# Time Domain-NMR with chemometric analysis: An alternative tool for determining the protein content in sunflower seeds



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#### **INTRODUCTION**

- GEVES (French Variety and Seed Study and Control Group) has three official missions:
  - Registration of new plant varieties in the official catalogue
  - Legal protection of varieties (plant variety rights)
  - Seed certification according to international standards

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GEVES is organised internally into three operating divisions for its technical activities (<u>Seed testing</u>, <u>Variety testing</u>, and <u>Molecular biology and biochemistry</u>=BioGEVES).

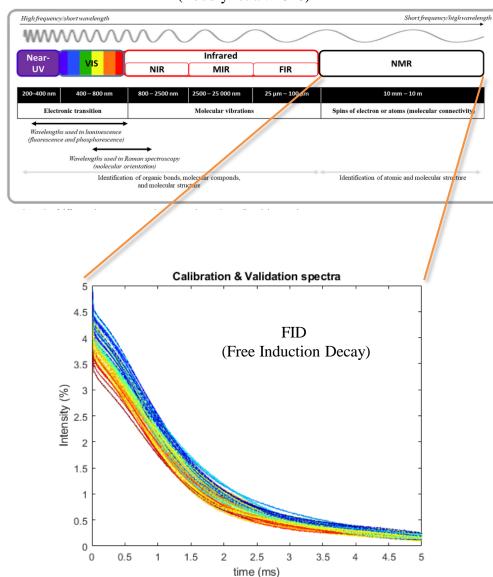
Its missions include involvement in research activities.

- In relation with the VCUS (Value of Cultivation, Use and Sustainability) Testing, BioGEVES conducted an exploratory study to quantify and qualify sunflower proteins
- Methods for measuring protein content :
  - Reference method : Kjeldahl (destructive, time consuming, use of solvent)
  - Infrared spectrometry
  - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)



### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

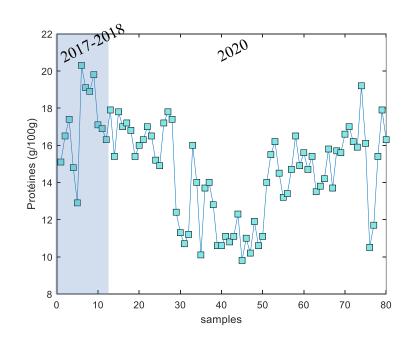
Principle of different electromagnetic techniques used to analyze products (Loudiyi et al. 2020)





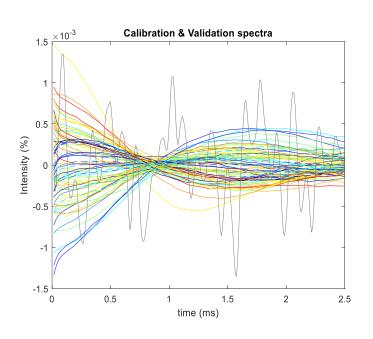


Minispec mq10 (0.23 T; 10 MHZ) spectrometer (Bruker, Bullerica, USA)



## **RESULTS**

#### Pretreatments: variable selection (0.01 to 2.5 ms); smoothing; normalization



	Ca	librati	on (6	1 san	nples	)	Vali	datio	n (19	samp	oles)
	PROTEINES, 0.70855, 0.77341, 249 vars										
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	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	PROTEINES observed										

Performances (PLS – 8 LVs)					
R <sup>2</sup> (Cal)	0.93				
R <sup>2</sup> (Val)	0.82				
RMSEC	0.7				
RMSEP	0.77				

RMSEP = 0.77 = uncertainty 1.4 (g/100g)

Vs (inc. proteins - Kjeldahl method) = 0.8

=>Future research : improving accuracy by adding a broader range of samples to the calibration set.