1	Polyphenol bioactivity evolution during the spontaneous fermentation of vegetal by-products							
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20 VISUAL ABSTRACT



27 Abstract

28 Food industry by-products such as grape pomace (GP), tomato pomace (TP), and spent coffee 29 grounds (SCG) are rich in polyphenols (PP) but are easily biodegradable. The aim of this study is to 30 test Spontaneous Fermentation (SF) as treatment to modify PP profile and bioactivity. The results 31 highlighted that the by-products' organic matter and the microbial populations drove the SF 32 evolution; heterolactic, alcoholic, and their mixtures were the predominant metabolisms of TP, GP, 33 and SCG+GP co-fermentation. Increases in the extractable amounts and antiradical activity occurred 34 for all the biomasses. Regarding the aglycate-PPs (APP), i.e. the most bioreactive PPs, significant 35 changes occurred for TP and GP but did not influence the anti-inflammatory bioactivity. The co-36 fermentation increased significantly chlorogenic acid and consumed most of the APPs, acting as a 37 purification system to obtain a highly concentrated APP fraction, so that the extract might be 38 employed for a specific purpose.

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Abbreviations: Polyphenols: PP; Aglycone polyphenol fraction: APP; Total polyphenol content: TPC;
1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazyl: DPPH; Antiradical Activity: AA; Lactic Acid Bacteria: LAB; Yeast: Y;
Interleukine-8: IL-8; Interleukine-1beta: IL-1β.

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Keywords: Agro-industrial wastes, Spontaneous fermentation, Phenolic compounds, Co Fermentation Metabolites, Anti-inflammatory property

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51 **1** Introduction

52 The market for polyphenols (PP) corresponded to USD 1.28 billion in 2018, with a perspective of 53 increase expressed as Compounded Average Growth Rate (CAGR) of +7.2% from 2019 to 2025 54 (https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/polyphenols-market-analysis). Currently, 55 the most common PP feedstocks are grape seed, apple, peach, olive, and citrus pomace 56 (https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/polyphenols-market-analysis) and the PP 57 extracts from these are destined for the cosmetic, nutraceutical, pharmaceutical and functional 58 foods/beverages sectors. To enlarge the potential feedstocks of PP, other biomasses have been 59 considered, with particular reference to the vegetal wastes of the food industry (i.e., peel, seeds, 60 etc.).

61 Our recent results indicated that among tomato pomace (TP), grape pomace (GP), red corn cob 62 (RCC), and spent coffee grounds (SCG), the latter has the best potential in term of bioactivity. In 63 addition, SCG guarantees an almost constant supply throughout the year of large amounts of 64 biomass (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2021). On the other hand, the seasonality of the agri-food industry 65 hinders the subsequent re-use in particular for biomasses that have high moisture and easily 66 degradable organic fraction contents (i.e., TP and GP), which are the most susceptible to fast 67 microbial degradation. To overcome this limitation, it is necessary to resort to effective and economical systems to preserve and possibly improve the active fractions. Fermentation is a 68 69 technology, which is widely applied, since it allows the maintenance of the organic matter (OM) 70 characteristics for a long time, thanks to the metabolic activity of yeast (Y) and/or lactic bacteria 71 (LAB) that create an adverse environment for pathogen and degradative microorganisms. 72 Controlled fermentation (CF), i.e. that based on the inoculum of selected strains, has been widely 73 applied in the food sector because of its guaranteed constant metabolic pathways and the improved characteristics of the products, such as digestibility, sensory and nutritional properties of the foods 74

(Ng, Than, & Yong, 2021; Sabater et al., 2020). The modification of PP has been already described
and depends on the metabolic activity of the micro-organisms present to break the bounds among
PP and vegetal components (fiber, protein, and sugars) or to consume free PP (aglycate fraction,
APP) and PP conjugated with monomers (i.e., sugars or N-compounds).

79 As an alternative to a controlled one, spontaneous fermentation (SF) may be carried out by LAB and 80 Y endogenous microorganisms (Verni, Verardo, & Rizzello, 2019). The existence of an 81 autochthonous community, yet selected based on the OM characteristics, was advantageous in 82 terms of metabolic capability to act on PP. Recently, SF was tested on legumes and whole cereals 83 chosen for their high content of bound PP (i.e., no extractable PP fraction), the activity of which was 84 limited by physical inaccessibility and poor chemical reactivity. For both foods significant changes in 85 PP occurred, thanks to the presence of several hydrolytic enzymes (i.e., tannase, cellulose, etc.) (Hur 86 et al., 2014; Teles et al., 2019). The application of the same approach to vegetal by-products 87 depends not only on the characteristics of the raw biomass but also on the industrial process already 88 undertaken that affects the OM and microbial community composition. LAB have been described 89 for both tomato and grape peels; however, after industrial treatment, the TP community was again 90 rich in LAB whilst in GP, that came from alcoholic or malolactic fermentation, the community was 91 made up by a mix of Y and LAB (Hur et al., 2014), while SCG was subjected to recolonization by molds 92 and fungi after the roasting process sterilization (Anh et al., 2017).

Together with the chemical profile, bioactivity is a fundamental characteristic of PP. The fermentation increased the antiradical/antioxidant power as consequence of reducing metabolites production (Verni, Verardo, & Rizzello, 2019). However, the existence of a dose-effect between the APP versus anti-inflammation on Caco-2 cells was found for the TP, both raw and fermented (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2020). SF has never been applied as a pre-treatment to modify PP to produce ingredients for nutraceutical and fortified foods, although developments in this sector are expected

to grow significantly to support the economic perspective of increase (CAGR 7.9%, reaching USD
275.77 billion by 2025) (https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/polyphenolsmarket-analysis).

In this work, SF was tested as a system to improve the deliverability of putrescible vegetal byproducts for longer times in relation to the production season and, at the same time, as a treatment to modify PP profiles and the bioactivity of the extract.

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106 **2** Materials and Methods

107 2.1 Wastes collection and chemical characterisation

108 Two wastes from the food industry (tomato pomace (TP) and grape pomace (GP)) and one waste 109 from the catering sector (spent coffee grounds (SCG)) were studied. The TP was sampled in a full-110 scale plant for tomato sauce production (OPOE Gruppo Cavicchi Scarl, Dodici Morelli, FE, Italy), the 111 GP of red Merlot wine came from a wine-producer (Poncarale, Brescia, Italy), and the SCG, derived 112 from different coffee varieties, was sampled in the canteen of the Agriculture Faculty of the 113 University of Milan, Italy (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2021). About 10 kg were sampled for each biomass 114 and immediately stored at 4°C then the biomasses were chemically characterized for dry weight 115 (DW), pH and ammonia (NH₃), according to the methods described previously (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 116 2020). The Volatile Solids (VS) i.e. the organic carbon based molecules of the by-product that 117 volatilize at 550°C was employed as indicator of the organic matter evolution (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 118 2020).

119 2.2. Chemical characterisation of PP and antiradical test

120 The quali-quantitative characterization of PP was performed on the extracts, achieved by adding to 121 the dry sample a hydro-ethanolic mix (70:30 v/v) in the ratio of 1:10 (dry weight/volume of

extraction). The quantity of PP content was determined by Folin-Ciocâlteu method and expressed
as total polyphenol content (TPC) (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2021).

The antiradical activity (AA) of the extract was assessed with the DPPH radical scavenging method and the results expressed as mmol Trolox equivalent (TE) g⁻¹ DW (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2021). A solution (125 μ M) of DPPH (Prot. N. D9132, Sigma Aldrich, Darmstadt, Germany) in methanol was prepared and then added to extracts at different concentrations, then the decrease in absorbance was recorded at 517 nm after 30 min by a spectrophotometer (Cary 60 UV-Vis, Agilent Technologies,

129 Santa Clara, CA, USA).

130 2.2.1. Aglycate polyphenol fraction chemical speciation

131 The aglycate polyphenol fraction (APP) was quali-quantitatively characterized by using HPLC Agilent 132 1260 Infinity (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, California, United States). Briefly, 20 µL of the 133 extract was injected in HPLC equipped with a Kinetex[®] column (5 μm diameter, 250 x 4.6 mm) with 134 a flow rate of 0.5 mL min⁻¹. The mobile phase was made by CH₃CN and the solvent was composed 135 of distilled water acidified with acetic acid (98:2 v/v, pH 2.8). The detection of the molecules was 136 done at 260 nm for phenolic acids and stilbene and at 350 nm for flavonoids (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 137 2020). The quantification of molecules was based on analysis of standards purchased from Sigma 138 Aldrich (Darmstadt, Germany).

139 2.3. Storage trials and biomass chemical characterization

About 500 g of fresh biomass was stored in airtight glass containers (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2020). The exit of air was enhanced by blowing through N₂ at the start of the process. The bottles were stored at 20°C in dark conditions for up to 140 days. Basing on preliminary trials, SCG was not adapted to be stored alone since fast contamination by moulds occurred, therefore co-fermentation was attempted with GP, and the optimal proportion of 31.2:68.8 SCG:GP DW/DW was applied. The fermentation evolution was monitored every 15 days through the determination of pH, DW, VS,

146 TPC, AA, NH₃ as reported before. The metabolites (lactate, formate, acetate, propionate, acetate, 147 ethanol) and simple sugars (galacturonic acid, glucose, and arabinose) were analyzed and quantified 148 by a Shimadzu HPLC (Shimadzu Corporation, Tokyo, Japan), equipped with a Hi-Plex H Agilent 149 column (300 × 7.7 mm, PL1170-6830) (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA, USA). Briefly, 5mL of 150 H₂SO₄ (0.05 M) were added on 5 grams of biomass and the final of 25 mL was reached by adding 151 distilled H₂O. The samples were stirred for a few seconds and then were left to rest for 30 minutes 152 and then successively centrifuged at 10,000 rpm for 15 min and filtered (0.45 µm Millipore Teflon 153 membrane). The injecting volume was 20 μ L, using an isocratic 4 mmol L⁻¹ sulfuric acid eluent (flow 154 rate of 0.4 mL min⁻¹ and temperature was 50 °C for 40 min). Quantification was then made according 155 to the retention time of authentic standard curves using the Labsolution 5.90 software package 156 (Shimadzu Corporation, Tokyo, Japan) integrating the area under each compound detection peak 157 (Papa et al., 2020). The best AA for each biomass was applied as a screening criterion to select the 158 best time for storage and then the extract was characterized for its APP profile and anti-159 inflammatory property test.

160 2.4. Anti-inflammatory properties of the extracts

161 Anti-inflammatory potential was assessed essentially as described previously (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 162 2020). Two different concentrations of each extract from raw and fermented biomasses were 163 prepared and administered to Caco-2 cells in the presence of 20 ng mL⁻¹ of IL-1β. Cells stimulated 164 with IL-1ß alone were considered as the positive control, which allowed setting 100% of 165 inflammation induction in the experimental study. The expression of cytokine IL-8 was measured by 166 RT-qPCR, and GAPDH expression levels were used as a normalizer. Phenolic acids standards (ferulic 167 acid and chlorogenic acid) and flavonoid (naringenin) from Sigma Aldrich (Darmstadt, Germany) 168 were tested as references.

169 2.5 Statistical analysis

The results were analysed by the ANOVA bootstrap, Duncan test; for the anti-inflammatory test, the results are reported as averages of three biological replicates and the statistical difference is indicated by p < 0.05, Tukey's test.

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was applied to correlate the bioactivities (AA and % inflammation status reduction i.e., IL-8 m-RNA expression reduction) to the SF's most important metabolites. The PCA was conducted using the raw data and the Principal Components (PCs) with eigenvalues >1 were retained; thus, among them were selected the two that have the best correlation relationships (r close to -1 or +1) with the highest number of starting parameters for graphical representation. All statistical analyses were carried out using SPSS statistical software SPSS 25 (IBM, New York, NY, USA).

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181 **3** Results and Discussion

182 3.1 Waste fermentation: metabolic trend

183 All wastes showed high moisture content that favored microorganisms' colonization (Table 1). TP 184 had a significant concentration of lactic acid and smaller amounts of propionic and acetic acids and 185 ethanol, all indicators of the existence of several metabolic pathways with a prevalence of LAB 186 (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2020). The LAB found was typical of tomato peel, however, their presence in 187 the TP was attributable, above all, to the recolonization that occurred after industrial treatment 188 enhanced by the suitable OM fraction. Regarding this topic, galacturonic acid confirmed the 189 employment of pectin as a LAB substrate (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2020). During the process, lactate 190 and acetate (i.e., the most important indicators of hetero-lactic fermentation) had a progressive 191 increase during the days of storage, reaching the highest concentration at 56 and 84 days 192 respectively when the lactate: acetate proportion augmented the value of 2-3, typical of hetero-193 lactic fermentation, which was thus maintained until the end of the process (Table 2).

194 GP is derived from the previous alcoholic and malolactic fermentation driven by Y and LAB (Arcena 195 et al., 2020). The presence of both communities was confirmed by their metabolites at the beginning 196 of the fermentation process (t=0 d); however, after that, a reduction occurred, probably due to the 197 difficulty of both communities to adapt to the new conditions or because of the existence of LAB-Y 198 inhibition which may have been triggered by the respective metabolites' toxicity and/or biological 199 competition (Table 1) (Mahboubi et al., 2018). From that situation, the glucose and ethanol 200 increased at 42 d and 56 d respectively, when the Y overcame the metabolic impasse and become 201 predominant with respect to the LAB.

202 The SCG+GP co-fermentation was largely influenced by the main component GP but with some 203 differences. The ethanol peak at 14 d was an anticipation of the Y activity in comparison with that 204 which occurred for the GP alone. The event was limited, and the ethanol trend was very similar to 205 that of GP. Indeed, the sugar profile was changed: during the co-fermentation, the amount of 206 glucose was different, since it now originated from both the GP and SCG cellulose fractions, 207 moreover, arabinose was also present. In the SCG the arabinose was a component of hemicellulose 208 and melanoidins, big molecules made by sugars, proteins, and chlorogenic acid generated during 209 the green coffee roasting (Mussatto, Ballesteros, & Teixeira, 2011; Moreira, Nunes, & Coimbra, 210 2012; Burniol-figols, Cenian, & Gavala, 2016). To verify the effective contribution of SCG OM to 211 sustain the microbial activity, the concentration of the main metabolites and sugars previously 212 discussed (SCG+GP)_M) was now tentatively attributed to SCG (SCG_M) and GP (GP_M). The calculation 213 of SCG_M was attempted for the lactate, acetate, propionate, glucose, arabinose, and ethanol as: 214 SCG_M=(SCG+GP)_M-(GP_{alone}*0.688) where GP_{alone} were the metabolites measured during the GP 215 fermentation and the starting SCG:GP ratio (31.2%:68.8%) was considered constant since no VS 216 changes occurred during the process. The results included both positive and negative data (SI Fig. 217 S1), the first was an indicator of the use of SCG OM as the substrate of biological activity. This

218 approach allowed us to attribute the ethanol peak at 14 d to the consumption of SCG glucose and to identify arabinose as the feedstock of the metabolism that produced propionate, lactate, and 219 220 acetate and that evolved in a stable hetero-lactic fermentation after 56 d of the process. The glucose 221 and ethanol showed negative values, interpretable as an increase of the OM GP-based metabolism 222 which occurred in comparison with that of GP_{alone}, stimulated indirectly by the different quali-223 quantitative OM (Fig. S1). The result of the co-fermentation was thus the development of a different 224 community (LAB+Y as main groups) compared with that found for GP alone (Y as the main group) 225 and confirmed the possibility of carrying out the SF of non-adapted by-products and modulating the 226 final effect by using another biomass as a trigger.

227 The safety degree of the fermentation is a fundamental topic for the production of ingredients 228 destined for foods. The SF products based on LAB, Y and LAB+Y metabolism are widely applied in 229 the food sector since the development of LAB and Y based communities guarantee adequate safety 230 of the food. The sanitation effect was determined by the creation of unfavorable environmental 231 conditions for the growth of pathogen microorganisms. The hydrogen peroxides and bacteriocines 232 were recently identified as LAB bacteriostatic molecules however, the main sanitation effect 233 occurred in presence of LAB is due to the lactate production for its ability to pass through the 234 membrane and reduce the cytoplasm pH (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2021; Voidarou et al., 2020). 235 Similarly, the Y and Saccaromyces cerevisiae in particular have been extensively studied about their 236 bacteriostatic effect associated to the high ethanol concentration, secretion of killer toxin and 237 competition for nutrients (Rima, Steve, & Ismail, 2012).

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239 3.2. Effect of fermentation on polyphenols content

The TP was the only biomass for which higher TPC with respect to the raw one was reached during
the process (Table 1). Although the TPC is usually employed as a PP measurement, the reliability of

242 the correspondence was different for raw and fermented biomass in which a large portion of TPC 243 was made by molecules produced by microorganisms (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2020). The same metabolites as well as the smaller PP are itself subject to consumption, thus the intensity of 244 245 metabolic activity was the most probable cause of its reduction. At the start of the process the AA 246 of TP was lower than those of GP and SCG+GP which were very similar. Together with PP, 247 carotenoids are a class of antioxidants that can contributed to the AA. No carotenoids were reported 248 for SCG while the lutein plus beta-carotene and trans-lycopene were the principal molecules for GP 249 and TP respectively. Taking into consideration the experimental condition, only the hydrophilic 250 carotenoids i.e., beta-carotene was extractable, however, due to their low concentration with 251 respect to the PP content their contribution to the AA was very limited. For the TP, in this concept, 252 the contribution of trans-lycopene was excluded for its strong lipophilicity in spite of its high 253 concentration.

The AA increased for all treatment and biomass and the peaks which were found happened at a different time in correspondence with, or very near to, the metabolite ones. Both enzymatic and non-enzymatic activities were responsible for the increase of antioxidant properties during fermentation (Hur et al., 2014). The enzymes determined the production of low-weight molecules which have better antioxidant power than the original ones, and the nature of which depended on the OM properties.

The presence of free antioxidant amino acids has been described from legumes' fermentation, moreover the production of reducing sugars was expected from the fiber-rich biomasses used in this work. The metabolic activity greatly affected the OM composition, and a direct effect was the augmentation of the extractable fraction registered at metabolic peaks in comparison with the starting values (+70%, +90%, +80% for TP, GP, and SCG+GP respectively). Nevertheless, no significant correlation was found between extracts and AA, implying that a fraction of all molecules

had bioactivity. The expression of AA on extract content highlighted that the reduction of the AA
occurred for GP and SCG+GP (-74% and -80% respectively) while it remained constant for TP. This
result, together with the extract amount modification, suggested that the metabolic activity of GP
and SCG+GP did not have a significant effect on increasing AA, to the contrary of what happened
for TP.

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272 3.3 APP characterization

The APPs of the raw biomasses were similar, although with different amounts and proportions (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2021). During the fermentations, the consumption as metabolic substrates and non-biologically mediated degradation (Rondeau, Gambier, & Brosse, 2013) led to APP decreases for all the biomasses (-51.2%, -77.7%, and -65% for TP, GP, and SCG+GP respectively) (Table 3).

278 The TP hetero-lactic fermentation caused a general reduction of all phenolic acids, thus no 279 significant profile change occurred from a qualitative point of view (Table 3). However, phenolic 280 acids increased during GP (+83% phenolic acid of GPraw) with the augmentation of ellagic, ferulic, 281 and above all p-coumaric acids. Ellagic acid is a component of tannins, thus its increase was 282 attributable to the Y tannase activity, in agreement with the literature (Musingo et al., 2001; Pinelo, 283 Arnous, & Meyer, 2006); the non-core lignin monomers were the feedstock of ferulic and p-284 coumaric acids from which aglycone forms were derived, thanks to Y cellulase action (Pinelo, 285 Arnous, & Meyer, 2006; Kyoung et al., 2009).

Although the GP is the main constituent of SCG+GP fermentation, the phenolic acids had a dissimilar evolution determined by the different microbial communities (Y+LAB). A limited increase for ferulic and *p*-coumaric acids occurred while the ellagic acid decreased. However, the great difference with respect to the GP_{alone} process was for the aglycate chlorogenic acid augmentation (Table 3). Green

290 coffee is very rich in chlorogenic acid and is often employed as a feedstock to produce a chlorogenic-291 acid-based extract. The melanoidins synthesis which occurs during roasting, however, reduces the 292 chlorogenic acid extractability since it is strongly linked by covalent bonds in the new molecules to 293 arabinose chains (Moreira et al., 2015). This new result, together with the arabinose presence as 294 the metabolite discussed before, suggests that the LAB used melanoidins as substrate and the 295 breakdown of bonds had a positive side effect which was the release of chlorogenic acid.

296 The high reactivity of the aglycate flavonoids explained the significant reduction that occurred for 297 all biomasses (-54.7%, -85%, -89% for TP, GP and SCG+GP respectively) (Table 3) (Kapcum & 298 Uriyapongson, 2018). The exception to the general behavior was quercetin, which increased tenfold 299 during TP fermentation (Table 3). This can probably be attributed to the existence of LAB enzymes 300 able to hydrolyze quercetin-glycosides (rutin) and quercetin-cellular component to improve the 301 aglycate quercetin content (Martins et al., 2016; Meinim, Cabezudo, & Romanini, 2019). During the 302 GP and SCG+GP SF, the naringenin chalcone augmentation could be attributable to the naringenin 303 conversion in the presence of a specific metabolic pattern typical of vegetal metabolism, but which has recently been identified in microorganisms too (Moore et al., 2002). 304

305 Trans-resveratrol was the only component of the stilbene class and it showed an increase in 306 concentration for all biomasses but to different degrees. The effect was limited for TP (+33.2%) 307 whilst it was much greater for the other fermentations (Table 3). The increase of trans-resveratrol 308 was already described for GP, and several hydrolytic enzymes (i.e., tannase, pectinase, cellulase, 309 and β -glucosidase) showed the metabolic capability to transform resveratrol-glycosylated and/or 310 oligomeric forms (e.g., piceid) into the aglycate form (Kammerer, Claus, & Carle, 2005; Martins et 311 al., 2016). However, the relevant growth found for GP and SCG+GP may suggest microbial synthase 312 activity (Langcake & McCarthy, 1979; Martins et al., 2016).

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314 3.4 Anti-inflammatory activity performance of the extracts

315 All extracts showed anti-inflammatory activity and their dependence on the APP dose was 316 statistically significant (SI, Table S1). For TP and GP, the raw and fermented samples had the same 317 dose-effect relationships, described by the linear regression equations (y = -5.08*(TP extract dose)318 + 115, R²=0.96, p<0.05; y = -6.17*(GP extract dose) + 138, R²=0.99, p<0.05) (Abbasi-Parizad et al., 319 2020) (Fig. 1). Accordingly, the minimum and maximum effective doses, i.e., the lowest and the 320 highest concentrations at which the bioactivity was null or maximum, allowed comparisons to be 321 made of the anti-inflammatory potential of TP and GP (Fig. 1). TP extracts showed significant 322 activities at a lower concentration than GP, while the total elimination of the induced inflammatory 323 status occurred at very similar doses. Although there was a general reduction in total APP content, 324 a balanced qualitative anti-inflammatory effect was observed. This may be due to the increase of 325 some molecules such as quercetin, t-resveratrol, p-coumaric, ellagic and ferulic acids, which are 326 known to have great bioactivity (Table 3) (Hur et al., 2014; Rodríguez-Morgado et al., 2015; Bucić-327 Kojić et al., 2020). However, the evaluation of direct involvement of each molecule to give the 328 observed effects is difficult when complex matrices are tested in terms of synergism or antagonism 329 triggered by absorbability, competition for cell transportation and similar interactions (Yang et al., 330 2014). A direct assessment was thus attempted to compare the measured bioactivities with respect 331 to standard molecules. TP and GP raw and fermented extracts (APP=15 µg L⁻¹) gave comparable anti-332 inflammatory reduction when compared with ferulic acid, chlorogenic acid, and naringenin tested at the same concentration. The best performance was that of SCG_{raw}, since a similar inflammatory 333 334 status reduction took place as for the reference (around 20%, that means a reduction of 80%), and 335 this was obtained with a dose tenfold lower (Fig. 1).

With respect to GP_{raw} and SCG_{raw}, their mixture did not give a synergistic anti-inflammatory effect,
 thus less bioactivity occurred, probably due to the dilution of APP. In conflict with the trend found

338 for GP and TP, the fermentation of SCG+GP significantly improved the anti-inflammatory activity 339 (Fig. 1). Again, considering as reference, an inflammation reduction of 80%, the SCG+GP fermented 340 extract was effective at 14 µg mL⁻¹ dose, which was 1.7-fold lower than that of SCG+GP_{raw} necessary 341 to obtain the same effect. This different behavior was explicable when taking into consideration 342 that the APP composition changed completely; the APP of the mix was GP_based at the start 343 (quercetin made by 70% APP of SCG+GP_{raw}) and SCG based after fermentation (chlorogenic acid 344 made by 60.7% APP of SCG+GPF). Taking into account the great increase in chlorogenic acid and the 345 presence of other powerful molecules such as apigenin, t-resveratrol, and naringenin chalcone, a 346 higher anti-inflammatory effect was expected: however, chlorogenic acid acts as a flavonoids 347 antagonist when it has a higher concentration than other molecules, as in the case of the APP 348 SCG+GPF (Hajimehdipoor, Shahrestani, & Shekarchi, 2014).

To valorize the great effects that occurred with co-fermentation (storage of biomass and APP evolution) and to avoid the negative interactions, the separation of GP and SCG was a possible posttreatment to obtain potentially two extracts from GP and SCG (López-Barrera, Vázquez-Sánchez, & Campos-Vega, 2016).

Thanks to the significant reduction that occurred for most of the APP, and the ratio between GP and SCG, the SCGF_APP is assumed to be composed almost totally of chlorogenic acid and apigenin with a concentration of 3-4-fold higher than that of the mixture. The second extract from GPF was expected to have *t*-resveratrol and naringenin chalcone as the main APPs at concentrations at least 1.5-fold higher than that of the mix. Similar concentrations and degree of purity are unusual for raw vegetal extracts and can be considered positive properties to address the subsequent employment of these extracts with specific functionalities.

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361 3.5 SF metabolism effect on bioactivities

To better understand how the bioactivities evolution depended on the SF communities, PCA was performed. The PCA results gave four significant PCs in which PC1 and PC2 explained 79.5 % of the starting data.

The PC1 was well correlated with glucose (r=0.96), ethanol (r=0.98), TPC (r=0.88), AA (r=0.93) acetate (r=-0.89), propionate (r= - 0.92) and galactose (r= - 0.83). Indeed, the PC2 was directly correlated to the % inflammation reduction (r=0.82) and lactate content (r=0.82). Together PC1 and PC2 represented 90% of the starting variables thus were employed for graphical representation of the results (Fig. 2 a,b). Taking into consideration the indicators vs. PC relationships, the PC1 was associated with the increase of the AA and to the presence of a Y-based community whilst the PC2 was related to the inflammation reduction and LAB-based community (Fig. 2a).

372 The plot of the extracts in the PC1-PC2 space (Fig. 2b) showed on the PC1 axis, two different groups 373 at negative (TP, TPF) and positive (GP+SCG, GP+SCGF, GP, GPF) values corresponded to lowest and 374 highest AA, respectively. However, no significant distance occurred among raw and fermented 375 samples for the same biomass suggesting that all SF metabolisms had a limited effect in the AA. A 376 similar situation was recorded on the PC2 for the GP and SCG+GP but not for the TP by-product TPF 377 positioned in higher well-separated position in relation to the TP (I and IV quadrants respectively) 378 suggesting that only the SF LAB based community positively affected the anti-inflammatory 379 bioactivity of the extract.

380

381 4 Conclusion

382 SF was effective to preserve for a long time the putrescible by-products of the food industry. The 383 organic matter composition and microbial populations were the factors that mainly drove the 384 subsequent metabolism and PP evolution. The storage conditions guaranteed the preservation of 385 anti-inflammatory activity and improved the AA power of the extract when the SF was carried out

for single biomasses. However, co-fermentation of grape and coffee wastes had a great effect in terms of APP number reduction and can be considered a purification system to obtain extracts destined for a pure molecule-like use. The LAB-based community of TP seemed to be a promising starter to increase anti-inflammatory capability. Further development will be addressed to identify and select specific microorganisms for anti-inflammatory extract production in sterilized conditions.

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TABLES

By-products					Time (Days)			
		0	14	29	42	56	84	140
	DW (% w.w.)	27.6±0.3 a ^{*,#}	26.5±0.1 a	27.2±0.2 a	26.1±0.2 a	26.3±0.2 a	25.7±0.1 a	25.4±0.4 a
	VS (% DW)	94.4±0.6 a	95.1±0.3 a	96.7±0.2 b	98.4±0.1 b	97±0.1 b	97.3±0.2 b	97.5±0.3 b
тр	TPC (mg GAE g ⁻¹ DW)	4.6±0.3 bc	3.3±0.1 a	3.6±0.1 ab	4.1±0.1 ab	5.8±0.6 c	4.3±0.3 ab	4.8±0.5 bc
IF	AA (μM TE g ⁻¹ DW)	21.5±0.1 a	26.3±0.3 b	38.1±0.1 f	34.3±0.1 e	30.6±0.3 c	33±0.6 de	31.7±1.6 cd
	Extract (g kg ⁻¹ DW)	258±86 a	-	453±39 b	-	-	-	-
	DW (% w.w.)	36.01±2.9 a	34.6±0.1 a	37.02±1.7 a	34.8±0.8 a	33.4±1 a	34.4±0.2 a	33.4±0.3 a
	VS (% DW)	93±1.1 a	92±0.2 a	91.3±1.1 a	91±1.5 a	89.4±1 a	89.7±0.7 a	92.4±0.1 a
GP	TPC (mg GAE g ⁻¹ DW)	22.8±0.6 c	16.5±0.3 b	10.2±0.3 a	10.6±0.3 a	12.2±0.2 ab	11.1±0.3 a	14.7±0.8 b
	AA (μM TE g ⁻¹ DW)	87.8±0.9 d	68.1±0.1 b	79.7±0.2 c	78.9±0.1 c	93.5±1.4 e	87.5±0.4 d	53.1±0.9 a
	Extract (g kg ⁻¹ DW)	246±52 a				474±48 b		
	DW (% w.w.)	37.3±0.1 a (40±0.1)b **	36.3±0.1 a	38.6±1.1 a	39.2±0.2 a	36.5±0.5 a	34±0.2 a	34.7±0.4 a
	VS (% DW)	95.1±0.2 a (99.8±0.1)b	94.9±0.2 a	94.1±2.3 a	94.1±0.3 a	94.5±0.1 a	94.5±0.1 a	93.2±0.3 a
369+95	TPC (mg GAE g ⁻¹ DW)	18.8±0.6 c (10.1±0.5) a	16.5±0.3 b	10.2±0.3 a	10.8±1.1 a	13.4±0.9 b	10.9±0.4 a	15.3±0.5 b
	AA (μM TE g ⁻¹ DW)	88.4±0.6 e	67.9±0.2 c	92.5±0.6 e	59.1±0.4 b	76.3±1.9 d	66±2.5 c	51.6±1.4 a

Table 1. Characterization of by-product during spontaneous fermentation.

	(89.8±0.3) e	
Extract (g kg⁻¹ DW)	318±12 a (462±48 b)	581±103 c

* Data are the mean (n = 3) \pm SD. Different letters in the same raw are statistically different (ANOVA, p <0.05, post-test Duncan).

TP: Tomato Pomace; GP: Grape Pomace; SCG: Spent coffee grounds; SCG+GP: Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace; DW: dry weight; VS:

Volatile Solid; AA: Antiradical activity; TPC: Total polyphenol content. The data of raw biomasses came from Abbasi-Parizad et al., 2021.

**SCG characterization

	Tim e (day)	рН	NH ₃ *	Formate	Acetate	Propionate	Lactate	Galacturonic acid	Glucose	Arabinose	Ethanol
							mg g⁻¹ DV	V			
	0	3.8 ±0.03 a	0.3±0.01 a	-	4.4±0.2a	8.9±0.3a	10.8±1.1 a	1.7±0.4 a	0.6±0.01a	-	4.8±0.6a
	14	3.7±0.02 a ^a	0.4±0.02 a	-	8.8±0.6 b	9.3±0.4 a	38.7±2.6b	2±0.1 a	0.6±0.03 a	-	5.1±2.4 ab
	29	3.6±0.01 a	0.4±0.01 a	-	7.6±0.2 b	7.4±0.03 a	34.7±0.8 b	4.1±0.3 ab	0.9±0.13 b	-	5.1±0.3 ab
ТР	42	3.6±0.08 a	0.6±0.08 b	-	8.7±0.9 b	8.8±0.9 a	43.9±3.6 c	5.2±2.5 b	1.07±0.01 bc	-	5.7±2.5 b
	56	3.5±0.05 a	0.8±0.03 c	0.2±0.3 a	8.7±0.2 b	9.6±1.3 a	53.6±3.6 d	11.5±0.1 c	1.2±0.08 cd	-	3.7±0.08 a
	84	3.5±0.04 a	0.6±0.02 b	2.1±0.03 c	13.4±0.3 c	8.5±2.9 a	49.8±2.2 cd	2.2±0.2 a	1.1±0.01 cd	-	6.5±0.3 ab
	140	3.5±0.06 a	0.7±0.01 c	1.4±0.1 b	13.9±0.4 c	7.9±0.5 a	55±2.8 d	8.8±1 c	1.3±0.01 d	-	7.2±0.2 ab
	0	3.47 ± 0.03 a	0.19±0.02 c	0.33±0.1 a	0.64±0.04 a	0.6±0.03 a	24.15±0.9 ab	-	46.97±1.8 a	-	140.2±1.7 b
	14	3.5±0.02 a	0.21±0.02 d	0.4±0.1 a	0.5±0.04 a	1.4±0.1 b	23.5±0.3 ab	-	53.06±0.3 ab	-	122±2.2 ab
	29	3.5±0.01 ab	0.15±0.01 ab	0.3±0 a	0.5±0.08 a	1.4±0.2 b	18.5±0.4 a	-	45.4±3.2 a	-	100±2.3 a
GP	42	3.5±0.01 ab	0.17±0.01 bc	0.4±0.02 a	0.6±0.2 a	1.5±0.1 b	23.02±2.2 ab	-	55.1±3.6 b	-	114.1±2.4 ab
	56	3.5±0.01 ab	0.2±0.01 cd	0.4±0.04 a	0.8±0.04 b	1.6±0.1 b	22.21±2.7 ab	-	53.7±2.08 ab	-	144±2.2 c
	84	3.5±0.01 b	0.12±0.02 a	0.4±0.04 a	1.1±0.02 b	1.7±0.2 b	26.53±0.1 b	-	52.21±4.5 ab	-	133±3.4 bc
	140	3.4±0.02 a	0.16±0 b	0.3±0.1 a	1.4±0.02 c	1±0.6 a	22.81±2.8 ab	-	54±1.1 ab	-	126±1.8 abc

Table 2. Changes in pH, ammonia, organic acids, sugars and ethanol during fermentation.

	0	3.47±0.03 a 6.4±0.02 b	0.17±0.03 a (0±0)**	0±0 (0.44±0.02)	0.6±0.56 a (0.34±0.01)	1.9±0.55 b (0±0)	14.04±0.7 a (0.64±0.02)	-	28.22±1.4 b (0.4±0.02)	0±0 (0.05±0.001)	77.1±1.09 ab (0±0)
	14	3.6±0 a	0.18±0.02 a	0.3±0.2 ab	0.95±0.2 b	2.6±2.07 b	15.95±0.1 a	-	29.31±2.2 b	0.8±0.1 a	86.1±4.3 c
	29	3.7±0.007 a	0.19±0.02 a	0.34±0.04 ab	1.44±0.2 c	0.5±0.04 a	13.56±0.4 a	-	19.45±0.2 a	1.9±1.6 a	72.9±3.3 a
SCG +GP	42	3.6±0.007 a	0.17±0.01 a	0.2±0.04 ab	1.26±0.6 c	1.6±0.4 ab	18.15±1.7 a	-	36.54±1.06 c	0.8±0.2 a	68.88±2.9 a
	56	3.6±0.007 a	0.17±0 a	0.18±0.2 ab	2.51±0.8 d	1.9±0.14 b	16.89±2.3 a	-	32.5±2.6 bc	1.1±0.4 a	79±1.13 c
	84	3.6±0.01 a	0.15±0.03 a	0.43±0.06 b	2.58±0.3 d	0.7±0.3 a	19.67±3.7 a	-	27.39±2.5 b	0.9±0.1 a	84.2±2.05 c
	140	3.5±0.014 a	0.18±0.01 a	0.07±0.1 a	2.1±0.3 d	1.1±0.1 ab	18.14±3.2 a	-	20.69±1.44 a	2.02±0.9 a	80.23±3.9 c

Data are the mean (n = 3) \pm SD. Different letters in the same column are statistically different (ANOVA, *p* <0.05, post-test Duncan). TP: Tomato Pomace; GP: Grape Pomace; SCG: Spent coffee grounds; SCG+GP. DW: Dry weight.

**SCG characterization

Table 3.	APP	content	of the	raw a	and f	fermented	extract.

extract	ТР	TPF	GP	GPF	SCG+GP	SCG+GPF		
APP	µg g⁻¹ DW extract							
					900±32 b			
Gallic acid	1004±112 b*,#	832±30 a	1146±20 b	633±32a	(588 ±7)**	251±21 a		
		464+40	0.10	2716	597±14 a			
Chlorogenic acid	756±15 b	461±10 a	0±0	27±6	(1281±30)	9898±16 b		
Curring in a sid	5010	010			36±6	010		
Syringic acid	50±6	0±0	67±8 D	22±6 a	(0±0)	0±0		
	205±2 b	26+6 2	151+16 b	250+10 -	303±39 b	24+6 2		
Carreic acid		50±0 a	431110 0	239119 a	(122±11)	2410 d		
Eorulic acid		20+6 2	252±16 a	1270±39 b	219±32 a	022+19 h		
Ferunc aciu	85±2 D	29±0 a			(166±14)	933110 0		
n Coumaric acid	221+21 b	74+8 5		006+22 h	57±5 a	157+10 h		
	231121 0	74±0 a	33±4 a	330±32 D	(53±8)	1371190		
Vanillic acid	122+24	0+0	70+6 a	68+13 a	38±3	0+0		
varinite actu	122-24	U±U	70±6 a	00±13 8	(0±0)	010		
Fllagic acid	0+0	0+0		2426+25 h	548±42 b	437+11 a		
Ellagic acid	id 0±0	0±0	1007±12 a	2720123 5	(0±0)	43/±11 d		

	I						
Cinnamic acid	387±27 b	188±9 a	67±6 b	13±2 a	37±10 b (0±0)	4±0 a	
			0±0	0±0	71±16		
Sinapic acid	125±4 a	113±12 a			(152±13)	0±0	
Sum of phenolic	2064+212 h	1727+81 5	2112+01 2	5715+175 h	2807±201 a	11705+02 h	
acids	29041213.0	1734181 a	5112151.8	5715175.0	(2362±83)	11/05192.0	
Dutio	424+20 -	204+21 a	2764+45 b	1044+20 -	2419±71 b		
Rutin	434±39 a	204±21 a	3764±45 b	1044±39 a	(781±18)	65±5 a	
Quarcatin	46±12 a	410+12 b	55333±496 b	4042+46 2	30226±742 b	26±5 a	
Quercetin		410113.0		4042140 a	(33±6)		
Catechin	0±0	0+0	0+0	0+0	287±32	0+0	
Catechin		0±0	0±0	010	(620±19)	0±0	
Enicatechin	0+0	0+0	1215+57 b	35+1 2	2716±68 b	98+7 a	
Epicateenin	010	010	1215-57 5	55±+ a	(4409±34)	98±7 a	
Anigenin	57+2 h	11+3 a	3858+36 h	576+16 a	3584±210 b	2086+11 a	
Αριβοτιπτ	57±2.0	1115 0	3636±30 b	576±10 a	(3180±22)	2000±11 a	
Myricetin	380+19 b	46+8 a	537+20 h	193+11 a	293±48 b	122+13 a	
wyneetin	390113.0	+0±0 a	337 TZO D	155-11 0	(0±0)	122±13 U	
Kaempferol	806±50 b	344±6 a	1736±28 b	96±16 a	2651±90 b	16±3 a	

					(3665±19)		
Nevingenin	2045 1 27 h	862 1 20 -	2410124	010	1864±51	010	
Naringenin	2845±27 D	863±20 a	3419±24	0±0	(0±0)	U±U	
Naringenin	2720+21 h	C07+2C a	0+0	2705+45	0±0	1452+15	
Chalcone	2728±31 0	697±36 a	U±U	3785±45	(0±0)	1453±15	
Sum of all	0422 J 220 k				44084±1320 b	4602+84 a	
flavonoids	8123±238 b	3676±118 a	69941±716 D	10548±197 a	(15049±118)	4602±84 a	
trans-Resveratrol	005.50		70.0	776.001	43±7 a	700.04	
Sum of stilbenes	825±58 a	1099±11 b	79±8 a	776±20 b	(0±0)	/36±24 b	
					46892±1520 b		
Sum of all APP	11087±451 b	5410±200 a	73053±806 b	16263±372 a	(17381)	16308±175 a	

TP: Tomato Pomace; TPF: Tomato Pomace Fermented; GP: Grape Pomace; GPF: Grape Pomace Fermented; SCG: Spent coffee grounds; SCG+GP:

Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace; SCG+GPF: Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace Fermented; DW: Dry weight.

* Data are the mean (n = 3) ± SD. Different letters between the raw and fermented samples for the same biomass are statistically different

(ANOVA, p < 0.05, post-test Duncan). The data equal to 0±0 were excluded by the statistical analysis.

[#] Aglycate polyphenol faction (APP) and other data of raw biomasses came from Abbasi Parizad et al. (2021).

** SCG characterization

Caption figure

Figure 1. Anti-inflammatory effect of the extract of raw and fermented TP and GP (a) and SCG, SCG+GP raw and fermented (b) on cytokine IL-8 expression in Caco-2 cells. TP: Tomato Pomace; TPF: Tomato Pomace Fermented; GP: Grape Pomace; GPF: Grape Pomace Fermented; SCG: Spent coffee grounds; SCG+GP: Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace; SCG+GPF: Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace Fermented.

Figure 2. PCA plots of the influence of the metabolic evolution of SF versus bioactivities. Fig. 2a provides information on the metabolites that are significantly different during fermentation and bioactivities (AA and % IL-8 m-RNA expression reduction i.e. % inflammation status reduction) into PCA space indicating the load of each parameters in defining the PC1 (x axis) and the PC2 (y axis). Fig. 2b provides information on the extracts (TP: Tomato Pomace; TPF: Tomato Pomace Fermented; GP: Grape Pomace; GPF: Grape Pomace Fermented; SCG: Spent coffee grounds; SCG+GP: Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace; SCG+GPF: Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace Fermented.) similarity/dissimilarity (i.e. samples are close/far respectively) on the basis of communities and bioactivity evolution (Fig. 1a). Samples and parameters in the same position (Fig. 1a, b) indicate the influence of the SF metabolism (i.e LAB, Y and LAB+Y based) in the evolution of bioactivities.











Fig.2



Supporting Information

Polyphenol bioactivity evolution during the spontaneous fermentation of vegetal by-products

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Fig. S1. Metabolite's trend attributable to the SCG fraction during SCG+GP co-fermentation.

Biomass	Dose	Inflammation status
	µg APP mL ⁻¹	IL-8 m-RNA expression fold
	9	5.2 ± 0.2b*
IF	15	3.4 ± 0.3a
	7	7.7 ± 0.9b
IF F	10	6 ± 0.2a
GP	12	6.3 ± 0.5b
Gr	20	1.3 ± 0.2a
GP.	7	8.2 ± 0.6b
GFF	12	6.1 ± 0.7a
SCG	3	4.5 ± 0.5b
300	7	1.7 ± 0.2a
	5	6.4 ± 0.3b
	14	5.7 ± 0.6a
Control (IL-1 β)	-	9 ± 0.3

Table S1. Agro-industrial by-products PP-Dose Effect on cytokine IL-8 expression fold.

*value followed by different letters for the same biomass are statistically different, p<0.05. TP: Tomato Pomace; TP_F: Tomato Pomace Fermented; GP: Grape Pomace; GP_F: Grape Pomace Fermented; SCG: Spent coffee grounds; SCG+GP_F: Spent coffee grounds + Grape Pomace Fermented.