

Agricultural Potentials of Molecular Spectroscopy and Advances for Food Authentication: An Overview

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Abstract: Meat, fish, coffee, tea, mushroom, and spices are foods that have been acknowledged for their nutritional benefits but are also reportedly targets of fraud and tampering due to their economic value. Conventional methods often take precedence for monitoring these foods, but rapid advanced instruments employing molecular spectroscopic techniques are gradually claiming dominance due to their numerous advantages such as low cost, little to no sample preparation, and, above all, their ability to fingerprint and detect a deviation from quality. This review aims to provide a detailed overview of common molecular spectroscopic techniques and their use for agricultural and food quality management. Using multiple databases including ScienceDirect, Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar, 171 research publications including research articles, review papers, and book chapters were thoroughly reviewed and discussed to highlight new trends, accomplishments, challenges, and benefits of using molecular spectroscopic methods for studying food matrices. It was observed that Near infrared spectroscopy (NIRS), Infrared spectroscopy (IR), Hyperspectral imaging (his), and Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) stand out in particular for the identification of geographical origin, compositional analysis, authentication, and the detection of adulteration of meat, fish, coffee, tea, mushroom, and spices; however, the potential of UV/Vis, 1 H-NMR, and Raman spectroscopy (RS) for similar purposes is not negligible. The methods rely heavily on preprocessing and chemometric methods, but their reliance on conventional reference data which can sometimes be unreliable, for quantitative analysis, is perhaps one of their dominant challenges. Nonetheless, the emergence of handheld versions of these techniques is an area that is continuously being explored for digitalized remote analysis.

Keywords: authentication; adulteration; NIRS; IR; HSI; Raman spectroscopy; NMR

1. Introduction

Food authentication is a subject of much repute that is continuing to gain attention due to consumer curiosity and interventions for food safety by regulatory authorities such as the World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Food and Drugs Authority (FDA), and Codex Alimentarius (CODEX). Food authentication encompasses all elements of food security, which is defined by the FAO as a state which exists "when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life" [1]. It is a complex process of evaluating specific constituents or all the components of food and is a necessary measure that can be implemented across all points of the food chain



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Copyright: © 2022 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/). from farm to fork. Basically, there are two different approaches to food authenticity, which often overlap in connection with the production of the food (e.g., geographical origin, bio vs. non-bio), as well as in relation to composition (e.g., issues of adulteration). For these, scientific analytical methods and instrumental analysis are the bedrocks of authenticity and have been widely studied over the last century. They range from conventional methods such as the Soxhlet extraction, Dumas method, titration, electrophoresis, etc. to more refined ones such as chromatography, spectrometry, spectroscopy, radiation technology, etc. Food authentication has been interchangeably used in the recent decade to relate to terminologies such as food fraud, food adulteration, and food control, which are all focused on the deviation of food from its intrinsic (nutritional and compositional parameters) and extrinsic (size, shape, color, gloss, consistency, texture, etc.) qualities. Publications focusing on food authentication have steadily increased in the past decade (Figure 1). In these reports, common methods for food authentication were high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), liquid chromatography (LC), proton transfer reaction mass spectrometry (PTR-MS), matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF-MS), and ambient mass spectrometry techniques such as direct analysis in real time (DART-MS) [2].



Figure 1. Number of publications in the last decade from Science Direct using search keywords "food authentication", "food adulteration", and "food fraud". Accessed on 16 November 2021.

Although these methods have been very effective in food authentication, they also require high technical expertise and can sometimes be expensive, in addition to the use of reagents and budgets for waste management. Due to these and other issues such as their bulky nature, lengthy analytical time, and technical design of the instruments, some researchers have focused on rather rapid noninvasive techniques such as spectroscopy. When matter is exposed to electromagnetic radiation, the radiation can be absorbed, transmitted, reflected, scattered, or undergo photoluminescence. These interactions can be studied by molecular spectroscopy. Among the most often used molecular spectroscopy (UV/Vis), Raman spectroscopy (RS), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy, and hyperspectral imaging (HSI).

Generally, molecular spectroscopic methods have been acknowledged for both smallscale and industry applications in the construction cosmetics, pharmaceutical, medical, veterinarian agricultural, and food industries but this review mainly focuses on their applications in the agricultural and food industries.

2. Principle and Mode of Operation of Molecular Spectroscopy

Molecular spectroscopic techniques operate on the principle that every molecule is composed of multiple atoms with related characteristic bonds between them. Using a particular type of electromagnetic radiation, the molecule can be excited (undergoes short-term vibrations in terms of reflection, transmission, and absorption) on the basis of its elemental composition and bond strength and can sometimes be referred to as photoluminescence [3]. Photoluminescence is a term used to describe a number of effects, such as fluorescence, phosphorescence, and Raman scattering. Molecular spectroscopy employs the interaction of electromagnetic radiation with materials to produce an absorption spectrum that holds structural and compositional information on the given material. Electromagnetic radiation is conventionally divided into the following regions [4]: radiofrequency (ca. 105–109 Hz), microwave (ca. 109 to 3×1010 Hz), infrared (ca. 3×1010 to 3×1014 Hz), visible and ultraviolet (ca. 3×1014 to 3×1016 Hz), X-rays (ca. 3×1016 to 3×1018 Hz), and gamma (γ)-rays (ca. 3 \times 1018 to 1021 Hz). Each region covers a range of energies that correspond to a different type of molecular process. Every region has different features and stands for a specific kind of molecular or atomic transition that corresponds to specific spectroscopic techniques. Among these, ultraviolet-visible (UV/Vis) and infrared (IR) regions have received much attention as most spectroscopic instruments used in nonlaboratory conditions utilize these energy ranges and can result in electron transitions or molecular vibrations. However, infrared is still a very broad range, covering the far-, mid-, and nearinfrared (FIR, MIR, NIR) regions used in analytical laboratory measurements according to the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) and the International Organization for Standardization [5] (Table 1). The behavior of the infrared light is unique for each organic molecule and acts as a characteristic spectral fingerprint in the infrared region. Infrared light separates the visible and microwave regions of the electromagnetic spectrum and ranges from 700 nm to 1 mm.

Table 1. Types of infrared light according to the International Commission on Illumination (CIE) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

Region	Near-Infrared	Mid-Infrared	Far-Infrared
Photon energies	215–430 eV	100–215 eV	3–100 eV
Wavelength (CIE)	700–1400 nm	1400–3000 nm	3000–1.4 $ imes$ 10^4 nm
Wavelength (ISO 20473)	780–3000 nm	3000–5 $ imes$ 10^5 nm	$5 imes 10^5$ – 10^6 nm

The most common infrared spectroscopic technology of this current century is the NIRS, which covers the range of 800–2500 nm. The electromagnetic radiation at this energy range excites molecular vibrations (stretching, bending) mostly related to hydrogen, since C–H, O–H, N–H, and S–H bonds are frequent in organic substances. The range and intensity of the electromagnetic radiation has led to the development diverse instruments that correspond to the different molecular spectroscopic techniques. The potential applications, advantages, and disadvantages of some common molecular spectroscopy methods have been summarized in Table 2 but the factors leading to the choice of an ideal analytical instrument are continuously being challenged by the ever-evolving complexities of the food chain. Some of these complexities have been reported to have numerous limitations for certain analysis due to issues such as instrumental design, sample size requirement, cost and maintenance, and spectra reliability [6]. Furthermore, consumer intolerance for low-quality food and a competitive market have resulted in continuous improvement of these factors of method selection.

The choice of a method or instrument is largely dependent on certain parameters such as the intrinsic and extrinsic property of the food to be analysis, the sensitivity of the method/instrument, the cost, ease of application, speed of analysis, and sample preparation requirements (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Factors influencing the choice of ideal analytical methods.

NIRS became a widely used technology in agricultural applications where costeffective and relatively fast testing is needed. Originally, some decades ago, when it was still used in laboratories only, its major benefit was the low cost, little or no need for sample preparation, and the easy-to-use nature. Recently, when NIRS applications have been broadly appearing out of the laboratories, even the compactness of technology, and the very rapid feedback capabilities give the greatest benefits such as light weight and requiring no physical contact between the sample and the instrument; moreover, the researcher has the option to position the sample either directly on the sample or some distance away, results can be qualitative or quantitative, it requires no reagents, instruments are often portable, and some can facilitate remote use. Many NIRS instruments ranging from benchtop to handheld versions have been developed to keep pace with the complexities of the food chain.

In the case of UV/Vis spectroscopy, the absorption is primarily due to electronic transitions. Most UV/Vis absorptions by organic molecules are attributed to transitions involving nonbonding (n) electrons or electrons in molecular orbitals found in unsaturated molecules [7]. The basic wavelength range may be converted to 340–950 nm using an accessory phototube and filters. The technique has been employed for analytical purposes because it is easy-to-use and has handheld or portable instruments available.

Raman spectroscopy (RS), like IR spectroscopy, belongs to the group of vibrational (and rotational) spectroscopic methods. The vibrational spectrum is used to obtain information about the type, position, and orientation of functional groups in molecules. IR and RS differ in the way they produce the analytical signal. IR spectra are mainly recorded in absorption mode, while RS is based on the principle of light scattering [8]. Until recently, Raman spectroscopy (RS) was a very difficult technique to use even within a laboratory environment, especially in the case of biological samples such as food or food ingredients. Significant improvements in instrument design, detector sensitivity, laser construction, and the availability of fiber-optic sampling probes have led to an expansion of applications in this and many other fields and even into process environments [9].

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) is not one of the optical molecular spectroscopy methods, but its role in authentication and detection of adulteration makes it worth mentioning. It is a method of chemical structure analysis, which works by applying radiofrequency electromagnetic pulses to nuclei of atoms with magnetic moment placed in a constant magnetic field by selective excitation with an electromagnetic pulse. The most commonly studied isotopes are ¹H and ¹³C (Figure 3) [10]. Some NMR methodologies, for instance, low-field NMR relaxometry and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), are completely noninvasive and produce substantial information regarding the texture of the sample, water distribution, and molecular dynamics, all of which can be important in determining product authenticity. High-resolution NMR simultaneously brings "high-throughput" spectroscopic/structural information" on a wide range of metabolites with high analytical precision, giving a foodstuff a metabolic fingerprint, which is important to assure its quality, genuineness, geographical origin, etc. [11].



Figure 3. Characteristics of molecular spectroscopy methods (based on Burns et al. [12]).

HSI was originally developed for remote sensing applications and has since been applied in many fields. It analyzes the spatial distribution of the sample parameters by using imaging technology [13].

3. Instrumentation

Mostly, spectrophotometers are the instruments used for spectroscopic measurements. They are primarily composed of a light source, light adjusting elements (e.g., monochromators, interferometers, microelectromechanical systems, linear variable filters), a sample chamber, and a detector [14].

The light source is mainly responsible for providing the photonic energy (light) that will be absorbed or reflected by the sample. It can be a Tungsten halogen lamp, pc-NIR LED, laser diode, or a Nichrome heater. In pre- or post-dispersion spectrophotometers, the polychromatic light is decomposed be-fore or after interacting with the sample, respectively, resulting in the monochromatic light beams reaching the detectors. In spectrophotometers with diffraction grating monochromators, the monochromator selects a narrow band of light from a wider range of wavelengths (emitted light) [15]. The gratings are made of metal or glass engraved surfaces with many fine parallel lines. When the light beam strikes the surface, it is divided into various wavelengths by diffraction [16], and a small portion shines through the slits and order sorting filters.

Many modern instruments have an interferometer that decomposes broadband IR radiation into discrete wavenumber values with a given spectral resolution. The most common one is the Michelson interferometer, but there are other constructions such as Rocksolid. In this system, the light beam is split into two beams with a beam splitter. The two separated beams strike the fixed and moving mirrors, and they are reflected back to beam splitter. They are then recombined and exit the interferometer in the direction of sample. From the resulting interferogram, the spectrum of the sample is obtained by Fourier transform (FT) that is commonly used in Raman, NIR, IR, and NMR spectrophotometers. A major advantage is that the signal-to-noise ratio of spectrum is significantly higher than some generation IR spectrophotometers [17].

Small-sized spectrophotometers contain miniaturized microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) such as digital micro mirrors to produce the monochromatic light or contain no moving elements and use static systems such as linear variable filters (LVF) as band pass filters for each pixel of a detector array. A dispersive Raman spectrophotometer uses a prism or a grating, while a nondispersive Raman spectrophotometer uses an interferometer, such as a Michelson interferometer in a Fourier-transform Raman spectrophotometer. Modern Raman spectrophotometers use a laser light source. These laser sources provide a stable and intense beam. A wide range of lasers, such as the argon ion laser (488 and 514.5 nm), krypton ion laser (530.9 and 647.1 nm), helium–neon (He–Ne) laser (632. 8 nm), near-infrared (IR) diode lasers (785 and 830 nm), neodymium–yttrium–aluminum–garnet (Nd:YAG) and neodymium–yttrium–orthrium–vanadate (Nd:YVO₄) lasers (1064 nm), and

frequency-division Nd:YAG and Nd:YVO₄ diode lasers (532 nm) can be used as light sources in Raman spectrophotometers. However, long wavelength sources such as diode or Nd:YAG lasers can be operated at much higher power without causing photocomposition of the sample and, in most cases, can eliminate or reduce fluorescence. Band pass filters are used to isolate a single laser beam. In dispersive instruments, a combination of a notch filter and a high-quality grating monochromator is most commonly used. Double or even triple grating monochromators, super notch filters, rejection filters, holographic notch or edge filters, and holographic filters are used to separate relatively weak Raman lines from intense Rayleigh scattering radiation.

In modern instruments, detectors have been replaced by more sensitive charge transfer devices (CTDs) such as charge-coupled devices (CCDs) and charge injection devices (CIDs). In CTD arrays, the photosite converts the incoming optical signal into a charge, which is integrated and transmitted to the readout devices. Multichannel CCD detectors are used for laser wavelengths of less than 1 μ m, while single-element, low-bandgap semiconductors such as germanium (Ge) or indium–gallium–arsenic (InGaAs) detectors are used for laser wavelengths greater than 1 μ m. The low sensitivity due to weak Raman scattering can be increased by resonance Raman spectroscopy (RRS) and surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS). In RRS, the frequency of the incident radiation matches the electronic transition of the molecule, resulting in a much more intense Raman spectrum. SERS is a modified technique in which the sample is adsorbed onto a colloidal metallic surface (silver, gold, or copper) to improve the intensity of the Raman signal and suppress fluorescence caused by cutting agents, diluents, and matrices. The combination of RRS and SERS techniques (i.e., surface resonance-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERRS) can increase sensitivity by up to 10 orders of magnitude compared to RS [18].

Detectors in such instruments (e.g., NIR spectrometers) are mostly made of Si, PbS, and InGaAs depending on many factors such as the required wavelength range and photosensitivity, the given light intensity, and temperature stability, but they are all responsible for detecting the amount of light dispersion (transmittance/reflectance/transflectance) from the sample [15].

Typically, most benchtop spectrophotometers, grating monochromators, or Michelson/Rocksolid interferometers are used to decompose light when measuring the full spectrum. Instruments may be used in transmittance or reflectance mode [15]. Depending on the energy source and the detectors used [19], instruments measuring the MIR or FIR regions of the electromagnetic spectrum are mostly used in analytical chemistry where fundamental vibrations of molecules are measured. The MIR spectrum results from the absorption of specific frequencies of MIR radiation as a function of the chemical structure of the sample. The peaks and troughs in a MIR spectrum are very specific to the sample measured. These techniques require sample preparation for solid samples, usually by some form of solvation or extraction. Liquid samples can also be analyzed directly. Contrarily, NIRS measures the overtone and combination bands of the fundamental vibrations, with the help of highly versatile instrumentation.

HSI systems have evolved from whiskbrooms to push-brooms, wavelength scanning, and snapshot instrument architectures. At the simplest level, the whiskbroom instrument architectures have a single image channel (scalar) and a 1D data field sensor (vector). This instrument architecture can be implemented with an imaging fiber-optic cable connected to a diffraction grating and a linear optical sensor (corresponding to one spectral dimension). At the next level of complexity, push-broom instrument architectures consist of a one-dimensional image channel array (vector) connected to a two-dimensional data array sensor (matrix). This instrument architecture is implemented by linear imaging coupled to a diffraction grating and a 2D optical sensor (one spatial and one spectral dimension). For mapping in the next spatial dimension and to form the two-dimensional image (matrix), the push-broom instrument architecture scans time line by line, forming a three-dimensional data cube (tensor). These techniques generally require a large format image sensor to

provide adequate spatial separation of the three measured dimensions (two spatial and one wavelength) [20].

Depending on the type of experiments needed in a particular research area, NMR spectrometers offer different options for 1D and 2D experiments, as well as different types of nuclei such as ¹H, ²H, ⁷Li, ¹¹B, ¹³C, ¹⁵N, ¹⁹F, and ³¹P. The current trend in instrument development follows that of conventional high-field NMR instruments, aiming at increasing sensitivity by improving field strength and field homogeneity, providing access to a wider range of nuclei, and extending the range of NMR experiments that can be performed.

Today's NMR spectrophotometers use permanent magnets with similar field strengths between 1 and 2 T and are inherently less sensitive than high-field-strength spectrometers. In addition, permanent magnets are sensitive to temperature. Long-term stability of the magnet is also critical for long-term signal transfer, 2D spectroscopy, and reaction monitoring. A drifting field spoils the coherent combination of signals and leads to drifting lines in NMR spectra recorded at different times.

4. Data Processing

Overlapping bands in the electromagnetic spectrum of light sometimes result in a complex spectrum that makes it difficult to read the sorted compositional information directly. These differences can be due to several conditions such as nonhomogeneous distribution of the particles, changes in refractive index, particle size distribution, sample packing/density variability, and sample morphology (surface roughness/shape) [21]. For this reason, many researchers have studied multiple preprocessing or pretreatment techniques, which are often mainly mathematical correction techniques.

Wavelength selection is often the first approach in such situations because it is regarded as the simplest, but most effective pretreatment procedure in spectroscopy if prior knowledge is available about the regions of interest. More advanced techniques are required for more complex spectra that could be as a result of the following:

- 1. Reflected baseline offset or simple baseline shift (additive effect);
- 2. Multiplicative effect (pure) that scales the entire spectrum by a given factor, for example, due to path length differences;
- Wavelength-dependent baseline variation, where the degree of baseline shift varies with wavelength. In addition to wavelength selection, many types of pretreatment methods have also been reported.

For some of the challenges, prominent methods such as derivatives [22] detrending (baseline correction) [23], auto-scaling [24], standard normal variate (SNV) [25], standardization [26], normalization [27], multiplicative scatter correction (MSC), and extended multiplicative scattering correction (EMSC) [28] have proven vital in extracting important and relevant information from consolidated spectra. These pretreatments can very effectively remove or reduce the additive and multiplicative spectral distortions, but caution must be exercised when applying them as the mathematical changes in the measured data may lead to even more destruction; unwise application of derivatives can enhance noise of the spectral data, the noisy regions of a spectrum can damage the whole spectrum when pretreated with SNV, and an outlier spectrum can falsify all the other spectra when MSC is applied [29]. However, variable physical and other properties of the sample or instrument may cause interference in the spectral data. It is, therefore, important to apply selection and pretreatment to identify and eliminate extreme outliers that may sometimes materially decrease the model performance. This is because the chemical information of the constituent under investigation can be obscured by changes in the spectra due to some intrinsic properties of the constituent of interest or environmental conditions during the experiment.

In addition to preprocessing, the recorded spectra may sometimes have to be combined with reference information, and the combination of the two knowledge may finally result in a calibration model where the relation of spectral and reference data is described. To achieve the calibration models, various types of multivariate data analysis approaches are used, which, when displayed in ways that allow chemical interpretation of the relation, are called chemometrics. One of multivariate modeling's major strengths is the possibility to measure several constituents concurrently. One of the limitations is the dependence on some less precise reference methods in food analysis.

Chemometrics or multivariate data analyses are generally computation numerical analyses that serve as a bedrock for the new age of machine learning. Broadly, they can be categorized into quantitative and qualitative methods. Quantitative calibration modeling, as mentioned above, requires reference data to be described by the spectral variables. The qualitative methods used for pattern recognition and classification can generally be grouped into supervised and non-supervised methods (Figure 4). Non-supervised modeling, like principal component analysis (PCA), describes the major variance of the recorded spectral data without influencing the data reduction with any background information about the samples or sample groups. Contrary to this descriptive mode, the supervised classification methods, such as linear discriminant analysis (LDA), find the linear or nonlinear combinations of the spectral variables that optimally describe the differences of the predefined groups and minimize in-group variations [30–32]. Since multivariate data are often very complicated, simple non-supervised models are rarely able to explain the desired group identities. Supervised classification models, on the other hand, serve as highly effective pattern recognition tools, while they can be easily overfitted, as with the quantitative calibration models. To minimize overfitting, careful cross-validations and independent tests have to be applied during the model optimization [29]. Due to the development of the computational capacity, nonlinear modeling is more often used for both qualitative and quantitative purposes [30–32]. Although these methods can provide very good results also for extremely complex cases, it has to be considered that they require a very large amount of sample, and, from a chemometrician point of view, they are black boxes, since little or no information can be achieved about the relation of the multivariate spectral data and the qualitative or quantitative reference variables.

Molecular spectroscopic data

- UV-visible
- Near-infrared
- Infrared
- Hyperspectral
- Raman
- NMR

Multivariate data analysis

spectral preprocessing pattern recognition and classification

unsupervised

supervised

regression with reference data



Figure 4. Molecular spectroscopy methods and chemometric data evaluation in food authenticity.

5. Applications of Molecular Spectroscopy for Food Authentication

Molecular spectroscopic methods, in general, are routinely employed to give a compositional, functional, and sensory analysis overview of food raw materials, process intermediates, and final products [33]. Therefore, it is nearly impossible to cover all the diverse foods of application in this review; as such, only some of those with protein-rich content (meat and fish), medicinal properties (spices, mushroom), and beverages rich in phytochemicals (coffee and tea) are in focus. In addition, these foods were chosen because their ubiquitous nature, economic potential, and nutritional value risks of adulteration across the production chain are some of the reasons why they have been previously targeted for fraudulent purposes.

5.1. Meat and Fish

Meat is composed of water, proteins, amino acids, fatty acids, cholesterol, phospholipids, minerals, and vitamins, which can all be related to its nutritional quality [34]. A similar biochemical composition also exists in fish, and these elements are often determinants of wholesomeness or perishability. The vulnerability and perishability of fish and meat products are premises that make it essential to develop effective and rapid techniques for monitoring their quality changes and determining authenticity. In the last decade alone, several methods have been developed and tested to overcome the reported limitations of conventional methods. In this regard, spectroscopic methods, including MIR, NIR, laser breakdown (LBD), and RS, have proven to be very successful alternatives to traditional techniques as different kinds of meat or their products will give varying absorption patterns in the electromagnetic spectrum. This is the basis for applying different spectroscopic techniques to determine multiple quality parameters of meat and seafood products.

Table 3 shows the current trends of different molecular spectroscopic techniques for quality assessment in meat and seafood products. UV/Vis spectroscopy has been applied for both the accurate determination of the K value of fish flesh [35], predicting fatty acids in fresh and freeze-dried beef [36], and detection of minced beef adulteration with turkey meat [37].

Using the backpropagation neural network (BP-NN) model, the protein content of various processed pork meats could be determined with a coefficient of cross-validation (R^2_{CV}) = 0.8318 and root-mean-square error of cross-validation (RMSECV) = 8.38 mg/g when HSI was used [38]. For the prediction of monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids of various processed pork meats, the improved hyperspectral imaging technique proved that the performance of least squares support vector machines (LS-SVM) models was better than that of partial least squares regression (PLSR) models; the R² of the LS-SVM based on optimal wavelengths was more than 0.81 [39].

In the monitoring of accumulated toxicity, RS proved vital in the detection of prohibited drugs including enrofloxacin, furazolidone, and malachite green in tilapia using principal component analysis (PCA). The R² of actual values versus values predicted with PLS models for furazolidone and MG was 0.970 and 0.915 [40]. In the meat industry, the technique was used to predict drip loss and measure pH of fresh pork, with a secondary aim to measure intramuscular fat [41].

¹H-NMR has not been widely applied for meat quality evaluations, but it has proven useful in fish monitoring. It was used to prove that the metabolome content of the common carp oocyte changed with time post ovulation. The metabolite changes were mainly related to energy-linked metabolites, amino acids, methylated metabolites, citric acid cycle intermediates, and apoptotic-related metabolites [42]. In the molecular study of anesthesia in fish, the method showed that plasma levels of valine, isoleucine, creatine, *N*,*N*-dimethylglycine, and glucose significantly increased in the anesthetized group compared to the control group according to metabolite profiling results. In contrast, the plasma levels of *N*-acetylglucosamine and succinate significantly decreased in the anesthetized fish compared to the control group [43].

Structural and metabolic changes in the liver samples of wild and aqua cultured gilthead sea bream (*S. aurata*) were also studied with FTIR, whereby spectral peaks revealed important information about the different liver structures [44]. In the meat industry, FTIR has also been applied for the species discrimination of meat and bone meals based on

lipid characteristics [45], the assessment of red meat quality [46] and the detection of beef, mutton, camel, and lamb meat adulterated with pork [47].

As shown in Table 4, NIRS has been applied in the rapid discrimination of minced port quality [48], classification of chicken breast fillet [49], prediction of fatty acids in fresh and frozen pork [50], quality control of frying fat samples [51], and identification of meat species [52]. The NIRS has proven to be effective in the determination of intramuscular fat of pork [53] and rabbit hind leg [54]. High correlations between moisture and fat of beef have been established using NIRS [55]. The study of major chemical compositions in fresh meat, such as fat, moisture, or protein, is necessary not only for labeling and consumer-acceptance purposes, but also for establishing the right balance in the quality of the fresh or processed products. Table 4 shows a summary of some studies that assessed these parameters in different meat products using the NIRS. For quality assurance purposes, NIRS has been used to discriminate turkey meat as an adulterant in beef [56] and to assess plant and animal proteins as potential adulterants in minced beef and pork [57].

It can also be observed in Table 3 that different mathematical correctional approaches yielded good R². This emphasizes that a key aspect of multi-sensor analysis is signal processing. In this regard, Riovanto et al. [58] revealed that, although the raw spectrum may appear not to be much informative in assessment of the fatty-acid composition of ground chicken breast, applying a first- and second-derivative mathematical treatment will improve the models. This was supported by Marchi et al. [59] who used different combinations of scatter correction and derivative mathematical treatments to achieve the best model for predicting saltiness in chicken. Meat tenderness is regarded as one of the most important sensorial qualities for consumers. It is in this sense that NIRS has been used to predict tenderness in chicken with $R^2 = 0.70$ [60] and 0.81 [61], as well as in cattle with $R^2 = 0.45$ [62]. Since PLSR can be used as a full-spectrum multivariate analysis to eliminate collinearity, PLS-based calibrations may be further improved by proper selection of wavelengths [63,64].

It can be observed in Tables 3 and 4 that various preprocessing techniques have been explored to enhance spectral information. It can also be concluded that, although spectral examination methods such as spectral peak analysis and band assignments have proven useful in using these techniques, several chemometric methods have also been tested and proven very relevant and important for advanced data analysis and modeling multiple parameters in meat and fish, ranging from contamination to storage, geographical identification, adulteration, and even monitoring processed products. Data fusion, a complex but statically acclaimed method for mathematical evaluation of data from different instruments, also proved vital for quantitative and qualitative analysis, as well as in the determination of biochemical changes in meat and fish.

Selecting essential wavelengths with respect to the response information can marginally reduce the amount of data to be analyzed and, therefore, is a supplementary step for developing multispectral systems although it is often subjective. In pork analysis, it has been reported that both the pH and the iodine number 45 min postmortem cannot be predicted from NIR spectra [65]. In quantitative treatment of data and often with a large number of calibration sets, it is worth mentioning artificial neural networks (ANNs) as an emerging alternative for NIRS calibration. This technique may present some advantages when nonlinearity (not easily accommodated by principal component regression (PCR) and PLSR) between the spectral data and the quantitative information of interest exists. Considering the synergism between NIRS technology and chemometrics, it is probable that new data treatment alternatives, which can help make good use of the NIR spectroscopic information, will be provided in the near future, but application of mathematical corrective measures and the ability to select good spectra vary per user and greatly influence the predictive model.

Clearly, from this review, the different spectroscopic techniques have proven to be pivotal in quality determination and could be an efficient and promising tool to control meat and fish quality and authenticity [34]. This is particularly important because the

high price and scarcity of meat are the major factors that reduce meat consumption and consequently lead to adulteration/substitution or mislabeling of meat and meat products. Moreover, many preservation techniques have been applied to retard deterioration and extend the shelf-life of fish and meat products, but rapid affordable methods have remained a challenge. From Tables 3 and 4, it can be concluded that these spectroscopic techniques could bridge this challenge as the method has also been used to monitor and track biochemical changes in different meat products. Until recently, identification of meat and fish species in processed products was generally much more difficult than in raw meat, but spectroscopic technologies have proven that it is now possible.

5.2. Mushroom

The chemical composition of mushrooms is highly dependent on the geographical region, and different parts of the same mushroom have different chemical compositions. For this reason, identification and authentication are also important for mushrooms. Of the nearly 2000 edible mushroom species found in nature, only 35 are cultivated commercially. In this section, we summarize the molecular spectroscopic methods in the case of the most common cultivated and wild mushroom species (Table 5) [66]. Furthermore, there have been many studies on *Ganoderma lucidum*. As this mushroom is mainly used for medicinal purposes and not as a food, its analytical analysis is not discussed here.

For mushrooms, adulteration is less of a problem but geographical origin, shelf-life quality, and avoiding any possible toxicity remain a clarion call. The differentiation of mushroom samples at a species level (strain classification, taxon delimitation), the differentiation of new candidate varieties with improved nutritional properties, the differentiation of wild and cultivated or of fresh and old and damaged mushroom samples, and the identification of mushroom samples from a specific growing area are essential for quality control of raw materials.

Quality classification was performed on the basis of water content, water-soluble solids, and freshness for the cultivated mushroom species *Agaricus bisporus* using Vis/NIR spectroscopy. Separate analysis of the mushroom cap and stalk was performed, but unfortunately no data on the reliability of the classification were reported. The statistical properties of the models were rather poor ($R^2 = 0.78$) [67].

New cultivar candidates of *Pleurotus ostreatus* were screened using FT-NIRS techniques to quickly and nondestructively select a new candidate with the most favorable traits. On the basis of the free amino-acid content, total polyphenol content, and ferric ion reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) values, chemometric analysis of the spectra successfully classified the most favorable candidates [68].

In another study, PCA of the FTIR spectrum of *Agaricus bisporus* showed that physical damage to the mushrooms had a significant effect on tissue structure and the aging process. Random forest (RF) modeling of FTIR data predicted mushroom damage with error rates of 5.9% and 9.8%, and it successfully distinguished fresh and refrigerated mushrooms [69]. Zervakis et al. [70] used diffuse reflectance Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (DRIFT) to classify the genus *Pleurotus* and to delimit taxa. A total of 73 strains of 16 taxa of *Pleurotus* were examined. A binary matrix based on the presence/absence of FTIR-specific peaks combined with cluster analysis showed that the IR region is clearly distinct among *Pleurotus* species, making this method perfectly suited for species classification. FTIR in conjunction with appropriate chemometrics was explored for the identification and discrimination of Boletus edulis and Boletus tomentipes collected from different geographical regions. The unsupervised PCA and hierarchical cluster analysis (HCA) techniques were reported to classify and identify both mushroom samples as a function of the differences in their metabolic fingerprint characteristics. The supervised partial least squares discriminant analysis (PLS-DA) technique successfully differentiated between both mushroom samples on the basis of their geographical locations [71].

The geographical tracking of the wild *Boletus* mushroom was investigated using FTIR. Samples were collected from 10 different geographical areas in China. Different

pattern recognition techniques (PCA, support vector machine (SVM), RF) were applied to discriminate samples from different geographical areas [72].

Further studies confirmed that the combined data fusion of FTIR and UV spectra of *Boletus* mushrooms with SVM could be used for efficient geographic classification of samples. The classification accuracy was 99% [73,74].

Boletus edulis (and related species, BEAS), also known as "porcini mushrooms", represent almost the entire range of wild mushrooms available on the Italian market, both fresh and dried. A significant proportion of these dried mushrooms are imported from China. The presence of *Tylopilus* spp. and other foreign species (i.e., edible but not BEAS species) in dried samples, particularly those imported from China and sold in Italy, may pose a commercially valuable problem. Partial least squares density modeling (PLS-DM) of NIR spectra and the application of the modeling version of quadratic discriminant analysis (UNEQ) and soft independent modeling of class analogy (SIMCA) class assessment techniques resulted in a clear discrimination among dried samples of BEAS, *Tylopilus* spp., and *Boletus violaceofuscus* [75]. The molecular spectroscopic procedures for the authentication and adulteration of mushroom species and varieties are summarized in Table 5.

In keeping track with the numerous existing species of mushrooms, NIRS, NMR, UV/Vis, and RS proved to be reliable alternatives for the differentiation of mushroom samples at species level (strain classification, taxon delimitation). This is particularly important because the differentiation of new candidate varieties with improved nutritional properties, the differentiation of wild and cultivated or fresh and old and damaged mushroom samples, and the identification of mushroom samples from a specific growing area are essential for quality control of raw materials. The above-introduced examples clearly present that, despite the rather complex chemical composition and high inhomogeneity of mushrooms, the various molecular spectroscopic techniques have proven very useful in characterization, identification, and authentication of various mushrooms. The use of chemometric methods such as PCA, SVM, PLS-DM, and SIMCA increased the model performance of the different spectroscopic techniques for monitoring mushroom quality.

5.3. Spices

Different molecular spectroscopic methods combined with chemometric techniques have proven to be a useful tool for authentication of spices and for the identification of adulteration and adulterants [76].

Spices are the ingredients of our everyday meals. Their quality is closely linked to the area where they are grown. For this reason, it is very important to verify their geographical origin and to detect adulteration. The most commonly adulterated spices include paprika (*Capsicum annuum*), black pepper (*Piper nigrum*), cinnamon (*Cinnamon verum*), turmeric (*Curcumina longa*), oregano (*Origanum vulgare* L.), and saffron (*Crocus sativus* L.) (Table 6).

NIRS was applied for the first time to saffron spice to determine the chemical composition and geographical origin of samples from the three main producing countries: Iran, Greece, and Spain. Discriminant analysis (DA) of the three geographical origins showed that the Iranian samples were completely distinct from the others, while the Greek and Spanish samples showed greater similarity to each other [77].

Turmeric powders of Egyptian and Algerian origin were also classified according to their geographical origin. The analyses were performed using UV/Vis, FTIR, and ¹H-NMR techniques. PCA and HCA methods were used for chemometric evaluation. The UV/Vis and FTIR methods were also unable to distinguish between the same species on the basis of their quality, as all species contained the same phytochemical constituents but in different concentrations. In the PCA model based on the full spectral range of ¹H-NMR, the two geographical origins could not be distinguished. However, when using only the region of essential oils/fatty acids (0.4–3 ppm) for the evaluation, complete separation of Algerian and Egyptian samples was observed [78,79].

The ¹H-NMR analytical protocol was proposed to characterize saffron samples from different geographical origins (Greece, Spain, Hungary, Turkey, and Italy). A

microwave-assisted extraction procedure was used. Comparing the metabolite profiles of the saffron extracts, significant differences in the content of each metabolite were identified. According to the metabolite profiles, the geological identification of saffron samples was successful [80]. A quantitative NMR metabolomics approach was developed to distinguish between two cinnamon species (*Cinnamomum verum* Ceylon and *Cinnamomum cassia* China). Nine key organoleptic metabolites were detected, among which (*E*)-cinnamaldehyde was the major form. Multivariate data analyses revealed the leading presence of eugenol in *C. verum* and its enrichment in fatty acids in *C. cassia*. Compounds related to the aroma and flavor of *C. verum* were identified and quantified, which can be used as markers to authenticate this spice [81].

Fraud in the global food supply chain is becoming increasingly common due to the huge profits that are made from this type of crime. Food commodities and ingredients that are part of expensive and complex supply chains are particularly vulnerable.

In the past, various compounds—often harmful to health—were used, e.g., in the case of cayenne pepper and chili, red lead (Pb₃O₄), vermillion (HgS), and venetian red (Fe₂O₃) were added as color fillers [82]. Today, the adulteration process does not mainly involve the addition of chemicals, but of ground rice husks, rice flour, mustard seed husks, sawdust, salt or brick dust, or Sudan I to the spices. In the case of ground cinnamon, as with all other finely ground products, common adulterants include flour and other bulking agents (possibly coffee husks). The use of cinnamon as a spice and flavoring is widespread throughout the world, often adulterated with inferior cinnamon. Due to the high cost of true cinnamon, which is only produced in Sri Lanka, it is adulterated with *Cinnamon cassia* due to its low commercial value. On the other hand, *Cinnamon cassia* contains a high content of coumarin (1%) which is a family of compounds containing 1,2-benzopyrone structures that are present only in minimal amounts in the barks of *Cinnamon verum* (0.04%). Due to its hepatotoxic effects, the Food Safety Regulatory Agencies have imposed restrictions on the use of coumarin in their countries. NIRS and chemometric analysis have been successfully used to detect adulterations of genuine cinnamon [83,84].

The performance of three NIR spectroscopic (desktop, handheld, and portable) instruments was compared by investigating the authenticity of the coriander seed. A total of 200 authentic coriander core samples and 90 adulterated samples were analyzed with each instrument. All instruments correctly predicted 100% of the adulterated samples [85]. The NIR spectroscopic method was used to classify black pepper samples adulterated with papaya seeds, to distinguish between pure and adulterated samples. However, the authors only showed that NIRS can distinguish between pure and adulterated samples [86]. The spice turmeric is often adulterated with metanil yellow (1–25%). This has been successfully detected using the NIRS method combined with chemometric evaluation. The structure of metanil yellow resembles that of a secondary amine; thus, high precision ($Q^2 = 0.99$) can be achieved in the quantification of metanil yellow in turmeric samples [87]. The NIR and FTIR spectra coupled with chemometrics can be used to detect black pepper adulterated with papaya seeds, chili, and nonfunctional black pepper substances such as black pepper flakes, pinheads, and degreased used substances. A good separation performance was demonstrated between black pepper and adulterated samples. After running the binary classification model with an external test set, the area under the receiver operator characteristic curve was 0.98 for both the NIRS and the FTIR models [88].

Chili powder is a globally traded commodity, often adulterated with Sudan I dye. The tests were carried out using NIRS and RS. Chemometric methods were applied to the spectral data. The detection limit of adulterant dye was 0.25% for the NIRS technique and 0.88% for the Raman technique [88]. Other authors used FTIR to predict the concentration of Sudan dye in pepper samples [89,90]. Saffron is one of the most important and expensive spices in the world. It is, therefore, highly vulnerable to fraudulent practices, including the use of adulterants of plant origin. DRIFTS and chemometric techniques have been used to investigate saffron adulteration. Six typical commonly used adulterants of plant origin were investigated: *Crocus sativus* stamens, marigold, safflower, turmeric, buddleia, and

gardenia. The investigations were successful in identifying the presence of adulteration, as well as the quality and quantity of adulterants [90,91].

The main producers of oregano reside in the United States of America, Mexico, Greece, and Turkey. Compared to most herbs, oregano has a complicated history as its true identity is very difficult to define. This is partly due to the large heterogeneity of the *Origanum* genus, as well as the grouping of different botanical genera: *Origanum* (*lamiaceae*) from the Mediterranean and Lippia (*verbenaceae*) from Mexico. Although Mexican and Mediterranean oregano are clearly distinguishable, only *Origanum vulgare* L. ssp. *hirtum* and *Origanum onites* L. are allowed by the European Pharmacopoeia (PhEur) and the European Spice Federation to be marketed as true oregano. Oregano is most commonly adulterated with olive leaf, myrtle leaf, sumac leaf, cistus leaf, or hazelnut leaf. The attenuated total reflection Fourier-transform infrared (ATR-FTIR) procedure successfully identified the presence of adulteration ($Q^2 = 0.96$) [90,92].

Various forms of adulteration have been found in paprika, including substitution with waste or inferior products, misrepresentation of origin, and adulteration using illegal colorants such as the commonly found Sudan I. Examples of adulteration by substitution with waste products include adulteration by weight gain with white pepper, turmeric, brick powder, and barium sulfate. Sudan I is the most commonly used dye in adulteration. RS with a 785 nm laser excitation can be applied directly to paprika powder for the determination of Sudan I content. Mathematical pretreatment of the Raman spectra was done by fitting a polynomial to each spectrum and then subtracting it to remove the fluorescence background signal, and this was key for proper interpretation and modeling of the spectra. The percentage of correctly classified samples was 89% [93]. Another approach developed for detection and measurement is a sensor combining SERS, molecularly imprinted polymers, and thin-layer chromatography to identify samples of paprika adulterated with Sudan I and quantify the adulterant in low proportions (5 to 100 ppm) [94].

The developed Raman HSI system was employed for the simultaneous detection of Sudan dye and Congo red dye adulteration in paprika powder, as well as benzoyl peroxide and alloxan monohydrate adulteration in wheat flour at different concentrations (w/w) from 0.05 to 1%. The results obtained based on the Raman chemical images of adulterants showed a strong correlation ($\mathbb{R}^2 > 0.98$) between added and pixel-based calculated concentration of adulterant materials [95].

Others utilized FT-Raman and FTIR spectroscopy as separate but complementary methods for detecting metanil yellow adulteration of turmeric powder. Sample mixtures of turmeric powder and metanil yellow were prepared at concentrations of 30%, 25%, 20%, 15%, 10%, 5%, 1%, and 0.01% (w/w). Spectral analysis showed that the FTIR method in this study could detect metanil yellow at the 5% concentration, while the FT-Raman method appeared to be more sensitive and could detect metanil yellow at the 1% concentration. Relationships between metanil yellow spectral peak intensities and metanil yellow concentration were established using representative peaks at FT-Raman 7110 nm and FTIR 8770 nm with correlation coefficients of 0.93 and 0.95, respectively [96]. The same research group developed a new 1064 nm dispersive point Raman model for the detection of metanil yellow and Sudan I impurities in curry powder. The results showed that the number of detected adulterant pixels correlated linearly with the sample concentration ($R^2 = 0.99$). They further used self-modeling mixture analysis (SMA) to extract the spectra of the pure components, and then identified from the spectral information divergence (SID) values that they were identical to the spectra of Sudan I and metanil yellow [97].

Raman imaging and FTIR spectroscopy were used to detect Sudan red and white turmeric adulteration in turmeric powder. While Sudan red Raman spectral peaks were identifiable in turmeric/Sudan red samples, Sudan red false-positive detection was observed in binary Raman images, limiting effective quantitative detection. In addition, white turmeric Raman spectral peaks were unidentifiable in turmeric/white turmeric mixtures. However, IR spectra of turmeric/Sudan red and turmeric/white turmeric samples provided discrete identifier peaks for both adulterants [98].

For the detection of safflower (*Carthamus tinctorius* L.) and tartrazine adulterants in saffron, Dowlatabadi et al. [99] used ¹H-NMR spectroscopy combined with chemometric multivariate data analysis methods. The molecular spectroscopic procedures for the authentication and adulteration of spices are summarized in Table 6.

The above-listed publications clearly present the wide range of available spices, which are not only numerous by their varieties and available quality, but also often targeted for food adulteration; molecular spectroscopic methods combined with chemometric techniques have been proven still very useful for their authentication. Among others, the different spectroscopic methods were shown useful in the identification of geographical or botanical origin of spices and in the quantification of different ingredients or fraudulent materials. Spice producers, processes, and quality control personnel can adapt the techniques for increased quality assurance and nutritional composition fingerprinting.

5.4. Coffee

Coffee and its beverages are becoming increasingly popular because of their pleasant aroma and high caffeine content. According to internationally accepted definitions, commercially available coffee products must not contain any substance other than green coffee beans. Due to the continuous increase in the price of the raw material, industrial coffee producers often either use low-quality beans (not from the declared geographical origin or defective beans) [100–102] or roast them with various adulterants (coffee husks, coffee grounds, cereals like wheat, maize, barley, or rye, soya beans, etc.). These processes result in misleading consumers and have a negative impact on the aroma and taste of the coffee drink. There are two main commercial coffee species: Coffea arabica (Arabica coffee) and Coffea canephora (Robusta coffee) [103]. They are commercially available in a proportion of approximately 2:1. Arabica coffee is a raw material of high quality and aroma. Although the caffeine content is lower than that of Robusta coffee, the taste is silkier and softer, making it more popular. For this reason, its price is higher than that of Robusta coffee. Many varieties of Arabica are known, such as Bourbon and Typica, as well as varieties or cultivars that are specific to the area of production. These include the Caturra (Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Panama), Mundo Novo (Brazil, Peru), Blue Mountain (Jamaica), Villa Sarchi (originally from Ethiopia, Yemen, but currently more from the Caribbean), Limani and Fronton (Puerto Rico), Jackson (Rwanda, Burundi), Harrar Rwanda (Rwanda), and Catimor (Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe). The climatic conditions of coffee cultivation give special attributes to the beverage and could increase its value.

The quality of green coffee is influenced by a number of factors, such as genotype, growing conditions, and the processing of the coffee beans, which can be closely linked to the place of origin. There are a number of analytical methods available to qualify and authenticate coffee samples. These methods (gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC–MS), gas chromatography with flame ionization detection (GC-FID), gas chromatography–time-of-flight mass spectrometry (GC–TOF-MS), high-performance liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (HPLC–MS), high-performance liquid chromatography with UV detection (HPLC-UV), high-performance liquid chromatography with diode-array detection (HPLC-DAD), etc.) are chemical and labor-intensive processes. Lengthy analytical procedures can be replaced by nondestructive molecular spectroscopic methods as a result of advances in instrumentation and statistical evaluation software [104].

To identify the geographical origin, genetic variety, and farming system of coffee, NIRS and HSI, together with chemometrics, offer a nondestructive, noninvasive, and accurate technical option. Both techniques have been shown to be effective, accurate, and sufficiently selective for the detection of adulteration and for the identification of geographical origin, genetic variety, and farming system [105].

For the identification of Arabica coffee by geographical origin and genotype, NIR spectroscopic data and PLS-DA evaluation gave similarly successful results (sensitivity and specificity = 1.0) [106]. The analysis of Robusta coffee beans using FT-NIRS coupled with a self-organizing map (SOM) method allowed the identification and classification of the genotypic origin of Robusta coffee (with 100% accuracy) [107].

Arabica and Arabica/Robusta blends produced under different farming systems (conventional and organic) from five geographically distinct production areas in Brazil were analyzed using PTR-MS and NIRS to determine whether the samples could be distinguished from each other by the producing areas and farming method. In the case of geographical origin, both methods gave almost the same accuracy (PTR-MS = 69%, NIR = 61%), whereas, for the farming systems aspect, the NIRS method combined with PLS-DA gave a better accuracy (PTR-MS = 39%, NIR = 69%) [108,109].

Giraudo et al. [110] analyzed Arabica and Robusta samples from nine countries (from Central–South America and Asia), using FT-NIRS combined with PLS-DA chemometric data processing. The discrimination according to the variety was 100%. They achieved >93% accuracy for both continent- and country-based classification. Their results were confirmed by two independent laboratories.

Jesztl et al. [111] analyzed beans and ground Arabica samples using FT-NIRS. The geographical origin of the samples (Colombia, Guatemala, Brazil, and India) was certified. Samples subjected to different roasting procedures (Viennese, Italian, and French) were ground under identical conditions and parameters. It was found that the spectra of both beans and ground coffee were perfectly distinguishable between samples from different production areas using linear discriminant analysis (LDA). The accuracy of the classification was verified by random grouping.

Using the FT-NIRS technique, Bertone et al. [112] investigated the Arabica/Robusta ratio in roasted ground coffee blends. The determination coefficient (R²) of the validated PLSR model was 0.97 for the Arabica content. Mees et al. [113] examined coffee leaves for identification and obtained a 100% classification rate.

NIRS combined with a one-class classification method has been used to monitor Brazilian specialty coffee. The spectral data were obtained with a portable NIRS instrument, and a Savitzky–Golay filter was applied to correct the baseline variation (a second-order derivative based on a quadratic polynomial and an 11-point window). Unsupervised pattern recognition techniques (PCA and HCA) were used, and the classification was built using the data-driven soft independent modeling of class analogy (DD -SIMCA) algorithm. The classification model achieved the highest correct classification rate (CCR) of 100% and 87% in the validation and test groups, respectively. The results showed that the applied procedure can be used to verify the authenticity of samples produced by specialty agroforestry [109].

According to the results of analysis of variance (ANOVA)/simultaneous component analysis (ASCA), PLS-DA and SIMCA were used to generate classification models to validate the varietal origin of coffee beans by NIR spectroscopy. PLS-DA resulted in a CCR of about 98% on the test set (100% for Arabica and 95% for Robusta), while SIMCA almost always achieved sensitivity and specificity values above 90% (93% and 96% for Arabica and 77% and 96% for Robusta) [114].

The use of portable micro-spectrometers such as a micro near-infrared region (microNIR) spectrometer is a promising technique for solving analytical problems in several areas of science. Accordingly, microNIRS was successfully used to determine the quality of Arabica coffee by identification and quantification of adulterations such as Robusta coffee (in different roasting levels), as well as corn, peels, and sticks. The NIR data were combined with chemometric evaluation using PCA and PLSR. The developed models were also applied to monitor the quality of 16 commercial coffee samples. The results obtained using microNIRS proved the ability of the method to be efficient and capable in the prediction of adulterations with minimum quantification levels (LOQs of 5–8 wt.%) [115].

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IR and SVM were used to geographically classify different genotypes of Arabica coffee. The spectra were recorded in the NIR and MIR regions. For data analysis, an SVM was built using radial basis as kernel function and a one-versus-all multiclass approach. Using the NIRS-SVM method, all test samples were correctly classified with 100% sensitivity and specificity, while FTIR-SVM showed slightly lower performance [116]. In terms of Arabian coffee, for geographic and genotypic ancestry classification, FTIR spectra were analyzed using a type of ANN (artificial neural network), the radial basis function network (RBF). The optimized RBFs were able to classify Arabica coffee samples both geographically (100% correct classification) and genotypically (94.44%) [117,118]. Moreira and Scarminio [119] examined four different Coffea arabica cultivars using FTIR spectroscopy and HPLC with diode array detector (DAD). Different extraction mixtures were studied, and the IR spectra were collected in the 2500-25,000 nm region. PCA was successfully used for pattern recognition purposes. The chromatographic elution was monitored at 210, 240, and 254 nm to gain deeper insight into the composition of the samples.

The HSI technique can also be successfully used in combination with different discriminant models to identify coffee beans. Bao et al. [120] applied NIR-HSI technology to identify different coffee beans of Chinese origin. Different discriminant methods were used to evaluate the data: PLS-DA, RF, K-nearest neighbor algorithm (k-NN), SVM, and extreme learning machine (ELM). Prior to the evaluation, a successive projection algorithm (SPA) was used to select the sensitive wavelengths from the whole spectrum. For each coffee bean variety, the sensitivity, accuracy, and specificity of the ELM models based on the full spectrum and the sensitive wavelengths were above 93.5% in both the calibration and the prediction sets. SVM models applied optimal wavelengths selected using second-derivative spectra gave even better results (prediction accuracy 98%) [117].

Hawaiian Kona coffee is a highly prized and sought-after variety. Because of its value, it is often blended with less valuable varieties. ATR-FTIR spectroscopy has been used to test these blends. Using second derivative and mean-centered data preprocessing and PLS regression, a prediction model was developed in the 5260–12,500 nm range with $R^2 = 0.999$ and a mean error of prediction SEP = 0.7% [100]. Mixing good-quality coffee beans with defective beans (black, unripe, and acidic) is considered adulteration in the same way as adulteration with any other substance. Ripe, unripe, defective, and non-defective green coffee beans from Brazil were analyzed by FTIR spectroscopy using transmission and reflectance measurements. In the latter, ATR and diffuse reflectance (DR) enhancements were used. PCA and HCA were performed to distinguish between defective and nondefective coffee samples [102]. Barbin [121] and Ebrahimi [122] applied NIRS to different blends using Arabica and Robusta coffees and four types of barley at different roasting degrees. PLSR was used to predict the amount of barley (% w/w) in the mixtures. The best results were obtained after applying genetic algorithm (GA) variable selection method.

DRIFT has been successfully applied to the detection of adulterated roasted coffee. The most common adulterants are coffee husks and corn. Using chemometric data processing (PCA and LDA) of DRIFT spectra, a 100% detection and prediction model was developed to discriminate among roasted coffee, pure adulterants (corn and coffee husks), and adulterated coffee samples [123]. The FTIR method has been used to detect the most commonly used substances for roasted coffee adulteration (coffee grounds, roasted coffee husks, roasted maize, and roasted barley) using two different acquisition techniques (ATR and DR).

Hierarchical models were constructed using two-level PLS-DA models. The first level included a model that discriminates between unadulterated and adulterated coffee samples. The second tier included four models that could identify the presence of each of the adulterants tested, in pure or blended form. The models were constructed using DR, ATR, and combined DR/ATR data (data fusion). At the first level, each model was constructed using 310 samples (30 samples of coffee grounds, 45–45 samples of pure coffee, pure roasted barley, pure roasted maize, and roasted coffee beans, and 100 samples containing a mixture of the four adulterants and coffee). Each of the four models in the

second tier was constructed from 265 samples (the same 310 samples as in the first-tier model-except for 45 pure coffee samples). The percentage of misclassified samples in the second level models went as low as 0% [90,124].

Sibutramine, a neurotransmitter reuptake inhibitor used to treat obesity, has effects on the human body such as heart attack and stroke. For this reason, it has been banned since 2010. Because it has overweight-reducing effects, it is artificially added to green coffee samples, which are then marketed as "100% natural overweight-reducing effect products". A method for detecting this banned adulterant has been developed using a combination of ATR-FTIR spectroscopy and chemometrics. HCA and PCA were applied to the 3640–3770 nm region for classification and discrimination using Euclidean distance and Ward's algorithm. It was found that the method could be successfully applied to the detection of the banned substance in the concentration range of 0.375–12 mg sibutramine [125].

Given the price and quality differences, it is essential to have effective tools to distinguish between green Arabica and Robusta coffee. To this end, the use of multispectral imaging systems can provide reliable and accurate real-time monitoring at relatively low cost. Hyperspectral data of green coffee samples were evaluated using PLS-DA to perform classification and sparse PLS-DA (sPLS-DA) for variable selection. According to the results, four band pass filters showed the best match with the selected region. From 33 coffee bean samples (18 Robusta and 15 Arabica), three batches per sample were selected to be representative of the sample. Two images were taken of each selected unit, repeated on two different days. Finally, 12 hyperspectral images were included for each lot, resulting in a dataset of 396 hyperspectral images. Proper strategies for the definition of the training set and the selection of the most effective combinations of spectral channels led to satisfactory classification performances (100% classification efficiency in prediction of the test set) [126].

A special application of Fourier-transform Raman spectroscopy (FT-RS) was used for the differentiation of botanical species of green and roasted coffee. Samples with 25 different geographic origins were examined. The analyzed Kenyan and Jamaican coffees were grown at high altitudes (Arabica), while the Australian coffees were grown at low altitudes (Robusta). It was recognized that the lipid fractions of the coffee species studied showed differences. In particular, they differed in their kahweol content (diterpene), which is present in Arabica beans at 0.1–0.3% dry matter, whereas, in Robusta, it is only present in trace amounts (<0.01%). Visual inspection of the Raman spectra of the lipid fraction extracted from Arabica, Robusta, and Liberica samples showed variations in the mid-infrared region. The spectrum of Arabica contained two characteristic scattering bands at 6380 and 6770 nm, which were found to be similar to the spectrum of pure kahweol. The spectra were evaluated using PCA. The first principal component (PC1) explained 93% of the spectral variations. It was observed that the loading plot of PC1 corresponded to the spectrum of kahweol. As a result of the PCA, the two groups of coffees analyzed could be clearly distinguished: one group with high kahweol content (Kenyan and Jamaican samples) and the other group with low kahweol content (Australian samples) [127].

Most NMR technique-based research is carried out on liquid samples primarily to determine coffee quality; it is most often used to identify the geographical origin of roasted coffee and to investigate Arabica–Robusta blend ratios. The first studies on the geographical origin of roasted coffee were carried out with African, Asian, and American *Coffea arabica* samples. The NMR results, evaluated by multivariate statistical analysis, perfectly distinguished the profile of metabolic aqueous extracts [128]. NMR has proven to be a versatile and robust tool for the identification of adulterants in foods. ¹H-NMR combined with chemometric tools is a successful technique for the quantification of coffee adulteration. ¹H-NMR analysis of aqueous extracts of roasted and ground coffee blends of *Coffea arabica* and *Coffea canephora* var. *robusta* was combined with multivariate statistical analysis to obtain an orthogonal projection to latent structures (OPLS) model with high predictive power. This approach allowed the evaluation of the composition of

coffee blends with unknown Arabica and Robusta content based on several chemical components. Differences in the geographical origin of the samples analyzed did not affect the determination of the composition of the coffee blends. This approach is a valid tool for the authentication of roasted and ground Arabica and Robusta coffee blends [129,130]. In a study, OPLS model was used to correlate sensory parameters with NMR spectra of roasted Arabica and Robusta coffees from Brazil, Colombia, and Indonesia. Sourness, saltiness, and astringency were correlated with Arabica coffee (due to chlorogenic acid, citric acid, malate, formic acid, acetate, trigonelline, arabinose, and galactose contents), while sweetness, body, and bitterness were correlated with Robusta coffee (due to lipid, quinine, quinic acid, and mannose contents). Using this model, the taste of four commercial coffees was correctly estimated, confirming the correct choice of NMR-based metabolomics to predict the sensory characteristics of roasted coffee beans [131]. NMR was applied to the geographical identification of 192 roasted coffee samples of different species. The samples came from Asia, Africa, and the USA. The ¹H-NMR spectra were acquired in a fully automated procedure (tuning, shimming, pulse calibration, and spectral processing) using a 400 MHz spectrometer. Particular attention was paid to Colombian coffee, which showed good separation from non-Colombian coffee; PLS-DA models highlighted fatty acids, acetate, and caffeine as metabolites characteristic of Colombian samples [132].

Kwon et al. [133] used an NMR-based metabolomics approach to investigate the quality class of Arabica green coffee beans. High-quality green coffee beans were characterized by high sucrose content and lower γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA), quinic acid, choline, acetate, and fatty acid content, while lower-quality green coffee beans reported lower GABA, quinic acid, choline, acetate, and fatty acid content compared to commercially available coffees.

The ¹H-NMR method was also applied to investigation of samples from different Brazilian states (São Paulo, Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo, Santa Catarina, Bahia, Paraná, Maranhão, and Paraíba) and four other countries (Spain, Italy, Argentina, and Colombia). Two different roasting methods were used (medium and dark). The adulterants used were coffee husks, soya beans, maize, barley, rice, and wheat. The spectrum used for the authentication of coffee samples was the pre-saturated ¹H spectrum. When comparing the spectra of pure 100% Arabica samples with the spectra of coffee samples adulterated at a 1:1 weight ratio, it was found that a chemical shift signal was observed in the spectra of samples containing maize, rice, barley and wheat. This shift occurred in areas which, as further experiments confirmed, were clearly associated with the starch in maize, rice, barley, and wheat used as adulterants. The same phenomenon was not observed in coffee husks, soya beans, and pure coffee, as no starch is present in the composition of soya beans and coffee husks. In these adulterants, signal shifts were observed at sites that could be linked to sugars in the endocarp of the grain (in the case of coffee husks) or to hydrogen atoms in the carbon atoms of the stachyose or sucrose anomer (in the case of soybeans) [134,135].

¹H-NMR was used to investigate the metabolic fingerprinting of Brazilian and Colombian coffee varieties of different qualities. As a result of the evaluation of the data by PCA, they were able to successfully distinguish among the conventional, superior, and gourmet groups, as well as between samples with different caffeoylquinic acid, trigonelline, and quinine levels related to quality [136]. The molecular spectroscopic procedures for the authentication and adulteration of coffee species and varieties are summarized in Table 7.

The diversity of coffee in both price and quality, as well as in its popularity, results in an immense need for its rapid quality determination. The above-reviewed publications clearly present the unique potential of the different molecular spectroscopic methods combined with chemometric techniques in the quality characterization of coffee from many various aspects. These include but are not limited to the fast and nondestructive botanical or geographical origin identification, quality grade determination, or quantification of composition or intentional compositional manipulations. Coffee beans and tea leaves of different origins could be distinguished using the molecular spectroscopic methods, and their quality parameters could also be predicted. This is essential for the beverage industry as these are all economic drivers for the preparation of beverages and products from raw materials. Furthermore, consumer preferences for specific coffee and tea varieties or blends are an ever-increasing challenge that can be bridged with these methods when rapid assessment is used in the right way.

5.5. Tea

Tea is the oldest and most consumed beverage in the world [137]. The classic tea is an article of enjoyment produced from the leaves or buds of the *Camellia sinensis* plant by various processes. Green, yellow, and white tea products undergo minimal processing, whereas oolong and black tea products are oxidized, and Pu-erh tea is fermented [138]. Tea is chemically a very complex system as it contains caffeine, polyphenols, polysaccharides, and other nutrients such as proteins, amino acids, lipids, and vitamins [139]. The character and quality of tea products are determined by the quantity and quality of free amino acids, total tea polyphenols, soluble sugars, and caffeine [140], which typically depend on the processing technology of the tea leaves and buds. In the case of tea made from *Camellia sinensis* leaves, classification according to oxidation and/or fermentation conditions is an important criterion, in addition to geographical classification.

Green teas have been discriminated using UV/Vis spectroscopy [141] and FTIR spectroscopy in combination with chemometric methods. The results obtained from the unsupervised pattern recognition techniques (HCA and PCA) clarified the differentiation of the samples into discriminate clusters in accordance with their geographical origin, which reflect the notable variation among the green tea samples. SIMCA and PLS-DA as supervised pattern recognition techniques were adopted to further ascertain the results obtained from the unsupervised techniques composition [142].

NIR spectra were used to identify green, black, and oolong teas from different geographical areas in China. PCA and SVM methods were used for pattern recognition and classification. The identification rate ranged from 90–100% depending on the type of tea [143,144].

HSI coupled with four kinds of classification methods were applied to detect the variety and grade of five green teas (Biluochun, Jingshan, Longjing, Queshe, and Sanbeixiang). Robust models were built for green tea classification using the SVM method on separating three grades of each green tea with the classification accuracy higher than 93% [145]. Using visible and near-infrared hyperspectral imaging (Vis/NIR-HSI), five tea categories (green, yellow, white, black, and oolong tea) were identified on the basis of classification pattern recognition. The CCR achieved 98.39% [146]. An adaptive improved possibility c-means (AIPCM) clustering with fuzzy Mahalanobis distance has been proposed for fast, efficient, and nondestructive identification of different tea varieties of geographical origin for FTIR spectral classification of tea samples. After MSC data preprocessing, PCA and LDA analysis were applied and the data were clustered using several fuzzy clustering algorithms. The maximum accuracy was 98.5% [147].

NIR-HSI has been successfully used to classify, authenticate, and detect adulteration of tea products produced by different technologies. HSI data were processed by comparing linear data visualization methods. The oolong, green, yellow, white, black, and Pu-erh teas studied could be classified into three groups with 97% classification accuracy using a newly developed classification model (multiclass error-correcting output code model containing support vector machine (SVM-ECOC)): minimally processed, oxidized, and fermented products [148]. A simple method based on surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) has been developed to extract the full spectrum of tea varieties to detect the purity of samples based on processing and cultivation type. For this purpose, fingerprints of tea samples from seven different tea species (herbal tea, rosehip, chamomile, lime, green, and sage, black tea, and Earl Grey green tea) were analyzed using SERS. PCA was used to separate the individual teal samples [149].

Visible spectroscopy combined with chemometric data analysis has been successfully used to identify matcha tea powder adulterants. Matcha is rich in nutrients and is more expensive than green tea. It is often adulterated using steamed green tea powder. The presence of steamed tea leaves can be detected by classification methods (PCA-LDA, SIMCA), and the amount of adulterant in matcha tea can be estimated by PLS regression [150].

Darjeeling black tea is a tea variety known worldwide and is currently listed in both the Register of Protected Designations of Origin (PDO) and the Register of Protected Geographical Indications (PGI). As it is a valuable tea, adulteration is often a problem. To clarify this issue, the NIRS technique using PLS-DA and SIMCA classifications is satisfactory to distinguish PGI samples from other teas and adulterated Darjeeling. In the adulteration process, genuine Indian Darjeeling tea is most often blended with various Ceylon teas [151]. Roasted green tea is adulterated with sugar and glucose syrup, which, in addition to the adulteration, is also extremely dangerous because it increases the risk of moisture sensitivity and microbiological hazards in tea products. The detection of sugar and glucose syrup is generally carried out by HPLC, which has a sufficiently high specificity and sensitivity, but is a time-consuming and expensive method. This has been replaced by FT-NIR spectroscopy. A prediction model was constructed by PLS regression and optimized by leave-one-out cross-validation. The identification accuracy of adulterants in roasted green tea was 96% (sugar) and 100% (glucose syrup) [152]. As in the case of coffee, green tea leaves have been blended with sibutramine and marketed as a "100% natural" weight loss product. The ATR-FTIR method combined with chemometric methods also resulted in perfect pattern recognition in this case [125].

FTIR combined with chemometrics has been successfully used to detect talcum illegally added to tea. Smoothing, normalization, and SNV were used to preprocess the FTIR raw spectra. Before data evaluation, variable selection was performed to improve the model [153]. The molecular spectroscopic procedures for the authentication and adulteration of *Camellia sinensis* are summarized in Table 8.

Similarly to coffee, tea is also a broadly consumed drink, raising the need for analytical techniques providing rapid and nondestructive quality analysis. A wide arsenal of molecular spectroscopic methods combined with chemometric techniques have been found to be indispensable in this concept, as explored in the above research studies. The advantages of these rapid analytical techniques have been clearly proven in the classification of teas with different botanical and geographical origin or on the basis of their different preparation technologies, as well as further applications.

6. Future Prospects of Sensor-Based Equipment: Mobile and Online Diagnostics

There has been a steady rise in demand for mobile devices with online technologybased functions. Such devices have been widely applied for purposes of monitoring and evaluation in the agro industry [154] as they provide rapid and on-site analysis for preliminary and meaningful information extraction. The goal is to avoid the use of expensive and bulky instrumentations that are routinely used by trained personnel but with the motive of saving cost and time. For these devices, essential prerequisites are to be compact enough, robust, high temperature-resistant, waterproof, and easy to clean [155]. Materials having direct contact must also be food-safe. Recently, new innovative handheld devices based on micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) have been developed and incorporated into the NIRS fields of application [50] and can be easily applied with internet access (Figure 5).

Bázár et al. [157] reported the use of an advanced handheld NIRS scanner (Tellspec), with a spectral interval of 950–1630 nm, to successfully analyze beef sirloin and tenderloin samples that were stored at 4 °C in plastic bags for a 10 day period with a 93.55% accuracy of LDA classification by days of storage. A handheld fiber-optic NIRS spectrometer with a spectral range of 700 to 1050 nm was used by [158] for the assessment of fatty acids in 12 market beef samples. These results proved that the optical data could be applied for breeding, as well as improving beef quality and feedback data on beef production. A similar brand of handheld spectrophotometer (SCiOTM), with a spectral range of 740 nm to 1070 nm, was reportedly used [155] for egg evaluation. It was observed that the reflectance spectral data of the egg contained important information about its shelf-life (storage time), an essential quality of freshness. There were also noticeable differences in the processed spectral values of the eggs as a function of storage time.



Figure 5. Flow diagram for the implementation of mobile diagnostics (based on Wijaya et al. [156]).

Tellspec and Texas Instrument's NIRScan nano scanners possess a wider spectral range (950–1630 nm) than both the fiber-optic NIRS (700 to 1050 nm) and SCiOTM (740 to 1070 nm), but a narrower range than the indico-pro NIRS (350 to 1800 nm). Tellspec, however, possesses the advantage of being the post portable in terms of size. Nonetheless, all the three devices are effective and have a great potential of application in the meat industry. Both SCiOTM and Tellspec provide an advantage of real-time data transfer onto servers that can be remotely assessed by the users. The devices can be used for preliminary evaluation of carcass before they are transferred to the lab for major quality assurance tests.

Miniaturization can be seen in all the analytical technologies, as well as in the molecular spectroscopic devices. Not only NIRS [159], but also Raman spectrometers can reach the portable size and may be a highly practical tool in advanced field testing for contaminants in food industry [160]. Some decades ago, it was the big achievement of NIR spectroscopy to allow nontechnical personnel to perform routine quality measurements, but still in lab conditions. Currently, as process analytical technologies are becoming more required by intelligent industrial systems, tools such as NIRS and other molecular spectroscopic applications provide great opportunities out of laboratories [161]. Unquestionably, there is a potential of these technologies to reach the end-users as hidden tools, for example, as part of a smart refrigerator or as an NIR camera of a smartphone. Novel miniaturization technologies allow all these developments. However, the biggest challenge remains to prepare predefined calibration models that work in everyday conditions provided by nonprofessional end-users. This is an even harsher challenge than required by the industrial applications where, although spectrometers may have to withstand vibration and humid conditions, the spectral acquisition is nevertheless performed in standardizable way. It also becomes obvious that, in addition to data scientists and mathematicians preparing sophisticated calibration models for large spectral databases, classical and practical spectroscopic experiences remain crucial while planning future applications.

Important Parameters	Advantages	Disadvantages
	UV/Vis [162,163]	
200 nm $\leq \lambda \leq$ 800 nm absorption excitation of valence (bonding) electrons	 Cheap Relatively simple method Linear relationship between absorbance and concentration (Lambert-Beer law) Both organic and inorganic molecules can be measured Selectivity is component dependent 	 The sample quantity is medium/high Requires chemical sample preparation Only liquid samples can be measured Only possible for the analytes which have a chromophore Strongly affected by pH, temperature, contaminants, and impurities.
	NIR5 [164,165]	
780 nm $\leq \lambda \leq 2500$ nm diffuse reflection/ transmission/transflection vibrational energies (bond length/angle of bond) infra-active molecule \Rightarrow dipole moment change	 Fast Small sample requirements No or minimal (physical) sample preparation No chemicals required Sample not damaged during measurement Nondestructive Measurement can be performed off-line, at-line, in-line, and on-line Solid and liquid samples Physical, chemical property process analysis analytical technology (pat) can be measured equally Qualitative and quantitative measurement Stable instrument Reproducible measurement Spectrum complex information carrier (multiple parameters from one measurement simultaneously) Immediate result Concentration of organic macromolecules 	 Not an absolute technique: depends on accuracy of reference data measurements Calibration: multivariate linear/nonlinear regression method Calibration function requires many (minimum 50–100) reference data Only suitable for organic molecules (except water) High moisture content may cause problems Temperature dependence (especially for liquids) Spectrum complex information carrier (spectrum overlay) Evaluation requires appropriate mathematical background and chemometric knowledge
	IR [166]	
2500 nm ≤ λ ≤ 25,000 nm infra-active molecule \Rightarrow dipole moment change range of chemical vibrations 2500 nm ≤ λ ≤ 6670 fingerprint range 6670 nm ≤ λ ≤ 25,000 nm	 Advantages specific to the NIRS technique Solid/liquid/gas samples Studies of organic and certain inorganic molecules Range of chemical vibrations: characteristic of compound groups Fingerprint range: unique signal specific to a given compound 	 Chemical structure, chemical bonds, composition, sample stability/degradation, contamination, identification of additives In situ monitoring of reactions Disadvantages specific to the NIRS technique Complicated technique Data interpretation complicated Expensive procedure
	HSI [167]	
Measuring range: Vis (400–1000 nm) or NIR/Vis (900–1700 nm)	 Combining the advantages of spectroscopy and traditional image processing Infer the spatial distribution of content properties of materials with inhomogeneous structures Hyperspectral images have good spectral resolution, and sensitivity is good No sample preparation Nondestructive 	 Solid/gel samples Mainly surface measurements Mainly surface measurements Special sensors Advanced IT requirements Narrow measurement range Small sensitivity

 Table 2. Advantages and disadvantages of different molecular spectroscopy methods.

Table 2. Cont.

		RS [168,169]		
	1.	Homonuclear diatomic molecules can also	17.	Raman spectrum quality strongly dependent on the wavelength of the
	2.	Fast		irradiating laser (signal to noise ratio)
	3.	No sample preparation	18.	Compared to other spectroscopic
	4.	Nondestructive		measurements, the equipment is
	5.	Solid, liquid (colloids) and gas		more expensive
		phase samples	19.	Sensitive to even small amounts of
	6.	Sample size is not limited	20	fluorescent contamination
$800 \text{ nm} < \lambda < 2500 \text{ nm}$	7.	Lateral resolution good	20.	increase the temperature of the sample
based on light scattering	8.	Less sensitive to water	21	Unstructured images (backgrounds
Raman-active 🖈 change in	9. 10	Works at high pressure and temperature	21.	
polarizability	10.	Measurement of packaged samples		complex and cumbersome
1 5		(packaging material is minimally Raman activo)	22	Artificial lighting may be required
	11.	Calibration using univariate models		depending on lighting conditions
	12.	Mainly for monitoring reactions and	22	Disadvantage of light sources $rac{1}{2}$ they can
		changes (e.g., deterioration)	23.	base significant heat dissipation
	13.	Weak signal strength	24	The detection limit is strongly influenced
	14.	The intensity is less than the IR	<u> </u>	by the particle size the chemical and
	15.	Fluorescence is often a disturbing effect		spatial heterogeneity of the sample, and
	16.	Less effective in pattern recognition		the spatial resolution of the image
		NMR [170]		
	1	Nondestructive	13	Can be used online
	2.	Chemical reaction testing	14.	Sensitive to the homogeneity of
	3.	Structural analysis		the sample
	4.	Isomerism study: enantiomers	15.	Data processing, data evaluation complex
	5.	Organic chemistry: qualitative analysis	16.	Expensive instrument
nucleus spin energies	6.	Physicochemical tests, reaction kinetics	17.	Sample requirements are significant
nonoptical method	7.	Solid and liquid samples	18.	Molecular size limitations
	8.	Lower maintenance cost	19.	Real-time data collection results in
	9.	Lower analysis time		broader signals and less clean spectrum
	10.	Easy sample preparation	20.	Chemical shielding
	11.	Require very small sample volumes	21.	Signal strength is lower compared to
	12.	High reproducibility		techniques such as optical spectroscopy

Table 3. Overview of molecular spectroscopic techniques for quality determination in meat and fish.

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Preprocessing Method	Chemometrics	Reference
Ultraviolet/visible/near-	Predicting fatty acids in fresh and freeze-dried beef	400-2400	Not reported	ANOVA, PLSR	[36]
(UV–Vis–NIR)	Accurate determination of the K value of fish flesh	250-600	SG + MSC	iPLS	[35]
	Detecting bovine meat adulteration with turkey meat	220–700	SNV	PCA, LDA	[37]
Fourier-transform near infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIRS)	Detection of beef, mutton, camel, and lamb meat adulterated with pork	1000–2500	SNV+ auto scaling	PCA, PLS-DA, PLSI	R [47]
Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)	Structural and metabolic changes in the liver samples of wild and aqua cultured gilthead sea bream (<i>S. aurata</i>)	2702–10,638	SG-19 points	Spectral peak analysis and band assignments	[44]
Hyperspectral imaging	Prediction of monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids of various processed pork meats	1000–2000	Not reported	SVM	[38]
(HSI)	Protein content evaluation of processed pork meats	465–630	Not reported	BP-NN, PLSR	[39]

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Preprocessing Method	Chemometrics	Reference
	Determination of pH in pork	400-750	Not reported	SVR	[171]
	Muscle type, rigor process, and aging assessment of lamb	550-1700	MSC, SNV	SVM, PLSR	[39]
Raman spectroscopy (RS)	Analyses of prohibited drugs including enrofloxacin, furazolidone, and green malachite in tilapia	5000–25,000	Not reported	PCA, PLSR	[40]
	Testosterone propionate and nandrolone residues in duck meat	5555–25,000	Normalization + D1	SVM	[172]
Raman, near-infrared, and fluorescence	Predict drip loss and measure pH of fresh pork, with a secondary aim to measure intramuscular fat	5291–6666 400–2500 300–500	SG + EMSC + SNV	ANOVA, PLSR	[173]
(RS + NIR + FS)	Predict drip loss and measure pH of fresh pork, with a secondary aim to measure intramuscular fat	5291–6666 400–2500 300–500	SG + EMSC + SNV	ANOVA, PLSR	[173]
Fourier-transform	Species discrimination of meat and bone meals based on lipid characteristics	5555–18,181	SNV+ auto scaling	PCA, PLS-DA	[45]
and Raman spectroscopy (FTIR + RS)	Low-, mid-, and high-level fusion strategies for combining Raman and infrared spectroscopy for quality assessment of red meat	3306–3623 5618–5847 6734–9479 5814–13,333	LBC + SNV + SG-7	Spectral peak analysis and band assignments, PLSR	[46]
Proton nuclear	Metabolite profiling of the post-ovulatory oocytes of the common carp, <i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Not reported	Normalization + auto scaling	ANOVA, PCA, PLS-DA	[42]
(NMR)	Molecular study of anesthesia in fish	400 MHz	Normalization + auto scaling	ANOVA, PCA, PLS-DA	[43]
Laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy	Authentication of salami and processed sausages	186–900	Not reported	PCA, PLSR, LOD, LOQ	[174]
Laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy	Discrimination of beef, chicken, and pork from five different farms	186–900	1st der.	PCA, PLSR, LOD, LOQ	[52]
Laser micro-Raman spectroscopy and Fourier-transform spectroscopy	Effect of NaNO ₂ on protein structure changes during oxidation of myoglobin	6060–7410 5882–6250	Not reported	Spectral peak analysis and band assignments, ANOVA	[175]

Table 3. Cont.

1st der. = first derivative; ANOVA: analysis of variance; EMSC: extended multiplicative scattering correction; iPLS: interval partial least squares; LBC: linear baseline correction; LOD: limit of detection; LOQ: limit of quantification; MSC: multiplicative scatter correction; PCA: principal component analysis; PLS-DA: partial least squares discriminant analysis; PLSR: partial least squares regression; SG: Savitzky–Golay smoothing; SNV: standard normal variate; SVM: support vector machine.

 Table 4. PLSR prediction of different quality parameters in meat and fish using near infrared spectroscopy.

Objective of Study	Spectral Region (nm)	Predicted Parameter	Spectral Pre- Treatments	$R^2_{\rm V}$	RMSECV	Reference	Findings/Implications
Potential of NIR to predict drip loss and intramuscular (IMF) fat of pork	780–1850	Drip loss Vacuum drip loss Intramuscular fat	SNV	0.06 0.12 0.57	1.69 g/100 g 1.00 g/100 g 0.11 g/100 g	[173]	Regression coefficients from NIR spectroscopy was only meaningful for IMF models. This was attributed to noisy spectra from regions suspected to be drip loss regions
Potential of NIR in predicting pork belly softness	780–1900	Lean Intramuscular fat Subcutaneous fat lean Subcutaneous fat	SNV + DT SG SNV + DT SNV + DT	$0.44 \\ 0.72 \\ 0.65 \\ 0.66$	0.67 g/100 g 0.44 g/100 g 0.51 g/100 g 0.49 g/100 g	[33]	NIR offers the option of a noninvasive pork belly softness classification. This can be used for export and merchandise in the pork industry

Objective of Study	Spectral Region (nm)	Predicted Parameter	Spectral Pre- Treatments	$R^2_{\rm V}$	RMSECV	Reference	Findings/Implications
Determine the salt content in fish water phase in marinated herring fillets	1000–2500	Salt	SNV	0.91	0.27 g/100 g	[176]	NIR wavelength in the range of 1170–1290 nm holds information related to the changes in salt, but spectral ranges of 1180–1290 nm contained information associated with the change in salt of herring marinade. These can be used markers of quality in similar fish species
Determination of fat content in commercial chicken hamburgers	1000–2500	Fat	iPLS (MSC) iSPA-PLS (MSC)	0.76 0.94	3.59 g/100 g 1.59 g/100 g	[177]	Successive projections algorithm for interval selection in partial least squares regression (iSPA-PLS) showed superior predictive performance and can be used in tandem with NIR for quality control purposes in chicken hamburger
Classification of intact chicken breast fillets (pectoralis major) with PC scores extracted from 5 quality traits: color, pH, drip loss (DL), expressible fluid (EF), and salt-induced water (SIW) as quality parameters	400–2500	Color pH Drip loss Expressible fluid	Not stated	0.77 0.40 0.52 0.83	1.91 0.19 0.86 g/100 g 0.36	[49]	PC1 could represent the measured quality traits well and generated classification results similar to or better than those based on the quality traits alone
Evaluate NIR reflectance spectroscopy as a tool for detecting lipid peroxidation of light lamb meat	400-2500	Lipid peroxidation	Not stated	0.77	0.406	[178]	NIR spectroscopy was able to confirm lipid oxidation of light lamb meat measured using the thiobarbituric reactive substances (TBARS) method. Thus, NIR was able to detect analytes at concentrations of parts per million, although the model could be improved as the authors reported that it could have been over fitted
Evaluate the feasibility of NIR spectroscopy to predict Sodium (Na) content in commercial processed meat sample	850–1050	Fresh meat Cured meat Dry meat boiled sausages	SNV + DT SNV + DT MSC None	0.91 0.92 0.97 0.40	0.08 g/100 g 0.12 g/100 g 0.07 g/100 g 0.09 g/100 g	[59]	NIR is more adaptable for predicting Na content in fresh, cured, and dry meat than in sausages. Similar studies on fresh sausages can help understand this important phenomenon, as Na in meat products has gained attention for health reasons
Predict chicken color	400–2498	Color (intact chicken) Color (minced chicken)	None MSC None MSC	0.91 0.88 0.89 0.87	1.99 2.30 1.93 2.09	[60]	Spectral preprocessing techniques did not improve the robustness of prediction methods when compared to the raw spectra
Predict the physical traits of yak meat using NIRS	1000–1800	Color Saturation index Shear force	OSC + DT + 1st der. D1 + OSC D1 + OSC	0.71 0.85 0.46	1.90 1.63 27.43	[179]	NIR spectra predictive performance was worst for shear force performance although it was better for saturation index
Predict protein, moisture and lipid levels in Tilapia fillets	1000–2500	Moisture Crude protein Lipid	SNV + MSC	0.95 0.30 0.97	0.87 0.55 g/100 g 0.70 g/100 g	[180]	NIRS showed good prediction level for moisture and lipid, but weaker results for crude protein in tilapia fillets

Table 4. Cont.

1st der.: first-order derivative; DT = detrend; MSC = multiplicative scatter correction; OSC = orthogonal signal correction; R^2_V = coefficient of determination of cross-validation; SG = Savitzky–Golay smoothing; SNV = standard normal variate.

Table 5. Overview of molecular spectroscopic techniques for authentication and adulteration determination in cultivated mushroom.

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Pre-Processing Method	Chemometric	s Results	Reference
Vis/NIR spectroscopy	classification <i>Agaricus</i> <i>bisporus</i> quality: water content, Brix%	400-1000	SNV	PCA, PLS	No data on classification	[67]
Fourier- transform near-infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIR)	classification <i>Pleurotus</i> <i>ostreatus</i> cultivar candidates	1111–2630	SG-2nd der.	PCA, LDA, HCA	Probability Free amino acid: 100% Cysteine, methionine, proline: >90% TPC, FRAP > 83%	[68]
Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIR)	adulteration " <i>porcini"</i> mushroom	1111–2500	SNV, SG-11 points 2nd der.	PCA, PLS-DM, UNEQ, SIMCA	PCA: <i>Tylopilus</i> spp. and the BEAS samples are well separated, but there is more overlap with the <i>Boletus violaceofuscus</i> samples sensitivity UNEQ: 100% SIMCA: 81.8%	[75]
	classification aging; fresh vs. refrigerated	2500–3230 3700–5880 5880–25,000	SNV	RF, PCA, PLS-DA	sensitivity: 89.2% specificity: 91.2%	[69]
Fourier- transform	classification geographical origin: <i>B.edulis</i> vs. <i>B.</i> tomentipes	5555–25,000	MSC, 2nd der.	PCA, HCA, PLS-DA	Accuracy: 100%	[71]
mid-infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)	authentication geographical Boletus tomentipes	2700–3570 4170–4350 4760–25,000	SNV, SG-2nd der.	PCA, SVM, RF	Accuracy > 94%	[72]
	classification Boletaceae	2500–25,000	SG-15 points, 2nd der.,	SVM	Accuracy > 98%	[74]
	classification geographical origin <i>Boletaceae</i>	2500–25,000	SNV, SG-15 points, 2nd der.,	PCA, SVM, PLS-DA	Accuracy > 99%	[73]
Diffuse reflectance Fourier- transform mid-infrared spectroscopy (DRIFT)	classification Pleurotus taxa	5555–5880 7353–7782 8890–9360 10,530–15,380	SG-95 points	НСА	Successful classification	[70]

HCA = hierarchal cluster analysis; PLS-DM = partial least squares density modeling; RF = random forest; SG-2nd = Savitzky–Golay second derivative; SVM = support vector machine; UNEQ = modeling version of quadratic discriminant analysis.

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Preprocessing Method	Chemometrics	Results	Reference
UV/Vis spectroscopy	classification geographical origin turmeric	200-800	SNV	PCA, HCA	Unsuccessful clustering	[78]
	classification geographic origin saffron	1610–2530	2nd der.	PCR	Pattern recognition for Iranian samples 100%	[77]
	adulteration chili	1110-2500	SNV, MSC, SG	PCA, PLS-DA, PCR, PLS	LOD 0.25%	[181]
	adulteration turmeric	1350–1550	SNV, MSC, 1st der. 2nd der.	PCA, PCR, PLSR	Prediction ability: $Q^2 = 0.993$	[87]
Near-infrared	adulteration black pepper	1100–2300	BC	РСА	Discrimination: pepper vs. papaya: 100%	[86]
spectroscopy (NIRS)		833–1100	SNV, SG-der	PCA, OPLS-DA	Prediction ability: $Q^2 = 0.98$	[88]
	classification geographic origin cinnamon adulteration cinnamon	944–1640 1850–2500	Not reported	PCA, PLS, PLS-DA, PNN,	Discrimination: 99.25%; R ² : 0.97	[83,84]
	adulteration coriander seed	A. 740–1070 B. 1350–2550 C. 1100–1350 1350–1650 1550–1950 1750–2150 2000–2450	SNV, SG-35 points, 1st der., 2nd der.	PLS-DA, PLS-R	Discrimination: 100%	[85]
	classification geographical origin turmeric	2500–25,000	SNV	PCA, HCA	Unsuccessful clustering	[89]
Fourier-transform	adulteration paprika	2500-15,400	SNV	NAS, HLA	R ² = 0.97 RMSEP= 0.05%	[89,90]
mid-infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)	adulteration turmeric	6262–10,030 6060–14,280	SG-3 points Not reported	Single peak intensity, ratio of peak intensity, and intensity at a neutral band PLSR	$R^2 = 0.95$ $R^2 = 0.97$ and R^2 = 0.95	[96] [84]
Attenuated total	adulteration cinnamon	2850-5560	SNV, MSC, SG-4 points 2nd der.	PLSR	R ² : 0.96	[84]
reflectance Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy	adulteration black pepper	3570–5560	SNV, SG-der	PCA, OPLS-DA	Prediction ability: $Q^2 = 0.97$	[88]
(ATR-FTIR)	adulteration oregano	5560- 11,100	SNV, SG-2nd der.	PCA, OPLS-DA	Q ² = 0.96 RMSECV = 9.7%	[90,92]
Diffuse reflectance Fourier-transform mid-infrared spectroscopy (DRIFT)	adulteration saffron	2500-16,700	BC, MC, MSC, SNV, SG 1st der.	PCA, PLS-DA, PLS, siPLS	Discrimination: 99%	[90,91]
Raman spectroscopy (RS)	adulteration paprika	5550-11,100	Not reported	PLSR	%CC = 89	[93]
Raman hyperspectral imaging system (R-HSI)	adulteration paprika	785	BC	QRM	R ² > 0.98	[85,89]
	adulteration chili	5560-12,500	SNV, MSC, SG	PCA, PLS-DA, PCR, PLS	LOD 0.88%	[181]
Fourier-transform raman spectroscopy (FT-RS)	adulteration turmeric	3570–11,760	SG-3 points, MSC	Single peak intensity, ratio of peak intensity, and intensity at a neutral band	R ² = 0.93	[96,98]
Sensor combining Raman spectroscopy (SERS)	adulteration paprika	8100–8260 13,800–14,100	BC	PCA, PLSR	$Q^2 = 0.978$	[85]

Table 6. Overview of molecular spectroscopic techniques for authentication and adulteration determination in spices.

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Preprocessing Method	Chemometrics	Results	Reference
Nuclear magnetic resonance (¹ H-NMR)	classification geographical origin saffron	600 MHz	МС	PCA	Not reported	[80]
	classification geographical origin turmeric	400 MHz 500 MHz	Not reported BC	PCA, HCA PLS-DA, OPLS-DA	Classification: 100% Q ² : 0.706	[78] [79]
	classification geographical origin cinnamon	600 MHz	МС	PCA, OPLS-DA	$Q^2 = 0.65$	[81]
	adulteration saffron	500 MHz	Not reported	PCA, PLS-DA	sensitivity: 100%	[99]

Table 6. Cont.

BC = baseline correction; % CC: percentage of correctly classified samples, HCA = hierarchal cluster analysis; HLA = hybrid linear analysis, MC = mean centering, MSC = multiplicative scatter correction; NAS = a net analyte signal; OPLS-DA =orthogonal partial least square discriminant analysis; PLS-DA = partial least squares discriminate analysis; QRM = quadratic regression model; SG-2nd = Savitzky–Golay; siPLS = synergy interval PLS; SNV = standard normal variate; SVM = support vector machine; UNEQ = modeling version of quadratic discriminant analysis.

Table 7. Overview of molecular spectroscopic techniques for authentication and adulteration determination in coffee bean, roasted coffee, and grounded coffee.

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Pre-Processing Method	Chemometrics	Statistical Parameters	Reference
Fourier-transform near-infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIR)	identification geographical origin	1000–2500	SNV, MSC, SG-1st der., SG-2nd der., SNV + SG-1st der., SNV + SG-2nd der., MSC + SG-1st der., MSC + SG-2nd der.	PLS-DA	Continent-based classification > 98% City-based classification 100%	[110]
	identification geographical origin roasting type	800-2500	No preprocessing	PCA, LDA	Roasting method 100% Geographical origin: 100%	[111]
	identification Arabica/Robusta ratio	1580–1750, 1820–1890 1970–2240	SNV, 1st der., BC, 2nd der.	PLS	RMSECV: 4.58% RMSEP: 4.34% R^2 : 0.97 Bias: -4.10^{-3}	[112]
	identification coffee leaves	800-2500	SG-17 points 2nd der.	PCA, SIMCA	Classification rate: 100%	[113]
	classification geographical origin	1100–2498	MSC	SVM, PCA	SV: 10–25 Accuracy: 1.0000 SENS: 1.0000 SPEC: 1.0000	[116]
Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS)	authentication geographic and genotypic origin Arabica	1100–2498	MSC + SG-2nd	PLS-DA	Geographic origin (Sample from Londrina -south of Brazil): RMSEP: 0.1024 SENS: 1.0000 SPEC: 1.0000 Genotip origin (IA59 cultivated variety) RMSEP: 0.1585 SENS: 1.0000 SPEC: 1.0000	[106]
	classification Robusta varieties	1000–2500	MSC, EMSC, SNV SG-15 points 1st der. OSC	PCA PLS-DA; SIMCA, SOM, SVM,	MCC SIMCA: 0.922–1.000 PLS-DA: 0.430–1.000 (1st) PLS-DA: 0.841–1.000 (OSC) SVM (4PCs): 0.922–1.000 SOM: 1.000	[107]

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Pre-Processing Method	Chemometrics	Statistical Parameters	Reference
	authentication roasting conditions, geographical origin varietal origin	1000–2500	SNV	ASCA, PLS-DA SIMCA	Classification: 98% SENS > 0.9000 SPEC > 0.9000	[114]
	authentication: geographical origin farming system	1400–1500	SNV, Detrending, SG.9 points, LDA, LDA-SVM, LDA-kNN	PLS-DA	geographical origin. 39% farming system: 89%	[108]
	authentication specialty type	900–1650	SG-11 points 2nd der.	PCA, HCA, SIMCA, ED	CCR: 87–100%	[109]
	adulteration peels/sticks, corn, Robusta coffee in three roasting levels	908–1676	SG-7 points 1st der.	PCA, PLS	adulterant with peels/sticks RMSEP: 11.4 $\%w/w$ R^2 : 0.8589 adulterant with corn RMSEP: 4.0 $\%w/w$ R^2 : 0.9788 roasting level RMSEP: 2.8–6.6% w/w R^2 : 0.9700–0.9925	[115]
	adulteration with barley	1660–1740 2050–2090 2130–2340	No data pretreatment	PLS + GA	RMSEP: 0.8–1.4 %, w/w	[121,122]
	classification geographical origin	5560–12,500	MSC	SVM, PCA	SV: 34–55 Accuracy: 0.9504–0.9835 SENS: 08889–1.0000 SPEC = 0.9412–1.0000	[116]
Fourier-transform mid-infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)	classification geographical origin genotypic origin	2670–13,300	SNV	RBF SIMCA MLP	geographically 100% genotypically 94.44%	[118]
	identification traditional vs. genetically modified cultivars	2780–3130 6250–9090	No data pretreatment	РСА	Not reported	[119]
Diffuse reflectance Fourier-transform mid-infrared spectroscopy (DRIFT)	adulteration with barley, corn, coffee husks	3333–3570 5560–14,300	SNV, BC	РСА	Recognition and prediction 100%	[123]
	authentication geographical origin	3230–3640	no data pre-treatment	PCA, SIMCA	Classification rate: 100%	[101]
	adulteration Sibutramine	3640-3770	SNV + 1st der.	HCA, PCA, k-NN	Accuracy: 100%	[125]
Attenuated total reflectance Fourier-transform	adulteration defective and non- defective Arabica coffee bean	3230–3310 5560–5630 6440–6750	BC, SNV	PCA, HCA	Accuracy: 100%	[102]
(ATR-FTIR)	adulteration roasted barley roasted maize	2500–14,300	SNV	PLS-DA HM, DF	First-level models: unadulter- ated/adulterated misclassification: ATR: 4.5%; DR:3.3% Second-level models Identity of each specific adulterant Misclassification: 0%	[90,124]
	adulteration blends	5260-12,500	1st der., 2nd der.	PCR, PLS	$R^2 = 0.999$	[100]

Table 7. Cont.

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Pre-Processing Method	Chemometrics	Statistical Parameters	Reference
NIR hyperspectral imaging system (NIR-HSI)	classification Arabica/Robusta	1150; 1200; 1250; 1400	Not reported	PLS-DA; sPLS-DA	Average spectra EFF _{CV} : 97.3–99.3 EFF _{TEST} : 94.0–98.3	[126]
	classification Arabica/Robusta	900–1700	MA, EMD, MF, WT	SVM	Classification: 88.4–90.9%	[117]
	classification Arabica/Robusta	874–1734	Not reported	PLS-DA, RF, SVM, k-NN, ELM	Classification: 97%	[120]
Fourier-transform Raman spectroscopy (FT-RS)	botanical origin: Arabica/Robusta	5880–7140 6380; 6770	BC, SNV,	РСА	PC1 = 93%; PC2 = 3% Accuracy: 100%	[127]
Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR)	origin Arabica/Robusta	400 MHz 7.85 ppm, 9.20 ppm	Not reported	PCA, PLS-DA	SEN: 95–95% SPEC: 96–97%	[132]
	geographical origins Arabica/Robusta and blends	500 MHz	Not reported	OPLS-DA	Classification: 100%	[128,130]
	classified according to quality	5.29–5.43 ppm 6.55 ppm 8.77 ppm 9.12 ppm	Signal alignment, area normalization, auto scaling of the data	PCA	Lipids, organic and caffeoylquinic acids: unique characteristics in order to discriminate them from the other samples gourmet/superior Quality samples had as descriptors the malic, citric and caffeoylquinic acids	[136]
	authenticity Arabica	60 MHz, 600 MHz; 3.16 ppm	Not reported	Not reported	Accuracy: 100%	[135]
	authenticity	600.13 MHz	Mean centering, smoothing, SNV	PCA, SIMCA	Classification: 100%	[134]

Table 7. Cont.

ASCA = ANOVA simultaneous component analysis; BC = baseline correction; CCR = correct classification rate; DF = data fusion; ED = Euclidean distance; EDF = empirical mode decomposition; EFF_{CV} = classification efficiency values of cross-validation; EFF_{TEST} = classification efficiency values of test validation; EMSC= extended multiplicative scattering correction; EX/EM = excitation–emission pairs; GA = genetic algorithm; HCA = hierarchical cluster analysis; HM = hierarchical models; k-NN = k-nearest neighbors; LDA = linear discriminant analysis; MA = moving average smoothing; MCC = Matthews correlation coefficient; MF = median filter; MSC = multiplicative scatter correction; NMC = number of misclassifications; NPLS-DA = superior order or N Partial least squares or multilinear PLS discriminant analysis; OPLS-DA = orthogonal projections to latent structures discriminant analysis; SENS = sensitivity; SG-1st der. = Savitzky–Golay first derivative; SG-2nd der. = Savitzky–Golay second derivative; SIMCA = soft independent modeling of class analogies; SNV = standard normal variation; SPEC = specificity; sPLS-DA = superior vectors; UPLS-DA = unfolded partial least squares with discriminant analysis; WT = wavelet transform.

Table 8. Overview of molecular spectroscopic techniques for authentication and adulteration determination in tea.

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Pre-Processing Method	Chemometrics	Results	Reference
UV/Vis spectroscopy	identification green tea varieties	200-800	-	PCA, RF, PLSR	Successful discrimination of 3 varieties from 5	[141]
	authentication green tea varieties	200–400, 400–800		PCA, HCA	Not reported	[142]
	adulteration: Matcha vs. green tea	500-700	-	PCA, LDA, SIMCA, PLS	Accuracy: 100%	[150]

Spectroscopic Technique	Investigated Parameter	Spectral Region (nm)	Pre-Processing Method	Chemometrics	Results	Reference
Fourier-transform near-infrared spectroscopy (FT-NIRS)	adulteration: sugar and glucose syrup	1450–2440	SNV, MSC, MIN/MAX, 1st der., 2nd de., 1st + SLS, 1st +SNV, 1st + MSC	PLS	Accuracy: 96% (sugar) 100% (glucose syrup)	[152]
Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS)	identification green tea varieties	1000-2500	SNV, MSC, SG-1st	PCA, RF, PLSR	Successful discrimination of all 5 varieties	[141]
	identification green, black, and Oolong tea varieties	9090–2500	SNV, SG-1st, SG-2nd	SVM, PCA	Identification rate: green tea: 95% black tea: 100% Oolong tea: 90%	[143,144]
	adulteration: Darjeeling vs. Ceylon tea	1000–2000	SNV, SG-15 points, 1st, 2nd der. SNV + 1st der. + mean centering	PLS-DA, SIMCA	Correct classification: 92.3–100%	[151]
Fourier-transform mid-infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)	authentication green, yellow, white, black, and Oolong tea	2500–25,000	SNV	PCA, HCA, PLS-DA, SIMCA	Modeling power nearly 0.85	[146]
	authentication different tea varieties geographical origin	2500–7520 7520–25,000	MSC	PCA, LDA, AIPCM	Accuracy 98.5%	[147]
	adulteration: talcum	9480–10,100	smoothing, SNV	PCA, PLS, biPLS, CARS, SPA	R ² : 0.963	[153]
Attenuated total reflectance Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (ATR-FTIR)	adulteration sibutramine	3640–3770	SNV + 1st der.	HCA, PCA, k-NN	Accuracy: 100%	[125]
NIR hyperspectral imaging system (NIR-HSI)	classification Oolong, green, yellow, white, black, and Pu-erh	950–1760	Not reported	PCA, MDS, t-SNE, ISOMAP, ECOC, SVM, SVM-ECOC	Accuracy 97.41 \pm 0.16%	[148]
	classification green tea	380–1030	Not reported	SVM, CT, LDC, k-NN	Accuracy > 93%	[145]
	classification fermentation degree	589, 635, 670, 783	SNV	PCA, LDA, Lib-SVM, ELM	CCR > 98%	[146]
Surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS)	classification processing (black, green) and cultivation	5000–25,000	baseline correction derivatization	PCA	Identification rate:100%	[149]

Table 8. Cont.

AIPCM = adaptive improved possibilistic c-means; biPLS = backward interval partial least squares; CARS = competitive adaptive reweighted sampling algorithm; CCR = correct classification rate; CT = classification tree; ELM = extreme learning machine; ISOMAP = isometric mapping; k-NN = k-nearest neighbor; LDC = linear discriminant classification; Lib-SVM = library support vector machine; MDS = multidimensional scaling; MIN/MAX = minimum/maximum normalization; MSC = multiplicative scatter correction; RF = random forest; SG-1st, Savitzky–Golay first derivative; SG-2nd Savitzky–Golay second derivative; SLS = straight line subtraction; SNV = standard normal variation; SVM = support vector machine; SPA= successive projections algorithm; t-SNE = nonlinear t-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding.

7. Conclusions

Of the molecular spectroscopic techniques presented, NIRS, IR, and NMR stand out in particular for the identification of geographical origin, compositional analysis, authentication, and the detection of adulteration. UV/Vis and RS techniques have been sparely applied in these areas, but their potential is not negligible. Clearly, from this review, the different spectroscopic techniques have proven to be capable in the monitoring of geographical origin, compositional qualities, conditions of production, and conditions of storage for meat, fish, mushroom, spices, coffee, and tea. As these products are highly sorted and prone to certain forms of adulteration, which can result in severe health consequences, molecular spectroscopic tools could be an efficient and promising tool to guarantee that meat and fish products are safe before reaching the consumer.

Perhaps, the critical need for preprocessing and chemometric analysis may be among the dominant challenges when non-experts use these methods. However, many programs have simplified the application of these preprocessing methods and chemometric techniques such that, even with little expertise, the instruments can be successfully used for food quality monitoring. As outlined in this review, baseline correction, standard normal variate, multiplicative scatter correction, Savitzky–Golay smoothing, and derivation are the most commonly used data preprocessing methods for the evaluation of spectral data. Quantitative and classification chemometric evaluation methods have been used to classify and predict different quality criteria in meat, fish, coffee, tea, mushroom, and spices. Lastly, the emergence of handheld versions of these spectroscopic techniques further highlights their potential and advantages, as the portable versions present the unique advantage of rapid and on-site analysis for preliminary and meaningful information extraction, in addition to all the other existing advantages of the techniques.

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Abbreviations

% CC	Percentage of correctly classified samples;
1st der	First derivative;
AIPCM	Adaptive improved possibility c-means;
ANN	Artificial neural network;
ANOVA	Analysis of variance;
ASCA	ANOVA simultaneous component analysis;
ATR-FTIR	Attenuated total reflection Fourier-transform infrared;
BC	Baseline correction;
biPLS	Backward interval partial least squares;
BP-NN	Backpropagation neural network;
CARS	Competitive adaptive reweighted sampling algorithm;
CASSI	Coded aperture snapshot spectral imaging;
CCDs	Charge-coupled devices;
CCR	Correct classification rate;
CIE	Commission on Illumination;
CODEX	Codex Alimentarius;
CT	Classification tree;
CTDs	Sensitive charge transfer devices;
DA	Discriminant analysis;
DAD	Diode-array detector;

DART-MS	Direct analysis in real time mass spectrometry;
DD-SIMCA	Data-driven soft independent modeling of class analogy;
DF	Data fusion:
DR	Diffuse reflectance:
DRIFT	Diffuse reflectance Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy:
DT	Datrond:
	Dettella,
ED	
EDF	Empirical mode decomposition;
EFFCV	Classification efficiency values of cross-validation;
EFFTEST	Classification efficiency values of test validation;
ELM	Extreme learning machine;
EMSC	Extended multiplicative scattering correction;
EX/EM	Excitation–emission pairs;
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization;
FDA	Food and Drugs Authority;
FIR	Far-infrared;
FRAP	Ferric ion reducing antioxidant power;
FT	Fourier transformation;
FT-RS	Fourier-transform Raman spectroscopy;
GA	Genetic algorithm:
GC-FID	Gas chromatography with flame ionization detection
GC-MS	Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry:
CC-TOF-MS	Cas chromatography_time_of_flight mass spectrometry
	Hierarchical cluster analysis
IICA	
	Lish sid linear and side
HLA	Hybrid linear analysis;
HM	Hierarchical models;
HPLC	High-performance liquid chromatography;
HPLC-DAD	High-performance liquid chromatography with diode-array detection
HPLC-MS	High-performance liquid chromatography– mass spectrometry;
iPLS	Interval partial least squares;
ISO	Organization for Standardization;
ISOMAP	Isometric mapping;
k-NN	k-nearest neighbors algorithm;
LBC	Linear baseline correction;
LBD	Laser breakdown;
LC	Liquid chromatography;
LDA	Linear discriminant analysis;
LDC	Linear discriminant classification:
Lib-SVM	Library support vector machine:
LOD	Limit of detection:
100	Limit of quantification:
LUQ	Linear variable filters:
MA	Moving average smoothing:
MALDI TOF MS	Matrix assisted laser deservices (ionization time of flight mass spectrometry)
MALDI-IOF-MIS	Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-night mass spectrometry;
MC	Mean centering;
MCC	Matthews correlation coefficient;
MDS	Multidimensional scaling;
MEMS	Micro-electro-mechanical systems;
MF	Median filter;
MIN/MAX	Minimum/maximum normalization;
MIR	Middle infrared;
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging;
MSC	Multiplicative scatter correction;
NAS	Net analyte signal;
NIR	Near-infrared;
NIRS	Near-infrared spectroscopy;
NMC	Number of misclassifications;

NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance;
NPLS-DA	Superior order or N partial least squares or multilinear PLS discriminant analysis;
OPLS-DA	Orthogonal partial least square discriminant analysis;
OSC	Orthogonal signal correction;
PARAFAC	Parallel factor analysis;
PCA	Principal component analysis;
PDO	Protected Designations of Origin;
PGI	Protected Geographical Indications;
PLS-DA	Partial least squares discriminate analysis;
PLS-DM	Partial least squares density modeling;
PLSR	Partial least squares regression
PTR-MS	Proton transfer reaction mass spectrometry;
QRM	Quadratic regression model;
R^2_V	Coefficient of determination of cross-validation;
RBF	Radial basis function network;
RF	Random forest;
RMSECV	Root-mean-square error of cross-validation;
RRS	Resonance Raman spectroscopy;
RS	Raman spectroscopy;
SENS	Sensitivity;
SEP	Mean error of prediction;
SERRS	Surface resonance-enhanced Raman spectroscopy;
SERS	Surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy;
SG	Savitzky–Golay smoothing;
SG-1st der	Savitzky–Golay first derivative;
SG-2nd der	Savitzky–Golay second derivative;
SID	Spectral information divergence;
SIMCA	Soft independent modeling of class analogy;
siPLS	Synergy interval PLS;
SLS	Straight line subtraction;
SMA	Self-modeling mixture analysis;
SNV	Standard normal variate;
SOM	Self-organizing map;
SPA	Successive projection algorithm;
SPEC	Specificity;
sPLS-DA	Sparse PLS-DA;
SV	Support vectors;
SVM	Support vector machine;
SVM-ECOC	Multiclass error-correcting output code model containing support vector machine:
t-SNE	Nonlinear t-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding
UNEQ	Modeling version of quadratic discriminant analysis;
UPLS-DA	Unfolded partial least squares with discriminant analysis;
WHO	World Health Organization;
WT	Wavelet transform

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