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# How does food processing influence the functional properties of secondary metabolites in fruit-derived foodstuffs? The example of polyphenol oxidation in apple juices and ciders

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For a very long time, edible fruits and vegetables have been processed in order to elaborate fruit-derived products that are more convenient for transportation, storage and for a use all along the year even when the fruit season is over. Processes may correspond to very basic operations such as a simple cold storage in controlled atmosphere or may be much more sophisticated as it is the case for wine, beer or cider making. In the latter case and in particular for French cider making, the raw material corresponds to rustic cider apple varieties the particularity of which being their high content in phenolic compounds<sup>1</sup>. Those secondary metabolites are essential for the sensory properties of the ciders such as color<sup>2</sup>, bitterness<sup>3</sup>, astringency<sup>3</sup> and colloidal stability. In addition, it is now well admitted that polyphenols are also essential contributors to the health benefit related to fruit and vegetable consumption. Information related to organoleptic and nutritional properties of native polyphenols is well documented. In contrast, only few is still known concerning those neoformed phenolic molecules that are formed during fruit processing in particular as a result of enzymatic oxidation<sup>4</sup>. In the present lecture, taking example of our work on polyphenols in apple juice and cider making, we will show how native phenolic molecules can be converted into original new structures<sup>5</sup> that acquire specific and sometimes surprising properties<sup>6</sup>. In the future, this will open the door to the production of innovative apple-derived products that would contain larger amount of bioactive and nutritional compounds while still displaying very good sensory qualities.

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