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Metabolomics to decode microbial interactions in kombucha beverage

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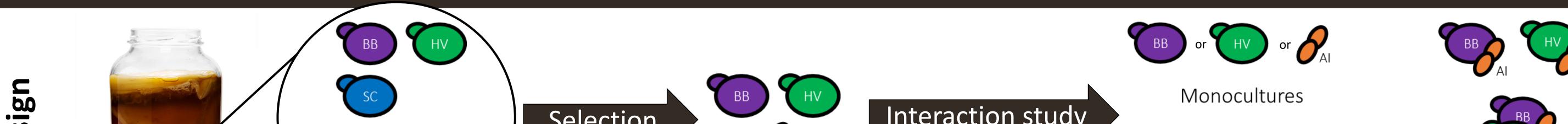
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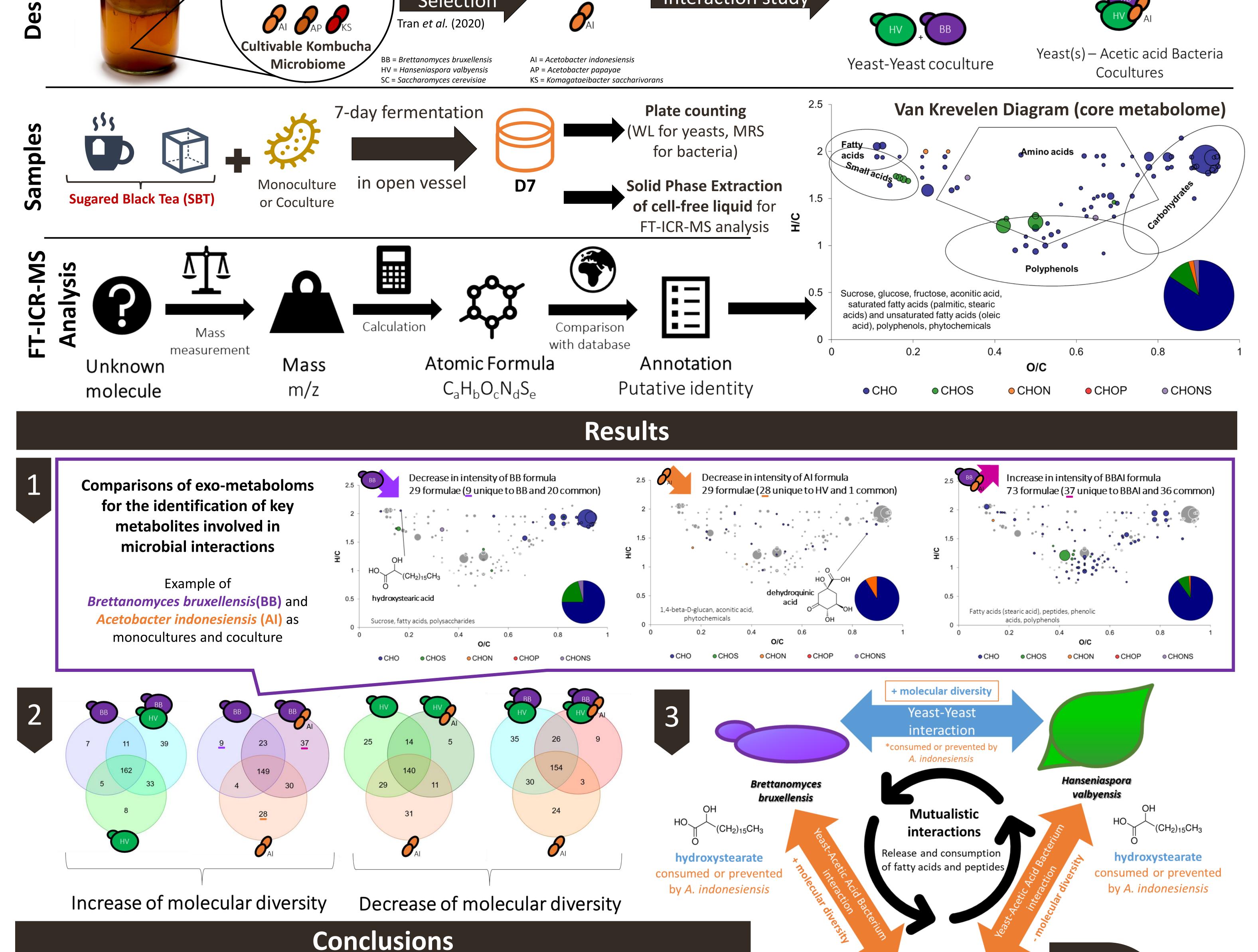
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Kombucha is a fermented beverage produced from sugared tea through the activity of a yeasts and bacteria consortium, which exists in multiple microbiological diversities. Interactions taking place among yeasts and bacteria raise questions regarding the control of fermentations. Metabolic interplays involved in the production of organic acid from sugars have already been described, at the expense of other metabolites. Interactome between kombucha microorganisms was investigated by reducing an original consortium to three selected microorganisms: two yeasts (Brettanomyces bruxellensis and Hanseniaspora valbyensis) and one acetic acid bacteria (Acetobacter indonesiensis). Population levels were determined by plate counting and metabolomics was performed by Fourier Transform-Ion cyclotron-Mass Spectrometry on products, including a data treatment of 506 putative metabolites.

Material and methods





- Metabolites impacted (consumed or produced) by interactions included various chemical families (including carbohydrates, fatty acids, organic acids, peptides, phenolic acids and phytochemicals).
- Molecular diversity was impacted differently depending on the yeast species. Simultaneous presence 2. of *H. valbyensis* and *A. indonesiensis* induced a loss of molecular diversity.
- Metabolomics analysis highlights metabolites exchanges as peptides and fatty acids, involved in 3. the yeast-yeast interaction.
- The presence of *H.valbyensis* affected positively the growth of *B.bruxellensis* and also 4. A.indonesiensis. With the presence of A.indonesiensis in the trio coculture, yeast metabolites previously mentioned were either consumed or not produced, echoing the disappearance of growth benefits brought by *H. valbyensis*.
 - Key metabolites involved in the mutualistic interactions occuring between kombucha microorganisms have been uncovered, calling for further targeted investigations.

PAM











of monoculture and

cocultures

Acetobacter

indonesiensis

dehydroquinate

consummed by yeasts

HO

OH

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