

1 **Host: microbiome co-metabolic processing of dietary polyphenols – an acute, single**  
2 **blinded, cross-over study with different doses of apple polyphenols in healthy subjects.**

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24 **Key words:** apple, polyphenols, nutrikinetics, metabolomics, microbiota, blood, urine, mass  
25 spectrometry

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27 **Declaration of interest:** none.

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**ABSTRACT (200 words):**

Apples are one of the most commonly consumed fruits and their high polyphenol content is considered one of the most important determinants of their health-promoting activities. Here we studied the nutrikinetics of apple polyphenols by UHPLC-HRMS metabolite fingerprinting, comparing bioavailability when consumed in a natural or a polyphenol-enriched cloudy apple juice. Twelve men and women participated in an acute single blind controlled crossover study in which they consumed 250 mL of cloudy apple juice (CAJ), Crispy Pink apple variety, or 250 mL of the same juice enriched with 750 mg of an apple polyphenol extract (PAJ). Plasma and whole blood were collected at time 0, 1, 2, 3 and 5 h. Urine was collected at time 0 and 0-2, 2-5, 5-8, and 8-24 h after juice consumption. Faecal samples were collected from each individual during the study for 16S rRNA gene profiling. As many as 110 metabolites were significantly elevated following intake of polyphenol enriched cloudy apple juice, with large inter-individual variations. The comparison of the average area under the curve of circulating metabolites in plasma and in urine of volunteers consuming either the CAJ or the PAJ demonstrated a stable metabolotype, suggesting that an increase in polyphenol concentration in fruit does not limit their bioavailability upon ingestion. Faecal bacteria were correlated with specific microbial catabolites derived from apple polyphenols. Human metabolism of apple polyphenols is a co-metabolic process between human encoded activities and those of our resident microbiota. Here we have identified specific blood and urine metabolic biomarkers of apple polyphenol intake and identified putative associations with specific genera of faecal bacteria, associations which now need confirmation in specifically designed mechanistic studies.

**KEYWORDS:** apple, polyphenols, nutrikinetics, metabolomics, microbiota, blood, urine

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

Apples are the most commonly consumed fruit in the world and are an important source of phytonutrients (Konopacka et al., 2010)(Herrick, Rossen, Nielsen, Branum, & Ogden, 2015). Together with sugars, organic acids and minerals, apples are rich in fibre, vitamins and polyphenols (J. Wu et al., 2007). Several epidemiological studies have reported protective health effects for apples (Theodoratou et al., 2007, Hansen et al., 2010, Feskanich et al., 2000, Gallus et al., 2005, Sesso, Gaziano, Liu, & Buring, 2003, Scalbert et al., 2014, Manach, Scalbert, Morand, Rémésy, & Jime, 2004). It appears that apples may play a significant role in reducing the risk of a wide variety of chronic disease and maintaining a healthy lifestyle in general. Their consumption has been most consistently associated with reduced risk of cancer, heart disease, asthma, and type II diabetes. Apple consumption was also positively associated with increased lung function and increased weight loss (Butland, 2000; Conceição de Oliveira, Sichieri, & Sanchez Moura, 2003; Knekt et al., 2002; Tabak, Arts, Smit, Heederik, & Kromhout, 2001). Some intervention studies involving feeding with apples (Muraki et al., 2013; Van Velzen et al., 2009) or apple extracts (Soriano-Maldonado, Hidalgo, Arteaga, de Pascual-Teresa, & Nova, 2014, Theuwissen & Mensink, 2008) correlated these health effects with apple phenolic content (Manach et al., 2004, Scalbert et al., 2014, Hyson, 2011). Moreover, many apple polyphenols showed interesting health promoting properties in cellular and animal models. Phloridzin, one of dihydrochalcones contained in apples and in apple-derived products, lowers blood sugar in diabetic rats (Masumoto, Akimoto, Oike, & Kobori, 2009, Najafian et al., 2012) through its inhibition of intestinal glucose absorption via SGLT1 and SGLT2, the sodium/glucose cotransporters in the intestine and kidney respectively. Microbial metabolites of apple procyanidins have been shown to inhibit proliferation of intestinal cancer cells (*Caco2*) *in vitro* (Gossé et al., 2005); this anti-cancerogenic activity has been suggested to contribute to the reduced risk of colorectal cancer reported for people consuming more than 2 apples per day (Rossi et al., 2012). Additionally, there are also reports suggesting apple phenols may prevent lipid peroxidation and suppress metalloprotein activity (Gerhauser, 2008).

Apple phenolics comprise of four main classes of polyphenol: cinnamic acids, flavanols, dihydrochalcones and flavonols, many of which are antioxidants. In addition to these, apple also contains small amounts of anthocyanins, stilbenes and triterpenoid acids (Farneti et al., 2015). Amongst the flavanols, the most abundant compounds are epicatechin and oligomeric procyanidins (Vrhovsek, Rigo, Tonon, & Mattivi, 2004), the latter present in large quantities. Chlorogenic acid is the main cinnamic acid, and phloridzin is the main dihydrochalcone. Finally, in the flavonols and anthocyanins, a mixture of various mono-glycosylated forms of quercetin and cyanidin are present.

113 A huge variability among varieties and species is present for both their concentration and  
114 pattern leaving room for a potential increase of the content of apple polyphenols in the fruit via  
115 innovative breeding strategies (Farneti et al., 2015). This raises an important question: is the  
116 bioavailability polyphenols be affected by their higher concentration upon ingestion?

117 One of the main limitations of existing data on bioavailability is that studies are often  
118 restricted to a single class of polyphenols (Rago, Gurdeniz, Gitte, & Dragsted, 2014, Kahle et al.,  
119 2007, Lee, Ebeler, Zweigenbaum, & Mitchell, 2012) and there are still very few human studies  
120 describing comprehensively the kinetics and transformation of apple polyphenols. This is  
121 confounded by the fact that, at least for more complex molecules or large oligomers, such as the  
122 proanthocyanidins, metabolism involves the human gut microbiota. The gut microbiota is a  
123 complex collection of many hundreds of different microbial species which reside within the human  
124 intestine. Indeed, co-metabolic processing by gut microbiota and host metabolic pathways are  
125 responsible for polyphenol catabolism and as consequence of their biological activities and impact  
126 on human health. Therefore, gut microbiota composition (species and relative abundances of  
127 microorganism) may affect the profile of polyphenol catabolites. However, we still know very little  
128 about which species are involved in these microbial catabolic processes, especially for any given  
129 class of polyphenols or indeed, whether presence/absence or differences in bacterial relative  
130 abundance determine overall microbiota catabolic output and the fate of plant derived bioactive  
131 nutrients (G. D. Wu et al., 2016, Guadamuro et al., 2015 Tamura et al., 2015).

132 Considering the complex transformations and overlapping metabolic pathways thus far  
133 described for different classes of apple polyphenols, there is no single conventional targeted  
134 analytical method which can provide accurate and precise measurement of the common apple  
135 polyphenols or their derivatives. Untargeted MS based metabolomics together with multivariate  
136 statistical analysis partially solves this problem providing the possibility to explore wide ranges of  
137 metabolites in a semi-quantitative manner.

138 The aim of the study was to identify the metabolic products of various classes of apple  
139 polyphenols upon ingestion by healthy subjects using an untargeted metabolomics approach and  
140 to describe the nutrikinetics of these metabolites in plasma and urine over respectively a 5 h and  
141 24 h period. A second aim was to evaluate whether a higher concentration of polyphenols in the  
142 apple matrix, (i.e. the consumption from the same volunteers either of the cloudy apple juice (CAJ)  
143 or the polyphenol enriched apple juice (PAJ)) would lead to a corresponding increased metabolic  
144 output or would rather result in altered metabolotype. An additional aim was to assess whether the  
145 variability of the pattern and circulating levels of apple derived plasma/urine microbial catabolites  
146 among the participants to the study could be related to a specific composition of the gut microbiota.

147 For this purpose, we designed a cross-over single blind trial at two dose levels of apple  
148 polyphenols. Twelve healthy subjects in a fasted state consumed either 250 mL of natural cloudy  
149 apple juice (CAJ) or the same apple juice enriched with an apple extract containing all four groups

150 of apple polyphenols (PAJ), followed by regular blood and urine sampling up the 24 hours and  
151 profiling of faecal microbiota.

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## 153 **2. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### 154 2.1 Chemical and reagents

155 HPLC-grade methanol, acetonitrile, 2-propanol and formic acid were obtained from Sigma Aldrich.  
156 The ultrapure water was obtained by purifying demineralized water in a Milli-Q system from  
157 Millipore (Bedford, MA, USA). Internal standard creatinine labeled  $^{13}\text{C}$  was purchased from Sigma  
158 Aldrich and  $\text{d}_5$  labeled *trans*-cinnamic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid- $\text{d}_4$  and taurocholic acid- $\text{d}_5$  were  
159 obtained from CDN ISOTOPES, Inc. (Pointe-Claire, Quebec, Canada). PVDF syringe filters 0.45  
160  $\mu\text{m}$  were obtained from Millipore, while Sirocco protein precipitation plate from Waters, (USA).  
161 Internal standards for urine samples were prepared in pure methanol with  $^{13}\text{C}$  creatinine at 9.33  
162 ppm and *trans*-cinnamic acid- $\text{d}_5$  at 5.5 ppm. For plasma and blood methanol extracts, internal  
163 standards additionally contained 0.5 ppm of chenodeoxycholic acid- $\text{d}_4$  and 0.5 ppm of taurocholic  
164 acid- $\text{d}_5$ .

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### 166 2.2 Experimental juices

167 Experimental juices were kindly provided by the company Macè Srl (<http://www.macefruit.com>).  
168 The cloudy apple juice (CAJ) was made from the Crispy Pink variety, product code SME1/6AP. In  
169 order to maintain its full nutritional properties it was cloudy and preserved by high-pressure  
170 pasteurisation. Enriched juices (PAJ) were prepared by adding 0.75 g of an apple extract into 250  
171 mL of cloudy juice. The apple extract provided by Denk Ingredients GmbH  
172 (<http://denkingredients.de>; art. no: 968267) increased the content of polyphenols without changing  
173 the matrix. Juices were packaged and stored at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  until use.

#### 174 2.2.1 Juice preparation and analysis

175 Samples of juice were analysed in triplicate as previously described (Vrhovsek et al 2012). Briefly,  
176 0.5 mL of juice or PAJ was diluted with 0.5 mL of methanol, including 4 ppm of rosmarinic acid as  
177 an internal standard. The sample was centrifuged at  $4^\circ\text{C}$  and 15,000 rpm for 10 min, and the  
178 supernatant was filtered with 0.22  $\mu\text{m}$ , 13 mm Millex-GV PDVF filters (Millipore, USA). Multiclass  
179 polyphenols were analysed with Xevo TQMS (Waters, USA) faced to Acquity UPLC. The content  
180 of proanthocyanidins and their mean degree of polymerization (mDP) was evaluated by LC-DAD-  
181 MS before and after phloroglucinolysis, according to validated protocols (Gris et al., 2011). The  
182 results of polyphenols concentration in the CAJ and PAJs are listed in Supplementary Material 1.

183

### 184 2.3 Study design

185 Twelve, non-smoking, healthy volunteers (8 males and 4 females), aged 21 to 42 years, with a BMI  
186 between 18.5 and 25  $\text{kg}/\text{m}^2$  (normal weight), participated in the randomized crossover study.

187 Volunteers were instructed to refrain from consuming phenol-rich foods and beverages (wine,  
188 coffee, tea, fruits and vegetables), dietary supplements and medications in the three days prior to  
189 the experiments. To ensure adherence to the dietary instruction, we asked the subjects to keep a  
190 3-day dietary record prior the study participation. The subjects reported to the laboratory on two  
191 separate occasions, two weeks apart, after fasting overnight (10-12 h). Three types of biological  
192 fluids were taken: urine, plasma and venous blood. A venous blood sample was taken at time 0.  
193 Immediately after the first blood collection, participants were provided with a glass of CAJ (250 mL)  
194 (CAJ Treatment) or a glass of PAJ (250 mL) (PAJ Treatment). The order of treatment allocation  
195 was randomly assigned: 6 subjects started with CAJ and the other 6 with PAJ. Further blood  
196 samples were taken at 1, 2, 3 and 5 hours after juice consumption. After sampling, the blood was  
197 transferred into ice-cold 95 % aqueous methanol and processed according to Vanzo et al. (Vanzo  
198 et al., 2013); additionally plasma was separated by centrifugation for 20 min at 1,500 g and stored  
199 at -80 °C. Urine was collected at time 0 and between 0 and 2, 2 and 5, 5 and 8, and 8 and 24 h  
200 after juice consumption. Urine samples from 0 to 8 hours were stored at 4 °C immediately after  
201 voiding, while 8-24 hour urine samples were collected in 2.5 L plastic bottles containing 9 mL  
202 hydrochloridric acid 20 % as a preservative. Urine samples were aliquoted and stored at -80 °C  
203 until analysis. Before the supplementation, a single faecal sample was collected from each subject  
204 and stored at -80 °C. All the subjects gave written informed consent before joining the study, and  
205 all procedures were approved by the Ethical Committee of the National Research Institute for Food  
206 and Nutrition ("Apple fruit quality in the post-genomic era from breeding new genotypes to post-  
207 harvest: nutrition and health" 0003288/01.11).

208

#### 209 2.4 Biological sample preparation and analysis

210 The method for preparation of plasma samples was described by (Gürdeniz, Kristensen, Skov, &  
211 Dragsted, 2012) and slightly modified. Briefly, 100 µL of heparin plasma was thawed on ice and  
212 placed in a Sirocco protein precipitation plate (Waters, USA) with 200 µL of internal standards  
213 dissolved in methanol and 200 µL of solvent consisting of 0.1 % formic acid in methanol: water (4:1  
214 V/V). Samples were filtered using a positive pressure-96 manifold (Waters, USA). Additionally, the  
215 filtering plate was eluted with 400 µL of solvent consisting of acetonitrile: acetone (4:1 V/V).

216 Samples were evaporated with a gentle stream of nitrogen to dryness using a Techne Dr-block DB  
217 3D heater at room temperature and redissolved with 200 µL of water:methanol (1:1 V/V).

218 For the urine samples 200 µL of sample was added to 200 µL of internal standards dissolved in  
219 methanol. Samples were vortexed and centrifuged at 4 °C and 15,000 rpm followed by filtration  
220 with 4 mm Millex DURAPORE PVDF filters with 0.45 µm pore size (Millipore, USA) and diluted with  
221 600 µL of deionized water (Zhang, Creek, Barrett, Blackburn, & Watson, 2012).

222 1 mL of blood methanol extract was added to 200 µL of internal standard dissolved in methanol  
223 (Vanzo et al 2013). Sirocco protein precipitation plate and positive pressure manifold (Waters,

224 USA) were used for filtration. After filtration the samples were evaporated under nitrogen and  
225 redissolved with 200  $\mu$ L of methanol:water (1:1 V:V). Plasma glucose was measured by  
226 commercial kits purchased from SIGMA Chem Co (St Louis, USA).

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## 228 2.5 Chromatographic and mass spectrometry conditions

229 Samples were analysed by a hybrid linear ion trap Fourier Transform (LTQ FT) Orbitrap mass  
230 spectrometer (Thermo Fisher, Bremen, Germany) interfaced to a Dionex HPLC system, consisting  
231 of an auto-sampler and quaternary gradient HPLC-pump. Chromatographic separation of  
232 compounds was performed using a Kinetex C18 column (150 mm  $\times$  2.1 mm I.D., particle size 3.5  
233  $\mu$ m) with pre-column 4.0 mm  $\times$  2.0 mm I.D (Phenomenex Torrance, CA, USA). The flow rate was  
234 300  $\mu$ L/min and column temperature was maintained at 30  $^{\circ}$ C. Mobile phases used were: Milli-Q  
235 water (Solvent A), acetonitrile (Solvent B), and 2-propanol (Solvent C) all with 0.1 % formic acid.  
236 For urine, 95 % of solvent A and 5 % of solvent B were maintained for one minute, followed by an  
237 increase of solvent B to 45 % in 12 min and to 80% in 2 min and maintained for 2 min. The initial  
238 composition was restored in 3 min. Plasma and blood methanol extracts were analysed with the  
239 following gradient: 95 % of solvent A and 5 % of solvent B maintained for 1 min followed by an  
240 increase of solvent B to 100 % in 19 min. Then the phase C volumetric ratio was increased to 50 %  
241 in 5 min, while solvent A was maintained at 0 %. In two minutes the initial conditions were restored  
242 and held for 3 min.

243 The Orbitrap LTQ was equipped with an Electrospray Ionization (ESI) probe and operated in both  
244 positive and negative ionization modes. The conditions have been described elsewhere  
245 (Ulaszewska et al., 2016). Briefly the mass spectrometer operated under data-dependent-  
246 acquisition (DDA) mode during the complete chromatographic run. The resolving power for MS  
247 scan was 30,000 and for MS2 scans 7,500. The static exclusion list was made up of the 300 most  
248 abundant ions created by the injection of solvents, which followed the same preparation  
249 procedures as the samples. Dynamic exclusion allowed 3 repeated counts of the same ion in 15 s,  
250 while the exclusion duration was 45 s. The sequences were randomised with regard to participants  
251 and treatments, while samples from the same individual were kept together. Every 20 samples a  
252 quality control block was analysed consisting of solvents, internal standards and quality control  
253 samples.

254

## 255 2.6 Biomarker Identification

256 Markers contributing to the discrimination between two treatments were identified through a  
257 multiple-step procedure. Molecular ion and in-source molecular fragments were assigned as one  
258 compound based on a mass accuracy approach and peak shape. Discriminative markers were  
259 then compared with the monoisotopic molecular weight, chemical structures and LC-MS/MS  
260 spectra of metabolites proposed by freely available databases: m/z Cloud ([www.mzcloud.org](http://www.mzcloud.org)); the

261 Human Metabolome Database (Wishart et al., 2013), the METLIN (Smith et al., 2005), the  
262 MassBank (Horai et al., 2010) and the LIPID MAPS (Sud et al., 2007) databases. Mass accuracy  
263 was set to 2 mDa while searching on-line. Additionally, information from MS<sup>n</sup> experiments were  
264 introduced to MetFusion to get candidate structures (Gerlich & Neumann, 2013). Final identification  
265 was achieved after a combination of LC-HRMS<sup>2</sup>, LC-HRMS<sup>3</sup> experiments, on-line database  
266 information and literature verification. Levels of identification reported in Supplementary Materials 2  
267 are as follow: Level I corresponds to compounds identified by matching masses and retention  
268 times with authentic standards in the laboratory; Level II corresponds to compounds identified by  
269 matching with LC-HR-MS, LC-HR MS/MS and LC-HR-MS<sup>n</sup> of standards reported in the literature or  
270 to spectra from databases and literature. Compounds identified only by spectral similarities to a  
271 similar compound class and literature knowledge are reported as level III. Unknown compounds  
272 are reported as level IV.

273

## 274 2.7 DNA extraction, PCR amplification of the V3-V5 region of bacterial 16S rDNA

275 DNA extraction was performed using the FastDNA™ SPIN Kit for Feces (MP Biomedicals, Santa  
276 Ana, CA, USA) following manufacturer's instructions. DNA integrity and quality were checked on 1  
277 % agarose gel TAE 1X and quantified with a NanoDrop® spectrophotometer. For each DNA  
278 sample, 16S rRNA gene was amplified using fusion primer set specific for V3-V5 hypervariable  
279 regions (F333: 5'-TCCTACGGGAGGCAGCAG-3' and R934: 5'-TGTGCGGGCCCCCGTCAATT-3')  
280 containing adaptors, key sequence and barcode (Multiple IDentifier) sequences as described by  
281 the 454 Sequencing System Guidelines for Amplicon Experimental Design (Roche, Basel,  
282 Switzerland). PCR reactions were performed using the FastStart High Fidelity PCR system  
283 (Roche, Basel, Switzerland) according to the following protocol: 5 min at 95 °C, 25 cycles of 30 sec  
284 at 95 °C, 30 sec at 58 °C and 1 min at 72 °C, followed by a final extension of 8 minutes at 72°C.  
285 The PCR reaction mix contained 1X FastStart High Fidelity PCR buffer 1.8 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 200 μM of  
286 dNTPs, 0.4 μM of each primer (Eurofins, PRIMM, Milano, Italy), 2.5 U of FastStart High Fidelity  
287 Polymerase Blend and 10 ng of gDNA as template.

288

## 289 2.8 Library construction and pyrosequencing

290 The PCR products were analyzed by gel electrophoresis and cleaned using the AMPure XP beads  
291 kit (Beckman Coulter, Brea, CA, USA) following the manufacturer's instructions, quantified via  
292 quantitative PCR using the Library quantification kit – Roche 454 titanium (KAPA Biosystems,  
293 Boston, MA) and pooled in equimolar way in a final amplicon library. The 454 pyrosequencing was  
294 carried out on the GS FLX+ system using the XL+ chemistry following the manufacturer's  
295 recommendations (Roche, Basel, Switzerland).

296

## 297 2.9 Metagenomics data analysis



298 Pyrosequencing resulted in a total of 138,280 reads for 16S rDNA with a mean of 11.523  
299 sequences per sample. Raw 454 files were demultiplexed using the Roche's sff file software.  
300 Reads were preprocessed using the MICCA pipeline (version 0.1,  
301 <http://compmetagen.github.io/micca/>) (Albanese et al 2015). Forward and reverse primers trimming  
302 and quality filtering were performed using micca-preproc (parameters -f  
303 TCCTACGGGAGGCAGCAG - r TGTGCGGGCCCCCGTCAATT -O 15 -l 300 -q 22) truncating  
304 reads shorter than 300 nt.  
305 De-novo sequence clustering, chimera filtering and taxonomy assignment were performed by  
306 micca-otu-denovo (parameters -s 0.97 -c): operational taxonomic units (OTUs) were assigned by  
307 clustering the sequences with a threshold of 97 % pair-wise identity, and their representative  
308 sequences were classified using the RDP (Wang et al 2007) software version 2.7. Template-  
309 guided multiple sequence alignment (MSA) was performed using PyNAST (Caporaso et al., 2010)  
310 (version 0.1) against the multiple alignment of the Greengenes database (DeSantis et al., 2006)  
311 (release 13\_05) filtered at 97 % similarity. Finally, a phylogenetic tree was inferred using  
312 FastTree55 and micca-phylogeny (parameters: -a template --template-min-perc 5). Sampling  
313 heterogeneity was reduced by rarefaction (6732 sequences per sample). Alpha (within-sample  
314 richness) and beta-diversity (between-sample dissimilarity) estimates were computed using the  
315 phyloseq R package (McMurdie & Holmes, 2013). Permutational MANOVA (PERMANOVA)  
316 statistical tests were performed using the R package vegan (adonis()function) with 999  
317 permutations. To compare the relative abundances of OTUs between the two forests, two-sided,  
318 unpaired Welch t-statistics were computed using the function mt() in the phyloseq library and the p-  
319 values were adjusted for multiple comparison controlling the family-wise Type I error rate (minP  
320 procedure) (Westfall & Young, 1993).

321

## 322 2.10 Metabolomic data treatment and statistics

323 Data from untargeted assays were processed using Sieve 2.0 (Thermo Scientific, USA), which  
324 aligned, picked peaks and compared deconvoluted data with internal and external libraries.  
325 Framing was set to a 10 ppm window and 1 min time window ranging from 70 to 700 Da for urine  
326 and 100-1000 Da for plasma and methanol extracts. The maximum number of frames was set to  
327 5,000.

328 Peak lists created by Sieve were submitted to statistical evaluation in R (R Core Team, 2013)  
329 (<http://www.r-project.org>). The urine dataset was normalised by urine volume, and time point based  
330 cumulative values were calculated and used throughout the statistical evaluation. Plasma and  
331 blood methanol extracts datasets were adjusted for baseline (time 0) values. Two linear mixed  
332 models were fitted for each feature and compared. The first model included treatment (two doses  
333 of polyphenols, i.e. CAJ and PAJ intake) and time main effect and interactions, whereas the  
334 second model only contained a time effect. In both models, a subject-specific random effect was

335 also included. Subsequently, the collection of p values for all features was corrected for multiple  
336 testing, according to the two-stage Benjamini and Hochberg step-up false discovery rate (FDR)  
337 controlling procedure (Benjamini et al 2006). Features with a corrected p value (q value) lower than  
338 1 % were selected for further evaluation.

339 Nutrikinetic curves at the population level for each biomarker were plotted using Statistica 9.0  
340 (StatSoft, USA), based on extracted integrated intensities, and approximated via non-  
341 compartmental pharmacokinetic (PK) analysis. With the aim to determine the average degree of  
342 exposure to the several circulating apple metabolites following apple juice consumption (in  
343 particular, area under the curve - AUC, and associated nutrikinetics) (van Duynhoven, van Velzen,  
344 & Jacobs, 2017).

345 In order to correlate operational taxonomic units (OTUs) provided by pyrosequencing with  
346 metabolomics data, urine sampling timeframe depending integrated intensities were multiplied by  
347 urine volume in mL and summed together. In this case they represent an equivalent of total  
348 amount excreted in 24 hours. Equivalent of total absorbed amount of biomarkers in plasma were  
349 calculated using area under curve method. As most of the time nutrikinetic curves did not reach  
350 appropriate shape, partial area under curves were calculated using trapezoid rule with equation:  $y =$   
351  $\Sigma ((I_n + I_{n-1})/2) * (t_n - t_{n-1})$ . Ratio was calculated using area under curves between PAJ treatment and  
352 CAJ treatment. Results are shown in Table 1, Figure Z and Supplementary Material 3 and 4.

353

#### 354 2.11 Metabolomic data-sharing.

355 The study participants have given written consent to pseudonymised data-sharing. All untargeted  
356 data in mzXML format and metadata are available for download from the MetaboLights public  
357 repository <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/metabolights/> (Haug et al., 2013; Salek et al., 2013). The Ager data  
358 are deposited in MetaboLights with the persistent unique public identifier MTBLS473..Permanent  
359 link <https://www.ebi.ac.uk/metabolights/MTBLS473>.

360

### 361 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

362

363 Compliance with the dietary instruction was good (all the subjects followed the 3-days  
364 polyphenol-poor diet before the experiment day. Blood, plasma and urines of subjects  
365 supplemented with cloudy apple juice (CAJ) or polyphenol-enriched apple juice (PAJ) were  
366 analysed, working in positive and negative ionization modes. The total number of statistically  
367 significant features discovered (also called putative biomarkers) was varied between matrices,  
368 plasma: 6 ESI<sup>+</sup> and 154 ESI<sup>-</sup>, methanol blood: 45 ESI<sup>+</sup> and 186 ESI<sup>-</sup> and urine: 221 ESI<sup>+</sup> and 320  
369 ESI<sup>-</sup>.

370 The list of features discriminating the composition of urine and plasma of subjects in the  
371 CAJ treatment group from the PAJ treatment group are shown in **Table 1**. We classified these

372 putative biomarkers into several groups, each containing closely related derivatives. Each group  
373 was build combining the information on the chemical class of their precursors (metabolites) or their  
374 common pathways of origin (for breakdown catabolites): the derivatives of dihydrochalcones,  
375 naringenin, (epi)catechin, valerolactone, catechol, chlorogenic acid, quercetin, hippuric acids,  
376 tyrosine and tryptophan, fatty acids, and several classes of phenolic acids derivatives, namely:  
377 vanillic acid, cinnamic acid, propionic and acetic acids.

378

### 379 3.1 *Apple polyphenol metabolites*

380 As shown in **Figure 1, 2 and Supplementary Materials 3**, apple polyphenol metabolites were found  
381 after intake of both juices. Most of these compounds represent the glucuronide, methyl and  
382 sulphate conjugates of native apple polyphenols. These have been previously reported in urine  
383 and/or plasma after cider, fruits, tea and nuts consumption ((Borges, Lean, Roberts, & Crozier,  
384 2013; Borges, Mullen, Mullan, Lean, & Roberts, 2010; Hooft, Mihaleva, Vos, Bino, & Vervoort,  
385 2012; Ito, Gonthier, Manach, Morand, & Mennen, 2005; Manach, Williamson, Morand, & Scalbert,  
386 2005; Marks, Mullen, Borges, & Crozier, 2009; Pimpão et al., 2014; A. R. Rechner, Pannala, &  
387 Rice-Evans, 2001; Andreas R. Rechner, Spencer, Kuhnle, Hahn, & Rice-Evans, 2001; Urpi-Sarda,  
388 Monagas, et al., 2009; Urpi-Sarda, Garrido, et al., 2009)). In agreement with previous results  
389 (Olthof, Hollman, Buijsman, Van Amelsvoort, & Katan, 2003), very few polyphenols were found in  
390 their parental forms. In fact, only small amounts of chlorogenic acids were detected in urine and no  
391 (epi)catechins, quercetin or phloridzin was found.

392 Although the urine metabolite pattern was quite similar (for all the chemical groups) after  
393 CAJ or PAJ supplementation, PAJ consumption determined a several order of magnitude increase  
394 in total polyphenol bioavailability, as evidenced by the total amount excreted in urine (Figure 2).  
395 This experiment demonstrated that an increase of polyphenols in apple, with domains of validity  
396 (Scannell & Bosley, 2016) within the concentration range compatible with the natural variability of  
397 polyphenols in apples (Farneti et al., 2015) (Supplementary Table 1) would lead to an increase of  
398 their concentration in biofluids.

399 Plasma integrated intensity-time (II-time) curves and urine cumulative excretion curves of selected  
400 metabolites from the main polyphenols families are shown in Figure 1. These curves clearly show  
401 two distinct nutrikinetics patterns.

402 **Pattern 1: human metabolites.** Metabolites of phloretin (M1-M4) and (epi)catechin (M9-  
403 M15), as well as small phenolic acids namely vanillic acid sulfate (M83), ferulic acid sulfate (M54)  
404 and feruloylquinic acid isomers (M49-M50) reach their maximum plasmatic concentrations within  
405 the first hour post-dose. This early absorption peak is followed by a rapid decrease plasma  
406 concentration (within next five hours) and a fast appearance in urine. These data suggest that this  
407 fraction of the native polyphenols is quickly absorbed and metabolised in the upper gut with little or  
408 no contribution from the human colonic microbiota and rapidly excreted in urine.

409 **Pattern 2: microbial catabolites.** On the contrary, the derivatives of valerolactones (M18,  
410 M19, M21-M23, M33, M34, M36-M39), catechol (M43, M46), hippuric (M74-M76), propionic and  
411 acetic acids (M60, M62, M66-M69, M72) did not reach their maximum concentrations in plasma  
412 within the five hours after juice ingestion. Moreover, they are characterized by a delayed  
413 appearance in urine (24 hours), suggesting a prolonged metabolism along the gut with a likely  
414 involvement of the gut microbiota.

415 The observation of coherent trends for both plasma concentration and urine excretion  
416 profiles for the same metabolic pathways provide experimental evidence of the presence of these  
417 two distinct nutrkinetics patterns. Cumulative excretion curves for the catabolites of valerolactones  
418 (M17-M39, M42), catechol (M43-M48), hippuric acid (M74-M82), chlorogenic (M55-M59), propionic  
419 and acetic acids (M60-M65, M68-M71, M73) were characterized by increasing concentrations over  
420 the 24 h test period, with no maximum concentration. Conversely, metabolites of phloretin and  
421 naringenin M1-M7, (epi)catechin (M9-M16), and chlorogenic acids (M49-M54) reached their  
422 maximum of excretion within 8 hours post-dose. See Figure 1 and 3, and Supplementary Materials  
423 3 and 4 for details.

424 The apple flavanols are known to be the main class of apple flavonoids, and their circulating  
425 metabolites have a very important bioavailability, as shown by really high (totalling 261  $\mu\text{M}$ ) urinary  
426 concentrations after repeated green tea intake (Brindani et al., 2017). The catabolites of the  
427 flavanols are possibly involved in the improvement of endothelial function following the  
428 consumption of apple with the skin (Bondonno et al., 2018) as result coherent with health claims  
429 approved by European Food Safety Authority EFSA panel on Dietetic products, Nutrition and  
430 Allergies (EFSA) for the role of cocoa procyanidins in the maintenance of normal endothelium-  
431 dependent vasodilation. ("Scientific Opinion on the substantiation of a health claim related to cocoa  
432 flavanols and maintenance of normal endothelium-dependent vasodilation pursuant to Article 13(5)  
433 of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006," 2012).

### 434 *3.2 Dihydrochalcone metabolites (M1-M5)*

435 The most characteristic apple polyphenol is phloridzin which belongs to family of chalcones.  
436 Although its concentration in apple fruit flesh is not very high, phloridzin is a unique compound  
437 characteristic for the Rosaceae family, and therefore also for apples. Among apple bioactives,  
438 dihydrochalcones are the most interesting targets for innovative breeding, since it has been  
439 observed that their concentration (Farneti et al, 2015) and pattern (Ibdah et al 2014) have been  
440 strongly and negatively affected by domestication.

441 During digestion, phloridzin is first deglycosylated to give phloretin, which then undergoes phase I  
442 and II metabolism. Indeed, sulfate and glucuronide conjugates of phloretin (5 metabolites in urine  
443 and one in plasma) were found to be statistically significant markers of apple juice intake, while  
444 phloretin was found only in urine after PAJ intake. The pattern of urine metabolites presented as  
445 AUC in **Figure 2** shows that glucuronidation was the main route of conjugation; while sulfate and

446 glucuronide-sulfate metabolites were minor conjugates of phloretin. Metabolite intensities were  
447 several orders of magnitude higher after ingestion of the PAJ compared to the CAJ as shown in  
448 **Figure 1** with the ratio of  $AUC_{PAJ}$  to  $AUC_{CAJ}$  for urine phloretin glucuronide and sulfate conjugates  
449 ranging between 125-733.

450 Apple and apple juice possess a low glycemic index (Makarova et al 2015) and this is probably due  
451 both to the high proportion of fructose in its carbohydrate fraction and to the presence of phloridzin,  
452 which appears to inhibit glucose absorption in the small intestine (Ehrenkranz et al 2005; Chan et  
453 al 2012). The apple juices utilized in this study contained about 11 g total carbohydrates per 100  
454 mL, that correspond to 25 g of carbohydrates per ingested dose (250 mL) and the principal sugar  
455 was fructose (60%) (data not shown). The ingestion of a similar amount of readily digestible  
456 carbohydrate should induce an increase of plasma glucose, with a pick point at 30 min.  
457 Unfortunately, our experiment was designed to measure the nutrkinetics of apple polyphenols and  
458 we were limited in the number of blood samples collected for ethical considerations. Thus, no time  
459 point was collected at 30 min post juice consumption. The first time points, at 1, 2 and 3 hours post  
460 intake, did however show a small glycemic curve fitting with the typical postprandial plasma  
461 glucose response in healthy subjects. With higher levels at 1 h, a dip at 2 h and a return to basal  
462 values at 3 h. **Figure 4** combines the kinetic curves of phloretin glucuronide(I) in urine (A), plasma  
463 (B), metabolites contribution to total phloretin metabolism (C), and the postprandial glucose  
464 response (D).

465

### 466 3.3 Naringenin metabolites (M6-M7)

467 It is known that naringin is present in *Malus domestica* at a concentration of 0.18-0.80 mg/100 g  
468 (Coseteng & Lee, 1987); however, in our experimental juices (screened for the presence, but not  
469 quantified of naringin and naringenin), we found only naringenin and only in PAJ. In agreement  
470 with juice composition data, just two glucuronide conjugates of naringenin were found to be  
471 statistically significant after PAJ consumption. **See Figure 3 linking juices ingredients and its**  
472 **metabolites and Supplementary Material 3 for kinetic curves.**

473

### 474 3.4 Quercetin catabolites (M8)

475 The sulphate conjugate of dihydroquercetin (taxifolin) was found to be statistically significant in  
476 urine. We assume that the presence of dihydroquercetin sulfate in urine is due to the microbial  
477 conversion of quercetin, followed by uptake from intestine and subsequent conjugation with the  
478 sulfate moiety in the liver. (Jaganath, Mullen, Lean, Edwards, & Crozier, 2009) reported two  
479 dihydroquercetin isomers of quercetin-3-O-rutinoside upon incubation of quercetin with human  
480 fecal bacteria. Similarly, (Braune, Gütschow, Engst, & Blaut, 2001) suggested dihydroquercetin as  
481 an intermediate metabolite in the conversion of quercetin into 3,4-dihydroxyphenylacetic acid

482 mediated by gut bacteria. See Figure 3 depicting metabolic pathways for juices ingredients and its  
483 metabolites and Supplementary Material 3 for kinetic curves.

484

### 485 3.5 (Epi)catechin metabolites (M9-M16)

486 (Epi)catechin sulfate and methylsulfate isomers were the most abundant metabolites among  
487 (epi)catechin's family accounting for about 88 % of the total MS signal. These metabolites were 5 to  
488 11 times higher in urine following the PAJ compared to the CAJ. Figure 2 shows the contribution of  
489 urine biomarkers to the metabolite pattern, and ratio of  $AUC_{PAJ}$  to  $AUC_{CAJ}$  in urine. The level of MS  
490 annotation confidence was set to II based on comparison with laboratory standards, and to the  
491 high resolution MS spectra obtained with Orbitrap mass spectrometer by van der Hooft et al (Hooft,  
492 Vos, et al., 2012), and Liu et al (Liu, Garrett, Su, Khoo, & Gu, 2017) (See Table 1 and  
493 Supplementary Material 2). Several investigations have previously reported the presence of  
494 (epi)catechin conjugates in urine after cocoa (Urpi-Sarda, Garrido, et al., 2009), grape juice (  
495 Stalmach, Edwards, Wightman, & Crozier, 2011) or tea consumption (Hooft, Vos, et al.,  
496 2012)(Williamson, Dionisi, & Renouf, 2011), and both in urine and plasma after almond  
497 consumption (Urpi-Sarda, Monagas, et al., 2009). Our findings are in good agreement with these  
498 studies. Indeed, apples share a family of flavanols, specifically monomers of (epi)catechins, with  
499 cocoa and almonds. Moreover, the amount of catechin and epicatechin in PAJ was about eleven  
500 times higher than in the CAJ (See Supplementary Material 1) thus the statistical significance of its  
501 metabolites were expected.

502

### 503 3.6 Valerolactone and valeric acid catabolites (M17-M42)

504 As many as twenty-eight phase II metabolites of valerolactone, colon-derived polyphenol  
505 catabolites, were tentatively identified in plasma and urine after both treatments. Amongst these  
506 (hydroxyphenyl)-; (dihydroxyphenyl)-; and methoxy(hydroxyphenyl)- $\gamma$ -valerolactones were  
507 conjugated to (methyl)glucuronide, (methyl)sulfate moieties and similar conjugates were found for  
508 valeric acid derivatives. (Dihydroxyphenyl)- $\gamma$ -valerolactone glucuronide isomers were the most  
509 abundant compounds within the group, accounting for 47 % of the total signal. Figure 2 shows the  
510 contribution of each valerolactone/valeric acid metabolite to the pattern, and metabolite ratio of  
511  $AUC_{PAJ}$  to  $AUC_{CAJ}$  in urine. Profiles of phenyl- $\gamma$ -valerolactones and phenyl- $\gamma$ -valeric acids are in  
512 good agreement with those previously reported after apples, almonds and tea consumption  
513 ((Brindani et al., 2017b; Hooft, Vos, et al., 2012; Llorach et al., 2010; Rago et al., 2014; Urpi-Sarda,  
514 Garrido, et al., 2009; Wiese et al., 2015)). Valerolactone and valeric acid metabolites can arise  
515 from procyanidins, catechin and epicatechin, which were all present in both experimental juices,  
516 via microbial activities involving reductive cleavage of the heterocyclic C-ring forming  
517 diphenylpropan-2-ols and its lactonization leading to the formation of hydroxyphenylvalerolactones.  
518 Further fission of the valerolactone ring leads to hydroxyphenylvaleric acids (Groenewoud & Hundt,



519 1986; Meselhy, Nakamura, & Hattori, 1966; Stoupi, Williamson, Drynan, Barron, & Clifford, 2010a,  
520 2010b), followed by  $\beta$ -oxidation resulting in the production of hydroxyphenylpropionic and  
521 hydroxybenzoic acids (Meselhy et al., 1966). Finally, the  $\alpha$ -oxidation of hydroxyphenylpropionic  
522 acid gives rise to phenylacetic acids (Gonthier et al., 2003).. The latter metabolites however, in a  
523 recent study by Appeldoorn et al (Appeldoorn, Vincken, Aura, Hollman, & Gruppen, 2009), were  
524 suggested to arise exclusively from procyanidins. It seems therefore that distinct pathways may  
525 coexist possibly depending on interindividual differences in gut microbiota composition. After  
526 absorption from the intestine, microbial-derived valerolactones and valeric acid microbial  
527 catabolites may be conjugated with glucuronide and sulphate moieties in the liver and kidney  
528 before excretion in the urine, as shown in a simplified scheme of metabolomics pathway (Figure 3).  
529 See Figure 2 for individual contribution of each metabolite to valerolactone and valeric acid family,  
530 as well as Supplementary Material 3 and Figure 1 for kinetic curves.

### 531 3.7 Catechol catabolites (M43-M48)

532 Seven methylcatechol derivatives, mainly glucuronide and sulphate conjugates, (M43-M48) were  
533 found to be statistically higher in PAJ urine and two in plasma. These metabolites have been  
534 reported in the literature after consumption of berries puree, green tea and coffee (Hooft, Vos, et  
535 al., 2012; Nieman et al., 2013; Pimpão, Ventura, Ferreira, Williamson, & Santos, 2015). The origin  
536 of catechol is probably related to the microbial transformation of dihydroxyphenylacetic acid  
537 ((Gonzalez-Barrio, Edwards, & Crozier, 2011; Pimpão et al., 2015; Scheline, 1967). Once collected  
538 from intestine, catechol can be further conjugated leading to the formation of methyl, glucuronide  
539 and sulphate metabolites. However, catechol can be derived also from the catabolism of vanillin,  
540 which was present in the PAJ but not in the CAJ. Study of Strand & Scheline, 1975 reported the  
541 appearance of dihydroxybenzoic acid, catechol and methylcatechol in rat urine after feeding with  
542 vanillin. To our knowledge, such a wide range of methylcatechol conjugates has never reported  
543 before in biological fluids after polyphenol intake. The nutriketic of methylcatechol conjugates  
544 show similarities to those of hydroxy- and dihydroxyphenyl propionic acid metabolites and reflect  
545 the general trend observed in of the studies of (Garrido et al., 2010; Gonthier et al., 2003; van  
546 Duynhoven et al., 2014) , where excretion in urine and circulation in plasma did not reach  
547 maximum concentrations within the first five hours. Thus indicating a possible major involvement of  
548 the gut microbiota in catechol catabolism. See Figure 3 depicting metabolic pathways for juices  
549 ingredients and its metabolites and Supplementary Material 3 for kinetic curves.

550

### 551 3.8 Chlorogenic acids metabolites (M49-M53)

552 Five chlorogenic acids were found to be among the statistically significant features in urine and  
553 plasma, including two isomers of feruloylquinic acid and three isomers of coumaroylquinic acid.  
554 Isomers of coumaroylquinic acids have been reported in urine in several previous studies related to  
555 the metabolism of chlorogenic acid and coffee (Clifford, 2000; A. R. Rechner et al., 2001; Andreas

556 R. Rechner et al., 2001; Stalmach, Mullen, et al., 2010; Stalmach, Steiling, Williamson, & Crozier,  
557 2010)(See Table 1 and Supplementary Table 2 for details). They have also been reported in  
558 experiments incubating apple polyphenols with saliva, simulated gastric or duodenal juice and rat  
559 hepatocytes (Kahle et al., 2011). Stalmach, Steiling, et al., 2010 reported the excretion of two  
560 isomers of coumaroylquinic quinic acid and three isomers of feruloylquinic acid in ileal fluid of  
561 ileostomy subjects after coffee consumption, (the latter was also found in urine), between 0-24 h.  
562 The same authors reported three feruloylquinic acid isomers in urine (maximum concentration  
563 within two hours) and plasma (maximum concentration within one hour). In this study, the quantity  
564 of un-metabolized feruloylquinic acid corresponded to approximately 5 % of feruloylquinic acid  
565 intake from coffee beverage. Our observations are in good agreement with this study confirming  
566 that a certain amount of un-metabolized chlorogenic acids may circulate in the body (See Figure  
567 1, and Supplementary Material 3 for metabolite kinetics). The nutrikinetic curve for feruloylquinic  
568 and coumaroylquinic acids in urine plateaued within 8 hour, while in plasma their concentrations  
569 decreased quickly (within one hour). Differently, the glucuronide and sulfate forms of dihydroferulic  
570 acid (M67-M71) did not reach their maximum concentrations within 24 hours in urine, while in  
571 plasma  $T_{max}$  was achieved in the 5 hours after intake. Our results regarding both chlorogenic acids  
572 and dihydroferulic acid conjugates are in good agreement with study of (Stalmach, Mullen, et al.,  
573 2010) and suggest chlorogenic acid is metabolized quickly, probably in the upper gut without much  
574 involvement of the gut microbiota.

575

### 576 3.9 Cinnamic acids metabolites (M54-M59)

577 The bioavailability of this class of compounds, which are among the major polyphenols accounting  
578 for the health properties of coffee (Natella, Nardini, Belelli, & Scaccini, 2007), has been the subject  
579 of several detailed studies (Erk, Williamson, Renouf, Marmet, & Steiling, 2012; Stalmach et al.,  
580 2009; Stalmach, Mullen, et al., 2010; Stalmach, Steiling, et al., 2010). Several cinnamic acid  
581 metabolites (including glucuronide and sulfate conjugates of ferulic, caffeic and hydroxycinnamic  
582 acid) were found to vary their concentration in a statistically significant way according to the  
583 amount present in the apple juice (see supplementary table 1 for juice composition). Cinnamates  
584 (M54-M59) excretion in urine did not reach the maximum concentration within first 24 hours, while  
585 in plasma  $T_{max}$  was about 1 hours, which is in good agreement with available literature data,  
586 suggesting rapid absorption and metabolism in the upper gut (Borges et al., 2010; R M De Ferrars,  
587 Czank, Zhang, Botting, & Kroon, 2014; Stalmach et al., 2009; Stalmach, Steiling, et al., 2010). See  
588 Figure 3 depicting metabolic pathways for juices ingredients and its metabolites and  
589 Supplementary Material 3 for kinetic curves

590

### 591 3.10 Phenylpropionic and phenylacetic acids catabolites (M60-M73)



592 Fourteen derivatives of phenylpropionic and phenylacetic acid with different hydroxylation patterns  
593 were found to be significantly higher in PAJ urine and plasma. Several studies have reported an  
594 increase of these phenolic acid catabolites after intake of coffee, grape juice (Stalmach, Edwards,  
595 Wightman, & Crozier, 2013) or almonds (Urpi-Sarda, Monagas, et al., 2009). As shown in the  
596 simplified scheme of metabolic pathways (Figure 3), phenylpropionic and phenylacetic acids are  
597 common intermediates and/or end-products of the microbial catabolism of several polyphenol  
598 families (Appeldoorn et al., 2009; Bazzocco, Mattila, Guyot, Renard, & Aura, 2008; Del Rio et al.,  
599 2013; Garrido et al., 2010; Henning et al., 2013; Hooft, Vos, et al., 2012; Olthof et al., 2003; Rios et  
600 al., 2003; Tuohy, Conterno, Gasperotti, & Viola, 2012). Therefore, the phenylpropionic and  
601 phenylacetic acids metabolites observed here may have been derived from a number of different  
602 polyphenol families present in the test juices, and lack the specificity to be useful biomarkers of  
603 apple intake. Also their nutrikinetics in urine and plasma confirms the role of the gut microbiota in  
604 their biosynthesis, as maximum concentrations were not reached in plasma or urine over the 24 h  
605 period (See Figure 1, and Supplementary Materials 3 and 4 for details).

### 607 3.11 Hippuric acid catabolites (M74-M82)

608 In urine we found intermediate and final catabolites of hippurate, such as cyclohexene-,  
609 cyclohexadiene carboxylic acid glycine, hippuric, methylhippuric and hydroxyhippuric acids, while  
610 in plasma only hippuric and hydroxyhippuric acids were observed. Studies of (Olthof et al., 2003)  
611 and (Ulaszewska et al., 2016) reported several intermediate metabolites of hippurate after  
612 extensive feeding with black tea or low flavonoid fruits and vegetables diet. Hydroxyhippurates and  
613 methylhippurates have also been reported in literature (Ulaszewska et al., 2016; Nørskov,  
614 Hedemann, Lærke, Erik, & Knudsen, 2013) after extensive intake of polyphenols. The hippurate  
615 metabolic pathway crosses with those of other polyphenolic compounds and thus hippuric acid is  
616 considered one of the end products of the catabolism of several classes of polyphenols present in  
617 our apple juices (see Figure 3). All hippurate urine nutrikinetic curves were characterized by an  
618 increasing trend without achieving maximum concentrations in urine within 24 h (Figure 1), again  
619 indicating a microbiota involvement in this metabolic pathway.

### 621 3.12 Vanillic acid metabolites (M83-M88)

622 Six metabolites associated with vanillic acid (M85-M90) were found to be statistically significant in  
623 urine. Vanilpyruvic acid and homovanillic acid are known metabolites of catecholamine (Figure 2).  
624 There is only scant evidence supporting the hypothesis that fruit polyphenols affect catecholamine  
625 metabolism, (van Dorsten et al., 2009), however, considering the statistically significant increase in  
626 homovanillic acid in urine after PAJ intake, the possible overlap of vanillic acid and catecholamine  
627 metabolic pathways warrants further investigation. Vanillic acid conjugates have been reported  
628 previously as urinary metabolites after tea (Hooft, Vos, et al., 2012), almonds (Llorach et al., 2010),

629 mixed berry fruits puree (Pimpão et al., 2015), vanillin (Strand & Scheline, 1975) and after  
630 anthocyanins intake (R M De Ferrars et al., 2014). Presence of vanilloylglycine conjugate in urine  
631 might be due to the presence of vanillin in the PAJ, as vanilloylglycine has been detected in rat  
632 urine after feeding with vanillin by (Strand & Scheline, 1975). In the studies of Ferrars et al (Rachel  
633 M. de Ferrars, Cassidy, Curtis, & Kay, 2014; R M De Ferrars et al., 2014) vanillic acid conjugates  
634 were found to reach the maximum concentration in urine at 4-5 h, and in plasma at 1-2 h. The  
635 plasma kinetic curves observed in our study are in good agreement with these previous studies  
636 and suggest a rapid absorption and metabolism in the upper gut, while in urine concentration of  
637 metabolites did not reach the maximum within 24 hours (Supplementary Material 3).

638

### 639 3.13 Other metabolites

#### 640 *Tryptophan and tyrosine metabolites (M89-M94)*

641 Bacterial metabolites of tyrosine and tryptophan (including indoxyl sulfate, phenol sulfate,  
642 dihydroxyindole glucuronide, and toluene sulfonate) were found mainly in urine. Their amount  
643 increased in urine and decreased in plasma, suggesting a clearance similar to that of toxic  
644 compounds. Diet:microbe interactions in regulating human tryptophan and tyrosine metabolic  
645 pathways is receiving much attention given their suggested importance in the gut:brain axis and  
646 systemic immune function (see supplementary material 2) (Romani et al., 2014, (O'Mahony,  
647 Clarke, Borre, Dinan, & Cryan, 2015). The unconjugated forms of these compounds have also  
648 been identified as uremic toxins (Vanholder, Glorieux, De Smet, & Lameire, 2003), and associated  
649 with cardiovascular disease risk (Raff et al. 2008). It seems, therefore, that apple may potentially  
650 aid the clearance of toxic compounds from the body, as already suggested by Rago et al., 2014.

651 See Supplementary Material 2 and 3 for details.

652

#### 653 *3.14 Fatty acids (M95-106)*

654 The last group of compounds found to be biomarkers, and occurring only in plasma were the fatty  
655 acids. There is scant information concerning the biological role and indeed, chemical nature of  
656 dietary oxidized medium and long chain fatty acids in the human body and we can only assume  
657 they were involved in the energy cycle and metabolic disturbances where free fatty acids play a  
658 crucial role. The occurrence of dicarboxylic fatty acid suggests the expression of alternative fatty  
659 acid oxidation mechanisms triggered by polyphenols (Guillot, 1993; Hoek-van den Hil et al., 2013;  
660 Nørskov et al., 2013; Papamandjaris, Macdougall, & Jones, 1998). Lack of commercially available  
661 standards only allowed annotation based on isotopic distribution of molecular ions and adducts in  
662 positive and negative ionization modes.

663

### 664 3.15 Comparison of CAJ versus PAJ.

665 As summarized in **Figure 2**, the fortification of the cloudy apple juice with additional apple  
666 polyphenols in the PAJ (**Supplementary Table 1**) lead to an increase of their total absorption by  
667 human volunteers, estimated from the total amount excreted in urine, for each of the eleven  
668 chemical groups. Within each of these groups, we did not observe any major change of the  
669 metabotype (the pattern of metabolites at population level) in the urine of volunteers who  
670 consumed either the CAJ or the PAJ. This experiment demonstrated that an increase of  
671 polyphenols in apple, with domains of validity (Scannell & Bosley, 2016) within the concentration  
672 range compatible with the natural variability of polyphenols in apples (Farneti et al., 2015) would  
673 lead to an increase in their concentration in biofluids, their pattern remains remaining conserved. In  
674 light of the relatively small number of volunteers involved in this study, such finding warrants further  
675 investigation, involving a larger population.

676

### 677 *3.16 Kinetic evaluation of plasma and urine metabolites and impact of individual microbiota* 678 *variability*

679 Several authors have investigated the transformation kinetics of (epi)catechin, valerolactone and  
680 procyanidins by the gut microbiota and measured the appearance of their metabolites in plasma  
681 and urine. van Duynhoven et al., 2014 reported that valerolactones and valeric acid metabolites  
682 reached their maximum concentration in plasma between 5-8 h after black tea consumption, which  
683 is in good agreement with our study, where maximum concentrations were not reached until after 5  
684 hours. Unno, Tamemoto, Yayabe, & Kakuda, 2003 investigated the kinetics of epicatechin and  
685 valerolactone metabolites in rat urine after intake of (-)-epicatechin, and concluded that microbial  
686 metabolism in the intestine could be accomplished within 24 h. A study of Van der Hooft (2012)  
687 showed that  $T_{max}$  of valerolactone metabolites can be achieved within 2h, 3h, 4h, 5h, 6h, or 8h after  
688 tea intake, suggesting strong interindividual differences in the metabolism of these compounds,  
689 possibly as the result of microbiome differences. Stoupi and coworkers (Stoupi et al., 2010a,  
690 Stoupi et al., 2010b), compared biotransformation of epicatechin and procyanidin B2 by human  
691 faecal microbiota and showed that procyanidins were catabolized twice as rapidly as epicatechin,  
692 even if the same catabolites were formed. Brindani et al., 2017 filled the gap of knowledge due to  
693 the lack of commercial standard, developing an efficient synthesis of several of these microbial  
694 metabolites. In their study, the urinary concentrations recorded for some phenyl- $\gamma$ -valerolactones  
695 were quite high, reaching 132  $\mu$ M for 5-(3<sup>i</sup>,4<sup>i</sup>-dihydroxyphenyl)- $\gamma$ -valerolactone-3<sup>i</sup>-O-sulphate after  
696 one week of green tea supplementation. **Kinetic curves from our study in plasma and urine are**  
697 **presented in Figure 1 and Supplementart Material 3.**

698 From these considerations we can argue that at least two factors may affect  $T_{max}$  and  $C_{max}$  of  
699 polyphenol metabolites: 1) the degree of flavanol polymerization, 2) the variation in metabolic  
700 potential between individuals, a factor which combines differences in both human genome  
701 encoded metabolic pathways and co-metabolic pathways involving the gut microbiota.

702

### 703 3.17 Correlations between annotated metabolites and microbiota

704 The gut microbiota is known to play an important role in the transformation of many  
705 complex plant polyphenols, thus we wanted to explore whether the variation in the composition of  
706 gut microbiota could explain, at least partially, the observed large inter-individual catabolic  
707 differences. With this aim, we correlated the composition of the gut microbiota of participants with  
708 the profiles of microbial catabolites observed in urine and plasma after consuming the different  
709 apple juices. We selected urinary and plasma metabolites which displaying delayed nutrikinetik  
710 curves, indicating a possible microbiota intervention, [see Supplementary Material 3](#). The area  
711 under the curve of each metabolite was correlated, separately for plasma and urine, and for each  
712 dose of apple polyphenols, with the relative abundance of different bacterial genera using  
713 Spearman correlation analysis.

714 [Figure 5 and 6](#) show heatmaps (for urine and plasma, respectively) correlating the selected  
715 metabolites with 16S rRNA profiles faecal bacteria at the genus level. In both matrices correlations  
716 between microbiota and metabolites were found, predominantly after PAJ intake indicating the  
717 dose of polyphenol ingested impacted on our ability to measure statistically significant microbiota  
718 correlations. Many correlations were however not statistically significant, probably due to small  
719 number of participants in this pilot study, experimental design and high variability of metabolic  
720 responses between individuals. [Table 2](#) reports statistically significant correlations found between  
721 urine and plasma metabolites and bacterial genera. There are very few data describing  
722 correlations between gut microbiota and plant polyphenol metabolites in biological fluids; existing  
723 studies are carried out *in vitro* incubating polyphenol with faeces. Therefore, to interpret the  
724 observed correlations, we focused on the metabolic enzymatic reactions leading to the formation of  
725 polyphenol metabolites (Aura et al., 2008; Dueñas et al., 2015; Selma, Espín, & Tomás-Barberán,  
726 2009)

727 Procyanidins and flavan-3-ols present in the experimental juices act as substrates for the formation  
728 of valeric acid, valerolactone and (epi)catechin metabolites through common reactions such as  
729 dimer cleavage, ring fission, C&A-rings cleavage (lactone formation) and  $\beta$ -oxidation, followed by  
730 phase II metabolism (Mongas et al 2010). Several statistically significant correlations were found in  
731 plasma and urine between valeric acid, valerolactone and (epi)catechin metabolites and faecal  
732 bacteria (see Table 2). High production of these metabolites was positively associated with  
733 *Dialister*, *Prevotella* and *Escherichia*, while the presence of these compounds were negatively  
734 associated with *Anaerostipes*, *Turcibacter*, *Lachnospiracea incertae sedis*, *Coprococcus* and  
735 *Blautia*.

736 Chlorogenic acids, polyphenols of coffee and tea, through hydrolysis, dihydroxylation and reduction  
737 followed by phase II metabolism give a rise to cyclohexadiene carboxylic acid glycine, homovanillic  
738 acid and finally to hippurate metabolites (hydroxyhippuric acids, methylhippuric acids). The latter

739 metabolites are also the final products of several plant polyphenols. We found positive correlations  
740 of chlorogenic acids, and its metabolites with *Clostridium sensu stricto*, *Ruminococcus*,  
741 *Bacteroides*, *Butyriococcus*, and *Turycibacter*, while negative with *Roseburia*, *Faecalibacterium*  
742 and *Dorea*.

743 Only a few studies have examined the impact of dietary polyphenols on the human gut  
744 microbiota *in vivo*, and most focused on single polyphenol molecules and selected bacterial  
745 populations. The randomized-crossover trial of Queipo-Ortuño, 2012, in which subjects were  
746 supplemented with red wine, dealcoholized red wine, and gin, showed an increase of *Prevotella*,  
747 *Enterococcus*, *Bacteroides* and *Bifidobacterium* and a decrease of *Clostridium spp.* A study using  
748 a gastrointestinal simulators and red wine-grape or black tea extract reported the decrease of  
749 *Blautia*, and *Bacteroides* genus (Kemperman et al., 2013). Few studies have, as we did, measured  
750 the contrary interaction, the impact of microbiota composition on the profile of metabolites  
751 produced in mammalian biofluids over time.

752 Taken together, our findings support the theory that distantly related members of the gut microbiota  
753 share catabolic pathways for various polyphenol families and appear to work together to  
754 metabolize complex plant polyphenols. The results of these reactions are rather difficult to predict,  
755 also considering that a larger accumulation of a given metabolite in an individual could be due to  
756 increased synthesis, or to limited catabolism downstream, or both. We suggest that experiments  
757 using the approach described in this proof-of-concept study, when used in a larger population,  
758 should provide useful experimental data to elucidate the overall role of microbiota in nutrient  
759 metabolism.

760

#### 761 **4. Conclusions**

762 To our knowledge this is first study which examines kinetics of such a wide range of apple  
763 polyphenol metabolites using an untargeted MS based metabolomics approach, and that  
764 correlates such data with gut microbiota composition. We observed the nutrikinetic at population  
765 level of a large number of microbial catabolites (valerolactones and valeric acids) of apple flavanols  
766 (catechins and procyanidins) confirming the key importance of these compounds. The presence of  
767 a wide range of methylcatechol metabolites, never reported before in biological fluids after apple  
768 juice ingestion, together with the presence of vanillic, vanilpyruvic and homovanillic acid suggest  
769 a possible impact of apple polyphenols on catecholamine metabolism. However, the overlapping of  
770 these metabolic pathways and their inter-regulation awaits further specifically designed  
771 mechanistic studies to elucidate the exact metabolic relation and a possible physiological effects  
772 on the host.

773 New medium chained, di- and monocarboxylic fatty acids containing hydroxyl or methyl groups  
774 were identified in plasma. These lipid metabolites may potentially be novel biomarkers of apple  
775 polyphenol consumption. We have also confirmed the strong involvement of the intestinal

776 microbiota in the metabolism of complex plant polyphenols and speculated that the appearance of  
777 some phenolic catabolites can be correlated to the relative abundance of different, phylogenetically  
778 distant bacterial genera. As such, this work takes a small initial step in linking systems level  
779 metabolic processing of dietary polyphenols with microbiome architecture, a necessary move away  
780 from limited taxonomic descriptions or measurement of metabolic potential and towards improved  
781 understanding of microbiome metabolic function and nutrikinetics.

782

### 783 **Funding Sources.**

784 This research was conducted with the project “Apple fruit quality in the post-genomic era, from  
785 breeding new genotypes to post-harvest: nutrition and health”, funded by the AGER (Agribusiness  
786 and research) with grant no. 2010-2119. The funding body had no involvement in the study design,  
787 collection, analysis and interpretation of the data, in the writing of the report, and in the decision to  
788 submit the article for publication.

789

### 790 **Acknowledgement.**

791 Thanks to Riccardo Velasco for the project management, to Dr. Anna Maria Giusti for fundamental  
792 support to the study design, to Daniele Perenzoni for the LC-MS analysis of the apple juices.

793 Thanks to the company Macè Srl and in particular to Giovanni Gallerani for kindly providing the  
794 experimental juices, and for useful discussion.

795

### 796 **Figure captions.**

797

798 **Figure 1.** Selected metabolite kinetic curves in plasma and urine of features discriminating the  
799 composition of urine and plasma of CAJ treatment (volunteers who consumed the natural cloudy  
800 apple juice) from PAJ treatment (same volunteers who consumed the cloudy apple juice enriched  
801 with 750mg of mixed apple polyphenol extract). Plasma graphs: X axis: timepoints; Y axis: peak  
802 intensity (MS response). Urine graphs: X axis timepoints, Y axis: cumulative intensities of peak  
803 (MS response). \*\*\* p value <0.001; \*\* p value 0.01-0.001; \* p value 0.05-0.01

804

805 **Figure 2.** Comparison of the pattern of metabolites, at the population level, in the urine of  
806 volunteers who consumed either the CAJ or the PAJ. The biomarkers found in the urine were  
807 attributed to eleven chemical groups, and for each biomarker it is shown in the histogram the  
808 percentage contribution to their respective metabolite pool in urine after the consumption of each  
809 juice (natural vs enriched). Also the value of the relative total bioavailability for each group is given  
810 in brackets, estimated as ratio of the total amount excreted in urine for each chemical treatment  
811 (i.e., the ratio of total area under the curve  $AUC_{PAJ}$  divided by  $AUC_{CAJ}$ ).

812

813 **Figure 3.** A global, simplified scheme of the metabolic pathways for main classes of apple  
814 polyphenols and their crossing trajectories.

815

816 **Figure 4.** The figure shows a compilation of phloretin glucuronide curves, respectively in urine (A)  
817 and plasma (B), as well as the pattern of all urine phloretin metabolites with their individual ratio of  
818 total area under the curve  $AUC_{PAJ}$  divided by  $AUC_{CAJ}$  (C), and the glycemic index in plasma (D).

819

820 **Figure 5.** Heatmaps correlating  $AUC_{PAJ}$  of metabolites measured over 5 hours in blood and genus  
821 level 16S rRNA relative abundance of faecal microbiota present in each subject.

822

823 **Figure 6.** Heatmaps correlating the  $AUC_{PAJ}$  of metabolites excreted over 24 h in urine and genus  
824 level 16S rRNA relative abundance of faecal microbiota present in each subject.

825

826 **Table captions.**

827

828 **Table 1.** Urine and plasma metabolites found to be statistically significant between CAJ and PAJ  
829 treatment. For each metabolite a substrate is given as well as retention time (min); elemental  
830 composition with MS identification level;  $T_{max(P)}$ ,  $T_{max(U)}$  (hours); adjusted p value; matrix in which  
831 metabolite was found and direction  $\uparrow$  higher, or  $\downarrow$  lower; literature reference;

832

833 **Table 2.** Metabolites in plasma and urine after PAJ intake, found to be statistically significant  
834 correlated with microbiota at genus level. For each correlation metabolite:microbiota genus, a  
835 parent polyphenol was proposed together with chemical mechanism leading to it formation.

836

837

838 ASSOCIATED CONTENT

839 **Supporting Information.**

840

841 Supplementary Material 1. Table with polyphenols found in cloudy apple juice (CAJ) and  
842 polyphenols enriched apple juice (PAJ). Concentrations given in mg/L.

843

844 Supplementary Material 2. Urine and plasma metabolites found to be statistically significant at any  
845 time point between CAJ and PAJ treatment. For each metabolite a retention time is given as well  
846 as elemental composition, exact mass of molecule, MS identification level; relative intensities of in-  
847 source fragment ions found in full scan mode with annotation, MS/MS<sup>2</sup> and MS/MS<sup>3</sup> spectra; matrix  
848 in which metabolite was found and direction  $\uparrow$  higher, or  $\downarrow$  lower; literature reference.

849

850 Supplementary Material 3. Kinetic curves in plasma and urine for all metabolites found to be  
851 statistically significant between CAJ and PAJ treatment.

852

853 Supplementary Material 4. Table with unknown compounds found to be statistically significant in  
854 plasma and urine between CAJ and PAJ treatment.

855

856 **This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.**

857

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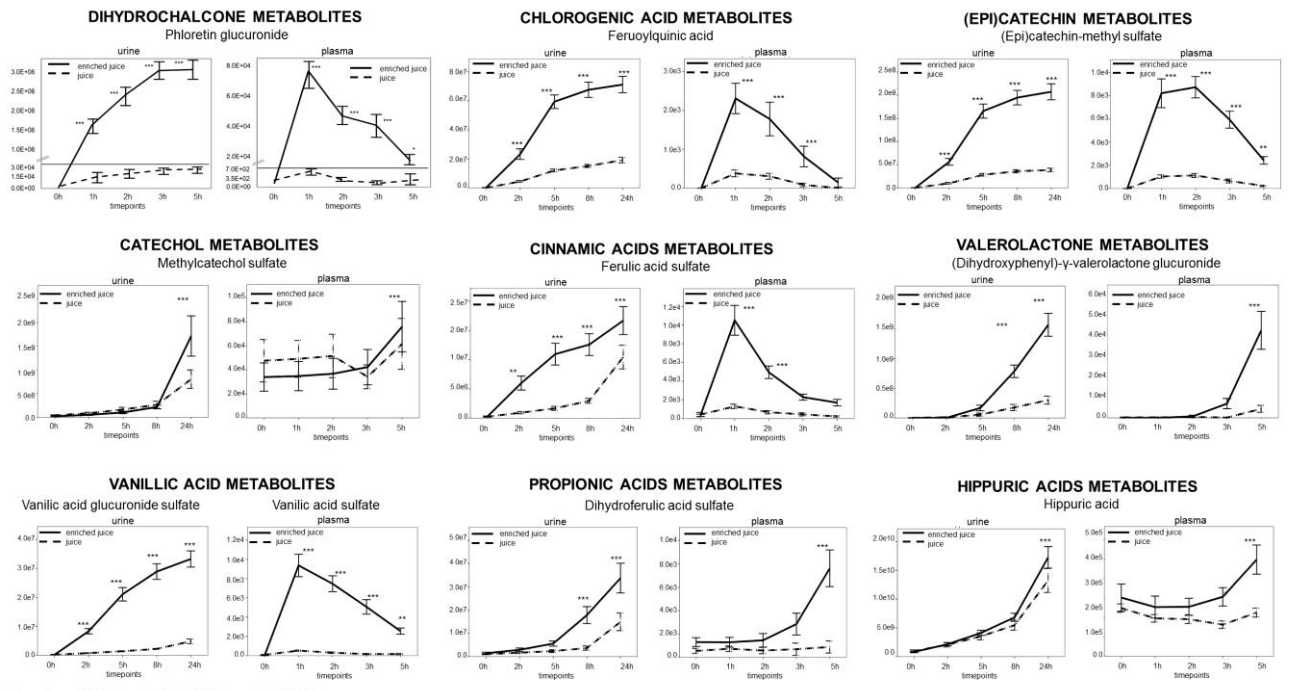
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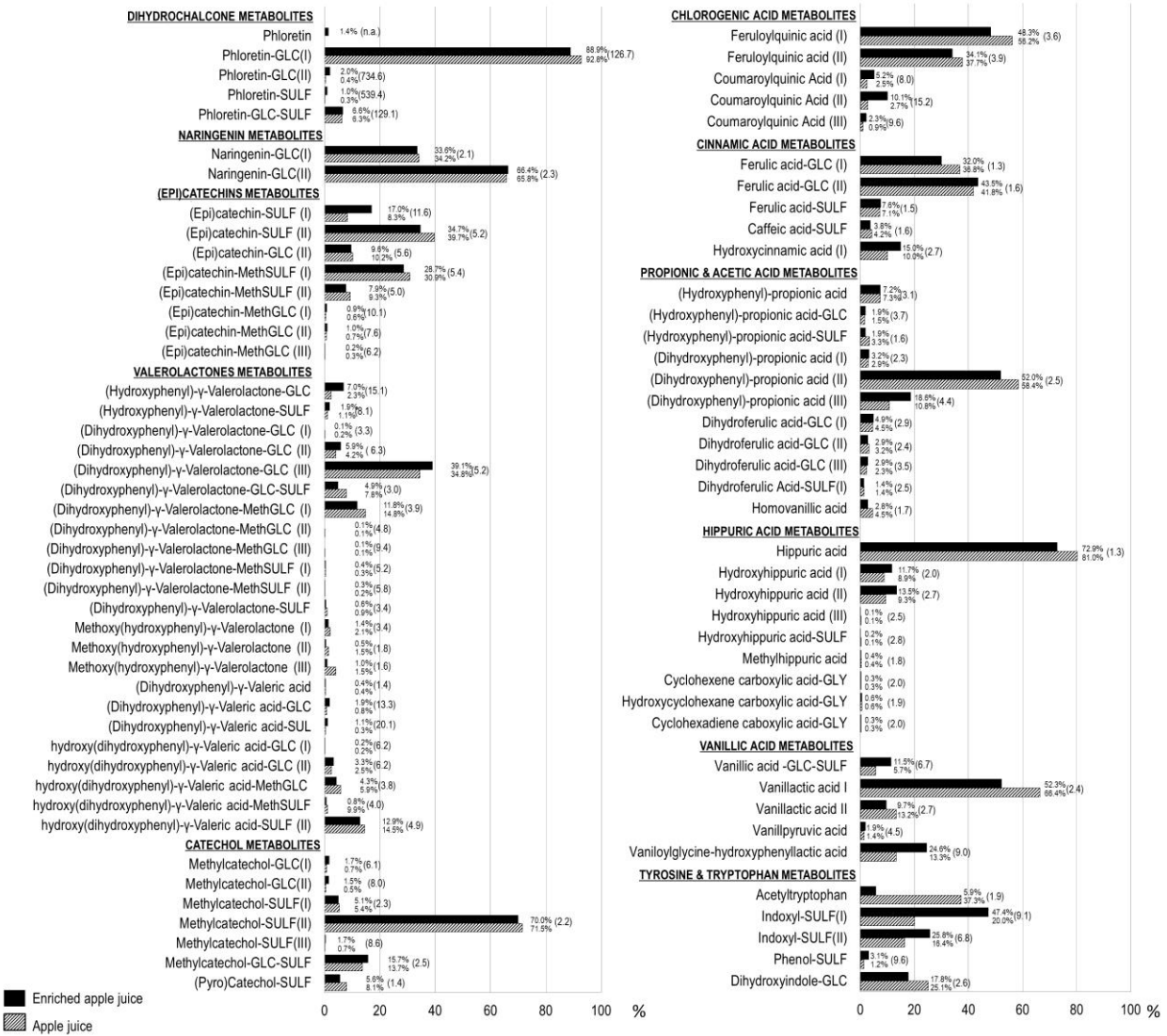
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Figure 1



\*\*\* p value <0.001; \*\* p value 0.01-0.001; \* p value 0.05-0.01  
 Plasma graphs: X axis: timepoints; Y axis: peak intensity (MS response). Urine graphs: X axis: timepoints, Y axis: cumulative intensities of peak (MS response)

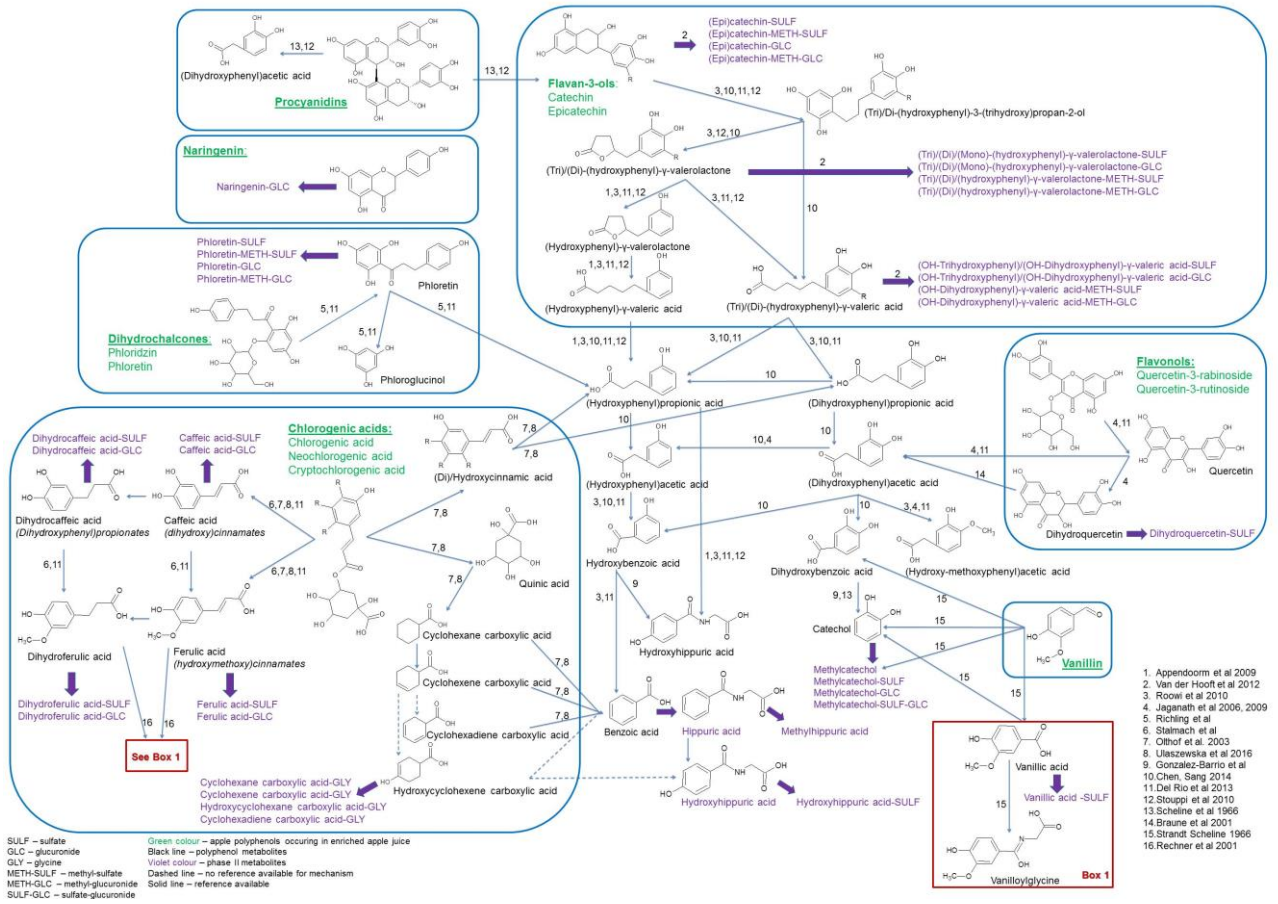


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Figure 3



**Figure 4**

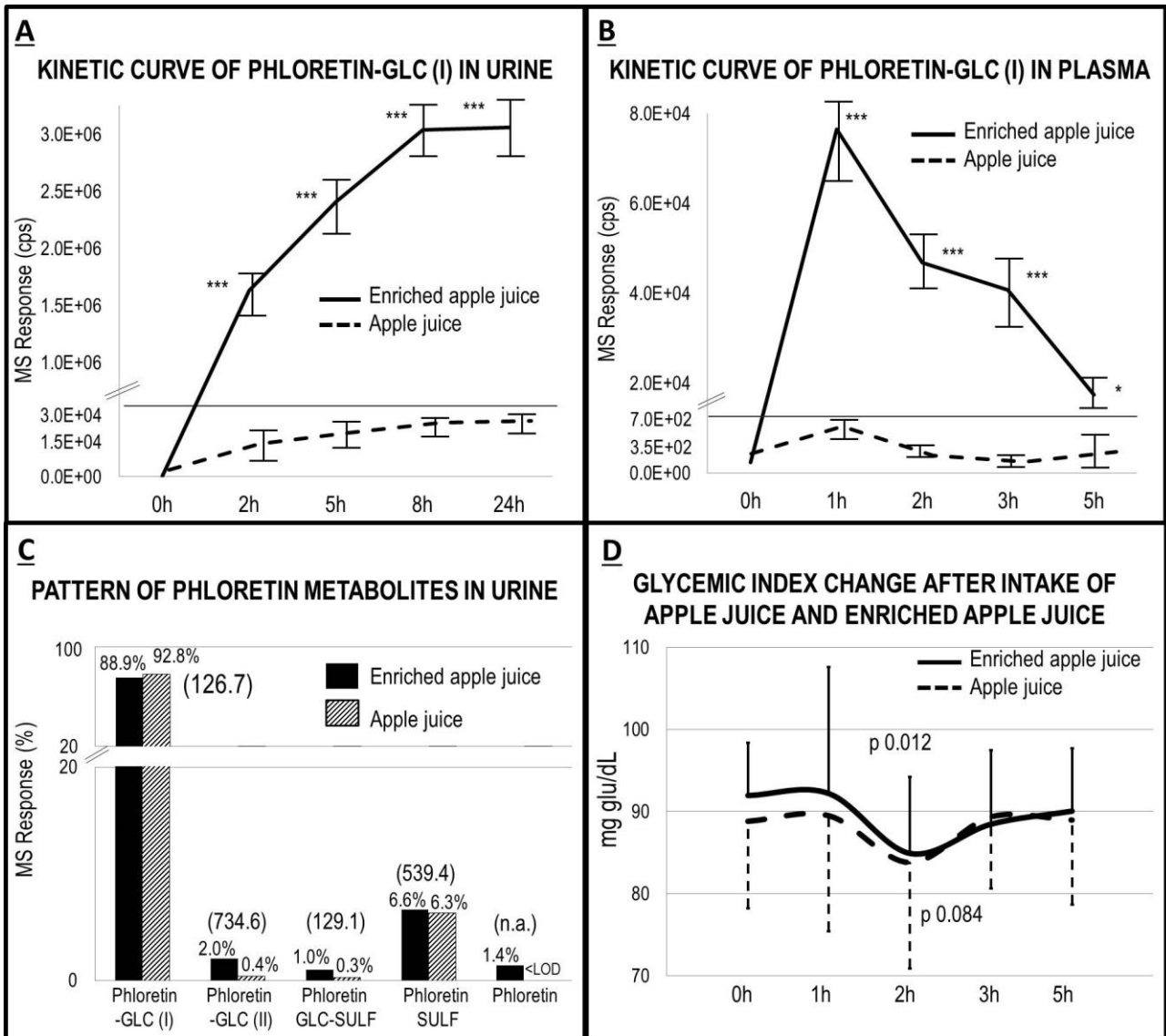


Figure 5

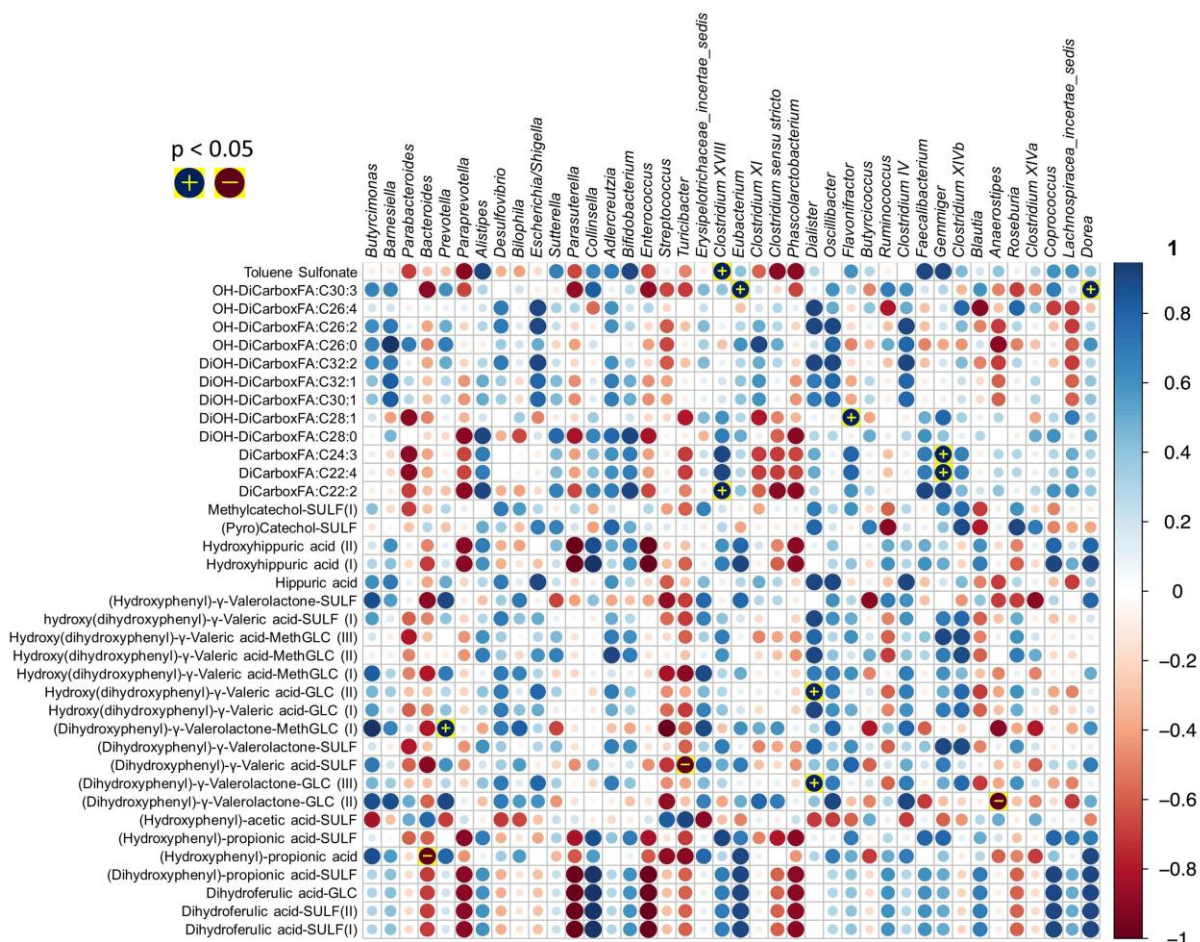




Figure 6

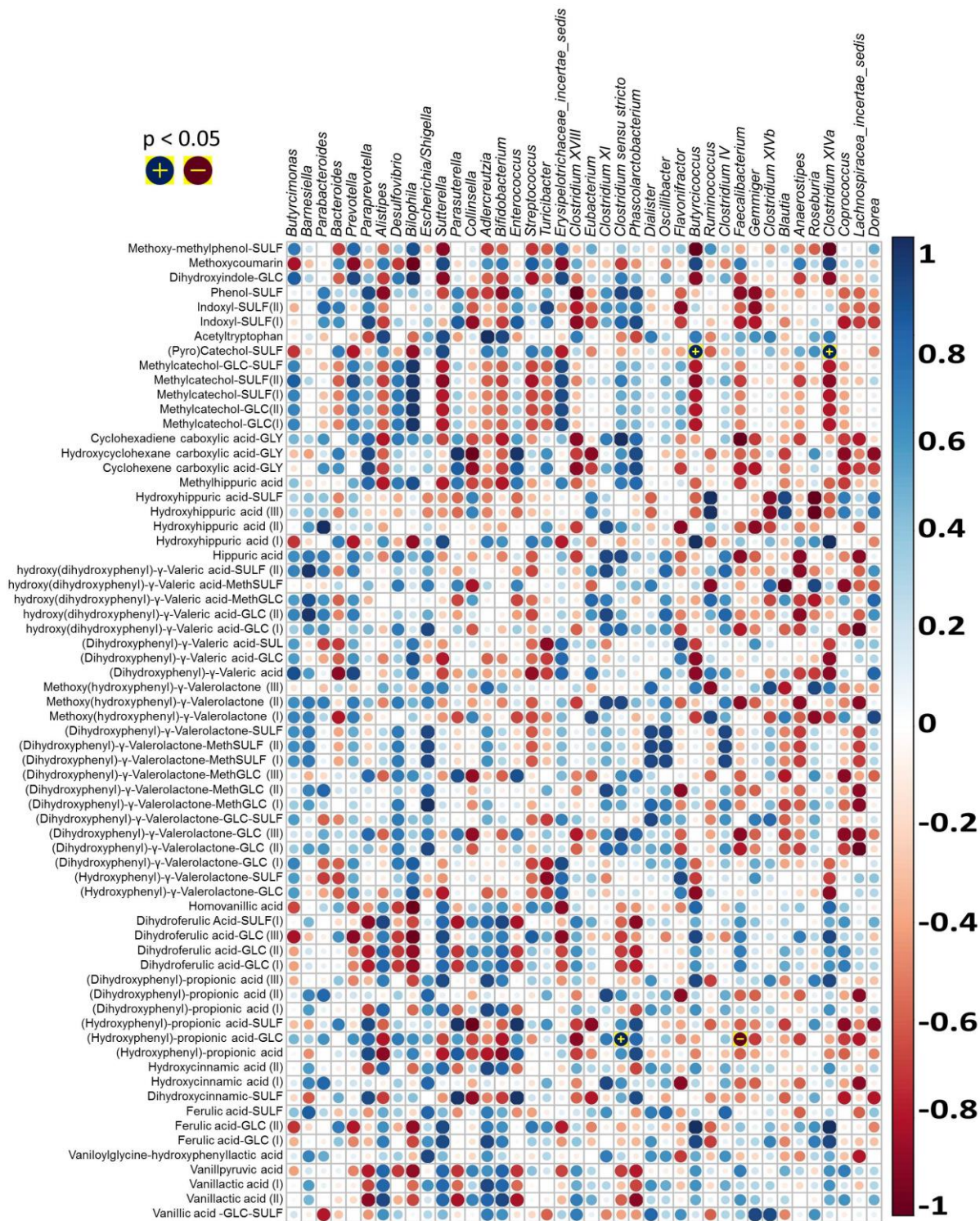


Table 1

Substrate	No	Name (isomers)	Rt (min)	Formula;	T <sub>max</sub> (P)	matrix; direction PAJ vs CAJ;	Reference
			plasma/ urine/ meth.extr	(MS Identification Level)	T <sub>max</sub> (U), (In hours)	adjusted p value (Adj. p)	
<b>DIHYDROCHALCONES METABOLITES</b>							
	M1	Phloretin	-/ 12.40/ -	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (I)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 7.3E-16	STD Lab
Phlorizin	M2	Phloretin glucuronide (I)	7.76/ 9.70 / -	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) 1h T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 1.3E-15 ; Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.4E-49	Marks et al 2009; STD Lab
Phloretin	M3	Phloretin glucuronide (II)	-/ 9.88/ -	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 1.9E-56	Marks et al 2009,STD Lab
Naringenin	M4	Phloretin sulfate	-/ 9.05/ -	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>6</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 4.9E-36	Marks et al 2009, STD Lab
	M5	Phloretin glucuronide sulfate	-/ 9.20/ -	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>14</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.3E-18	Marks et al 2009, STD Lab
	M6	Naringenin glucuronide (I)	-/ 9.23/ -	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (III)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 2.6E-17	
	M7	Naringenin glucuronide (II)	-/ 9.48/ -	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (III)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 1.6E-14	
<b>QUERCETIN METABOLITES</b>							
Quercetin-3-rabinoside	M8	Dihydroquercetin sulfate	-/ 8.95 / -	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>10</sub> S (III)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 2.7E-53	Metlin, HMDB, In-house MS Library, STD Lab.
Quercetin-3-rutinoside							
<b>(EPI)CATECHIN METABOLITES</b>							
	M9	(Epi)catechin-glucuronide	-/ 6.24/-	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>12</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.0E-29	Blount et al 2012
Catechin	M10	(Epi)catechin-sulfate (I)	-/ 6.16/-	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>13</sub> O <sub>9</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 7.1E-49	Van der Hooft et al 2012
Epicatechin	M11	(Epi)catechin-sulfate (II)	-/ 6.90/-	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>13</sub> O <sub>9</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.5E-43	Van der Hooft et al 2012
Procyanidins	M12	(Epi)catechin-methyl glucuronide (I)	-/ 5.50/ -	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>12</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.5E-20	Blount et al 2012; Liu et al 2015
	M13	(Epi)catechin-methyl glucuronide (II)	-/ 6.35/ -	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>12</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.3E-21	Blount et al 2012; Liu et al 2015
	M14	(Epi)catechin-methyl glucuronide (III)	-/ 6.65/ -	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>12</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.3E-18	Blount et al 2012; Liu et al 2015

M15	(Epi)catechin-methyl sulfate (I)	5.90/ 7.35/ -	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>9</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) 3h T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Plasma ↑; Adj p 1.1E-32; Urine ↑; Adj.p 7.7E-44	Van Der Hoof et al 2012
M16	(Epi)catechin-methyl sulfate (II)	6.27/ 7.85/ -	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>9</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) 3h T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 1.1E-32; Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.2E-48	Van Der Hoof et al 2012

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**VALEROLACTONE METABOLITES**

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M17	Hydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone glucuronide	-/ 6.80 /-	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>9</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 6.7E-10	Van der Hoof et al 2012 , Llorach et al 2010
M18	Hydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone sulfate	-/ 7.25 / 6.12	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) >5 h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Meth.Ext.↑; Adj. p 1.9E-03; Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.2E-12	Van der Hoof et al 2012 ; Llorach et al 2010
M19	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone sulfate	5.88/ 6.70 /-	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) >5 h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Plasma ↑;Adj.p 4.5E-05; Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.0E-23	Van der Hoof et al 2012; STD Lab
M20	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone glucuronide (I)	-/ 5.20 /-	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.2E-12	Van der Hoof et al 2012; STD Lab
M21	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone glucuronide (II)	-/ 6.05 / 5.35	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) >5 h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 7.2E-22 ; Meth.Extr. ↑; Adj. p 1.1E-06	Van der Hoof et al 2012; STD Lab
Catechin						
Epicatechin						
M22	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone glucuronide (III)	5.58/ 6.40 /-	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) >5 h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 1.3E-07; Urine ↑; Adj. p 6.5E-26	Van der Hoof et al 2012; STD Lab
Procyanidins						
M23	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone methyl glucuronide (I)	-/ 6.55 / 5.75	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) >5 h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Meth.Extr. ↑; Adj. p 1.3E-05; Urine ↑; Adj.p 7.1E-29	Van der Hoof et al 2012; STD Lab
M24	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone methyl glucuronide (II)	-/ 7.20 /-	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 2.8E-19	Van der Hoof et al 2012; STD Lab
M25	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone methyl glucuronide (III)	-/ 7.95 /-	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.1E-06	Van der Hoof et al 2012; STD Lab
M26	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone methyl sulfate (I)	-/ 7.00 /-	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.2E-16	Van der Hoof et al 2012
M27	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone methyl sulfate (II)	-/ 7.50 /-	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.4E-20	Van der Hoof et al 2012
M28	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone glucuronide sulfate	-/ 5.18 /-	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>13</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 6.8E-20	Van der Hoof et al 2012
M29	Methoxy-hydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone (I)	-/ 5.35 /-	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.8E-24	Urpi-Sarda et al 2009
M30	Methoxy-hydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone (II)	-/ 7.20 /-	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.0E-11	Urpi-Sarda et al 2009

M31	Methoxy-hydroxyphenyl-γ-valerolactone (III)	- / 8.95 / -	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.5E-08	Urpi-Sarda et al 2009
M32	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valeric acid	- / 7.00 / -	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (I)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 5.1E-08	Van der Hooff et al 2012, STD Lab
M33	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valeric acid sulfate	5.28/ 5.93/-	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 5.7E-03; Urine ↑; Adj. p 4.9E-10	Van der Hooff et al 2012, STD Lab
M34	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valeric acid glucuronide(I)	5.60/- / 5.35	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h T <sub>max(ME)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 1.3E-07 ; Meth.Extr ↑; Adj.p 1.1E-06	STD Lab
M35	Dihydroxyphenyl-γ-valeric acid glucuronide(II)	- / 5.61 / -	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Urine ↑; Adj. 1.4E-06	STD Lab
M36	Hydroxy(dihydroxyPhenyl)-γ-valeric acid glucuronide (I)	4.38/ 4.77 / -	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> >5h T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 6.0E-12; Urine ↑; Adj. p 1.7E-17	Van der Hooff et al 2012, Llorach et al 2010
M37	Hydroxy(dihydroxyphenyl)-γ-valeric acid glucuronide (II)	4.68/ 5.13 /-	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> >5h T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 6.0E-12; Urine ↑; Adj. p 8.6E-20	Van der Hooff et al 2012, Llorach et al 2010
M38	Hydroxy(dihydroxy)phenyl-γ-valeric acid sulfate	4.95/ 5.41 /-	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>8</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> >5h T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 2.4E-08; Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.7E-28	Van der Hooff et al 2012, Llorach et al 2010
M39	Hydroxy(dihydroxyphenyl)-γ-valeric acid methyl glucuronide (I)	4.82/ 5.35 / -	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> >5h T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 4.6E-10; Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.2E-25	Van der Hooff et al 2012, Llorach et al., 2010
M40	Hydroxy(dihydroxyphenyl)-γ-valeric acid methyl glucuronide (II)	5.55 /- /-	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> >5h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 4.5E-07	Van der Hooff et al 2012, Llorach et al., 2010
M41	Hydroxy(dihydroxyphenyl)-γ-valeric acid methyl glucuronide (III)	5.85/ - / -	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>11</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> >5h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 4.5E-07	Van der Hooff et al 2012, Llorach et al., 2010
M42	Hydroxy(dihydroxy)phenyl-γ-valeric acid methyl sulfate	6.29 / 7.40 / -	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>8</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> >5h T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24 h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 4.5E-05; Urine ↑; Adj.p 6.0E-06	Van der Hooff et al 2012

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**CATECHOL METABOLITE**

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Vanillin	M43	(Pyro)Catechol sulfate	4.19/ 4.27/-	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 2.2E-02; Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.4E-03	Van der Hooff et al 2012,Stalmach et al 2013
	M44	Methylcatechol glucuronide (I)	- / 6.86 / -	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.2E-07	mzCloud; Pimpao et al 2014
	M45	Methylcatechol glucuronide (II)	- / 7.00 / -	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 7.6E-06	mzCloud; Pimpao et al 2014

M46	Methylcatechol sulfate (I)	6.24/ 6.90/ -	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) > 5h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Plasma ↓; Adj.p 4.4E-02; Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.6E-05	Pimpao et al 2015, mzCloud	
M47	Methylcatechol sulfate (II)	-/ 7.12 /-	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.8E-04	mzCloud; Pimpao et al 2015	
M48	Methylcatechol sulphate glucuronide	-/ 5.50/ -	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>11</sub> S (III)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.6E-05	n.a	
<b>CHLOROGENIC ACID METABOLITES</b>							
M49	Feruloylquinic acid (I)	6.11/ 7.20 /-	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>9</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) 1h T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Pasma ↑; Adj.p 1.7E-06; Urine ↑; Adj.p 7.0E-40	Quifer-Rada et al 2015	
Caffeoylquinic acid	M50	Feruloylquinic acid (II)	6.36/ 7.60 / -	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>9</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) 1h T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 1.7E-06; Urine ↑; Adj. p4.5E-24	Quifer-Rada et al 2015
Neochlorogenic acid	M51	Coumaroylquinic Acid (I)	-/ 5.50 /-	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 8.8E-36	Clifford et al 2006
Cryptochlorogenic acid	M52	Coumaroylquinic Acid (II)	-/ 6.73 /-	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 9.9E-44	Clifford et al 2006
	M53	Coumaroylquinic Acid (III)	-/ 6.92 /-	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 2.3E-42	Clifford et al 2006
<b>CINNAMIC ACIDS METABOLITES</b>							
M54	Ferulic acid sulfate	5.65 /6.50 /-	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) 1h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Plasma ↑;Adj. p 4.5E-14; Urine ↑;Adj.p 1.2E-16	Van der Hoof et al 2012; Pimpao et al 2014; STD Lab	
Caffeoylquinic acid	M55	Ferulic acid glucuronide (I)	-/ 5.48 /-	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 2.1E-10	Van der Hoof et al 2012; Pimpao et al 2014; STD Lab
Neochlorogenic acid	M56	Ferulic acid glucuronide (II)	-/ 6.50 /-	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 2.0E-11	Van der Hoof et al 2012; Pimpao et al 2014; STD Lab
Cryptochlorogenic acid	M57	Caffeic acid Sulfate	-/ 6.35/ -	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (I)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 3.6E-07	Lab STD; Pimpao et al 2014
	M58	Hydroxycinnamic acid (I)	-/ 4.95 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (III)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.6E-16	mzCloud
	M59	Hydroxycinnamic acid (II)	-/ 3.50 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (III)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 2.5E-07	
<b>PROPIONIC AND ACETIC ACIDS METABOLITES</b>							
Phlorizin	M60	Hydroxyphenylpropionic acid	- / 6.30/ 6.77	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (P) > 5h T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 1.4E-21; Meth.Extr ↑; Adj. p 1.4E-06	mzCloud
Phloretin	M61	Hydroxyphenylpropionic acid glucuronide	-/ 6.10 /-	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>9</sub> (II)	T <sub>max</sub> (U) > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 3.5E-13	



Neochlorogenic acid	M62	Hydroxyphenylpropionic acid sulfate	5.55/6.40 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>6</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 1.6E-08;	Robio et al 2012
Cryptochlorogenic acid					T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; 5.7E-04	
Quercetin-3-arabinoside	M63	DiHydroxyphenyl propionic acid (I)	- / 3.48 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.1E-09	mzCloud
Quercetin-3-rutinoside	M64	DiHydroxyphenyl propionic acid (II)	- / 5.00 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.2E-15	mzCloud
Catechin	M65	DiHydroxyphenyl propionic acid (III)	- / 5.78 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.8E-19	mzCloud
Epicatechin	M66	Dihydroxyphenylpropionic acid sulphate	5.19 / - /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (III)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 5.4E-07	mzCloud
Procyanidins	M67	DihydroFerulic acid sulfate (I)	5.28 / -	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p.5.0E-07	Redeuil et al 2011; Pimpao et al 2014; STD Lab
	M68	DihydroFerulic acid sulfate (II)	5.73/ 6.06	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 5.0E-07;	Redeuil et al 2011; Pimpao et al 2014; STD Lab
					T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p1.1E-08	
	M69	DihydroFerulic acid glucuronide (I)	5.10/ 5.87/ -	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (I)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 1.6E-08;	Redeuil et al 2011; Pimpao et al 2014; STD Lab
					T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj. p 5.5E-14	
	M70	DihydroFerulic acid glucuronide (II)	- / 6.37/ -	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.2E-15	Redeuil et al 2011; Pimpao et al 2014; STD Lab
	M71	DihydroFerulic acid glucuronide (III)	- / 6.52/ -	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>20</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.7E-25	Redeuil et al 2011; Pimpao et al 2014, STD Lab
	M72	Hydroxyphenyl acetic acid sulfate	6.55 / - /-	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>6</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 6.3E-03	mzCloud
	M73	Homovanillic acid	- / 6.45 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (I)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 2.8E-11	STD Lab

#### HIPPURIC ACID METABOLITES

Phlorizin	M74	Hippuric acid	5.32 / 5.84 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> (I)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 5.8E-07 ;	STD Lab
Phloretin					T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.5E-03	
Caffeoylquinic acid	M75	Hydroxyhippuric acid (I)	3.77 / 3.95 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> (I)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 2.5E-11;	STD Lab
Neochlorogenic acid					T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.4E-21	
Cryptochlorogenic acid	M76	Hydroxyhippuric acid (II)	4.27 / 4.52 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> > 5h	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 2.8E-08;	STD Lab
Quercetin-3-arabinoside					T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.1E-20	
Quercetin-3-rutinoside	M77	Hydroxyhippuric acid (III)	- / 4.65 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 7.7E-16	STD Lab
Catechin	M78	Hydroxyhippuric acid sulfate	- / 3.45 /-	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.8E-09	STD Lab; mzCloud

Epicatechin	M79	Hydroxycyclohexane carboxylic acid glycine	- / 7.40 / -	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 2.1E-05	n.a
Procyanidins	M80	Cyclohexadiene carboxylic acid glycine	- / 6.30 / -	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.0E-09	Ulaszewska et al 2015; Cuparencu et al 2015
	M81	Cyclohexene carboxylic acid glycine	- / 7.10 / -	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>13</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.9E-07	Ulaszewska et al 2015; Cuparencu et al 2015
	M82	Methylhippuric acid	- / 7.70 / -	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> (I)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 5.8E-04	mzCloud; STD Lab
<b>VANILLIC ACID METABOLITES</b>							
	M83	Vanillic Acid Sulphate	6.26 / - / -	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>7</sub> S (II)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> 1h	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 4.9E-20	Pekkinen et al 2012; Ulaszewska et al 2015; STD.Lab
Vanillin	M84	Vanillic acid glucuronide sulfate	- / 5.28 / -	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>13</sub> S (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.0E-44	Pekkinen et al 2012; Ulaszewska et al 2015; STD.Lab
Caffeoylquinic acid	M85	(Hydroxy-methoxyphenyl)lactic acid (I) (Vanillactic acid I)	- / 4.42 / -	212.0684 (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 6.1E-13	Neveu et al 2010; mzCloud
Neochlorogenic acid	M86	(Hydroxy-methoxyphenyl)lactic acid (II) (Vanillactic acid II)	- / 5.20 / -	212.0684 (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.6E-17	Neveu et al 2010; Mz Cloud
Cryptochlorogenic acid	M87	Vanilloylglycine hydroxyphenyllactic acid conjugate	- / 4.90 / -	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> NO <sub>9</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 4.3E-04	Pekkinen et al 2012; mzCloud
	M88	Vanilpyruvic acid	- / 6.60 / -	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> 8h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.3E-14	mzCloud
<b>TYROSINE/TRYPHTOPHAN METABOLITES</b>							
	M89	AcetylTryptophan	- / 8.25 / -	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> 8h	Urine ↓; Adj.p 3.0E-10	mzCloud
	M90	Indoxyl sulfate (I)	- / 6.00 / -	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> S (I)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 5.1E-23	STD Lab; mzCloud
Clearance effect of all polyphenols	M91	Indoxyl sulfate (II)	- / 6.35 / -	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>7</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> S (I)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.6E-12	STD Lab; mzCoud
	M92	Phenol Sulphate	- / 5.07 / -	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.0E-20	Van der Hooft et al 2012
	M93	Toluene sulfonate	4.32 / - / -	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S (III)	T <sub>max(P)</sub> 3h	Plasma ↓; Adj.p 4.2E-02	n.a
	M94	Dihydroxyindole glucuronide	- / 4.61 / -	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>15</sub> NO <sub>8</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 3.0E-12	n.a
<b>FATTY ACIDS METABOLITES</b>							
	M95	Dicarboxylic Fatty Acid C22:2	16.33 / - / -	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↓; Adj. p 4.0E-03	n.a
	M96	Dicarboxylic fatty acid C22:4	17.15 / - / -	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>38</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 4.3E-02	n.a
	M97	Dicarboxylic fatty acid C24:3	18.48 / - / -	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>40</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 1.7E-02	n.a
	M98	HydroxyDicarboxylic Fatty Acid C26:0	18.27 / - / -	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 6.6E-05	n.a
	M99	HydroxyDicarboxylic Fatty Acid C26:2	18.30 / - / -	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>46</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑; Adj.p 3.2E-02	n.a

M100	HydroxyDicarboxylic Fatty Acid C26:4	11.45 /- /-	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↓; Adj.p 4.6E-03	n.a
M101	Hydroxy dicarboxylic Fatty Acid C30:3	21.15 /- /-	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>52</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 3.5E-02	n.a
M102	Dihydroxy dicarboxylic Fatty Acid C28:0	19.60 /- /-	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>54</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↓; Adj. p 3.6E-05	n.a
M103	Dihydroxy dicarboxylic Fatty Acid C28:1	17.83 /- /-	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>52</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↓; Adj.p 8.8E-04	n.a
M104	Dihydroxy dicarboxylic Fatty Acid C30:1	20.65 /- /-	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>56</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑; Adj. p 2.3E-02	n.a
M105	Dihydroxy dicarboxylic Fatty Acid C32:1	20.38 /- /-	C <sub>32</sub> H <sub>60</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑;Adj. p 1.6E-04	n.a
M106	Dihydroxy dicarboxylic Fatty Acid C32:2	20.20 /- /-	C <sub>32</sub> H <sub>58</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (III)	-	Plasma ↑;Adj. p 3.6E-04	n.a

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**OTHERS**

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M107	Pyridoxic Acid	- / - / 5.0	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> (II)	T <sub>max(ME)</sub> 3h	Meth.Extr. ↓; Adj. p 1.6E-03	n.a
M108	γ-Glutamyl-Leucine	- / - / 4.60	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(ME)</sub> 0h	Meth.Extr. ↓; Adj.p 2.3E-03	Wilkoff et al 2009
M109	Methoxycoumarin	6.75 /- /-	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 2.5E-14	n.a
M110	Methoxy-methylphenol sulfate	7.70 /- /-	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (III)	T <sub>max(U)</sub> > 24h	Urine ↑; Adj.p 1.1E-05	n.a

**Table 2**

Parent polyphenol	Mechanism and/or effect	Metabolites statistically significant correlated in plasma (Metabolite Number)	Bacterial Genus, Correlations: (+) positive; (-) negative
Catechin Epicatechin procyanidins	dimer cleavage, deglycosylation, ring fission, C&A-rings cleavage (lactone formation), phase II metabolism	(dihydroxyphenyl) valerolactone glucuronide (M20) (dihydroxyphenyl) valerolactone methylglucuronide (M23) (dihydroxyphenyl) valerolactone glucuronide (M21)	(+) <i>Dialister</i> (+) <i>Prevotella</i> (-) <i>Anaerostipes</i>
	dimer cleavage, ring fission, c&a-rings cleavage (lactone formation), degradation, phase II metabolism	(dihydroxyphenyl) valeric acid sulfate (M19) hydroxy(dihydroxyphenyl) valeric acid glucuronide (M37)	(-) <i>Turicibacter</i> (+) <i>Dialister</i>
phlorizin phloretin naringenin quercetin-3-rabinoside quercetin-3-rutinoside Catechin Epicatechin procyanidins caffeoylquinic acid neochlorogenic acid cryptochlorogenic acid	dimer cleavage, deglycosylation, ring fission, C&A-rings cleavage (lactone formation), dehydroxylation, $\beta$ -oxidation hydrolysis, reduction, dehydroxylation, decarboxylation	hydroxyphenyl propionic acid (M60)	(-) <i>Bacteroides</i>
-	clearance effect of polyphenol	toluene sulfonate (M93)	(+) <i>Clostridium XVIII</i>
-	$\omega$ -oxidation	hydroxydicarboxylic fatty acid C30:3 (M101) dihydroxydicarboxylic fatty acid C28:1 (M103) dicarboxylic fatty acid C22:4 (M96); dicarboxylic fatty acid C24:3 (M97) dicarboxylic fatty acid C22:2 (M95)	(+) <i>Eubacterium and Dorea</i> (+) <i>Flavonifractor</i> (+) <i>Gemmiger</i> (+) <i>Clostridium XVIII</i>
Parent polyphenol	Mechanism and/or effect	Metabolites statistically significant correlated in urine:	Bacterial Genus, Correlations: (+) positive; (-) negative
vanillin	dehydroxylation, demethylation, phase II metabolism	catechol sulfate (M43)	(+) <i>Butyrivococcus</i> , (+) <i>Clostridium XIVa</i>
caffeoylquinic acid neochlorogenic acid cryptochlorogenic acid	hydrolysis, dehydroxylation, phase II metabolism	cyclohexadiene carboxylic acid-glycine (M80)	(+) <i>Clostridium sensu stricto</i> ; (-) <i>Faecalibacterium</i>
phlorizin phloretin naringenin quercetin-3-rabinoside quercetin-3-rutinoside Catechin Epicatechin	dimer cleavage, deglycosylation, ring fission, C&A-rings cleavage (lactone formation), degradation, phase II metabolism hydrolysis, dehydroxylation, phase II metabolism	hydroxyhippuric acid (M77)	(+) <i>Ruminococcus</i> , (-) <i>Roseburia</i>
		hydroxyhippuric acid sulfate (M78)	(+) <i>Ruminococcus</i> , (-) <i>Roseburia</i>
		hydroxyhippuric acid (M76)	(+) <i>Bacteroides</i>

procyanidins caffeoylquinic acid neochlorogenic acid cryptochlorogenic acid		hydroxyhippuric acid (M75)	(+) <i>Butyricoccus</i> , <i>Clostridium XIVa</i>
Catechin Epicatechin procyanidins	dimer cleavage, phase II metabolism  dimer cleavage, ring fission, C&A-rings cleavage (lactone formation), degradation, phase II metabolism  dimer cleavage, ring fission, C&A-rings cleavage (lactone formation), phase II metabolism	epicatechin-sulfate (M10) epicatechin-methylglucuronide (M13-M14) hydroxy(dihydroxyphenyl)valeric acid methyl sulfate (M42) hydroxy(dihydroxyphenyl)valeric acid glucuronide (M39) (dihydroxyphenyl)valerolactone methylglucuronide (M23) (dihydroxyphenyl)valerolactone glucuronide (M21)	(+) <i>Escherichia/Shigella</i> (-) <i>Coprococcus</i> (-) <i>Blautia</i> (-) <i>Lachnospiraceae</i> (+) <i>Escherichia/Shigella</i> (-) <i>Lachnospiraceae</i>
caffeoylquinic acid neochlorogenic acid cryptochlorogenic acid	hydrolysis, reduction, dehydroxylation, decarboxylation	homovanillic acid (M73)	(-) <i>Dorea</i>
phlorizin phloretin naringenin cryptochlorogenic acid quercetin-3-rabinoside quercetin-3-rutinoside Catechin Epicatechin procyanidins caffeoylquinic acid neochlorogenic acid cryptochlorogenic acid	dimer cleavage, deglycosylation, ring fission, C&A-rings cleavage (lactone formation), degradation, $\beta$ -oxidation hydrolysis, reduction, dehydroxylation, decarboxylation, phase II metabolism	hydroxyphenyl propionic acid glucuronide (M61)	(-) <i>Faecalibacterium</i> , (+) <i>Butyricoccus</i>
-  -	clearance effect of polyphenol	methoxymethylphenol sulfate (M110) indoxyl sulfate (M90) Acetyltryptophan (M89)	(-) <i>Butyricoccus</i> , (-) <i>Clostridium XIVa</i> (-) <i>Clostridium XVIII</i> (+) <i>Adlercreutzia</i>