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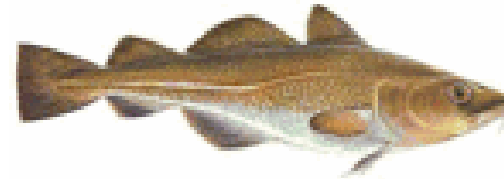
## OBJECTIVES

- to achieve **better understanding** of the **effect of temperature** on the **complex spoilage** changes of fish
  - volatile compounds as **quality indicators**
    - **GC** (gas chromatography) analysis
    - characterize the spoilage potential of **specific spoilage organisms (SSO)**
- to apply an **electronic nose** as a **rapid** technique to monitor classes of volatile compounds as indicators of **quality changes** during storage of chilled fish
  - storage studies of chilled cod and haddock fillets – natural products
    - explore the correlation of **microbial, chemical, sensory and e-nose** data by using multivariate models (**PLSR / PCA - SIMCA**)
    - predict the quality or classify products according to **sensory criteria**.

# Various factors influence the spoilage of fish



- Species
  - cod and haddock
- Seasonal condition
  - autumn
- Fishing grounds
  - Northeast and Southwest Iceland
- Catching methods
  - longline / bottom trawl
- Handling
  - Flake ice / slurry ice
  - Superchilling CBC (contact blast and cooling)
- Processing
  - skinless fillets
- Storage techniques
  - styrofoam boxes
- Time / temperature
  - -1,5 to 15°C



# Complex spoilage changes in fish

## Identify **quality** indicators



Fresh odor

Spoilage odor

Endogenous  
enzymes  
lipoxygenase,  
cathepsin, calpain



**Glycolysis**

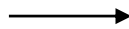
pH↓, Lactic acid↑

**Rigor mortis**

ATP → Inosine → Hx → Urea

**Autolysis**

Oxidation  
pro- and  
antioxidants



**Protein** / i.e. sarcoplasmic proteins  
→ peptides → amino acids

**Lipids** / i.e. phospholipids → PUFA

Microbial growth

**SSO**

Specific Spoilage  
Organisms

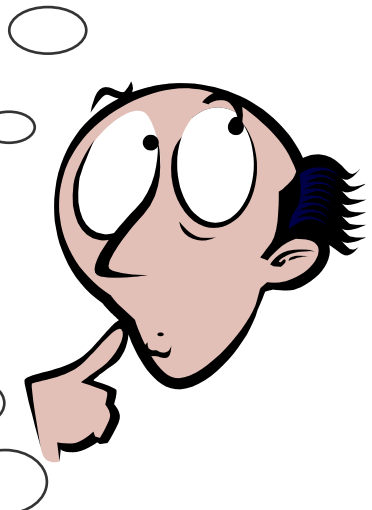


**Soluble substances in the muscle**

Nucleotides

NPN non protein nitrogenous components

TMAO → TMA/DMA, FA, pH ↑



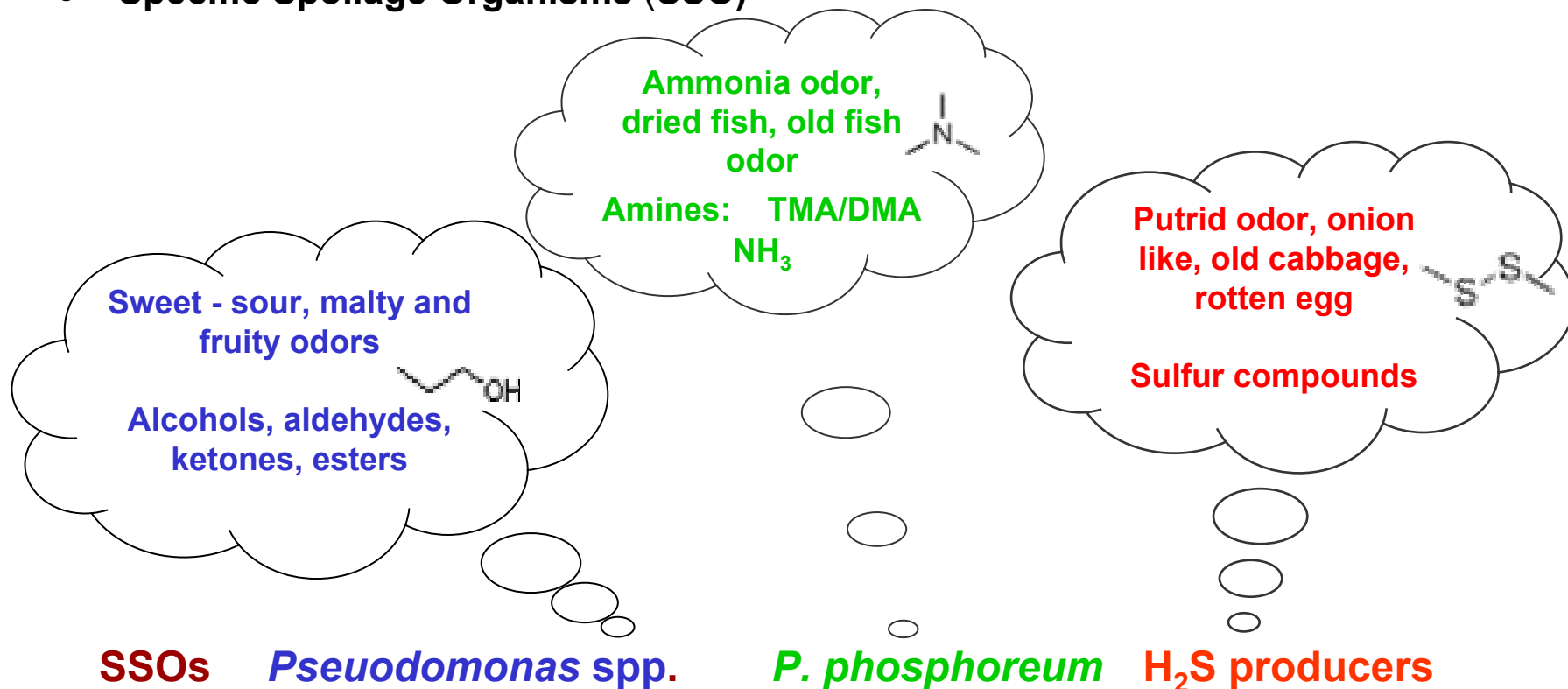
Texture firm – soft

Color changes



# QUALITY INDICATORS in chilled fish

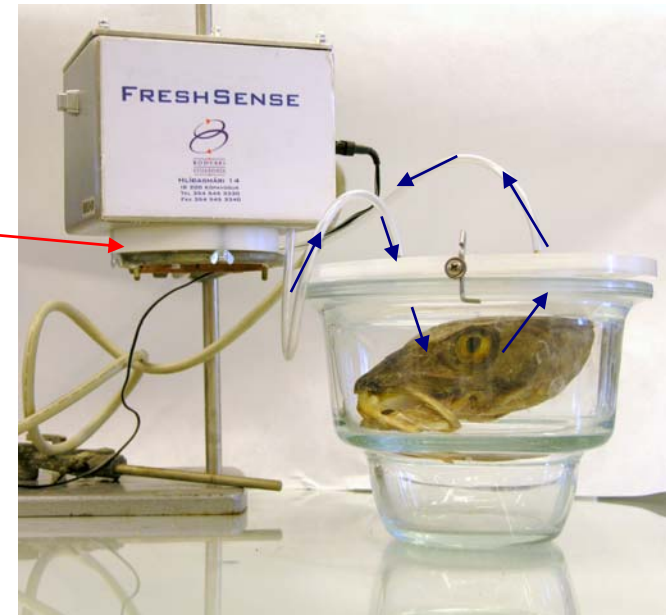
- Spoilage odors
- Volatile microbial metabolites
- Specific Spoilage Organisms (SSO)



# METHODS – analysis of volatile compounds

- **Electronic nose **FreshSense****

- Maritech, Iceland (prototype)
- Electrochemical sensors
  - CO, NH<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, SO<sub>2</sub>
- 2.6L sampling vessel
- Pump
- Continuous sampling for 5 minutes
- Approx. 500 g fillets
- Temperature monitoring /control



- **Rapid technique**

- A few sensors sensitive to the main classes of compounds produced in chilled fish

- **Comparison with **gas chromatography****

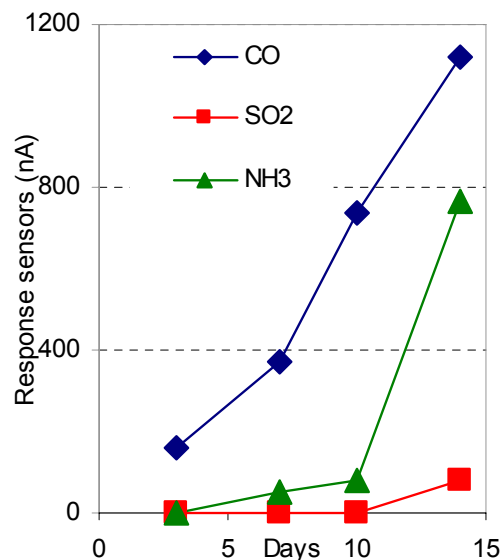
- Identify the main classes of compounds produced during storage to select appropriate sensors
- GC-MS / GC-O

# Storage study of haddock fillets

## Comparison of the e-nose sensors and GC analysis of the main classes of volatile compounds produced during chilled storage



### Electronic nose sensors

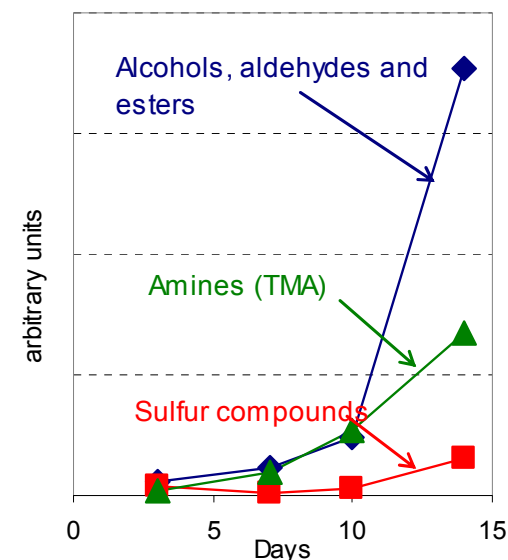


CO sensor

SO<sub>2</sub> sensor

NH<sub>3</sub> sensor

### Gas chromatography



alcohols, aldehydes and esters

sulfur compounds

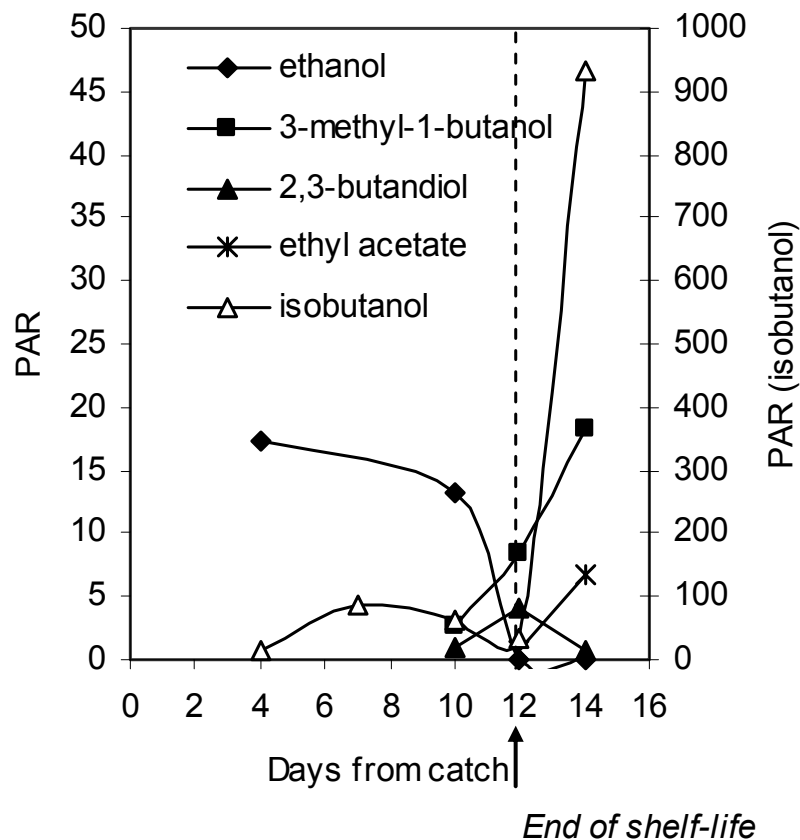
amines

In: Olafsdottir G. 2003. Developing rapid olfaction arrays for determining fish quality. In Ibtisam E Tothill (Ed) RAPID AND ON-LINE INSTRUMENTATION FOR FOOD QUALITY ASSURANCE. Woodhead Publishing Ltd, Cambridge, England, pp. 339-360

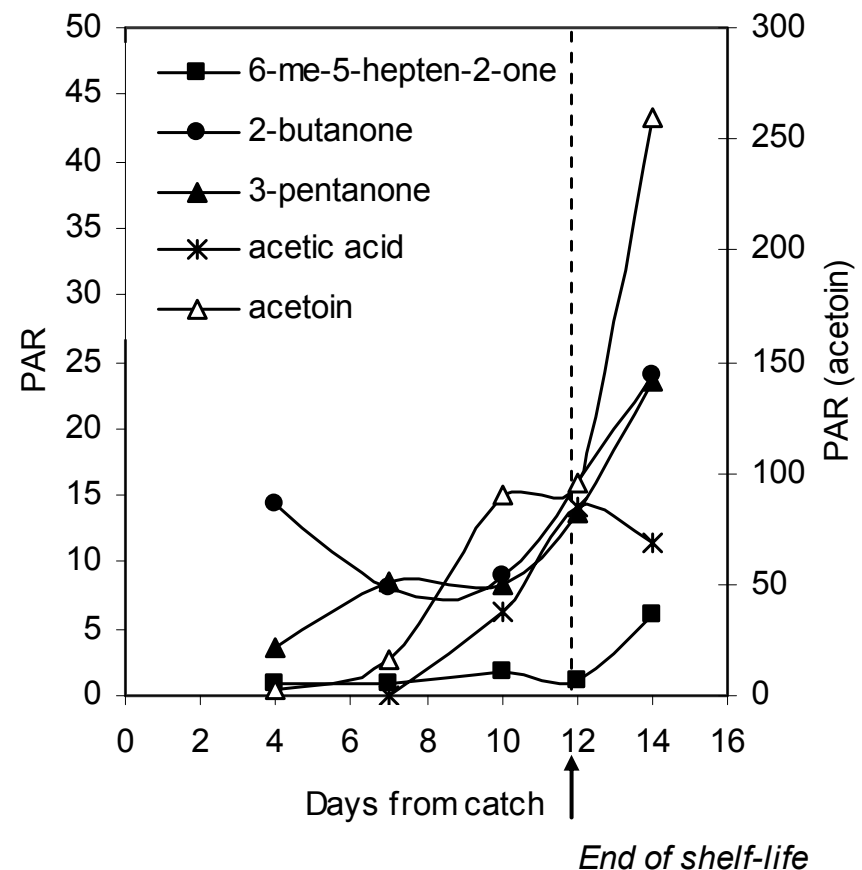


## Examples of the dynamic evolution of volatile compounds in spoilage of fish (cod fillets 0°C)

### Alcohols, esters



### Ketones, acids



From: Olafsdottir, G., Jonsdottir, R., Lauzon, H.L., Luten, J., Kristbergsson, K. 2005. Characterization of volatile compounds in chilled cod (*Gadus morhua*) fillets by gas chromatography and detection of quality indicators by an electronic nose. JAF, 53 (26), 10140-10147.



# Potential quality indicators in cod fillets (0°C)



Volatiles: **TMA** (trimethylamine), TVB-N  
**acetoin** (3-hydroxy-2-butanone)

E-nose: **CO** and **NH<sub>3</sub>** sensor

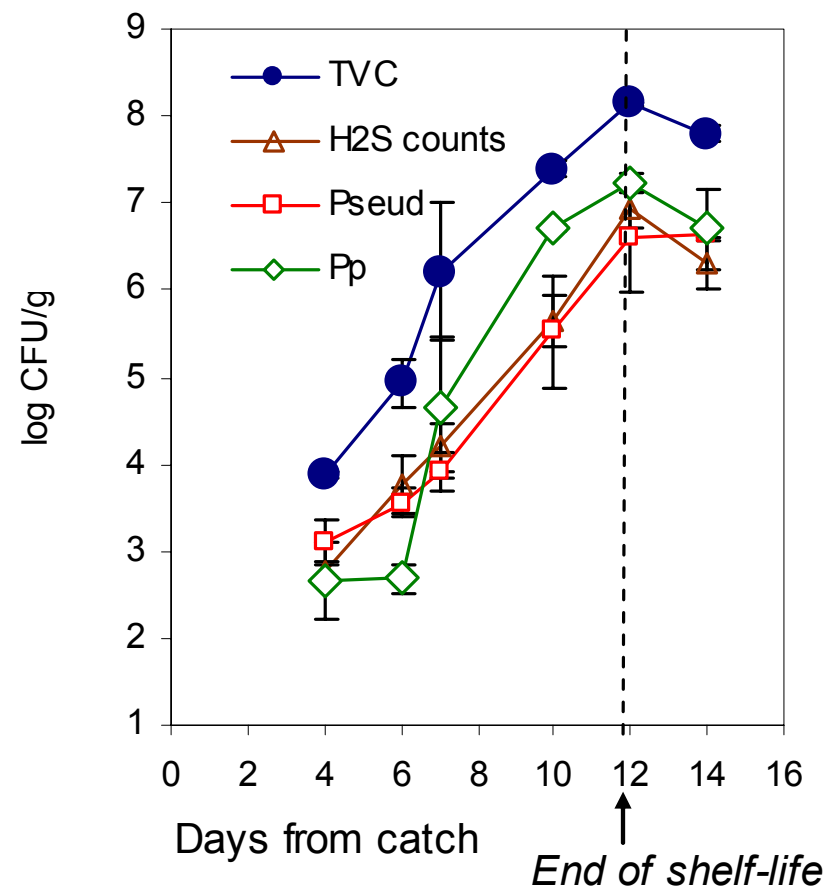
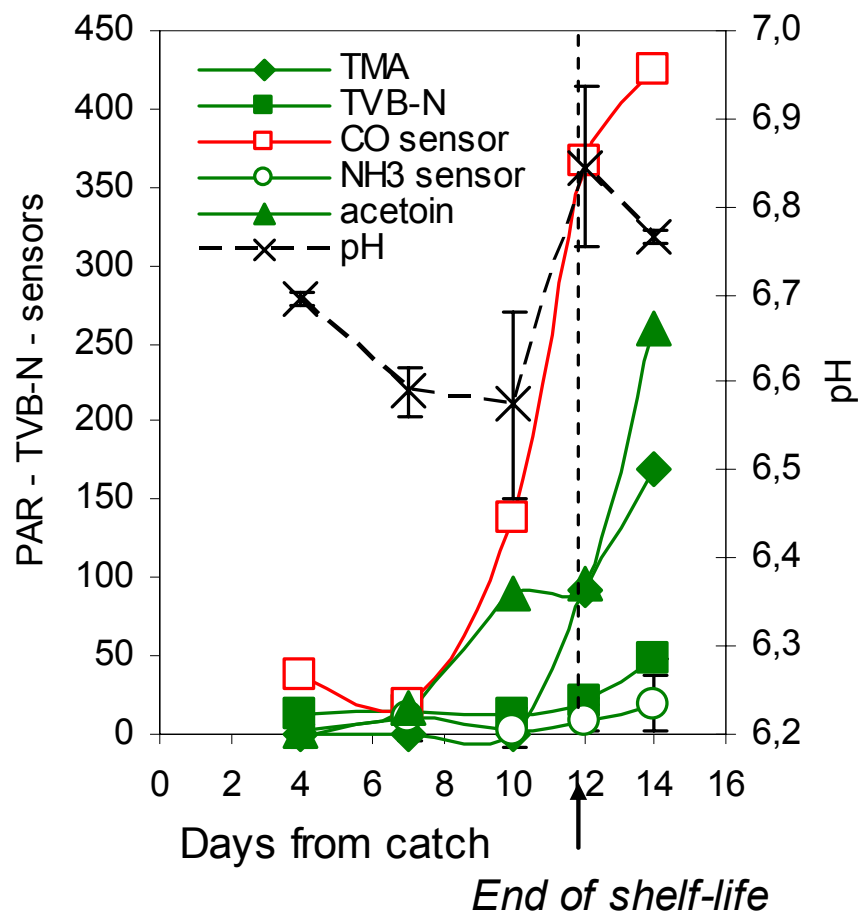
Microbial counts:

TVC (total viable counts)

H<sub>2</sub>S producers

*Pseudomonas spp.*

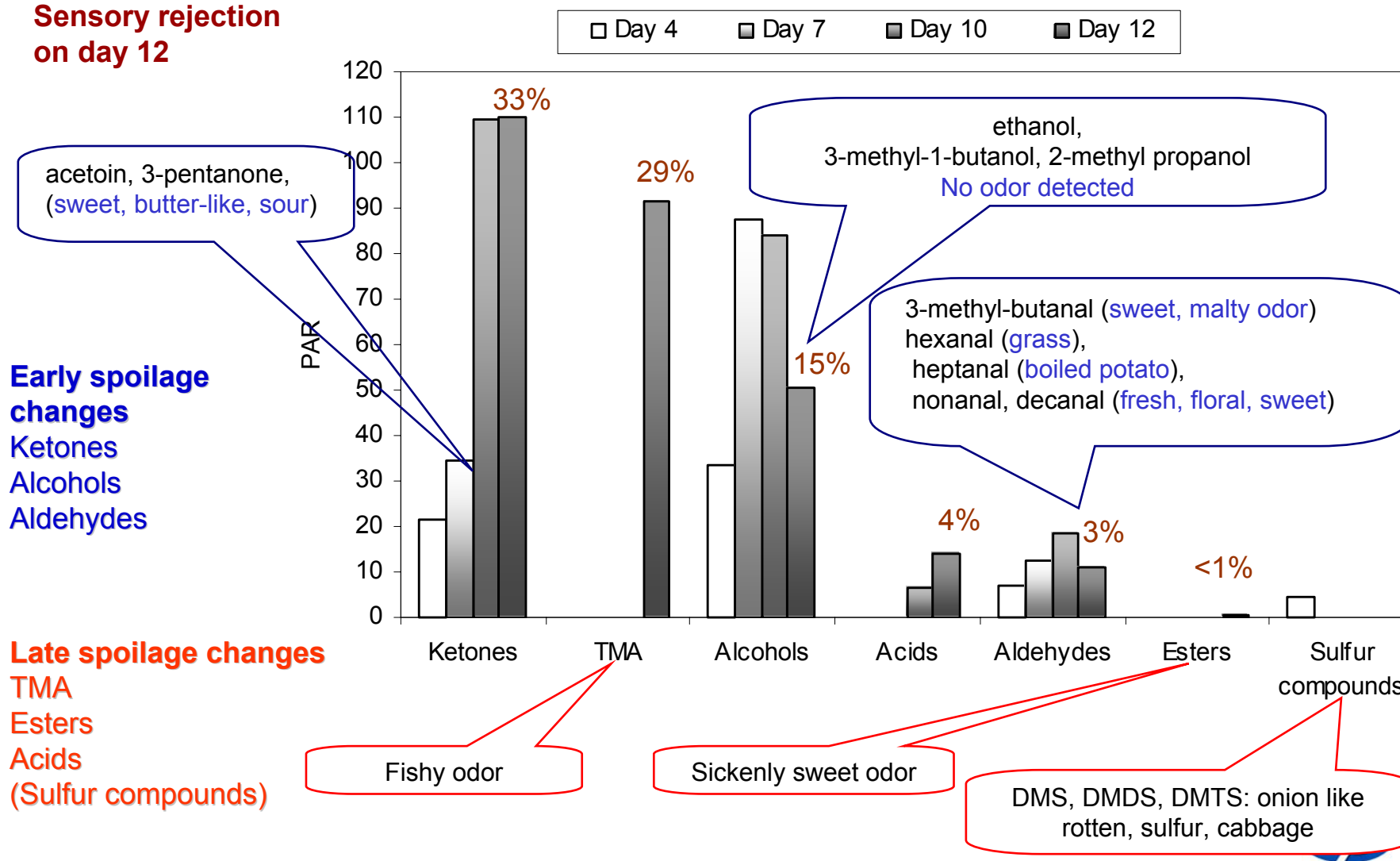
*P. phosphoreum* (predominating)



# Quantification and identification of the main classes of compounds in cod fillets during storage (0°C) by GC-MS and GC-O



**Sensory rejection on day 12**



# Storage studies - METHODS

- Five storage studies on cod and haddock fillets packed in styrofoam boxes
  - from two factories in Iceland
  - different temperatures (-1,5 to 15°C)
- Traditional reference methods
  - Sensory analysis
    - Torry score
  - Microbial counts
    - TVC (total viable counts) (15°C)
    - SSO (*specific spoilage organisms*)
      - *Pseudomonas spp*
      - H<sub>2</sub>S-producers
      - *Photobacterium phosphoreum*
  - Chemical analysis
    - TVB-N (total volatile basic nitrogen)
- Electronic nose

## Data analysis

### Multivariate models

- PLSR / PCA / SIMCA
  - Unscrambler Camo

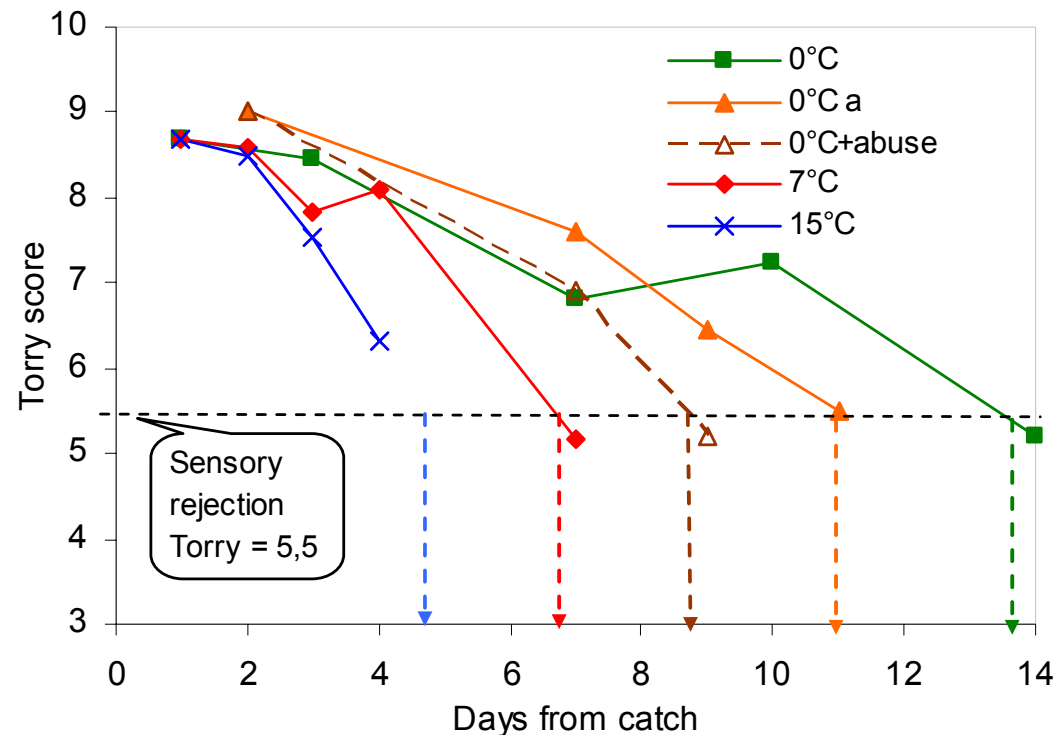
# Influence of different storage temperature on the shelf-life of haddock fillets

## Shelf-life determined by sensory analysis

**Storage conditions:**

**Study 1: 0°C, 7°C, 15°C**

**Study 2: 0°C, 0°C + abuse**

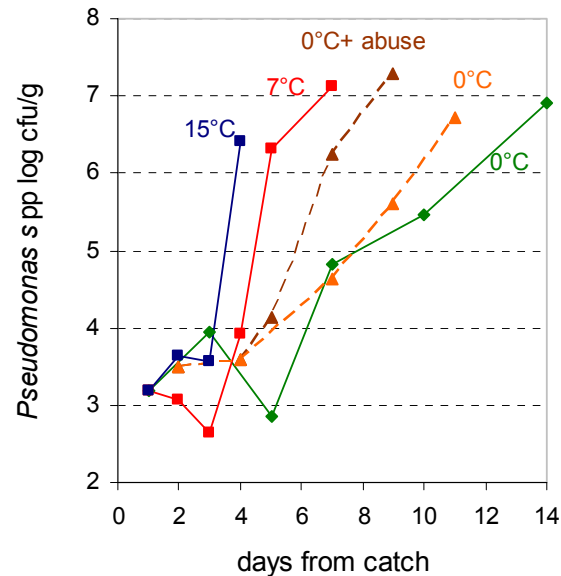


From: Olafsdottir G, Lauzon HL, Martinsdottir E, Kristbergsson K. 2005. Influence of storage temperature on microbial spoilage characteristics of haddock fillets (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) evaluated by multivariate quality prediction. *In press*.

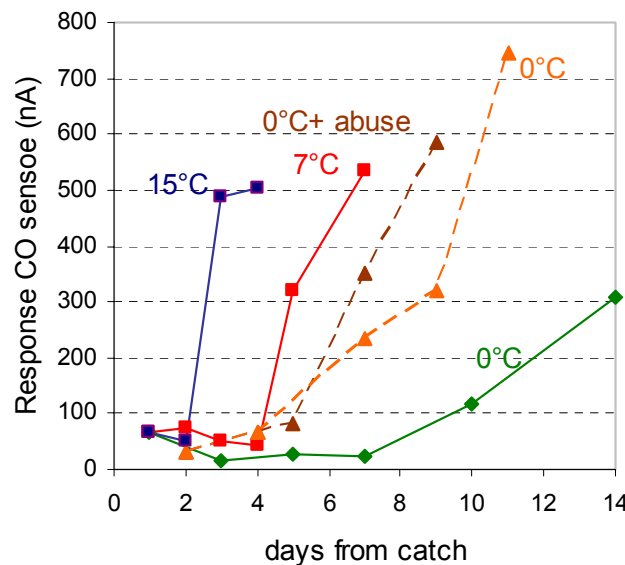
# Influence of different storage temperature (0°C, 7°C, 15°C and 0°C, 0°C + abuse) on the rate of spoilage changes haddock fillets



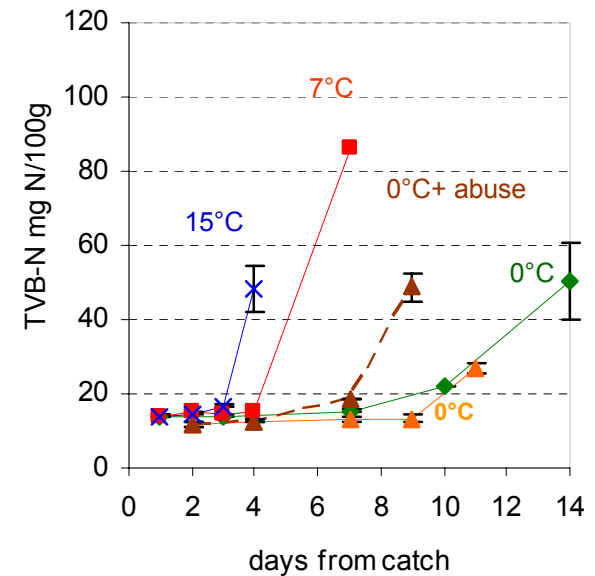
**Microbial counts**  
*Pseudomonas* spp.



**E- nose: CO sensor**



**TVB-N**



**Quality indicators do not always agree on the spoilage rate of sample groups**

From: Olafsdottir G, Lauzon HL, Martinsdottir E, Kristbergsson K. 2005. Influence of storage temperature on microbial spoilage characteristics of haddock fillets (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) evaluated by multivariate quality prediction. In press.



# Partial Least Squares Regression (PLSR) model to explore the correlation of the variables

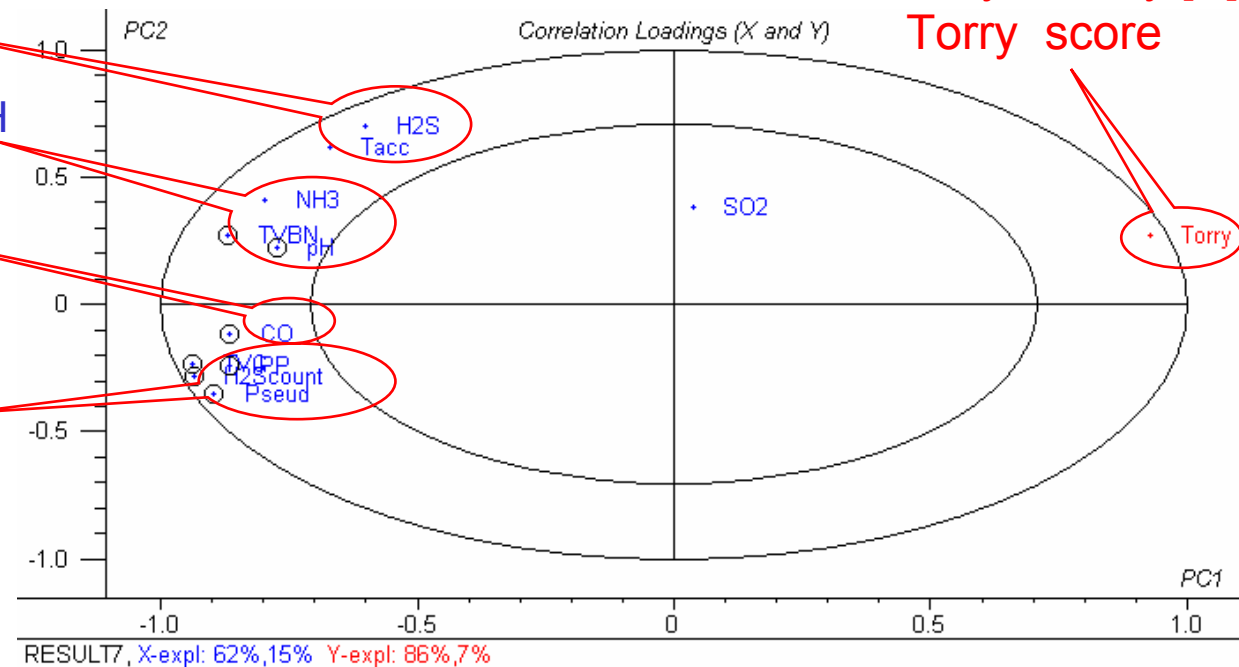


- Selection of quality indicators [X] to predict sensory quality [Y] of haddock fillets (stored at different temperatures 0°C, 7°C, 15°C - 0°C, 0°C + abuse)

## Quality indicators [X]

- H<sub>2</sub>S sensor - T<sub>acc</sub>
- NH<sub>3</sub> sensor – TVB-N - pH
- CO sensor
- *Pseudomonas* spp.
- H<sub>2</sub>S producers
- *P. phosphoreum*
- TVC  
(Total viable microbial counts)

## Sensory Quality [Y] Torry score



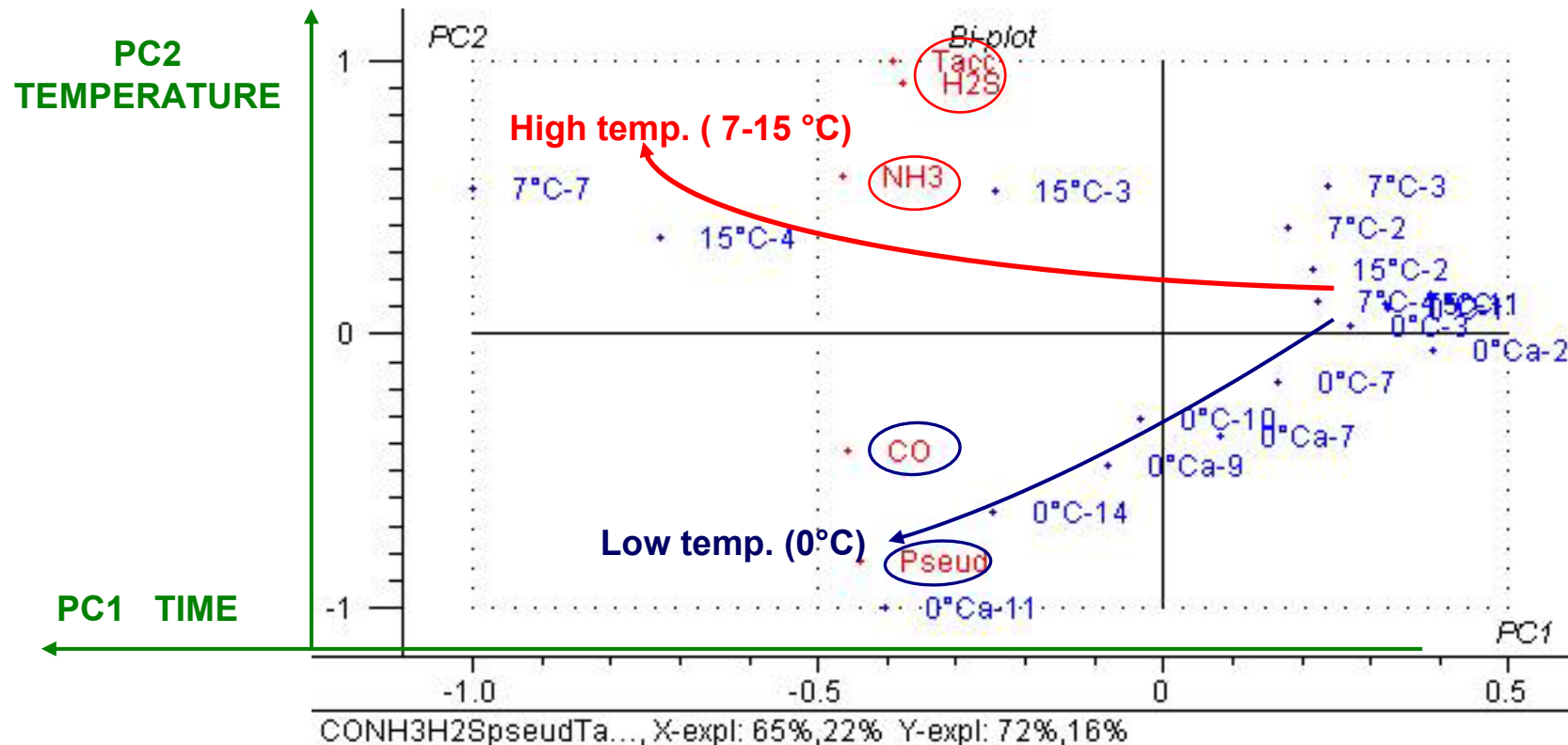
- Different models were explored to select the best quality indicators
- Best models when all significant variables were used
- Of interest to use rapid techniques like the e-nose sensors (CO, H<sub>2</sub>S and NH<sub>3</sub>)



# Partial Least Squares Regression (PLSR) model for haddock samples (0°C, 7°C, 15°C - 0°C, 0°C + abuse)



Models based on pseudomonads counts and the CO, NH<sub>3</sub> H<sub>2</sub>S sensors, and T<sub>acc</sub> (time / temp) gave best results to predict sensory scores  
(r<sup>2</sup>=0.94; RMSEP: 0,49)



5% error between predicted sensory scores and experimental values when using a subset of the data



## Storage studies on cod fillets at low temperature -1.5 (superchilling) to 0.5°C and temperature abuse

- **Factory 1:**

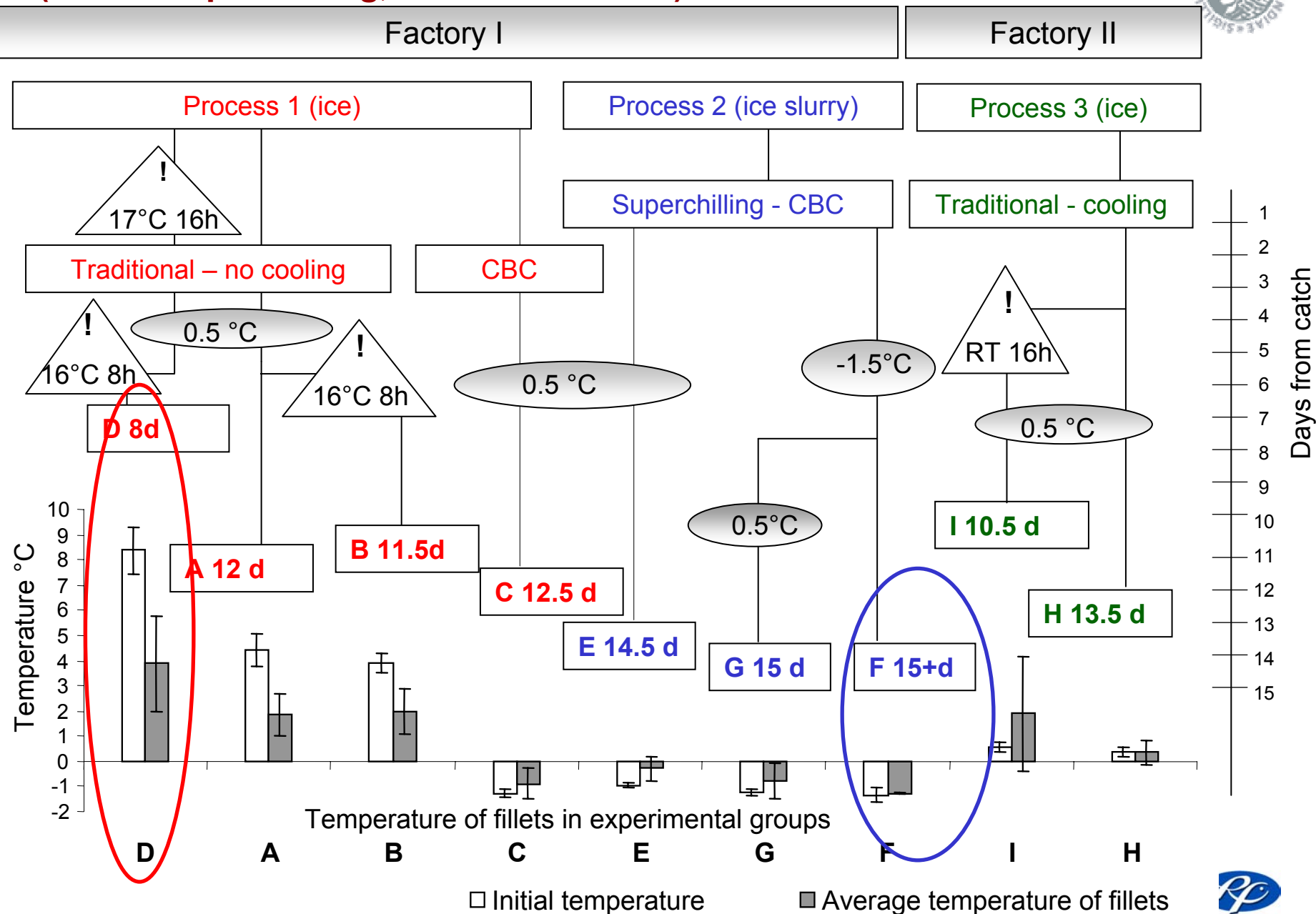
- Process 1 Traditional (no cooling of fillets) + abuse
- Process 2 Superchilling (CBC)

- **Factory 2:**

- Process 3 Traditional (cooling of fillets)
- Important to study natural products
- Catching, handling and storage conditions were not the same
- The aim was to select the best quality indicators (microbial, chemical, e-nose) to predict the sensory quality



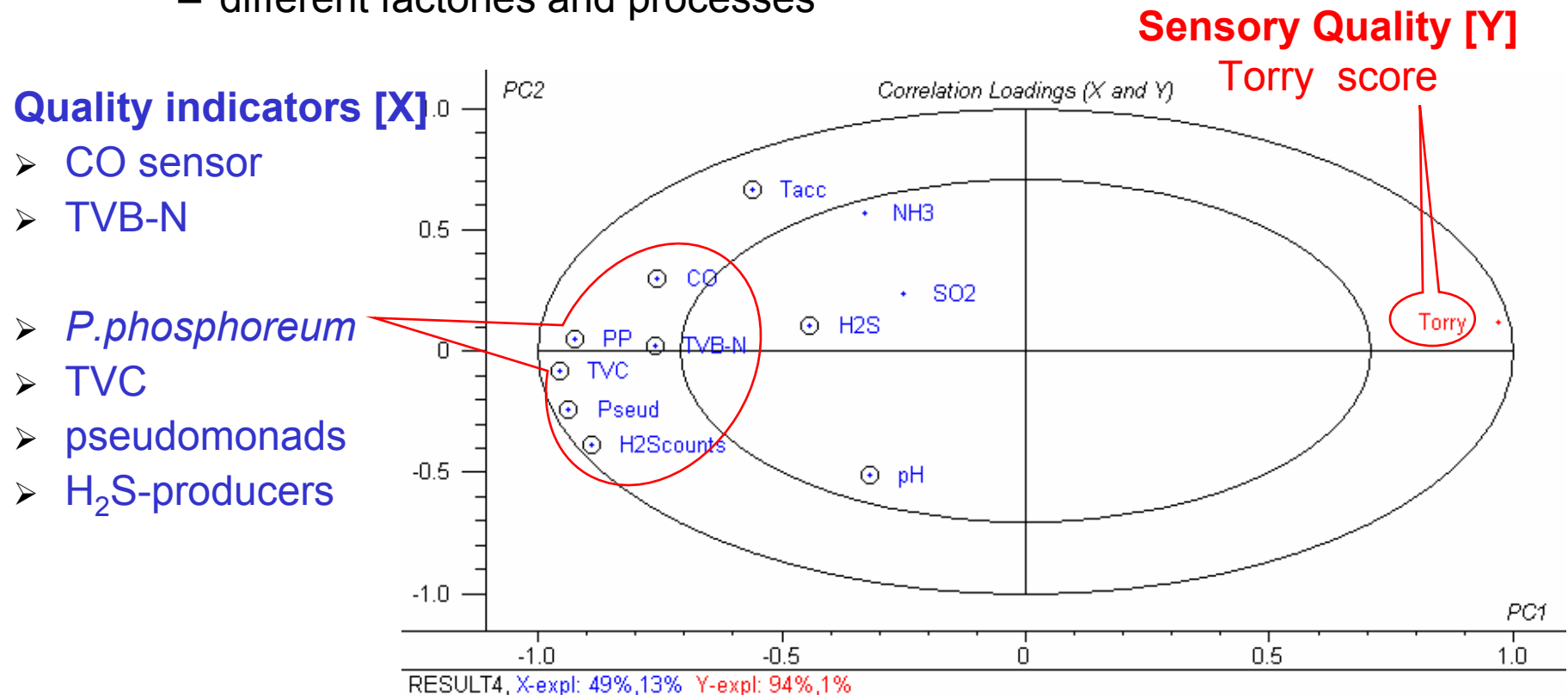
# Influence of different processes and temperature conditions (-1.5 °C superchilling, 0.5 °C and abuse) on the shelf-life of cod fillets



# Partial Least Squares Regression (PLSR) model to explore the potential of the quality indicators (X) to predict sensory quality (Y)



Cod fillets stored at -1.5 (superchilling) to 0.5°C + abuse  
– different factories and processes

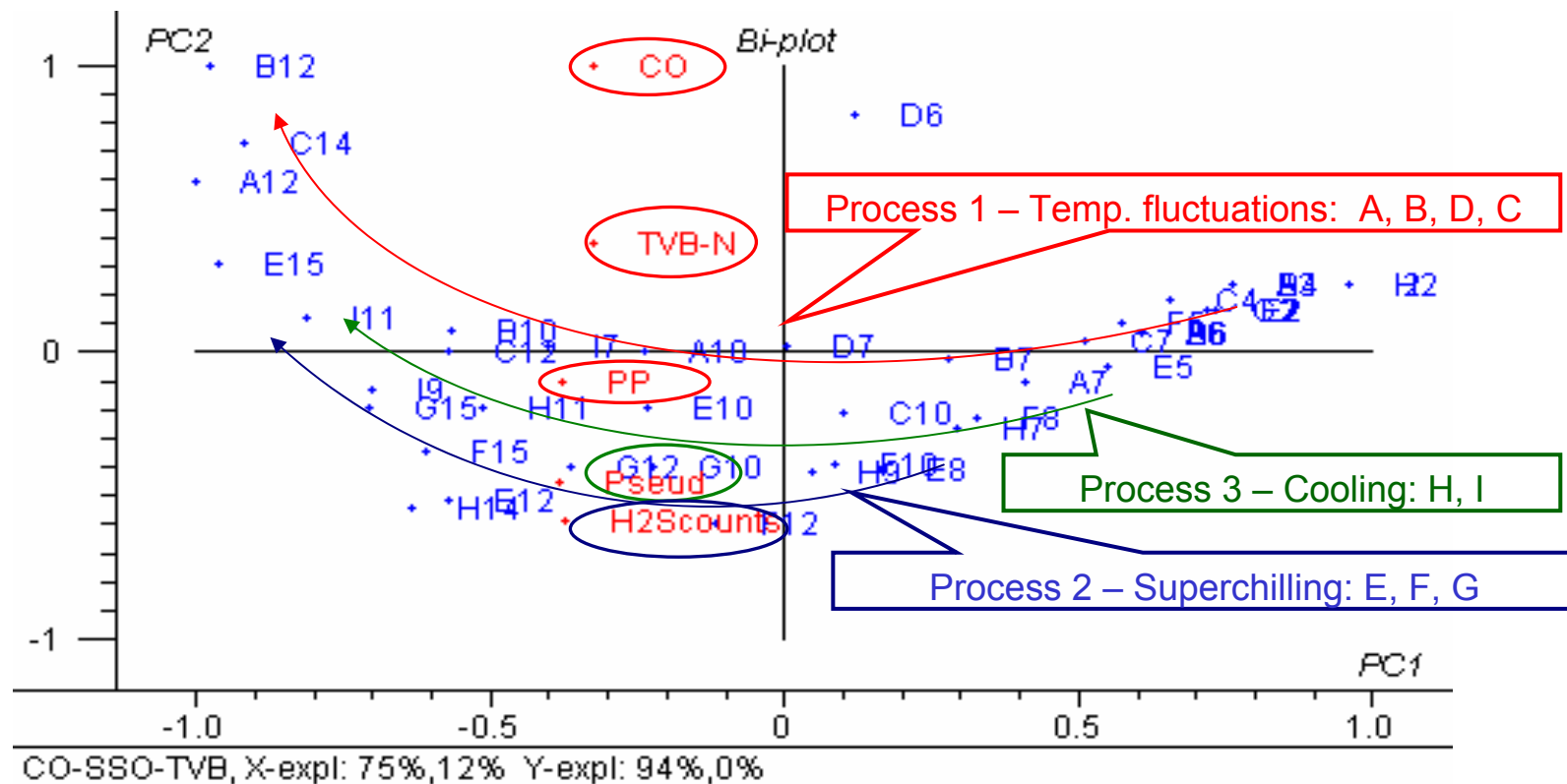


From: Olafsdottir G, Lauzon HL, Martinsdottir E, Oehlenschläger J, Kristbergsson K. 2006. Evaluation of shelf-life of superchilled cod (*Gadus morhua*) fillets and influence of temperature fluctuations on microbial and chemical quality indicators. J. Food Sci 71 (2): 97-109.



# PLSR model for chilled and superchilled cod fillets

Multiple quality criteria based on 5 variables, the SSOs (*P. phosphoreum*, *H<sub>2</sub>S*-producers, *pseudomonads*), CO sensor and TVB-N was needed when using a global model to classify samples from different factories stored at different temperatures



- 85% correct classification based on sensory criteria (Torry score 7)

# CONCLUSIONS

- **Volatile compounds** contributed by different **SSOs** give information about the spoilage processes in fish
- **Electronic nose** is a **multi-indicator** device
  - **selective sensors** for **ketones, amines, alcohols, aldehydes, acids, esters and sulfur compounds**
  - e-nose can give more information than a single reference measurement for example TVB-N.
- **Establishment of quality criteria** or fixed values to determine the end of shelf-life or the quality of fish based on electronic nose responses, microbial counts and TVB-N reference methods will have to be developed for each product and the respective storage conditions.

## **FUTURE PERSPECTIVES**

### **Implementation of the electronic nose technique for quality monitoring of fish products?**

- The fast development of sensor technologies and data processing techniques will improve the possibility of quality monitoring in the food industry.
  
- On-line monitoring ? Handheld devices ? “Smart” sensors in packaging?
  - sampling
  - temperature control
  - exclusion of background odors and contaminants
  - sensitive / selective sensors for quality indicating compounds
  - rapid detection of SSOs
  - specific applications - establishment of quality criteria for different products and temperature conditions

## Acknowledgements

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- Tros
- Tangi
- Skaginn ([www.skaginn.is/](http://www.skaginn.is/))