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## THESIS

Presented by  
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### *Theme*

**INCORPORATION OF ROSEMARY (*ROSMARINUS OFFICINALIS*)  
IN FERMENTED MILK AND FRESH CHEESE: IMPACT ON THE  
PHYSICOCHEMISTRY OF DAIRY PRODUCTS AND THE  
PHYTOCHEMISTRY OF THE PLANT**

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# THÈSE

Présentée par

**HIMED-IDIR Hayat**

Pour l'obtention du grade de  
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**Option : Sciences Alimentaires**

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DANS LE LAIT FERMENTÉ ET LE FROMAGE FRAIS: IMPACT SUR  
LA PHYSICOCHIMIE DES PRODUITS LAITIERS ET LA  
PHYTOCHIMIE DE LA PLANTE**

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2. **Article to submit: *Rosmarinus Officinalis* L. Leaves as a Bioactive Cheese Ingredient.** **Himed-Idir Hayat**, Boulekbache-Makhlouf Lila, Madani Khodir, Artur M. S. Silva, Susana M. Cardoso\*.

### • Communications :

1. **Himed-Idir Hayat**, Bouderies Halim, Madani Khodir et Boulekbache Lila. Incorporation des feuilles de *Rosmarinus officinalis* dans un fromage frais ainsi que l'étude de leur effet sur la flore lactique et quelques paramètres physicochimiques et sensoriels. International seminar on local products: a tool for the development of Mountain Agriculture, 15 and 16 December 2018. Chemini, Bejaia, Algeria.
2. **HIMED-IDIR Hayat**, MOUHOUBI Khokha, DJAOUUD Kahina, BOULEKBACHE-MAKHLLOUF Lila, CARDOSO Susana et MADANI Khodir. Activités Biologiques De L'extrait Phénolique Des Feuilles De *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. National Exchange Seminar: At the Interfaces of Sustainable Development. 20 and 21 December 2017, Bejaïa, Algeria.

## Abstract

*Rosmarinus officinalis* L. leaves can be valorized by their uses in the production of healthy foods. Dry rosemary leaves powder and its lyophilized ethanolic extract at different concentrations (g/100 g) were used for the formulation of fresh cheeses. This study evaluated whether or not this fortification could affect some physicochemical characteristics, phenolic composition and antioxidant capacity of fresh cheeses along storage period at 5°C. The ethanolic extract was obtained under the optimum conditions of microwave-assisted extraction (MAE) using response surface methodology (RSM) coupled with a Box–Behnken design (BBD). The optimum conditions were as follows: ethanol concentration 78.162%, microwave power 351.825W, ratio of solvent to raw material 101.623:1, and extraction time 122.648 s. Results showed that this enrichment did not affect physicochemical parameters (pH, acidity, proteins, fat) of the formulated cheeses while its effect on cheese color parameters was more marked. Moreover, this incorporation has increased substantially values of total phenolic content (TPC) and ABTS scavenging activity during storage period compared to the control cheese. UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> analysis revealed the presence of rosmarinic acid (RA), rosmanol (R), carnosic acid (CA), carnosol (C) and methoxy-carnosic acid (MCA) in rosemary extract and enriched cheeses. Principal components analysis (PCA) was performed and results confirmed a strong relationship between antioxidant activity and these phenolic compounds. Additionally, a correlation between physicochemical parameters, antioxidant activity as well as the sensory characteristics was carried out. Cheeses fortified with 0.5%, 0.75% of powder and 0.5% of extract, were most appreciated (60%–80%) by the panelists. In conclusion, the consumers can successfully employ rosemary as dairy supplements as it improves markedly the TPC and the antioxidant activity of cheese as well as a distinctive taste, aroma and acts as flavor enhancer for better acceptability. In this study rosemary extract and whey protein complexation was highlighted by the turbidity test. It was concluded that rosemary phenolic acids were responsible of this complexation as complexes were detectable at 400nm.

**Key words:** *Rosmarinus officinalis* L., microwave-assisted extraction, phenolic compounds, sensory evaluation, supplemented cheese, functional food.

## Résumé

Les feuilles de *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. peuvent être valorisées par leurs utilisations dans la production d'aliments bénéfiques pour la santé. La poudre de feuilles de romarin séchées et son extrait éthanolique lyophilisé à différentes concentrations (g / 100 g) ont été utilisées pour la formulation de fromages frais. Cette étude a évalué si cette fortification pouvait ou non affecter certaines caractéristiques physico-chimiques, la composition phénolique et la capacité antioxydante des fromages frais pendant la période de stockage à 5 ° C. L'extrait éthanolique a été obtenu dans les conditions optimales d'extraction assistée par micro-ondes (MAE) en utilisant la méthodologie de surface de réponse (RSM) couplée à un design Box-Behnken (BBD). Les conditions optimales étaient les suivantes: concentration d'éthanol 78,162%, puissance micro-onde 351,825W, rapport solvant / matière première 101,623: 1 et temps d'extraction 122,648 s. Les résultats ont montré que cet enrichissement n'affectait pas les paramètres physico-chimiques (pH, acidité, protéines, lipides) des fromages formulés alors que son effet sur les paramètres de couleur du fromage était plus marqué. De plus, cette incorporation a augmenté sensiblement les valeurs de la teneur phénolique totale (TPC) et de l'activité de piégeage ABTS pendant la période de stockage par rapport au fromage témoin. L'analyse UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> a révélé la présence d'acide rosmarinique (RA), de rosmanol (R), d'acide carnosique (CA), de carnosol (C) et d'acide méthoxy-carnosique (MCA) dans l'extrait de romarin et les fromages enrichis. L'analyse en composantes principales (ACP) a été réalisée et les résultats ont confirmé une forte relation entre l'activité antioxydante et ces composés phénoliques. De plus, une corrélation entre les paramètres physico-chimiques, l'activité antioxydante ainsi que les caractéristiques sensorielles a été réalisée. Les fromages enrichis de 0,5%, 0,75% de poudre et 0,5% d'extrait ont été les plus appréciés (60% -80%) par les panélistes. En conclusion, les consommateurs peuvent utiliser avec succès le romarin comme suppléments laitiers car il améliore nettement le TPC et l'activité antioxydante du fromage ainsi qu'un goût et un arôme distinctifs et agit comme exhausteur de goût pour une meilleure acceptabilité. Parmi les méthodes de complexations des polyphénols du romarin et les protéines sériques du lait, le test de turbidité a été mis en évidence. Il a été conclu que les acides phénols du romarin sont responsables de cette complexation détectée à 400nm.

**Mots clés:** *Rosmarinus officinalis* L., extraction assistée par micro-ondes, composés phénoliques, évaluation sensorielle, fromage supplémenté, aliment fonctionnel.

## ملخص

يمكن تقييم أوراق إكليل الجبل من خلال استخدامها في إنتاج الأطعمة الصحية. تم استخدام مسحوق أوراق إكليل الجبل المجففة وخالصة الإيثانول المجففة بتركيزات مختلفة لتكوين الأجبان الطازجة. قيمت هذه الدراسة ما إذا كان هذا التحسين يمكن أن يؤثر على بعض الخصائص الفيزيائية والكيميائية والتركيب الفينولي والقدرة الحصول على المستخلص الإيثانولي في ظل الظروف المثلى للاستخراج بمساعدة المضادة للأكسدة للأجبان الطازجة خلال فترة التخزين في 5 درجات مئوية كانت الظروف المثلى كما يلي: تركيز الإيثانول 78.162%، طاقة الميكروويف 351.825 واط، نسبة باستخدام منهجية سطح الاستجابة (MAE) الميكروويف أظهرت النتائج أن هذا التخصيب لم يؤثر على المتغيرات الفيزيائية والكيميائية (الأس المذيبات / المواد الخام 101.623: 1 وقت الاستخراج 122.648 ثانية الهيدروجيني والحموضة والبروتينات والدهون) للأجبان المصنعة بينما كان تأثيره على معاملات لون الجبن أكثر وضوحاً. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، أدى هذا الدمج إلى UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> كشف زيادة كبيرة في قيم المحتوى الفينولي الكلي ونشاط الكسح خلال فترة التخزين مقارنة بجبن التحكم وجود حمض الروزمارينيك، روزمانول، حمض الكرونوسيك، كارنوزول وحمض ميثوكسي كارنوسيك في خالصة إكليل الجبل والجبن المدعم تم إجراء تحليل المكون الرئيسي وأكدت النتائج وجود علاقة قوية بين نشاط مضادات الأكسدة وهذه المركبات الفينولية. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تم إجراء علاقة ارتباط بين المعلمات الفيزيائية والكيميائية والنشاط المضاد للأكسدة وكذلك الخصائص الحسية. كانت الجبن المخصب بنسبة 0.5%، مسحوق 0.75% وخالصة 0.5% هي في الختام، يمكن للمستهلكين استخدام إكليل الجبل بنجاح كمكمل لمنتجات الألبان لأنه يحسن بشكل ملحوظ من الأكثر شيوعاً (60% -80%) من قبل أعضاء اللجنة. نشاط الإنعاش القلبي الرئوي ومضادات الأكسدة للجبن بالإضافة إلى المذاق والرائحة المميزة ويعمل كمحسن للنكهة للحصول على قبول أفضل **الكلمات الأساسية:** إكليل الجبل، الاستخلاص بمساعدة الميكروويف، المركبات الفينولية، التقييم الحسي، الجبن المكمل، الغذاء الوظيفي



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*List of abbreviations*

**BBD:** Box-Behnken Design

**BDA :** Banca Dati di Composizione degli Alimenti per Studi Epidemiologici;

**BEDCA :** Base de Datos Española de Composición de Alimentos

**BSA :** Bovine serum albumin

**C.V:** Coefficient of variation

**C:** carnosol

**CA:** carnosic acid

**DF:** Degree of freedom

**DII :** Dairy Industries International

**DPPH:** 2,2-diphenyl 1-picrylhydrazyl reagent

**GAE :** Gallic Acid Equivalents

**IC50 :** Inhibitory concentration at 50%

**MAE:** Microwave assisted extraction

**MCA:** 1, 2, methoxy-carnosic acid

**NADH:** Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide

**NBT:** Nitro blue tetrazolium

**NO :** Nitric oxid

**PCA:** Principal components analysis

**PMS:** Phenazonium methosulfate

**PNPG:** 4-nitrophenyl  $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside

**RA:** rosmarinic acid

**RSM:** Response surface methodology

**SO :** Superoxyd

**TF:** total flavonoids

**TPC:** total phenolic content

**UHPLC:** Ultra-high performance liquid chromatography coupled to electrospray mass spectrometry

**USDA:** United States Department of Agriculture

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# *General introduction*



## **General introduction**

Recently, several studies underlined a growing interest in developing functional foods with health promoting natural ingredients, especially of plant origin, for increasing consumer acceptability, palatability, stability and/or shelf-life of food products (Djaoud, Boulekbache-Makhlouf, Yahia, Mansouri, Mansouri, Madani, et al., 2020; Granato, Nunes, & Barba, 2017). These ingredients have started to replace the synthetic preservatives; extracts from spices, such as rosemary, could prove useful in preventing lipid oxidation and the development of off flavors and aromas (Ahmed S Gad & Sayd, 2015).

Labiatae (Lamiaceae) is an important family that consists of 250 genera and more than 7000 species. *Rosmarinus officinalis* L., belonging to this family is more commonly known as rosemary and is a popular spice originating from Mediterranean areas (de Raadt, Wirtz, Vos, & Verhagen, 2015; Linares, Arráez-Román, Herrero, Ibáñez, Segura-Carretero, & Fernández-Gutiérrez, 2011).

Rosemary has been shown to contain several important and high market value phenolic antioxidants such as phenolic diterpenes and phenolic acids (Birtić, Dussort, Pierre, Bily, & Roller, 2015; de Raadt, Wirtz, Vos, & Verhagen, 2015; Lemos, Lemos, Pacheco, Endringer, & Scherer, 2015; Loussouarn, Krieger-Liszky, Svilar, Bily, Birtić, & Havaux, 2017). Several researchers have examined the phenolic profile of rosemary extracts, as well as their potential beneficial effects, mostly antioxidant and antimicrobial activities among others (Borrás-Linares et al., 2015; Borrás-Linares et al., 2014; Lemos et al., 2015; Tavassoli & Djomeh, 2011).

In particular fermented milk, cheese, yoghurt and ice cream are the best source of calcium and proteins, especially of caseins. These proteins are arranged in the form of micelles that are held together by hydrophobic interactions, hydrogen bonds and calcium phosphate nanoclusters, and whey proteins: the globular proteins as  $\beta$ -lactoglobulin,  $\alpha$ -lactalbumin, immunoglobulins, and bovine serum albumin (BSA) (Yildirim-Elikoglu & Erdem, 2018). Cheese making involves the conversion of liquid milk into cheese via the activity of rennet enzyme with/without further

treatments of the curd, depending on the type of cheese (Yildirim-Elikoglu & Erdem, 2018).

Cheese is a dairy product widely appreciated worldwide and its production and its consumption are continuously increasing.

In the literature, only a limited number of studies have focused on fermented milks fortified with rosemary. In this regard, Ahmed Saad Gad and El-Salam (2010) assessed the effect of rosemary aqueous extract added to skim milk through processing on phenolic compounds and antioxidant levels, as well as the effect on the rennet coagulation time of the milk. In addition, Hala, Ebtisam, Sanaa, Badran, Marwa, and Said (2010) prepared an UF-soft cheese with different percentages of rosemary extract having high phenolic content and antioxidant capacity. Furthermore, Gad et al. (2010) studied the production of functional yoghurt supplemented with rosemary extract as natural antioxidant. In fact, the aromatization of fermented milk with rosemary is well known in some specific areas of Bejaia (Algeria). This research is done in the concept of support and preservation of this culinary tradition by providing relevant scientific information needed to support this product and allow its manufacture at industrial scale. For that purpose, fresh cheese was supplemented with rosemary leaves (powder/phenolic extract) to evaluate the impact of this addition on the physicochemistry of milk and the phytochemistry of the plant.

The main objectives of each study are:

- 1) To determine the optimal conditions required for microwave-assisted extraction of antioxidants from rosemary leaves and study of biological activities and the phenolic composition of the extract obtained;
- 2) To investigate the effect of rosemary leaves addition to fresh cheese formulations on physicochemical parameters, antioxidant capacity and sensory characteristics of cheeses;
- 3) To test the ability of rosemary leaves as functional ingredients in fresh cheese, through monitoring, during refrigeration storage, its potential impact on microbiological quality

parameters, phenolic composition as well as the antioxidant capacity and comparison of results obtained with the plain fresh cheese.

The paper contains two parts, namely: the first part presents a literature study on the subject, while the second part deals with the original experimental part.

The literature study is further structured into two chapters. **Chapter I** presents the literature referring to the general aspects of the selected plant (rosemary). **Chapter II** presents a literature study on the fresh cheese.

According to the objectives, *Figure 1* schematically represents the experimental design of all the assays performed in the framework of this thesis.

The experimental part is divided into three chapters. In **Chapter III**, the research performed for the optimization of extraction of polyphenols from rosemary leaves is presented. This chapter describes the microwave assisted extraction (MAE) of polyphenols from rosemary, considering the influence of various parameters on the process. MAE of phenolic compounds from *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. was optimized using response surface methodology (RSM). A Box-Behnken Design (BBD), which is one of the most efficient designs of experiment methods, was adopted for the experiment planning. Furthermore, a phenolic characterization of the obtained extract, under the optimum conditions, was determined as well as some of its biological activities (antidiabetic and antioxidant effects). In **Chapter IV**, the research performed on the incorporation of rosemary leaves in fresh cheese formulations is presented. This chapter describes the study of the influence of this incorporation on some physicochemical characteristics, sensory attributes, the antioxidant capacity as well as the microbiological quality parameters along the storage period. **Chapter V** represents the main results obtained and proving the whey proteins-rosemary polyphenols complexation.

The general conclusion and perspectives that this work suggests were presented in the last chapter of this thesis.

# **Literature review**

*Chapter I:*

*General informations on*

*Rosemary*

## **CHAPTER I – General informations on rosemary**

### **I.1. The Labiatae family (Lamiaceae)**

Lamiaceae (Labiatae) is one of the largest and most distinctive families of flowering plants which consist of 236 genera and almost 7173 species worldwide (Zahra & Shinwari, 2016). A large number of Lamiaceae species inhabit different ecosystems and have a great diversity with a cosmopolitan distribution. Hedge (1992) recognized six regions of high Lamiaceae diversity: Mediterranean and SW Central Asia; Africa south of the Sahel and Madagascar; China; Australia; South America; Northern America and Mexico.

Labiatae are known for their essential oils common to many members of the family. Many biologically active essential oils have been isolated from various members of this family. These plants have been used by humans since prehistoric times. The family is also famous for the presence of diterpenoids in its members. Most of the species are aromatic and possess a complex mixture of bioactive compounds (essential oils, diterpenoids ...) that contribute to overall biological activity in both in vitro and in vivo conditions. Moreover, plants that belong to this family, such as species of *Mentha*, *Thymus*, *Salvia*, *Origanum*, *Coleus* and *Rosmarinus*, are valuable and useful in food, cosmetics, flavoring, fragrance, perfumery, pesticide, and pharmaceutical industries. Because of a wide range of applications, the plants of the Lamiaceae family are widely cultivated and are, therefore, regarded as an indispensable source of functional food (Milan Stankovic, 2020).

### **I.2. Brief history of rosemary**

The word rosemary derived from the Latin word ros-rosis (dew) and marinus (sea), which means 'dew of the sea'. It was also called 'antos' by the ancient Greeks, which is 'the flower', or 'libanotis' because of its incense smell (Begum et al., 2013; Pintore et al., 2002). In the past, nearly two thousand years ago, this aromatic plant was introduced in some European countries, like Britain, Greece and Italy, where rosemary was believed to invigorate the memory and was

remembered as the plant of fidelity and remembrance (Begum et al., 2013). It was also associated with love and marriage, once it is still used in bridal bouquets and in the crib of a new baby to protect him/her against bad influences and forces (Al-Sereitia, Abu-Amerb, & Sena, 1999). The plant was also used to recover speech, to enhance menstrual flow and stimulate hair growth, to help digestion and against flatulence and liver disorders (Heinrich, Kufer, Leonti, & Pardo-de-Santayana, 2006). In ancient China, rosemary was used for headaches, insomnia, and mental fatigue and topically for baldness (Leung and Foster, 1996). In India, rosemary enjoys a history of use as a stimulant and as a carminative to expel gas from the stomach and intestines and as antimigraine (Nadkarni, 1994). Anthropologists and archaeologists found evidence that this aromatic plant was used as culinary, medicinal and cosmetic in the ancient Egypt, China, India and Mesopotamia (Stefanovits-Banyai, Tulok, Hegedus, Renner, & Varga, 2003). This plant was cultivated worldwide since long ago and over the years rosemary was introduced as a garden plant, since its fragrance is quite pleasant (Begum et al., 2013; Heinrich et al., 2006; Moreno et al., 2012; Ulbricht et al., 2010).

### **I.3. Botanical description, distribution and cultivation**

*Rosmarinus officinalis* L. is generally known as rosemary, common rosemary or garden rosemary (Begum et al., 2013; Ulbricht et al., 2010). It belongs to Lamiaceae (previous called Labiatae) family (Ali, Saleem, Ali, & Ahmad, 2000; Begum et al., 2013).

*Rosemarinus officinalis* is an evergreen perennial with fragrant shrub reaching up to 2 m height. Its leaves are strongly curved, leathery, linear and aromatic with prominent midrib, the upper surface of the leaf is dark green and the lowered surface is grey, with 1.0-2.5 cm long and 4 cm width by 1-3 mm thick (Begum et al., 2013; Lorenzi & Matos, 2006). The corolla is two-lipped and the stamens are curving outwards beyond the corolla (Arnold et al., 1997). Rosemary flowers are small and light blue or lilac (Arnold et al., 1997; Lorenzi & Matos, 2006). Leaves and flowers have a strong fragrant characteristic odour due the volatile oil accumulated in



typical peltate and capitate glandular trichomes (Díaz-Maroto, PerezCoello, Sanchez-Palomo, & Gonz\_alez Vi~nas, 2007; Marin et al., 2006).

Besides *Rosmarinus officinalis*, the genus also includes *Rosmarinus eriocalyx*, *Rosmarinus tomentosus*, *Rosmarinus lavandulaceus* and *Rosmarinus laxiflorus* (Angioni et al., 2004; Elamrani, Zrira, Benjilali, & Berrada, 2000; Rossello et al., 2006; Upson, 2006; Zaouali, Bouzaine, & Boussaid, 2010). *Rosmarinus officinalis* is the only that grows naturally in the Mediterranean region and the most exploited species due to its valuable essential oil (EO) but also due to its phenolic content and antioxidant activity (Zaouali et al., 2010).

More than 20 different types, varieties or cultivars of *Rosmarinus officinalis* can be distinguished according to morphological descriptors (like calyx, corolla, dimension of leaf, inflorescence and the presence of glandular trichomes) (Begum et al., 2013; Zaouali et al., 2010).

*Rosemarinus officinalis* is a xeromorphic species that grows spontaneously on sand, cliffs and stony places, near the sea, in different parts of the world (Arnold et al., 1997; Bakirel et al., 2008; Miraldi, Giachetti, Mazzoni, & Biagi, 2010). It is trusses of blue flowers last through spring and summer in a warm, humid environment. Plant comes up well in Mediterranean climate. It is indigenous to South Europe, Asia Minor and North Africa. It grows wild on Mediterranean shores and in Spain, Portugal, Morocco and Algeria and is cultivated in Spain, Tunisia, Yugoslavia, France, Italy, North Africa and India. Plant is susceptible to frost injury. In cooler areas, it can be cultivated in summer season. In a warm climate, plant remains in same location for up to 30 years, but in climates where freezing temperatures are expected, plants may be grown in pots so that it can be brought indoors in winter. Rosemary succeeds best in a light, rather dry soil. On a chalk soil it grows smaller, but is more fragrant (Barbara Dawson, 2020).



### *Taxonomie*

**Kingdom:** Plantae  
**Subkingdom:** Tracheobionta – Vascular plants  
**Superdision:** Spermatophyta – Seed plants  
**Division:** Magnoliophyta – Flowering plants  
**Class:** Magnoliopsida – Dicotyledons  
**Subclass:** Asteridae  
**Order:** Lamiales  
**Family:** Lamiaceae  
**Genus:** *Rosmarinus*  
**Species:** *Rosmarinus officinalis* L.

*Figure 1:* Morphology and taxonomy of *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. (Köhler, 1897, I.S.H.S., 1990)

#### **I.4. Nutritional composition (macro and micronutrients)**

The proximate and minerals content found in rosemary are shown in Tables I and II, respectively. The variation on macro and micronutrients content can be greatly attributed to the differences in species, varieties, growth conditions, harvesting times, soil properties, climate, origin, and geographic parameters (Arslan & Ozcan, 2008; Ozcan, Ünver, Uçar, & Arslan, 2008).

Nutrients, as well as compounds responsible for flavour and colour can be degraded due to the high temperatures and long times applied in some drying methods (Szumny et al., 2010).

Aromatic plants provide protein, fibre, volatile components (Essential oil), vitamins (A, C and B), minerals (Ca, P, Na, K and Fe) and chemical compounds that are known to have disease preventing and promoting health properties (USDA, 2015).

Aromatic plants are an excellent substitute of salt due to their composition and nutritional health functions. Excessive consumption of salt influences the appearance of hypertension, stomach cancer or stroke. The use of plants like rosemary is recommended by Portuguese authorities to help reduce added salt to food (Direç~ao-Geral da Saúde [DGS], 2014).

**Table I:** Nutritional value of rosemary plant

Component	Units	Fresh rosemary		Dried rosemary		
Energy	kcal	131	96	331	331	345
Water	g/100 g	67.77	73.6	9.31	9.3	9.3
Protein <sup>a</sup>	g/100 g	3.31	1.4	4.88	4.9	5.0
Total lipids (Fat)	g/100 g	5.86	4.4	15.22	15.2	15.2
Total carbohydrates	g/100 g	20.70	–	64.06	–	46.4
Total dietary fibre	g/100 g	14.10	7.7	42.6	17.7	24.1
<b>Fatty acids</b>						
Total saturated	g/100 g	2.84	1.14	7.371	3.94	–
Total monounsaturated	g/100 g	1.16	0.29	3.014	0.99	–
Total polyunsaturated	g/100 g	0.90	2.25	2.339	7.76	–
<b>Vitamins</b>						
Total ascorbic acid	mg/100 g	21.8	29	61.2	0.00	50
Thiamin	mg/100 g	0.036	0.10	0.514	0.10	0.5
Riboflavin	mg/100 g	0.152	0.21	0.428	0.32	0.00
Niacin	mg/100 g	0.912	1.0	1.00	1.0	1.00
Vitamin B <sub>6</sub>	mg/100 g	0.336	0.09	1.740	0.38	0.00
Vitamin E	mg/100 g	–	1.50	–	9.15	0.00
Folate	µg/100 g	109	0.00	307	0.00	0.00
Vitamin B <sub>12</sub>	µg/100 g	0.00	–	0.00	–	0.00
Vitamin A, RAE	µg/100 g	146	92.0	156	313	313
Vitamin D (D <sub>2</sub> + D <sub>3</sub> )	µg/100 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>References</b>		<b>USDA</b>	<b>BDA</b>	<b>USDA</b>	<b>BDA</b>	<b>BEDCA</b>

USDA = United States Department of Agriculture; BDA = Banca Dati di Composizione degli Alimenti per Studi Epidemiologici; BEDCA = Base de Datos Española de Composición de Alimentos.<sup>a</sup>Nitrogen Conversion Factor - 6.25.

However, there is limited information about aromatic plants nutritional composition. Some aromatic plants such as basil, cinnamon, cloves, coriander, cumin, fennel, ginger, nutmeg, oregano, parsley, rosemary, sage and thyme can be found in the American, Australian, Brazilian, Canadian, Danish, Finn, French, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish food composition databases. Dumbrava, Moldovan, Raba, and Popa (2012) identified the vitamin C content of raw materials (18.51 g/100 g), aqueous (0.26 mg/100 mL), alcoholic (0.34 mg/100 mL) and acetonc (0.36 mg/100 mL) extract of rosemary leaves.

## *CHAPTER -I- General informations on rosemary*

The authors also quantified chlorophyll “a” (14.1 mg/L) and carotenes plus xanthophylls (30.6 mg/L) in alcohol leaves extract. On the other hand, Loranty, Rembiałkowska, Rosa, and Bennett (2010) did not detect any pigments in the infusion of rosemary.

**Table II:** Minerals content (mg/100 g) of rosemary

Minerals (mg/100 g)	Plant part									
	Dried leaves					Fresh leaves		Aerial		
	–	–	Oven	Sun	Microwave oven	Fresh	Fresh	Dried	Infusion	
Ag	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.01	0.00	
Al	115	–	24.0	23.1	22.5	14.8	–	3.1	0.00	
As	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.0	0.00	
B	2.1	–	3.1	4.6	3.1	2.9	–	0.7	0.01	
Ba	–	–	3.3	4.1	3.9	2.4	–	0.2	0.00	
Bi	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.02	0.00	
Ca	860.5	1280	1358.7	1234.3	1360.0	779.2	317	22.4	2.5	
Cd	0.07	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.005	0.00	
Co	–	–	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	–	0.04	0.00	
Cr	1.9	–	1.7	15.3	11.9	9.7	–	–	0.00	
Cu	0.3	–	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	–	–	0.00	
Fe	73.4	29.2	76.0	53.5	50.7	33	6.6	–	0.01	
K	1111.6	955	2110.4	1961.2	1614.9	1491.6	668	–	9.0	
Li	0.3	–	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	–	–	0.01	
Mg	240.8	220	280.7	261.8	169.8	163.4	91	–	1.0	
Mn	2.8	–	3.2	2.9	2.1	1.5	–	0.2	0.01	
Na	489.4	50	444.8	437.7	297.7	271.2	26	4.34	0.01	
Ni	0.8	–	6.0	4.7	4.16	1.9	–	0.04	0.00	
P	820.5	70	412.2	210.6	289.5	107.5	66	146.6	0.01	
Pb	0.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.034	0.00	
Se	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.4	0.00	
Sr	6.7	–	11.5	10.4	8.8	7.5	–	0.2	0.00	
Ti	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.7	0.00	
V	0.99	–	0.1	0.09	0.07	0.04	–	0.006	0.00	
Zn	3.1	3.2	4.9	4.2	2.8	2.3	0.9	0.7	0.00	
Reference	Özcan & Akbulut, 2007	USDA	Arslan & Özcan, 2008	Arslan & Özcan, 2008	Arslan & Özcan, 2008	Arslan & Özcan, 2008	USDA	Özcan et al., 2008	Özcan et al., 2008	

### I.5. Rosemary secondary metabolites

Plants produce large, diverse array of organic compounds that appear to have no direct function in plant growth and development. These substances are known as secondary metabolites, secondary products, or natural products (Hartmann, 1996), while primary metabolites (proteins, carbohydrates and fats) are important in plant physiological process such as growth and development (Mann, 1987). Secondary products have a variety of functions in plants.

It is likely that their ecological function may have some potential medicinal effects for human.

For example, secondary products involved in plant defense through cytotoxicity toward

microbial pathogens could prove useful as antimicrobial medicines in human, if not too toxic (Briskin, 2000).

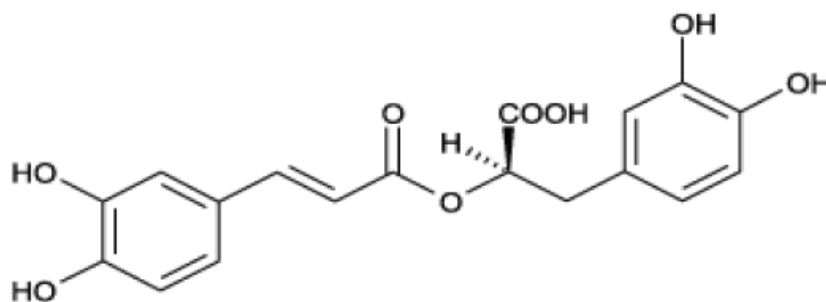
### **I.5.1 Phenolic compounds**

The term phenolic compound includes a wide range of plant substances which possess in common an aromatic ring bearing one or more hydroxyl substituent. Some phenolic substances tend to be water-soluble, some are soluble only in organic solvents and others are large insoluble.

Phenolic compounds are formed via the shikimic acid pathway or malonic acid pathway (Taiz and Zeiger 2002). These phenolic metabolites function to protect the plants against biological and environmental stresses and therefore are synthesized in response to pathogenic attack such as fungal or bacterial infection or high energy radiation exposure such as prolonged UV exposure (Shetty, 1997 and Briskin, 2000).

#### **a. Phenolic acids**

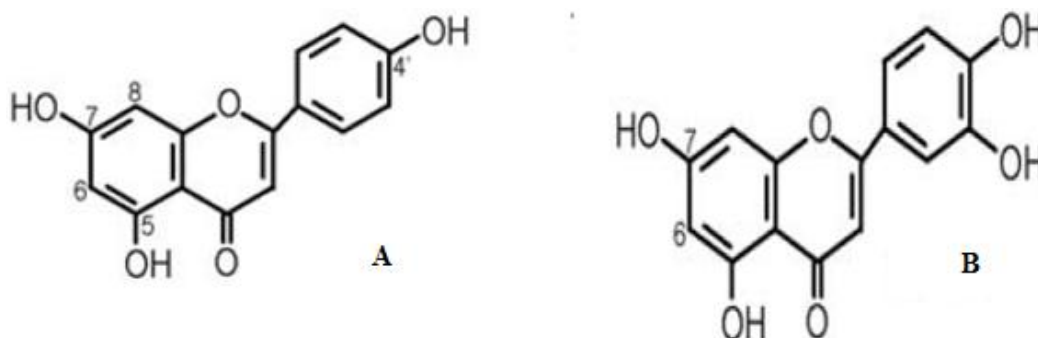
Rosemary leaf contains 2-3% phenolic acids such as caffeic, chlorogenic, labiatic, neochlorogenic and rosmarinic acid (Newall *et al.*, 1996). Rosmarinic acid (Fig.2) the diphenolic compound is an ester of caffeic acid and 3,4-dihydroxyphenyl lactic acid. It is commonly found in species of Lamiaceae family. Rosmarinic acid is regarded as a potential pharmaceutical plant product and is noted for its potent antioxidant properties (Exarchou *et al.*, 2000; Malencic *et al.*, 2000; Ly *et al.*, 2006).



**Figure 2:** Chemical structure of rosmarinic acid (Almela *et al.*, 2006).

**b. Flavonoids**

Flavonoids in rosemary include diosmetin, diosmin, genkwanin, eriocitrin, hesperidin and hispidulin and two common flavones apigenin and luteolin (Fig.3) (Del Bano *et al.*, 2004; Almela *et al.*, 2006). Three flavonoids including glucuronides, luteolin 3'-O-beta-D-glucuronide and hesperidin, were isolated from 50% methanol extract of the leaves of rosemary.



**Figure 3:** Chemical structure of apigenin (A) and luteolin (B) (Almela *et al.*, 2006).

**c. Terpenoid compounds**

Terpenoids are aromatic chemical compounds which are dissolved in fats; it's found in the cytoplasm of plant cells or in special glands like the volatile oil, or it could be found in green plastids (Harborne, 1993).

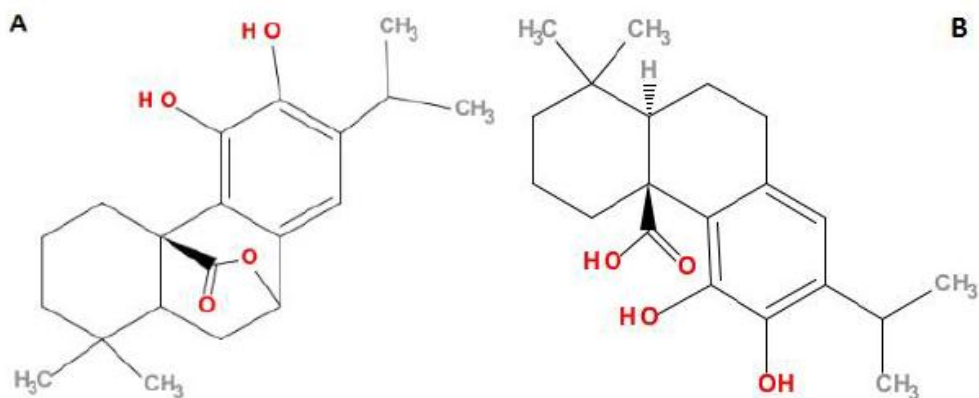
Terpenoids are based on the isoprene molecule and built from the union of two or more of (C5) units.

Terpenoids are classified according to whether they contain two (C10) monoterpenes, three (C15) sesquiterpenes, four (C20) diterpenes, six (C30) triterpenes or eight (C40) carotenoids units (Trease and Evans, 1989).

• **Diterpenes**

The most effective antioxidants in rosemary is the tricyclic diterpens carnosic acid in concentrations higher than 4% (Fig.4). Some other less effective diterpens in this plant are degradation products of carnosic acid, which are mostly converted to carnosol, carnosic acid

methylester, epirosmanol, rosmanol and 7-methylrosmanol (Schwarz and Ternes, 1992; Okamura *et al.*, 1994a; Cuvelier *et al.*, 1996).



**Figure 4:** Chemical structure of carnosol (A) and carnosic acid (B) (Senorans *et al.*,2000)

Diterpenes are not found in all rosemary tissues. The leaf was the tissue showing the highest concentrations of diterpenes. Diterpenes are also present in the flowers of rosemary, although the concentrations found in the sepals are not comparable with those found in the petals. Sepals contained approximately 30% fewer diterpenes than leaves, but 3.2 times more than petals. Diterpenes were also found at low concentrations in seeds and trace amounts were detected in stems. Roots do not contain diterpenes (Munne-Bosch and Alegre, 2001).

- **Triterpenes**

Other terpenoid constituents in rosemary include triterpenes oleanolic and ursolic acids at 2-4% (Newall *et al.*, 1996).

### **I.5.2. Essential oils**

The leaves of rosemary contain between 1-2.5% essential oil, such composition may markedly vary according to the chemo type and the development stage at which the plant has been harvested. It is an almost colorless to pale yellow liquid with a characteristic, refreshing and pleasant odor (Bauer *et al.*, 1997). Twenty components were identified in rosemary oils. The main constituents are  $\alpha$ -pinene (40.55-45.55)%, 1,8-cineole (17.40-19.35)%, camphene (4.73-



6.06)%, verbenone (2.32-3.86)%, borneol (2.24-3.10)%, bornyl acetate,  $\alpha$ -terpineol camphor, limonene,  $\beta$ -pinene and geraniol <2% (Atti-Santos *et al.*, 2005).

### **I.5.3 Alkaloids**

Alkaloids are a large group of secondary products offer protection against predators, act as growth regulators, maintain ionic balance, act as a nitrogen reserve and possibly serve as nitrogen excretion products and exhibit important pharmacological properties. They are substances containing one or more nitrogen atoms in combination as part of a cyclic system. The most common precursors of alkaloids are amino acids (Goodwin and Mercer, 1983). The nitrogen-containing secondary products are biosynthesized primarily from amino acids (Taiz and Zeiger, 2002). Water extract of rosemary contain the alkaloid rosmarinine<sup>7</sup> (Hoefer *et al.*, 1987).

## **I.6. Rosemary biological activities**

### **I.6.1. Antimicrobial activity**

Different extracts of rosemary have demonstrated inhibitory activity on cultures of *S. aureus*, *S. albus*, *E. coli*, *Corynebacterium spp.*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Micrococcus luteus*, *Salmonella spp.*, *Listeria monocytogens* and *Vibrio cholerae*.

Two of its components, carnosol and ursolic acid, are responsible for this antimicrobial effect and fungi of the *Aspergillus sp*, *Penicillium spp.*, *Alternaria spp.* genera and other food fermenting microorganisms such as *Lactobacillus brevis*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *Rhodotorularia glutinis* and *Kluyveromyces bulgaricus* (Alonso, 2004).

Methanol extract is containing 30% of carnosic acid, 16% of carnosol and 5% of rosmarinic acid. It is an effective antimicrobial against Gram-positive bacteria, Gram-negative bacteria and yeast (Moreno *et al.*, 2006).

Rosemary essential oil, like many essential oils, has antimicrobial properties when it comes in direct contact with bacteria and other microorganisms (Oluwatuyi *et al.*, 2004; Santoyo *et al.*, 2005).

Alpha-Pinene, beta-Pinene, 1,8-cineole, camphor, verbenone, and borneol standards showed antimicrobial activity against all the microorganisms tested, borneol being the most effective followed by camphor and verbenone Gram-positive bacteria (*S. aureus* and *B. subtilis*), Gramnegative bacteria (*E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa*), a yeast (*C. albicans*), and a fungus (*Aspergillus niger*), therefore, the active ingredients with bactericidal activity from rosemary extract are ideal when formulating purifying and antiseptic cosmetic products (Santoyo *et al.*, 2005).

One of the most recent studies to look at the effect of rosemary essential oil on drug-resistant infections found rosemary effective against several of the most common pathogens affecting humans, including the fungi that cause nail infections and the pathogen responsible for most vaginal yeast infections (Luqman *et al.*, 2007).

### **I.6.2. Antioxidant activity**

As one of the most potent antioxidants known, rosemary prevents free radical damage, protects cells from deterioration and aids in the prevention of cancer.

Research into the free-radical quenching effects of rosemary has found it to be a potent antioxidant, possessing greater activity than the common food additives. The discovery of the antioxidant activity of rosemary in biological systems supports the historical use of rosemary as a preservative for meats and foods (Ho *et al.*, 1994).

### **I.6.3. Anti-inflammatory activity**

Rosmarinic acid is a naturally occurring non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent. It inhibits the complement factor C3, a mediator in the inflammatory process (Al-Sereitia *et al.*, 1999; Alonso,

2004). Rosmarinic acid has a scavenging effect on the active oxygen free radical (Zhao *et al.*, 2001).

Manez *et al.* (1997) verified that ursolic acid reduces the chronic inflammation and neutrophil infiltration. This activity is closely linked to the structure of this compound. Rosemary extract is highly recommended when formulating cosmetic products for sensitive or irritated skin.

### **I.6.4. Antiseptic activity**

As an antiseptic, rosemary cleanses the blood and helps to control many pathogenic organisms. It is potent enough to kill bacterial infection but not so potent, however, to completely wipe out the natural bacterial populations of the digestive tract that keep the intestines in healthy balance. Rosemary's antiseptic quality heals wounds (Williamson *et al.*, 1988; ESCOP, 2003). Distilled water from the flowers is used as eyewash (Chiej, 1984). It can be used as a disinfectant, as a mouth wash and to treat fever or rheumatism (Calabrese *et al.*, 2002).

### **I.6.5. Rosemary medicinal uses**

One of the potential therapeutic effects of rosemary is its role in preventing cancer. Researchers have demonstrated that natural polyphenols found in rosemary have potent anticarcinogenic properties. To date, rosemary extract, or its active components, carnosol, carnosic acid, and rosmarinic acid, have been shown to prevent cancer (Singletary *et al.*, 1996; Zhu *et al.*, 1998). Scientists have found that rosemary extract can significantly help to protect DNA against free radical damage (Slamenova *et al.*, 2002).

Rosemary is an excellent memory and brain stimulant that is said to improve brain function by feeding it with oxygen-rich blood and it play a role in memory loss associated with Alzheimer (Duke, 1997). It helps with headaches, migraines, neuralgia, mental fatigue and nervous disorders (Amini, 1997). Also rosemary is a central nervous system stimulant (Kovar *et al.*,

1987). Carnosic acid and carnosol are able to promote markedly enhanced synthesis of nerve growth factor (Kosaka and Yokoi, 2003).

Rosemary infusion used as a mouthwash alleviates halitosis (Chevallier, 1996). It is used internally for flatulence, stimulating the digestion, dyspepsia, carminative and as appetizer (Amini, 1997; Blumenthal *et al.*, 2000; ESCOP 2003; Mills and Bone 2005; Bradley, 2006; Barnes *et al.*, 2007). Rosemary is used as an antispasmodic in renal colic, relaxes smooth muscles of intestine and its constituents have a therapeutic potential in treatment or prevention of liver damage and peptic ulcer (Al-Sereitia *et al.*, 1999; Masuda *et al.*, 2002; Sotelo-Fleix *et al.*, 2002; Osakabe *et al.*, 2004). It improve hepatic and biliary function and increases bile flow (Hoefler *et al.*, 1987; ESCOP, 1997).

Rosemary improves blood circulation and decreases the permeability and fragility of the capillaries due to the flavinoid (diosmin) (Bown, 1995).

The plant has significant antithrombotic activity (blood thinning) and lowers blood pressure in hypertension patients (Yamanoto *et al.*, 2005).

Rosemary has therapeutic properties as a mild diuretic making it effective in reducing swollen ankles and bloating. Its diuretic action increases the flow of urine that flushes bacteria from the body before they have chance to cause infection (Haloui *et al.*, 2000).

Rosemary and its constituents have a therapeutic potential in treatment or prevention of bronchial asthma and in relieving respiratory disorders (Al-Sereitia *et al.*, 1999; Masuda *et al.*, 2002; Sotelo-Fleix *et al.*, 2002; Osakabe *et al.*, 2004). It is effective for asthma, bronchitis, catarrh, sinus, whooping cough, colds, cough and influenza (Small, 1997). Constituents of this herb include eucalyptol relaxes smooth muscles of trachea and lungs (Aqel, 1991).

Rosemary oleanolic acid extract decreased pain in patients suffering from rheumatic conditions and arthritis (Lukaczer *et al.*, 2005). Rosemary facilitates menstruation and regulates its flow, treating low or excessive bleeding and its constituents have a therapeutic potential in treatment of poor sperm motility, rosemary and its constituents have a therapeutic potential in treatment

or prevention of cataract (Al-Sereitia *et al.*, 1999; Masuda *et al.*, 2002; Sotelo-Fleix *et al.*, 2002; Osakabe *et al.*, 2004).

Rosemary enhances immunity because it stimulates sweating and toxin removal (Babu *et al.*, 1999). It alleviates allergies due to the ursolic acid content of rosemary inhibiting mast cell degranulation and histamine release from mast cells in the presence of antigens (Tsuruga *et al.*, 1991). It exhibited strong inhibitory effects against human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) (Paris *et al.*, 1993).

Ursolic acid and oleanolic acid, have been used in tonics to enhance hair growth and prevent scalp irritation, they encourage hair growth by stimulating the peripheral blood flow in the scalp and activating the hair mother cells. They also furnish alopecia-preventing and dandruff-preventing effects (Okazaki *et al.*, 1989; Kikuko *et al.*, 1993).

### **I.7. Uses of rosemary extracts in foods**

#### **I.7.1. Function in foods**

Unless intentionally removed, the extracts of rosemary still contain flavourings and can be used to improve the flavour of products; however rosemary extracts are currently widely used to increase shelf life of food products due to the high antioxidant activity of its main components (Almela *et al.*, 2006, Hernández-Hernández *et al.*, 2009). Research on the antioxidant activity of the compounds in rosemary extract in foods is primarily focused on carnosic acid. The potency of carnosic acid in comparison to the other compounds in rosemary extracts in soybean oil was found to be more than twice as high based on Rancimat measurements (Richheimer *et al.*, 1996). Furthermore, the same study also found higher antioxidant activity for carnosic acid in comparison to the synthetic antioxidants BHT and BHA, whereas tertiary butylhydroquinone (TBHQ) was found to surpass rosemary extracts in antioxidant activity. Zhang *et al.* (2010) found the similar results when comparing BHT, BHA, and TBHQ with carnosic acid based on peroxide values, TBARS assays, free fatty acid measurements, and p-anisidine values in

sunflower oil. However, antioxidant activity of rosemary extracts seems to depend on the medium. Frankel et al. (1996) measured the antioxidant activity of both carnosol and carnosic acid in a corn oil emulsion and bulk oil using hydroperoxide and hexanal formations and found reduced antioxidant activity in the emulsion system. Furthermore, antioxidant activity at pH = 7 was lower compared to activity at pH = 4 and 5. Koleva et al. (2002) found a similar difference between bulk oil measurements and emulsion oil measurements for rosemalic acid.

The findings suggest that rosemary extracts might not increase shelf life in all products, but evidence exist for several food categories. Using the TBARS assay, Sebranek et al. (2005) found similar activity for an unspecified extracts as BHA and BHT in precooked frozen pork sausages, but in raw frozen pork sausages this extracts was found to be more effective than BHA and BHT in preventing increased TBARS values, and in preventing loss of red colour. Moreover, Nassu et al. (2003) investigated the efficacy of a commercial albeit unspecified rosemary extract in fermented goat sausage using a TBARS assay and found a significant difference in oxidation with 0.050% w/w extract compared to controls. Using peroxide values according to the AOCS (1989) method, Frutos et al. (2005) found significant protection against oxidation in bread with an oil, garlic and parsley dressing when using a 4 g/l concentration of rosemary extracts [carnosic acid (20–30%), rosmarinic acid (0–1%) and rosmanol (0.5–1.5%)]. Despite the possible differences in the extract composition, these studies depict the efficacy of rosemary extracts in prolonging oxidative degradation in actual food products, however no evidence was found for the approved rosemary extracts.

### **I.7.2. Dietary Exposure**

In 2008 EFSA published its opinion on the use of extracts of rosemary as a food additive (Aguilaret al., 2008). As part of this opinion, expected dietary exposure was assessed based on consumption in the UK. The UK National Dietary and Nutrition Survey for adults (Henderson et al., 2002) and pre-school children (Gregory JR, et al., 1995) were used as the main data

sources. Despite the exclusion of rosemary as flavouring agent, a conservative estimate, based on the assumption of maximum usage levels in all proposed foods, was made. As reported by Paul de Raadt et al. (2015), the potential mean exposure to carnosol plus carnosic acid from all proposed uses was estimated at 0.04 mg/kg bw/day for adults and 0.11 mg/kg bw/day for pre-school children. At the 90<sup>th</sup>, 95<sup>th</sup> and 97,5<sup>th</sup> percentile the expected intake was estimated at 0.08, 0.10 and 0.12 mg/kg bw/day for adults. For pre-school children this was estimated at 0.18, 0.20 and 0.23 mg/kg bw/day respectively.

***Chapte II:***  
***General information on fresh  
cheese and polyphenols-  
proteins interactions***



## **CHAPTER II - General information on fresh cheese and polyphenols-proteins interactions**

### **II.1. Cheese production and consumption**

Cheese is the generic name for a group of fermented milk-based food products, made in a wide range of flavours and forms throughout the world. Traditionally, it was elaborated as a way of preserving milk and increasing its economic and nutritional values. Cheese is an excellent source of protein, fat and minerals such as calcium, iron and phosphorus, vitamins and essential amino acids and consequently is an important food in the human diet. However, its composition greatly depends on milk composition and the manufacture process. It is well known that some other factors such as climate, season, animal feed, age and breed, stage of lactation and health state of the animal, could influence the composition of milk (Farkye, 2004).

It is estimated that there are in excess of 1000 distinct cheese varieties currently produced worldwide. With regard to cheese production and consumption over the world, the last report of the Dairy Industries International (DII, 2019), the US (6.1 million tonnes) remains the largest cheese consuming country worldwide, accounting for 24% of total volume. Moreover, cheese consumption in the US exceeded the figures recorded by the second-largest consumer, Germany (3 million tonnes), twofold. The third position in this ranking was occupied by France (1.6 million tonnes), with a 6.4% share. From 2013 to 2019, the average annual rate of growth in terms of volume in the US totaled 2.5%. In the other countries, the average annual rates were as follows: Germany (+4.4% per year) and France (+1.3% per year). The countries with the highest levels of cheese per capita consumption in 2019 were the Czech Republic (64 kg per person), Germany (37 kg per person) and France (25 kg per person). From 2013 to 2019, the most notable rate of growth in terms of cheese per capita consumption, amongst the main consuming countries, was attained by the Czech Republic, while cheese per capita consumption for the other global leaders experienced more modest paces of growth.

In 2019, the amount of cheese produced worldwide rose slightly to 26 million tonnes, picking up by 2.6% on the year before. The total output volume increased at an average annual rate of 2.6% from 2013 to 2019; the trend pattern remained consistent, with somewhat noticeable fluctuations in certain years. The countries with the highest volumes of cheese production in 2019 were the US (6.3 million tonnes), Germany (3.5 million tonnes) and France (1.9 million tonnes), with a combined 46% share of global production. These countries were followed by Italy, Poland, the Netherlands, Argentina, Russia, the Czech Republic, Egypt, the UK and Canada, which together accounted for a further 26%.

According to the study conducted by Ramdane Sidali et al. (2019), milk and derivatives have a big place on the table of Algerians, with a national average annual consumption of 96 kg /person and 0.23 kg /person for cheeses.

## **II.2. Description of cheese**

Cheese is described by *Codex Alimentarius* (CODEX-STAN-283-4, 2013) as being the “ripened or unripened, soft or semi-hard, hard and extra hard product”, which may be coated; and in which the whey protein/casein ratio does not exceed that of milk obtained by:

- Coagulating wholly or partly the milk protein, skimmed milk or products, partly skimmed milk, cream, whey cream or buttermilk, through the action of rennet or other suitable coagulating agents, and by partially draining the whey resulting from such coagulation;
- Processing techniques involving the coagulation of the protein of milk and/or products obtained from milk, which gives a product with physical, chemical and organoleptic characteristics similar to the product defined. Include unripened cheeses (fresh cheeses) which are ready for consumption shortly after manufacture.

### **II.2.1. Coagulation of milk**

The ability of casein micelles to stay in solution at natural milk pH (~6.7) relies on the net negative charge and hydrophilic character of the C-terminal end of  $\kappa$ -CN at the micelle surface.

There are two approaches to induce micelle aggregation; by enzymatic action (cheese) or by acidification (fermented milk products). The outcome of these reactions is to a large extent determined by amounts and proportions of the various components in milk, with the protein composition contributing significantly in this regard. To determine the coagulation properties of given milk, different traits to describe the process are measured. Coagulation time (CT), defined as the time from addition of coagulant until coagulation starts, and curd firmness at a given time after addition of coagulant.

- **Enzyme-induced coagulation**

Enzymatic coagulation of milk is the modification of casein micelles via limited hydrolysis of casein by rennet, followed by calcium-induced micelle aggregation (Fox & McSweeney, 2004). Rennet is traditionally extracted from calf abomasa and is a mixture of the two gastric proteases chymosin and pepsin (Andr n, 2002). Chymosin is the major and the most active component, specifically cleaving the peptide bond Phe105-Met106 of  $\kappa$ -CN. Chymosin-induced coagulation of milk may be described by three phases. During the primary phase the enzymatic hydrolysis of  $\kappa$ -CN into para- $\kappa$ -CN and CMP takes place, with the hydrophilic CMP part being released into the whey. This causes loss of a negatively charged group and decreased steric stabilisation (Senge *et al.*, 1997). When approximately 70 % of the  $\kappa$ -CN is hydrolysed (Walstra *et al.*, 2006), colloidal stability of the micelles is reduced enough for the spontaneous, secondary aggregation phase to start. A gel forms as molecular chains connect through hydrophobic bonds to form a three-dimensional network, followed by further solidification through calcium cross-linking. Finally in the third phase whey is expelled from the casein network by syneresis (more contraction through cross-links).

Coagulation is enhanced by decreasing pH, increasing calcium concentration and temperature (no aggregation below 20°C). Syneresis is augmented by increasing temperature, pH and applied pressure, e.g. stirring.

- **Acid-induced coagulation**

At acid coagulation of milk, casein micelle properties are altered by a lowered milk pH (Lucey & Singh, 1997). This causes CCP to dissociate from the micelles and the negative charges in the casein micelles are neutralized, with aggregation occurring as the isoelectric point of the casein micelle (pH 4.6) is approached. A porous network of loosely linked aggregates is formed. Milk used in manufacture of fermented milk products is generally subjected to a quite severe heat treatment (90°C, 5-10 min), with a marked effect on the end product. Temperatures above 60°C cause denaturation of whey proteins (mainly  $\beta$ -LG), which via disulphide bonds either associate with  $\kappa$ -CN on the casein micelles (McKenzie *et al.*, 1971; Sawyer, 1969) or form soluble aggregates (Guyomarc'h *et al.*, 2003a; Haque & Kinsella, 1988). This results in increased curd firmness (Dannenberg & Kessler, 1988a) due to an increased number and strength of bonds of the acid gel, as denatured whey proteins associated with casein micelles interact with each other (Lucey & Singh, 1997). Further, the concentration of protein in the gel network will be increased because of the active participation of denatured whey protein in structure formation.

- **Factors influencing coagulation of milk**

Coagulation of milk is a complex process, influenced by many different factors. The most obvious are pH, calcium content and temperature. Decreasing the pH and increasing the temperature will decrease the coagulation time. Regarding calcium, the coagulation reaction is favored both by increased levels of bound calcium (CCP) and free calcium ions. Adding calcium to the milk will increase these levels in addition to lowering pH.

Many factors are intertwined and the milk protein fraction, which has different effects on the coagulation properties and will be discussed more below, can vary with the presence of different genetic variants, but there are also effects of breed (Auld *et al.*, 2004; Chiofalo *et al.*, 2000; Malossini *et al.*, 1996), stage of lactation (Ostensen *et al.*, 1997), parity (Lindström *et al.*, 1984; Schaar, 1984), season and feeding (Christian *et al.*, 1995; Macheboeuf *et al.*, 1993), and cow

health (Grandison & Ford, 1986). Milk from cows with mastitis is associated with a high pH and low levels of casein (Barbano *et al.*, 1991; Larsen *et al.*, 2004; Urech *et al.*, 1999) and has been suggested to have negative effects e.g. for the manufacture of cheese (Barbano *et al.*, 1991; Leitner *et al.*, 2006).

Milk that does not coagulate in the presence of chymosin has puzzled researchers at least since the 1920's (Cassandro *et al.*, 2008; Claesson, 1965; Comin *et al.*, 2008; Ikonen *et al.*, 1999a; Ikonen *et al.*, 2004; Jõudu *et al.*, 2007; Koestler, 1925; Losi *et al.*, 1982; Okigbo *et al.*, 1985c; Tervala & Antila, 1985; Wedholm *et al.*, 2006b). The causes of non-coagulating (NC) milk are not fully understood, largely due to the still elusive structure of the casein micelle and the complexity of the milk coagulation process with its numerous controlling factors. However, it has been recognized that in addition to NC milk that can be explained by cows being in very late lactation (Flüeler, 1978; Okigbo *et al.*, 1985c) or having mastitis (Koestler, 1925; Okigbo *et al.*, 1985a), the phenomenon cannot be fully explained by environmental factors as it is prevalent also in healthy cows in mid lactation (Ikonen *et al.*, 2004; Tyrisevä *et al.*, 2003). Ikonen *et al.* (1999a) observed large differences between breeding bulls in their proportion of daughters producing NC milk and suggested that the underlying cause was partly genetic. Recently, two candidate genes associated with NC milk were identified (Tyrisevä *et al.*, 2008). A genetic disposition to produce NC milk does not exclude significant influences of environmental factors. It has been shown that addition of calcium will restore coagulation of NC milk (van Hooydonk *et al.*, 1986), although not to the level of well coagulating milk (Okigbo *et al.*, 1985b).

### **II.2.2. Starter-free fresh cheese**

Fresh cheese is the cheese which is ready for consumption shortly after manufacture. Fresh cheese is a soft cheese that is manufactured with little or no starter culture and subsequently

consumed within 3-7 days of manufacture, although the labeled expiring date is usually of 14 days. This variety is typically white, have relatively high moisture (46-57%) and high pH (>6.1), contains about 8-29% fat, 7-20% protein and 1-3% salt (Hwang & Gunasekaran, 2001), it has a crumbly texture resulting from fine milling before salting (Van Hekken & Farkye, 2003).

**Table III :** Nutritional value of fresh cheese (Richonnet, 2015)

<b>Composition</b>	<b>Nutritional value</b>
Moisture (%)	79
Energy (kcal/100g)	118
Carbohydrates (g/100g)	4
Fat (g/100g)	17
Saturate fatty acids (g/100g)	12
Proteins (g/100g)	9
Sodium (mg/100g)	520
Calcium (mg/100g)	95
Phosphorus (mg/100g)	140

There is a substantial market for fresh cheese due to the demands for new cheese flavours, varieties and products, the nutritional benefits such as its high mineral and protein contents, as well as, the economic advantages due to its relatively short or no ripening time and high yield.

### **II.2.3. Fresh cheese manufacturing**

Milk for fresh cheese-making is generally standardized for fat content pasteurized at 70-80°C for 15-40 s. Once pasteurized, is adjust to 30-37°C and calcium chloride, rennet and salt are added. Sodium chloride is usually added directly to milk before coagulation for better homogeneity of salt content within the final product.

Curd salting contributes to decrease water activity ( $a_w$ ), control enzymatic activity and microorganism growth, affect biochemical and physic-chemical changes and enhance the flavour of cheese (Guinee & Fox, 2004). Coagulation time ranges from 15-45 min depending

on the characteristics of the rennet used. The rennet-set curd is cut and cooked to desired firmness, and the whey is drained. When curd is drained, fat and casein are concentrated between 6-12 fold times (Fox & McSweeney, 2004). The curd is then finely milled and packed into moulds of different shapes and sizes.

#### **II.2.4. Fresh cheese types**

According to Luquet and Corrieu, (2005), unripened cheeses, with various characteristics organoleptic (plain, with fruit, flavored) include:

- White cheese beaten (smooth texture) or "country-style" cheeses. The denomination "white cheese" is reserved for unripened cheese which, when fermented, has not undergone other fermentations than lactic fermentation;
- The natural "little Swiss or Gervaise"; fresh pulped cheeses;
- The "Slightly salted cheese", often flavored (garlic, herbs, pepper, etc.).

#### **II.3. Polyphenol-Protein Interactions**

Phenolic compounds, as the major secondary metabolites in plant foods, comprise more than 8000 identified substances (Guo et al., 2009). They have a common structural feature, an aromatic ring bonded to at least one hydroxyl group (Kroll et al., 2003), and are classified according to the number of carbon atoms in their structure. Flavonoids, phenolic acids, and less common stilbenes and lignans, are phenolic compounds occurring in plants (Crozier et al., 2009; Czubinski and Dwiecki, 2017).

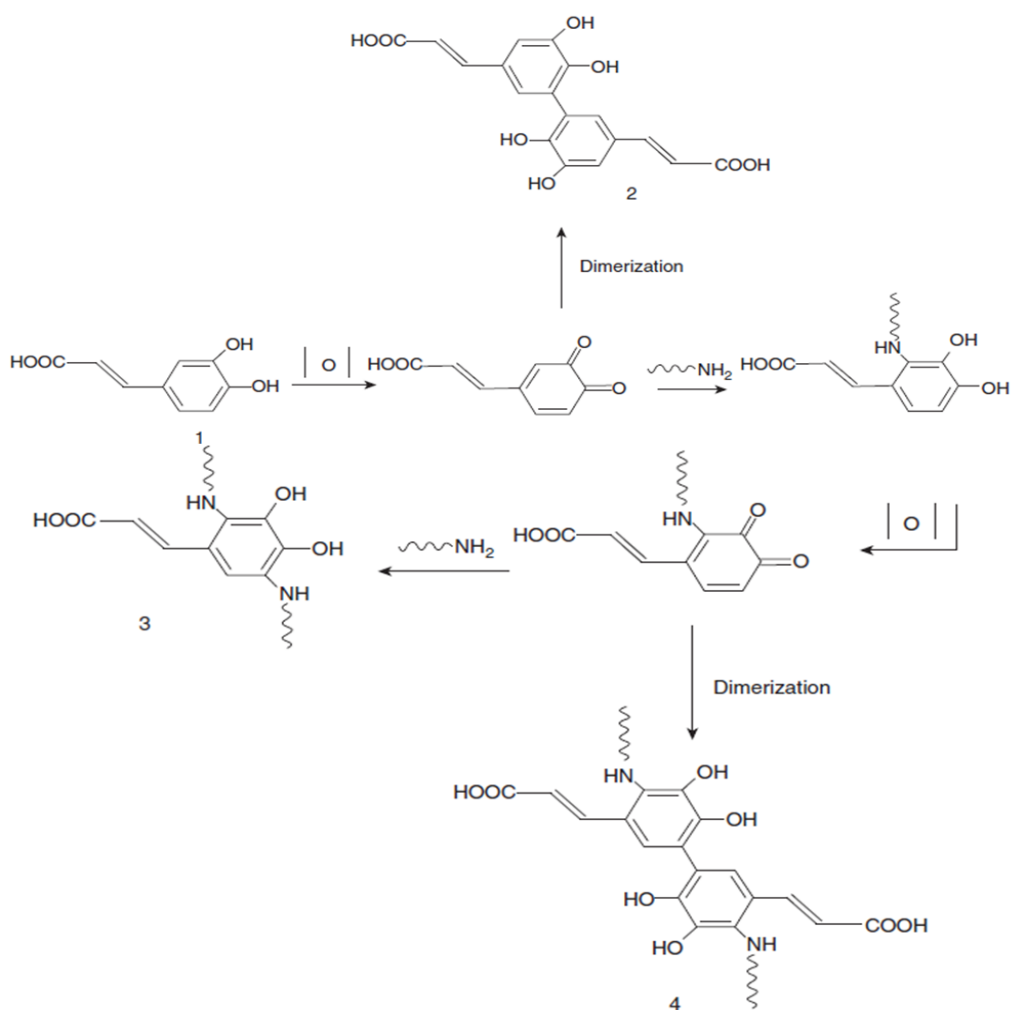
Phenolic compounds in food undergo chemical changes during food processing and can interact with protein macromolecules during food production and processing, and even after food consumption (i.e. during digestion in the gastrointestinal tract) (Buitimea-Cantúa et al., 2017; Le Bourvellec and Renard, 2012; Parada and Aguilera, 2007). The molecular weight and

structural flexibility of a phenolic compound, as well as the number of hydroxyl groups and type of side chain have been identified as the key factors that affect phenolic-protein interactions (Buitimea-Cantúa et al., 2017; Czubinski and Dwiecki, 2017). Phenolic compounds with a higher molecular weight and a higher abundance of hydroxyl groups (providing more than one site for interaction) are thought to have a higher affinity for protein (Dubeau et al., 2010; Frazier et al., 2010; Jakobek, 2015; Xiao et al., 2011). Phenolic-protein interactions can be grouped into non-covalent interactions (reversible) and covalent interactions (mostly irreversible) (Prigent, 2005; Rawel and Rohn, 2010; Ozdal et al., 2013). Five types of non-covalent interactions were reported, including hydrogen bonds, electrostatic interactions, hydrophobic interactions, van der Waals interactions, and  $\pi$  bonds (Ali, 2013; Frazier et al., 2010; McRae and Kennedy, 2011; Poncet-Legrand et al., 2006; Prigent, 2005; Rawel and Rohn, 2010; Siebert, 2006). Among these, hydrophobic interactions and hydrogen bonds are the primary non-covalent forces that mediate phenolic-protein interactions. Amino acids, including alanine, valine, isoleucine, leucine, methionine, phenylalanine, tyrosine, tryptophan, cysteine and glycine, may interact with phenolic compounds through hydrophobic interactions. Moreover, phenolic compounds are excellent hydrogen donors that form hydrogen bonds with the carboxyl group of proteins (Jongberg et al., 2015; Mulaudzi et al., 2012; Xiao et al., 2011). Consequently, hydrogen bonds may take place between the nitrogen or oxygen molecule of amino acids (e.g., lysine, arginine, histidine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, tyrosine, cysteine and tryptophan) and the hydroxyl groups of phenolics (Ali, 2013; Prigent, 2005; Rawel and Rohn, 2010).

Interestingly, the ability of phenolic compound to produce a quinone radical mediates the formation of a covalent bond (Jongberg et al., 2015). Under alkaline conditions and in the presence of oxygen, the phenolic compounds are susceptible to enzymatic and non-enzymatic oxidation reactions causing the generation of highly reactive quinone radicals. As the second step of oxidation, the quinone undergoes condensation reactions (reacting with another



quinone) to form a dimer, a high molecular weight brown colored pigment named as tannin, which can further react with amino acids in a polypeptide chain through covalent bonding (Felton et al., 1989). As the third step, the dimers are re-oxidized and crosslinked to another polypeptide chain (Arts et al., 2001; Buchner et al., 2006). A schematic representation of the mechanism of phenolic-protein interactions is given in *figure 5*.



**Figure 5:** Proposed reactions of a phenolic acid compound with amino side chains of polypeptides (Strauss and Gibson, 2004).

### II.3.1. Factors affecting the interactions between proteins and phenolic compounds

While there exist a variety of factors that influence protein-phenolic interactions including environmental factors such as temperature, pH, salt concentration and presence of certain reagents (Kroll et al., 2003; Ozdal et al., 2013), type of protein and structure of phenolic compound have been reported as the two main factors (Czubinski and Dwiecki, 2017).

- **Type of Protein**

The hydrophobicity, isoelectric point and amino acid sequence of proteins influence strongly their binding affinity to phenolic compounds (Prigent et al., 2003). For instance, bovine serum albumin (BSA), which is more hydrophobic than  $\alpha$ -lactalbumin and lysozyme, exhibited higher binding affinity to chlorogenic acid (Naczki et al., 1996). Additionally, proteins that have relatively higher molecular weights may exhibit higher affinity for phenolics (Hagerman, 1989). The size of polypeptides and proteins also played a role in their affinities for polymeric proanthocyanidin (Siebert, 1999).

- **Structure of Phenolic Compounds**

Phenolic compounds may differ in their molecular weight, degree of hydroxylation, methylation, glycosylation and hydrogenation, all of which play a role in the formation of protein-phenolic complexes. Polyphenols with higher molecular weights likely have a higher binding affinity to proteins (Dubeau et al., 2010). Compared with some low molecular weight phenolics, protocatechuic acid and caffeic acid showed the strongest binding affinity for BSA whilst *p*-hydroxybenzoic acid had the lowest (Bartolome et al., 2000). The monoglycoside forms of flavonoids had stronger binding affinities for milk proteins compared to their polyglycoside forms. For quercetin and its glycosides, the aglycone form caused a stronger interaction with BSA (Martini et al., 2008). Methylation was reported to decrease the binding affinity of flavonoids for milk proteins, whereas, hydroxylation of the rings A and B in flavones and flavonols improved the binding affinity. Hydrogenation of flavonoids on their C2  $\frac{1}{2}$  C3 double bonds led to reduced binding affinities for milk proteins (Xiao et al., 2011).

- **Other Factors**

Temperature is an important environmental factor that influences the binding affinities of phenolic compounds for proteins. The binding affinity of 5-O-caffeoylquinic acid for 11S protein of sunflower seed and BSA decreased with increased temperature (Prigent et al., 2003;

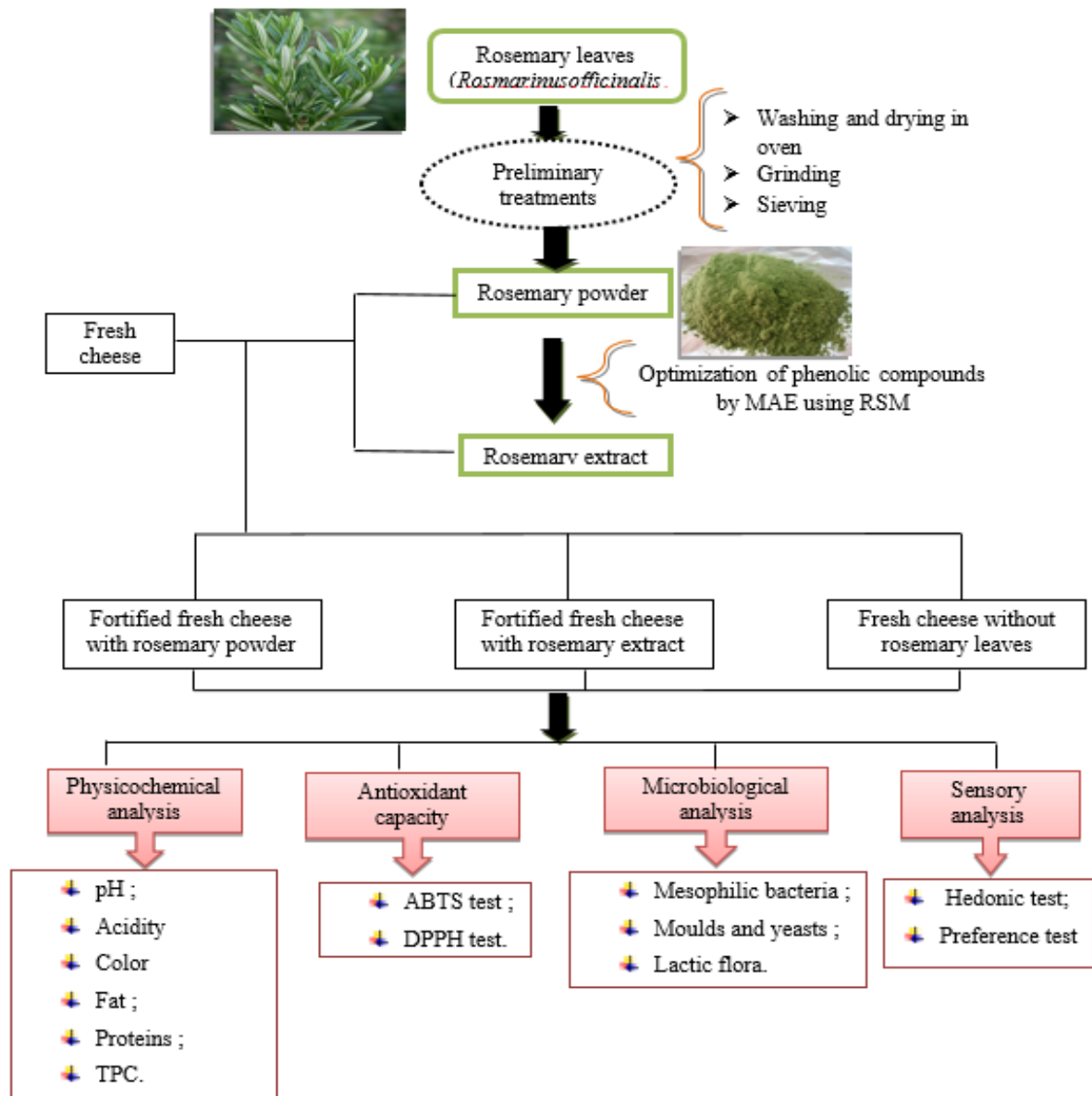
Sastry and Rao, 1990). This was associated with the changes in hydrogen bonding between phenolic compounds and proteins (Sastry and Rao, 1990).

Another influencing environmental factor is pH. Increased precipitation of protein-polyphenol complexes was observed at pH values close to the isoelectric point of protein, due to a lower solubility of these complexes at this pH. Thus, the optimum pH for precipitation is close to protein isoelectric point, which varies among different proteins (Naczk et al., 1996, 2006). Higher binding affinities of crude tannin canola extract for BSA, fetuin, gelatine and lysozyme, and also, ferulic acid and chlorogenic acid for BSA, were observed all at pHs near the isoelectric points of the proteins (Naczk et al., 1996; Rawel et al., 2005). However, binding of (-)-epicatechin to BSA was not affected by pH (Charlton et al., 2002; Frazier et al., 2006; Papadopoulou et al., 2005).

Protein-phenolic interactions may also be influenced by other environmental factors such as type and concentration of salt. High salt concentrations may lead to dissociation of oligomeric proteins, causing reduced amounts of binding points. Accordingly, increased salt concentration caused a decrease in binding strength of chlorogenic acid to 11S protein of sunflower seed (Sastry and Rao, 1990).

# *Experimental part*

Our experimental approach is summarized in the following diagram



**Figure 6.** Graphical abstract corresponding to the experimental design

**FIRST PART:**

**Phytochemical analysis of**

**Rosemary**

**Chapter I:**

**MATERIALS AND**

**METHODS**

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### **I. Plant material**

Leaves of *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. were collected in the area of Aokas (Bejaia, Algeria) in January 2016, washed with tap water and distilled water, dried in a ventilled oven at 40°C for one week, and then reduced into a thin powder using an electrical grinder (IKA model A<sub>11</sub> Basic). The powder was passed through standard sieves ( $\phi = 125, 250$  and  $500 \mu\text{m}$ ) and stored in airtight bags under darkness until use.

Before optimization experiments, their initial moisture content was assessed by constant weight at 105°C, and ash content was evaluated by burning (calcination) at 550°C/3hours in a muffle furnace.

### **II. Optimization of microwave-assisted extraction (MAE)**

The extraction of rosemary phenolic compounds was carried out in a domestic microwave oven (MAXMOS23S, Maxipower, China) equipped with a digital control system for irradiation time and microwave power (100-1000W). The apparatus was modified in order to condensate the vapor generated into the sample during the extraction (*Figure 7*).



*Figure 7:* Microwave oven used for microwave-assisted extraction



A preliminary study (single-factor test) was first analyzed, the different factors evaluated were: particle size ( $\phi = 125, 250$  and  $500 \mu\text{m}$ ), type of solvent (Water, 80 % ethanol, 80 % methanol, 80 % acetone), solvent concentration (20-95 %), microwave power (100-900 W), solvent to sample ratio (20-140 mL/g DW) and extraction time (30-240 s). Then, the response surface methodology (RSM) with Box- Behnken Design (BBD) was adopted to optimize the extraction of phenolics from *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. leaves powder, of  $250 \mu\text{m}$  diameter using ethanol as solvent. One gram of powder was placed in a round bottom flask of 250mL, and then the solvent was poured into the flasks. At the end of extraction, mixtures were filtered through N°1 Whatman filter paper and extracts were kept in the dark at  $4^\circ\text{C}$  until TPC analysis. The effects of four factors on the TPC extraction were studied at three levels -1, 0, +1 (Table IV) with three replicates at the center, giving rise to 27 experimental points (Table V).

**Table IV:** Experimental levels of the factors used in BBD for the MAE

Factors	Levels		
	-1	0	+1
Ethanol concentration (% , v/v)	40	60	80
Power (W)	300	500	700
Solvent to solid ratio (mL/g)	100	120	140
Extraction time (s)	120	180	240

*BBD: Box-Behnken design; MAE: microwave-assisted extraction.*

The data from BBD were analyzed to fit the quadratic model given in the following equation (Equation 1):

$$Y = B_0 + \sum_{i=1}^K B_i X_i + \sum_{i=1}^K B_{ii} X_i^2 + \sum_{i>j}^K B_{ij} X_i X_j + E \quad (1)$$

Where  $Y$  represents the predicted response (TPC);  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  represent the independent variables,  $B_0, B_i, B_{ii}$  and  $B_{ij}$  are the regression coefficients for the intercept linear, quadratic and interaction

terms of variables  $i$  and  $j$ , respectively. The coefficients  $B_i$ ,  $B_{ii}$  and  $B_{ij}$  were determined according to the analysis of variance. An additional extraction trial was achieved under the optimum conditions predicted with the RSM to verify the adequacy of the model; then the experimental data were compared to the predicted ones by the regression model.

**Table V:** Box-Behnken design for total phenolic compounds of rosemary leaves obtained by microwave-assisted extraction

Run	$X_1$ (E-OH concentration; %. v/v)	$X_2$ (Power; W)	$X_3$ (S/S ratio; mL/g)	$X_4$ (Extraction time; s)	TPC yield (mg GAE/g DW)	
					Predicted	Experimental
1	40	300	120	180	126.58	126.07
2	40	700	120	180	130.31	129.27
3	80	300	120	180	162.94	163.80
4	80	700	120	180	167.61	167.93
5	60	500	100	120	154.82	152.78
6	60	500	100	240	139.57	140.44
7	60	500	140	120	191.48	190.42
8	60	500	140	240	160.64	162.50
9	40	500	120	120	170.67	172.80
10	40	500	120	240	110.37	109.40
11	80	500	120	120	170.25	171.50
12	80	500	120	240	184.45	182.60
13	60	300	100	180	151.35	148.44
14	60	300	140	180	143.55	142.40
15	60	700	100	180	118.89	120.33
16	60	700	140	180	184.41	187.60
17	40	500	100	180	125.22	126.78
18	40	500	140	180	147.42	146.25
19	80	500	100	180	155.39	156.46
20	80	500	140	180	190.91	189.24
21	60	300	120	120	153.77	155.53
22	60	300	120	240	149.53	151.47
23	60	700	120	120	176.78	174.73
24	60	700	120	240	134.93	133.07
25	60	500	120	180	149.16	148.53
26	60	500	120	180	149.16	149.07
27	60	500	120	180	149.16	149.87

*GAE. gallic acid equivalents; dry weight (dw); S/S. solvent to solid; TPC. Total phenolic compounds.*

## II.1. Spectrophotometric determination of phenolic compounds of rosemary extract

The Folin-Ciocalteu assay was used to determine the *TPC* of the obtained extracts according to the method described by Georgé, Brat, Alter, & Amiot (2005). In tubes, 2.5 mL of Folin-Ciocalteu reagent (1/10) were added to 0.5 mL of leaves extracts. After 2 min, 2 mL of 7.5 % (w/v) sodium carbonate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) solution was added to each tube, and the tubes were incubated for 15 min/50 °C. After cooling, the absorbance was measured at 750 nm. The TPC was expressed as gallic acid equivalent on dry weight basis (mg GAE/g DW). Gallic acid was used to prepare a calibration curve with different concentrations (20 to 100  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) using the equation 2:

$$y = 0.12x \quad (R^2 = 0.998) \quad (2)$$

The optimized extract was also analyzed for the content of flavonoids and tannins:

The amount of *total flavonoids* in the extracts was estimated using the methodology of Djeridane et al. (2006). Concentration of flavonoids was expressed as mg of quercétine equivalent per g of dry weight (mg QE/g<sub>DW</sub>) and obtained from a standard curve prepared with quercétine (5 to 50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) using 3:

$$y = 28.66x + 0.019 \quad (R^2 = 0.982) \quad (3)$$

The content of *total tannins* was determined according to the protocol developed by Hagerman and Butler (1978). Content of tannins was expressed as mg tannic acid equivalent per g of dry weight (mg TAE/g<sub>DW</sub>) using a standard curve prepared with tannic acid at 100 to 1200  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  using the equation 4:

$$y = 1.507x + 0.053 \quad (R^2 = 0.998) \quad (4)$$

## III. UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> analysis

The rosemary leaves extract obtained above, under the optimum conditions by RSM, was characterized by ultra-high performance liquid chromatography coupled to electrospray mass spectrometry (UHPLC).

To determine individual phenolic compounds, extract samples were filtered through 0.22 nylon filter and analysed by UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> (Marcelo et al, 2015). This analysis was performed on an Ultimate 3000 (Dionex Co., USA) apparatus, composed of a quaternary pump, an autosampler, an ultimate 3000 Diode Array Detector (Dionex Co., USA) and an automatic thermostatic column compartment. The column used was a 100 mm length, 2.1 mm i.d., 1.9 µm particle diameters, end-capped Hypersil Gold C18 column (Thermo Scientific, USA) and its temperature was maintained at 30 °C. Gradient elution was carried out with Acetonitrile (eluent A) and formic acid (eluent B, 1%), both degassed and filtered before use. The gradient solvent used was as follows: 20 min, 90–70% of solvent B; 10 min, 70–40% of solvent B and 5 min, 40–0% of solvent B. The mass spectrometer used was a Thermo LTQ XL (Thermo Scientific, USA) ion trap MS equipped with an ESI source. Control and data acquisition were carried out with the Thermo XcaliburQual Browser data system (Thermo Scientific, USA). Nitrogen above 99% purity was used and the gas pressure was 520 kPa (75 psi). MS analysis was performance with negative voltage of 5 kV and ESI capillary temperature of 200°C with 10-40 arbitrary units of energy collisions in fragmentations.

The identification of individual phenolic compounds in the UHPLC analysis was achieved by comparison of their retention times, UV-Vis spectra and MS<sup>n</sup> spectra data with those of the closest available reference standards and data reported in the literature.

The quantification of the main individual phenolic compounds in rosemary extract was performed by the areas of their peaks, through the external standard calibration curves, using the most close reference compounds available.

#### **IV. Biological analyses of rosemary leaves extract**

##### **IV.1. Antioxidant capacity**

###### **IV.1.1. DPPH radical scavenging capacity**

The free radical scavenging capacity using 2,2-diphenyl 1-picrylhydrazyl reagent (DPPH) is based on the reduction of the stable free radical DPPH in the presence of a hydrogen-donating

antioxidant, and the formation of the non-radical form DPPH-H as result of the reaction. This reduction can be monitored at 517 nm by measuring the bleaching of DPPH (violet) to DPPH-H (yellow).

The DPPH test was determined spectrophotometrically in a 96 well plate reader (ELX800 microplate reader) according to the protocole of Marcelo et al, 2015 with some modifications: 250  $\mu$ L of DPPH ( $8.66 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M in ethanol) were added for each well containing 50  $\mu$ L of extract (2.66-166.67  $\mu$ g/mL); the microplate was kept in the dark for 30min and the absorbance was measured at 517nm. Ascorbic acid (2.66-166.67  $\mu$ g/mL) was used as standard.

The radical scavenging activity was calculated as the percentage of DPPH' discoloration according to this formula:

$$\% \text{ DPPH scavenging} = \left( 1 - \frac{Abs_{c(0)}}{Abs_{e(t)}} \right) \times 100$$

Where:  $Abs_{c(0)}$ = Absorbance of the control at  $t=0$ , and  $Abs_{e(t)}$ = Absorbance of the extract at  $t=30$  min

The results were expressed as the inhibitory concentration of the extract/standard needed to decrease DPPH• absorbance by 50% (IC<sub>50</sub>).

Based on graphic values of percentage of DPPH' inhibition vs. extract concentration, the IC<sub>50</sub> (concentration of the extract able to inhibit the 50% of the DPPH') of the rosemary extract was estimated. Ascorbic acid was used as the reference.

#### **IV.1.2. Ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) assay**

The FRAP assay was carried out as described by Marcelo et al, 2015 with some modifications: 200  $\mu$ L of rosemary extract (10-125 $\mu$ g/mL) were mixed in tubes with 200  $\mu$ L of sodium phosphate buffer (0.2M, pH 6.6) and 200  $\mu$ L of  $K_3Fe(CN)_6$ (1% w/v). The mixture was incubated in a water bath at 50 C° for 20 min. After incubation, trichloroacetic acid solution (1 mL; 10% w/v) was added and homogenized in the vortex. 75  $\mu$ L were transferred from each tube to a 96-multiwells plate and 75  $\mu$ L of water and 15  $\mu$ L of iron chloride III (0.1% w/v) were

added to each well. Absorbance was measured at 700 nm against a blank. A higher absorbance indicates a higher ferric reducing power of rosemary extract or BHA (10-50 µg/mL) used as positive control.

A linear regression analysis was carried out by plotting the mean absorbance against the concentrations, and the IC<sub>50</sub> value was determined considering the extract concentration that provides 0.5 of absorbance.

#### **IV.1.3. Nitric oxide (NO) Scavenging assay**

The assay was optimized at the QOPNA (Organic Chemistry, Natural Products and Food Stuff) laboratory of Aveiro University, Portugal. In 96-well microplate, 100 µL of extract at different concentrations (10.42-666.67 µg/mL), solubilized in DMSO, were mixed with 100 µL of SNP solution (Sodium Nitroprusside 0.2 mg/mL in potassium buffer, 100mM, pH 7.4); this mixture was incubated under a fluorescent lamp for 15min. After incubation, 100 µL of Griess reagent prepared with equal volume of Griess A (10g/L Sulfanilamide in phosphoric acid 5%) and Griess B (1g/L N-(1-naphthyl) ethylenediamine dihydrochloride in water) were added and the 96-multiwells plate was placed in the dark for 10 min then the absorbance was measured at 562nm against a blank containing all reagents without extract. Extract-colour control was also prepared in the same way using phosphoric acid 5% instead of the DMSO. The standard reference curve was prepared using ascorbic acid (10.42-666.67 µg/mL).

The scavenging capacity is represented as the percentage of NO radical inhibition and was calculated the same way as the percentage of DPPH radical inhibition.

The IC<sub>50</sub> (concentration of the extract able to inhibit the 50% of the NO) of the rosemary extract and ascorbic acid, taken as positive control, was estimated.

#### **IV.1.4. Scavenging effect on superoxide radical (nonenzimatic assay)**

The superoxide anion radical scavenging activity, determined by the phenazonium methosulfate (PMS)-nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) generating system is based on the reduction

of nitro blue tetrazolium (NBT) to a purple formazan, in the presence of reduced NADH and PMS under aerobic conditions. The plant extract, when added, will act as a scavenger of the superoxide radicals, competing with NBT preventing the color formation. The superoxide anion radical scavenging activity was optimized at the QOPNA (Organic Chemistry, Natural Products and Food Stuffs) laboratory of Aveiro University, Portugal. Briefly, in 96-well microplate, 75 $\mu$ L NBT (200 $\mu$ M in Potassium Phosphate buffer, 20mM, pH 7.4) were mixed with 100 $\mu$ L NADH (300 $\mu$ M in deionized water), 75 $\mu$ L of extract solution (3.91-250  $\mu$ g/ml) or gallic acid (0.98-62.5  $\mu$ g/ml) in DMSO and 50 $\mu$ L PNS (15 $\mu$ M in deionized water). The changes of absorbance at 560nm were recorded over 5min. The IC<sub>50</sub> (concentration of the extract able to inhibit the 50% of the SO) of the rosemary extract and gallic acid, taken as positive control, was estimated.

### **IV.2. Inhibition of enzymes**

#### **IV.2.1. Inhibition of alpha glucosidase enzyme**

$\alpha$ -glucosidase is digestive enzyme located in the brush border of the small intestine that acts upon  $\alpha$  (1 $\rightarrow$ 4) bonds breaking starch and disaccharides into glucose. In this assay we will use 4-nitrophenyl  $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (PNPG) as substrate that develops a yellow color upon hydrolysis.

The reaction kinetics can be determined by measuring absorbances at 405nm. As a reference inhibitor will be using acarbose, an anti-diabetic drug used to treat type 2 diabetes.

The inhibitory activity was determined by incubating, in 96-well plate, 50  $\mu$ L of PNPG solution (17mM) with 50  $\mu$ L of inhibitor or various concentrations of rosemary extract [prepared in Potassium phosphate buffer, 50mM, pH=6,8 : DMSO (3:2)]. The reaction was started by adding 100  $\mu$ L of  $\alpha$ -glucosidase enzyme (1U/ml) to each well. Then, the absorbance was measured for 20 min at 405 nm. The enzyme activity is determined by calculating the slope of the absorbance at 405 nm versus time in minutes.

The IC<sub>50</sub> (concentration of the extract/standard able to inhibit the 50% of enzyme) of the rosemary extract and acarbose, taken as enzyme inhibitor, was estimated.

#### **IV.2.2. Assay of Lipase inhibitory activity**

The effect of rosemary extract on lipase activity was carried out by mixing 140µL of solution A (prepared in Tris buffer pH=8.4 50mM, 1,8mM sodium deoxycholate and 476 µg/mL colipase) with 30µL solution B (prepared in acetate buffer pH=4,0 18mM, 72mM sodium deoxycholate, 0,2mM calcium chloride, 0,2mM DGGR: 1,2-Di-O-lauryl-*rac*-glycero-3-(glutaric acid 6-methylresorufin ester)). After that, 20µL of rosemary extract or inhibitor solution and 10µL lipase solution were added. After 35 min, the absorbance was measured at 580 nm. The concentration require to give 50% inhibition (IC<sub>50</sub>) was determined for rosemary extract and orlistat, use as a positive control.

#### **V. Statistical analysis**

Data were expressed as mean ± S.D (standard deviation). ANOVA combined with Tukey's test, using XISTAT 2014, were used to compare significant differences in the biological activities and the content of TPC depending on the solvent and microwave parameters. Differences were considered significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

Data obtained from the BBD trials for the MAE were statistically analyzed using ANOVA for the response variable in order to test the model significance and suitability. The JMP Pro10 software was used to construct the BBD and to analyze all the results of MAE optimization.



*Chapter II:*

*RESULTS AND*

*DISCUSSION*

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### I. Moisture and ash content of rosary leaves

The results the determination of the moisture and ash content of fresh rosemary leaves (*Rosemarinus officinalis* L.) are shown in the Table VI. Results of the moisture content are close to those reported by Regiane Ribeiro-Santos et al. (2015) and Bibi Sadia et al. (2016) whom reported 67.77% and 60.39%, respectively. On the other hand, the results obtained of the ash content seem lower than those reported by Kaloustian et al. (2001) and Abayneh Kassahun et al. (2019) whom recovered 6.33% and 7.6%, respectively.

**Table VI:** Moisture and ash of rosemary leaves

	Moisture content (%)	Ash content (%)
Rosemary leaves	63.743 ± 0.091	3.172 ± 0.419

### II. Optimization of microwave-assisted extraction

The extraction of phenolic compounds is a crucial step for their valorization. It depends on the method and the appropriate solvent which preserves their biological properties. Because of the effect of various parameters on the extraction yield by MAE, the optimization of the experimental conditions is a critical step. The range of extraction parameters chosen in this study (Table IV) was based on the preliminary experiments; the response surface model was fitted based on the TPC yield (Table VII) which varied from 109.40 to 190.42 mg GAE/g DW. Statistical analysis has been carried out to determine the significance of the regression model which was checked by *F-test* and *p-value*; the analysis of variance (ANOVA) and fitting results are shown in Table VII.

Based on the statistical and fitting analysis, the predicted model can be described in terms of coded significant factors as in the equation bellow:

$$TPC = 149.15 + 18.41X_1 + 2.10X_2 + 14.43X_3 - 11.52X_4 + 3.32X_1X_3 + 18.32X_2X_3 + 18.62X_1X_4 - 9.40X_2X_4 - 3.89X_3X_4 - 3.74X_2^2 + 4.13X_3^2 + 8.33X_4^2 \quad (5)$$

It can be seen that there were linear, interactive and quadratic effects between all the extraction factors except the quadratic effect of the solvent ( $X_1^2$ ), and its interaction with microwave power ( $X_1X_2$ ). The interaction solvent-time and power-solvent to solid ratio were highly significant as well as the quadratic term of time.

**Table VII:** Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the experimental results obtained by microwave-assisted extraction

Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Estimated coefficients	Standard error	DF <sup>b</sup>	Sum of squares	F-value	P-Value Prob> F
<b>Model</b>	149.15667	1.367854	14	12087.233	153.8147	<.0001
<b>Intercept</b>						
<b>B<sub>0</sub></b>	149.15667	1.367854	1			
<b>Linear</b>						
<b>X<sub>1</sub>-Solvent</b>	18.413333	0.683927	1	4068.6101	724.845	<.0001
<b>X<sub>2</sub>-Power</b>	2.1016667	0.683927	1	53.004	9.443	0.0097
<b>X<sub>3</sub>-Ratio</b>	14.431667	0.683927	1	2499.276	445.2596	<.0001
<b>X<sub>4</sub>-Time</b>	-11.52333	0.683927	1	1593.4465	283.8811	<.0001
<b>Interaction</b>						
<b>X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>2</sub></b>	0.2325	1.184597	1	0.2162	0.0385	0.8477
<b>X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>3</sub></b>	3.3275	1.184597	1	44.289	7.8903	0.0158
<b>X<sub>1</sub>X<sub>4</sub></b>	18.625	1.184597	1	1387.5625	247.2018	<.0001
<b>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub></b>	18.3275	1.184597	1	1343.589	239.3677	<.0001
<b>X<sub>2</sub>X<sub>4</sub></b>	-9.4	1.184597	1	353.44	62.9673	<.0001
<b>X<sub>3</sub>X<sub>4</sub></b>	-3.895	1.184597	1	60.6841	10.8112	0.0065
<b>Quadratic</b>						
<b>X<sub>1</sub><sup>2</sup></b>	1.4420833	1.025891	1	11.0912	1.976	0.1852
<b>X<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup></b>	-3.740417	1.025891	1	74.6172	13.2935	0.0034
<b>X<sub>3</sub><sup>2</sup></b>	4.1345833	1.025891	1	91.1722	16.2428	0.0017
<b>X<sub>4</sub><sup>2</sup></b>	8.3345833	1.025891	1	370.4815	66.0033	<.0001
<b>Lack of fit</b>			10	66.44785	14.6189	0.0657
<b>Residual</b>			12	67.357		
<b>Pure error</b>			2	0.909067		
<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	0.994458					
<b>R<sup>2</sup>adjusted</b>	0.987993					
<b>RMSE</b>	2.369193					
<b>Total</b>			26	12154.59		
<b>Corr.</b>						
<b>C.V (%)</b>	1.99					

*a: Coefficients refer to the general model; b: Degree of freedom; C.V: Coefficient of variation*

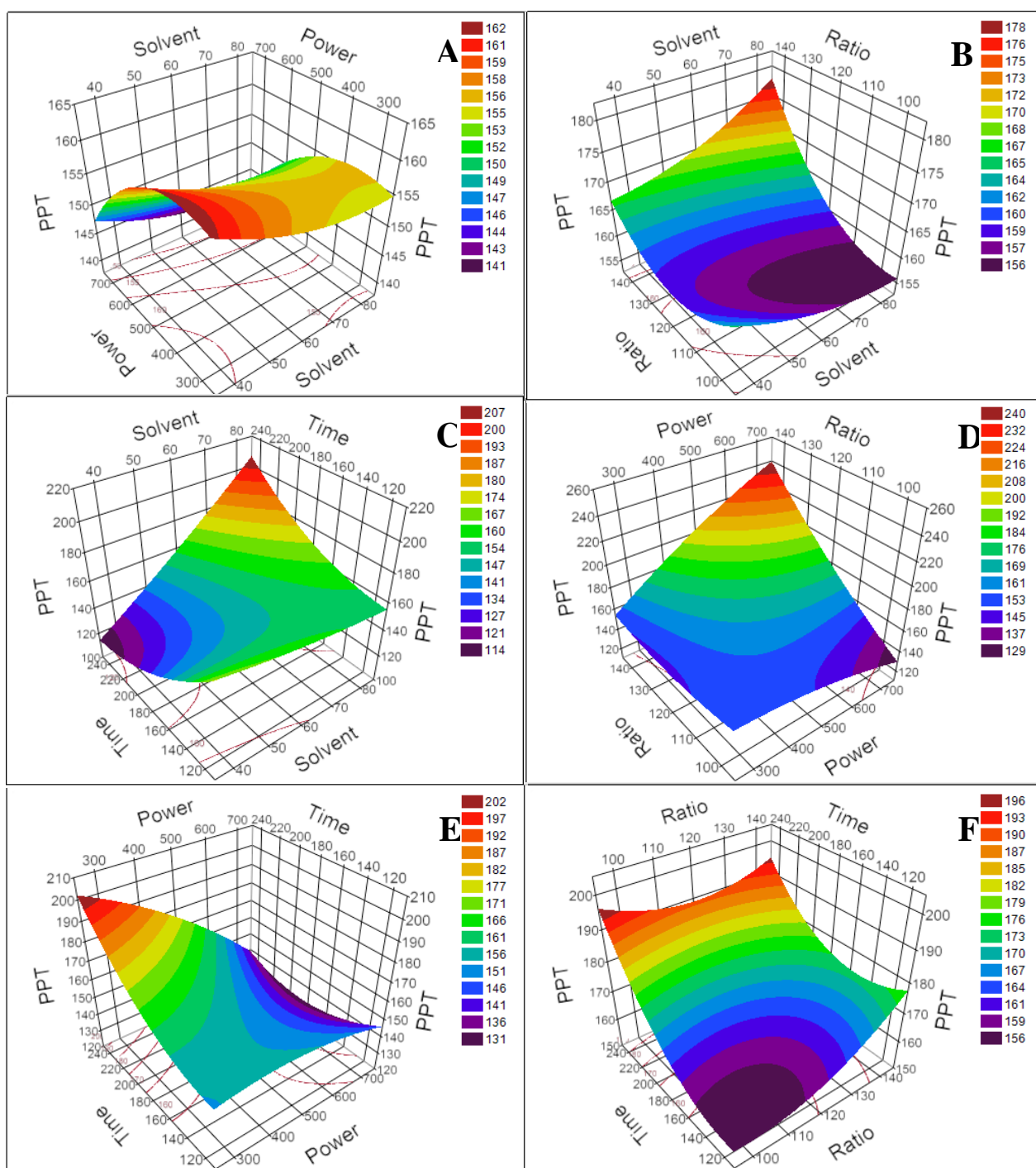
According to the results in Table 7 (*F*-statistic, *P*-value, lack of fit, coefficient of determination: *R*<sup>2</sup> and the coefficient of variation: C.V); it can be suggested that the obtained results adequately fitted the selected equation and the model was highly significant: *P*-values of the developed

model were below 0.0001 which means that the fitness of the model was highly significant ( $p < 0.0001$ ), the adjusted determination coefficient ( $R_{Adj}^2$ ) was quite close to  $R^2$ ; the value of lack of fit test (0.0657) is higher than 0.05 and the low value of the coefficient of variation (CV = 1.99) suggested that the model was reliable and reproducible,

To better understand the resulting predictive model, three-dimensional response surface plots of rosemary TPC are illustrated in Figure 8. This plotting is very useful to visualize the effect of two factors on the response at the same time (Karabegović et al., 2014). The graphs were designed by plotting the response using the Z-axis against two independent variables; the other two independent variables were kept at their zero level. The linear effects of solvent, power and ratio of solvent to raw material were positively significant, and then by increasing them the extraction yield is increased (Figure 8, B, D). It can be seen that the extraction time has also an effect with its interaction with the solvent and the solvent to solid ratio (Figure 8, C, F): with an increase in ethanol/water solvent or solid/ethanol ratio and decreased extraction time, the recovery of TPC was increased. Several studies reported the influence of solvent and MAE conditions on the extraction of phenolic compounds from vegetable tissues (Bai, Yue, Yuan, & Zhang, 2010; Karabegović et al., 2013; Pan, Niu, & Liu, 2003; Švarc-Gajić et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2013). then it can be used for optimization of rosemary TPC extraction (Karabegović et al., 2014; Maran, Sivakumar, Thirugnanasambandham, & Sridhar, 2013; Maran et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2009; Yu et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2013).

In order to validate the accuracy of the model, rosemary powder was extracted under the recommended optimum conditions, determined using the RMS optimization approach, which were as follows: ethanol concentration 78.162%, microwave power 351.825W, ratio of solvent to raw material 101.623:1, and extraction time 122.648s.

The mean experimental TPC yield ( $150.157 \pm 1.18$  mg GAE/g DW) was close to the predicted results ( $149.156 \pm 2.98$  mg GAE/g DW).



**Figure 8:** Microwave-assisted extraction parameters effect on total phenolic yield from *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. leaves with respect to ethanol percentage and microwave power (A); ethanol percentage and solvent-to-solid ratio (B); ethanol percentage and irradiation time (C); solvent-to-solid ratio and microwave power (D); microwave power and irradiation time (E); solvent-to-solid ratio and irradiation time (F). **PPT:** Total polyphenols of rosemary extract ( $\text{mg}_{\text{GAE}}/\text{g}_{\text{DW}}$ ); **Solvent:** Ethanol (%); **Power:** Microwave power (W); **Ratio:** Solvent to solid ratio (mL/g); **Time:** Irradiation time (s).

### III. Rosemary phenolics and characterization of phenolic compounds

The total phenolic content of the rosemary extract amounted to  $150.157 \pm 1.18$  mg GAEq/g<sub>DW</sub>, its flavonoids value was  $54.271 \pm 2.202$  mg QE/g<sub>DW</sub> and its tannins content was  $32.487 \pm 3.607$  mg TAE/g<sub>DW</sub>. *Rosemarinus officinalis* L. leaves were found to be a rich source of polyphenolic compounds, thus qualifying this spice as a potential source of phenolics and flavonoids.

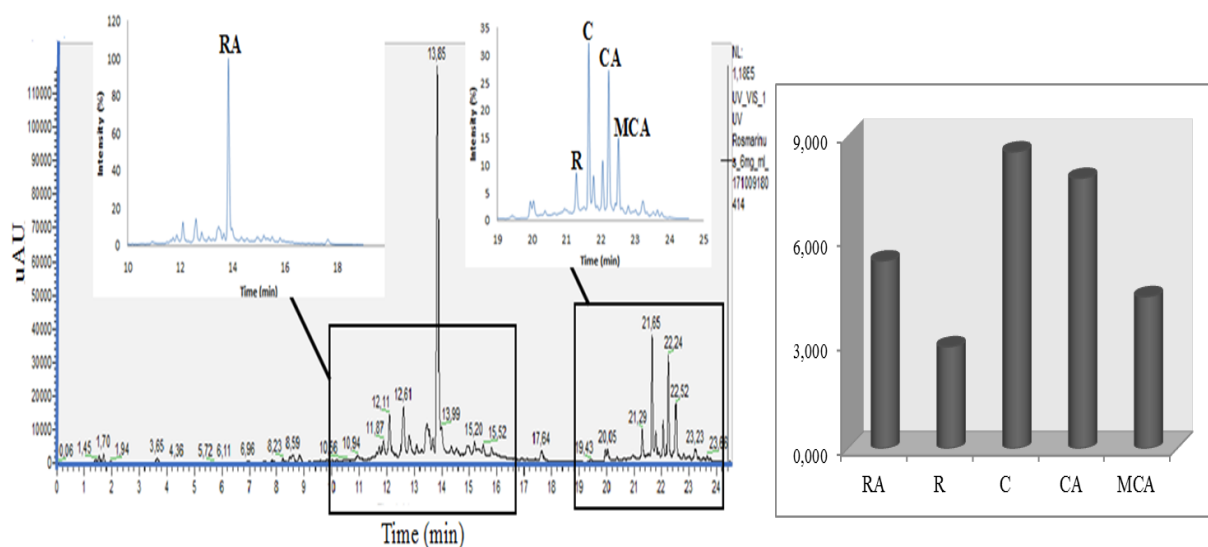
The rosemary leaves extract was analyzed by ultra-high performance liquid chromatography coupled to electrospray mass spectrometry (UHPLC–DAD–MS<sup>n</sup>). Afterwards, the compounds characterized were quantified in the extract using commercialized standards available.

The analysis of rosemary extract revealed 12 major compounds, mainly flavonoids and phenolic acids and diterpens (Table VIII and Figure 9). The detected compounds were characterized by comparison of retentiontimes (RT), UVmax, [M–H]-ion and the MS/MS fragment ions. The remaining identifications were performed by interpretation of the MS and MS/MS spectra of the detected compounds combined by the data from the literature and data bases. The fragmentation patterns of these compounds have been previously identified in other works (Borras Linares I. et al., 2011; Ivanivic (2009); Santana-Méridas O. et al., 2014; Vallverdu-Queralt A. et al., 2014).

**Table VIII:** Compounds characterized in rosemary-leaf extract.

Peak	Retention time (min)	UVmax (nm)	[M–H]-	MS <sup>2</sup> ions	Compounds
<b>1</b>	12.61	337	477	315, 300	Nepitrin
<b>2</b>	13.85	328	359	161, 197, 179,	Rosmarinic acid
<b>3</b>	14.14	322	461	223	Luteolin 3-glucuronic
<b>4</b>	14.56	316	623	285	Kaempferol-hesoside-glucuronique
<b>5</b>	15.20	322	503	285, 323, 299	Luteolin 3'-O-(O-acetyl)-β-D-glucuronide Isomer I
<b>6</b>	15.54	322	521	285, 399	
<b>7</b>	20.03	277	345	313	Rosmarinic acid-O-hexoside
<b>8</b>	20.36	244	345	301	Rosmanol
<b>9</b>	21.65	284	285	301, 283	Epi-rosmanol
<b>10</b>	21.80	267	329	285, 270, 201	Carnosol
<b>11</b>	22.24	284	331	285	Carnosol isomer
<b>12</b>	22.52	277	345	287	Carnosic acid
				301, 286	Methoxy-carnosic acid

The main compounds in the studied herb extract were terpenoids: carnosol (C), carnosic acid (CA), 1, 2, methoxy-carnosic acid (MCA) and rosmanol (R), phenolic acid as rosmarinic acid (RA), while other phenolics, such as flavonoids (kaempferol and luteolin), appeared as minor compounds.



**Figure 9:** Chromatographic profile of the rosemary leaves extract with quantitative characterization of the prominent compounds. RA: rosmarinic acid, R: rosmanol, C: carnosol, CA: carnosic acid, MCA: 1,2 methoxy-carnosic acid, the quantification was expressed in mg of compound per g of rosemary extract.

The compound concentrations were determined using the corrected area of each individual compound and by interpolation in the corresponding calibration curve. The quantitative results (Figure 9) showed that the most prominent compound in the rosemary extract found to be carnosol and carnosic acid, which presented 8.535 and 7.774 mg/g of extract, respectively, followed by rosmarinic acid which presented 5.400 mg/g of extract. According to previously published results of Borrás Linares I. et al. (2014) and Almela et al. (2006), the most abundant compounds in the rosemary-leaf extracts were phenolic diterpenes, specifically carnosic acid and carnosol, and phenolic acid (rosmarinic acid).

**IV. Biological activities of rosemary extract**

*Rosemarinus officinalis* and its main polyphenols have been the topic of many studies related to several effects. In this part of study, the antioxidant and antidiabetic activities of the rosemary ethanolic extract were carried out by different methods.

**IV.1. Antioxidant activity**

Oxidative stress has been implicated in numerous pathologic conditions, such as inflammation, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, cancer, and ageing, while natural fractions are potential sources of bioactive compounds able to counteract such events. To provide evidence of the antioxidant potential of the rosemary ethanolic extract, four in vitro essays (DPPH, FRAP, NO, SO) were conducted. The results are shown in the Table VIII.

**Table VIII:** Antioxidant activities of rosemary extract and standards expressed by IC<sub>50</sub> (µg/mL)

Antioxidant activities							
DPPH		FRAP		NO		SO	
Ascorbic acid	Rosemary extract	BHA	Rosemary extract	Ascorbic acid	Rosemary extract	Gallic acid	Rosemary extract
11.749±0.33	18.636±0.13	21.376±0.59	85.879±0.45	27.947±0.28	39.018±0.36	5.013±0.04	75.608±0.22

The scavenging DPPH method uses a stable radical, DPPH, which give deep purple color. By addition of DPPH, the color of the solution fades and the reduction is monitored by the decrease in the absorbance at 515 nm. When a solution of DPPH is mixed with a substance that can donate an hydrogen atom, the reduced form of the radical is generated accompanied by loss of color. This delocalization is also responsible for the deep violet color, characterized by an absorption band at about 515 nm.

Scherer and Godoy (2009) described the Antioxidant Activity Index (AAI) as: AAI = final concentration of DPPH (µg/mL) / IC<sub>50</sub> (µg/mL). This index classifies antioxidants as: weak AAI < 0.5; moderate 0.5 < AAI < 1.0; strong 1.0 < AAI < 2.0; and very strong AAI > 2.0. The



final concentration of DPPH used was 34 µg/mL then, rosemary extract was considered strong antioxidant (AAI = 1.825). Furthermore, the rosemary extract exhibited activity comparable to that of ascorbic acid (AAI = 2.893).

The FRAP assay measures the reduction of a ferric salt to a blue colored ferrous complex by antioxidants under acidic condition. The FRAP assay is a simple, economic and reducible method which can be applied to plant extracts. As shown in Table VIII, the rosemary extract has the capacity to reduce ferric iron ( $\text{Fe}^{+3}$ ) to ferrous iron ( $\text{Fe}^{+2}$ ), but this ability was four times less than BHA.

Nitric oxide generated from sodium nitroprusside in aqueous solution at physiological pH interacts with oxygen to produce nitrite ions, which were measured using the Griess reaction reagent (1% sulphanilamide, 0.1% naphthyethylene diamine dihydrochloride in 2%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_3$ ). Nitric oxide ( $\text{NO}\cdot$ ) has been recognized as a versatile player in several biological mechanisms, including endothelial cell function and inflammation, turning it into a biomarker in the screening of new anti-hypertensive and anti-inflammatory drugs. Therefore, the potential capability of the aqueous extracts from apple pomace to regulate  $\text{NO}_2^-$ -driven processes was inferred through its ability to scavenge chemically generated  $\text{NO}\cdot$ .

As represented in Table VIII, the rosemary extract was able to inhibit the nitrite oxide generated and exhibited activity comparable to that of ascorbic acid.

Superoxide anion generates powerful and dangerous hydroxyl radicals as well as singlet oxygen, both of which contribute to oxidative stress. In the PMS/NADH-NBT system, the superoxide anion derived from dissolved oxygen from PMS/NADH coupling reaction reduces NBT. The data illustrated in Table VIII showed that rosemary extract is stronger superoxide anion quencher but this inhibition was, however, lower than that produced by gallic acid.

Many scientific articles have correlated the antioxidant activities of rosemary extracts with the presence of specific polyphenol components. For example, carnosic acid was considered by Klančnik et al. (2010); Bubonja-Sonje et al. (2011); Piskernik et al. (2011) and Vegara et al.

(2011) as the major contributor to rosemary's antioxidant activity. Others authors, such as Cui et al. (2012) and Kontogianni et al. (2013), considered that carnosol, by itself, has an important specific bearing on the antioxidant capacity of rosemary extracts. Rosmarinic acid has also been defined as good radical scavenger by several authors, including Hosseinimehr et al. (2009); Yehb et al. (2009); Ahmad et al. (2012); Souza et al. (2013); Yang et al. (2012) and Yang et al. (2013). As regards our results (Figure 9), several components, including carnosol (C), carnosic acid (CA) and rosmarinic acid (RA), showed higher concentrations in the rosemary extract, and it was the greater presence of these components that was responsible for the increased antioxidant capacity of the corresponding extract.

**Table X:** Correlation between the antioxidant properties and phytochemicals of rosemary leaves extract

<b>Variables</b>	<b>TPC</b>	<b>TF</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>CA</b>	<b>FRAP</b>	<b>DPPH</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>SO</b>
<b>TPC</b>	<b>1</b>								
<b>TF</b>	0.154	<b>1</b>							
<b>RA</b>	0.225	0.997	<b>1</b>						
<b>C</b>	0.293	-0.900	-0.866	<b>1</b>					
<b>CA</b>	0.406	0.965	0.982	-0.755	<b>1</b>				
<b>FRAP</b>	0.176	1.000	0.999	-0.890	0.971	<b>1</b>			
<b>DPPH</b>	0.342	0.981	0.993	-0.799	0.998	0.985	<b>1</b>		
<b>NO</b>	0.126	1.000	0.995	-0.912	0.958	0.999	0.975	<b>1</b>	
<b>SO</b>	1.000	0.154	0.225	0.293	0.406	0.176	0.342	0.126	<b>1</b>

*TPC: total phenolic content, TF: total flavonoids, RA: rosmarinic acid, C: carnosol, CA: carnosic acid.*

Several studies have reported a high correlation between the antioxidant effect of plant extracts with the content of phenolic compounds. The correlations between antioxidant activity and

contents of phytochemicals of rosemary extract are analyzed (Table X). For scavenging effects on radicals and FRAP, high correlations ( $r = 0.975-0.999$ ) were observed among FRAP, DPPH and nitric oxide (NO), indicating that these three methods have satisfactory correlations for the examination of antioxidants.

The scavenging effects on free radicals (DPPH, NO) and FRAP of rosemary extract were also correlated well with its content of total flavonoids ( $r = 0.981-1$ ) and individual phenolics ( $r = -0.799-0.999$ ), while the total phenolic content showed a very lower degree of correlation. However, significantly correlation for scavenging effect on superoxide (SO) was only observed with total phenolic content.

#### **IV.2. Antidiabetic activity**

In this part of study, the effects of ethanolic extract of *Rosmarinus officinalis* on  $\alpha$ -Glucosidase and Anti-lipase activities were investigated.

**Table XI:** Inhibitory activities of rosemary extract towards  $\alpha$ -glucosidase and lipase (expressed as IC<sub>50</sub>)

<b>Antidiabetic activities</b>			
<i><math>\alpha</math>-Glucosidase</i>		<i>Anti-lipase</i>	
Acarbose	Rosemary extract	Orlistat	Rosemary extract
591.75 ± 0.591	388.66 ± 0.951	0.002 ± 0.004	273.209 ± 0.017

As shown in Table XI, the plant extract exhibited a significant inhibitory activity on enzymes,  $\alpha$ -glucosidase and lipase:  $\alpha$ -Glucosidase activity of the rosemary extract was stronger than that of the commercial drug acarbose and overall, this extract showed a quite good result against lipase.

**Table XII:** Correlation between the antidiabetic activities and phytochemicals of rosemary extract

Variables	TPC	TF	RA	C	CA	$\alpha$ -glucosidase	Anti-lipase
TPC	1						
TF	0.154	1					
RA	0.225	0.997	1				
C	0.293	-0.900	-0.866	1			
CA	0.406	0.965	0.982	-0.755	1		
$\alpha$ -glucosidase	0.469	-0.800	-0.755	0.982	-0.616	1	
Anti-lipase	0.120	-0.962	-0.940	0.984	-0.859	0,933	1

When comparing the total phenolic concentration of the rosemary extract with the  $\alpha$ -glucosidase and lipase inhibitory activities no correlation was observed. However, high correlations were observed among these inhibitory activities and total flavonoids (TF), rosmarinic acid (RA), carnosol (C) and carnosic acid (CA) (Table XII).

Madina Naimi et al. (2017), reported that rosemary extract and rosemary extract polyphenols exhibit protective properties against hyperlipidemia and hyperglycemia in genetic, chemically-induced and dietary animal models of obesity and type 2 diabetes mellitus. They suggested a potential to use rosemary extract and its polyphenolic constituents towards the management of blood glucose levels and diabetes.

***SECOND PART:***

***Enrichment of cheese***

***by rosemary***

*Chapter I:*

**MATERIALS AND  
METHODS**

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### **I. Impact of rosemary addition on physicochemical parameters, sensory attributes and microbiological quality of rosemary-supplemented cheese**

#### **I.1. Preparation of rosemary-supplemented cheeses and sampling**

The fresh cheese used in this part of study was manufactured at the Sittelle Kabyle SARL in Aokas (Bejaia, Algeria) in June, 2017. After draining, the curd was aseptically supplemented with rosemary leaves powder (Cheese B: 0.25 %; Cheese C: 0.5 % and Cheese D: 0.75 %) or with their lyophilized ethanolic extract (Cheese E: 0.25 % and Cheese F: 0.5 %), and put into sterile boxes. Before adding the powder and the extract, they were first sterilized at 90°C/5min. The rosemary fortified-cheeses and control cheese (Cheese A) were kept at 5 ±1 °C until analysis of some physicochemical characteristics (pH, acidity, fat, and proteins), sensory appreciation and microbial quality. Sampling was performed after storage for 1 day (T1), 5 days (T2), 10 days (T3), 14 days (T4), and 18 days (T5).

#### **I.2. Physicochemical and compositional analyses**

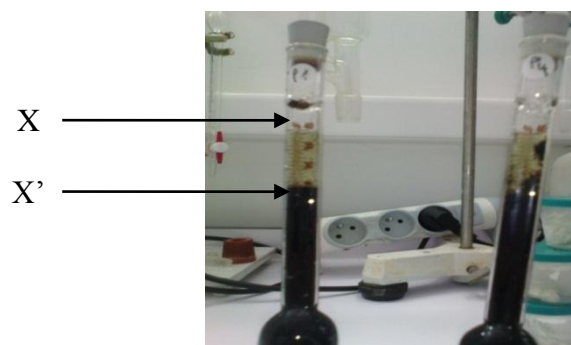
The pH was measured in cheese samples prepared by homogenizing 5 g of each sample with 45 mL of distilled water.

For determination of titratable acidity, 2g of cheese were crushed with 20mL of distilled water in porcelain mortar. This solution was transferred into an erlenmayer flask, 5 drops of phenolphthalein was added and titrated with 0.1N NaOH to the first permanent color change to pink.

$$\text{Acidity } (^{\circ}D) = \text{NaOH amount} * 0.9 * 10$$

The fat content was determined by the Gerber method (ISO 1211), 3 g cheese sample was weighed into a butyrometer vessel and filled with 10 mL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (70%) to be incubated 60min/80°C.

After incubation, 1 mL amyl alcohol was added. Butyrometer vessel was completed to the level of 35% with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution and centrifuged in Gerber centrifuge for 10 min. The oil level was read from butyrometer vessel.



The proteins concentration in cheeses was quantified by the biuret method using bovine serum albumin as a standard (Gornall et al., 1949).

### I.3. Microbiological Analysis

After adding rosemary leaves to the cheese, yeasts and molds as well as the total coliforms were counted on D+1 (the second day of storage).

In order to assess the effect of rosemary addition on lactic bacteria, cheese samples were followed up for 18 days of storage.

The direct contact method (mass inoculation) was adopted.

Before opening the cheese box (10g), and in order to eliminate any source of contamination, its outer surface was carefully cleaned with ethanol. The container was aseptically opened and homogenized with 90mL of 0.1 % sterile peptone water. Serial 8 fold dilutions in sterile 0.1 % peptone water were prepared for bacterial analysis. Two measurements were carried out and average values are represented. The sterility of the agars and peptone water was checked.

**Total Aerobic Count:** Plate Count Agar was used for total aerobic count. Plates were incubated at 30°C for 72 h.

**Yeast and Mould Enumeration:** Oxytetracycline Glucose Agar was used for yeast and mould enumeration. Plates were incubated at 25°C for 5 days.



**Coliform Bacteria Enumeration:** Violet Red Bile Agar was used for the enumeration of coliforms. Plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 h.

**Lactobacillus Enumeration:** MRS agar was used for the enumeration of *Lactobacillus*. Plates of dilutions  $10^{-4}$ ,  $10^{-5}$ ,  $10^{-6}$  and  $10^{-7}$  were incubated at 30°C for 24 h.

**Lactococcus Enumeration:** M 17 Agar was used for the enumeration of *Lactococcus*. Plates of dilutions  $10^{-4}$ ,  $10^{-5}$ ,  $10^{-6}$  and  $10^{-7}$  were incubated at 30°C for 24 h.

### I.4. Sensory analyses

Cheese samples (fortified and control) were submitted to sensory analysis (hedonic test). This analysis was conducted at the Laboratory of sensory analysis of Bejaia-University; the cheeses were stored (4 °C), and were previously analyzed on the first day of storage for microbiological sanitary parameters (total coliforms, thermotolerant coliforms), thus promoting the safety of the panelists.

Ten panelists ( $n = 10$ ; including five females and five males, aging from 27 to 50 years), familiar with sensory evaluation techniques and regular consumers of food products, evaluated the sensory quality of the prepared samples (Djaoud et al., 2020a; Wang, Liu, Jing, Fan, & Cai, 2019). They were asked to score the color, odor, acidity, aroma, smooth texture, aftertaste and the overall acceptability. The sensory analysis was based on a five-point scale for hedonic measurements; for color: 1. White, 2. Beige, 3. Yellow-green, 4. Light-green, 5. Blue-green ; for the other sensory descriptors : 1. Absence, 2. Low, 3. Average, 4. Strong, 5. Very strong, and extremely unpleasant (1 point) or extremely pleasant (9 points) were used for scoring panelists preferences (acceptability). Cheese samples (15 g in weight), at the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of storing, were randomly presented in transparent and individual plastic cups coded with 3-digit numbers, at room temperature. Water and bread were used as neutralizing agents during samples tastings.

## **II. Effect on color, phenolic compounds and antioxidant activity of rosemary fortified fresh cheese**

### **II.1. Preparation of rosemary-supplemented cheeses and obtaining of the respective extracts**

The fresh cheese used in this part of study was produced at the Agrarian Higher School (pilot scale) of Coimbra, Portugal in October, 2018. After draining, the curd was aseptically supplemented with rosemary leaves powder (cheese C:0.5% and cheese G:1%) or with hydroethanolic extract (cheese E:0.25% and cheese F:0.5%) and kept into sterile boxes. The rosemary fortified-cheeses and control (cheese A) were left at 5°C until analysis, that were performed after storage for 1 day (T1), 5 days (T2), 8 days (T3), 12 days (T4) and 16 days (T5). Cheese extracts (to be used in for analysis of phenolic compounds and antioxidant capacity) were prepared according to the procedure of Fernandes, Ferreira, Bastos, Ferreira, Cruz, Pinto, et al., (2019) with some modifications: five grams of cheese were stirred for 4 h with 50 mL of methanol acidified with formic acid (9:1 v/v). The mixture was kept overnight at -18°C then centrifuged (6000 rpm/30 min/4°C) and filtered through a G4 membrane to remove soluble proteins. The samples were kept in the freezer until analysis.

### **II.2. Surface color**

The cheese samples (control and rosemary-fortified) were characterized regarding color, as well phenolic compounds.

Surface color was determined with a colorimeter (CM 2300d, Konica Minolta, Japan) through coordinates CIELAB  $a^*$  (+ red, - green),  $b^*$  (+ yellow, - blue) and  $L^*$  (darkness-lightness). Total color difference ( $\Delta E^*$ ) was determined as previously described by Pathare, Opara, and Al-Said (2013) and Patras, Brunton, Tiwari, and Butler (2011):

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{(a^* - a_0)^2 + (b^* - b_0)^2 + (L^* - L_0)^2}$$

Where  $a_0$ ,  $b_0$  and  $L_0$  are the coordinates of cheese control.

### **II.3. Quantitative and qualitative analysis of phenolic compounds**

The content of total phenolic compounds (TPC) was determined using the Folin-Ciocalteu reagent as previously described by Marcelo et al. (2015) with some modifications: in tubes, 60  $\mu\text{L}$  of cheese extracts were added to 2.34 mL of distilled water and 150  $\mu\text{L}$  Folin-Ciocalteu reagent. After 8 min of incubation, 450  $\mu\text{L}$  of 30% (w/v) sodium carbonate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) solution was added to each tube. These were then incubated for 30 min in the dark and the absorbance was measured at 750 nm. Gallic acid was used as standard and TPC concentration was expressed in mg of Gallic Acid Equivalents (GAE) per g of fresh cheese.

To determine individual phenolic compounds, extract samples of cheese were filtered through 0.22 nylon filter and analysed by UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> (Fernandes, Ferreira, Bastos, Ferreira, Cruz, Pinto, et al., 2019), as described in the previous chapter.

### **II.4. Antioxidant capacity of cheese samples**

The antioxidant capacity of cheeses was screened by the ABTS assay, as described by Zeyneb et al. (2020) with some modifications: Cheese extracts (50  $\mu\text{L}$ ) were added to 250  $\mu\text{L}$  of diluted ABTS<sup>•+</sup> solution (until its absorbance reaches 0.75-0.80). After 15 min of incubation in dark conditions, the absorption at 734 nm was measured using an ELX800 microplate reader. The inhibition (%) of cheese samples was then compared with a standard curve made from the corresponding readings of ascorbic acid (0.02–0.50 mg/mL) and results expressed as mg ascorbic acid equivalents/g fresh weight.

## **III. Statistical analysis**

Results of each analysis were expressed as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation. All data were subjected to an analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey's multiple comparison tests, considering a 95% significance level.

Principal components analysis (PCA) was performed to explore the differences between cheese samples and the relationship between ABTS and rosemary polyphenols. Excel Stat 2014 Statistical Software was used to run the analyses.

*Chapter II:*

*RESULTS AND*

*DISCUSSION*

In this part, rosemary powder and RSM-optimized extract (obtained above) were added to the fresh cheese at different concentrations to see whether or not this fortification would have an effect on the different physicochemical, lactic flora and sensory parameters.

### I. Physicochemical parameters of cheese extracts

#### I.1. Rosemary-cheese supplementation effect on pH, acidity, proteins and fat contents

Results of rosemary addition on physicochemical parameters of cheese samples are shown on the table below.

**Table XIII:** Changes in physicochemical parameters of samples throughout storage

	Time (days)	Cheese A	Cheese B	Cheese C	Cheese D	Cheese E	Cheese F
<b>pH</b>	T1	6.18 ± 0.08 <sup>aA</sup>	6.19 ± 0.13 <sup>aA</sup>	6.18 ± 0.15 <sup>aA</sup>	6.19 ± 0.06 <sup>aA</sup>	6.17 ± 0.06 <sup>aA</sup>	6.18 ± 0.12 <sup>aA</sup>
	T2	5.80 ± 0.11 <sup>bA</sup>	6.00 ± 0.08 <sup>aA</sup>	6.02 ± 0.08 <sup>aA</sup>	6.00 ± 0.12 <sup>aA</sup>	6.05 ± 0.08 <sup>aA</sup>	6.01 ± 1.12 <sup>aA</sup>
	T3	5.02 ± 0.07 <sup>cA</sup>	5.76 ± 0.08 <sup>bC</sup>	5.37 ± 0.17 <sup>bB</sup>	5.44 ± 0.15 <sup>bB</sup>	5.43 ± 0.16 <sup>bB</sup>	5.58 ± 1.21 <sup>bC</sup>
	T4	4.72 ± 0.12 <sup>dA</sup>	5.05 ± 0.12 <sup>cB</sup>	5.19 ± 0.07 <sup>cB</sup>	5.17 ± 0.06 <sup>cB</sup>	5.15 ± 0.11 <sup>cB</sup>	5.16 ± 0.08 <sup>cB</sup>
	T5	4.41 ± 0.08 <sup>dA</sup>	4.54 ± 0.10 <sup>dA</sup>	4.65 ± 0.07 <sup>dA</sup>	4.67 ± 0.10 <sup>dA</sup>	4.56 ± 0.07 <sup>dA</sup>	4.66 ± 1.23 <sup>dA</sup>
<b>Acidity (°D)</b>	T1	65 ± 0.16 <sup>aA</sup>	64 ± 0.12 <sup>aA</sup>	63 ± 0.17 <sup>aA</sup>	64 ± 0.19 <sup>aA</sup>	65 ± 0.08 <sup>aA</sup>	63 ± 1.25 <sup>aA</sup>
	T2	70 ± 0.31 <sup>bA</sup>	76 ± 0.25 <sup>bB</sup>	77 ± 0.21 <sup>bB</sup>	75 ± 0.11 <sup>bB</sup>	78 ± 1.23 <sup>bB</sup>	74 ± 0.08 <sup>bB</sup>
	T3	124 ± 0.25 <sup>cA</sup>	123 ± 0.16 <sup>cA</sup>	122 ± 0.06 <sup>cA</sup>	121 ± 0.12 <sup>cA</sup>	124 ± 0.12 <sup>cA</sup>	119 ± 1.21 <sup>cA</sup>
	T4	160 ± 0.38 <sup>dA</sup>	158 ± 0.12 <sup>dA</sup>	159 ± 0.12 <sup>dA</sup>	155 ± 0.21 <sup>dA</sup>	159 ± 0.21 <sup>dA</sup>	156 ± 2.12 <sup>dA</sup>
	T5	190 ± 0.12 <sup>eA</sup>	188 ± 0.08 <sup>eA</sup>	189 ± 0.32 <sup>eA</sup>	185 ± 0.12 <sup>eA</sup>	189 ± 1.25 <sup>eA</sup>	186 ± 1.22 <sup>eA</sup>
<b>Proteins (mg/mL)</b>	T1	5.20 ± 0.12 <sup>aA</sup>	5.40 ± 0.11 <sup>aA</sup>	5.30 ± 0.08 <sup>aA</sup>	5.70 ± 0.15 <sup>aB</sup>	5.70 ± 0.21 <sup>bB</sup>	5.75 ± 0.15 <sup>bB</sup>
	T2	5.00 ± 0.21 <sup>aA</sup>	5.50 ± 0.16 <sup>aB</sup>	5.30 ± 0.12 <sup>aA</sup>	5.60 ± 0.12 <sup>aB</sup>	5.40 ± 0.18 <sup>aA</sup>	5.55 ± 0.18 <sup>bA</sup>
	T3	5.15 ± 0.15 <sup>aA</sup>	5.50 ± 0.16 <sup>aB</sup>	5.50 ± 0.18 <sup>bB</sup>	5.62 ± 0.16 <sup>aB</sup>	5.60 ± 0.21 <sup>bB</sup>	5.70 ± 0.21 <sup>bB</sup>
	T4	5.10 ± 0.22 <sup>aA</sup>	5.40 ± 0.15 <sup>aA</sup>	5.30 ± 0.18 <sup>aA</sup>	5.50 ± 0.15 <sup>aB</sup>	5.50 ± 0.22 <sup>aB</sup>	5.60 ± 0.12 <sup>bB</sup>
	T5	5.18 ± 0.18 <sup>aA</sup>	5.25 ± 0.21 <sup>bA</sup>	5.15 ± 0.22 <sup>aA</sup>	5.30 ± 0.18 <sup>aA</sup>	5.20 ± 0.12 <sup>aA</sup>	5.32 ± 0.22 <sup>aA</sup>
<b>Fat (%)</b>	T1	15 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>
	T2	15 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	16 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>
	T3	15 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>	13 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>
	T4	15 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>
	T5	15 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	14 <sup>aA</sup>	16 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>	15 <sup>aA</sup>

*Different letters indicate significant differences (p < 0.05) according to Tukey's test. T1. T2. T3. T4 and T5 correspond to 1, 5, 10, 14 and 18 days of storage, respectively.*

Overall, no significant differences ( $p > 0.05$ ) were registered among the different cheese samples regarding pH [6.19 – 4.41], the acidity [63 – 190 °D], the protein percentage [5.00 - 5.70 mg/g] and the fat percentage [14 - 16 %].

The pH of cheese samples, in the 1<sup>st</sup> day (T1), ranged from 6.17 to 6.18, values that are similar to that described by Silva et al. (2010), who reported pH (5.99-7.3) in Coalho cheese made from cow's milk marketed in the Brazilian Northeast. The pH of fresh cheese ranges from 5.1 to 5.5 and the Dornic acidity can be between 65 and 80°D (FAO, 2012).

According to Mahaut et al. (2000), the pH and the acidity can be influenced by several factors, such as the load microbial initial of milk and hygienic handing conditions. In a study carried out on different fresh cheeses from different regions, Jimenez-Maroto et al. (2016) showed that moisture influences the pH value which ranged from 5.3 to 6.5 for high water content. Also in agreement with other authors (Rita Ramos et al., 2013; Santa et al., 2013), the pH of control and fortified cheeses tended to decrease over the storage time with significant differences ( $P < 0.05$ ). However, no significant differences ( $P > 0.05$ ) of pH values among the different cheeses. According to (Rita Ramos et al. (2013), pH values of cheeses are related to the time of ripening because ripened cheeses present lower moisture and higher acidity than unripened cheeses. However since our cheeses were not ripened few significant variations of such parameter were observed throughout storage time.

The buterometric method was used to determine the fat content in fresh cheese samples and the results obtained ranged from 14 to 16g of fat per 100g of fresh cheese. According to Luquet (1990), the fat content in a fresh cheese must be less than or equal to 20g per 100g of fresh cheese after draining.

### **I.2. Surface color evolution**

Color is one of major factors which affect a consumer's choice and selection of cheese, and it is also a powerful tool for quality control and marketing.

The effect of rosemary (powder/extract) fortification on the surface color of the cheeses was evaluated throughout the storage days and compared to the control. Note that in the CIEL\*L\*a\*b\* system, a\* is a negative or positive value for greenish or reddish colors, respectively, whereas b\* assume negative values for the bluish tonalities, and positive values for yellowish ones. L\* represents an approximate measurement of luminosity, which is the property according to which each color could be considered as equivalent to a member of the grey scale, between black and white (Granato & Masson, 2010; Pathare, Opara, & Al-Said, 2013). In general, the supplementation with rosemary powder or extract, at levels of 0.5/1% and 0.25/0.5%, respectively, significantly changed the color attributes of the cheeses, while these were not affected during the storage time (Table 14). All the samples presented high values of lightness, meaning that the cheese samples were bright, albeit fortification with rosemary (and particularly with powder), reduced it. In addition, b\* coordinate was strongly impacted with the rosemary supplementation, with the yellowness tones being intensified, particularly with adding of the hydroethanolic extracts ( $\Delta b^*$  of 3.1-5.7 and 8.2-11.2 for cheeses E-F and C-G, respectively). This fact may in part occur do to the presence of yellow or brownish compounds (eg. flavonoids, carotenoids, degraded chlorophylls), which are expected to be concentrated in the extracts.

Total color difference ( $\Delta E^*$ ) is a key parameter for the assessment of magnitude of colordifferences between control and fortified cheeses. Differences in perceivable color can be analytically classified as: none 0-0.7, lightly 0.7-2.5, remarkable 2.5-3.0, appreciable 3.0-6.0, considerable 6.0-12.0, and biggest 12.0 (Ramirez-Navas & Rodriguez de Stouvenel, 2012).

Considering this parameter, from the results shown in *Table XIV*, there are significant color differences ( $\Delta E$ ) between the fortified cheeses, confirming the possibility of the visual perception of the human eye.

Cheeses C and E showed a considerable  $\Delta E$  (6.0-12.0) while the cheeses G and F, enriched more than these, were found to be highly perceived ( $\Delta E > 12$ ) for all the period of storage.



**Table XIV:** Surface color parameters of fresh cheeses along the storage period.

CIELab	Cheese	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
L*	A	91.02 <sup>A</sup> ± 0.97	90.61 <sup>A</sup> ± 1.74	92.53 <sup>A</sup> ± 4.98	91.28 <sup>A</sup> ± 1.86	93.59 <sup>A</sup> ± 0.97
	C	80.21 <sup>C</sup> ± 1.25	81.13 <sup>D</sup> ± 1.43	82.33 <sup>C</sup> ± 1.15	80.51 <sup>D</sup> ± 3.33	82.21 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.93
	G	73.07 <sup>E</sup> ± 2.44	73.83 <sup>E</sup> ± 3.52	76.13 <sup>E</sup> ± 1.84	74.17 <sup>E</sup> ± 2.51	74.96 <sup>E</sup> ± 3.42
	E	83.05 <sup>B</sup> ± 1.62	84.87 <sup>B</sup> ± 1.28	85.32 <sup>B</sup> ± 1.01	85.12 <sup>B</sup> ± 1.77	84.94 <sup>B</sup> ± 2.16
	F	79.74 <sup>D</sup> ± 2.64	81.51 <sup>C</sup> ± 1.16	80.70 <sup>D</sup> ± 1.55	81.20 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.97	81.85 <sup>D</sup> ± 1.72
a*	A	-0.95 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.10	-1.03 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.25	-0.85 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.19	-0.53 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.20	-0.63 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.12
	C	-0.07 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.16	-0.08 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.15	-0.03 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.13	-0.03 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.21	-0.21 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.18
	G	0.46 <sup>A</sup> ± 0.33	0.46 <sup>A</sup> ± 0.34	0.45 <sup>A</sup> ± 0.34	0.39 <sup>A</sup> ± 0.20	0.27 <sup>A</sup> ± 0.26
	E	-0.64 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.18	-0.78 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.20	-0.67 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.17	-0.66 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.17	-0.67 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.17
	F	-0.52 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.19	-0.71 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.17	-0.55 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.13	-0.50 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.24	-0.72 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.16
b*	A	13.42 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.68	13.76 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.721	12.17 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.85	14.14 <sup>E</sup> ± 1.81	13.38 <sup>E</sup> ± 0.77
	C	16.51 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.78	17.31 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.610	17.96 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.76	17.99 <sup>D</sup> ± 1.51	16.93 <sup>D</sup> ± 0.84
	G	19.09 <sup>C</sup> ± 1.08	19.64 <sup>C</sup> ± 1.250	19.94 <sup>C</sup> ± 1.83	19.42 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.47	19.47 <sup>C</sup> ± 0.56
	E	21.57 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.878	21.22 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.981	20.21 <sup>B</sup> ± 1.73	21.87 <sup>B</sup> ± 1.26	21.46 <sup>B</sup> ± 0.92
	F	24.62 <sup>A</sup> ± 1.99	24.88 <sup>A</sup> ± 1.477	25.03 <sup>A</sup> ± 1.27	25.99 <sup>A</sup> ± 2.40	25.3 <sup>A</sup> ± 1.09
ΔE	A	-	-	-	-	-
	C	11.28 <sup>A</sup>	11.30 <sup>B</sup>	11.76 <sup>B</sup>	11.45 <sup>B</sup>	11.67 <sup>B</sup>
	G	18.88 <sup>C</sup>	17.84 <sup>D</sup>	18.19 <sup>D</sup>	17.93 <sup>D</sup>	18.98 <sup>D</sup>
	E	11.40 <sup>A</sup>	10.50 <sup>A</sup>	10.80 <sup>A</sup>	10.69 <sup>A</sup>	10.57 <sup>A</sup>
	F	15.90 <sup>B</sup>	15.97 <sup>C</sup>	16.06 <sup>C</sup>	15.56 <sup>C</sup>	16.03 <sup>C</sup>

*Different letters indicate significant differences (p < 0.05) according to Tukey's test. Cheeses C and G contain 0.5 and 1% of rosemary powder respectively; cheeses E and F were added with 0.25 and 0.5% of rosemary hydroethanolic extract, respectively. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 corresponding to storage days 1, 5, 8, 12 and 16, respectively.*

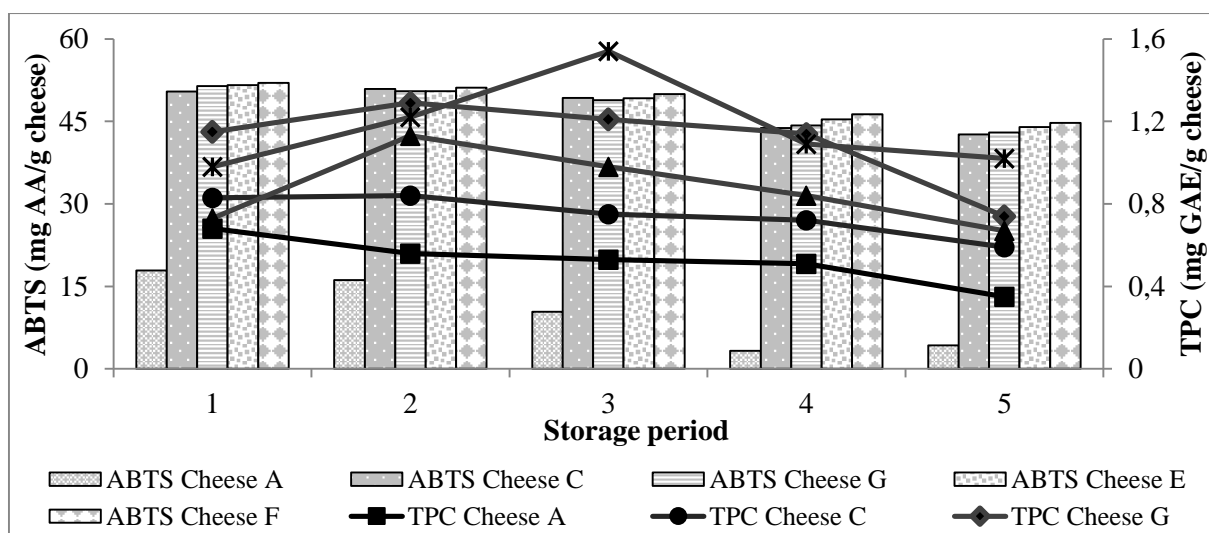
### I.3. Total phenolic content as affected by rosemary enrichment

The mean values of total phenolic content TPC (in mg gallic acid/g of cheese) of cheese samples are illustrated in Figure 10.

Overall, the fortified cheeses evidenced significantly higher ( $P < 0.05$ ) TPC values when compared to the non-enriched one throughout storage period, and these TPC values were increased with the concentration of rosemary added.

Cheese F was significantly different from the rest, presenting the highest TPC values (154 mg GAE/100g) followed by the cheese G (129 mg GAE/100g), while cheese C showed the lowest values (84 mg GAE/100g), noting that cheeses C and F were enriched with 0.5% of rosemary powder and ethanolic extract, respectively. Our results were in agreement with those obtained by Hala, Ebtisam, Sanaa, Badran, Marwa, and Said (2010) and (Ahmed Saad Gad & El-Salam, 2010) who observed the enrichment in TPC of fortified dairy products. This increasing could be ascribed to the richness of rosemary leaves in phenolic compounds identified as phenolic diterpenes, such as carnosic acid, carnosol, rosmanol, epi and iso-rosmanol, rosmadial and methyl carnosate, rosmarinic acid, caffeic acid and flavonoids (Abramovič, et al., 2012; Borrás-Linares, et al., 2015; Lemos, Lemos, Pacheco, Endringer, & Scherer, 2015; Shan, Cai, Sun, & Corke, 2005; Vallverdú-Queralt, Regueiro, Martínez-Huélamo, Rinaldi Alvarenga, Leal, & Lamuela-Raventos, 2014).

However, along storage period, it was noticed that the TPC decreased for control cheese from T1 to T5, for cheeses C, G and E from T3 to T5 and for cheese F from T4 to T5. According to Hala, M.F. El-Din (2010), this may be due to the transformation of phenolic compounds which highly unstable compounds and undergo numerous enzymatic and chemical reactions during food storage. After 16 days of storage, fortified cheeses exhibited more TPC than control by 102 and 74 mg GAE/100g for cheeses F and G containing 0.5% and 1% of rosemary ethanolic extract and powder, respectively.



**Figure 10.** Total phenolic content and antioxidant activity of cheeses as affected by rosemary addition during storage. Cheeses C and G contain 0.5 and 1% of rosemary powder respectively; cheeses E and F were added with 0.25 and 0.5% of rosemary hydroethanolic extract, respectively. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 corresponding to storage days 1, 5, 8, 12 and 16, respectively.

In order to have additional insight on the effects of rosemary leaves supplementation, the major phenolic compounds were monitored along the storage time and results are summarized in table XV. The most prominent compounds in the fortified samples were the phenolic diterpenes [carnosol (C), carnosic acid (CA), 1, 2, methoxy-carnosic acid (MCA)] and the hydroxycinnamic acid [rosmarinic acid (RA)], while other phenolics, such as rosmanol (R) and the flavonoids kaempferol and luteolin, appeared as minor compounds. Consistent with the results from TPC, for the same level of supplementation (eg. cheese C vs cheese F), the extract produced a superior impact in the levels of these specific phenolic compounds. It is however important to mention that some fluctuations in the values observed along storage time may not only be due to phenolic degradations/rearrangements, but also result from a non-homogenous distribution of the powder/extract in the cheeses.

#### I.4. Antioxidant capacity

The ability of cheese samples to scavenge free radicals of ABTS was used as a criterion of their antioxidant activity. Results illustrated in Figure 10 indicated that cheese F exhibited slightly higher antioxidant capacity than the other cheese samples and supplemented rosemary cheeses

**Table XV.** Concentration of individual phenolic compounds (in mg/100g of cheese) of fresh cheeses along the storage period

Cheeses	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	
RA	A	-	-	-	-	
	C	2.82±1.89 <sup>d</sup>	1.65±1.87 <sup>d</sup>	2.44±4.17 <sup>d</sup>	1.92±3.19 <sup>d</sup>	1.93±6.26 <sup>d</sup>
	G	8.88±1.2 <sup>b</sup>	9.83±1.12 <sup>b</sup>	3.52±5.21 <sup>c</sup>	4.36±7.48 <sup>c</sup>	6.53±9.69 <sup>c</sup>
	E	7.79±5.58 <sup>c</sup>	6.88±0.82 <sup>c</sup>	10.12±7.03 <sup>b</sup>	8.20±9.79 <sup>b</sup>	9.80±2.51 <sup>b</sup>
	F	17.77±2.60 <sup>a</sup>	26.79±3.60 <sup>a</sup>	27.09±8.27 <sup>a</sup>	26.72±3.21 <sup>a</sup>	13.12±5.13 <sup>a</sup>
R	A	-	-	-	-	
	C	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ
	G	0.82±2.53 <sup>b</sup>	1.64±4.26 <sup>b</sup>	2.14±3.60 <sup>b</sup>	1.89±1.15 <sup>b</sup>	2.21±4.3 <sup>a</sup>
	E	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	0.35±0.35 <sup>c</sup>	<LOQ
	F	3.12±4.63 <sup>a</sup>	3.64±1.48 <sup>a</sup>	4.49±2.53 <sup>a</sup>	5.41±5.13 <sup>a</sup>	1.80±1.50 <sup>b</sup>
C	A	-	-	-	-	
	C	195.18±4.31 <sup>c</sup>	125.17±1.22 <sup>d</sup>	260.02±1.79 <sup>c</sup>	184.78±1.23 <sup>c</sup>	221.75±1.39 <sup>c</sup>
	G	416.11±2.75 <sup>a</sup>	376.84±3.29 <sup>b</sup>	395.88±4.07 <sup>b</sup>	324.89±2.54 <sup>b</sup>	418.45±3.41 <sup>a</sup>
	E	136.29±0.04 <sup>d</sup>	143.85±1.78 <sup>c</sup>	220.87±7.94 <sup>d</sup>	148.52±1.67 <sup>d</sup>	197.18±1.68 <sup>d</sup>
	F	289.88±1.93 <sup>b</sup>	476.29±9.90 <sup>a</sup>	511.47±1.46 <sup>a</sup>	546.80±2.90 <sup>a</sup>	255.55±9.76 <sup>b</sup>
CA	A	-	-	-	-	
	C	80.39±5.82 <sup>c</sup>	67.10±7.62 <sup>d</sup>	93.11±1.39 <sup>d</sup>	68.36±4.13 <sup>c</sup>	88.22±6.58 <sup>d</sup>
	G	177.95±1.36 <sup>a</sup>	271.21±2.39 <sup>a</sup>	115.85±1.14 <sup>c</sup>	130.75±9.39 <sup>b</sup>	204.01±1.56 <sup>a</sup>
	E	132.79±1.01 <sup>b</sup>	124.93±3.97 <sup>c</sup>	156.37±6.27 <sup>b</sup>	130.01±1.35 <sup>b</sup>	167.68±7.48 <sup>b</sup>
	F	175.51±1.39 <sup>a</sup>	203.38±1.49 <sup>b</sup>	304.33±4.21 <sup>a</sup>	251.84±1.97 <sup>a</sup>	140.01±1.15 <sup>c</sup>
MCA	A	-	-	-	-	
	C	57.06±6.82 <sup>c</sup>	34.62±2.5 <sup>d</sup>	60.72±1.17 <sup>c</sup>	43.01±2.24 <sup>c</sup>	52.28±2.05 <sup>c</sup> 80.26±4.11 <sup>a</sup>
	G	86.26±8.08 <sup>a</sup>	92.81±7.26 <sup>a</sup>	66.08±6.46 <sup>b</sup>	61.09±4.37 <sup>b</sup>	59.05±5.37 <sup>b</sup>
	E	40.83±2.28 <sup>d</sup>	45.59±0.8 <sup>c</sup>	58.46±2.23 <sup>d</sup>	41.71±3.10 <sup>c</sup>	52.70±1.21 <sup>c</sup>
	F	60.79±7.96 <sup>b</sup>	86.46±3.16 <sup>b</sup>	97.89±1.12 <sup>a</sup>	107.92±6.95 <sup>a</sup>	
Total	A	-	-	-	-	
	C	335.45 <sup>c</sup>	228.54 <sup>d</sup>	416.29 <sup>d</sup>	298.07 <sup>d</sup>	364.18 <sup>d</sup>
	G	688.96 <sup>a</sup>	752.33 <sup>b</sup>	583.47 <sup>b</sup>	522.98 <sup>b</sup>	711.46 <sup>a</sup>
	E	317.70 <sup>d</sup>	321.25 <sup>c</sup>	445.82 <sup>c</sup>	328.79 <sup>c</sup>	433.71 <sup>c</sup>
	F	547.07 <sup>b</sup>	796.56 <sup>a</sup>	945.27 <sup>a</sup>	938.69 <sup>a</sup>	463.18 <sup>b</sup>

The phenolics were quantified from the areas of their peaks using external standard calibration curves. Abbreviations: RA: rosmarinic acid. R: rosmanol. C: carnosol. CA: carnosic acid. MCA: 1, 2-methoxy-carnosic acid. <LOQ: below limit of quantification. Cheeses C and G contain 0.5 and 1% of rosemary powder respectively; cheeses E and F were added with 0.25 and 0.5% of rosemary hydroethanolic extract, respectively. T1, T2, T3, T4 and T5 correspond to 1, 5, 8, 12 and 16 days of storage, respectively. Different letters indicate significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) according to Tukey's test.

showed a significant ( $P > 0.05$ ) higher antioxidant potential compared to the control during all storage period. This could partly be due to the presence of rosemary diterpenoids in these cheeses. According to Loussouarn, Krieger-Liszkay, Svilar, Bily, Birtić, and Havaux (2017), carnosic acid and carnosol are both potent antioxidants. In addition, several studies have reported that the presence of phenolics of plant materials in enriched food products could be associated with high antioxidant capacity (Apostolidis, Kwon, & Shetty, 2007; Branciari, nucci, Trabalza-Marinucci, Codini, Orru, Ortenzi, et al., 2015; Felfoul, Borchani, Samet-Bali, Attia, & Ayadi, 2017; Hala, Ebtisam, Sanaa, Badran, Marwa, & Said, 2010; Muniandy, Shori, & Baba, 2016; Ribeiro-Santos, et al., 2015). In the other hand, the fluctuations in the fluctuations in values of ABTS of all rosemary cheeses remained insignificant ( $P > 0.05$ ) along the storage period. However, it was noteworthy that the percentage of ABTS gradually decreased throughout storage period for all cheese samples.

### II. Microbiological Analysis

In this section, we looked at the effect of adding rosemary (powder or extract) on lactic acid bacteria. Thus, monitoring of the lactobacilli and lactococci load was carried out for the different cheeses during their storage period.

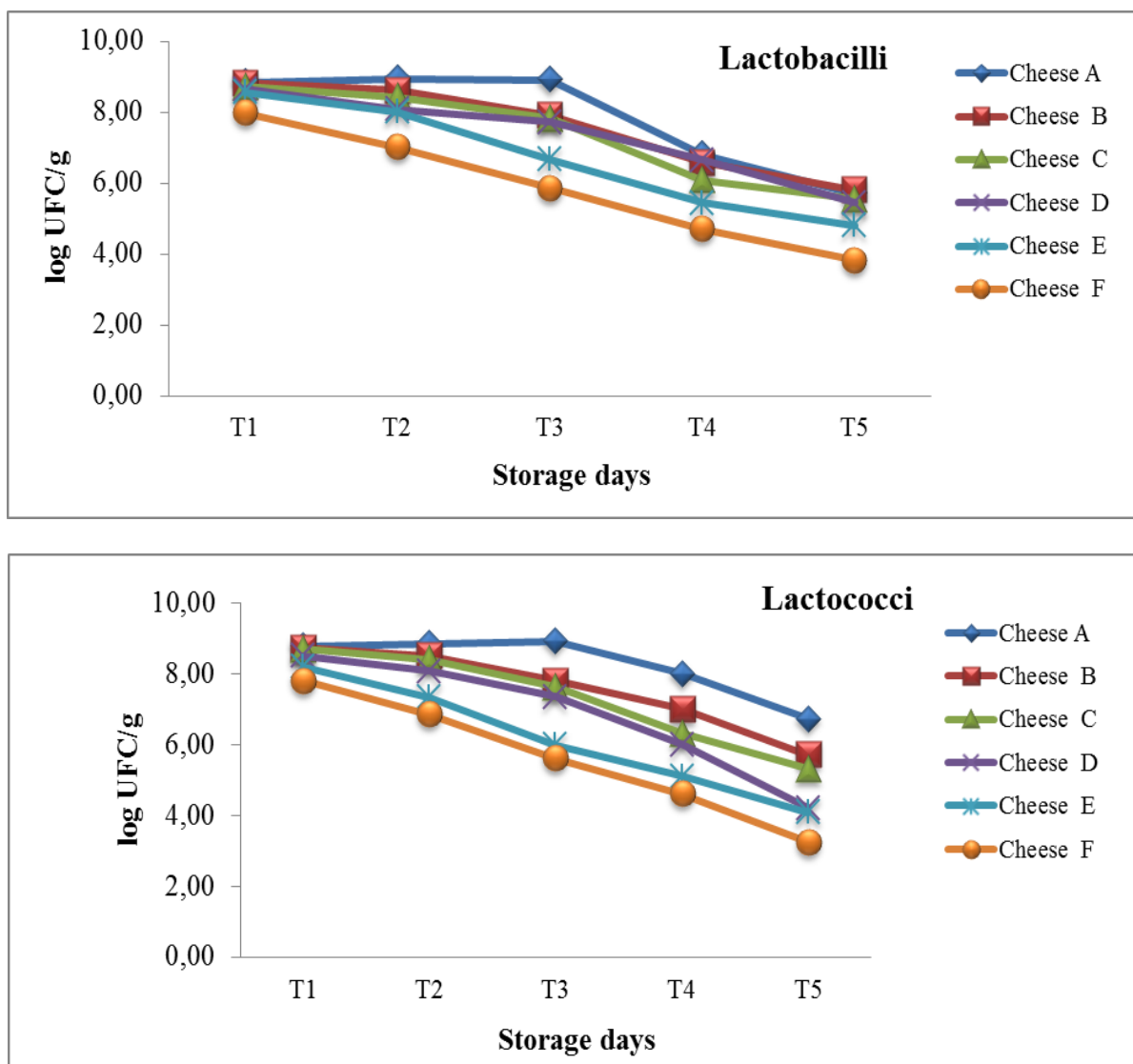
An absence of total coliforms, yeasts and molds was recorded in the various cheese samples analyzed. This indicates compliance with hygienic measures during their transport and their enrichment in rosemary.

The level of lactic flora in cheese samples is illustrated in figure 11. The obtained results showed that at T1 the level of lactic flora in cheese A (control) was  $7.1 \cdot 10^8$  CFU/g for lactobacilli and  $6.2 \cdot 10^8$  CFU/g for lactococci. An increase was observed until reaching a load of  $8.9 \cdot 10^8$  CFU/g for lactobacilli (T2) and a maximum load of  $8.6 \cdot 10^8$  CFU/g for lactococci (T3). After that, a decrease in the level of lactic acid bacteria has been noted during storage.

Otherwise, an increase in the percentages of rosemary powder or extract in cheese samples induced a decrease in the bacterial number where the rate does not exceed  $10^6$  CFU/g at from

T4. It was noticed a significant ( $P > 0.05$ ) difference between all the cheeses during the whole period of their storage.

According to Ray B. (1996), no regulation recommends a specific act for a load for fresh cheese, the loss of viability of the lactic flora during refrigeration is usually scaled down. However, cheeses supplemented with rosemary ethanolic extract contain less lactic flora load than those supplemented with powder.



**Figure 11:** Evolution of the lactic flora of cheese samples during storage

*Cheeses B, C and D contain 0.25, 0.5 and 0.75% of rosemary powder respectively; cheeses E and F were added with 0.25 and 0.5% of rosemary hydroethanolic extract, respectively. T1, T2, T3, T4 and T5 correspond to 1, 5, 10, 14 and 18 days of storage, respectively.*

III. Sensory analysis (hedonic test)

The hedonic test results are illustrated in *Table XVI*. As represented in this table, the rosemary supplementation to cheese samples significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) influenced the sensorial characteristics.

**Table XVI:** Effect of rosemary supplementation on hedonic appreciation of cheese samples

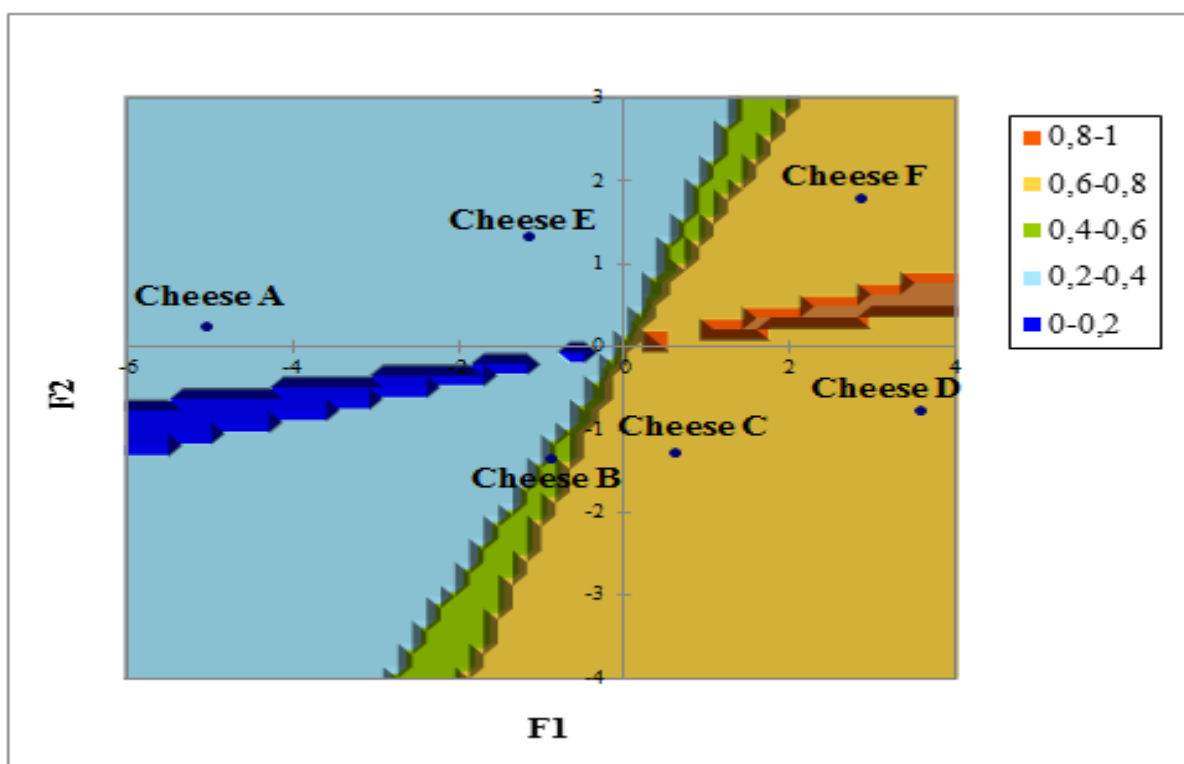
		Sensory parameters					
		Color	Odor	Acidity	Aroma	Aftertaste	Texture
Control	Cheese A	1.38 ±0.88 <sup>a</sup>	2.18 ±1.02 <sup>a</sup>	3.38 ±0.65 <sup>b</sup>	1.43 ±1.22 <sup>a</sup>	2.07 ±0.97 <sup>a</sup>	3.42 ±1.02 <sup>b</sup>
Rosemary powder concentrations	0.25% (Cheese B)	2.38 ±1.15 <sup>b<sup>c</sup></sup>	2.98 ±0.89 <sup>a</sup>	3.25 ±1.21 <sup>b</sup>	3.20 ±1.17 <sup>b</sup>	2.88±1.18 <sup>bc</sup>	3.25 ±1.32 <sup>a</sup>
	0.50% (Cheese C)	2.63 ±0.98 <sup>cd</sup>	4.13 ±0.95 <sup>b</sup>	3.10 ±0.88 <sup>ab</sup>	3.63 ±1.11 <sup>c</sup>	3.25±1.31 <sup>c</sup>	3.38 ±1.16 <sup>ab</sup>
	0.75% (Cheese D)	2.85 ±0.78 <sup>d</sup>	4.52 ±1.11 <sup>b</sup>	2.75 ±0.94 <sup>a</sup>	4.13 ±0.88 <sup>d</sup>	3.88±0.88 <sup>d</sup>	3.25 ±1.15 <sup>a</sup>
	0.25% (Cheese E)	2.15 ±0.97 <sup>b</sup>	3.04 ±1.21 <sup>a</sup>	3.15 ±1.16 <sup>b</sup>	3.07 ±0.98 <sup>b</sup>	2.45 ±0.89 <sup>b</sup>	3.36 ±1.31 <sup>ab</sup>
Rosemary extract concentrations	0.50% (Cheese F)	2.75 ±0.89 <sup>d</sup>	4.05 ±0.95 <sup>b</sup>	3.07 ±0.88 <sup>ab</sup>	3.45 ±0.97 <sup>c</sup>	3.07 ±1.07 <sup>bc</sup>	3.26 ±0.94 <sup>ab</sup>

Different letters indicate significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) according to Tukey's test.

Except the control cheese, which was of a white color, all the other cheeses had beige to yellow-green color. Significant differences were observed between all cheeses and the highest color scores were detected in cheeses D and F, with high percentages of rosemary powder and ethanolic extract, respectively. The rosemary supplementation hid the lactic odor of cheeses, and those supplemented with 0.5 % and 0.75 % of plant extracts were significantly highly scored compared to the other cheeses. Regarding the acid taste of cheeses, the panelists evaluated them as moderately acid. This could be due to the non-significant differences between the pH values of cheeses. An absence of rosemary aroma together with aftertaste was detected in the control cheese but these sensory attributes were considered superiors and highly

significantly perceptibles by the panelists for other cheeses. Cheese D was the most scored one. The smooth-texture of all the cheeses was judged to be almost average and scored from 3.25 to 3.42. So, it could be concluded that the addition of rosemary did not significantly influenced the texture of the cheeses.

Among the main objectives of this study, is to provide a distinctive flavor and aroma following cheeses rosemary supplementation and to provide too a flavor enhancement for a better acceptability by the consumers. Overall preferences (acceptability) were significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) highly scored for cheese C (6/9) followed by cheese D (5.7/9), then cheese F (5.3/9). As showed in Figure 12, cheeses C, D and F were most preferred by the panelists (60-80 %) and their score results were higher than those of cheese B (40-60 %), cheese E and cheese A taken as control (20-40 %).



**Figure 12:** Preference mapping of panelists

*Cheese A: control, rosemary powder added to Cheese B: 0.25%, Cheese C: 0.5% and Cheese D: 0.75%, ethanolic extract added to Cheese E: 0.25% and Cheese F: 0.5%*



#### **IV. Relationship between physicochemical parameters, sensory attributes, phenolics and antioxidant capacity of cheese samples**

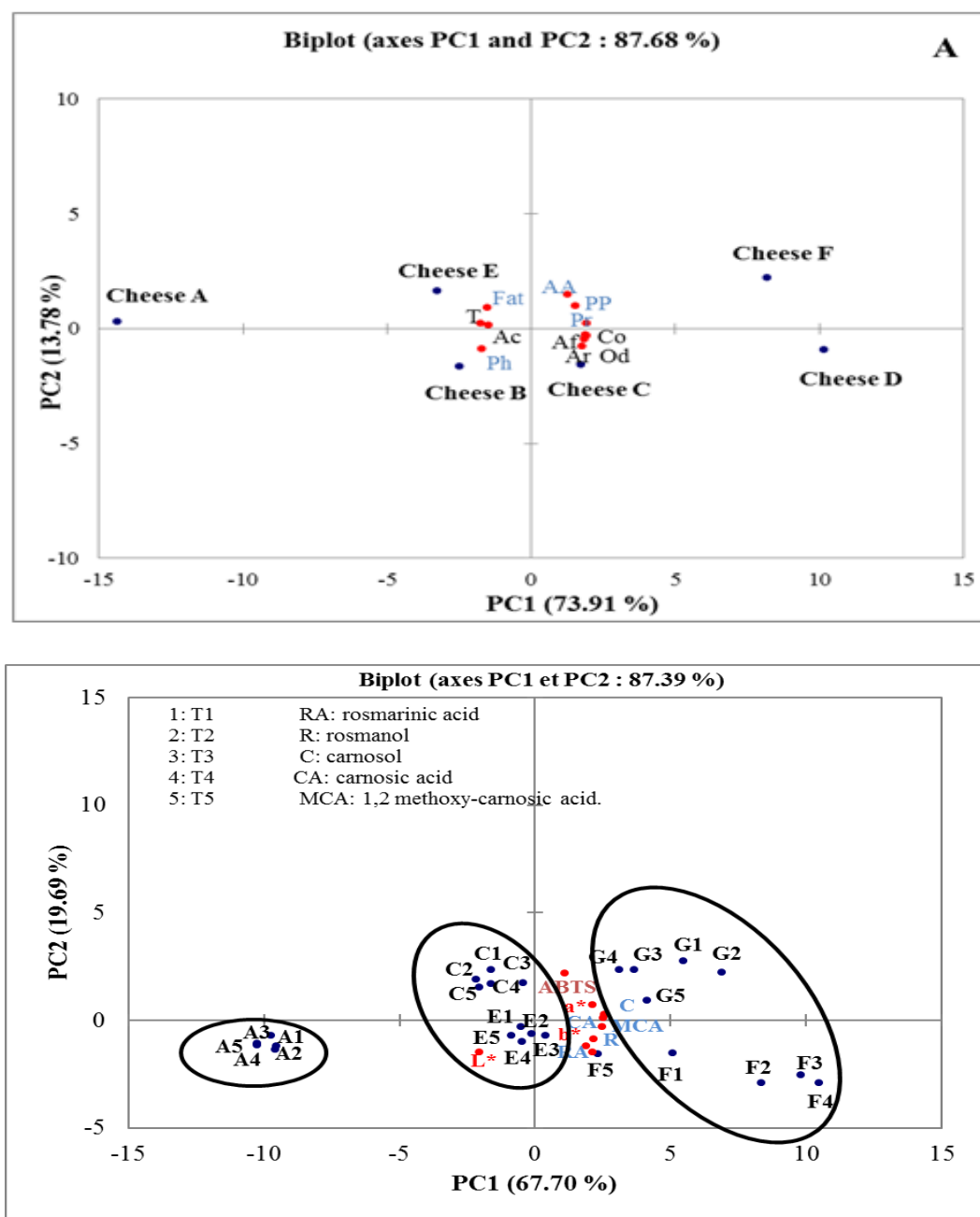
In order to better understand the interactions between the physicochemical parameters and the sensory characteristics, the implementation of the PCA could be an interesting solution. The obtained PCA model explained 87.68 % of variability found in the analyzed data: Component 1 (PC1, Figure 13) of the PCA accounted for 73.91 % of the variance and was expressed towards its positive pole by antioxidant activity (AA), polyphenols (PP), color (Co), odor (Od), aroma (Ar) and aftertaste (Af), which showed good correlations between them. While component 2 (PC2, Figure 13), which included proteins (Pr) towards its positive pole, and fat (Fat) towards its negative pole, accounted for 13.78 % of the variance.

The results of the PCA (Figure 13) highlighted a significant correlation ( $r = 0.845$ ) between phenolic compounds (PP) and sensory attributes as color (Co,  $r = 0.886$ ), odor (Od,  $r = 0.953$ ), aroma (Ar,  $r = 0.857$ ) and aftertaste (Af,  $r = 0.867$ ), similar results were reported by Lund, Nicolau, Gardner, and Kilmartin (2009) and Guo, Yue, and Yuan (2019). Increased concentrations of the phenolic compounds significantly affected the headspace concentration of most aroma compounds, and each polyphenol had a unique effect when combined with a specific aroma compound, either, suppressing, accentuating or showing little effect on the perception of the aroma compounds. A study on the relationship between total polyphenols and color, Hodžić, Karahmetović, Saletović, and Šestan (2007) concluded that color values of the wort and beer increased with polyphenol content increase.

Through Figure 13.A, it can be also seen that pH was correlated with acidity taste (Ac,  $r = 0.713$ ). According to da Conceicao Neta, Johanningsmeier, Drake, and McFeeters (2007), sour taste intensity was linearly related to the molar concentration of hydrogen ions and all organic acid species that had at least 1 protonated carboxyl group. All of the organic acids in each of their protonated forms were equivalent in their ability to cause a sour taste.

To explore the possible relationship between surface color attributes ( $L^*a^*b^*$ ) of cheese samples, their identified phenolic compounds (RA, R, C, CA, MCA) and their antioxidant capacity (ABTS), the principal component analysis (PCA) was used. Data illustrated in figure 13.B revealed that the PCA model explained 87.39% of variability found in the analyzed data, with respectively 67.70% of the variability explained by the first principal components (PC1) and 19.69% by the second principal components (PC2). PC1 was defined by ABTS ( $r^2 = 0.812$ ), phenolic compounds [MCA ( $r^2 = 0.972$ ), C ( $r^2 = 0.962$ ), CA ( $r^2 = 0.945$ ), RA ( $r^2 = 0.812$ ), R ( $r^2 = 0.723$ )], and coordinates  $b^*$  ( $r^2 = 0.827$ ) and  $L^*$  ( $r^2 = -0.798$ ), while the coordinate  $a^*$  ( $r^2 = 0.849$ ) was the largest contributor to the second principal components (PC2).

The biplot obtained from PCA (Figure 13) showed a positive correlation between ABTS content and phenolic compounds, mainly MCA ( $r^2 = 0.805$ ), CA ( $r^2 = 0.726$ ) and C ( $r^2 = 0.697$ ); this correlation suggest that these phenolics are the strongest contributors to the radical scavenging capacity in the fortified cheese samples. Furthermore, a good correlation was observed between the attribute  $b^*$  ( $r^2 = 0.635$  to  $0.849$ ), ABTS and the identified polyphenols; the attribute  $a^*$  was moderately correlated ( $r^2 = 0.439$  to  $0.476$ ) with them while, the attribute  $L^*$  was correlated negatively. So, it could be noticed that the attribute  $L^*$  is closer to cheeses E and A while the attributes  $a^*$  and  $b^*$  are closer to fortified cheeses than the control (Cheese A).



**Figure 13:** Relationship between physicochemical parameters, sensory attributes phenolics and antioxidant capacity of cheese samples. **A:** Biplot illustrating the relationship between physicochemical parameters, phenolics and sensory attributes of cheese samples-**B:** Biplot illustrating the relationship between color, ABTS and rosemary-cheese polyphenols.

PP: phenolic compounds, Pr: proteins, Co: color, Od: odour, Ac: acidity taste, Ar: aroma, Af: aftertaste, T: smooth-texture, Cheese A: control, rosemary powder added to Cheese B: 0.25%, Cheese C: 0.5% and Cheese D: 0.75%, ethanolic extract added to Cheese E: 0.25% and Cheese F: 0.5%. RA: rosmarinic acid, R: rosmanol, C: carnosol, CA: carnosic acid, MCA: 1, 2 methoxy-carnosic acid. Cheeses C and G contain 0.5 and 1% of rosemary powder respectively; cheeses E and F supplemented with 0.25 and 0.5% of rosemary hydroethanolic extract, respectively. A, B, C, D, E with indices 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 indicate cheeses A, C, G, E, F during storage days 1, 5, 8, 12 and 16, respectively.

Through Figure 13, it permitted a neat separation of control cheese and experimental cheeses fortified with rosemary as well as an individualization of three different groups of cheeses. Group I: of cheeses (G, F) containing very high rosemary content with a positive correlation; Group II: consisting of cheeses (C, E) with a low rosemary content with an intermediate correlation and Group III: containing control cheese with a negative correlation. This group distinction showed that cheeses (G, F) with high rosemary content (powder / extract) were the richest in polyphenols with a strong antioxidant capacity.

***THIRD PART:***

***Enrichment of whey***

***milk by rosemary***

**Chapter I:**  
**MATERIALS AND**  
**METHODS**

## **I. Whey milk-rosemary and whey milk proteins content**

This test was carried out in order to know the influence of rosemary on the protein composition of milk (whey).

### **I.1. Samples preparation**

A branch of 5 g of rosemary was added to 100 ml of fresh cow's milk, a control was prepared with 100 ml of milk. The samples were incubated at room temperature for 24 h. All the analyses in this part are carried out on the whey filtrate (centrifugation 30min / 4000tr, filtration of the supernatant).

### **I.2. Protein content**

The proteins concentration of samples was quantified by the Bradford method using bovine serum albumin as a standard; results are expressed as  $\mu\text{g}$  equivalent BSA per mL of whey: 5 mL of Bradford's reagent are added to 100 mL of the sample (whey or whey-rosemary) the mixture is vortexed and then incubated for 1 hour in the dark at room temperature. The absorbance measurement was performed at 595 nm.

## **II. Turbidity test**

Polyphenols are known for their interactional characteristic with proteins. Polyphenol-protein interactions can be visualized by the turbid appearance of the solution (Simon, 2003). Monitoring of turbidity was done by spectrophotometry by measuring the optical density of the solution at the wavelength where the optical density is in the maximum.

The measurement of the optical density was carried out in terms of the concentration of rosemary extract or caffeic acid. For that, 1.5 mL of the milk whey filtrate was mixed with 1.5 mL of rosemary extract (0.12 to 3 mg of methanolic rosemary extract / mL of methanol) or caffeic acid (0.05 to 1 mg caffeic acid / mL of methanol). After 1 hour of incubation at 37 ° C, the absorbance was achieved at 420 nm and 600 nm.

### **III. Determination of phenolic compounds in milk – rosemary samples**

To determine the content of phenolic compounds in milk-rosemary samples, the colorimetric method of Folin-Ciocalteu was adopted according to the method of Velioglu et al. (1998): 1.5ml folin (1/10) are added to 200 $\mu$ L of the whey-rosemary solution, after 5min in the dark, 1.5mL NaCO<sub>3</sub> (7.5%) are added to the mixture. After 30 min incubation in the dark, the absorbance is read at 750nm. Gallic acid was used as standard and TPC concentration was expressed in mg of Gallic Acid Equivalents (GAE) per g of fresh cheese. The blank was prepared with the filtrate of the whey from the milk.



**Chapter II:**  
***RESULTS AND***  
***DISCUSSION***

## I. Determination of protein in milk whey

This dosage is carried out in order to know the influence of rosemary on the protein composition of milk (whey). The protein assay was performed on milk whey and on milk whey - rosemary.

**Table XVII:** Proteins concentration in whey-rosemary

	<b>Whey milk</b>	<b>Whey-rosemary</b>
<b>Protein concentration (<math>\mu\text{g EBSA/mL whey}</math>)</b>	$0,96 \pm 0,08$	$0,89 \pm 0,11$

The protein content in the samples tested is very low; however a small difference is recorded for these two solutions. This difference may be due to the complexation of these compounds with the polyphenols of rosemary.

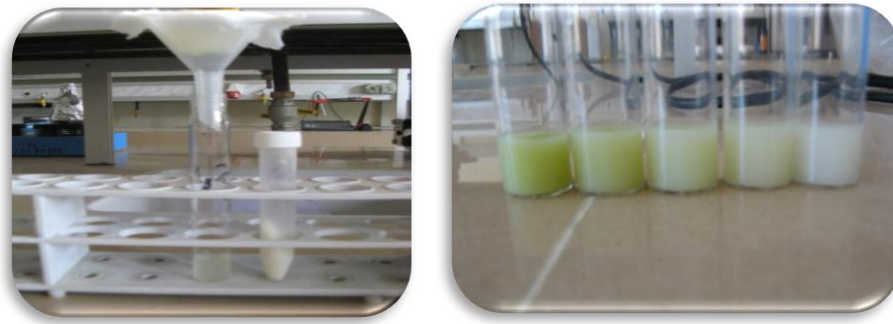
## II. Turbidity test

The turbidity test was carried out on two different solutions, namely the solution of the ethanolic extract of rosemary and that prepared with caffeic acid, which is a phenolic acid representative of *Rosmarinus officinalis*.

This test makes it possible to follow the evolution of the polyphenol-protein complexes by spectrophotometry at a wavelength of 420 nm by considering that at this wavelength, the intensity of the absorption of light is proportional to the concentration of complexes formed. The measurement of the turbidity was also carried out at 600 nm according to the method of Abi azar (2007).

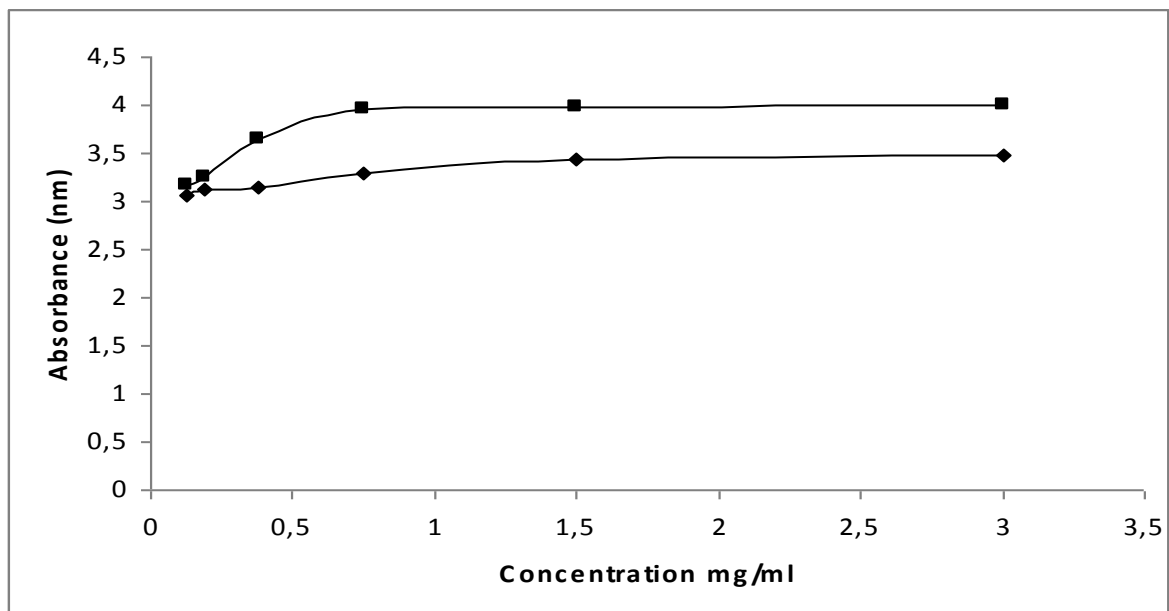
### II.1. Turbidity test of the rosemary extract-whey proteins mixture

As shown in figure 14, the filtrate of the whey from the milk during this experiment remains clear; however a turbid appearance is developed by the addition of *Rosmarinus officinalis* extract, indicating the formation of protein-polyphenol complexes.



**Figure 14:** Effect of rosemary extract concentrations on whey

Figure 14 shows changes in absorbance at the two measurement wavelengths (420 and 600 nm) depending on rosemary extract concentrations.



**Figure 15:** Variation in optical density depending on the concentration of *Rosmarinus officinalis* extract. (■) 400 nm, (◆) 600 nm.

From these results, it can be seen that the evolution of the optical density of the complexes formed is different at the two measurement wavelengths (420 and 600 nm). It is clear that the optical density of the complex at 420 nm increases with the concentration of the extract of *Rosmarinus officinalis* and this for the first three concentrations tested (3.65; 3.25; 3.17 mg / mL), plus the concentration the more the turbidity increases up to a maximum value of the optical density (3.9) which remains practically unchanged.

This can be explained by the saturation of the proteins present in the milk whey by polyphenols, the concentration of which is quite high. When the number of binding sites equals those of the protein, a large network of polyphenol – protein complexes is formed, indicating saturation of all binding sites.

The optical density of the complexes at 600 nm remains unchanged for all the concentrations tested. This result does not agree with that obtained by Abi azar. (2007), who found the formation of complexes whose optical density is proportional to the concentration of the carob extract. This difference can be explained by the fact that the polyphenols of carob (gallotannins) are different from those of rosemary (phenolic acids) and the whey protein-gallotannins complexes are detectable at 600 nm while those obtained with caffeic acid are detectable at 420 nm.

## II.2. Turbidity test of the caffeic acid-whey protein mixture

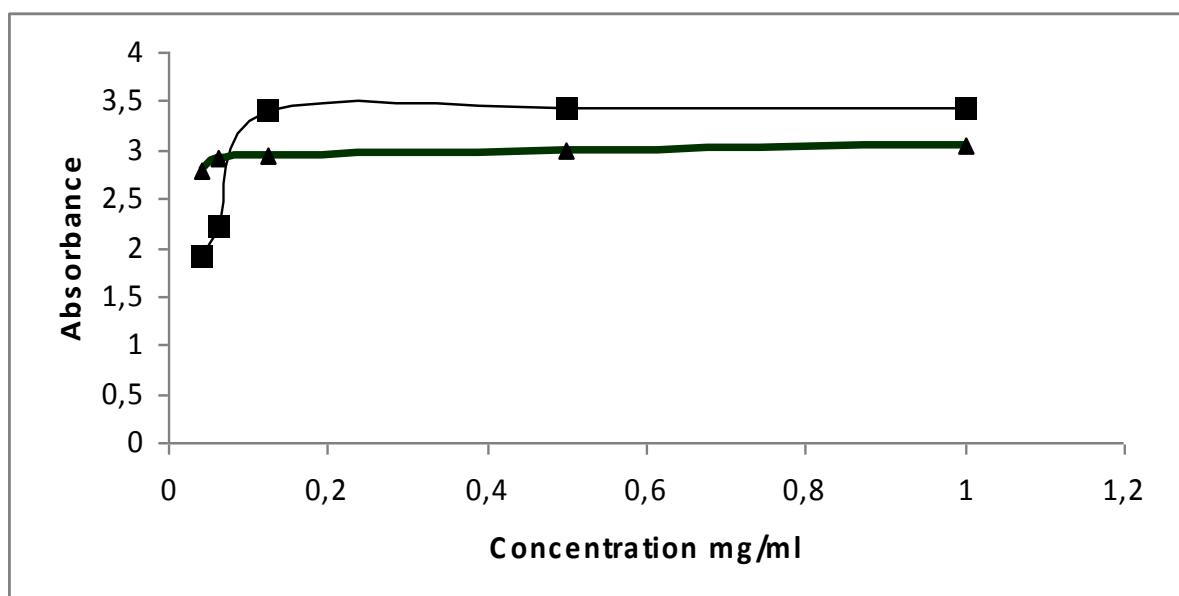
The whey filtrates in the presence of caffeic acid developed a turbid appearance, which can be interpreted as the complexation of caffeic acid with protein.



**Figure 16:** Effect of varying the concentration of caffeic acid on protein complexation.

In the case of caffeic acid, there is also a large difference in the optical density of the complexes formed at the two readings 420 and 600 nm. At 600 nm no change in the optical density was recorded for all the concentrations tested.

On the other hand, this optical density becomes proportional to the concentration of caffeic acid at 420 nm and this for the first two (2.22 mg / mL; 1.92 mg / mL) concentrations tested, and then it stabilizes from 0, 2 mg / mL. These results are similar to those obtained with the rosemary extract. Therefore, we can suggest that indeed it is the caffeic acid present in our extract that contributed to the formation of the complexes.



**Figure17:** Variation of the optical density as a function of the concentration of caffeic acid.

(■) 400 nm, (▲) 600 nm.

It has been suggested that the nature and structure of polyphenols affect access to acceptor sites during interactions with proteins (Siebert *et al.*, 1996). Monomers, dimers and some oligomers cannot form enough cross-bridges and strong complexes with proteins (Jones *et al.*, 1976). This suggestion is not verified in our case, because we obtained a complexation with caffeic acid, which leads us to confirm that it is indeed the caffeic acid, which caused the formation of the complexes after adding the rosemary branch with whey.

### III. Determination of total polyphenols in the whey filtrate of milk

The concentration of polyphenols in the whey filtrate is  $0.035 \pm 0.01$  mg EAG / mL. This value is very low; it may also relate to the presence of reducing sugars in the whey and not to the presence of phenolic compounds. From this result it can be concluded that cow's milk is not a

medium which extracts polyphenols from rosemary. Several hypotheses can be proposed, either the polyphenols of rosemary are complexed with the proteins of the whey (this method does not allow the determination of the polyphenols) or else with the insoluble proteins of the milk and in this case they are passed in the precipitate.

# **General conclusion and perspectives**

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In this study, rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) leaves were incorporated in fermented milk and the impact on physico-chemical changes occurring in freshcheese during 18 days storage period and possible effects on the phytochemistry of the plant were examined.

Microwave-Assisted Extraction (MAE) of *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. leaves was optimized through the response surface methodology (RSM) approach. The optimal conditions were equal to 78.162 %, 351.825 W, 101.623:1, and 122.648 s, for ethanol concentration, microwave power, solvent to raw material ratio, and extraction time, respectively. It can be concluded that rosemary leaves can be used as a good source of valuable compounds since it was possible to obtain up to 15.01 % (on dry weight basis) of total phenolic compounds (TPC).UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> analysis revealed the major presence of rosmarinic acid (RA), rosmanol (R), carnosic acid (CA), carnosol (C) and methyl carnosic acid (MCA) in rosemary extract which had powerful antioxidant and antidiabetic effects comparable to those of tested standards.

Fresh cheese was supplemented with powder (cheese B: 0.25 %, cheese C: 0.5 %, cheese D: 0.75 %, G: 1%), and ethanolic extract (cheese E: 0.25 %, cheese F: 0.5 %) of *Rosmarinus officinalis* L. leaves. The main conclusions of this part of study are:

- Cheese physicochemical characteristics (pH, fat, proteins) were not influenced by rosemary addition. However, this fortification considerably affected cheese color parameters: with the increase of rosemary concentration, L\* values decreased B\* increased, demonstrating that fortified cheeses were darker, greener and yellower than non- fortified one;
- This supplementation allowed the obtention of a final product with improved phenolics content and antioxidant capacity when compared to the control (Cheese A).Rosemary powder/extract addition positively affected the phenolic content in cheese during storage period; cheese E2 had the highest amount of polyphenols and the antioxidant property followed by cheese P2. UHPLC-DAD-ESI-MS<sup>n</sup> analysis revealed the presence of RA, R, CA, C and MCA in supplemented cheeses. Moreover, the use of the multivariate statistical analysis (PCA) confirmed the relationship between antioxidant activity and these phenolic compounds.



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Additionally, an individualization of three different groups of cheeses was obtained with a neat separation of control cheese and experimental cheeses gradually fortified with rosemary;

- The influence of rosemary addition on cheese sensory characteristics was, especially, related to the intensity of their particular odor, aroma and after taste scores. It was concluded that cheeses C, D and F were most appreciated (60-80%) over the rest of cheeses when the effects on the antioxidant capacity and the sensory characteristics were jointly considered;

- The results obtained from the monitoring of Lactobacilli and Lactococci revealed that cheese samples contain high loads in the first week, a load bacterial which gradually decreases during storage period. The increase in the concentrations of rosemary powder/extract in cheese samples resulted in decrease of lactic flora during storage time.

In this study rosemary extract and whey protein complexation was highlighted by the turbidity test. It was concluded that rosemary phenolic acids were responsible of this complexation as complexes were detectable at 420nm.

Addition of rosemary leaves, in the form of extract or powder, in cheese formulation is strongly recommended as it exerts features valuable for human health and nutrition. A production of this cheese in an industrial-scale would be very interesting.

Further studies are needed to test this supplementation on other kinds of cheese then, assess the consumer sensory and test the bioavailability of rosemary polyphenols will be so advantageous.

In addition, it will be more interesting to study the gastrointestinal stability of polyphenols in fortified cheeses and evaluate the antioxidant activity of taken samples during simulated digestion procedures.

Investigations on the feasibility of an industrial-scale continuous MAE process for the recovery of phenolic compounds from rosemary leaves will be needed. Besides, it is promising that these valuable extracts could be used for the extension of products shelf life, as dietary supplements as well as functional food ingredients.

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## Annexe 1:

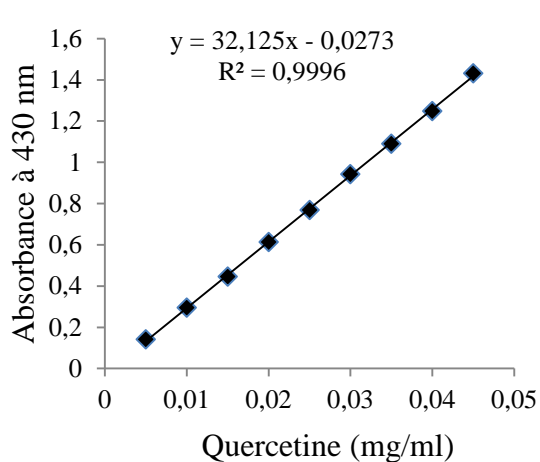
Préparation des solutions pour le dosage des tannins

- Un gramme (1 g) de BSA dans un litre (1 L) de tampon acétate

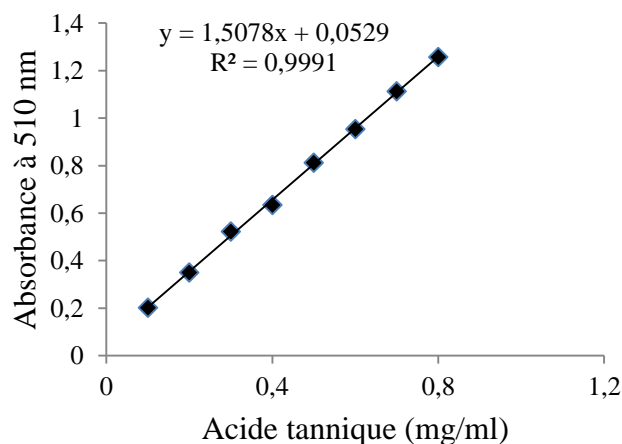
$$\text{Tampon acétate à pH} = 5 \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Acide acétique : } 0,20 \text{ M} \\ \text{Chlorure de sodium : } 0,17 \text{ M} \\ \text{pH ajusté à } 5 \end{array} \right.$$

- Pour la solution SDS/TEA : Mettre 50 ml de TEA et 10g de SDS dans une fiole de 1000 ; ajuster au trait de jauge avec l'eau distillée en agitation continue (pour éviter d'avoir des bulles de détergent qui vont fausser l'ajustement).

## Annexe 2:



**Figure 2:** Courbe d'étalonnage pour le dosage des flavonoïdes.



**Figure 3:** Courbe d'étalonnage pour le dosage des tannins.

**Annexe 3:****Composition des milieux préparés****Gélose nutritive**

Peptone.....	10 g
Extrait de viande.....	5 g
Chlorure de sodium.....	5 g
Agar.....	15 g
	pH = 7,2

**Bouillon nutritif**

Peptone.....	10 g
Extrait de viande.....	5 g
Chlorure de sodium.....	5 g
	pH= 7,2

**Eau physiologique**

Chlorure de sodium.....	9 g/l
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Répartir dans les tubes à essais, les mettre dans un autoclave pendant 20 minutes à 120°C.

- Les milieux de culture (MRS et M17): Ces milieux sont sous forme déshydratée. Leur préparation se fait en suivant le mode opératoire indiqué sur chaque boîte puis ils sont répartis dans des tubes ou flacons. Ces milieux, une fois préparés, ils sont autoclavés à 121°C pendant 15minutes afin de les stériliser.