

# Use of a NIR mini spectrometer for polyamides discrimination on a production unit

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DATE 2018/08/01



WHO ARE WE ?  
WHAT ARE OUR NEEDS?



WHAT TECHNOLOGY CHOICE FOR OUR NEEDS ?



WHAT RESULTS DID WE OBTAIN ?



WHO ARE WE ?

**ARKEMA**  
INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY

# ARKEMA TODAY



€7.7 bn  
sales



19,000  
employees  
worldwide



Worldwide  
presence  
in 50 countries



136  
industrial sites



3 R&D  
and innovation  
geographical hubs



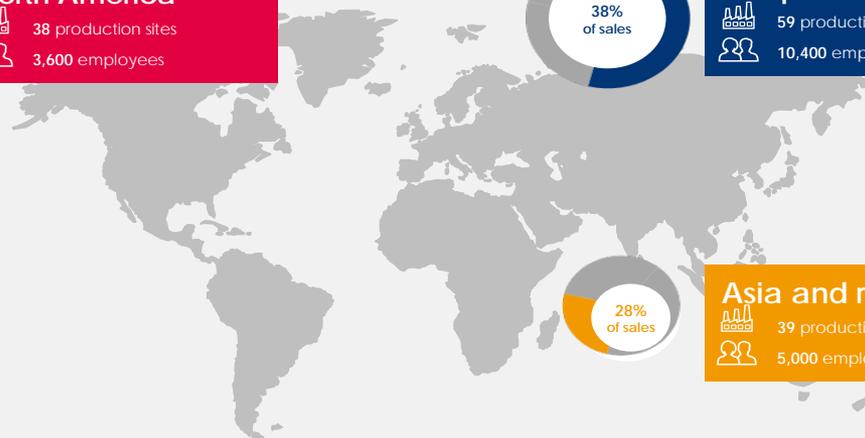
**North America**  
38 production sites  
3,600 employees



**Europe**  
59 production sites  
10,400 employees



**Asia and rest of the world**  
39 production sites  
5,000 employees



## SERQUIGNY'S PLATFORM : A PLANT + A RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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→ Manufacturing, research and development of high performance polymers

- Long chain aliphatic Polyamides Rilsan<sup>®</sup>, Rilsamid<sup>®</sup>
- High temperature Polyamides
- Transparent Polyamides
- Pebax<sup>®</sup>



WHAT ARE OUR NEEDS?

**ARKEMA**  
INNOVATIVE CHEMISTRY

## WHAT ARE OUR NEEDS?

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Operational excellence

Fast quantitative measurements

Discrimination between product bases

Improved Return On Investment

Avoiding errors



WHAT TECHNOLOGY CHOICE FOR OUR  
NEEDS ?

# WHAT TECHNOLOGY CHOICE FOR OUR NEEDS ?

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## ❖ Raman spectroscopy

- Very discriminant technology
- Not applicable to the entire range of applications (fluorescence)
- Miniaturization of instrumentation started
- High cost

## ❖ NIR spectroscopy

- Validated for most of the industrial applications on FT-NIR instrumentation (except black samples)
- Reasonable cost for « big » applications
- Miniaturization of instrumentation started at very low cost
- Performances to be assessed

## ❖ X-Ray Fluorescence

- Validated for the industrial applications on ED or WD laboratory instrumentation
- Needs discriminative elements
- Reasonable cost for « big » applications
- Allows to work on black samples
- Miniaturization of instrumentation started
- Medium cost
- Performances to be assessed

# WHAT TECHNOLOGY CHOICE FOR OUR NEEDS ?

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## FTNIR

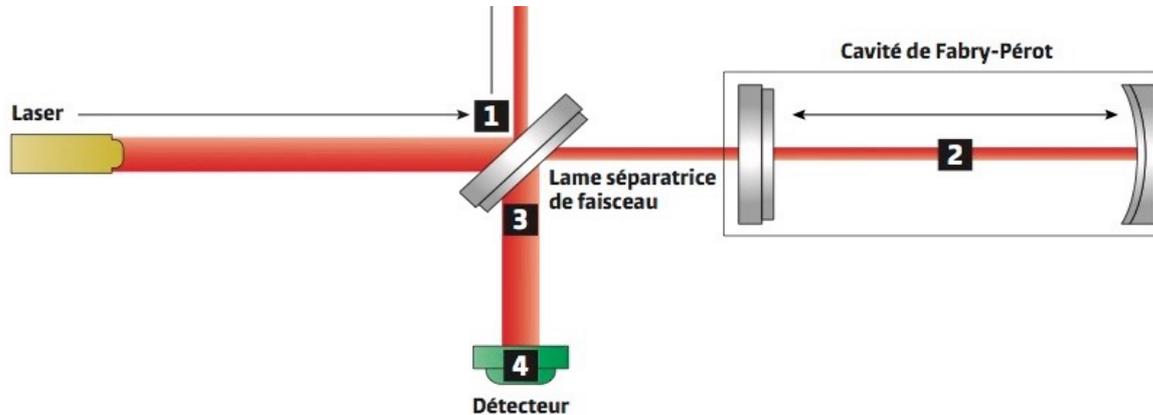
- 50 000€
- Widely used in the industry
- **Technology : Fourier Transform**
- Wide spectral range
- Qualitative and quantitative analysis



## MiniNIR Sensor

- 2-5000€
- Recent on the market
- **Technology : Fabry Péro**t
- Limited spectral range
- Performances to be assessed

# FABRY PEROT TECHNOLOGY



## ❖ Fabry Perot Interferometer

- $1 \lambda$  for one cavity length
- Cavity length controlled with MEMS (Microelectromechanical systems)

## SPECIFICATIONS VALUEs

### ❖ Wavelength range

- 1.35 – 1.65  $\mu\text{m}$  (NIRONE1.7)
- 1.55 – 1.95  $\mu\text{m}$  (NIRONE2.0)
- 1.75 – 2.15  $\mu\text{m}$  (NIRONE2.2)
- 1.95 – 2.45  $\mu\text{m}$  (NIRONE2.5)

### ❖ Detector type Single element extended InGaAs

### ❖ Wavelength points Minimum step 0.1 nm, up to 512 in total

### ❖ SNR (typical, w/o averaging) > 10,000

### ❖ Size (W x L x H) 60 x 53 x 27 mm<sup>3</sup>

### ❖ Wavelength resolution (FWHM)

- 14 – 18 nm (NIRONE1.7)
- 16 – 22 nm (NIRONE2.0)
- 20 – 26 nm (NIRONE2.2)
- Not available (NIRONE2.5)

### ❖ Illumination source 2 tungsten vacuum lamps Bulb life > 40,000 hrs

### ❖ Wavelength switching time 1 ms

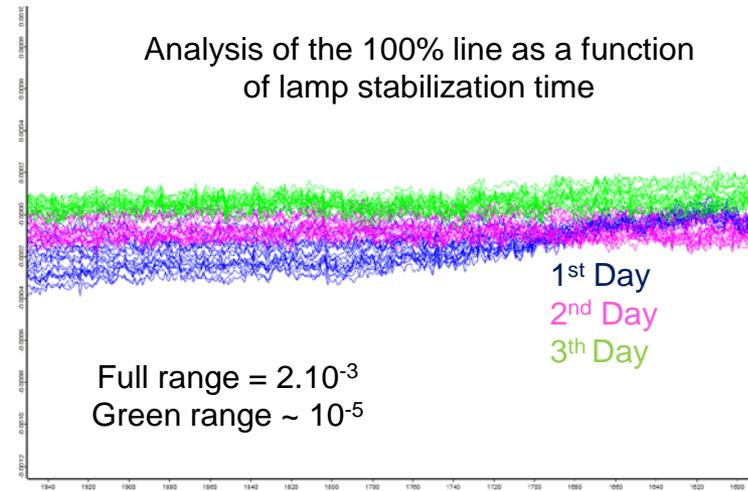
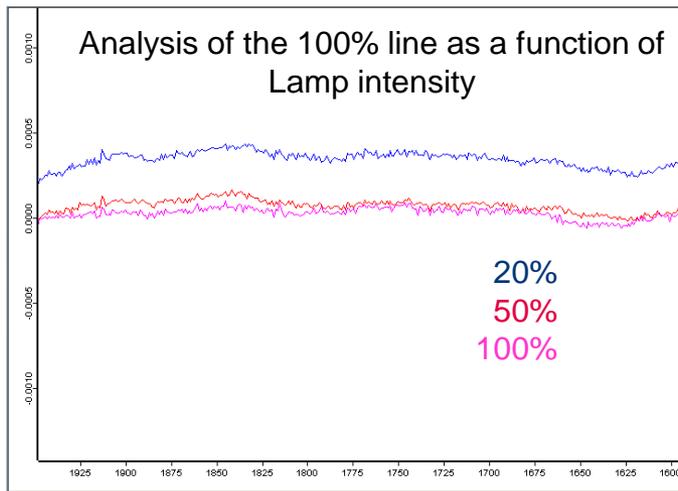
### ❖ Wavelength temperature response (max.) 0.1 nm/°C

### ❖ Weight 90g

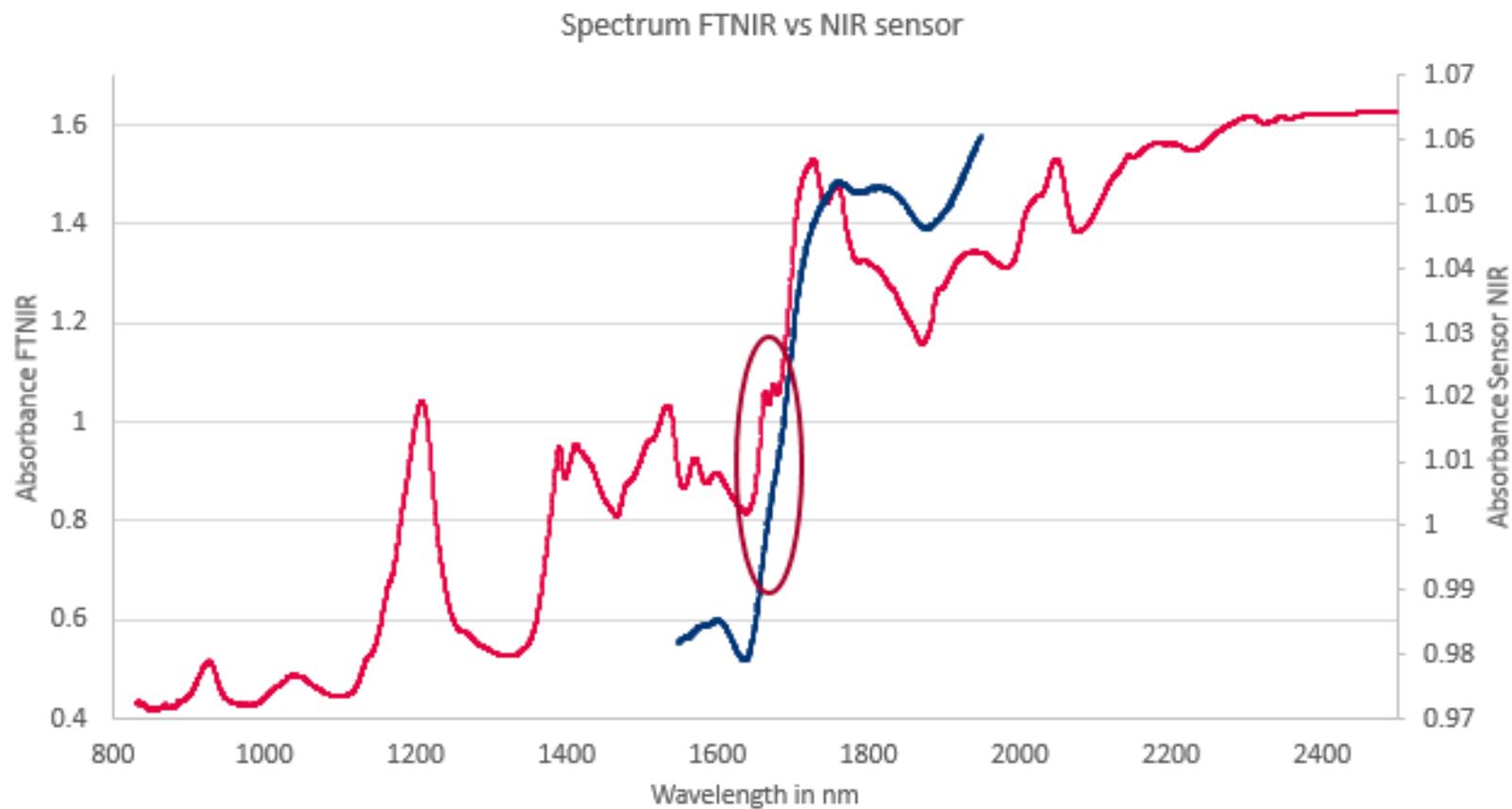
# WHAT ARE YOURS NEEDS ?

## Goal: Analysis time around 20 secondes

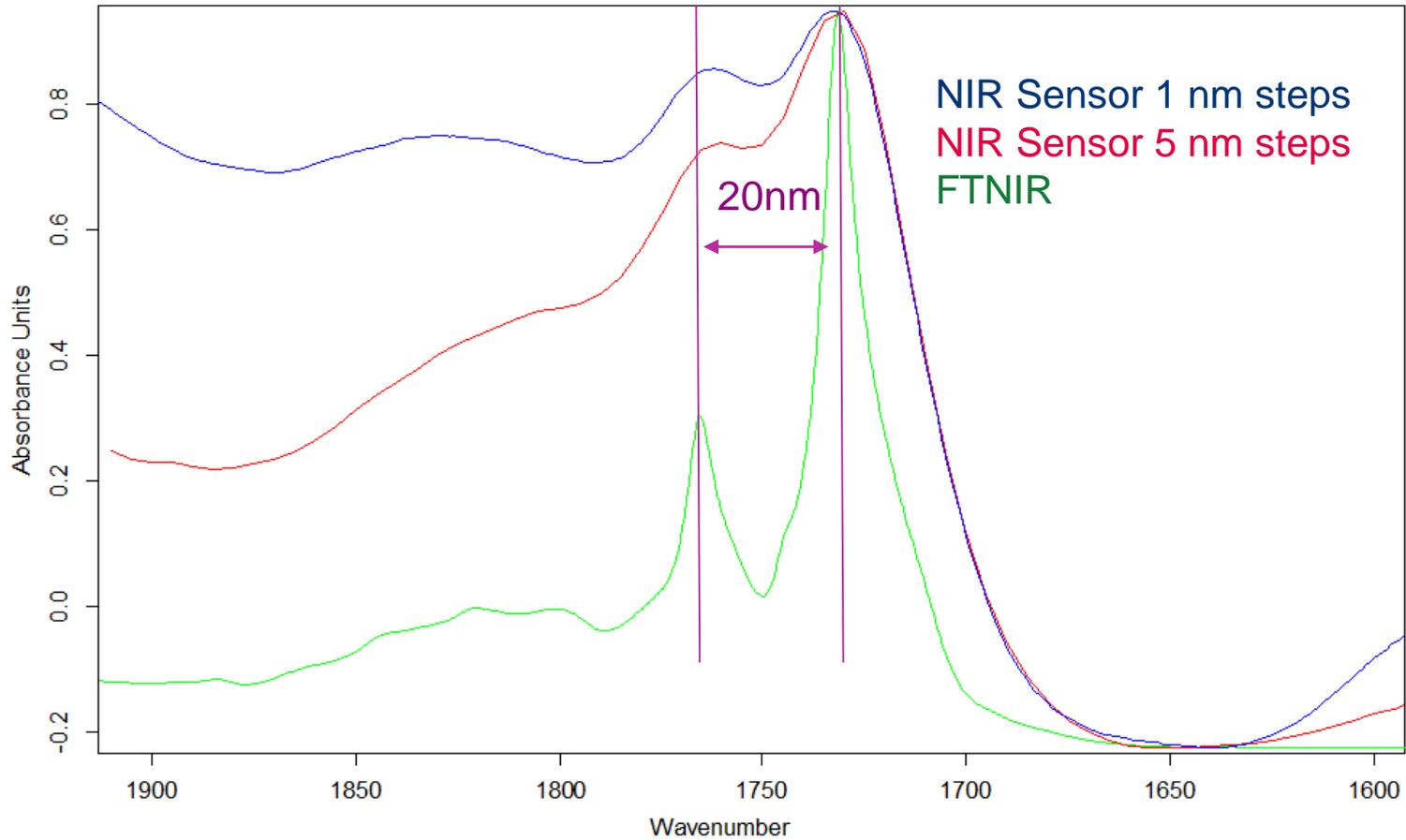
- Analysis time = Integration time \* Number of Scans \* Number of points
- Parameters:
  - Integration time = 0.1 ms / step
  - Number of points (Range (1550 – 1950 nm) / Step size (1, 2 or 10nm))



# FTNIR VS SENSOR NIR

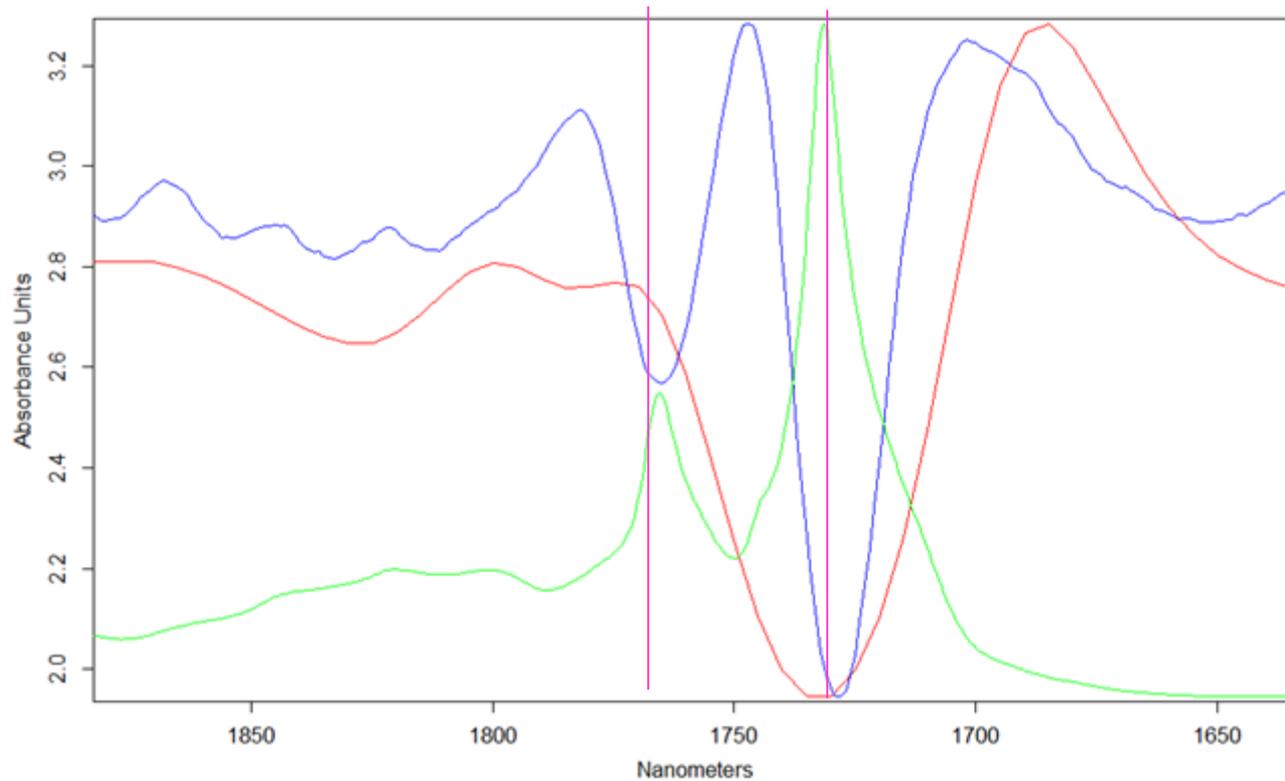


# RESOLUTION : FTNIR VS SENSOR NIR



# DERIVATION

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2<sup>nd</sup> dérivée – Sensor NIR 1nm steps

2<sup>nd</sup> dérivée – Sensor NIR 5nm steps

FTNIR



WHAT RESULTS DID WE OBTAIN ?

# DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN PRODUCT BASES AND /OR QUANTIFICATION

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## ❖ Plasticized products

- Separation of plasticized (PA11 P20, PA11 P40) versus not plasticized (PA11, PA12)
- Separation of plasticized products as a function of the plasticizer level (PA11, PA11 P20, PA11 P40)
- Prediction of the amount of plasticizer

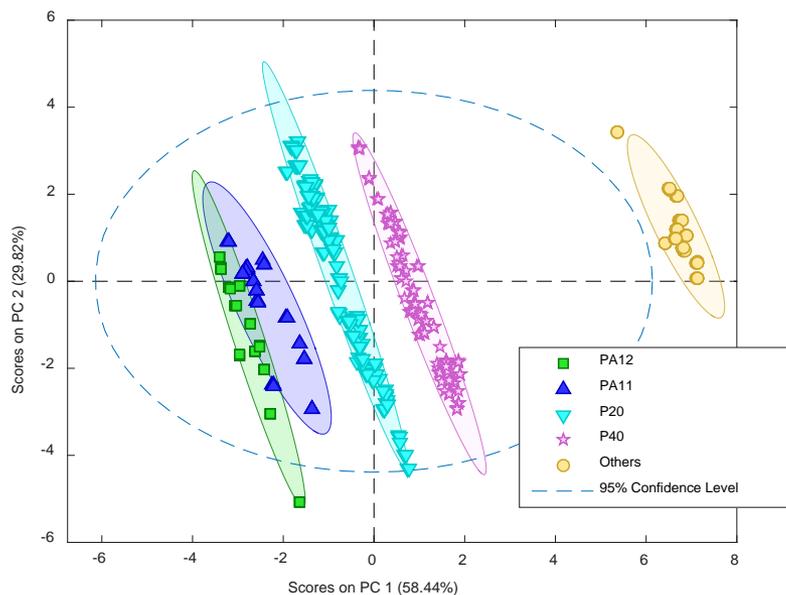
## ❖ Nature of products

- Separation of PA11 versus PA12 vs other polyamides

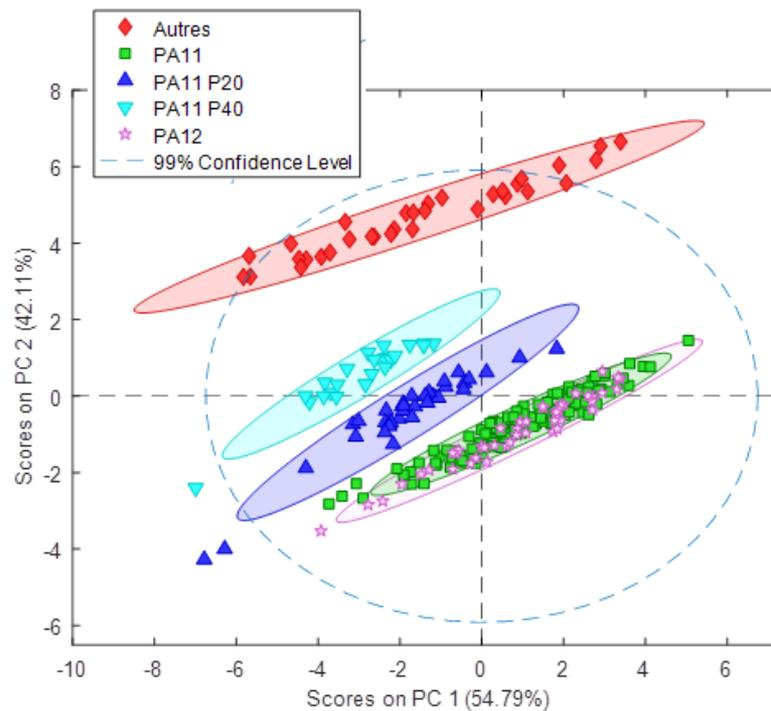
# ACP ON THE FT-NIR VS NIR SENSOR

→ ACP on the 5 classes

→ After preprocessing SNV

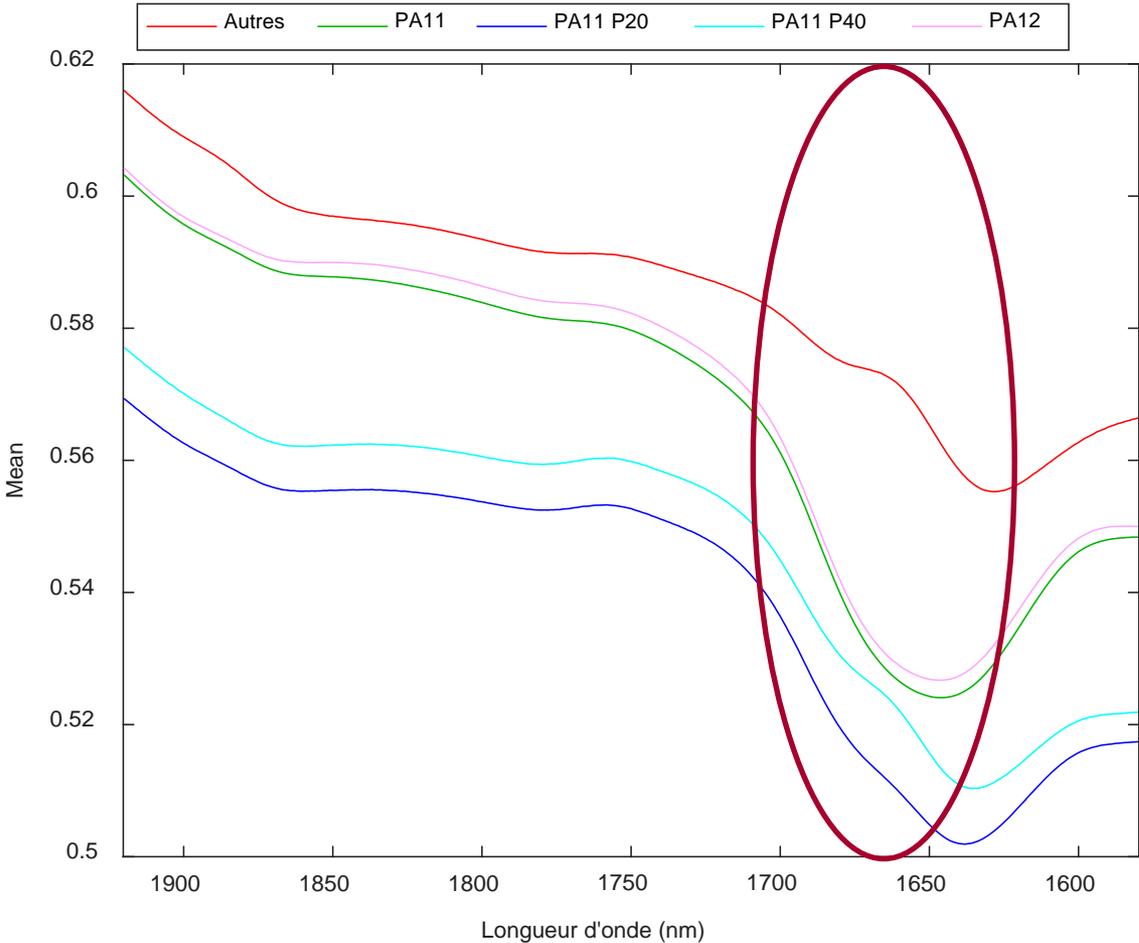


FT-NIR



NIR Sensor

# MEAN SPECTRA BY CLASS



# PLS-DA HIÉRARCHICAL

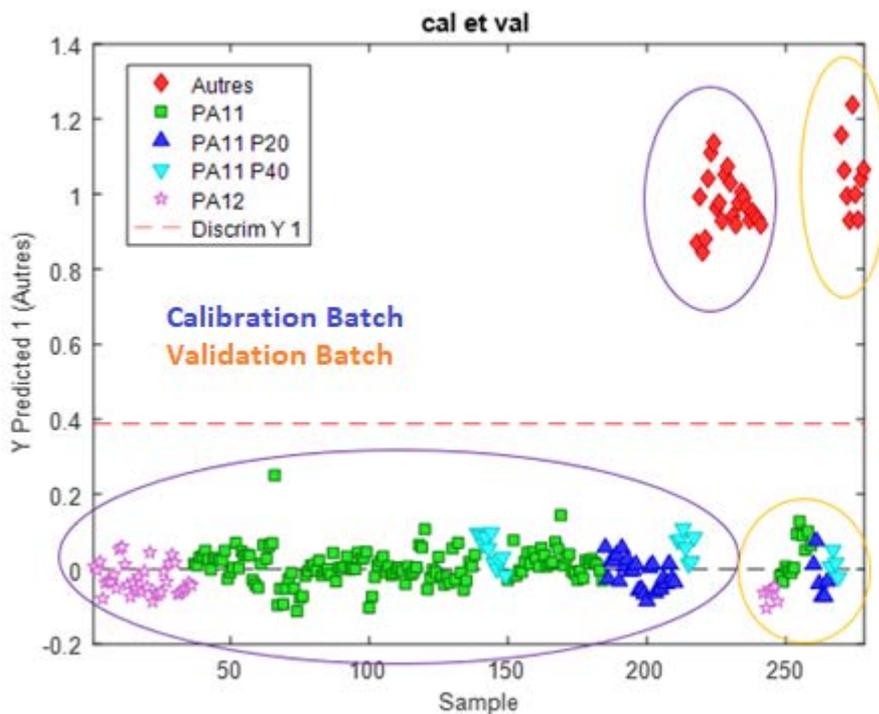
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- ✦ Coding in 0 and 1
- ✦ Descending order of variance

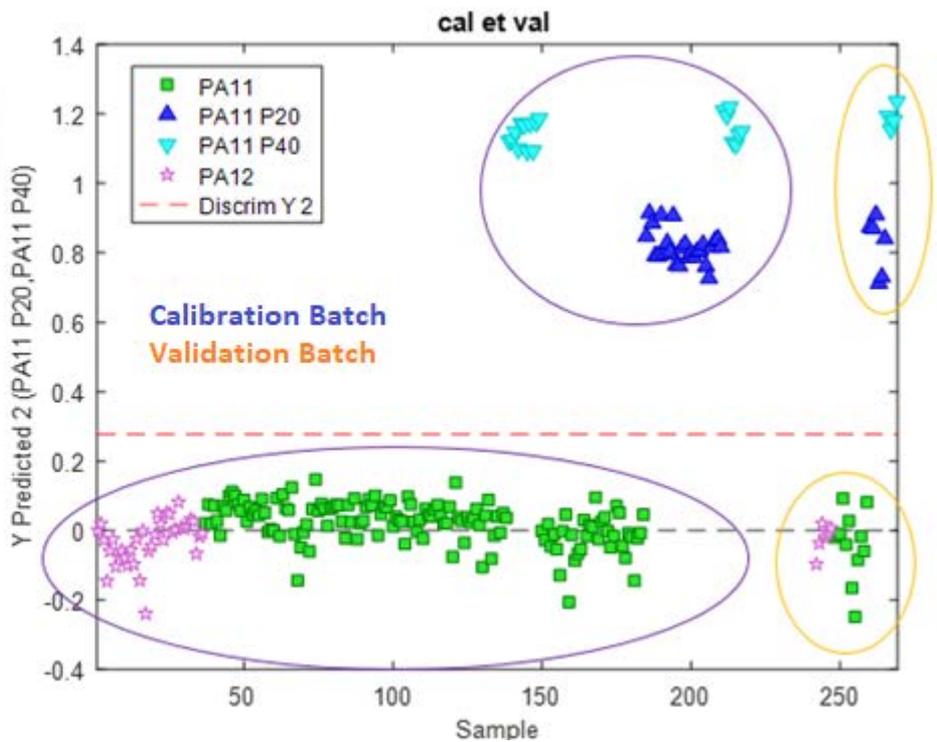


# LEVEL 1: OTHERS VS ALL PA11 AND PA12 SAMPLES

## LEVEL 2: PLASTICIZED VS NO PLASTICIZED



Level 1



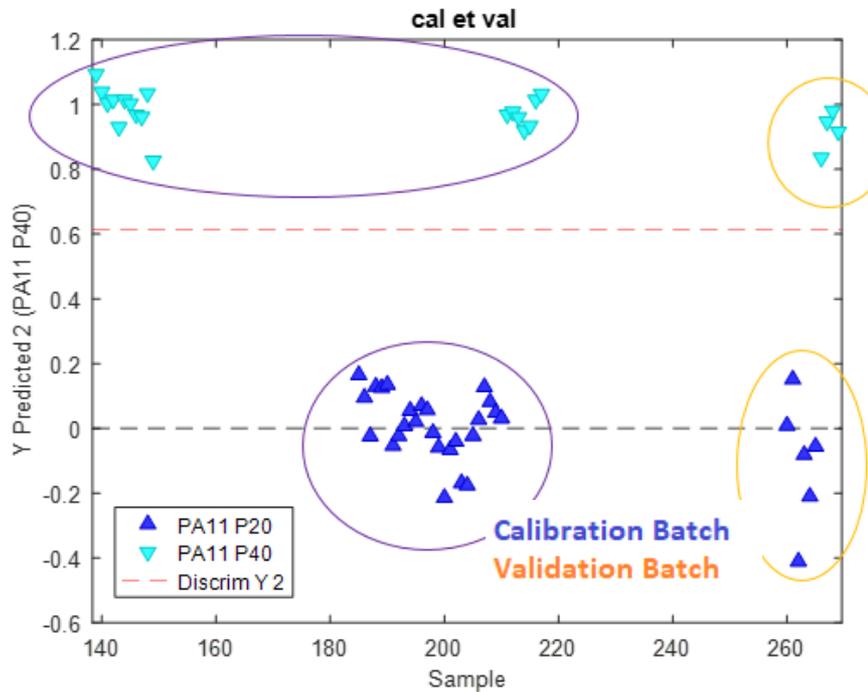
Level 2



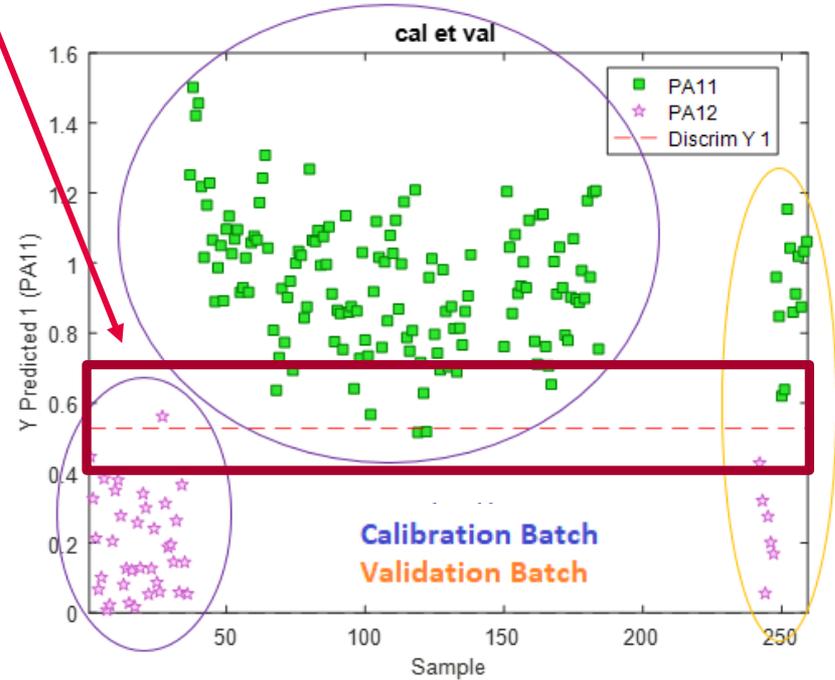
# LEVEL 3: P20 VS P40

# LEVEL 4: PA 11 VS PA 12

→ Level 4: zone of uncertainty between  $Y = 0,4$  and  $Y = 0,7$



Level 3



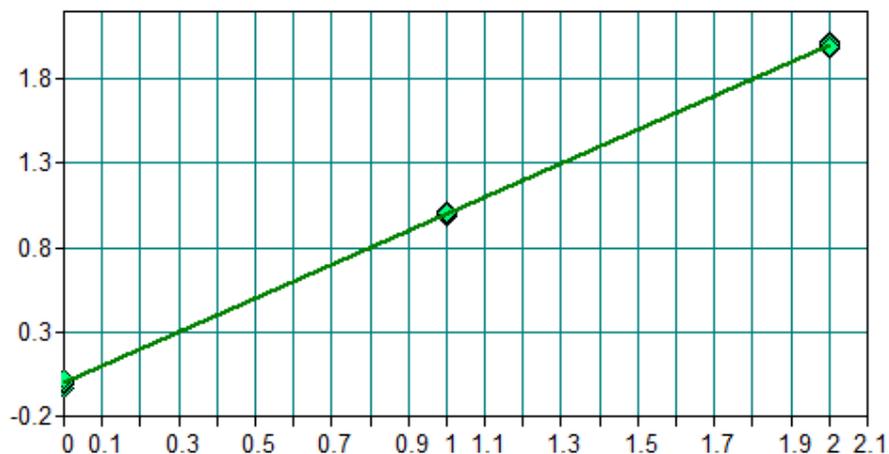
Level 4



# PLS ON THE PLASTICIZER CONTENT

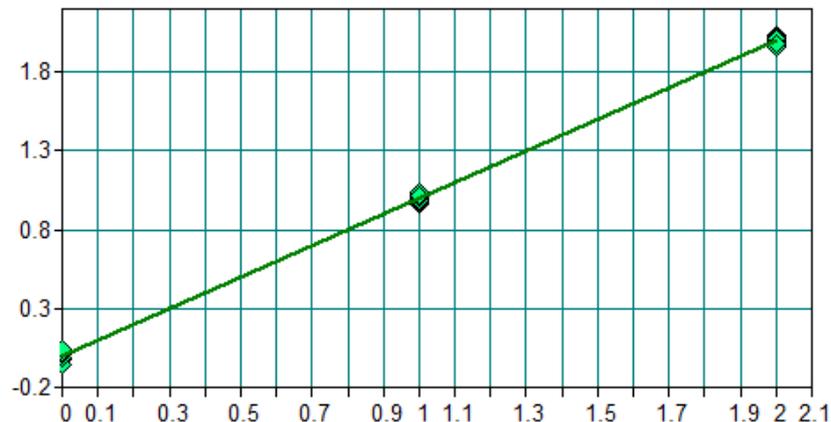
Quantitative analysis is possible

Fit vs Vrai / Comp. 1 [mg] / Calibrage

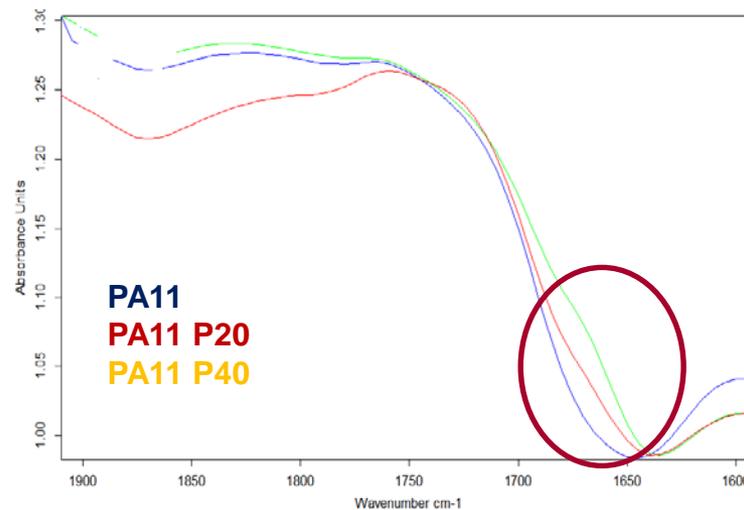


Rang: 8  $R^2 = 99.98$  RMSEE = 0.0133 RPD: 66.4  
Validation No 3 2018 07 Plastifiant.q2

Prédiction vs Vrai / Comp. 1 [mg] / Validation croisée



Rang: 8  $R^2 = 99.93$  RMSECV = 0.0223 Biais: 0.000909 RPD: 36.7  
Validation No 3 2018 07 Plastifiant.q2



## TO BE USED BY OPERATORS

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→ It's necessary to develop:

Sampling interface →



Chemometric interface:  
Matlab → Exportation to Excel

Computer interface →



# CONCLUSION

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→ Mini NIR spectrometer allows to discriminate between our products

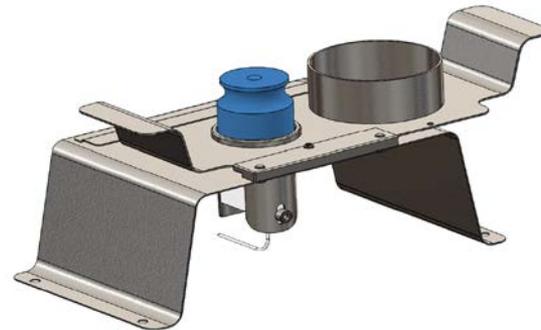
- Plasticized vs un plasticized → Easy
- PA11 vs PA12 → more challenging

→ Mini NIR spectrometer allows to quantify plasticized content

- Obvious patern
- Strong concentration variations (%)

→ Necessary to develop

- Sampling interface
- Computer interface
- Chemometric interface





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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