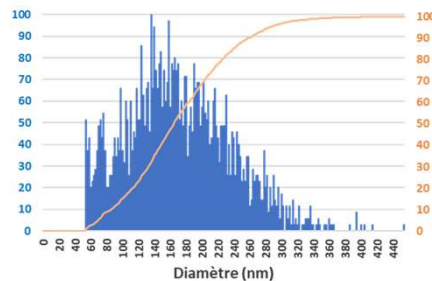


# Workshop Nanoparticles : Analytical Strategies & Applications

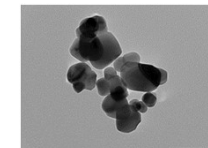
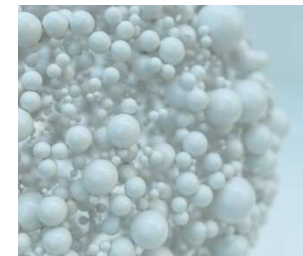


## spICP-MS & inorganic nanoparticles : implementation, optimization, validation and application to consumer products



**Mathieu Menta**

[mathieu.menta@univ-pau.fr](mailto:mathieu.menta@univ-pau.fr)

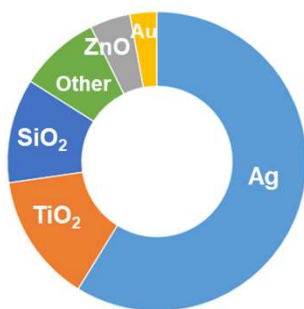


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# General information on inorganic nanoparticles

A booming market, an increasing use in different fields:



Particles	Products	Main use	Food Additive
TiO <sub>2</sub>	Food (sweets & sauces), paints, hygiene products, food packaging, cosmetics, drugs ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ White pigment</li> <li>✓ UV filter (in combination with ZnO)</li> <li>✓ Flavour enhancer (dry fruits, soups, mustard ...)</li> </ul>	E171
Ag	Food packaging, textiles, food, food supplements, hygiene products, medical devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Antimicrobial agent</li> <li>✓ Decorative agent for pâtisserie ...</li> </ul>	E174
SiO <sub>2</sub>	Food, powder soups, coffee, hygiene products, mayonnaise ...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Anti-caking agent</li> <li>✓ Improvement of texture and smoothness</li> <li>...</li> </ul>	E551
Iron oxide	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Colour agent</li> <li>✓ Increase of bioavailability</li> </ul>	E172



A large media coverage



**Des traces de nanomatériaux détectées dans du lait maternisé**

Par Lucile Morin — 29 mai 2016 à 21:11

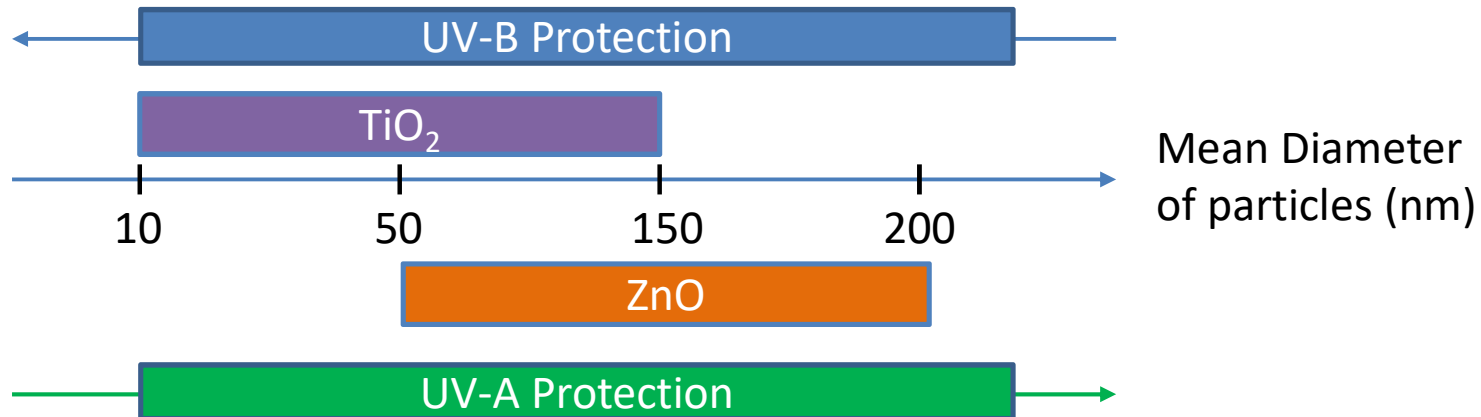


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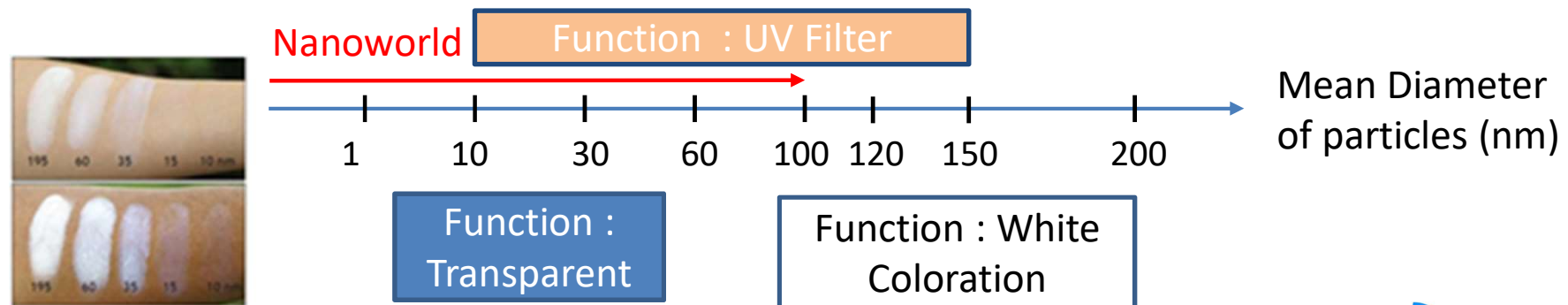


# Inorganic nanoparticles in Cosmetics

TiO<sub>2</sub> & ZnO in Sunscreens : Mineral filters, inert and opaque powders, used for light reflection



Example of TiO<sub>2</sub>



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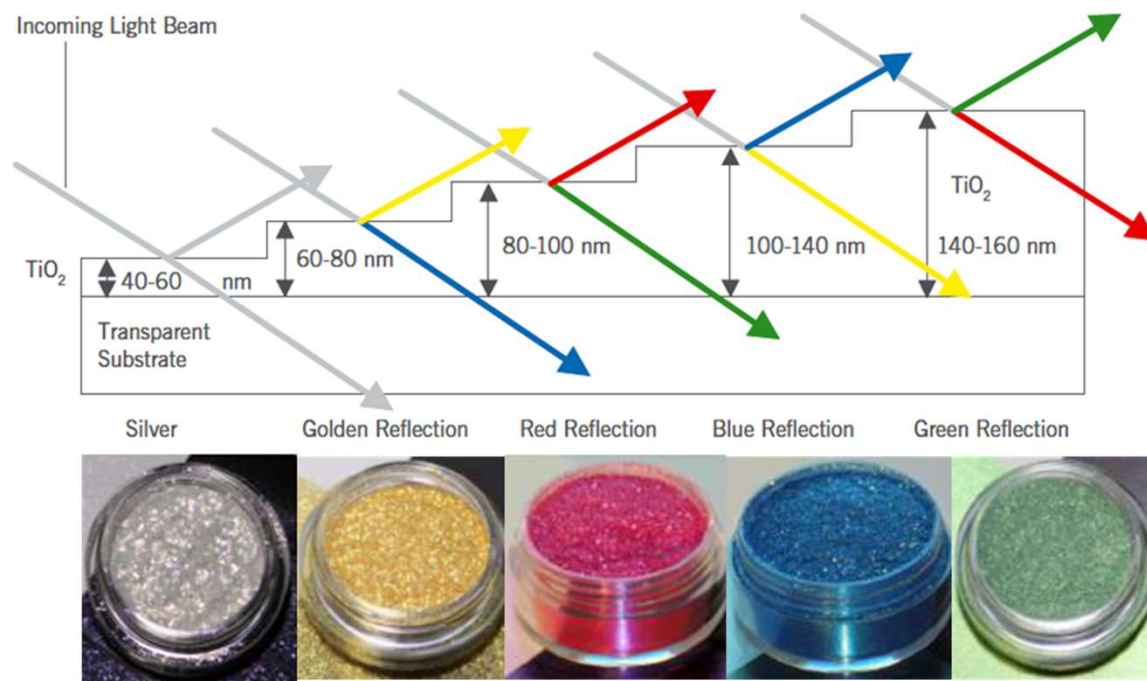




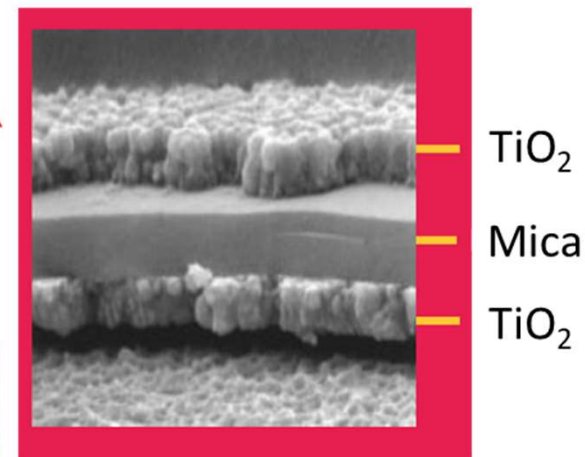
# Inorganic nanoparticles & Food Technology

Conventional use of inorganic food additives: obtain new properties at the nanoscale

For example : glittery/shiny effect in confectionery, spices, in gourmet cuisine, etc.



E171 + E172  
(+E555)

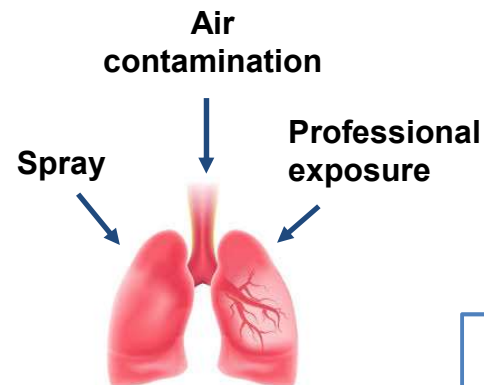


# TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs: health effects

## HEALTH EFFECTS OF TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs

### ○ Inhalation

Possible carcinogen  
(group 2B) (from  
IARC)

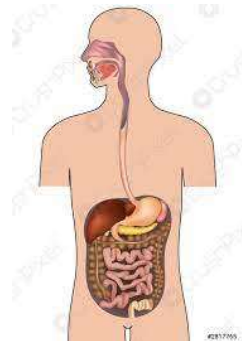


Since 2020, in food, the use of E171 is banned in France and since 2021 in Europe

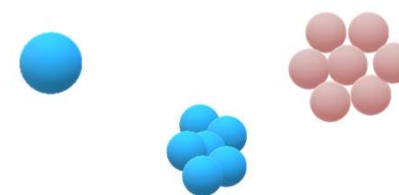
### ○ Ingestion

Daily intake :

- **0.03** mg per kg body weight (adult)
- until **13** mg per kg body weight (children < 10 years)



**Possible carcinogen by ingestion ?**



# A relatively vague regulatory framework...

How to differentiate them ?

Particle : minute piece of matter with defined physical boundaries;  
Agglomerate : collection of weakly bound particles or aggregates where the resulting external surface area is similar to the sum of the surface areas of the individual components;  
Aggregate : particle comprising of strongly bound or fused particles

## European Commission (Recommendation 2011/696/EU -18/11/2011)

Nanomaterial means a *natural, incidental or manufactured* material containing *particles*, in an unbound state or as an *aggregate* or as an *agglomerate* and where, for *50 %* or more of the particles in the number size distribution, one or more external dimensions is in the size range *1 nm-100 nm*.

*In specific cases* and where warranted by concerns for the environment, health, safety or competitiveness the number size distribution threshold of 50 % may be replaced by a threshold between 1 and 50 %

Which ones?

Which parameter to measure?  
Which measurand?

Few techniques able to detect 1 nm

## Other definitions :



ISO (Norm ISO TS 80004-1)

- Material with any external dimension in the nanoscale or having internal structure or surface structure in the nanoscale. (Nanometric scale = 1 to 100 nm)



Cosmetic Directive n°1223/2009

- Insoluble or bio-persistent and intentionally manufactured material with one or more external dimensions, or an internal structure, on the scale from 1 to 100 nm
- The name of the nanomaterials must appear in the ingredient list

## Other regulations :

- **Biocide** (CE n°528/2013)
- **Additives** (CE n°1333/2008)
- **INCO** (CE n°1169/2011)
- etc.



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# Regulation and labelling

Regulation 1169/2011 (European Parliament): provides for labelling of NMs used as ingredients

Presence of nanomaterials subject to a marking obligation for cosmetics, biocidal products and foodstuffs.

Target audience: Control Authority, Formulators/Distributors of Finished Products, Manufacturers of Raw Materials, etc.: Is the product properly labelled (RCE No. 1881/2006)?

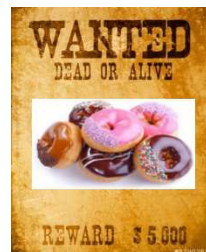
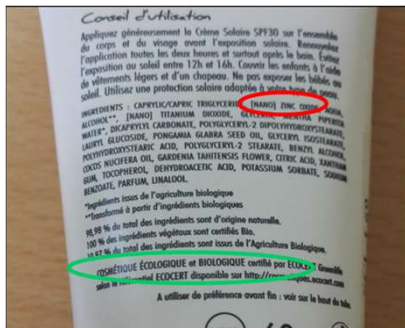
- Presence of particles?
- Particle composition?
- Nano particles?
- What distribution?



*Development of an analytical strategy for the size characterization of additives in food and cosmetic products*



*Need for appropriate analytical techniques for regulatory purposes: accuracy, speed, cost of analysis*



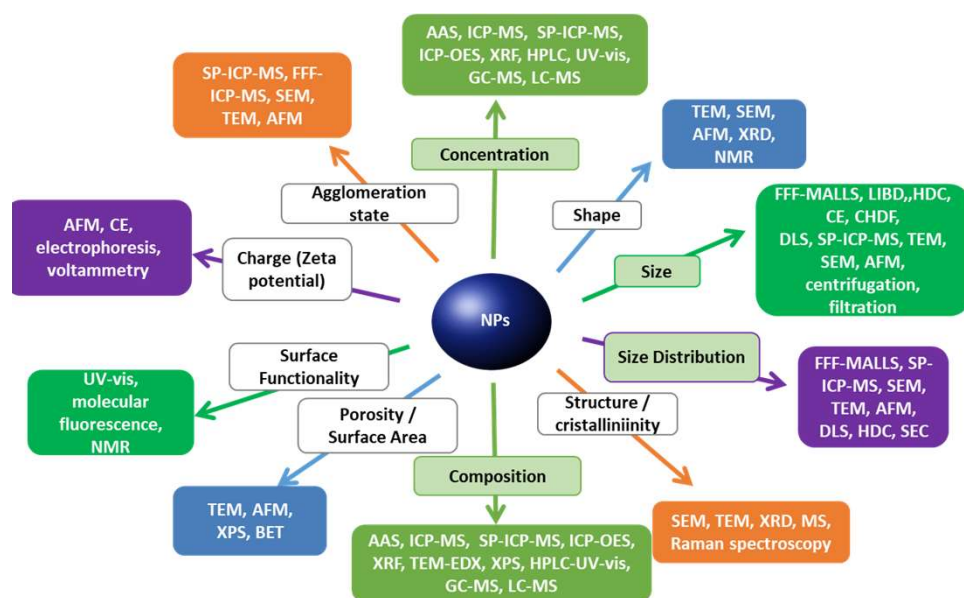
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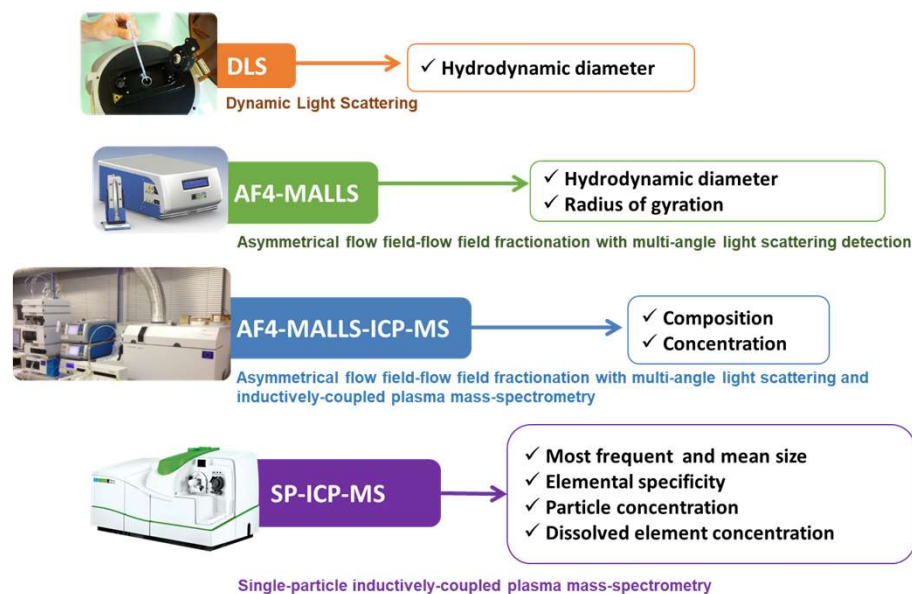


# What analytical strategy should be implemented?

An analytical arsenal at your disposal



Available techniques in UT2A facilities



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# What analytical strategy should be implemented?

Pay attention to the parameter / measurand according to the technique used + Lack of a standardized or recognized characterization method & CRM



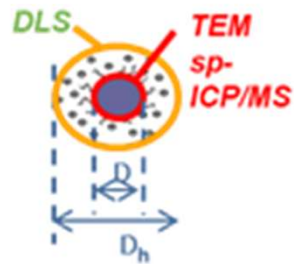
spICP-MS



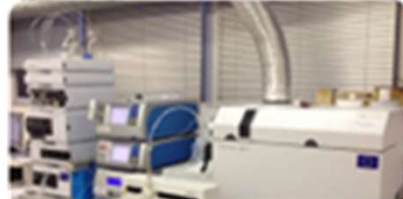
spherical equivalent diameter



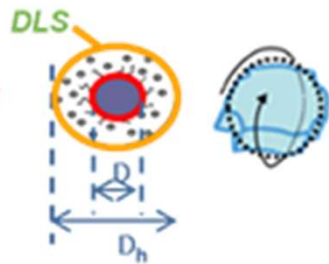
DLS



Hydrodynamic diameter



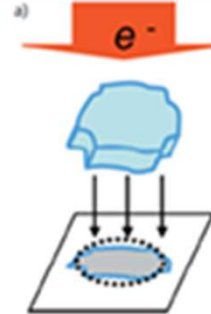
AF4-MALLS-ICP-MS



Giration diameter



MEB



projected geometric diameter



An essential multi-technical approach

Cross-referencing information obtained by different techniques in order to develop robust and reliable analytical strategies



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# Nanoparticles characterization by Single Particle mode (spICP-MS)

The "individual counting" of particle by spICP-MS is a technique:

- recent, booming, adapted to the analysis of metallic nanomaterials
- provide answers in terms of composition, quantity, and size distribution of metal nanoparticles suspended in aqueous matrices.



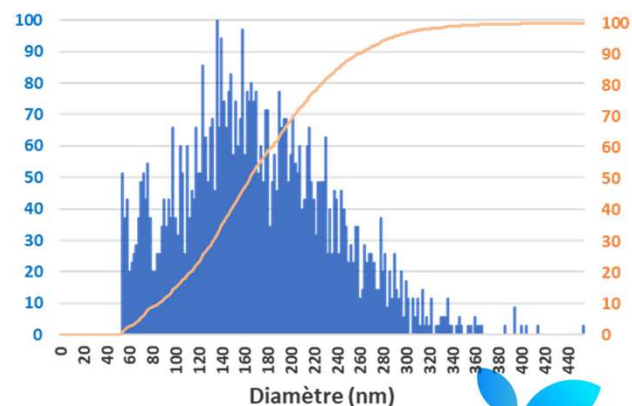
simple  
fast  
sensitive  
specific



Supposedly "spherical" shape  
Minimum variable diameter  
depending on the elements,  
samples and matrices



Information given:  
Average / median / modal diameter  
Particle number distribution  
Particulate concentration  
Dissolved element content



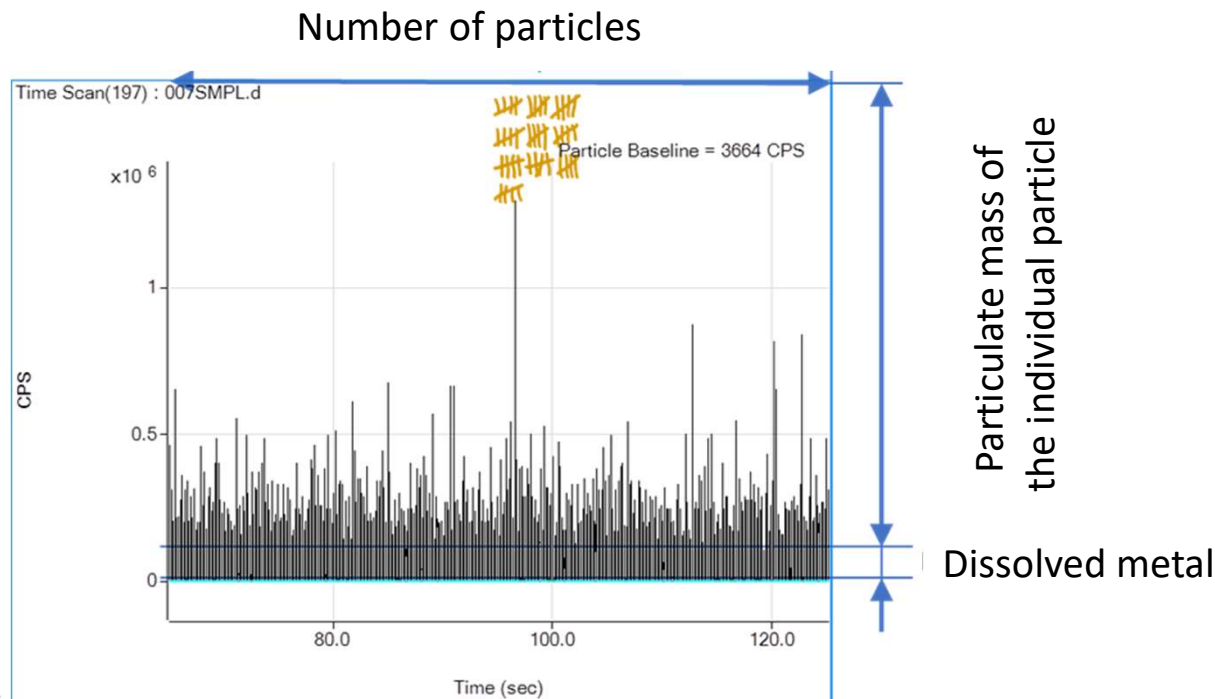
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# What can be observed in a few tens of seconds by spICP-MS ?

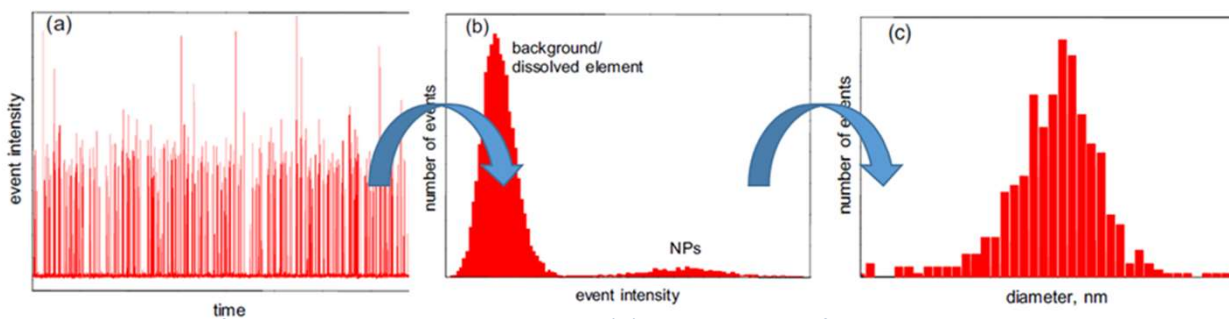
## Raw data spICP-MS

Number of particles  
 Particulate mass  
 Ionic concentration



## Size distribution of particles

Conversion of raw data according to successive calculations  
 Automated in the latest generation of software and devices  
 Ability to create custom calculation macros



Conversion of a raw signal obtained by spICP-MS (A) into a number of events as a function of the signal strength (B) and then as a function of the particle size (C).

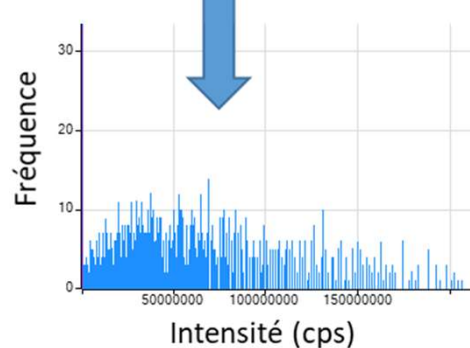
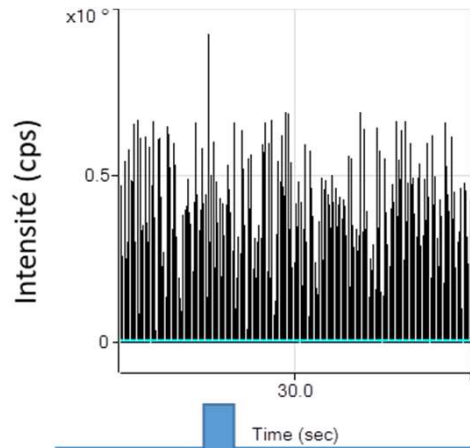


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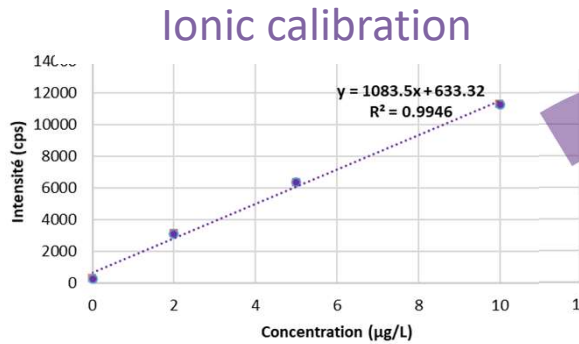


# Data processing in spICP-MS



$$N_p = \frac{f(I_p)}{q_{liq} * \eta_n}$$

**NPs Particulate concentration (particles/volume)**



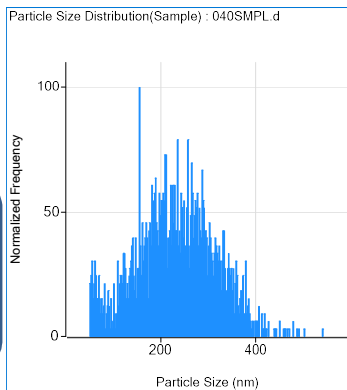
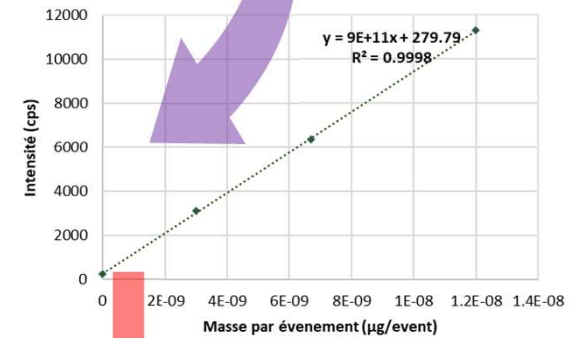
**analytical chemistry**  
 Determining Transport Efficiency for the Purpose of Counting and Sizing Nanoparticles via Single Particle Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry  
 Heather E. Face,<sup>1,6</sup> Nicola J. Rogers,<sup>1</sup> Chad Jarolimek,<sup>1</sup> Victoria A. Coleman,<sup>1</sup> Christopher P. Higgins,<sup>5</sup> and James F. Ranville<sup>4,8</sup>

$$m_p = f_a^{-1} * \left[ \frac{((I_p - I_{Bgd}) * \eta_i) - b}{m} \right]$$

**Size distribution in number of particles**

$$d = \sqrt[3]{\left[ \frac{6 * m_p}{\rho * \pi} \right]}$$

$$W = [\eta_n * q_{liq} * t_{dt} * C]$$





# Importance of the transport efficiency

In spICP-MS, as well as in ICP-MS in general, when conventional sample introduction systems are used, only a fraction of the nebulized suspension effectively reaches the plasma (1–15%).

The precise determination of this fraction, which is defined as transport efficiency ( $\eta_n$ ) is fundamental for the correct determination of both particle number size distribution and concentration

## 3 main calculation methods



analytical  
chemistry

ARTICLE  
pubs.acs.org/ac

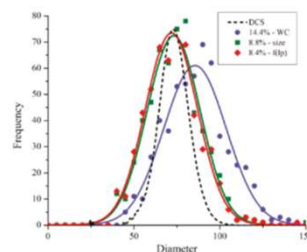
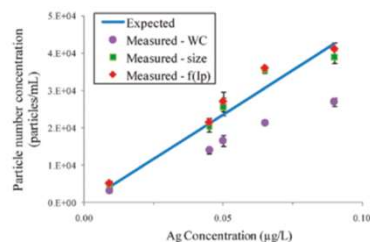
Determining Transport Efficiency for the Purpose of Counting and Sizing Nanoparticles via Single Particle Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry

Heather E. Pace,<sup>1,5</sup> Nicola J. Rogers,<sup>1</sup> Chad Jarolimek,<sup>1</sup> Victoria A. Coleman,<sup>1</sup> Christopher P. Higgins,<sup>5</sup> and James F. Ranville<sup>4#</sup>

replicate	method 1	method 2	method 3
	waste collection (%)	particle size (%)	particle frequency (%)
day 1 (12/1/10)	<sup>a</sup>	9.1 ± 0.2	9.0 ± 0.9
day 2 (12/22/10)	14.4 ± 1.2	8.8 ± 0.4	8.4 ± 1.1
day 3 (1/12/11)	14.5 ± 0.7	8.6 ± 0.2	8.7 ± 0.7

<sup>a</sup> Measurement not reported due to sampling error.

Method 1 "Waste collection" gives the best efficiencies  
Methods based on size (2) or frequency (3) give similar results



Method 1: Problem of underestimation of particulate concentration and overestimation of size

Methods 2 and 3: Results in accordance with theoretical values



Method 2 is the most used

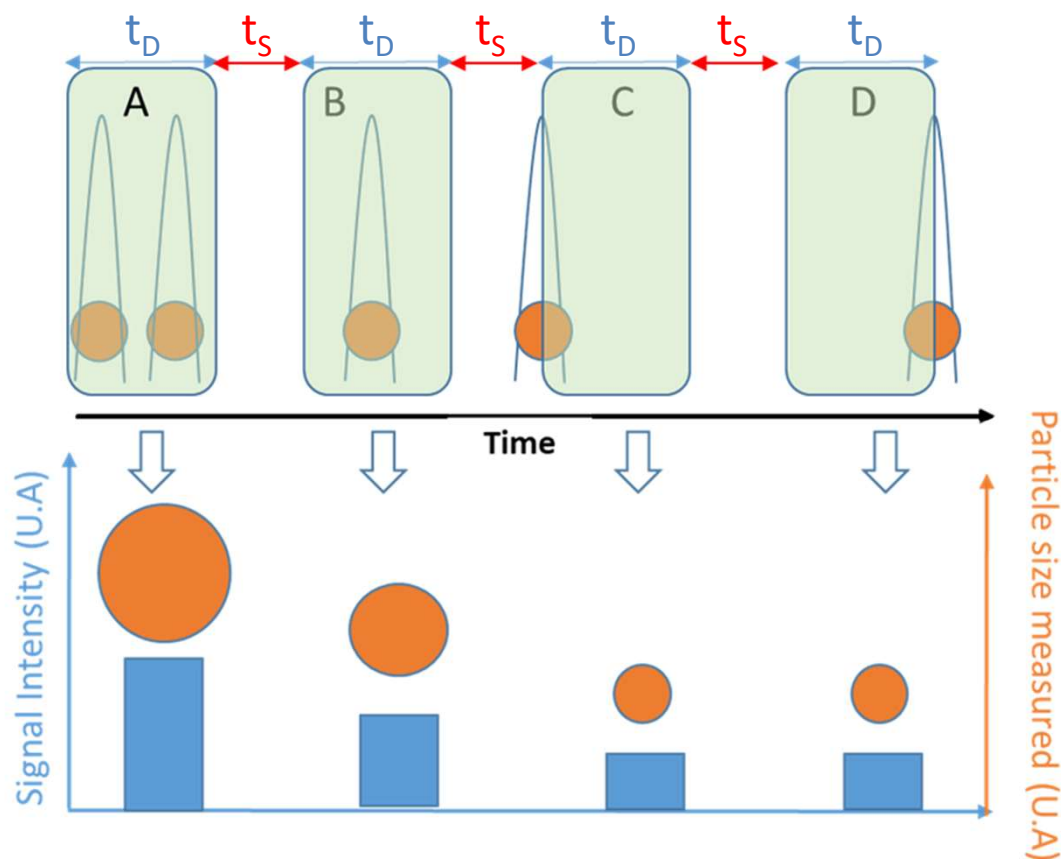


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# Measurement of a random event with a regular interval (Dwell time)

Conventional principle of signal acquisition by ICPMS



- Dwell time ( $t_D$ )= Acquisition time
- Settling time ( $t_S$ )=Stabilization time between two measurements



**Inappropriate counting  
Wrong particle size**

# Influence of the Dwell time

Gold NPs 50 nm

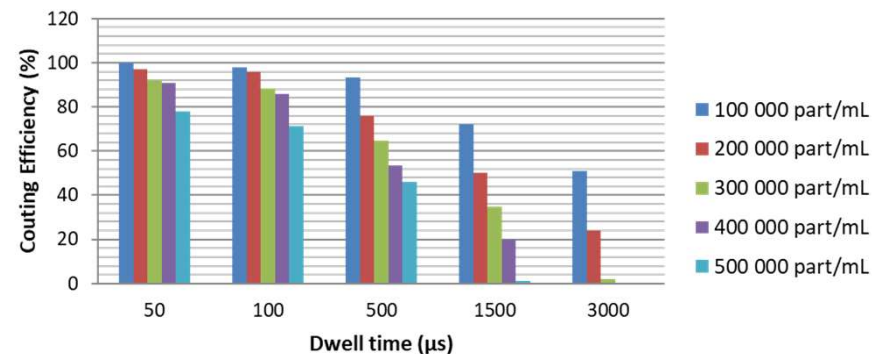
## Effect of Dwell Time on NPs quantification



200 000 part/mL dwell time (50  $\mu$ s)



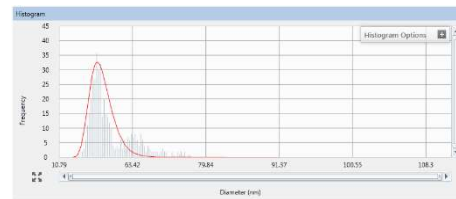
200 000 part/mL dwell time (3000  $\mu$ s)



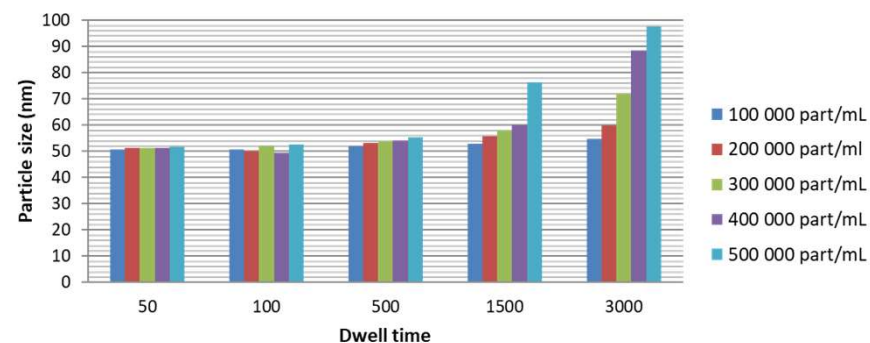
## Effect of Dwell Time on NPs size measurement



300 000 part/mL dwell time (100  $\mu$ s)



300 000 part/mL dwell time (1500  $\mu$ s)



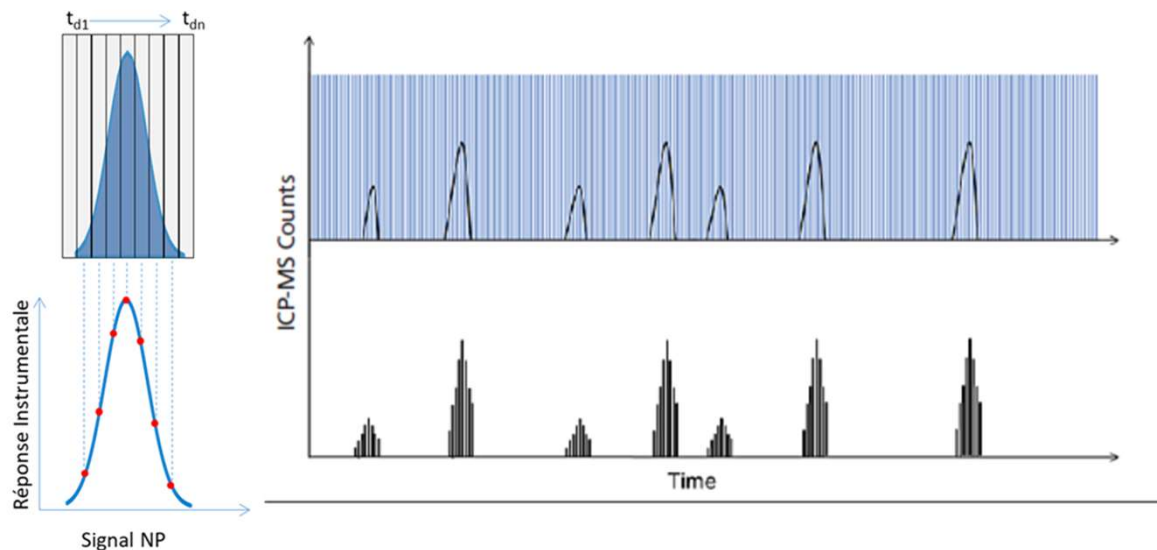
**Inappropriate counting**  
**Wrong particle size**



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# Influence of the Dwell time



**Adapted counting**  
**Good particle size**

- **No settling time for the analysis of a single mass.**
- Continuous rapid acquisition
- Dwell Time reduced to 0.05 to 10 ms

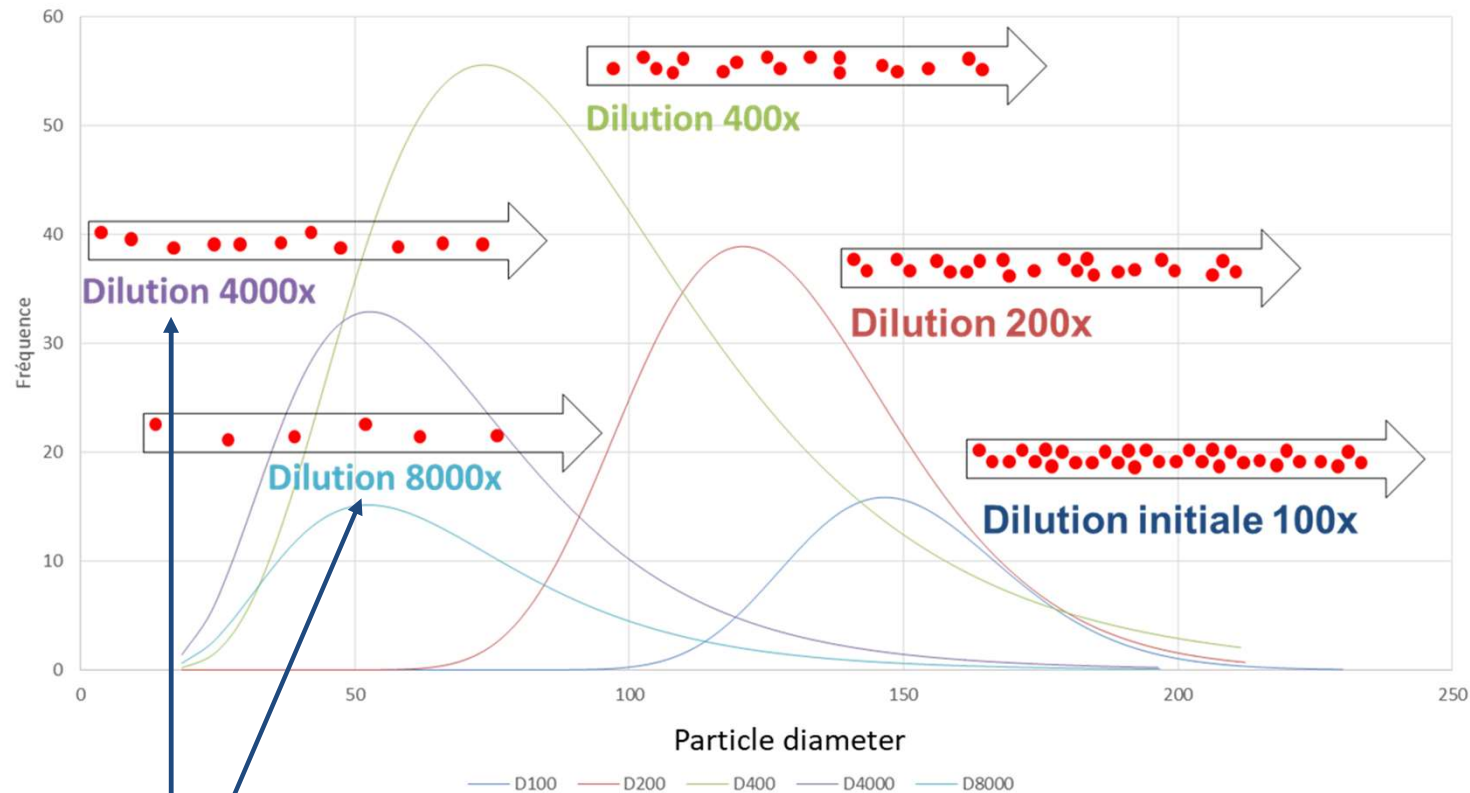


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# Influence of the sample extract/suspension dilution factor



Extract too concentrated



Particle size overestimation

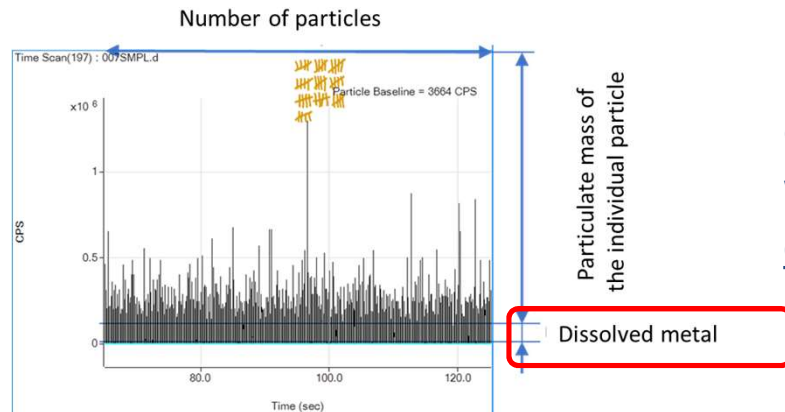
Conditions & results selected: same granulometric properties and quantification of particles in accordance with the dilution factors



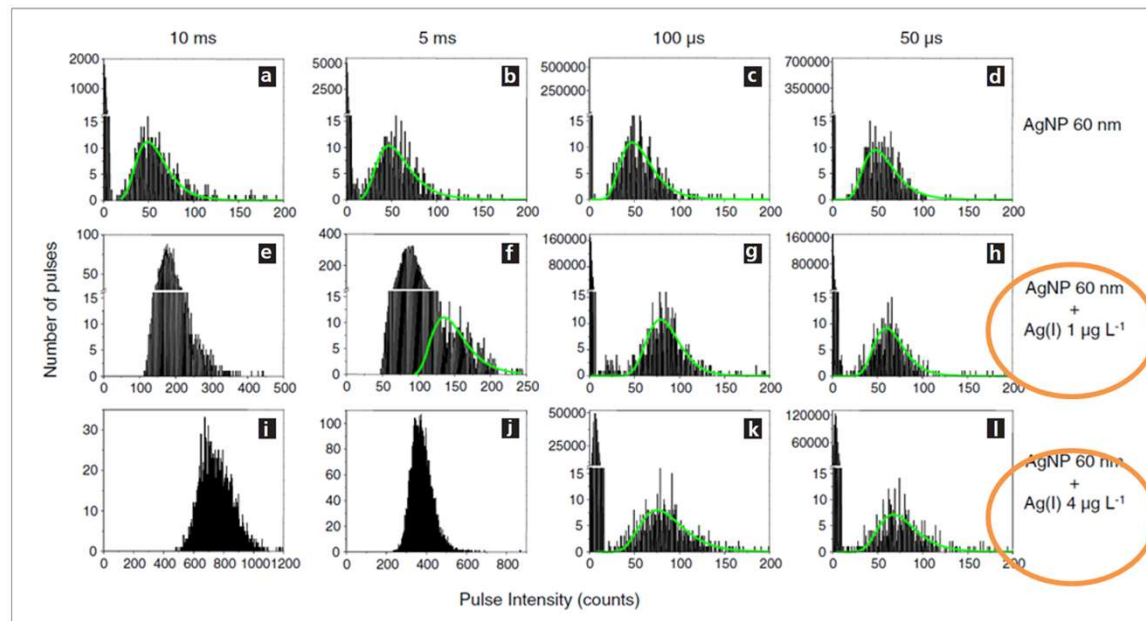
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# Influence of the ionic background



It is the distinction between the particles events from analytical background noise that will make the difference! With the incidence of dwell-time!



Once all these parameters checked with ionic and or nanoparticles standards, it's time for analysis with real samples !

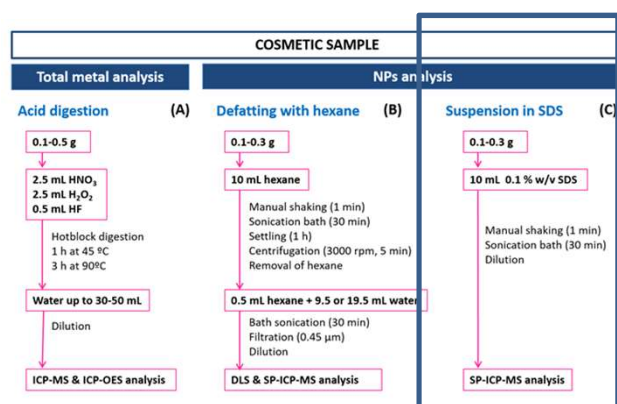
# spICP-MS: tool of choice for the screening of inorganic nanoparticles?

## Objectives:

Propose a fast and efficient screening method for the detection of inorganic NPs in consumer products

Discriminate products subject to regulation : Presence of nanoparticles ? YES or NO ?

Do not accurately characterize the particle size distribution or quantify them



Sample preparation as simple and fast as possible

Tests carried out on 16 cosmetic samples:

Code	Type of sample	Characteristics (label, metals and other compounds)	Price (€)
1	Anti-dandruff shampoo A	Zn-pyrithione-mentol, dimethicone	4
2	Anti-dandruff shampoo B	Zn-pyrithione, ZnCO <sub>3</sub> , MgCl <sub>2</sub> , dimethicone	4
3	Shampoo & hair conditioner	MgCl <sub>2</sub> , KCl, AlCl <sub>3</sub> , CuSO <sub>4</sub> , MgCl <sub>2</sub> , MnCl <sub>2</sub> , ZnCl <sub>2</sub> , dimethicone	2
4	Sunscreen SPF 50 (spray)	Titanium dioxide (nano), trimethoxycaprylsilane	15
5	Sunscreen SPF 30 (cream)	Titanium dioxide (nano)/titanium dioxide, iron oxides, dimethicone, aluminum hydroxide	15
6	Antiwrinkle day cream	Titanium dioxide (nano), silica, dimethicone, sodium acrylate/sodium acryloyldimethyl taurate copolymer	3
7	Day cream SPF 10 with gold	Colloidal gold, synthetic peptide	20
8	Facial serum A	Golden microseaweed 0* with particles of gold, titanium dioxide, mica	5
9	Day cream SPF 10 A	Golden microseaweed 0* with particles of gold, titanium dioxide, mica	5
10	Night cream A	Golden microseaweed 0* with particles of gold	5
11	Facial serum B	Titanium dioxide, mica, gold, cyclopentasiloxane, divinyl dimethicone dimethicone copolymer, PEG/PPG/14/4 dimethicone	15
12	Day cream SPF 10 B	Titanium dioxide, mica, iron oxides, gold, cyclopentasiloxane	15
13	Night cream B	Titanium dioxide, mica, iron oxides, gold, cyclopentasiloxane, dimethicone	15
14	Toothpaste for sensitive teeth	Titanium dioxide, KNO <sub>3</sub> , NaF <sub>2</sub> , silica	5
15	Toothpaste	Titanium dioxide, hydrated silica, mica, phthalocyanine blue BN of copper (cupferphthalocyanine), trisodium phosphate	2
16	Lip balm SPF 40	Titanium dioxide (nano), alumina, perfume (Fragrance), silica (nano)	5



Screening of TiO<sub>2</sub> and Au nanoparticles in cosmetics and determination of elemental impurities by multiple techniques (DLS, SP-ICP-MS, ICP-MS and ICP-OES)

Inmaculada de la Calle<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Mathieu Menta<sup>a</sup>, Marlène Klein<sup>a</sup>, Fabienne Séby<sup>a</sup>

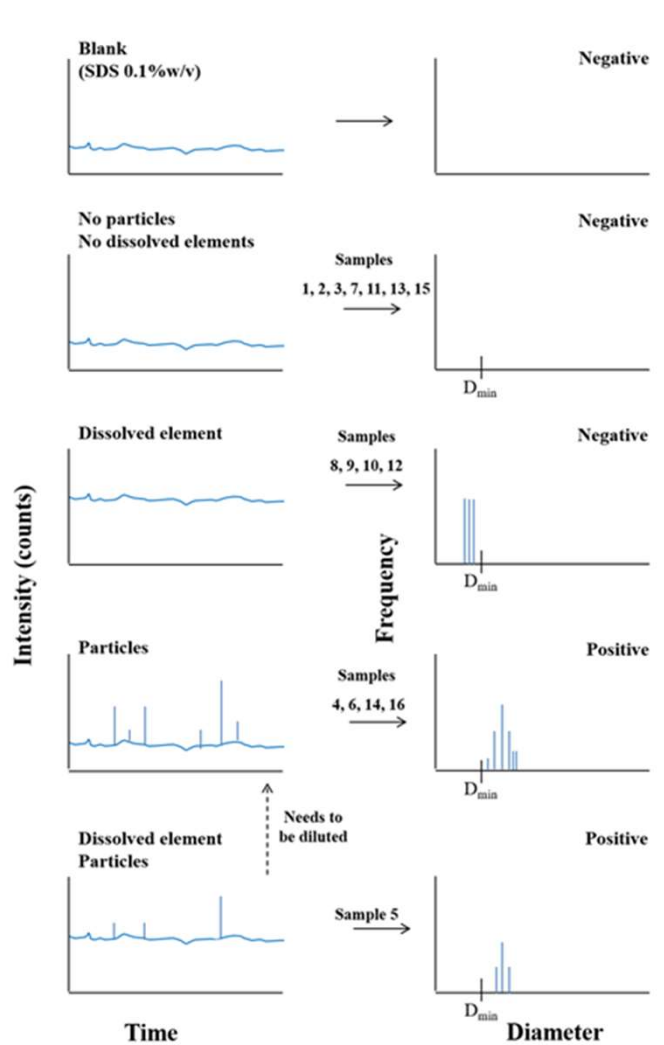
<sup>a</sup> Ultra Trace Analysis Aquitaine U724/ANERA, Hélioparc Pau-Pyrénées, 2 avenue de Président Angot, 64053 PAU cedex 9, Pau, France  
<sup>b</sup> Departamento de Química Analítica y Alimentaria, Área de Química Analítica, Facultad de Química, Universidad de Vigo, Campus As Lagoas-Marcosende s/n, 36310 Vigo, Spain



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# Screening of nanoparticles in cosmetic samples : Presence or Absence ?



Negative Screening: Absence of nanoparticles

Positive Screening: Presence of nanoparticles

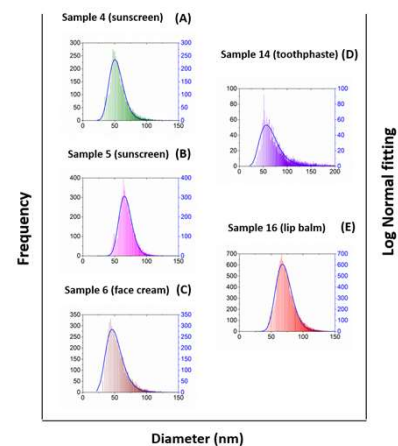


# Screening of nanoparticles in cosmetic samples : Presence or Absence ?

TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs screening by SP-ICP-MS.

Code	Type of sample	Label		SP-ICP-MS screening of the presence of TiO <sub>2</sub> NPs
		TiO <sub>2</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub> 'nano'	
1	Shampoo	No	No	No
2	Shampoo	No	No	No
3	Shampoo & hair conditioner	No	No	No
4	Sunscreen SPF 50 (spray)	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	Sunscreen SPF 30 (cream)	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	Anti-wrinkle day cream	Yes	Yes	Yes
7	Day cream with SPF 10	No	No	No
8	Facial serum	Yes	No	No
9	Day cream SPF 10	Yes	No	No
10	Night cream	No	No	No
11	Facial serum	Yes	No	No
12	Day cream SPF 10	Yes	No	No
13	Night cream	Yes	No	No
14	Toothpaste (for sensitive teeth)	Yes	No	Yes
15	Toothpaste	Yes	No	No
16	Lip balm protector SPF 40	Yes	Yes	Yes

Only samples including the [Nano] label show positive screening... except one (14)



Since this product is labeled [Nano]

From a regulatory point of view, the spICP-MS already answers the first question relating to labelling: Presence of particles, YES or NO?

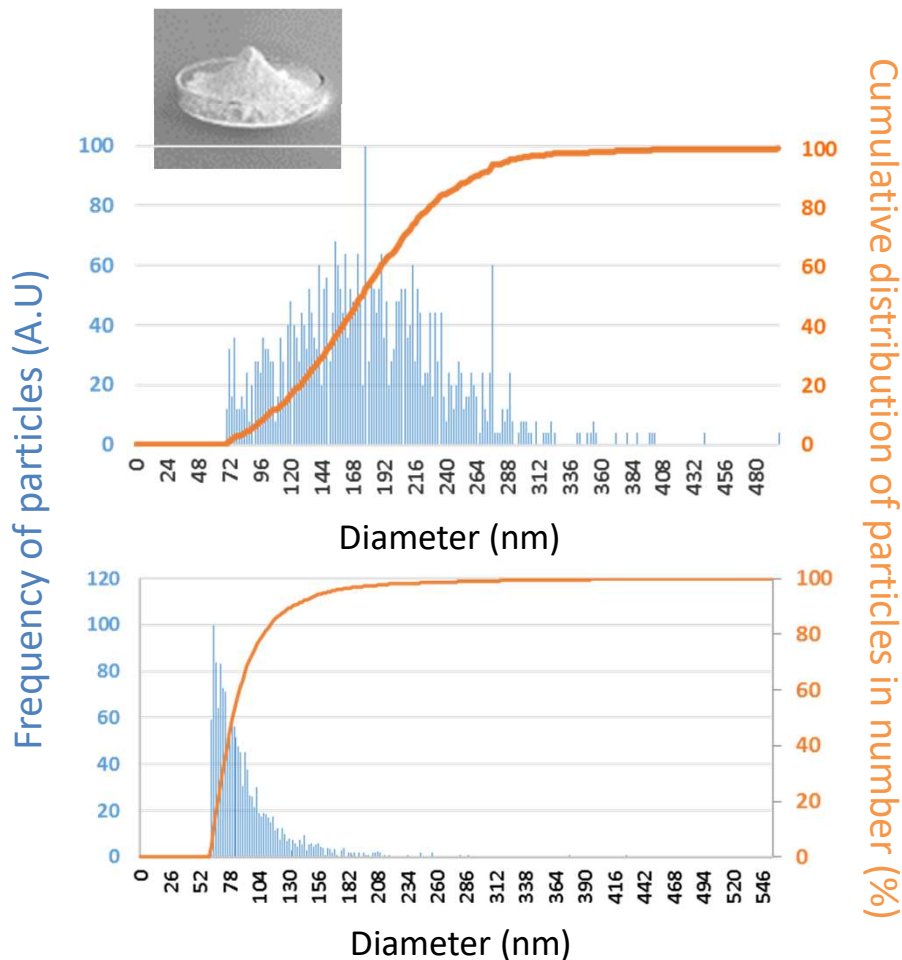
Products with positive screening : Deeper characterization required (Particle size distribution & quantification)



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# Characterization of TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs in food & cosmetic additives



Parameter	Results
% of particles < 100 nm	11 ± 2
Mean Diameter(nm)	188 ± 6
Median Diameter (nm)	176 ± 3
[TiO <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>particulate</sub> (g/kg)	259 ± 6

Parameter	Results
% of particles < 100 nm	69 ± 4
Mean Diameter(nm)	93 ± 2
Median Diameter (nm)	82 ± 3
[TiO <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>particulate</sub> (g/kg)	846 ± 12

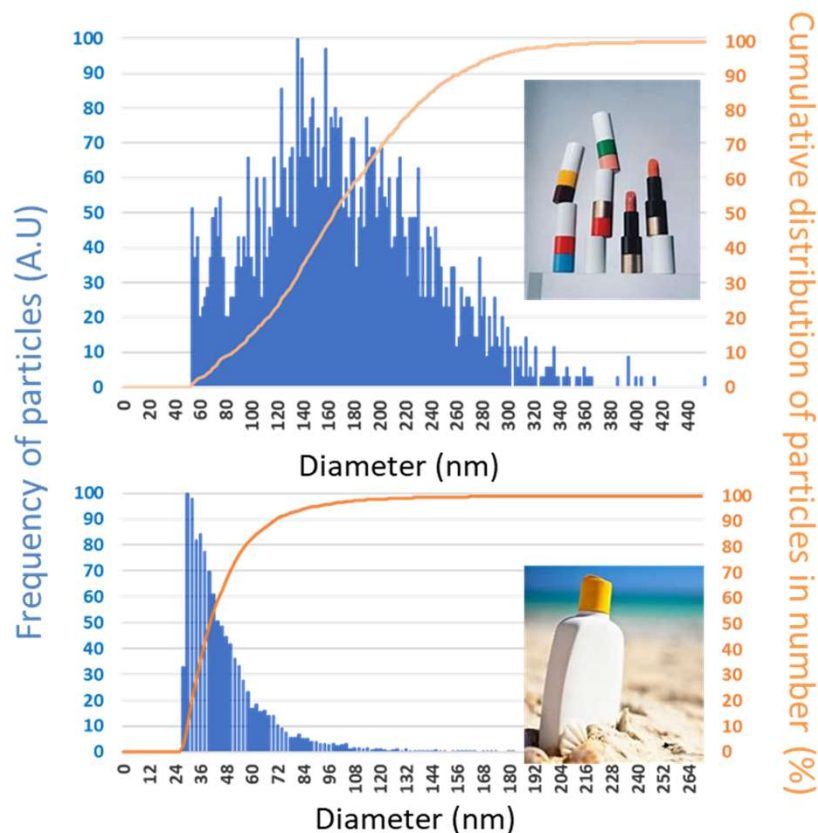
According to INCO or COSMETIC Regulation the both products are "nanos"  
 According to Def. EU, only the cosmetic additive is...



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# Characterization of TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs in cosmetic products



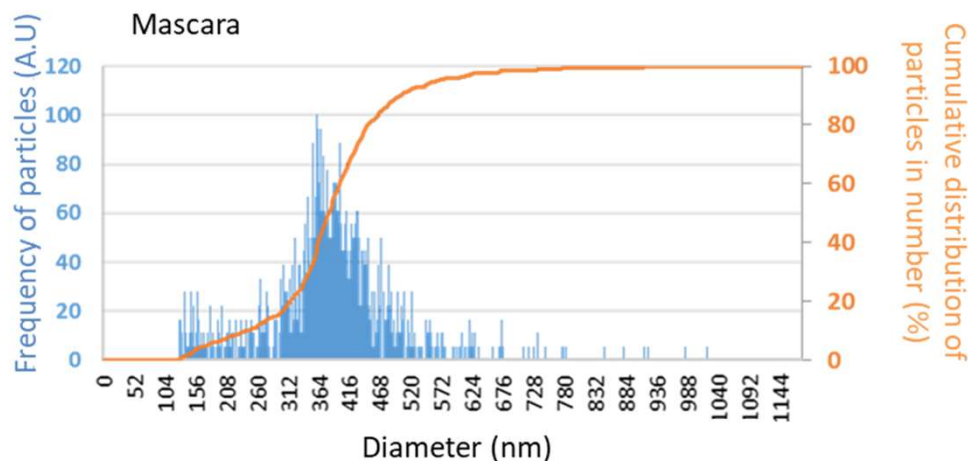
Parameter	Résultats
% of particules < 100 nm	16 ± 2
Mean Diameter(nm)	173 ± 3
Median Diameter(nm)	161 ± 6
[TiO <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>particulate</sub> (g/kg)	1.35 ± 0.03

Parameter	Résultats
% of particules < 100 nm	97.1 ± 0.5
Mean Diameter(nm)	46 ± 2
Median Diameter(nm)	41 ± 4
[TiO <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>particulate</sub> (g/kg)	241 ± 13

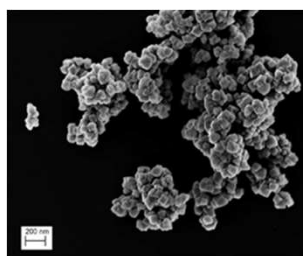
According to COSMETIC Regulation the both products are "nanos"  
 According to Def. EU, only the latest cosmetic additive is...

From a regulatory point of view, the spICP-MS meets the expectations of manufacturers and control laboratories... **but are the results reliable?**

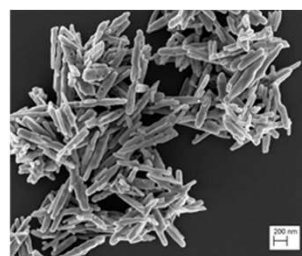
# Characterization of Iron Oxydes in cosmetic products



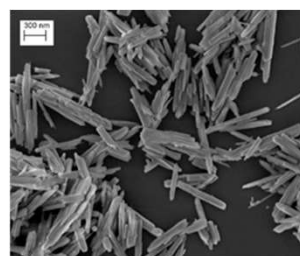
Parameter	Résultats
% of particules < 100 nm	0
Mean Diameter(nm)	386 ± 7
Median Diameter(nm)	382 ± 3
[Fe] <sub>particulate</sub> (g/kg)	26 ± 3



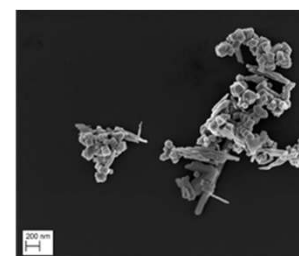
Red iron oxide  
E172ii (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)  
spheroids



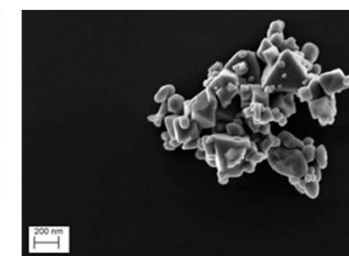
Red iron oxide  
E172ii (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)  
needles



Yellow iron oxide  
E172iii  
(FeO(OH).H<sub>2</sub>O)  
needles



Brown iron oxide  
E172i (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>)  
+ E172ii (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)  
needles + spheroids



Brown iron oxide  
E172i (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>)  
+ E172ii (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)  
pyramids + spheroids

Many mixtures and morphologies on the market

Significant differences between spICP-MS & SEM results (97 % of particles < 100 nm)



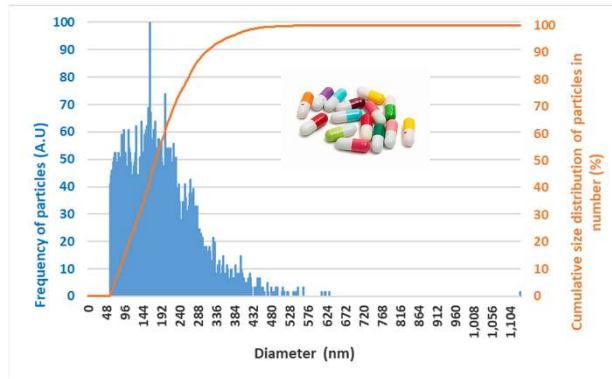
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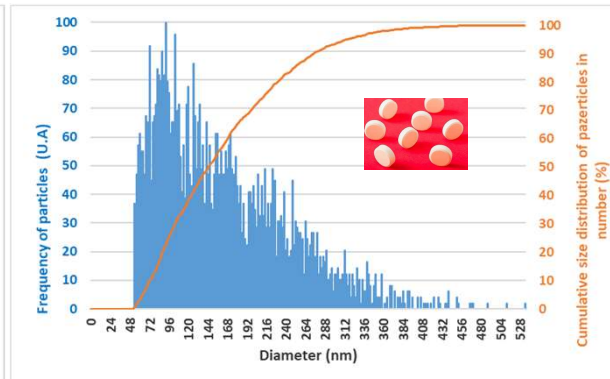


# Characterization of TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs in pharmaceuticals products

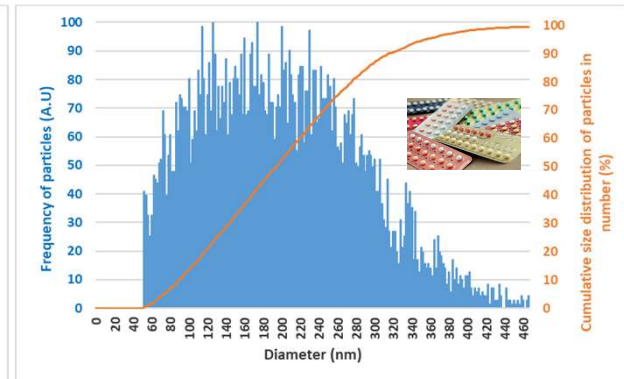
## Drug Capsule



## Compressed Drug



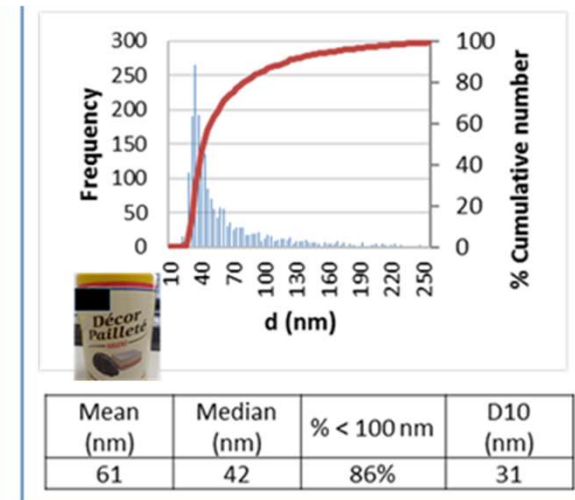
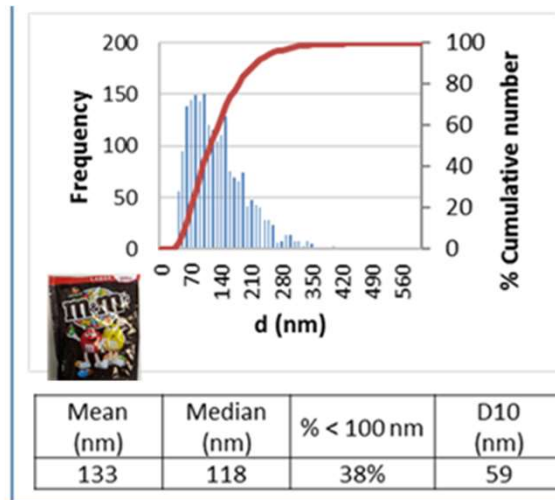
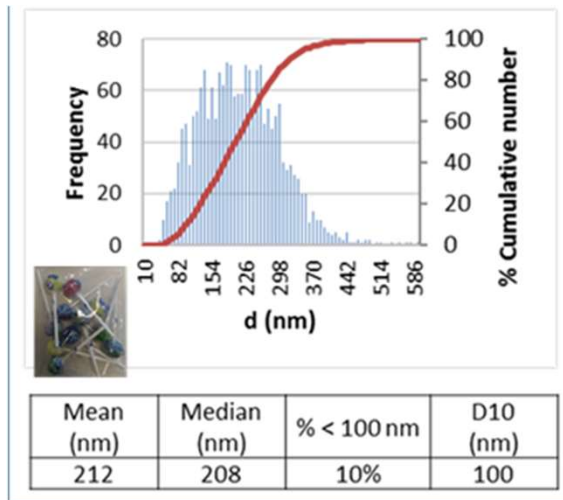
## Contraceptive Pill



Sample	Parameter			
	% < 100 nm	Mean Diameter (nm)	Median Diameter (nm)	[TiO <sub>2</sub> NPs] g/kg
Drug capsule	16 ± 3	192 ± 4	176 ± 6	6.0 ± 0.3
Compressed Drug	25 ± 7	165 ± 7	147 ± 8	0.49 ± 0.02
Contraceptive pill	14 ± 1	203 ± 4	195 ± 8	3.2 ± 0.2

# The reliability of the results obtained by spICP-MS? Legitimate question

## Characterization of TiO<sub>2</sub> particles in food products



- Wide variety of samples, wide variety of size distributions
- Lack of a standardized or recognized characterization method
- Absence of CRM (certified reference material) in real matrices containing nanoparticles characterized by different methods



Need for rigorous analytical strategies to ensure the relevance of the results obtained and method validation



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# Criteria for analytical validation of operating conditions in spICP-MS

## Implementation of an essential self-control strategy

- Performance evaluation:
  - instrumental performance: cf. manufacturer procedures, linearity of the response for the ionic elements analyzed, accuracy of the measured sizes for nanoparticles standards and concentrations measured for nanoparticles standards (if certified in concentration); Determine parameters such as:  $LOD_{NP}$  (particles/L),  $LOD_{MP}$  (ng/L),  $LOD_S$  (nm), etc.
- Acceptance Criteria
  - number of events, maximum ionic concentration, etc., for risk mitigation (co-event, bad size estimation, contamination)
  - Obtain identical results for several different dilution factors while respecting the previous criteria

Propose tools, such as a spreadsheet, to decide on the reliability of the analytical method  
XP ISO/TS 19590 standard can serve as the basis for establishing this spreadsheet /  
validation



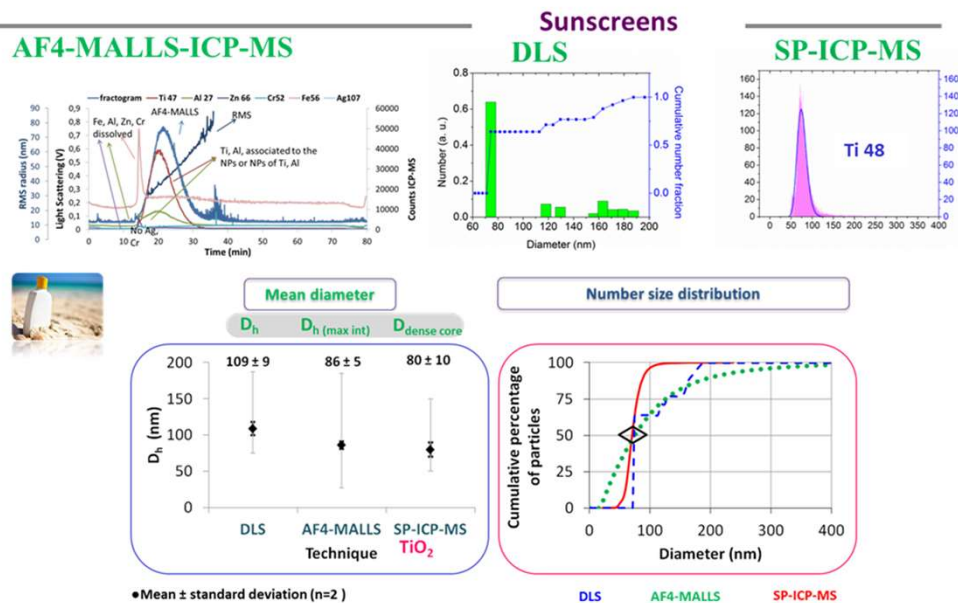
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# Cross technique comparison for method validation

Intercomparison using the techniques available at the UT2A laboratory

## Characterization of TiO<sub>2</sub> particles in sunscreens

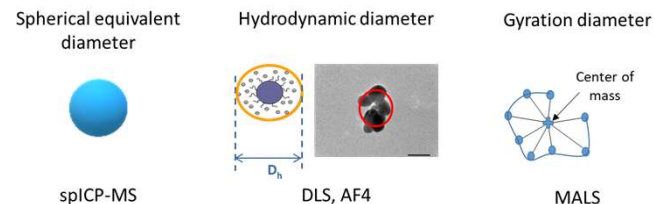


## Characterization of particles in foods & cosmetics

Sample	Diameter(nm)	Composition	Technique
Candies	124 ± 8	N/A	DLS
	147 ± 3	TiO <sub>2</sub>	AF4-MALLS-ICP-MS
	125 ± 4	TiO <sub>2</sub>	spICP-MS
Chewing gum	112 ± 4	N/A	DLS
	216 ± 6	TiO <sub>2</sub>	AF4-MALLS-ICP-MS
	126 ± 1	TiO <sub>2</sub>	spICP-MS
Decorative pearls	35 - 225	N/A	DLS
	30 - 150	Ag	AF4-MALLS-ICP-MS
	50- 200	Ag	spICP-MS
Sunscreens	109 ± 9	N/A	DLS
	86 ± 5	TiO <sub>2</sub> , Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	AF4-MALLS-ICP-MS
	80 ± 10	TiO <sub>2</sub>	spICP-MS
Toothpaste	70-125	N/A	DLS
	106 ± 9	SiO <sub>2</sub> , TiO <sub>2</sub>	AF4-MALLS-ICP-MS
	50 - 100	TiO <sub>2</sub>	spICP-MS
Lip balm	45-175	N/A	DLS
	50 - 90	TiO <sub>2</sub> , Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	AF4-MALLS-ICP-MS
	40 - 100	TiO <sub>2</sub>	spICP-MS

Results agreed for most samples

Some differences related to the measurand associated with the analysis technique



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# Chewing gum E171 – TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs

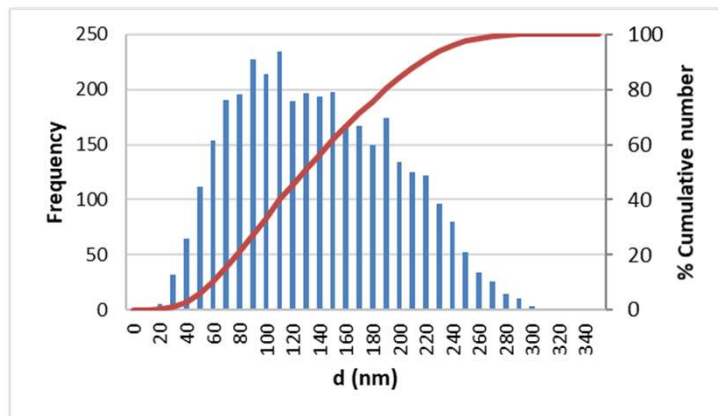
Particle size number distribution between with spICP-MS and SEM



INGREDIENTS: EDULCORANTS SUCRES AVEC EDULCORANTS NON SUCRES, ACESULFAME-K, GOMME BASE, EPAISSISSANT GOMME ARABIQUE, HUMECTANT GLYCEROL, AROMES, AGENT DE CHANGE PROPRETE, SOLU, COLORANT E171, CORRECTEUR D'ACIDITE CARBONATE, CARBONNE, ANTI-OXYDANT BHA, COLORANT E171, CONTIENT UNE CONSOMMATION EXCESSIVE PEUT AVOIR DES EFFETS SUR LA SANTE, A CONSUMER RAPIDEMENT APRES OUVRETE, CONSUMER A CONSUMER DE PREFERENCE AVANT LE VOIR SUR LE COL.



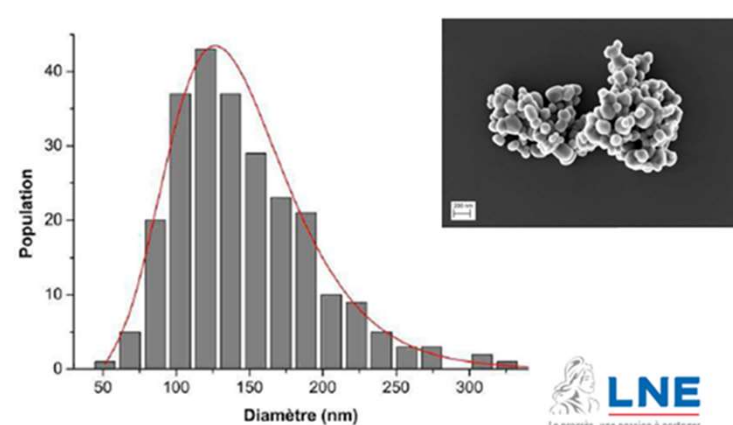
sp-ICP-MS (screening)



1700 – 3500 analysed particles / run

(n = 6)	D <sub>mean</sub> (nm)	D <sub>median</sub> (nm)	% < 100 nm	D10 (nm)
Mean ± SD	140 ± 3	135 ± 4	29 ± 2 %	65 ± 2

MEB (confirmation)



250 analysed particles

D <sub>mean</sub> (nm)	D <sub>median</sub> (nm)	% < 100 nm
137	127	23 %

Good agreement between the results obtained by these two techniques

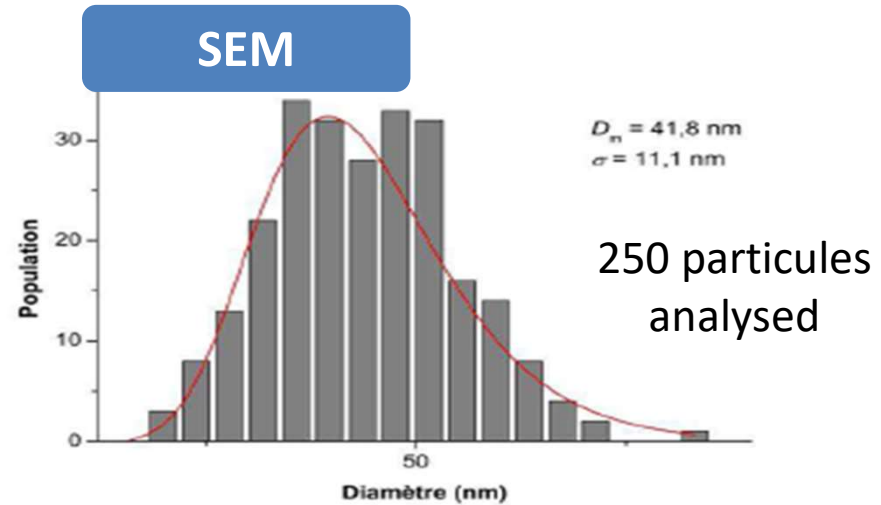
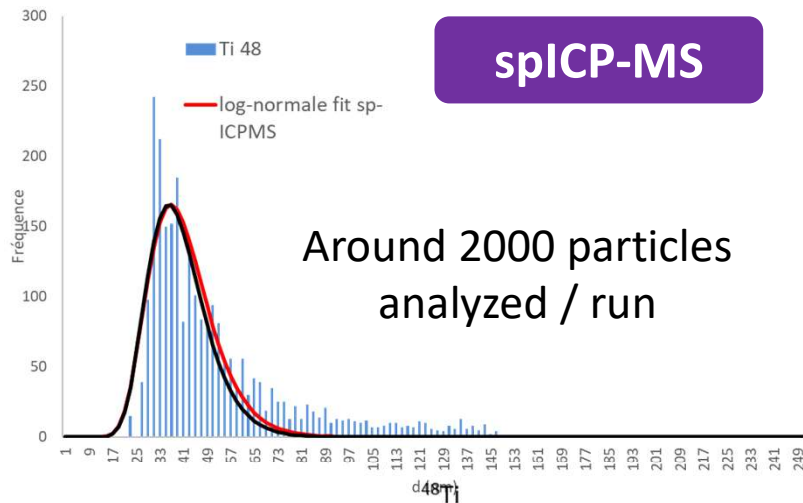


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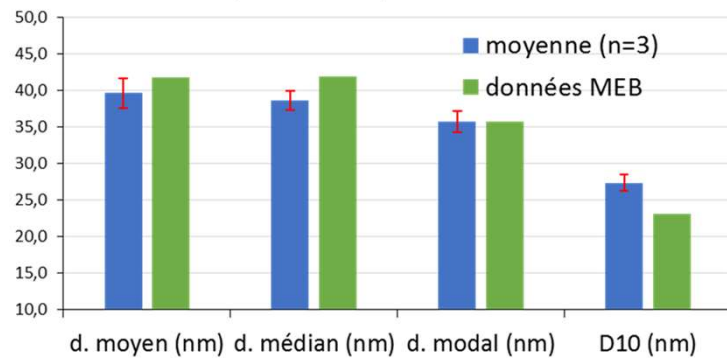


# Golden Pepper E171- TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs

## Particle size number distribution between with spICP-MS and SEM



comparaison fit spICP-MS Vs fit MEB



Good agreement between the results obtained by these two techniques

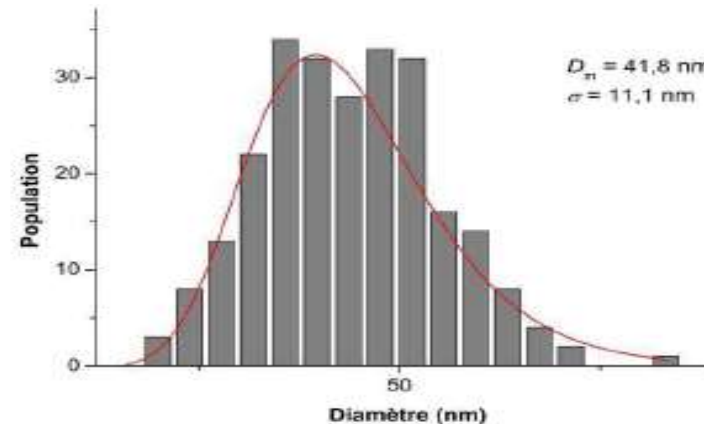
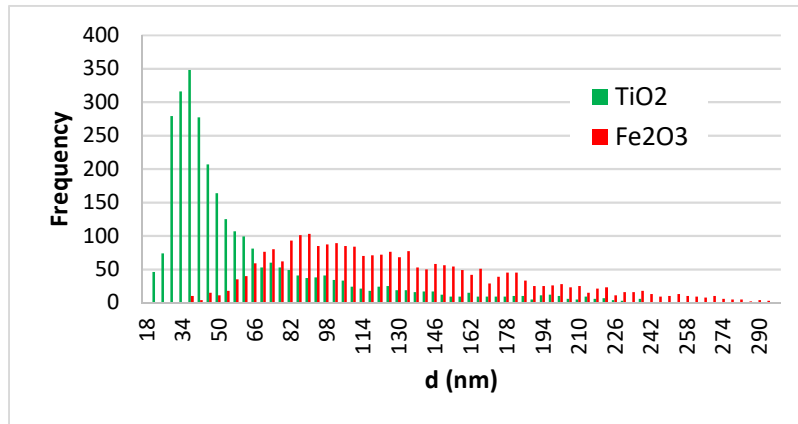


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# Golden Pepper E171 & E172 - TiO<sub>2</sub> & Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NPs

## Particle size number distribution between with spICP-MS and SEM



Parameter	Technique		
	spICPMS (Ti)	spICPMS (Fe)	SEM
Mean Diameter(nm)	69	134	42
Median Diameter (nm)	46	121	42
% of particles < 100 nm	83	34	100

No distinction between TiO<sub>2</sub> and Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by SEM without an elemental analyzer (EDX)



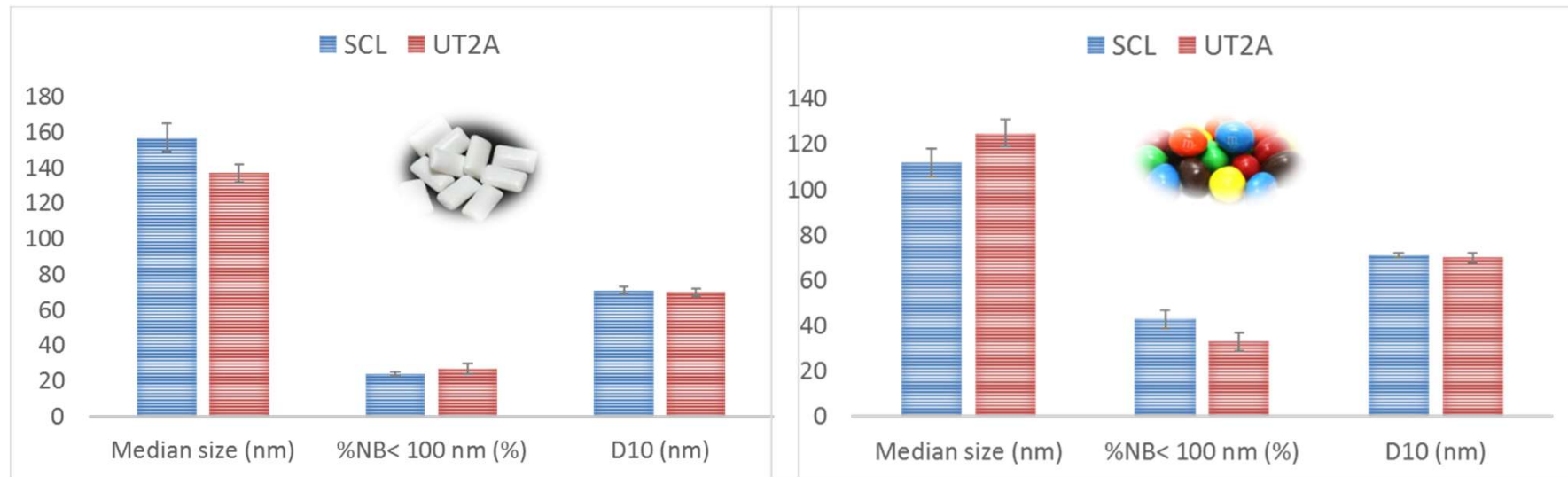
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# Inter-laboratory comparison



Sample preparation:  
Sample + Ultrapure Water  
Sonication (bath ; 10 min)



Good agreement between the different laboratories

To be completed with other laboratories and other samples and matrices



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# Comparison between pristine additive & Food product



**SIROP GOÛT BUBBLE GUM**  
 Ingrédients : Sucre, eau, arômes, colorants : E120, E171.  
 Sans conservateur. **CONSEIL D'UTILISATION** : Agiter avant emploi. Ajouter 1 volume de sirop à 7 volumes de boisson à aromatiser, puis ajuster selon votre goût. Valeurs nutritionnelles moyennes pour 100 ml : Energie : 1477kJ / 348kcal, Glucides : 85g, dont sucres : 85g. Contient des quantités négligeables de matières grasses, d'acides gras saturés, de protéines et de sel. A consommer de préférence avant fin : voir sur le bouchon. A conserver dans un endroit sec et tempéré.

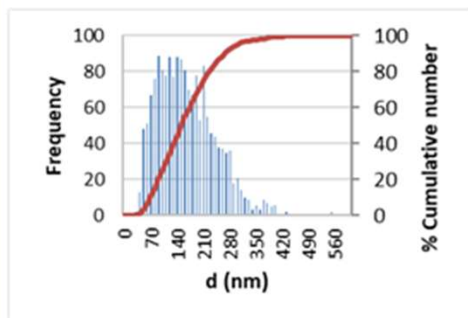


**SIROP DE NOIX DE COCO**  
 Ingrédients : Sucre, sirop de glucose-fructose, arômes, colorant : E171, sans conservateur. **CONSEIL D'UTILISATION** : Agiter avant emploi. Ajouter 1 volume de sirop à 7 volumes de boisson à aromatiser, puis ajuster selon votre goût. Valeurs nutritionnelles moyennes pour 100 ml : Energie : 1457kJ / 343kcal, Glucides : 85g, dont sucres : 82g. Contient des quantités négligeables de matières grasses, d'acides gras saturés, de protéines et de sel. A consommer de préférence avant fin : voir sur le bouchon. A conserver dans un endroit sec et tempéré.



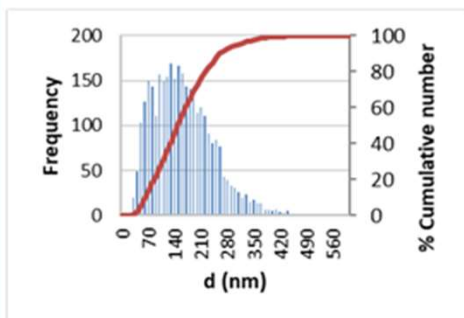
Liste d'ingrédients : sorbitol E-420, Titanium Dioxide E-171, Kanthan E-415

Sirop "Bubble gum"



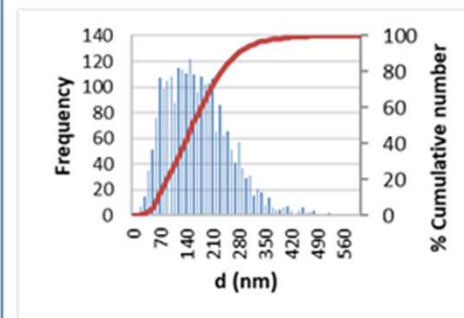
Mean (nm)	Median (nm)	% < 100 nm	D10 (nm)
166	154	23%	70

Sirop "noix de coco"



Mean (nm)	Median (nm)	% < 100 nm	D10 (nm)
163	152	24%	72

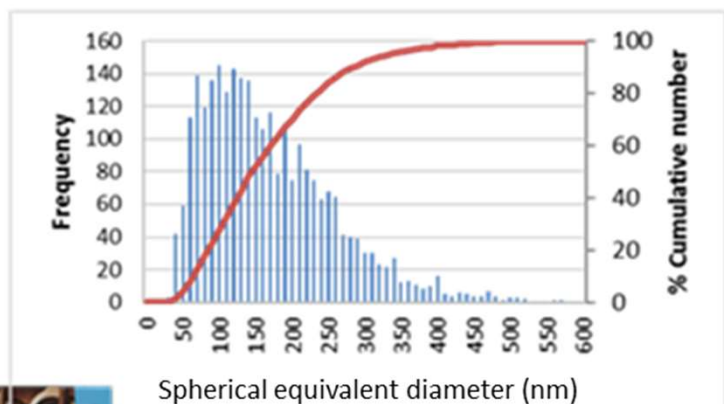
Additif "E171"



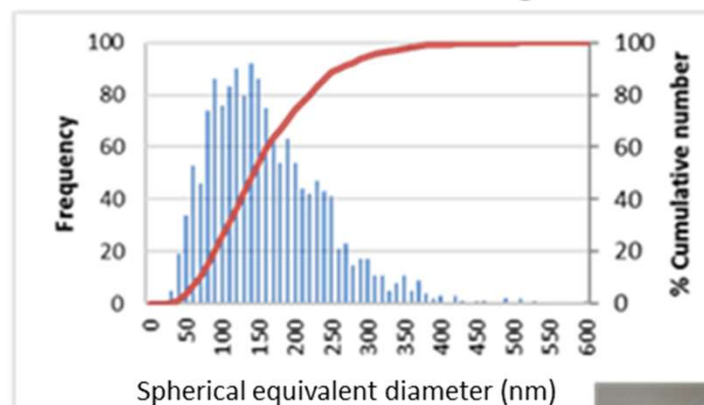
Mean (nm)	Median (nm)	% < 100 nm	D10 (nm)
171	160	22%	70

# Comparison between pristine additive & Food product

## Almond dragees

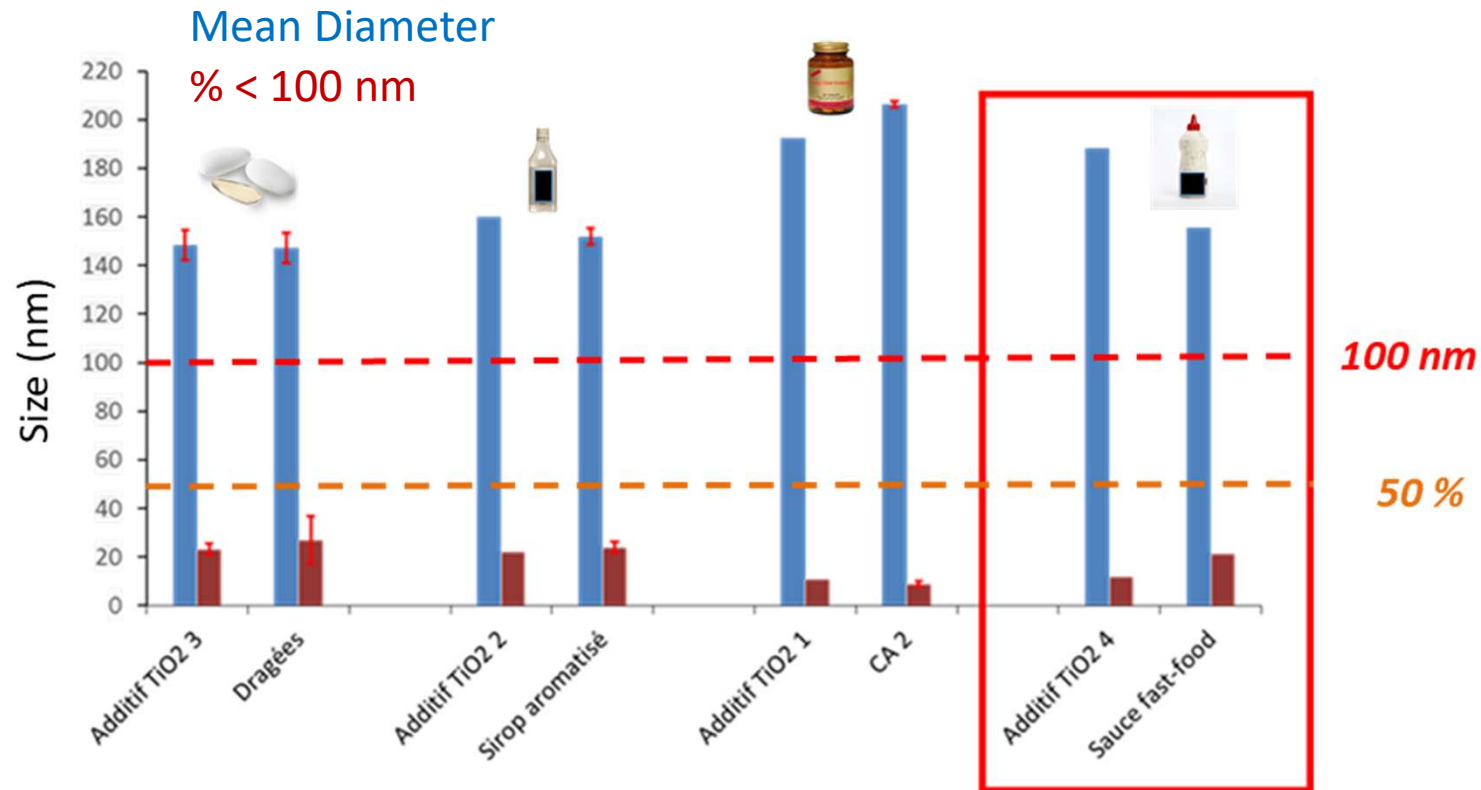


## E171 used for almond dragees



Parameter	Almond Dragee	E171
Mean Diameter (nm)	164 ± 3	164 ± 5
Median Diameter	147 ± 2	150 ± 4
% < 100 nm	27	23

# Comparison between pristine additive & Food product

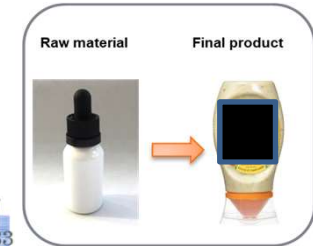
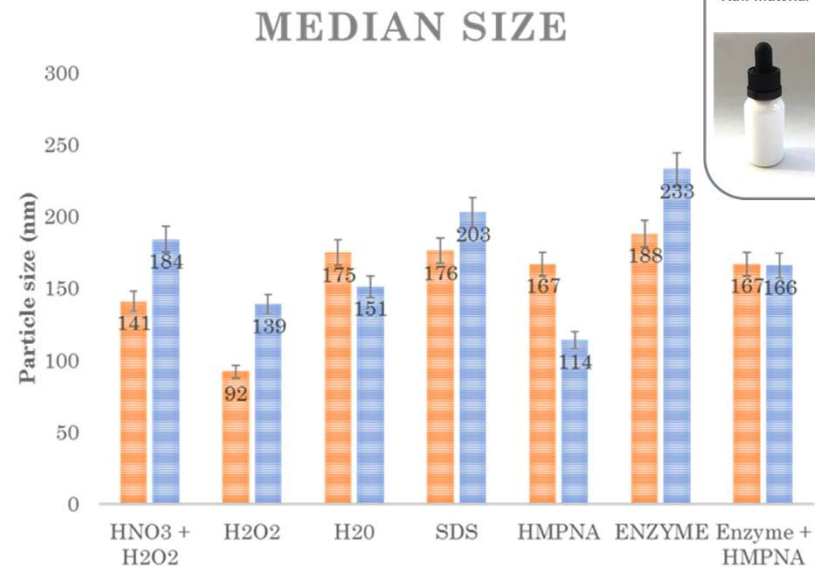
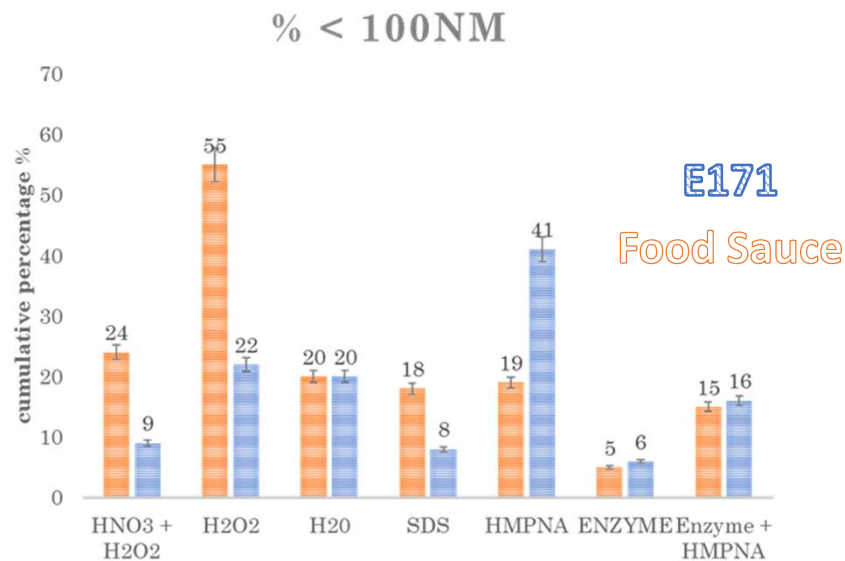


Agreement between size distributions of the ingredient and the finished product

In some cases differences are observed : Sample preparation optimization required

# Optimization of TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs extraction in complex food samples

## Influence of the extraction media on the granulometric properties of particles



Wide disparity in particle size results according to the extraction/dispersion media

What representativeness? Sample preparation must:

- preserve/not modify/denature the initial particle size
- be quantitatively representative





# Sample preparation

As always, sample preparation is the key step, especially for "nanos"!

Main steps or processes used

- dispersion/extraction: ultrapure water, organic solvents, surfactants, alkaline solutions, etc.
- agitation: vortex, bath or ultrasonic probe (define time, duration, program, etc.)
- filtration, centrifugation

No miracle and universal recipe

Lack of a harmonized extraction method

Matrix/sample specific

Need to evaluate the respective influences of the different steps on particle size and recoveries

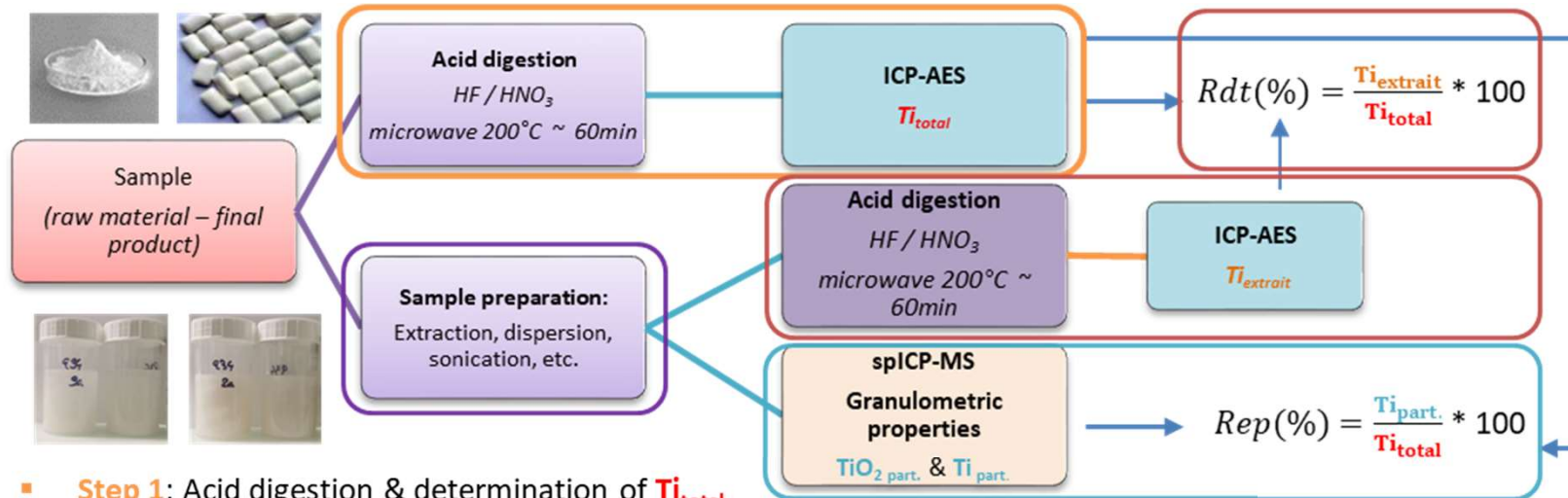
Implementation of a global methodology for method validation



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# Sample preparation



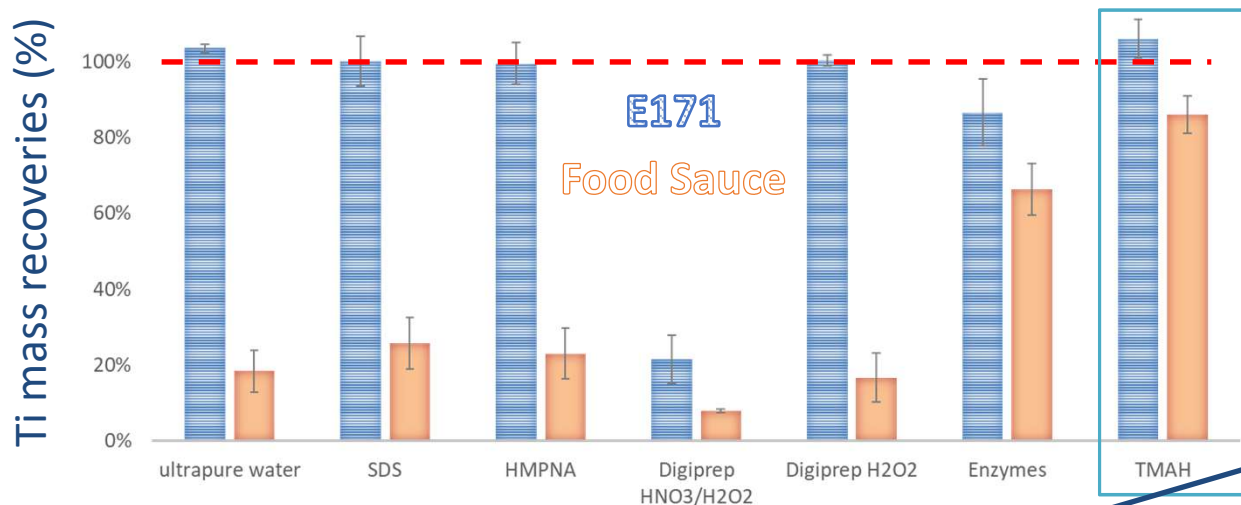
- **Step 1:** Acid digestion & determination of  $\text{Ti}_{\text{total}}$
- **Step 2:** Sample preparation for spICP-MS analysis
- **Step 3:** Acid digestion of the extract prepared for spICP-MS, determination of  $\text{Ti}_{\text{extract}}$  & determination of the extraction recovery ( $\text{Rdt}(\%)$ )
- **Step 4:** Analysis by spICP-MS of the extract, determination of  $\text{TiO}_2$  particles size distribution and concentration  $\text{TiO}_2 \text{ part.}$  and  $\text{Ti part.}$  & evaluation of the extract representativity ( $\text{Rep}(\%)$ )

*Repeat steps 3 and 4 before and after each preparation process implemented to assess and quantify their respective influences*

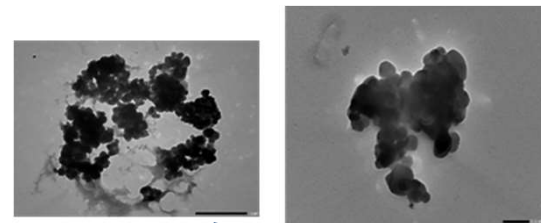
*Necessary approach in the context of a method validation*

# Optimization of TiO<sub>2</sub> NPs extraction in complex food samples

## Determination of Ti mass recoveries



Results consistent with TEM



Extraction	Sample	Median size (nm)	Mean Size (nm)
TMAH (pH 13)	TiO <sub>2</sub> ingredient	188 ± 2	205 ± 1
	Sauce kebab	176 ± 6	192 ± 7
ENZ (pH 7)	TiO <sub>2</sub> ingredient	273 ± 23	289 ± 23
	Sauce kebab	278 ± 9	297 ± 9

### ENZYMATIC :

Extraction yield of the order of 70% for the sauce  
High NPs size: probable formation aggregates/agglomerates

### TMAH (2.5%):

Extraction yield of the order of 80% for the sauce  
Limits the risk of aggregate/agglomerates

Complementary parameters to optimize: TMAH concentration and volume, sonication step (bath or probe, duration, program), etc.

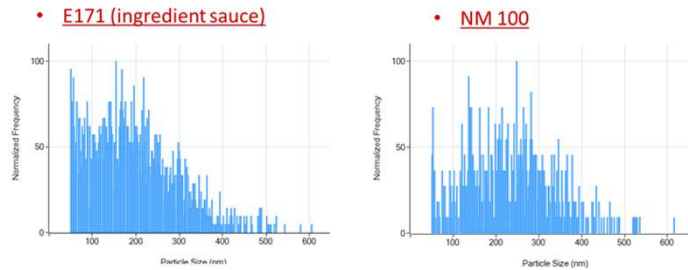


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# Evaluation of the method accuracy

## Spiking experiment (n = 3)



Sample	Median size (nm)
<b>NM-100 RM</b>	220 ± 24
<b>E171</b>	197 ± 5



sample	Median size (nm)	Recovery (%)
<b>Spiked mayonnaise NM-100 RM</b>	180 ± 2	99 ± 9
<b>Spiked mayonnaise E171</b>	173 ± 5	93 ± 5

- ✓ Enhancement of particle dispersion in the presence of the matrix
- ✓ Good recoveries

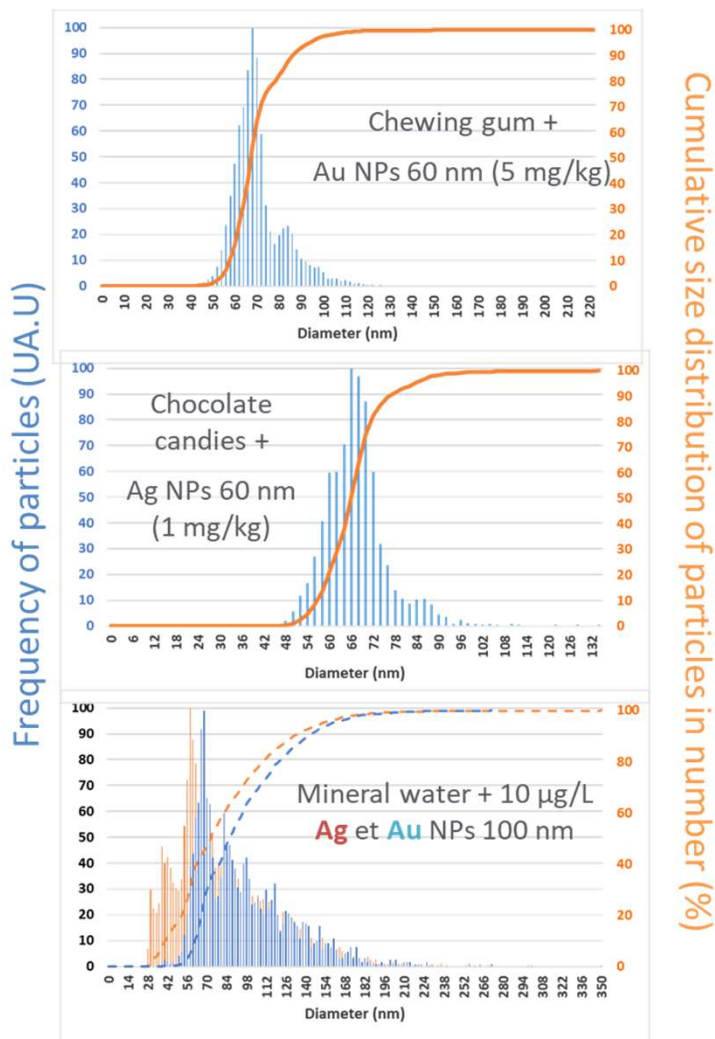


# Method implementation on food sausages

SAMPLE	Country	E171 (label)	Fat content (g / kg)	Total Ti (g/kg)	TiO <sub>2</sub> particles concentration (g/kg)	NPs fraction (% < 100nm)	Median size (nm)	Ti recovery (%)
White sauce	France		260	< 0.001	NA	NA	NA	NA
			260	< 0.001	NA	NA	NA	NA
			290	< 0.001	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Spain	x	< 5	2.8 ± 0.1	4.0 ± 0.3	7.5 ± 0.1	211 ± 2	86 ± 3
Mayonnaise	France		720	< 0.001	NA	NA	NA	NA
			710	< 0.001	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Spain	x	0	0.69 ± 0.04	1.15 ± 0.08	6 ± 1	255 ± 1	100 ± 1
		x	< 5	5.5 ± 0.2	6 ± 1	2.3 ± 0.3	321 ± 7	65 ± 6
	UK	x	0	0.86 ± 0.04	1.4 ± 0.2	6 ± 1	247 ± 7	99 ± 7
Aïoli	Spain	x	0	1.18 ± 0.04	1.1 ± 0.1	3.6 ± 0.3	280 ± 1	56 ± 3
Cocktail sauce	Spain	x	< 1	0.55 ± 0.02	0.77 ± 0.02	12 ± 1	213 ± 10	84 ± 1
Caesar sauce	UK	x	0	0.9 ± 0.1	0.92 ± 0.02	8.6 ± 0.4	206 ± 9	61 ± 1
White chocolate	UK	x	0	0.60 ± 0.02	0.6 ± 0.2	7 ± 1	231 ± 19	60 ± 10

- No TiO<sub>2</sub> particles detected in French fatty food samples, as indicated in the label
- Significant amount of TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.6 – 6 g/kg) in dietetic samples from UK and Spain

# Other examples of sample spiking for method validation



Parameter	Results
Mean Diameter (nm)	65 ± 2
Recovery (%)	95 ± 2

Parameter	Results
Mean Diameter (nm)	62 ± 3
Recovery (%)	91 ± 3

Parameter	Results
Mean Diameter Ag NPs (nm)	86 ± 8
Mean Diameter Au NPs (nm)	93 ± 1
Recovery Ag NPs (%)	101 ± 4
Recovery Au NPs (%)	94 ± 3



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# Conclusions

spICP-MS : Suited tool for characterization of most of inorganic particles

Complementary to confirmation techniques (TEM, SEM, SEM-EDX, etc.)

Relatively new and booming technology

Many developments still to be made to meet all needs

Technical and instrumental limitations (spherical model, 1 element / analysis, LOQ of some elements, etc,)

Many developments to be made on the development of sample preparation protocols for complex matrices

Questions?



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# Thank you for your attention!

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*François Auger*  
*Guillaume Bucher*



*Inmaculada de La Calle*  
*Marlène Klein*  
*Fabienne Seby*



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