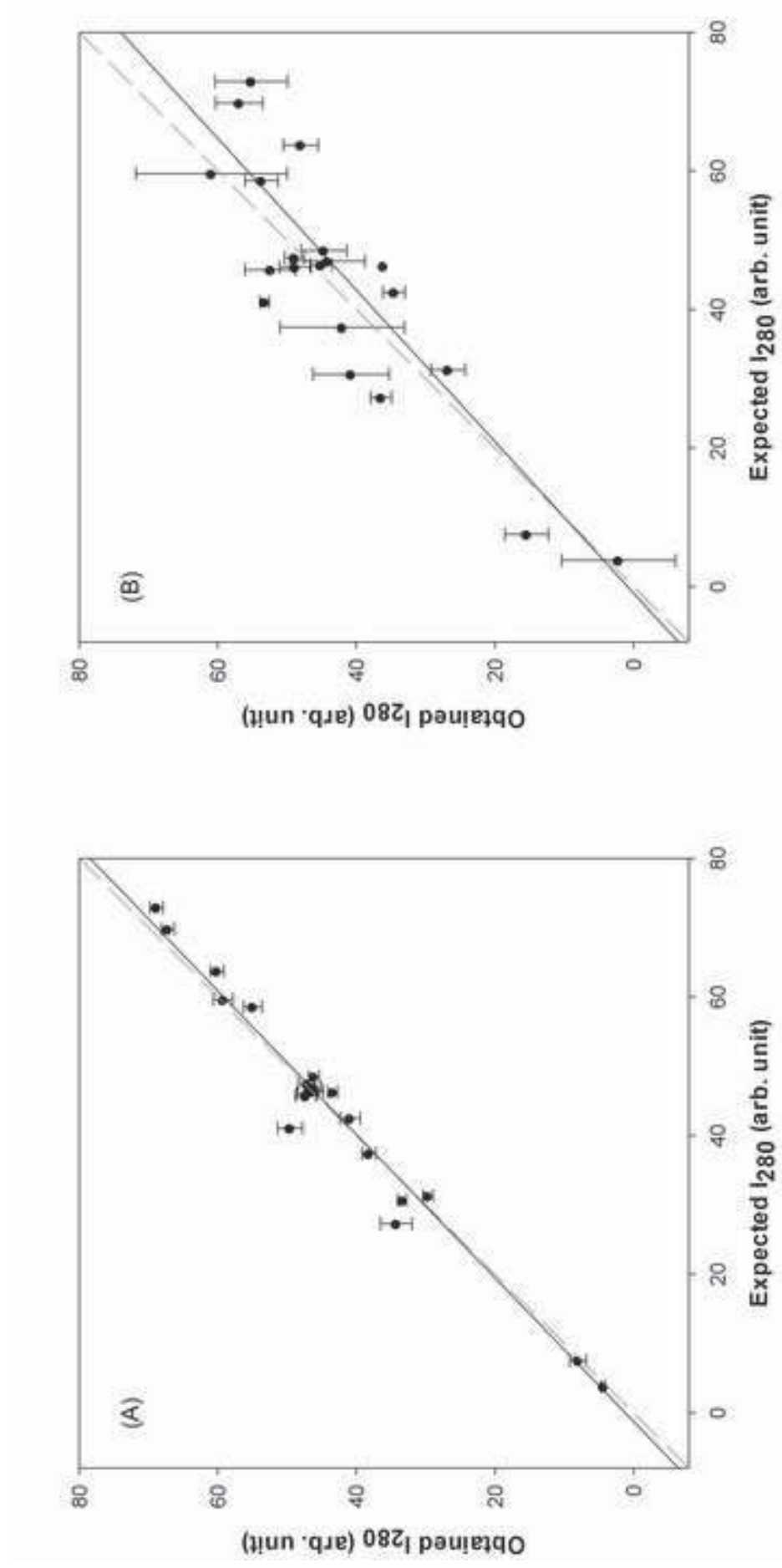


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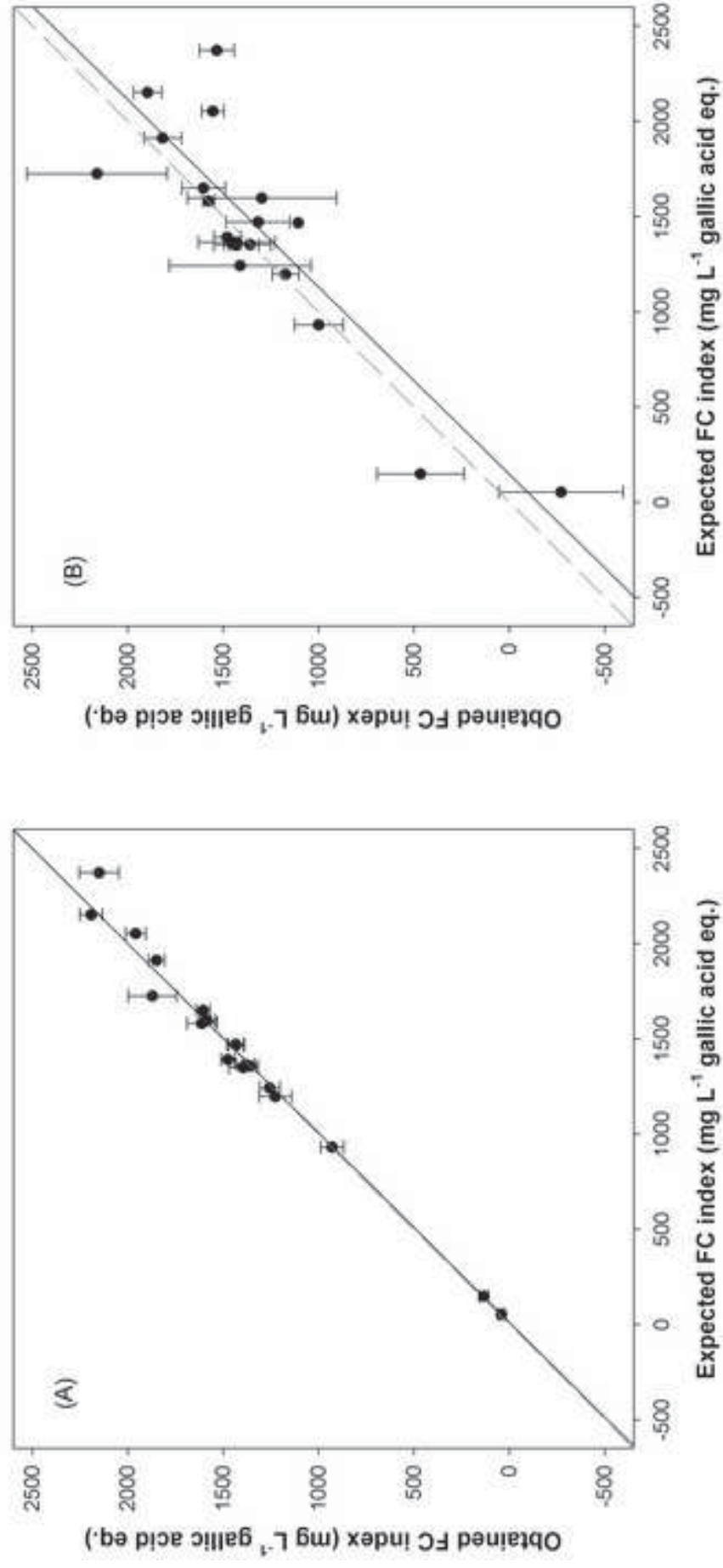


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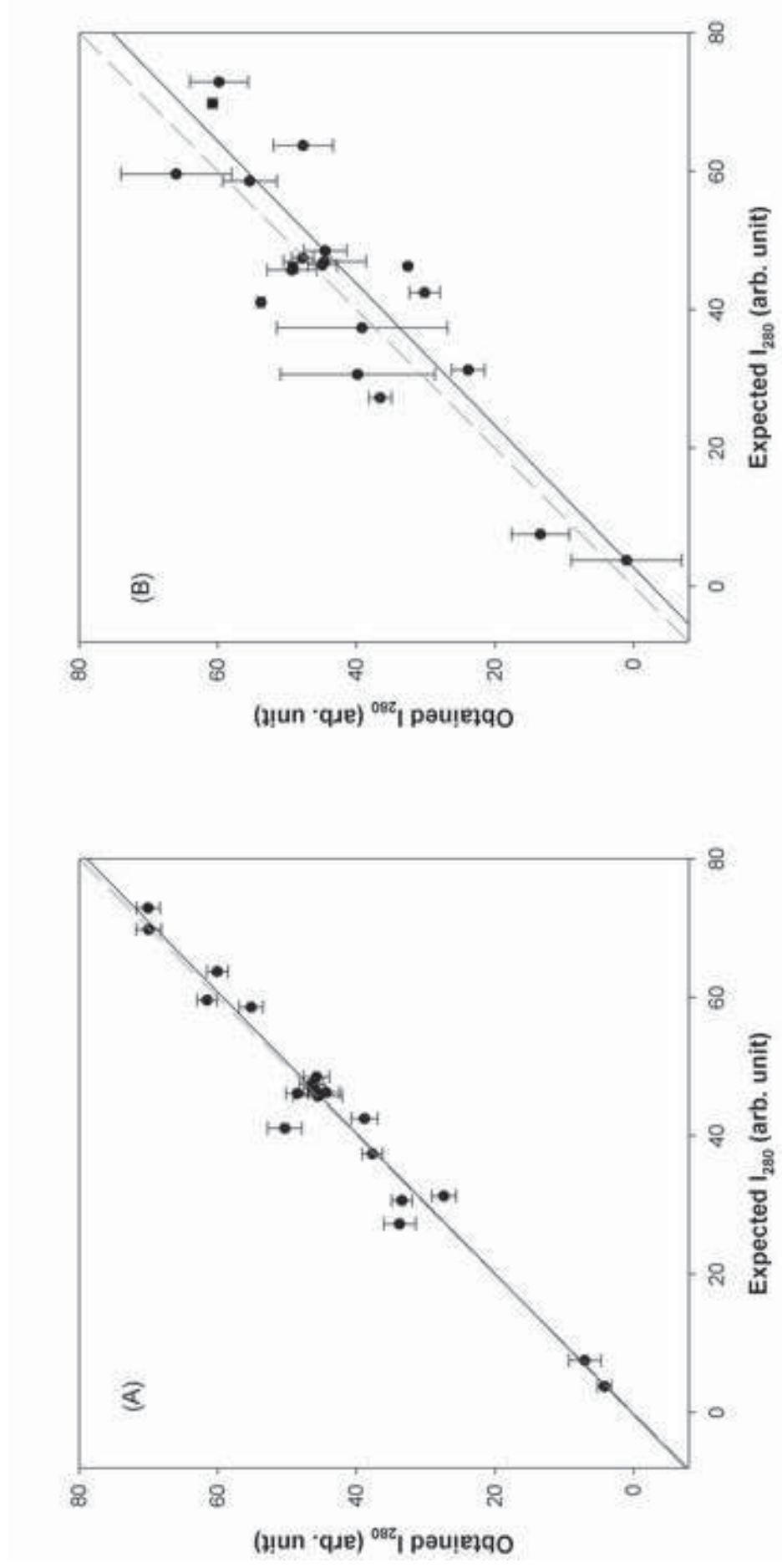


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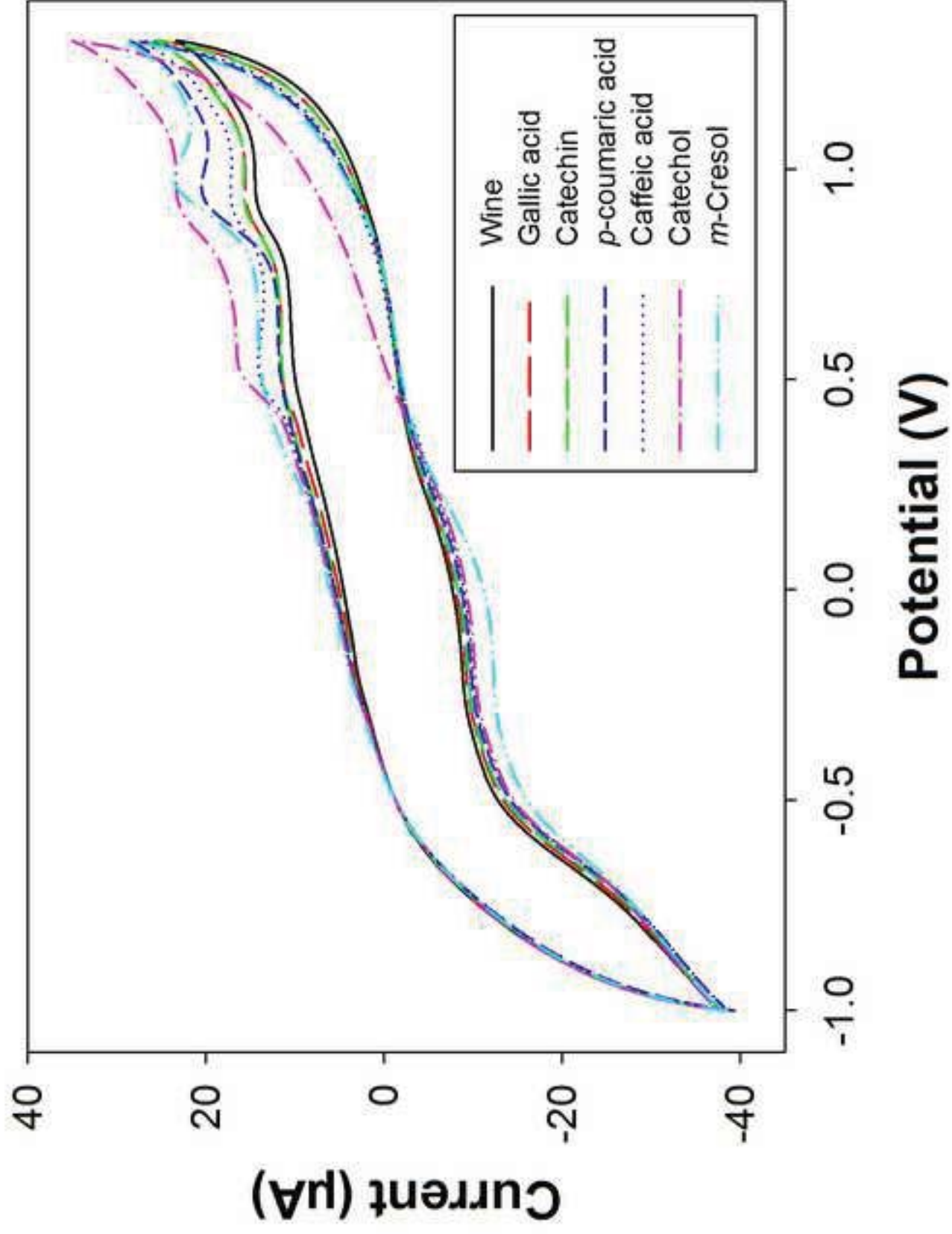


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