

1 **Physicochemical modification of native and extruded wheat flours by enzymatic**  
2 **amylolysis**

3 Running head: Modification of native and extruded wheat flours by enzymatic  
4 amylolysis

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13 **Highlights**

14 Enzymatically hydrolysed native and extruded wheat flours were investigated.

15 Hydrolysed extruded wheat flours showed a melt component joining the granules.

16 Extruded flours had higher glucose, isomaltose, maltose, and maltotriose contents.

17 Flours hydrolysed by amyloglucosidase showed a dark and reddish colour.

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30 **Abstract**

31 Enzymatic hydrolysis could be an alternative way to modify flour functionality. The  
32 effect of two different enzymes,  $\alpha$ -amylase and amyloglucosidase, and their  
33 combination on microstructure, oligosaccharide content, crystalline order, pasting, gel  
34 hydration, and colour properties of native and extruded wheat flours was investigated.  
35 Micrographs showed different mechanisms of actuation of the different enzymes on  
36 native and extruded flours, achieving greater than 300% and 500% increases of glucose  
37 and maltose contents, respectively, in extruded flours compared with their native  
38 counterparts. Native flours displayed higher values of water absorption capacity and  
39 swelling power than extruded flours. Flours treated by a combination of amylase and  
40 amyloglucosidase showed low swelling power. Regarding colour, native flours were  
41 darker and more reddish than extruded flours, whereas flours treated by  
42 amyloglucosidase, and therefore had a higher glucose content, were darker and more  
43 reddish.

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45 **Keywords:** wheat flour; hydrolysis; amylase; amyloglucosidase; oligosaccharide

## 46 **1 Introduction**

47 Native starches and flours are widely used as raw materials, due to their particular  
48 polymeric characteristics, which make them suitable for numerous food applications.  
49 However, the new demands of the food industry are forcing manufacturers of starchy  
50 ingredients to find new functionalities. Starch modification by enzymatic hydrolysis  
51 could be an alternative way to control the functionality making the label cleaner unlike  
52 the chemically modified starches or syrups Starch hydrolysis generates products with  
53 different dextrose equivalents (DE), depending on the time of incubation and the  
54 amount and type of enzyme being used. Two major hydrolysis products are  
55 maltodextrins that consist of partly hydrolysed starch chains with a DE below 30, and  
56 glucose and maltose syrups with a DE above 40 that contain mono-, di-, and some  
57 higher saccharides (Baks, Kappen, Janssen, & Boom, 2008). Maltodextrins are  
58 nonsweet, cold water soluble, and have water-holding characteristics. They can be used  
59 as carrier or bulk agents, texture providers, spray-drying aids for the production of  
60 flavour enhancers, fat replacers, film formers, freeze-control agents to prevent  
61 crystallisation, or to supply nutritional value (Ba, Blecker, Danthine, Tine, Destain, &  
62 Thonart, 2013). Meanwhile, glucose and maltose syrups are employed in a variety of  
63 foods like soda water, sweets, baked products, ice-creams, sauces, baby food, conserves,  
64 and tined food.

65 Amylases, together with amyloglucosidases, are the enzymes most commonly used in  
66 starch hydrolysis. Alpha-amylase is an endoamylase that cleaves the  $\alpha$ -1,4 glycosidic  
67 bonds of the amylose or amylopectin chain at internal positions (endo) to yield products  
68 (oligosaccharides with varying lengths and branched oligosaccharides called limit  
69 dextrins) with an  $\alpha$ -configuration. Meanwhile, amyloglucosidase catalyses the  
70 hydrolysis of both  $\alpha$ -1,4 and  $\alpha$ -1,6 glycosidic bonds at the branching point to release  $\beta$ -

71 D-glucose residues of the polymer substrate (van der Maarel, van der Veen, Uitdehaag,  
72 Leemhuis, & Dijkhuizen, 2002). Because of these different mechanisms of amylolysis,  
73 selection of the type and amount of enzyme is important, since it will determine the  
74 physicochemical properties of the final flour or starch.

75 Native starch granules are semi-crystalline and resistant to enzyme hydrolysis. Native  
76 granular starch is hydrolysed very slowly by both amylases and amyloglucosidase, but  
77 disruption of the starch granular structure (gelatinisation) could enhance its chemical  
78 reactivity towards hydrolytic enzymes (Uthumporn, Shariffa, & Karim, 2012).

79 Extrusion cooking is a hydrothermal treatment of high temperature and short duration,  
80 during which flours or starches are subjected to high temperatures and mechanical  
81 shearing at relatively low levels of moisture content (Camire , Camire , & Krumhar,  
82 1990). By means of extrusion, it is possible to gelatinise the starch present in cereal  
83 flour (Martínez, Calviño, Rosell & Gómez, 2014). Several authors have used extruders  
84 to gelatinise native starch and hydrolyse it enzymatically (Govindasamy, Campanella,  
85 & Oates, 1997a, 1997b; Lee & Kim, 1990; Vasanthan, Yeung, & Hoover, 2001).

86 The vast majority of the studies about hydrolysis of cereal-based products focus on  
87 starch modification whereas flour modification has been scarcely investigated.

88 Vasanthan, et al., (2001) studied the dextrinisation of barley flours with alpha-amylase  
89 by extrusion. Flours are fine, powdery materials obtained by grinding and sifting the  
90 starch-containing plant organelles. Components often found in flours include starch,  
91 non-starch polysaccharide, sugar, protein, lipid, and inorganic materials. Thereby, the  
92 interactions between starch and non-starch components of flour during hydrothermal  
93 and enzymatic treatments are possibly different from that of starch. Commercial wheat  
94 flour is produced by milling of wheat kernels, whereas wheat starch is generally  
95 obtained by gluten agglomeration. Such a treatment involves four major issues to

96 consider: raw materials, products, cost and operability (Maningat, Seib, Bassi, Woo &  
97 Lasater, 2009). Moreover, water consumption and effluent disposal demand careful  
98 operation of the plant (Maningat, Seib, Bassi, Woo & Lasater, 2009). Therefore the  
99 lower cost and environmental impact of subjecting wheat flour instead wheat starch to  
100 enzymatic hydrolysis could made flour modifications a better alternative for industrial  
101 processes..

102 Despite the particular physicochemical characteristics of extruded flours and their high  
103 susceptibility to enzymatic hydrolysis, the properties of their hydrolysed products have  
104 never been studied, nor have they been compared with hydrolysed products of native  
105 flours. The objective of the present study was to investigate the effect of a potential  
106 feasible industrial enzymatic hydrolysis (by alpha-amylase, amyloglucosidase, or a  
107 blend of both) on microstructure, oligosaccharide composition, crystallinity, pasting,  
108 colour, and hydration properties of native and extruded wheat flours.

## 109 **2 Materials and methods**

### 110 **2.1 Materials**

111 Native wheat flour (11.73% and 11.20% w/w of moisture and protein contents,  
112 respectively) was supplied by Harinera Castellana (Medina del Campo, Valladolid,  
113 Spain). Extruded modified wheat flour was provided by Harinera Los Pisones (Zamora,  
114 Spain), which performed the extrusion treatment using a Bühler Basf single screw  
115 extruder (Bühler S.A., Uzwil, Switzerland). The extrusion conditions were carried out  
116 based on preliminary experiences in order to ensure the starch gelatinization. The  
117 length-to-diameter (L/D) ratio for the extruder was 20:1. Wheat flour was extruded at a  
118 maximum barrel temperature of 160°C and a feed moisture content of 50 L/h, with a  
119 feed rate of 500 kg/h and with a screw speed of 340 rpm. The extruded product was

120 dried by convection air till it reached 11.2% of moisture. Then it was ground with a  
121 compression roller to a particle size below 200 microns.

122 The amyloglucosidase from *Aspergillus niger* AMILASE™ AG 300L (300 AGU/mL)  
123 and the fungal alpha-amylase Fungamil® 800L from *Aspergillus oryzae* (800 FAU/g)  
124 were gently provided by Novozymes (Bagsvaerd, Denmark).

## 125 **2.2 Methods**

### 126 2.2.1 Flour hydrolysis

127 The quantity of enzymes was based on previous experiments, where the minimum  
128 amount of enzyme to produce changes in the viscosity of starch slurries was selected.  
129 Amylase and amyloglucosidase flour slurries with a 0.2% w/w of enzyme (flour basis)  
130 were made by dissolving 0.1 g ( $\pm 0.001$ ) of amylase or amyloglucosidase solution (20%  
131 w/w of enzyme) respectively into 40 mL ( $\pm 0.01$ ) of distilled water. In the case of using  
132 both enzymes simultaneously, 0.05 g ( $\pm 0.001$ ) of each enzyme was dissolved. The  
133 quantity of flour was also selected based on preliminary tests, in order to achieve  
134 suspensions easily dryable. Then, 10 g of flour were added to the enzyme solution  
135 previously prepared and mixed to achieve a homogenous paste. These pastes were  
136 covered by plastic film to avoid drying of the sample and then incubated at 50°C for 2  
137 hours. With the aim of bringing to an end the enzymatic activity, the pastes were heated  
138 at 105°C for 4 hours. Afterwards, they were rested in a desiccator at room temperature  
139 for 3 minutes, before being milled in a Moulinex super junior s (Groupe Seb Iberica,  
140 S.A, Barcelona) for 20 seconds. Flours were stored in airtight plastic containers at 4°C  
141 until analysis. Thereby, the whole process of flour hydrolysis was performed  
142 considering the feasibility of further potential industrial processes in the food industry.

### 143 2.2.2 Environmental scanning electron microscopy (ESEM)

144 Flour photomicrographs were taken with a Quanta 200FEI (Hillsboro, Oregon, USA)  
145 ESEM. Photomicrographs were taken in beam deceleration mode (BDM) at 1.5 KeV in  
146 high vacuum mode with a backscattered electron detector (BSED).

### 147 2.2.3 Oligosaccharide content of flours by High Performance Anion Exchange 148 Chromatography with Pulsed Amperometric Detection (HPAEC-PAD)

149 The aim of the HPAEC-PAD analysis was to determine the content of oligosaccharides  
150 in the extruded and non-extruded enzymatically treated flours. D-(+)-Glucose, maltose  
151 monohydrate, maltotetraose, and maltopentaose (Neat, Sigma-Aldrich, Steinheim,  
152 Germany), isomaltose (98%, Sigma-Aldrich, Steinheim, Germany), and maltotriose  
153 hydrate (95%, Sigma-Aldrich, Steinheim, Germany) were the standards employed to  
154 analyse these compounds in the flours studied.

155 Sample treatment consisted of solid-liquid extraction with MilliQ deionised water  
156 (Millipore, Molsheim, France) without derivatisation. Then, 0.5 g ( $\pm 0.09$ ) of the ground  
157 sample were weighed in a falcon tube, 15 mL of water were added, and the mixture was  
158 shaken for 5 minutes at 430 rpm in a shaker. Then, 2 mL of Carrez II reagent  
159 [potassium hexacyanoferrate (II) trihydrate, Panreac, Barcelona, Spain] were added and  
160 the mixture was shaken again for 5 minutes at 430 rpm. The mixture was centrifuged  
161 for 20 minutes at 12,000 rpm and 20°C and immediately after, to avoid re-suspension of  
162 the precipitate, the supernatant was transferred to a flask. A second extraction was  
163 needed; therefore, another 15 mL of water were added to the solid phase obtained from  
164 the centrifugation, the mixture was again shaken for 5 minutes at 430 rpm and  
165 centrifuged for 20 minutes at 12,000 rpm and 20°C. Afterwards, the supernatant was  
166 transferred to the flask containing the first extract. After making up to the volume with  
167 water, a suitable dilution was filtered with 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  nylon filters into the vial and then  
168 injected.

169 HPAEC-PAD analyses were carried out on a Metrohm system (Herisau, Switzerland)  
170 consisting of an 850 Professional IC with an isocratic pump, an automatic 858  
171 Professional Sample Processor with ultrafiltration, an 872 extension module to provide  
172 another pump and the possibility of making gradients, and an IC Amperometric  
173 Detector working as a pulsed amperometric detector (PAD) with a gold electrode as the  
174 working electrode and a palladium electrode as the reference electrode. MagICnet  
175 software (Metrohm, Herisau, Switzerland) was used to analyse the chromatograms.  
176 Separation was achieved on a Hamilton RCX-30 column and a Metrosep RP2 Guard  
177 precolumn from Metrohm (Herisau, Switzerland), with the same stationary phase as the  
178 column. Column and precolumn were thermostated at 30°C and the PAD at 35°C. The  
179 flow rate was 1.0 mL/min constantly and the volume injection was 20 µL. A binary  
180 gradient solvent system was used as mobile phase, consisting of (A) 50 mM NaOH  
181 (Panreac, Barcelona, Spain) and (B) a mixture of 500 mM NaAcO (Panreac, Barcelona,  
182 Spain) and 50 mM NaOH. The gradient was as follows: initial conditions of 95% A,  
183 then down linearly from the start to 15 minutes until 80% A, held from 15 to 25 minutes  
184 at 80% A, then returned to the initial conditions, rising linearly from 25 to 28 minutes to  
185 95% A and finally, held at 95% A for 10 minutes. The total run was 38 minutes. The  
186 potentials and time periods for the pulsed amperometric detector were: E1, +100 mV (t1  
187 = 300 ms); E2, +550 mV (t2 = 50 ms); and E3, -100 mV (t3 = 200 ms). Measurements  
188 were made in duplicate.

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#### 190 2.2.4 Flour crystallinity by X-ray diffraction

191 Crystallinity of samples was determined using a Bruker D8 Discover A25 X-ray  
192 diffractometer (Bruker AXS, Rheinfelden, Germany) equipped with a copper tube  
193 operating at 40 kV and 40 mA, producing CuK $\alpha$  radiation of 0.154 nm wavelength.

194 Diffractograms were obtained by scanning from 5 to 40° (2 theta), at the rate of  
195 1.2°/min, a step size of 0.02°, a divergence slit width variable (DS) of 5 mm, and a  
196 scatter slit width (SS) of 2.92°.

#### 197 2.2.5 Pasting properties

198 Pasting properties of the normal and extruded enzymatically treated flours were  
199 determined using a Rapid Visco Analyser (Model RVA-4C, Newport Scientific Pty.  
200 Ltd., Warriewood, Australia). The flour slurry was prepared by dispersing 3.5 g ( $\pm 0.1$ )  
201 of the flour in 25 g ( $\pm 0.1$ ) of distilled water. The slurry was then poured into an  
202 aluminium canister and stirred manually using a plastic paddle for 20 seconds before  
203 being poured into the RVA machine. The heating and cooling cycles were programmed  
204 following general pasting method 61.02.01 (AACC, 2012). The test was run in  
205 duplicate.

#### 206 2.2.6 Gel hydration properties

207 Water absorption index (WAI) or swelling capacity and water solubility index (WSI) of  
208 different rice flour fractions were determined following the method of Toyokawa,  
209 Rubenthaler, Powers, & Schanus (1989), with slight modification, as reported Rosell,  
210 Yokoyama, & Shoemaker (2011). Briefly, the flour ( $50.0 \pm 0.1$ mg) sample was  
211 dispersed in 1.0 mL of distilled water in an eppendorf tube using a wire rod and cooked  
212 at 90°C for 10 minutes in a water bath. The cooked paste was cooled in an ice water  
213 bath for 10 minutes, and then centrifuged at  $3000 \times g$  at 4°C for 10 minutes. The  
214 supernatant was decanted into an evaporating dish and the dry solids were recovered by  
215 evaporating the supernatant at 105°C till constant weight. Four replicates were made for  
216 each sample. Residues ( $W_r$ ) and dried supernatants ( $W_s$ ) were weighed and WAI, WSI,  
217 and swelling power (SP) were calculated as follows:

$$218 \quad \text{WAI (g/g)} = W_r/W_i$$

219 
$$\text{WSI (g/100 g)} = (\text{Ws/Wi}) \times 100$$

220 
$$\text{SP (g/g)} = \text{Wr}/(\text{Wi} - \text{Ws})$$

221 where  $W_i$  is the sample weight (g, db). Values are expressed as the average of three four  
222 replicates.

#### 223 2.2.7 Colour determination of flours

224 Colour was measured using a Minolta CN-508i spectrophotometer (Minolta, Co. Ltd.  
225 Tokyo, Japan) with the D65 standard illuminant and the 2° standard observer. The  
226 results are expressed in the CIE L\*a\*b\* colour space. Colour determinations were made  
227 five times at two different points on each sample of flour.

#### 228 2.3 Statistical analysis

229 Multiple analysis of variance was used to determine the individual effects of the type of  
230 enzyme and flour. Fisher's least significant difference (LSD) was used to describe  
231 means with 95% confidence intervals. Statistical analysis was performed with  
232 Statgraphics Centurion XVI software (Statpoint Technologies, Inc., Warrenton, VA,  
233 USA).

### 234 **3 Results and discussion**

#### 235 **3.1 Photomicrographs of flours**

236 With the objective to observe the effect of extrusion on the susceptibility of flour  
237 particles to enzymatic hydrolysis by amylase and amyloglucosidase, the microstructure  
238 was analysed using ESEM (Figure 1). Native and extruded wheat flour particles not  
239 treated with enzymes (Figure 1a and Figure 1d) had a polygonal shape and small  
240 superficial irregularities. The fact that significant differences were scarcely observed  
241 between them would suggest that the drying process used to halt the enzymatic activity  
242 also produced partial gelatinisation of starch granules. However, there were some non-  
243 gelatinised starch granules in the native flour, whereas they were not found in the

244 extruded flour, where all starch granules were completely melted during the extrusion  
245 treatment. Thus the observed differences cannot be explained only by the drying  
246 process but also by the extrusion process.

247 Native flour particles treated by amylase (Figure 1b) appeared disaggregated, disrupted,  
248 and pasted to each other, which could be explained by the leaching of some of the  
249 amylose, which acted as a gluing material (Dura, Błaszczak & Rosell, 2014).  
250 Meanwhile, extruded flour particles (Figure 1e) showed a more amassed structure, with  
251 a melting component joining the granules. Chain fragmentation of polymers such as  
252 amylose during the extrusion (Chinnaswamy & Hannah, 1990) and the enzymatic  
253 processes could lead to leaching of amylose, resulting in greater abundance of gel in the  
254 extruded samples.

255 Native flour particles treated by amyloglucosidase (Figure 1c) showed only a superficial  
256 corrosion promoted by the enzyme, whereas extruded wheat flour (Figure 1f) was much  
257 easier to hydrolyse and the particles ended up almost completely disrupted, with a  
258 melting component joining the granules. Therefore, a higher susceptibility of extruded  
259 wheat flour to enzymatic hydrolysis was observed. Uthumporn, et al. (2012) has already  
260 reported that starch molecules compacted inside the starch granules simply cannot be  
261 readily accessed by enzymes. Thus, starch gelatinisation during extrusion enhances the  
262 chemical reactivity of flour particles towards hydrolytic enzymes.

### 263 **3.2 Oligosaccharide content of flours**

264 The oligosaccharide content of native and extruded wheat flours was analysed by  
265 HPAEC-PAD in order to evaluate the susceptibility of native and extruded wheat flours  
266 to enzymatic hydrolysis (Figure 2). Maltotetraose and maltopentaose were not present  
267 in any flour, or were under the limits of detection. We observed a three-fold increase of  
268 maltose and maltotriose contents with amylase treatment compared with extruded

269 flours. Glucose content increased with the use of amyloglucosidase, especially in  
270 extruded wheat flours (six times higher than its native counterpart).

271 Vasanthan, et al. (2001) treated barley flours by simultaneous extrusion and hydrolysis  
272 and achieved a 25.5% of DP2 (oligosaccharides with a degree of polymerisation of 2).  
273 Nevertheless, they used 4% amylase (based on dry weight of flour). In our study, flours  
274 with 79.9% maltose were achieved with the use of only 0.2% amylase, and flours with  
275 90.9% glucose were achieved with the use of only 0.2% amyloglucosidase. The starch  
276 gelatinisation achieved with the severe extrusion conditions used in our study could  
277 have increased the susceptibility of extruded flours to enzymatic hydrolysis, as Martínez  
278 et al. (2014) observed in rice flour, and therefore greater production of these  
279 oligosaccharides. As was also shown in the previous section, starch gelatinisation  
280 during extrusion enhanced the chemical reactivity of flour particles towards hydrolytic  
281 enzymes. Meanwhile, the combination of amylase and amyloglucosidase gave rise to  
282 flours with a high content of both glucose and maltose, which exceeded the amounts  
283 achieved with the use of those enzymes separately. No synergy between amylase and  
284 amyloglucosidase was found; only an additive effect was observed.

### 285 **3.3 X-ray diffractometry (XRD)**

286 The crystalline structures of enzymatically hydrolysed native and extruded wheat  
287 starches were observed using XRD. The diffractograms are shown in Figure 3. Less  
288 pronounced crystalline peaks were observed in all samples, indicating that the extrusion  
289 and especially the drying processes disrupted the native crystalline structures and  
290 produced a highly amorphous structure, as has already been reported by several authors  
291 (Rumruaytum, Borompichaichartkul, & Kongpensook, 2014; Van der Veen, Veelaert,  
292 Van der Goot, & Boom, 2006). All samples showed V-type crystalline peaks at  $2\theta$  of  
293 around 13 and  $20^\circ$  (Figure 3). The V-type crystalline structure originated from single

294 helical amylose, such as amylose-lipid complexes (Lopez-Rubio, Flanagan, Gilbert, &  
295 Gidley, 2008), which could have been created during the drying process at the end of  
296 the treatment, since no V-type crystal growth has been reported in wheat starch  
297 subjected to annealing conditions (Biliaderis, 2009). The different shapes of the  
298 diffractograms could be due to the different mechanisms of actuation of the enzymes  
299 used. Nevertheless, when extruded flours were subjected to enzymatic hydrolysis, a B-  
300 type crystalline peak at  $2\theta$  of around  $21^\circ$  was produced. The voids of this peak can  
301 accommodate numerous water molecules (Perez, Baldwin & Gallant, 2009). The more  
302 amassed structure seen in enzymatically hydrolysed extruded flours (Figure 1), which  
303 was attributed to the leaching of amylose during the extrusion, could have produced this  
304 B-type crystalline peak, which was even more intense with the use of amyloglucosidase.

### 305 **3.4 Pasting characteristics**

306 The effect of the enzymatic and extrusion treatments on the pasting properties of wheat  
307 flours is shown in Figure 4. The low viscosities reached during heating and cooling in all  
308 samples indicate that both extrusion (Martínez et al., 2014) and drying processes  
309 (Rumruaytum, et al., 2014) gelatinised the starch. However, lower values of viscosity  
310 were found for extruded wheat flours, which is consistent with previous studies where  
311 the lower peak viscosity, the higher the amount of gelatinised and damaged starch  
312 (Barres, Verges, Tayeb, & Della Valle, 1990).

313 Considering the effect of the enzymes, native flour treated by amyloglucosidase  
314 displayed a higher viscosity than the rest of the enzymatically treated native flours,  
315 whereas extruded flour treated by amyloglucosidase showed a lower viscosity than the  
316 rest of the enzymatically treated extruded flours. The opposite effects indicate a strong  
317 effect of the type of flour (extruded or non-extruded) on its susceptibility to enzymatic  
318 hydrolysis by amyloglucosidases, as shown in the micrographs of Figure 1. The

319 reduction in the final viscosity observed for extruded wheat flours could be related to  
320 the loss of the ability of the amylose chain to retrograde during cooling, due to its  
321 fragmentation during extrusion, an effect that agrees with previous results of Doublier,  
322 Colonna, & Mercier (1986). At the same time, this amylose fragmentation made it more  
323 susceptible to attack by enzymes, thereby yielding greater oligosaccharide production.

### 324 **3.5 Gel hydration and colour properties**

325 The individual effects of the type of enzyme and the type of flour (native or extruded)  
326 on gel hydration and colour properties of enzymatically treated wheat flours are shown  
327 in Table 1. Native flours displayed higher WAI and SP than extruded flours; however,  
328 no significant differences were found in WSI between them. Doublier, et al., (1986)  
329 already reported a lower SP for extruded wheat starch compared with drum-dried wheat  
330 starch, which was attributed to the compact structure of particles achieved during  
331 extrusion that could diminish water accessibility. No significant differences were found  
332 in WAI and WSI among the different enzymatic treatments. Nevertheless, flours treated  
333 by a combination of amylase and amyloglucosidase showed lower values of SP, which  
334 could be related to the higher disruption of flour particles, as a consequence of the  
335 different mechanisms of actuation of amylase and amyloglucosidase.

336 Regarding colour properties, hydrolysed native flours showed lower luminosity, lower  
337 hue, and higher chroma, indicating that after hydrolysis, these flours were darker, more  
338 reddish, and had greater colour intensity than extruded flours. The Maillard reaction  
339 takes place when reducing sugars such as glucose, amino acids, especially lysine, and  
340 proteins are heated together (Camire , et al., 1990), whereas caramelisation is a term for  
341 describing a complex group of reactions that occur due to direct heating of  
342 carbohydrates, particularly reducing sugars (Pathare, Opara, & Al-Said, 2013). These  
343 reactions produce high molecular weight coloured compounds, principally

344 hydroxymethylfurfural and melanoidins (Cho & Peterson, 2010; Purlis, 2010). Severe  
345 extrusion conditions can lead to a decrease in lysine content (Camire , et al., 1990). The  
346 more reactive the amino acid, the lower the production of hydroxymethylfurfural and  
347 melanoidins. Thus, extruded flours are clearer than native flours.

348 Meanwhile, flours submitted to enzymatic hydrolysis by amyloglucosidase and a  
349 combination of amylase and amyloglucosidase showed a dark, reddish, and intense  
350 colour. As shown in a previous section of this study and as reported by van der Maarel,  
351 et al. (2002), amyloglucosidase releases  $\beta$ -D-glucose residues. Glucose, besides being  
352 one of the main reactants that participate in Maillard and caramelisation thermal  
353 reactions that occur high-temperature processes such as baking, drying, and frying  
354 (Pathare, et al., 2013), is more reactive than other disaccharides such as maltose  
355 (Ameur, Mathieu, Lalanne, Trystram, & Birlouez-Aragon, 2007), producing darker  
356 flours.

#### 357 **4 Conclusions**

358 The new demands of the food industry are forcing manufacturers of starchy ingredients  
359 to develop flours with different functionalities, such as higher sweetness and higher  
360 content of natural sugars making the label cleaner than chemically modified starches.  
361 This study showed changes in the microstructure, oligosaccharide profile, crystalline  
362 order, pasting, colour, and gel hydration properties of wheat flours subjected to  
363 extrusion and enzymatic treatment by  $\alpha$ -amylase, amyloglucosidase, or a combination  
364 of both. The results suggest that starch gelatinisation of flour by extrusion increases its  
365 susceptibility to enzymatic hydrolysis, thereby achieving flours with a greater content of  
366 glucose and maltose, substrates for fermentative microflora and the main reactants that  
367 participate in Maillard and caramelisation thermal reactions. In general, enzymatic  
368 hydrolysis of extruded wheat flours offers an interesting way to achieve flours with

369 different functionalities, which could be of interest for different applications in the food  
370 industry, on which later works should deep.

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375

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454 **Figure captions**

455 Figure 1. Scanning electron micrographs (2000× magnification) of native and extruded  
456 flours. Native wheat flour without enzyme treatment (a), native wheat flour treated with  
457 amylase (b), native wheat flour treated with amyloglucosidase (c), extruded wheat flour  
458 without enzyme treatment (d), extruded wheat flour treated with amylase (e), and  
459 extruded wheat flour treated with amyloglucosidase (f). The white circle indicates non-  
460 gelatinised starch granules.

461 Figure 2. Oligosaccharide content (g/kg) of enzymatically treated native and extruded  
462 flours, measured by High Performance Anion Exchange Chromatography with Pulsed  
463 Amperometric Detection (HPAEC-PAD). Glucose (black column), isomaltose (dark  
464 grey column), maltose (clear grey column), and maltotriose (white column). AM,  
465 Amylase; AMG, amyloglucosidase.

466 Figure 3. X-ray diffractograms of native (A) and extruded (B) wheat flours. Native  
467 wheat flour without enzyme treatment (a), native wheat flour treated with amylase (b),  
468 native wheat flour treated with amyloglucosidase (c), and native wheat flour treated  
469 with amylase and amyloglucosidase (d). Extruded wheat flour without enzyme  
470 treatment (e), native wheat flour treated with amylase (f), native wheat flour treated  
471 with amyloglucosidase (g), and native wheat flour treated with amylase and  
472 amyloglucosidase (h).

473 Figure 4. Effect of extrusion and enzymatic treatments on the pasting properties of  
474 native (a) and extruded (b) wheat flours. Flour without enzyme treatment (black line),  
475 flour treated with amylase (discontinuous black line), flour treated with  
476 amyloglucosidase (dark grey line), and flour treated with amylase and amyloglucosidase  
477 (discontinuous dark grey line). Temperature profile (discontinuous points).

478

479 Table 1: Effects of the type of enzyme and flour on hydration and colour properties

480

	Enzyme			Flour			
	Media	SE	AM and AMG	Amyloglucosidase	Amylase	Native	Extruded
WAI (g/g)	4.14	1.51	3.64a	4.46a	4.30a	5.42b	2.85a
WSI (g/100 g)	4149	78	4140a	4121a	4185a	4104a	4194a
SP (g/g)	6.30	1.01	5.68a	6.83b	6.39b	7.05b	5.54a
OAC (g/g)	1.78	0.11	1.74a	1.83a	1.77a	1.76a	1.80a
<i>L</i> *	73.60	5.77	70.32a	70.81a	79.68b	70.86a	76.35b
Hue	1.25	0.09	1.23b	1.19a	1.35c	1.23a	1.28b
Chroma	22.25	3.74	25.06c	23.41b	18.29a	24.34b	20.16a

481

482 Values followed by different letters within each parameter for each factor (enzyme and  
 483 flour) indicate significant differences.

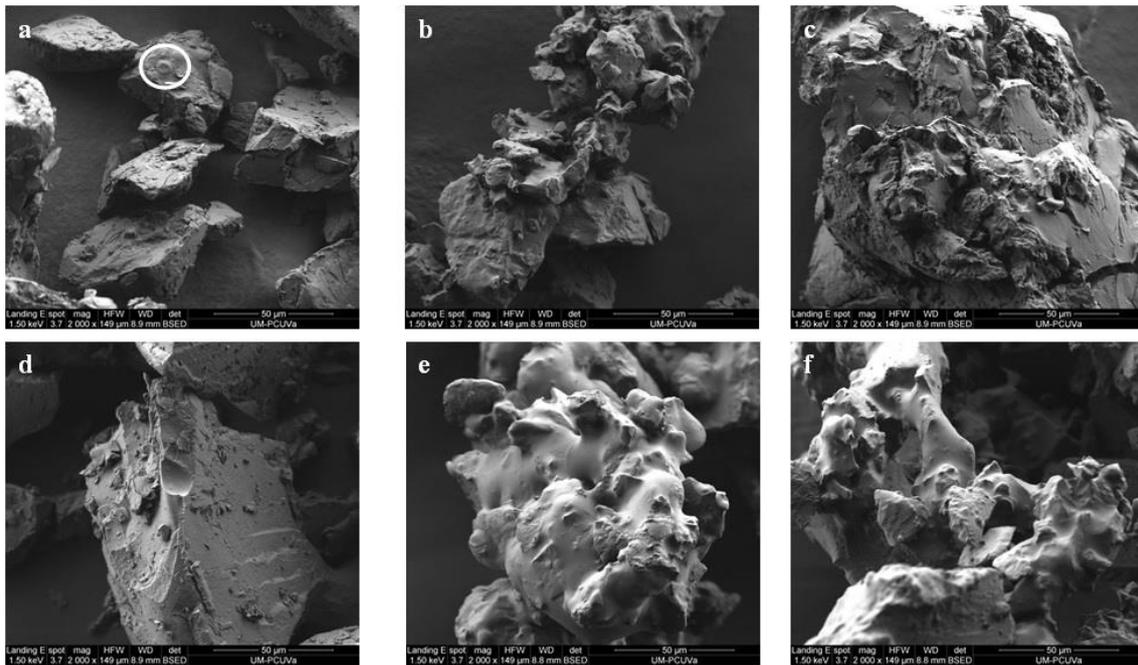
484 WAI, water absorption index, WSI, water solubility index, SP, swelling power, OAC, oil

485 absorption capacity, *L*\*, luminosity, SE, Standard deviation, AM, Amylase, AMG,

486 Amyloglucosidase

487

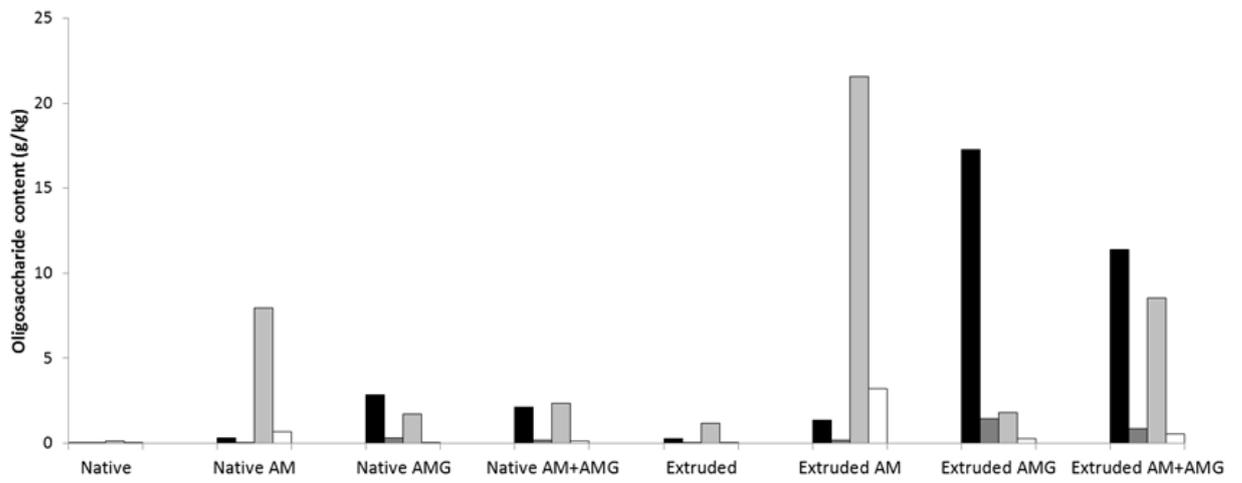
488 Figure 1



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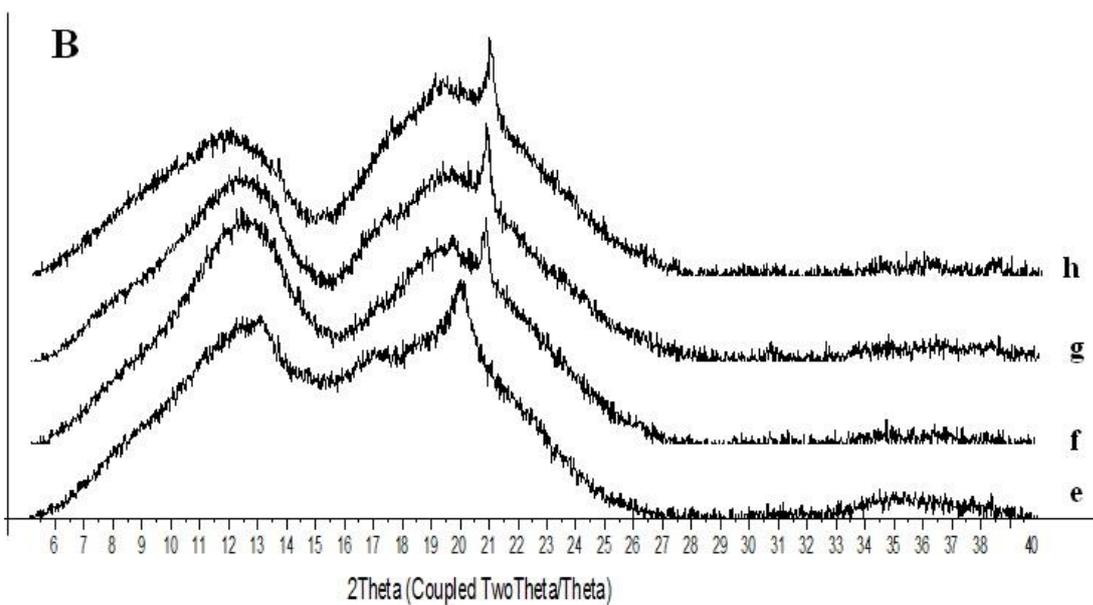
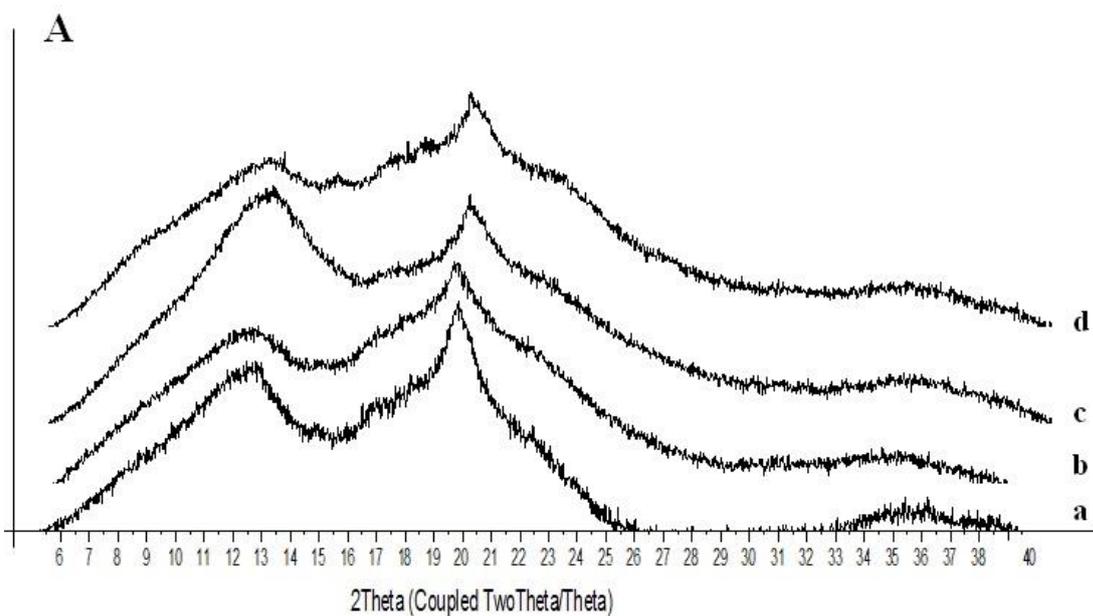
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491 Figure 2

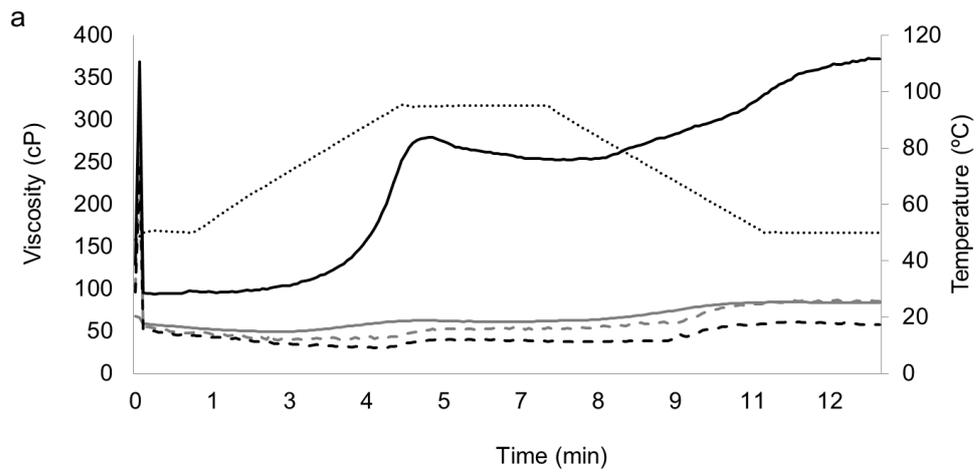


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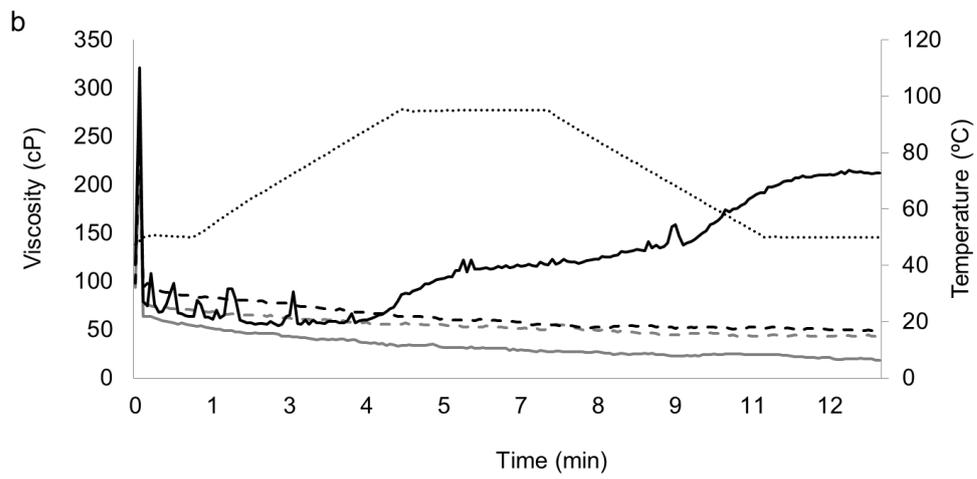
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498 Figure 4



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