

Review of: "Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-NIR) and t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbor Embedding (t-SNE) as an Analytical Methodology for Rapid Identification of Tea Adulteration"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper is clearly and well-written, and the nice results presented are consistent with expectations. It can be of interest to a wide audience, as NIR spectroscopy is a very interesting topic in food analytics, including beverages.

To be more complete, I would like to suggest adding the following items to the references (referred to as SoTA of tea NIR analyses):

- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0260877407001264>
- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0260877406003372>

Also, a recent review was published that is worth mentioning, maybe in the introduction, to better frame NIR spectroscopy for food analyses, although it is not specific to tea:

- <https://www.mdpi.com/2304-8158/13/21/3501>

There is much interest in NIR and FT-NIR carried out by portable devices, which is worth mentioning, maybe in the conclusions:

- <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3652596>

Also, I am suggesting mentioning as a perspective the use of miniaturized devices such as those available at:

- <https://spectralengines.com>, as these devices would be an ideal future solution for the research explained in this paper.