PLAN P – sPectraL tools and digitalization for the development of sustAinable structured food with plaNt Proteins

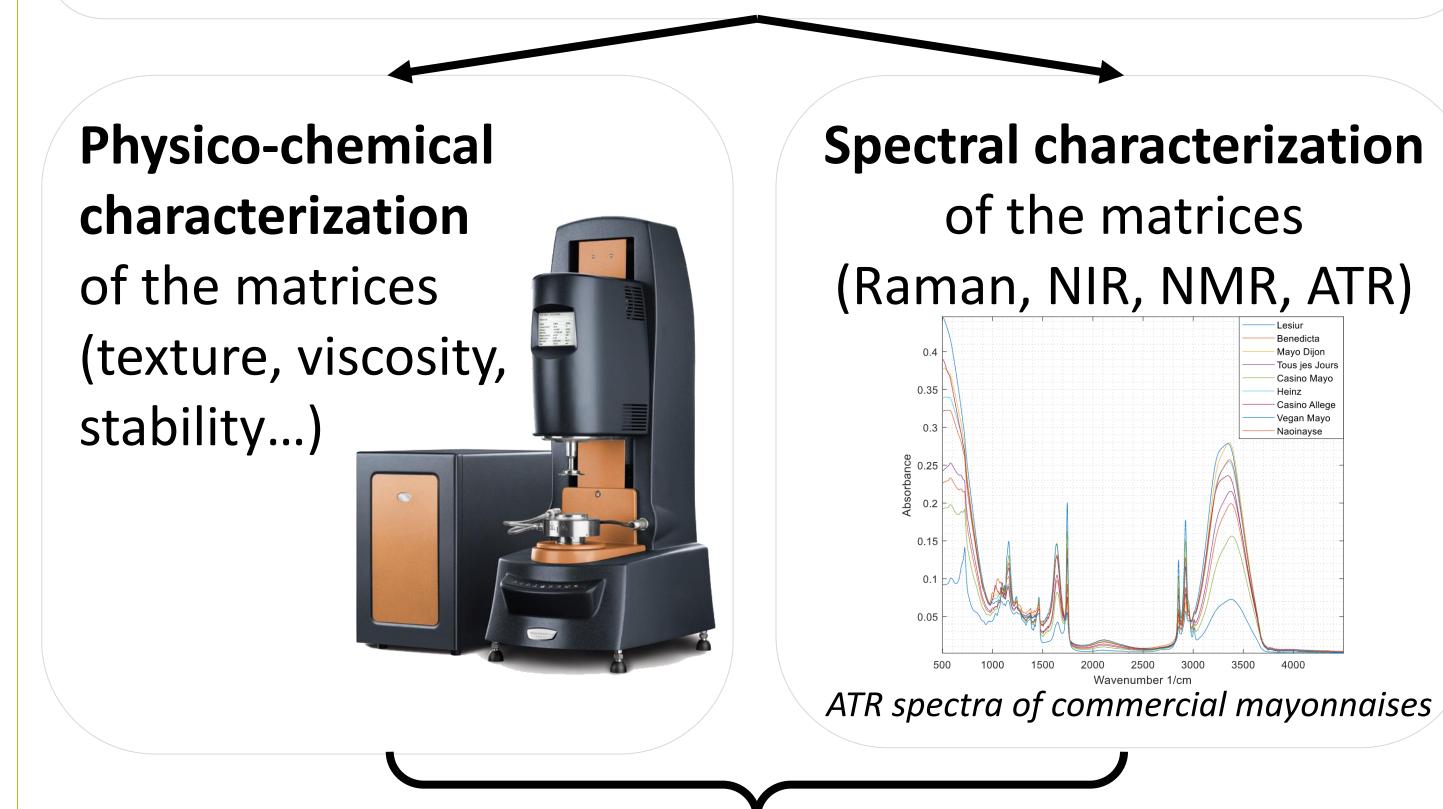


Summary

Screening of various **plant ingredients** and determination of their **functional** and **Physico-chemical** properties

Clustering of these plant ingredients based on their foaming or emulsifying capacities and their protein content → Selection of one ingredient per cluster

Production of matrices (emulsions and foams) with various textural properties by modifying process and formulation variables based on a **robust experimental design**



Data analysis for the **development of a predictive model** based on artificial intelligence

Elaboration of a sensor to analyze and predict the quality of plant ingredient-based food during production

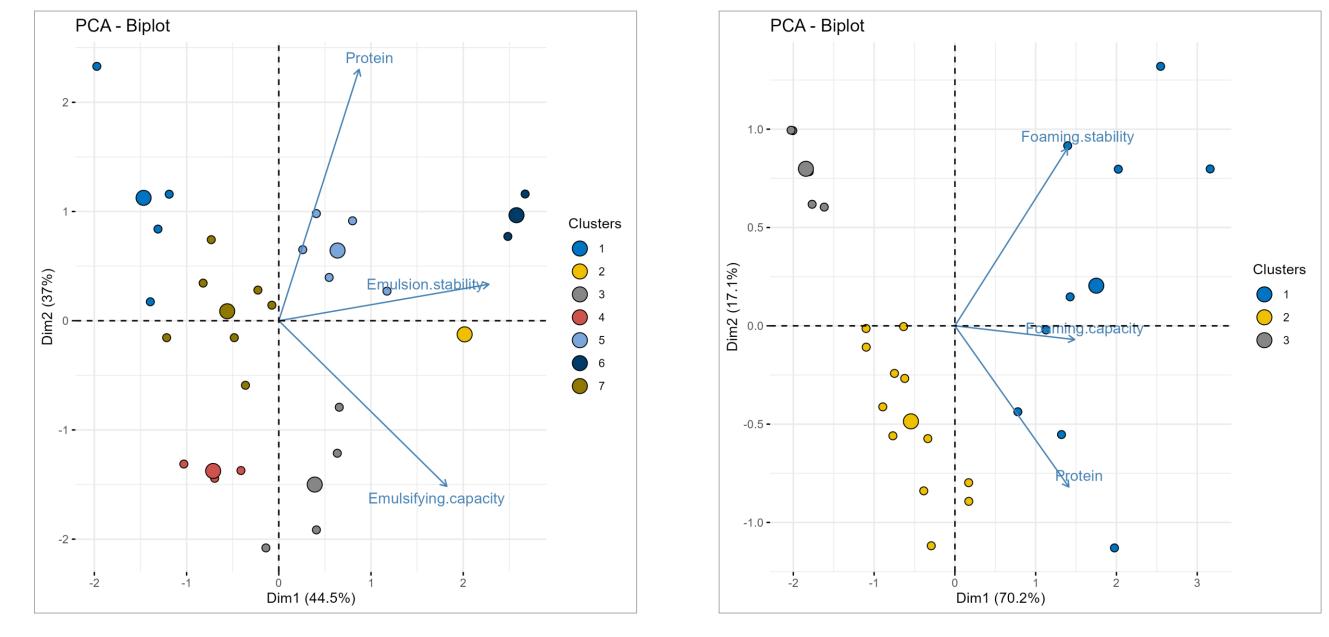


Main objective/ research question

- PLAN P aims to develop a smart and innovative system in order to design sustainable food and control quality online during the production and shelf life.
- The project goal is to facilitate the protein transition using spectral methods and predictive models

Preliminary results

- 26 plant ingredients were characterized and grouped into
 7 clusters based on emulsifying capacity and 3 clusters
 based on foaming capacity
- An **experimental plan** was designed to produce 3 different kinds of emulsions (high energy, low energy, spreadable) and a foam with **various textural qualities**.
- Production of matrices and their **physico-chemical characterization** has begun.
- Simultaneously, commercial emulsions (mayonnaises) have been characterized in terms of **texture** and **spectral signature**.
- Initial AI pipelines based on currently provided results have been setup.



PCA (biplot representations) of the 26 plant proteins, explaining the clustering for emulsions (left) and foams (right)

Preliminary conclusions/ potential impact

- Preliminary results on commercial products have shown a **correlation between Physico-chemical quality** and **spectral signature**, which confirms the relevance of this approach.
- The clustering of the plant ingredients could facilitate the screening of novel ingredients → Prediction of the techno-functional characteristics based on machine-learning.
- The project should make it possible to anticipate quality problems directly on the production lines → process optimization and waste reduction

Future research activities

- Production of the matrices (emulsions and foams) and Physico-chemical & spectral characterization of these products
- Development of predictive models based on these results
- Development and testing of a platform of adapted sensors coupled to predictive models.









